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SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

Table Of Contents

- 6 **FLAK**
- 10 **BULLETIN BOARD**
- 14 **FULL AUTO**
CHUCK TAYLOR
- 18 **COMBAT PISTOLCRAFT**
JEFF COOPER & KEN HACKATHORN
- LAWYER EXPOSES ENTRAPMENT TACTICS & TECHNIQUES
- 24 **BATF GESTAPO**
DAVID T. HARDY
- 1979 NATIONAL SPORTING GOODS ASSOCIATION SHOW
- 26 **NSGA SHOW: STATE-OF-THE-ART HARDWARE**
N.E. MACDOUGALD
- ADMINISTRATION SELLS OUT UNITA & FNLA
- 28 **CARTER BETRAYS ANGOLAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS**
ERNIE VOLKMAN
- RECRUITING & TRAINING IN ZAMBABWE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY
- 32 **RHODESIAN TERRORIST 'HIT' MAN CONFESSES**
LEWIS STONEHAM
- TEST & EVALUATION
SOUTH AFRICA'S NEW SUB CARBINE
- 34 **SANNA 77**
AL J. VENTER
- RHODESIA'S TRAGIC TERRORIST WAR
- 38 **THE END IS NEAR**
AL J. VENTER
- THE PLAGUE IS SPREADING
- 44 **POLITICAL KIDNAPPING**
WILLIAM L. CASSIDY
- ACTIVE & PASSIVE NIGHT VISION WEAPON SIGHTS
- 48 **DEATH IN THE NIGHT**
CHUCK TAYLOR
- 50 **DEATH IN THE NIGHT IN VIETNAM**
CHUCK TAYLOR
- 52 **NIGHT VISION WEAPON SIGHTS: SPECIFICATIONS**
CHUCK TAYLOR
- GI'S TRAIN FOR THE REAL THING USING CAPTURED SOVIET ORD-NANCE
- 54 **OPFOR: THE FRIENDLY ENEMY**
ROBERT SUNDANCE
- AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE BIGGEST JAILBREAK IN HISTORY
- 60 **WHO DARES WINS**
BILLIONAIRE COMPUTER MAGNATE & EX-SF COLONEL LIBERATE 2 AMERICANS FROM IRAN JAIL ALONG WITH 10,998 OTHER PRISONERS
N.E. MACDOUGALD
- MODERN MERC REVEALS TRICKS OF TRADE
- 64 **SOF INTERVIEWS CHRIS DEMPSTER**
JOHN HOWARD



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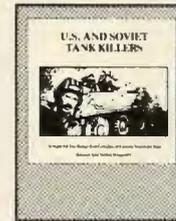


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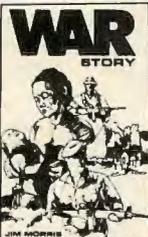
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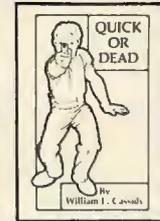
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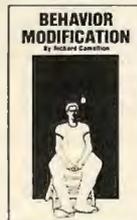
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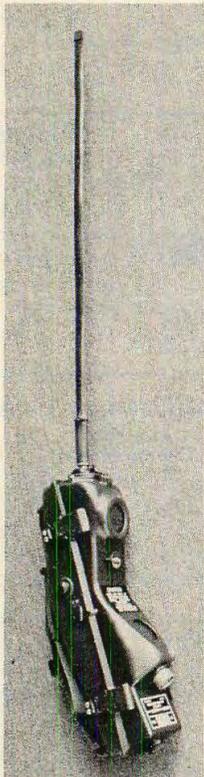
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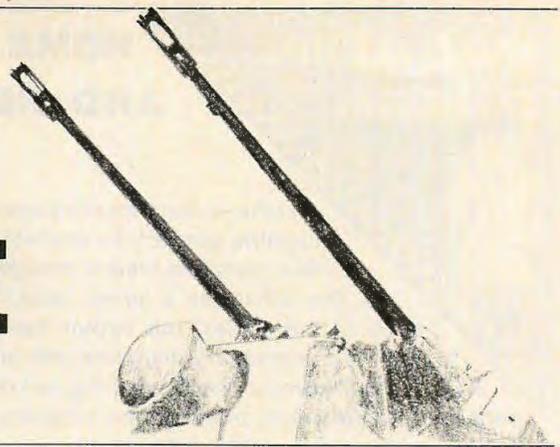
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FLAK



PRAISE FOR HONEST PRODUCT REVIEWS ...

Sirs:

First, let me express my appreciation for your great magazine. I received the April '79 issue in the mail yesterday and was surprised to see an article by Chuck Taylor on the LES P18 pistol. I was thrilled to see the first truly objective product review I have ever read. I had the "pleasure" of seeing one of these fine tools tested to death late last year while attending a survival weapons seminar in Missouri. Nobody would admit who owned it, but first thing out of the box it was apparent to all present that this pistol wasn't going to set any new traditions.

I can add two defects to Taylor's list of grievances: 1) After 50 rounds (which was the total extent of the test), the magazine catch, which is made of plastic, broke off. That was that. 2) Perhaps this is a blessing, but the magazine safety, which the manual assured us the pistol possessed, was never in evidence. With or without a magazine in the well, the gun would go bang — sometimes. We had approximately one jam for every three shots. The "stainless-steel" weapon came out of the box with rust in the barrel, and a piece of the front sight — which is molded to the slide — broken off. I sincerely hope that, if I should ever find myself in a gun battle, my opponent is armed with an LES P18.

Yours very sincerely,
Joel C. Simon
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

READY FOR AXE RENAISSANCE ...

Sirs:

Kudos to Jeff Cooper for his article, "Secrets of Modern Battle-Axe Fighting" (SOF, April '79). For too long we in the western world have been under the spell of oriental combat — Kung-fu, Fung-gu, and all the other "chop-suey arts." Now, thanks to Cooper, we have the beginnings of a renaissance in *occidental* martial arts. We must move quickly to keep this renaissance alive. For example, we must establish levels of ability and issue credentials (and badges) of qualification for those men (no ladies, please) who wish to master this weapon, i.e., "Battle-

Axe Tyro," "Sharpcutter," "Expert," and of course "Battle-Axe Instructor." I will leave the problem of designing a suitable close-combat course to Colonel Cooper. I have only one further suggestion; battle-axe wielders need a motto, which should be "*The Unkindest Cut of All!*"

Sincerely,
Peter D. Hendrickson
Department of History
New Mexico State University
Alamogordo, New Mexico

ANTI-TERRORIST UNIT PLANNED ...

Sir:

This is a formal request for your support. SOF magazine could help a great number of Vietnam vets, some ex-Green Berets, who have the training and the guts to form an "anti-terrorist" unit for the N.E. USA.

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We don't feel the National Guard or reserve units are the answer to an ever-growing threat. And for the most part, our local police are not trained for it.

Your suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,
Carl E. Buck
P.O. Box 79
Hallstead, PA 18822

FINAL WORD ON M-16 ...

Gentlemen:

I'm writing in reference to Chuck Taylor's article of the September '77 SOF, "M-16: Terror or Toy." It seems Chuck has been catching mucho flak over this article ever since. I've been meaning to write for several months now, but the letter in the March '79 issue, from the latest in a long line of self-styled "experts," simply blew me away.

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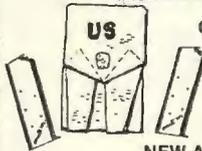
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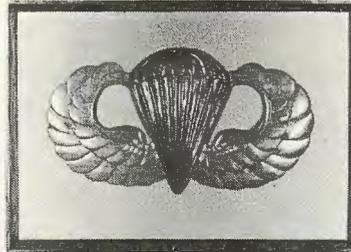
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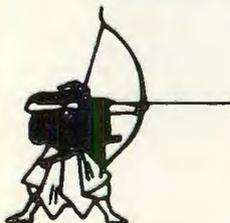
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I served in 'Nam as a sergeant with a Marine Force Recon team with a secondary MOS of small arms specialist/armorer and am now engaged, part time, in similar work, whereby I can identify ... with Taylor. In the course of my carryings-on with Recon, I was involved in an incident so similar to Taylor's that I won't bore the readership with details. To make the story short, though, I promptly opted for a selection from the myriad of better weapons at my disposal.

Now, I don't know what these mullets, so critical of Taylor's ever professional journalism and technical expertise, did during their stay in 'Nam, but I have a sneaking suspicion they were off somewhere in some nice, dark, warm hooch playing with themselves.

I hope that, just maybe, this will draw the fire off that article, as I, along with thousands of others, I'm sure, am quite weary of all the unsolicited "advice."

Keep up the good work, Chuck, and to Col. Brown: you have an excellent mag. here, simply excellent.

Yours,
Robert Floyd
Fort Worth, Texas

Your letter's long over due! Hey, you guys! No more FLAK on the 5.56 vs. 7.62, okay? — The Eds.

MARINE FORCE RECON ...

Dear Sir:

I have been reading SOF since Nov. '77 and I haven't seen anything on the U.S. Marine Corps Force Recon units. You mainly talk of Special Forces and Rangers....What happened to the Marines in Vietnam and mainly Force Recon?

I enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps D.E.P. on 25 August '78 and ship for boot training 18 July '79. When I finish my boot training and MOS school I plan to ask for Force Reconnaissance training; not everyone who asks for Force Recon gets it.

If you join the Army you enlist for Ranger School or Special Forces; in the Navy you enlist for SEAL training. In the Marines you can't enlist for Force Recon; you must request F.R. training from the Recon unit commander on your base or your base C.O. Then you must go through a panel of officers who ask you why you want Force Recon training. If they pass you, then you see doctors. If they pass you on mental and physical tests, you get in.

I think it plain to see it's a very special unit and only special people get it. So how about checking into, please.

Thank you,
Pvt. Chuck Mellette
U.S.M.C. (Inactive Reserve)
Florence, South Carolina

See last issue, "Spyglass Alpha" — and good luck with your application — The Eds.

Continued on page 72

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WILD GEESE FLIX ...

Wild Geese video tapes now available from Columbia Video Systems, 1805 St. Johns Ave., Highland Park, IL 60035. Both Beta-2 and VHS formats.

AK-47 SYMBOLS ...

In the May '79 SOF article, "The AK-47 and Its Variations," we inadvertently left out some information from the box on page 45, titled "International Nomenclature of AK-47 and Its Variations." The corrections are as follows:

PRODUCER	SELECTOR	
	Auto	Semi-Auto
Communist China	☞	☞
Hungary	∞	∞
Finland	...	1
North Korea	ㄷL	ㄷH

INTERSEARCH REPORTS BI-WEEKLY ...

Frank Taggeri, publisher of *Counterforce* (reported in Bulletin Board, Apr. '79), has informed us that his magazine has changed its name and format in order to respond more quickly to current acts of terrorism.

Intersearch (INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST RESEARCH), Taggeri's bi-weekly newsletter, gives comprehensive reports on international terrorist activity and monitors acts of assassination, hijackings, bombings, and sabotage on a day-to-day basis.

For further information, write *Intersearch*, P.O. Box 26804, El Paso, TX 79926.

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Oto-Melara is licensed by Krauss-Maffei of Germany to build Leopard tanks. Last year rumors were circulating that 20 Leopard tanks bought by Libya, for 2.5 billion lire, were missing. The tanks that arrived in Libya, via Marseille, were subsequently passed on to the Soviet Union. There, the tanks were dismantled and tested by the Russians, who then sent five Leopards to Ethiopia to be further tested in combat. Needless to say, the Leopard 1A2 no longer holds any secrets from the Soviet Union, Ethiopia, or their Cuban advisors. The Russians have more allies than we know.

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USAF BLUE BERETS FORMED ...

The U.S. Air Force combat police (SPECS) have formed a new combat defense and limited offense unit, whose mission is to defend air bases from enemy forces during combat. Composed of SAC, TAC, MAC and ATC police, the new unit's headgear is a blue beret.

SOF NAMES NEW EDITOR ...

SOF is pleased to announce that Capt. John Early has joined its staff as contributing editor for military affairs. Early's military experience includes 12 years with the U.S. Army and three years with the Rhodesian air force and army.

In the Army, Early spent 4½ years in Vietnam. He was a Special Forces NCO and officer with the 5th and 10th SFGA. His Rhodesian tour included service in the elite Selous Scouts.

Early has a BA and MA in communications from Southern Illinois University and is currently writing a novel about the Special Forces in Vietnam. Look for his articles in future issues of SOF.

CHINESE RESPONSE ...

SOF Business Manager Tom Reisinger received the following letter after he wrote the World Anti-Communist League regarding Carter's selling of Taiwan.

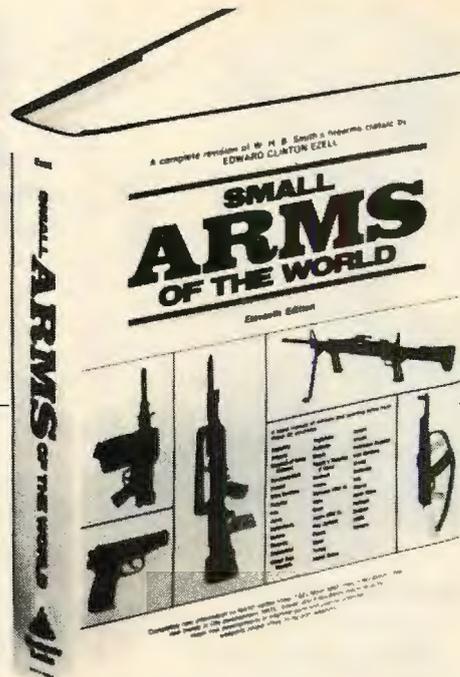
"We of the ROC Chapter, in fact the whole body of free Chinese, appreciate very much the support and concern expressed by you and countless others throughout the world in the wake of the Carter decision to establish 'diplomatic relations' with the Chinese Communists at the expense of America's one most faithful and valuable ally, the Republic of China.

"Strong protests have been lodged against the Carter **move, which is gravely**

Continued on page 75

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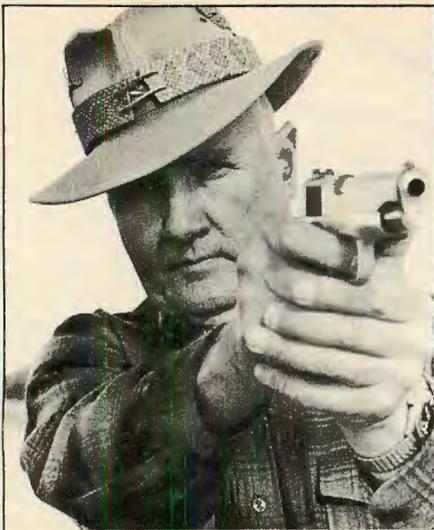
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**When Should One Use
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I wish I had a dollar for every time this particular question has been asked of me, for I'd unquestionably be a millionaire by now!

Strangely enough, the question is a difficult one to answer correctly because of the variables involved, most of which fall into the category of *relative*.

First, we have the matter of *weapon* to consider. Typical SMGs, LMGs, automatic rifles, and auto-carbines are generally quite reliable both in the semi- and full-automatic modes, *but there are* exceptions, and these can get you killed *if* you fail to consider them. For example, the cal. .30 US M2 carbine works well function-wise, in the semi-auto mode, but *horribly* in the fully-automatic setting. Why? Magazines? Feed-ramp angles? Ammunition? In the case of this particular weapon — *who cares?* But the point is that one should stay very far away from such arms, provided he has a choice of weapons.

Second, we must address the problem of *controllability*. Obviously, a fellow who weighs 110 pounds has no business slinging bullets from an AR-10, which is something akin to grabbing a tiger by the tail, in this case, but — think about it — we still see people trying to do it, don't we?

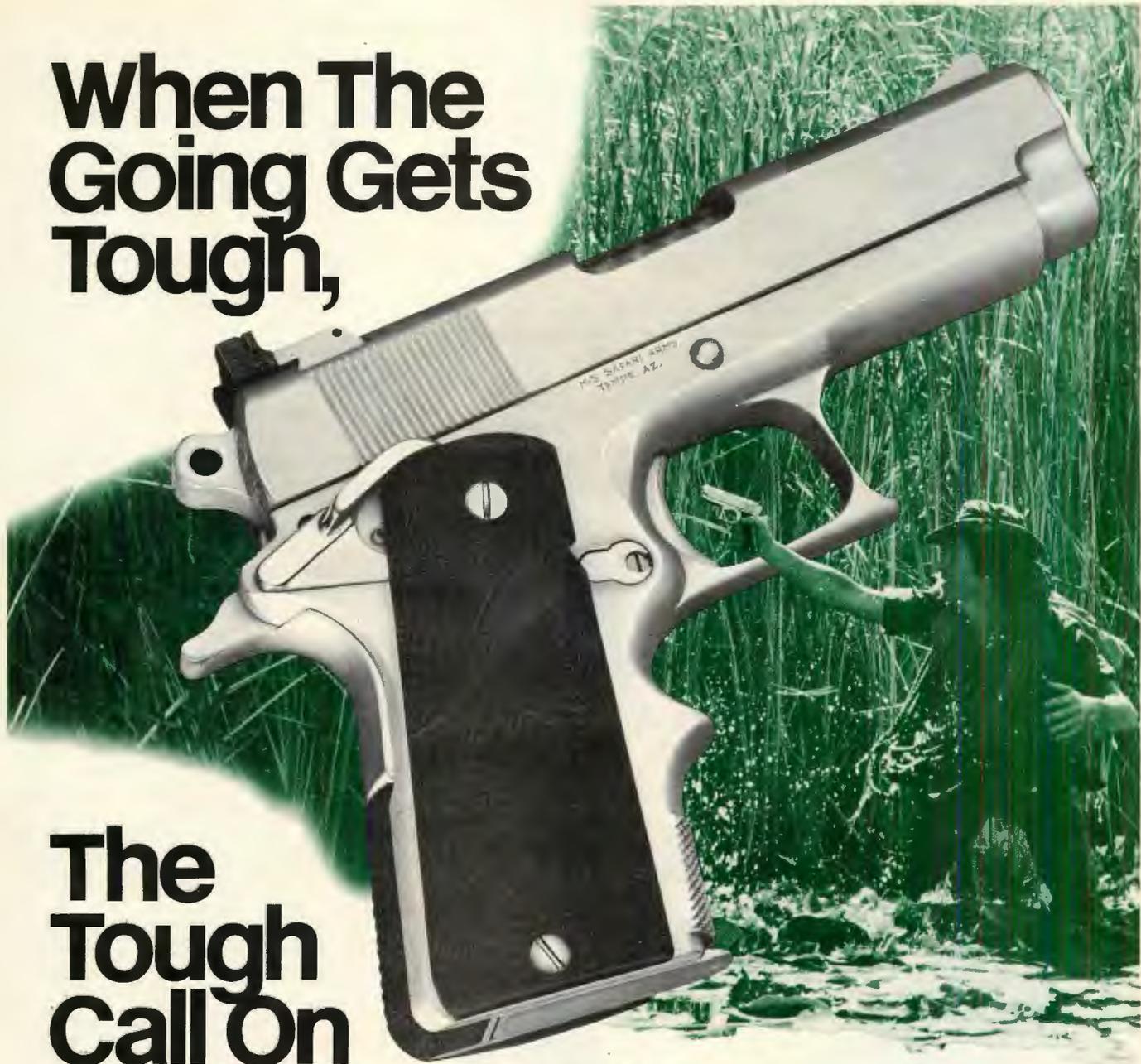
Third, we have *power*. I can take men down at 100 meters pretty well with a BAR or BREN from the underarm position, but I wouldn't want either of these fine weapons at my disposal for house-to-house, or close-in jungle fighting. These places are SMG country. I don't need the kind of power such weapons dispense at the expense of the absolute control I could have with the SMG. The heavier, rifle-caliber weapons belong in situations where the ranges are more than 100 meters and/or where targets are likely to be barricaded, etc. Here the increased power is an advantage rather than a wasted liability.

So, having considered these basics, let's delve a bit into the more abstract factors. How about *ability* for a start? One man's prize is another man's bane, eh? Like Dirty Harry decking three guys at damn near 100 meters, offhand, with a S&W M29 .44 Magnum, while under fire, no less! Well, maybe some guys can do that, but I can't, and what's more, I don't know of anyone who *can*. Along these lines, you *must* seriously evaluate your skill with the weapon that you will be using in that life or death situation, and evaluate it *realistically*. If you don't, ego problems will be the least of your worries, because you'll be a dead man.

The *tactical situation* is another, critically important facet of consideration. Those of us who have been in com-



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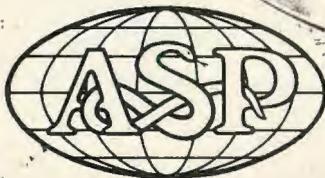
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bat usually have a difficult time remembering the order in which events transpired because we were *too busy adapting ourselves to whatever tactical situation was presenting itself at that particular time*. Who has time to worry about it, right? You'd best try, at least, or you'll find yourself ill prepared to address the events you'll have to face in battle.

Generally, a person of average build and skill should not use a select-fire weapon in the full-auto mode past 35 meters, provided the weapon is being fired unsupported. A sweeping statement? *Not in actuality*, based on my experience. Most people cannot hit a man quickly at ranges in excess of 35 meters without expending excessive quantities of ammunition in the process. This creates a condition of logistic headache at best, and is easily precluded by leaders insuring that their men use their weapons within their capabilities.

There are more factors, but these alone will suffice to make my point. As with anything that you are literally betting your life on, *think about it* — NOW, not after you're out in the bush. Then it's too late.

I value my hide quite highly — you should too. If you don't — you deserve what you get, right?

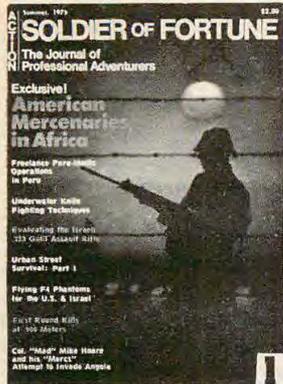
Use of Bullets Other than Ball-Type In Military Arms

Over the years, I've been told countless times that one should only use ball ammunition in military and automatic arms. Though as a junior officer I blindly believed this, I eventually became suspicious of the basic philosophy involved. It just didn't make sense that military weapons, which must be versatile, dependable, accurate, and rugged should be confined to using only military ammunition. What if one only had commercial or handloaded ammo available?

I've done some serious testing of my own, and am happy to report that the "ball-ammo-only" theory is pretty much hogwash. The following cross-section of weapons were tested and all functioned normally and shot accurately with HP/SP ammunition of both the commercial and handloaded variety.

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2. M3/M3A1 cal. .45 ACP "Grease gun" SMG.
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4. Reising M50/M55 cal. .45 ACP SMG.
5. M1918/M1918A2 (BAR) cal. .30-06 automatic rifle.
6. M1919A4/M1919A6 cal. .30-06 LMG.
7. M60 cal. 7.62mm NATO LMG.
8. M14 cal. 7.62mm NATO rifle.
9. Armalite AR10 cal. 7.62mm NATO rifle.

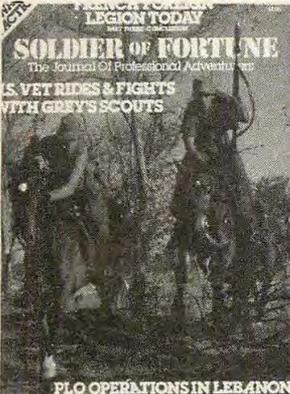
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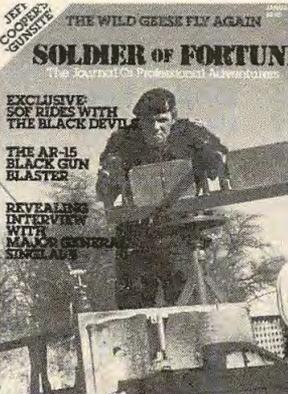
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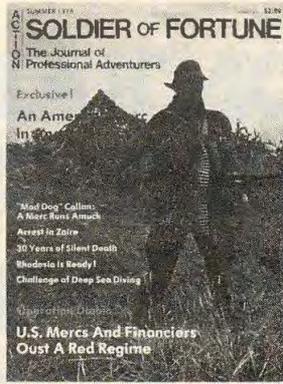
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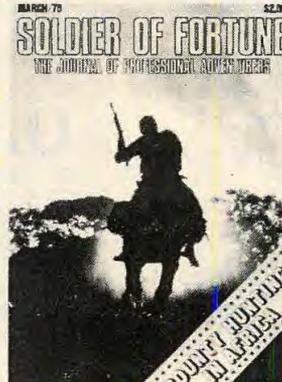


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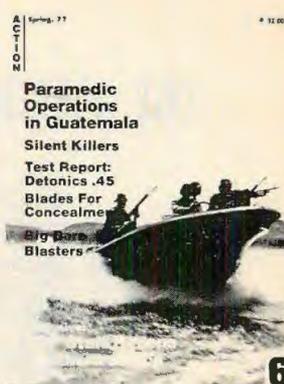
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COMBAT PISTOLCRAFT

Jeff Cooper & Ken Hackathorn

SOF's Combat Pistolcraft column welcomes letters from our readers. If you have a good question or contribution, send it in to Jeff Cooper, care of Soldier of Fortune, P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306. For a quick, personal reply, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Q. I have been wondering about the different .357 mags. I know the quality of S&W, Colt, and Dan Wesson, but what of the other makes? I would like to know what you have to say about the quality of .357 mag. — for combat or police duty — of High Standard, Ruger, Astra, and Taurus. Would any of these be worth buying?

I would also like to know your thoughts on the .41 mag. for police service.

D.B.
Kaysville, Utah

A. *Quality control is a very tricky subject. As fast as one forms an opinion about the care used in weapons manufacture by the various companies, they seem to change their personnel, or their policies, or both, and invalidate one's conclusions. I cannot, in truth, tell you that a Colt, a Smith & Wesson, a Ruger, etc., is of such-and-such quality. Some are and some aren't. It's unfortunately a matter of picking out the individual piece and having it examined by a competent person.*

I think that if I were restricted to a .357 revolver I would look first to the Ruger Security Six. If I could not find an example of proper quality I would then branch out. Colt and Smith & Wesson revolvers have been produced in the past of quality second to no machine product in the world. The times and runs change.

Q. My questions are in reference to reloading explosive projectiles: Are they effective and accurate? How about for long range? Which is best for combat? What type powder would you use and how much? Would it be effective against body armor or useless? How about self-made mercury bullets?

K.A.T.
Savannah, Georgia

A. *Explosive projectiles for small-arms ammunition have been experimented with by the ordnance departments of the various nations of the world for generations. The consensus seems to be that more can be done by utilizing the impact energy of a homogeneous missile than by trying to increase it by the use of an explosive charge contained within it. Very little can be packed into a small-caliber bullet, and the fusing problem poses considerable hazard in handling.*

That mercury-filled bullet concept that Forsythe put into the Day of the Jackal was something of a joke. In general, British novelists should stay away from the technicalities of weaponry since they seem to have no background in it.

Q. Please voice opinion on numerous stainless steel accessories for 1911 Colt .45. Do top combat match competitors use any, all, or just a select few of these accessories (such as stainless steel extended slide release, stainless steel extended safety, other internal parts)?

Also, which do you think has the best complete handgun for combat use: AMT Hardballer, AMT "Skipper 4," Vega stainless .45; Crown City "Condor" stainless .45?

Do you think a Colt Government blue model with a few combat accessories is the way to go rather than an all-steel, off-brand gun?

G.M.B.
Anchorage, Alaska

A. *Stainless steel components for the 1911 series pistol are becoming more widely used all the time. Some manufacturers are better than others, of course, but the rust-proof nature of these items has definite advantages in a moist climate such as that of Anchorage.*

As of now, I feel that the Colt is still the best version of the 1911 pistol. The other manufacturers do not yet seem to have solved the problem of quality control. (This does not include the Browning BDA or the Heckler & Koch P-9S, both of which are very well made arms, but in my opinion overly clumsy in the shooter's hand.)

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Customers use it on tools, camera parts, knives, camp gear, motorcycle exhaust pipes and engine parts. The newest one being the black rib on stainless hand guns, like the 45 auto or some of the Dbl. action 357 mags. To apply, tape the sides of the slide or barrel, leaving the top of the barrel and frame on revolvers exposed, sand blast this area to make a matte surface. Warm the gun, spray the light fog passes of coating and bake at 300° for 1 hour.

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Q. As a reserve police officer I am in need of a concealable off-duty weapon. Unfortunately, most small weapons use "small" ammo which I would not want to trust my life to. I am very impressed with the Detonics .45.

I agree with you: the way to carry an auto is "cocked and locked." I am a southpaw, however, and have trouble with the Detonics safety. Will Swenson's ambidextrous safety work on it? If not, would a competitor be able to manufacture one?

Also could you comment on the reliability of the 5.56mm Bushmaster.

D.P.H.
Seattle, Washington

A. There is no particular difficulty (apart from expense) in fabricating a left-handed safety for the Detonics. However, my personal preference would be for the aluminum Commander with Swenson (or other) left-hand safety fitted as standard. It may be that a standard "left-handed safety" will fit the Detonics pistol, but I do not have first-hand knowledge of this.

I have used only one example of the "Bushmaster" and it was a highly unsatisfactory arm. It was not only marginally reliable, but extremely difficult to use and of dubious utility.

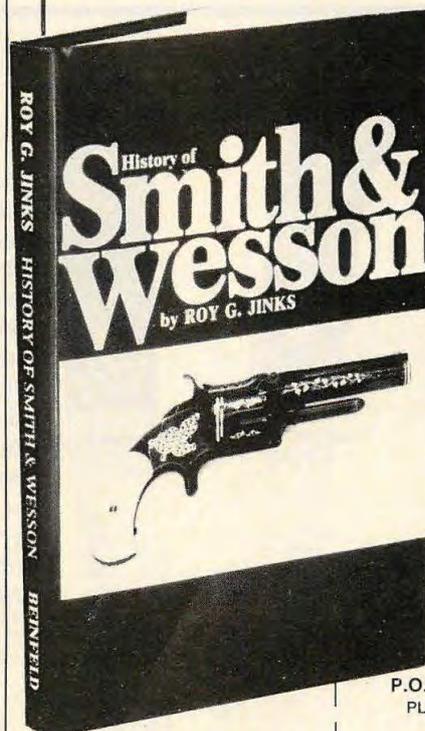
THIS month Ken Hackathorn analyzes magazine carriers for combat shooting and police work. He cites the advantages and disadvantages of covered and open-top carriers, listing their top U.S. manufacturers. He also analyzes concealed-carry pouches and front and side magazine carries.

THE practical pistolero has pretty well settled on the semi-autoloading pistol for his choice of sidearm. The superior fire power that this style of pistol offers is one of the most decisive reasons for this choice. The key to this advantage is in the concept of spare ammunition carried in extra magazines worn on the belt.

From the 1911's introduction, the system for spares has been a double magazine pouch with protective flap to cover the magazines. In his book, *A Rifleman Goes To War*, McBride describes the method of wearing both the service pistol and spare magazine pouches in the small of the back. This way, trench raiders protected pistol and magazines from the ever-present mud of no man's land.

The covered magazine pouch is still the most logical choice for the soldier, and the original G.I. issue is hard to beat. European police and military forces were fond of putting the spare magazine in a pouch attached to the holster, since it keeps both pistol and magazine together for issue

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purposes. However, it is slow and clumsy if quick reloading is necessary.

Proper technique dictates that the pistol always remain in the firing hand for loading, unloading, and remedial action. To switch the pistol to the weak hand for any of these actions is a sure sign of a beginner. In the U.S. military the pistol is worn on the right hip and the magazine pouch is on the left. This way spare magazines are available to the weak hand for the quick change.

The market is flooded with double magazine carriers with flaps over the top for protection and security. Unfortunately, if one needs a spare magazine, he is likely to need it in a hurry. And the flap-covered pouch is a distinctly slow operation. Times have changed with numerous open-top double-magazine carriers being offered to the practical pistolero.

The first and one of the finest designs ever offered was built by Andy Anderson over a decade ago. It is the standard that we judge the others by, and it still serves extremely well. It uses the tension provided by the retainer tab to hold the magazines in the pouch during active physical movement. With the bottom of the

magazine exposed, the wearer can grab and pull the magazine free, then insert it into the weapon with one swift motion.

This trick sets auto pistols such as the Colt Government Model and the P-35 Browning way out in front when reloading and fast followup shots are needed. Even the best revolver men can barely hope to catch up with the slam loader when the user knows what he is going. Try reloading a revolver in the dark or on the run.



Andy Anderson

The auto pistol has no equal in this respect. The Andy Anderson double magazine pouch is available from Roy's Custom Leather Goods, Inc., P.O. Box G, Highway 132, Magnolia, Arkansas 71753.



Milt Sparks 1-D

The practical shooter's current favorite is Milt Sparks' Model 1-D magazine carrier. It is extremely well made, offers plenty of security, and provides a good grasp on the magazine itself, since almost half

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The **Natchez®** is a medium size combat knife built by hand to exacting standards of quality. The 4 inch blade is ground and finished by hand from 440-C stainless. The Micarta handle is fitted with brass double guard and brass rivets and lanyard hole liner. The sheath is made from the finest leather and is designed with a built-in steel retaining spring and a clip for boot or belt carry.

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The **Argonaut®** with black Micarta handle and stainless steel mountings is designed for underwater use or any conditions which might be too corrosive for ordinary knives. Divers will find the serrated blade especially useful as will anyone who might need a highly specialized tool for escape and evasion tactics. The **Argonaut®** is furnished with an exclusive waterproof sheath and leg harness.

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of the magazine is exposed. Milt's double carrier also allows you to wear both magazines facing to the front for speed loads with both spare mags. Milt Sparks, Box 7, Idaho City, Idaho, 83631 offers this carrier in a number of finishes and mates it to his various combat holster rigs.



Gordon Davis Bikini



Gordon Davis .45 MP

California 91006. His current design is ideal for both combat match shooters or the police duty belt. Gordon Davis did make a very low cut double pouch that left less than half the magazine encased. It was very fast to use, but offered only fair security. I use one for fast reload stages in matches where time is critical such as the "El Presidente."



