

SOF SPECIAL CUBAN REPORT

USA \$2.25
AUGUST/1980

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

The Journal

Adventurers

CONTACT!

**SOF's
First
Rhodesian
Firefight**



M
P
P
1

HOT STEEL ON TARGET

the COMBAT BOOKSHELF



DESERT

1980 CATALOG
\$1.00

Lists hundreds of titles covering military & police science, fire-arms and self-defense, survival, alternate energy and nostalgia. (Catalog sent free with orders)

☆☆☆☆☆ **EXPLOSIVE NEW TITLES** ☆☆☆☆☆



(The five titles listed below are based on the results of tests conducted for the U.S. Army, Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the late 1960's.)

IMPROVISED ROCKET MOTORS

Man has been fascinated with rockets for decades and serious experimental rocketry has been a popular hobby in America since the 1920's. This book covers the construction and propulsion of small rockets which can be fabricated from commonly available materials such as sheet metal and plumbing pipe. The text presents data compiled from over 1,000 test firings conducted by a serious amateur rocket group between 1947-1950 and lists possible guerrilla or military support missions for the rockets. Includes range vs. payload variables.

217\$4.95

IMPROVISED MUNITIONS FROM AMMONIUM NITRATE

Improvised munitions have long played an important role in guerrilla and resistance operations where standard military issue munitions were unavailable. Ammonium nitrate, commonly available in fertilizer, can serve as the basic ingredient for an effective improvised explosive. Preparation of the ammonium nitrate, evaluation of indigenous sensitizers, variables affecting sensitivity and alternate initiation methods are also discussed.

218\$4.95

IMPROVISED BATTERIES AND DETONATING DEVICES

Electronic detonating and alarm devices are rendered useless without power, but they can be activated with improvised power sources. Text covers the manufacture and use of improvised batteries from indigenous materials with emphasis on the availability of materials and current output. The application of six volt, three watt bicycle generators and six volt automobile generators is also presented.

219\$4.95

IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVES FOR USE IN DETONATORS

Covers field expedient methods for the construction of improvised detonators using primary explosives derived from indigenous materials. Emphasis is placed on fabrication materials and techniques which can be accomplished by novice personnel.

220\$4.95

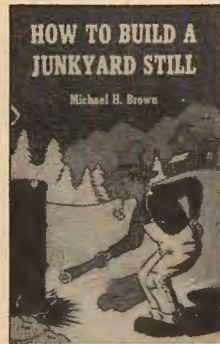
EVALUATION OF IMPROVISED SHAPED CHARGES

Shaped charges have long been noted for their effective application against light armored targets. This book investigates the construction and performance potential of shaped charges which can be constructed from indigenous materials and components.

221\$4.95

PUBLICATIONS

CORNVILLE, ARIZONA
86325



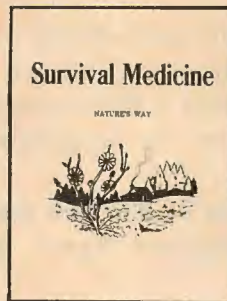
HOW TO BUILD A JUNKYARD STILL By Michael H. Brown

The straightforward, no frills approach to building your own ethanol (alcohol motor fuel) still for less than \$100.00. If you own a screwdriver and a pipe wrench and can follow simple directions, you can build this still in only a few hours from parts that are readily available from the local hardware store or junkyard. Ethanol is environmentally sound, for it burns cleaner than gasoline and the waste material left over from ethanol production makes an excellent cattle feed. Ethanol kept the Japanese Zeroes flying during World War II and it may keep America driving in the 1980's.
301\$4.95



GET EVEN: The Complete Book of Dirty Tricks By George Hayduke

A virtual encyclopedia of tricks whereby the little guy can "return the favor" to those who have made his life miserable. From a rotten landlord to the IRS, Hayduke gives them all their just desserts. When you have no legal recourse, your only chance may be to "Get Even."
GE\$9.95



SURVIVAL MEDICINE Nature's Way By Marilyn Moore

Naturopathic and homeopathic remedies for many of the most common ailments known to man. Not a first aid book or "what to do until the doctor arrives" book, but a natural approach to how to correct illness and remain healthy when there is no doctor.
440\$4.95

OLD GOODIES



- Techniques of Harassment (No. 213)\$5.95
- Brown's Alcohol Motor Fuel Cookbook (No. 300)\$9.95
- Browning Hi-Power Pistol (No. 125)\$3.95
- How To Open Handcuffs Without Keys (No. 120)\$4.95
- Firearm Silencers (No. 005)\$7.95
- Technique of Safe & Vault Manipulation (No. 105)\$9.95
- First Aid For Soldiers & Sportsmen (No. 413)\$4.95
- Lock Picking Simplified (No. 101)\$4.95
- AR-15, M-16 and M-16A1 Rifles (No. 016)\$6.95
- Colt .45 Auto Pistol (No. 128)\$4.95
- Nuclear Survival (No. 418)\$5.95
- Guerrilla Warfare & Special Forces Operations (No. 500) ..\$7.95
- CIA & Special Forces Improvised Munitions Black Books
 - Volume 1 (No. 204)\$9.95
 - Volume 2 (No. 205)\$9.95

DESERT PUBLICATIONS

Dept. SF Cornville, AZ 86325

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Qty.	TITLE or BOOK No.	Price	Total

AZ Add 4% State Sales Tax



If you wish to add this purchase to your:
— MASTER CHARGE, VISA or BANKAMERICARD —
Include card number, expiration date and signature on separate paper and mail in with order. (If Master Charge also include the 4 digit number below your name).



SOF SPONSORS SHOOT

THIS is going to be it.

The first annual Soldier of Fortune three-gun combat match, held in conjunction with the first annual Soldier of Fortune convention.

The match will be held at Ray Chapman's range and firearms school near Columbia, Mo., and the convention in a Columbia motel. The match will be a three-gun affair, pistol, riot-type shotgun and assault rifle.

Details on the various courses are presently being worked out by Chapman and SOF contributors Ken Hackathorn and Tom Wilkinson and details will be published a later issue of SOF.

The match and convention will be the weekend of Sept. 26-28, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Top cash award will be no less than \$1,000 and there will be many other prizes, including some weapons. Again, details will follow.

There will be films, seminars and other events of interest to SOF readers, plus a banquet for contestants and convention attendees.

Entry fee for shooters will be about \$50, and convention attendees will pay about \$25, for which they will be eligible to attend the banquet, be spectators at the match, enjoy the seminars and other associated events and meet many of the people they've been reading about for years.

In order to be a convention delegate, one must be a confirmed SOF subscriber — but if you've been buying the magazine regularly at your local newsstand, SOF will have subscription blanks available at the scene.

Among the people you will be able to meet will be SOF Editor/Publisher Robert K. Brown, Hackathorn, Wilkinson, Adventure Quartermaster editor N.E. MacDougald and many others who have written for — or been written about — in the pages of SOF.

Seminars will include discussions of the Vietnam and Rhodesian wars by men who have fought in one — or both — and who will analyze them.

Contestants in the shooting matches will bring their own weapons and ammo. Calibers will be minimum 9mm, 12 gauge and 7.6mm or .30 caliber rifle — not carbine.

There will be many displays and exhibits of interest to SOFers and you will be meeting the kind of people you enjoy being around.

We will be looking forward to meeting you September 27 or thereabouts.

EDITOR/PUBLISHER

Robert K. Brown

MANAGING EDITOR

Robert Poos

SENIOR EDITOR

M. L. Jones

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Jim Graves N. E. MacDougald

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Pat Bishop-Reed

ART DIRECTOR

Craig Nunn

ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR

Mary Scrimgeour Jenkins

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Patty de Benedet

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

<i>Small Arms</i>	<i>SWAT</i>
Lt. Col. Jeff Cooper	Robert Allman
Ken Hackathorn	Ludwig Nicholas Ladas II
<i>Handgun Hunting</i>	<i>Airborne</i>
Lee E. Jurras	Capt. John Early
<i>Military Affairs</i>	<i>Aviation</i>
Capt. John Early	Walt Darran
Alexander McColl	Dana Drenkowski
Maj. L. H. "Mike" Williams	Rocky Kemp
<i>Martial Arts</i>	<i>Knives/Police Weaponry</i>
Rafael Lima	David Steele
<i>Paramedic Operations</i>	<i>Survival</i>
Dr. John Peters	N.E. MacDougald
<i>Terrorism/Latin America</i>	<i>West Coast, U.S.A.</i>
Jay Mallin	Marv Wolf
<i>Explosive/Demolition</i>	<i>Africa</i>
John Donovan	Al J. Venter

BUSINESS MANAGER

Eugene A. Barron

OFFICE MANAGER

T.A. Greene

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Steven C. Schreiner

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

D. Powles

PHOTOGRAPHER

Daryl Tucker

TYPOGRAPHER

T. Edwin V.

MAIL FOREMAN

Reg Houllhan

SUBSCRIPTION FULFILLMENT

DATA FILES INC.

100 S. Uhle Street

Arlington, VA 22204

(703) 892-0908

SUBSCRIPTION PROBLEMS

CALL
(703) 892-0908

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE (ISSN 0145-6784/USPS 120-510) is published monthly by Omega Group Limited, 5735 Arapahoe Avenue, Boulder, CO 80303. (303) 449-3750. Controlled Circulation Postage Paid At Denver, CO. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to DATA FILES INC., 100 So. Uhle St., Arlington, VA 22204. \$20.00 for Twelve-Issue Subscription. Domestic First Class; \$3.00 — Air Canada & Mexico; \$12.00 — Air Europe & Latin America; \$15.00 — Air All Other Continents. For Twelve-Issue Subscription add \$14.00 — Domestic First Class; \$6.00 — Air Canada & Mexico; \$24.00 — Air Europe & Latin America; \$30.00 — Air All Other Continents. Single Issue Price — \$2.25.

CONTRIBUTORS: Manuscripts, photographs, drawings are submitted at the contributor's own risk. Material should be mailed to SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, P.O. BOX 693, Boulder, CO 80306, and cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. Any material accepted is subject to such revision as is necessary to meet the editorial requirements of SOF. All manuscripts must be typed double-spaced. All photographs should be accompanied by captions. Payment will be made at rates current at time of publication.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/SUBSCRIPTION PROBLEMS: Six weeks notice is required on all changes of address. Send old address as well as new to: Gene Bedner, DATA FILES INC., 100 So. Uhle St., Arlington, VA 22204.

Copyright (C) 1980 by Omega Group Limited
All Rights Reserved



SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

COVER: Trooper with shotgun is SOF Art Director Craig Nunn, who along with other SOF staff members teamed up with elements of Rhodesia's Armored Cars unit and made one of the last contacts before the elections. Smaller photo on right shows members of the patrol and burning terrorist hut.

AUGUST/1980

VOL. 5, NO. 8

**RAZORBACK
GUNSMITH/SHOOTER** 24
Ken Hackathorn
Bill Wilson produces "practical" modified .45s for \$145 to \$200.

**FLIGHT OF THE
WHITE EAGLES** 30
Dana K. Drenkowski
American Mercs ruled Russia's skies in 1919.

**"DO NOT — REPEAT —
DO NOT FIRE!"** 33
E.L. "Mike" Williams
Politics took punch out of Rhodesian army.

**GUNFIGHT AT
FORT HUSTLER** 36
Nick Uhernik
MP and VC corner each other in dark elevator.

BLOCKING GRIP SAFETIES 44
Gregory Moats
The quick and easy way.

CONTACT! 46
Robert K. Brown & Joe Tragger
SOF staffers go and do in Rhodesia.

Bulletin Board 6
Full Auto 8
FLAK 10
Cuss & Discuss 12
Combat Pistolcraft 14



Page 33



Page 52



Page 46

HOT STEEL ON TARGET 52
Jim Graves
Marines practice for the next war in Southern Mojave desert.

**PISTOL
PRACTICE PRACTICE
PRACTICE = COP SAVER** 60
Marv Wolf
Even the best police pistol programs leave a lot to be desired.

SOF SPECIAL REPORT 64
Jim Graves
Cuban tells all about Castro's men in Florida.

**"WORKER'S PARADISE"
IN TROUBLE** 68
Jim Graves
Hunger and oppression produce flood of exiles.

**NIGHT AMBUSH IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA** 70
Bob Poos
Ambushing the ambushers with their own weapons.

It Happened to Me 20
I Was There 20
Editorial 22,26
Classifieds 91
Advertisers' Index 94

DEPENDABLE

Finest Pistol & Rifle

MAGAZINES
STEEL FABRICATED



Mfg. in U.S.A. by D & E MAGAZINES

FOREIGN ORDERS Be sure to use U.S. currency and send enough to cover for air freight charges.

CALIBER	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
22	Astra Constable Llama	9.95
22	Browning Belgium made	12.95
22	Browning U.S. made	14.95
22	Beretta fits all 8 rds.	11.95
22	Beretta fits all 10 rds.	11.95
22	Colt New or Old mod. spe.	11.95
22	Hi Stand, Victor, Citation, Supermatic, Trophy	13.95
22	Hi StandarHD, HA, D, A, HE, GE, GD	14.95
22	Llama Fit. new mods. (14 rds. 13.95) Reg. Size	9.95
22	Smith & Wesson mod 41 (22 stw mod. 61 9.95)	14.95
22	Star FN, FR, FRS, Walter PP & PPK/S	11.95
25	Army-Galesi mod. 9, 8, 95, Galesi late mod.	14.95
25	Bauer, Buffalo, Bernardelli	9.95
25	Beretta Jet Fire (mfg. 1934-1941) 7 rds.	14.95
25	Beretta M950 8 rds.	14.95
25	Browning	14.95
25	Titan E27B, Sterling 300	9.95
25	Colt Jr. late mod. (15 rds. 16.95) Reg. size	14.95
32	Beretta made 1934 to 38, Beretta mod. 100	14.95
32	Browning pre war 7 or 8 rounds, Specify	14.95
32	Colt, Ceska, Bernardelli, Remington	14.95
32	Mauser HSc	18.95
32	Mauser A-G 7 rds.	18.95
32	Savage 10 rds.	18.95
32	Ortigies, Star old military 7.65	12.95
32	Walter 7.65 PPK (15 rds. 16.50) Reg. Size	12.95
32	Walter PPK/S (15 rds. 16.50) Reg. Size	12.95

We stock many more clips not listed in this ad.

380	Astra Constable (15 rds. 16.50) Reg. Size	12.95
380	Beretta 1934 to 1938	14.95
380	Beretta 70's (15 rds. 16.50) Reg. Size	14.95
380	Browning mfg. 1971, Bernardelli any mod.	14.95
380	Back-up 9mm Kurz, Astra 3000	10.95
380	L.Lama fit all new (Nod. 15 rds. 16.50) Reg. Size	10.95
380	Mab. mod. D, Mauser HSc Orgies, Remington	18.95
380	Star FI Fiat Mod. (15 rds. 16.50) Reg. Size	10.95
380	Star FI Snd. Mod. (15 rds. 16.00) Reg. Size	10.95
380	Star Super Model SM	10.95
380	Sterling Mod. 400 (15 rds. 16.50) Reg. Size	10.95
380	Walter PP & PPK/S (15 rds. 16.50) Reg. Size	12.95
380	Walter PPK (15 rds. 16.50) Reg. Size	12.95
9mm	Browning H.P. (25 rds. 27.50) Reg. Size	18.95
9mm	Beretta Mod. 951 (14 rds. 18.95) Reg. Size	14.95
9mm	Beretta M92 (15 rds. 18.95) 25 rds.	27.95
9mm	Mab PA 15 (25 rds. 27.50) Reg. Size	18.95
9mm	Smith & Wesson Mod. 39 (14 rds. 17.95) Reg. Size	12.95
9mm	Smith & Wesson Mod. 59 (25 rds. 27.50) Reg. Size	18.95
9mm	Star Model A, Star Mod. B, Star BS Reg. Size	14.95
9mm	Starlight BKM & BKS (14 rds. 17.95) Reg. Size	14.95
9mm	Walter P38 & P38K (14 rds. 17.95) Reg. Size	14.95
9mm	Radom P35 (14 rds. 17.95) Reg. Size	14.95
9mm	Mauser Parabellum (10 rds. 14.95) Reg. Size	13.95
30	Tokarev Mauser 7.63 and 7.65	17.95
38	Colt National Match (Mid Range)	17.95
38	Colt Rimless smokeless 7 or 8 Rounds	14.95
38	Colt Super Fit all (20 rds. 22.95) Reg. Size	12.95
38	Llama fits all new models, Star A.S.	12.95
45	Colt fits all mod. 25 rds. 26.95 20 rds.	18.95
45	15 rds. 17.95 Reg. Size	12.95
45	Detonics (15 rds. 18.95) Reg. Size	12.95
45	Llama fits all new mod. (25 rds. 26.95) Reg. Size	12.95
45	Star Mod. P.S. (25 rds. 26.95) Reg. Size	12.95
45	Star Mod. P.D. (15 rds. 17.95) Reg. Size	12.95
45	Browning D/A	14.95

We also have Belt Holsters to protect your clips from the elements

SURVIVAL RIFLE CLIPS

22	AR-7 Explorer (15 rds.)	19.95
22	Marlin Models 995, 989 M2 (15 rds.)	14.95
22	Glenfield Model 70 (15 rds.)	14.95
22	Glenfield Model 70 (15 rds.)	22.95
22	Harrington & Richardson (15 rds.) Magnum	22.95

SPORTING RIFLE CLIPS

223	Ruger mini 14 (20 rds.)	14.95
223	Ruger Mini 14 (30 rds.)	16.95
303	British Lee Enfield (10 rds.)	16.95
243	Winchester 88 or 100 (8 rds.)	22.95
308	Winchester 88 or 100 (8 rds.)	22.95
308	Remington 740, 742, 760 (8 rds.)	22.95
243	Remington 740, 742, 760 (8 rds.)	22.95
270	Remington 740, 742, 760 (8 rds.)	22.95
280	Remington 740, 742, 760 (8 rds.)	22.95
6mm	Remington 740, 742, 760 (10 rds. 25.95) 12 rds.	28.95
30/06	Remington 740, 742, 760 (10 rds. 25.95) 12 rds.	28.95

NO CHARGE FOR MAILING & HANDLING

TO MAKE YOUR ORDER

Please print or type clearly. Compute your own tax on your order. Orders will be filled within 3 days in plant with money order or certified checks. Allow 3 weeks with personal check.

ONE DAY SERVICE

For answers to your questions send self-addressed envelope. For UP-DATED production price list, include 2 Bucks to cover our expenses. Will ignore request without cover cost.

D & E MAGAZINES MFG.

P.O. Box 4579 B

Downey, California 90241

Price List for 1980

BULLETIN BOARD

by Jim Graves

SOF SCOOPS

CIA ...
SOF's Galen Geer returned from his perilous journey into Afghanistan with startling stories (coming next month in SOF) and some items the CIA has had difficulty in getting hold of.

SOF is pleased to announce that the west now has a number of cartridges from Russia's newest infantry assault rifle, the AKS-74, to test and evaluate, thanks to Geer and the Mujahideen "Freedom Fighters" who gave the rounds to him.

The AKS-74, which fires a 5.45mm round, is reportedly an awesome weapon. The Mujahideen report that those hit by it seldom if ever survive. Geer says they call them "poison bullets."

The rifle was developed in 1973 and was issued to elite Russian units as early as 1975. The Mujahideen obtained the rounds by shooting down a Russian helicopter in March.

To obtain them Geer donned a turban, crossed two mountain ranges and a desert, moving on foot, by camel and by captured Russian truck to Gardez.

Geer's stories and additional details on the AKS-74 round will appear in next month's SOF.

MILITARY REUNION NOTES ...

First Special Service Force will hold its 34th Annual Reunion at the Colonial Motel, Helena, Mont., August 14-16. Persons interested in the reunion should contact Emil P. Eschenburg, P.O. Box 851, Helena, MT 59601.

The Society of the First Division will hold its reunion at Fort Riley, Kan. August 21-24. For more information write: Society of the First Division, 5 Montgomery Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118.

MILITARY SLAVE LABOR ...

The most pressing problem the military has today is not a lack of equipment but a lack of qualified, trained professionals due to low retention rates.

A primary factor behind that is over the last seven years the purchasing power for all military personnel declined an average of 14 percent and some grades have declined 25 percent behind the rate of inflation.

The average compensation for an enlisted man is \$9,900 a year, which is below the government-defined lower standard of living for a family of four. There are thousands of military families which might be eligible for public welfare and food stamps. They are our nation's working poor and with the Carter administration chopping pay increases and trimming back the "perks" — PX benefits, housing allowances, medical care etc. — the situation can only get worse.

SUT GOES INTO PRODUCTION ...

The Marine Corps has approved for production the AN/PRC-68 small unit transceiver and the Army is considering purchase of the unit. The SUT is a small, lightweight, battery-powered FM transceiver designed to operate at ranges from 1,000 to 3,000 meters over rolling, slightly wooded terrain. With battery it weighs just over two pounds. It has an internal microphone but can also be used with the standard handset. It operates in the lower

Continued on page 72

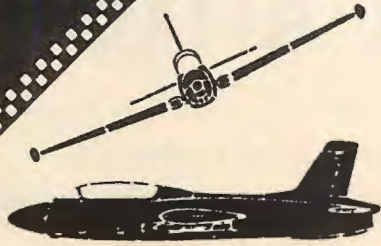
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
REGISTER
and
VOTE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PALADIN PRESS

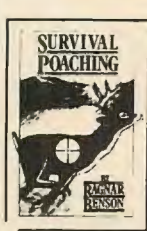


RHODESIAN LEADER'S GUIDE



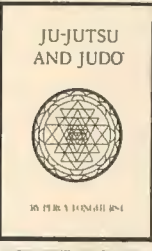
MB 326 tail-fin set forward of end of body.

The famed Selous Scouts rely on this handbook in their day-to-day dealing with the most vicious guerrilla terrorists in the world. Previously restricted to Rhodesian military personnel, this practical Paladin reprint offers a goldmine of operational information. Packed with straightforward, concise instructions on field first aid, patrol and ambush planning and ops, convoy anti-ambush ops and counter-ops, and much more. Technical sections cover radio equipment and communications, aircraft ID, starcharts, and other useful field information. A fascinating section, *Interrogating CTs*, recommends precautions that will help insure the safety of you and your fellow fighters. This brand new selection from the *Paladin Press Action Library* belongs on your bookshelf, as well as in your backpack. **Order now!** 4 1/2 x 6, softcover, illus., 72 pp. **\$6.00**

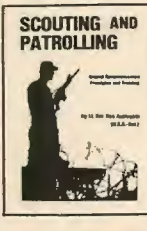


SURVIVAL POACHING
by Ragnar Benson
Tells the survivalist how to collect wild game under any circumstances, using Indian secrets. Shows specific poaching methods for deer, elk, bear, moose, beaver, mink, muskrat, trout, salmon, grouse, pheasant, ducks, and dozens more. Includes detailed plans for many traps, snares, dead-falls, etc. Truly a fascinating and useful selection. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, 250 pp., hardcover, illus. **\$12.95**

HOME WORKSHOP SILENCERS I
Fantastic, large format guide to making an smg or pistol silencer in the home workshop. Over 50 9" x 12" **working machinists drawings** are presented, all of superb quality. Shows step-by-step construction for three different firearms silencers, all of very advanced design. Improvised materials and machining techniques are suggested, and the text is written clearly and concisely. An excellent addition to your silencer bookshelf! Note: **Home Workshop Silencers I** is for entertainment and historical purposes only. 9 x 12, softcover, illus., 80 PP. **\$12.00**



JU-JUTSU AND JUDO
by Percy Longhurst
Classic reprint of first English language study of Judo/Ju-Jutsu (sic) based on the teachings of Mr. Barton-Wright. A very concise, well illustrated introduction to this fascinating self-defense style. Presents all the moves, holds, and throws you need to defend yourself in a crisis. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, 64 pp., softcover. **\$6.00**



SCOUTING AND PATROLLING
by Lt. Col. Rex Applegate
By the famed Col. Rex Applegate, author of *Kill or Get Killed*. Originally written for elite Allied commandoes during WWII. Covers all the principles of ground reconnaissance, individual training, terrain appreciation, observation and patrolling and more. Also includes complete training program for novice scouts and patrol members. Over 100 illus., 8 1/2 x 11, **\$15.95**



SLASH AND THRUST
by John Sanchez
Presents a complete, totally practical knife fighter's training program. The author tells novice knife fighters how to train to become an expert! Covers: choosing the martial knife; test cutting; carrying methods; complete training program; guard and grip opposition; slashing and thrusting; also using and throwing exotic edged weapons. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, 72 pp. **\$6.00**

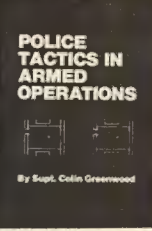


GET EVEN: The Complete Book Of Dirty Tricks
An hilarious overview of the methods people use to get even with big business, government, and plain old enemies. More sophisticated and involved tricks are included, as devised by CIA and Mafia members, and political dirty tricksters. Presents over 80 separate topics. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, 180 pp., hardcover. **\$9.95**



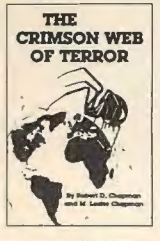
LIFE AFTER DOOMSDAY
by Dr. Bruce Clayton
Who will survive the nuclear war that many experts predict is coming? *Life After Doomsday* tells you how to survive such a radioactive nightmare. Includes eye-opening information about shelters, food storage, home medical techniques, survival psychology, and shelter defense. 8 1/2 x 11, hardcover, charts, drawings, photos, 215 pp. **\$19.95**

PICTORIAL HISTORY OF U.S. SNIPING
by Peter Senich
Examines the development of U.S. sniping weapons and tactics, from the Civil War to the present. Peter Senich, author of the highly regarded *Limited War Sniping*, follows the U.S. sniper from the Civil War battlefield at Chancellorsville to the jungles of Vietnam, where the advanced XM-21 compiled a notable kill record. Hundreds of rare photos detail the weapons and men that helped develop the sniping art as we know it today. Includes technical data for each weapon. 8 1/2 x 11, illus., 175 pp., **\$19.95**



POLICE TACTICS IN ARMED OPERATIONS
by Colin Greenwood
To give police and lawfully armed citizens a definite tactical advantage in "firefight" situations. Colin Greenwood has written this life saving manual Loaded with no-nonsense, practical advice on weapons and equipment, firearms training, tactics, and much more. 8 1/2 x 11, hardcover, illus., 320 pp. **\$19.95**

POLICE GUIDE TO BOMB SEARCH TECHNIQUES
by Frank Moyer
No law enforcement or security organization should be without this authoritative operational manual. Tells the law officer how to deal with everything from a telephoned bomb threat to a post-explosion incident investigation. Covers: Room/Building Search; Vehicle/Aircraft Search; Bomb Scene Investigation; Do's and Don't's For Suspected Bombs; and much more critical information for any potential target of a bombing. 8 1/2 x 11, 200 pp., softcover, illus. **\$12.95**



THE CRIMSON WEB OF TERROR
by Robert Chapman
Reveals the secret world of today's terrorists. Robert Chapman, a 27 year CIA veteran, draws heavily from his first-hand experiences in this deadly field. He tells how terrorists operate, and why 80 percent of terrorist operations are very successful. A definitive and up-to-date study by a true authority on counterterrorism. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, hardcover, 160 pp. **\$12.95**

BOOK OF THE NINJA
by Chris Hunter
The finest Ninja training manual available! Learn "The Art Of Stealth" as practiced by the black-garbed Ninja spies of feudal Japan, history's most cunning and fearless assassins. Provides a complete training course. Covers *Inpo, Tonpo, Mae-Geri, Harai-Geri, Seio Nage* and much more. Many photos. 9x7 1/2, 90 pp., illus., softcover. **\$9.95**

NEW TITLES FROM THE ACTION LIBRARY:

- **Special Forces Handbook** \$6.00
 - **Silencers, Snipers & Assassins** \$18.95
 - **Ranger Handbook** \$ 6.00
 - **Deal The First Deadly Blow** \$12.95
 - **Do Or Die** \$8.95
- Not Available in CANADA
- **How To Kill, Vols. I, II, III & IV (Each Volume)** \$5.00
 - **The Set** \$20.00
 - **Shooting To Live** \$5.95
 - **The Complete Book Of Knife Fighting** \$10.95
 - **Underwater Demolition Training Manual** \$ 9.95
 - **The Save Your Life Defense Handbook** \$5.95
 - **OSS Sabotage And Demolition Manual** \$12.95
 - **Principles of Personal Defense** \$4.00

DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED

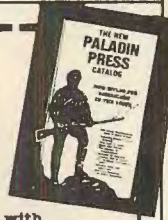
PALADIN PRESS
PO Box 1307-SF8
Boulder, CO. 80306
Phone (303) 443-7250

Send \$1.00 for latest CATALOG! Catalog free with any order.

Please send me the following titles:

Please include \$2.00 for postage and handling.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____



ON THE MARK

Once in a great while, along comes a new concept in guns. Some are novel, but don't quite make it. Yet in spite of all obstacles, the truly great ones find their place. And as time goes by, even the most doubtful among us gain an appreciation for them. And yes, even endorse them in the ultimate way—by owning one. So it is with the CA Mark 45 cal. and the 9mm semi-automatic carbines. Some have been shocked by their appearance, which is not merely cosmetic, but a result of highly practical design which, incidentally, added a great deal to their look of authority. This proved to be a big plus since they were originally designed as a deterrent weapon for law enforcement. They were never intended to be pretty, they were built to be tough—and to keep the cost reasonable. Their performance has proven to be so amazing, they have emerged as one of the most popular deterrent weapons for farmers, remote area dwellers, hunters, collectors, and anyone who has a need for this kind of protection.

If you need more details on the Mark 45 or 9mm, see your dealer or write for Brochure # Q80.

MARK 45

45 CAL. SEMI-AUTOMATIC CARBINE

MARK 9

9 MM SEMI-AUTOMATIC CARBINE

Illustrated with vertical front grip
Horizontal or vertical front grip models,

\$195⁰⁰

Legal for private ownership.

Manufactured in USA.



Nickel plate optional—add \$30.00 to above price.

CA INC.

Distributed by C.A. Inc.,
P.O. Box 10214
Knoxville, TN 37919
615-523-3393

FULL AUTO

by Sgt. Gary Paul Johnston

JAPAN entered World War II with a strange mixture of cultures, a combination of the very old and the new, and the new Samurai warrior still went into battle with his traditional sword. One weapon Japan apparently did not explore in depth was the submachine gun. Many years before the war, it had purchased a quantity of Bergmann SMGs from SIG. These weapons saw limited service early in WWII, possibly because they fired the 7.63mm Mauser cartridge.

By 1940, the Japanese military adopted the Nambu Type 100 SMG in 8mm Nambu. Although logistically superior to the Bergmann, the Type 100, in all of its forms, suffered from a problem common to many early SMGs — it had an extreme-

ly long receiver. This resulted in an arm with a total length of 36 inches, and a barrel length of only slightly over nine inches.

Only with Japan's surrender did it become known that Japanese submachine-gun development had continued throughout the war. During occupation, U.S. forces discovered a small number of unheard-of prototype submachine guns known as the Type II. Of these few SMGs and their variants, fewer still made their way back to the states as souvenirs.

One of these, Type II serial number 33, still in almost-new condition, was returned by a U.S. Army officer, who later registered it and finally sold it to its present

Continued on page 82



Right side of Japanese Type II SMG.



Telescoping slide cocked. Johnston believes side plate held brass catcher.

Customize your own gun with the famous M-S Safari Arms components

At M-S Safari Arms, we are constantly developing custom components for the average shooter/sportsman as well as the true professional. We developed the .45 caliber automatic Enforcer® and MatchMaster® pistols and now, those same custom features are individually available for your own handgun. These parts are designed and priced so that you can

customize your Browning, S&W, or Colt automatic easily and inexpensively with the same professional features that were once only attainable through custom gun mechanics.

All components are supplied in satin finished stainless steel or high luster blue ready for your local gunsmith's installation. ® **EnForcer**

Now available for the Browning Automatic Pistol



◀ **Extended Combat Slide Release.** Now the same technology as applied to the Enforcer parts provides for one hand control during reloading of the Browning High Power. **\$19.50**

◀ **Extended Combat Safety.** Full control of the Browning High Power Safety without shifting the shooting grips. **\$19.95**

◀ **Ambidextrous Combat Safety Set.** Full position control right or left handed. Get the most from your Browning. A must for combat shooters, police officers, and all left handers. **\$39.95**



◀ **Beavertail Grip Safety.** Provides better control of the weapon by spreading recoil over a larger area of the shooter's hand, reduces apparent recoil and eliminates hammer-pinch. Requires minimal frame contouring for perfect fit. **\$15.00**

▼ **Ambidextrous Combat Slide Release Set.** Now full control of the .45 automatic with the left hand. **\$29.50**



◀ **The Enforcer (3.8" barrel, E-102) or The MatchMaster (5" barrel, E-103).** Deadly accurate, .45 caliber combat pistols. Loaded with custom features. Available in Teflon, Armaloy, or stainless steel finishes. Send **\$1.00** for fully illustrated catalog and ordering information.



▶ **Ambidextrous Safety Set for S&W Models 39 & 59.** A must for the serious combat shooter, police officer and left handed shooter. **\$39.95**



◀ **Combat Magazine Base Pad.** Available for all Colt, S&W model 39, S&W model 59, Browning High Power automatics. With this component, you don't have to worry about noise or damage to magazine when ejecting the magazine — even from a standing position — during match shooting or in combat. **\$1.95**

▼ **Extended Combat Slide Release.** Computer calculated angle and curvature of releases allows reliability of hand control from shooting grip leaving left hand free to handle fresh magazine insertion. **\$17.50**

▶ **Ambidextrous Combat Safety Set.** Allows full function of safety for left handed shooters or right handed shooters in case of injury. **\$34.95***



◀ **Extended Combat Safety.** Match proven design assures positive control of safety without having to shift or reposition grip. **\$16.95**

*Manufactured under pat. #3492748

24 HOUR TOLL FREE ORDER DESK



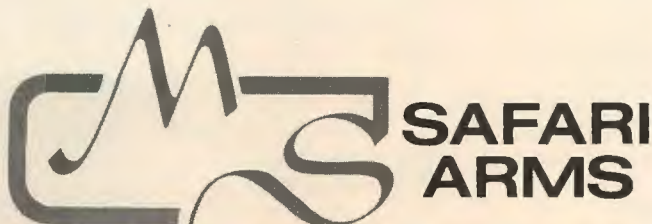
Master Charge
Visa
C.O.D. Only
Call Operator 758



National
1-800-824-7888

California only
1-800-852-7777

Alaska & Hawaii
1-800-824-7919



M-S Safari Arms • P.O. Box 23370 • Phoenix, AZ 85063 • (602) 269-7283

Mail To: M-S Safari Arms
P.O. Box 23370 • Phoenix, AZ 85063

Please enter my order for:

	Quantity:	Quantity:	Quantity:	Make:	Total:
	(a) Browning	(b) S&W	(c) Colt		
<input type="checkbox"/> Extended Combat Slide Release @ Browning: \$19.50 Colt: \$17.50	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Extended Combat Safety @ Browning: \$19.95 Colt: \$16.95	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Ambidextrous Combat Safety Set @ Browning: \$39.95 S&W: \$39.95 Colt: \$34.95	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Ambidextrous Combat Slide Release Set @ Colt: \$29.50	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Beavertail Grip Safety @ \$15.00	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Information on The Enforcer/ The MatchMaster & other M-S products @ \$1.00	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Combat Magazine Base Pads	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Browning <input type="checkbox"/> S&W 39 <input type="checkbox"/> S&W 59 <input type="checkbox"/> Colt @ \$1.95	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mast. Chg. <input type="checkbox"/> VISA Card	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
					Shipping & Handling \$ 1.00

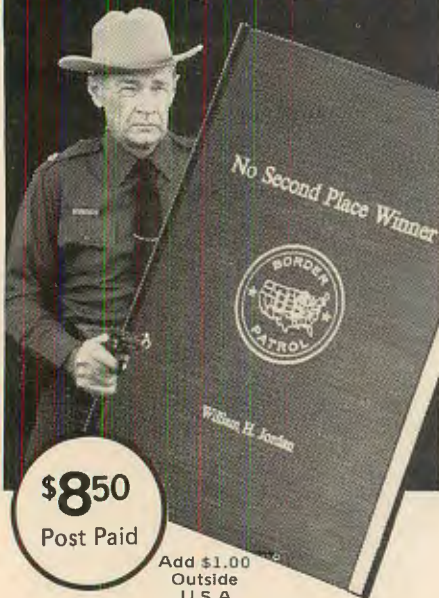
Date Card Exp. _____ My Check My Money Order is enclosed... TOTAL: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Bill JORDAN



Add \$1.00
Outside
U.S.A.

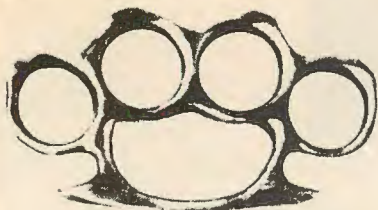
Bill Jordan tells it like it is in his fascinating book about gun fighting, how to do it and what equipment to use. Informative and exciting reading.

Special autographed copies for gifts.

Send check or money order to: Bill Jordan
626 Ashbourne Dr. Shreveport, La. 71106

IMPRESSIVE SOLID BRASS PAPERWEIGHT

Full size replica of the Knuckle Duster



ORDER TODAY!
\$5.95 postpaid

For novelty paperweight use only.
Not intended for any other use.

Send \$1.00 for complete catalog
of other fine Axis products.

Send check or M.O. to:

**AXIS
SURPLUS SALES**

P.O. Box 9933
Atlanta, Ga. 30319

Unconditional money back guarantee
if not completely satisfied.

FLAK

MICHIGAN NG NOT LIKE TEXAS ...

Sirs:

It was refreshing to read about a National Guard unit that actually goes into the field and engages in realistic training with 100-percent involvement. We are lucky if they give us blank adapters, much less blanks. After reading of the 36th Airborne (SOF, April '80), I feel there is still hope.

I belong to an armored unit here in Michigan, in fact the only one, but unfortunately, our O&T people do not subscribe to OPFOR training the way the Texans do — hence our poor retention rate. In our case, I'm afraid there are those that will die wishing they had spent less time planning battalion parties and more time with worthwhile training. As in many Guard units, our problem is one of leadership.

As for equipment, we are at least "blessed" with the "latest" and like the 36th Airborne have the M202A1 launcher. The difference is that while the Texans train with theirs, I seriously doubt there's more than a handful of people in our battalion who know what they're for, much less that we have them.

Sincerely,
Walt Anderson
Cassopolis, Michigan

MEXICAN LINCOLN ...

Sirs:

Assuming your editorial offices have not yet been burned down by irate Chicanos, it would seem prudent at this point to remind you that Benito Juarez was not "an illiterate Mexican indian," as suggested by Patrick D. Andrews ("Camaron," May '80).

He was a lawyer, later governor of Oaxaca, then minister of justice (1855) and minister of interior (1857) — and father of "Ley Juarez" which abolished special courts and reduced the power of the army and the church.

To call Benito Juarez an "illiterate Mexican indian" is the equivalent of calling Abraham Lincoln a "hayseed rail splitter." Juarez incidentally is commonly thought of as the Lincoln of Mexico.

Sincerely,
Richard S. Henderson
San Diego, California

We stand corrected. —The Eds.

IN MEMORIAM, RHODESIA ...

Sirs:

The political situation here in Rhodesia has come to its tragic culmination. This great experiment in European colonial development has failed, due largely to outside influence beyond its control. World opinion, based on shortsighted moral and ethical assumptions about white supremacist ideology and black repression, has allowed another vital, strategic African state to fall into the waiting hands of Marxist domination.

By use of massive intimidation and a campaign of terror, the ZANU PF Party has gained total victory over the impotent masses of black Rhodesians. Perhaps the most effective piece of propaganda was the statement that Mugabe and only Mugabe could stop the horror of the war which he personally created.

Comrade Mugabe's current moderate stand is clearly a screen to mask his true political aspirations. Mugabe has always been an acolyte of neo-Chinese communism and he has continually expressed contempt for Rhodesia's "bourgeois-democratic-imperial, neo-colonialist, white racist ideology." Once he realizes his democratic charade has been discovered, he will stop acting the moderate statesman he is pretending to be.

The establishment of a coalition government of ZANU PF and the Patriotic Front will insure complete domination over the white minority, without whose wealth and economic prosperity — the result of four generations of sweat and tears — the country would not have been worth dying and killing for.

On behalf of my fellow American compatriots and those of us who have fought and died on Rhodesian soil I pay solemn homage. Your place in Valhalla is assured. I mourn the loss of Rhodesia, her people — both black and white — and remain hopeful that Soviet aggression will be halted and pushed back to her own rightful borders.

Long live the memory of Rhodesia,
Bob Stansfield
Salisbury, Rhodesia

WEBB RIGHT ON TARGET ...

Sirs:

I've just read James Webb's article,
Continued on page 73

MAKE MONEY! HAVE FUN TOO! Start Right Now! No Previous Experience Necessary.

LEARN AT HOME IN SPARE TIME

TOP-FLIGHT GUN "PROs" TELL YOU WHAT TO DO, HOW TO DO IT, GUIDE YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

LEARN GUN REPAIR!

As a "Gun Pro" trainee at North American WE SHOW YOU HOW TO APPLY FOR A FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSE

If you qualify otherwise, you may obtain a Federal License to buy and sell guns, ammunition and accessories without inventory... while you are still a student at North American.

You'll see how to take apart and repair almost every well-known rifle, shotgun, pistol and automatic. We take the mystery out of ballistics. Show you how to smooth up actions, fit and repair stocks, rechoke shotguns, customize handguns. Includes bedding techniques, stock inletting, fitting drop and pitch. Learn what the experts know about reloading. Special section on black powder guns. How to buy and sell new and used guns for profits.

Start Your Own Home Business

IN YOUR FIRST LESSON we reveal a secret of ballistics that can increase your hunting accuracy so dramatically... **ALL YOUR FRIENDS WILL BEG YOU TO SHOW THEM HOW TO DO IT!**

The men you shoot with will scarcely believe their eyes when they witness your sensationally improved shooting accuracy. (You may even have trouble believing it yourself!) It seems like a miracle — yet, it's part of your training on the way to becoming a gun pro. The way you do it is the simple application of revealing new information concerning ballistics that is explained with a simple, easy-to-understand chart that accompanies your first lesson. And this is just one example of the dozens of inside tips and gun secrets that will be revealed to you as you progress through this exciting course.

Everything Explained in Easy-to-Understand Language so Even a Beginner Can Follow

Explanations include photos, diagrams, drawings and charts. We send you all the tools you need so you actually learn by doing as you follow the lessons. You receive catalogs, bargain bulletins, requirements for Federal Firearms License.



SPECIAL TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT INCLUDED...

You get precision gauges, fine gunsmith's screwdrivers, honing stones, checking tools, pull and drop gauge, plus much, much more.



GUNS ARE BIG BUSINESS. Gun repair, custom ammo-making, sporterizing, custom stocking, sales—all are profit opportunities for the expert. Now, at home in spare time, you can learn the basics you need to become that expert. We do not know how many of our graduates have started their own gun shops, but we have letters on file from some who have. And we'll send you the results of a survey showing employment success of our graduates. Graduation from this course does not insure that you will get a job. To find out how our graduates have done, send for our job placement record. You get it all! How to buy and sell guns... customize, repair and accurize them... fit and finish stocks... do hand-loading... zero-in scopes... understand ballistics... restore antique firearms... use black powder weapons... import guns... adjust chokes... and more. Because you study at home, you can graduate in months... or take up to two years. Your handsome Diploma will proclaim you as a "GUN PRO" when you proudly display it in your own shop or at work.

FIRST FOLD HERE

FIRST FOLD HERE

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY when you mail this ENTIRE Postage-Paid ad

To Mail—Fold ad in following manner:

1. Remove entire page—tear or cut on dotted line to left
2. Fold page in half on 1st fold lines
3. Fold page again, on 2nd fold lines
4. Tape or glue the 3 open sides and drop in the mail box today.

REMOVE AND MAIL ENTIRE PAGE

SECOND FOLD HERE

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES



Rush FREE color brochure and full information on how I can learn gun repair at home and become a Gun Pro for only a few dollars a month.

GUN REPAIR, BALLISTICS, SHOOTING SKILLS, REVEALED TO YOU BY EXPERTS

Gives you a good start toward going into your own business or applying for a job in a gunshop.



- CUSTOMIZING
- RE-LOADING
- CHECKERING
- SPORTERIZING
- CUSTOM AMMO
- GUN REPAIR
- SALES, IMPORTING-ACCURIZING
- TROUBLE-SHOOTING
- and MUCH, MUCH MORE

MAKE MONEY WITH GUNS

GUN SALES MEAN PROFITS FOR REPAIRMEN

There are more than 20 million hunters plus more millions of target shooters, gun collectors and owners in the U.S. **APPROVED FOR VETERANS**

Name _____ Age _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

North American School of Firearms, 4500 Campus Dr., Dept. RS080, Newport BEach, CA 92660.

SECOND FOLD HERE

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
 FIRST CLASS Permit No. 363
 Newport Beach, California

Postage will be paid by addressee

NORTH AMERICAN SCHOOL OF FIREARMS
 4500 Campus Drive
 University Plaza
 Newport Beach, CA 92660

**SPECIAL
INTRODUCTORY OFFER
ONLY \$6.00**

**NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED
Vital Info - Completely Illustrated
PURCHASE PROCEDURES
MUCH - MUCH - MORE
A MUST for Avid Weapons Enthusiasts**

**SUB-MACHINE GUN
GUIDE**



\$4.95

SEND: \$6.00 CASH, CERT. CHECK, M.O.
Includes Postage and handling

**TO:
PERISCOPE PUBLICATIONS
DEPT. S F
P. O. BOX 1637
MILWAUKEE, WI 53201**

**SURVIVALIST
WEAPONS**



FEATURES:

- * Ammunition
- * Assault Rifles
- * Survival Rifles
- * Handguns
- * Shotguns
- * Rimfires
- * Special Use Weapons
- * Maintenance & Modification
- * Knives
- * Reloading Rifle & Pistol Ammo
- * Complete Manual of Loading Tables
- * Bullet Casting
- * Bullet Swaging
- * Sample Armories for Every Budget!
- * AND MUCH MORE!**

YOU CAN SURVIVE!

\$8.95 plus \$1.00 postage & handling

ORDER TODAY.

Send money order or cashier's check to

MILES STAIR

PO BOX 1365 MEDFORD, OR 97501

CUSS & DISCUSS

We've been inundated with mail after publishing Marv Wolf's "But Will They Fight?" in our March '80 issue. It would be possible to fill an entire magazine with reader response. Obviously, the article hit home. We've selected representative letters from the many we've received. To those of you whose letters do not appear in this column, thanks.

For insights, agreement and disagreement, read on:

NCO ON LITERACY ...

Sirs:
As a recently retired (31 May '79) SFC from the Army, I empathized with the NCOs Marv Wolf interviewed. Their feelings are some of those that made me decide on an early retirement.

During the past 10 years I have witnessed a steady deterioration of personnel and attitudes in the Army. With the ending of the draft and the movement to an "all volunteer force," the Army has marched steadily downhill. As a battalion commander of mine in Vietnam might have stated it: "The Army's going to hell in a pushcart!"

"These guys ain't gonna fight" should have something added: they won't communicate either. Not because they won't want to; they just won't be able to. Except for two years of combat infantry OJT in Vietnam, I spent the major part of my Army career in the communications field. For 7½ years of this time I was an instructor at the Army Signal School at Fort Gordon, Ga. From January 1978 to February 1979 I was a senior instructor in the 05B/C (radio teletypewriter course) school teaching international Morse code. From February 1979 until my retirement I was section chief of the communications procedure section of the course. In both assignments I was required to counsel slow learners and discipline problems.

Reading is a necessary requirement in the 05B/C school, but many students demonstrated early in their training that they did not have the basic skills to make satisfactory progress. Before making any decision on their future, we were required to send them to the education center for a test known as Classification III. This test measured three areas: 1. Word meaning — choosing the best of four responses defining an underlined word in a sentence; 2. reading comprehension — reading short paragraphs and answering questions that test comprehension of what has been read; 3. basic arithmetic reasoning. Each

of the three areas is graded on a fifth to ninth grade educational level. These scores helped to determine recommendations for retention, reclassification or discharge.

Ten to 15 percent of those students we sent for this test came back with scores of minus 5 in all categories. Their educational level was below fifth grade and therefore could not be determined. Most of those taking this test fell between the fifth and seventh grade levels in all categories. This was not uncommon for the current crop of high school graduates and dropouts.

As a result of this downward educational trend, the 05B/C has undergone some changes in graduation standards. As recently as 10 years ago the basic requirements for a radio teletypewriter operator were 35 words-per-minute typing on a teletype machine and 15 groups-per-minute sending and receiving international Morse code.

The typical graduate today has a typing speed of 20-25 WPM and a Morse code speed on 10 GPM sending and receiving. Where four errors were allowed in sending and receiving Morse code before, the current student has a graduated scale of errors that reaches 18 allowable at 15 GPM.

The main reason for the lowered standards, of course, is to hold down attrition. The brass gets very upset when the graduates don't outnumber the reclassified by a substantial margin. This is more pronounced under the One Station Unit Training Concept (OSUT) where the battalion commander usually wears a second hat as a course commander. He is then the final arbiter in all reclassification/discharge recommendations. Less attrition means a better fitness (OER) report.

As the volunteer Army continues to falter in meeting its recruiting goals, the educational and mental requirements drop. More Category III and IV people are being actively recruited. Many times at NCO meetings with the school brigade commander, we were told that we were not trying hard enough to train Category IV personnel. Trying to teach a person with an IQ of 75 to be a communicator is asking a lot. We were also told to quit criticizing the all-volunteer Army and try to make it work. It was made quite clear to us that we, as NCOs, would be held ultimately responsible for any failure.

Continued on page 28

NEW!
Only \$17.95

Just having a handgun is not enough...

Here is the expert's guide to choosing, loading, tuning, customizing, and maintaining a handgun for self-defense.

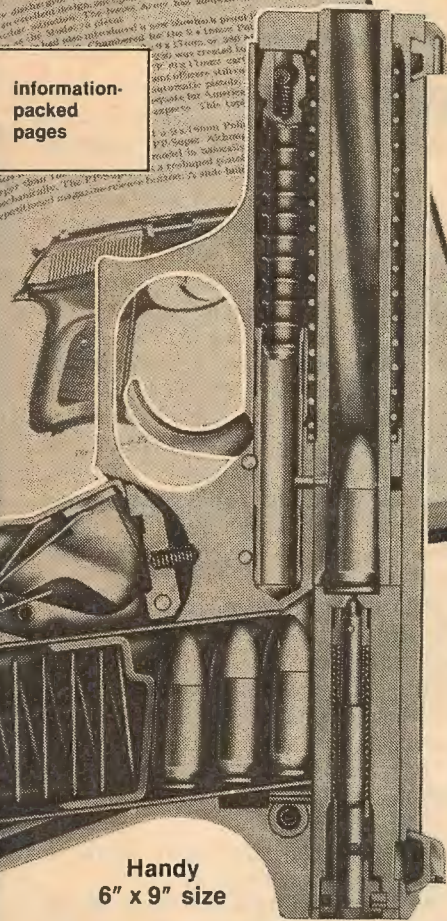
You'll learn what the professionals demand in a combat weapon—their complete 17-point evaluation checklist covering every aspect: no-sag outline, light recoil, functional reliability, accuracy, secure grip, and more. If your present handgun doesn't measure up on every count, find out how to modify it or which current production handgun to acquire.



352 information-packed pages

Fully illustrated: photos, cutaway views, exploded drawings

25 Production Models Evaluated
Only 6 Achieved a Perfect Score



Handy 6" x 9" size

Heckler and Koch Police Self-Loading Pistol (P7), 9mm Parabellum: one of the six finest combat handguns in the world.

Contents

1. AUTOLOADER VERSUS REVOLVER—If you have a six-shooter you may want to think again about an autoloader.
2. A HISTORICAL VIEW—Combat handguns from the 1800s to the present.
3. SELECTION CRITERIA—17-point checklist given.
4. TESTING AND EVALUATION—Does your weapon come away with excellent results in every area?
5. EVALUATION OF CURRENT PRODUCTION MODELS—Find out which 25 are considered by experts to be the best.
6. CUSTOM COMBAT HANDGUNS—See-through window in grip to monitor ammunition, redesigned barrel brushing, beveled magazine for quick loading, flutes in side to reduce weight, and more!
7. CUSTOMIZING YOUR OWN AUTOLOADER FOR COMBAT—MMC combat sight; quick-draw rib for Colt, Browning, S & W; combat safety; double-ace, squeeze-cocking conversion unit; and more.
8. COMBAT HANDGUN AMMUNITION: GOOD AND BAD
9. ASSEMBLING YOUR OWN COMBAT AND PRACTICE LOADS
10. TUNING FOR TARGET AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE AMMUNITION
11. ACCESSORIES
12. CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF COMBAT HANDGUNS
13. APPENDIX A—HANDGUN TRADE DIRECTORY
14. APPENDIX B—POLICE HANDGUN USAGE
15. INDEX

COMBAT HANDGUNS takes a hard look at the top 25 current production handguns worldwide—those autoloaders and revolvers judged best for combat use. The findings—supported by extensive testing and field-use studies, presented with full specifications and detailed illustrations (including exploded drawings and photographs)—show that there are just six models that receive a perfect score. They are: Heckler & Koch P7; Sig-Sauer Automatic P220 and P225; Smith and Wesson Auto Models 39 and 59; and the Walther P5. You'll discover why these are considered the world's best by experts... and where the others failed.

