

**MARINE SNIPERS IN BEIRUT**



AUGUST 1989 • WPS 38493 • U.S. \$3.50 • UK £2.50 • CAN. \$4.50



# SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

The Journal of Professional Adventurers

15  
3  
—  
450

**SOF  
EXCLUSIVE:  
ON  
JALALABAD'S  
FIRING LINE**



**ANGOLA'S  
AMBUSH  
ALLEY**

**COLOMBIAN  
EMERALD  
FEVER**

**OMAN'S DEADLY  
COBRAS**

**SOUTH  
AFRICA'S  
BIG GUNS**



SOLDIER OF FORTUNE  
AUGUST 1989

*Subscribe & Save Money!*

**At \$18<sup>99</sup> A Year  
Subscribing To SOF Now  
Is Like Buying 6  
And Getting 6 FREE!**

Don't miss out on this great value . . . it's our best subscription offer yet! Subscribe for 1 year, pay just \$18.99 and save over \$23 now for 12 issues of SOF. Each of your next 12 issues of SOF will cost you just about \$1.50 . . . and you'll get each of those issues sent directly to your home like clockwork. No more worrying if your news vendor has sold out this month's SOF!

**USE THIS CARD AND ACT TODAY!**

**YES! SEND ME ONE YEAR (12 ISSUES)  
OF SOF FOR ONLY \$18.99. I SAVE 54%!**

Payment enclosed (U.S. Funds only)

MasterCard

VISA

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

BHN189

(Payment must accompany order. Offer good in U.S. only. All other countries add \$7.00 additional postage.) Savings based on annual newsstand price of \$42.00. Please allow 6-8 weeks for your first copy to be mailed. Offer expires 12/89.

**KAUFMAN'S WEST**  
INC.  
ARMY & NAVY GOODS  
We're America's Army and Navy Store!!

**HAS MR. KAUFMAN'S GONE WACKO?!**  
**Free!**

**HE'S GIVING STUFF AWAY!**  
But just for a limited time (until he regains his sanity or August 25th, 1989, whichever comes first). So order quickly!

**Free!**  
**The Key to Our Front Door!**  
(when you order \$50.00 of our stuff.)

**Kaufman's Catalog - A \$3.00 Value.**

(An award winner our catalog has been acclaimed by presidents and heads of state.) Call for your copy



**Free!**  
**Kaufman's Camo T-Shirt**  
(with our soldier logo) when you order over \$35.00 of our stuff.



**Free!**  
**Waterproof Matches**  
(one box free when you order at least \$15.00 of merchandise)



**MUSICAL CAPS!**



**Medic's Kit Bag -**



styled like the ones used in Vietnam. Nylon with 3 zippered compartments that fold open. New.  
Item #S-290... \$27.75.

**SATISFACTION GUARANTEED**

**Anglehead Flashlite -**



**GENUINE GI**  
indestructible plastic; waterproof, non-glare, clips onto belt.  
Uses 2 standard D cell batteries (not included) and comes complete with spare bulb and extra lenses.  
Item #R-165... \$6.95

Looks like an ordinary summer cap. Squeeze the brim, it plays a tune!  
\$11.95/each; 2 for 22.00.  
Choose:  
 **U.S. Army** (Tune: As the Caissons Go Rolling Along), Item #415  
 **U.S. Marines** (Tune: From the Halls of Montezuma), Item #H-410  
 **U.S. Air Force** (Tune: Off We Go Into the Wild Blue Yonder), Item #H-420  
 **U.S. Navy** (Tune: Anchor's Aweigh), Item #H-405

**Camouflage T-Shirt -**

- Top quality, 50% cotton, 50% polyester. Choose:  
 **Woodland Camo** Item #T-510... \$6.95.  
 **Desert Camo** Item #T-511... \$8.95.  
 **Tiger Stripe Camo** Item #T-512... \$8.95.  
 **Urban Camo** Item #T-565... \$8.95.  
 **Big Folks Woodland Camo** Item #A-625  
XXL... \$9.95.  
XXXL... \$12.95.



**All In-Stock Items Shipped Within 24 Hours.**

**DOG TAGS**

Regulation GI dog tags set of 2 tags and 2 chains (one 4", one 24"). Choose:  
**Stainless Steel Set**... Item #X-670... \$4.00.  
**Black Commando Set**... Item #X-675... \$6.00.  
**Printing For Dog Tags** - We'll print anything that fits! (6 lines, 15 spaces per line).  
Item #X-685... only \$1.50 per tag (\$3.00/set).  
**Sorry! No Dog Tag Printing Orders By Telephone.**  
**Dog Tag Silencers** - black, non-glare rubber bumpers for tag.  
Item #X-650... \$1.95/pair.