Bianchi Model 30 Clip-Grip

Another popular double carrier used by competition shooters is the 45MP made by Gordon Davis, P.O. Box 446, Arcadia,

Bianchi now markets their Model 30 Clip-Grip. It is a very secure pouch with

All these double magazine carriers are made of heavy construction that should

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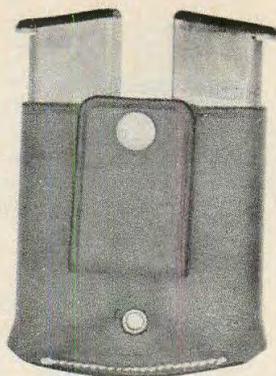
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SOF

be ideal for police duty or military use. Their rugged design will make them top choice for the combat match shooter also.

PACKING spares when carrying a concealed pistol requires a much more specialized magazine carrier. The pouch must be less bulky and be comfortable for periods of long wear. The belt slot is usually 1 1/4 inches for the trouser belts that concealed use requires. For plain clothes police or even bodyguards, the double mag pouch must be secure, yet easy to reach from under a coat or sweater.

Lou Alessi, 2465 Niagara Falls Blvd., Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150, makes two of the best. His inside-the-pants version works very well and is placed correctly for a good grasp of the magazine. He also offers a snap-on-the-belt model (S/S Double Mag Case) that is handy and a nice mate to his excellent Summer Special Holster. For normal duty or concealed carry, the double mag case is worn on the left side of the body (for a right hand shooter). This way the empty magazine is dropped from the gun while the pistol is in the firing hand. At the same time the other hand (left) goes to the mag pouch, draws the magazine with the bullets pointing to the front, inserts it into the butt of the pistol, and resumes firing. The left-side carry has



Lou Alessi Inside-the-Pants

been standard and is a basic teaching point at Jeff Cooper's A.P.I. School.

IN the past few years many top competition shooters have gone to wearing the magazine pouch in the front slightly right of the belt buckle. The first person to use this method in the circles that I travel was IPSC Vice President Dick Thomas. Since Dick used a shoulder holster, he had to change his mag case from the left-side carry. By using the front position, his reloading was made easier due to the economy of movement, plus the whole changing operation is in front for speed and visual guidance.

Top U.S. shooters can demonstrate amazing speed reloads with this system. John Davis, IPSC "A" class shooter, performs this feat with only one-second delay from shot to shot with a magazine change in between. Raul Walters, top U.S. contestant (IPSC "AA" Rated) has mastered the front magazine carry with exceptional speed even while moving at a dead run. This method is, however, not very comfortable for daily wear or duty applications.

Pick whichever you desire — conventional side carry or modified front — and practice until this technique is natural.



Target Terrorism: PROVIDING PROTECTIVE SERVICES

ter . ror . ism (tēr / ərɪz / am), N.
 1. The use of methods to dominate or coerce by intimidation. 2. State of fear and submission so produced. 3. A method of resisting a government or of governing.

This timely, in-depth text explains how all the pieces of the terrorism puzzle fit together. **Target Terrorism** is a "how-to-do-it" resource that provides answers and knowledge to help you understand and effectively combat the threat of terrorism. Most books dealing with terrorism focus on single case studies or theoretical analyses. The authors of **Target Terrorism** adopt a different approach as they take the reader through a unique, step-by-step discussion on the subjects of: The Targets of Terrorism • Assassinations • Kidnappings • Hostage Taking • Bombings • Extortion • Noxious Substances • and Risk Reduction.

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Lawyer Exposes Entrapment Tactics & Techniques

BATF Gestapo

by David T. Hardy

David T. Hardy is a partner in Sando and Hardy, a Tucson, Arizona, law firm. He was formerly associate editor of the Arizona Law Review, has worked on gun control issues with the Second Amendment Foundation and the National Rifle Association, and has published legal articles on gun control in the Chicago-Kent Law Review, the William and Mary Law Review, and Business and Society Review. He has served as task force director of the Task Force to Investigate BATF Enforcement Activities, sponsored by the Second Amendment Foundation, whose report will shortly be published in book form.

A previous draft of this article appeared in Arms Gazette, March 1979.

THE enforcement activities of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms depend heavily upon surprise and entrapment. The gun owner or dealer is usually maneuvered by the Bureau into a position where he believes he is acting in a legal manner, but the Bureau notes or can argue in court that the activities are technically illegal. Since lack of intent or knowledge of the law is no defense — one court has even ruled that reliance on the opinion of an attorney is no defense to a prosecution under the 1968 Gun Control Act — the Bureau can then take advantage of the person to be prosecuted.

Too many honest gun enthusiasts believe that their activities are completely legal and their intent is to be law-abiding, and thus conclude that "it can't happen to me." The truth is almost exactly the opposite. The bureaucrats within the BATF are faced with a serious problem. The BATF's traditional area of enforcement was illegal alcohol. But this has virtually become extinct due to rising sugar prices; the number of illegal stills raided has fallen from 15,000 in 1956 to under 300 in 1978. In short, the Bureau is faced with bureaucratic extinction unless it is able to shift quickly into the firearms enforcement field. But to shift from one field into another requires that an agency convince Congress and the public that its efforts are needed and will be successful.

The agency must produce a "body count," of arrests, convictions, and con-

fiscations. Arresting and confiscating firearms from a radical group, organized criminals, or even ordinary street criminals is apt to be extremely dangerous: moreover, undercover infiltration takes time and skill. Arresting and confiscating firearms from someone at a gun show, or a licensed dealership, on the other hand, is quite safe and takes little time. If a given office of the agency desires to claim 20 arrests and 500 guns confiscated in the next three months, it is far easier to entrap 20 gun collectors than it is to hunt down 20 radicals or mobsters. Proof of this was obtained when I requested, under the Freedom of Information Act, the BATF's "Reports of Property Subject to Judicial Forfeiture," which listed firearms confiscated by the Bureau during 1977 and 1978. The list ran to 760 pages: after a lengthy, gun-by-gun analysis, I concluded that (although the Bureau has repeatedly claimed that the "Saturday night special" is used in the majority of street crime) only 4.04% of firearms confiscated were in fact "Saturday night specials" within the Bureau's definition. On the other hand, the Bureau had found time to confiscate 23 Lugers (including several Eagle models, a DWM 1910, and a Snail Drum), over 20 1896 Mauser automatics, and many other collector items. Thus it is apparent that the most honest person is, in fact, the favorite and best target for Bureau activities.

And those activities can be large scale. One BATF report, received by me in the course of a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit, boasted of seizing 1,300 guns from gun shows in the counties surrounding Washington, D.C., over a period in 1976-77.

TO defend yourself after an arrest is costly in terms of finances, worry, and reputation. The best weapon against entrapment is a full knowledge of the schemes which are used to entrap honest gun owners and how to recognize them. While there have been a great many articles complaining of ATF activities, very few of them describe precisely what those activities are. I will attempt here to outline the more popular entrapment forms, in

the hopes that gun owners will be able to recognize when they are being "set up." The two most popular are the "straw man" and what I call the "implied dealership" schemes.

THE STRAW MAN

The "straw man" entrapment is directed almost exclusively at FFL dealers. Most shooters are familiar with the manner in which so many children obtain their first firearm — their father buys it for them on Christmas or a birthday. The "straw man" entrapment uses a variation of this, with the Bureau arguing that the purchaser (in this example, the father) is really only a "straw man," the real purchaser being the person to whom the gun is given by the "straw man."

For reasons of jury appeal, the ATF does not use adults buying for children. Instead, a resident buying for a non-resident, or a person with a clean record buying for a felon, is used. The basic "set up" goes something like this:

1. A non-resident or felon goes into a gun store and asks to buy a particular gun. The deal proceeds normally, but when the prospective purchaser gets around to the 4473, he announces that he cannot sign it. He may go farther and say that he is a felon or non-resident, or he may simply insist that he can't sign it. The dealer of course refuses to make the sale.

2. The prospective purchaser asks if he could get someone else to purchase it for him, who is a resident or has a clean record. The dealer says, "Yes, I will sell to that other individual, and if he gives it to you that is his responsibility."

3. The prospective purchaser returns at a later date with another person, who produces local identification or claims to have a clean record.

4. At the time of the sale, the non-resident or felon is the one who produces the money, and usually picks up the gun from the counter.

5. After a time, which may range from a month to six months, the dealer is indicted on charges that he really sold to the felon or non-resident. He is usually charged

with two counts for each sale — one of selling to a prohibited person, one of keeping incorrect records (reporting the wrong buyer).

IN the course of this study, I obtained a transcript of an administrative hearing in which a "straw man" testified in an attempt to secure revocation of a dealer's license. At the request of the attorney handling the matter, names and locations have been omitted: the testimony opens with questions from the Bureau's attorney, followed by cross-examination by the dealer's attorney. It is interesting to note that the informant's story changes when the details are brought out and the various means by which he sought to make the sale more palatable to the dealer.

It goes without saying that both the non-resident or felon and the supposed buyer are ATF agents, usually equipped with recording devices to tape record the dealer's statements. The above are the major signs of an entrapment of this type. Other signs which should put the dealer on alert, but are not always present, include the following. The agents will usually be interested in purchasing pistols rather than shotguns or rifles. They may be especially interested in very cheap pistols or Magnums (to accuse a dealer of selling very cheap handguns, or Magnums, makes for dramatic press releases). They may complain of the federal firearms laws, hoping to get the dealer to make a statement on tape that he will help them get around the "paperwork." In many cases, the first sale is followed by a second solicitation, anywhere from a week to a month afterward, in order to demonstrate that the dealer is willing to make repeated sales of this type.

THE one good point of the "straw man" entrapment is that it is relatively easy to recognize. Dealers can guard against it simply by refusing to make a sale of the above type. A person who comes in, states that he cannot sign the 4473, or is a felon or non-resident, should always be treated with great suspicion and the dealer should, of course, refuse to make the sale. If he suggests that another person — a friend, a girl friend, or otherwise — would buy for him, the dealer should likewise refuse. If he leaves and returns with that person, and then produces the money to purchase the gun, a dealer may be virtually certain that he is dealing with an attempt at entrapping him.

"IMPLIED DEALERSHIP" ENTRAPMENT

A second form of entrapment is reserved for non-FFL dealers. It has not acquired a formal title, but I like to call it the "implied dealership" gambit. It is

especially deadly when used against collectors and those displaying at gun shows. Any collector who swaps or sells at a gun show, and does not have an FFL, should be especially alert for this manner of entrapment.

This ploy is permitted by the vague nature of the 1968 Gun Control Act. That Act requires all "dealers" in guns to obtain FFL licensing. The Act does not really define "dealer." Court cases which interpret that word have generally found that you are a dealer if you do *any* business in guns with an aim of making a profit. When I say *any*, I mean it. Courts have specifically held:

1. You can be a dealer in guns even if that is not your main work and you have full time employment at a non-gun job.

2. The government does not have to show any minimum number of gun sales or profits (contrary to some ATF agents' statements that a certain minimum number is required before you become a dealer).

3. You can be a dealer even if you did not show a profit, so long as it looks like you were hoping for one.

In *United States v. Williams*, 502 F.2d 581 (8th Cir. 1974), a conviction was upheld based on five firearms sales to an agent: the court expressly noted that there is no requirement of any minimum number of sales, volume of profits, or use of employees. It stated rather that "dealer means anyone who is engaged in *any* business of selling firearms" (emphasis from the Opinion).

In *United States v. Gross*, 451 F.2d 1355 (7th Cir. 1971), the appeals court upheld conviction of a store clerk who purchased used guns from customers (the store would not accept trade-ins), on the basis of the sale of six pistols and the agents' assertion that the prices were in excess of fair market value.

In *United States v. Day*, 476 F.2d 562 (6th Cir. 1973), another appellate court upheld a conviction based on four firearms sold to agents over a period of two months, with the defendant admitting at least one more sale to another person.

In *United States v. Jackson*, 352 F.Supp. 672 (S.D. Ohio 1972) a military firearms collector was convicted on agent testimony that he had 40 guns on display during a gun show, in a glass case (which the court for some reason considered important) and was observed negotiating with numerous people (although only two actual sales were witnessed).

In other cases, convictions have been upheld where an individual had a full time job with the YMCA, and had made a total profit of \$350 from gun sales over 17 months (*United States v. Wilkening*, 485 F.2d 234 (8th Cir. 1973), and in a case where the court admitted that "whether he actually realized a profit from these transactions is unclear" but noted that

"his purpose was certainly to obtain money," *United States v. Powell*, 513 F.2d 1249 (8th Cir. 1975). The decision in *Powell* went on to uphold the conviction despite the defendant's testimony that he had relied on the advice of an attorney that his activities did not constitute dealing: the court noted that a mistake of law is no defense to the charge.

SINCE the test is so vague, the BATF effort is directed at getting enough evidence to "get the case to the jury," and also at obtaining some material to prejudice the jury. The following tactics are often used, although they may be dispensed with in any individual case:

1. The intended victim is watched at several gun shows, and the number of sales are listed.

2. An undercover agent approaches the intended victim. He expresses interest in some of the guns. The victim usually asks if he wants to swap. The agent will instead suggest that he would like to buy. Several buys may be made by the same agents or by different agents at different gun shows.

3. The guns are traced back and the price of which the dealer bought them is determined. The agents will usually buy at a high price with little negotiation; this ensures that the seller can be shown to have made a profit when he sold to them.

4. The agents may suggest that they would like to buy guns which the collector doesn't already own. If the collector says he can trade for them and perhaps come up with them later, he has just offered to sell guns which he doesn't already own — essentially, to serve as a middle man.

5. To bias the jury, agents will often pretend to be worried about gun confiscation and suggest they'd like guns without "paperwork." If the collector goes along with their statements, his words are later twisted to make it sound like he wants to deal "under the table."

If the dealer goes through with the above, he is generally indicted after a period of one to six months. Under the 1968 Act, agents can confiscate all guns being used in a violation of the law.² For this reason, the agents will frequently try to get the collector to say that he is willing to sell any of his guns. Then, when the arrest is made at a gun show, they can seize every firearm that he owns or has with him.

TO obtain the return of the firearms, the dealer most often has to file a \$250 bond (for the costs of the government should he lose), retain an attorney at an expense of several thousand dollars, and endure substantial delay. In one of the confiscation reports obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, the Bureau's own records show a seizure of

Continued on page 77

1979 National Sporting Goods
 Association Show
NSGA Show:
State-of-the-Art Hardware
 by N.E. MacDougald

THIS year's National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) Show seemed quieter than the last two that SOF covered. Held in Chicago's McCormick Place, the show

was similar to most, but we felt a couple of conditions contributed to its lackluster quality. First, the SHOT show held last month in St. Louis [see May SOF] stole thunder from the firearms/knives exhib-

its. Second, record snowfalls plus sub-zero wind-chill factors scared off all but the hearty.

Following are items of interest from both the NSGA and the SHOT Shows.

CLOSE TO THE VEST

GARTH COMPANY, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 14354, Tampa, Fl 33690, sells a product called Uni-vest that incorporates a holster on the left side. According to sales manager Garcia, the vest accommodates handguns with barrel lengths from 2" to 6½."

Made of blue indigo denim, it is available in S-M-L-X. Price is \$39.95. Literature can be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope.

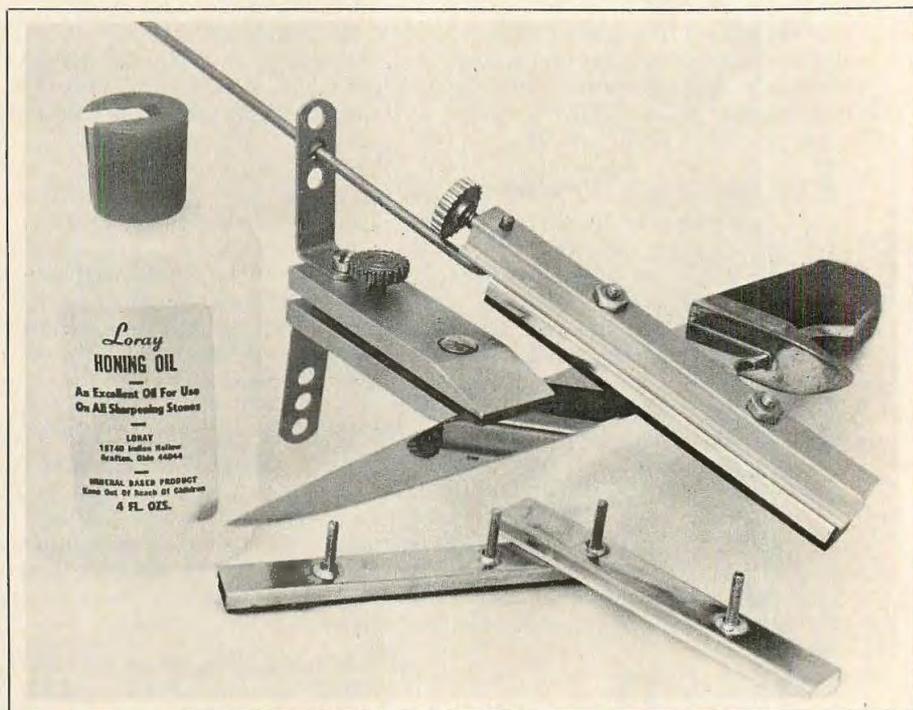


Vest holds Colt .45 plus two magazines.

KEEN HONE

LORAY KNIFE SHARPENER, Dept. SOF, 16740 Indian Hollow, Grafton, Ohio 44044, claims anyone can put a razor edge on a blade, thanks to their sharpening system. The basis of the system is a hone holder that keeps the blade at a cons-

tant angle, which is adjustable by the user. The kit also contains honing oil, one each: fine, medium and coarse stones. Price \$24.95. The Loray Knife Sharpener is also available from **HORIZON INDUSTRIES**, P.O. Box 18859, Dept. SOF, Irvine, CA 92713, (741) 835-7232.



Contents of Loray's honing system, knife not included.

DIVING/SURVIVAL KNIVES

WENOKA CUTLERY, Dept. SOF, 85 North Avenue, Natick, MA 01760, (617) 655-2615, has just introduced three new knives, known as the Wenoka PRO® Series.

Model 7901 (left), a working knife with chisel-head blade; model 7902 (center) a survival knife with pointed blade; and the 7905 (right) a scaled-down version of the 7901 that can be used as a piggy-back sheath model.

Blades are 400 series stainless with a brushed finish; hand-cut saw blade; and hand-tooled line cutter. The solid rubber handle has an integral quillion and is contoured for a better grip. A swell near the butt of the knife protects the hand when the butt cap is used as a hammer. The full-length tang is welded to the butt cap.

Wenoka also makes 40 other models of diving and sportsman knives. Price for the 7901 and 7902 is \$45, price for the 7905 is \$22.50.



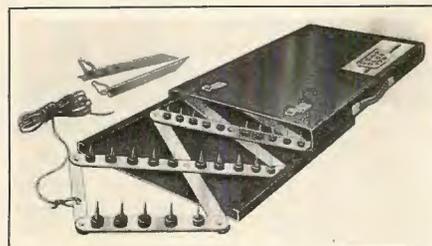
Left to right: Model 7901, Model 7902, Model 7905.

STOPPING INFLATION

HLB SECURITY ELECTRONICS, LTD., Dept. SOF, 211 East 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017, (212) 986-1367, sells the Road Bloc 170, a portable self-contained tire deflator. The "expandable tong" allows the 170 to be deployed in less than 15 seconds to a length of 21 feet, according to HLB.

Detachable "air valve" spikes are designed to break off the frame and quickly deflate tires, bringing the vehicle to a halt. Once imbedded into the tire, the spike acts as a quick release valve. Spikes are retrievable and reusable.

HLB claims the 170 has proven 100% effective at speeds above 20 miles per hour. Originally designed by the British Army, who conducted over 70 test runs on steel belted radials, the 170 has proven effective and safe according to HLB. Price on request.



NEW PACK/HARNESS

LOCO'S IEM, Dept. SOF, P.O. Drawer B, Lafayette, CO 80026. Photo credit: G.A. Martin/Design a la Mode. New frameless pack/harness system is a welcome addition to those available to the professional adventurer. It borrows heavily from LAS's excellent expedition pack (see SOF, Sept. 1977) and goes it one better by including an integral harness for climbing, rappelling, and parachuting. For anyone frequently using both pack and harness, this seems the answer. Non-glare, black exotic plastic hardware and nylon pack material make the new Loco a natural for low profile, er, camping. Don't be surprised to see a test and evaluation of the Loco in a forthcoming issue.



Loco's harness used here to rappel. Note side pocket.

Administration Sells Out UNITA & FNLA

Carter Betrays Angolan Freedom Fighters

by Ernie Volkman

To the guerrillas of FNLA and UNITA forces still fighting Angola's Marxist regime — and its 25,000 Cuban "advisers" — eventual victory, while not exactly around the corner, seems at least possible. In the ancient maxim of guerrilla warfare, they can win by simply not losing — and the longer they can inflict casualties on the Cubans and the longer they can keep Angola's economy paralyzed, the better their chances seem to be.

But they're wrong.

What they don't know is that they are now in the process of being sold down the river. And who is selling them out? The United States, which is most responsible for their existence, and which has done the most to encourage them to sacrifice their lives in the name of anti-Communism.

In short, UNITA and FNLA have become pawns in a complicated game of international politics — and those pawns are now being sacrificed in a gambit the Carter administration says will "restore stability" to southern Africa. Officially, the administration's move is called "strategic pragmatism," although the fact



MPLA troops pass in review. Russians have provided MPLA and Cuban mercenaries with continuing stream of modern ordnance.

of the matter is that the United States has decided that anti-Communist guerrillas in Angola have outlived their usefulness.

Basically, here's what's happening:

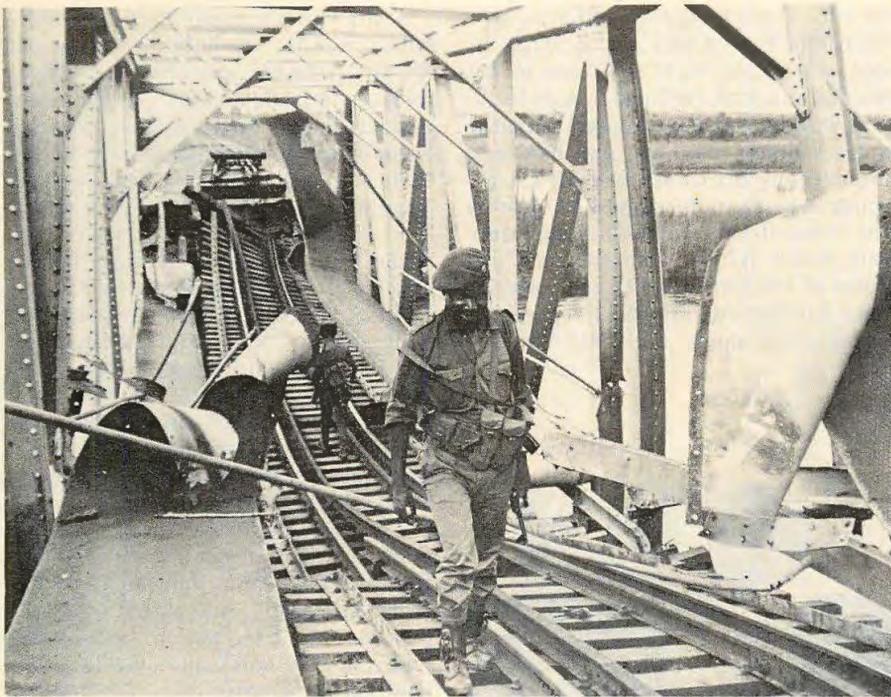
In July 1978, President Carter sent Ambassador Donald McHenry on a secret

mission to Angola. During talks with Angolan officials, McHenry said Carter wanted "peaceful relations" with that country's Marxist leaders. As a demonstration of "good faith," McHenry told the Angolans, the United States would pressure Zaire to stop supporting FNLA guerrillas under Holden Roberto and move to end support of UNITA guerrillas under Jonas Savimbi. The United States would also negotiate a new agreement with Angola and Zaire guaranteeing each other's borders. Also, an agreement would be worked out between Angola and Zambia, under which Zambia would stop providing help to UNITA.

Now, here's what everybody got out of the deal. First, Angola, in one swoop, got rid of two guerrilla movements that actually own various parts of the country and prevent any economic progress. Most importantly, the United States was promising to help reopen the Benguela Railway, Zambia's lifeline to the sea across Angola. Used for transport of Zambian copper, the railway is an important source of income for Angola, but has been closed for three years by UNITA

Russian MIG-17s supplied to Communist-backed MPLA at Luanda Airport. UNITA and FNLA have no air capability.





Vital Benguela rail bridge, destroyed during guerrilla war in Angola. This rail line is main route for Zairian copper shipments to Atlantic coast. Sloppy demo job.

guerrillas. In return, Angola has agreed to remove Katangese secessionists from the Zaire border areas (they carried out a big raid in Shaba Province, Zaire, last year, leading to French military intervention: see "Jump into Shaba," SOF, February 1979). Additionally, Angola has agreed to "think about" removing 25,000 Cuban troops from the country.

Zaire not only gets rid of the Katangese problem, but is also promised considerable American aid — recently, Carter approved a \$26-million aid package for its faltering economy. Zambia gets the Benguela railway reopened.

Neither FNLA nor UNITA was consulted on this little deal, of course, and considering the arms, advice, and encouragement the United States has given them over the years, their betrayal at this point is bitterly ironic. They should not be surprised, though, for as the Taiwanese, South Vietnamese, Laotians, and others have learned at terrible cost, there is often a big gap between what America promises and what it ultimately delivers. Cuban exiles, just to cite one example, are familiar with the pattern of being trained, armed, and encouraged to die in the name of American foreign policy, then later being told that the policy has changed, and they are no longer needed.

In the case of the anti-Communist guerrillas in Angola, precisely the same pattern is now being repeated. Like many others before them, they believed what the Americans told them: no matter what happens, the United States will always be

behind you. The betrayal in Angola was especially abrupt, and it might be valuable to take a close look at how it evolved, for it tells us much about how the covert war — or what's left of it — against international Communism has become so totally fouled up.

To begin at the beginning, you'll recall that UNITA and FNLA grew out of the factionalized guerrilla war against the Portuguese colonial government in Angola. That war, which went on for nearly 20 years, abruptly and unexpectedly ended in 1974, when a revolution in Portugal ended colonial rule in Angola. That led to a civil war between the Marxist guerrilla faction, MPLA, and UNITA and FNLA, the pro-Western factions. Thanks to Soviet and Cuban military aid, MPLA gained the upper hand early in 1976. The other two factions have continued a guerrilla war against the MPLA government, propped up by 25,000 Cuban troops.

Both FNLA and UNITA were covertly supported by the CIA, along with South Africa (which provided arms to UNITA), Zaire (which provided sanctuary to FNLA), and Zambia (which provided low-level logistics aid to UNITA). But the aid was nothing near the massive amounts of arms, including tanks and missiles, provided the MPLA by the Cubans and Russians, and not surprisingly, the MPLA got the upper hand. And even that low relatively low amount of support for the pro-Western factions was cut off by the U.S. Congress in 1976 after it found out about the secret CIA aid.

To be fair about it, Congress had a point: if we were going to help the pro-Western factions against all the military might shipped in by the Russians and Cubans, then a secret \$20-million aid program to UNITA and FNLA was half-assed and a waste of money. Either really help those people or get out.

Dr. Jonas Savimbi, charismatic leader of UNITA, continues to fight primitive guerrilla war with minimum of weapons, supplies.



And half-assed the CIA program was. In fact, Angola amounts to one of the agency's worst performances. Ineptitude was apparent from the beginning: in 1967, despite the fact that Angola's mineral wealth and location on the African sub-continent make it one of the most vital strategic areas in that area of the world, the CIA had a grand total of one man watching over things. And that one man was removed later that year when CIA headquarters didn't see much value to what he was telling them about Angola.

In 1970, The CIA suddenly realized that Angola might be important and sought to establish links with pro-Western guerrilla forces. Initially, CIA interest was focused almost exclusively on Holden Roberto's FNLA; Roberto was put on the agency payroll to provide information on the guerrilla situation. Incredibly, Roberto's duties included reports on UNITA, whose leader, Jonas Savimbi, was his rival. Naturally, Roberto's view of UNITA was somewhat jaundiced — at one point, he described Savimbi falsely as a "thief" who had stolen \$50,000 from FNLA after quitting Roberto's movement. At the same time, Roberto didn't bother telling the CIA that he was receiving arms aid from the Chinese and North Koreans.

For that reason, the CIA tended to underestimate the UNITA movement, despite the fact that Savimbi's followers were concentrated among Angola's Umbundu tribes, which form over a third of Angola's population and control the country's central highlands and southern plateau agricultural region. The CIA did not seem to understand that nobody could control Angola without the Umbundus — and it was Savimbi who controlled the Umbundus.

The agency was badly misled by numbers. By July, 1974, when the Portuguese revolution dramatically changed things in Angola, Roberto had 24,500 troops and Sam Savimbi only 3,000 — although Savimbi had greater popular support among the people in areas he controlled. Thus, the CIA bet most of its chips on Roberto, whose ill-trained troops proved to be no match for tanks and other modern weapons. And not surprisingly — FNLA troops were used to guerrilla warfare, not slugging matches using conventional tactics. The CIA made a second mistake: it assumed that Savimbi was militarily helpless, and when the Angolan transitional government took control on January 30, 1975, Savimbi's request for a mere \$100,000 in aid was rejected by the agency.

Savimbi turned to the South Africans for aid, with later disastrous consequences; hated by black Africans, the South African connection left a stain on Savimbi's movement from which he never recovered politically. By July, 1975, when the CIA realized it had made a mistake by betting exclusively on the FNLA, it was

too late. The few supplies and arms sent to Savimbi by the CIA at that time had no hope of making much difference in the eventual outcome. Defeated in open battle — as was the FNLA — Savimbi retreated to his southern bastions, and has been since fighting off Cuban and MPLA attempts to destroy him. Almost all his arms now come from clandestine shipments from South Africa, with the tacit approval of the United States and Zambia, which has allowed its border to be used as transshipment points for UNITA movements.



Youngsters start learning art of war at early age.

As for Roberto, he operates out of sanctuaries in Zaire, with aid provided by Zaire's president, Joseph Mobutu. The arrangement works well for Mobutu, who also supports a small guerrilla movement called FLEC (Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave), which is trying to take control of a small strip of Angolan land rich in oil wells. Mobutu has used FNLA, primarily, as a counterweight to Angolan ambitions and the ever-present danger of invasion by Katangese separatists now covertly trained and armed by the Cubans at camps in northern Angola.

South Africa's involvement also has a selfish motive: Savimbi helps dampen Marxist SWAPO guerrillas, who make forays into Southwest Africa from hideouts in southern Angola. Without Savimbi, the South Africans have felt, the Cubans would then move into southern Angola and organize SWAPO for a takeover of Southwest Africa. That, in turn, would form the base for a larger Cuban-directed effort against South Africa itself.

All of this, which amounted to something of a Mexican standoff, seemed to be just fine with the United States — until, that is, several months ago, when the Carter administration moved to change things. And that move may have awesome consequences, not only for Angola, but all of southern Africa as well.

The move began last spring, in a corridor of the U.S. Senate building. Senator Dick Clark of Iowa, the leading African expert in Congress and author of the law that cut off CIA aid to UNITA and FNLA in 1976, was buttonholed by Stansfield Turner, director of the CIA. Turner said he wanted to talk to Clark about Angola, and showed the senator a typewritten piece of paper stamped TOP SECRET. On the paper, Clark read of a plan to covertly send arms shipments to UNITA and FNLA forces via France. The arms list included Redeye surface-to-air missiles for use against Cuban jets operating in Angola.

Turner's conversation with Clark, an attempt to get the senator to support a new CIA effort in Angola, was the culmination of a fight that had raged for months within the Carter administration. On one side was Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's security affairs adviser, Secretary of Defense Harold Brown, and Turner. Alarmed at growing Cuban influence in southern Africa, they argued that only covert American intervention against Cuban forces in Angola would force the Cubans out. Brzezinski noted that UNITA guerrillas, though vastly outnumbered and outgunned, were tying down thousands of Cuban troops in the wilds of southern Angola. Both Brzezinski and Turner argued that American aid to UNITA — and to FNLA guerrillas fighting a low-scale war in the north — would turn Angola into "Cuba's Vietnam," ultimately costing them so many casualties, they would simply quit.

The argument was a supreme piece of cynicism, of course. As Turner and Brzezinski well knew, UNITA had no hope of decisively defeating the Cubans — but they hoped UNITA would be willing to sacrifice their lives in a war of attrition that would cause the Cubans large casualties and lead to their withdrawal from Africa.

On the other side, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and others argued that the plan wouldn't work — the Cubans would

simply send in more troops, and the Russians would send in bigger weapons. Vance said that the only possible solution to the problem of Cubans in Africa was political: the United States would have to negotiate some sort of a political settlement in Angola. And if that meant the end of UNITA and FNLA, that was just too bad.

Carter was in the middle of the argument, and while trying to make up his mind, ordered Turner to draw up what he described as a "contingency plan" for CIA aid to UNITA and FNLA. It was at this point that Turner took a copy of the plan to Clark. When Carter found out, he was furious, suspecting — rightly — that Turner was trying to force his hand. For that indiscretion, simply the latest in a long series of CIA blunders in connection with Angola, Turner lost the argument; Carter opted for the Vance plan for political negotiation.

And so we come to the diplomatic mission mentioned earlier in this account. Obviously, the American offer was attractive to Angolan Marxists, since it required them to give away very little. In exchange for curbing the Katangese — who had gotten the Angolans into hot water with the French and other Western European nations anyway, because of excesses during last year's invasion of southern Zaire — the Angolans got rid of two festering guerrilla problems. The United States agreed to pressure the South Africans to stop aiding Savimbi and to convince the Zambians to close their border to UNITA movements. At the same time, the Amer-



Most of FNLA and UNITA armored capability, such as this obsolescent Panhard armored car, have been destroyed. White mercs pictured here have long gone.

icans agreed to curb the FNLA by telling Mobutu that one condition of a new American aid program to get his economy straightened out was an end to support of the FNLA.