USE THE COUPON AT RIGHT FOR A 15-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL.

FOR THE SERIOUS HANDGUNNER: Here's another classic work by George Nonte—PISTOLSMITHING (560 pages, 6 x 9, illustrated, \$17.95)—a perfect companion volume for COMBAT HANDGUNS.

Combat Handguns 15-DAY MONEY-BACK TRIAL

YES! Please send _____ copy(ies) of COMBAT HANDGUNS (08-0409) and _____ copy(ies) of PISTOLSMITHING (08-1265) by George Nonte Jr. I have enclosed my check or money order (No C.O.D.s please) for \$18.95 (\$17.95 plus \$1.00 postage)* for each copy. I understand that if not completely satisfied I may return the volume(s) within 15 days at your expense for a full refund (or full credit if charged).

Enclosed find \$ _____
Bill my Mastercharge Visa/BankAmericard
Account # _____ Exp. Date: _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

YOUR MONEY BACK IN FULL (OR FULL CREDIT IF YOU USE YOUR CREDIT CARD) ANYTIME WITHIN 15 DAYS. MAIL TODAY!

Send to: P.O. Box 693
Boulder, CO 80306

PERSONAL DEFENSE

Blackie Collins & Chris McLoughlin



Exciting and useful new book on armed defense. Heavy emphasis on firearms and edged weapons with 234 all new photographs. Weapons concealment and escape and evasion techniques are discussed in detail. This is a large format book with 160 pages of interesting information and high quality photographs. A must for these days and times.

Send check or money order to:
Defense
P.O. Box 18595
Dept. SOF
Atlanta, GA 30326
 All orders shipped post paid.



THE MOST DEPENDABLE FOLDING KNIFE OF THE ORIENT... AND NOW THE UNITED STATES.

The butterfly design: Closed, twin handles enclose and protect working portion of the knife. To open, the handles revolve in opposite directions to expose AND positive-loc the blade.

Overall Length 9.0"
 Closed 5 1/2"

• This unique folding field knife features an individually hand crafted hollow ground blade, of tough 154 CM Stainless. • The precision fitted solid brass or stainless steel handles feature beautifully inlaid MICARTA Inserts.

For brochure send .75.
 Dealer inquires Welcomed.

BALI-SONG INC.

3039 Roswell St., Los Angeles, CA 90065

COMBAT PISTOLCRAFT

by Jeff Cooper & Ken Hackathorn

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

WHEN Jeff Cooper began his question-and-answer column in *SOF* back in 1978, he set out a list of guidelines for questions. We think it's time to reprint this original column to minimize his being drowned "in the same nonsense year after year after year."

BACK in the Bronze Age, when the subject of a monthly question-and-answer feature first came up, I was told by the editor with whom I was then associated that I would rue the day.

"Once we start that sort of thing there will be no end to it. You'll spend every night in the week telling guys things they can read in the ads. You'll be drowned in nonsense. And, what's more, it'll be the same nonsense — year after year after year!"

"On the other hand, isn't it better to tell people what you know they want to know than just to guess? Might work up a lot of good controversy that way."

"Might spend the rest of your life beating dead horses, too. Like 'If the auto is better, why do the cops all use wheelies?'"

"Perish forbid!"

"That's what you'll get. Mark my words! You'll rue the day."

Well, we went back and forth. We finally did set up the column, and, exactly as foretold, I came to rue the day. Not that I mind answering questions, but the Who-is-buried-in-Grant's-Tomb variety does eventually become a weariness. However, the good ones are interesting enough to make up for it, so here we go again.

What are some good ones? Consider:

(a) How do I convince a customer that what he really wants is a shotgun instead of a pistol?

(b) If placement is all and power is irrelevant, why don't we all just go to 22s?

(c) Why do you insist that I must resist violence when everybody else insists that I must not?

These are not bad. These we can address with interest. The task is to devise a way to sift wheat from chaff. (Dear Abby has a staff to do this. I must use a cheaper method.)

So here is a system. Let's try it and see if it works. The following are prefabricated answers to most of what comes in. After thinking up your question, go down the list and see which response best fits your problem. Just think — you may save yourself 15 cents and a lot of waiting around.

30 INSTANT SHOOTING ANSWERS

(Check as applicable)

- 1. Yes.
- 2. No.
- 3. I honestly don't know, nor have I any way of finding out.
- 4. Use it for a sinker.
- 5. You usually get what you pay for.
- 6. A collector's item is worth whatever a specific collector will pay for it.
- 7. Good sights—not necessarily adjustable—and a good trigger.
- 8. Because that's what they have always done, and thinking can cause a lot of trouble.
- 9. Chapter 12 of Hatcher's *Textbook of Pistols and Revolvers*.
- 10. It probably won't break, but it will wear out sooner.
- 11. 7.2 of Unique.
- 12. Refer to:
 - a. Charley Askins
 - b. Massad Ayoob
 - c. Jack Lord
 - d. *Secrets of Modern Knife Fighting*
 - e. *Cooper on Handguns*
 - f. The Ayatollah Khomeini
 - g. The U.S. Constitution, as originally written
- 13. The major-caliber heavy-duty auto pistol.
- 14. It'll never get off the ground.
- 15. That's exactly the sort of question I would ask if I wanted to get me in Dutch with Big Brother.
- 16. It tickles.
- 17. Do unto others as they would do unto you, but first.
- 18. The concept of "double-action" in auto pistols has been weighed and found wanting.

Continued on page 18

HOW TO REDUCE THE DANGER OF A TAX AUDIT

"I'd do almost anything, even *over* pay my taxes, to avoid having the IRS audit my return." A surprising number of taxpayers feel this way.

But this attitude is more usual: "I minimize my taxes as much as I dare — but I also worry about getting slapped with a tax audit."

Then there's a third attitude, more common than you might think: "Those SOBs don't scare me. I'll fight them all the way."

Which attitude resembles your own? Whichever it is, if you earn \$25,000 a year . . . or if you own a house or some other asset that interests the tax collector, there's a new Report you should see:

THE TAXPAYER'S AUDIT SURVIVAL MANUAL

How to Avoid an IRS Audit First and Foremost — And How to Survive One If They Catch You

The authors? You won't find two who know more about this problem. Charles W. Schoeneman, formerly with the U.S. Tax Court, is now a Washington tax attorney (with an imposing client list). Vernon K. Jacobs, nationally known tax consultant and lecturer, is the author of *Taxpayers' Counterattack* and editor of the consumer's tax service, TAX ANGLES (and, therefore, a master at reducing tax gobbledegook to plain English).

Your Chances of Getting Audited

The authors give you the latest figures, broken down by income . . . the latest reports on tax delinquents, and how many had their property seized. They follow your tax return, step by step, through the IRS bureaucracy. This "tour" gives you precious hints on how to lessen your chance of an audit. For example:

- How to choose a tax advisor. (Careful: the one you pick might *cause* you to be examined.)
- Fearsome weapons the feds can use: liens, levies, seizures. What each one means. How they hurt you in *other* ways.
- One powerful weapon to get the IRS to cut your tax deficiency. (Here, the odds are in *your* favor.)
- What to do if a tax agent shows up at your door unannounced.
- How to make the tax man suspicious: more than 25 signals that suggest tax fraud. Signals given off by the tax man that hint at a criminal investigation.
- When the exam period ends, collection begins. Do you have any recourse then?

Valuable Extras

- Official IRS List of Unallowable Deductions
 - IRS Guidelines for Auditing Professionals
 - 20 charts, illustrations, IRS forms
 - Map of IRS districts
-
- Encouraging note: the double screening your return must pass before you get audited.
 - Should you round off your figures?
 - The awesome legal powers of Special Agents and Revenue Agents. How they differ.
 - Can your accountant be required to testify against you? How about your wife? Your children? Can your accountant be forced to produce your tax records?
 - Useful literature you can get free from the U.S. Tax Court.
 - True or false: when a taxpayer beats a criminal rap, he may still owe a big tax bill.
 - Should you go before the IRS yourself, or send your tax advisor? 3 possibilities.
 - One reason not to file an amended return.
 - Your chances when you appeal (better than you think).
 - Form 870: does it ever pay to sign it on the spot?
 - When the IRS suspects fraud: what goes on behind the scenes.
 - Should you ever admit a mistake? A doubtful deduction?
 - What are the mathematical chances of being prosecuted for a tax crime? Of being convicted? Of going to jail?
 - Priceless advice on how to conduct yourself during the audit. Tips that help it run *your* way. Dangers to avoid.
 - Why the odds against you aren't so bad after all.
 - When is the best time to file — early, late, or just under the wire?

One thing that make an IRS audit so unsettling: much of it operates outside the American legal system. The tax bureaucrats assess what they will. The taxpayer must *prove* his deductions: guilt

till proven innocent. It is an adversary situation — and the tax collector holds all the guns. So if you pay a sizable tax bill, you owe it to yourself to see how far you can legally minimize your taxes — and what risks you may be taking at each step.

The stakes are high. In 1978, the average *extra* assessment gathered in by the IRS came to \$3,898. It is almost certain to soar over \$4,000 for 1979 returns — and keep soaring. This new *Manual* comes just in time.

FREE EXAMINATION

The *Manual*, frankly, is prepared for those who make \$25,000 or more . . . who can save the most . . . who have the most to lose. It is tax-deductible and comes as a typewritten Special Report for \$35 postpaid, and is returnable for a *full* refund within 30 days.

Nothing can *guarantee* you won't be audited. Sometimes it's just bad luck. But if you don't agree that the *Manual* cuts your chances of an audit, just send it back to Alexandria House Books, 901 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. You'll get your \$35 back, and no questions asked.

How to get this Special Report FREE

You may take this \$35 Report FREE with a two-year subscription to TAX ANGLES, the only monthly service that shows executives, owners of small businesses, professionals and investors how to cut their taxes *legally*. Just check the box in the coupon and send \$79 for 24 issues (two years). GUARANTEE: Read 4 issues. If TAX ANGLES isn't worth many times its modest price in tax savings, just tell us to cancel after 4 issues. We'll send you a complete refund for the entire unused portion of your subscription — and you keep the *Manual* FREE.

Alexandria House Books 901 N. Washington St., Alexandria, Va. 22314

I enclose \$35. Please send *The Taxpayer's Audit Survival Manual* postpaid. If not pleased, I may return it within 30 days for full, prompt refund.

Please send the *Manual* and charge my credit card. Same refund guarantee.

American Express VISA Master Charge
Card number _____ Expires _____

Signature _____

I enclose \$79. Enter my TAX ANGLES subscription for 2 years (24 issues) and send the *Manual* FREE. If not pleased after 4 issues of TAX ANGLES, I may cancel for a full refund of the entire unexpired portion of my subscription. But the *Manual* is mine free, even if I cancel.

Charge my credit card \$79, as filled in above. Send 2 years (24 issues) of TAX ANGLES *plus* my FREE *Manual*. Same refund guarantee.

A140

Name _____
(please print)

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

How can a Subscription to SOF save you money?

When you subscribe to SOF, you learn tips and techniques that save you time and money—and maybe your life! Experts reveal survival skills and new developments in weaponry that are not found elsewhere. And from our correspondents, you get timely first-hand reports from Africa, S.E. Asia and Latin America. So spoil yourself, and buy the source for adventure, mercenary activity, urban and wilderness survival, and discover products you only dreamed about.



**SAVE
OVER
25%
OFF
NEWSSTAND PRICE**

Send SOLDIER OF FORTUNE to my home for one year (12 issues) SAVE 25% over newsstand price.

Bill me \$20.00 Payment enclosed

I'm a new subscriber This is a renewal order

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Note: For foreign and Canadian service mail orders add \$5 per year for postage and handling.)



WORLD AT WAR!

Will the next 4 years bring a MAJOR depression ... and war... to America?



by Roy S. Wathne
Freelance Reporter

“A MAJOR DEPRESSION, CIVIL turmoil, a dictatorship and gun confiscation may be ahead for America,” now warns International Consultant and Survival Expert Hans J. Schneider. Far fetched? NOT AT ALL!

Hans spent his childhood in the Third Reich . . . his boyhood in the rubble of communist-occupied East Germany. His father, a former industrialist, lost \$10 million overnight and was imprisoned. This was a time when thousands of a disarmed populace were ruthlessly murdered. Hans and his family had to search the forests for food in order to survive.

BAD TIMES AHEAD

Don't ignore his warning. Hans J. Schneider is internationally respected for his rather accurate political and economic forecasts.

After twenty years of research, he has reached this conclusion: “America will go through a major depression within the next four years.” He foresees big cities as centers of bloodshed, food shortages, and massive unemployment. People unable to cope with these conditions, will demand a dictatorial government to restore order, just like they did in his own homeland, Germany. The result? A MAJOR WORLD WAR.

Hans Schneider adds: “Even if all these events don't happen, any one of them could spell disaster to unprepared Americans, physically and financially.”

“TIMELY HELP”

Mr. Schneider has written a book which I believe every concerned American should read. **TIMELY AND PROFITABLE HELP FOR TROUBLED AMERICANS** reveals his proven plan for your freedom and survival during economic and social turmoil.

There is hope and help! Mr. Schneider is NOT a prophet of doom. In his book, Hans has outlined what he has done . . . and what you can do to prepare for—even profit from—these times. 288 pages cover:

- ✓ Finding the right place to live in the turbulent times ahead
- ✓ How to educate your children at home! legally!
- ✓ What essential provisions to store
- ✓ Simple inflation / depression-proof

- investments with a 30-100% yearly increase
- ✓ Jobs least vulnerable to unemployment
- ✓ Wilderness survival . . . Yachting for survival!
- ✓ Survival hunting, unusual remedies, first aid
- ✓ Independent energy sources
- ✓ Becoming self-sufficient
- ✓ Barter items
- ✓ . . . and much, MUCH more.

Mr. Schneider is not a theorist, but actually “practices what he preaches,” as one newspaper reporter put it. Hans, his lovely wife, and their five children live in unspoiled wilderness next to a spring-fed stream, teeming with trout. They produce most of their own food and enjoy a wonderful family life. Is this your dream? His book shows how you can do it too!

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

- * “. . . sincere and engaging . . .”—Art Seidenbaum of *Los Angeles Times*
- * “It is the best book I have read on the subject.”—Dr. Marjorie Fry, Editor, Castle Rock, CO.
- * “Book is excellent. Number of my people want copies.”—Pastor G. A., Amarillo, TX.
- * “Your book is most appropriate for these days. Runaway inflation and civil disorder is just around the curve.”—Dr. John R. Andrews, M.D., Ellijay, GA.
- * “Sympathy and concern for an American populace headed toward what he feels is another period of ‘hard times’ prompted Hans J. Schneider to write **TIMELY** . . .”—*The Mail Tribune*, Medford, OR.
- * “More people should read it.”—S. S., Atlanta, GA.
- * “His book is exceptional not only because it is timely and practical, but because it is based on actual personal experience—it is not a lot of idealistic theorizing or useless Philosophy.”—R. A. Johnson, Survival Editor for *Inflation Survival Letter*.

You can order **TIMELY AND PROFITABLE HELP FOR TROUBLED AMERICANS** for just \$9.95 postpaid—certainly one of the best investments you will ever make. And his advice can profit you no matter where you live or what the economic condition may be!

TWO OTHER UNIQUE BOOKS

Mr. Schneider is also the author of 2 other excellent books. His latest, **FLYING TO BE FREE** (256 pages), is his personal never-before-told story of his

Hans J. Schneider believes we are headed for a disastrous social and economic period. But he has practical advice to help you profitably survive this time.

boyhood passion for flying in his communist-occupied homeland, the years he spent on dangerous aviation missions through war-torn Europe and the near-fatal accounts of his travels in almost 100 countries. It is beautifully illustrated with over 110 photos/drawings and a full-color cover.

MASTERS OF LEGALIZED CONFUSION AND THEIR PUPPETS (55,000 copies in print!) is an undisputed eye-opener written without compromise. These volumes will make wonderful additions to your library.

Now ALL THREE books can be obtained for a special 25%-off price of only \$15.95 (\$5.40 off the regular price).

HOW TO ORDER

To order, simply clip the coupon below and send with your check or money order to the Publisher. Or, charge it to your Master Charge or VISA credit card. Books can even be sent direct to your friends “with your compliments” if you so desire. Prompt shipment is guaranteed.

A TIME OF CRISIS

If you feel like I do that conditions will get worse . . . that America is headed for a time of crisis, why not order these books now before it is too late? Write today. The small cost is certainly worth the peace of mind.

Special Discount Offer Coupon

WORLD WIDE PUBLISHING CORP.
P.O. Box 105, SF-34
Ashland, Oregon 97520 U.S.A.

YES! I want to be prepared. I enclose \$_____ . Please rush me postpaid: _____ Timely and Profitable Help for Troubled Americans @ \$9.95 \$_____ YES! I want ALL THREE books by Hans J. Schneider for only \$15.95 (\$5.40 off)!

Print Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

CHARGE IT: VISA Exp Date _____/_____
 Master Charge Bank Number _____
Credit Card # _____

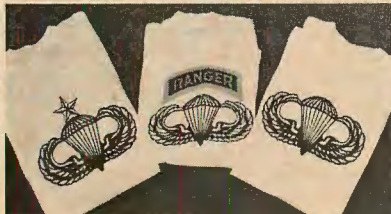
AIRBORNE T-SHIRTS

Novice, Senior or Master Wings

Good Quality Shirts
Most Colors Available
Sizes: S, M, L, & XL

Specify wings style, size and color choices

\$6.50 EACH



RANGER TAB

IN BLACK & GOLD ABOVE
AIRBORNE WINGS: \$2.00 ADDITIONAL

Ranger T-Shirts: \$7.00

(Without Airborne Wings)

THE FIFTH APPLE

413 Valhigh Road

West Des Moines, Iowa 50265

ALLOW 3-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

COMBAT PISTOLCRAFT

Continued from page 14

- 19. "De-horn" all exposed corners.
- 20. I cannot tell you which holster is best suited to your needs without an extensive personal interview.
- 21. Your question is insufficiently
 - a. Specific
 - b. Clear
 - c. Witty
 - d. Interesting
 - e. Legible
- 22. Supply sharp, detailed, large-scale photos.
- 23. It was designed by a committee.
- 24. Start out with 30 years' experience and marry money.
- 25. You'll do all right. Most everybody does, and the others have no further problems.
- 26. Watch his hands, and then concentrate on your front sight.
- 27. Draw quickly — shoot carefully.
- 28. The minor calibers do not suffice.
- 29. The verification of any theory lies in its observed correlation with reality. (Something about a pudding?)
- 30. Try it. You'll like it!

This month Ken Hackathorn describes Devel Corporation's Basic M-39 conversion, as well as their full-house M-39 and M-59 auto pistols. SOF plans to feature test-and-evaluation articles on the Devel M-39 and M-59 by Hackathorn and Sgt. Gary Paul Johnston in an upcoming issue.

SPECIALLY designed, concealable defensive handguns abound these days, with a selection of models for every taste. Unfortunately for the average lawman or undercover operative, individual weapon cost may be beyond his budget. As a result, his final purchase may be a small two-inch-barrel .38 special such as the S&W Chief's Special or Colt Detective Special. In an auto pistol, the Walther PPKS in .380 is the likely choice. Pistols such as the Detonics .45 or ASP are priced out of reach of any but the most serious gun enthusiast.

THE Devel Corp. has produced a successful design of a highly modified S&W M-39 auto pistol in 9x19 parabelum. While the full-house Devel conversion is a beautiful little pistol, it costs enough to limit its sale only to those with a pocket full of money. Charles Kelsey of the Devel Corp. decided to produce a basic conversion of his Devel M-39 pistol, functionally the same as his full-house package, but without its cosmetic extras. The gun is reduced in size, accurized, tuned for perfect reliability, and finished to Devel's high standards. But, by limiting the amount of fancy extras and dropping options such as the hooked trigger guard,

cartridge counter grips, ambidextrous safety and other exotica, the Basic M-39 conversion is offered at the competitive price of \$255 per customer-supplied gun.

I have completed testing one of these Basic M-39 conversions and found it of top quality and function. An unexpected bonus of Devel guns is their superb accuracy, usually superior to that of the original full-size pistol.

For the police officer who chooses the 9x19 parabelum for his sidearm, the Basic M-39 conversion gives him a dependable piece of hardware. For fast gun handling and rapid-shot delivery, this Devel yields positive hit placement as well as very quick reloading. It is far ahead of the common variety of two-inch .38 small-frame revolvers for combat effectiveness.

This type of special-purpose sidearm is not for everyone. But for the man who must stake his life on a concealable pistol that is easy to carry, fast to use and capable of delivering a serious amount of ammo, the Basic Devel is tops. When searching for a quality sidearm, one realizes that he gets what he pays for. The Devel is the best money can buy.

THE Devel Corp. also offers a functional, reliable package for the standard Smith & Wesson M-39 and M-59 auto pistols. For those who carry and use Smith autos, a custom-tune service is long overdue. The stock pistol is tuned for accuracy, using the Devel barrel bushing system, and the barrel throat-feed ramp is radius-polished and smoothed to insure positive feeding with all types of ammo. The cartridge extractor is modified to Devel specs, plus the slide stop is modified to give reliable service. Magazine-well beveling is standard, with the mating of magazines to the pistol also part of the package.

All critical springs are replaced with ones designed for top performance and the pistol is finished with the excellent hard matte nickel that has become a Devel trademark. Cost for the M-39 is \$145, and the M-59 is \$160. The result is a super-reliable, accurate sidearm. Police officers who have chosen Smith & Wesson autos for their serious sidearms are recommended to check into the details of these Devel conversions. For further details send \$2 for a complete brochure from Devel Corp., Dept. SOF, 3441 W. Brainard R., Cleveland, OH 44122.

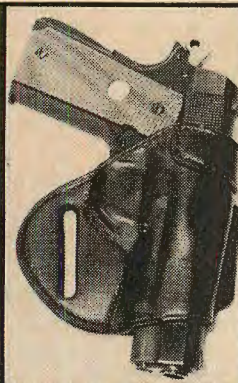


Devel Corporation's Basic M-39 conversion costs \$255 per customer-supplied gun.



TYPE PSS

For
Semi-Automatics
And Revolvers



PRO SPEED SLIDE

Designed for the plain clothes or off-duty professional who wears his sidearm concealed by a jacket, suitcoat or sweater. The holster is molded to snugly accommodate the weapon that it is designed to carry. The leading outside edge of the rig is strategically reinforced to prevent bite or snag at the crucial moment of clearing leather, and to hold the holster open to allow easy replacement of the weapon while applying restraints. Due to the abbreviated concept of this holster, we do not recommend it for weapons which are fitted with exaggerated front sight systems. When ordering, please designate: the weapon to be carried; color choice (black or tan); for right or left hand draw.

To order, enclose \$16.50 plus \$2.00 for shipping and insurance to:



**ARMAMENT SYSTEMS
PRODUCTS, UNLTD.**
P.O. Box 18595-SOF
Atlanta, Ga. 30326

\$100.00 TH-123
A MANUAL FOR SURVIVAL

TOP SECRET

THE SOLDIER'S HANDBOOK

PREPARED BY LT. COL. ANTHONY B. HERBERT, (Ret.)

"America's Most Decorated Soldier"

JUNE, 1979

WARNING! ————— WARNING!

The contents of this publication are copyrighted 1979, by Anthony B. Herbert. The ink used to print this material has been chemically treated. It contains pigment which is affected by copy-machine light. If this material is copied or if a copied version of this material is discovered, it will represent physical evidence which can be used in a court of law. In some copyright infringement cases, reproduction, without written permission, in whole or in part is strictly forbidden and infringers will be vigorously prosecuted.

THE SOLDIER'S HANDBOOK \$100.00

THIS TEXT IS A VIRTUAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF EXTRAORDINARY TECHNIQUES AND TIPS ON HOW TO FIGHT, PROTECT YOURSELF AND KILL! HOW TO BLOW UP THINGS AND COMMIT MAYHEM! AND SURVIVE. THE OPENING CHAPTERS DISTILL COURAGE AND DECISION MAKING TO BASIC TECHNIQUES WHICH CAN BE LEARNED. THE REMAINDER OF THE TEXT IS DEVOTED TO TIPS AND TECHNIQUES WHICH DO AWAY WITH LABORIOUS EXERCISES AND TIME CONSUMING TRAINING. IT REDUCES HAND TO HAND COMBAT TO THE VERY ESSENTIALS OF HOW TO KILL SUDDENLY WITH YOUR BARE HANDS IN WAYS WHICH CAN BE LEARNED IN SECONDS; HOW TO FIGHT WITH A KNIFE THE FIRST TIME YOU PICK ONE UP, CORRECTLY, SIMPLY AND EFFECTIVELY! HOW TO CONSTRUCT LETHAL EXPEDIENT EXPLOSIVE DEVICES FROM BASE HOUSEHOLD-GROCERY ITEMS; HOW TO SURREPTITIOUSLY ENTER BUILDINGS, OFFICES, SAFES, FILE CABINETS, DESKS AND VEHICLES; PROFESSIONAL METHODS OF ASSASSINATION THAT REQUIRE NO SPECIAL SKILLS OR EQUIPMENT OR PRACTICE; TIPS ON SURVIVAL IN JUNGLES, THE ARCTIC, ON THE DESERT, AND IN BARROOMS, OR ON THE STREETS; THE BASIC KNOTS AND ROPE TRICKS WHICH PERMIT YOU TO DO ALMOST ANYTHING WITH A ROPE SHORT OF SERVING IT FOR DINNER; HOW TO CONSTRUCT EXPEDIENT WEAPONS AND SILENCERS; EMERGENCY NO-NONSENSE COMBAT FIRST AID; PATROL TIPS THAT MAKE THE DIFFERENCE ON RAIDS, AMBUSHES, ESTABLISHMENT OF CLANDESTINE BASES, COUNTER-AMBUSH TECHNIQUES, SEARCH, HANDLING OF POWS; AND MORE! —BY AMERICA'S MOST DECORATED AND COMPLETE SOLDIER—TONY HERBERT. AND IT FITS INTO YOUR FATIGUE TROUSER POCKET—ALL 200 PLUS PAGES. NOTHING LIKE IT HAS EVER BEFORE BEEN AVAILABLE.

SOME WILL OBJECT TO THIS TEXT BUT THE METHODS AND TECHNIQUES EXPLAINED HAVE BEEN PASSED ON THROUGH THE OFFICES OF THE CIA, DIA, FBI AND TERRORIST ORGANIZATION HEADQUARTERS FOR YEARS. A KNOWLEDGE OF SAME CAN ONLY ENHANCE YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAPABILITIES AS WELL AS AID YOU IN PROTECTING AGAINST THEM.

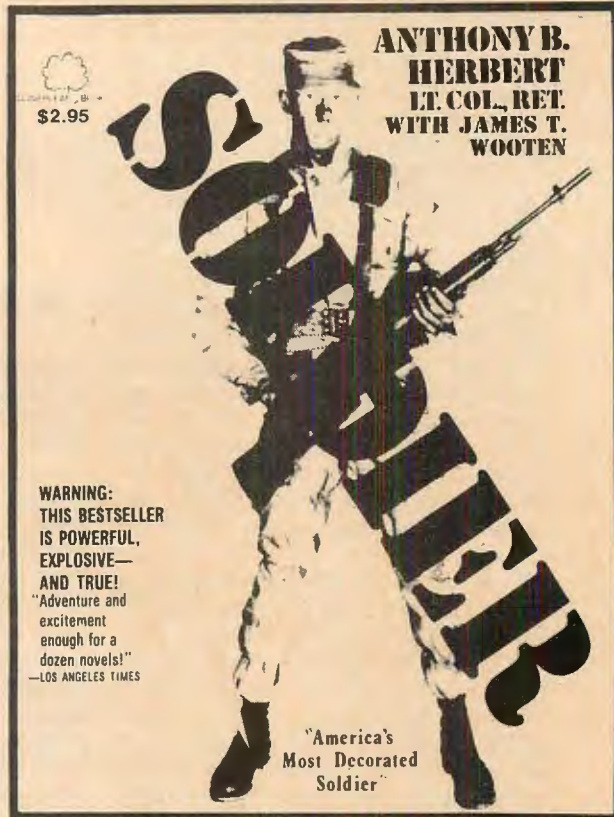
Cloverleaf Books offers you a unique opportunity to obtain a limited edition of THE SOLDIER HANDBOOK by Anthony B. Herbert, Lt. Col. Ret., at a price of \$100.00 per copy. Each book is numbered and will be individually autographed by the author. Numbered copies will be issued in the order in which filled out coupons, accompanied by checks, are received.

This book will make a worthwhile addition to any library. Fill out the coupon and mail it in today. Your copy will be sent certified mail. Quantities are limited. Here is your chance to own a genuine collectors item.

AUGUST/80

TWO BOOKS BY AMERICA'S SUPER SOLDIER

SOON TO BE A MOVIE. **SOLDIER**
Over 1 Million Copies Sold



SOLDIER

by Anthony B. Herbert, Lt. Col. (Ret)

- Paperback - No. 11PB \$2.95
- SOLDIER Poster No. 77P \$2.50
- 20" x 28" color poster — replica of book cover

Only nine men in history have won the *Osmieh* (Turkey's Medal of Honor) — Eight Turkish soldiers and America's Tony Herbert — only one of his many unique accomplishments.

"THE SOLDIER'S HANDBOOK"
Limited Edition
\$100.00
Only 50,000 Copies
Will Be Sold

Quantity	Item	Price ea.	Amount
	Soldiers Handbook	\$100.00	
	Soldier Poster	\$ 2.50	
	Soldier Paperback	\$ 2.95	

Total Amount _____
Shpg. & Hdlg. _____
Total of above _____

SHIPPING & HANDLING
Orders up to \$6.00 \$0.95
Orders from \$6.01 to \$12.00 \$1.55
Orders from \$12.01 to \$18.00 \$2.25
Orders over \$18.00 \$2.95

Satisfaction guaranteed or return book within 10 days and we will refund your money.

Check or Money Order Payable To K-7 Distributors
Amount Enclosed (No cash or stamps please) \$ _____

Please fill in below
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

CHARGE IT!
 Master Charge BankAmericard Visa
Account # _____
Expiration Date _____ Bank No. _____
Signature (required if using credit card) _____

MAIL TO
CLOVERLEAF BOOKS
P.O. Box 3188
Dept. 777 S
Englewood, Co. 80111

Chesley Morton, a former Gwinnett County (Ga.) deputy sheriff, is now a third-year law student in Atlanta. Recently returned from his second tour of Rhodesia, Morton says the Czechoslovakian invasion profoundly influenced his political philosophy. August 21, 1968, was Morton's 17th birthday. As he tells it:

AUGUST 21, 1968, 0800 hours. A quiet dread and ominous anticipation gripped Prague, Czechoslovakia. The Russians and their Warsaw Pact allies had invaded. The blitzkrieg-like operation began shortly after midnight. Thousands of troops and tanks surged across the Czech border while airborne units captured and secured Prague's international airport. Troop-laden air transports soon followed. With each passing hour the Soviet force grew larger. Soon, the foreign ground units would move on Prague.

I was one of 120 American students in Prague that day. We were on holiday, having just completed our summer studies of Russian language and history in the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact satellites. Now our holiday, and the Czechoslovakian people's brief flirtation with autonomy was over. Soviet tanks began to enter Prague. First Secretary Alexander Dubcek had instructed the Czechoslovakian armed forces to lay down their arms, yet by 0830 hours it became evident that there were pockets of resistance throughout the city — small groups, sometimes individual men, taking on the Russian army.

An initial Soviet objective was the state-run radio station. My room at the Hotel Lunik came equipped with a large square one-channel, one-knob radio. The one-channel: the state radio station. The one-knob controlled volume — no "off," just high volume/low volume. And so, in my dingy room in the Hotel Lunik I listened to the battle for the radio station. In retrospect, I realize it didn't last that long. Perhaps only 10 minutes. But the desperately frantic voice of the announcer and the incessant automatic weapons fire created a seemingly-long drama.

With the extreme urgency of a man who realized that his life was now measured in minutes, the announcer pleaded with the Czechoslovakian people, his listeners: "Remember the sacrifices of this day, the resistance and sacrifice throughout Czech history. Remember the past subjugation and fight for autonomy. Resist, resist, resist...."

Then only silence. Later, a voice with a slight Russian accent would broadcast over the same state radio. Victorious and confident, the voice would assure the Czechoslovakian people that order had once again been restored. The Soviets, responding to the cries of the good socialist peoples of Czechoslovakia had liberated them from the revisionist regime of Alexander Dubcek and President Ludvik Svoboda.

IT HAPPENED TO ME I WAS THERE

by C. Morton and L.W. Christensen as told to M.L. Jones

The announcement was, perhaps, a bit premature. For several more hours, fighting raged in the area of Wenceslas Square. A man, running from the direction of the square and most probably a member of the resistance, was gunned down within sight of our hotel. Young men took to the streets en masse, chanting, "DUB-CEK/SVO-BO-DA, DUB-CEK/SVO-BO-DA," over and over again. A few braver ones climbed atop Soviet tanks, ruptured the spare fuel barrels and set the tanks ablaze in their own fluid.

But it all amounted to little more than street theater. A tragic one-act play. When the curtain fell, only the Soviet actors remained to read the mixed reviews of their weak critics.



Loren W. Christensen is now a civilian police officer with the Portland (Ore.) Police Bureau but in 1969-70 he was a military policeman attached to the 716th Military Battalion in Saigon. As he tells it:

OF all the problems MPs had to contend with, VC snipers were the most irritating. We joked that a Victor Charlie sniper was like the Vietnamese flies: they eat shit and bother people.

My two partners for the night shift were Cleveland Washington, a tall, lanky black from Mississippi, and Craig Barrons, a husky ex-linebacker from the University of Miami. We three enjoyed working patrol together.

That hot Saturday night was living up to TuDo Street's reputation. We broke up several bar fights, hauled a passed-out-drunk Marine back to his unit and talked a grenade away from an enraged staff sergeant who wanted to blow up a steam bath house because a whore split with his wallet.

We collectively decided we needed a break, so Washington aimed the jeep toward our favorite Coke stand on Le Loi Street. The street was dark and quiet; it felt good and none of us spoke. I took a deep breath and settled back into the seat — and the windshield exploded.

Washington twisted violently toward me. His face bore a look of surprise as blood and white bone chips leaked from an ugly opening in his shoulder. The jeep

careened to the right and stopped against a high curb. A second bullet thumped into its side.

"Sniper!" I shouted, leaping out of the back seat. I grabbed Washington around the waist and pulled him out onto the ground. Barrons and I dragged him to the front of the vehicle as several more shots zinged off the pavement.

"Hang on, Washington," I said. "We'll get you out of here as soon as we take care of the VC son-of-a-bitch."

Two more shots.

"Over there!" Barrons was pointing toward a dark doorway. "Muzzle flashes!"

We sighted our 16s on the doorway. Two more shots gave us a silhouette.

"Hit him!" I screamed.

We pumped a half magazine each into the doorway. A long second passed before a dark figure staggered out into the glow of the streetlight and fell face down onto the sidewalk.

Cautiously, Barrons and I approached, our weapons ready. Barrons kicked the man's carbine aside as I rolled the bloody mess over.

Recognition. I looked at Barrons and wondered if I looked as shocked as he did. A verse from some war protest song raced through my mind: "All the children are insane...."

I didn't want to, but I slowly looked back down into the face of the dead American sailor.



If you have a combat or adventure story for "It Happened to Me" or "I Was There," triple-space type it and send it to SOF, P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306, Att: M.L. Jones. All stories should be 500 words or less. Upon publication, SOF will become owner of all publication rights. Submitted articles are subject to editing and revision, although their content and theme will not be changed. Photos are also helpful. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope so we can notify you of acceptance or return of your story. Article payment is \$50, upon publication. All entrants will receive an SOF patch.





SOFs BEWARE

PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN — Following extended interviews with the various Islamic groups representing the Mujahideen fighting in Afghanistan, SOF has learned that the groups do not want the help of soldiers of fortune.

According to Sayed Hamed Gailani, Chairman of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan and Aryobi of the Jamit-i-Islami of Afghanistan, the movement(s) do not need the help of SOFs.

"We have our own men," they said, "and they can do the fighting. Also, many of the Mujahideen were trained officers in the previous Afghan army so we do have the expertise to fight."

Several of the leaders went on to explain that information published recently may have been well intentioned but it could discredit the movement.

The leaders also claim that KGB agents have been active in several nations, trying to arrange arms deals and recruit SOFs with plans to present both the arms and captured SOFs to the world as evidence of the "correctness of their invasion of Afghanistan."

SOF magazine advises anyone who is planning to offer his services or who might have been contacted by persons claiming to be part of the Islamic movement to thoroughly investigate them before making any arrangements. Complete evaluations based on first-hand investigations by SOF correspondents will be appearing in future issues of SOF.

—Galen L. Geer

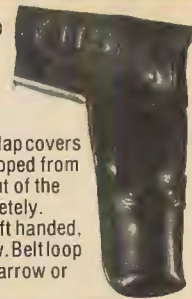


MODEL #10 & 10L "OUTDOORSMAN"

A belt holster well suited to general field use. High ride allows seating with long barrels. Holster is molded to fit your gun. Special flap protects adjustable rear sights. Available silicone suede lining protects fine gun finishes. Lock stitched with durable linen thread.

MODEL #M66 PATENTED "AMBIDEXTROUS MILITARY HOLSTER"

A truly unique holster, designed especially for military applications. Flap covers gun butt: can be unsnapped from either side, swiveled out of the way or removed completely. Wear holster right or left handed, side draw or cross draw. Belt loop design allows use on narrow or wide belts. Black only.



MODEL #X-15 SHOULDER HOLSTER

A compact shoulder holster designed for concealment and comfort. Butt is readily accessible hugs body. Leather and elastic harness is adjustable. Spring in holster holds gun allows fast draw. For 2"-8 1/2" revolvers, autos.



#8 & 8L "SHADOW" REVOLVERS

A very high-riding concealment holster. Widely-spaced slots; provide stability on belt; allow high ride; and pull gun close to body. Thumb-snap design holds gun securely with clean, fast draw. Molded to fit your gun and precurved to match body contours. Fine leather and hand-rubbed finish, with silicone suede lining available for 2"-4" revolvers.

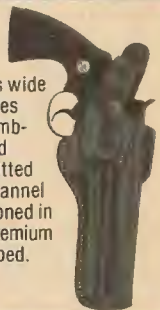


MODEL #3 "PISTOL POCKET"

A first-quality inside-the-waistband holster. For the first time, all the features of standard holsters in a waistband design. Features hand-molded leather, thumb-break strap, sight guards and more. Worn just behind right hip, it is comfortable and very concealable. Can be worn under loose shirts and short jackets. Snaps on and off belt. For autos and revolvers.

MODEL #5BH & 5BHL "THUMBSNAP"

Belt loop design is twice as wide for added stability. Gun rides higher to reduce bulk. Thumb-snap strap secures gun and allows a fast draw. Hand fitted to your gun, and a sight channel to protect front sights is boned in by hand. Rear sight guard. Premium saddle leather is hand-rubbed. For 2"-8 1/2" revolvers.



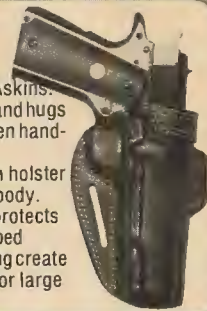
MODEL #B8 "HEVY DUTY BELT"

Top quality leather belt, 1 1/4" wide with creased edge and fine grained finish. An ideal maximum width for supporting the weight of a holstered gun and other accessories. Also ideal as a dress belt. Solid brass buckle, available in chrome finish (standard on black belts) or natural brass (standard on tan belts). Available in sizes 32" to 46". Plain or basket, tan and black.



MODEL #4 "ASKINS' AVENGER"

Named after legendary pistolero Col. Charles Askins. This holster rides high and hugs the body. The fit has been hand-molded for your gun. Stabilizing slot through holster pulls gun butt against body. Molded sight channel protects front sights. Hand-rubbed leather and fine stitching create a long-lasting holster for large autos.

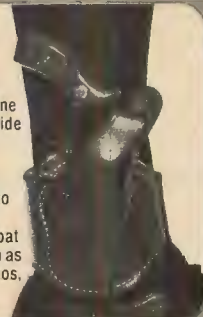


MODEL #45 "PISTOLERO" ASSEMBLY

A rig designed for international combat shooting. Holster has low-cut front and muzzle-forward rake for fast draw. Fully lined with top grain cowhide, with full steel lining. Deep "sight channel" molded into holster front. Clears sights. Spring loaded retainer snaps into trigger guard. Belt is contoured and fully lined with silicone suede. .45 Auto only.

MODEL #12 "ANKLE HOLSTER"

A very comfortable ankle holster. Soft, deep-pile genuine shearing sheeps wool on inside of leg strap, adjustable with Velcro tape. Holds gun and holster snugly against your ankle. Holster is form-fitted to your gun, with thumb-snap strap. Ideal for use when a coat or jacket is impractical, such as warm weather. For small autos, revolvers.



At Bianchi franchised dealers worldwide!

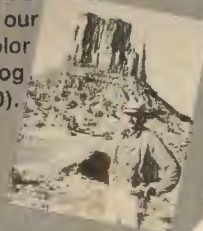


BIANCHI GUNLEATHER™

100 Calle Cortez, Dept. SF8-80, Temecula, California 92390

Write

Today for our
Full-Color
1980 Catalog
(Send \$1.00).



"For want of a shoe the horse was lost..."

The Snatch That Failed

by Jim Morris

BY now the story has been heard by everyone, and been hashed over in every bar in the United States, and in every officers' and NCO club in the world. The big question is, "How could it happen?" The second big question is, "Who screwed up?"

The plan sounds perfect. Eight helicopters leave from the U.S.S. *Nimitz*, a carrier on duty in the Arabian Sea, fly to a location near Tabas in the salt flats 200 miles from Tehran. There they rendezvous with six C-130s flown secretly from bases in Egypt, and refuel. A contingent of Farsi-speaking GIs, who look the part, unload four sanitized civilian trucks off the C-130s and head out for Tehran. Then the helicopters back off away from the road and everybody lays low while the civilian trucks make it to Tehran.

A carefully timed assault on the embassy is conducted by the contingent in the civilian trucks, assisted by assets on the ground, who are not so highly pleased with the new regime, an hour before dawn. When the choppers are one minute out, the Farsi-speaking contingent moves in with silenced weapons and incapacitating gas. The gate guards are neutralized, one way or another, and the troops rush the compound.

The only really dangerous part is to get the detonator on the explosives that mine the embassy. After that it's a piece of cake. Another, smaller, contingent pulls the same stunt at the Foreign Ministry, where three U.S. officials, including Charge d'Affaires Bruce Leingen, are being held. Then the trucks are abandoned, everybody loads into the helicopters to rendezvous with the C-130s, back out on the desert, at a site close enough that the Iranian armed forces, such as they are, don't have time to cause trouble.

ON paper the plan looked terrific. The unit making the assault was a crack outfit, Project Delta, named for the old Project Delta from Vietnam, one of the finest special operations units in the history of modern warfare, commanded by a former commander of the old project, Col. Charlie Beckwith, Chargin' Charlie, a man famed worldwide, among people who follow these things, for carrying his balls around in a wheelbarrow.

He made a mark in Vietnam by successfully defending Plei Me when that camp was under siege. He first led his reaction force into the camp, through enemy units, then ordered three counterattacks the first day, only to be thrown back by numerically vastly superior NVA regulars. But Beckwith's force held against enormous odds until relieved by conventional units from the ARVN and U.S. Army.

The last thing he did in Vietnam during that tour, almost the last thing he did period, was to get shot 19 times on one operation, trying to rescue a recon team which was supposed to be extracted by Cav choppers, which had been diverted at the last minute under circumstances which are still subject to speculation. He went into a hot LZ, late in the day, and got hit on the ground. He was almost left for dead; the guys who hauled him out thought they were recovering his body. He must find that kind of ironic now.

The assault force on Operation Blue Light, the Iranian rescue operation, was a hand-picked group of Army, Marine and Air Force volunteers. The operation was meticulously rehearsed no fewer than seven times on the Utah salt flats. What went wrong?

IT would appear that Marine aviation is what went wrong. Not that you can blame the Corps for that. The Marines get their appropriations — not from Congress, like the other services — but from the Navy. The Navy will insist that this is done with perfect even-handed fairness. *They will not say it twice to anybody who has ever flown in a Marine helicopter.*

I've only worked with Marine aviation twice — and both times I got shot. Both times it was because we were caught on the ground, waiting for all the stuff that was supposed to come in on the first lift.

Here are the reactions of several knowledgeable people, gathered during the course of researching this article. "Jesus Christ! They weren't still using those old Sikorskys, were they?"

The answer is yes, they were. A Navy spokesman says they were all between three and six years old, and have an operational failure rate of less than five percent. It was closer to 40 on this operation.

A former high-ranking Special Forces commander had this comment: "If it was a Marine decision which choppers to send, then they sent in the oldest and worst on the grounds that they were going to be abandoned anyway. They think like that." Sure they do. They've had to learn to, just to survive.

"I'd be interested to see if that [helicopter] unit was up to strength," says a former Marine aviation officer, now in the spook business, "how old those aircraft were, and how much sleep the crews had in the preceding week."

The good Dr. Kissinger has said that even as a failure this operation will probably help to speed the release of the hostages. "If they judge us by our will, instead of by our maintenance standards," says the former Marine aviation officer.

Frankly this stuff is getting old. The U.S. government seems incapable of doing anything sensitive or delicate. The roster of botched operations of this type stretches back too far: this mess, Son Tay, the Bay of Pigs. In every case the assault force was first-rate and the support was upfucked. And yet Ross Perot didn't have that much trouble getting his people sprung from Iran by the same folks who ran the Son Tay raid. Of course when they were working for Perot they weren't getting their information from the Agency or their equipment from the Marines.

IT'S time that it be said plainly. The reason we're in this mess in Iran is the same reason we were in our immediately preceding mess in Vietnam. We have an intelligence service which devotes incredible resources to telling the president what he wants to hear, and a foreign policy which is always in trouble in the third world because our government doesn't trust anybody who can't be bought; i.e. anybody who can be trusted. Every GI who has been killed in the past 30 years has died because of this policy.

Continued on page 83

PHOENIX



THE TEKNA KNIFE Weight is 5 oz.; overall length is 7½ inches with ¼ inch thick stainless blade having a Rockwell hardness of 57-59. The sheath is ABS plastic injection moulded with a spring loaded one handed ambidextrous thumb release. The straps are velcro with auto spring loaded tensioning buckle. \$34.95 plus \$1.25 P&H. Dept. SF-24

PHOENIX



ORDER

TODAY



TEKNA-LITE I 5.5" long, 9 oz. rechargeable NiCad powered light can be recharged 1000 times. Nearly indestructible ABS and polycarbonate body takes up only 15 cu. inches, yet has the same 4000 candlepower output of a 4-cell flashlight twice its size. Its Nickel Cadmium batteries provide over an hour burn time in -40° to 250° temperatures. Waterproof to 2000 feet. \$34.95 Dept. SF-28



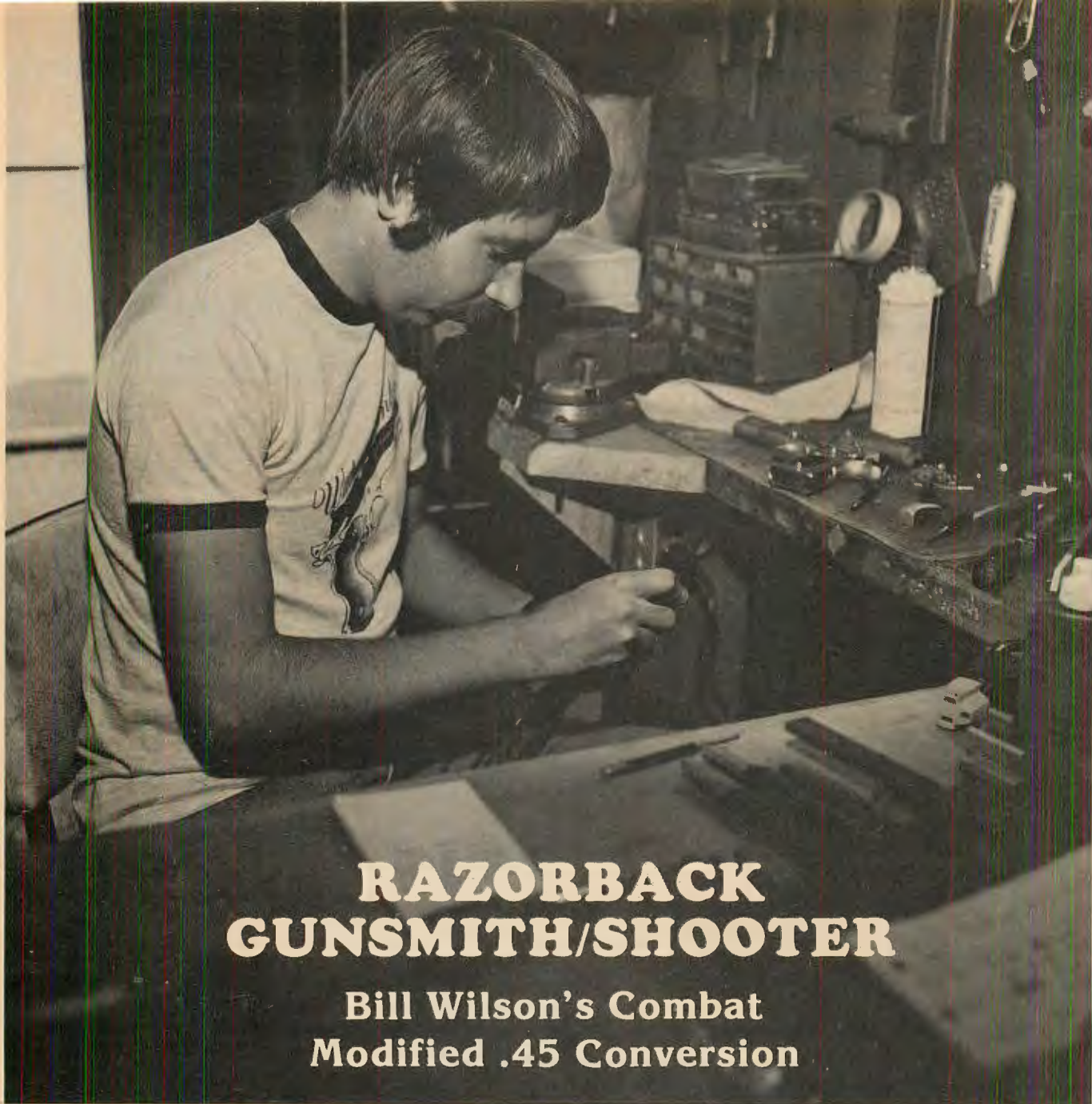
TEKNA-LITE II 5.5" long, 1.125" diameter pocket light weighs only 4 oz., yet runs 4 hours on 2 AA Alkaline cells. Fool-proof rotating lens switch with virtually indestructible ABS and polycarbonate body. 1300 candlepower white light output is unmatched for its size. Completely waterproof to 2000 feet. \$9.95. Dept. SF-26.

HOLDER 2" long neoprene holder with conveniently adjustable velcro strap allows light to be mounted on arm, ankle, dashboard or backpack. \$4.95 Dept. SF-27.



M16 SCOPE MT —\$8.95

.....
 • PHOENIX INC. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. MONEY BACK
 • P.O. Box 693 GUARANTEE
 • Boulder, Colo. Name _____
 • 80306 Address _____
 • VISA City _____
 • Mastercharge State _____ Zip _____
 • Overseas _____
 • Orders add 20% TEKNA KNIFE I II HOLDER
 • Colo.
 • Residents add 3% Include \$1.00 for Postage and Handling



RAZORBACK GUNSMITH/SHOOTER

Bill Wilson's Combat Modified .45 Conversion

by Ken Hackathorn

Pistolsmith Bill Wilson at work in his shop.

GUN periodicals leave one with the impression that combat competition can only be won with expensive custom-modified 1911 .45 autos.

Custom pistols from such smiths as Swenson, Pachmayr, Hoag and King are popular, but these \$600 to \$1,000 guns are not necessary for top performance. In fact, the average policeman or soldier wishing to pack a .45 auto for serious use may be better off with a less exotic, modified sidearm.

I have recently completed testing a "practical" modified .45 auto by one of the better but lesser known pistolsmiths. Bill Wilson of Wilson's Gun Shop, Dept. SOF, 101-103 Public Square, Berryville, AK 72616, provided me with an example of his work, a No. 110 Basic Combat

Pistol. Wilson converts the standard MKIV Colt Government Model .45 into the No. 110 Basic Combat Pistol for customers because he feels it is all one needs for combat competition or duty use. This No. 110 Basic .45 auto, in my opinion, is the ideal duty sidearm for a police officer who chooses the 1911 as his regular sidearm.