**U.S. Aviator Sunglasses -**



Worn by U.S. pilots of Navy, Marines, Army, Air Force and NASA! Precision ground glass lenses are gray/green in color, block 80% of visible light and provides UV protection. Straight, paddle temples.  
Specify: Gold or Black Frame  
Choose:  
 **Standard size (52 MM lens)**  
Item #R-330... \$31.95.  
 **Large Size (58 MM lens)**  
Item #R-335... \$34.95.

**Jogging Shorts -**

50% cotton, 50% polyester. Sizes XS-XL (tell us your waist size when ordering).  
Choose:  
**Woodland Camo.**  
**Urban Camo.**  
**Olive Drab (OD) Green.**  
Item #C-240... \$6.75.



**WE SHIP C.O.D.-C.O.D. FEE \$4.50**

**T-Shirts** - With a bold, yet subtle message. Made in USA, 50% cotton, 50% polyester. Dynamic full color silkscreen! Choose: S, M, L, XL... \$9.75/each.



Waste 'Em All - Item #T-715 Bad to the Bone - Item #T-760

**SHIPPING**

Please include appropriate shipping costs from chart below with each order. Amounts shown include costs of postage, packaging, insurance and handling.

Orders up to \$10.00	\$3.75
Orders from \$10.01 to 20.00	4.50
Orders from \$20.01 to 35.00	5.25
Orders from \$35.01 to 50.00	5.90
Orders from \$50.01 to 70.00	6.90
Orders from \$70.01 to 90.00	7.90
Orders over \$90.00	8.90

Canadian Orders - Send Double Amount Indicated.



- Jungle Hats** - These "boonie hats" are the real thing!! Each in 100% cotton ripstop. Sizes: S(7); M(7 1/4); L(7 1/2); XL(7 3/4).  
Choose:  
 **Woodland Camo**... Item #H-210  
 **Olive Drab (OD) Green**... Item #H-225  
 **Tiger Stripe Camo**... Item #H-230  
 **Solid Black**... Item #H-235  
 **Khaki**... Item #H-240  
Choose Anyone... \$12.95.

**Jungle Hat** - A copy of the real thing, made in the USA. A great value at \$7.95/each!  
Item #H-245. Select:  
 **Woodland Camo**  **Tiger Stripe Camo**  
 **Olive Drab (OD) Green**  **Black**

**WHEN IN NEW YORK CITY VISIT OUR ORIGINAL STORE AT 319 W. 42ND ST. NEAR TIMES SQUARE. (PRICES MAY VARY AT NYC STORE)**

**We're America's Army & Navy Store!!**

**ORDER TOLL FREE 1-800-545-0933 MONDAY-SATURDAY**

**KAUFMAN'S WEST INC. ARMY & NAVY GOODS**  
(505) 293-2300

Dept. A-308 660 Eubank NE Albuquerque, NM 87112  
FAX: 505-275-1441

## DEATH FROM A DISTANCE

**Peter G. Kokalis**

South Africa's homegrown G5 and G6 155mm artillery pieces have proven their worth in the toughest testing ground — combat. Are they the world's best? **30**

## PROWLING FOR POWS

**David Bray**

1/9 Cav Scouts didn't have to spend much time scouting during their time at Bong-Song because the VC and NVA were everywhere. But then their objective changed to prisoner snatch **34**

## ANGOLA'S AMBUSH ALLEY

**Geoff Collins**

Jonas Savimbi's anti-communist UNITA fighters hit the jackpot when a government convoy drives into their kill zone. Collins gets up-close and personal in this rare Angolan front-line combat chronicle, and reports that UNITA can more than hold its own against Soviet-supplied weapons and tactics **36**