And what about the Cubans? The Angolans made vague promises about asking them to leave the country — someday, maybe. Since this was the ostensible reason for the whole American idea of political negotiation, selling FNLA and UNITA down the river without getting a firm guarantee of Cuban withdrawal seems a bad bargain. It seems even more so when you consider the fact that the

Angolans have claimed all along that the only reason they have Cuban troops in the country is to battle anti-government guerrillas.

So here's how the deal now looks: Zaire and Angola, under American prodding, have established "normal relations." Zaire has stopped support of the FNLA and FLEC. That latter group will now have to stop guerrilla operations, which threatened the safety of the oil-drilling complex operating there by Gulf Oil, whose \$500 million annual concession fee to Angola forms that government's major source of foreign exchange. Zambia has also established "normal relations" with Angola under American sponsorship, and the Zambians hope soon to begin shipping the huge backlog of copper ore that has been waiting for the Benguela Railway to reopen. Angola has disarmed and moved the Katangese away from border areas. The Southern Africans are being pressured by Washington to end support for Savimbi, in exchange for which the United States will support a political settlement in Southwest Africa that excludes SWAPO. Meanwhile, the Cubans remain.

And what about UNITA and the FNLA? As noted earlier, they have become expendable pawns. They will either have to make a political accommodation with a Marxist government they detest or fight on in the jungles against impossible odds.

Either way, they will die.

As is typical of communist countries, youth are introduced to art of war at early age.



Recruiting & Training In Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army

Rhodesian Terrorist 'Hit' Man Confesses

by Lewis Stoneham

Several American volunteers using the bar at Salisbury's Park Lane Hotel as their favorite "watering hole" noticed the disappearance of Matabele bartender Reuben Donga in February, 1977, when he failed to return from a visit to his mother in southern Rhodesia, near the Botswana border. His absence was soon forgotten. Memories were refreshed, however, when Donga was captured with a Soviet AKM assault rifle following a brief fire-fight by Rhodesian security forces in July, 1978, which left one of his companions dead and four others scampering off at top speed in the tall African veldt. Thorough interrogation by intelligence specialists brought forth some interesting confessions of a ZIPRA (Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army) "hit" man who sadly regretted leaving the Park Lane Hotel bar.

Reuben Donga claimed he was coerced into ZIPRA ranks while near his mother's home by three ZIPRA terrorists who took him and two other Matabeles across the border to a small guerrilla camp 50 miles inside Botswana near Francistown, where they spent six weeks together with 24 other "recruits." From Francistown they were flown to Lusaka, Zambia, and taken to the ZIPRA transit camp at Nyampundu in which some 4,000 soldiers and ZIPRA recruits were quartered. Zambian troops at the camp wore Soviet-bloc camouflage uniforms. Following transfer to a smaller camp some 30 miles northwest of Lusaka on the road to Angola, 2000 male and female recruits were crowded into 55 Soviet trucks guarded by Cuban troops and convoyed in a six-day trip to a major training camp at Boma township outside Luso city, 150 miles inside Angola.

The interrogators were told by Donga that hundreds of Cubans and 80 Russian military instructors were based at that camp. Training was conducted in English, using Soviet-supplied texts. There, the

Communist weekly training schedule included two days in guerrilla warfare, one day in close order drill, a day in explosives and demolitions, a day in "sambo wrestling" (judo and karate) and small arms marksmanship, and a full day of Marxist political indoctrination with alternate lectures by Cuban and Russian instructors.

Donga related, "We learned the life of socialism and that there was no God. In socialism, Africans and Europeans are one. You live together, you work together and everyone is paid the same, even the man who works on the roads.

Due to his superior marksmanship and weapons handling, Donga was selected with 47 other recruits for intensive guerrilla training, which ended in November, 1977, when Joshua Nkomo, head of the "Zimbabwe African People's Union" (ZAPU — of which ZIPRA is its armed force), flew in with Cuban, Soviet and Angolan officials to review his new troops.

Following the ceremonial review, Donga told of a two day "beer bust": "We had Coca-Cola, beer, and for the first time, nice rice and good soup. People got drunk. Nobody slept. The Cubans brought out drums and guitars and everybody sang. The Russians joined in. There were Cuban and Soviet girls there. The girls of the Soviet even danced with us, I will always remember that." Embracing, willing, white Communist females was the Matabele bartender's thrill of a lifetime.

Another ZIPRA base operated by the Soviets and Cubans is located near Sa' da Bandiera in southwest Angola. Following completion of their training, approximately 2,000 ZIPRA guerrillas from the two camps were flown by Angola state airline Boeing 707s to Lusaka, Zambia, where operational assignments were issued.

Back in Zambia, 12 ZIPRA members, including Reuben Donga, were carefully selected as an elite assassination section.

Nkita Mangena, the late ZIPRA field commander, at his Lusaka headquarters, gave the section its assignment: "Kill Bishop Abel Muzorewa! Kill Chief Jeremiah Chirau! Kill Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole! Kill James Chikerema! . . ." The four persons targeted are Negro members of the multi-racial Rhodesian Executive Council who are seeking an "internal settlement" without violence. Bishop Muzorewa heads the United African National Council (UNAC). James Chikerema, a former Nkomo deputy, is now UNAC vice-president.

The ZIPRA assassination section was subdivided into two hit squads, each headed by a Soviet-trained demolitions expert. Mangena instructed the assassins to live off the land after crossing the border enroute to Salisbury where the liquidation of the four moderate black leaders was planned to occur. Donga was issued an AKM manufactured in 1976, confirming that ZIPRA is receiving Soviet weapons fresh from the factory.

Crossing into Rhodesia from Zambia is usually conducted by ZIPRA units in motorized rubber boats at night over the Zambesi River or Lake Kariba. On some occasions, Soviet helicopters flown by Cuban pilots are known to have landed ZIPRA terrorists deep inside the border region. Zambian troops normally provide cover for the ZIPRA water crossings.

After infiltrating into Rhodesia, Donga and a companion were ordered by his "hit" squad leader to exterminate a group of blacks allegedly loyal to Rev. Sithole. Donga confessed that on 14 July 1978, he and his companion gunned down the 17 innocent black civilians fingered by the squad leader with their AKMs. Two were men, and the remainder were women and children. This incident is typical of the terrorist campaigns waged in Rhodesia by ZIPRA and its ZANLA (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army) counterpart operating from Mozambique

under the auspices of ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union). ZAPU, operating from Zambia, and ZANU, operating from Mozambique, constitute the so-called "Patriotic Front" which is armed by the Soviet Union and trained by Russians, Cubans and East Germans. The bulk of the Soviet support, however, is behind the more warlike ZAPU and ZIPRA.

Following the July 14th massacre, Donga's "hit" squad encountered Rhodesian troops and panicked following a brief encounter which left one ZIPRA terrorist dead and another, Reuben Donga, captured. Upon completion of intelligence interrogation, Donga was permitted to be interviewed by newsmen. He told the reporters that Soviet and Cuban instructors "said we were to kill whites." A main

Rev. Sithole, James Chikerema, or anyone else of high rank or importance.

It is believed that ZIPRA has dispatched other "hit" teams into Rhodesia on the same mission. From Mozambique, it is known that ZANLA has also sent in terrorists to kill three of the moderate Negroes. ZANU's official publication, the *Zimbabwe News*, has recently issued a page one article headlined. "WHY SITHOLE, MUZOREWA AND CHIRAU MUST DIE!" It charges the three with collaboration with Ian Smith and the Rhodesian whites who built the country, and concludes: "We firmly hold to the view that Sithole, Muzorewa and Chirau will have to die. The people's hand is long; and their memories are wrought in

Matabele warriors to seize cattle and recapture former Mashona slaves in 1893, King Lobengula was defeated and Matabeleland was annexed to Mashonaland, thereby forming modern Rhodesia.

Should the whites lose control of the situation, "Zimbabwe" (a term coined by Arab slave raiders and originally applied to the "Zimbabwe ruins" where an ancient mining industry once existed) may once again become a divided country with Matabele ZIPRA hit men attempting to assassinate ZANU's Robert Mugabe and Mashona ZANLA hit men attempting to assassinate ZAPU's Joshua Nkomo.

In the meantime, any American sitting at the Park Lane Hotel bar, or at any



Communist theme was that Rhodesian whites sat in bars and had large swimming pools. Donga demonstrated for the Western newsmen how he had been trained to place grenades at the corners of swimming pools with a string attached to the pull ring.

Two of the 12-man ZIPRA assassination team sent into Rhodesia from Zambia to kill the top four moderate blacks have been accounted for, but the other 10 are presumably still alive and may now be walking the streets of Salisbury or lurking in the nearby countryside waiting for their chance to kill or maim Prime Minister Ian Smith, Bishop Muzorewa, Chief Chirau,

blood and their punishment is certain. So it is written, so let it be done."

Whether or not the ZIPRA/ZANLA hit men will succeed has yet to be demonstrated. Should, however, the Communist-led terrorists gain control of Rhodesia, it is almost a certainty that a civil war will erupt between the Matabele ZAPU and the Mashona ZANU, and their respective ZIPRA and ZANLA armed forces. Moscow is weighing the odds in favor of ZAPU.

It was Cecil Rhodes and the white pioneers who freed the Mashonas from Matabele enslavement in 1890 — after Matabele King Lobengula sold Mashonaland to Rhodes. Following an attack by

other gathering place in Salisbury or Fort Victoria, should keep his weapon handy for immediate use. Also, beware of Matabele and Mashona bartenders and servants. Check into what happened in 1896! (For those of you with Rhodesian history texts).*

*In 1896, the Matabeles rose against the whites and the Mashonas joined the rebellion. Personal servants were ordered to kill their white employers. The British-armed black police mutinied against the whites and 10 percent of the Caucasian population in Rhodesia was killed. This revolt was largely subdued by a single shot fired by American soldier of fortune Frederick Russell Burnham who assassinated the Matabele chief witch doctor, M'limo — instigator of the uprising — in his sacred ceremonial cave. (See "First Yank SOF in Rhodesia," SOF, May 1979.)



Test & Evaluation

South Africa's New Sub Carbine

Sanna 77

by Al J. Venter

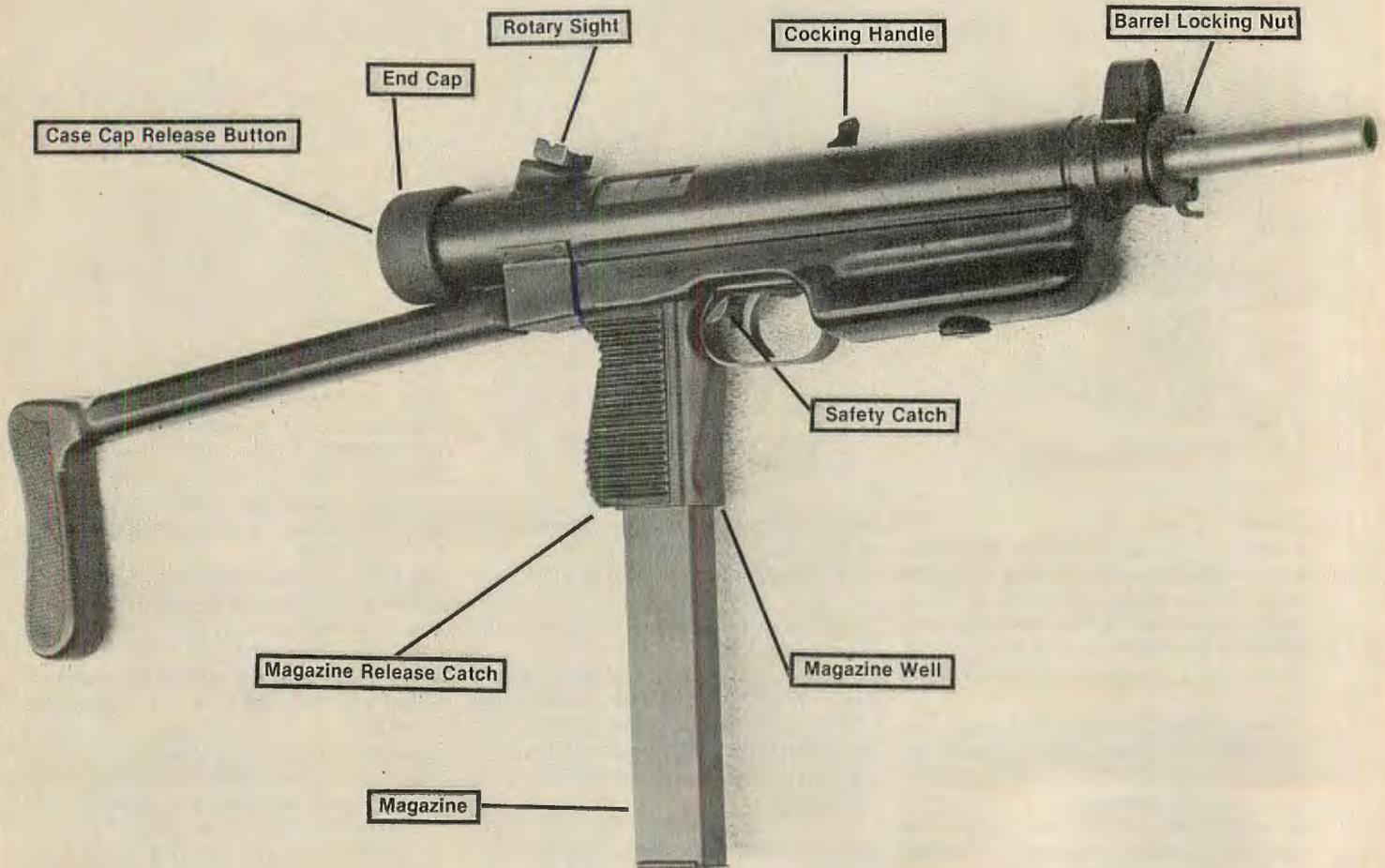
If ever a development deserved the overworn cliché, "Necessity is the mother of invention," then the spate of new weapon production in South Africa as a result of a United Nations arms embargo falls into that category. For certainly, no other country in recent history — with the possible exception of Israel — has embarked on so many new weapon ventures in so short a time.

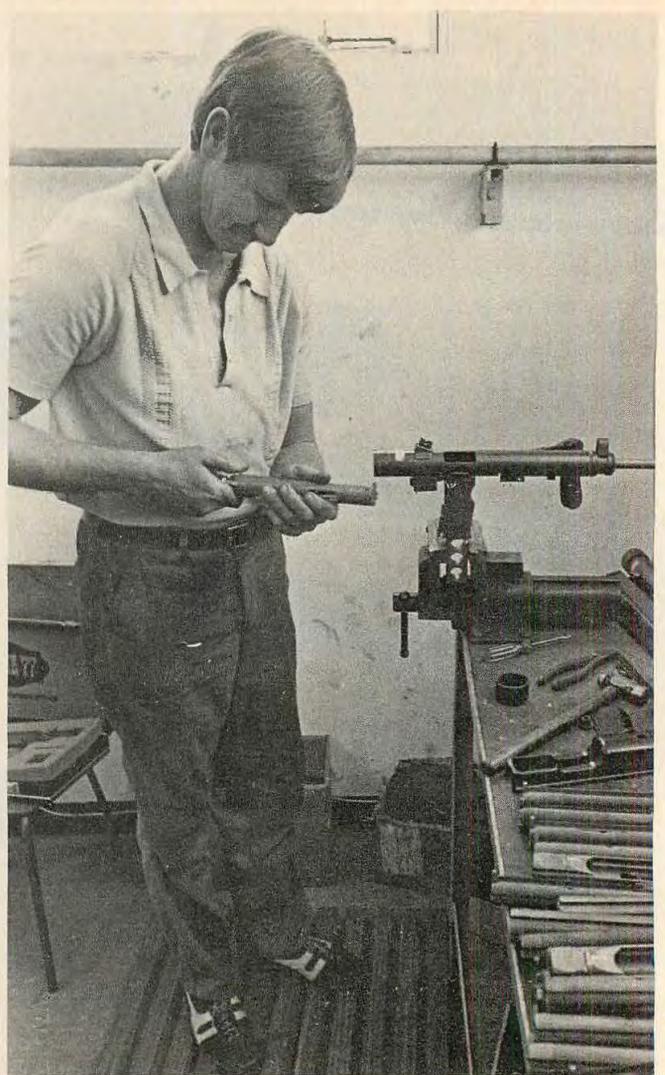
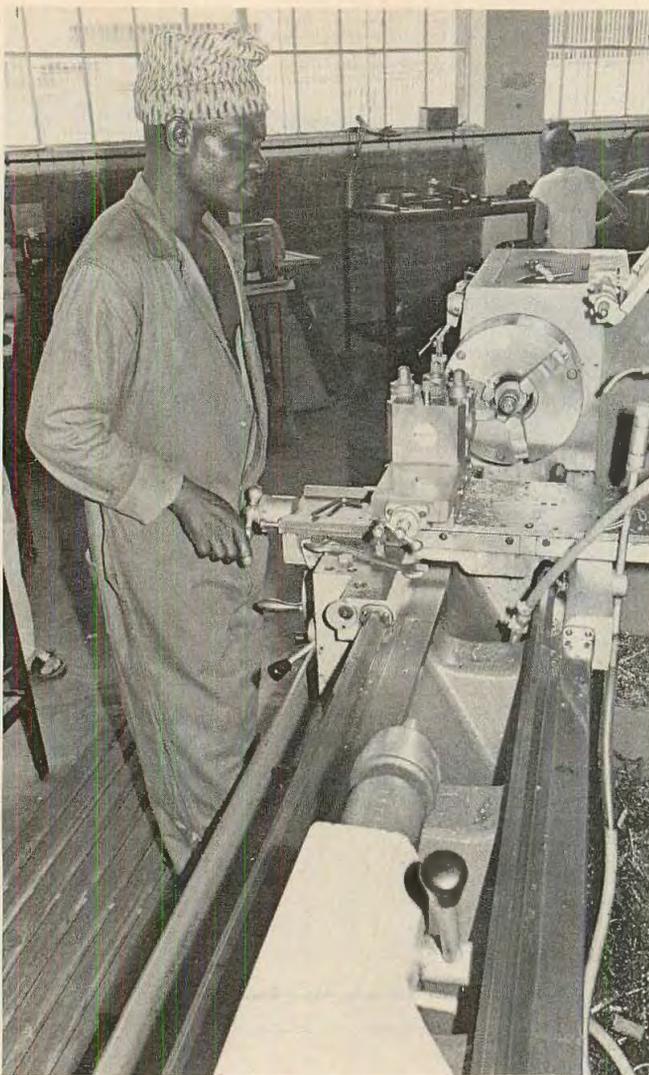
Just about every month, there is word on the grapevine of some new item of self-defense being produced by local manufacturers. The majority of hybrids are prototype; few of them reach full production stage. But occasionally there is one that attracts even overseas interest.

Such a weapon is the Sanna 77, South Africa's newest addition to a growing arsenal. It comes at a time when it is increas-

ingly difficult to get good quality handguns throughout much of the subcontinent.

The lines of the Sanna 77 provide that initial interest, for this semi-automatic 9mm Parabellum hand carbine is a light, handy weapon with all the attributes associated with personal survival. Examine the gun a little more closely and those of





Machinist fabricates Sanna 77 parts on lathe. Weapon as it comes with presentation case. Final stages of production take place here in fitting shop.



at first glance look equally adaptable to local circumstances.

Certainly, one of the prime considerations lies in the simplicity of the original version; it is a relatively simple matter for the factory to convert to full auto fire should the need arise and, of course, the necessary government authorization be forthcoming.

Designed in 1949 by Czech national Vaclac Holec, the Vz-25 was, for a while, standard issue to all Czech elite forces. Change came only after Russia forced all its satellite nations (the Czechs included) to conform to the standard Warsaw

Specifications of the Sanna 77

Caliber	9mm Parabellum
Effective Range	300 meters
Magazine Capacity	40 rounds 30 recommended
Barrel Length	289 mm
Rifling	6 groove
Weight	2.8 kg.
Length	450 mm
Length with butt extended	650 mm
Recoil	None
Can be shot with one hand	

Pact/Russian cartridge, 7.62 x 39mm, the same cartridge that is used in Kalashnikov assault carbines.

The Sanna then passed through an earlier, initial phase before it reached the Republic of South Africa to be modified and put into regular production by erstwhile South African Air Force chopper pilot-turned-entrepreneur and industrialist, Dan Pienaar.

The first time I spotted the South African configuration of the weapon, it was being used by Rhodesian troops at that country's "Sharp End." At that stage, it was being produced at a Salisbury

factory and was known among those that needed to know as the GM-15. Unlike the South African version, it was fully automatic as it emerged from the works.

Several members of Rhodesia's crack Special Air Services force who had used the GM-15 in combat situations remarked at the time that they regarded it as probably the most reliable small auto weapon available; the breech block was then being cast by a Johannesburg firm which specializes in that kind of work.

I spent half a day in Dan Pienaar's factory where the Sanna 77 is being produced; and what a change it was from the usual chaotic mess associated with arms production. Accompanied by Dave Sheer, one of South Africa's top gunsmiths, the experience was instructive.

Sheer commented that the last factory he had visited was the Sig-Hammerli complex in Switzerland and Pienaar's enterprise, in comparison, he found, was far more modern. It also appeared to have the edge on efficiency, since the Swiss were using systems that were already generations old, Sheer observed.

All production is centered on one factory floor which is tidy and well planned throughout.

Finished guns end up at an assembly room where specialists add the final touches and test fire the completed weapon. The entire process moves through about a dozen stages, and quality control, we saw, was stringent enough to result in those with flaws being discarded along the way; a minor fault in the Pienaar factory results in automatic rejection.

The assembled gun with its Gun Kote sheen — a non-corrosive and self-lubricating protective finish which is regarded as the most up-to-date military-type weapon protection available today — is then packed in its own compact briefcase-type container for handy carriage and storage.

The manufacturers of the Sanna maintain that the weapon — it's a fixed-striker, blowback-operated gun — has an effective range of 300 meters. But considering that it fires a 9mm round, I would regard 200 meters as an optimum range. Strikes at a greater distance are feasible but not practical. Close contact, of course, would be ideal; the weapon as it was originally designed in Europe was for close-quarter work.

As produced, the Sanna comes with two magazines each, with 40-round capacity, although 30 rounds are recommended by the manufacturers. The magazine well is situated in the pistol grip and provides excellent support. Unfolding the forward hand grip forms a shoulder butt.

A safety catch is situated directly behind the trigger in an easily accessible position. It is applied by moving it from left to right for "safe." Sights can be adjusted from 50 up to 200 meters.



Author prepares to test Sanna 77.

What makes the Sanna such a practical weapon is its overall length — only 450mm; with butt extended this is increased by a little more than a third. This compact design is achieved by the hollow breech block telescoping the rear of the barrel and results in ejection port being closed at all times except on case ejection.

Dan Pienaar's Sanna is designed around an astonishingly simple system. With the bolt in the rear (and ready) position, the trigger is squeezed. This depresses the sear and the breech block is driven forward by the recoil spring stripping a round from the magazine and forcing it into the chamber of the barrel.

The extractor engages in the extracting groove as the round is chambered and fired by the firing pin striking the primer. Blowback then drives the breech block rearwards; the empty case is pulled from the chamber, strikes the ejector, and is pushed out through the open port.

The most important safety feature of the Sanna is that when the magazine is removed the weapon is clear. No round is retained in the chamber. In one sense, this is foolproof and ideal for women and children handling under adverse conditions.

Stripping the gun is a simple operation. The magazine is first removed. The button in the center of the rear cap is depressed, turned 1/8th to the right or left and unlocked.

Once the cap has been pulled off, it is possible to slide the breech assembly rearwards by means of the cocking handle. The trigger is pulled and the breech block assembly slid out of the gun. That done, unclip the front grip, place the breech block over the barrel with the slots in the face engaging the lugs on the barrel locking nut. The nut is unscrewed by turning the block anti-clockwise. The barrel can now be pulled forward.

Dan Pienaar makes the point that it is not necessary to remove the barrel for cleaning purposes; in fact, he says, do not strip the Sanna unnecessarily.

The company recommends — as with most weapons in this range — that only high velocity ammo be used, that which achieves at least 1,200 feet (366 meters) per second. Inferior ammo, it is stated, can cause malfunctions.

The gun retails at a recommended selling price of about \$600 at current market rates, but since the factory produces only 500 Sannas a month, the demand is such that the weapons are not always available.

At the present stage an export potential is being examined.



Rhodesia's Tragical Terrorist War

The End Is Near

by Al J. Venter



Rhodesian chopper capability is hard pressed by growing influx of terrorists. Recently Rhodesia received 12 Bell 250s which are now in service to supplement the 66 Alouette, one of which is pictured here.

The camp as it stands today lies barely 10 minutes' drive outside Karoi, a farming town 200 kilometers northwest of Salisbury on the main road to Kariba, a region that has seen a steady intensification of the guerrilla war that started in earnest six years ago last December.

The only difference between this installation and dozens of other military strongpoints in the Operational Area which now encompasses about 4/5 of Rhodesia was the flag. Hung from an improvised flagpole, it was stuck up among a cluster of mud huts that characterize so much of this country.

With black, red, green, and yellow colors, it symbolized "the flag of our liberation," as it was phrased by a man calling himself Comrade Misunga, the black AK-toting "Commander" of the region.

Six Rhodesian Light Infantry troops disembarked at Misunga's camp early one December morning last year; all were immediately apprehensive of the greeting that was first accorded to them. Their spokesman, a Welsh sergeant with four years' service in the RLI behind him, explained:

"Christ! It was like going into an enemy camp. Every one of the bastards — there

were about 80 of them — was armed with a commie weapon and each one of them was holding his piece at the ready. And these were supposed to be our allies now . . ."

The sergeant and his five buddies were immediately surrounded by the black soldiers.

Neither side was overly friendly towards the other. After all, as he explained, until very recently they had been at each other's throats at every opportunity. He had lost friends to these people — "We call them Gooks as they did in Vietnam." Many of them had been trained in Russia, Cuba and elsewhere.

"Suddenly, a black man, with a smile about as broad as he was tall, pushed his way through the crowd. His right hand was extended in greeting. His left hand held a Kalashnikov AKM. He introduced himself as Comrade Misunga and was accompanied by one of two white Rhodesian officials responsible for the group's liaison with the interim government in the capital." The sergeant was later to observe that neither of the two white officials, who were dressed in khaki, carried anything heavier than a pistol strapped to their belts.

"Obviously, when this happened, things eased up a bit. We were soon chatting away and examining each other's guns and talking to those former Gooks who could speak English. Even met one who had taken part in an op against our Commando the previous month. We screwed them that time and he admitted it. Wiped the smile off his face for a while, it did," said the sergeant.

The role of the sergeant and his five "troopies" was to lead the combined force into an offensive in an area not far from where Communist-backed insurgents, a few months earlier, had downed an Air Rhodesia civilian airline with a Soviet-supplied SAM-7 missile.

How did these former insurgents perform in the field?

The NCO was guarded in his reply. "Not the best; not the worst. Let's just say average." He was clearly not the kind of man who held the black fighting man in any high esteem, but then, he spoke from experience.

"It was obvious from the start that they were nervous about the exploit which ultimately took us out for three days. We were due to leave the Gook base at 1800 hours. Every man jack of them was al-

ready sitting on the trucks two hours before that. They just waited, smoked and talked. Their nerves just didn't allow for too many jokes."

At one stage, said the RLI sergeant, one of Misunga's men accidentally discharged his gun. A volley of automatic fire rang out from one of the trucks; all weapons were suddenly levelled at the bush.

"No one was hurt," recounted the sergeant, "but they ripped into this man. His own people dragged him off the truck and set about pounding him with sticks, rifle butts, logs of wood. He would have been killed had one of the white overseers not come to his rescue. As it was, the man was seriously hurt and we had to leave him behind."

Though no longer a phenomenon in Rhodesia's continuing guerrilla struggle, the use of former terrorists in this war and the extent of their involvement are still heavily classified by the Salisbury regime. At the present time it is authoritatively believed that there are about 2,500 "reorientated" terrorists fighting for the interim government (countering an estimated 10,000 terrorists inside Rhodesia and another 25,000 in Zambia and Mozambique waiting to come in and join the war).

About 10 percent of the area formerly controlled by the externally based Patriotic Front is now "dominated" by these people in areas as diverse as Chipinga in the east, Centenary in the north and Chiredzi in the southeastern corner of the country near the South African border.

So commonplace is their activity that in the Chipinga region former Gooks are in sole control of the area; the only regular Rhodesian troops seen in the area are those on supply runs to "Auxiliary" bases and those Rhodesians who make up the local joint operations command (JOC). These former terrorists now receive all their rations, arms, and ammunition from the Salisbury government.

While the situation has had the effect of releasing much needed military manpower for other, more sensitive operational areas in other parts of the country, there has been considerable disquiet voiced about consorting with people who were once fervently dedicated to destroying Rhodesia by force of arms.

One of the RLI troopies with the sergeant at Karoi made the point: "They've turned once. How do we know they won't turn again when it suits them? Then they could be at our throats before we've realized what has happened."

Another observed even more potently: "When you start collaborating with the enemy you've lost the war. The Portuguese — at least in Africa — proved that one." In his view "the only honest Gook," as he phrased it, was "a dead one."

Rumblings of discontent about Rhodesian war policy and collaborating with

former terrorists is not only restricted to the occasional Rhodesian Light Infantry noncommissioned officer.

It extends all the way up the ranks and has become so much a matter for concern that the Rhodesian Army was recently forced to establish a special security unit to deal with dissenters. Known as the S.I.B. (Special Intelligence Branch), this element is answerable only to the prime minister and his top military commanders.

The kind of comment that would have interested the S.I.B. was heard several times around Johannesburg in December 1978 and was once voiced by a senior officer attached one of the elite Territorial Units.

He spoke to a colleague a few days before Christmas and said: "We've all but lost the war. The way things are going now the Terrs have beaten us at our own



Due to manpower shortage, more women are being utilized by Rhodesian security forces. This lady is off for a bit of country duty, with her FN.

game and anyone who thinks otherwise is living in Mickey Mouse Land; and that, in spite of martial law throughout three-quarters of the country."

Like most comments at any Christmas party these words were sincere, though not all that innocuous.

Only later in the evening when the mood mellowed, he said, almost philosophically: "S'pose the sooner I myself accept that fact, the better. No use butting my head against issues that were settled in Salisbury a year ago . . . one of the reasons I'm here now . . . bringing the family down next Easter. Definitely not later. . . ."

A tinge of bitterness had earlier crept into the conversation, which was to be expected from someone who had given several good years of his life fighting for a cause he and many others like him ack-

nowledge is now little more than a rear-guard action.

This officer's views were shared by several other Rhodesian soldiers who spent Christmas in Johannesburg, including the Welsh sergeant attached to the RLI.

With rare exception the general consensus was that Rhodesia was coming apart at the seams: socially, politically, economically and militarily. It was like the end of an epoch which would become substantive when the word Rhodesia had been obliterated from the map of Africa and replaced by Zimbabwe, a bloody six-year epoch that had so far cost 13,000 lives, the majority of them black.

One may well ask why so many Rhodesians are staying on for the final crunch that could come in six months, or at the outset, by this time next year.

The replies were mixed and there was something almost reminiscent of the final days of American involvement in South-east Asia in their retorts — the same sanguine homilies that perhaps everything was not yet lost.

Said one of the soldiers: "Maybe there will be a change at the top that will allow us to do what we have to — the ultimate solution."

Another commented: "Militarily we can handle the situation, of course. It's the bloody politicians who've let the country down."

A young soldier — he was barely 21 — was even more explicit: "Those — in Salisbury are licking black asses, so what do you expect? You don't win wars by playing footsie with the enemy." He stated that the pattern had been the same in recent months. Each time contacts with the enemy had produced good results there had been someone back at headquarters who had moved them to a different, softer area where the insurgent element had been more difficult to find, more difficult to kill. "Almost like there's someone protecting the Gooks back at base . . . none of us understand it!"

One theme through most of these discussions was consistent: Perhaps a miracle would still happen. Maybe the world would stand still a little — long enough for Rhodesia to catch its breath.

The reality of Rhodesia's exposed and beleaguered position has become a nightmare in the minds of even the most dogged advocates of the old tradition, the Rhodesia of yesterday, where the sun shone 11 months of the year and where the white man was king.

Now the war has come to stay, it's nationwide, affecting the lives of all. There is no-one in the country that has not suffered some form of personal loss — a member of the family; a close friend.

More ominous, it threatens in the immediate future to envelop the country in a bloodbath that will make the Angolan debacle look like some minor South



Para MAG gunner with 400 rounds prepares to "kit up." Machine gun is slung on para's shoulder and jumped just like a rifle!

Machine gun instruction at Rhodesian Regiment battle camp. M6 is 7.62 NATO MAG with old style fixed link belt. Troopie in background is carrying G3 in 7.62 NATO caliber.



American border fracas. For, while the terrorists receive the material and moral support of the major communist and Third World powers and some Western nations as well as the World Council of Churches, Ian Smith's only ally and friend is South Africa, and they're battling with steadily escalating security problems of their own.

Nor is the war any longer restricted to the bush. Terrorist commando attacks in and around Salisbury and Bulawayo — the country's two biggest cities — have become a feature of life to the average urban Rhodesian. So have the use of Soviet-supplied anti-aircraft missiles.

The civilian Viscount airliner destroyed by a terrorist gang near Kariba in 1978 was not the first time that these sophisticated devices have been used in the war. Nor the last.

Recent intelligence reports from neighboring Zambia and Botswana have indicated that other, even more versatile Russian war equipment will be deployed

with the insurgent forces in the immediate future, which is probably one of the reasons why several international airlines have lately become wary of overflying Botswana on their routes to and from Europe and America.