Wilson is not a gun shop commando. He knows what the combat-practical shooter expects from a properly modified Colt .45 auto. And his reputation as a top-flight shooter is established. Wilson took first place at the 1979 Second Chance Bowling Pin Shoot. Besides being the Midwest area champion "A" class IPSC shot in his home state of Arkansas, he went off to the 1979 World Championship

IPSC matches in South Africa and placed fifth overall. Thus the guns modified by Wilson reflect a special skill geared to making the pistol ideal for practical shooting. The following work was done on the Model No. 110 Basic Combat version sent me.

All contact surfaces are checked out and smoothed to insure reliability. Barrel lockup is checked and fitted for proper position. If necessary, Wilson will fit a long link to the barrel. The extractor is polished and tension adjusted. Sear and hammer engagement is mated, polished, and a crisp 4¼-pound trigger pull established. A long national match-style trigger with over-travel stop is fitted. Barrel and feed ramp surfaces are polished and throated to feed all types of semi-



Wilson's Gun Shop Model No. 110 Basic Combat Pistol, modified from Colt Mk IV .45.

Combat pistolero Charles Barrett shows off 15-meter group shot with Bill Wilson's .45 Basic Combat Pistol conversion.



wadcutter bullets as well as hollowpoint and ball ammunition. Machine work on the slide to lower the ejection port is completed, as well as beveling the magazine well for a fast magazine change during speed load. A long, extended speed safety is fitted and King-Tappan high, fixed combat sights installed.

Many shooters have been told they must have adjustable sights on a .45 to be competitive. But this factor is overstressed. Once a pistol is sighted and zeroed, the sights are rarely moved. With high, fixed sights, after zeroing, one need not worry about adjustment becoming loose or damaged as is often the case with movable sights.

After sighting-in and accuracy checks, Wilson fires at least 50 rounds of combat loads through the pistol to check for reliability. He says his prime criterion is that pistols must function perfectly. In a combat match, a malfunction can put one out of the race. In a real-life encounter, the result can be more permanent. It is a sour experience to pay big money, wait years for a name pistolsmith to tune a favorite blaster for practical shooting, then have it fail to function on the range. For reliability, reasonable cost and good delivery time, I feel the Wilson No. 110 Basic Combat Pistol is a good choice for the practical pistolero. The police officer or soldier who wishes to have his personal .45 modified for serious social work would be wise to consider the Wilson Model No. 110 Basic package. If a super-tuned Combat .45 is wanted — Wilson will build one such as his No. 130 Master Grade Combat Pistol. He does recommend, however, that a shooter get only what is needed and spend his extra money on ammunition and learning to shoot.

On the pistol I and some other combat shooters tested, Wilson added two options. First was a Swenson ambidextrous safety. Second, a pair of Pachmayr Signature Combat grips were installed. Several shooters from our local combat club tested my Wilson No. 110 and it was used in a number of matches with success.

Law enforcement associates carried it and shot it in monthly qualifications. A couple of students in my school fell back on the Wilson gun when the sights shot off their Gold Cups. All told, more than 2,000 rounds of various .45 ACP ammo were fired without complaint.

If you wish to get into IPSC shooting or set up a pistol for police use, don't be intimidated by the cost of big-name custom jobs. Wilson's Gun Shop will do the work properly and without a long wait.

Cost of the No. 110 Basic Combat Pistol work is \$145. With extras such as ambidextrous safety and Pachmayr grips, cost would be \$200. Delivery time is eight to 10 weeks. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Wilson for his price list and work sheet.



Editorials:

THIS IS THE ARMY?

by Fred Reed

A few months ago Clifford Alexander, secretary of the Army, began treading the long grey road toward new and better Afghanistans. More precisely, he asserted that the Volunteer Army works well. Alexander, a political appointee, is playing the game of let's pretend that got us into our present dangerous position — saying what suits the political needs of the administration rather than what suits the military needs of the Army:

I have seen the Volunteer Army; for several years I have written for the magazine of the Army Times papers — an odd occupation for a Washington reporter, requiring one to spend time with troops in the field. I suggest to Alexander that the All-Vol is a grim joke.

Last summer I followed an infantry outfit from an average division through jungle training in the Canal Zone. The level of intelligence was far lower than it was when I was a Marine in 1967. I saw radio operators who could barely operate their radios, men who couldn't read, soldiers who couldn't comprehend a simple lecture on jungle survival. The Pentagon says that the percentage of high school graduates is high. Perhaps it is, given the quality of the schools. Nonetheless, those troops were, on the average, very slow. Almost as bad, they lack the leavening of conscripted intelligence to run complicated weaponry.

Further, racial antagonism is serious. Because it is desperate for manpower, the Army recruits anybody it can get: white country kids who don't much like blacks, black street kids who don't like whites at all, Chicanos who aren't enthusiastic about either. Tight discipline can hold such an explosive mix together, but discipline isn't the All-Vol's strong suit.

An instructor in the jungle echoed what I've heard throughout the military: "You can't discipline the blacks because they yell racism, and the officers are scared of being called racists so they won't back you up. If you can't discipline the blacks, you can't discipline the whites. That's where we are. It ought to be equal discipline for everybody, but it isn't. It's no discipline for anybody."

THE best men leave. They leave because they are military men and the Army isn't very military now. The problem is serious: folklore to the contrary, brains and leadership are critical in the middle enlisted ranks.

The instructors at the jungle operations school, among the best NCOs I've met, were openly contemptuous of the Volunteer Army. To quote one, "I'm getting out. There's nothing in the Army for me anymore. That's a real problem for the Army. The best NCOs are getting out, and the ones coming up aren't any good. The Army runs on its NCOs. Someday it's going to need them, and they won't be there."

Further, the Volunteer army has miserable equipment. At Fort Hood, I rode tanks so old and beaten-up that despite heroic maintenance they barely worked. Only one tank in the company had a functioning heater. We spent 11 hours in those steel boxes, in 28° weather and a sleet storm — a lousy, unhealthy, morale-breaking day. An Army that can't provide its troops with a kerosene heater is in trouble.

In Panama, soldiers used antique radios that worked when the mood struck them, or when their operators kicked them. The Special Forces scuba team at Fort Gulick used out-moded double-hose regulators because of lack of money. A good single-hose regulator costs \$100.

TRAINING costs money, and the Army doesn't have money, so the Army doesn't train — not as it should. The Army can't afford many helicopter hours, so the troops can't practice helicopter operations. Using armored personnel carriers costs money, so the Army doesn't use them often enough. Tanks cost a lot to run, so they spend a lot of time in the barn. Ammunition costs money, so tank gunners don't do much live firing. Any faint hope of survival against overwhelmingly superior Soviet forces will require superior gunnery. No practice, no superiority. Curiously enough, it now turns out that an unsettling proportion of our tank gunners don't know how to use their gun sights.

WHY doesn't the press call attention to the poor condition of the armed services? Part of the reason is ideological and emotional: the press want the All-Vol to work and, as a consequence, simply believe that it does work.

Part of the reason is that newspapermen live in blank ignorance of the military: people are remarkably adept at not finding out what they don't want to know. Washington's journalists cover the military by attending briefings at the Pentagon, by going to committee hearings on the Hill, by reading the unending torrent of paper that flows from the bureaucracies and think tanks. They never really see the military. I doubt whether one in fifty goes to the field with troops in a year's time.

Most couldn't tell what they were seeing if they went. The armed services are formidably complex, almost incomprehensible to those who don't have considerable background. Only a reporter specializing in the military and spending a lot of time on bases can know what he is talking about. There are few such reporters.

Journalistic ignorance is compounded by the dis-

like of major-league reporters for military men. Reporters seldom drink with officers, don't have trusted friends in Special Forces or armored outfits, in short don't have the personal contacts of long standing that are indispensable to genuine familiarity with the services.

As a result they see the military as Washington sees everything — in terms of deals, abstractions, political motives, the quest for bureaucratic empire, election strategy, corporate greed and the belief that the world is made of paper. They really don't *know* that the services are in trouble.

I recommend to Secretary Alexander the following, from a very savvy sergeant (who, incidentally, is getting out): "It's like a percentage. You can improve a lot of mistakes when the crunch comes, but not all of them. The Army's got more mistakes than it's going to be able to correct in a hurry. I'm glad I'm not going to be in combat with what we got now."



BEWARE FAKES

PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN — According to Peter Jouvenal, an English freelance photographer covering the Afghanistan war, a number of news stories, and possibly some photos, released in the U.S. were fakes.

Jouvenal says he went into Afghanistan as a photographer with an Italian journalist. They were accompanied part of the way by two American journalists, one a freelancer on assignment for a major weekly news magazine and the other a freelancer for a major American daily newspaper.

Jouvenal claims one of his traveling companions wanted him to wear a captured Russian uniform and pose for photos, "As if I was being captured by the Mujahideen (Afghan Freedom Fighters)."

When Jouvenal refused to fake the pictures, the incident was dropped.

The incident appears minor. However, Alhaj Deenhumast, the highest member of the Hezbi-i-Islami in Peshawar (the group's leader, Yasini, is in Afghanistan) also claims that many recently, released pictures are fakes.

For example, a photograph showing a Russian soldier captured beside a jeep in Afghanistan is reported to be a fake and, according to the Hezbi-i-Islami, was taken just outside Peshawar.

Jouvenal did make it into Afghanistan with the two others in the group and later photographed the execution of three Afghan communists. According to Jouvenal, "It doesn't say much for the American press here, because some of the Mujahideen think it is a joke."

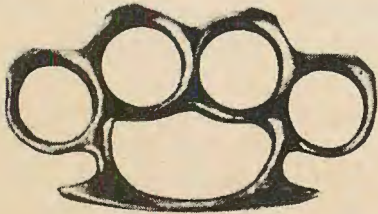
All is not bad, however. Some of the journalists have been doing an excellent job and have impressed the Freedom Fighters with their courage and stamina — notably the TV crews and "experienced professionals."

— Galen L. Greer



MAGNIFICENT BRASS PAPERWEIGHT

Full size replica of the Knuckle Duster



ORDER TODAY!
\$7.95 postpaid

Aluminum paperweight
\$3.95 postpaid

For novelty paperweight use only.
Not intended for any other use.

Send check or M.O. to:

**BEST
SPORTS SUPPLIER**

P.O. Box 4, Dept. 14
Hazelwood, Mo. 63042

Learn POLICE SCIENCES & LAW ENFORCEMENT

Prepare at home
in spare time—
**NO PREVIOUS
TRAINING
NECESSARY!**

The LAW ENFORCEMENT COURSE
Written by Experts Based on Actual
Police Academy Training Programs!
If crime work sounds exciting... if
crime prevention, helping others,
and making the world a better place
to live are important to you, send
for free information about Police
Sciences Institute. The experts on
our staff have trained hundreds of
men in resident police academies.

**Experts Show You What to Do, How to
Do it... Guide You Every Step of the Way!**

Everything explained in easy-to-understand
language, complete with drawings, diagrams, charts
and photos. You receive materials and instru-
ments you need to actually learn by doing
as you follow simple instructions. You'll
learn everything from patrol procedures,
criminal investigation techniques — finger-
prints, photography, gathering evidence
— to traffic control, accident investiga-
tion, crowd control and making arrests.

Since this course
is new, we are not
able to tell you
about the experi-
ence of our stu-
dents in getting
jobs.

COURSE INCLUDES 3 BIG KITS

CRIME SCENE PHOTOGRAPHY You receive
camera, film, flash bulbs, batteries.

FINGERPRINTING FIELD KIT Includes pow-
der, brushes, fingerprint strips,
sensitizing pad to lift latent
fingerprints.

EVIDENCE COLLECTION KIT
Includes sampling pipette, col-
lection bottles and bags, slides
and training microscope.

Plus Traffic Investigation Field Kit, Drug
Enforcement Fact Book, Illustrated
Policemen's Glossary.

Mail Coupon Today for FREE FACTS

Police Sciences Institute, Dept. **RS080**
4401 Birch Street, Newport Beach, CA 92660
Please rush free facts that tell how I can learn
Police Sciences at home for only a few dollars
a month. No obligation, no salesman will call.

NAME _____ AGE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CUSS & DISCUSS

Continued from page 12

As a friend of mine told me early last year after several years of retirement, "What has happened to my Army? What is going on? Even though I'm retired and wearing civilian clothes, I still have my boots on. I still care about the Army. I wonder what will happen if we get in another war?"

What indeed!

Sincerely,
Eric H. Read
Pocatello, Idaho

ARTICLE ON TARGET ...

Sirs:

Because my first sergeant gives a damn about our people, and he cares how I feel about our people, he took the time to point out the article by Marv Wolf, concerning the end product we are getting in the field from the many BCT and AIT schools. Wolf's article is on target!

I am an "old-timer" who is fully aware of the importance of my noncommissioned officers — without them and their dedication to this unit, I could not get the job done!

Capt. William F. French, USAR
Company Commander,
479th Engineer Battalion
Watertown, New York

STOP CRYING TO CONGRESS ...

Sirs:

I've been in the Army for only four years, on M60 series tanks the whole time, and been an NCO for 16 months. I've served in units in the states and currently West Germany.

In my opinion, the basic reason for the drop in the level of training and the caliber of graduates from Basic and AIT comes from:

A. Boy joins the Army and goes to Basic.
B. Drill sergeant tries to make boy a man.

C. Boy calls Momma and tells her all the terrible things they are doing to him.

D. Momma calls Congressman.

Result: Drill sergeant is automatically guilty of inflicting cruel and unusual means of trying to make boy "some kind of animal."

Lack of discipline leads to confusion. Confusion leads to panic. Panic leads to mass destruction of the unit.

If we do go to combat, I sincerely hope all these congressman-calling parents are delighted with the fact that, thanks to them, Junior didn't get picked on while he was in basic training or AIT — delighted as hell no matter how much of him comes home to them in a body bag.

Very Sincerely,
Sgt. Robert R. Hill
APO, New York, New York

NAVY'S READY ...

Sirs:

I'd like to add my 2¢ worth to Marv Wolf's article. I'm a gunfire control tech 1st class (E-6) in the Navy, serving on a fast frigate here in Hawaii. Having joined the Navy in '73 following the end of the draft, I've witnessed the changes in the military since then. Also, I've heard the "old-timers" lament the demise of the "old Navy" and say that today's sailor just isn't as good as even five years ago. I've head this so often I almost began saying it myself.

An incident happened the other night to completely change my mind. While tied up pierside here at Pearl Harbor, we experienced a major explosion in one of our boilers, followed quickly by a huge oil fire in the boiler room. Your article would have me believe that the crew would just run off the ship onto the pier.

Just the opposite — these so-called "kids" were magnificent. They went down into that blazing, smoke-filled space, even though there were full fuel tanks aft and a full ammo magazine forward of it. Mind you, these aren't professional firefighters — just Navy men of all ratings and ranks. But they all responded beautifully to the orders of the repair-party leaders and managed to extinguish the blaze and effect emergency repairs to the space.

Now, I can't speak for the Army, but let me say this — if push comes to shove and someone's cookies are on the line, I truly believe that today's all-volunteer force will be able to handle the situation. Today's soldier/sailor/Marine/airman may not put up with the bullshit his predecessors did, but that doesn't make him (or her) any less effective.

Peace through Military
Superiority,
M.H. Wisniewski
U.S.S. Whipple

WHAT ABOUT AGE? ...

Sirs:

"But Will They Fight?" raises a question that you may be able to answer. What about men like myself? In the Marine Corps for 4½ years: took 21 schools and courses, including two years of private tuition in Mandarin Chinese, honorably discharged, and since am in my seventh year in the Las Vegas metropolitan police department. I feel I'm worth any three or four of the new breed but no service will touch me with a 10-foot pole. Why? I'm 37 years old. I think if I were the Commandant of the Marine Corps I'd be going through files of men discharged back to '59 to '60.

Sincerely,
Rodney L. James
Blue Diamond, Nevada

You may be interested to know that the Army is developing a program for recall-

ing Army retirees to active duty in the event of a national emergency. Sgt. Read sent us a copy of Army Echoes which outlines this plan to match up needed skills with those of retirees for selection of retirees to CONUS installations to replace younger soldiers. Age is a factor. Limits are: general officers, 64, warrant officers, 62, all others, 60.—The Eds.

LET'S HAVE LEADERSHIP ...

Sirs:

As a long-time Army type and SOF reader, I greatly appreciated Marv Wolf's article on "Benning School for Boys," first, because he has raised and stated concisely very serious problems that I suspect most SOF readers can appreciate and understand, and second, because I am tired of hearing about Marines, paratroopers, Rangers and Special Forces. It was true in Vietnam as it has been in every war back to the year one that the bulk of the fighting — and dying — is done by your basic GI issue one each, OD and flesh-in-color ground-pounder: the grunt.

Illiteracy was not made a requirement for induction until after WWII and the myth that we are a "nation of riflemen" was no more true then than today's notion that "every American boy is a natural mechanic."

But there is something that made a difference then and can make a difference today. To quote a well-known German political figure, "Leadership is fundamental and decisive." That's it. That makes all the difference.

If we are going to have leaders who try to run things from a desk, who "manage" instead of lead, who are more interested in getting promoted and putting in 20 and getting out, who are more interested in collecting merit badges — Ranger, master jumper, jungle expert — so they get noticed by higher-ups and get away from troops into cushy desk jobs where the hours are short and the promotions quick, then we could have an Army composed of the roughest, meanest bunch of fighting men that ever walked the face of the earth and we couldn't take on even Guatemala.

If we take these same tough fighting men and instead of having them training constantly to fight like hell and win, have them constantly engaged in such militarily essential tasks as painting rocks, waxing floors, cutting grass, raking leaves, pulling fake maintenance as a substitute for training and preparing for one eyewash inspection after another — then I'm glad I can speak Russian because I get the feeling I'm going to need it.

If we SOF types set ourselves only one task, that's gotta be to get the American ostrich to get his head out of the sand — or his fourth point of contact.

Yours,
Capt. Robert Blake, USAR
Skillman, New Jersey

THE HUMAN FACTOR: ...

Sirs:

It's about time somebody published an article like "But Will They Fight?" As a former platoon leader on active duty with the U.S. Army, I am deeply concerned with the military efficiency of our nation. Your article was one of the few to really examine the essential factor of military preparedness: the human element.

Unfortunately, the usual debate revolves around the expenditure of funds. Quite frankly, I would gladly exchange every B-1 bomber, Nimitz class aircraft carrier, XM tank and Cruise missile simply for a highly motivated, well-trained, professional military force. What good is all this junk metal going to do us if our men lack the training to use their weapons, the cohesion to fight as a unit and the leadership to win the war?

The personnel management system of the Army has contributed more to the destruction of the armed forces than any Soviet tank, submarine or bomber ever will. How can we even talk about an effective military when we have officers whose only goal is to scramble for assignments, enlisted men placed in slots they don't give a damn about and units with a 100-percent turnover of personnel every two years?

How can we even talk about carrying out strategy when our division and corps commanders spend only a year in the theater of operations and then move on to more lucrative grounds? I can think of no better example of failure of leadership than when in 1975 after we had stabbed our Southeast Asian allies in the back not one senior officer raised a protest. But then why should they care? After all, Vietnam was only one out of a dozen assignments. Besides, if they said anything, they might have gotten a 199 instead of a 200 on their OERs.

Sincerely,
Joseph Miranda
North Hollywood, California

NCOs TO BLAME ...

Sirs:

To the NCOs and officers quoted in Marv Wolf's article, I would like to say, "Bunk!" They said the same thing about every peacetime army we have ever had. Also, if the private soldier isn't properly trained and motivated, the fault rests squarely on the shoulders of these so-called NCOs and officers. To say these new soldiers are untrainable is a cop-out of the highest order. Any NCO or officer who feels he or she can't properly train or motivate the troops should turn their stripes and leadership tabs in.

As a member of the NCO corps, I feel great shame at what those drill instructors said. People with that kind of attitude

Continued on page 90

SUPER KNIFE SPECIAL

Compare These Prices Anywhere

- 19" overall
- 15" edge
- steel blade
- canvas sheath

A BUSHWHACKER

- 23" overall
- 18" edge
- steel blade
- canvas sheath

B MACHETE

- 20" overall
- 18" edge
- steel blade
- canvas sheath

C BOLO MACHETE

- 25" overall
- sawteeth on back

D SAWTOOTH MACHETE

- wooden handle
- 15½" overall
- 2 lbs.

E HATCHET

- fiberglass handle
- 18½" overall
- 1½ lbs.

F CAMP AXE

- 12" overall
- 7" edge
- steel blade
- sheath

G COMBAT KNIFE

- 10½" overall
- 5" edge
- steel blade
- sheath

H MARINE KNIFE

- 9½" overall
- 5" edge
- steel blade
- sawteeth on back
- sheath
- whetstone

I SURVIVAL KNIFE

LIMITED TIME OFFER

ONLY \$5.95

Each Plus Postage

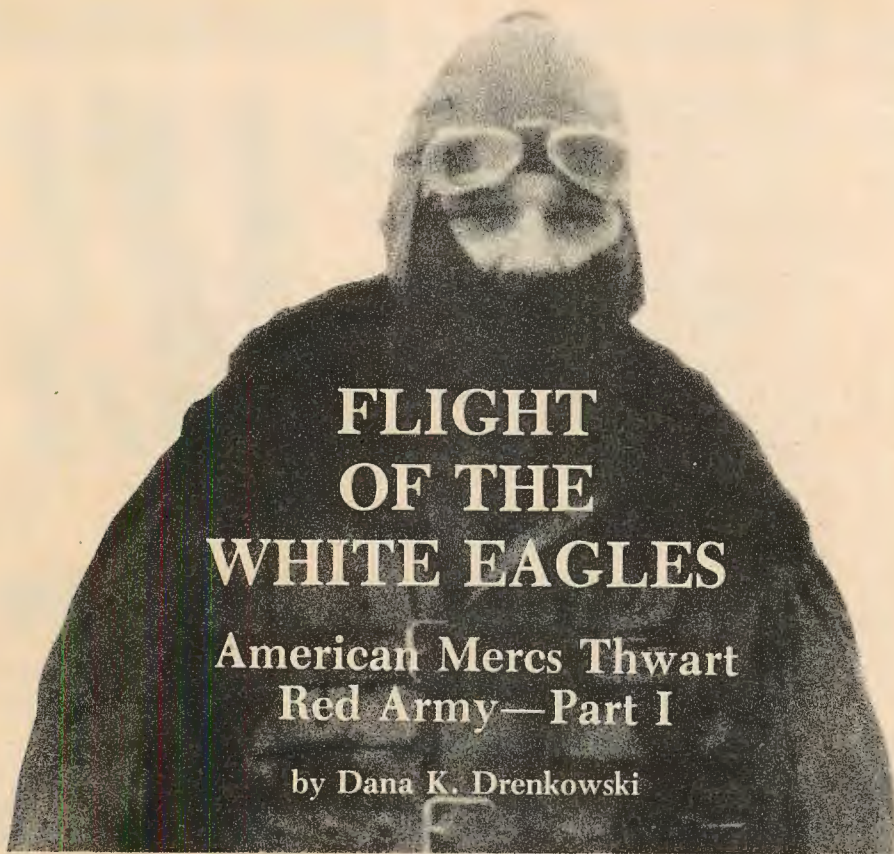
Please send me _____ knife(s) at the Limited Time Offer of \$5.95 each or \$5.00 each in quantities of 3 or more. Add \$1.00 postage for first knife and 50 cents for each additional knife. Make checks or money orders payable to TIFFIN INTERNATIONAL.

Knives Available (Enter number(s) desired)

Quan.	Quan.	Quan.	Quan.
A _____	C _____	E _____	G _____
B _____	D _____	F _____	H _____
			I _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
_____ VISA _____ MASTER CHARGE
Exp. Date _____ Card Number _____
Signature _____

Mail to: TIFFIN INTERNATIONAL,
P.O. Box 881, Dept. SF8, Clanton, AL 35045.
Dealer Inquiries Invited



FLIGHT OF THE WHITE EAGLES

American Mercs Thwart Red Army—Part I

by Dana K. Drenkowski



TOP: Maj. Fauntleroy, first squadron commander, suits up for winter flying in Poland's 1920 airwar. Pilots also greased faces with Vaseline for protection.

ABOVE: Enroute to date with destiny, seven of eight original Kosciuszko Squadron airmen travel incognito as Red Cross supply guards in "sidedoor Pullman." Left to right are Corsi, Crawford, Shrewsbury, Clark, Kelly, Cooper (seated) and Noble.

THE typhus relief train, boxcars emblazoned with giant red crosses and large American flags painted on their sides, chugged through starved, war-torn Europe. Its supply guards, American soldiers, were witness to the economic devastation wrought by the Great War, which ended two years before, in 1918. Millions were unemployed, homeless and starving.

At every stop, crowds of hungry, bewildered citizens — from both sides of the opposing powers — surrounded the train, to see if it brought food or hope. At many places, people saw the red-white-and-blue-striped and star-spangled-painted banners and cheered for the only hope in this disillusioned world: the United States of America.

On board the train seven privates listened to their sergeant's war stories. The sergeant sneered at the exploits of America's new aviation branch, which, in his opinion, received far too much publicity during WWI for insignificant accomplishments. The vast majority of its casualties, he thought, came from pilots getting roaring drunk in Paris and falling down subway stairs while trying to make the rounds from party to party.

Unknown to him, his audience of seven "privates" included two captains and five lieutenants, members of U.S. and allied air forces, whose unusual odyssey through Europe began in 1919. In 1918, veteran flying Capt. Merian C. Cooper and his observer were shot down, wounded and captured. Upon his return from prison camp in 1919, Cooper shocked the American command by refusing the Distinguished Service Cross, saying that the six men who died flying with him did the same as he, yet gave far more and remained undecorated.

Cooper was born in Jacksonville, Fla., in 1894, the direct descendant of Col. John Cooper who, in America's Revolution, was taught swordsmanship by Polish volunteer Col. Casimer Pulaski. In 1779, he personally assisted the mortally wounded Pulaski from the battlefield at Savannah, Ga., to a ship in the harbor, where Pulaski died.

From Middie to Pilot

Merian Cooper attended the U.S. Naval Academy, but resigned in 1915 to enlist in the 2nd Georgia Infantry of the National Guard. He served on the Mexican border during Pershing's campaign against Pancho Villa, then volunteered for aviation. He flew DH 4s in the Great War until shot down.

Upon his return at war's end, Cooper volunteered to work for the American Relief Administration. Headed by later U.S. President Herbert Hoover, the Relief Administration's task was to provide food and medicines for millions of needy people in war-ravaged Europe. U.S. military



officers were sought as managers and administrators.

Cooper, working as one of those administrators in Poland, witnessed firsthand the results of communist terrorism and atrocities against Polish citizens. The Russian Bolsheviks, destroyers of the embryonic democracy that followed the czar's oppression, reinstated a yoke of terror upon the Russian people and fought a bitter civil war to maintain their hold upon a country whose majority did not support them. Red repression and terror were disguised in the name of establishing a "workers' paradise" — since their cause was just, they argued, anything done to further that cause was right, no matter how inhumane. Opponents to their system were declared enemies of the people and no longer considered human.

Bolshevik excesses in Lvov, Poland (now Russia — the result of a USSR World War II map change), caused Cooper to volunteer to fight against them. He sought an audience with Marshal Josef Pilsudski, Chief of State of Poland, in which he offered to resign his U.S. Army commission and raise a squadron of Americans to fight for Poland.

Armed with Pilsudski's commitment, Cooper returned to Paris in the summer of 1919, where he met Maj. Cedric E. Fauntleroy, formerly of America's famed 94th Hat-in-the-Ring Squadron. Fauntleroy was born in Fayette, Miss., in 1891, the son of a Texas Ranger. He worked in Texas as a cowboy, in Louisiana and Arkansas as a machinist with the Missouri Pacific Railroad and in Chicago as an auto mechanic. At the outbreak of World War I, he joined the French Foreign Legion but transferred to the French Aviation Service and then to the U.S. Army Air Service when America joined the war.

Texan Commander

By late August 1919, Cooper and Fauntleroy reported to Polish authorities that eight Americans, including themselves, were ready to serve as a squadron. Fauntleroy, whose background included administration as well as flying, became squadron commander. He left for Warsaw and Cooper tied up loose ends, then with the other six Yanks traveled to Poland disguised as private soldiers on a relief train.

The other recruits included Lt. George "Buck" Crawford, from Bristol, Pa., who was shot down and captured over St. Mihiel in September 1918, while flying for the U.S. Army Air Service; Lt. Kenneth O. Shrewsbury, from Charleston, W. Va., a Harvard University law student whose studies were interrupted by the war, during which he flew for the USAAS; Lt. Carl H. Clark, from Kansas, who joined from the French Foreign Legion; Lt. Edwin "Ig" Noble from Charleston, Mass., a 1915 Yale graduate, who came from the

USAAS; Edward C. Corsi, Brooklyn, N.Y., former French Foreign legionnaire and French Aviation Service pilot with a strong war record; Capt. Arthur Kelly, Virginia Irishman, bombardier, aerial observer and navigator with the USAAS with several German airplanes to his credit in the Great War. The men named themselves the Kosciuszko Squadron, after the famous Polish soldier who had fought for American independence during the Revolution. In this, they followed the lead of another WWI all-American squadron: the Lafayette Escadrille, named after the French nobleman-soldier in America's Revolutionary War.

Tadeusz Kosciuszko was born in Poland in 1746. As a young man, he studied artillery, fortification and engineering with the Polish and French armies, leaving Europe in 1776 to seek fame and fortune in the American army, at war against England. As a colonel of engineers, on the staff of Gen. Horatio Gates,



Lt. Edwin L. (Ig) Noble was lost to squadron permanently when Russian bullet shattered elbow of right arm during raid on Berdichev. After loss of blood and infection almost cost him his life, he returned to the U.S.

Kosciuszko chose Gates' defensive and offensive positions at Saratoga, Ticonderoga, West Point and other important battles. In South Carolina, he worked with Gen. Nathaniel Greene until war's end in 1782. As an American brevet brigadier general, Kosciuszko returned to Europe in 1784. By the 1790s, he commanded one of Poland's armies fighting against Austria, Russia and Prussia's attempts to partition his homeland. In a 1796 battle, his army was routed by a Russian force of more than twice its number

and he was seriously wounded. Upon recovery, he fled Poland, now partitioned for the third and final time. He worked as an exile for Polish independence until his death in 1817. The Americans in the Kosciuszko Squadron were returning to Poland to carry on Kosciuszko's fight for freedom.

As their train rolled into Warsaw late in September, 1919, the seven American "privates" changed into the dark blue Polish Air Force officers' uniforms. They said goodbye to their open-mouthed sergeant before disembarking from the train.

Fauntleroy escorted them to a meeting with Marshal Pilsudski. The flinty old Polish Legion veteran, who had fought first for Germany and Austria, then for Polish independence against the Central Powers, was now fighting another former occupier of Poland: Russia. The marshal greeted them formally but was still dubious of their value — not as Yankees, but as airmen. He believed a heavy cavalry saber was the ultimate military weapon. Unconvinced that a Polish air force was necessary, nevertheless he authorized it and assured the Americans of support from the Polish High Command — which, in a few months, would rely on the support of the fledgling Polish air force.

Bolshevik Dreams of Conquest

Polish High Command soon came to appreciate its air arm and employed it in different roles. Unsurpassed as a reconnaissance force, it provided the army with up-to-date information about enemy concentrations and movements. The PAF hit supply lines with light bomb and machine-gun attacks and spearheaded Polish infantry and cavalry attacks against Bolshevik positions. The Americans' fame spread throughout the Polish and Bolshevik armies. Their skill was respected and admired by some, feared and hated by others.

Soon, the eight aviators were joined by two more Yanks: Lts. Elliot Chess and Edmund Graves. Both Chess, from El Paso, Tex., and Graves, from Massachusetts, flew with the Canadian RFC.

A few weeks after arriving in Poland, the unit was sent to Lvov. Their first unit planes were surplus Austrian Albatross D. IIIs. Graves was killed shortly after arrival in an air show crash. After his burial, Harmon Rorison, a former Air Service veteran pilot from N.C., joined the squadron. Until injured in combat, this pint-sized, aggressive airman was a valuable addition to the squadron roster.

For much of the winter of 1919-1920, the 7th Kosciuszko Squadron flew messages from headquarters in cold and difficult weather. To protect themselves in their fragile, open cockpits, the pilots wore heavy flying suits and coated their faces with vaseline.

Meanwhile, Bolshevik and Polish soldiers clashed in ever-increasing "border incidents." The Bolsheviks meant to spread the Red Revolution and "dictatorship of the proletariat" worldwide. Poland, a former Russian colony, was their first target, after they secured the diverse nationalities already under Russian imperial domination.

Marshal Pilsudski was well aware of Bolshevik intentions. By April 1920, Pilsudski had definite proof the Bolshevik army, cleaning up anti-Red resistance in the Crimea, meant to attack Poland within the next 45 days. Pilsudski pre-empted this attack by an agreement with Ukrainian nationalist leaders to free the Ukraine, bordering Poland. The goal was to eject the Bolshevik army, allow the Ukrainians to establish their own nation and withdraw when Ukrainian freedom and security were assured.

In April 1920, the Kosciuszko Squadron was moved to the border to face the growing Bolshevik threat. For several weeks the squadron, unaware of Pilsudski's diplomatic moves in the Ukraine, intercepted Bolshevik ground forces moving against Poland and daily became more involved in open warfare. On 10 April, the squadron made its first major coordinated attack on a Bolshevik troop concentration and headquarters informed Maj. Fauntleroy that his squadron was to pick up new Italian Ansaldo Balilla fighter planes, whose speed was higher and range longer than their old Albatross D. IIIs.

Attack on All Fronts

On 25 April 1920, the Polish army attacked on all fronts to pre-empt the coming Russian offensive. The Kosciuszko Squadron mobilized by using boxcars for mess facilities, armorer and engine shops and living quarters. It could keep up with the assault by hooking up to a locomotive. During a retreat, the entire squadron of less than a dozen pilots and 150 mechanics and support people could move within five minutes. Airfields were smooth meadows and pastures next to railroad lines.

Fauntleroy led the squadron on most missions, destroying Bolshevik troop and supply trains, wagon transport and troop concentrations. Although Russian aerial forces outnumbered the Poles, they were reluctant to join battle with the Poles and Yanks, preferring flight whenever the PAF was sighted. Thus, the PAF had total air superiority in this war — a factor which would weigh heavily against the Russians.

But Polish air superiority was partially due to a fortunate accident. On one mission, Capt. Cooper sighted a large white tent surrounded by Bolshevik markings and banners. He and "Ig" Noble attacked it, assuming it was a cavalry headquarters. A few days later, Cooper was told by Ukrainians in the area that advance units

of the Bolshevik air force had occupied the field. Two planes were ready for action and four others were waiting to be uncrated. Staff and pilots on the scene bragged to native Ukrainians of the inevitability of their overcoming the Yanks, when Cooper shot up their headquarters

AUTHOR'S CREDITS

Dana Drenkowski, SOF's aviation editor, needs no introduction to SOF readers who have seen "Operation Linebacker II" (September, November '77) or his reports on the 1977 IPSC international championships held in Salisbury, Rhodesia (March '78), the U.S. Navy's SEALs (March, April '79) and helicopter job opportunities (November '79).

A biographical update, however, is in order. After leaving the U.S. Air Force, Drenkowski worked out of our Boulder offices for more than two years. In 1979 he moved his base of operations to the West Coast where he is in his second year of law school at a major university and editor of one of the school's law journals.

As a pilot — and historian — Drenkowski has an ongoing interest in Americans who have flown for other countries in this century's past wars. His research produced this two-part article on the American Kosciuszko Squadron and a projected SOF feature on WWII's American Lafayette Escadrille.

"I'd like to thank several authors for the background information I found in their books," Drenkowski says. "These include Oscar Halecki (*A History of Poland*, New York: David McKay Co., Inc., 1961), Robert Machray (*The Poland of Pilsudski*, New York: E.P. Dutton and Co., 1937), Albert Seaton (*Stalin As Military Commander*, New York: Praeger Publishers, 1976) and Jerzy B. Cynk (*History of the Polish Air Force, 1918-1968*, Reading, Berkshire, Great Britain: Osprey Publishing Co., Ltd., 1972).

"My most valuable source was *Flight of Eagles* by Ross S. Fenn and Robert F. Karolevitz, whose history of the American Kosciuszko Squadron was published by Brevet Press (Sioux Falls, S.D.) in 1974."

SOF contacted Fenn for permission to use photographs and art from this book. They appear with this article, and we hereby formally credit them to *Flight of Eagles*, Fenn, Karolevitz and Brevet Press, their publishers.

Fenn also declared he and Karolevitz hope to bring out a new edition of their book, but the project is still in its initial planning stage. If it develops further, we'll let our readers know.

—M.L. Jones

and pilots. Thoroughly demoralized, two of the Bolshevik pilots immediately flew back to Kiev (400 miles to the rear). The crated planes were shipped back by train. Other Russian aviation units did not have enough trained pilots to fly the available planes. Cooper had defeated his chief competition without knowing it.

The Kosciuszko Squadron, one of the four covering the southern prong of a 150,000-man two-prong advance, carried more than its weight in the battle. With only seven planes operational out of 14 available at any given time, it was the most significant single aerial fighting unit. Its exploits were not without cost. Many of its planes were holed numerous times by rifle, machine-gun and artillery fire. At one point, the 20-squadron Polish air force had only 35 planes operational for combat — seven of them from the American Kosciuszko Squadron.

Armored trains were used extensively by both sides as highly mobile artillery and armor platforms, capable of rushing masses of preplaced artillery to attack or defend key positions wherever there was a railroad available. In this area of few roads, railroads and junctions were the targets of each army's advance or defense.

Airplane vs. Armored Train

While attacking a heavily defended railroad, "Ig" Noble spotted a Russian armored train under steam. He dove down the 'chute,' noting incoming fire as he attempted to disable the locomotive with his machine guns. Pulling up, he felt sudden pain and knew he was hit in the right elbow. He transferred the stick to his left hand and, unable to staunch the flow of blood, raced to reach his own field 60 miles away. He won the race, but passed out and slumped over the controls while still on landing roll-out. His wound became seriously infected, and he was transferred to the American Red Cross hospital in Warsaw. Although his life was saved, his arm was permanently crippled — and he returned to the U.S.

What Noble did not know was his attack on the train chased Bolshevik guards away from Polish hostages, who escaped during his strafing runs from almost certain death by torture or execution. Noble was awarded Poland's *Virtuti Militari*, the country's highest award for valor.

Polish forces advanced more than 50 miles in the first two days of the offensive, elating the troops but worrying the old war-horse, Pilsudski. He understood the Clausewitzian theory of advance — when one army chases another toward its home, the attacker's supply lines become longer and more vulnerable and it grows weaker as it drops off units needed to garrison key logistics points.

Continued on page 78



“DO NOT.. REPEAT..
DO NOT FIRE!”

Rhodesia Prepares to Become Zimbabwe

by E.L. “Mike” Williams

I have figures five lorries with Freddies, visual at 700 meters, will adjust . . . over.”


Wiping the sweat from my face, I braced my back against a bush and waited for a reply from the mortar fire direction center on the reverse slope of the hill to my rear. There was no sound save the slight buzz of the radio hand-set.

Late October 1977 in an OP looking down what passed for the main street of Malvernia,

a border post in Mozambique that also served as a command post for a Frelimo battalion and terrorist units operating against Rhodesian security forces. In addition to pounding the hell out of the mortar positions in Vila Salazar, on the Rhodesian side of the border, Frelimo rocket, machine gun and mortar units also hosted a never-ending parade of Russian, Cuban, East German, Czech, Bulgarian and god-knows-what communist visiting firemen.

We could see them on any given day, resplendent in a variety of uniforms, peering through binoculars at us, while we peered back at them. Usually when they trotted back into the bush, it was the signal that we would soon get it.

Today was different, however . . . there



were no visitors, just the trucks sitting in the sun, full of sleepy, dusty Frelimo infantry.

"Five this is two-five . . . what's happening? We're going to lose these buggers — they're not going to stay all day!"

As I spoke into the handset, a dirty-faced, sweating corporal crouching beside me shook his head in disgust and whispered, "Sah, they can't do anything . . . they've got to get back to army which has to get on to Ministry of Defense."

He spat a gob of saliva at an ant and shifted his FN to a more comfortable position. "You mean we've got to wait while all that goes on?" Incredulous, I then remembered Korea during the truce talks when the same situation existed with U.S. infantry patrols.

"There they go!" The corporal pointed toward Salazar. Sure enough, dust clouds boiled up under the truck tires as the vehicles cranked up and started moving off down the dusty street. They disappeared round a bend in the road. The area was empty, save for two mangy, scrawny dogs idly snapping at flies.

"Two-five this is five . . . do you read?"

"Two-five . . . negative! Do not — repeat — do not fire . . . out." I looked at the corporal and the two other members of the OP detail. They shrugged and stared off into Mozambique, camo jackets sweat-sodden and faces old with the peculiar drawn hardness that bush war stamps on 19-year-olds.

"Not to worry, Sah . . . another time." The corporal wiped his nose with the back of his hand, surveyed the result with a critical eye and shrugged. Suddenly he shifted his position and pointed.

I raised the binos and looked back into Malvernia. Lining up in two ranks were 10 blue denim-clad figures. As they were shuffling into a semblance of order, the door to the building housing their command post banged open and a single figure emerged. Although dressed in denims like the others, his were tailored and immaculate. Halting in front of the two ranks, he snapped an order and they straightened to attention. I handed the glasses to the corporal.



"What do you make of that lot?" I asked.

Focusing the binoculars for a few seconds, he took a long look, then handed them back to me.

"Terr group and a political commissar . . . they'll be crossing over tonight and we'll bloody well have to chase those buggers."

I looked again at the group and noticed what seemed to be white sacks slung over the shoulders of the terrs. From their manner of holding them, whatever was in them was damned heavy. TM-46s, Soviet mines, most probably.

Within several days after their crossing into Rhodesia, the mines would have been laid on the road between Malvernia and Rutenga — trucks would be blown and troops killed, maimed and crippled.

I picked up the handset.

"Five, this is two-five . . . over."

A few seconds pause and an alert voice answered. "Roger, two-five, go." I glanced at the little group around me.

"Five . . . I have terrs visual at 700 meters. There are figures one zero terrs and figures one commissar . . . will adjust."

"Roger . . . wait." Once again the buzz of the radio and silence around us.

The smallest of the OP detail, a skinny rifleman from Bulawayo, shook his head and sniffed impatiently. "I reckon we'll be lucky to get back before those Freddie's begin with the 122s like they did yesterday. We had to stick it out here for a half-hour before we could get back."

He motioned to a crater some 25 to 30 yards away. "Bloody lucky that was a 60mm mortar and nothing bigger."

Time passed. The terrs were shaking hands with the commissar and shifting the sacks preparatory to leaving.

It would be a long shot and risky to call, but between the troops around me there would be a good chance of wasting the commissar.

"Two-five, this is five." The voice was brisk.

"Two-five, go." I looked at the corporal who was already grinning with disgust.

"Do not — repeat — do not fire. Negative on your request . . . return this loc . . . out."

"Ready to go back, Sah?" The troops had begun moving slowly back away from the OP into the surrounding bush. I rogered the order and hung the handset on the shoulder strap of the webbing. I cast one last look at the terrs who were now slowly moving

down the road toward the bush which would soon cover their approach to Rhodesia. The last thing I saw was the nattily-dressed figure of the commissar, standing arrogantly in the middle of Malvernia's "main street." I could have sworn he was looking our way and smirking.

Once clear of the OP, we took up intervals and started back through the bush to the Fire Direction Center. Craters of varying sizes, from 60mm mortars through 122s, dotted the sandy trail.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Maj. Lewis H. "Mike" Williams is one of SOF's military affairs editors. His own military affairs started with a 1942 enlistment and a subsequent stroll through Italy. He was one of the first officers assigned to the 10th Special Forces when it was activated in 1952. In 1953 he went to Korea for 18 months as commander of the 7th Bn, 3d Partisan Infantry Regiment, UN Partisan Forces Korea, made up of almost 1,500 North Korean and Chinese defectors. He was discharged as a captain in 1960.

His ability to work in faraway places with unusual outfits led him to serve with Michael Hoare in Katanga in 1964. Twelve years later, he was back in Africa, this time as tactical commanding officer of Rhodesia's Squadron, Grey's Scouts. Recent exploits include short-lived employment as a counter-insurgency advisor to the Romera government in El Salvador. He maintains he has one more war to go.

—S. Nielsen



This was my second year in Rhodesia's bush war. I was, by Rhodesian standards, still a novice, but learning. There were some who had three, four, five years humping it against terrorist forces.

Regardless of that, I was no novice when it came to fighting politically-run, "no win" wars. The U.S. government is past-master at wasting the lives of fine young men while political pimps in Washington spout incredible bull-shit about "peace with honor." I wasn't prepared, however, for more of the same in Rhodesia, of all places.

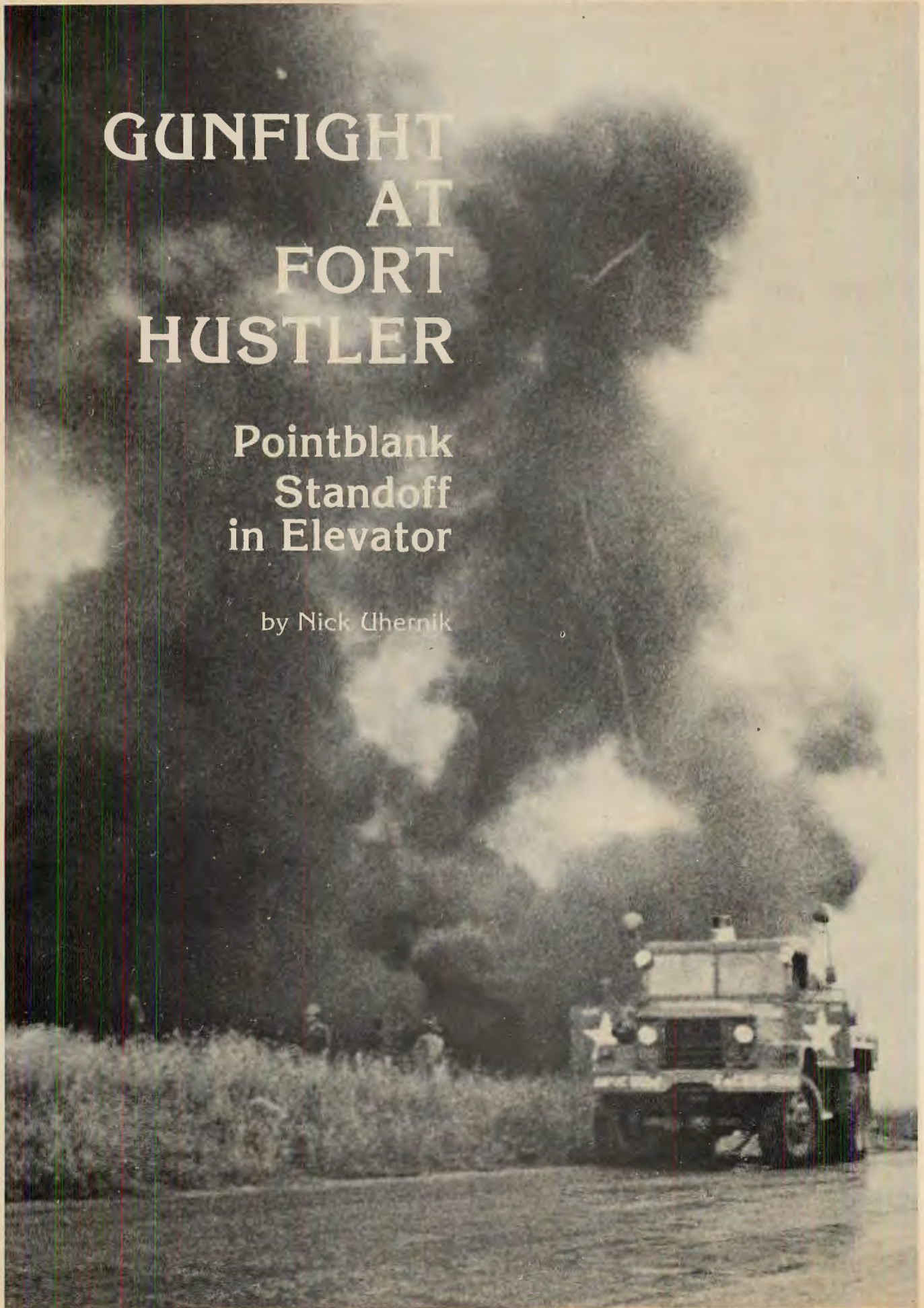
As we stumbled along over the rough ground, I began to evaluate what had just happened, attempting to put it into proper perspective. Rhodesia, surrounded on three sides by hostile black Marxist states, had only one ally — South Africa. Conversely, South

Continued on page 86

GUNFIGHT AT FORT HUSTLER

Pointblank
Standoff
in Elevator

by Nick Uhernik



SIRENS roared like a wounded leopard crying in the night on the far side of the airbase. Finally a long convoy of flashing red lights snaked its way from the northern edge of Saigon towards Tan Son Nhut Airport.

Distant artillery rumbled across the land like restless thunder, and I hurried to strap down my poncho-liner across the blown-out holes in the bunker before the winds hit. In the Orient, you hear and see the approaching rain minutes before it descends like a silver curtain of warm, wet gauze.

It was January 1973, and Fort Hustler's security had been more than doubled since Christmas. We were told our camp was being used for negotiations with the Viet Cong and NVA. As the barbed wire was rolled back to let in the convoy, I focused my binoculars on three sedans in the middle. The uniforms inside were neither South Vietnamese nor American.

"Get your eyes back on that perimeter!"

A loud thump hit the side of my bunker and I dove for my M16 and flashlight.

"Awright, MP!" came a familiar voice from the darkness. "Quit gawkin' and get your eyes back on that perimeter!" It was the squad sergeant, making his rounds on foot. I wiped the sweat from my brow and settled my flak jacket back on.

"And get your damn flak jacket on!" His footsteps faded, as I wondered if the eyes in the back of his head were attached to a starlight scope.

I was stationed atop Tower 3, and as the convoy slowly cruised beneath me and pulled up to the large warehouse in the camp's center, I had a grandstand view as the communists filed out of the sedans and hustled nervously out of sight. An American major, sporting a 12-gauge

shotgun, was waving the jeeps on, and then all the vehicles weaved through the maze of mobile trailers back to the main gate. They were gone.

Shortly after midnight, the operation was repeated, in reverse, as the delegates (or whoever they were) rushed back out to a waiting convoy and were whisked away to Saigon or Bien Hoa.

I still remember that first dramatic briefing: the captain and the major seemed flustered that the general had assigned them as "bodyguards" to the communists. The confusion that followed when we were instructed that our purpose was to keep certain communists from invading the fort and capturing or killing "our" communists didn't help the situation.

"Shoot to kill!"

"There are factions out there that don't like the way we are proceeding on this peace bullshit," explained the captain. "Hopefully the VC still think all negotiations are taking place entirely within the confines of Tan Son Nhut, and they will bypass Fort Hustler if they try anything. Your mission is simple: secure the fort and prevent penetration by the enemy — at all costs. Shoot to kill! But just make sure it's not a water buffalo out there in the dark, please! One of your buddies plugged one last week, and the bill came to over 2,000 bucks!"

The room quickly filled with forced laughter, then sudden silence. Fort Hustler held too many bad memories, and the uneasiness seemed to increase as the cease-fire grew nearer.

Fort Hustler, on the north side of Tan Son Nhut Airport, was a small compound of little buildings with a large warehouse in the middle and rows of trailers on the east and west. With a conex bunker located in every corner, and a high barbed-

wire fence topped with sagging concertina wire surrounding the entire camp, Fort Hustler was barely the size of a large apartment complex in the states.

An ARVN machine-gun outpost lay directly to the east, and every 15 minutes they sent up a couple of flares, destroying our purple vision. I would close one eye until the fireworks subsided, then scan the fields for invading black-pajama-clad sappers, but they never came. The 12-hour shifts were usually spent throwing matches at two-foot-long iguanas clinging to the fences with their rear legs, hanging down above us like dead branches, waiting in ambush for a platoon of marauding mosquitoes or strafing dragonflies.

On watch the next day, I looked to the east, where a narrow dirt road wound along the jungle's edge beyond the ARVN machine-gun outpost, disappearing within distant trees across the hills. A very old Vietnamese, with a yellow conical hat and long, flowing, silver beard, teetered back and forth as he rode along on his bicycle. He managed to avoid pot holes with considerable ease, as he pedaled slowly, holding onto a basket of bread loaves with one arm, minding his own business.

Papa-San bites the dust.

As the old papa-san approached the final hill crest, a 2½-ton truck, loaded down with American soldiers, rumbled past, forcing the elderly merchant off the road. The soldiers roared with laughter and the driver sounded his air-horn and continued on his way, leaving the Vietnamese grandfather sitting in a cloud of dust.