## OMAN'S DEADLY SERPENTS

**Matthew Lindsay**

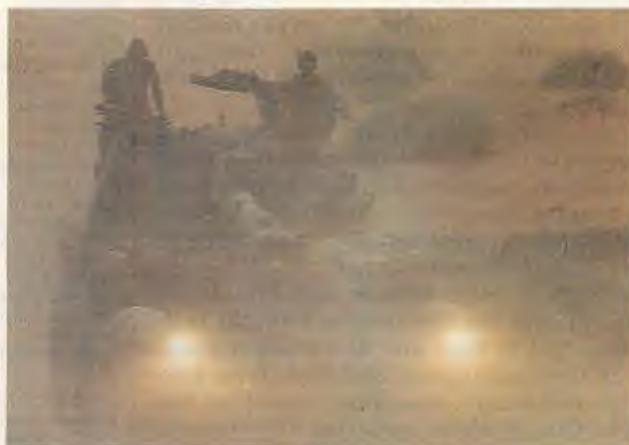
Like their reptile namesakes, Oman's



# SOF

VOL. 14 NO. 8

AUGUST/1989



S. Africa's 155s — page 30

Special Force Cobras are "quick and deadly." To accomplish their mission of meeting and defeating terrorism in the Middle East, they have to be **44**

## GREEN FIRE

**Lance Motley**

SOF's foreign correspondent catches emerald fever in Colombian boomtown. Looking for a bit of fun, travel, adventure — and profit? This may be your place **48**

## FURY AT JALALABAD

**Mike Winchester**

Fierce but indecisive fighting around Afghanistan's second largest city has left doubts about the mujahideen's ability to transition from guerrilla to conventional warfare. In this SOF exclusive, contributor Mike Winchester goes in with the rebel attack and takes a hard look at what went right — and wrong **52**



Marine snipers — page 62



Jalalabad — page 52

## AMERICAN SNIPERS IN BEIRUT

**Craig Roberts**

Marine snipers show Amal militia the value of a few good rounds. When you mess with the USMC, payback can be a killer **62**

## FAREWELL HAM & MAMMIES

**Randall Bryan**

It's the end of an era for C-rats, our favorite jungle fast food. But Ration, Field, Individual, Combat — in a different life form — is here to stay **66**

## TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY SPOOK

**Jamie Bisher**

Fritz Duquesne was the spy who never was — maybe. Some 70 years ago he appeared, disappeared and reappeared on the Central American intelligence scene, leaving only question marks in his wake **68**

## GUN GRAB '89 SITREP

**Paul Danish**

Are the anti-gunners stripping your Second Amendment rights away across the country? Here's the latest on bills and bans **96**

## COLUMNS

### Command Guidance 2

Firearms are not just for sport

### Bulletin Board 4

Fake Vietnam vets

### FLAK 8

Remains found — and ignored

### Combat Weaponcraft 12

Avoiding bungles in the jungle

### Full Auto 16

Silence is plastic

### Adventure Quartermaster 22

Hear, hear on the range

### I Was There 26

Ivan and Her Majesty's invisible tanks

### In Review 28

*Secret Wars Diary*  
*Red Zambezi*

### Advertisers Index 87

### Supply Locker 88

### Classified 92

## COVER

COVER: SOF correspondent Mike Winchester accompanied the mujahideen during recent full-scale attacks against Afghanistan's second largest city, Jalalabad. Learn how the mujahideen's transition from guerrilla to conventional warfare is exacting a bloody price. Enter the combat zone, starting on page 52. Photo: Mike Winchester. Inset photo: Sayed Ehsanullah/AIDC INSET: U.S. Marine sniper targets Amal militia in Beirut. Walking into the crosshairs of these sharpshooters is the surest way to meet Allah. Set your sights on page 62. Photo: USMC



# COMMAND GUIDANCE

by Robert K. Brown

## Sportsmen & Minutemen

**P**ERHAPS the most bizarre aspect of the gun control movement is the emphasis it places on *not* infringing on the sporting uses of firearms.

Gun control advocates of all stripes — all but the most doctrinaire of the breed — agree that the restrictions they advocate on the right of Americans to keep and bear arms will do nothing to restrict the *legitimate* rights of sportsmen. They, of course, reserve the right to determine what is legitimate and what is not.

The concern of gun grabbers with the rights of sportsmen does not grow out of a love of sport. It grows out of the cold-eyed calculation that any attempt to restrict firearms ownership that seriously infringed on hunting and target shooting would alienate tens of millions of Americans and result in the swift and permanent removal from office of those public officials who support their cause.

But there is a second, more sinister motivation as well. That is the need of gun control advocates to shift the debate away from the bedrock issue — which is that the right to keep and bear arms is a fundamental liberty protected by the Constitution and that those who would restrict that right are advocating a sweeping assault on the liberty of the American people. Gun grabbers know that if the restrictions they advocate are debated in terms of the Second Amendment their position is indefensible. So they are desperate to reformulate the argument in terms more favorable to them. By casting the case for and against gun ownership in terms of "sporting purposes" they trivialize the constitutional issue.