Another aspect of this war was the recent mortaring of Umtali, Rhodesia's easternmost city on the border with Marxist Mozambique.

For while this expansive garden city, fringed by some of the most beautiful mountains in Africa, has been bombarded by terrorists on several occasions during the past few years, this was the first time that the attackers were able to lay down their fire with pinpoint accuracy.

Shades, perhaps, of North Vietnamese and East German assistance that the Zimbabwe African People's Liberation Army (ZAPLA) has been receiving of late?

Yet a further indication of escalation in Rhodesia's war is that, while there were only two black battalions fighting under the banner of the Rhodesian African Rifles in 1977, the tally of these 1,000-man units will be increased 10-fold at present recruitment rates by the end of the year.



RLI Fire Force troopie kitted up and ready to board C-47 "Dakota." Paras sling rucksacks on leg straps and ride equipment to ground. No lowering lines used on combat assault!

It has been authoritatively estimated by observers in Salisbury that blacks now comprise about 80 percent of the country's security forces (including Army, British South African Police, Internal Affairs and Guard Force). The target, it has been stated by some military cognoscenti in Rhodesia, is to make the country's military forces 95 percent African by the end of 1979. For this reason, Rhodesia's continuing struggle is becoming an increasingly black-against-black conflict with many of the more brutal characteristics of an African internecine war to boot.

There have been other changes during the past year, a few of them positive.

While Rhodesia's security forces were officered entirely by whites in the past, the last months of 1978 saw the passing out of the first group of African officers. Several dozen more black candidate officers are at present undergoing training and will soon join their units in command capacities in the field.



"War on a shoe-string." Rhodesian army is using WW-II Bren gun carrier with four MAG 7.62 machine guns for bush convoy protection.

While tradition has always dictated that black soldiers serving in the Rhodesian Army were restricted to their own units, (the BSAP has operated in a paramilitary role on an integrated basis for the best part of a decade) more Africans are now being accepted into the formerly all-white Territorial units. And because whites continue to leave the country in droves, (20,000 last year, or 10 percent of the white population), blacks are being recruited into these back-up units, largely to keep their strengths on par.

The overall picture of Rhodesia's war is one of a grim, steadily escalating struggle that could, ultimately, threaten to overflow into other southern African re-

gions, including some of the black countries providing part of the succor, notably Zambia, where internal security is already a cause for concern in Western diplomatic circles.

Already pundits have noted that if SAM missiles could be used in Rhodesia, South Africa's busy airlines are only a single step away.

In this respect, the unequivocal warning has been given that both nations could retaliate immediately by downing Zambian or Mozambican civilian aircraft, since most of the communist war materiel designated for use by the insurgents is channelled through these two states.

Not all aspects of the war are negative. On the ground, Smith's forces do still

Mine detection vehicle called "Pookie" designed around Volkswagen parts.



have tenuous control over all the country's urban centers as well as most communication links — including major arterial roads and the strategic rail system that also links Zambia and Zaire with South African ports and industries. Most of the balance of the territory, in contrast, has been infiltrated by insurgents.

The basic, all-enveloping problem is that there are just not enough Rhodesians in uniform — whatever their color — to counter every aggressive action launched by armed opponents to the Salisbury regime.

The problem, essentially, is that, unlike South Africa, much of Rhodesia is uninhabited bush country and a fair proportion of the balance is designated for Tribal Trust purposes, which provide fertile breeding and recruiting grounds for the Patriotic Front insurgent armies of Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe.

The result is that Rhodesia's manpower resources are being stretched to capacity; some civil servants in Salisbury and Bulawayo claim that they are simultaneously holding down three people's jobs, apart from having still to spend periods in the bush on operations at regular intervals. Many Rhodesian whites are spending seven months of the year on active service apart from having to run their businesses back home.

Issues are further complicated by the fact that an extended form of urban guerrilla warfare appears imminent. Already there have been bomb blasts in several Rhodesian cities and although the security forces have, until now, been able to eradicate most bands of urban infiltrators, it remains questionable whether the police and militia will be able to handle a full-scale urban guerrilla invasion.

What is significant about developments is that several insurgents killed in recent weeks have been found to have such unusual items such as Borrowdale race cards and Bulawayo bus tickets in their pockets, even though they were encountered in skirmishes that sometimes took place several hundred kilometers from these popular Rhodesian recreational centers.

One military commander was heard to comment: "It is quite obvious that the terrorists are now going to Salisbury for their routine R and Rs — the capital is more comfortable and more accessible than either Mozambique or Zambia."

Apparently, the insurgents discard their arms and uniforms and merge with the faceless black mass that provides much of the labor for the country's commerce and industry.

Countering this, it is known that several security elements within Salisbury, Umtali, and Bulawayo are now preparing sophisticated SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) teams to oppose the envisaged threat. There have been urgent requests for bullet-proof vests which are unob-



Troopers from Rhodesian African Rifles prepare to patrol Zambesi River. MAG light machine gun is mounted on bow.

tainable locally because of the UN arms embargo on Rhodesia and South Africa.

But even members of Rhodesia's provisional government are aware of the imminence of this new development. All three black members of Ian Smith's Advisory Council — Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole and Chief Chirau — have insisted that the security guards placed outside their homes be white and not black. White reservist soldiers are now a permanent feature at the homes of several black Rhodesian leaders.

In a last-ditch bid to counter the acute manpower shortage, Rhodesia's military planners are once again accepting foreign entrants to their forces. For, while Rhodesia claims justifiably that it does not hire mercenaries, it has no objection to foreign nationals enlisting into the Rhodesian Army or Air Force, but at the same rates of pay and conditions as Rhodesian nationals.

Originally, the Rhodesian government paid the airfares of prospective entrants to its armed forces. Now it reimburses recruits after acceptance and an unbroken period of service of three months' active military service.

One result of this development is that Rhodesia was in recent years flooded by hundreds of American Vietnam veterans looking for their own version of military kicks. The majority found the routine too tough and conditions in the bush too rough to last more than a few months. The desertion rate among American citizens who have joined the Rhodesian Army over the past two years is estimated to run to about 80 percent, although there have been a handful of outstanding American field commanders who have contributed much to Rhodesia's war effort.

In contrast, Canadian, Australian, and New Zealand volunteers have provided a

fairly good fighting record in Rhodesia. Desertion rates among these nationals — as with South Africans — have been insignificant.

There has even been a French voluntary unit attached to the Rhodesian Army, but its record was tarnished from the start.

At one stage, this unit was allowed to raise the Tricolor each day alongside the green and white Rhodesian flag. Unfortunately, the history of this 24-man detachment was short-lived; it barely survived its three-month training period. The unit was decimated in its first contact.

Caught in an ambush in the operational area in early 1978, the Frenchmen sought to fight it out rather than put their foot down on the accelerator, drive out of the fire zone, and then engage the enemy. A third of the unit was killed in the fire fight which followed — another four were seriously wounded. The unit has since been disbanded.

The incident highlights one other aspect of the war. While Rhodesian and South African volunteer casualties are religiously recorded in communiques issued daily by the army, there is often no mention made of foreign nationals killed in the war.

Another little-recorded aspect of the war is the fact that the specialist Rhodesian forces are increasingly engaged at hitting at the enemy well beyond the country's fragile borders. Raids made by members of the Rhodesian Light Infantry, the Rhodesian Special Air Services and Selous Scouts have taken Smith's forces several hundred kilometers into Mozambique and Zambia on occasion. The majority of targets "taken out" are Frelimo-protected convoys hauling insurgent war supplies to forward positions. There have also been the well publicized raids on terrorist training camps inside Zambia.

On one foray about which details were supplied to the writer, RLI troops penetrated 260 kilometers into Mozambique and knocked out several insurgent training and relay camps as well as several supply convoys. Soon afterwards a Special Air Service contingent paddled down the Zambezi in canoes and attacked fortifications around the giant Caborra Bassa hydro-electric scheme.

Most of these troops are then required to bring themselves out of enemy territory independently and on foot, which is one of the reasons why the average Rhodesian fighting man is today one of the fittest individuals alive; most prefer to walk to a destination with their packs, carrying weapons and kit on their backs, rather than enter an operational area on trucks — mines remain a serious problem in the continuing war.

Perhaps the most active of all Rhodesian units is the ultra-elite Rhodesian Light Infantry, composed largely of young men — the majority still in their teens — doing their 18-month national service stint. The RLI has been accorded one of the highest "kill" rates of any Rhodesian security force; at the same time, its forces take minimal casualties. This is one of the reasons, possibly, why the men attached to this crack unit are referred to by friend and adversary alike as "The Indomitables."

Divided into four commandos, numbers 1, 2, 3 and Support Commando, they are again subdivided (while on "ops") into mortar, reconnaissance, assault pioneers and anti-tank detachments. It is interesting that, although initially seriously affected by a United Nations arms embargo, some Rhodesian units are now almost entirely armed with communist military hardware — all of it captured while on operational forays into neighboring territories.

One RLI "troopie" disclosed that in his own sorties he prefers to use the Soviet

RPG-7 rocket to "take out" enemy vehicles. "It works like a charm — there is nothing in the Western armory to compare." Rhodesian forces are known to have enough anti-tank weapons to counter any conventional or unconventional invasion of their territory, Cubans included.

There is also truth in the report that they have a "fair supply" of SAM-7s for use: "should we need it," as was stated by a ranking officer while discussing the missile threat.

Most RLI operations are now parachute-orientated, with troops on standby enplaning into aged Dakota DC-3s (or Gooney Birds as they were known in Vietnam) the moment a contact has been made with the enemy. Others are ferried into the fire area by helicopters, using an excellently deployable fleet of not-so-young French-built Alouette helicopters, some of which — it is whispered in Salisbury — were bought not so long ago from an Arab power.

More recently, the Rhodesian Air Force was able to acquire more than a dozen Bell troop-ferrying helicopters from Israel, which have since been armed and armor-plated. These craft, used in recent onslaughts into Zambia, have resulted in a UN-sponsored inquiry on how Rhodesia was able to acquire the aircraft in the face of sanctions.

Over the years, airborne Rhodesian troops have evolved an entirely new battle program suited to conditions in the African bush. Most of these tactics are revolutionary in the conventional military sense. When contact is made, for instance, the men are required to jump with all their gear from heights of less than 100 meters, often into the line of insurgent fire.

Night jumps allow for an extra 30 meters — certainly the most hazardous aspect of this form of military operation.



Dead terr is brought to Joint Combined Operations Center for I.D. and final disposition.

On numerous occasions the men have been caught in crossfire while still descending. The highest number of bullet holes found in a parachute canopy so far is recorded as 28 — its wearer was only lightly wounded when a Zipra terrorist opened up on him with an RPD machine gun, ripping off two belts before he was silenced.

Already, members of the airborne Rhodesian Light Infantry have put claim to a number of world firsts:

They are the first operational group in any army to be allowed to jump into battle in shorts and sand shoes — it all makes for faster, lighter, and easier travel through some of the thickest bush country in Africa.

They also claim to be the first fighting group to jump into action carrying their own mortars and heavy machine guns and hold the current world record of RLI elements having made three fully operational jumps in a single 24-hour period, all of which included contact with the enemy and casualties on both sides.

The lowest recorded operational jump made by an RLI "troopie" to date is from a height of 66 meters.

As he explained it to me: "I have less than a second to make up my mind whether my 'chute is open or not. Longer than that and my reserve 'chute is useless!"

He was all of 19 years old, had been wounded twice, decorated once, and had already been operational with the RLI for 17 months when I spoke to him.

Rhodesian Infantry during search-and-destroy operation.



The Plague Is Spreading

Political Kidnapping

by William L. Cassidy

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The following document is extended from a classified study of planned political assassination which the author was assigned to prepare, during the summer of 1977, for a major international police organization.

When research for the assassination study was well advanced, we observed that the operational management of planned assassination actions is similar to that of political kidnapping. This observation was presented in a brief footnote to the study, and thereafter, we confess to not giving the matter a second thought.

Shortly after the assassination study was completed, however, the author chanced to lunch with an extremely capable former employee of the clandestine services of a Western power. It had been this individual's task to prepare contingency plans for the safeguarding of special technical personnel in Europe, in the event of conventional warfare with Soviet Russia. During the conversation, this expert emphasized the remarkable similarity between kidnap and assassination planning, noting that the two were almost interchangeable. This led the author to reconsider the whole subject of political kidnapping, and the following brief overview of its probable management is the result.

What we observe as the interchangeable quality of political kidnapping and assassination is, we believe, unique in the field of covert action. Once the time, trouble, and expense of raising a direct action component has been invested, such a component can subsequently act with great flexibility. Nothing further is demanded in the way of intelligence, training, or materiel. Additional personnel are not required, save the possibility of such specialists as interrogators or doctors skilled in behavior modification. The same cannot be said, for example, of sabotage operations, for sabotage cannot



GENOA, ITALY: Guido Rossa, 24, representative of Italian Metal Workers Union, who testified against Red Brigades in court case last October, lies dead in his car after being gunned down as he prepared Jan. 24, 1979, to drive to work. Another terrorist attack squad shot a male nurse in the legs Jan. 24 in nearby Milan, police said. Photo credit: UPI.

efficiently interchange with either murder or kidnapping. The practice of sabotage is concerned with physical rather than human targets, demands a high degree of specialization, and unique methods of supply.

Some will, of course, argue against this thesis, saying that all covert behavior is more or less the same, conditioned by the same operational factors, and that the interchangeability we feel to be unique is therefore typical. At one broad level it is certainly true that covert action is ruled by predictable forces, but here we get into the area of what is theoretically right and what is practical.

All of this leads us away from our central idea. Even assuming we find this idea difficult to accept, it does not take much insight to recognize that the opposition embraces it wholeheartedly. It is significant that murder and kidnapping are rising as the most prevalent manifestations of international terrorism, as distinct from sabotage or any other tactic, and it is the same groups which are performing both the killings and the kidnappings. In the past, some commentators have adopted the narrow attitude, and have claimed this is because such groups are short on manpower or knowledge. Our appreciation of the true picture has thus suffered.

Our appreciation also suffers from a rather imprecise notion of how kidnapping operations are actually controlled. This one deficiency, at least, we hope to correct by means of the following study, which sets forth an idealized view of the operational management of political kidnapping actions. We do not seek to convey the false impression that every political kidnapping will, in every instance, follow exactly the course we have charted here. Ours is a worst case model: one which seeks to portray the various elements which are likely to be acknowledged by a sophisticated managing force contemplating direct action.

We have elected to permit the publication of the following material in its present format in order to secure the widest possible audience for its content. It is our hope that, free from the annoyance of bureaucratic inertia and pseudo-secrecy, this information will reach those responsible for the security of potential targets in a timely fashion. That the information contained herein may also reach those persons actively engaged in terrorism is a possibility, though frankly, it is a possibility with which we are not much concerned.

To relate all this fine philosophy to the present case, we would ask the reader to consider that men and women have been kidnapping each other for a considerable length of time. When such kidnappings happen in sufficient numbers within a sufficiently brief period, then the practice suddenly becomes something about which many opinions are forwarded, and much

controversy rages. This process, like every other social process, is a cyclic thing: if you dig deep enough in the literature of this or any other matter you will see what we mean. You will see that to understand his present, man might well turn to the past. But in the rage of the moment, this rational perspective is abandoned, and sudden experts, armed only with the convenient wisdom of their day and time, proceed to belabor the subject in all its imagined newness. Thought becomes homogenized, so that everyone can agree with everyone else and thus give the illusion of progress, and in the last act, the stage still smoking from the tread of its many rapidly moving actors, handy knowledge of the sort you can spend is still sadly lacking.

So we have sought, in the following material, to mimic the wisdom of Thucydides, and make this work an everlasting possession — not the showpiece of the hour. Though couched in bureaucratese to make it digestible to the national security beast, and stripped of its scholastic references to serve the slavemaster of secrecy, we nonetheless trust we have saved this document from oblivion. Whether or not by doing so we have saved anyone the pain of kidnapping is, of course, yet to be seen.

FAMILIARIZATION

Usage

The word “kidnap” entered the English language in the late seventeenth century, as a means to describe the practice of stealing children for forced labor. The practice of redeeming captives, whether children or adults, by payment of valuables or performance of some service, was regarded as a separate issue. Originally, this latter practice was described, from



ROME: In downtown Rome May 9, 1978, policemen and others gather around car containing body of Aldo Moro, former Italian premier. Moro had been kidnapped March 16, 1978, by Red Brigade terrorists. Photo credit: UPI.

the early 14th century, and thence, for a period of approximately four centuries, by the general term “ransoming” in popular usage, and thus the trend has continued to the present time.

Definition

Kidnapping is, for our immediate purposes, defined as the unlawful control of

persons leading to (or believed to lead to) an end which motivates such control. Kidnapping may be either subjective or objective in character, covert or clandestine. Abduction, though the essence of kidnapping, is but one and by no means the only form of control to be employed in a kidnapping action.

Subjective kidnapping. This category is mercenary in nature, distinguished as a criminal rather than political activity. Such kidnapping may also stem from persons afflicted with mental or emotional illness. Subjective kidnapping becomes political only if a political figure has been targeted, no matter what the ostensible motive happens to be. In practice, the kidnapper's motives do not exist apart from his or her own highly individualized view of the world and society, unconditioned by any legitimate political factors.

Objective kidnapping. This category may be either political or military in nature, though it may proceed from what we would regard as mercenary motives. The deed of kidnapping exists apart from the kidnappers as personalities, and definite political or military objectives are deemed served by the kidnapping. In this instance, the target will be kidnapped no matter who the kidnappers happen to be.

Motivations. Closer definition of kidnapping is possible only when one approaches the subject of motive, or purpose. In exploring this subject, we find that we are able to identify 12 principal

DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA: Barbara B. Smuts, 24, of Ann Arbor, Mich., one of four persons taken hostage from wildlife research station by African gunmen eight days before, tells newsmen of her ordeal during press conference at American Embassy, May 26, 1976, following her release. Group, described as Marxist guerrillas, sent a note by Miss Smuts demanding half-a-million dollar ransom and release of two radical leaders in exchange for the lives of the three remaining hostages, Africans Carrie Jane Hunter and Kenneth S. Smith and Dutch national Emilie Bergman. At right is U.S. Ambassador to Tanzania, Beverly Carter, Jr. Photo credit: UPI.





MEXICO: U.S. Consul General Terrence G. Leonhardy (R) is helped from a car following his release late May 7, 1973, by left-wing guerrillas. Leonhardy was held for nearly four days as a political hostage. Diplomatic colleagues said the 58-year-old career diplomat was "okay." Photo credit: UPI

motivations, or "ends" which are served by the tactic of kidnapping.

- 1) Kidnapping for money, gems, or other negotiable valuables.
- 2) Kidnapping for physical possession of a person, as, for example, for intelligence purposes, or forced labor.
- 3) Kidnapping to cause some action.
- 4) Kidnapping to prevent some action.
- 5) Kidnapping for psychological or propaganda purposes, which, of course, may extend to the other motives listed here.
- 6) Kidnapping as a prelude to killing.
- 7) Kidnapping as an operational element of some larger, more complex, action.
- 8) Kidnapping as a purely disruptive activity.
- 9) Kidnapping for the personal purposes of mentally or emotionally disturbed persons.
- 10) Kidnapping for revenge.
- 11) Kidnapping to execute a pseudo-legalistic sentence.

12) Kidnapping for protective purposes, whether to protect the kidnapped person or the kidnappers.

If nothing else, splitting up the practice in the above fashion helps to make it manageable, and helps us to regard the whole business with a bit more precision than if one deals merely with stereotypes. Though many, if not all, of the motives listed above tend to overlap with one another in greater and lesser degrees, we quickly see why it is impossible to generalize about kidnapping and why, indeed, the categories "subjective" and "objective" are needed. Kidnapping may take place for any one of a dozen reasons, any one of which may have its origins in either a subjective or objective point of view.

The Matter of Management

Upon studying objective kidnapping, we come to the question of management. To what degree may the political kidnapping operation be managed by parties apart

from the actual attempt? Operational planning is definitely present in every sort of kidnapping, whether political or otherwise, and even complex planning is regarded as normal. Is planning the sole criterion for determining if an action is managed? Obviously not. This determination is only made after assessing several factors, among them: the precise nature of evident planning; number and kind of individuals involved; parties best served by the kidnapping; identity of the target; groups or individuals capable of such actions; "signatures" left by virtue of the kidnappers' training.

Political kidnapping actions reliably bear several implications. At the very least: a group capable of conceiving, supporting, conducting, and protecting complex offensive actions, to prescription. Such capabilities require substantial amounts of money; a training program; a sophisticated intelligence system, and particularly select personnel.

As an isolated indicator, however, capability is almost valueless. Literally any nation, any military or security organization, any disciplined aggregate of trained individuals, and many multi-national corporations are capable. In the last analysis then, to properly illuminate the matter of management, one has to narrowly examine the particular games with which one is concerned.

It helps to recall that the political character of a kidnapping is not necessarily decided by the identity of the target. Rather, it is decided by the ultimate impact of the kidnapping itself. When one considers what sort of entities are liable to engage in kidnapping for its political value, one concludes that the management of kidnapping squads is likely to come from the armed forces, intelligence or security agencies, special tribunals, nationalists, and anarchists, among others.

The Matter of Numbers

It is possible that a lone individual could successfully execute a political kidnapping, or any other sort, but it is not probable. Actions by squads or teams are, by far, the most common type. Such teams vary widely in number: those as small as two and as large as 50 or more have been observed. On the average, we feel that modern teams will have between seven to 15 members, the larger teams — 25 or more — being encountered more in time of war than in times of lesser tension. Men, women, and even children may participate. These teams may be an element of a civilian resistance movement; a nationally or internationally maintained terrorist or counter-terrorist capability; a criminal organization; a national security capability; a separatist organization; an unavowable terrorist organization, or they may be privately supported.

Political Kidnappers

We prefer to place political kidnappers in three categories: terroristic kidnappers;

institutional kidnapers; mercenary, or criminal kidnapers.

Terroristic kidnapers. At the outset, we need to distinguish between self-trained terroristic kidnapers and those who have received the benefits of paramilitary training from an organized force or agency.

- 1) Self-trained terrorists are likely to be conditioned by the popular literature of kidnapping, which, unlike the popular literature of assassination, is not all that unsophisticated. Such kidnapers, though self-trained in unconventional techniques, may on an individual basis be extremely well trained by virtue of past military service.
- 2) Professionally-trained terrorists will possess skills associated with the various interdisciplines of unconventional warfare. A high degree of cross-training will be evident. Such individuals are unlikely to be conditioned by popular literature. They are, however, likely to be conditioned by the peculiarities of the intelligence profession.

To briefly examine one model of a terroristic kidnapping group, as observed by American intelligence officers in the early 1970s: it was held that within the kidnapping unit, three personalities would be discovered. The first would be a professionally-trained leader, responsible for interrogation of the target; the second, an ex-soldier or criminal, largely self-trained in unconventional techniques, would be responsible for the action phase of the kidnapping, while the third would be an idealist, a university drop-out, responsible for guarding the target and other low-risk utilitarian tasks.

Institutional kidnapers. Institutional kidnapers are employed by organized agencies, bureaus, or armed forces, in the service of national interest; or, theoretically at least, corporations in the service of corporate interest. In all instances known to the author, such kidnapers have either been instruments of state security police, or participants in a covert political action program.

Management of institutional kidnapers typically comes from the intelligence community. Specialized training is usually afforded such kidnapers, and, predictably, involves the presentation of courses in tradecraft. Logic demands that institutional kidnapers are spotted, developed, assessed, recruited and terminated according to the pattern typically reserved for informational operatives. The extent of false-flag use of criminal organizations is difficult to judge, so let us err on the side of safety and say that it is considerable.

It would seem that institutional kidnapers exhibit much of the psychology peculiar to covert operators in general: a



RIO DE JANEIRO: Martinho Huttl, driver of kidnapped German Ambassador to Brazil, Ehrenfried Von Hollenben, shows newsmen what happened when Ambassador was kidnapped week before. Explanation came during interview there June 16, 1970. Photo credit: UPI.

naive political sense; a rigid adherence to method; an obsession with technique; a disdain for any information other than secret information, and a pronounced aversion for any sort of variation upon established plans. These are not necessarily faults.

Criminal kidnapers. The final category is most complex, presenting

QUITO, EQUADOR: Gen. Cesar Rohon Sandoval ('69 photo), chief of Ecuador's Air Force, was kidnapped early Oct. 27, 1970, official sources reported. Abduction of 40-year-old officer coincides with 50th anniversary celebrations of the Air Force. No details of kidnapping were released, but troops threw up roadblocks in and around the city and searched all cars. Photo credit: UPI.



possibilities which we cannot effectively resolve in just a few paragraphs. To hold our observation to the narrow topic of political kidnapping, we will generalize, and say that *of their own volition* criminal kidnapers are not likely to attempt political targets, at least not for profit. On the basis of this reasoning, we deduce that the criminal kidnapper will attempt political targets only under conditions of dire emergency, or when induced to do so by third parties. In this context, please note our observation regarding false-flag recruitment, above.

We must also acknowledge the cumulative effect of kidnapping in which a wave of criminal kidnapers may take on a decidedly political character. The case of Italy, in the mid-1970s, is a good example. Therefore, criminal kidnapers can certainly become *ex post facto* political activists, and we seriously doubt that criminal kidnapers are so insensitive as to allow this factor to escape attention.

Criminal kidnapers are to be regarded as an extremely dangerous type, by virtue of their mixed origins, and because they are extremely difficult to assess as a group. The study of criminal kidnapers is a study of individuals.

AFTERTHOUGHTS

The following notes, evaluative or exploratory in nature, are presented, in no particular order, for the benefit of individuals engaged on a professional basis in examining the practice of political kidnapping.

Literature Survey

At the outset, one needs to distinguish between sources which deal with kidnapping as a purely criminal exercise, and those which are of rather more specific interest, i.e. the sources which deal with political kidnapping as an isolated phenomenon. In the former category (and with narrow reference to English-language sources) the field is dominated by the influence of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Though this applies more to overt sources than to classified or otherwise restricted material, the influence is nonetheless there, no matter where one looks. Since an epidemic of kidnapping by organized elements of the American underworld was, in part if not in whole, responsible for the first tangible expansion of FBI power, the field was assiduously cultivated by that organization at every level from the local to the national. When one studies the criminal aspect of kidnapping in the United States, one therefore does so through the FBI's eyes. How much more informative would it be, we think, to instead have material which is unconditioned by the dictate of propaganda.

When one examines the specific matter of the open literature of political kidnapping, one finds that it can be divided into four broad categories: (1) **journalistic**

Continued on page 79

Active & Passive Night Vision Weapon Sights Death In The Night

by Chuck Taylor



Target as seen through passive (Starlight) unit on clear night. Weather conditions were: no clouds or overcast, first quarter moon, profusion of stars. Level of ambient light totally controls efficiency of passive-type nightsights. Lower level ambient light means poorer performance.

Target shown through active (infrared) sight on same night. Note how individual appears to be lit up, as with spotlight. IR allows effective surveillance under conditions of darkness that incapacitate passive unit.

Biggest disadvantage of active (IR) design in comparison with passive types is possibility of detection by enemy using passive device, as illustrated here. IR unit is being viewed through Starlight scope.

For centuries, warriors have ardently, and sometimes desperately, wished for the ability to visually penetrate the night. Naturally, one could light the field of battle to accomplish this, but the obvious disadvantage of the enemy having equal ability to see presented itself, and a sort of Mexican standoff was in effect until the late 1940s, when technological breakthrough finally allowed the soldier to literally "see in the dark."

Categorically, there are two basic types of night-vision weaponsights: The *active* and the *passive*.

In layman's terms, the *active* type consists of a unit *with its own light source*, such as infrared, while the *passive* device



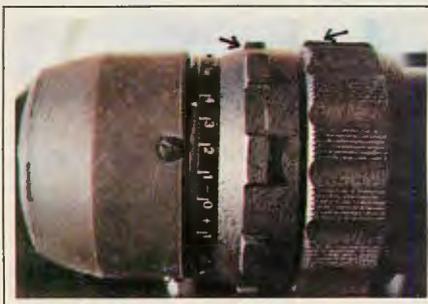
utilizes available light, highly amplified, of course.

For purposes of information, let's explore the theory behind each of the types before continuing.

The *active* night weaponsight possesses its own light source, providing its user with the advantage of being able to see, *even in total darkness*, if necessary, at the flick of a switch. Most active type units utilize light sources of the infrared type, since infrared rays are invisible to the naked eye. Looking through the electronic telescope that is part of the device, one can, however, readily see the object of surveillance because the telescope elec-



U.S. M3 infrared sniperscope from rear. Knob on left (A) controls electronic focusing of telescope while knob on right (B) allows varying intensity of reticle; consists of small vertical bar of light that appears in field of view. Can be turned off for surveillance and, via rheostat, made progressively brighter for actual sniping work. Center cable (with blue connector) provides power to operate 30-watt IR light source.



Both reticle and telescope focusing on this passive unit are controlled by manipulation of radical bands on telescope body itself. Makes for streamlined profile that doesn't catch on vegetation, web gear, etc.



Entire power source for Starlight-type units is normally located on telescope itself. This device uses two 1.35-volt mercury batteries housed in small compartment on right side of scope.



IR devices, since they have own light source, must have ability to focus IR light source with electronic telescope. On this IR unit, is accomplished via small lever mounted below IR lamp assembly.

tronically converts infrared rays reflected from the object back into visible light.

The effective viewing range of an infrared or IR unit, as it is called, depends on a number of things. First, the IR functions exactly as does a spotlight, only with light rays that are invisible to the naked eye. Hence, the same things that influence visible light rays also influence IR rays. For example, vegetation in the light beam between you and the object of surveillance causes glare to be reflected and reduces your ability to see beyond the vegetation in proportion to the magnitude of the glare, exactly as it does with a regular spotlight.

Other natural conditions that influence IR performance are:

1. A high level of available (ambient) light. (This is like shining a spotlight in the daytime or under streetlights — you don't see much of the beam.) This condition can be caused by:
 - a. Streetlamps.
 - b. Snowfields.

2. Fog.
3. Rain.

The IR unit can also be improved by modifications such as:

1. Glare Shade to reduce or eliminate side glare.
2. Increasing the magnification of the telescope for more range. (But this correspondingly reduces the field of view as with a normal rifle scope.)
3. Amplifying the IR light beam to create a more brilliant beam of light.

The above is not to say that the IR unit doesn't function under the conditions described. Please remember that the efficiency of the unit is affected by those conditions to whatever degree of magnitude those conditions prevail. As an example, little ambient light isn't going to render an IR device useless by any means. It will just not perform as well as it would if it were darker.

On the general scale, the IR type device is a better all-purpose unit because it carries its own light-source with it and this allows great versatility. But it possesses one great disadvantage from the military standpoint: Anyone else on the field with a night-vision device, be it active or passive, can detect an IR light, since it appears in any electronic telescope! It is a simple matter to bring fire on that light with a corresponding reduction in the number of people on the other side using night-sights on the battlefield.

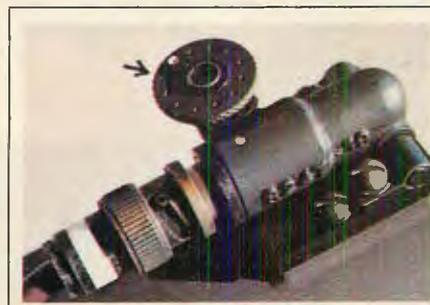
This fact has bothered the U.S. Army so much that it no longer uses active night-sights. Actually, the danger, although real, is not as severe as first imagined. It is common policy when using an IR device to first scan the area of surveillance for a time, using only the electronic telescope, to see if anyone can be



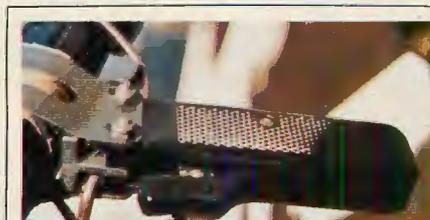
Close-up of power-pack on typical infrared device. Is mounted in backpack assembly with 6-volt power source. Knob at lower right (see arrow) is off-on switch. Output cables to both IR light source and electronic telescope are located at lower left. Manipulation of switch is made easy by location in opening in bottom of backpack.



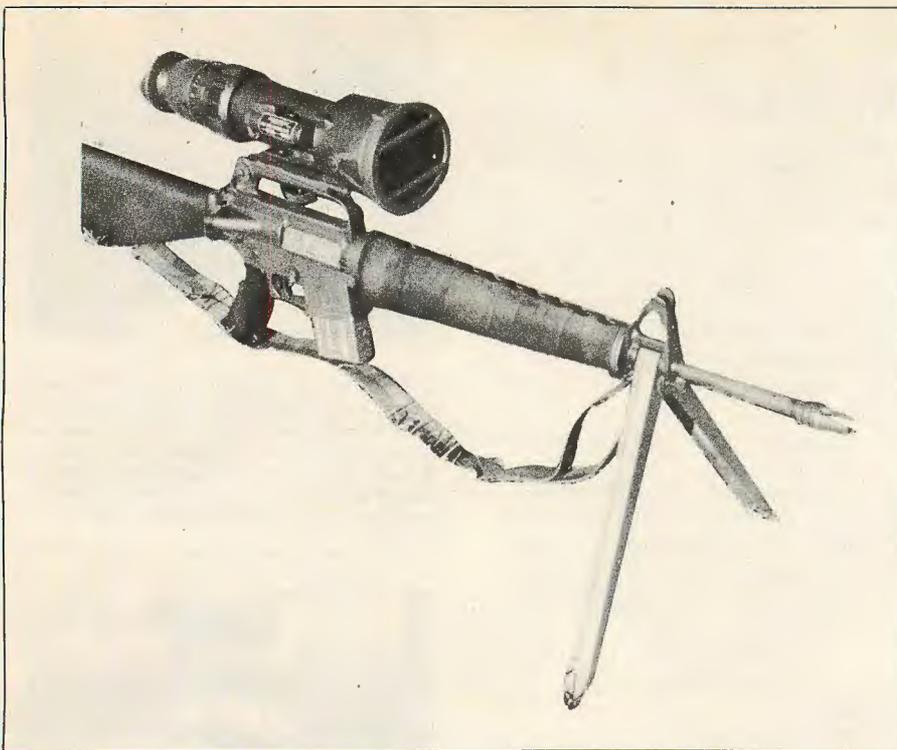
In keeping with streamlined concept, typical Starlight (passive) houses off-on switch in small, shielded receptacle on left side of telescope body. Is thus easily operated, yet protected from potential damage during field handling.