The old man sat there for a few seconds, watching the giant truck until it was out of sight. No emotion showed on his face as he got to his feet and slowly brushed himself off as he carefully picked through those loaves that had not been destroyed by huge Goodyear treads. With some difficulty, he remounted his bicycle, balanced his precious cargo atop the bent handle bars, and continued on his journey as if nothing had happened.

One of the Vietnamese soldiers had left his post to assist the old man, but was only halfway across the elephant grass before the papa-san was gone. As the soldier made his way back through the tangled brush to his machine gun, our eyes met.

The hatred in his burning stare was not directed at me personally. It was directed at all I stood for: my people, my country — our soldiers and our President. I could not really blame him. I could feel the hatred building up inside myself also, and the old man wasn't even my grandfather.

Tall elephant grass in the fields below stretched out to Tan Son Nhut's airstrips and for miles beyond. I wondered if somebody shouldn't burn it all down so the VC couldn't hide so easily, but Saigon



A view of one of the many fortified bunkers at Fort Hustler. (Office trailers are in the background).

hadn't been attacked in a long time. The brass just laughed.

Two Vietnamese in the elephant grass.

I noticed an old Vietnamese man and a teenager walking across the field towards Tan Son Nhut. They were about a hundred yards away, and never once looked up at me. As I shielded my eyes from the setting sun, I could barely make out something under the boy's arms: a tube or something wrapped up in a green blanket. Even with binoculars, I couldn't see what it was, and I signaled the MP in Tower 2. He had already spotted the pair and had his binoculars trained on them.

The old man was smoking a cigar and wore faded civilian clothes or dyed fatigues trousers, but the boy wore a camouflage shirt and black pajamas, and seemed very nervous for a teenager. They soon disappeared in the tall grass and we assumed they were gone for good, but we remained alert just in case. As long as they didn't approach our fort, things were okay.

About 10 minutes passed, then suddenly WHOOOoosh! A small projectile left the elephant grass and climbed the red skyline, headed straight for a big passenger plane taxiing along an airport runway. A dirty white trail of smoke billowed out behind the M72 as it arced slowly above an ARVN guard shack and then descended on Tan Son Nhut.

The rocket exploded well beyond the Boeing 707, sending up a cloud of dust and smoke, and showering rocks along the runway.

The old man and the boy bolted from a cluster of trees 30 yards from the launch site, and began running toward the jungle. They had abandoned the shoulder-launched LAW tube, and were almost to the treeline, when the MPs in Tower 1 began firing with an M60 machine gun. Branches flew up from trees as bullets impacted well beyond the two VC. Then the big gun jammed suddenly and the duo ran even faster, realizing they had escaped the teeth of death.

"Waste that son-of-a-bitch!"

"Waste that son-of-a-bitch!" somebody yelled from Tower 7, and the radio was suddenly alive: "We have spotted Victor Charlie on the east side of Fort Hustler ... we have spotted Victor Charlie...."

I chambered a round into my rifle and brought the sights up above the old man's head. I switched the lever to full-automatic, hoping the distance would bring the bullets down square into his back. I started to squeeze the trigger, but suddenly two U.S. Air Force security police jeeps roared into the field of fire, and I pulled up on the rifle, jerking a round into the sky.

The MPs in Tower 7 began firing wildly into the treeline to our north, but I could see no movement there.

In a matter of seconds, a gunship from the airbase dove down onto the terrorists and missed crushing their skulls with the landing skids by inches. The flapping rotors began to kick up dirt and twigs as the chopper hovered above the two, and the pilot held off blasting them to pieces only because the police jeeps were so close.

Bringing down the VC

One of the SPs was waving the helicopter off, but it continued to dive at the two VC in short, sharp attacks, like some giant prehistoric bird beating the earth with reptilian wings. Finally, as the SPs from one jeep sat back in despair, and those from the second jeep began waving their pistols at the chopper pilot, the VC split up and ran in opposite directions, the boy heading north toward the road and the old man ducking into the tall grass and continuing east.

I brought up my rifle again and aimed a couple inches above the boy's head, then let her rip. Dirt kicked up in a straight line behind the boy and slowly gained on him until a bullet smashed into his leg and sent him to the ground. Before I could eject the spent magazine and ram home a fresh one, the boy was back on his feet, limping frantically for cover.

Truck received direct hit during rocket attack on Tan Son Nhut Airbase.



Security police had managed to run down the old man, and as all six of them jumped on the Vietnamese, the gunship pilot abruptly bounce-landed his craft and began chasing one of the SPs through the field, yelling, "Don't you ever wave a weapon at me like that again, you mother" Two SPs finally handcuffed the old VC and the rest ran to the aid of their fellow airman, who was being slugged, punched and drop-kicked by the older warrant officer. They managed to pull the pilot off only after breaking two nightsticks over his head.

Out of nowhere, the MP from Tower 2, a husky native Australian named Jeff Reilly, sprang to the ground from the top of the barbed-wire fence and began running after the other Viet Cong.

Reilly's bullets hit his face.

"Go get 'im, boy!" Somebody was cheering from another tower, and Reilly began firing his M16 from the hip on full-auto. To everyone's surprise, the little VC turned around and started shooting back with an AK-47; but a couple of Reilly's bullets hit the boy square in the face, and he was lifted off the ground and thrown backwards like a rag doll.

A lot of the guys let go with another cheer, but Reilly turned slowly and began walking back to the compound as if nothing had happened. His eyes were on the ground as an MP jeep raced past in search of the body. One of the squad sergeants ran over and slapped him on the back, as if he had just scored a touchdown. Reilly ignored him and continued walking, his rifle butt dragging through the dust.

Few of the men noticed the expression on Reilly's face as he climbed back into his bunker. As all the MACV brass and ARVN generals and news reporters arrived and began combing the elephant grass for information, Reilly just sat back against his flak jacket and pulled the rim of his helmet down to shade his eyes. It was his simple way of saying goodbye to it all.

Three weeks passed before I was assigned to Fort Hustler again. After easy evenings of street patrol in downtown Saigon, I hardly looked forward to sweltering shifts in the cramped bunkers.

Midnight passed, and our relief had not yet come.

One o'clock rolled along, and one of the squad sergeants came by in a jeep.

"Be cool and keep alert," he advised. The new shift would be along soon enough. "Stay awake!"

At three o'clock, the duty officer came out and gave us the bad news, post by post.

"We're on red alert."

"It looks like you may be out here awhile," he said. "There's been sparse mortar fire in Saigon, and there was a



Vietnamese housing project at northeast edge of Fort Hustler where Cahn Sats trapped two VC.



TOP: Fort Hustler's main gate from Tower 3. Note truck convoy in background. RIGHT: Captured VC after unsuccessful rocket attack against airliner landing at Tan Son Nhut Airbase.

shoot-out between Sgt. Hill and one of the Vietnamese policemen. The Cahn Sat was killed, and now the National Police are understandably upset, and we've been placed on red alert again."

"Wow. . . ." was all I could say.

"Yeah, one of the Cahn Sats tried to enter Pershing Field without proper authorization, and Hill dusted him. Just one of those things, and things are probably going to get worse." We half saluted, and he drove over to Bunker 8.

It was 4 a.m. before our relief finally came out. A hole in the fence was found between Towers 2 and 3, and we had to patch it up before leaving for the mess hall. The sun was up before I made it to my bunk.

That afternoon I noticed that the Vietnamese village next to Tower 7 appeared to be abandoned. Two National Police trucks pulled up to one of the buildings, and a dozen Cahn Sats jumped to the ground.

House-to-house search begins.

"Anybody know what's going down?" came the question over the radio net, but there was no answer. The policemen were all armed with M16s, and after giving orders through a loudspeaker in rapid Vietnamese, they began what appeared to be a house-to-house search.

A little girl suddenly bolted from a rear door and ran through the shallow rice paddies to dry ground. One of the younger policemen aimed at her with his rifle, but an older, grey-haired Cahn Sat

barked an order at him, and he lowered the weapon without firing a shot. The rest of the officers ignored the girl, and she soon disappeared over a hill.

Reilly came over from Tower 8 and joined me atop my bunker, and we watched as two officers poked and prodded at the ground with their bayonets, not 50 feet from our fence line. One of the policemen hit something, and they called to their fellow officers to join them.

"What the hell's going on?" I asked, as Reilly focused the binoculars. "Shouldn't we notify the squad sergeant or something?"

"Just shut up, and watch," he whispered.

Two grenades into the bunker.

Five Cahn Sats now surrounded the two partners, their rifles pointed down at a



small spot on the ground. As one of the policemen gently dusted off the dirt and weeds to reveal the wooden lid of a tunnel, the second man jerked the wire handle up and tossed two grenades into the underground bunker. The lid dropped back to the dirt, and the Cahn Sats scattered for cover. A few seconds passed, followed by muffled explosions. The lid flew end-over-end high in the sky.

The grey-haired policeman ran back to the tunnel entrance and emptied a 20-round magazine into the hole, then motioned for a younger officer to draw his pistol and search the tunnel on his hands and knees. As the younger policeman's eyes grew wide and he slowly handed his rifle to a friend, a commotion came from the rear of one of the buildings.

Two policemen had located a suspected Viet Cong agent under a false fireplace,



ABOVE: "Secret" warehouse where Uhernik trapped rifle-carrying Vietnamese secretary. In background, cargo plane lands at Tan Son Nhut Airfield. **LEFT:** MP takes advantage of on-duty lull but hangs onto M16.

and as they dragged him out into the open, kicking and screaming, another communist popped from a tunnel exit beyond the village midway up the hillside. He charged down toward the policemen, firing his carbine. The old grey-haired Cahn Sat drew his .38 and ran straight for the Viet Cong as the rest of his men dove for cover. The communist failed to hit the policeman before his magazine was out, and the old Cahn Sat popped off six rounds without hitting his target. Realizing they were both out of ammunition, the two Vietnamese gained speed and crashed into each other like bulls in an arena. The old Cahn Sat swung the barrel down hard into the Viet Cong's face, tearing his nose half off, and the communist fell to the ground, stunned and bleeding. The policeman got up and brushed off his uniform, then slowly reloaded his revolver. He kicked the Viet Cong over onto his stomach and placed his pistol behind the

AUGUST 1980

man's left ear, then pulled the trigger. The communist's body jerked violently a couple of times, then was suddenly still.

Two policemen were still going from house to house, and as they neared the edge of the village, three suspected agents ran from the rear door of the end house.

Reilly immediately brought up his rifle and let the bullets fly on full auto. I popped a few rounds off on semiautomatic and watched as the dirt kicked up around the three men. Then slowly, one by one, they were picked off by other MPs who were propped up against the Fort Hustler fence line.

Rifle-toting Vietnamese secretary

"Intruder! Intruder!" came the alarm from Tower 6. I turned to see one of the Vietnamese secretaries, who had been assigned to the trailer offices, running

across the compound toward the warehouse — and she was carrying a rifle! Reilly turned and fired on her, but he missed and the bullets ricocheted across the camp from bunker to bunker.

"Wait a minute!" I said. "Maybe she's just out to help us!"

"BULLshit..." Reilly said. I handed him my M16 and dropped to the ground. I pulled out my .45, chambered a round, then started toward the warehouse.

As I rounded the sandbags alongside Tower 6, I observed the side door to the warehouse quietly slide shut. She was in there somewhere. The sign above the door read "Restricted Area." I was beginning to wonder if Reilly was right. Vietnamese employees were not allowed inside such areas. Even I had never seen the inside of Fort Hustler's buildings.

I gently tugged on the door latch, and it slid open. I knew there was another door along the opposite wall, but it was bolted from the outside. I bent low and rushed through the doorway into darkness. If only I had brought my flashlight. I felt along the wall for a light switch, but found none. Probably a simple string hung suspended from a bare lightbulb, somewhere.

As my eyes adjusted to the dim light from a small window near the ceiling, I could see a corridor extending to my left. Crates were stacked high against the wall on my right, so there was nowhere else she could have gone. I got down on all fours and began to crawl toward the far wall, when somebody started tugging and pulling at the opposite door from the outside.

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE 41

MPs sight distant target with 3.5 rocket launcher near Fort Hustler in late 1972.



I was sure it was my fellow MPs trying to assist me, but I was concentrating on the corridor, and decided to remain silent.

After reaching the halfway point across the cement floor, I detected heavy breathing coming from the corner shadows next to the blocked door. I weighed the odds of being hit by a ricochet if I blasted the corner with my pistol, and decided against it.

“You want to die, GI?”

I was gaining about six inches along the cold floor every minute or so. Then I could no longer hear the breathing; she had caught her breath.

“You want to die, GI?” came the deep voice from the dark. “Go away or I will kill you like some lowly snake,” she whispered. I shivered as I realized we were only a few feet apart.

Should I remain silent? Maybe she was just talking to the dark, playing it safe. Maybe she had not really seen me yet, or heard me. But I could smell her sweet perfume now — the kind most Vietnamese secretaries wore — did that mean she could smell my sweat as I struggled to control my breathing?

“I know you are out there . . . somewhere,” she said softly, her voice deeper than before. It was almost inviting, I could detect no fear.

I strained to see her outline against the blackness, and when I looked off to right or left, I could barely make out her form: she sat crouched or kneeling, braced against the rifle. Could she see me also? Surely the angle of the light was on my side.

For a full minute I debated my chances of jumping her or firing one bullet high

above my head into her chest, but the outline of her body was taking on different forms and positions, and I was beginning to wonder if I was seeing things.

I slowly brought my gun hand up to form a straight line of sight with the woman . . . no, the target before me, and I started to squeeze down on the trigger. “Don’t . . .” she whispered.

Her bullets showered the doorway.

Suddenly the door behind me burst open, bathing the room with harsh sunlight, and my eyes met those of the woman as she jumped to her feet and flew gracefully over me, heading for the corridor. The MPs behind me brought up their rifles, but the woman beat them to the trigger, showering the doorway with bullets and forcing them back outside.

I pointed the pistol and fired after her, rapidly, neglecting to count off the rounds as they exploded. I thought my head was going to burst from the shock of concussions inside the closed building. I pressed down on my ears with cupped hands and forced myself to chase after the woman, when in fact I wanted to sit down and cry like a baby from the intense pain.

She was almost to the end of the corridor when the opposite door crashed open and more MPs appeared. I was right behind her as she raced for the caged elevator at the hallway’s far side.

Both of us crashed to the floor.

She sprang like a cat through the doorway and jerked down on the lever (there were no buttons). The elevator plunged

TV NEWS SLANTS IT AGAIN

BOULDER, Colo. — Imagine our surprise when relaxing before the boob tube on the evening of Friday, 21 March 1980, we switched on the late news on Denver’s Channel 2 and saw local hatchet-woman Dorothy Tucker at work.

Tucker reported that Nick Uhernik, author of “Gunfight at Fort Hustler” and a Thornton (Colo.) policeman, is also an author for *Soldier of Fortune Magazine*. So much is fact.

Her attempt to prove that Uhernik’s association with SOF makes him unfit for police work is yet another example of TV’s deliberate twisting of fact with innuendo. What is amusing about this attempt, however, is its incongruity.

Tucker gives only those facts which will support her conclusion and deliberately suppresses everything else. She quotes Uhernik’s “Saigon’s Deadly Streets” (SOF, April ’80) as an example of undue force:

1. Uhernik and his partner arrested four GIs for raping a young Vietnamese girl.

2. They did this with what Tucker believes was undue force, since they grabbed one GI by his hair and jerked him “to his feet, then sent him crashing against the tin wall of the tenement.”

What Tucker omitted gives the necessary background of the arrest. Anyone who has read the article will realize that the four GIs were interrupted *in flagrante* — in the act itself. As a woman and the editor who prepared “Saigon’s Deadly Streets” for publication, I am doubly enraged by Tucker’s apparent acceptance of rape.

When I wrote Channel 2, complaining about their twisting of fact, I was informed by Fred R. Hobbs, news director, that the station stood behind its reporter. Hobbs also quoted a letter from Uhernik:

“I’m sorry I missed your story on my latest endeavor, “Saigon’s Deadly Streets.’ The boys at Headquarters

contend it was refreshing journalism in these times of news-media attacks on the fine police officers of metropolitan Denver.

“Eagerly awaiting your next masterpiece.”

Using this letter as proof, Hobbs declared Uhernik supported Channel 2.

My response to his letter shows another interpretation:

“Irony is the most easily misunderstood of all literary forms as your interpretation of Nick Uhernik’s letter to you shows.

“I am sure, sir, that if you had lived in the 18th century and read “A Modest Proposal,” you would have assumed that Jonathan Swift was seriously advocating the eating of Irish babies.”

I just wish that Hobbs’ support of Tucker were intelligent rather than one more example of the imbecility of TV news coverage.

—M.L. Jones

down toward the basement. I dove past the cage and crashed into her, and both of us struggled to keep our balance as the lift bounced onto the basement floor. I rushed to bring my pistol up to her head, but she reached for the barrel with her left hand and forced the chamber back, rendering the weapon useless as long as the palm of her hand remained over the .45's edge, engaging the inner safety mechanism. At the same time she brought her carbine up and rammed it under my throat, keeping her finger on the trigger.

"Why you do this?" she screamed, finally losing her cool as I fought to keep from coughing. She pressed the barrel in further. I almost gagged.

I jerked on the trigger of my pistol, but there was no response, and I was unable to pull away from her grip as she had her left hand's long, slender fingers wrapped around my own, tight as a vise.

I finally caught my breath. "Go ahead and shoot!" I said, fighting the growing pain in my head and throat.

"You shoot!" she yelled mockingly, almost like some schoolgirl throwing a tantrum. Anger welled up, and I brought back my left hand in a clenched fist.

"Do it!" she taunted. "Go ahead, and I blow off your head!" She pushed the carbine into my throat again and grinned as I flinched from the stabbing pain.

Minutes passed by slowly as our eyes remained locked on each other. We both realized this stalemate could not go on much longer.

"You will not be hurt if you give up," I said.

"Shut up!" she snapped.

"If you kill me, you will never leave here alive," I continued. "My MP friends will cut off your head."

It was the wrong choice of words. She rammed the barrel against my throat until small drops of blood began to fall to the floor. "Quiet!" she commanded. "I must think."

My eyes left hers and traveled down along the length of her body. Her long black hair was pulled back behind her shoulders, and her bangs hung low across her forehead almost touching her eyes. Beads of perspiration formed on her smooth chin and along the high cheekbones, and her eyes seemed to glow under the naked 40-watt bulb like some jungle cat's. I decided she was in her late 20s, 30 at most. Instead of the thin *ao-dais* I was used to seeing her in, she now wore the black satin pantaloons of the country girl, and a loose-fitting blouse, held together by only two buttons. Her full breasts swayed slightly beneath the dark fabric as she shifted her bare feet to keep them from growing numb.

The light goes out.

Suddenly the dim lightbulb overhead went out, throwing the small cubicle into darkness. Both our bodies went rigid with

anticipation, and I strained to allow some room between the cold steel of the rifle barrel and the dried blood that caked my neck. Whenever I swallowed, the pain was unbearable, and the woman went out of her way to put pressure on my throat: a reminder that my life-thread hinged on the spring behind her trigger finger.

Then the constant hum in the air grew silent, and as the heat rolled down into the elevator shaft, I realized that my friends above us had shut down the air conditioning. They probably figured I could outlast my female contestant in this game of nerves.

Neither of us wanted to die in that sweltering hole.

Minutes passed into hours and still we sat there, rigid and frozen, sweat streaming down our faces, each of us unable to move for fear the other would pull the trigger and snuff out what life remained in our bodies. Neither of us wanted to die in that sweltering hellhole.

Darkness was like a black cloth against our eyes. I knew she was there, but I could not even discern the outline of her face. The pressure of her fingers locked around mine provided the only proof that she really existed.

To survive, I would have to make a game of it. I began reciting the soldier's code to myself over and over again until I could see each word in full color. A new energy seemed to flow from my mind as I concentrated deeper and deeper on remaining rigid. It seemed as though I could see my cells multiplying, feel blood releasing air in my lungs, hear the hair growing on my arms. . . .

She began to nod off. Slowly, at first. I could not see her, but I could feel the oppressive air shifting between us as her head swayed slightly.

The vise-like grip she had held over my fingers for so long began to ease, and her breathing took on a forceful rasp, as if she were fighting off the sleep she was drifting into.

I waited a few more endless minutes before moving my left hand. I brought it up slowly, until it just brushed her cheek. If only I could gauge the exact distance between our bodies in preparation for snapping her neck with one quick thrust to the face or throat. It would then be a matter of chance whether or not her reflexes clamped down on the trigger and blew my head off.

A tear fell on my fist.

A single tear slid down her cheek and fell onto my fist, and I was moved as one can only be moved by a woman crying in her sleep. I brought down my hand and elected to go about things differently.

I ran my fingers along the carbine's stock until I found the trigger well. I eased

my finger around hers, and slowly worked it free from the metal guard and the small lever.

I hurled her against the wall.

Suddenly the elevator was jolted up and down heavily, and as the power surged on, the tiny lightbulb flickering and hurting the eyes, I jerked her arm from the rifle and hurled her against the opposite wall.

She awoke to reality lying flat on her back, my left hand holding her chest down and my right hand bracing the pistol up against her forehead. I kicked the carbine into the far corner of the elevator and pulled back on my pistol's hammer, but the gun was already set. Our eyes met again, but now I could finally see the fear. I concentrated on how and why I should kill her, but I could not bring myself to do it. At first her eyes were wide with terror, but then she closed them, as though submitting her fate to my hands.

The elevator slowly rose to ground level and then the cage door was pulled open and I looked up to see the welcome faces of a dozen old friends. The white letters on their black helmets glowed faintly in the dull corridor as flashlight beams played briefly on my face and the woman's below me.

A squad of Vietnamese policemen filed into the crowded building, and the woman was thrown roughly onto her stomach, handcuffed behind the back, and dragged out into the sunlight. As they placed her in one of the police jeeps, she looked back at me one final time and I could see that she was trying very hard not to cry. The driver pulled away and they were gone.

She never made it to the police station.

"Here's a souvenir."

I slipped the magazine out of my pistol and found there were no rounds left. I pulled back on the slide: one round remained in the chamber.

I walked back to the elevator to search for the rifle. An aluminum sign, hanging by one nail, was swinging from the archway above the caged door: "This elevator will accommodate 5 Americans or 9 Vietnamese." I forced a grin and brushed the sign aside. Normally, it would have made my day.

"Here's a souvenir," said an MP as he handed me the woman's carbine. I looked for the magazine release, but he interrupted me. "It's okay," he said. "I already checked. It's empty."



IT was a warm, typically southern California day as the Oceanside Combat Pistol League met for its monthly "shoot out." The day's activities consisted of two events and a walk-off, an FBI "duel" event. I was more than a little nervous as I heard my name and the name of my "adversary" being called. The human body does strange things in times of uncertainty; my palms got wet and my throat got dry.

The match director positioned us at the starting line, stationed himself behind and between us and gave the command, "Walk." The entire right side of my body tensed in nervous anticipation of a lightning-fast draw, showing my obvious inexperience.

When the whistle finally blew I seemed to move in slow motion. As the .45 automatic cleared my holster I brought it up and into my left hand, assuming the Weaver stance. It seemed like an eternity but I finally got the sights aligned and began an even squeeze on the trigger. I had not heard my adversary shoot yet but I knew that I had better hurry. The pressure that I applied on the trigger seemed to mount past the normal breaking point of that particular pistol; finally, it seemed that I was applying enough pressure to squeeze the sap out of the wooden grips.

I'm not the world's fastest thinker but it dawned on me that something was terribly wrong! The first thing I thought of was my grip safety, so I re-adjusted my grasp on the pistol and felt the click of the grip safety disengaging.

Meanwhile, my adversary had shot twice, hit his metal plate on the second shot and was reholstering his handgun.

Muttering a few hastily chosen expletives under my breath, I cleared my weapon, using great self-discipline to not throw the pistol on the ground and stomp on it. God has endowed His creatures with certain inalienable rights, one of which should be freedom from grip safeties.

When I balked at paying \$15 to have a gunsmith permanently alter the mechanism, I was told that I could do it myself by "welding a little here..." or "drilling a couple of holes there..." or — the options were numerous. Since I am mechanically incompetent, the idea of personally working on one of my guns with a power drill or a welding torch affects me like scratching my fingernails on a blackboard. No way!

In the past three years I've seen a number of ways to block grip safeties (everything from rubber bands to match sticks) used with varying degrees of success. The manner described here is not a permanent alteration, is easy to do at home and costs almost nothing.

Step 1: Remove the grips and place a piece of wood under the frame of the weapon so the mainspring housing pin can be driven out.

Step 2: Insuring that the hammer is not cocked or on half cock, take a medium-

Blocking Grip Safeties

Quick & Easy

by Gregory Moats



TOP: Step 1: Remove grips and place piece of wood under frame of weapon so mainspring housing pin can be driven out.

BELOW: Step 2: Insuring that hammer is not cocked or on half cock, take medium-sized nail and knock out pin located at bottom of mainspring housing.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

While in the Marine Corps, Greg Moats served as range officer and handgun instructor for his battalion. In 1976 he was OIC of the 5th Marines rifle and pistol team and won the Commanding General's Cup of the 1st Marine Division.

Today he is Kansas section coordinator for IPSC (International Practical Shooting Confederation). He is also a graduate of Ray Chapman's academy of practical shooting.

—M.L. Jones



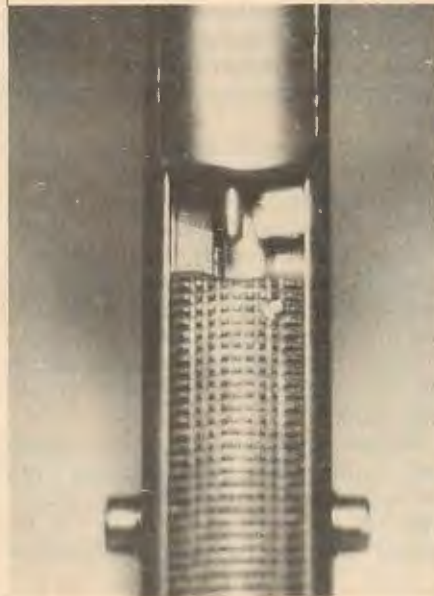
ABOVE: Step 3: Using plain masking tape (any width will do) roll it back on itself into tight cylinder, sticky side out — ¼-inch diameter works well for author's .45s.



ABOVE RIGHT: Step 4: Using thin, sharp knife or razor blade, cut off piece of tape about ¼ inch in length.

RIGHT: Step 5: Place tape cylinder on lip of metal at bottom of grip safety. Insure it is well to the side and will not touch hammer strut.

BELOW: Except for scant portion of tape visible between grip safety and mainspring housing, alteration is unnoticeable.



sized nail and knock out the pin located at the bottom of the mainspring housing.

Step 3: Using plain masking tape (any width will do), roll it back on itself into a tight cylinder, sticky side out (¼-inch diameter works well for my .45s).

Step 4: Using a thin, sharp knife or razor blade, cut off a piece of the tape about ½-inch in length.

Step 5: Place this cylinder of tape on the lip of metal found at the bottom of the grip safety. Be sure it is well to the side and will not touch the hammer strut.

Step 6: Insuring that the hammer strut goes into the recessed cavity in the mainspring housing and the grip safety is depressed, push the mainspring housing back in place and replace the pin through the frame and mainspring housing.

Step 7: Cock the hammer (if the hammer strut did not go down into the recessed cavity in the mainspring housing, you probably won't be able to cock the hammer; *do not force it!*). Dry fire it without depressing the grip safety to insure that the firing mechanism is operative but that the grip safety is not.

That's it. It's not a visible alteration and it's very simple. I understand that there are in excess of 40,000 laws on the books attempting to enforce the 10 Commandments; why we try to complicate things is hard to understand.

This alteration is obviously not permanent. I've had one .45 blocked in this manner for over a year and a half and it's given no indication of loosening up or becoming inoperative. Masking tape has several limitations. If it becomes extremely dry it will get brittle and crumble. If it gets extremely wet it will get soggy and mushy. It would take extreme aridity or moisture to neutralize the blocking of the grip safety, but a safe course of action would be to reblock the safety every six to nine months.

Whether or not John Moses Browning was divinely inspired when he created the 1911 design may be open for debate in some circles. Many feel the grip safety is there for a purpose and shouldn't be tampered with; perhaps they're right in their belief. Since Browning's next pistol design (the P-35, Browning High Power) was created without a grip safety, I tend to disagree with them.

This alteration should not be attempted by anyone who is less than totally familiar with the .45 automatic. Anytime a safety is disengaged the likelihood of an accidental discharge increases; however, by blocking the grip safety you also increase the likelihood that the weapon will function should you ever need it *very* quickly.

The decision and the responsibility are yours alone. Even though I blocked my grip safeties I still lose a lot of walk-offs, but at least now credit can be placed where credit is due.



CONTACT!

SOF's First & Probably Last Rhodesian Firefight

by Robert K. Brown

Editor's Note:

Several SOF staffers, including Editor/Publisher Robert K. Brown, Managing Editor Bob Poos, Art Director Craig Nunn and Associate Editor N.E. MacDougald went out on dangerous operations in southern Africa recently.

Readers may wonder why we do seemingly reckless things like this. Well, the answer is quite simple. None of us relishes the thought of being killed or wounded — all of us are war veterans and we are all realists. However, we feel that we owe it to our readers to be goers and doers as well as writers and editors about others who go and do.

So we will keep going and doing as well as writing and editing and we hope that is meaningful to our readers.

Meanwhile, here are Brown's, Poos' and Contributing Editor Joe Tragger's accounts of recent operations in the dark continent.

AS the first AK rounds crack overhead, I come to a micro-second conclusion: corn stubble makes lousy cover. I peer through, around and over the stalks. Looking for a target. Preferably one of the terrorists that are trying to ventilate me.

Reb, on my right, triggers short bursts on his MAG light machine gun — Where are the bastards? Will they fight? Or will they shoot and run as usual?

Blam! Blam! Two terr rifle grenades explode on line 10 meters to the right of the MAG. Right range, wrong windage. A hell of a way to shuck corn...

Major Daryl Winkler yells out above the fire, "Cover us. We'll move up on their flank."

Winkler and I are on our feet, green and brown Rhodesian camouflage uniforms patched with sweat ... Ruger Mini-14s bucking ... sprinting ... to where? Nothing but more goddamned

corn stalks ... might as well hit the dirt here ... breathing hard ... providing covering fire as Reb moves his MAG up another 30 meters ... rest of the stick to the right of the MAG also on the move ... on the double bent over ... jerking heads left and right ... searching ... firing into ant hills, bushes, trees.

The MAG jams ... I run over to the gunner ... can't eliminate the malfunction ... well, no incoming. Might as well take a picture.

On our feet now, sweeping forward in line ... searching for spoor ... terr movement ... reflection from an AK ... 10 to 15 meters apart ... no incoming fire ... then, blam! A terr rifle grenade explodes 10 meters directly to my rear.

This time the terr windage was right on but the range was 10 meters off. It's probably just as well as they didn't try a third time.

TIME OUT FOR A SMILE

AN American Vietnam vet, serving as captain in a Rhodesian Armored Cars Regiment, cited incident after incident of terrorist ineptitude. Among the most notable are:

After being in Rhodesia only a few weeks, the captain and his men made contact in the bush with some terrors. After the firefight, during routine clean-up operations, the captain was puzzled as most of the rear sights on captured AK-47s were adjusted for maximum range (1,000 meters). Since most of the contacts occurred at close range (50 to 200 meters), the captain was mystified. He asked an old hand

for an explanation. The answer was simple: the Africans assumed that if setting the sights for shorter distances made the guns potent, adjusting them to maximum would make them incredibly powerful.

His next encounter with terrorist logic came a few months later. After a brief contact, a clean-up again commenced. The captain found fixed bayonets on most of the captured AK-47s. He had not heard of hand-to-hand fighting in Rhodesia and became intrigued. Again, the answer was simple. The bayonets served two purposes. First, they made the AK-47 longer, and thus a more imposing weapon. Second, the bayonet "guided" the bullet, thus making the weapon more accurate.

Only a few days later, after a raid on a terrorist camp, more AKs were captured. Most of the weapons were superbly maintained, which in that climate was noteworthy. But one conspicuous detail made the captain scratch his head. The bottoms of the near-new magazines were inordinately scratched and rusted. After racking his brain, he interrogated a prisoner. Again, the captain was enlightened. The AK-47, with inserted magazine, was the ideal height for use as a stool.

Thus, understanding the enemy and his culture made seeming inconsistencies perfectly lucid. And very entertaining.

N.E. MacDougald



LEFT: From left, ex-Green Beret Joe Tragger carries CAR-15 and spare ammo for machine gunner. Assoc. Ed. N.E. MacDougald totes AR-15. **BELOW LEFT:** SOF Demolition Ed. John Donovan sports Frankenstein's monster mask. Use of mask in conjunction with delivery of liquid beverages by African waiters led to myth of "The Monster in Room 26."

What the hell am I doing here? And not even getting combat pay?

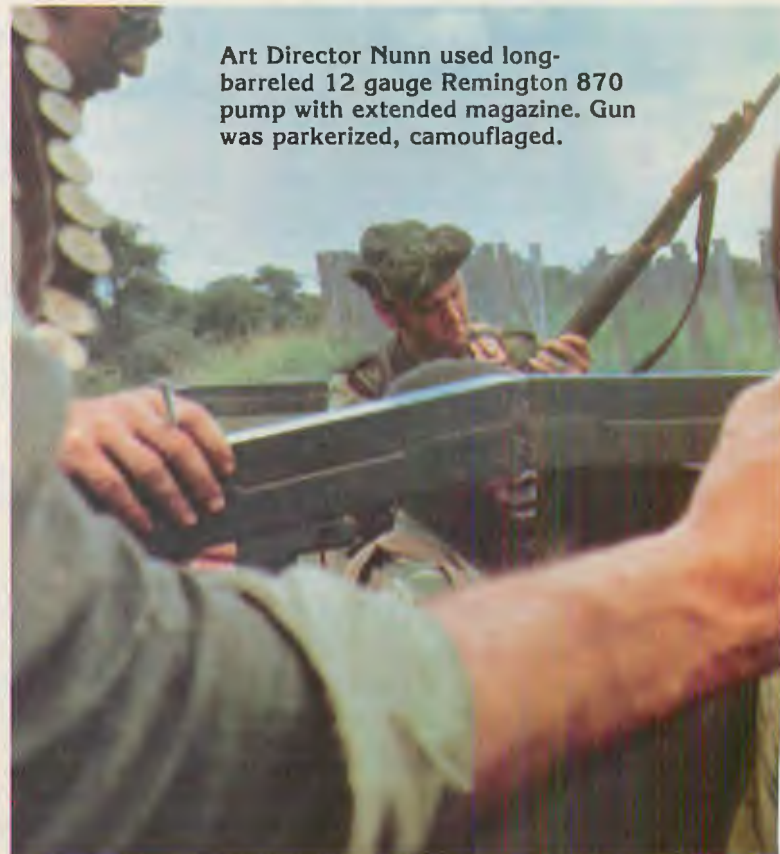
Very simple. I'd been trying to get a shot at some terrs during five trips to Rhodesia over the last six years.

On my first trip to Rhodesia in May, 1974, I linked up with an American serving with the British South African Police Support Unit. (See "American Mercenaries in Africa," SOF, Summer, '75.) We careened about on dirt roads in terr-infested northwest Rhodesia for a few days, but the only excitement was provided by the driving of the merc who had been a race car driver in England and Australia.

In August, 1976, John Donovan, Al Venter and I came close to blowing away three terrs (See "SOF Recon: Action In Southern Africa," SOF, Spring '76), while hunting rogue lions near Wankie National Park in northwest Rhodesia.

After the hunt, which was unproductive of either lions or terrs, I attempted to obtain clearance from the Rhodesian Combined Operations center to accompany troops on combat ops.

It was then I first encountered the obstinacy, stupidity and lethargy of the Rhodesian bureaucracy — which, believe it or not, is worse than our own.



Art Director Nunn used long-barreled 12 gauge Remington 870 pump with extended magazine. Gun was parkerized, camouflaged.

Let me diverge a moment and provide you with one incredible example. While having a few Lion Lagers at the Special Air Services Officer's mess, I heard about the problem of obtaining .45 caliber ammo, which was expensive and in short supply due to the UN embargo.

"Why don't you consider reloading?" I asked.

One of the Squadron OICs said, "A jolly good and logical solution. But they won't issue us a permit."

I was certain I had misunderstood the young officer who was now glaring.

"Yes, that's right," he continued. "In Rhodesia, to reload ammo you must obtain a permit from the Bureau of Mines and Explosives. We were turned down by some bloody official on grounds that the terrors could conceivably attack our base, gain entrance to our armory, loot the reloading components and equipment and then take to the bush — where they would reload! Can you imagine that? Our armory is probably one of the most heavily defended and secure installations in the entire country! And that idiot figured the terrors would reload — when they have unlimited AK ammo? God help us."

Everybody shook their heads, muttering, and went back to drinking Lion Lagers. So much for my divergence. And back to my own problems.

I first met a Rhodesian lieutenant colonel and, after cocktails and patter, he subsequently introduced me to a colonel — a week later. The same drill followed and a week later I had a private interview with a Mr. Sutton Price, who was Ian Smith's private secretary. A week later, through his efforts, Combined Ops graciously offered me a briefing. I, not so graciously, declined and flew home.

In October, 1978, I contacted Major Daryl Winkler from Ohio, who was OIC of the Rhodesian Armored Cars Regiment. The Rhodesian Army Public Relations Office authorized me to write an article on Winkler and his "Black Devils" (See "Black Devils," SOF, January, '79). I got an exclusive on a couple of new prototype armored vehicles and got to muck around a bit in the bush, but no action.

In May, 1979, while attempting to buy a Rhodesian Mark XIV Spitfire, once again I received the same "it will take two or three weeks for approval" song and dance.

Other SOF staffers and authors have had the same degree of luck over the last few years, though some blew away cattle rustlers.

We decided with the forthcoming Rhodesian elections, that SOF should have a sizable presence, especially since all of our contacts and sources felt that after the elections the whole country would go up in flames. Once this occurred, we knew that no stuffy Rhodesian bureaucrat would be in a position to prevent us from linking up with a unit not choosy about where a few extra guns came from.

RIGHT: Publisher Brown (center, standing) totes folding-stock, stainless Ruger Mini-14, and carries Ikey Starks' modified Colt Mark IV in Bianchi holster. Photo taken after firefight. BELOW LEFT: Rebel, American mercenary, waits patiently with jammed MAG. Brown shot photo during lull in firefight.

The first priority option was to link up with Winkler, since we felt he would be in the best position to conceal our presence from Combined Ops. And this proved to be the case even though Winkler had been transferred to the Rhodesian African Rifles.

After joining Winkler, we contacted an old friend who just happened to be a quartermaster of a large unit. Rhodesian camies and kit were traded for Johnny Walker Black Label and SOF T-Shirts. The next morning we were on our way.

Then ensued the brief but violent firefight I have already described. For a look at this action as seen from another of our group, see the accompanying story by Contributing Editor Joe Tragger.

And for a first-hand account of a night counter-ambush effort elsewhere, see "Night Ambush in Southern Africa" by Managing Editor Bob Poos on page 70.



by Joe Tragger

WHEN you're in the Rhodesian bush, you go to bed shortly after the sun goes down and get up before it breaks the morning sky. The night before an operation you may not sleep well, wondering if you checked everything and what tomorrow will bring.

As the sun comes up, it's time to load the seven-fives (armored vehicles) and ride to the operations area. The 14 members of the stick kid around as all soldiers do before an operation. The machinegunner on the stick tells us "the Major" has found terrors on more than 70 percent of his operations. They say "the Major" is good luck. "The Major" is Darrell Winkler, former Officer Commanding the Rhodesian Armored Regiment, now OC Rhodesian African Rifles.

Other members of the stick are Jerry O'Brien, Great Britain, ex-French Foreign legionnaire; Michael Pierce (Reb), machinegunner, U.S.; Yves Devay, Belgium, Belgian army; and "the Mechanic," the only white Rhodesian on the operation; SOF staff members, Editor/Publisher Robert K. Brown, Art Director Craig Nunn, Associate Editor N.E. MacDougald and myself, Joe Tragger. The remaining members of the stick are all black troops of the RAR, a fine unit.





RIGHT: Date on blackboard shows last day of classes. Terrorists disrupted schooling to upset daily routine and to keep students from getting government's side of the conflict. **BELOW:** Californian in Rhodesia. Rebel was musician before he decided to fight communist terrorism.





LEFT: Rhodesian African Rifle troops on post-election riot-control duty in Que Que. **BELOW:** SOF Art Director Craig Nunn, trooper Rebel and SOF contributor Joe Tragger.

A few kilometers out from the base camp, all kidding stops — smiles disappear as tension grows; faces tighten. You put a round in the chamber and start watching the bush. You're not too concerned about mines — Rhodesian seven-fives are mine-proof except from the larger Soviet tank mines.

Why worry — hell, nothing can be done about that.

We're in one of the Tribal Trust Lands (TTLs), Silobela, it is called. There are about 70 or so terrs in this area, according to intelligence sources.

About 12 to 14 clicks from the base camp we stop. Security is posted around the seven-fives and last-minute instructions given. Drivers are given pick-up points, time frames are checked, and we're off.

We are near one of the branches of the Gwelo River. We head southwest, hoping our intell is good. The pace is quick with little noise and everyone is alert. Tomorrow will bring election returns — and maybe peace. No one wants to be the last killed.



In each *kraal* (village) the RAR sergeant questions the locals about the terrors — relaxed and easy exchanges. Not so between the locals and the terrors.

We are given information about where the terrors camped overnight. The major decides to split the stick. His section will delay and head straight for the terror camp. We are to cut a big arc behind and set up an ambush as the terrors are driven to us. The terrors prefer to use the rivers, of which there are many, for guidance.

So we set a quick pace to the Damba River, a branch of the Gwelo. A little over two kilometers from the branch is Damba dip, where we hope to catch them in ambush. Our quick pace continues as we move on.

Terrors in the area.

Arriving at the *kraal* the story is the same — yes, terrors are in the area now. A few locals say the last time there were terrors around was 23 November of last year. Funny how that date sticks in their minds, as if someone has programmed them. The fear in their eyes shows the Popular Front has gotten to them.

Another five kilometers or so and we take a break about 50 meters from the banks of the Totololo River. A couple of minutes for water, biscuits and jam, shift your load and cross the river. About a hundred meters on the far bank we spot a leopard, stalking a large bird. I feel better about our movement, as we haven't disturbed the big cat. We're moving quick and easy now — and then we hear it.

Reb and his Mag 58, a short burst, then rifle grenades, AK-47s and my 870 shotgun Craig is carrying. The contact is about one kilometer north of us. We cover about 700 meters in a dead run which brings us up to a treeline, where we halt. MacDougald and I vote for this, as rounds are coming through the trees and the trees aren't that tall.

Debay wants to charge into the contact, but we have no radio and the major won't know from which direction we're "coming in." It's one thing for a terror to take you out but quite another for one of your own mates doing it with an FN.

We hear sporadic firing.

We hear sporadic firing — then movement — they're chasing the terrors. We move into a blocking position and wait. Just like any other war, there's a lot of waiting in Rhodesia.

We wait long enough to start to grow careless. The decision is made to move on to Dambu dip. If nothing happens there, we will move to our RP (rendezvous point) at the Do Me Good Store.

So, we move down to Damba dip for a break and chow. Rhodie (Rhodesian) rat packs (rations) are different from C's, but like all rations in the world, it takes an experienced hand to make them edible.

We head north and then northwest, following the Gwelo River about a kilometer along the western bank. We head for the Do Me Good, an old mining store. Here we wait for the rest of the stick, drinking Pepsies and eating lemon cookies. The RAR sergeant has Shake Shake beer or *Chibuka*. You have to want a beer bad to drink that stuff. It's even worse than Ba Mui Ba. I walk into the bush to see a man — and return to find the rest of the stick has joined us. Brown is elated. In all his trips to Rhodesia, this is his first operation leading to a firefight.

We are briefed that after the contact was broken off, the major called in a tracking team that literally ran down two of the terrors and captured them.

At the base camp tonight there will be many beers drunk, and some of the finest lying a man can hope to hear. Things of which friendships are made. A lot of talk and much laughter to ease the tension. We will all sleep well tonight. Tomorrow is an important day — the election results will be made public and it's my birthday.

Mugabe and the AK-47 won.

The news is out; it's official — Mugabe has won. Bishop Muzerewa against Mugabe, God vs the AK-47. Take heed, Jimmy Carter, the AK won. The AK is a decisive campaign manager. God seems indifferent of late.

The major and I are going to Salisbury today. On the way we stop at Que Que British South African Police station for a message. The BSAP hold the two prisoners captured during the contact yesterday. To our amazement, one of the terrors that got away from yesterday's firefight is here at the BSAP station demanding release of his comrades. After all, they are the victors. The terror leaves with his two comrades and we reach Salisbury a few hours later (I thought Vietnam was strange).

In Salisbury, we now hear rumors — plans to burn the city, a hit list Mugabe's people have of military and civilians — that includes all SOF staff members. Other stories tell how the whites and even many of the blacks are to join up in a massive column and fight their way to Beit Bridge on the South African border where they will be welcomed by South Africa's government. That I don't doubt in the least. Salisbury is depressing. We leave and go back to the base camp and the troops.

We're back with the RAR. These are the men who lose — not the generals, not the politicians — only the soldiers. The men cannot believe the army will no longer fight. They're good soliders; they will do as told. Already we hear Mugabe on the news, calling General Peter Walls

"Comrade Walls." We hear of PF plans to remove all members of the Rhodesian military who are not Rhodesian citizens. What I did not realize before coming to Rhodesia, is how many Brits, Aussies, Yanks, Irish, Belgians, Kiwi and many others are the Rhodesian army. If they leave, the gap cannot be filled.

The major receives a message to move the unit to Que Que. The BSAP has requested military help. Mugabe supporters have been in the streets, stoning and beating those who did not support the PF. Four to 500 PF massed at the BSAP station, damaged vehicles and tore down the Zimbabwe-Rhodesian flag. Shots were fired over their heads to move them out. Regardless of what the news media has said, the BSAP and military use a great deal of restraint in dealing with the terrors, much more than I would. The Salisbury government decides not to let the demonstrations get out of hand.

Nunn and I moved with the major and his troops into Que Que and set up camp. We no sooner park the seven-fives than we receive an urgent call for help. The major forms one special platoon and puts them on two seven-fives. In the lead seven-five he puts six MAG 58 machine guns. The trail seven-five has only four MAG 58s.

If there is any trouble tonight it won't be ours. We pick up the BSAP guide and we're off. In each of the two townships where the problems lie, the instant we show with our fire power — the chants, rooster walks, speech-making all stop. People begin to walk around with their hands in their pockets like in some Charlie Chaplin movie. It is a very wise move on their part — the RAR troops are in no mood for games after hearing the election results.

We return to the base camp and there are no more problems this night. Even the PF knows when to keep its mouth shut.

We get a message that it's time for us to get back to the states, England, Belgium — anywhere but here. Nobody knows what Mugabe will do. Very few trust him. Communist or not, he was the enemy. I wish Zimbabwe-Rhodesia well. I wish Mugabe well. But my best wishes are all he will get — not me. Hell — it was a Washington/London/Moscow war anyway. They are all politician's wars, but no one imagined there were so many politicians in Salisbury.

Mugabe may have been smarter than the Soviets; he may have used them — I hope so. Mugabe has the chance to be one of the best leaders in Africa, to build his country even more. I wish you well, Zimbabwe-Rhodesia. Time will tell. But I am pessimistic.



HOT STEEL

Marines Get Ready

by Jim Graves

THAT'S the secret. Put hot steel out, kill the sons of bitches. Our objective is to make them die for their country — that's the objective — that's what we want to teach these guys."

Lt. Col. Edward V. Badolato, commanding officer, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines (3/6), is what they call a hard-charger. A Force Reconnaissance officer in Vietnam, Badolato predictably approaches the job of getting his infantry battalion ready for the next war with a certain zest.

But for the Badolatos of the Corps, the places where they could bring to bear the full assets available to them have been shrinking in the last decade.

"Some of our older bases are around developments and you can't shoot and maneuver like you want to," explained Badolato. "You can't fly the way you want to because of civilian flight paths. A lot of things have to be strictly controlled from the safety standpoint, like if you have a nearby town, blast focus, so you don't shake the windows. Then there are environmental considerations. Don't bother the red-headed woodpecker, or the loblolly pine or the sea turtle.

The tourists are taking all the good amphibious beaches because...they're good swimming beaches and the gradient is nice and so forth.

"Well, a real salty guy might sit back and say, 'Where in the hell are we going to practice our trade of war?'"


In 1975, Gen. Louis Wilson, then Commandant of the Marine Corps, took a hard look at the erosion of training facilities and selected 29 Palms, Calif., in the Southern Mojave Desert as the place to develop as the Air Ground Combat Center to host the Combined Arms Training Program and the Combined Arms Exercises (CAXs). Wilson assumed correctly that the 932 square miles (an area 8/10s the size of Rhode Island) at 29 Palms would provide an excellent place for "salty guys" to practice their trade of war.

When Badolato took his Battalion Landing Team (BLT) through 29 Palms in January, the Combat Center was hosting its 32nd CAX; six of the previous exercises were brigade-sized and the other 25 were battalion operations.

Basically a Combined Arms Exercise provides commanders with the opportunity to practice the integration and coordination of all supporting arms in a live-fire environment. In the primary three-day portion of a CAX, commanders put their units through their paces in the 20-by-4-kilometer Delta Corridor while blasting the hell out of the desert and its residents

ON TARGET

for the Next One



(most notably rabbits, snakes and scorpions) with small arms, mortars, tank fire, artillery, missiles and air strikes.

In January, Badolato's 3/6 was matched against a simulated Soviet motorized rifle battalion. The scenario called for Badolato's battalion to attack, take and secure three objectives along the 20-kilometer corridor. In addition, on the night of the second day, Badolato's unit had to beat off a simulated armored counter-attack.

For Badolato's unit the action started early on a Sunday morning when artillery (105mm and 175mm) and simulated naval gunfire (8-inch howitzers) prepped the enemy positions on Prospect, the first objective. While the artillery was slamming down into enemy positions, Badolato's assault companies of M60 tanks and troop-carrying amphibious tractors (amtracs) waited along the line of departure about 4,000 meters from Prospect.

When the artillery fire lifted, Marine A-6 Intruders and A-4 Skyhawks — flying off the 8,000-foot expeditionary air field at nearby Camp Wilson — rolled in and swooped down to 350 feet before releasing 500-pound bombs on the objective. The jet strikes were followed up by other jets laying smoke along the front and Cobra AH-1J helicopters working the flanks of the objective with rockets.

At that point the tanks and assault companies in

amtracs rolled out, spitting out enormous quantities of sand and raising the noise level considerably. The tanks closed on the remaining targets and lashed out at them with their 105mm main guns. As the objective was being consolidated, the command post was shifted forward, as well as the artillery, although some pieces remained in place and fired overhead at targets down the corridor.

At the objective, tanks moved into temporary defensive positions and TOWs (tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-command, link-guided missiles) were set in and camouflaged. "Grunts" dismounted from the amtracs and set about establishing lines, some of which lay directly across the steep-sloped, rocky hills. Scrounging up plants to camouflage gun and mortar positions presented quite a challenge as vegetation in the Southern Mojave is sparse. With the arrival of the command post group, wire communications were reestablished and activity shifted to the million-and-one logistical tasks (issue of C-rations, ammunition resupply, medical evacuations, etc.) necessary to keep a fighting battalion going.

On the morning of the second and third days, the above procedure is repeated as the battalion moves along Delta Corridor to the second and third objectives. The simulated night armored counterattack takes place at Dime Dingo (the second objective) through use of pop-up tank targets established in front of that position. The sights and sounds of live-fire combat reach terrifying proportions during the night action as all weapons (including air) are brought to bear.

"You know basically where you are — you've had the brief on exactly what's coming off — but then all of a sudden you're sitting in this place when the anti-tank plan is executed and there's a period of about two minutes when you don't know if you're in the right place or not," said Brig. Gen. H.G. Glasgow, commanding officer at 29 Palms. "And this is you as an observer. You can imagine the impact on that young trooper down there below you on the ground participating in it."

The havoc wreaked upon the simulated enemy — "We've just never found anybody who wanted to be an aggressor," said an operations officer at 29 Palms — the desert and its residents have yet to produce a protest, except from some of the creatures themselves, which have inflicted a number of casualties on incautious Marines. And despite the live-fire nature of the exercises, no Marines have died as a result. Marines have died and serious injuries have occurred during the CAXs but they have been due to vehicle accidents or similar events.

The impressive safety record is a result of the preparatory training and planning that take place in the other 11 to 15 days preceding the three-day operation. Before a unit goes to Delta Corridor, Marines attend safety and individual desert training classes, infantry companies go through a fire and maneuver range, operating with weapons up to 81mm mortars and tankers fire on both stationary and mobile target ranges.

"For a company commander, I would say that's [the fire and maneuver course] as close to being in actual combat as you can get, and not be in combat," said Badolato. "You've gotta fire mortars, the platoons maneuver under overhead machine-gun fire, the men fire LAWs, clear bunkers and clear foxholes. I must say the volume of fire and the pressure you're under doing your squad rushes, and live-fire coordination is tougher than some of the things you had to do in Vietnam. Really, it's a terrifying course and I've put every company through it and I'd put them through it twice if I could."