Or so they think.

While it is self-evidently true that the Second Amendment was not put in the Constitution to protect the right to shoot ducks — it was put there to ensure that no government would have a monopoly on the tools of coercive force and to ensure that individual Americans would have access to the instruments of self-defense — there is in fact a crucial link between so-called sport shooting and the fundamental right to keep and bear arms.

It is this: If firearms are to be used competently the user must practice.

America is a reasonably civilized place, and the occasions when a citizen must use a weapon for a constitutionally protected purpose — self-defense for instance — occur relatively infrequently. But that is all the more reason why the opportunity to train and practice with the weapons that will be used is critical. There is rarely time to become proficient when the wolf is at the door.

The truth is that there is nothing trivial about using firearms for sporting purposes, any more than there is anything trivial about basic training. Allowing gun grabbers to determine what firearms can appropriately be used for sporting purposes and the appropriate time, place and manner of their use is like allowing pacifists to determine how the Army should train for battle.

Make no mistake — using firearms for sporting purposes is using firearms for training. And limiting the ability to train to 19th century arms — as gun grabbers are in effect doing when they propose to ban semiautomatic arms — is a profound infringement on the right to keep and bear arms. ✕

# SOF

Editor/Publisher  
Robert K. Brown  
Associate Publisher/  
Managing Editor  
Jim Graves  
Senior Editor  
John Coleman  
Technical Editor  
Peter G. Kokalis  
Associate Editors  
G.B. Crouse  
S. Max  
Don McLean  
Assistant Editors  
Tom Slizewski  
Paul Danish  
Art Director  
Craig Nunn  
Art/Production  
Assistants  
Linda Keschl  
Sandra Slizewski  
Advertising Manager  
Shirley Raley  
Typographer  
Deborah Deats  
Administrative  
Assistant  
Carrie Karlson

### CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

*Vietnam Veterans Affairs*  
Col. Chuck Allen  
*Military History*  
William Brooks  
William H. Northacker  
*Unconventional Operations*  
Brig Gen. Heine Aderholt  
James P. Monaghan  
Maj. Robert MacKenzie  
*Martial Arts*  
Barry Sadler  
Duke Paris  
*Military Affairs*  
Alexander McColl  
Mike Williams  
*Paramedic Operations*  
Dr. John Peters  
*Explosives/Demolitions*  
John Donovan  
*Aviation*  
Dana Drenkowski  
*Africa*  
Al Venter  
*Outdoor Affairs*  
Galen Geer

### Omega Group Ltd.:

President  
Robert K. Brown  
Executive Assistant  
Tom Bates  
Executive Department  
Manager  
Zada L. Johnson  
Advertising Director  
John Bressemer  
Art/Production Manager  
Kathleen Allard  
Circulation Director  
Robert J. Rolfsen  
Subscription  
Circulation Manager  
Cherry Chavez  
Controller/Business  
Manager  
Terri A. Greene  
CHANGE OF ADDRESS/  
SUBSCRIPTION  
PROBLEMS: Six weeks  
notice is required on all  
changes of address. Please  
include current  
mailing-label information  
with all correspondence.  
SOLDIER OF FORTUNE,  
Subscription Department,  
P.O. Box 348,  
Mt. Morris, IL 61054.



**NOTICE: SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine is a magazine of national and international distribution. There may be products for which sale, possession or interstate transportation may be restricted, prohibited or subject to special licensing requirements in your state. Purchasers should consult the local law enforcement authorities in their area.**

**All data in this publication, technical or otherwise, is based upon personal experience of individuals using specific tools, products, equipment and components under particular conditions and circumstances, some of which may not be reported in the article and which Soldier of Fortune has not otherwise verified. Soldier of Fortune, its agents, officers and employees disclaim any responsibility for all liability, injuries or damages.**

**READERS OF BOTH DISPLAY AND CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING ARE ADVISED THAT SOLDIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE DOES NOT VERIFY VALIDITY OF EVERY ADVERTISEMENT AND/OR THE LEGALITY OF EVERY PRODUCT CONTAINED HEREIN. SHOULD ANY READER HAVE A PROBLEM WITH PRODUCTS OR SERVICES OFFERED BY AN ADVERTISER, HE SHOULD SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM HIS NEAREST POSTAL INSPECTOR AND ALSO CONTACT OUR ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT. SOLDIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE DOES NOT INTEND FOR ANY PRODUCT OR SERVICE ADVERTISED TO BE USED IN ANY ILLEGAL MANNER.**