Aiming reticle in this infrared sight consists of small vertical bar of light, which can be varied in intensity, projected onto lens. Vertical adjustment for sighting-in is made easy by merely turning dial to move bar up or down. Tiny projector bulb is used as light source and has 1000-hr. service life.



Main tactical advantage of active design over passive is ability to see "dead spots" created by shadows, etc. This is facilitated with use of IR lamp which easily penetrates such areas. On this IR sight, squeezing switch turns on IR lamp to search difficult areas of surveillance.



Latest generation of passive nightsights, such as this S&W Star-Tron Mk 700, Series I, shown mounted on M-16A1. Note streamlined appearance as compared with IR device.



Tri-lite (G. Britain) sight on FN/MAG 7.62 LMG.



Scotos I/RS unit on L34A1 (silenced Sterling) 9mm SMG.

detected (with or without a night-vision device of their own) *before* turning on the IR light source and really getting down to serious scanning. This minimizes the risk of detection by the enemy if he just happens to be sitting out there with his own night-sight.

If the enemy is using a passive device and you are using an active device, you'd better hope that you can detect and fire upon him before he sees your IR light and nails you! This danger, however, is out of proportion because the IR light doesn't appear as a "beam" of light when viewed

through a passive unit. What the passive device sees is just the faint glow of the IR lamp, and it's not as obvious nor as easy to detect as one might be led to believe — but, it *can* and *has* been done, so the possibility cannot be discounted. With few exceptions, however, the IR device is

Death In The Night In Vietnam

by Chuck Taylor

Place: Northern I Corps, Vietnam.

Date: 12 April 1969.

Time: 0215 hrs.

Location: Southern end of Ba Long Valley 12 kilometers due south of Khe Sahn, where Quang Tri river exits valley, turning eastward through Quang Tri City and emptying into the South China Sea.

Mission: Intercept and neutralize supply shipments being transported by the NVA via sampans down the river under cover of darkness.

I lay motionless alongside my sniper, peering upstream through the AN/PVS-2 Starlight scope, eyes straining for the first view of the enemy. The mos-

quitos feasted upon our faces, and, to my right, a bamboo viper glided through the bush seeking prey. He was not alone. We, too, had come to kill.

It was so dark that one could not see the proverbial "hand in front of his face," and conventional optical devices, such as the telescopic rifle scope, were worthless. One-hundred meters below, the river churned into rapids as it squeezed itself through the narrow canyon in its journey to the sea. Four kilometers to the northeast lay the Special Forces Camp at My Loc. I hoped that we wouldn't need help from them tonight. Four clicks was a long way from this Godforsaken place, especially at night — with a river to cross to boot! I anticipated events developing as we had planned, because it looked like, if they didn't and luck didn't go our way, things could get really nasty, perhaps even fatal, I mused grimly.

We checked our equipment for the 10th time that night, and I sensed the tension in the man next to me with the M-21 sniper rifle. He was good, damned

good, I thought to myself, and — hell, I was no slouch either. It was my fervent hope that we were both good enough! We would have only one chance.

My job was to get him on site, run the PRC-77, spot targets for him, protect him at close range with my Thompson if necessary, and get him the hell out of there after the mission had been completed. So far, things looked good, and we had remained undetected in this no man's land that housed "Charlie," the men we had come to kill tonight.

I was jolted back to reality by the appearance of sudden movement upriver in the distance. Here the bastards come — well, "Charlie," this will be a night to remember — I hope you don't get out of here to tell about it *and we do!*

The sniper had also seen movement through the AN/PVS-2 mounted on his M-21, as had I in mine. I felt him stiffen, an eye riveted to the ocular lense of the nightsight. We watched and waited. 400 meters — 300 — 200 — *Now!*

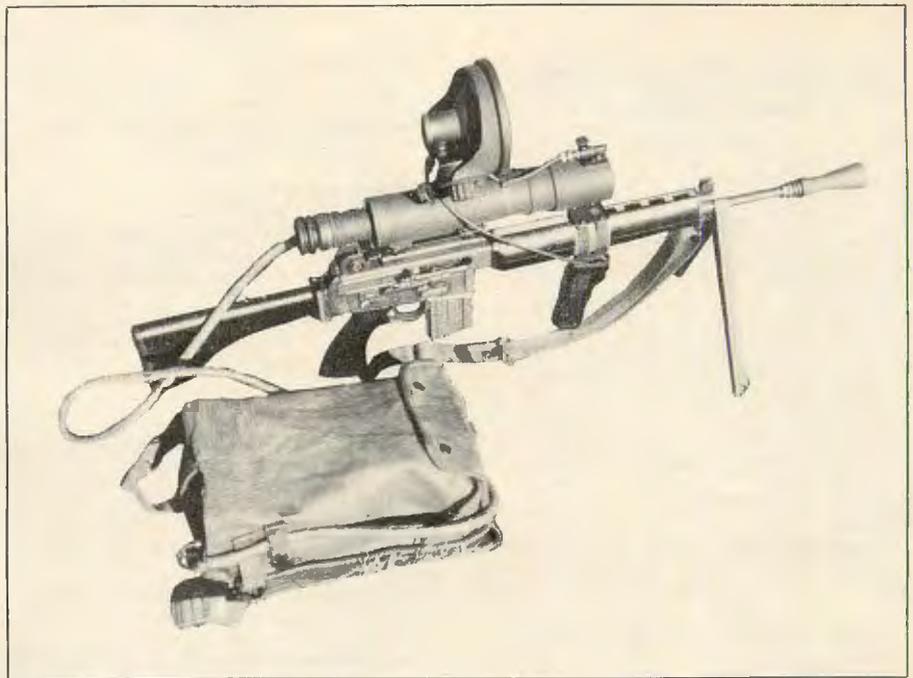
A shot from the 7.62mm M-21 shattered the darkness and the NVA sitting



Hyper-Miniscopes M9823 mounted on FN/FAL 7.62mm rifle being tested by U.S. Army officer.



NVS-700 passive sight mounted on U.S. 5.56mm M-16A1 rifle.



Representative infrared unit mounted on Armalite AR-18. Note IR light source mounted over telescope, special flash-hider. Backpack contains 6-volt ni-cad battery and power-pack to convert to 20,000 volts required to run electronic telescope. Has continuous-use life of 20 hrs. before recharging is required. Special ni-cad battery can be recharged 5000 times before replacement.

still in *very* wide use throughout the world and is probably the better system because of its superior versatility to the passive-type device.

The *passive* night-sight electronically amplifies ambient light to the level that the scene viewed through the telescope ap-

pears much brighter than with the naked eye. Since it has no light source of its own, it is dependent upon ambient light to function at all. So, understandably, the more ambient light the better the unit performs. This is the direct opposite of the active IR type system.

Aside from the fact that a passive device is much more difficult to detect than an active unit, all is not roses. Because of its dependence on available light, the passive sight performs poorly and in some cases, not at all, under various conditions of darkness commonly

in the bow of the lead sampan crumpled, silently sliding into the water. A second shot quickly followed, literally knocking the man in the stern over backwards into the sampan's churning wake.

"Get the guy in the bow of the second boat," I whispered. "He's got an AK in his hands." A third shot rang out, immediately lost in the rumbling echo of the rapids crashing through the canyon. The third NVA's head splattered like a watermelon and he, too, fell overboard and was not seen again, his AK-47 pitching high into the air as he went.

Automatic fire from three AKs pierced the gloom. *Christ! The silly fools are shooting at everything! Relax, I told myself, they're not even close to us — yet.*

Shot No. 4 spat into the night, and the gook firing wildly at shadows on the riverbank from the stern of the second sampan rolled grotesquely into the bubbling foam and lay face down in the shallows. *Four down — two to go!*

The M-21 spoke a fifth time and the NVA manning the rudder of the last

sampan fell forward onto the supplies piled amidships. A green tracer floated lazily upward, seeming to move faster and faster as it came, finally zinging past my ear in a flash of light. It was the gook in the bow of the now-out-of-control third sampan, desperately trying to stave off his own rendezvous with his ancestors. Another tracer sang as it ricocheted from the rocks to our right.

"Hurry up, for God's sake," I said, "It looks like he's made us." More tracers flashed by.

"If you don't get him, then I've got 240 rounds of .45 no one told me to bring home," I breathed.

CRACK — Whop! The unmistakable sound of a hit signalled its presence.

"He's hit and in the water, but he's still alive — there — on that rock. There he is!"

The seventh round of XM-118 Match Ball arced through the night, slamming into the poor son-of-a-bitch who had been clinging to his last hope of survival only a heartbeat before. Then he, too, silently met death in the dark froth.

I quickly scanned upstream for more boats — *nothing in sight. Jesus, let's get the hell out of here!* I turned for one last look at the killing ground — three sampans drifted aimlessly, swirling in the rapids, finally disappearing into the darkness.

We moved quickly down the trail that straddled the cliffs until we were both breathless, hoping desperately that we didn't run headlong into the arms of any NVA in the process.

500 meters from the pick-up LZ we took cover in the bush and I called for an extraction: "Lombard One-Niner, this is Gates Two-Six, Red Extraction at Alpha Kilo One-Zero-One, say again One-Zero-One. Over."

"Roger, Gates Two-Six, this is Lombard One-Niner. Hear you loud and clear. Wilco your last. Over."

"This is Gates Two-Six, make it fast. Out," I whispered into the mouthpiece, and we settled down to wait for the bird of salvation to come to us.

Night Vision Weapon Sights: Specifications

by Chuck Taylor

BRITAIN

1. Passive Infantry Weaponsight UA-1116/00
Magnification: 4X
Field of View: 9 degrees
Resolution: 30% contrast, 1 mil at 1 millilux (starlight)
Focus Range: 25 meters to infinity
Eyeiece Adjustment: -5 to +5 diopters
Reticle Adjustment: 50 mils in elevation or azimuth in steps of .25 mil
Input Voltage: 2.2/3.4V DC (dry cells)
Battery Life: Approx. 35 hrs., average use
Length: 312mm
Maximum Diameter: 90mm
Weight: 1.6 kg
Manufacturer: MEL Equipment Co. Ltd., Defence & Avionic Systems Division, Manor Royal, Carwley, Sussex.
2. Infrared Individual Weaponsight SS20 Mk2 (Active)
Magnification: 3.73X
Field of View: 180 mils
Weight: 2.78 kg
Dimensions: 447.5mm long/110mm wide/185mm high
Graticule Pattern: Produced to suit weapon
Graticule Adjustment: +/- 24 mils in elevation and azimuth in half-mil steps
Operating Range: to 700 meters
Power Supply: 6.75V mercury or rechargeable nickel-cadmium battery
Manufacturer: Rank Pullin Controls, Langston Road, Debden, Loughton, Essex.
3. Trilite Small Weaponsight (Passive)
Dimensions: 450mm/100mm diameter
Weight: 3 kg
Magnification: 2.5X
Resolution: 1.0 mRad at 10/-8ft. Lambert
Field of View: 13 degrees
Recognition Range: Starlight-400 meters

Power Supply: 6.75V mercury battery, 100 hrs. average life

Manufacturer: Pilkington PE, Ltd. Optical Division, Glasgoed Rd., St. Asaph, Clwyd LL 17 0LL.

4. Hawklite Mk III, Infantry Nightsight (Passive)
Dimensions: 30mm/168mm
Weight: 7.3 kg
Magnification: 5X
Field of View: 10 degrees
Recognition Range: Heavy Machine gun mounted 1200 meters
Power Supply: 6.75V mercury battery, 100 hrs. avg. life
Manufacturer: Pilkington, PE Ltd., Optical Div., Glasgoed Rd., St. Asaph, Clwyd, 17 0LL.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. AN/PVS-2 Starlight Scope (Passive)
Length: 440mm
Weight: 2.7 kg
Magnification: 4X
Range: 300 meters (starlight) 400 meters (moonlight)
Power Supply: 6.75V disposable battery 72 hrs. continuous life, 100 hrs. intermittent
Manufacturer: Wollansak Co.
2. AN/PVS-2 Second Generation Starlight Scope (Passive)
Length: 24cm
Width: 12cm
Height: 12cm
Weight: 1.5 kg
Mounting: V-block bracket
Magnification: 3.7X
Field of View: 14 degrees 30 minutes
Focus Range: 25 meters to infinity
Objective Focal Length: 95mm
Eyeiece Focal Length: 25mm
Eye Relief: 34mm
Diopier Range: +/- 4
Power Source: battery-25ma at 2.65V. 12 hrs. avg. life
Manufacturer: Varo, Inc., Texas Division, 2201 W. Walnut St. PO Box 828, Garland, Texas 75040.
3. NVS-700 Small Starlight Scope (Passive)
Magnification: 3.5X
Field of View: 253 mils

Viewing Range: moonlight-25-600 meters starlight-25-400 meters

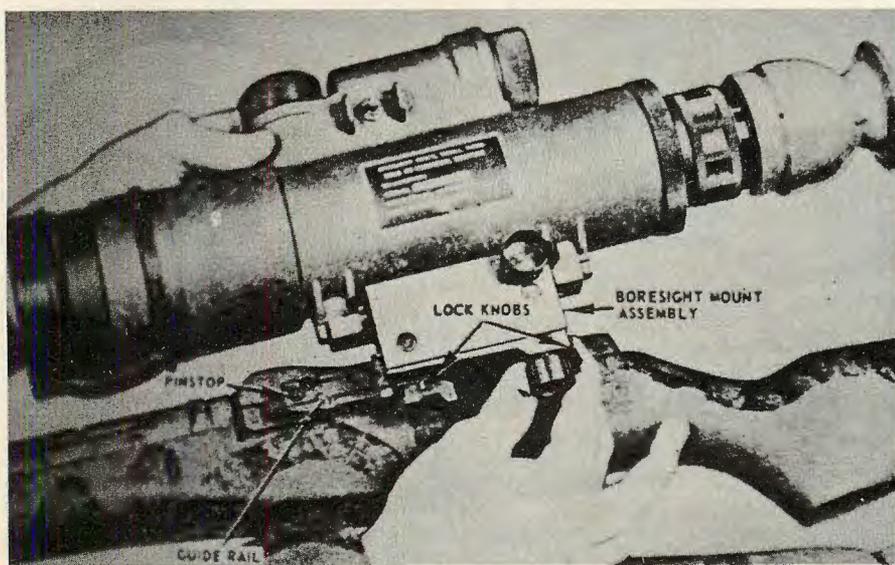
Objective Lens Focal Length: 95mm
Objective Lens Focus Adjustment: 25 meters to infinity

Reticle Projector: illuminated
Reticle Adjustment: .25 mil accuracy
Eyeiece, focal length: 26.5mm
Eyeiece, focus adjustment: -6 to +4 diopters
Length: 292cm
Diameter: 101.6mm
Weight: 1.814 kg
Operating Temperature: -53 degrees C to +49 degrees C

Power Supply: Mercury battery service life, 12 hrs avg, continuous life
Manufacturer: Ni-Tec, Inc., 7426 Linder Avenue, Niles, Illinois 60076, USA.

4. Scotos I-RS Infantry Weaponsight (Passive)
Dimensions: 380mm/62.5mm
Weight: 1.65 kg
Magnification: 1.4X
Aperture: f/1.4
Field of View: 240 mils
Power Supply: 2 2.8V mercury cells. Avg. life 200 hrs. intermittent
Manufacturer: Aspheronics, Inc., F. Ft. Evans Rd., P.O. Drawer 1134, Leesburg, Virginia 22075, USA.
5. Star-tron Mk 700 Series 1 Passive Nightvision riflescope
Objective: 100, f/1.4 (T2) catadioptric
Eyeiece: 27mm
System Magnification: 3.7X
Intensifier: 19mm, minimum gain of 60,000
Sight Adjustment: .25 mil per click, 18 clicks per revolution
Length: 317.5mm
Weight: 1.6 kg
Power Supply: 50 hr. battery
Manufacturer: Smith & Wesson, 2100 Roosevelt Avenue, Springfield, Massachusetts, 01101, USA.
6. Hyper-Miniscopes Models 9823/9823E (Passive)

<i>Data</i>	M9823	M9823E
<i>Length:</i>	370mm	460mm
<i>Diameter:</i>	86.5mm	150mm
<i>Weight:</i>	1.75 kg	3.95 kg
<i>Magnification:</i>	3.5X	5.7X
<i>Field of View:</i>	10.8 degrees	6.5 degrees
<i>Objective Focal Lgth:</i>	98mm	155mm



Nomenclature diagram of AN/PVS-2 Starlight (U.S. Army version) mounted on M-21 sniper rifle.

encountered in military operations, such as experienced in various parts of the world where the moon and stars go completely down by about 0100 hours. Thus, the operator is neutralized until just before BMNT (Begin Morning Nautical Twilight) — and this is when the majority of enemy activity usually takes place. Other problems with the passive device include the inability to penetrate dark shadows, such as caused by bunker apertures, windows, overhead cover, or even heavy overhead canopy. The IR unit, on the other hand, does not encounter these problems because it carries its own light source and can easily see into these “dead spots.”

As with most things, one doesn't get “something for nothing,” and, although great strides are being made in both fields, it appears that the active device is “on the way out,” with progressive military organizations, except for highly specialized operations. Most of the Western armies are concentrating their efforts on the passive system, while the Communist Bloc

Focus Range: from m 10
 Common Data (both)
Eye-piece Focal Length: 25mm
Diopier Adjustment: -4 to +2
Image Format: 18mm
Reticle Accuracy: .24 mil
Reticle Adjustment: .25 mil
Power Source: 4x Mallory RM410
Operating Life: 48 hrs.
Operating Temperature: -54 degrees to +52 degrees C

Manufacturer: Varo, Inc., Texas Division, Box 828, 2201 Walnut St., Garland, Texas 75040, USA.

7. Crew-served Weaponsight (Passive) NVS-800
Length: 355.4mm
Field of View: 156 mils
Viewing Range: moonlight: 25 to 1200 meters
 starlight: 25 to 1000 meters
Objective Focal Length: 155mm
Diameter: 165mm
Weight: 3.85 kg
Manufacturer: Ni-Tec, Inc., 7426 Linden Avenue, Niles, Illinois 60076, USA.

8. Crew-Served Weaponsight (Passive)
Length: 556mm
Width: 165mm
Height: 203mm
Weight: 8.25 kg
Magnification: 6.5X
Field of View: 6 degrees
Focus: 50 meters to infinity
Diopier Range: +/-4
Power Supply: 6.75V mercury battery, 72 hrs. avg. life
Operating Temperature: -54 degrees C to +46 degrees C

Manufacturer: Varo, Inc., Texas Division, P.O. Box 828, Garland, Texas 75040, USA.

9. AN/TVS-5 Second Generation Crew-served Weaponsight (Passive)
Length: 310mm
Width: 160mm
Height: 170mm
Weight: 3 kg
Magnification: 6.2X
Field of View: 9 degrees
Focus Range: 25 meters to infinity
Diopier Range: +/-4
Power Supply: 25mA at 2.65V DC. Battery life 12 hrs. avg.

Operating Temperature: -54 degrees C to +46 degrees C

Manufacturer: Same as No. 8 above.

10. Infrared Sniperscope No. 1 (T3) (M3) (Active)
Field of View: 14 degrees
Focus: Fixed
Magnification: 1.6X
Power Supply: 6 volt
Visual Security Distance: 16 meters
Eye-piece Adjustment: +/-5 diopters
Maximum Diameter: 120mm
 15.5 lbs. w/6 volt nickel-cadmium battery and power pack mounted in backpack

Range: 125 yds. (man's head)
Manufacturer: American Optical, Special Products Division, Buffalo, New York, USA.

11. Infrared Weaponsight (Active)
Field of View: 10 degrees
Focus: fixed
Magnification: 4.5X
Power Supply: 1.5V nickel-cadmium battery-telescope; 6 volt nickel-cadmium battery-light source
Visual Security Distance: 20 meters
Weight: 11 lbs.
Effective Range: 200 meters.

NETHERLANDS

1. Mini-Weaponsight Type RS-4-TS (Passive)
Length: 360mm
Width: 135mm
Weight: 2.1 kg
Magnification: 4X
Field of View: 10 degrees
Focus Range: 30 meters to infinity
Detection Range: 500 meters
Manufacturer: NV Optische Industrie, Delft, Holland.
2. Crew-served Weaponsight Type GS-6-TS (Passive)
Length: 430mm
Diameter: 150mm
Weight: 3.2 kg
Magnification: 6X
Field of View: 7 degrees
Focus Range: 50 meters to infinity
Detection Range: 800 meters
Manufacturer: Same as No. 1 above.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS (CCCP) (USSR)

1. NSP-2 Infrared Nightsight, also PPN-2 (Active)
 Comments: similar in design to U.S.-made T3 infrared weapon sight. No other data available.

WEST GERMANY

1. Orion 110 Passive Nightsight
Magnification: 6X
Field of View: 6 degrees
Focus Range: 40 meters to infinity
Reticle Adjustment: +/-5 mils
Weight: 25.5 lbs. incl. 6 volt lead cell battery and power pack mounted in backpack
Length: 320mm
Weight: 2.4 kg
Power Source: 2.5V nickel-cadmium battery. 25 hrs. avg. life
Manufacturer: Eltro GmbH, Gesellschaft fur Strahlungstechnik, Kurpfalzring 106, 6900 Heidelberg 4, Kurpfalzring Postfach 520, West Germany.
2. Orion 80 Passive Nightsight
Magnification: 4X
Field of View: 8 degrees
Focus Range: 20 meters to infinity
Reticle Adjustment: +/-5 mils
Eye-piece Adjustment: +/-5 diopters
Maximum Diameter: 95mm
Length: 290mm
Weight: 1.8 kg
Power Source: 2.5V nickel-cadmium battery. 25 hrs. avg. life
Manufacturer: Same as No. 1 above.
3. Infrared Night Sight Type B8-V (Active)
Magnification: 4X
Field of View: 7 degrees
IR Lamp: 35 watt
Operational Range: 300 meters
Length: 320mm
Diameter: 175mm
Height: 255mm
Weight: 2.6 kg
Manufacturer: Same as No. 1 above.



W. German Orion M110 passive nightsight on 7.62mm G-3.

W. German Eltro B8-V Infrared (active) sight on G-3.



nations appear to be satisfied with active IR night-sights that are comparable to those used by the U.S. in the Korean War. Oh well, that's all right with me.

The attached box gives a rundown of most of the active and passive night-sights now in use, with the possible exception of the Soviet Union, whose equipment is not available for me to study, much as I wish it were. In keeping with its technology, the United States seems to lead the way, with

West Germany and Britain close behind. No other countries seem to be involved to any great degree with any sort of research and development program in the field. Who knows? Maybe they don't feel that night weapon-sights are important. Personally, I think they are critically necessary, since in any type of conflict, night ops have become the standard. It's just too dangerous to be moving large concentrations of troops and/or materiel

during the daylight hours anymore.

Death in the Night? Yes, and whose death it is can well depend on who is the one behind the night-sight! This concept is too revolutionary and important to be downplayed or ignored.



GIs Train For The Real Thing Using Captured Soviet Ordnance

OPFOR: The Friendly Enemy

by Robert Sundance



Three members of Ft. Carson's OPFOR. From left to right: SA-7 missile, RPG-7, RPG-2. Photo credit: U.S. Army.

A U.S. National Guard Armory taken over by uniformed Russian troops? That's what I thought when, on entering the Longmont, Colorado, National Guard Armory, I was confronted by an operational T-54 tank, BTR-60 APC, and well equipped "Russian troops," carrying Soviet small arms from AKs to 82mm mortars. What the hell is going on? I thought, surveying this bizarre setup.

These highly motivated OPposing FORces troops hailed from Colorado Springs-based Ft. Carson, an Army post fortunate enough to have a "real" opposition force to train with. Ft. Carson's OPFOR unit, commanded by Lt. Pitts Hulupka, had been spotted by Lt. Col. James Bond, commanding officer of 1st Battalion, 157 Field Artillery, Colorado National Guard, during summer maneuvers last year at Ft. Carson. Bond, while observing a tank training operation, saw a T-54 come rolling along the hills and

soon PRed the Army into loaning their OPFOR troops and equipment to his National Guard units in Longmont, Grand Junction, and other Colorado towns. Bond is gung-ho and nowadays that's damn good in my opinion. Because he wanted all of us to see this equipment in the flesh, he opened the armory to the public.

Personnel at the Longmont show were very knowledgeable on Red equipment and tactics, especially Sgts. Ronald Jones and Paul Davis, the latter of whom, prior to his recent transfer to Ft. Wainright, Alaska, made knowledge of Russian equipment not only his job but his hobby.

I ran into Ft. Carson's OPFOR unit again several months later at the N.G. display at Aurora, Colorado, where NCOIC Sgt. John McManis and his people gave me boundless cooperation. Major Johnson, CO of the Aurora unit, helped get the Aurora show on the road,

assisted by Golden, Colorado's N.G. unit. Such cooperation among various unit commanders and personnel is highly commendable.

OPFOR exhibits give the American public the opportunity to see and examine current Soviet military equipment. You can go in, on, and around vehicles and get a real feel for them. You can get instruction in Soviet small arms from the Tokarev pistol through the 14.5mm heavy machine gun. OPFOR personnel overwhelm you with information and knowledge of Russian arms and tactics. Although they never bad mouth the Soviets, their real concern for our country and our position in contrast to Warsaw Pact countries is apparent.

Because each U.S. Army division is supposed to have a functioning OPFOR group, there are many OPFOR units located around the world. Ft. Hood, Texas, established the first OPFOR cadre.

I asked Maj. Rudeford M. Norman, commander of Ft. Hood's OPFOR detachment, for info on the original OPFOR program. He explained that the U.S. Army's Opposing Force program is army-wide. "It focuses peacetime preparedness training on the tactical vulnerabilities of potential adversaries, mainly at the division level and below. OPFOR is designed to provide commanders with a training mechanism for emphasizing the competition inherent in battle through use of a realistic and credible opposing force, using the doctrine, tactics, and weapons systems of actual potential adversaries.

"OPFOR replaces the national aggressor program. The only OPFOR modules approved for use in any U.S. Army units are the armed forces of the Soviet Union and North Korea.

"The OPFOR program was developed and tested at Ft. Hood in early 1976," Maj. Norman told me. It was initially an eight-member combined arms cadre which taught, advised and assisted in OPFOR matters. In August 1976, a 75-member provisional OPFOR maneuver company, representing a Soviet reinforced motorized rifle company, was formed and equipped with four tanks and 10 APCs. It par-

ticipated in two brigade-sized exercises at Ft. Irwin, California, and numerous exercises at or near Ft. Hood, Texas.

Maj. Norman declared, "This unit provided some of the most realistic training many of the armor and infantry platoons it was pitted against have ever received."

He went on, "In 1978 the provisional maneuver company and OPFOR cadre were consolidated into the 33 Personnel III Corps Opposing Forces (OPFOR) Detachment." Since its inception, this detachment has presented its three-phase training to almost 45,000 soldiers at Ft. Hood.

Maj. Norman told me that the three phases of OPFOR instructions are: 1) classroom briefings and discussion about the Soviet armed forces, its tactics, doctrine and equipment. 2) Simulation in which a platoon or company commander maneuvers his unit against a Soviet reinforced motorized battalion, using micro-miniature armor vehicles on terrain boards. 3) Hands-on familiarization with Soviet small arms, APCs and tanks, culminating in live-fire familiarization using the AK-47.

Ft. Hood's Red Thrust Detachment, Maj. Norman told me, "Is U.S. Army

Forces Command's (FORSCOM) agency for providing on-site OPFOR information, advice and assistance, using mobile training teams to all active and reserve FORSCOM units," which assists commanders in establishing their own OPFOR programs.

To keep up with new developments, Ft. Hood's OPFOR unit subscribes to over 30 overseas publications, which are bought "out of pocket" by the men. Ex-M.I. people have told me that foreign publications, such as *Jane's*, are better and frequently give more accurate info than our own M.I. personnel can collect through clandestine sources.

Ft. Carson's OPFOR has a cadre of about 15 men. It also can field a light infantry company, since it has the necessary small arms. The main difference among OPFOR units is cadre size and the types of heavy arms allocated; most units have an excellent assortment of small arms.

Although the ability to mount an aggressor force in the field is undoubtedly useful, complete familiarization with Soviet weapons and tactics is more important and will save thousands of troops on the next battlefield. The opportunity to operate, fire, and in general "fiddle" with

Russian PKM with 250-round ammo box. Photo credit: Sgt. R. Jones/U.S. Army.

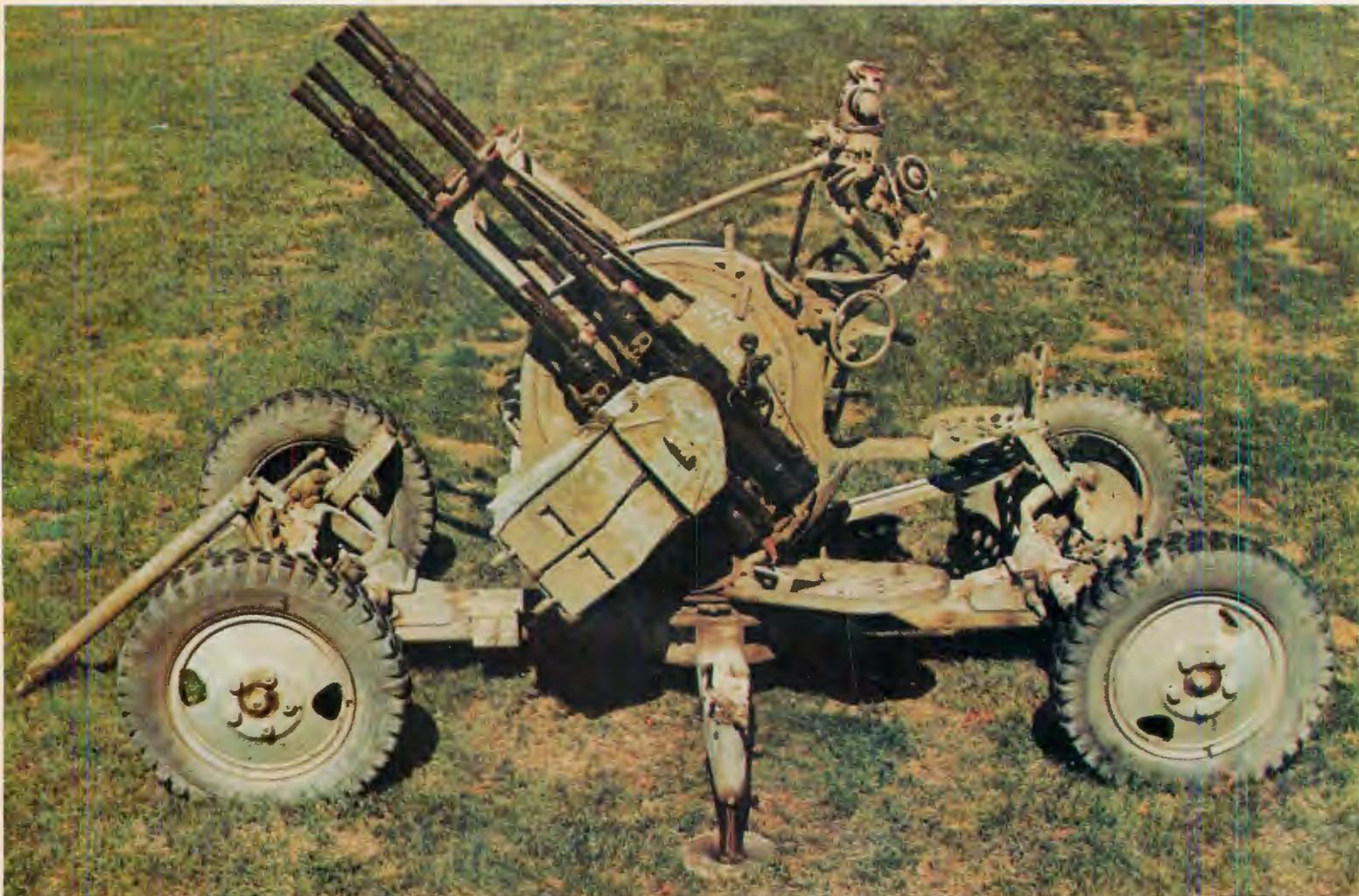




Above: Ft. Hood's OPFOR troops take to field accompanied by PT-76 light, amphibious tanks. Note distinctive uniforms. Photo credit: U.S. Army. Inset: One of Ft. Hood's PT-76 amphibious tanks (14.6 tons, 76.2mm gun,

and up-to-16mm armor) fords body of water. Hatch is open and crew out for safety. Note splash shields raised for occasion. Photo credit: U.S. Army.

Below: ZPU-4 14.5mm QUAD AA mount now being discontinued in Russian units. Photo credit: U.S. Army.





Above: BTR 60 showing 14.5mm main gun; shield just below bow of vehicle is raised when going through water to prevent splash. Photo credit: U.S. Army.

Below: BMP. Note hatches for passengers, also, special hatch to place Sagger rocket and launch rail (missing) above 73mm gun. Photo credit: U.S. Army.



Soviet T-62 tank (T-55 chassis). Less 12.7mm heavy M.G. Less droppable extra fuel drums in rear of tank. Photo credit: U.S. Army.

Russian T-54 tank. Note tank gunner's sight window. Photo credit: U.S. Army.



AKs and other Soviet weapons may give regular G.I.s a better chance when they need a new weapon on the battlefield. Getting supplies of foreign ammunition seems to be a major problem for the OPFOR groups, and I hope they can get more allocated.