The combination of live ordnance, the Mojave's arid, upland, desert climate and the desert's dangerous residents

AH-1J Cobra attack helicopter returns to Wilson Airfield after close-in fire support mission.



makes safety and individual survival training important. The sheer volume of fire during a CAX insures that there are going to be a number of unexpended rounds in the paths of the Marines. Marines are taught to assume that any round found in the desert is explosive and to keep their hands off. Explosive ordnance disposal teams sweep the corridor before operations and duds are exploded. EOD units also move with the unit during the operation.

Climatic conditions can produce serious dangers in the area. While the average annual temperature is 67 degrees, temperatures occasionally reach 130 degrees in the summer and drop as low as 15 degrees during the winter. During summer months, Marines are cautioned to drink at least five gallons of water a day to offset possible dehydration and heat problems. (See "Overdrink for Survival," SOF, January '79).

In hot weather they are also warned to avoid contact with metal objects as metal will retain heat. The average annual precipitation is only four inches and most of that comes between July and January. In winter months the area gets freezing rain and snow, which combined with the wind conditions can produce hypothermia. Summer rain in the desert produces flash floods.

At this point in the development of the Combined Arms Training Program, the primary objectives of the CAXs are to improve effective command and control in the conduct of fire-support coordination, to include the planning, coordination and allocation of all fire-support assets with priority placed on air-ground integration in a mechanized, anti-mechanized warfare environment and to improve the capability for each supporting arm to effectively respond to requests of the supported unit. Additionally, it is to improve command, control and communications capabilities at all levels by selective exercise of procedures and systems, to include the evaluation of new techniques and equipment, to improve logistical support of the participating elements by the combat service support elements, to improve electronic warfare capabilities through the realistic employment of signal intelligence and other electronic warfare resources, to improve capabilities at all levels to conduct Combined Arms Operations during periods of darkness and reduced visibility and to conduct operations in a nuclear, chemical or biological environment.

That's the official, operations' version of what takes place in a CAX. Badolato condenses it to "graduate school in the coordination of supporting arms."



LEFT: LVTC7 crew member relays fire-mission information to battalion 81mm mortar section. Inside the LVTC7, battalion commander has radio operators in constant contact with all company units and fire-support elements.

BELOW: Crew members mount LVTC7 just prior to start of operation.



“It’s outstanding,” said Badolato. “Jesus Christ, this is the greatest thing we’ve ever seen. We’ve been working our fingers to the bloody bone here and have been enjoying every minute of it. When I go back, I’m going to tell all of my fellow battalion commanders they had better fight to get out here with their battalions because it is just super. And our Marines love it. Of course, 3/6 thinks it’s a red-hot battalion and the kids are very motivated but still they like it and appreciate it.”

“We were out [deployed on training] five times last year and when we get back from here we’ll take the battalion out for amphibious refresher training. We’ll be doing that for a week and then we’re going somewhere else. It’s hard on the troops, it’s hard on the families, but goddamn, these guys know their business. We’ve got a saying in 3/6 for new guys coming in, ‘Welcome to 3/6, don’t unpack your sea bag.’

“When I brought my Marines here they were trained — I mean we were not rookies, but this is just super, it’s the finest combat training that I’ve had in 23 years in the Marine Corps. It’s like graduate school. These guys [the Combat Center staff] teach you how to get on target — have that air in there in 30 seconds — and that’s what it takes. As you can see, some of the guys don’t always put the air on target [referring to bombs that came too close to troops on the first day] but it’s not our fault, we can’t fly the damn airplane for them. And you can kill 100 Marines here if you make a mistake.

The use of stacks of tires to simulate enemy targets is one of the more novel solutions the Combat Center has come up with to add realism and accuracy to the CAXs. Originally, targets were constructed from plywood and other building materials, an expensive, unsatisfactory solution, as it was difficult to tell when they were hit by a shell. Old amtrac hulks were also used but eventually became too shot up.

The tires (over 500,000 have been used now) are obtained from both military and civilian sources. When commercial firms or military units on the West Coast have 1,000 or more available, they call up the Combat Center and a working party is dispatched to pick them up. At the base the tires are stacked in rows (bottom rows filled with sand or dirt) to the approximate heights and widths of the targets they are designed to be.

“And they work perfectly for us,” said Gen. Glasgow. “We have some tankers sometimes that think that they’re [the evaluators] too strict on hits but you don’t have any problem determining whether it’s a hit or not when you’re looking through glasses. Sometimes the tanker thinks he’s fired a round that hit all kinds of things. But it didn’t hit the target! Tankers, as you might imagine, are very proud people, and few of them have fired a round that didn’t hit, in their view. And now that they’re called on out here, particularly, to produce with so many people watching, it’s taken a little of the glamour out because they have to do more work on the ranges today than they ever have before.”

The Ego-Wrecking Mobile Target

The Combat Center staff developed a mobile tank target system which has caused much frustration to visiting tank gunners. The target consists of a Volkswagen frame, with a tank silhouette on the side and front, that runs astraddle of two pieces of com wire along a 1¼-mile track. By adjusting the width of the wires from each other the target’s speed can be adjusted.

“The guys we had that were pretty proficient, our master-gunners, who had 98.5 percent first-round hits on stationary targets, all of sudden found themselves at 55 or 60 percent,” said Gen. Glasgow. “The other youngsters, until they’d gone through the complete basic training, couldn’t even touch it.”

“But now as the guys are beginning to get an opportunity to practice with it, to work on it, it’s amazing. It proves a few of the things that have hurt us a little bit. You know in our M60 tanks we have a stabilization system where a gun is supposed to be able to lock on and will stay on. The mobile target has





ABOVE: Two M60 tanks roll across ridgeline while advancing to new firing positions.



LEFT: Dust-goggled M60 driver checks terrain he must pass over.

RIGHT: Tank commander and tank platoon commander (left) check their location against map.

Marine pilot from VMA-223, stationed in Cherry Point, N.C., raises canopy on his A-4 Skyhawk. The 685-mile-per-hour Skyhawk can carry 6,000 pounds of ordnance.

BELOW: Marine jets lay smoke over Objective Prospect prior to assault by Third Battalion, Sixth Marines.

BOTTOM: Lt. Col. Ed Badolato, commanding officer of Third Battalion, Sixth Marines, stands atop his command tractor while moving his units into position at Objective Dime Dingo.



proved we've still got bugs in it [the stabilization system] and lots of 'em." Glasgow explained that the system was just not good enough to enable tankers to get hits on moving targets while the tank was in motion.

Once the Mobile Tank Target system was working, Glasgow stated they learned the TOW was the most effective weapon available for use on variable-speed targets but that the Dragon (which is supposed to be effective against moving targets at under 1,000 meters) just won't do it.

"It'll [the Dragon] follow as long as you don't go over six miles per hour," said Glasgow. "You kick it up to 12 or 18, and the Dragon will go out there, and as you try to put it on, it'll start to tumble and fall." Glasgow's assumption is that the gas outlet nodules on the Dragon are just not large enough to allow it to make severe turns. The TOW, a much larger weapon, has larger gas outlet nodules and thus can make the severe turns necessary to track and destroy a target moving at variable speeds.

While Glasgow is convinced the TOW is the anti-tank system, he admits there are some problems with it — notably whether the TOW should be used offensively or defensively. If it is to be used offensively, Glasgow does not think the jeep is an adequate carrier for it. If the TOW is to be used defensively, Glasgow says it has to be placed in adequate defensive positions.

To the question of whether it could be used effectively mounted on a tank [a subject that comes up frequently around tankers] Glasgow's answer was: "Yes, it



can be, no question about that, but if you're going to take that 105 off [the tank] somewhere along the line we made a mistake. That damn tank, I keep telling these guys is supposed to be more accurate than the TOW. You know it is just impossible to miss if you're talking about 2,000 meters in, with a tank. We've got too much money in that thing [to miss]; if you're talking about stationary targets particularly." Glasgow is an emphatic CAX booster, which he calls "a return to real training."

"Gen. Wilson knew exactly what he was talking about...in '75 when he said we're returning to basic training in fire-support coordination," said Glasgow. "Because we had gotten so bad, really worse than anyone was willing to accept, or state openly. But in five years' time, things have changed, thank goodness. We have run 32 battalions through and we'll continue at the rate of 10 per year. That, hopefully, is going to keep us a nucleus of people, particularly in the key positions within each of our battalions, that have had hands-on



time here in the Combined Arms Program.”

The most unique asset of 29 Palms, said Glasgow, is, “It’s the only area left in the world where you can maneuver your troops through an impact area. And that’s the difference. I stayed at Camp Lejeune for three years...in pure frustration. Any live round that you fire at Camp Lejeune or Camp Pendleton goes into an impact area. There’s a thousand-meter buffer all around that impact area and the troops can’t even enter the buffer zone.

“But here a man sees a round land and he maneuvers right through that same area without question. That allows for the overhead fire that causes a kid to think. You’ll see them right out there in the air strikes; they’ll take cover — you don’t have to tell them. You’ll see guys going down behind those rocks simply because the situation is there so that they can. Whereas, if they’re at our other bases ... there’s no way they can get within 4,000 meters of it [a round].”

Room to fire and displace is another 29 Palms’ asset. Glasgow explained that at the older bases, mortar men, for instance, would put on their hard hats and flak jackets, set the base plate up, fire a set number of rounds, then pull off the range and go back to the barracks. At 29 Palms, they fire that initial mission, then move through the impact zone and set up to fire another mission.

“Here he’s [a mortar man] also able to get involved in range estimation,” said Glasgow, “which is very deceptive in the desert, but at least the test is there.”

Another positive point about 29 Palms is that because it lends itself to the full use of all assets, on a range under the observation of every man in the battalion, the Marines can see exactly how potent a force a battalion, or a rifle company, really is.

Glasgow, who commanded a battalion of the 4th Marines in Vietnam, then threw out a stunner: “I’ve said to a lot of people that I’d have given anything to come through this before taking my battalion to Vietnam. I’d have been a much better battalion commander.”

Glasgow pointed to the hands-on training in fire-support coordination as one thing that would have helped him in Vietnam, but even more important, he thinks that had he been able to go through a CAX before going overseas, he would have known exactly who could and who could not do the job.

“We have a company live-fire range,” explained Glasgow, “and the beauty part about it is the company commander can stand in an area and he can see each one of his platoon leaders make their mistakes, the squad leader do his job right or not do his job, the LAWman...pick up his weapon and fire on the bunker, hit it or not hit it,



whereas, in all our other training areas, the view is so restricted... that in much of our training a squad leader will get away with a mistake. He’ll go through the rest of his time thinking his mistake was the correct way to do it. But here, you can see ’em.

“In fire-support coordination aspects, you know whether you did it right or not, because if you didn’t, you’ll see that it didn’t hit, or you didn’t get the air that you called. You can’t replace that.” Glasgow used the CAX’s first day for Badolato’s battalion to illustrate how important it was to be able to see the mistakes being made.

“Col. Badolato came in here with one of the better battalions in the Marine Corps,...but he crossed the line of departure, thought everything was going right, marked the spot and called an airplane to come in. Things got confused and the damn pilot missed by a thousand meters. In frustration over it, he failed to see that his Three [Battalion S-3, Operations Officer] turned and called fire to come in on that target that was missed. And if it’s a target that’s hard enough for air to be called for, then it’s gotta be taken out. You don’t get it, you can’t move, the show stops.

“Well, the controller got all screwed up on it and didn’t stop them and didn’t force the issue to come back to him to make the decision, so they allowed it to go ahead. His tanks on the left flank moved up and for one reason or another the gunners had 10-percent hits at that point. Horrible. Hell, you can’t move with a 10-percent hit. The controllers...had to stop it.

“Well, they were fussin’ and screwing around trying to figure out what happened to the gunners in the tanks. All of a sudden, Col. Badolato said: ‘They’re not my tanks.’ Well, the hell they’re not his tanks. They may be attached from here and maybe this battalion out here is supposed to be 90-percent first-round hit types but they didn’t hit 90 percent, they only hit 10 percent. And there are live targets up there that hadn’t been touched.

“He got mad. Rather than move his CP up where it was supposed to be, so he could get up there and influence the action, he let it stay back there about 25 minutes too long, totally out of contact with them. So here’s a prime commander, that’s got this force that he knows is good, but the damn thing doesn’t work. He spent all of Sunday afternoon holding prayer meetings and trying to get people to listen to him again and thinking about what all they had to do. Monday, it was a thing of beauty to see.

“But the tankers on the left flank [the ones from 29 Palms] hit 69 percent, which is still bad. He’s [the tank CO at 29 Palms] got about three guys that gotta be moved out of the tanks, they’ve gotta come out, they literally can’t handle that sophisticated equipment. But only when he’s [a tanker] required to hit a target will that ever come to light. So these guys will be moved from their MOS, they won’t be shooting those tanks anymore.”

Continued on page 74

**PISTOL
PRACTICE
PRACTICE
PRACTICE =**

COP SAVER

LAPD A Leader But Still Has Far to Go



Shooting instructor Fred Romero takes aim at LAPD Police Academy pistol range. His six-inch S&W has not been modified for double-action only, as department's newer four-inch barrel models are.

by Marv Wolf

WHEN you hear "LAPD," many times what you hear next is "model police force." And in many respects it's true: LAPD, the Los Angeles Police Department, is at the forefront in many areas of police activity. (See accompanying story on DEFT.)

But when it comes to cops and guns, the LAPD is little different from most American big-city cop corps — they're lousy shots. Never mind the handful of marksmanship instructors and gun enthusiasts that walk away with all the shooting medals on the range. In a gun battle, the only significant measurement of a street cop's shooting abilities, more than two-thirds of the LAPD's street cops miss the target entirely.

LAPD Sergeant Dick Newell heads the Police Academy's marksmanship program. He admits that most shootings occur at ranges "between seven and 10 feet," while LAPD's hit ratio is "about three out of 10."

"30 rounds? I'd laugh."

To understand why, look over the LAPD marksmanship program. Cadets, many of whom have never fired any small arms before entering the Police Academy, fire about 1,500 rounds by the time they've become rookie cops. After that, individual cops are required to qualify monthly, for 10 months each year with a pistol, and with shotguns or rifles the other two months. The qualification course is 30 rounds.

"Thirty rounds a month," says SOF columnist and top combat pistol shot Ken Hackathorn, "is barely enough to maintain familiarity. If you asked me what I thought of 30 rounds, I'd just laugh. But it's not just how many rounds you fire, it's how you're trained to shoot them."

Unrealistic Training

Nearly all the LAPD qualification rounds are fired on one of two outdoor ranges. One is a known-distance range with rests for shooting at longer ranges, the other a "combat" range with shorter ranges and pop-up targets. But on neither do officers get practice in close-in shooting at ranges approximating a street-shooting situation. Nor is quick draw taught.

Hackathorn, a part-time deputy sheriff and police marksmanship instructor in Ohio, feels this sort of training is entirely unrealistic. "I believe the style of pistol training most police officers around the country are taught today can't reflect what a cop is expected to do with his revolver in a street situation.

"Gunfights take place at very close range. I mean *very* close," he adds. "Feet, not yards. Under very immediate conditions. No time to carefully draw the

gun, aim with a nice sight picture and squeeze off a round. No time for any of that. Very often it's in poor light. Not total darkness, but rarely is it a nice sunshiney day.

"Yet most policemen spend less than 20 percent of their time firing at realistic ranges like seven yards, and for that they give you lavish amounts of time — 25 seconds to fire 12 rounds. Everything else is shot at longer ranges, often from bar-

ricade position. Even from ridiculous positions like sitting down. Do you know anyone that stopped in the middle of a gunfight to sit down on their ass and proceed to shoot six rounds?"

Training and Subconscious

"Most cops miss in a shootout, not that they're lousy shots, per se, but under conditions of stress their conscious minds

FIREARMS TRAINING

by Sgt. William J. Conreux

THE first thing we must establish when we talk about firearms training is: "What is our goal?" We train officers to shoot to stop, not shoot to kill. We want every officer to have confidence in his or her ability to handle their weapons (revolver, shotgun and rifle) properly and safely and achieve reasonable accuracy.

Can and does everyone score a direct hit every time? No. That kind of perfection is impossible for a variety of reasons, and it is unreasonable to believe that such a degree of accuracy can be attained. Each community must assess its needs and ability to pay for them.

I have participated in training sessions conducted on large, expensive ranges, with hundreds and thousands of rounds of ammunition expended and also on very small, make-shift ranges where livestock had to be moved before the firing commenced. In each instance, I felt the training was successful — something had been learned.

How is success measured? In most cases it's subjective; an arbitrary score is given to qualify. While this method is necessary and worthwhile, the real test is on the street, in the real world. What is needed to qualify? The number of hits or the number of misses? No, the ability to survive. It's the same test used by the military. The ability to survive. We aren't perfect, never will be, but we will never stop trying to be.

No training equals what an officer will encounter on the street. There is no way of generating the emotions and that unknown quality that must be dealt with in these situations and no training will teach or take the place of good common sense. In spite of all of this, we continue to try harder. The better the training and the more frequent the training, the better prepared we are for survival.

On my trip to the Los Angeles Police Department several years ago, I saw the simulator Wolf talks about. This tremendously sophisticated, expensive training aid is out of the reach of most departments. On the plus side, it com-

bines marksmanship and the judgmental aspects of shooting into a life-like street situation. It approximates the excitement and fright generated in the real world. I feel that it's a genuine effort on the part of the Los Angeles Police Department to provide the very best training available for its men.

On the negative side, only one shooter participates at a time. This means that the rest of the class (whatever its size: 30, 40 or 50 men) stands idle unless concurrent training is provided. Because of only allowing one officer to fire at a time, each officer, because of the time constraint, may only participate once. If one had a small class, he would have to have a large film library or the recruits would quickly become familiar with the scenario and the element of surprise would be destroyed. While this type of training is worthwhile, it is only as good as the officer doing the critique. There is always the danger of badgering a young officer into not taking action on the street when he should, and thus causing him to lose his life.

The best thing about a judgmental shooting exercise is that it stimulates thought on the officers' part. They precondition themselves so when they are confronted by a shooting situation their decision becomes instinctive, almost a reflex action.

The bottom line to all training is that there will never be anything that will take the place of the veteran officer who has been well trained and has learned through experience (school of hard knocks) and survived, a real veteran.

An interesting note to the simulator — while visiting the Los Angeles Department, I was told by Academy personnel that in order to build the simulator, they had to give up half their firearms range. They no longer have the ability to shoot from the 50-yard line. It's all a matter of priority.

It is obvious that this system is costly to maintain. The original cost of one-quarter to one-half million dollars to build it is testimony to the fact that Los Angeles is very serious about its training and the well being of its officers and citizens.

can't work quickly enough. What works is the subconscious. In a gunfight you revert to what your training has taught you. If you've been trained correctly in a good system, you're in good shape. But what if your training doesn't reflect what you're about to do in a real situation? In a gunfight, most of the time you're gonna miss," he emphasizes.

"Most LAPD cops just don't know how to shoot," agrees one who does know, and doesn't want his name used. Call him Joe. He's been on the force almost 15 years, including 10 as a street cop, and he knows pistol shooting well enough to teach it. "Our cops have very little confidence in their ability to hit the target," he says. "When they take monthly qualification, they're trained to fire all six rounds as quick as they can. It isn't surprising to me that they just empty their pistols at a suspect when they decide to shoot at him," says Joe.

Cop Funerals Make Great Publicity

In Los Angeles this has led to a number of shootings where officers have shot at a suspect as many as a dozen times. This in turn has fueled media attention and served to arouse public opinion against the men in blue. When the LAPD recently asked the City Police Commission to grant permission to adopt a 110-grain, semi-jacketed hollowpoint round as their service ammunition (replacing the venerable 150-grain round-nose) it set off a fusillade of media stories questioning the propriety of using so destructive a round.

Mickeymouse Can Be Costly

LAPD Chief Daryl Gates countered by asserting that the victim of a well-publicized, controversial police shooting of the previous year (she was hit eight times, with only one fatal wound) might well be still alive had the cops been able to knock her down with a hollowpoint. In this case, most of the non-fatal hits were ricochets off the sidewalk, according to the coroner's report.

So Joe thinks the hollowpoint bullet has something to do with the public outcry after the shootings. "It's all window dressing," he says. "The department is embarrassed by cops emptying their pistols at suspects. They're using the new round to pressure street cops into firing only one or two rounds, although they know that most of our cops can't get a body hit with only two shots. They don't give a damn about the street cop," says Joe, his voice bitter with sarcasm. "Cop funerals make great department publicity."

The LAPD encourages marksmanship — but grudgingly. Officers who qualify as *Marksmen*, a cut above minimum qualifi-

cation, get a bonus in their monthly paycheck: \$2. *Sharpshooters*, the next level up, get \$4; *Experts* get \$8. The really big money is for *Distinguished Expert*: \$16 a month. There are seldom a dozen officers in any month who draw the top bonus. Officers who wish to practice on their own time may take part in Friday "bonus shoots," where they get 30 rounds at LAPD expense and may fire an additional 10 at their own. The department charges

four cents a round for reloaded wadcutters.

When an officer shows up for qualification firing he often finds his weapon is malfunctioning. "Guys come in here (the LAPD Armory) to get a spring fixed or a sight tightened. That's okay," says an armorer, "but I always wonder why they wait until qualification day to get it fixed. What if they need to use it before? They could be in a world of hurt."

DEFT SIMULATION

MY mouth was dry. I was covered with sweat and my knees were jelly. Part of my brain was saying, "It's okay, relax, this isn't real." The rest of it wasn't saying anything. It was following the life-size cop on the curved screen in front of me as I strolled down a trashy L.A. street, making small talk with the idlers shuckin' and jivin' on the sidewalk, the pretty girls who asked us for a light, and my partner, the cop on the screen.

Suddenly there are shots and I whirl. Except I don't whirl, only the image on the screen whirls, and when it stops there's a pair of hoods running out of a liquor store. One has a pistol. The other turns his shotgun on me and fires.

I don't remember drawing my double-action .38 Smith & Wesson, but it's in my hand and I take two quick shots at the guy with the shotgun, then one at the pistol wielder — another at the shotgun and he goes down in a heap.

Less than five minutes later I am sitting in a comfortable office a few feet away from the scene. In my hand is a computer printout, and on the black-and-white screen before me is the same scene I watched earlier on the big screen, except for a small square in the upper left hand corner. In the square is this short, heavyset guy with a two-handed grip on a revolver and a terrified look on his face—me.

It's all part of a mind-boggling new way to teach street cops when to use their gun — and when not to. The printout that officer Jim Kelly of the LAPD put in my hand shows when I shot — whether it was the correct time to do so or not — what, if anything, I hit, whether the shot was deadly to the target, and whether each shot was within the shooting policy by which all LAPD cops are guided.

For a writer off the street I didn't do badly. I fired six times, though the computer failed to score my last shot so I'll never know if I finished off the wounded dude in the trash bin. My first shot killed the guy with the shotgun. But since the film never stops I didn't know that, and put another non-fatal round into him.

The third round hit the guy with the pistol, though it wasn't a fatal shot

either. My fourth shot hit the dude with the shotgun again, and by coincidence he immediately fell down on the screen. The fifth shot missed the pistolero and though in my heart I know the sixth one didn't, the computer didn't catch it. In the meantime, this guy killed my partner and put one into me. I was still shaking when Kelly started his critique — that's how real it all seemed.

The simulation is called DEFT, for Developmental Evaluation of Firearms Training. In addition to the computer and the curved screen, there are stereophonic speakers for life-like sound, a real Smith & Wesson, with wax .38 slugs that travel at about 450 fps, hit the screen with about six-foot-pounds, an infrared-sensing video camera to record the shot impacts and two black-and-white TV cameras.

It's without question the most advanced simulator in use today in any police department.

And it's no shooting gallery. The real lesson learned in the simulator is not if you can hit the target, but if you can use common sense about when to shoot and when to hold fire. The printout told me that my second shot should not have been fired — there were too many innocent bystanders behind the suspect.

Most of those who go through the simulator are police cadets. It is obviously better to have them learn about those no-nos in the room with the curving screen than on the street.

Kelly explained that the sophisticated simulator is only a tool. To make maximum use of it requires a skilled evaluator who counsels the trainee afterward.

DEFT has been in use only a year, though the federally-funded system has been evolving since 1970. The film I saw was one of four in the DEFT library, and it is a thing of wonder all by itself: there are no cuts. It's a single piece of film, always shot from eye-level, always from the perspective of a cop just a few feet behind his on-screen partner. LAPD would like to have a larger library — perhaps a dozen films would be ideal — but they are expensive and difficult to produce.

—Marv Wolf

Hackathorn thinks most cops don't take their guns or their shooting very seriously. "In policework, most cops think of their gun the way a carpenter thinks of his hammer. Just another tool. The handgun in police work is a defensive tool. We teach that it's there to protect the cop and the lives of innocent people. But most cops don't think anything is ever going to happen to *them*. They tolerate firearms training as a necessary evil.

Best of Show

"What happens in most departments," he continues, "is that maybe four or five percent of the force have an interest in guns and shooting. Those are the guys who practice a lot — the guys who win the shooting competitions. They usually wind up at the academies teaching marksmanship to rookies.

"Whenever a police department wants to impress the public, they want the media to tell the people they've got policemen that are ready to confront the criminal. That's when they trot out their best shots — those are the guys they show off. But the average police officer is pretty goddamn dangerous in the sense that he's almost more of a danger to himself than to anybody else as far as gunhandling, safety and proficiency," says Hackathorn.

Another reason why LAPD street cops can't shoot straight is their gun, a modified .38 Smith & Wesson — modified so there is no single-action option. The LAPD took this unusual step — apparently the only big-city police force in the U.S. to have done so — a few years ago after a rash of accidental discharges. At the same time it adopted a policy for off-duty guns that restricted officers to double-action-only revolvers.

Right Place, Wrong Gun

In a fast-breaking shoot-out in the streets, there's no question most cops want the quick-fire capability of the double-action revolver — if they're obliged to use a revolver. "But what happens when you have a hostage situation?" asks Hackathorn. "What if your target is just a part of a suspect's head sticking around a car? What you want then is to stick one round in his ear. With only a double-action, you haven't a prayer."

The LAPD's top brass decided to press for the .38 semi-jacketed hollowpoint after four months of in-house testing by Sgt. Newell and his staff. They routinely test different kinds of ordnance most of the time, Newell explains, but in this case they were directed to conduct tests and report on their findings by the chief's office. After Newell's report had been sent to Chief Darly Gates, the top cop went before the Los Angeles Police Commission armed with test reports and films, AUGUST/80

and requested permission to make the switch. The request was accompanied by LAPD press releases describing their rationale for the new round.

What followed was a public-relations blitzkrieg, countered by media thrusts detailing the history of the dum-dum bullet since its invention by a British-run munitions factory in Dum Dum, India, during the 19th century, and its outlawing by the Geneva Convention. Then interviews with forensic medicine specialists, chiefly coroners, describing the horrible damage hollowpoint bullets do to human tissue.

The irony of the situation is that the LAPD is one of the *last* major police forces in the country to seek the hollowpoint. The Los Angeles Sheriff's Depart-



MARV WOLF

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Marv Wolf is a Los Angeles-based free-lance writer and frequent contributor to SOF (See "Will They Fight," March, '80; "Wolf Pack Skipper," June, '80).

Sgt. Bill Conreux has been armorer and firearms instructor in the St. Louis Police Academy since 1968. He is an NRA Life Master in pistol (all calibers), rifle and shotgun. He has attended several FBI training courses at the Bureau's facilities on the Quantico, Va., Marine Corps base. He is nationally regarded as an authority on police survival in a big city atmosphere. Prior to becoming armorer and firearms instructor at the Academy, Conreux was a street cop in some of the toughest, most dangerous sections of St. Louis.

ment, which shares law-enforcement duties in the county with LAPD and a handful of smaller city police departments, has been using the same ammo for a couple of years. One way of avoiding the controversy might have been for the LAPD to have switched to a heavier-caliber weapon, as some cities in neighboring Orange County have. The city of Huntington Beach, for example, will issue later this year Browning BDA .45 caliber semiautomatics that are double action, us-

ing a 185-grain hollowpoint bullet. This relatively small police department monthly fires a 66-round combat qualification course, including one series at virtually point-blank range. Officers may repeat the course for a total of three times monthly, if they wish. Huntington Beach picks up the ammo cost.

Nevertheless, LAPD elected to stay with their .38s. One possible reason was advanced by an old timer in the Police Academy Armory. "We're getting a lot of smaller cadets now, and a lot of women. The noise and kick of a .38 is more than they can handle. They're scared of it, and it shows. We've had a little success by starting new cadets — especially women — on .22s, just to get them in the habit of shooting. Switch to a heavier caliber? These guys have enough problems with their .38s."

A Little Respect

Poor police gunhandling is such a nationwide problem that the federal government is increasing its involvement to find solutions. Besides funding the LAPD's simulator, DEFT, the National Institute of Law Enforcement is funding a \$361,000 study by two University of California-Irvine professors to examine police use of deadly force. Drs. Arnold Binder and Peter Scharf with colleagues at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Michigan State University and the Riverside campus of the University of California will research police shootings in 20 large U.S. cities.

Binder, who holds degrees in psychiatry, psychology, self-development and social ecology, hopes the study will produce better ways to train police. Though his research has just begun and no findings will be published for more than a year, Binder's hunch is some sort of rote training may prove to be most effective. "I suspect we'll find the best way to get a police officer to react correctly in a shooting situation will be to condition him to do certain things in certain situations. When these situations arise on the streets, he won't have to make moral judgments — he'll just react to his training," says Binder.

It doesn't seem much different from what Hackathorn and other top combat pistol experts have known all along. For the LAPD, it seems the most likely solution to what is both a training problem and a public relations problem — is to start rethinking their pistol marksmanship program. If the street cops of that model police force can be taught to hit what they shoot at, they wouldn't have to shoot as often. Perhaps the bad guys would begin to respect this ability as well. That in itself might well serve to ease the department's public relations problem.



SOF SPECIAL REPORT

Cuban Blows Agent Covers in South Florida

by Jim Graves



FIDEL Castro probably couldn't believe what he was hearing on 31 January when Reverend Manuel Angel Espinoza — Fidel's "Man In Miami" since 1976 — called him "an unscrupulous beast" and threatened to denounce Cuban agents and operations.

Espinoza delivered less than a week later, blowing the cover on Cuban operations in South Florida in the first of a series of three press conferences. Later in February, he revealed additional details to *Soldier of Fortune* Publisher Robert K. Brown in a private interview.

As befits a person of his background, Espinoza has a theatrical delivery — a rat-a-tat-tat tempo punctuated with sweeping, emphatic gestures — and his documentation, like his past, is confusing and sometimes shrouded in mystery.

Espinoza, a one-time captain in Castro's army, has since then been: a political prisoner in one of Castro's jails; an anti-Castro revolutionary; a Pentecostal minister; a founding member of the pro-Castro Committee of 75; and by his own admission — but he claims for his own purposes — a collaborator working for Castro.

When Espinoza Spoke Miami Listened

For documentation Espinoza offered his personal testimony, collaboration from some friends and photographs showing himself with various luminaries of the Cuban government (including Castro). Despite his lack of irrefutable documentation, Espinoza's story was too detailed and too comprehensive to have been a complete fabrication. Thus, when Espinoza spoke, Miami listened.

Miami is a few miles and a world apart from its better known sister city of Miami Beach. In Miami Beach, you find luxurious hotels, fine restaurants, rich tourists and few signs that a communist country is only 90 miles away. Miami, because of its cost of living, proximity and similarity of climate, is where the vast majority of the Cuban exiles who fled Cuba in the 1960s and 1970s settled. Within Miami there is one section so Cuban, it's called "Little Havana." In "Little Havana," the signs are in Spanish and it doesn't hurt to know a little when ordering food, shopping or riding a taxi. The action is Cubano: girls have dark eyes; music has a Caribbean tempo; coffee comes in thimble-sized cups and is loaded with sugar; food is spicy; emotions run high; and *La Revolucion* is the topic.

Espinoza became an anti-Castro activist when he arrived in Florida in 1962. In those days almost every storefront was a CIA op — or reported to be one. Men put on bandoliers to assert their *machismo* when taking their morning cup at the outdoor coffee stands. American customs turned a suspicious eye on every boat leav-

ing port with too many gas tanks and too many crewmen.

But most of it was empty talk, as even Espinoza will admit: "I started drinking, and in large quantities...started telling tall tales, lies, issuing false checks and phony war communiques, and there are leaders here [in Miami] who signed them and newsmen who read the press releases on the air who know what I'm talking about. I became the scum of the earth."

At the time, he was a member of the Committee of Help to the Cuban Resistance, associated with Dr. Orlando Bosch [who founded a terrorist group called Cuban Power] and he also had ties with militants from Alpha 66. In 1970, Espinoza moved to the Bronx, N.Y., where he trained at the "Institute of Love, Power and Grace" to become a minister. Espinoza drifted away from an active role in the anti-Castro movement when he embraced religion. In 1974, Espinoza opened the doors of his Pentecostal Evangelical Reformed Church in Hialeah, Fla. One year later, he made another dramatic move — toward Castro.

Early Days Of The Committee

In 1975, Espinoza started actively calling for talks with the Castro government. At that time, he said his main goal was to reunite Cuban families that had been split when the "Freedom Flights" were stopped in 1973. Later the movement which Espinoza was involved in came to be called the Committee of 75. In addition to the



Copyright 1980 by Herblock
in The Washington Post

resumption of the "Freedom Flights," the group wanted the embargo stopped, normalization of relations between Cuba and the U.S., release of political prisoners in Cuba and permission from the Cubans for exiles to be allowed to return to Cuba to see relatives. In 1978, the Committee reached at least part of its goals when Castro met with the group (they numbered 140 by then, including some Bay of Pigs veterans) and gave his approval to the release of some prisoners and visits by exiles.

Needless to say, the boys in the bandoliers didn't like that and in 1979 two members of the Committee of 75 — Carlos Meniz Varela and Eulalio Jose Negrin — were assassinated by terrorists from Omega 7 and Colonel Cero's group, respectively, both members of CORU (Commandos of the United Revolutionary Organizations). One Alvin Ross Diaz, a member of the Cuban Nationalist Movement and a suspected member of Omega 7, now serving a life sentence for his part in the assassination of former Chilean ambassador Orlando Letelier, said: "Those Cubans were picked by Castro," referring to the Committee of 75. Ross stated that Committee members involved in the exile trips were taking advantage of the exiles, charging exorbitant travel rates and putting American money in Castro's pocket because the travel companies which had the exclusive rights to bring exiles in were Cuban fronts.

Espinoza Attacks Castro

Espinoza's announcement of 31 January shocked his fellow *dialoguistas* of the Committee of 75 because he agreed almost totally with Ross. In addition to his scurrilous remark about Castro and calling for an "all-out war" against him, Espinoza hinted he had the names of Cuban agents working in diplomatic circles in the U.S., of agents working for various travel agencies that sold trips to Cuba, of contraband shipments to Cuba and of violations of the trade embargo.

After his initial announcement, Committee President Rev. Jose Reyes said: "At this point, I'm speechless. I don't know where he is coming from. He never told me or any member of the committee about this. This is ridiculous."

While Reyes was speechless, Espinoza, a man who obviously delights in speaking on camera and through a microphone, was not. In two press conferences of three hours each on 31 January and 5 February, a third of two hours on 14 February and in a private interview later that month with *SOF's* Brown, Espinoza laid out his allegations in detail and explained where "he was coming from." He claimed that his attempts to blow the covers of Cuban agents and operations and his attack on the Committee of 75 did not represent a change of heart at all, just that he was

showing his true colors. Espinoza says he openly cooperated with the Cubans in order to penetrate their operations and he told SOF's Brown he came out in January because he had learned from friends that he was to be arrested in Cuba on 7 February.

If what Espinoza was saying was ridiculous, it would have been hard to tell from the Miami newspapers, TV stations and radio stations which latched onto every word Espinoza spoke — one carried him live. What he said was so well received that one columnist pointed out it was unnecessary to have one's radio on to hear the live broadcast: all one had to do was drive through the Cuban-exile areas with the windows rolled down and one could hear it coming from every home and store.

Espinoza's conferences also drew the attention of the FBI, the Dade County OCB (Organized Crime Bureau) and the Cubans. Espinoza and his supporters claimed there were Cuban agents or collaborators at his first press conference and to prevent them from disrupting the second, entry was controlled. One man who showed up — with a Panamanian passport and Panamanian press credentials — underwent a particularly detailed document examination since he neither looked nor acted like a journalist. [I agreed, even though his documents were flawless; he probably was there on behalf of the Cubans].

Espinoza's Charges

The key point behind Espinoza's separate allegations was that the Castro government had used the exile dialogue to penetrate South Florida's cultural, political and economic organizations. Organizations singled out by Espinoza were the Committee of 75 — 10 members of which he claimed were agents (by his definition members of the security or armed forces of Cuba) — the Antonio Maceo Brigade (a cultural organization), Havanatur (the Panamanian-registered company that had the exclusive contract with the Cuban government to sell exile trips to Cuba), Travel Services, Inc. of Hialeah (a company that processes travel documents for Havanatur), American Airways Charters, Inc. of Hialeah (also involved in exile trips), Southeast Airlines of Miami (a charter airline used to bring political prisoners from Cuba), Continental National Bank of Miami, the Alliance of Workers of the Community in Miami, the Imperial Seafood Company of Panama and Pasco's Seafood, Inc. of Hialeah.

Among the individuals alleged to be either agents or collaborators (which he defined as a person not on the intelligence payroll but who could be paid for individual missions) were small businessmen, clergy, politicians, educators, a banker, journalists and at least one Bay of Pigs veteran.

His stiffest charges were leveled at Jorge Debasa, manager of Havanatur, who Espinoza claimed was a colonel in the Cuban General Department of Intelligence (DGI); Carlos Alfonso, Havanatur owner, also DGI; and Maria Contreras, who works for Travel Services and who was the personal secretary to Salvador Allende, deposed Marxist president of Chile.

Havanatur was a blatant Cuban operation. It was on paper a Panamanian company but investigation proved that decision makers at Havanatur were Cuban agents and the profits went to Cuba. In December, the American State Department ordered it to stop operations in the U.S. The Cuban exiles in Miami were required to pay exorbitant prices (\$450) for a four-day, three-night trip to Havana. Included in that price was a round-trip ticket for the 180-mile voyage and three days of room and board in a Havana hotel. Because the exiles were returning to visit family, very few stayed in the hotels and thus Havanatur (read Cuba) turned a nice profit.

In addition to what Castro made from Havanatur's inflated prices, he made still more by forcing Cuban exiles (U.S. resident aliens and naturalized citizens) to pick up a Cuban passport and visa — from Travel Services — and to exchange their dollars for Cuban pesos at a ridiculous rate.

At times the Cuban relationship with Havanatur was comical. Espinoza told SOF's Brown that in the early days, when the flights went from Florida to Jamaica to Cuba, a DGI agent would walk down the aisle of the plane with a pillowcase and the exiles paid up by throwing in cash — a la Jesse James.

Same Dog, Different Collar

When Havanatur was shut down the operation of the exile flights was turned over to American Airways — a move Espinoza describes as "same dog, different collar," since he says American Airways' owner, Fernando Fuentes Coba, is a collaborator. Fuentes Coba was the pilot of the plane that inserted Rafael del Pino, a noted anti-Castro activist, into Cuba in the early 1960s. Espinoza claims Fuentes Coba flew the plane in, pulled the keys out and left del Pino sitting inside to be surrounded by the Cuban DGI. Del Pino died in one of Castro's prisons. Espinoza says he was not released, "...because he could testify against the man who calls himself Fernando Fuentes Coba."

The day after his first press conference, Espinoza got action as Hialeah Mayor Dale Bennett ordered the offices of American Airways and Travel Services closed, since neither company had an occupational license. Both companies had

applied for licenses which had not been approved when Bennett acted. Hialeah Councilman Raul Martinez, who heard Espinoza's broadcast, informed Bennett of the situation and asked him to act. Martinez said, "I don't want that agency [Travel Services] in Hialeah at all."

Despite what Bennett and Martinez wanted, the two companies had supporters. John Bushnell, Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs, called Bennett and recommended that they be reopened because the trips were humanitarian in nature. Bushnell says State is of the opinion that American Airways is not under Cuban control — he described it to SOF as a "Mom and Pop" operation — and that while there were legitimate questions as to who controlled Travel Services, its participation in the exile trips was temporary.

Bennett said Bushnell told him that State was negotiating with Travel Services to encourage them not to operate in this country. [The State Department considers the exile trips to be humanitarian and therefore appears to be unwilling to disrupt the trips by forcing the issue.] The Treasury Department has frozen Travel Services' assets as part of an investigation of its operations.

Bushnell's pressure tactics didn't work but American Airways received its license on 7 February and went back into business. Travel Services, which operates out of the same building as American Airways, went back in action on 12 February when a U.S. District Court judge issued a temporary restraining order allowing it to operate. American Airways and Travel Services have since filed suit, for approximately \$1 million, against Hialeah for violation of their constitutional rights. In their suit the companies claimed Hialeah officials "...have used a simple occupational license tax as a tool of oppression..." To that charge, Bennett responded to SOF, "They have taken quite an advantage of the American system."

Contraband Shipments

Espinoza's second press conference produced the most substantial results, as his documentation was solid. On 5 February, he revealed that Southeast Airlines of Miami had been used to send embargoed goods to Cuba. The cover for shipment of the goods was a Hurricane Frederick disaster relief effort called Operation People-to-People organized by the Alliance of Workers of the Community (AWC).

The AWC, whose leader, Marcos Raul Correa, Espinoza branded an agent, chartered the planes from Southeast and donated the flights to the Committee of 75 to return released political prisoners to the U.S. On five separate occasions in December and January Southeast Airlines President Mike Acosta admitted that goods

had been taken to Cuba on his planes. But Acosta claimed, "In every case, the shipments were manifested and cleared by U.S. Customs." The goods carried on the plane included automobile batteries and tires, both embargoed items.

The goods had been going through customs without a hitch until 24 January when an anonymous call led to a more thorough examination. The shipment was stopped when Customs officials found tires among the items. George Martinez of the U.S. Commerce Department in Miami said it was legal to send food and clothing to Cuba as long as it was a donation from one family to another or from one religious organization to another but that shipments of tires were illegal.

The customs examination of the manifests for the five flights Espinoza singled out showed that one — the 4 December manifest — listed only rice, evaporated milk, dry beans, canned sausages and canned chicken but that manifests for 27 December, 3 January, 9 January and 18 January listed only tires and batteries but no food.

Robert Battard, regional director of customs in Miami, said: "An absence of experienced personnel in our export control section, compounded by the fact that the word 'donation' appeared on the manifest, apparently caused the issuance of inappropriate clearances."

Hildo Romeo, a spokesman for the AWC, said the tires were a donation from the relatives of the political prisoners to the Confederation of Cuban Workers, and Acosta said the labels on the tires were addressed to that organization. A total of 1,996 tires got out to Cuba.

Battard said customs would turn the matter over to the U.S. Commerce Department to "... determine whether or not any penalty action is warranted." [At press time no legal action had as yet been taken.]

The Seafood Capers

In his third press conference, on 12 February, Espinoza struck out at prominent Miami banker Bernardo Benes, whom he called an agent of the Cuban government and "the brain" behind Castro's financial espionage in South Florida.

Benes, who — along with Espinoza — was an organizer of the Committee of 75, is a vice chairman of the Continental National Bank of Miami, Florida's 30th largest bank.

Espinoza charged that Benes had met in Panama with top Cuban government officials in 1977, had accepted free trips to Panama from Imperial Seafood of Panama and that Imperial was shipping Cuban fish to Miami to a company called Pasco's Seafood in Hialeah. Espinoza had previously pointed out, and it was con-

firmed, that Benes' bank held a \$200,000 surety bond from Havanatur.

Benes responded angrily to Espinoza's charges two days later, calling them, "Brazen lies without basis or a bit of credibility." Benes stated he had invested \$5,000 in Imperial Seafood but had divested himself of that interest in 1978 — and it did not buy seafood from Cuba. Benes called the Miami press irresponsible for printing Espinoza's charges and offered to finance a team of reporters to go to Panama to investigate Imperial.

Flavio Mora, president of Imperial Seafood, denied that his company imported seafood from Cuba or exported food to Pasco's in Hialeah. He did say his company had paid Benes' fare to Panama when the company was investigating the possibility of sales in Florida, that he had business relationships with Benes and that he had an account at Continental National.

Manuel Chaves, president of Pasco's Seafood, also has an account at Continental. He said his company did buy fish from Panama but that it did not buy direct from Panamanian companies and that he had never heard of Imperial Seafood.

Espinoza's Connections

While some of the charges Espinoza has made have to be filed in the category of unsubstantiated gossip, others and his general premise that Castro's government has made a substantial penetration into various South Florida organizations are strongly supported by his own admission that he acted in behalf of the Cubans. There is no doubt but that Espinoza had access to some top Cubans and was involved in Cuban operations.

In the private interview with SOF's Brown, Espinoza claimed he deliberately sought contact with Cuban intelligence agents and received a call from a DGI major named Ramon de la Cruz to go to Jamaica on 7 February 1976 to meet an important Cuban official in the Hotel Pegaso. Espinoza says he got two instructions from the man, who he says he later learned was a colonel in the DGI: "1) To prepare the minds of the Cubans here [in the U.S.] to request the lifting of the blockade to Cuba, and 2) to ask for relations with Cuba." [Cuba watchers have said from the very beginning that the reason why Castro was willing to release some prisoners and to allow the exile flights in, was to bring pressure to bear on the U.S. to end the embargo against Cuba and to get American recognition of his government. Additionally, it has provided him with a source of much-needed foreign exchange.]

After gaining the Cubans' trust during a period in which they watched him carefully, Espinoza's stock shot up when Castro told American journalists on 6 Sep-

tember 1978, he was going to open a dialogue with the exiles and mentioned the Reverend Manuel Angel Espinoza as one of the men who had helped him reach that decision.

When the exile flights to Cuba started under Havanatur, Espinoza got a slice of the action. Espinoza says Castro ordered Havanatur to cut Espinoza in so that he would be able to present himself as an ambitious, prosperous man. Espinoza claims he got a fee of \$10 from Havanatur for every seat he sold on one of the flights. He also claims Castro enabled him to get a loan on an \$80,000-dollar house in Miami with only a \$10,000-dollar down payment. Espinoza claims Benes helped him get the loan.

Havanatur's Charges Of Profiteering

Havanatur admits that Espinoza, through a company called Christian Charters, one of the few agencies through which exiles could buy trips, was involved, but Havanatur owner Carlos Alfonso says Espinoza got more than \$10 a trip. Alfonso claims Espinoza was booking 350 seats a week in 1979 and got \$30 for each (\$10 a seat by check and \$20 a seat in cash). He claims Espinoza has handled over \$15 million worth of travel business through Havanatur.

He also produced 14 checks signed by Espinoza for \$1,734,000 and says Espinoza had paid back only \$1,400,000 of that amount and thus owes Havanatur \$430,000, including interest charges. Alfonso says the checks were guarantees of payments for flights to be booked by Espinoza.

Alfonso, who has been called a Cuban agent by both Espinoza and sources in the State Department, claims Espinoza made charges after Havanatur stopped him from selling independent flights to Cuba and when American Airways' owner Fuentes Coba refused to continue making \$20 cash payments.

Espinoza claims he was never paid more than \$10 a trip and denies he owes Havanatur \$430,000. He also claims that the money from his independent flights went to the Cuban government through Central Travel, an agency of Havanatur.

The Cuban DGI And Ministers

Another example Espinoza gave of his work for the Cubans involved his trip to Costa Rica to meet a Hugo Assnan, who he claims is both a DGI and KGB agent. Assnan, at that time supplying information and equipment to the Sandinistas in Nicaragua, was in charge of a KGB opera-

Continued on page 84



Desperate, Brave Men Take Enormous Risks Fleeing Hunger, Oppression in Castro's Cuba.

by Jim Graves

'WORKER'S PARADISE IN TROUBLE

Editor's Note: SOF Publisher Robert K. Brown and Associate Editors Jim Graves and N.E. MacDougald have been keeping track of various aspects of the Cuban situation since January. MacDougald, who is in Cuba at this time, helping to bring refugees out, will have another Cuban article in an upcoming issue.

Although it came as something of a surprise to many people — particularly to Fidel Castro — the massive breakout into the Peruvian Embassy in Havana in April was an event almost overdue.

In the preceding five months, Cubans who were no longer interested in being part of Fidel's worker's paradise had taken enormous risks, making spectacular escapes.

Just before the incident at the Peruvian Embassy, five Cubans lashed seven boards to four inner tubes and rigged up a bicycle-powered propeller to attempt the 90-mile-plus voyage from Cuba to Florida. They were almost caught at sea when a Russian ship spotted them and pulled alongside to offer assistance. Knowing the Russians would return them to Cuba if they learned where they had come from, they convinced the Russians they

were Puerto Ricans out on a weekend lark from Miami.

In March, eight Cubans hid inside an 8-by-10-foot cargo container on a quay in Havana. The men took 3½ pounds of bread, two gallons of water and a metal cutter with them. When they hid inside the container they had no idea whatsoever what ship it would be loaded onto. It could have been a Russian or Chinese ship as easily as the one they were loaded into — a 250-foot Liberian freighter with a crew out of Hong Kong. Their container could also have been loaded into a place from which it would have been impossible to escape.

Once at sea, they cut their way out and took over the ship by brandishing five handguns — only one of which worked — telling the 13 crewmen they were escaped convicts, that there were eight more of them aboard and that they had a bomb. All of which were lies but they made it to Key West.

In late February, a Cuban washed ashore in Florida lashed to two inner tubes. Exposure and lack of water had caused his death.

In early February, 67 Cubans hijacked at gun point a dredging barge tied up at Varadero Beach near Havana and headed for Miami. See photo, page 68. After 38 hours and some difficulties with the crew they made it.

SOF contacted two members of the group that hijacked the barge to learn just how they pulled it off and why.

Ramon [not his real name since he still has relatives in Cuba] was one of the leaders of the group that took the barge. He is a thin, wiry type of about 35, full of nervous energy and determination. The real life Cuban model for Ernest L. Hemingway's unforgettable fisherman character in *The Old Man And The Sea* must have been much like Ramon.

Like Hemingway's fisherman, Ramon has had his problems with the sea. And like the fisherman he does not quit easily.

Two months before his successful escape, he and a friend tried to get out by hiding in the bilges of a Greek freighter tied up at Varadero. The ship put out to sea and after a short period of time pulled in again. Ramon and his friend came out of hiding, went over the side and swam to shore. Only then did they learn the ship had pulled into Cienfuegos, Cuba.

When American Marines made a landing at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba, Ramon went to the area. He thought he might spot an opportunity to slip out to the Marines.

In February, another plan they had been working on for months was put into action. Members of their group convinced three members of the six-man crew of a Cuban dredging barge that escape was possible. Crew members who wanted to escape could supply them with enough information to make it practicable if Ramon and his friends could get some guns.

"It was very difficult, nearly impossible, to get guns and bullets in Havana," explained Ramon, "but we were able to obtain three (.32, a .25 and a Makarov). We also had a knife."

The barge was tied up at Varadero, a popular beach near Havana, and thus the problem of getting the people down to it was made a little easier. Even though the Varadero Beach area

swarms with State Security police there are valid reasons for Cubans to be down there.

"Most of the people did not know the name of the boat — for security reasons — even as they were going down to it," explained Ramon. "We had one guide in each group that knew the plan. There was only one guard on the bridge of the boat and we took control of it at 10:00 p.m. Each guide knew that he had to have his group on board by 11:00 p.m."

To prevent the Security Police from being alerted, the guides took their separate groups into unsuspecting areas — a bus stop, an area where children could ride ponies, etc. — and then moved aboard the barge in four groups at 15-minute intervals.

The Cubans' plan to leave at 11:00 was upset because two of the crew members were ashore. Ramon explained it would have been impossible to leave without them, as they would have notified the police if they returned to the dock and the barge was not there.

They had the captain of the barge at the wheel as they pulled out into the channel and he tried to foil the escape by running the barge aground, which he did. "He was being very *pesado* [tiresome, but often used to indicate a person who is disagreeable, or offensive] and as he was endangering our security I was obliged to hit him with a lantern," said Ramon. The captain managed to get the barge afloat after that.

"On the way out of the harbor, we had to pass a motor torpedo boat base at Rat Key," stated Ramon. "When we passed that we had to act like we were working, dredging the harbor."

Once past Rat Key and beyond the 20-mile mark, the 38-hour voyage settled down to one of tedium and thirst. "We did not have any water or food so it was very hard on the women and children," said Jose, another member of the group. "And a lot of them were seasick."

The Cubans' first contact with Americans came just off the Florida coast when they came up on a sailboat that was participating in a race. "We were uncertain where we were," said Jose, "and we approached their boat to get directions."

As the Cubans pulled toward the sailboat, yelling, shouting and crying (because they knew they were free, explained Ramon), the Americans, who didn't know what was coming off, pulled away. The Cubans changed course to catch up; the Americans changed course to get away.

"We had taken all the markings and flags off the barge," said Ramon, "so we took out a Cuban flag, waved it, and were yelling: 'Miami! Miami!'"