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE (ISSN 0145-6784/USPS 120-510) is published monthly by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine, Inc., Boulder, Colorado. Second Class Postage Paid at Boulder, CO. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, Subscription Department, P.O. Box 348, Mt. Morris, IL 61054. U.S. subscription rates for twelve monthly issues: \$26.00. Canada, Mexico and all other countries: \$33.00. Special domestic and foreign rates on request. U.S. FUNDS ONLY. Single-Issue Price — U.S., \$3.50; United Kingdom, £2.50; Canada, \$4.50.

CONTRIBUTORS: Manuscripts, photographs, drawings are submitted at the contributor's own risk. Material should be mailed to Articles Editor, 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 credited and be accurately identified. Payment will be made at rates current at time of publication.

Copyright © 1989 by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine, Inc. All Rights Reserved



## SORRY, CHARLIE...

China and the Soviet Union aren't the only places in the ComBloc where people are getting cranky about basket case economies and political oppression. The same thing is happening in Vietnam.

Nothing surprising about that — except in Vietnam the group leading the drive for reform is the 10,000-member Club of Resistance Fighters, which consists mostly of retired Viet Cong and other vets of the Southeast Asia War.

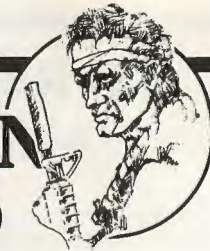
They have been demanding the resignations of cabinet members and publishing the sort of newspapers that coming from anyone else would be instantly censored. Says Nguyen Ho, head of the club's executive committee: "Vietnam is now the poorest, most backward country in the world... it is difficult to understand why those people who caused great harm to this country, this society, weren't punished, weren't dismissed, weren't accused."

Well, heaven knows we tried.

## SOF WANTS TO HEAR FROM SNIPERS...

This month's SOF has a story by a U.S. Marine sniper who served with the 8th Marine Regiment in Beirut (see "American Snipers in Beirut," page 62). We would be interested in hearing from any other snipers who served in Beirut with the U.S. military.

# BULLETIN BOARD



**ABOVE: SOF Technical Editor Peter Kokalis checks out a People's Liberation Army RPK while PLA officers look on. Photo was taken during the 1987 visit of an SOF team to the People's Republic of China. PLA's decision not to enforce martial law decree aimed at ending pro-democracy demonstrations by Chinese students and workers in May left world wondering if the People's Liberation Army would in the end turn out to be the people's liberation army. Wouldn't that beat all!**

**BELOW: Professional adventurer Larry Amkraut and Dakota, his dog, took time out from their unprecedented 7,000 mile 'hike' from Mexico to Alaska to visit SOF's offices in Boulder, Colorado. Unfortunately, our own professional adventurer, Robert K. Brown, was humping his way to Panama at the time and couldn't meet with one of our most avid readers. Larry promises to come back at trip's end — 18 months from now — and donate his hiking boots to the next SOF Convention auction. Photo: Tom Slizewski**



## HE HAD NO FEAR...

Five days before U.S. Army Colonel James "Nick" Rowe was assassinated by a Philippine communist New People's Army General Command hit team in Quezon City near Manila, he wrote a four-page letter to a friend in which he indicated he was aware both of the NPA plot to take out an American officer and of the fact that his name was on the hit list.

"I'm either number two or number three on their list... and have taken the actions available to me to make it more difficult for them," he wrote in a letter to Robert Haskell, a friend and colleague who is doctrine project officer at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at Fort Bragg.

"I've got a hardened vehicle and a trained driver for my official travel in the Manila-Clark-Subic area; an [Armed Forces Philippines] guard in the house 24 hours a day; and a standby security team should a hit go down at home or in the immediate area."

Rowe was assassinated on 21 April as he was being driven to work. He was hit in the head by a single bullet that apparently entered the car from the rear through a small gap in the vehicle's armor. Several other rounds fragmented on impact.

Rowe was a Special Forces officer who on 29 October 1963 was captured by the Viet Cong during a firefight and was held captive for more than five years in the U Minh "forest of darkness," during which time he was subjected to torture, solitary confinement, food deprivation and medical neglect. He escaped as he was being taken out to be executed on 31 December 1968. The party was surprised by American helicopter gunships, which held their fire when they recognized Rowe as an American because of his beard. From this experience came his book, *Five Years to Freedom*, one of the most compelling tales from the war.