These units' effectiveness has been clearly demonstrated during field training exercises (FTX): Troops that have worked with various OPFOR units perform much better than those without OPFOR exposure. The Russians must concur since they bitched through diplomatic means — now OPFOR people must refer to all tactics and equipment as Soviet rather than Russian.

Most items of Soviet equipment listed below were shown at the Colorado OPFOR shows:

BTR-60 PB. This armored personnel carrier (APC) rides on eight tires, the pressure of which may be regulated from the cab for terrain adjustment. Its two 90-horsepower engines can operate in water by water-jet power. It has a turret-mounted 14.5mm heavy machine gun, and most later models have an additional 7.62mm MG. A crew of two operates the vehicle; a gunner operates the turret guns. The gunner sits in a hanging seat, sighting through a periscope about four inches in diameter. The turret, operated by hand cranks, traverses very quickly. This vehicle is equipped for infra-red operation, as are most after-1960 Soviet APCs. The approximately 8mm thick glass windows of the driver's area are protected under fire by heavy steel covers. When these covers drop, the crew operates through

periscopes. Passengers have two gun ports per side from which to fire. Other variants of this vehicle, which weighs 10.3 tons, come unenclosed or without the turret. Because about 200 of these APCs have been reported in Angola, their weak points should bear more than academic interest to SOF readers:

- 1) When buttoned-up, the vehicle provides poor visibility to its occupants.
- 2) Its machine guns cannot be depressed very far. Therefore, close-in troops can knock them out.
- 3) Its side gun ports also afford little visibility. An attacking trooper could easily jam his weapon in the port and fire away.
- 4) Its 12mm armor is vulnerable to the 7.62mm round and to the 5.56mm round at closer ranges.
- 5) In an assault, because troops must exit from two large top hatches and two side hatches, they become easy targets. Troops could, of course, ride into combat clinging to the vehicle's grab bars.

Because it is a comfortable vehicle to drive, the BTR is a favorite of the OPFOR people. It is being phased out of the Russian forces in favor of the BMP.

BMP. A fully-tracked, low-profile, amphibious APC that carries eight soldiers, the BMP is overloaded with firepower by Western APC standards. In addition to its turret-mounted, 73mm, smooth-bore, autoloading, low-pressure main gun, it mounts a 7.62mm PKT machine gun in the turret. A launching ramp for the Sagger anti-tank missile is mounted just above the main gun. The BMP usually carries three of these missiles, which must be handloaded through a small hatch just above the barrel. Once launched, because

of the difficulty of keeping the wire-guided missile on target, the vehicle must stop until it hits.

The BMP becomes an excellent ambush and recon vehicle after it does its job as an APC, since it is deadly as a light tank. The vehicle has four firing ports on each side. These ports are good for attack although their sighting is limited to forward-facing periscopes provided for each man. The BMP has one exit hatch per two men through the top. In addition, rapid exit may be made through good-sized rear doors. Although its armor is only 12mm thick, its low profile makes it difficult to hit.

BMD. The Airborne version of the BMP, with an unenclosed top, holds six soldiers. It has the BMP's weapons, plus a 7.62mm machine gun on each of its front corners (fenders). Its 20mm-thick armor is capable of "bouncing" .50 caliber hits from as close as 500 meters.

Side and rear shots are best to destroy the BMP and BMD. The BMP got shot to hell when the Syrians tried to use it as a light tank in the last Mideast war. Neither is it a match against aircraft and tanks.

T-54 and 55 Tanks. In service since the mid-40s, the T-54 and 55 are still fairly good tanks, and with around 35,000 of them scattered about the world, you can expect to run into them on battlefields from the veldt to the jungle. Russians favor the medium tank for its low ground pressure, economy of manufacture, numerical advantage, and firepower. They are less concerned with their troops' lives than with achieving their objective.

Ft. Carson's OPFOR troops on T-54 with RPG-7, AK-47, LP-50 flame thrower, AKM, and RPD at right. Photo credit: U.S. Army.



The T-54, 55, and 62 all have four-man crews. The T-54 and 55 mount a 100mm rifled main gun, 7.62 MG, and a 12.7mm (.50 caliber) DShK 1938/46 heavy MG for anti-aircraft use. Some of these tanks have chemical, biological, radioactive (CBR) equipment, which may be manually operated or activated by an atomic weapon flash.

To fight T-54 and 55 tanks with anti-tank weapons, shoot at the body sides, and lower left of the front to set off ammo, or shoot it in the rear and blow the engine. The same goes for the T-62, because it has a T-55 chassis with an improved turret and bigger gun. Although the U.S. LAW missile won't always do the job in front, a rear shot usually works.

To fight the T-55 with light weapons, shoot out the main sighting window just to the right of the turret's main gun. Since the tank commander (TC) can continue to sight through the right hatch's revolving unit, shoot hell out of his turret hatch. The turret is the primary objective. Or shoot up the driver's two periscopes; however, as with U.S. tanks, the Reds can replace them from within. Fire bombing is good since tankers fear fire. A sniper with a height advantage could shoot through the radiator louvers, ruining the radiator and stopping the tank in ¼ to ½ mile. A trooper could also throw a grenade at the radiator. Blowing off the treads or jamming them with steel rail will also stop the tank.

Crew members of the T-54, 55 and 62 must be less than five feet six inches tall. Red tanks are cramped and hard on their crews due to high engine vibration. If a disabled T-54 or T-55 turret is pointed other than nearly straight forward, the crew cannot escape through the bottom hatch — good information if you plan to "capture" a tank. To be effective, the main gun loader must be left-handed.

T-54/55 floors do not rotate with the turret — a crew member can get crushed easily by the gun breech if not in his seat during turret movement, and a portion of the T-62 floor doesn't turn with the turret. These tanks are very limited when firing while moving, due to manual loading and poor gun stabilization. They are no match for the U.S. M-60 tank.

Don't expect to ignite the fuel easily. Number-two diesel fuel needs an additional two quarts of oil to simulate the Reds' low octane fuel.

External differences between the T-54 and T-55 are the T-55's smoke evacuator on the end of the main gun and the T-54's 12.7mm AA gun. Other variations are too numerous to mention here.

Later Model Tanks. T-54 and T-55s are primitive, compared to the T-62, and especially T-64, T-72 and off-the-drawing-board T-80. Although none of the OPFOR people would even acknowledge the existence of the T-80 tank, I had learned of it over 12 months ago from some civil-

ians I bumped into at the Denver airport. These fast new tanks are in the 38- to 45-ton range, have low ground pressure, and the T-64, T-72, and T-80 carry three-man crews, since they have auto-loading guns. The T-72 and T-64 are not the same tank. The earlier produced T-64 has much smaller road wheels and a rear exhaust. The T-64 chassis was meant for the T-62 but was not ready in time. The T-72 outnumbered the T-64. Both tanks sport a new 12.7mm heavy machine gun. The T-72's top turret machine gun can be fired while the hatch closed. They mount a 125mm smoothbore main gun that fires a fin-stabilized round at 1,630 meters per second. To load this two-piece round, first the projectile is inserted and then the powder charge is loaded by an auto loader. The more fragile powder cases could enable our forces to knock out this tank. Only four rounds are kept in the turret.

The T-72 is more than a match for most of our tanks, except certain M-60 series tanks (M-60A3), the newest Chrysler tank, the British Chieftain, and the German Leopard.

The Russians' super new T-80 tank, "secret" here in the U.S., has new three-layer armor; 125mm, smooth-bore, semi-automatic gun; laser sights; much needed hydropneumatic suspension; and a greatly improved engine and transmission. Possible components include several types of electronic counter-measures (ECM), automatic target acquisition and laser-guided anti-tank rockets. This highly advanced tank will undoubtedly have low ground pressure for use in soft soil areas. Most anti-tank weapons using shaped-charge technology cannot penetrate the three-layer armor, since it spreads the jet of flame from the striking round so it can't burn through. We have no such armor on any of our tanks.

The old American M-48 (Patton) tank, fitted with the M-60 turret and M-60 engine, ate up the T-54/55, and T-62 tanks in the last Mideast war. The Israelis also mounted a French 105mm gun on the U.S. World War II Sherman tank, creating the very effective Super Sherman. Because of their low profile, Russian tanks cannot depress their main guns as far as U.S. tanks. In fact, the T-62 can only go -4 degrees, enabling our tanks to shoot the Reds in the gut when on high ground or cresting a hill.

BTR-152 APC. First introduced in 1950, the BTR has served the Soviets well, coming in open or steel-topped versions. If the steel-topped BTR has several radio antennas or plotting boards on the outside, it is a command post: hit it. At 8.9 tons, it carries up to 18 men and can be fitted with twin 14.5mm heavy machine guns or 7.62mm guns. It can also be used to tow artillery or other heavy equipment. Thick glass observation ports drop over the windshield to protect the driver. The

BTR-152 features three gunports on each side and its 12mm armor is vulnerable to the 7.62 round. Although it has been replaced in first-line Russian units by the BTR and BMP, it may be found in Africa. Like many other Soviet tire-equipped vehicles, it has internal pressure controls for terrain adjustment as needed.

GAZ-96. This vehicle, weighing approximately 1600 kilograms, has a payload of 500 kilograms and looks like the U.S. ¾-ton truck. Ft. Carson's OPFOR unit has one set up to fire the PUR-61 (AT-1 U.S. designation) anti-tank rocket (Snapper). The wire-guided Snapper is controlled by a small joy stick that can be operated either in or out of the truck. It penetrates up to 320mm of armor, flies at 90 meters per second, weighs 22 kilograms, and has an effective range of up to 2,300 meters.

When the back of the GAZ folds down, it exposes four Snappers ready to be fired. The Snapper's slow flight speed makes the GAZ a fine target while the operator holds the rocket on course. He can fire and guide only one rocket at a time and needs considerable skill to control it. I wouldn't want to be in its crew.

Now let's go into OPFOR's Soviet small arms:

82mm Mortar. The 82mm has up to 25 rounds per minute rate of fire, a range of 3.05 kilometers, and weighs 56 kilograms. It can use U.S. 81mm ammo. Although the Russians are phasing it out for the 120mm mortar, they have been dumping it on anyone who wants it, and it can be encountered almost anywhere in the world.

RPG-2 (Rocket-Propelled Grenade). RPG-2 can penetrate up to 180mm of armor. Its 40mm tube fires an 82mm-diameter projectile, since the tube holds the propulsion unit and closed guidance fins. These thin metal fins expand after the rear of the missile clears the tube. The RPG-2 has crude sights and only a 100-meter effective range.

RPG-7. The RPG-7 has superseded the 2. It has a 300-meter-effective range and can penetrate up to 330mm of armor or eight feet of sand bags with its 3½-pound warhead. The '7 is recognizable by its sights, thicker middle tube, and flared tube exhaust. Its sights give it night fighting capability and an internal ranging aid. The rocket comes in two parts; the booster motor and guidance fins screw into the rocket's main body before it is inserted into the tube for firing. Because the black powder booster gives off a lot of smoke, its firer makes a good target.

Once clear of the tube, the four long aluminum fins open up for guidance. Because the RPG-7 is nose heavy and tail light, it is easily deflected by a light wind, and its sensitive piezo quartz fuse can be set off by smashing into a big rain drop.

Continued on page 82

An Inside Look At The Biggest Jailbreak In History

Who Dares Wins

Billionaire Computer Magnate & Ex-SF Colonel
Liberate 2 Americans From Iran Jail
Along With 10,998 Other Prisoners

by N.E. MacDougald



H. Ross Perot, head of Electronic Data Systems, Inc., became activist during Vietnam war, attempting to have American POWs freed from North Vietnam. Here Perot prepares for TV interview about POWs in January 1970. Photo credit: UPI

That's right, the biggest jailbreak in history. An operation this bold and this vast would make most men dizzy, but H. Ross Perot and Col. Arthur "Bull" Simons aren't cut from ordinary cloth.

Perot first surfaced nationally in 1969 about a year after he announced that his firm, Electronic Data Services, would sell stock. The stock soared and Perot was at once a business whiz and a billionaire, at least on paper. But it was his support of our troops in Vietnam that made headlines. Perot chartered two jets and stuffed them with journalists and with supplies for American POWs in North Vietnam. The Hanoi government did not allow the planes to land, but Perot maintained that the publicity accomplished much toward getting better treatment for our prisoners.

Perot also bought full-page ads supporting the Vietnam war in more than 100 newspapers. He had astronaut Frank Borman doing commercials urging citizens to send personal checks to President Nixon with "100 percent support" written on them. These acts, and others too numerous to mention, are not those of a timid man.

Later, Perot began a little-known program on behalf of POWs. He established an espionage net in North Vietnam wherein spies paid for photos of POWs to be sent to their families. Perot, always the businessman, had a sliding scale for payment: \$100 for a photo of a prisoner's head, \$200 for a full-length photo and \$500 for a photo of a prisoner who was MIA.

On 19 February 1979, Perot startled the nation with a press conference concerning the now-famous mass exodus at Iran's Gasre prison. In short, Perot decided to do what the American government would not: act. Apparently unimpressed with bureaucratic rhetoric and diplomatic niceties, Perot took direct action. Perot's vision and Simons' expertise combined to produce one of the few rays of light in recent American history.

Perot didn't stint on preparation for extraction of the "Sunshine Boys," code name for Perot's two imprisoned employees. Although the amount spent on the effort will probably never surface, one can surmise from the cost of the chartered 707 commo center: \$6,000 an hour.



TEHRAN, 10 February 1979 — Pro-Khomeini forces smash in door leading into one of main buildings inside Gasre prison compound to set prisoners free after guards fled in fear for their lives. Photo credit: UPI.

Simons spent 30 years in the Army. Among his skills is his ability to organize and direct prisoner extraction raids. It was Simons who headed the famous Son Tay POW extraction raid into North Vietnam in 1969, an operation that would have been even more successful had M.I. agents done their homework.

To Simons, the Iran raid was apparently ho-hum. In an L.A. Times copywrited story, Simons described the cross country journey to Turkey as a "spring outing."

He continued, "There we were, driving through this beautiful valley. The sun was out. It was a lovely day. There was snow on the mountain peaks." Also in that article, Simons disclosed that he was contemplating an offer to lead a similar commando action, "a big one this time," bigger than the one in Iran? Perhaps he's thinking of emptying Russia

Following is the unexpurgated text of Perot's press conference.

Ross Perot: *As the revolution progressed in Iran, it became necessary for the Americans to evacuate. EDS was involved in a number of computer projects in the country. We went to Iranian authorities and told them it would be necessary to take our people out for safety reasons. Within 12 hours, the Iranians started trying to pick our people up as hostages. Unfortunately, two of our people, Paul Chiapparone and Bill Gaylord, were captured. The objective in holding these men as hostages was to assure that we would come back in and start up the computer systems when the country goes back to work. You need to understand that everybody is on strike, no work is being done, computers were shut down; but their great fear was that when they went back to work we would not come in and help the computer systems get going. They felt that their best assurance was to hold our employees as hostages and later pro-*

pose, as an alternative, a ransom or bail of \$12,750,000. The fact that our men were being held as hostages was first confirmed by our conversations with Iranians and later confirmed by conversations between our State Department and the Iranian government.

The day these men were arrested, EDS commenced pursuing several alternatives. We repeatedly sought help from the State Department, the Defense Department, the White House and every level of our government. We put together a negotiating team to fly into Iran to negotiate the release of the men through the Iranian legal system; and, finally we put together a team of volunteers to go into training to extract these men by force if all other contingencies failed and if the situation in Iran continued to deteriorate. I called an old friend, Colonel Arthur "Bull" Simons, one of the legendary figures in the United States Army, who was con-

sidered during his military career to be the finest leader of raids of this type in our government. He is now in retirement. I asked him if he would consider planning and leading an extraction team if all other efforts failed. He agreed. While he was flying to Dallas, we identified all EDS personnel who had lived in Tehran and who had prior records as Marine officers, Rangers, Special Forces officers, Army officers and others with specialized training that would be necessary for such an extraction. I met privately with each individual on January 1. I told each man privately that I was about to discuss something with him that could cost him his life; and if, for any reason he should not be involved, our discussion should go no further. Every man I talked with volunteered. Colonel Simons came to Dallas, put the team into training and purchased the necessary equipment. By the middle of January, the entire team and the necessary equipment was in Iran. When you think of what the necessary equipment is, you will realize what an undertaking that was, not counting training of the team.

During this whole process extensive negotiations were underway on a daily basis to gain the release of the men through the legal process. Our first preference was to pay the \$12,750,000 bail because this eliminated any risk of physical harm to the two men being detained or the team now in place in Tehran.

The efforts to pay this bail failed ultimately because the Iranian banking system no longer functions. Extensive efforts were made by our negotiating team to set this up through the banking system. All the negotiations with the Iranian banking system had to be conducted with banking officials in their homes. If you will just think about that for a minute — you had to go through the mobs. First, you had to find the official, secondly, you had to find his home, thirdly, you had to go through the mobs to get there and finally, you had a less than successful meeting. In the final analysis the effort to pay the ransom simply could not be transacted through the banking system and this was a requirement — that the banking system be a part of the process. During this period, the situation in the country deteriorated dramatically. The civilian population was getting arms; the mobs no longer were shouting, they were shooting; public executions were being held. The new government leaders were making public statements about cutting off the hands of Americans and we had two helpless men in an Iranian jail. Each time, our negotiating team displayed a great deal of personal bravery by continuing to meet day after day trying to negotiate the release. Bill Gayden, the President of our International Operation, lived in the country and was committed not to leave until he brought his men out with him. Bob Young and Keane Taylor were exposed daily in

our negotiating efforts. Our attorney, John Howell, with the Dallas firm of Hughes, Luce and Hill, displayed an unusual degree of personal courage over a period of several weeks in a country where it is customary to arrest the lawyer as well as the client. If the banking system had been functioning, John Howell and the others mentioned above would have been able to pay the ransom, gain release of the men and avoid any risk of physical harm to the men.

Finally, we concluded that the efforts to pay the ransom had failed and that we had to extract the men. After the Shah had been overthrown, I went to Iran to personally inspect the place where our men were being detained. It was a high security prison with approximately 12-foot walls, solid steel entrance doors, double doors; you went through one set of solid steel doors, which appeared to be about 15 feet and went through another set of solid steel doors. Guards were stationed around the walls and in towers with automatic weapons. After entering the prison, I had an opportunity to tour the grounds as I went to visit Paul and Bill. I visited with Paul and Bill for about an hour, and personally assured them that we would get them out. My visit to the prison confirmed what Colonel Simons already knew; that our team was too small to extract these men from prison by force. Some other method had to be developed.

DALLAS, 19 February 1979 — H. Ross Perot (L), head of EDS, and Col. "Bull" Simons (R), U.S. Army, Ret., masterminds of Tehran jailbreak that freed EDS employees, Bill Gaylord (L-C) and Paul Chiapparone (R-C), smile at press conference announcing success of mission. Photo credit: UPI.





DALLAS, 19 February 1979 — H. Ross Perot (L) takes care of employees at Electronic Data Systems, Inc. Perot masterminded volunteer commando team that recently rescued two EDS engineers, Bill Gaylord (C) and Paul Chiapparone (R) from Tehran prison, coincidentally freeing 10,998 other prisoners. Photo credit: UPI.

During this period, the mobs were everywhere. The mobs were armed. Our strategy became obvious — arrange for an Iranian mob to storm the prison. This strategy involved considerable risk to Paul and Bill because they were Americans, but it involved less risk than leaving them in prison at this point. Again, we checked to see if our government could do anything to help. On February 4, I confirmed that we simply could not expect any help at all. We were successful in our efforts to arrange with revolutionary leaders in the area to have the prison stormed by an Iranian mob. Fortunately when the mob stormed the prison the guards put up minimal resistance. Paul and Bill could receive no help from us in their escape from prison. We could not be in the mob. There was a distinct chance that the mob might harm Paul and Bill in the confusion. Paul and Bill climbed the walls and fled through intense gun fire for about two miles on foot. They walked and hitchhiked to a designated hotel, the rendezvous. On February 10, we received word that this part of the operation had been successful and that the men had arrived safely in the hotel, but exhausted. They had walked and hitchhiked some 10 miles

from the prison to the rendezvous point. I talked with Colonel Simons over the phone; he ordered all men to evacuate the hotel immediately. Within two hours the revolutionaries entered the hotel, determined the location of our hotel rooms and directed intense submachine gun fire into each room prior to opening the doors. Later in the week, before the departure of our people, one of our people went back into the hotel to pick up whatever personal belongings might be left. He visually confirmed that extensive damage had been done to the rooms and that had Colonel Simons not ordered the evacuation when he did, all of our people would have been killed.

It was now time to execute our escape plan. Colonel Simons was in complete charge. Our trained team was ready with all the necessary equipment in place. Colonel Simons determined who would go overland with him and who would stay in Tehran to go out on the first commercially available air transportation. Colonel Simons, Jay Coburn, Keane Taylor, Bill Gayden, Paul Chiapparone and Bill Gaylord went out overland. Neither Chiapparone or Gaylord had passports, further complicating Colonel Simons'

problems. Joe Poche was in charge of the team remaining in Tehran to go out on commercial air. This team included Joe, Bob Young, John Howell, Rich Gallagher and his wife. The overland escape involved a standard procedure at each village consisting of arrest and interrogations.

It would take hours to tell this story in detail, but the end result is obvious. The team arrived at the Turkish border on schedule. By this time, we had flown a 707 aircraft with specialized communications systems into Turkey. We had put our Turkish rescue team into place in eastern Turkey, and the objective of the Turkish rescue team was to go into Iran if these men did not appear at the border on schedule, find out where they were, and get them out. This team in Turkey, the rescue team, was led by Pat Sculley. Ralph Boulware was our first man to go across Turkey. His job was to handle it and if the people arrived routinely at the border, to get them across the country. He had an interesting mission involving land travel of over 1,000 miles. His transportation broke down repeatedly, and for the last 600 miles through remote mountainous areas, Ralph had to travel by renting

Continued on page 86

Modern Merc Reveals Tricks Of Trade

SOF Interviews Chris Dempster

by John Howard

While in London just after Christmas 1978, browsing through a downtown bookstore, my eye fell on an AK-47 outline on a thick paperback entitled *Firepower*. I immediately began leafing through it and soon knew I'd found my kind of book. I started reading in the cab on the way back to my hotel and read on without pause until the early morning hours. I finished the book the next day but found myself unable to put it down. I started rereading it — a few pages in the middle, a few in the front, some in the back. I knew then that this was one of the best books ever — in any category.

Firepower tells the true account of Chris Dempster and Dave Tomkins, two adventurous Englishmen who were recruited and transported to Angola in 1976 to fight as mercenaries for Holden Roberto's FNLA. The book describes Angola's merc war so accurately that you know each man's weapon, ambush sites, rations, personal equipment, and accommodations on a day-to-day basis. *Firepower* also describes the mercs' views, impressions, feelings, fears, feuds, fights, and grab-ass. *Firepower* has many levels — not only about mercs and weapons but about how people operate. If you've ever considered taking a contract somewhere, *Firepower* can both answer a lot of questions and give you a strong taste of what it will be like.

Because the book would interest SOF readers, I called its publishers. They put me in touch with Chris Dempster, who agreed to an interview, and gave me permission to quote at length from the book itself. (See the passages in italics in the interview below.)

Firepower is not on sale in the U.S. and will not be available here until U.S. rights are bought by an American publishing company — which means a lapse of at least a year before U.S. bookstores will stock it.

Firepower gives Dempster's pre-Angola background:

"Chris Dempster was a man who found it difficult to slot into an average nine-to-five existence. A restless nature — and a low boredom threshold — ensured that he seldom stayed in the same job very long. A short-fuse temper added to his employ-



To be a merc: "I'd want to see the color of his money . . . Make sure that the guy has got the money to back his mouth up . . . And when it's time to go, don't worry about everybody else, just go."
— Chris Dempster.

ment difficulties. As a boy of 16 he had fractured his skull in five places when he fell from some scaffolding; the accident left him quick-tempered and easily provoked, with an inclination to end disagreements with his fists . . . On impulse he joined the army. . . .

"His military service took him to Kenya, Sarawak and Hong Kong. In Kenya, at the tail-end of the Mau Mau troubles, he narrowly escaped death on three separate occasions when patrol vehicles he was travelling in were blown up by landmines; on the third occasion he was the only survivor out of four men in the jeep.

Dempster found that the Army offered him more than one outlet for his aggressive impulses: he represented the Army in middle-weight boxing championships against the other services. He applied to join the Army's elite force, the Special Air Service. One of the SAS suitability tests required candidates to run

repeatedly up and down a Welsh hillside while carrying a weighted knapsack; Chris was rejected when he hit another soldier with a rifle-butt for laughing at his exertions.

"After being severely wounded in Borneo — he was mentioned in dispatches for his part in repelling an attack on his patrol by Communist rebels — Chris was downgraded and put on a training course for cooks at Aldershot barracks. Not the kind of man ever to feel comfortable wearing an apron, he lost his temper one morning and hit an officer in the face with a pan of fried eggs. As punishment he was sentenced to 56 days detention in the military prison at Colchester. Before the sentence could be carried out, he went AWOL. His discharge from the Army followed. . . .

"In June 1967, he took off again, this time to fight as a volunteer on the Israeli side in the Six Day War. Though not Jewish he strongly sympathized with the Israeli position and wanted to do all he could to help. And of course, the war offered a good opportunity to see action again. . . .

"By the beginning of 1976, he was feeling thoroughly demoralized and increasingly anxious to find a new challenge in life. He began to seriously contemplate emigrating to Rhodesia — or else going off with Dave Tomkins to Australia to investigate the profitability of opal-mining. So when Dave phoned him with the offer of some exciting-sounding work in Africa, he was instantly receptive. . . ."

SOF: What would you say are the lessons you learned from the war in Angola?

DEMPSTER: Never go into a war like that without communications. Because the arms don't really matter. You can have an FN or a Kalashnikov, but if you've got communications, that's everything.

SOF: What type of commo equipment did you have?

DEMPSTER: We had two Yamaha walkie-talkies with about a 100-meter range. That's all. When a convoy of six vehicles went up the road, you couldn't get the lead vehicle. Really incredible. We had



"We were white men in a black man's country there to help the black man but we didn't; we just killed them all." — Chris Dempster.

some British walkie-talkie equipment, standard sort of field pack but the valves [tubes] in some were blown and they didn't work.

SOF: You didn't have any sort of maintenance or supply organization?

DEMPSTER: Right, there was no organization. Callan [the psychotic mercenary commander] didn't have any tactical ability. I mean his idea of attacking the Cubans was to run screaming at them with fixed bayonets. And it worked with the ordinary Africans, but sooner or later you're going to get hit pretty bad.

SOF: What was wrong with Callan? Why did he kill so many of his own people, both white and black?

DEMPSTER: I don't think he liked people at all.

SOF: But he wanted to win, didn't he?

DEMPSTER: He did, yeah, but . . . I really don't know why he blew away half our army and dismantled the rest. To this day I don't really know why because it didn't make sense. I really don't understand his way of thinking but at the time I wasn't prepared to argue with him. The man was a raging lunatic with a machine gun. He was in a position of absolute power and I think more than one British psychologist has called him a mad dog on a leash. And his leash was cut, you know, and that was it.

SOF: What could have won the war?

DEMPSTER: Common sense. Anybody in charge with any sort of military background, anyone with just sheer common sense could have gotten us there. Common sense and a bit of standing amongst the blokes, enough to command a bit of respect and he'd have got there. I mean rank didn't matter, either your previous rank or any superfluous rank that you gave yourself out there. It was just that anyone who had commanded a bit of respect could have easily welded us into a nice tight unit.

SOF: Do you feel that even with the limited resources available to you in Angola you could have made a good showing?

DEMPSTER: Absolutely. The LAW rockets we had were excellent for close combat. They stopped a few tanks. There's not a tank commander I know of who'll sit in his tank and fight it out with a track blown off. So with that accepted, you could very literally hit any tank in the world because a LAW rocket is very good for knocking off tracks. The FN is an excellent weapon. If the FNs had run out of ammunition, we could have used Kalashnikovs. We were using Kalashnikovs much of the time. We could have re-armed ourselves from the ammunition

supplies of those we killed. Yeah, we could have had a great war, and we could have won. We could have just gone on and on and on.

SOF: Your small band of less than 100 mercenaries could have beaten the 10,000-plus Cubans?

DEMPSTER: Yeah. Because their lines of communications were so stretched. They were refueling on a weekly basis from airplane drops at the various landing strips they captured. All we had to do was get a steam roller going as fast as theirs and batter them down and that would have been it. We would have just overrun them everywhere.

SOF: How much help were the local blacks on your side?

DEMPSTER: Well, when I got there they were completely demoralized so I really can't say, but the ones that I met in Maquela and used were all right. Given a bit of confidence and proper leadership, we'd have gone places. My suggestion to Callan was that we should have four black men with two white men. No brutalizing from the white men. You could learn topography and the African way from the black men and they could learn standing and courage from the white man, plus the use of his arm. I think that given the right bit of training, the right bit of guidance, they could now be in control of their country. And we could be out now, all finished. Of course, a lot richer, you know.

SOF: They were basically good material?

DEMPSTER: No, not *good* material, but they were material and that's what we were there for. We were white men in a black man's country, there to help the

"... I found the Cubans wanting . . . I hit them twice from ambush situations . . . They got hit, killed. The remainder turned and fled." — Chris Dempster.



black man, but we didn't, we just killed them all.

SOF: What was the reaction of the other black soldiers when Callan killed them for sport?

DEMPSTER: Terrified.

SOF: Did many of them desert because of the feat?

DEMPSTER: Oh, yeah. At the drop of a hat they would desert.

SOF: Other than communications, what other lack of equipment was critical?

DEMPSTER: Good anti-malaria and anti-dysentery medicine. We lost a few blokes due to malaria and dysentery. A good medical facility, that and communications. The arms we had were excellent. We could have just gone on and on and on.

I mean it's a terrain eminently suited to guerrilla warfare. Elephant grass covered the whole landscape, eight to 10 feet high. The roads were literally a bulldozer march through the grass. I mean a bulldozer simply went on a crow's path from point A to point B and cut a road out of the grass. And then on either side you have the elephant grass, so you couldn't fail to succeed as a guerrilla.

SOF: Was there any talk about going back in as guerrillas?

DEMPSTER: Well, it all got embarrassing with Mobutu of Zaire. He realized that he was on a losing side and he vetoed any suggestion of this: Peter McAleese, who was the commander at the end, was another one of the more mouth-than-do-anything brigade and that was it. Everything folded.

SOF: What sort of man was Holden Roberto [President of the FNLA and the actual employer of the merc force]?

DEMPSTER: Well, speaking as you find, and I must speak as I find, a very good man. I never met a president yet who would help you on with your boots but he helped me on with my boots. Good guy. He also went out of his way to try and give us a couple of creature comforts. He gave me a bottle of cream soda once which, when you're in the middle of black Africa and you haven't drunk anything but brackish water for two weeks and some guy comes up with a bottle of cream soda, I've got to tell you he's a bit good.

SOF: What did Holden Roberto think of Callan?

DEMPSTER: Originally, Callan had proved himself. Callan and Madeira [a Portuguese merc] ambushed and killed many thousands of MPLA and Cubans, just the two of them using LAW rockets like they were going out of style. They created panic, knocked out six tanks, and drove the enemy into confusion. At that time, Callan was the best thing that had hit northern Angola since the 14th century. And so Holden Roberto thought he'd found his savior and instantly made Callan — from hospital orderly to field marshal. And then he got the other white

mercenaries and put them all under Callan's command.

SOF: But didn't Roberto know that Callan had gone mad? Didn't Callan kill Roberto's own cousin for fun?

DEMPSTER: His cousin, yeah. But, well, you can look at a lion in a cage, you see, and you can poke it and it's all right. But when the lion's out of the cage you don't poke it anymore; you go and hide. And that's exactly the situation the President found himself in.

SOF: Roberto was both afraid of Callan and dependent upon him?

DEMPSTER: Yeah, it was sort of a love-hate relationship. But then again, there were some Special Air Service blokes who were no mean guys, Jamie McAndless,



"We had two Yamaha walkie-talkies with about a 100-meter range... When a convoy of six vehicles went up the road, you couldn't get the lead vehicle." — Chris Dempster.

Peter McAleese. And Callan brought them up short. I mean you mustn't just put him down as a lunatic; he was one hard, pretty incredible guy. He had a knack for making people take a long hard look at themselves in the mirror and sometimes what they saw was not what they always believed they'd see. And that broke a few people up. I think it did with Peter McAleese and Jamie McAndless.

You see, everybody's got their little photo-kit idea of what they are and then suddenly you get out into the blackest of Africa and you've been a roughie-toughie soldier all your life, and you meet a 24-year-old Greek Cypriot waving a gun at you and you look at yourself and you realize that you're not going to do anything about it. And that's where the rub

comes. It reduced a few men to a shade smaller size than they thought they were before.

SOF: Why didn't one of the mercs kill Callan?

DEMPSTER: You must remember that Callan was there before us. And our original party of 18 guys, when we got there we found that there was like 40 or 50 Caucasian Portuguese there, and they had the very best of what there was; they had all the .30 and .50 calibers, the armored cars, the one and only tank, they had the anti-tank guns, and they were all armed with pretty good things.

When we got there we were armed with M-1 carbines. It wasn't until day three that we got our FN's and of course by then the rot had set in. No one had a Kalashnikov except Callan and under those circumstances you just sort of sit back and take stock and shut your mouth.

SOF: Have you ever heard from Holden Roberto since you left Angola?

DEMPSTER: Yeah, I got a message. He wished us all well and he asked about David [Tomkins] and he said that when he got some money, he'd send for us all again.

SOF: Would you go back to Angola?