At that point the Americans realized the Cubans were not really trying to ram them and called the Coast Guard.

Why They Left

Ramon explained the motivation behind their escape came from worsening conditions in Cuba during the last year. Blight wiped out the tobacco crop — one of Cuba's biggest sources of foreign exchange — and sugar production is way down. As a consequence, food rationing has reached starvation levels.

Secondly, since 1978 Castro has been letting Cuban exiles from the U.S. fly back to visit relatives, and the Cuban people have started to realize that by comparison they are getting short-changed. "Just a humble ordinary worker here has a standard of living that is far above anything anybody has in Cuba," explained Ramon. "Before I came here, I had never tasted Coca-Cola® or a Hershey® chocolate bar.

"The exiles returning are the poison killing Castro's heart."

Ramon's examples of typical rations are staggering: rice, five pounds every 30 days; coffee, one ounce every 15 days; beans, 14 ounces of poor quality beans every 30 days; salt, one-half pound every 30 days; onions, one-half pound every 30 days; cooking grease, 1½ pounds every 30 days; canned milk, three tins every 35 days; powdered milk, one liter for every five persons every other day; meat, 12 ounces every nine days; fruits are a rarity; and all fish products are exported.

Castro, for obvious reasons, does not allow any hunting on the island — if he will not give bullets to most of his troops from fear of a counter-revolution he certainly is not going to let the people have guns and bullets — and fishing is allowed by permit only. "If you are caught fishing without a permit from the State Security police, you go to prison," stated Ramon.

Cubans who have relatives in the countryside can go there and bring back 25 pounds of mixed food. Cubans without relatives in the country must go to the black market. If you have the money, you can buy on the black market but if you are caught buying on the black market you go to jail.

"They are the gods."

The exceptions to that are party members and Russians. "They are the

Continued on page 87

NIGHT AMBUSH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

by Bob Poos



EDITOR'S NOTE: *In order to participate in the following anti-terrorist operation, SOF had to agree, for security reasons, not to divulge the unit's name or even its location other than "somewhere in southern Africa." Most of the men mentioned here are non-citizens of the country for which they work, mainly white men who had been ousted from Kenya or Uganda when black dictatorships assumed power in those countries, although one was a Briton. Bleeding-heart liberals might consider them mercenaries, but in the case of those forced to leave the African countries in which they were born, they are actually refugees.*

✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱
THE unit commander grinned at me and shook his head: "So you want to go along on an anti-terrorist operation, do you? You must be crazy but then many Americans are." (He mentioned SOF Demolitions Editor John Donovan in this context.)

"But you can come along if (and he outlined the above ground rules.) You will be the first writer ever to accompany this unit in a combat operation.

"The men will assemble at my home just before dark tonight. I'll pick you up a little earlier, we'll have a bite to eat and I'll brief you."

The officer left my hotel room and I started to get dressed for the occasion in an old Vietnam U.S. Army jungle fatigue uniform. It had not surprised me when the officer mentioned Donovan. He and SOF Editor/Publisher Bob Brown are legends in southern Africa, particularly out in the bush where people, usually in uniform, appear and inquire about them.

After dinner, the officer said: "Here's the drill. There is a location where terrorists have been ambushing vehicles after dark. We're going to mount some automatic weapons on the undercarriage of a civilian car, two in front and two on either side activated by switches in the front seat. A Land Rover will follow by a few hundred meters. There'll be seven armed men in it, including you and me. I'll be in the passenger seat with an AK-47 and an RPG 7.

"All of us will have AK-47s or RPDs." He smiled: "After all, how can three-fourths of the armies in the world be wrong in their choice of weapons?"

The officer continued: "The terrorists' usual practice is to fire an RPG at the ambushed car. They generally miss but the driver slews over into a ditch and then the terrorists murder all the occupants.

"In this case, we're going to try and surprise them and come up and ambush the ambushers."

He grinned: "You may have your choice of which vehicle you wish to ride in."

I lost no time in assuring him that the "chase ship" would be fine. It is not my idea of a fun evening to be the potential target of an RPG. For that matter I don't like to be the target of any weapon, but RPGs give me a particularly high pucker factor.

The officer's grin widened: "Wise choice, that."

By this time, the men composing the group began to drift in, chatting easily and drinking beer or tea as was their preference. This is something one notices among the military all over southern Africa, an easy informality among of-

ficers and enlisted men. The discipline is there, but it's low key.

We left the house, piled into the vehicles and drove to an armory. The CO came out with several weapons cradled in his arms, which he proceeded to hand out.

"Do you know how to handle an AK-47?" he asked. Then answered himself: "Silly question, that, eh? You were in Vietnam quite some time, weren't you?"

I picked up the weapon, not quite sure that I'd remember all that much about it. But I guess handling an AK is a lot like riding a bike. Once learned you never forget how. Racking in the magazine, chambering a round, removing the mag and unchambering came smoothly and easily. I loaded and chambered once again and put the lightly-oiled, well-cleaned assault rifle on safety, satisfied that I could handle it now.

A light drizzle began to fall and I wearily accepted the fact that, at best, it was going to be an uncomfortable night. I can't ever recall a comfortable military operation. Hopefully that'll happen someday, but I won't hold my breath.

"If we get hit, fire quickly."

A noncom came up and said: "Here's the scenario if we get hit, which I doubt, because of the rain. Terrorists don't like the rain. The ambush will most likely come from the right-hand side of the road. That's what's happened in the past. So we'll have two men with RPDs on the right-hand side of the truck. You and another guy with AKs will be on the left. So will the skipper, of course, in the passenger seat. And we'll have a tail gun-

ner with an RPD. If we get hit, open fire quickly, because there'll undoubtedly be a few terrors on your side, too."

The two vehicles moved out slowly through the drizzle along glistening asphalt streets. The night was as black as Ho Chi Minh's heart, its darkness broken only by an occasional street light shrouded by rain and ground fog.

The noncom said: "When we get outside town, if we should come to a police roadblock, put your weapon on the deck and lie flat. No one knows where we're going or what we're doing and if they see these strange weapons and that funny uniform of yours, we'll have a lot of explaining to do. Particularly the weapons. The cops get all excited about communist bloc guns."

Shortly thereafter, we did indeed hit a police roadblock and I did exactly as instructed, uncomfortable, with the boot of one of my colleagues planted firmly in my face and another in the small of my back.

The CO conversed briefly with a cop at the barrier and we were on our way. Out of sight of the check point, we again stopped, and the CO held a final briefing.

"Probably nothing will happen until we get beyond X (a small town) and then we're going to go 20 or 30 Ks further than we ever have before. I intend to get into it, if we can. We will be in radio communication with the vehicle ahead. Take a leak now, if you feel the need, because there'll be no more stopping until we get to where we're going. You may take your weapons off safety, if you wish."

We all followed both suggestions. Those who smoked lit up and took a couple of quick drags before remounting. Then the lead vehicle moved out. We waited until its twinkling taillights were barely visible in the distance and then the Land Rover driver ground our vehicle into gear and we lurched out onto the highway.

There were no longer lights of any kind and the darkness swallowed us. Sometimes the taillights of the lead vehicle were visible and sometimes they were not, swallowed up in rain and mist or obscured by a rise in the road.

I suddenly was very happy that I had opted to ride in the chase truck. Companionship, particularly with men who obviously know what they are doing, is reassuring. The two RPD men peered over the barrels of their light machine guns. One was a big, hulking man, the other more slightly built but muscular. Both were natives of other African countries who fled because of Marxist politics or confiscatory policies of black governments taking over former colonies. The man crouched next to me was black, loyal to this country. The tail gunner was a white native. All obviously knew their business and handled their weapons with professional ease.

All of us crouched behind the flimsy protection of the truck's thin steel sides, slightly shifting positions from time to time in order to relax cramped limbs. I kept checking to make sure that the six extra AK mags with which I had been supplied were within easy reach.

Weapons swiveled, covering all fields of fire.

After about an hour we rumbled through the main street of a blacked-out town and then left it behind. Now the troopers grew visibly tense. The men swiveled their weapons' barrels from side to side, covering all possible fields of fire.

After awhile it seemed that this would be an interminable trip through this black, rainy African night, pounding along the tarmac although not traveling at top speed, in order to facilitate an ambush if the terrorists felt like springing one. Ordinarily, vehicles move with the accelerator floorboarded at night in this part of the world.

Once I almost opened fire when seeing movement in the bush, but it was only a sapling swaying in the light wind. I was glad that I did not fire prematurely, embarrass myself and perhaps compromise the operation.

Despite the slightly chilly rain, I was sweating with excitement and the adrenalin was pumping. It was nice to see that the same was true of the others.

The only sound occasionally discernible above the hum of the truck's engine and the hissing of tires on the wet pavement was an infrequent whispered message from the CO over his radio to the vehicle ahead.

We plunged deeper and deeper into the bush country for another hour and the CO sent another radio transmission and directly the taillights ahead came more clearly into view. Soon we were directly behind the small civilian car and then both stopped, pulling off the road.

The noncom manning one of the RPDs whispered, "Now we'll deploy out into the ditches for a bit."

We did, although not for long. The CO said, "Well, they didn't hit us on the way out. Maybe we'll get lucky and they will on the way back."

"Let's swap sides."

As we prepared to remount the truck, the RPD noncom said, "Let's swap sides, mate, so we'll have the right guns in the right places if something happens."

But the trip back was much like the one out except that we drove a little more slowly.

As we neared the suburbs, tension eased and men began removing magazines from the AKs and linked belts from the RPDs. I followed suit, slipping the AK mag out and ejecting the chambered cartridge, trying to catch it in the air. But I am clumsy

and dropped it. I retrieved it from the deck and stuffed it back in the magazine.

Back in town, one trooper dropped off at a place where he had left his car, another was left at his barracks and the rest of us returned to the CO's home.

There, the CO's wife was still awake, waiting just as soldier's wives have awaited their husbands' return home from dangerous missions for centuries. "Tea for the lot, hon," he said, and then asked me, "Tea, or something stronger?"

I replied, "What I'd really like is about a double brandy." He grinned and pointed at some bottles on a sideboard. "Help yourself."

"Sorry we couldn't show you some action," the commanding officer said, "but that's the way it goes. Probably the rain kept them inside."

The trooper who drove the little civilian car added, "Yes, really a pity they didn't hit us so we could show you how we react."

I thought of him driving a flimsy little vehicle that was a potential RPG target and that he actually hoped such an ambush would be sprung.

And I said to myself: "That is a very brave man, indeed."



COVERT INTEL LETTER

ASSASSINATIONS
ESPIONAGE
MERCENARIES

SAMPLE/\$1.00 or \$11.00/12 ISSUES
Overseas Air \$15.00/12 issues

(314) 731-0993 Ask for Walt
Nightly 9:00-11 P.M. Local Time

HORIZONE

Box 67, St. Charles, MO 63301, U.S.A.

"WHEN YOU NEED YOUR KNIFE..."

YOU WANT IT SHARP**

Simplify sharpening with
Spyderco's Tri-Angle™ sharpening
system. Pre-set angles of
High Alumina ceramic abrasive
guarantees extremely sharp knife
in minutes. Files any type
metal. Fast, easy sharpening for
home, shop and field. Uses no oil.
Will not wear out.

Money-Back Guarantee
Only \$19.95



*SHARPENS: Knives, scissors,
fishhooks, arrow heads, razors,
hatchets, pointed & cutting
tools, bits and more.

Hamilton • Ross • Dept. S.F.
718 E. 18th Ave. • Denver, CO 80203

FLAK

Continued from page 10

"What the Vietnam Vet Needs" (SOF, May '80), and it's right on target. It's the first time I've seen something in print that tells it like it is for the men that served in 'Nam.

Although I came through my 18 months in Southeast Asia with very few scars, many close friends either did not return or returned less whole physically, the victims of mines, rockets and small-arms fire.

I wish every American would read Webb's article to gain more appreciation of the veterans who gave both physically and mentally to the Vietnam conflict and yet received little support and even less gratitude from the home front. Vietnam was an unpopular war but that does not diminish the courageous efforts of the men who fought and died for their country.

Sincerely,
John D. Moran
Pasadena, California

FIELD GEAR SUGGESTION ...

Sirs:

I would like to pass on information I attained from an experiment this last winter. I bought a fiber-pile jacket (they can be purchased in just about any mountaineering store). During the winter I found that with just a long-sleeved T-shirt, fiber-pile jacket and standard-issue fatigue jacket, I was warm enough to temperatures around

20 degrees. When the temperature dropped below that, I replaced the fatigue jacket with a field jacket and I was quite warm.

Most individuals are familiar with the idea of dressing in layers, but unfortunately go about this wrong. They have all items of clothing the same size. If one has to be out in cold weather, each item of clothing should be a size larger than the layer it covers so as to not restrict movement or circulation. I had to learn this the hard way on a tour of duty in the arctic.

Sincerely,
Joseph Marrano, Jr.
Chicago, Illinois

SF MEDIC OFFERS HELP ...

Sirs:

I have just read James Fender's "Looking After No. 1" (SOF, May '80). As an SF medic who's had time in the bush, operated a base camp dispensary and gone on working operations, I respect Fender for his conservative approach. In my opinion no one should begin an operation without medical support.

Medical treatment in combat requires improvising to keep patients alive as well as making them reasonably comfortable. I would be more than happy to teach anyone medical diagnostic techniques and treatment in this area, whether operational team member or hunter. A physician once told me a combat medic had to be an expert in emergency trauma. I have a library of up-to-date text references and

most equipment can be secured from medical warehouses.

T.J. Baldwin
U.S. Army Readiness Grp (SPT)
 Ft. Sill, OK 73503

PISTOL ERROR CAUGHT ...

Sirs:

Re: "I Was There" by Erich R. Szilagy as published in May 1980 SOF, Erich Szilagy may be one hell of a pig sticker with his bamboo spear but I cannot for the life of me figure out how he can slip a round into his .45, let the hammer down slowly and snap the safety on, etc.

My Colt .45 Government Model safety won't snap on unless the hammer is all the way back (cocked and locked a la Cooper). Szilagy must be in possession of a one-of-a-kind prototype.

Very truly yours,
Emil W. Nych
Jamaica, New York

Szilagy goofed and so did we — thanks to all of you who caught our error. —The Eds.



*Precision is something
Germans are famous for . . .
but Heckler & Koch
makes an art of it!*

*H & K's VP70Z 9mm
SELF-LOADING PISTOL*

**Accurate...
Reliable... And
Available Now!**

- Magazine capacity: 18 rounds
- Only 4 movable operating parts—ensures shooting accuracy and absolute reliability
- Sights are based on light and shadow effect—aiming is possible even under unfavourable lighting and visibility conditions
- Calibre 9mm x 19 (Para)

H&K

AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY!

HECKLER & KOCH, INC.

933 N. KENMORE ST., SUITE 218
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201 • (703) 525-3182

Write for our 20-pg. catalog of new and exciting H&K weapons. Include \$2.00 for postage and handling.

**LASER ENGRAVED
WALNUT GUN GRIPS**



**.45 AUTO
GOVT MODEL**

POWERFUL LASERS ARE USED
TO CARVE OR BURN OUT
THE RECESSED AREAS

\$24.95 PLUS \$1.00
POSTAGE & HANDLING
CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS ADD 8 PERCENT SALES TAX

To order or for free
brochure write to:

CUSTOM DESIGN Dept. SF
P.O. BOX 228 FULTON, CA. 95438



**INGRAM-MAC M10 & M11
(.380, 9MM, .45)**

Operation and maintenance manual contains 35 illustrated, detailed pages. Info on operation, disassembly, cleaning, maintenance. \$4.40

Money Order or Credit Card Only
IN STORE or BY MAIL • Catalog \$1.00

SURVIVAL BOOKS
11106 Magnolia Boulevard
North Hollywood, California 91601
(213) 763-0804

**SOUTH AFRICAN
REPORT & COMMENTS**

BE INFORMED OF
EVENTS & HAPPENINGS
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

**\$12.00 PER YEAR - U.S.A.
\$15.00 PER YEAR - ABROAD**

FOR SUBSCRIPTION SEND CHECK
OR MONEY ORDER TO:

S.A.R.
P.O. BOX 34-1728
CORAL GABLES, FLA. 33134

★ ★ ★ ★
VOTE
★ ★ ★ ★

**THE
MX MILITARY EXCHANGE**

If it's military, MX is for you! MX is the international monthly paper to advertise your sales and find your bargains. MX covers all arms, vehicles, equipment and supply - land, sea, and air. \$6.00 for 12 monthly issues. Act now and get 2 extra months free. Low classified rates start at 9¢ each word. Display ad rates just as attractively priced. MX, The Military Exchange, P. O. Box 3, Dept. SF, Torrington, CT 06790.

29 PALMS
Continued from page 59

The Missing Air Strikes

One of Glasgow's responsibilities, as commanding general of the Combat Center, is to see that each CAX commander has adequate armor, transport, artillery and air support. The battalions going on a CAX bring all weapons generic to the unit, but tanks, amtracs, artillery and air support are supplied from units at 29 Palms or other bases in California, although most of the crews come in with the battalion. But during the counterattack on the second night the air strikes didn't materialize for Badolato and 12 hours later sparks were still shooting out of Glasgow's eyes.

"I fussed and raised hell about the fact somebody clicked the air off yesterday afternoon. That's totally unsat but it's not Badolato's fault that it's unsat. People came up and said they had crosswinds on the runway. Well, hell, El Toro is sitting up there less than 20 minutes away in a fixed wing and all I've gotta do is to say, 'Stay open.'

"And the point is, the point in mind during a Combined Arms Exercise, is that the commander has all assets available. The commandant won't let me let one of Badolato's tubes go down. If he's got six tubes out there in his artillery battery firing and one of them goes down, then I've got to get another 105 out there to him. Because the commandant has said that the commander will have everything that he could conceivably be entitled to, simply to show every Marine officer and enlisted man in his outfit that this is what it [a battalion] can do. Well, somebody, without my knowing about it until too late, said, 'We're going to check the air tonight.'

"That's totally unsat. There's no reason in the world the aircraft couldn't have flown last night with the radar beacon and even visual ordnance was all right. Where we're flying for drops that are 1,500 meters in front of the troops, on targets that are lit by illum [illumination flares], there is not a problem in the world with it and it should have been flown last night. We'll get to the bottom of that during the rest of the week.

"We do this without any thought in the world throughout all our training everywhere. All of a sudden it starts raining, or something comes up and people begin to find a way to keep from doing it. Well, we really have too much money invested in this to do that."

The Future For 29 Palms

If anything, training in the Mojave Desert, and at 29 Palms specifically, will pick up in the years ahead. Since 1975, over 200,000 Marines have participated in

exercises at 29 Palms and an unknown number of Army troops have trained there between CAXs, in both small and large units. The Combined Arms Training Program is designed to allow each of the 27 Marine Corps infantry battalions to participate in a CAX within a three-year period.

The airfield at Camp Wilson, completed in 1976, is both long enough and strong enough to regularly handle C-141 Starlifters. C-5A transports landed and took off there in 1978. There are several construction projects under way today at 29 Palms, the largest being expansion of the First Field Service Support Group maintenance area, expansion of the equipment allowance pool and construction on a \$3.2 million exercise support base at Camp Wilson, which would be able to support a brigade-sized force during training exercises, started in January.

Glasgow pointed out that the area was large enough to accommodate larger exercises, but they would require significant expansion of equipment inventories and facilities to keep the equipment running.

One obvious reason for expansion is that by training there the Marine Corps could very well be getting ready for the next war on very similar terrain to what many judge it will be fought on.

Badolato passes that off as mere coincidence, since the Marines started increasing activity at 29 Palms long before most people became aware that the U.S. had vital national interests in desert areas. "But it does make it pretty convenient to come out here and have wide open spaces, just like you would have in the desert."

Then staring off at the stark terrain in Delta Corridor, Badolato, who was in the Middle East for five years, said: "This is exactly the same as the Sinai. You could take a picture here and one of the Sinai and you couldn't tell the difference. The same black and red hills, iron deposits and sharp volcanic rock.

SOF And The Marines

"I tell ya, I don't know, SOF magazine must be getting pretty big. We see a hell of a lot of it around the barracks. The troops really like to read it. To tell you the truth, I pick it up and read it myself. I really enjoy it and the troops are reading it. That's the opening test with these guys. Some of these guys don't look like they can walk and chew gum, but some of these people are reading *Kramer vs. Kramer*. I ask 'em, 'Why don't you read some of the skin books,' they say, 'No, we'd rather read this.'

"The Marines will always fool you. Don't ever underestimate them — don't ever underestimate them. You just gotta love 'em. They're full of surprises and they're just super young men.

"And we hope this training, if we have to go to war and even if we don't have to

go to war, in the near future, will give us a house built with a solid professional base-ment. They know what it takes. Go through this thing with a good outfit and you see how well it clicks. These kids, when they go through this, even if they don't go to war, when they go to another outfit they're going to carry this training.

"I hope when you write your story, you don't make the Army too damn jealous. They'll try to buy it from us."



Brig. Gen. H.G. Glasgow

THE MARINE CORPS TODAY

"THE guys are still as tough, still as gungy and still as smart as they ever were."

Lt. Col. Ed Badolato, commanding officer of the Third Battalion, Sixth Marines, at Camp Lejeune, N.C., admits there are differences between today's Marines and the "Old Corps" but it's clear he doesn't think them significant.

The "Old Corps" came into existence in 1775 when the first Marine enlisted man grabbed the second, slammed him against the bulkhead in Philadelphia's Tun Tavern and screamed: "Stand at attention, maggot, while I tell you how it was in the 'Old Corps'." A difference of just one digit in serial numbers enables one Marine to tell another how it was in the "Old Corps" — before they turned Parris Island into a country club.

But to a point the "Old Corps" syndrome is very real. The Sgt. Strykers of Iwo Jima fame undoubtedly looked back on the "China Marines" with as much awe as the Korea-era Marines looked back on him. Humping along

SOF SPONSORS SHOOT

THIS is going to be it.

The first annual Soldier of Fortune three-gun combat match, held in conjunction with the first annual Soldier of Fortune convention.

The match will be held at Ray Chapman's range and firearms school near Columbia, Mo., and the convention in a Columbia motel. The match will be a three-gun affair, pistol, riot-type shotgun and assault rifle.

Details on the various courses are presently being worked out by Chapman and SOF contributors Ken Hackathorn and Tom Wilkinson and details will be published a later issue of SOF.

The match and convention will be the weekend of Sept. 26-28, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Top cash award will be no less than \$1,000 and there will be many other prizes, including some weapons. Again, details will follow.

There will be films, seminars and other events of interest to SOF readers, plus a banquet for contestants and convention attendees.

Entry fee for shooters will be about \$50, and convention attendees will pay about \$25, for which they will be eligible to attend the banquet, be spectators at the match, enjoy the seminars and other associated events and meet many of the people they've been reading about for years.

In order to be a convention delegate, one must be a confirmed SOF subscriber — but if you've been buying the magazine regularly at your local newsstand, SOF will have subscription blanks available at the scene.

Among the people you will be able to meet will be SOF Editor/Publisher Robert K. Brown, Hackathorn, Wilkinson, Adventure Quartermaster editor N.E. MacDougald and many others who have written for — or been written about — in the pages of SOF.

Seminars will include discussions of the Vietnam and Rhodesian wars by men who have fought in one — or both — and who will analyze them.

Contestants in the shooting matches will bring their own weapons and ammo. Calibers will be minimum 9mm, 12 gauge and 7.6mm or .30 caliber rifle — not carbine.

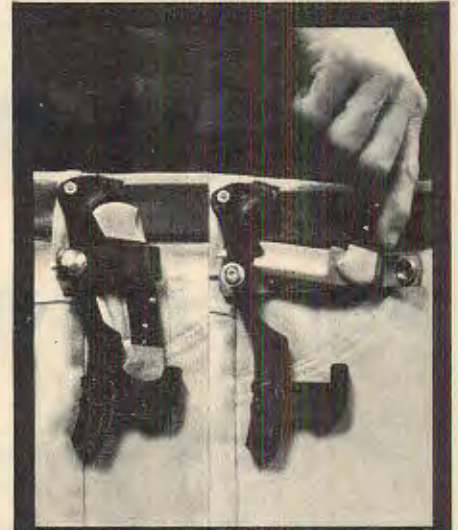
There will be many displays and exhibits of interest to SOFers and you will be meeting the kind of people you enjoy being around.

We will be looking forward to meeting you September 27 or thereabouts.



So the Sting™

Now, the Holster Originally Designed for Military and Police Use is Available to You!



The Sting holster is the most efficient way to carry and *instantly* use your fold lock knife. Designed for the military, police and fire departments, The Sting's revolutionary concept lets you one-handedly un-holster your safely closed and secured knife into a fully open and locked position ... *in less than a second!* And, you can re-holster it almost as quickly. Constructed to last for years of steady use, The Sting has a special safety snap that makes it the perfect holster for hunting, fishing, boating and other strenuous activities. Fits just about any fold lock knife 3½ to 5 inches (closed) due to a fully adjustable catch. If you're into knives, put your knife into The Sting. Order today!

**PFM 2640 S.W. 28th Ln.
Miami, Florida 33133**

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS: This coupon is also your return mailing label — so please print *legibly* with ballpoint pen or typewriter. Cut out coupon, mail with check or money order for \$5.95 (includes shipping, handling & postage). This offer void where prohibited by law.

SEND TO:
Please print or typewrite

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

SF

NEW!

**NEVER BEFORE IN PRINT!
THREE MARTIAL ARTS BOOKS**

KUNG FU

Can your Chi be felt 25 feet away? These exercises show you how it can be done. "KUAN SHU: The Ancient Taoist Boxing" shows how it can be done. Taoist internal Kung Fu; no meditation or breathing exercises. \$8.95 per copy.

MONOGRAPHS

An extension of the book "KUAN SHU". Each Monograph takes a certain aspect of the basic study and gives more data and exercises to expand your training. #1 "CHI", #2 "STANDING", #3 "USE OF CHI TO DEVELOP PUNCHING", #4 "FORMS", #5 "THE CLOSED FIST", #6 "FORM AND NO-FORM".

\$2.50 each or full set of 6 for only \$12.00

KNIFE FIGHTERS

"CORNICAN STEEL" complete manual of exercises for the knife fighters. Tips and Techniques of Marseille street fighters for knife work. NEW! \$8.95 each

To order any of the books in this ad, send money order or certified check to: SHANNACH, 432 South 51 West Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74127. We do not mail C.O.D. Personal checks delay your order by 3 weeks.

the DMZ, carrying 75 pounds of gear in incredibly hot Vietnam, the "Grunts" wondered how on earth mere men could make that famous march to the sea in Korea.

There is much written today about what damage has been done to the armed services by the elimination of the draft and the Vietnam experience. Today's troops are thought to be dumber, weaker and possessed of less discipline than our older ones.

Maybe, maybe not.

Badolato proudly points out that Marines still wear their hair short, their mustaches trimmed, train hard, hump with 70 pounds of gear, know how to shoot and hit what they shoot at, how to take orders and still refer to walls as bulkheads.

"We give the public their tax dollar's worth," said Badolato. "Anybody that tells you different is wrong. They say we need a draft to get the college guys in or we need this and that. I'm not saying we don't need those guys but it's more important to have guys with the motivation and ability to do the job. To go up and take that hill!

"When things are tough and a man's gotta take a step, knowing it could be the last step he'll ever take in his life, he'll do it if he's a trained, professional soldier.

"In battle you can count on these guys to do the job."

Brig. Gen. H.G. Glasgow, the commanding officer at 29 Palms, concurred with Badolato on the quality of today's Marines, and was also optimistic about the Marine Corps as a whole.

"I feel good about it," said Glasgow. "I feel as strongly about it today as I have since Korea."

Because of the Combined Arms Program, "You've got a lot of Marines walking around now that know they can get across a river," explained Glasgow. "They know that because they know they can identify and hit targets — big targets with big stuff."

Big targets, with big stuff.

If there is a difference between the Marine Corps today and the Marine Corps of yesterday, it comes from emphasis on armor, artillery and mechanized transport.

After a day-and-a-half in fruitless pursuit of the action at 29 Palms, we were standing on a low hill at Dime Dingo when the "war came on us." It came with clanks, roars and much flying of sand as a column of tanks, amtracs, jeeps and trucks moved by us to a new position.

A Marine major, in a *Marine Corps Gazette* article titled "Headlong Down The Road To Extinction," referred to mechanized/motorized task force operations at 29 Palms as the Corps "in" activity.

HUNT IN AFRICA FOR PEANUTS!

1980 Safari & Airfare Only \$3995

SUPER HUNT is an adventure of a lifetime at an affordable price.

Collect fine trophies in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia including kudu, sable, impala, zebra and other species. Opportunities to shoot dangerous game: lion, elephant, buffalo & leopard.

SUPER HUNT is an all-inclusive package of seven days in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, guaranteed five game trophies, airfare from New York, and first class accommodations with english speaking guides. Season runs until 15 November.

Bring your hunting partner along & each receive a 10% discount on SUPER HUNT.

Write or call for full details.

D. E. Whitla, Managing Director
THE HUNTING SAFARI COMPANY, Ltd.
903 Melissa Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78213
tel 512 344 6563

Worldwide Safari-Shikar Agents & Outfitters



He describes it as "... An era of ... dust-goggled commanders gazing out upon sweeping vistas of sun and sand. Along with it has come the vision of every Marine as a composite of Rommel-Patton, needing only a gold football helmet, pearl-handled revolvers, riding boots and a field marshal's baton to complete the image of warlike splendor."

As the writer implied in his title, he considers the Corps' flirtation with *blitzkrieg* warfare a mistake: "The further we remove ourselves from the Navy in an attempt to become another Army, the closer we will come to being absorbed into that Army. Make no mistake, there are minds thinking of just that."

The Corps is concentrating on mechanization and on development of tactics which would be used if it were employed against a foe in a mechanized mode. But there are some very valid reasons for doing so.

Until quite recently, the Vietnam experience led to a certain reluctance on the part of our country to consider use of troops in a "third-world" war. Remember, "No More Vietnams." The idea was America would not fight unless it was an "us against them" Armageddon scenario. The big war was supposed to start on Europe's plains, and as a consequence the Corps' NATO responsibilities were expanded. It was also generally accepted that light-infantry would not fare well against a foe backed by extensive armor and equipped with the latest in shoulder-fired "do-dads" the technology boys keep coming up with.

Glasgow said he was convinced when he went to Germany to watch maneuvers: "I was like everybody else, until I went out and was exposed to their [German] thinking and reality. I thought straight-leg Marine infantry could survive. There wasn't a question in my mind but that we'd find a way — we'd go underground or whatever we had to do — we could do it. But I came away convinced that we couldn't and a man is foolish to think that we can."

Critics claim that the Marine Corps does not have adequate armor, artillery, mechanized transport, air or anti-tank capabilities to take on a well-equipped armored foe.

There may be some validity there, since a Marine Corps unit employed in a mechanized mode would be riding to the war primarily in the LVTP7. That vehicle was introduced in 1972 with an expected design life of 10 years. Although plans were afoot to produce a Landing Vehicle Assault (LVA) — a faster, better armored and armed vehicle — the LVA was canceled in February 1979. It would not be practical for the Marine Corps to procure the Army's Infantry Fighting Vehicle

ANNOUNCING THE ALL NEW 22 AUTO NINE .22LR High Velocity



Light Recoil
Fully Machined
6 Groove Rifling
Cocking Indicator
Pushbutton Safety
Superb Balance & Pointing
9 Oz. Loaded (8 1/4 oz. empty)
Smaller Than Colt Jr. .25 Auto
Hard Chromed Slide & Magazine
9 Shots (8 in magazine, 1 in chamber)
Support Sleeve Bushing for Accuracy

FTL MARKETING CORP.

12521-3 OXNARD STREET
NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CA. 91606

NUNCHAKU

Powerful, but Compact
Weapon from the East!

Many times more effective than knives or clubs, even against multiple attacks. Whipping motion afforded by flexible connection between handles yields many times the speed and power of just a straight stick. Patented Swivel-Chain provides smoothness with ultimate strength. Made of Jungle hardwood similar to Teak. African Rosewood models are finished in clear laquer to show off their fine red color. Both hardwood and rosewood models are very strong and hard. All handles taper from 1 1/4" to 1" at connecting end. 12" lengths are most popular and give a little extra speed. 14" gives a bit more power and reach.

Throwing Star That Sticks Every Time!

SHURIKEN



\$3.25
No. 226

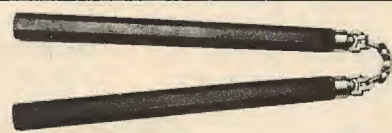
\$1.50
No. 200

80¢
No. 201

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 1/2" & sharpened. High grade steel.



FREE!
SEND FOR
YOUR'S NOW

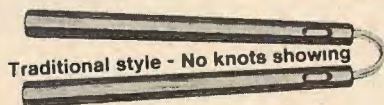


OCTAGON Chain Style Each
NO. 114 - 14 IN., 15 OZ., Black \$8.95
NO. 115 - 12 IN., 14 OZ., Black

NO. 102 - 14 IN., 17 OZ., Rosewood \$11.95
NO. 103 - 12 IN., 16 OZ., Rosewood



ROUND Chain Style Each
NO. 120 - 14 IN., 15 OZ., Black \$8.95
NO. 113 - 12 IN., 14 OZ., Black



OCTAGON Nylon Strung Style Each
NO. 106 - 14 IN., 12 OZ., No finish \$4.95
NO. 107 - 12 IN., 11 OZ., No finish

Nunchaku Carrying Case - No. 134 \$2.95
Black vinyl, zippered case fits all nunchaku.

Book - **NUNCHAKU & SAI** No. 9090 - \$7.95
By Ryusho Sakagami. Complete nunchaku training manual. Extra clear multiple photo technique shows how to use this amazing weapon.

BANKAMERICARD & MASTER CHARGE
Accepted for orders over \$20. Give number and expiration date. Sign order same as signature appears on card. **PHONE ORDERS BY CREDIT CARD ACCEPTED.** Sorry, no collect calls. **MONEY ORDER or CERTIFIED CHECK** assures prompt shipment. Personal checks are held for clearance.

SEND YOUR ORDER TO
DOLAN'S SPORTS

Dept. SF, Hwy 547
Farmingdale, NJ 07727

ADD SHIPPING CHARGES

Orders under \$10 — 75¢
\$10 to \$20 — \$1.00
Over \$20 — \$1.50



The Practical SURVIVALIST NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 1365
Medford, Oregon 97501



SURVIVE THE COMING ECONOMIC CRISIS! Emphasis on practical, useful items & info you can afford. Survival Firearms, Food, Location, Barter Items, Reloading & Bullet Making. Economics, and more, arranged in levels of preparation - with all costs! Authoritative, Professional, up-to-date info & product tests. Non-disclosure monthly mailing. List & inquiries are strictly confidential! Send SASE for more information. \$80. per year. Survivalist Weapons and Reloading. \$8.95 plus 1.00 postage & handling.

Randall and Custom Knives



For survival, fighting and general use. Large selection for immediate delivery. Satisfaction guaranteed by our return policy. Complete coupon and send \$2 for glossy color photos and detailed list.

NORDIC KNIVES
1634C-4 COPENHAGEN DRIVE
SOLVANG, CA. 93463

RUSH Photos and List to:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
 \$2 enclosed. Zip _____

FRENCH FIGHTING CANE

CARRY YOUR WEAPON—

UNCONCEALED! READY! ALERT!
INCONSPICUOUS!
IN ANY SITUATION . . .

Walnut - - - -	\$31.95
Rosewood - - -	\$35.95
Zebrawood - - -	\$33.95
Cocobolo - - -	\$37.95

37" Long - Brass Tip
Instruction Pamphlet

CASCADE
Box 1133, Twin Falls, Idaho
83301



COMMANDO™ WATCHBAND

Indestructible Nylon Band with Exclusive Crystal Cover Strap!



Protects your Watch

Conceals Nighttime Glow

Heavy-Duty, Resin Treated Type 8 Mil-Spec Web, 1-23/32". Sewn with nylon thread. Nearly indestructible and will not rot. Hook-n-Loop closures secure the cover and our unique double-locking wrist band. Will not come off even under stress. Washable. Measure wrist to nearest 1/4" and specify color. Olive, Black, Sage Green, Navy.

Order now, only \$5.50, postpaid.

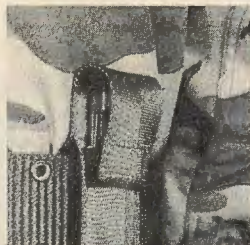
BRIGADE'S KNIFE POUCH

A fitting accessory for most pocket knives. Made of the same material as our Commando Watchband. Regular size fits most pocket knives and all width belts. Hook-n-Loop protective flap keeps knife safe and ready when you need it. Same color choices. **PCH-ST, only \$3.95**

PCH-XL, Extra Large size for Buck size knives and Champion. Specify type. **Olive, Black or Tan.** **Just \$4.95**

NYLON PARAPACK COMMANDO WALLET

Made to our specifications. Rugged Parapack or Cordura Nylon Cloth. Durable. Water repellent finish. Rugged, 5 pocket wallet, stows I.D., Credit Cards and Money. Velcro® strip keeps wallet securely closed. Rot resistant, floatable, washable, form fitting and mighty comfortable. Now available in **Olive, Black, Red, Brown, Blue and Camouflage.** **Now \$8.25 postpaid**



Order these action products by sending your check or money order to:

Brigade Quartermasters, Ltd.
Box 108-L, Powder Springs, Ga. 30073
Phone Orders: (404) 943-9336

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE



(IFV) since it lacks ship-to-shore capability. The Corps budget is not such that it could afford LVTP7s for amphibious operations and IFVs for land operations.

Glasgow says the mechanized task force test that was run at 29 Palms in 1979 has proved that the LVTP7 can "... carry our troops anywhere that we need them." Nonetheless it is a strange sight to see amphibious tractors rolling through the desert.

Although the Corps has only three tank battalions (about 159 tanks), Glasgow is convinced the Corps has all the armor it needs. He thought, however, that with a significant commitment of forces there would be a need for more LVTCs, the amtracs fitted out with communications gear for commanders. The plan has always been that each battalion would have two LVTCs at most, but Glasgow says each company commander should also operate out of a LVTC — that would push the requirement to five per battalion. He also said the Marine Corps is moving now to have more LVTCs available to a battalion.

Badolato likes using the LVTP7. He pointed out that they provide protection from overhead and side fire from small arms and shrapnel which will enable a battalion commander to get more men to a position where they can get out and go into an assault, and as many a grunt would agree, he said: "Why the hell walk, when you can ride."

It is rather startling to see dust-goggled Marines clanking around in the desert, but, as Glasgow says, as long as there is the possibility that Marine units could be committed to actions far from the shore they have to "have the capability to survive."



EAGLES

Continued from page 32

By 7 May, the victorious Polish army captured Kiev on the banks of the Dneiper, 400 miles inside the Ukraine in Russia. At Beluga Tserkov, 30 miles from Kiev, the Kosciuszko Squadron took up permanent quarters. Pilsudski wanted to trap the Bolshevik army, force it to stand for a decisive battle. The week before Poland's attack, portions of Ukrainia rebelled against their Bolshevik occupiers. Ukrainian soldiers in the Bolshevik army defected, deserted or refused to fight. Other Bolshevik units, confused both by this rebellion behind the lines and Poland's strong attack on their front, retreated.

But Pilsudski and his staff realized victory was hollow without destruction of the Bolshevik army. Already reinforcements were streaming toward the Dneiper River. The northern army had more than

400,000 men and the southern front received some 355,000. For the next few weeks, the Bolsheviks prepared their counter-offensive. Pilsudski stopped his armies, unwilling to penetrate or stretch his lines further.

For the American flyers, it was a joyous respite. During this month, they became gradually aware of the growing threat to the Polish army. Increasing numbers of Bolshevik army units moved in behind the Dneiper, and huge flotillas of Bolshevik supply barges and troop transports floated downriver from the north.

Ambush!

On one occasion, as Maj. Fauntleroy flew along the railroad between the towns of Kazatin and Fastov, he spotted a Bolshevik cavalry force of some 2,000 troops mining the rails and setting up an enormous ambush.

Flying up the track, he saw why. A Polish troop train, carrying thousands of soldiers, was approaching, unaware of the ambush. Fauntleroy dived at the locomotive, trying to force the engineer to stop. Engineer and troops waved and cheered at the Polish markings, as Fauntleroy dived lower and lower.

He flew the length of the train, waving his arms wildly, but the men laughed and waved, marveling at his skill. Finally, he had to climb to get above clumps of trees.

Someone on the train pulled the emergency brake. Landing at a nearby clearing, Fauntleroy ran to the train, flourishing his Polish credentials. Curious Polish officers surrounded him. An English-speaking officer approached him and translated for the troop commander. Hearing of the ambush, the commander quickly deployed his troops in fighting formation. The ambush was just around the bend — close enough to walk to. Fauntleroy climbed back into the cockpit and took off in support.

The Polish assault was short and thorough, decimating the unprepared Bolsheviks. Thanks to Fauntleroy, the hunters became the hunted, and a major Polish army unit was saved. For his rescue of the trainload of troops, Fauntleroy was later awarded the *Virtuti Militari* by Marshal Pilsudski.

Lloyd George says, "No."

Portentous events occurred during the Bolshevik build-up. Pilsudski's preemptive attack was condemned by countries from which Poland needed support, including England's Labor prime minister, Lloyd George, who advised Pilsudski to preserve peace at any price. George realized the serious threat to Western Europe and England. He continued to insist — even when the Poles were winning — that Pilsudski should capitulate to all Bolshevik demands — including dissolution of Pilsudski's government and the ar-

Chuck Taylor Commando Special

BOMAR DELUXE SIGHT
"Buried" into slide with
all corners and edges
rounded.

BACK OF SLIDE
CHECKED
50 lines per inch

MAGAZINE WELL
BEVELED
for easy magazine
insertion

BARREL RAMPED
for feeding of HP/SWC

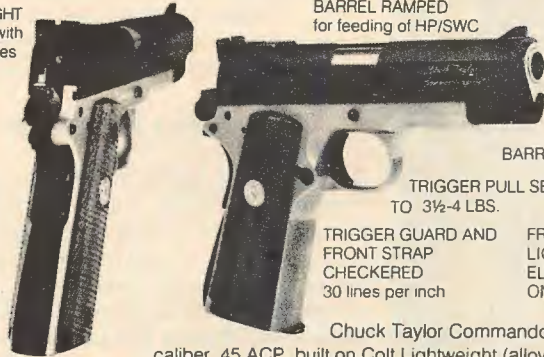
FRONT SIGHT
RAMPED AND
SERRATED
Hi-temp. silver sol-
dered in place
FITTED MUZZLE
BUSHING

BARREL RECROWNED

TRIGGER PULL SET
TO 3½-4 LBS.

TRIGGER GUARD AND
FRONT STRAP
CHECKERED
30 lines per inch

FROSTED FRAME ON
LIGHTWEIGHTS
ELECTROLESS NICKLE
ON STEEL FRAME



Chuck Taylor Commando Special, caliber .45 ACP, built on Colt Lightweight (alloy frame) or Combat Commander (steel frame). Ideal Personal Defence "carry gun"... if you must. Light weight model \$600.00. Steel frame model \$650.00. Price subject to change. Post paid anywhere in the U.S., FFL required, 50% deposit required. Balance of payment before shipment.

Long trigger, oversize grip safety, speed safety, ambidextrous safety and other options are available at extra cost.

Delivery time is usually 30-45 days depending on availability from Colt.

SPORTS WEST, INC.

Ikey Starks • George Orndorff

2200 West Alameda Ave.
Alameda Sq. Shopping Center
Denver, Colorado 80223 (303) 934-4466



Telephone Listening Device

Record telephone conversations in your office or home. Connects between any cassette or tape recorder and your telephone or telephone LINE. Starts automatically when phone is answered. Records both sides of phone conversation. Stops recorder when phone is hung up. This device is not an answering service.



size 1cu

Each
\$18.95

Qty. Disc Avail.

Super Powerful Wireless Mic

10 times more powerful than other mics. Transmits up to ¼ mile to any FM radio. Easy to assemble kit. 15V battery (not incl.) Call (305) 725-1000 or send \$18.95 + \$1.00 shipping per item to USI Corp., P.O. Box T-2052, Melbourne, FL 32901. COD's accept. For catalog of transmitters, voice scramblers and other specialty items, enclose \$2.00 to USI Corp.



size 2"x3"x¼"

LOWER RECEIVER BLANKS

WITH MAGAZINE WELL IN, MANUFACTURED FROM AIRCRAFT ALUMINUM ALLOY.

LIMITED QUANTITY OFFERED

No License Needed

- May Be Sold To

ANYONE.



\$49.95 + 2.00 Postage and Insurance
Catalog \$2.00 + SASE (Refundable w/order).
A full line of standard and specialized M-16:
"Plus MAC-10 and MAC-11," parts also
available. Scientific Sup-
pressors available.

Send orders to:

J.H. Trager

P.O. BOX 23174
DETROIT, MI. 48223
(313) 537-8021

NEED NEW ID?...CREDIT?

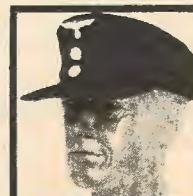
Start life over! Here's how:

Change your name/age • Cover past
Disappear perfectly • Beat the bill collector
Get degrees, better jobs • AAA credit, credit cards, too!

YES! IT CAN BE DONE!



EDEN PRESS, INC.
Write: 15751 Brookhurst #112-D
Westminster, CA 92683



NAZI-Collectors M-43 Style
Black S-S Caps. Only \$15.00
Postpaid. Order your size
NOW. Our 224 page fully il-
lustrated catalog only \$3.00 (free
with order).

Over 40,000 Items in Stock
W.W. #2 Ltd. (F) Box #2063
St. Louis, MO. 63158



The "Woolly Pully"!

**Long Traditional with British Services
100% Virgin Wool Sweater**

British-made with matching rugged twill reinforcing patches. Mens, womens sizes 32 to 48.

Get yours postpaid for only \$49.95.

A great ribbed knit sweater for backpacking, boating, hunting and all cold weather activities. Extra long body prevents "ride-up". Reinforcing patches over shoulders and elbows for nearly "everlasting" wear. Home washable. Choose from **Olive Green, Navy, Blue-Gray, Forest Green and V-Neck, Tan.**

OLIVE GREEN AUTHORIZED BY U.S. MARINES FOR OPTIONAL WEAR



W. GERMAN PARATROOPER BOOTS
"FALLSCHIRMSPRINGERSTIEFEL"

The original German Airborne Issue Boot Prized by those that know. Rugged and comfortable beyond compare. Black Leather uppers that'll take a shine. Patented speed lacing system. Fully lined with cushioned protection for ankle bones. Closed tongue, waterproofed, double stitched, hygenic. Non-slip rubber heel and half-sole. A boot for every jumper or hiker. Sizes 6 to 12, Regular & Wide only. **Now \$99.95.**

Special jump Inserts.

The **ULTIMATE**. Molded to conform to the foot. **Specify Size \$7.95**



TEAKWOOD PARACHUTE WINGS

Beautifully hand carved in Thailand. Framed and ready to be displayed. Last chance to obtain. **Closeout. \$21.50**

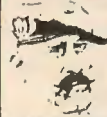


CAMOUFLAGE T-SHIRTS

At last, a regulation 'Nam Leaf Pattern' Camo T-Shirt. Full Cut, 50/50 blend for comfort. Perfect match with Jungle Fatigues. Sizes S, M, L & XL.
Short Sleeve - \$5.95
Long Sleeve - \$7.95

"DOG TAGS"

Complete G.I. Specification Identification Necklace. 2 stainless steel plates and chains embossed with your information. 16 characters per line/5 lines/tag. Great for medical info or identifying keys & luggage.
Set, only \$5.95



BERETS, Mil-Spec 100% Virgin Wool, fully lined, leather sweat band, **S.F. Green, Airborne Red, Ranger Black, Khaki.** State Head
Size in inches. **\$10.50**

UTILITY CAP, USMC Type 2, new issue, camo pattern, S.M.L., - **\$5.00**

"NAME TAPES"

Mil-Spec web with embroidered info. Choice of **Black on O.D., White on Blue or Black on White.** For uniforms, personal equipment, etc. 4 tapes for \$3.95. Any info can be embroidered.



W. GERMAN ARMY UTILITY KNIFE, Victorinox made w/OD scales. 4 tools, **SAK-542, Special - \$11.95**

Money back guarantee. All items postpaid CONUS. Send check, Money Order or Visa and Master Charge, C.O.D. (Please \$15 minimum for charging or C.O.D.) to:



Brigade Quartermasters, Ltd.

Box 108-L, Powder Springs, Ga. 30073

SEND FOR FREE CATALOGUE

Phone Orders:

(404) 943-9336

ming of certain Red-controlled unions, in effect asking Poland to once again turn herself into a Russian colony.

Lloyd George saw his position as logical. Even had he wanted to provide Poland with equipment, Red-dominated English dock unions refused to load anything on ships bound for that country. He could not intervene militarily — most of England's World War I army had been demobilized — and he saw no way to convince the English nation to support another war in Europe.

France's problem was similar, although it did send a major shipment of 75mm cannon. Other countries in Central and Baltic Europe attempted to send aid, but Red-led strikes and riots prevented anything from coming through.

America allowed food for relief programs to go to Poland and continued to support extensive Red Cross medical effort already there. Eventually, the U.S. agreed to provide support for 10 Polish infantry divisions, but it arrived too late.

In Russia, the Politburo met. In view of the Russian army's retreat, it was decided to send in their top troubleshooter — Commissar of the Red Army and Politburo-member Leon Trotsky. Then, the commissar, or political officer, outranked his military counterpart.

Trotsky and Stalin step in.

Trotsky brought Russia's leading strategist, Gen. Mikhail Tukhachevsky, with him to take operational control of the Bolshevik forces. Trotsky and Tukhachevsky took command of the larger northern front while retaining authority over the southern forces.

Commissar for the southern forces, subordinate to Trotsky, was Politburo member Josef Stalin. Stalin's forces were joined by a self-contained cavalry army noted for ruthlessness and victories in the civil war. This 25,000- to 35,000-man unit, the Konarmiya, was led by Stalin's favorite, Gen. Semen Mikhailovich Budyenny.

Russian leader Nikolai Lenin's decision to send Trotsky and Tukhachevsky to join Stalin and Budyenny showed the seriousness of the situation.

Budyenny, a former Czarist cavalry sergeant, became second in command of a Red cavalry regiment during the early stages of the Russian civil war. During a critical phase of the revolution, when counter-revolutionary forces threatened to capture Tsaritsyn, a key city in the narrow strait of land between the Don and the Volga rivers, Stalin became aware of Budyenny's talents and loyalty and rapidly promoted him.

Stalin and Trotsky fell out over tactics and Lenin appointed Trotsky, then commander of the Red Army, to replace Stalin as commissar of the forces around Tsaritsyn.

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE BACK ISSUES



ISSUE NUMBER ONE: U.S. Vietnam Vets Attempt To Fight For Saigon/CIA Assassination Of Trujillo/Col. Hoare & His Mercs In Angola.

ISSUE NUMBER TWO: Bayo-Pawley Affair/War In Angola/Mythologies Of The Terrorist War/Rhodesian Update/Special Forces Desert Training.

ISSUE NUMBER THREE: Operation Diablo/Angola Flashbacks/SOF Interviews A Nam Vet — FNLA Merc/Mad Dog Callan-A Merc, Runs Amuck/Rhodesia Is Ready.

ISSUE NUMBER FOUR: George Bacon III: A 20th Century Crusader/SOF Interviews Gen. G. P. Walls — CIC Of The Rhodesian Army/American Merc In Israel.

ISSUE NUMBER FIVE: Ralph Thorsen: Modern Day Bounty Hunter/SOF Interviews Sir Robert Thompson/Terror In Beirut — An Inside Look At The PLO.

ISSUE NUMBER SIX: SOF Interviews Major Nich Lamprecht: Rhodesian Army Recruiting Officer/SOF Recon: Action In South Africa/ParaMedics In Guatemala.

ISSUE NUMBER SEVEN: Betrayal In Vietnam/American Merc Destroys Cuban Espionage Ring/Rhodesia-"Castle Keep"/Operation Linebacker II.

ISSUE NUMBER EIGHT: Let's Print The Truth About Rhodesia/Israeli Defense Force: Ready & Waiting/South African Army Prepares For War.

ISSUE NUMBER NINE: Africa Is Burning/A Professional Soldier Evaluates CIA-Cuban Exile Operations/FreeLancing In Cambodia/Silent Death In Vietnam.

ISSUE NUMBER TEN: The Sanctioning Of Tyranny/Big Story/Tet 68: Rangers In Action/Africa's Next Hot Spot/Bounty Hunting In Africa.

ISSUE NUMBER ELEVEN: Mercs' Togo Mission: Assassinate The President/Thailand: In The Front Line Against Communism.

ISSUE NUMBER TWELVE: The H&K Assault Rifle/French Foreign Legion Today: Part 1/Behlert Combat Custom .45 Colt Automatic/Dynamiting With Donovan.

ISSUE NUMBER THIRTEEN: President In Exile: Lon Noi Reflects/Thailand: Last Refuge For Freedom/French Foreign Legion Today — Part 2.