Rowe was serving with the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Group, aiding the Philippine government in its counterinsurgency effort against the NPA, when he was gunned down.

We will sorely miss Nick Rowe. He was a heroic soldier who never let the bastards grind him down.

## LOOKING A GIFT MiG IN THE MOUTH...

When Captain Alexander Zuyev, an airplane driver for the Red Air Force, was told he was grounded for

health reasons, he took the news poorly. So poorly, in fact, that he stormed into an air base north of the city of Batumi on the Black Sea, shot a sentry, stole a MiG-29 Fulcrum, and hotfooted it to Turkey — becoming the first aviator to defect with one of the Soviet Union's new-generation fighters.

Zuyev, who caught a bullet in the right arm while taking off, asked for asylum in the United States. Good idea, that. If he were to be sent back to the Motherland he probably wind up perestroikaed with extreme prejudice.

The most astonishing part of the incident, though, is that when the SovComs demanded that their MiG be returned, the Turks obliged within 48 hours — in effect throwing away an intelligence bonanza. A few years ago a defecting MiG-25 was returned to the Soviets in kit form after the CIA had disassembled it for a closer look and blew off putting it back together.

To be sure, a defecting MiG isn't the intelligence windfall it would have been in the past, if for no other reason than the Soviets have been much more open about the aircraft than they ever have been previously. Last year the Soviets allowed two Fulcrums to appear at the Farnborough Air Show in Great Britain and even put on flying displays. Still, sending back a near-mint MiG-29 without even taking the time to examine it fully strikes us as unconscionably sloppy. The *New York Times* may think the cold war is over, but we'd rather wait for the peace treaty before giving aid and comfort to the enemy.

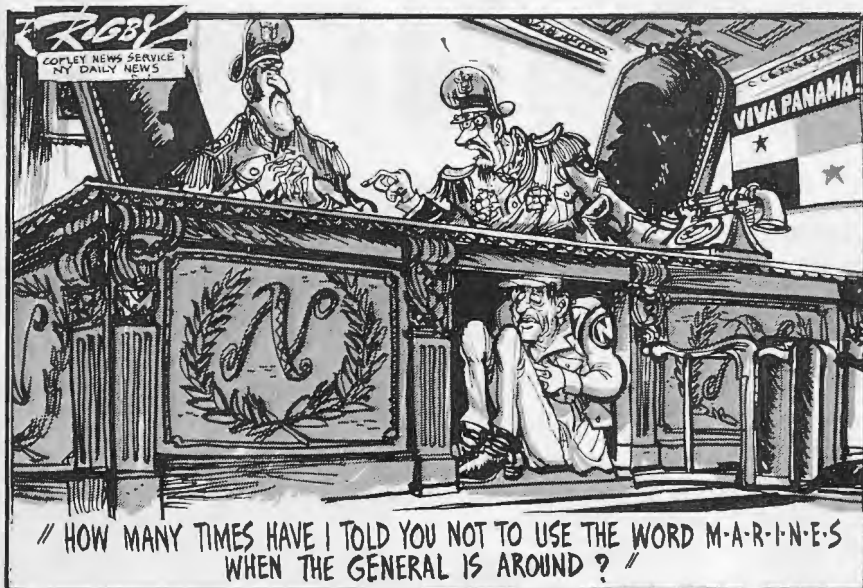
## BOUNTY HUNTERS ORGANIZE...

The National Association of Bail Enforcement Agents is looking for a few good men (or women) who in turn look for a lot of bad ones.

Membership in the association is open to anyone who has tracked down and arrested a fugitive, be it criminal, political or special operations.

Primary focus of the membership is in the areas of bounty hunting or recovery-agent operations for the bail bond industry.

For an association membership application, send a self-addressed and stamped envelope to National Association of Bail Enforcement Agents, Dept SOF, P.O. Box 3990, Santa Barbara, CA 93130.



## VIET VET IMPOSTERS...

In war, the saying goes, truth is the first casualty.

Yeah. And the last too.

It seems there is a growing trend among people who for one reason or another never served in Vietnam to say they did. People (term used advisedly) who never left the states — or even got into uniform — are making up stories about their experiences in combat.