DEMPSTER: Yeah, I'd go back. In the right situation and with the right arms and with the right people, certainly. I don't think a Callan situation could happen again. I think a lot of lessons have been learned about Angola by the British mercenaries. You see, the unfortunate part about Callan is that in a situation like that, it rubs off. It rubbed off on Sammy Copeland. It rubbed off on Jamie McAndless. And it damn near rubbed off on me. And it was sheer, raving madness. I mean, you become kill-crazy — consciously. Not a moment of bloodlust when you're charging across a field with a bayonet in your hand and seeing your mates get chopped down and suddenly you're in it, slashing for the sake of your life. It's just killing for the moment. When you're angry, normally, you might use a four-letter word: instead you give the guy four bullets.

SOF: The book describes your challenging Callan during his first briefing:

"After an embarrassed silence, during which most of the men avoided Callan's eye, Chris haltingly told Callan that he and the other Britons were worried he might start killing them for the same sorts of reasons he had been killing the Angolan troops — in a fit of temper, for a dirty weapon, or just to arouse fear in the rest of the men. After Chris had said his piece, an uncomfortable silence prevailed. Callan stared at him in shocked disbelief. Finally he looked around at the rest of the group and asked if anybody else felt the same way.

"No, of course not, sir," Copeland replied quickly, and there was a chorus of 'No' from the other men. Some were

vigorously shaking their heads, as if amazed by Chris' suggestion. Even Dave Tomkins, never in a hurry to give himself away, seemed reluctant to back Chris up.

"Callan looked back at Chris and from the expression in his flat black eyes, Chris knew the incident was being filed away in Callan's memory for future reference and retribution. Callan stalked out, and the men relaxed. All of them made awkward excuses to Chris and promised to back him up if the going got rough. But Chris was sure now he could count on no one but himself."

SOF: What do you think would have happened if the other mercs had backed you up?

DEMPSTER: Had the men backed me up? Well, I think the Maquela massacre [in which 14 British mercs were executed on Callan's orders] would never have occurred. Callan would have been stopped a bit short there. You know, whenever he talked to me, he ran a Kalashnikov up my nose. I mean he stuck it literally into my face. One up the spout, the thing on automatic. You don't argue when a man does that. I don't care who you are....

SOF: Did he act that way to prove that he was tough?

DEMPSTER: Yeah, I think he felt totally and utterly inadequate in the situation and his only way of proving his adequacy was to try and subdue everybody around him, bring them to a state of terror.

SOF: In your experience, how do discipline and authority evolve in a mercenary unit when men are thrown together who don't know each other and have never worked together? Do you have to kill somebody to get respect like Callan did?

DEMPSTER: No, not at all. It's just on mutual respect. You're all there to do a job and that's it. A mercenary is totally divorced from any regular-army-unit way of getting to know a guy's capabilities — because you've fought with him in the gym or you've run faster than him on the running course or he can lift bigger guys than you, because you've seen him perform in a pub at night. This is how reputations are built in a regular mob, but in a mercenary army, there's no reputation to either build up or defend — you are what you are. You're completely alone and isolated. You know that if it ever came to the crunch, there's only one person who's ever going to take care of you and that's you. And that's really it. You're all together in the same boat.

SOF: How would you establish discipline in a group of hastily recruited mercs?

DEMPSTER: You simply put the wheat with the chaff and back them out together. I'm a great believer in discomfort and hardship as breeding very strong camaraderie. Put them all up there together, and don't take any weakling as a weakling. They've all come out and they've all got their dough.

I'd take a quick look around and see the ones who are doing the bleating and I'd mix them in with the harder elements. And then with the hardship, the individual guys would have sorted the weaklings out and welded the thing together. Instead, what Callan did was that he isolated them and by isolating



"No one had a Kalashnikov except Callan and under those circumstances you just sort of sit back ... and shut your mouth." — Chris Dempster. In this picture, Callan carries M-2 carbine.

them [the loudmouths and whiners] he created another unit which festered. [This unit ambushed Dempster and his men, took all their ammunition and supplies, and deserted towards the Zaire border].

SOF: Although the execution of the 14 white mercs received enormous press coverage as evidence of the "inherent

savagery" of mercenaries in general, these men did more than just desert or refuse to fight; they tried hard to kill you and your group. It could be said that they had it coming.

DEMPSTER: I agree to a certain extent. They knew exactly where they were, but they were frightened that Callan was going to kill them. They had already realized that he was quite a force to be reckoned with. They also feared the white Portuguese Angolans who held all the armament, the armored cars. They were totally loyal to Callan. And so they responded to the commands of the two authoritarian people amongst them, Aiken and Butcher, the big, fat "Os"; what we call the quartermasters. You know, typical quartermasters.

SOF: Supply sergeants?

DEMPSTER: That's it, supply sergeants. You know the typical sort of guys who know all the answers. So when Aiken and Butcher gave them the orders, they responded to A) the authority, and B) the easy way out. I do believe that all of them were guilty of trying to kill me and my little bunch of guys, but I don't believe that they were all guilty of desertion. They were all certainly guilty of cowardice. My first reaction when we got ambushed and I fully realized the following morning what had happened was to go out and kill them all. But of course in the heat of the moment these things come out. I would have liked to see the two fat ones get killed. I would have taken great delight in blowing them both away. But as it turned out we killed a lot of lads. But that was that; we had no choice in it.

SOF: What about the local blacks who were trying to do a good job and were killed by Callan for no reason?

DEMPSTER: The guy whose death broke me up a bit was the baker. The thing was that Callan shot the man with his son standing there. That finished me with Angola right there. It was about then that I made my choice that the first opportunity that presented itself, I'd be gone. At that time I wanted to take Callan with me. It really got to me.

I mean this bread man, he walked 20 miles with his bloody hot tray on his head to give us bread, and then Callan shot this man in front of his son. It just — I don't know, it just seemed that enough is enough. The lad was only 5, 6 or 7 years old, that sort of indefinable age. The lad was hanging on my legs. I thought then that at the first opportunity, I'd take Callan out and go. But the opportunity didn't present itself.

SOF: How good were the Cubans in combat?

DEMPSTER: Well, you must speak as you find, and I found them wanting. I was told by the Portuguese Angolans that they were pretty good. I hit them twice from ambush situations and each time they must have known they were coming into



"... Angola's a terrain eminently suited to guerrilla warfare. Elephant grass eight feet high covered the whole of the landscape ... So you couldn't fail to succeed as a guerrilla." — Chris Dempster.

ambush because they came right into our territory. They walked along with guns slung over their shoulders. They got hit, killed. The remainder turned and fled. Totally unsoldierlike conduct.

SOF: Did the Cubans ever put up a stiff fight?

DEMPSTER: Never. We drove into a prepared ambush position and I mean prepared — there were tanks around the corner, they were in a dug-in position and we inflicted 300 dead and three tanks knocked out and we came away. We went into this with Land Rovers, leaving four Land Rovers and we had four badly wounded. End of story.

SOF: How many were you?

DEMPSTER: 28.

SOF: And you killed 300?

DEMPSTER: And that figure didn't come from us. We had claimed 150. The actual 300 figure came from Victor Carreras who was the commander of the Cubans.

SOF: And this was just small arms?

DEMPSTER: Small arms and your LAW rockets. They're good anti-personnel weapons.

SOF: What sort of personal gear did the Cubans have?

DEMPSTER: Well they wore the standard MPLA kit which was forage cap, camouflage jacket, olive green trousers tucked into typical U.S. Army boots, Kalashnikovs, webbing belt which looked like British patent '54 webbing, no harness, four ammunition pouches, and that was it.

SOF: No grenades?

DEMPSTER: No. I didn't see any grenades.

SOF: You didn't have mortars?

DEMPSTER: We had mortars. We had three-inch mortars and no ammunition and two-inch ammunition and no mortars. That was it.

SOF: Did they ever use mortars against you?

DEMPSTER: While we were waiting in the ambush position, they stomped the other side of the hill we were on with "Stalin Organs," the Katushka rockets. They raised hell on the other side of the hill and we were terrified that they may start coming lower but they never did.

SOF: What was your best moment in Angola?

DEMPSTER: It was the morning before I disarmed the Zorrens. I had that big wash: I dived head-first into a 40-gallon drum and washed myself. I felt really good; it was the first time I really felt good in that country. I was on a shit-or-die mission and with such a short future having got myself clean — I cleaned my teeth which was the first time in three weeks — I felt really good. I just felt bloody good. And I went into the Zorrens. And that was the best part for me in Angola.

SOF: That was really an amazing feat to take on the Zorrens single-handedly. All it would have taken was one of those guys to say, "Screw this," and bang, you'd have had it.

DEMPSTER: I don't think it was a feat really. I think it was just a case of bluff and the bluff paid off. It wasn't a feat really. I was faced with a dual possibility. I was either going to be very dead or very much alive and in a much firmer position than I had been in up to that point. By disarming the Zorrens, I sort of got one over on Callan to a great extent because he hadn't dislodged them. And if I would have done it on my own . . .

It was the sheer apprehension of Callan, being constantly on alert for him. Whenever you heard a Land Rover coming, you immediately had to get your FN. And then you had to remember if you had one up the spout or if you were going to cock one onto the floor, and then that

would be one less if it came to it. All of this was going on in the back of your mind, that you were going to need every bloody round you had, and you didn't want to look the clown in front of the blacks by cocking rounds onto the floor, you know? And all this, it was a very unnecessary tension.

That morning was after I slept with a grenade in my hand. I mean that shows the state of mind I was getting into. Going to sleep with a grenade in my hand and then the pin falls out because I'd straightened the pin, and a loaded Browning "millie," one up the spout and the hammer back, and an FN in the same situation leaning up against the bed. I mean you have to be half a lunatic to go to sleep like that, you know. But that just shows the sort of pressure the man was beginning to inflict on me mentally.

Then the Zorrens episode came up, and I'd have quite cheerfully gone and had a crack at them with an FN then to have this constant nagging pressure of having a lunatic CO who was backed by his own army which was your army. I just felt very good that morning. I felt very clean. I knew what I was going to do; I was going to end up very dead or very much in command of my own destiny. I was very lucky it turned out right.

SOF: The account in your book tells it like it was:

"Chris looked over the 147 bandits assembled before him. All of them were taller than he was and nearly all of them were staring at him with jaundiced, blood-shot eyes, radiating an almost tangible amount of hatred, the accumulated bitterness of years in Zairois jails, and in exile. He had the impression that they were waiting for an opportunity to rush him and tear him apart with their bare teeth. Although the operation had so far been surprisingly successful, Chris had good reason to remain apprehensive — most of the Zorrens still had their automatic weapons and were unlikely to part with them willingly.

"With Joseph acting as interpreter, Chris instructed the Commandant to order his men to drop their weapons. A few obeyed. The majority grinned contemptuously and gripped their weapons more tightly. Raising his FN, Chris fired some rounds just above their heads. The Zorrens ducked as ricochets whined from wall to wall of the square. One bullet passed an inch from Chris' right ear but he willed himself to stay upright; any betrayal of fear or weakness would have been an invitation for the bandits to rush him en masse. The rebounding bullets did the trick — a small arsenal of side arms and rifles clattered to the ground.

"Chris noticed one defiant-eyed Zorren holding possessively on to his AK-47. He walked up to the man, who towered head and shoulders above him, and ordered him to throw down his weapon. The Zor-

ren stared moodily into space, ignoring his existence. Gripping his FN by the barrel, Chris clouted the bandit in the side of the head with the butt. The blow jarred Chris' arms to the marrow, yet the Zorren managed to stay on his feet, still clutching his Kalashnikov.

"Painfully aware that his defiance would soon spread to the rest, Chris drew his pistol and lashed the man's head and face with the grip. The Zorren calmly stood his ground. Realizing his failure to knock him down was making him look ineffectual, Chris gave up the attempt. Instead, he wrenched the AK-47 out of the man's hands, and stepped back quickly, covering him with his FN. Through Joséph, he ordered him to strip, then leave the fort — and Maquela — and not return. The naked bandit started for the gate, walking with a slow, buttock-swinging arrogance that delighted his fellow Zorrens. His arrogance vanished abruptly when a 9mm bullet from Chris' pistol passed between his legs, inches below his testicles. He disappeared out the gate in a hurry."

Did you go into the Zorren's camp accepting that either the Zorrens would kill you or Callan would? Did you say, the hell with it, I have nothing to lose, so let's do it?

DEMPSTER: That's it, yeah. The time I started to get my marbles back together was when I let the FN go and the bullet was ricocheting everywhere — I mean those FNs do ricochet a bullet — and it hummed quite near my head and all those blacks were diving every which way, you know. I wanted to duck, like you do, and I thought, you can't, because if you duck then that shows fallibility and every bit that you've gained up to now is going to be lost.

SOF: Were you afraid?

DEMPSTER: I just got angry. Going towards the gate, I just got angry, I just psyched myself up to get angry because I feel sure that if fright had crept in it would have funk'd everything out and I would get shot. I knew the only way out was to get angry, brutally angry, and to be brutal with them. I didn't do this consciously, you know, it was just the pent-up momentum of what had gone on before.

They could easily have shot me. The time it could all have come to pieces was when the last guy wouldn't give me his gun, his Kalashnikov. And then I beat him, and he stood there with his face bleeding from being whacked. I thought then, "Dempster, your bluff just ran out, son!" He was a big one; they were all bigger than I.

I mean it was weird, there were all these six-foot-plus guys standing around with straw in their hair, bloodshot eyes, a terrible stink of excretia and unwashed bodies, and this horrible feeling of hate from these 250 blokes. And all this was in a very confined space. The only thing you've got

to get you out of trouble is sheer rage, isn't it? You let any other emotion in and you're finished. It was just sheer hate that got me out.

SOF: Why did they let you get away with it?

DEMPSTER: Well, you've never dealt with Africans. They're not like American Africans, completely different animal, completely different guy. American Negroes are American Negroes, Africans are Africans. They might have come from the same place but they're not the same, not at all. Yeah, the white man's old "Sanders of the River" touch still works in Africa. Particularly in that area. I mean look at the history of Angola and Zaire. If you've read Mike Hoare's book, *Mercenary*, that's exactly what Mike Hoare did. And if you read between the lines, as you must because he glosses over much of it, a lot of people died there and I mean a lot of people. And that was it.

SOF: How are American mercs regarded generally?

DEMPSTER: Americans. Well, we were very glad to see them. Guys like Gus Grillo were, I felt, a bit of a bad advert for American mercenaries. He came full of magazines and books filled with every arm and everything else. When he was in San Salvador — this is secondhand so you must put what you like on it — but the story I heard was that he had an FN with 12 magazines, an UZI with six magazines, six hand grenades, two handguns with three magazines each, and this is what he carried around with him. So you'd have to start looking like King Kong to lug that weight of ammo about, right? And when he got hit, he only got wounded. He could have got away. He wasn't wounded that bad. I mean he walked up to the Cubans and surrendered. I don't think that sort of thing is a very good advert.

SOF: But within your crowd of merc types, how are Americans now regarded?

DEMPSTER: They're all right. They're good guys, I mean we tend to look on them as being a softer element than Europeans. They will be looking more for the comfort than to get in amongst it and stay amongst it and to live switched on. But they are well respected. They are good guys. They know far more than the average European about demolitions, about basic navigation in and out of a place like Angola — they're competent, you know, very, very competent. The only thing that can be said against them is that they do like the creature comforts, which can count for an awful lot. But very good, competent guys otherwise.

SOF: If you were putting together a mercenary force, what types would you look for?

DEMPSTER: Well, obviously I'd look for guys with military backgrounds between the ages of 23 and 35. Reasonably fit. Preferably coming from broken marriages.

SOF: You think it's best if they don't have a wife waiting?

DEMPSTER: Well, not just a wife but any ties.

SOF: Whom would you reject? Anyone without a military background?

DEMPSTER: No, you don't have to come from a military background. Take Angola. Two guys there proved themselves to be quite fit and quite able, two civvies who had never done a day's service in their lives; so it's not a necessity. The big mouths I'd keep away from — you know, the people who just shoot their mouths off. They're always trouble — you can do without any other aggravation. The barrack room lawyers — I don't know what you call them in the States.

"They stomped the other side of the hill we were on with Stalin organs, the Katushka rockets. They raised hell on the other side of the hill and we were terrified that they may start coming lower but they never did."
— Chris Dempster.



SOF: What other contracts can you tell us about?

DEMPSTER: Well, I visited Beirut with Danny Chamoun's outfit, the Christian Phalangists.

SOF: Don't they have enough of their own people?

DEMPSTER: They've got nobody. No money either.

SOF: What was your mission over there?

DEMPSTER: We simply were fighting with them against the PLO. And that's a hard war because everybody looks the same; there's no lines. A skyscraper today that's yours could within an hour's time house some PLOs. It's a very weird war.

SOF: How long were you there?

DEMPSTER: 17 weeks.

SOF: What were the financial terms?

DEMPSTER: I came out of there with about \$9,000.

SOF: Was that based on a weekly salary?

DEMPSTER: No, I just took it. There was an agreement to pay me a certain amount but you couldn't find the guys half the time. It got to be very personal business getting out. Half the time you found the guys but then when you went back to the area that was supposed to be your rest area or food area or water area — there was no such thing as a real rest area because the Syrians were in there at the time lobbing at you all day and night — when you got back there, everybody had moved off. And there you were, an Englishman alone in the middle of a very wonkie war and it's very weird because the guys that you were fighting with, you know, they didn't wear divisional flashies saying Danny Chamoun's boys — I mean they were all dressed the bloody same.

And if you saw an Arab, you shot him and half the time you were bumping off your own guys because you didn't know who was who. And they didn't know you. The only three guys I knew — two of them got dead and I never saw the other guy again. I eventually found headquarters or what was supposed to be the headquarters and I took some money and went . . .

SOF: It sounds very disorganized.

DEMPSTER: Yes, it is. They're crying out for people but it's very weird because the only guy who's purely in command is Danny Chamoun and half the time he's fighting a political battle in various other countries trying to drum up support.

And you go to fight for him, you get a big handful of dollars when you meet the guy: "Get over there son, we need you!" You meet his representative in Cyprus and get going on the little boat out there. You get there and the representative disappears to go back and dig up more volunteers. And you're left with guys who can't speak English and you can't speak Arabic but they're all smiling at you, offering you this Arab stuff made of crushed goat's livers and lemon juice — hummel. It's what they all eat, it's wrapped up in a

bloody leaf. It's all right, it's very good and refreshing and it keeps you going.

And they all beckon to you, so off you go down the road and they all call me a "Kalashnikov Engineer." They all stand there grinning at you and then somebody starts firing at you and you start firing back and then you drift away and then a bit later you all drift back together. Very weird.

SOF: There was no established objective?

DEMPSTER: No, it was totally disorganized. *Totally* disorganized. You get one little guy in a red sort of hat and mask, you know, the old sort of thing with a band on it. He'll suddenly stand up and give you a load of Arabic and they'll all go



To be a merc: "The only rule is the gun, and if you're the man with the trigger, then it's your gun, so you must know what sort of arms you're getting hold of and be thoroughly competent with them."
— Chris Dempster.

charging over the top. You charge over next and find that they've all disappeared and you're standing in the middle of nowhere firing at a 1001 flashes at night. It's all a bit iffy, you know.

SOF: I assume you wouldn't recommend that war?

DEMPSTER: Well, only if you're fluent in Arabic. Then you've got half a chance there.

SOF: Were there other Americans or British there?

DEMPSTER: I never saw anybody. Two of us went and we both came back. But it's a good war if you can speak Arabic. I can speak a little tiny bit of it but the dialects are very peculiar and if you've been studying textbook Arabic, which I

had been, it doesn't work too good. It's rather like a Cockney talking to a New Yorker. You both look at each other and that's it. But they do need guys there because the Palestinians and the Syrians are trying to kill all the Lebanese.

SOF: But there were no lines or areas to hold?

DEMPSTER: Yeah, there was an area we were holding but it was getting rapidly smaller. I figured that out because every time I grinned at somebody, he shot at me, so I thought, well, very dirty, and legged it a bit further back to the area I started from and that was deserted and so I kept going backwards until I ended up on the dockside area. It was there that I found the base camp or what was supposed to be the base camp with one of the grinning faces — he was the only one that was left.

SOF: How were the PLO as a foe?

DEMPSTER: They're a bit good. I mean they can shoot their weapons and they're not intimidated. Good fighters. Lunatics, but good. They haven't got a country to defend, they're fighting hoping to get somewhere — you can't get any more desperate than those people. I've seen what was left of Tel Azatar and if that's where they live, then fighting is the only thing they've got left . . . An interesting technical fact is that the Kalashnikovs over there all are stamped with "Tel Azatar" — because they had a plant there to make them.

SOF: As you might imagine, many SOF readers are interested in getting involved in mercenary activities. What advice can you give them about what to look out for and should they demand before they commit themselves?

DEMPSTER: Well, A) If somebody came up to me or contacted me and said that he wanted me to go to Humi-Gumi land, before I even moved from my telephone to wherever the point of contact was, I'd want to see the color of his mōbhey. Because you can get into some awful deep water on somebody else's big open mouth and dreams. So, if you get contacted and you want to get into something, just remember that it's your life you're putting on the line and make sure that the guy has got the money to back his mouth up.

And then having established that, really you're going into a very dirty business where all the vestiges of law and order are gone. Invariably the only rule is the gun; and if you're the man with the trigger then it's your gun. So you must know what sort of arms you're getting hold of and be thoroughly competent with them.

And B) you must have enough moral fortitude within yourself to know that you are the only man there as far as you're concerned. To think that there's the old camaraderie that you get in the forces, that you're all mates together in a bad job — it doesn't wash in the mercenary business. I've been in six mercenary wars and

it's never washed in any of them — any of them. You know, you must just be your own man. And when it's time to go, don't worry about everybody else, just go. Because when you know within yourself that it's time to go, then you must go.

SOF: When you say "go," do you mean quit?

DEMPSTER: Yeah. Because you are only paid by the pound or by the dollar or the franc or the deutschmark or the lire or whatever it is, and that's your paymaster. And all the loyalties that you have when you're saluting Queen and country or in your case the flag and the American people, as a mercenary you're not doing that. You're being paid for a job and all the time you're doing it, you get shot very easily. You can get killed wherever you are, you can get very dead. I'm saying be very thoroughly sure where you're at and when it's time to go, then go.

SOF: Are there certain times when you should just get out of a situation, just pick up and leave?

DEMPSTER: Absolutely, yeah. I'm a great believer in the old sixth sense. I mean when you know that it's bad, and I've had it that way several times, you're only getting paid by the pound or the dollar and if your life is only worth a few hundred dollars, then stay, but if you know in yourself that it's time to go — if you're on the losing side or something like that, then get out. You know I state quite categorically my position in the book: when it was time for me to go, I got in a truck and legged it.

As it turned out, "Major" Nicholas Hall, who presided at Sammy Copeland's court-martial, came to my flat about two years ago and we talked because it was all over and done with. And I asked him what would have happened had I been in Maquela when they came there — which was incidentally about six hours after I'd left in the truck.

And he said, "You'd have been killed, executed for your part in the Maquela massacre."

I merely look to my own laurels for having enough common sense to say so what to what everybody else thinks of me, it's time to go, get out. I saved my life a few times like that. . . .

And I'd say to anybody who's thinking about being a mercenary — I've talked to lots and lots of guys and we've discussed this several times and if everybody's, quite honest, they'll say, yeah, it's happened to them and when it was time to go they got. And I feel that there's lots of blokes that are dead who should have got but didn't because of what people might think of them — and they're dead.

SOF: What would you say are the most important skills someone should have before they get into the mercenary business?

DEMPSTER: Get fit. Because when you're physically fit, you're really in tune



Portuguese merc leads FNL troops: "When our party of 18 guys got there, we found that there was 40 or 50 Portuguese there and they had the very best of what there was . . . They were all armed with pretty good things." — Chris Dempster.

with the thing mentally. When you're physically fit, you're mentally fit and when you're mentally fit you can think that much quicker — you can be that much quicker. Your thinking's not that affected by the tiredness of the body and you can usually snatch hold of things a bit quicker.

SOF: What would you say is the most important piece of personal equipment a merc should have — other than a weapon?

DEMPSTER: If you're going any where there's malaria or bad water, you should always have anti-malarial tablets — we used palidrine. I don't know what they use in America but anti-malaria tablets and water purification tablets — I would put those two as high on the list as a weapon. At least as high if not higher, because you can always get out without a weapon but you can't get out if you've got dysentery or malaria. If you've got those two then you've got no chance, brother, no chance.

SOF: Any thing else?

DEMPSTER: No, that's it. You can rip off everything else you need.

I saw Dempster several times after the interview. We shared war stories and

became "mates." Between contracts he works as a strike-breaking construction foreman. I visited his site one morning and found him directing the entire installation of an enormous heating and cooling system. Dempster is a man of many abilities and a man of action. His life of adventure is far from over and you can be sure that Firepower won't be the last story written about Chris Dempster.



EDITOR'S NOTE: SOF correspondent John Howard brought back about 100 copies of *Firepower*. As a courtesy to SOF readers, these copies are available on a first-come basis for \$5.00 each postpaid from:

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FLAK
 Continued from page 8

MORE GOOSE EGGS ...

Sir:
 In reply to Al Boltar's letter, "The Wild Geese Lays an Egg," appearing in your April issue, I agree that the training, as depicted, was a joke. However, movies are made for entertainment. After all, how many Army training films would be able to command 10¢ a showing, much less \$3?

The idea of dropping 50 personnel in one long line upwind would not accomplish the idea of HALO technique. High altitude, low opening technique was developed to allow teams to enter desired areas, *together*, silently and quickly. The dispersion pattern of 50 men opening their canopies a mile above the ground would be unacceptable. In bush or jungle vegetation, 50 meters apart could be fatal. Secondly, you cannot usually see a camouflage canopy below you even on your own level, much less see the impact area from 5000 feet in the darkness. After training HALO jumpers in the U.S. Army for five years and in the Rhodesian army for two years, not to mention 2800 jumps aggregate experience, I know whereof I speak.

I would also question Boltar's combat experience, since he believes "you rarely get any shots at less than 200 yards." After 4½ years' combat time with SF in Vietnam and three years with Selous Scouts in Rhodesia, my experience confirms the opposite. Normal engagement range in both areas was usually 15-50 meters max.

The only thing you could kindly say about Boltar's critique is that his inaccuracies are equal to the ones in the movie.

Oh yes, if you will rent me a DC-3 for \$75 an hour, as you alleged, Mr. Boltar, I'll teach you to be a soldier.

Captain John Early

Sirs:

I'm not sure why SOF felt it necessary to run an counter opinion on the *Wild Geese*, but since you did you should have gotten an accurate one. Since when have Hollywood war films been accurate? They are for entertainment not training.

Some of Mr. Boltar's errors are:

1. Removal of sentries with a silenced SMG at 100-yard ranges is no good — what about the misses and ricochet? Most SMGs fire from an open bolt and long range accuracy is low.

2. "Orders is Orders" — the C-130 pilots were told to leave and leave they did — without questioning.

3. I think shock would keep the troops from shooting up the C-130 — besides no reason was given for the abort — maybe MiGs could have been in the area. The

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idea of shooting up the C-130 tires and fixing them is just *stupid* — shoot up a possible return trip — no way!

4. You stand out on a truck and face off with a machine-gun-toting aircraft with your Vickers — not me!

5. Park an RPG, why? They are fast moving troops — expecting a tank or something. Carry one through the bush sometime — along with your regular weapons.

6. So the medic is a queer — does that affect his trigger finger? Maybe he broke up under fire because he was pissed off — who cares?

7. Yes, poorly trained troops in hot pursuit could run on a path after a very outnumbered foe.

8. If you ever get in a fire fight, shoot at the dirt to kick up clouds of dust, etc. — I'll shoot at the guys, thank you. Bouncing bullets do not go in direct angles but stay at a very close angle to the ground — the FBI has considerable research on this point.

9. "In real combat you rarely get any shots at less than 200 yards." Bull shit! In Africa the average engagement range is 25 meters.

10. Even though the 7.62mm FN is more powerful than the UZI, don't think for a second that at the 10 to 40-meter range the UZI is second best. In heavy bush, the FN is long and slower to move on a target. On full auto, it is tough to control. I prefer the 7.62 but in those movie conditions I'll go with the UZI.

11. Don't pick on the "drill sergeant." He was a sergeant major in the British army. He doesn't have to be in great shape to give orders. Would you pick a fight with that actor in a bar?

I could go on but feel this is enough for starters. Remember, movies are for entertainment — enjoy one.

Sincerely,
Robert Sundance

MORE ON MAIL MUTILATION ...

Dear Sirs:

I noted with interest Col. S.D. Ferris's remark in his letter (FLAK, Mar. '79, p. 88) that mail to Rhodesia is being intercepted and destroyed by black American post office clerks.

I am not sure what happens to all of my correspondence to individuals in Rhodesia, but in one specific case I was informed by the director of the Terrorists' Victims Relief Fund that some material he had sent to me was returned to him with my name and address apparently deliberately mutilated and rendered illegible.

Sincerely,
Ed Rosenblum
Brooklyn, New York

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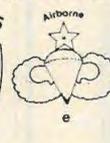
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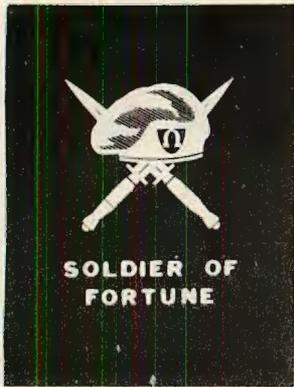


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when I say that it is the bible to all of us interested in security work.

The knife featured in your March issue ("The Gladiator," p. 89) in my opinion should be ordered *only* with a parkerized finish if it is to be used in the field. Too much glare off that blade on a bright day would give away your position. Col. Randall said years ago that he never felt that a fighting knife should have a blade larger than seven inches — and I agree. For quick kills, the Marine Corps combat knife is *still* hard to beat....

Sincerely,
 Walter E. Magnolia
 Holbrook, New York

PALADIN CATALOG RIPOFF ...

Sirs:

... Now, you publish the March '79 issue and it's a big rip-off. Your cover states "... Bonus: Complete Paladin Press Catalog Inside." On page 63, where the catalog starts, in the top right corner, you state, "Special 24-Page SOF Insert." Let's be honest about this thing. There is no "bonus" or "insert" in this issue.

In reality, you have taken 24 pages of good article material out of the magazine and included in its place a 24-page advertisement. I would have been happy to receive a special insert of the Paladin Press catalog, as I think they are a very good organization, but not at the price of articles. If you do not have enough material to fill the pages of SOF without this type of rip-off, I would like to see you return to a bi-monthly publication Please give us an honest magazine, as you have in the past.

Sincerely,
 Wayne J. Hazlett
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

If you'd read your March issue, you'd have seen that it conformed to our usual 60 percent editorial/40 percent advertising ratio. What's the difference between 24 pages of individual ads and one 24-page ad? And, as you said yourself, a Paladin catalog is a genuine bonus to SOF readers.
 — The Eds.

MICHIGANDER PRAISES SOF ...

Sirs:

In your March issue, I read what Jack Blossom of St. Claire Shores, Michigan, had to say about SOF. I would like to apologize for his ignorance about your magazine. Not all of us Michiganders are so misinformed.

I personally get a real high reading SOF.

I wasn't in 'Nam or even in the Army, but you've given me some sort of insight about the reality of war and the realities Americans must face up to.

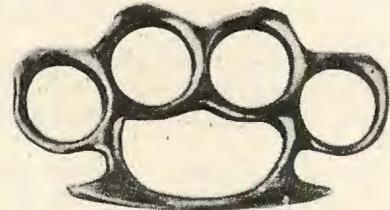
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BULLETIN BOARD

Continued from page 12

injurious to the rights and interests of the ROC Government and people, harmful to those on the Chinese mainland who are fighting for democracy and civil liberties, and detrimental to the security of Asia and aggression and expansion. But the decision became a 'legal reality' on New Year's Day. We sincerely hope that U.S. Congress, fully reflecting majority American wishes, will enact timely remedial measures to prevent the Carter step from being recorded in history as a disastrous blunder.

"In the meantime, we of the ROC are calmly and rationally determined to remain erect and growingly stronger. Fully bringing forth the spirit of unity and cooperation, we will strive to the very end for the attainment of our national goal: restoration of the Chinese mainland to freedom so that we all can truly contribute to the building of a better tomorrow for mankind. We will adhere to democracy and refrain from negotiating or compromising with any Communist group.

"Thank you again for your considerate words. Let us strive on together against the international countercurrent of appeasement. Let us redouble our joint efforts for the winning and enhancement of freedom for all.

Sincerely yours,
Ku Chong-kang
Honorary Chairman, WACL
President, WACL/APACL
ROC Chapter."

GREEN BERET UNIT FACING AX ...

Army Times reports that the Department of the Army intends to deactivate the 7th Special Forces Group, with headquarters at Ft. Bragg, NC, and elements in the Panama Canal Zone, before the end of the year.

Elements of the Ft. Bragg unit have also trained in South Korea at least six times during the last three years, where they conducted four exercises of battalion size and command post exercises involving small detachments.

The 7th SF Group has an authorization of about 1100 spaces. Department of the Army sources said about 450 of these spaces will be used for a proposed SF battalion task force and the remaining 650 will be used to help activate new maneuver units elsewhere in the Army.

Green Beret strength was reduced to its present 5000-man authorization when the Okinawa-based 1st SF Group was disbanded in 1974.

Demise of the 7th SF Group raises a question about U.S. commitment to South Korea, particularly in light of the controversy about troop pullout sparked by upgraded intelligence estimates that

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You may obtain a Federal License to buy and sell guns, ammunition and accessories while you are still a student at North American. Start making extra cash almost immediately — order guns for others on cost-plus basis with no investment.

First lesson reveals secret that increases hunting accuracy.

Your friends won't believe their eyes when they see how your shooting improves. A simple, easy-to-understand chart included in your first lesson gives you new accuracy. Send for results of survey showing employment success of our graduates.