ISSUE NUMBER FOURTEEN: ST-23 Fighting Knife/SWAT In Action/South African Strike Into Angola/French Foreign Legion Today—Conclusion.

ISSUE NUMBER FIFTEEN: SOF Interviews General John K. Singlaub/Jeff Cooper's "Gunsite"/The Black Devils/Black Gun Blaster/Triflon/The Ninja.

ISSUE NUMBER SIXTEEN: A Dynamite Combat Custom .45 Auto/In Memoriam: Tribute To a Professional Warrior — Mike Echanis.

ISSUE NUMBER SEVENTEEN: SOF Jumps With A Ghost Squadron/The Colorado National Guard Shows the Regulars How/U.S. Navy SEALs—Part 1.

ISSUE NUMBER EIGHTEEN: Shanghai Experiments: W.E. Fairbairn — Grandfather of SWAT/U.S. Navy SEALs—Part 2/Rhodesian Ranch Security—Part 1.

ISSUE NUMBER NINETEEN: Rhodesian Ranch Security:—Conclusion/Nite Site* /SMG vs Pistol/AK-47 & Its Variations/Soviets Salute SOF.

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY: BATF Gestapo/Death In The Night In Vietnam/Who Dares Wins—Inside Look at the Biggest Jailbreak In History/Chris Dempster.

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-ONE: BATF Gestapo—Conclusion/Combat Tracking Techniques/Fighting for Keeps/My Fight Against Fidel—Part 1/Full Auto.

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-TWO: Saigon—The Toughest Beat In the World/My Fight Against Fidel—Conclusion/Mad Mike's Mercs In the Congo/Mau Mau.

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-THREE: Fairbairn of Shanghai/Heil on Wheels/Disaster to Glory/Duel of the Master Snipers/World Practical Pistol Championships.

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-FOUR: Optical Illusions/AK-47: An Update/White Devil of Mozambique/Sidewinder SMG Revisited/K-88 Spotting Scope/Battle of Blood.

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-FIVE: Nicaragua—The End/Requiem for a War Hero/Chopper Jobs/Return to Harris Island/Whispering Killer/Superstar vs. Dragon Thrower/Armor In the Wheel/Bowl 'Em Over

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-SIX: Cactus Curtain/International Strategist Forecasts Future/Korean Combat of Nerves/Zimbabwe-Rhodesia: State of the Nation/Snatched From Death's Jaws/Holland Hail Organ/American Merc.

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-SEVEN: Blast From the Past/Stakeout: Rizzo's Raiders/Cobray: Turning the Tables on Terrorists/Field Gear Needs A Facelift/Under Northern Lights/Vietnam Visionary/Taps for a Trooper.

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-EIGHT: Sole Survivor/POW's Epic Escape/Wheelgun Winner/Shootout: .45 vs. 9mm/Apocalypse Now: Banzai or Bomb?/Soviet Black Berets/A Blade for Life/Powshares Into Swords.

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-NINE: Defeat Without Destruction/Dumbo Drop/Bomber Boneyard/Achtung: Terrorists (G.S.G.)/But Will They Fight/Target: Gaza/In Memoriam.

ISSUE NUMBER THIRTY: World's Greatest Machine Gunner?/"Peace With Honor"/"We will fight to the Death"/Ready to Go, Ready to Fight/Angolan Boder Firefight/Saigon's Deadly Streets/El Svador: The Next Domino.

ISSUE NUMBER THIRTY-ONE: Khe Sanh: No Dien Bien Phu; 3-1 Battalion Bushmen Kings of the Khyber Rifles; Roll Your Own Rifles; Pathan Tribesmen of Northern Pakistan; Visit to Darka; Beside Bokassa; Looking after No. 1.

ISSUE NUMBER THIRTY-TWO: Silent Invasion; From Escape to Escapism; Delta Ambush; Lethal Lightweights; Guns for Gals; RSA's Cuban Killer; Handy But Hidden; Wolf Pack Skipper.

ORDER FORM

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE BACK ISSUES — \$4.00 EACH
PLEASE ADD 50¢ FOR EACH ISSUE TO COVER P&H

I ENCLOSE CHECK/MONEY ORDER FOR \$ _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> #1 | <input type="checkbox"/> #2 | <input type="checkbox"/> #3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #4 | <input type="checkbox"/> #5 | <input type="checkbox"/> #6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #7 | <input type="checkbox"/> #8 | <input type="checkbox"/> #9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #10 | <input type="checkbox"/> #11 | <input type="checkbox"/> #12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #13 | <input type="checkbox"/> #14 | <input type="checkbox"/> #15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #16 | <input type="checkbox"/> #17 | <input type="checkbox"/> #18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #19 | <input type="checkbox"/> #20 | <input type="checkbox"/> #21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #22 | <input type="checkbox"/> #23 | <input type="checkbox"/> #24 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #25 | <input type="checkbox"/> #26 | <input type="checkbox"/> #27 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #28 | <input type="checkbox"/> #29 | <input type="checkbox"/> #30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> #31 | <input type="checkbox"/> #32 | |

RETURN TO: SOLDIER OF FORTUNE BACK ISSUES
P.O. BOX 693, DEPT. SF-29, BOULDER, COLORADO 80306

NOW AVAILABLE

.223, .30 Carbine, .308 and .30-06 Ball Ammunition
9mm Luger and .38 Special

Now American sportsmen can purchase and shoot the best quality caliber .223, .30 Carbine, .308 and .30-06 Ball Ammunition for less! This is brand-new ammunition produced to strict U.S. Military specifications by the *PMC Government Arsenal* of the Republic of Korea, one of the world's leading manufacturers of cartridges, in a completely equipped, modern factory with skilled, U.S.-trained engineers and technicians.

This is the same high quality ammunition used by leading United States manufacturers for test-firing new firearms. Made with the best quality brass with U.S.-type non corrosive boxer primers, all cases are fully reloadable.

This fine ammunition is available for immediate shipment to dealers and distributors in the United States. Call or write today for complete information.

PACKED IN MILITARY-STYLE WOODEN CASES

DISTRIBUTORS... PLEASE CONTACT FOR SPECIAL QUANTITY PRICES



HANSEN
CARTRIDGE
COMPANY

244 OLD POST ROAD SOUTHPORT CONNECTICUT 06490

TELEPHONE: (203) 259-5424
TELEX: 964256
ANSWERBACK: M TEXTUS SPRT

Trotsky brought his favorite general, Mikhail Nikolayevich Tukhachevsky, to take Budyenny's place.

During exchange of command, a Red officer commanding a small force (regiment- to brigade-sized) fell upon the rear of the threatening White counter-revolutionary army, forcing it to withdraw and saving Tsaritsyn and southern Russia for the Bolsheviks.

Both Trotsky and Stalin claimed credit for one of the most decisive victories of the Russian civil war, deepening a rift between these two ambitious, aggressive men. Both considered themselves worthy successors to rule Red Russia after Lenin. When Stalin in later years ousted Trotsky, forcing him into exile, he renamed Tsaritsyn "Stalingrad" to commemorate his own victory.

The rapid advance of the Polish army into the Ukraine scattered Red Army forces before it. Stalin, Trotsky, Tukhachevsky and Budyenny took over their respective commands. As commanding general, Tukhachevsky unfolded a plan guaranteed to destroy the smaller Polish army — a counterattack with three forces, using the largest forces in the northern front as the spearhead.

Stalin's southern front would push forward, always in contact with and in support of the northern front. Budyenny's self-contained cavalry army would lead the southern front. Further north, another self-contained cavalry army would provide flank security for the northern front's right flank. Led by able Red cavalry Gen. Ghai, this unit would be as effective as Budyenny's famed Konarmiya. The main army had over 400,000 soldiers, the southern front 355,000.

The figures are misleading — most were not combat soldiers but support and propaganda units. However, it has been estimated that the Red Army had more than 250,000 combat soldiers, the Poles less than 150,000.

With three times as many cannon, twice as many airplanes, and a larger cavalry corps, the three-pronged Soviet offensive began to roll up its weaker Polish adversary, scattered in garrisons to protect supply lines from Kiev to Lvov and Warsaw.

The heretofore underrated Polish air force was thrown in to stem the tide of advance.

To be concluded.



FULL AUTO

Continued from page 8

owner, James McCown, of Manchester Arms, Inc., Clinton, Ohio. As do all known Type IIs, number 33 uses the 8mm Nambu cartridge.

It seems the first specimens of the Type II were fitted for bayonets, while later ones used a steel-nose cap with a lug protruding on each side. Thomas B. Nelson,

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 400 YEARS...
The common foot soldier can be equipped with a practical body armor which will stop the standard weapons of an opposing force!

SECOND
CHANCE

HARDCORPS

THE BODY ARMOR ENTIRELY NEW IN CONCEPT AND CONSTRUCTION

FOR THE COMPLETE PICTURE OF THE HARDCORPS LINE OF BODY ARMOR WRITE FOR A FREE BROCHURE TO:

SECOND CHANCE BODY ARMOR
BOX 578M • CENTRAL LAKE, MI 49622 U.S.A.

author of the excellent *World's Sub-machine Guns*, indicates that these lugs apparently were to enable the Type II to be used in some type of vehicle mount, as a port gun. This is undoubtedly correct, and corresponds with the Type II's relatively short length. There is a mysterious plate on the right side of number 33 which I believe held an empty brass catcher.

One of the revolutionary things about the Type II is its basic stock/grip configuration, but what impresses me most is its operation. What first appears to be a standard barrel jacket is, instead, a slide, much the same as is found on a basic blow-back pistol. This slide operates much the same as on a pistol, moving back and forth with its long recoil spring around the fixed barrel. The receiver is actually the short portion to the rear and beneath. Attached to the rear of the receiver is the end cap which holds the rear sight and the air buffer — adjustable for cyclic rate.

The Type II was one of the first SMGs to use the telescoping bolt and barrel system, and may well be the father of that system now used in SMGs such as the UZI and the MAC. The fact that the slide of the Type II is exposed is incidental. If the short receiver were extended to the muzzle, and had a slot milled for the actuator, we would have a system very much like current ones.

It is doubtful that more than 50 to 100 Type IIs were completed. Number 33's magazine is numbered 34; otherwise, all numbers match. Had World War II continued and the Type II system been perfected, the weapon would have undoubtedly undergone more change. An enormous amount of machining and handiwork went into the gun, with its fully-fluted barrel and rust-blue finish; it is truly a work of art and of a quality not possible in wartime production.

But the rising sun set on the Japanese Empire, the Samurai warrior and further development of the elusive, fascinating Type II submachine gun. It was a thrill to hold and examine the little gun. The only thing that could have been better would have been to have fired it.



SNATCH

Continued from page 23

But Dr. Kissinger does have a point. If, as a result of the investigation of this incident, the Marine Corps starts getting its appropriations direct, instead of through the Navy, that fact alone will save the lives of more Marines every day, in every war we fight from now on out, than there are hostages in Iran.

That would make this operation more of a success than if it had succeeded.



PARAMILITARY & WILDERNESS OUTFITTERS

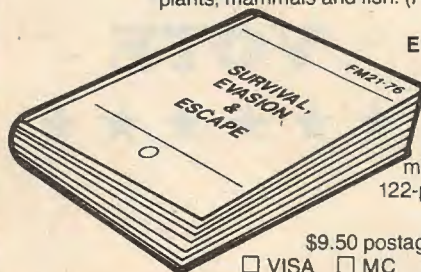
P. O. BOX 94512, SCHAUMBURG, IL 60194

FM21-76: SURVIVAL, EVASION & ESCAPE The Bible of military survival manuals. Compiled by the U.S. Army Special Warfare School, Ft. Bragg. Covers all aspects of survival in all climate zones. For use by the individual soldier when things go wrong.

SURVIVAL: Navigation—by land, water, sun and stars. Hazards—dangerous snakes, fish, mammals and plants. How to capture, cook and preserve edible plants, mammals and fish. (All illustrated in color.) Shelter making. All aspects of cold weather, tropic, sea and desert survival.

EVASION: Camouflage and concealment, breakout and exfiltration, E & E lines.

ESCAPE: Capture and interrogation—what to expect, what to do. The escape plan—techniques and roll call cover-up. This is the official military document—not a reprint. 6½"x4"; 431 pages; 122-page appendix detailing plants and animals in color. Belongs in every backpack or military library.



\$9.50 postage paid. (Illinois residents please add 45¢ sales tax.)

VISA MC CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

WE WILL PAY TO PUBLISH YOUR BOOK

Publisher wants manuscripts of your adventures: Vietnam, Korea, WWII, flying, hunting, climbing, parachuting, etc., on land, sea or air. Please send manuscript with covering letter to:

The June Publishing Company
33 Union Square West
Suite 805
New York, NY 10003

All manuscripts carefully considered

ARE YOU READY FOR THE FUN

AND

EXCITEMENT

OF THE M19-A™

BB SUBMACHINE GUN?

LIMITED ★
FREE
OFFER



A new concept in safe, yet exciting BB gun shooting that's as advanced from the ordinary BB gun as the M16 is from the Brown Bess Musket!

The M19-A™ has the modern looks to go with its amazing performance. How does an average cyclic rate of fire of 3,000 BB's per minute sound? Very quiet, of course, because the M19-A™ uses compressed air or convenient one-pound cans of freon (available at hardware & auto stores) for its power. Our patented smooth-flow BB feed system ensures burst after burst reliability.

Shooting from the shoulder or from the hip, you'll agree that the M19-A™ opens up new horizons of plinking fun right in your own backyard.



LIMITED TIME OFFER: With your M19-A™ you'll receive, absolutely free, a Sting™ speed holster for folding knives (regularly \$5.95).

LARC INT., DEPT. SF-6
P. O. Box 340007
Miami, Florida 33134

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS: Coupon is your mailing label; please type or print clearly in ink. Mail with check or money order for \$36 (includes shipping, handling and postage). Please allow maximum six weeks' delivery. AGE TESTIMONY MUST BE SIGNED. Void where prohibited by law.

I AFFIRM THAT I AM 18 OR OLDER.

(Signed) _____

Please send to: (type or print)

NAME: _____

STREET: _____

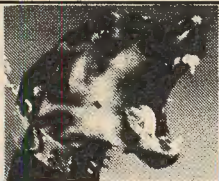
CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

DEPT. SF6

GUARD AND ATTACK TRAINING



Train your K-9 to respond aggressively, to guard and attack on your command. This 8-track tape and picture manual give you the professional training techniques to make your dog a Man Stopper. Don't waste your dog by leaving him untrained.

Just send check or money order for \$16.95 to:
B & M Enterprises, P.O. Box 3303A
Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101

KICK-PUNCH KARATE



American Kick-Punch Karate is a creation; an American version of the widely practiced and most respected art of Karate. This art was originated by the AKP Karate Federation as a means to provide American citizens with a convenient and inexpensive way to practice, learn & ultimately achieve the rank of "BLACK BELT" in our own "AMERICAN" form of the art. AKP Karate has evolved as one of the most effective methods of weaponless self-defense, a superb method of maintaining physical fitness, and an exciting & growing sport within the United States.

This course is no gimmick! We offer no "Secret Tricks" or "Iron-Muscle" methods. We teach sound techniques of self-defense. By completing scheduled training, you will develop the ability and ability to defend yourself against all types of attackers! AKP Karate methods of training are designed to promote courage, humility and confidence, and are practiced by men, women and children of all ages.

Course completion through resident classes and/or home study will lead to permanent award of the rank of "BLACK BELT" in American Kick-Punch Karate.

AKP KARATE FEDERATION
POST OFFICE BOX 21821
GREENSBORO, NC 27420

Please rush brochure on how "I" can earn my BLACK BELT quickly and easily in the newest and most exciting martial art—AMERICAN KICK PUNCH KARATE!! Enclosed find \$1.00 to cover postage and handling.

NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
CITY..... STATE..... ZIP.....

"THE AMERICAN MARTIAL ART"

UNI-VEST by Garth

Designed for Law Enforcement & Sporting use. **\$39.95**



The most practical comfortable way to carry a gun. Uni-Vest fits revolvers & autos with 2" to 6 1/2" barrels in three specially designed holster pockets. No need to ever buy another holster. Uni-Vest also has a two magazine pocket, which opens to accommodate loose ammo. Heavy weight blue denim. Sizes S-M-L-XL. Specify right or

left handed. \$5.00 deposit on CODs. Stamped envelope brings literature.

GARTH COMPANY Dept. SF,
P.O. Box 14354, Tampa, Florida 33690

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ REGISTER and VOTE



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ REGISTER and VOTE



ESPINOZA

Continued from page 66

tion called the Department of Ecumenical Investigations, according to Espinoza.

"Once a year they [the DEI] would hold a workshop," said Espinoza. "They recruited pastors, missionaries, journalists and during the three-month workshop gave them classes in how to penetrate minority groups." Espinoza said the workshops are held in Latin America and that Assnan has contacts in the U.S. through Paul McClure, Church World Services director. McClure, an anti-Vietnam war activist, sent an aid boat to Vietnam at one time.

Glasses For Raul

Espinoza also claims that the slick, color magazine which his church published in the U.S. was produced under Cuban direction. The magazine was pro-Cuban. Espinoza says it was part of Castro's plan of emphasizing Espinoza's importance.

He claims Castro said: "Your role is very important for us. You have charm, charisma. The people follow you. You are brave. But you have to better your education. You have to know more of the religions. You have to train yourself more. We're going to send you to Geneva, Prague and Moscow. We're going to create an image of you, so that you can dominate the masses. Because at some time, these masses will ask the U.S. to lift the embargo."



Self protection! A unique leg-sheathed knife with a Velcro closure system for utmost concealability. Instantly removed for use! Hollow ground knife of 440-C polished steel. Comes with extra suede sheath with Velcro closure adaptable to boots, pocketbook, or anywhere! Knife & leg wrap weighs less than 3 1/2 ounces! Knife measures 5" complete with 2 sheaths

\$33.50

plus \$1.00 for postage
M.C. B.A.C.
MO or CHECK

Order yours today!
Phone 404-943-9336 (24 Hr. serv.)

BRIGADE QUARTERMASTERS, LTD.

Box 108-L Powder Springs, Ga. 30073

FOREIGN SERVICE?

Foreign Service is challenging, tough and demanding. Only trained professionals with technical skills, knowledge, prior service experience, or a desire for personal fulfillment are considered for positions.

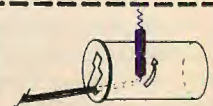
We cannot guarantee applicants with a foreign service contract. However we do guarantee all applicants an extensive individual screening process. We compile, catalog, list and maintain individual files covering a wide range of service related specialties, occupational qualifications, experience and geographical preferences.

For detailed information, instructions, application, personal history statement, and medical questionnaire, send \$5.00 (U.S.) in certified check or money order to cover Airmail postage and handling. Make payable to:

KATTEGAT ENTERPRISES LIMITED

403-413 HONGKONG & SHANGHAI
BANK BUILDING
CENTRAL P.O. BOX 1698,
KOWLOON, HONG KONG

LOCK PICKING ILLUSTRATED



How They Work & How to Pick Them
Lock picking methods and tools explained in detail with text and illustrations. Discusses padlocks, lever tumbler locks, disc tumbler locks and pin tumbler locks. Plus illustrated price list of lock picks available to students **\$3.50**

Money Order or Credit Card Only
IN STORE or BY MAIL • Catalog \$1.00

SURVIVAL BOOKS
11106 Magnolia Boulevard
North Hollywood, California 91601
(213) 763-0804

NUMRICH
ARMS CORPORATION

NEW

Over 200 Pages

1980

WORLD GUIDE TO
GUN PARTS

PRICE \$2.95

GUN PARTS
NINTH EDITION
1980

NUMRICH

9TH EDITION

MODERN
MILITARY • ANTIQUE

NUMRICH ARMS, the world's largest supplier of gun parts offers new for 1980. Catalog No. 9 covering a 100 million parts inventory with information never before in print.

U.S. PRICE \$2.95 FOREIGN \$3.95

P.O. BOX SOF 34, WEST HURLEY, N.Y. 12491
phone (914) 679-2417 TELEX 145 331

**ADVENTURERS
TELEPHONE AND
TEST SET**



MODEL 1011

CONNECTS ANYWHERE ON LINE
MONITORS AND TESTS, OR MAKES CALLS
MADE OF RUGGED, NON-REFLECTIVE BLACK RUBBER

\$68 (U.S.) With Shipping & Ins. Paid
CASH, CHECK, MONEY ORDER
VISA* & MASTER CHARGE*

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Green Plastic Dial-in-Handset style Test Set
Push-Tone and Dial combined Test Set
Battery powered Field Phones
Sound powered Field Phones
Telephones and Books on Telephones

CATALOG: \$1.00 (U.S.)

Việt-American™

109 Fire Lane, N. Cape May, NJ 08204

The famous C.I.A.
"Get out of jail free" card

An exact reprint of the C.I.A. Covert Operations I.D. card carried by members of the SOG (Studies and Observations Group) in S.E. Asia during the Viet Nam Era.

"... Do not detain or question him! He is authorized to wear civilian clothing, carry unusual personal weapons, pass into restricted areas, requisition equipment of all types..."

"If he is killed, do not remove this document from him! Etc. ... printed in three colors!"

SOLD AS A WAR RELIC ONLY! **\$5.00** guaranteed!

Devil's Brigade
P.O. Drawer J, Dept. SF, Waskom, Texas 75692

**Turning Adversity Into
Business Fortunes**

Scarcer and scarcer grows the world's food supply. Greater and greater grows the universal demand. Higher and higher climb the prices. That dim view has triggered the whirlwind of storage food buying that has sped over the nation and around the world! Headlines of severe weather conditions, inflation and labor strikes are signals of a worsening situation. Wholesale Distributors are building bank accounts marketing low moisture food. Money and time savers. Nutritious and delicious. A gourmet's delight. How you might qualify for a lucrative business is spelled out in evidential literature. Request your Free booklet today or order a Sampler Case which contains six of our most popular items for \$29.00 and receive FREE the famous best selling book "How To Prosper During The Coming Bad Years" by Howard Ruff. ACT NOW!

Frontier Food Association, Dept. SF880
7263 Envoy Ct., Dallas, TX 75247, (214) 630-6221 221

Espinoza also claims to have handled a lot of little chores for the Cubans. Supplying various agents with tickets to places they needed to go, acting as a conduit for the exchange of information between various collaborators and buying glasses in the U.S. for Raul Castro — Fidel's brother — and Rene Rodriguez — who Espinoza claims is a DGI man and a top-flight hit man for Castro.

"He is going to be ashes."

Espinoza says he made his decision to come out in the open when he learned in January the Cubans no longer trusted him, that they thought he had connections with the CIA and that the Cubans planned to arrest him. Espinoza said he was supposed to go to Cuba on 7 February before departing to Geneva, Switzerland, in March for a World Council of Churches meeting. From there he was scheduled to go to Prague and then on to Moscow for the Christians for Peace conference.

The man who delivered those travel plans to Espinoza then told another person: "That son-of-a-bitch. We are going to get him over there. He is going to be ashes." His comment got back to Espinoza and he also got a warning from another friend in Cuba who told him that Gen. Mendes Cominche, chief of the DGI, knew Espinoza was still an anti-communist.

Time For An Investigation

Has Espinoza blown the cover of Cuban operations, Cuban agents and Cuban collaborators or is he, as one Miami paper put it, a chameleonic crank? The FBI and Treasury Department are supposed to be investigating some of the situations Espinoza described, but that may not be enough to keep violence from breaking out again in Miami. During the 1960s, bombings and attacks against pro-Castro or anti-Castro Cubans were fairly frequent occurrences. Miami's Cubans tend to be emotional and act on their emotions. Perhaps the only way to clear the air would be for Dade County's Grand Jury to look into Espinoza's charges or for the U.S. Congress to look into them.

There is undoubtedly enough substance in them to merit a serious investigation.



★ ★ ★ ★ ★
VOTE
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**THE COMPLETE
CIA & SPECIAL FORCES
• IMPROVISED MUNITIONS •**

BLACK BOOKS

These books were originally developed by the FRANKFORD ARSENAL for the CIA and SPECIAL FORCES. They are the most detailed and comprehensive works ever done on the subject of improvised weapons. For years they have been the most sought after and secretive books ever-published by the AMERICAN MILITARY. Only after lengthy and extensive research have we been able to acquire these complete original books and are now making them available to you. Anyone who can foresee the troubled times ahead should not be without the knowledge contained in these books.

— Improved Munitions Black Books —
(BB-1) Vol. 1, 147 Pg. \$9.95
(BB-2) Vol. 2, 141 Pg. \$9.95

DESERT PUBLICATIONS
DEPT. SF, CORNVILLE, AZ, 86325

I have enclosed \$_____ Please Rush me:
_____ copy(s) of BB-1
_____ copy(s) of BB-2

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Be Prepared!

"LEARN TO SURVIVE"
Ken Hale's "1980"
CATALOG OF BOOKS ON SURVIVAL
AND RELATED SKILLS

My New Book Catalog is Ready. . . .

"BE A SURVIVOR."

Only the wise and strong shall survive the coming turmoil in America. Depression, Economic Collapse, or even NUCLEAR WAR? We cover SELF-DEFENSE, WEAPONS, LIVING IN THE WILDS, GUERRILLA WARFARE, DEMOLITIONS, plus much more.

If you don't have my catalog yet...DON'T DELAY!
It's the BIGGEST & BEST in its Field. Rush \$1.00 CASH

to: **KEN HALE (109)**
McDONALD, OHIO 44437

"LEARN TO SURVIVE"
I'll send it free, if you don't have a buck, But GET IT NOW . . .

Send to -
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

**CELESTRON GIANT
11 x 80 BINOCULARS**



As evaluated in SOF
December, 1979, p. 61

PRICE: \$349.00 ppd.

complete with case, lens covers,
straps and tri-pod adaptor —
(Other fine binoculars available —
see our Catalog)

Weight: 5 lb.

**K - 88 FORWARD RECON.
SCOPE**



As evaluated in SOF
October, 1979, p. 52

PRICE: \$345.00 ppd.

complete with mini-pod, case,
erecting prism and 46x eyepiece —
(Other eyepieces and photo
accessories available — see our
Catalog).

Weight: 4 lb.

SEND \$2 FOR COMPLETE CATALOG

Cash, Money Order, Certified Check ONLY, or Master Charge
or Visa number (and expiration date) to:

RMS, Inc.

P.O. Box 4489, Dept. SOF
Boulder, Colorado 80306
Phone (303) 442-6805

REPEAT

Continued from page 35

Africa did a thriving, though carefully low-keyed, trade with the dung-heaps of Mozambique, Zambia, Botswana and Swaziland. The Mozambique port of Beira had to be operated by South African technicians because the complexities of deep-sea traffic and cargo operations were beyond the capabilities of the Marxist illiterates "running" Mozambique.

Zambia, highly dependent on maize (corn) crops, desperately needed ammonia nitrate for fertilizer. The only means of obtaining that vital commodity was by train from Beira through Rhodesia to Livingstone, Zambia, across from Victoria Falls.

What better way to bring Zambia to its knees and stop ZAPU terrorists from using Zambian bases to attack Rhodesia than by denying the use of the railroad across Rhodesia? Hell, the Zambians would starve! I was rolling all this around in my head when we reached the mortar positions and passed through the wire.

"Major, we're sorry about that problem . . . bit of a nausea, but orders came back not to fire. You understand?" The lieutenant was apologetic but somewhat defensive. Understandable; after all he, a Rhodesian, shouldn't have to explain command decisions to an American or a GBY — goddamn bloody Yank.

"No problem, lieutenant . . . I'm just sorry we had to let those buggers get away."

I placed my FN on the floor, unstrapped chest webbing and picked up a cold beer from the freezer. Lying on the table was a copy of the Rhodesia Herald. I glanced idly through it and noticed an article on the front page that explained the opening of a trans-Rhodesia rail link with Zambia to carry tons of the much-needed ammonia nitrate from Mozambique to Livingstone to provide fertilizer for the coming spring crops.

"I'll be a son-of-a-bitch!" I slammed down the bottle and tossed the newspaper back on the table.

"Something wrong, sah?" asked the lieutenant. I shook my head.

"No, nothing." The things that had been bothering me vaguely about the war were taking shape.

"Excuse me, major . . . we're ready to leave; your kit's in the Romeo Lima." The corporal from the OP was standing in the door, and behind him I could see a truck, people clambering on with their kit, waiting to start the run up "mine alley" toward Rutenga, 90 gut-busting miles to the northwest.

Who knows, maybe one of the mines we might hit could be from one



PARAMILITARY & WILDERNESS OUTFITTERS
P. O. BOX 94512, SCHLAUMBURG, IL 60194

**PURE &
SIMPLE**

**...it's the
ONLY one!**



COMPASS FOR SIZE
REFERENCE ONLY

E.P.A. Reg.
No. 35917-1

The most innovative company in water purification has developed the best purifier available—Pure & Simple.

It's the **only one** registered by the E.P.A. as a water purifier. Only water purifiers kill bacteria. Tested and approved by the military. Tested by N.A.S.A.—the Walbro chemical purifier agent will be the **only one** used on future space flights.

No tablets (no halizone taste!), no boiling, no fuss, no waiting. It's the **only one** you need on patrol or when traveling abroad. Safe, sturdy, 3½-oz. purifier gives you **800 lbs.** of water-equivalent to 3 cups of water **every day** for a year. Pure & Simple. Agent: Triocide, a specially formulated anion exchange resin combined with triiodine, kills a wide variety of bacteria and viruses. Just pour water thru filter into cup.

\$24.95 POSTAGE PAID. (Illinois residents please add 5% sales tax.)

INTERBANK NO. _____

VISA MASTER CHARGE CARD NO. _____ EXPIRES _____

SIGNATURE _____

of the terrors we watched trot down the street in Malvernia. I was only going as far as Nyala, 10 clicks or so up the road, where Grey's Scouts troop command post was located. The rest of the troops were heading for R and R back to Rutenga.

The incident at Salazar was to be followed with others shortly. Rattling along the pot-holed, rock-strewn road we hadn't gone four clicks when around a curve limped a military truck towing another behind it. The cripple had the right rear wheel blown off and the frame was scarred from the blast of Russian TNT.

"Picked up a Lima Mike up the road away," yelled the driver as they jounced past.

"Anyone hurt?" I yelled. One of the troopies in the rear of the truck pointed to both ears and shrugged in disgust. Land Mines (Lima Mikes) could kill, could cripple and also deafen — if you were lucky.

The remainder of the short trip to Nyala passed in dusty silence and fatigue. When the truck pulled into the CP, a signal awaited me in the radio room ordering me to proceed to Lupane TTL [Tribal Trust Land] and assume command of the units there. I would soon find out that the incidents of Vila Salazar and Malvernia were to be followed by more serious complications at Lupane.

Copyright © 1980 by L.H. Williams, Jr.
All rights reserved



CUBA

Continued from page 69

gods," spat Ramon. "We hate the *bolos* [Cubans call Russians *bolos*, the balls, as they are the ball and chain the Cuban people are shackled to) for they always eat the best food and drink the best coffee."

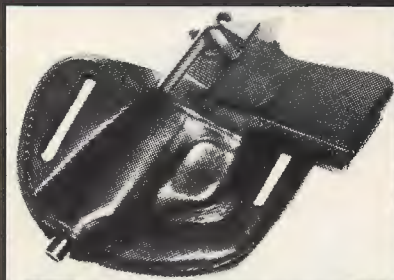
In addition to food, clothing is of poor quality and severely rationed, medicine is almost nonexistent [Ramon injured his foot in his attempt to escape in the bilge of a ship and it was untreated for two months] and Castro is ordering more and more people to jail. Ramon spent several years in jail for being anti-socialist — he hit a cop.

"In Cuba today it is good business to keep the jails full of people," explained Ramon. "Most of the people don't want to work and won't work. But when they get you in the jail they make you work." Ramon explained people did not want to work because of wage controls. They can do better working on the black market.

Ramon also stated that Castro is locking up more and more people because they are considered dangerous persons — that is, persons who might talk and complain. "During the summer of '78 they put 5,000 people in jail

TYPE TRP

For Small Frame (5-Shot) Revolvers
And Medium Frame Semi-Automatics



To order, enclose \$14.00 plus
\$2.00 for shipping and insurance to:



ARMAMENT SYSTEMS PRODUCTS, UNLTD.
P.O. Box 18595-SOF, Atlanta, Ga. 30326

TIGHTROPE

This unorthodox style of carry was introduced in the late 1950's and has enjoyed some popularity in certain circles. In the times when concealment is more desirable than speed of draw, yet weapon accessibility is critical, the TIGHTROPE may satisfy your priorities. The weapon is presented to the hand at an angle that is natural for a palm-out grip and withdrawal. Careful attention to the details of engineering, combined with custom hand finishing, overcomes the obvious limitations inherent in a design of this nature.

When ordering, please designate: the weapon to be carried; color choice (black or tan); for right or left hand draw.

Thousands Sold
12 OFF
BUY 2 GET 600 BONUS
FREE! DARTS
USA made 100% legal AMAZON
SURVIVAL HUNTING
BLOW-GUN
GUARANTEED 15 YEARS
NOW ONLY \$7.98
\$15.95 list
35 lb. Antestor killed
ASK FOR OPERATOR #7201

SILENT, POWERFUL, ACCURATE, HITS LIKE RIFLE BULLET. Improved version of famous Amazon hunting blow-gun. Thrilling sport! Kills varmints, pests. Defense, ideal gift. Compressed breath gives amazing power. 220 ft range. Astound friends! Rugged .38 cal. precision aluminum, 2-WAY rubber m. piece. Pierces 1/2" plywood. Speed 300 ft/sec. Not a toy! Has 100-3' .5" steel darts (kit) carry case, instructions. Compact 4 1/2 ft. model \$7.98! Popular 3 1/2 ft. \$9.98! Mignum 6 1/2 \$9.98! Extra darts \$2.50 per 100! \$4.50/200! \$11/500! Super BONUS BUY 2 GUNS GET 600 darts, sling, quiver, patches, camouflage, targets, carry box (\$22 Free)! BUY 3 GET SAME + cleaning rod, muzzle guard + 1100 (\$40 Free)! BUY 4 SAME + Guerrilla Gun + 1600 (\$60 Free)! BUY 5 SAME + FREE 7th GUN! + 1600 free! Add \$1.95 postage EACH gun. Send cash, check, m.o. IF BROKEN WITHIN 15 YEARS WE WILL REPLACE! Use 30 days MONEY back if not delighted. HOUSE OF WEAPONS, INC. Box 7945 Provo, Utah 84601
VISA/Master Charge CARD orders ONLY: CALL TOLL FREE NOW 24 hrs: 800-824-7888: Calif 800-852-7777: AK/Hawaii 800-824-7919.

NAZI S-S Officer's Belt Buckle
Hand finished in fine silver plate (with fasteners modified to fit any 1 3/4" belt). Only \$12.00 postpaid. Our New 224 page fully illustrated relic collectors catalog = \$2.00 free with order.
W.W. #2 Ltd.
Box 2063 Dept. F
St. Louis, MO 63158

NPS BOX 85 LOVELAND, CO 80537 DEPT 510
NEED A NEW IDENTITY?
LAMINATED PHOTO I.D.
NATIONAL AUTHORIZED FOR EACH STATE.
OFFICIAL IN COLOR & QUALITY
SEND \$7.00 (2 FOR \$12.00) CASH OR M.O.
SEX, WT., HEIGHT, COLOR OF HAIR & EYES,
BIRTHDATE, 1 IN. SQ. FACE PHOTO.
I.D. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
SEND \$1.00 FOR COLOR FOLDER ON I.D. S

SCOPE MOUNT FOR H&K MODELS 91 & 93



FEATURES

- STEEL CONSTRUCTION
- NO PLASTICS
- COMPATIBLE WITH WEAVER DETACHABLE ONE INCH RINGS
- NO DRILLING OR TAPPING
- PRICE \$75.00

plus \$1.50 shipping & insurance

ROBERT MEDARIS, Dept. SF1
10060 PALOMINO AVE.
RIVERSIDE, CALIF. 92509
TELEPHONE NO. (714) 685-5666

before the World Youth Festival was held in Havana. They didn't want them to talk. In December they locked up 3,000 persons."

Castro is also having problems with his people over Cuba's far-flung legions in Africa and elsewhere. Ramon explained that all men served some time in the military and that service in Africa was "voluntary."

"They have an interview. They ask you if you would like to go. If you say, 'No,' they make it hard on you and your family. If you say, 'Yes,' you go.

"When people start talking about Africa they get goosebumps and when the women hear someone has been called in for an interview they start crying."

Castro's Praetorian Guard

Perhaps Ramon and his fellow countrymen recognized more clearly than Americans did, why the Russians — remember, the ball and chain — sent a brigade of troops there in 1979. Other sources in Cuba have told SOF that Castro will not arm the greatest portion of his troops out of fear they might shoot at him. If that is so, the Soviet Brigade may be there primarily to protect Castro from his own people.

Which brought us to the most heart-breaking of all Ramon's remarks. When asked what Cubans would do if Americans landed in Cuba, Ramon replied:

"What are the Americans waiting for? If there was an invasion now, the people would support it. They are desperate. We have been waiting a long time and we wonder why the Americans have not come.

"We did not support the Bay of Pigs because the people were still in favor of Castro then. Today the conditions are different.

"In immigration [when Ramon was being processed and given political asylum in Miami], there were some people from El Salvador who were being sent back because they were illegals.

"They said in El Salvador there was nothing to eat but *tortuga* [turtle] and yucca [lily leaves] and the best system in the world was Cuba because in Cuba everyone had clothes, food and medicine."

Ramon shook his head sadly and explained that he tried to tell them [the people from El Salvador] but they would not listen.

"Castro's propaganda is very good in Latin America," said Ramon. "But people will learn.

"A bird in the United States eats more than people in Cuba."

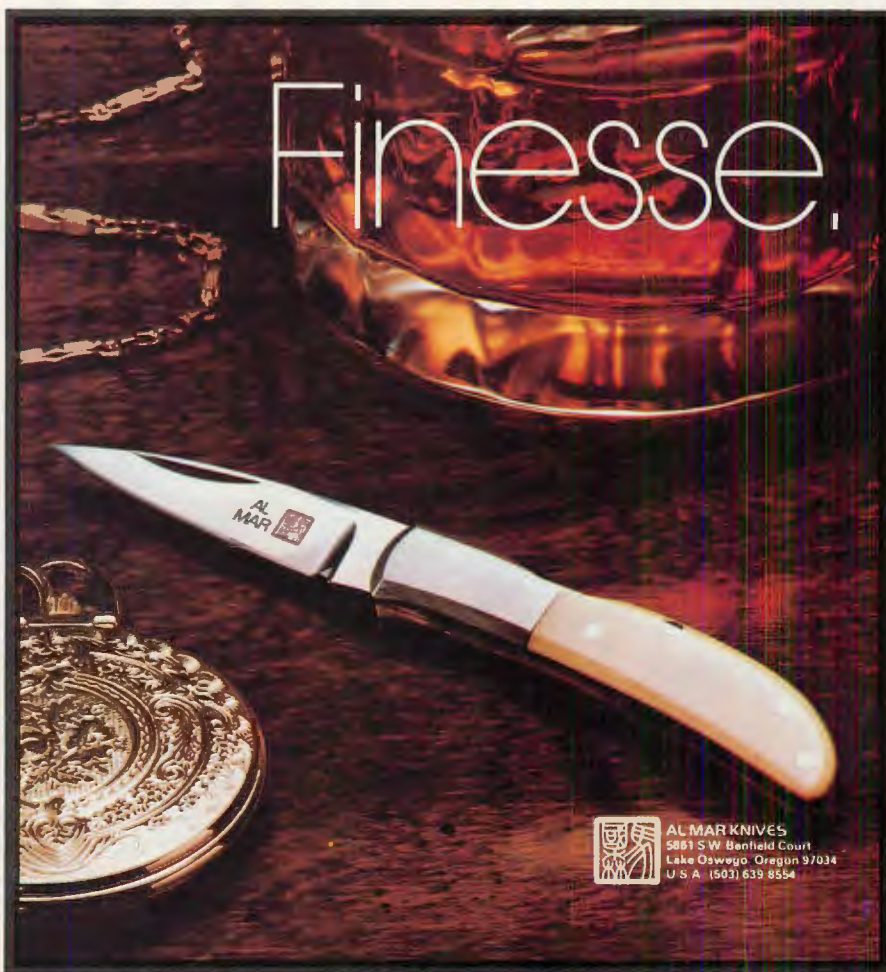
NOW AVAILABLE

ORDER ANY FOUR ... GET THE FIFTH ONE FREE!

Edward J. Hoffschmidt's classic *Know Your Gun* series is again available. Profusely illustrated and with original Hoffschmidt exploded views, each volume provides a wealth of information not elsewhere available. Each shipment will include a reservation coupon for soon to be announced publications.

DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED

Quantity	Item	Name
	Know Your .45 Auto Pistols	_____
	Know Your Walther P.38 Pistols	Address _____
	Know Your Walther PP & PPK Pistols	City _____
	Know Your M1 Garand Rifles	State _____ Zip _____
	Know Your Antitank Rifles	
Total Quantity Ordered X \$4.95 = _____		Mail To:
Add 50¢ Shipping & Handling for ea. book ordered. _____		BLACKSMITH PUBLISHING
Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____ Total		P.O. Box 424
I wish to receive the following book free: _____ Title		Southport, Connecticut 06490
		© 1979 Blacksmith Corporation



AL MAR KNIVES
5861 S.W. Benfield Court
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034
U.S.A. (503) 639-8554

BE A LOCKSMITH

\$49.95
COMPLETE COURSE

contains: LOCK PICKS, CAR OPENING TOOL, LOCKS, FILES & KEYS
COURSE COVERS: LOCK PICKING, MASTER KEYING, KEY IMPRESSIONING, RE-KEYING

Today a trained Locksmith can just about write his own ticket. Locksmith average \$15.00 an Hour. Learn at home - Earn as you learn. Fast easy course that trains you by doing. All keys; locks; picks; car tools and special equipment supplied. Zooming crime is everywhere, everyone is seeking greater protection. **Cash in at once, train at home - Earn extra \$\$\$ right away.** Send for exciting facts and a Free Lesson - No obligation or Send \$49.95 for complete Kit & \$1.75 shipping & handling. Visa or Master charge O.K. Send No. & Expiration Date. Giant catalog jam packed with latest Locksmith tools **FREE** with kit. Or send \$5.00 for catalog only. **For instant ordering call 1-800-527-4353. NATIONAL LOCKSMITH SUPPLY P.O. BOX 31598 DALLAS, TEXAS 75231 DEPT. D48**

S.W.A.T. SLING
AVAILABLE FOR SHOTGUNS AND RIFLES.

CATALOG \$2.00

SPECIFICATIONS:
1 1/2" NYLON WEBBING
15 ELASTIC SHELL LOOPS
FULLY ADJUSTABLE LENGTH, WITH OD SWIVELS \$24.95
FOR 1" (MILITARY) SWIVELS \$21.95
FOR 1" (COMMERCIAL) SWIVELS \$21.95
MATCHING 20 RD. BANDOLEER \$28.95
8 RD. BUTTSTOCK AMMO CARRIER \$15.00

Specify color (Blk. or O.D.) and caliber or gauge when ordering. INCLUDE \$1.50 Postage or order C.O.D. SATISFACTION OR REFUND.

COBRA DEFENSE ACCESSORIES, LTD.
P. O. Box 30035 • Midwest City, Oklahoma 73110

CUSS and DISCUSS

Continued from page 29

don't deserve to encumber themselves with the weight of responsibility.

The problem with today's Army is not the privates but the senior NCO and officer corps, as well as the civilian bureaucracy and its inflexible attitudes and mismanagement and the promotion themselves, let alone others, are advanced.

SOF is a fine magazine, but I believe you could do better in your coverage of the military. If you want to know about the U.S. Army, come visit the 2nd Squadron, 11th A.C.R. on the East-West German border. We are a unit with a visible, vital mission — guarding the frontiers of freedom.

Sincerely,
Sgt. R.L. Mitchell
APO, New York



REGISTER and VOTE



Our latest catalog and reference manual is here Sixty 8" 2" x 11" photo-illustrated pages of U.S. Military clothing, equipment, and camping survival goods. The finest publication of its type in the industry. Same-day no-hassle service world-wide shipping and **NO JUNK**. Nothing more needs to be said \$1.00 postpaid

Southeastern Surplus, Inc.
7207 Highway 85 Riverdale GA 30274

ADVENTURERS TELEPHONE TEST SET

New 1980 Price \$68.00

Clips on anywhere. Monitors phone conversation. Undetected while testing. Flip switch and place calls.

Black Rubber
Green Plastic (Not shown)

Don't Leave Home Without It!

A Must For Every Adventurer
\$68.00 & P.P.D.
Money Orders, VISA & Master Charge

TEL-TEST
P.O. Box 278, Butler, Ohio 44822

Do you have an appointment with... THE UNDERTAKER

A limited edition of 200 serial numbered Undertakers will be issued. Each knife is sculptured from Swedish (Sverker 21 D2) steel drawn from virgin ores. The 4" coffin shaped handle tapers and swells to a 2 1/4" cutting edge, and it may be your solution to a grave situation.

Confirm your appointment with the Undertaker, shipped in a velvet lined rosewood presentation coffin and with sheath, by sending \$195.00 to:

ASP ARMAMENT SYSTEMS PRODUCTS, UNLTD.
P.O. Box 18595 - SOF, Atlanta, Ga. 30326

CLASSIFIED



REQUIREMENTS 50¢ per word per insertion, including name and address — Minimum charge \$10.00. Personals are 25¢ per word, \$5.00 minimum. Copy must be accompanied by remittance. Mail to SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Classified, P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306. Insertion will not be made without payment. We reserve the right to delete or change any copy which we determine to be objectionable. Please type or print all ads. We do not furnish proofs. Include name and address in counting number of words. Post office, zip code and state, each counts as words. Abbreviations such as A.P., 20mm, U.S., etc. each counts as one word. Hyphenated words are counted as two words. Readers of classified advertising are advised that SOF magazine does not have the ability to verify validity of every advertisement contained herein. Should any reader have a problem with products or services offered by a classified advertiser, he should seek assistance from his nearest Postal Inspector.

ISSHINYU KARATE. Over 150 photos and instruction in the Shimabuku System. Send \$3.50 for Long and Wheeler's authoritative *Dynamics of Isshinryu Karate Today*. NATIONAL PAPERBACK PUBLISHERS, Box 146, Knoxville, TN 37901. (TF)

STAINLESS STEEL LOOP GARROTE, single handed gullotine, \$12.00 postpaid includes a free set of knucks. \$1.00 + SASE for catalog. J.H. Trager, P.O. Box 23174, Detroit, MI 48223. (TF)

HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT MEANS NO QUARTER — NO MERCY! Now in its second big printing, the Classic Manual, "The Tactical Skills of Hand-to-Hand Combat (Self-Defense)", teaches you how to fight to win in serious, real combat! The FBI, the U.S. Secret Service, the Navy SEALs and the CIA are just a few of the organizations that have received this little gem! \$7 cash or money order payable to Bradley J. Steiner, SURVIVAL-DEFENSE, P.O. Box 7532, Phoenix, AZ 85011. (TF)

"SPECIALTY WEAPONS"! GARROTTE! Wooden handles, prepared for sure-kill grip. Highest-grade wire. "Commando black" for night operations behind lines: \$16. **YAWARA STICK WEAPON!** Thong-grip prevents loss in flight. Illustrated instructions teach vital points, how to use, etc.: \$8. Cash or money order payable to Bradley J. Steiner, SURVIVAL-DEFENSE, P.O. Box 7532, Phoenix, AZ 85011. (TF)

THE TACTICS OF COMBAT HANDGUN SHOOTING. You must read this Special Report if you own a handgun for self-defense! Easy-reading, no frills; just FACTS to keep you and yours ALIVE! \$10 cash or money order payable to Bradley J. Steiner, SURVIVAL-DEFENSE, P.O. Box 7532, Phoenix, AZ 85011. (TF)

MONEY SUPPLIED \$\$\$\$ for your military surplus items; need-ball, A.P., tracer, ammunition, inert ordnance, trip, cluster, and parachute flares, smoke and tear gas grenades, individual equipment, training aids, medical supplies. Send your list and prices with first letter: Ordnance Supply, 4918 Mission Avenue, Dallas, TX 75206, or call 1-214-823-5963. (37)

THOMPSON SUB MACHINE GUN, now you can convert your 27A-1 or 27A-5 Thompson to full auto. No parts to buy, no machining only minor changes done in minutes. Cyclic rate 650 or 1200. Send \$24.95 for instructions to H&H, P.O. Box 296, Pendleton, IN 46064. (37)

OPEN LOCKED CAR DOORS! This amazing device opens locked car doors fast! Instructions included. Satisfaction guaranteed. \$8.95 to Midcontinental Design, Dept. 19-6b, P.O. Box 2384 Loop Station, Minneapolis, MN 55402. (34)

ESP WARFARE, hypnotism techniques. Public Relations Counsel, A. John Tiger, Box A, Lucerne, CA 95458. (38)

THOMPSON 1928 replica submachine guns. Full size, solid cast, walnut stocks. Legal and safe \$75.00 ppd. Repro-Products, P.O. Box 71, Prairie View, IL 60069. (35)

LE MERCENAIRE! Monthly newsletter for professionals. Hard intelligence on Terrorism, Communist subversion, Mercenary activities. Sample \$1.00 or \$9.00 per year. \$12.00 overseas. 540 Charles St., Aurora, IL 60506. (39)

TASER ELECTRONIC DEFENSE WEAPON: More effective than .38 caliber pistol. Sole agency rights now available to foreign representatives. (Enclose S.A.S.E.) Quality Creations, 2801 Biscayne, Youngstown, OH 44505, U.S.A. (35)

ADVENTURERS! Learn how to store fresh eggs for two years. Send \$3.00 to: Valhalla Publications, Drawer 600-E, Pinson, AL 35126. (34)

UPDATED CATALOG FROM PALADIN PRESS! New & unusual books on home workshop guns, silencers, automatic firearms, knife fighting, explosives, survival, self-defense, unusual weapons plus much more. \$1.00. Paladin Press, Box 1307-SFC, Boulder, CO 80306. (36)

GHOST-WRITER: Send notes, outlines, or manuscripts for articles (fiction and non-fiction) and novels for professional evaluation, advice, and revision. Nearing's Suite, 526 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. (36)

FOR SALE: Genuine United States armed forces surplus clothing, individual equipment, packs, boots, survival gear, first aid packets, etc. Send \$1.00 for our latest catalog to Steve J. Pedergrana, Jr., 1034 So. Claremont, Chicago, IL 60612. (36)

ANTI BUGGING DEVICES: Locates hidden transmitters fast! Pocket unit alerts you to the presence of a bugging device, checks rooms, autos, phones, people. \$35.00 complete, ready to use. Wynn Engineering Co., Suite 11, 9745 Longpoint, Houston, TX 77055; (713) 464-8170. Catalog of related devices, \$2.00 (37)

LEARN HOW OTHERS COMPLETELY STOP, slow even reverse electric meters completely undetected. For information purposes only. Home, farm whatever! Information \$1.00 or completely illustrated book with pictures and complete diagrams. \$9.95 postpaid to Power Services, Box 415SF, Watkinsville, GA 30677 (34)

CANNON AND HOBBY FUSE, 3/32" diameter, waterproof. 10 feet \$1.00 — 34 feet \$3.00 — 58 feet \$5.00 postpaid. Other goodies. Catalog 25¢. Zeller Enterprises, Drawer W-2X, Wickenburg, AZ 85358. (37)

FREE DETAILS. Deadly fighting skills, powerful muscles, mind-body power secrets. Freeliffe, Box 1124, Garden Grove, CA 92642. (34)

THE RELIGION OF ODIN — A HANDBOOK. The story of the ancient faith of northern Europe. Ceremonies, beliefs, history of worshippers of Thor and Odin. Only book of its kind. 155 pages, 9 illustrations, soft cover. \$8.95. Viking House, P.O. Box 160, Lake City, MN 55041 (34)

GOVERNMENT SURPLUS: Clothing, footwear, knives, etc. Canadian, American and foreign. Free lists. Surplus, Dept. SF, P.O. Box 661, Brockville, Ontario, Canada. (37)

FIREWORKS, BUY DIRECT. Price lists, send \$1.00 to ACE FIREWORKS, P.O. Box 221, Dept. F, Conneaut, OH 44030. (42)

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD of Mercenaries invite you to join us now! Are you seeking a life of adventure? Register with other brothers of adventure worldwide. For free information and application form, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: I.B.O.M., P.O. Box 5-f, Richboro, PA 18954. (34)

FEAR NO PAIN OR INJURY! Learn G-Jo, first aid of the Samurai. New in America. 115 secret pressure points, easily mastered, takes only minutes to learn with our program. So effective G-Jo stops even severe pain, bleeding immediately. Be up and fully functioning within moments of injury. Also promptly relieves headaches, indigestion, burns, stings, backaches, etc. A vital skill for survivalists and others far from doctors, drugs. Hundreds of testimonials — G-Jo really works! Complete program (illustrated handbook, cassette tape, newsletter, wallchart): \$22.00. Handbook alone: \$10.50. Full 30 day guarantee. G-Jo, Box 8060-Z, Hollywood, FL 33024. (34)

WW II GERMAN NEWSREEL of the great battles, rare pre-war films, allied documentaries and features on Super 8 sound film and video cassettes. Send stamp for free brochure. International Historic Films, P.O. Box 29035, Chicago, IL 60629. (38)

MINI-14 SURVIVAL REPORT, explains how to make it a Superior Defensive Weapon. Only \$1. Rainier, Dept. 2S, 2420 1st Ave., No. 12, Seattle, WA 98121. (34)

VIETNAM CATALOG NO. 1. Including a free copy of a photo booklet "Vietnam photos." \$2.00 postpaid. World War II catalog No. 7 \$2.00 postpaid. War Shop, Rf No. 1, Box 154, Milford, DE 19963. (43)

RHODESIA: Flag patches, \$4.00. Greys Scouts: Seious Scouts (cap badges), \$10.00. Rhodesian honorary citizen certificate, \$8.00. Terrorist reward poster copies, 75¢. Police cap badges: Botswana, \$5.00, Kenya, Zambia, \$4.00. Pakistan cap badges: Khyber Rifles, South Waziristan Scouts, Military Police (\$3.50). Study them now & get ready for the draft. List 50¢. SELOUS: Box 1153, Hayden Lake, ID 83835. (34)

WHOLESALE BUYING SERVICE. Guns and other weapons including fully automatics — Send \$2.00 (refundable). Allen's Gun Room, Box 36, Jamestown, TN 38556. (37)

STATE PISTOL LAWS, booklet listing pistol regulations all states and Federal gun laws booklet, both \$3.00. Police catalog \$2.00. Schlesinger, 415 East 52rd St., New York 10022, Dept. 35.