Some of them have even been elected officers of veterans' organizations before being found out. According to the *Dallas Times-Herald*, Joe Testa, the president of the Dallas Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America before being ousted earlier this year, gave speeches about seeing buddies killed in Southeast Asia — but never served in Vietnam himself. The closest he got to Vietnam was Fort Hood, and the most notable thing in his service record seems to have been two suspended sentences totalling nine months for being AWOL.

Government officials say there may be legions of people who have invented or inflated their service in Vietnam or Southeast Asia. These imposters often go unchallenged because the etiquette among veterans has been not to inquire too deeply about other vets' service.

"When the war was unpopular, people were reluctant to admit they had served in Vietnam," said Barry Kasinitz, public affairs officer for the Vietnam Veterans of America. "But now, being a Vietnam veteran is chic, and you see an awful lot of people making up war stories."

To be sure, people have been lying about their military exploits since the

discovery of the first rock, but this shit strikes us as particularly offensive. We suspect more than a few of the people who are now lying about what they did in Vietnam did a good deal of lying to avoid going there in the first place. Even Jane Fonda has more integrity than these weenies. And balls.

## RHINOS SURVIVE VIET WAR...

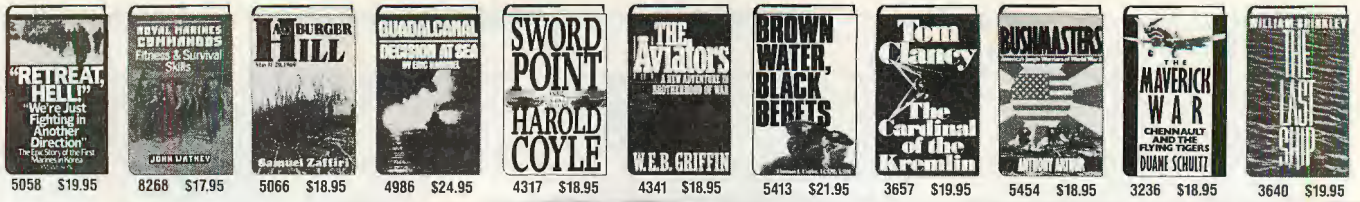
Despite 18 years of war in South Vietnam, during which the combatants expended ordnance tonnages comparable with those of World War II, a small population of the world's rarest rhinoceros has been found in the country — and not all that far from what used to be called Saigon at that.

The Javan rhinoceros has somehow survived decades of war and defoliation in Song Be Province, according to George Schaller, director of Wildlife Conservation International. Last February, Schaller found a dead rhino and fresh tracks along the Dong Nai River, about 75 miles northeast of Ho Chi Minh City, nee Saigon. Live animals haven't been sighted — which may tell you something about how they managed to survive.

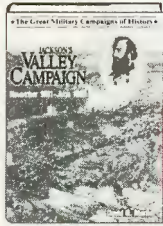
Schaller estimates the Vietnam population of the animals, which grow to about 3,500 lbs., stand about 5.5 feet tall, and reach a length of up to 11.5 feet, to be 10 to 15. The only other known population of the animals is a group of 50 living on the western tip of Java.

Know anybody out there who thought they saw a rhino in Vietnam, or claims to have a picture of one? Looks like they weren't hallucinating after all. ☒

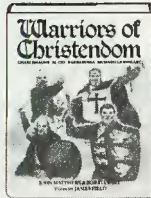




5058 \$19.95 8268 \$17.95 5066 \$18.95 4986 \$24.95 4317 \$18.95 4341 \$18.95 5413 \$21.95 3657 \$19.95 5454 \$18.95 3236 \$18.95 3640 \$19.95



4200 SP. ED.†



8284 \$24.95



5009 \$19.95



4192 SP. ED.



5025/9999 \$24.95††



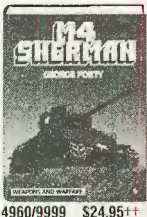
4184 \$24.95



# THE WAY IT REALLY WAS!

Only a powerful few knew what was really happening during World War II. For countless others the trenches, beaches and air raids made the war just as personal—yet far more deadly.

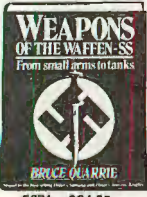
The Military Book Club gives you the war from *all* perspectives. From the front lines in Europe and the Pacific...to behind the scenes in Washington and Berlin. You get "insider" stories, rare photographs and more. Battles fought on land, sea and air. Join The Military Book Club. And see war as only a few have.