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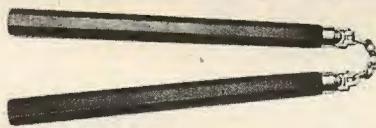
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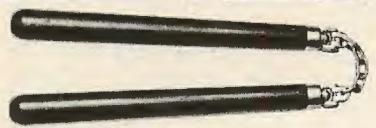
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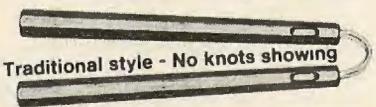


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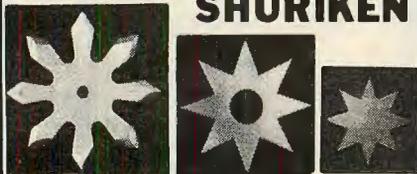
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Martial arts throwing knife. Throw like dart. 200 is 4" & 201 is 2-5/8" Both are 1/16" thick & nickel plated. Pro model 226 is 1/8" thick, 3/2" & sharpened. High grade steel.



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show North Korea has at least 40 divisions and separate brigades.

The proposed battalion task force could assume the Korean mission of the 7th SF Group. Or a Reserve Component unit could assume this mission. Even the SF task force assumes the Korea and Far East missions of the 7th SF Group, the question of replacements for the Latin American mission of the 7th's battalion in the Canal Zone still remains.

CARTER'S FOREIGN POLICY CALLS FOR IMPEACHMENT...

On 25 January 1979 McDonald Valentine, Jr., a member of the Society of Vietnamese Rangers, wrote the *Atlanta Journal*, condemning Jimmy Carter's foreign policy.

Valentine's letter declared:

"The present incumbent in the White House is making a travesty of his office. Making policy on China and abrogating a treaty without consulting the people's elected representatives should be grounds for impeachment.

"This president has destroyed our major intelligence networks by silencing some of our most respected admirals and generals, forcing others to retire years before their time, firing others who told the truth to him, and subjecting others to criminal prosecution.

"What has it done? We have lost Iran, Taiwan, Panama and found we did not know what was going on in Nicaragua, Vietnam and Korea. The Saudi Arabians don't trust us, and the Japanese now face the shocking realization that this is one of the most ineffectual presidents in our history."

The letter concludes, "I thought we would never see another one, but it seems we have cloned another Warren G. Harding.

"The danger is now and we had best get the draft and selective service ready, round up and deport all of the KGB, Section Five, and other Soviet-trained intelligence operatives . . . ; and bring out of retirement all of the real heroes that knew what the score was and told it like it was, and has proved to be."



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BATF GESTAPO

Continued from page 25

\$1,793 worth of guns on October 19, 1970. Five guns were returned after court order in May, 1972; 14 more after a second court order in August, 1974; the last one to be returned was not returned until August 15, 1977, nearly seven years after the seizure itself.

Even an acquittal in the criminal charge does not operate to return the firearms. The civil confiscation and the criminal charges are legally separate penalties, and the government is entitled to try one after it has failed at the other. In *Epps v. BATF*, 375 F.Supp. 345 (E.D. Tenn. 1973), the court permitted a confiscation to proceed despite acquittal on criminal charges of dealing without a license; the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals later upheld that decision. A similar result was reached by the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals in *Glub v. United States*, 523 F.2d 557 (8th Cir. 1975).

In a South Carolina case the government initiated forfeiture proceedings barely a week after the defendant's acquittal by jury on dealing charges. When the defendant asserted that his acquittal barred the forfeiture action, the Bureau promptly (and successfully) moved to strike that defense. It also moved to strike his defense that some of the firearms seized in the raid on his residence belonged, not to him, but to his wife and children, citing vehicle forfeiture cases to the effect that "the innocence, noninvolvement or lack of negligence of the owner in allowing the vehicle to be used for the forfeitable offense is no defense to the forfeiture action."

IN many ways the "implied dealership" is far more dangerous than the "straw man." "Straw man" convictions are rare; "implied dealer" convictions are frequent. The "implied dealer" is also much harder to spot, since the buys may be made by different agents at different gun shows. Accordingly, it is much harder to single out "danger signals." The danger signals which can be singled out and should cause especial worry to a non-FFL collector include: a person interested in buying rather than swapping; a person interested in buying modern handguns rather than collector pieces; a person interested in buying guns which the collector doesn't already have, or more than one gun of the same type; a person who seems to go out of his way to get you to say that the guns you sell will pass without "paperwork."

IF you meet the above, it is far better to back off from a sale than to risk an indictment. Don't think that you can obtain

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protection by getting the purchaser to assure you that he is legitimate, or by taking down his name and address on your own; the ATF has been quite cheerful about prosecuting people despite these precautions. And above all, do not make it any easier on the ATF than it has to be. Do not use a sales tax number to avoid paying sales tax when you purchase a gun at retail unless you are an FFL and comply with the other provisions of the law.

END NOTES

1. Final Report: Impact Assessment & Evaluation of Operation CUE, Vol. I, pp. III-6 (BDM Corp., Aug. 15, 1977).
2. 18 U.S.C. § 924 (d): "Any firearm or ammunition involved in or used or intended to be used in any violation of the provisions of this chapter... shall be subject to seizure and forfeiture...."

In the next issue of SOF, David T. Hardy will conclude his analysis of BATF methods, covering private gun collection and Dewat entrapments.



Central Intelligence Agency warns: TERRORISTS MAY STRIKE U.S. Are you prepared?

"The CIA expects an epidemic of European-style political violence to break out soon in the United States," the Congressional Record recently reported.

"A confidential Central Intelligence Agency memorandum predicts that the United States will experience terrorist attacks beginning within the next 18 months," the article stated.

Because acts of terror and violence around the world had increased dramatically, terrorism constitutes a potential danger to virtually every person and organization in the world today.

Experts say the most effective way to combat the terrorist threat is to be informed about terrorist groups, their activities, methods and whereabouts.

Current and accurate intelligence on world terrorism is now available from the International Terrorist Research Center in its biweekly newsletter, *Intersearch*.

Every two weeks, *Intersearch* provides the latest data available, including:

- A day-by-day summary of terrorist activity
- A digest of terrorist-related news items
- Reviews of pertinent magazine articles and research papers
- Articles by experts in the field of counter-terrorism
- News about the latest security products and terrorist countermeasures
- Comments about new books and films dealing with terrorist subject matter.

Founded during the summer of 1978, the International Terrorist Research Center is a privately funded, independent research organization whose purpose is to conduct research on the sociological, economic, political and psychological aspects of terrorist violence.

It is felt the center's information services would be beneficial to anyone in business, industry or government responsible for and concerned about people and property.

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POLITICAL KIDNAPPING

Continued from page 47

sources, which are of uneven reliability regarding operational techniques and, in the United States at least, largely sensationalistic (one learns to prefer the British press: though they may dissemble it is done so gracefully); (2) **popular accounts**, which are usually compiled from journalistic sources, though there are a few valuable exceptions, produced by perpetrators and victims alike; (3) **scholastic sources**, heavily weighted, as of late, in favor of the kidnapping of diplomatic personnel, as if that were the only sort of political kidnapping worthy of attention; there are also the old standbys on terrorism, and the lesser known but, one instinctively feels, infinitely more valuable works of history treating underground behavior in decades past; and (4) **official and quasi-official sources**, which normally reflect bureaucratic concerns and in the process occasionally present a few kernels of hard intelligence.

It is entirely possible, and not all that difficult, to develop a sophisticated data base from exclusively overt sources; one which will not be materially different from that developed with access to restricted material. When one depends entirely on overt sources, one must be aware that while many accounts of specific kidnappings may be trustworthy up to a certain point, an element of deception will usually be present. In many cases, this deception will be deliberate, and in such cases it will often run according to a pattern determined by security agencies. Sifting material from several different nations and political climates is an effective countermeasure.

Variations

There are four variations on the basic theme of kidnapping which are worthy of acknowledgement: outright murder, non-occurrence, tacit collaboration, and targets of opportunity.

Outright murder. It frequently happens that the target is killed immediately after abduction; a practice which, in coldly objective terms, certainly has its merits from the kidnapper's point of view. If outright murder is a factor, the kidnappers may take a firm non-negotiating stance, to counter any demands which could possibly be made to learn if the target is indeed still alive and well. The relationship between outright murder and subsequent behavior during the demand phase merits further study.

Non-occurrence. We can visualize a situation in which a target holds himself incommunicado for personal reasons, and knowledge of this is gained by persons who thereupon claim to have kidnapped said target. Direct collaboration is also possible.



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Public will no longer have access to a scope such as this, with crosshairs to be used during daylight hours, and an electrically activated red dot at the intersection of the crosshairs for low light missions . . . No survival package is complete without this night scope.

Our stock is limited, so order today. The first fifty (50) orders will receive an extra battery, free!

- 4x "Nite Lite" Scope (Complete w/2 filters & battery) \$147.50
- Extra Battery . . . with scope order (Available at most electrical stores) \$ 3.95
- Batteries ordered separately \$ 5.00
- A.G. Russell "Sting" Knife \$ 33.50
- Gerber MK I Knives \$ 37.50
- Gerber MK II Knives \$ 42.50
- Brass Catchers for AR-15 (Snaps on, will catch 150 + cases) \$ 37.50
- Brass Catchers for AR-180 \$ 42.50
- Vietnam style "Ranger" camo fatigues (new); sm, l, xl; Per pair \$ 25.50

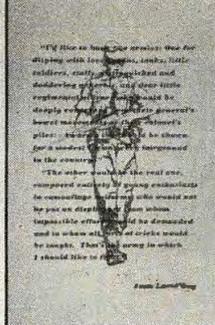
Shipping & Insurance on above: Knives, etc. + \$2.00; Scopes + \$3.50; Batteries + \$.25 (if ordered separately)

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Tacit collaboration. Tacit collaboration, due to emotional attachment and the identification syndrome, is widely acknowledged as a factor in the post-abduction period. What needs to be examined is the factor of tacit collaboration during the pre-abduction period. The old axiom about politics making strange bedfellows is appropriate in this area.

Targets of opportunity. History has provided us with examples of individuals who were kidnapped because they happened to be in the wrong place at the right time. This does not apply strictly to the mere taking of hostages: one can postulate the case of a politician suddenly rounding a corner to find a band of kidnappers out looking for a politician, which, in fact, has actually occurred.

The Matter of Secrecy

At the beginning we mentioned that kidnapping may be either covert or clandestine. We should add that it is *both* covert and clandestine. By this we mean that it is clandestine in the sense it is a hidden activity, undisguised up to a certain point. Past that point it is covert in the sense that it is disguised but not hidden. Past these simple mechanics, it can also be predominantly covert or predominantly clandestine according to the nature of the original motive, and the care with which

HELPFUL READING

Andrew R. Molnar, et al, *Undergrounds in Insurgent, Revolutionary, and Resistance Warfare*. Washington: Special Operations Research Office, The American University, 1963.

Still the best one-volume literature survey done on the subject. Useful for its grasp of underground administrative functions and techniques.

Alexander Orlov, *Handbook of Intelligence and Guerrilla Warfare*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1972.

Bowlerized, but helpful for conveying the flavor of clandestine methodology.

Boris T. Pash, *The Alsos Mission*. New York: Award House, 1969.

Truthful account of behind-the-lines military operation in World War II to guard atomic secrets. Useful for the view it presents of methods used to control technical personnel.

Committee On Internal Security (House), "Lesson Plans For 'The Urban Guerrilla' And Circulated by San Quentin Inmates." Exhibit No. 40, *Terrorism*. Part 4. 93rd 2d. Hearings before the Committee on Internal Security, House of Representatives. Washington: G.P.O., 1974.

the operation has been laid on. Examples are in order: the Soviets kidnap an Egyptian, all the while appearing to be an Israeli retribution squad, and, allowing for the covert and clandestine elements of the kidnapping action as a technique, this would be classed as covert enterprise. Alternately, the Israelis kidnap an Egyptian, while dressed as Soviet army officers, and afterwards make no bones about the fact of Israeli involvement. This is a clandestine enterprise. The one kidnapping, while a secret activity, is not disavowed, while the other kidnapping, secret or not, can be denied. The distinction is needed to separate naked acts of aggression, which may lead to open, conventional conflict, from simple moves in the game of geopolitics.

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The use of bodyguards is only one rather limited technique in the activity of executive protection, and applies in only one of the three major categories of protective planning. To rely solely on bodyguards is to waste one's time and money: in the case of professionally managed political kidnapping operations they are almost valueless, no matter how well trained or finely deployed.



**OPFOR:
FRIENDLY ENEMY**

Continued from page 59

The rocket's maximum range is 900 meters.

RPG-7D. This two-piece, folding RPG-7 is for use by paratroopers.

RPG-9. An improvement on the RPG-7, the RPG-9 will have a longer effective range and better night sights. Its speed is supposed to be greater than the '7's but has not been proven yet. It has the same payload. The RPG-9 is so new that most of our forces are unfamiliar with it.

SA-7 A and B. These ground-to-air guided missiles are similar to the U.S. Redeye. Shoulder-fired missiles for use against low or slow flying aircraft, they are aimed by optical sights. Once the infra-red unit locks on, a buzzer sounds, and fire light comes on, to signify that launching is ready. Their effective range is two miles, and the newer B model can hit 1300 miles per hour. After about 15 seconds of flight (about four miles), they self-destruct. When used in the last Mideast war, they were not all that hot, lacking maneuverability. Also, their short range prevented many kills. Israeli pilots launched high intensity flares which confused their I.R. guidance system. This deficiency has since been corrected.

Because the SA-7 is deadly against slow, low aircraft it is a real bitch in the hands of terrorists. Some SA-7s were recently discovered in a West German apartment, apparently to be targeted against airliners, and I am sure that this was the weapon used by Nkomo's fearless warriors to knock down helpless airliners in Africa last year and this February. The SA-7 is reloaded by putting a new tube-enclosed rocket on the launching handle and power pack. Expect these weapons to be found in Russian and Communist bloc APCs for air protection.

We will outline most of Ft. Carson's many small arms:

PPsh SMG. This SMG, similar in appearance to a Thompson, is now relegated to Russian home defense groups. It fires from a 71-round drum magazine or from a 35-round box magazine at a rate of 900 rounds per minute.

PPS (M-43) Machine Pistol. Probably the ugliest of all Russian arms, the PPS



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fires the 7.62 x 25mm Mauser round (1640 feet per second) from a 35-round magazine at a rate of 650 rounds per minute. Produced during World War II for Russian paratroopers, it has now been phased out of Soviet use but has been exported all over the world.

AK Series. The AK is the main Soviet small arm and it has been reworked by every Communist bloc country. (See "The AK-47 and Its Variations," SOF, May 1979.) More numerous than any other of the world's small arms, the AK fires the 7.62 x 39mm round.

The AKM is replacing the AK-47 in Russian forces, because it is one kilogram lighter, has a better gas system, longer range with the same ammo, operates more smoothly, and has a cyclic rate reducer in its trigger.

The Czech Vz-58, a copy of the AK, weighs only 6.47 pounds but has several drawbacks, being much harder to tear down, due to three action springs rather than the AK's one. Its bolt is harder to remove because it uses a swinging wedge breechlock to replace the AK's rotary bolt mechanism. During Polish army winter exercises, the Vz-58 tended to freeze up after as few as 40 rounds due to heavy condensation. Apparently, the fired powder brings about heavy condensation causing jamming. The Vz, rather than the AK, is usually issued to special police in Poland. I doubt if Mother Russia would use it in her forces.

One OPFOR trooper, who had served for a few years in the Polish army, prefers the M-16 (the grass is always greener) to the AK-47. He told me that the Poles are taught to fire the AK-47 on semi-auto, because the AK-47 is made of inferior metal with a poor gas system, and it overheats from full-auto use, dropping the rifle's effective range.

All AK series weapons, except the AKM, fire at 600 rounds per minute from 30-round box magazines. The AKM has a 40-round magazine, longer, heavier barrel, and bipod. The AKS is a folding-stock AK. There are nine or more variants in the AK family of weapons, not all of whose magazines are interchangeable; for example, the Yugoslav AK (M-64) holds 20 rounds. The AK 7.62 x 39mm round has a velocity of 2345 feet per second.

For some time, rumors have stated that the Russians have an AK rifle in 5.46mm caliber, using a large capacity case. This round allegedly has a muzzle velocity of 3600 feet per second and a longer effective range than our M-16. With its 30-round magazine, it may resemble the Valmet .223. It allegedly comes in two models, one with a straight stock and the other with a folding stock similar to the AR-180. Both stocks are plastic.

All the OPFOR people I asked concerning this rifle are genuinely ignorant of its existence.

PKM Machine Gun. This MG fires a rimmed round 7.62 x 54mm. Hotter (2700

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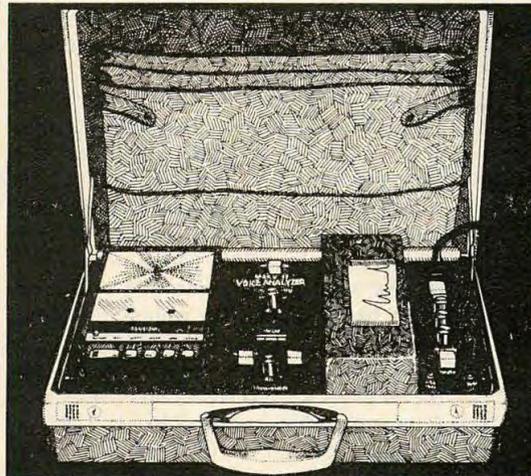
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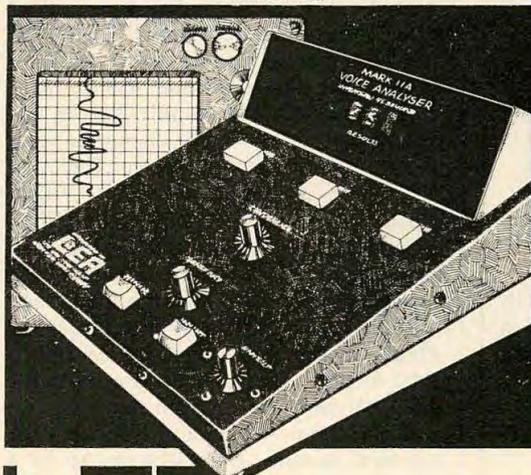
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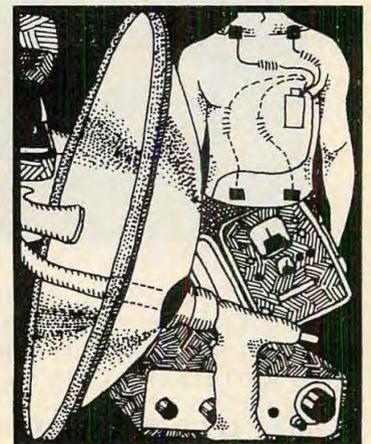
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feet per second) than the standard 7.62 AK round, the PKM uses a 100-shot non-disintegrating belt held in a box on the right side of the receiver. The fired portion of this belt can interfere with the operation of the gun. The PKM has a 1000-meter effective range with a 650-round-per-minute firing rate and is lighter, cheaper to produce, and easier to maintain than our counterpart M-60. This outstanding weapon does not require timing like most MGs.

PKS. The PKS, a PKM mounted on a tripod, has a 200- or 250-round ammo box. Russian weapons don't require screwing around with headspacing, go/no go, etc. Just flip a lever, pull, and replace the barrel.

RPD (M-53). The RPD fires the AK-47 round, weighs seven kilograms empty, and uses a 100-round nondisintegrating belt with a Tommy-gun-like drum. With an effective range of 800 meters at 700 rounds per minute, it has been replaced by the RPK in the Russian army. Clumsy when compared to the RPK or AKM, the RPD's ammo belt must be reloaded one round at a time into the links — poor when under fire. Apparently, the Reds agree, as the weapon is often abandoned on the battlefield.

SGM-49. A possible Russian equivalent to our Browning .30 caliber light machine gun, the SGM-49 (7.62 x 54mm) is a tripod-mounted weapon, sometimes on wheels for towing. It weighs 27 kilograms. The 250-round, belt-fed SGM has been replaced by the PKM, whose range specs are the same, in first-line Red outfits. It looks like a smaller Browning .50 caliber with a shorter, usually fluted barrel.

KPV Heavy Machine Gun. Soviets use the 14.5mm KPV HMG in one-, two-, and four-gun combinations: ZPU-1, 2 and 4. The main gun on the BTR-60, the KPV is also found on the BTR-152 and J-10 heavy tank. It comes in dual and in quad mounts for AA protection (ZPU-2 and 4). The 23-inch-long receiver makes the KPV an excellent vehicle weapon. The 79-inch-long gun weighs 108 pounds. It fires 600 rounds per minute and has a muzzle velocity of 1000 meters per second. For you pilots, its maximum effective vertical range is 1400 meters. Although the ZPU-1 normally loads 1200 rounds, the J-10 heavy tank uses 600 rounds and other configurations have larger ammo loads than the ZPU-1. The KPV can penetrate up to 32mm of armor at a distance of 500 to 1000 meters. The Russians are replacing the KPV with the 12.5mm machine gun and the 23mm AA cannon, probably for logistical reasons, since it seems to be a pretty good weapon.

DShk 1938/46 Heavy Machine Gun. This weapon fires a 12 x 108mm round, the case of which is 9mm longer than the U.S. .50 caliber round. The gas-operated DShk is fed from a 50-round belt on the T-54 tank. It weighs 36 kilograms without mount. Its effective range is 2000 meters



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at 540-600 rounds per minute. Don't expect to encounter it in the field except when mounted on vehicles — it weighs too much. It is the standard AA protection on Soviet tanks. It has a 2800 foot-per-second velocity as against the .50 caliber's velocity of 2900 to 3000 feet per second. Both rounds have similar ballistics.

OPFOR personnel noted that the Reds build very simple, rugged heavy machine guns. They told me of tests in which these weapons underwent heavy use and abuse, were not cleaned or taken care of but left outside, exposed to the elements for a year or more. When loaded up and re-activated, the guns work like new.

LP-50 Flame Thrower. Most people don't get a chance to see U.S. flame throwers, let alone Russian ones. The Russian LP-50 is much inferior to ours. In order to fire it, the Russian trooper dials one of its three fuel tanks on the gun portion and squeezes the trigger. It won't shut down until that tank is empty, so for two to three seconds its firer becomes a big, well-lit target. After three shots, it's dump time. Worn batteries, poor pressure regulation, and its long fire duration are real problems. It's ignited by an explosive squib, which has been known to blow up from time to time — hard on the user. When working, its range is 70 meters. Its gun portion looks like the German MG-3.

OPFOR considers the Russian soldier as well as his equipment. Soviet conscripts serve for two years during which time they undergo nearly constant propaganda bombardment and military training. Although the Russian army's turnover rate is high, its soldiers are extremely loyal to their homeland, remembering the sacrifices made by their relatives during World War II. Russian leadership has found it harder to "brainwash" its soldiers than it was 10 or 15 years ago, due to exposure to outside influence and more education. In fact, the Chinese declare that Red soldiers think like imperialists. Soviet soldiers have higher morale than their U.S. counterparts, because they are held in higher esteem by the civilian population.

Although morale is high, the hard military life, suppression of individuality, and the confusion of new thought from the West may be factors which have led to a higher suicide rate in Soviet forces. During his tour, the Russian soldier is not permitted to have civilian clothing and is trained to respect authority. When saluting an officer or even a higher NCO, he declares, "I will obey." Soviet soldiers are usually confined to base and experience few if any transfers. They earn approximately seven cents an hour. Training is difficult and thorough with a nationwide military death rate of three percent considered acceptable. In certain units during military FTXs deaths may go as high as 10 percent.

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to talk about it. However, it doesn't take much imagination — anyone for a bagel?

From other military sources, I learned that apparently some OPFOR units are regarded as bothersome and ignored by local commanders. This should be corrected, since these units could be the difference between life and death on the battlefield for a lot of our troops.

Properly manned and equipped, OPFOR units are tremendous PR for the Army at civilian shows. Longmont's show drew several new enlistees for the National Guard and a lot of potential for the Army. Think of the morale boost to the regular Army soldier whose commander gives enough of a damn to request OPFOR to come to demonstrate what the regular soldier could face almost anywhere in the world. OPFOR is an excellent program that the Army needs to keep and promote.



**WHO DARES
WINS**

Continued from page 63

taxes and this required an incredible amount of individual initiative.

Ralph arrived at his scheduled point only three hours behind schedule. Fortunately, the men were able to cross the border and, after some delay on the Turkish side, we commenced moving them across Turkey. Our rescue team led by Pat Sculley was in eastern Turkey. He was backed up by — Pat's a West Point graduate — former Special Forces officers, backed up by Jim Schwabach, former Special Forces officer, Ron Davis, whose specialty is operating in adverse situations with no weapons, and Dick Douglas, the finest light aircraft pilot in the world. Dick can put down light aircraft anywhere there are not trees. Dick was prepared to fly anywhere in Iran, including Tehran, to pick these men up. Backing up Dick was Julian Kanach. Julian is Dick's counterpart with helicopters. He is the finest helicopter pilot in the world. I won't go too much into their backgrounds; but, if you knew their backgrounds, you would understand why I flatly say they are the best. They were all on the border in eastern Turkey and they were ready to get involved in a very high-risk operation — go in and bring our men out in the event they had not arrived at the border on schedule. Chartered aircraft in Istanbul's junction was to act as an airborne communications center if it had become necessary to go in that way. This would allow us to have communications with the light aircraft, helicopters and possible communications with the men on the ground. Fortunately, none of this was needed. Upon arrival in Istanbul, we transferred our entire team that came out

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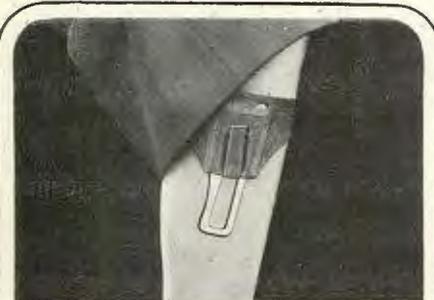
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overland to the 707 and flew to Frankfurt, Germany, to wait for our people who were coming out on commercial transportation from Tehran.

Now let's switch to the group remaining in Tehran. During the week of February 11, they were actively, but unsuccessfully, pursued by the revolutionaries. The group was able to get on a Pan Am airplane. I am cutting through a lot of detailed activity but they got there. The plane was held on the ground for six hours and an intense search was conducted for our people during this period of time. Fortunately, the people conducting the search did not identify our people on the airplane, and they were able to depart for Frankfurt. The Iranian authorities had learned through news leaks in the State Department that Paul and Bill had escaped. The extradition treaty between Germany and Iran would have required German authorities to return Paul and Bill to Iran. We first learned of this after landing in Frankfurt. We had to wait four hours in Frankfurt, Colonel Simons carefully hid Paul and Bill during this period. We waited, picked up our team from Iran, flew to London and returned home. Our entire team with the exception of one man, Glen Jackson, is here today. We couldn't pick Glen up because of where he was located and I don't want to say where he was located until he gets home, but he's on the way home now.

To make a long story short, we have our men back and I would just like to say in summary that, speaking for the group, we all just have one feeling and that is a tremendous sense of relief that we have our men safely home and that nobody has a scratch on him. Now Colonel Simons, before we started, said a successful mission is when you get everything you go after and you bring all your men back without anybody being hurt or injured. So, we met his criteria. He made this possible and when you consider that the only tie he had with EDS was a casual friendship with me and yet he was willing to risk his life one more time to help people in distress, I think that will help you understand our feelings towards him. Dick and Julian had no prior contact with the company. Between the time we called them and the time they were on the airplane going to Turkey was less than 24 hours. They were going into a very, very high-risk situation because if they had had to fly from Turkey into Iran they would have been under intense scrutiny, to say the least; but they had been there before and they have always come out.

We are very grateful, very grateful to Colonel Simons, very grateful that our men are home. In talking to Colonel Simons last night, I think he summed up our feelings when he saw the wives and children of these men see their dads again and that's why he went. He got his reward last night just by seeing them back together again. It's been a very difficult

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ing in a semi-violent, moderate risk at least, situation. I was struck really and I am struck now by two things. I don't know of any other company in the world that would attempt something like this. They would have either let nature take its course or the government handle it. I was struck by that to begin with. Secondly, the men all had some military background but they were living in an environment that really had nothing to do with this type of situation, and I asked myself how they got involved in this and when I got here I was and am now impressed by the fact that they had a great desire to do this even though my reaction at the time was that that almost flew in the face of reason, since they had been working in a peaceful normal civilian type operation. During all of the training and during the operation I never heard one of them complain. There was no friction between them or between the group and me for that matter. Everything went as well as it could have been hoped to go with highly trained, dedicated military personnel and that to me is really an amazing business. I sent people out to do things that had a very high level of risk to them and they went out without a word of complaint, without asking me why, without turning around and looking at each other and with a great desire to do it. So really I felt as I have felt before, under different circumstances with different people, that I had the best people in the world you could work with. I am somewhat dazzled by that at this point in the game because these people operate with highly sophisticated machines and not submachine guns. That is a very significant thing to me. In the operation the other thing that I was impressed by was the fact that everything that I asked for I got without any bureaucratic quibbling around, without military property officers asking you why you needed it, without the delays that are inherent within the military establishment because that's the way it operates. Here anything you asked for you got it instantly and some of what was asked for was over a range 8,000 miles and delivered as fast as it was humanly possible to get it there. The only other thing I can say to you: that it was an interesting trip as far as I was concerned. Interesting because I was working with people who left me with no doubt about what the result was going to be at all. In fact I never had any doubt from the beginning an assault type operation on the prison was tactically impractical and it would have wound up with substantial numbers of people dead, I suspected, and the rest of us in jail and I didn't think that would be very useful. That is really about all I have to add to what Mr. Perot said to you. I am struck by those things because they are human qualities and that's what this kind of an operation is made of, of people really, and the reason it went was because of the quality of the people and the quality of the company behind it. I really never

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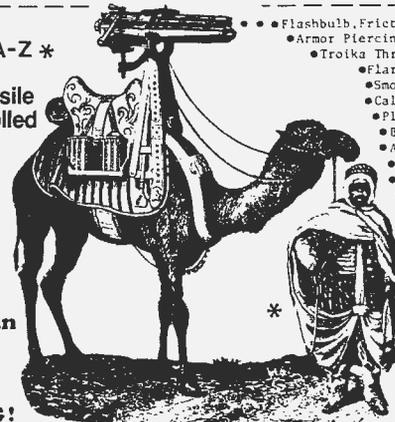
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had anything to do with a civilian company. I've never worked for one. I guess I could spell the word, but that's about my experience with it. I am much impressed by it at this point in the game.

FULL AUTO

Continued from page 16

- 10. FN/FAL cal. 7.62mm NATO rifle.
- 11. M1 cal. .30-06 (Garand) rifle.
- 12. Armalite AR18/180 cal. 5.56mm rifle.
- 13. Colt's AR15/M16/M16A1 cal. 5.56mm rifle.

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- 20. AK47/AKM cal. 7.62mm (M43) rifle.
- 21. M1 cal. 30 carbine.
- 22. FN/FAL cal. 5.56mm rifle.

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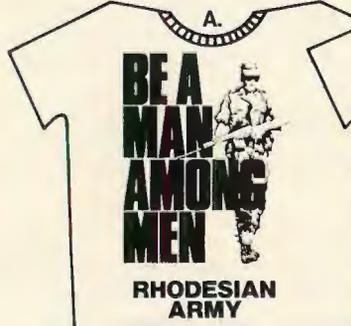
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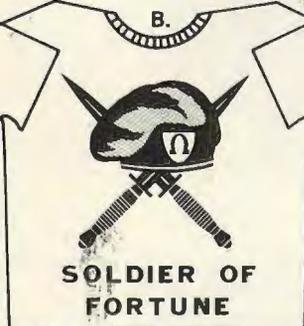
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ADVERTISER INDEX

Advertiser	Page	Advertiser	Page
The Agency	82	Law Enforcement Assoc.	83
Airborn Co.	Back Cover	Lock Stock'n' Barrel	18
American Mailing Inc.	84	Lupi	85
American Pistol Institute	14	M-S Safari Arms	15
American Police Reserves	74	Military Graphics	73
An/Com Electronics	6	Ninja	75
Armament Systems	16, 75, 85	North American School of Firearms	23, 75
Atlanta Cutlery	84	Numrich Arms Corp.	80
B & M Enterprises	94	Pachmayr Gunworks Inc.	76
Beinfeld Books	19	Paladin Press	5
Benchmark Knives	20	Parallax Corp.	7
Best Sports Supplier	74	Paramilitary and Wilderness Outfitters	77
Brigade Quartermaster	8, 16, 82, 87	Patco Enterprises	75
Brown Telescopes	87	Phoenix Assoc.	14, 72, 74, 77, 79, 80
Butokukai	84	Phoenix Assoc.	81, 82, 85, 86, 87, 90
Casco	81	The Poor Man's Almanac	89
Centurion Graphics	81	Quimtronix	86
D & E Magazines	10	R.M.S. Inc.	76
Desert Publications	2	S & M Enterprises	86
Dolan's Sports	76	S.A.R.	80, 87
FTL Marketing Corp.	73	Samsdat	91
Fairfax Distr.	90	Scientific System	86
Florida Conservative Union	21	Search & Rescue Magazine	12
Free Companion Press	85	Sentinel Arms Co.	79
Garth Co.	94	Shadow Publications	88
Gold Star Publications	84	Shadow Systems	89
H & H	80	Skystalker	9
Horizon	85	SOF	17, 74, 82
House of Weapons, Inc.	88	Sports West	83
Impossible Electronics	11	Stackpole Books	13
Inter. Assoc. of Chiefs of Police	22	Stark Training Kennels	76
International Historic Films	90	Tel-Test	87
Intersearch	78	Tyco Co. Inc.	90
Jaffin Products (Light Load)	3	Unit Nine	95
K & L Shirts	89	Valor Sports	72
Lancer Militaria	18	Velet Cartridge Co.	88
The Larder	86	W.W. #2 Ltd.	90
		Western and Rocky Mountain Arms Co.	87

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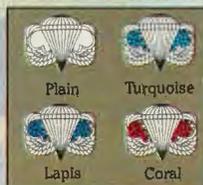
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