LETTERS REMAILED CONFIDENTIALLY \$1.00. for complete details on remailing service, send SASE to: Official Remail Service, Box 126, Buffalo, NY 14223. (37)

MAD MAN'S BOOK OF FORMULAS: How to make, step-by-step goodies like knockout Drops, Explosives, Silencers, Poisons, Letter Bomb, and many others. A must in completing your library. Fourth Printing at only \$9.95 Now. Jim Multaler, 1858 West Arrow Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204. (37)

BEAT BLACKJACK. No gimmicks, simple to learn, guaranteed, \$7.50, includes casino guide. Winning Methods, Box 12591, Fresno, CA 93778. (34)

WANTED: PATRIOTS, especially veterans, who see the coming national crises and desire to be prepared. Write for free information to CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE or CITIZENS EMERGENCY DEFENSE SYSTEM, Box 565K, Flora, IL 62839 or call (618) 665-3937 day or night. Attend free weekend Freedom Festivals and Conferences in June and September on 55-acre Estate with over 30 classes in Food, Shelter, Clothing, Defense, and Finances. Free camping. Fifteen hundred from forty states attended last conference. ACT NOW — TIME IS SHORT. (36)

JUST \$15. We want your business! We'll send you: Original G.I. mess kit with knife, spoon and fork. Original G.I. issue can opener. Original G.I. issue canteen. Late issue G.I. C-Ration dinner (delicious!). Plus free 10% discount certificate...and illustrated catalog on U.S. military surplus camping and hunting gear. Entire package, only \$15. CAMPER'S KIT, Box 172-D, Anoka, MN 55303. (34)

BRASS KNUCKLES — just like the ones you lost way back when...but these are aluminum. Why carry the extra weight? \$6.00 each or 3/\$15.00 to: ASP, P.O. Box 1859, Atlanta, GA 30328.

BUGGING, PHONE PHREAKING: Project Kits complete with ALL needed components, easy to follow instructions, much more! Send \$1.00 for most fascinating catalogue of "Confidential" electronic devices available anywhere. T.O.N.T.I. Systems, 537 Jones St., No 8816, San Francisco, CA 94102. (39)

SILENT—LIKE A WHISPER ON THE WIND — The blowgun...an exotic weapon from the past for the adventurer of today. Substantial aluminum tube, custom shaped mouthpiece and precision engineered projectiles; the complete system \$16.95, postpaid from Shadow Systems, P.O. Box 28222, Atlanta, GA 30326.

SELLING MY U.S. MILITARY MEDAL COLLECTION. All genuine. Army Medal of Honor in presentation case, \$350; Silver Star, \$25; Bronze Star, \$20; Purple Heart, \$20; Army Commendation, \$10; Meritorious Service, \$12; Army Good Conduct, \$10; Korean Service, \$10; Vietnam Service, \$5; Vietnam Campaign, \$10. Add postage stamp as trade item and \$2 postage. Free list. Martin Ledermann, 21 Naples Rd., Brookline, MA 02146. (35)

NINJA — wear the ancient oriental calligraphy symbol for the legendary band of warriors and assassins on a circular silver metal pendant. Comes complete with chain. Send \$7.50 plus \$1.00 for mailing to: Ninja, P.O. Box 28222, Atlanta, GA 30326.

LOCKPICKING MADE EASY — The booklet, **LOCKPICKING MADE EASY**, was written for the beginning locksmith. Unlike the expensive courses, it deals only with opening locks. The book comes with pick and tension tools. Send C.O.D. or \$10.00 check or money order to Tri-Star Security, Box 17, Fabyan, CT 06245. (35)

ADVENTURERS — clandestine and concealed weapons systems, leather goods, holsters, survival aids, knives and ninja equipment, **MAC/COBRA/SIONICS** goods for your profession or hobby. Send \$2.00 cash (refundable) to: ASP, P.O. Box 16595, Atlanta, GA 30326.

EMPLOYMENT WANTED: Male, 28, ex-Vietnam, ex-Rhodesia, seeks employment. Have current passport. Contact Mike, P.O. Box 188, Milan, MO 63556. (36)

GODZILLA'S DENTAL FLOSS — could be. But it's better used as a garotte. Two steel loops connected by 36" of steel cable, guaranteed to turn heads around. \$10.00 each or 3/\$25.00 from: ASP, P.O. Box 18595, Atlanta, GA 30326.

FREE BAYONET? Complete selection of U.S. and foreign bayonets. Bayonet variations, different makers, different markings. Our fully illustrated catalog also includes combat knives, daggers, machetes, and other military issue edged weapons. The Original Bayonet Catalog, only \$5. Free — G.I. issue edged "mystery" tool and 10% discount certificate (sorry, no free bayonets). Worldwide Bayonets, Box 293, Dept. D, Isanti, MN 55040. (35)

CONVERT YOUR HECKLER AND KOCH 91, .308 cal., to full auto. Illustrated manuals covering, operation, maintenance, clearing, single fire, burstfire, full auto. Send \$5.00 cash or money order to Guidance Manuals, P.O. Box 12123, Omaha, NE 68112. Check with your local BATF office before converting any weapon to full automatic. (34)

GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, class rings, coins. We also buy many other items. Free info. KRC, Box 132, Dept. SOF, Plainville, KS 67663. (35)

AL MAR FANG, Retail \$80, Sale \$60. Case Boot Hunter, Retail \$40, Sale \$32. A.G. Russell Sting, Retail \$50, Sale \$40. Add 75¢ per knife shipping. Send \$1 for our illustrated catalog of defense knives & weapons. If you don't have a buck we'll send it to you free. To: PHMA, P.O. Box 44153, Brooklyn, OH 44144. (35)

LEARN TECHNICAL ROCK CLIMBING with sporting and tactical applications. Short, very intensive course. Send SASE to C-T, Box 245, Broomfield, CO 80020. (34)

POLICE TEAR GAS MUNITIONS. 22 page well illustrated list of inert grenades, projectiles, and liquid spray devices of the urban riot era in the U.S. Many cutaways. Excellent for ordnance collectors, historians, and police personnel. Send \$4.00 refundable on first order, to MRI, Box 220E, Oakton, VA 22124. (34)

GAS MASKS. Illustrated 40 page collectors catalog. U.S. and foreign, WWI to date. Many rare, all described. Includes literature. Send \$4.00, deductible from first order. MRI, Box 220F, Oakton, VA 22124. (34)

ORDNANCE. Illustrated 50 page collectors catalog. U.S. and foreign, all periods. Grenades, fuzes, projectiles, mines, and documents. Send \$4.00, deductible from first order. MRI, Box 220G, Oakton, VA 22124. (34)

ASSAULT SWIVEL: For 870 Rem. folding stock. Mounts through the stock hinge pin. Specify Q.D. stud or 1" or 1/4" swivel. \$8.95 postpaid from COBRA DEFENSE ACCESSORIES LTD., Box 30035, Midwest City, OK 73110. Complete catalog, \$2.00. (34)

UNUSUAL AND USUAL telephone devices, accessories, and electronic equipment. Catalog \$1.00, refundable with order to: Phoenix, Dept. SOF, 822 West Newport, Chicago, IL 60657. (35)

MAIL ORDER MAYHEM! The one and only source directory for the unusual: Fireworks, fake I.D., weapons, lockpicks, more! \$6.00 or 25¢ (pre 1964 silver). J.B.S. Enterprises, P.O. Box 35415-SF, Minneapolis, MN 55435. (34)

PLACEMENT MERCENARY AND BODYGUARD: Full details send \$2.00. Justice International, 6395 Little River, T.P. 130, Alexandria, VA 22312. (34)

COMBAT MERCENARY SURVIVAL TRAINING — "Mental Training of a Warrior" stresses psychological awareness principles to develop close combat arts, invisibility, stalking, striking. 225+ pages, 200+ photographs teaching these ancient oriental war secrets. \$12.95 plus \$1.95 postage, handling. \$1.00 SASE for further details. Warrior Publication, Combat Dept., 2511 N. 31st., Boise, ID 83703. (38)

BADGES CUSTOM MADE, \$16.30, catalog \$1, E&H, Box 19756, Las Vegas, NV 89119. (35)

HAVE FAST SMALL SINGLE ENGINE AIRPLANE. Will fly anything for you. Contact R.M.T., 1331 E. Foothill, No. 4, Upland, CA 91786. (34)

ATTENTION TEAMS, squads, Special Forces, short run custom belt buckles with your logo, my specialty. Solid sandcast silicon bronze. All hand finished. Brochure available. Buckles By Mike, 1225 Manzanita, Dept. SOF, Los Angeles, CA 90029. (35)

EX-MARINE LIEUTENANT, infantry platoon leader, Vietnam combat veteran, parachutist, wants hazardous employment overseas or executive protection. Call Don (913) 462-6065. (34)

AIRBORNE TIE — Silk, silver colored parachutist wings, machine embroidered in diagonal pattern on maroon polyester, 3", wide tie. \$10 postpaid. Made in U.S.A. Charles Shannon, P.O. Box 2071, Riverview, MI 48192. (34)

COURIER, escort, and delivery functions provided. An envelope or a truckload. We can go anywhere. Capt. T. Louis, P.O. Box 45623, Houston, TX 77045. (35)

COVER DOCUMENTATION MATERIALS, alternate identities, name changes, etc. Law enforcement type ID cards, badges, accessories. List \$1 (refundable). C.W.L., Box 3230, Pasadena, CA 91103. (36)

CRIMEFIGHTERS send \$1.00 for illustrated police catalog. B—PEC, Dept. SF380, 9889 Alondra, Bellflower, CA 90706. (42)

FIRECRACKERS, GUNS, BLASTING from common materials: facts \$2. "Professional Homemade Salutes", \$4. Both \$5. R. Sanford, Box 4175F, Colesville, Md 20904. (36)

PRAY FOR WAR. . . White on black T-shirt, S,M,L,XL. . . \$5.95. DM Enterprises, Box 54, Seal Beach, CA 90740. (35)

VIETNAM VETERANS — Newsletter/book list/bookstore. Write for details, Box 122, Collinsville, CT 06022. (34)

FREE DETAILS. Deadly fighting skills, powerful muscles, mind-body power secrets. Freelif, Box 1124, Garden Grove, CA 92642. (34)

CONVERT M1 CARBINE TO M2 (Selective fire); AR-15 to M16. No machining. Details \$7.50. Catalog of interesting/unusual publications/equipment \$1 (refundable). CDS, Box 3897S-S, Daytona Beach, FL 32018. (35)

CAREER TRAINING PROGRAMS AVAILABLE. Most of you know me and my Kill Or Be Killed training programs in special combatives to be the finest programs of their kind available. I am presently seeking and selecting instructor trainees for Special Combatant hand-to-hand and self-defense training programs. No experience necessary to eventually operate your own branch school. If you are between the ages of 21-40 and at an occupational dead-end, due to be discharged from the military soon, or don't know what road to take, and in good physical and mental condition, opportunities are "knocking at your door." For detailed information, send \$10.00, non-refundable to Charles Hoffman, Dept. CTP, 64 Main St., Tuckahoe, NY. This may be the wisest \$10.00 you have ever invested.

H&K 91-93 FULL-AUTO CONVERSION, no permanent alteration. Plans and part required, ten dollars cash and S.A.S.E. Warning — Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms should be consulted before conversion. H&K, 8523 Hawn Fwy., Box 17578-106, Dallas, TX 75217. (35)

AUDITED? Step-by-step guidelines; procedures used successfully in thousands of audits. \$2.00 to: Carolina Patriots, P.O. Box 17001, Greenville, SC 29606.

COURIER BODYGUARD undercover observations or ? can do anything in these areas. Trained as scuba diver and in evasive driving. Work by myself or with my own force of up to 10 (male/female). Travel anywhere any time. Total discretion. D.S.S., Box 09145, Milwaukee, WI 53209.

VIETNAM VETERANS. Certificates of Decoration. Cross of Gallantry or Campaign Medal certificate. Original four color form. (Not a photocopy.) Suitable for framing. \$3.00 each, both \$5.00. ARVN Certificate of Training. Blank form printed in English. (Fill in own qualifications.) \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00 Postpaid. John Berndsen, 909 Noah, St. Louis, MO 63135.

PRC-6 WALKIE-TALKIES, G.I. mainstay from Korea to Nam. 47.54 MHz FM, less battery. Good working condition. \$20 apiece, \$32.50/pair; add \$2.50 shipping. Stephens, Box 591, Sandusky, OH 44870.

WW II GERMAN NEWSREELS of the great battles on Super 8 sound film and video cassettes. Rare Axis and Allied features. Send stamp for free brochure. International Historic Films, P.O. Box 29035, Chicago, IL 60629. (38)

COMBAT VETERAN, platoon leader Vietnam, USMC, wants high-paying hazardous employment overseas or stateside, have passport. Call Don (913) 462-6065.

SEE TODAY'S SOVIET ARMY! Exclusive first time on video cassette. The Soviets' own presentation of their modern military preparations for war. See infantry overcome fire obstacle courses, fight tanks with mines and rockets, and practice ground, underwater and night attacks. See Soviet air force and Baltic fleet in combat exercises. 2 films, one color, one B&W, Original Soviet dubbed-in English. One hour, uncut. Unique! Order today only \$59.95 p.p., IL Res. add tax. Specify Betamax or VHS. International Historic Films, P.O. Box 29035, Chicago, IL 60629.

LOCATE MISSING PERSONS: professional, proven secrets... track them down yourself... cheaply, easily!!! Money-back guarantee... \$4.99... postpaid... Survival, 163Y8, Wamego, KS 66547.

S.W.A.T. GUNSLING: 1 3/4" heavy nylon sling with 15 cartridge loops. Now available for std. 1 1/4" for MICHAELS Q.D. swivels. Specify when ordering, COLOR (Black or O.D.), caliber or gauge, and distance between swivels. PRICE \$21.95 to fit 1 1/4" swivels, \$24.95 to fit MICHAELS Q.D. Please include \$1.50 postage. Send \$2.00 for complete catalog of S.W.A.T. Merc. and special defense accessories. "COBRA", Box 30035, Midwest City, OK73110.

WIREAPPING AND EAVESDROPPING. Countermeasure techniques explained in new report. Discusses series and parallel taps, transmitters, and the various hookswitch bypasses and rewiring attacks used to compromise phones. Cost \$9. Additional reports available on lock penetration, telephones, countermeasures sweeps (details and actual excerpts \$2) COUNTERTEK, Box 5723, Bethesda, MD 20014. (35)

EX-MARINE, Vietnam vet, with devious, discreet mind, seeks dirty work. Anything, anywhere. P.O. Box 41051, Chicago, IL 60641.

BOMB DISPOSAL and demolition books: Bombs and Bombings — a handbook to bomb disposal, \$13.00. Protection Against Bombs and Incendiaris, \$9.00. Add \$1.00 postage. Send \$1.00 for the 1980 catalog. Killzone, Box 513, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

TOTAL SURVIVAL: 12 months of big survival news letter, membership in national survivalist organization, big discounts on survival food equipment books, opportunities to attend survival training activities, all for \$7.50. Add \$5.00 for "PLAN TO SURVIVE" survival program book and special literature pack; Live Free Inc., Box 743, Harvey, IL 60426.

COMBAT BERETS, Green or black same as worn by Special Forces, and Rangers, U.S. made \$13.25 plus \$1.50 postage. Include hat size & color choice. Unique Combat Arms T-shirts, send SASE for brochure. QM SALES, Box 1092, Manhattan, KS 66502. (36)

SURVIVE THE COMING ECONOMIC CRISIS! Emphasis on practical, useful items and information you can afford. Survival Firearms, Food, Location, Barter Items, Reloading and Bullet Making, Economics, and more, arranged in levels of preparation — with costs! Authoritative, professional, up-to-date information and product testing. Non-disclosure monthly mailing. List and inquiries strictly confidential. Send SASE for more information. \$80 per year. THE PRACTICAL SURVIVALIST NEWSLETTER, Dept. SF, P.O. Box 1365, Medford, OR 97501.

COURIER, SPECIAL SERVICES, 32, will deliver or do job (anything) anywhere. Current passport, 6 languages, total discretion. Booked until July 80, but after — any offer \$20,000 or more is O.K. Write: Occupant, Suite 225, 438 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10705.

GUN & SCOPE owners; Stop rust and moisture damage with guaranteed Moisture-Sorb. One bag protects 20,000 cubic inches from harmful moisture. Guns, buried equipment, tools, cameras, scopes, silver, display cabinets. Lasts indefinitely. Only \$3.00 plus 50¢ p/h. Five bags \$9.50 plus \$1.00 p/h. Techniplan, Box 164, Madison, AL 35758.

"LOOK" Ever see a gun that shoots around corners? I will send you proof of this, plus a print. World War II secret weapon. Send \$2.00 to Joseph Cole, 1435-D Trailmore Dr., Charleston, SC 29407. (35)

M-14 WEAPONISE! See Target in total darkness! Fourth generation infrared sniperscope. Half the weight, twice the range of the famous M-3! Fits most weapons. Complete, \$545.00 plus \$14 shipping. (UPS) Technical info \$2.00 and SASE. 20% required on C.O.D.s. Limited number. Techniplan, Box 164, Madison, AL 35758.

GERMAN WWII and Imperial German insignia photo-illustrated catalogue No. 2. \$2.00 ppd. Sergeant, P.O. Box 294, Clarendon Hills, IL 60514. (39)

COMBAT DRAWINGS, Portraits, paintings, or other. Pen and ink, watercolor, pencil. \$15 to \$35. Pay after photo approval. Send requests to: JDL, 1115 Janther, Shreveport, LA 71104.

BULLET-PROOF VESTS — The finest available. Kevlar + Ballistic steel insert. Unsurpassed comfort, concealability & protection. \$110 up. Rennwaffe, Inc., Rt. 1, Box 90, Natural Bridge, VA 24578. (703) 291-2731. (38)

NEED PRIVACY FOR YOUR MAIL? Use our address as yours. Keep your true location secret. Details: B.M.D., Box 8-F, Buffalo, NY 14212. (36)

LOCKPICKING—MADE SIMPLE — Instructions and picks. For beginning students, law officers and auto repossessors. Simple self-teaching methods. My system defeats 95% of all locks. Learn from established locksmith. \$19.95 complete. Best Locks, 2520 W. North Ave., Chicago, IL 60647.

VIETNAM CATALOG (including a free copy of a photo booklet "Vietnam Photos") \$2.00. War two catalog \$2.00. War Shop, Route 1, Box 154, Milford, DE 19963. (45)

WANTED: VC, NVA, Soviet bloc and Africa souvenirs, pictures, related items. Send prices. R. Stec, P.O. Box 1022, Warren, MI 48090. (35)

THE HISTORY of the World Power Foundation — blockbuster story of an ultra-right action group. Mind control, polygram, colonies, and private armies. \$5.00 postpaid. R. Hertz, P.O. Box 3085, St. Paul, MN 55165

W.W. II Canadian pistol holsters. Flap style, military web—spare mag holder and cleaning rod pouch. Fits Browning P-35, Colt Gov't., Lama and P-38. Very good condition \$8.00 pp. Send M.O. or C.C. to International Militaire, 51 Euphrasia Drive, Toronto, Ontario. Canada M6B-3V6.

ATTENTION SOF READES: To commemorate our 3rd Anniversary & to thank you all for your past patronage, we give you the following special: ONTARIO USAF Pilot's Survival Knife, MIL—K8682E, w/steel-tipped & backed scabbard. This is THE current GENUINE Military issue NOT to be confused w/other brands & models. Only \$9.95 plus \$2.50 shipping! Offer expires: 9-30-80. REPEAT-OF-SELLOUT: Austrian Army COMBAT Knife by Eickhorn, Solingen. All metal PARKERIZED w/indestructible, fiberglass embedded POLYAMID scabbard & handle. Lowest priced Hollow-handle SURVIVAL anywhere! Only \$16.95 plus \$2.50 shipping. DOAN'S MAGNESIUM FIRESTARTERS. Featured August SOF. \$4.95; 6/\$27.00; 12/\$49.00. PHOTO-Illustrated, SURVIVAL KNIVES Catalog w/only the FINEST Quality, no exceptions. USMC's, USAF's, RAF's, V-44's, M-3's, hollow-handles, commandos, bailongs, hideouts, daggers, fighters, hatchets, throwers, wiresaws, ceramic/diamond/carbide bones, whetstones, bootclips, Molybdenum disulfide, & more. Save up to 35% & take advantage NOW of our monthly SOF specials, & FREE gifts. Satisfaction Guaranteed! \$2.00 SELECTIVE, Box 391SF, P.C., Hawaii 96782. (CATALOG HOLDERS: Kershaw No. 1007 now \$66.95 postpaid! Purchase \$69.00 or more, & get one KA-BAR "T"-Shirt FREE!! Offers expire: 8-31-80.)

HANDCUFFS — Smith & Wesson \$22.50 pair. Two \$38.00. Leg Irons \$28.50 set. G. Noramaco, Box 30243-SF, St. Paul, MN 55175. (45)

VIETNAM: NVA officers belt, NVA diary of Q-82 soldier. SKS 10 pocket pouch, VC Chi-Com entrenching tool, VC (Pancho Villa) ammo carriers, VC sandals, SVN Ranger red beret & patch, SVN black beret with "River Patrol Force TF 116" patch, SVN patches, Laos para, Cambodian 701 Recon BC patch, others, French Indochina badges, cap & beret. All to swap for South Vietnamese patches & badges only. For full list write to (Include self-addressed envelope & stamped): Brian Hodge, 10 Alinga Place, McLeod 3085, Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.

STATE PISTOL LAWS, booklet listing pistol regulations all states and Federal gun laws booklet, both \$3.00. Police catalog \$2.00. Schlesinger, 415 East 52nd St., New York 10022, Deptment. 35.

CIVIL DEFENSE PRODUCTS. Radiation monitoring/protection equipment for use in shelters or nuclear emergency. For catalog send \$3.00 (refundable). Burns Survival Products, P.O. Box 10264, Eugene, OR 97401. (35)

THE MIRAGE E.V. (ELECTRIC VEHICLE) AMTECH SYSTEMS has begun manufacturing the Mirage line of electric vehicles. Charges overnight or while you drive. Wall St. Journal states that by 1990, 10% (1.6 million) vehicles in U.S. will be battery powered. Don't miss out this time. Complete information package, \$15.00. Includes: book, plans, specifications, sources, conversions, franchise plans or subscribe to the E.V. NEWSLETTER: \$2.50 for sample. Send to: AMTECH SYSTEMS, 4900 Blank Rd., Sebastopol, CA 95472.

EXCITING JOB OPPORTUNITY with the United States Government. Make up to \$45,000 per year! No experience necessary. Openings every year in almost every state. Send only \$3.00 for complete information to E.I.C., P.O. Box 87, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034. (35)

MERC seeks high risk adventure assignments. Experience in night operations. I get results — Lance, Box 12347, Ft. Wayne, IN 46807.

AIRBORNE/ELITE books and unit histories our specialty. Free list. The Battery Book Shop, P.O. Box 3107H, Nashville, TN 37219. (39)

"DOG TAGS" G.I. identification plate and neck chain made of stainless steel. Embossed 15 characters per line, up to 5 lines per tag to your specifications. Send \$3.50 money order per tag and chains, checks must clear before shipment. Identco, P.O. Box 45083, Westlake, OH 44145.

MOSQUITO BAR surplus, U.S. Army issue, tropical climate. Type 1 — olive drab, pup-tent shape, \$12.50; Type 2 — tropical brown, cot-shape, \$15.50; includes shipping and handling — money orders only; to: E.B. Duffy, 126 Point South, Hinesville, GA 31313.

CENTURION ARMS. Get your guns at near wholesale or manufacturers prices. Suppliers less \$2.00. Centurion Arms, P.O. Box 90, West Olive, MI 49460.

STINGER — .22 cal. pen gun — \$3.95, SILENCERS — Theory and practice — \$2.95. Made with ordinary hand tools and materials. PROJECTS, Box 2085, Carolina, P.R. 00630. (39)

COLT AR-15 & M-16 OWNERS. Newly designed FIRING PIN eliminates carbon freeze common in Vietnam. See U.S. Gov't Manual. Patent Appl. Mail check or MO for \$20.00 (or \$15.00 with your pin) plus \$1.00 postage to: Firing Pin, Box 881, Birmingham, MI 48012. Mich. residents add 4% tax.

PEN POCKET FLARE. Shoots 400 ft., 20,000 candlepower. Great weapon, still legal to carry. \$7.95 for one, \$20.00 for three. DELPHI SECURITY, 4900 Blank Rd., Sebastopol, CA 95472.

NUCLEAR WAR SURVIVAL BOOK by Duncan Long, 1986 edition...everything you must know to protect your family. Moneyback guarantee...\$6.99...postpaid. Hurry...it may be later than you think...Long Survival Publications. 163-F8, Wamego, KS 66547.

EX-COMBAT ENGINEER wants any type work foreign or domestic, D. DeFebo, 201 DePot St., Youngwood, PA 15697.

CON ARTIST TECHNIQUES show how grifters hypnotize victim into giving away money. Send \$4. King Midas, 8326B Kirkwood, Los Angeles, CA 90046. (36)

RECORDED LIVE, from Huey gunships, rescue of Special Force Recon Teams in combat. Voices and sounds you'll never forget. Indicate reel to reel or cassette. \$5.95, 2 missions or 5 different \$10.00. R.J.R., Rt. 3, Box 2538, Magnolia, TX 77355. (36)

GI CLIMBING ROPE OD green 7/16 nylon brand new 120' \$45.00 longer lengths @ .35 per foot. Include \$3.00 postage \$1.00 for illustrated catalog. VISA and MC. Marmaton, Box 585, Nevada, MO 64772.

GOLD PROSPECTING! A man's work — with man sized rewards. Detailed information; covers techniques and equipment, filing claims, more. \$3.50, D. Forbes, Dept. A, P.O. Box 1748, Santa Monica, CA 90406.

INTERESTED IN MILITARY INSIGNIA? Military insignia auctions, yearly subscription \$12.00 (U.S.), \$16.00 (foreign). For sample copy write the Military Auction, 16 W. 331 Jackson St., Hinsdale, IL 60521. (39)

UNUSUAL BOOKS. Lockpicking, crime, police manuals, fake ID, survival, unusual weapons, investigative and undercover techniques, life extension, strange philosophies, much more! Best book catalog in the world! 500 titles in huge illustrated catalog! Only \$2.00. Loompanics, Box 264, Mason, MI 48854. (45)

FREE GERMAN WWII RELICS — Two free original German WWII relics. When ordering our latest illustrated catalog of original pre-1945 German flags, banners, uniforms, armbands, daggers, medals, insignia, buckles, documents, weapons and parts. New finds! For the serious collector. Illustrated catalog, \$10. Military Warehouse, Box 21-D, Grandy, MN 55029. (36)

RHODESIAN ARMY. "Extracts from conditions of service — 1977." Pay scales, etc. eleven pages copy \$3.00. Schickram, Box 29831, San Antonio, TX 78229.

COMBAT KNIVES. 100% handmade, also survival, utility, hunting models. Catalog \$1.00. Bruce Gordon Custom Knives, Box 13115-S, Albuquerque, NM 87112.

MARTIAL ARTS EQUIPMENT, Gerber knives, combat martial arts books: For catalog send \$1.00 to: WKI Martial Arts Supply, 529 So. Clewell St., Fountain Hill, PA 18015.

EX-REVENUE AGENT tells you how to legally stop paying income tax now and continue earnings. Send \$5.00 U.S.P.O. M.O. To Survivalists, P.O. Box 8, Buffalo, NY 14212.

FULL AUTO MACHINE GUN — CONVERSION, most semi-autos; plans — \$19.95. (Use under provisions — '68 G.C.A.) LASER PISTOL plans — \$15.95. Millitronix, P.O. Box 3432, Bellevue, WA 98009.

WISH TO LOCATE LIZARD, last known in Phoenix, Ariz. Also SSgt Jack Below. Contact: CLICK-R, 1302 Plon Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46825.

CAMOUFLAGE JUNGLE FATIGUES, USMC, \$34.00. OD sateen fatigues — \$29.00. Sets of jacket and trousers; state neck, chest, waist and height measurements. Black leather combat boots — \$28.00. Add \$3.00 shipping for each item. Government Marketing Enterprises, P.O. Box 11098, Alexandria, VA 22312.

STARLIGHT SCOPES and parts. PVS-1, PVS-2, and PVS-3. Have hyper-mini 9823 starlight scope. Also TVS-2 starlight scope for crew served weapons. Contact me about anything you need in night vision equipment. Allen R. Glanze, Night Vision Equipment Specialist, P.O. Box 6274, San Bernardino, CA 92412, (714) 882-5789.

DEAR EMPLOYER Am qualified scuba instructor combat experienced. Resume on request. RFM, P.O. Box 60960, Sacramento, CA 95860.

AUTHENTIC RHODESIAN and South African flags for sale \$75.00 each. Write Jeff Rhodes, 6069 Buena Vista Ave., Oakland, CA 94618.

NEED NEW ID? Get government-issued ID, new credit, better jobs, new life! Complete book catalog 25¢. EDEN PRESS, Box 8410-R, Fountain Valley, CA 92708. (45)

SPECIAL FORCES BERETS, current issue with Flash & Crest. \$17.00 ppd. A.H.A., P.O. Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221.

NEW! Crime By Computer, 300 pages, \$6.95 postpaid. Also other information of this nature with order — Comp-U-Tronix, Box 3401, Dept. SOS, Kent, WA 98031. (36)

U.S. LEAF PATTERN Camouflage Berets, matches camo fatigues perfectly. \$16.00 ppd. A.H.A., P.O. Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221.

CYALUME LIGHTSTICKS: A flameless, nontoxic, chemical light. Great for camping, back packing, or as an emergency light source. Weighs about 1 ounce, lasts about 12 hours. \$1.95 each. \$20.00 a dozen, add 10% for postage. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. Killzone, Box 513, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

AIRBORNE MAROON BERETS, last stocks available now! Only \$12.50 ppd. A.H.A., P.O. Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221.

RIGHT-WING NEWSPAPER! Send \$1.00 cash only for comprehensive list: GRIM REAPER, P.O. Box 159, Worth, IL 60482 (35)

"CHICKEN RANCH SPECIAL" Picture 8x10" \$3.75. Joke certificate, 100 shares \$1.25. Pet rock, \$1.25. Key chain room one, \$1.25. All for \$6.75. Texas add tax. SELECTIVE PRODUCTIONS, Box 603, LaGrange, TX 78945. (36)

EX-VIETNAM VET with van will haul anyone or thing and no questions asked. Dennis Sperry, Rural Route No. 1, Danville, IA 52623.

STATE GUNS LAWS — Specify State, \$1.95. FEDERAL GUN LAW — The rare indexed edition, \$2.95. ILLUSTRATED GUN DEALER TRAINER — 8 part third edition — \$4.95. All three manuals ONLY \$8.00 ppd. MESA, Drawer 9045-F5, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477.

FOR SALE: War relics, militaria, field equipment, head gear, edged weapons, medals, badges, military books and records, etc. Send \$5.00 for latest lists. (Also interested in buying.) Globe Militaria, Inc., 6752 5th Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11220.

BECOME PART-TIME GUN DEALER! "Obtaining Federal Firearms License," samples, illustrations (New Edition) \$1.95. "Gun Dealer's Directory Of Wholesalers" 3 vital directories in one — \$1.95. "Selected Federal Firearms Laws" Top authorities answer most asked questions, \$1.95. ALL THREE BOOKLETS — ONLY \$4.95! MESA, Drawer 9045-FM, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477.

ARROGANT, sinister, imperial, rich — a real man's America. Details \$1.00. The Spengler Group, P.O. Box 3085, St. Paul, MN 55165. (38)

"UNDERGROUND STORAGE — of Valuables!" Best methods, plus plans — \$1.95. "PLASTIC PIPE PLANS" Economical 'Midnight Planters' plus three other capsules — \$2.95. BOTH ILLUSTRATED PUBLICATIONS — \$3.95! MESA, Drawer 9045-FD, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477.

ALPHA Company-handle any situation-deliver anything. Cash only. Contact Lee-ALPHA, 418 E. 7th, Cherokee, OK 73728.

GET OUT OF THE DARK! Gunner's directory gives you direct access to the people, products & services that affect & interest you. Who, what, and where of the gunner's world. Hundreds of categorized listings with descriptions. \$3.95. Gunner's Directory, P.O. Box 48444, Dept. GE1, Doraville, GA 30362.

HOMESTEAD your Base Camp on Federal Land. \$1.25 per acre! Federal Homestead Regulations, \$2.00. Homestead, P.O. 5741-SOF, Yuma, AZ 85364. (37)

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER. Machete, 18" steel blade complete with sheath \$5.95 — Throwing Knives, 3 piece set, 7" overall with case, \$5.95. Malayan Throwing Knife, 10" overall with instructions \$3.95 — "Pro Thro" Throwing Knife with perfect balance, 10" overall with leather case \$7.95 or 7½" overall "Pro Thro" knife for \$6.95 or both for \$12.95. All throwing knives can easily be used as a boot knife. Send cash or M.O. plus \$1.50 postage and handling to: Duffy Enterprises, P.O. Box 102, Bayville, NJ 08721. (35)

MAILDROP, mail forwarding, confidential code names — OK, Foreign — OK, SASE. Box 521, Grangeville, ID 83530. (37)

"MOONSHINE WHISKEY" Old Mountain recipe for making and ageing. Illustrated booklet. \$3.00. Larry Fields, SF, Route 1, Adamsville, TN 38310. (35)

CASINO JOBS. Glamour, high pay. Personnel managers, employment contacts at 14 Atlantic City casinos. Send \$4 to Switzer, P.O. Box 726, Glen Burnie, MD 21061.

CATCH MORE FISH "Guaranteed"!! Commercial and sport fisherman's secrets on methods and baits. Illustrated booklet \$3.00. Larry Fields, SF, Route 1, Adamsville, TN 38310.

"SHOOTERS" Make-Sell. Collapsible tri-pod target stands 21x48" high. Usual cost less than \$1.00. Illustrated instructions \$3.00. Larry Fields, SF, Route 1, Adamsville, TN 38310.

ASSAULT SWIVEL: For 870 Rem. folding stock. Mounts through the stock hinge pin. Specify Q.D. stud, 1" or 1 1/4" swivel. \$8.95 postpaid. From COBRA DEFENSE ACCESSORIES LTD., Box 30035, Midwest City, OK 73110. Complete catalog \$2.00. (35)

HIGH ADVENTURE Transport Consultant. Individual or Group. Exotic destinations. Save \$\$\$ on transportation WORLDWIDE. Mike Switzer (301) 821-7922. Telex 87835.

"POLICE TECHNICAL MANUALS" that express highly detailed confidential information. How Drivers Licenses Are Made With The Polaroid Camera, \$6.50; Illegal Entries, \$7.50; How The Pros Steal Auto's and Get Away With It, \$7.50; Improvised Weapons and Exploding Device Manual, \$6.50; How's and Why's of the Counterfeiter, \$7.50; Professional Con Games, Schemes, and Frauds, \$6.50; How Professionals Play Bingo and Win, \$5.00; Credit Card Methods Exposed, \$6.50; And more... PROTECT your family and friends by having the KNOWLEDGE at your FINGERTIPS. Add 50¢ for each book. CATALOG \$1.00 free with order. ROADRUNNER, Box 572S, Keego Harbor, MI 48033.

RUVEL & CO. U.S. Government Surplus. New G.I. M65 Army field jackets, S,M,L,XL, \$41.25 ea.; New M65 liners \$15.75; 48" Paratroop dropcase \$11.00; New G.I. .45 auto hip holster \$14.50; New G.I. pistol belts \$9.50; G.I. 2 1/4" guncleaning patches, 200/\$1.50; Carbine 30-rd mags \$4.25, chrome \$6.10; Two 15-rd. mags & pouch \$3.55; 15-rd. mags \$1.50, chrome \$3.25; 4-rd Hunting mags \$2.85; M1 carbine stock \$8.50; handguard \$4.00; Sling & oiler \$2.35; M5 Garand Bayonet w/sheath \$18.95; Garand stocks, \$10.00; 1917 Enfield stocks \$9.50; Handguards \$5.00 pr.; Springfield Bolts complete \$6.50; Lowscope bent bolt bodies \$5.50; G.I. Springfield straight rifle walnut stocks for 1903 or 1903A3 \$20.00; M14 stocks \$12.50; M14 20-rd. mags \$7.50; M14 ammo pouch \$2.00; M14 cleaning tool set \$7.50; New web slings for Garand, Springfield, \$1.75; New G.I. 10 pocket cartridge belts \$9.50; Carbine trigger housing stripped M1 \$12.00, M2 \$15.00; Gvt. type .45 shoulder holster \$8.75; M1911 .45 Auto mags \$4.95 AR15 20-rd. mags. \$4.00; AR15 30-rd mags \$5.75 each, 7 or more \$5.00 ea.; AR15 M7 bayonet with sheath \$20.00; M7 Imperial manufacturer \$22.50; M7 Colt manufacturer \$40.00; AR15 nylon 20-rd. ammo pouch \$5.00; 30-rd. pouch \$6.95. Complete listings found in our 1980 Surplus Army-Navy Store, 64 page catalog. Send \$1.00 (free with \$5.00 order). All items very good unless otherwise stated. Prices, plus postage. Illinois residents add 6% tax. (312) 248-1922. Ruvel & Co., Dept. SF, 3037 N. Clark, Chicago, IL 60657.

FEED ONE ADULT for \$7.06 weekly. Includes 1 lb. meat daily, choice of 8 fresh vegetables and grains. Free details write: C.L. Gilliane, Box "A" 839, Crockett, TX 75835.


SURVIVE A NUCLEAR DISASTER! We stock a full line of radiation detection equipment for detecting fallout or radiation. Avoid contamination easily. Full nuclear survival instructions and map of blast areas also available. Write for free information. Nuclear Emergency Services, Dept. SF-2, P.O. Box 34863, Los Angeles, CA 90034. (35)

PURE CHLOROFORM, from easily obtainable items. Rush \$5.00. Lorrain Information Systems, P.O. Box 230156, Tigard, OR 97223.

SOUTHWEST TATTOO EMPORIUM, 4390 S. Archer Ave., Chicago, IL 60632. (312) 376-8119. (35)

RUGER MINI 14, convert your .223 zapper to full-auto or select-fire. Both easy instruction plans, plus accessory and reloading tips, send \$14.95 to, Lynco, P.O. Box 1744, Burlingame, CA 94010. ATTENTION. Use of this material permitting. Full-automatic mode is subject to the provisions of the Gun Control Act of 1968.

REMAILING SERVICE: Regular envelopes, \$1. Other sizes 75¢ plus postage. T&M Enterprises, P.O. Box 19028, Denver, CO 80219.



MILTECH ARMAMENT CO. - NOTICE -

New MK II AR 15 Auto Sear. Mechanism, Pat. Pend. We dare anyone to compare! This unit is fully machined from Super Nitronic 40 stainless, 405 stainless and 4130 chromoly steel hardened throughout, with class A Music wire springs. Unit requires the following M16 Parts to function as a full auto select - fire weapon. Hammer, trigger, disconnect, bolt carrier and safety selector. Ideal for police etc. It is easily removable, requires no machine and needs little or no maintenance. Law Enforcement Agency's can now allow SWAT teams to take their weapons home with Auto Sear removed, as you know this is impossible with the M16.

Dealer Inquiries Invited **\$69.95** Absolutely Guaranteed

NOTE: This is not the same piece of junk that has been floating around! A copy of your license is appreciated, but not necessary. Please make bank Check or M.O. payable to **G.C. SNELEN**

Use of this device permitting full automatic mode is subject to the provisions of the gun control act of 1968.

P.O. Box 1104, Dept. SF Rosemead, Calif. 91770

ADVERTISER'S INDEX

Advertisers	Page
Adventure Book Club	83
AKP Karate Federation	84
Alexandria House Books	15
Al Mar Knives	89
Armament Systems Products	14, 18, 87, 90
Axis Surplus Sales	10
Ballsong, Inc.	14
Best Sports Supplier	28
Bianchi	21
Bill Jordan	10
Blacksmith Publishing	89
B&M Enterprises	84
Brigade Quartermaster	78, 80, 84
CA, Inc.	8
Cascade	78
Cloverleaf Books	19
Cobra Defense Accessories Ltd.	90
Custom Design	74
D&E Magazines	6
Desert Publications	2, 3, 85
Devils Brigade	85
Dolan's Sports	77
Eden Press, Inc.	79
Fifth Apple	18
Frontier Food Association	85
FTL Marketing Corp.	77
Garth Co.	84
Hamilton/Ross	71
Hansen Cartridge Co.	82
Heckler & Koch	73
Horizone	71
House of Weapons	87
Hunting Safari Co., Ltd.	76
J.H. Trager	79
Kattegat Enterprises Ltd.	84
Ken Hale	85
Larc International	83
Larder/Survival Books	72, 74, 84
Miles Stair	12
Military Exchange	74
Miltech Armament Co.	94
M/S Safari Arms	9
National Locksmith Supply	90
National Printing Service	87
Nordic Knives	78
North American School of Firearms	11
Numrich Arms	85
Paladin Press	7
Paramilitary & Wilderness Outfitters	86, 83
Periscope Publications	12
P.F.M., Inc.	75
Phoenix Associates	23, 88
Police Sciences Institute	28
Practical Survivalists Newsletter	78
R.M.S., Inc.	86
Robert Medaris	87
Second Chance Body Armor, Inc.	82
Shannach Books	76
Soldier of Fortune	13, 16, 74, 81, 95, 98
South African Report & Comments	74
Southeastern Surplus, Inc.	90
Sports West, Inc.	79
Tel-Test	90
Tiffin International	29
USI Corp.	79
Viet American	85
World War II Products	79, 87
World Wide Publishing	17

IN CUBAN WATERS

SOF Editor MacDougald spent 10 days in Cuba's Mariel Bay.

His diary and photos—taken covertly and smuggled out—will be featured in a forthcoming issue. You've read the facts and figures of Castro's castoffs—Now get the gut feelings and human interest behind the exodus.

Only in SOF



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

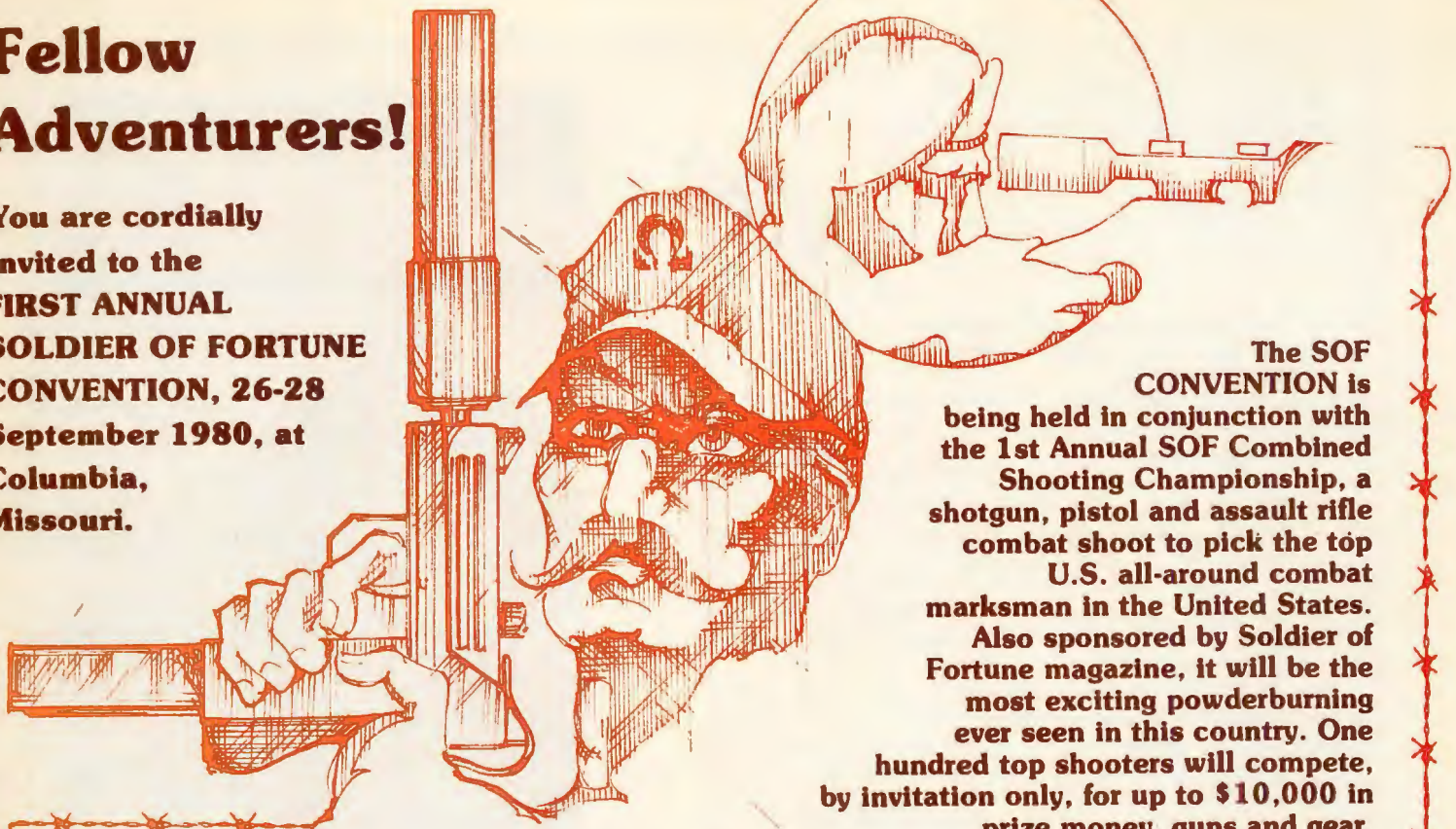
REGISTER and VOTE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Fellow Adventurers!

You are cordially invited to the **FIRST ANNUAL SOLDIER OF FORTUNE CONVENTION, 26-28 September 1980, at Columbia, Missouri.**



The **SOF CONVENTION** is being held in conjunction with the **1st Annual SOF Combined Shooting Championship**, a shotgun, pistol and assault rifle combat shoot to pick the top U.S. all-around combat marksman in the United States. Also sponsored by **Soldier of Fortune** magazine, it will be the most exciting powderburning ever seen in this country. One hundred top shooters will compete, by invitation only, for up to \$10,000 in prize money, guns and gear.

A banquet, with the presentation of the first Colonel 'Bull' Simon Memorial Award to a leading Soldier of Fortune or in recognition of an outstanding feat of derring-do, a keynote speaker of great reputation among us mercenaries and adventurers, and an outstanding meal. Cammies will be the mandatory dress and weapons must be checked at the door. Your registration fee of \$25 covers the cost of the banquet and your enrollment in the Brigade of Professionals.

I am working on an automatic weapons demonstration and display of the latest gear the Army has, and there will be a contest to select Miss Cammie, the very epitome of the SOF girl. Activities at the SOF convention are tentative.



This first convention may be limited to 500 troopers, so do not delay! Send me your applications and nonrefundable deposits immediately! You can charge the enrollment fee, and the first night accommodations on your VISA or MasterCard, or send a certified check or money order. Don't miss this **FIRST SOLDIER OF FORTUNE CONVENTION**
Lt. Col. Robert K. Brown (USAR)
Editor/Publisher
Soldier of Fortune

YES, I'm coming to the first SOF CONVENTION;
reserve me a seat at the banquet.

Name _____
Street _____
Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Previous or Current Military Affiliation _____

I will jump yes no

(please enclose \$20 for first jump to reserve position in stick)

I enclose \$25. Please send my ID.

Please reserve me a room at the Headquarters Hotel

Requires 1st night deposit _____ \$27 single _____ \$34 double

Please charge my VISA MasterCard Payment enclosed

Credit card number _____

Expiration date _____

Signature _____



Return this coupon to:
SOF CONVENTION
P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306

MERC: AMERICAN SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE

JAY MALLIN
and ROBERT K. BROWN

NEW!

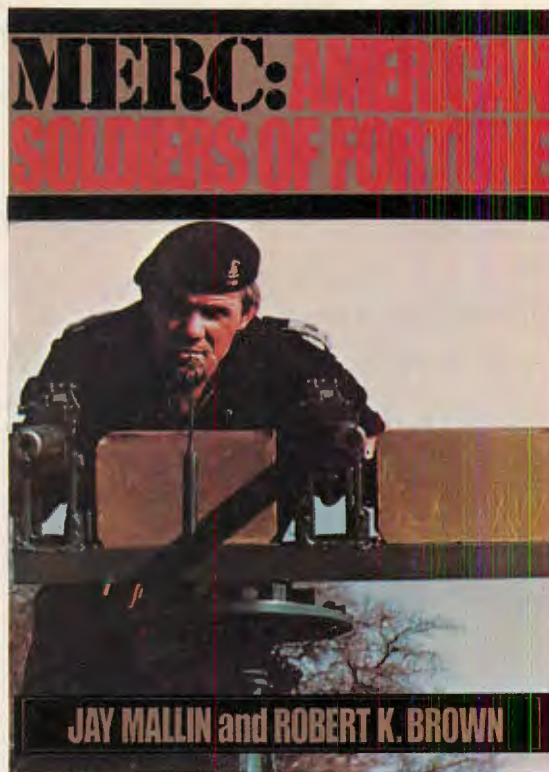
An eye-opening account of the lives, ideals, and adventures of today's soldiers of fortune.

Many of them were trained as Special Forces in Vietnam. Few of them do it for the money. They're idealists, romantics, dyed-in-the-wool adventurers. They fight in Africa, South America, the Far East — wherever their expertise, experience, and courage have a value. These are today's "mercs," and now a former *Time* correspondent and a Vietnam veteran/adventurer-turned-publisher profile these men — many of whom they have known personally — and the danger-fraught world they inhabit. Rogues and heros, soldiers and CIA agents — they all share a lust for adventure that drives them to danger and often, early death.

JAY MALLIN is a former *Time* correspondent and author of seven books on unconventional warfare and terrorism. **ROBERT K. BROWN** was a Special Forces team leader in Vietnam; he is presently the editor/publisher of the controversial magazine *Soldier of Fortune*.

Published by MacMillan **\$14.95**
Hardcover

Numerous black & white and color photographs



Each copy of MERC will be autographed by Robert K. Brown

NOW!



NOW!



NOW!

YES! Rush Me The Following:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

- Copies of Merc: American Soldiers of Fortune \$14.94 ea.
 - Copies of Mercenary Leaders Guide, Vol. I \$ 7.95 ea
- Colorado residents add 3% sales tax

PHOENIX ASSOCIATES

Dept. SF-4 Box 693
Boulder, Colorado 80306

Add \$1.00 shipping charges per order.

Overseas orders, surface \$2.00 airmail \$7.00.

If not satisfied, return books in 10 days for full return of your money.

COMING SOON FROM **PHOENIX**
MERCENARY LEADERS
GUIDE, Vol. I

NEW!

SOF MILITARY EDITOR
CAPT. JOHN EARLY

This is it; the book you have been waiting for! There has never been a comprehensive field manual for Merc operations until now. Capt. John Early, who has been a professional soldier for more than 15 years both in the uniformed conventional services and under contract, has written a reference work for the mercenary combat leader, giving pertinent data for organizing and leading troops in the field.

This book is a collection of current military techniques practiced by elite airborne commando units around the world and techniques Capt. Early developed and used successfully on the battlefields of Southeast Asia and Africa.

A reference manual for those who are already combat leaders, and a how-to manual for those who want to lead, it's a must for any combat library.

Is it worth the price? How much is a successful operation worth? **\$7.95**