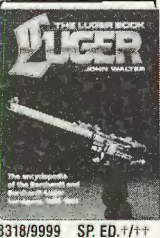
4960/9999 \$24.95††



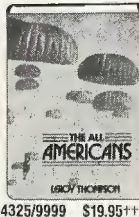
9605/9999 \$19.95†††



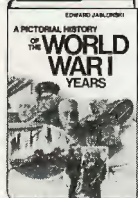
5074 \$24.95



8318/9999 SP. ED.†††



4325/9999 \$19.95††



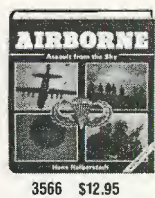
0869 \$12.95



8326 \$25.00



3723 \$24.95



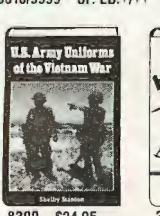
3566 \$12.95



2121 \$12.95



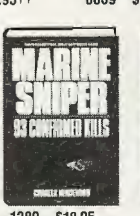
4135 SP. ED.



8300 \$24.95



3541 \$18.95



1289 \$18.95



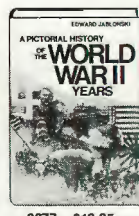
4143 \$18.95



0166 \$21.95



5041 \$24.95



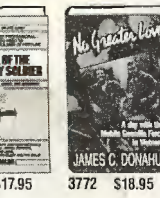
0877 \$12.95



3426 \$18.95



8276 \$17.95



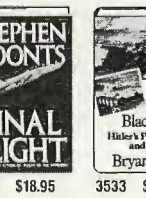
3798 \$17.95



3772 \$18.95



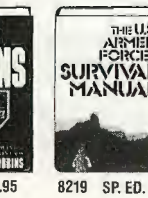
3624 \$18.95



3319 \$24.95



5082 \$18.95



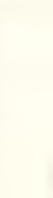
3533 \$17.95



3285 \$19.95



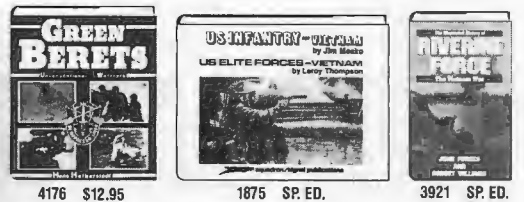
8219 SP. ED.



4507 \$19.95



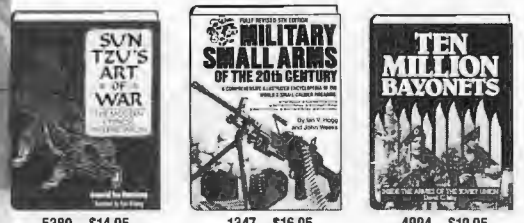
5314 \$15.95 3947 \$19.95 5215 \$24.95 4150 \$18.95 4127 \$19.95 5231 \$28.95 3442 \$29.95 4978 \$17.95 3988 \$10.95 3590 SP. ED. 3954 \$18.95



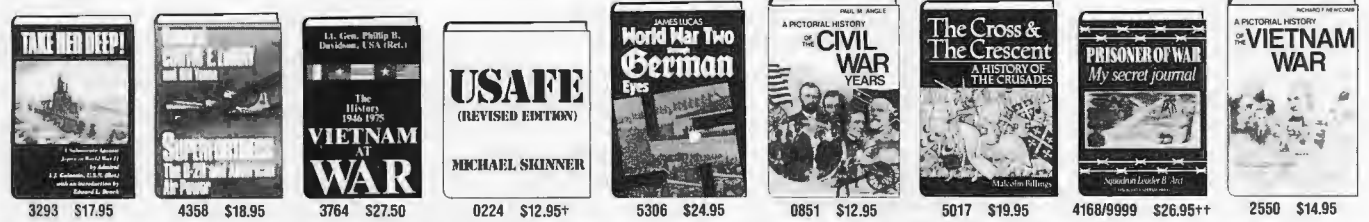
4176 \$12.95 1875 SP. ED. 3921 SP. ED.



5439/9999 \$24.95++ 3418 SP. ED. 4630 SP. ED.



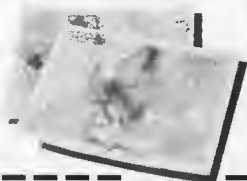
5389 \$14.95 1347 \$16.95 4994 \$19.95



3293 \$17.95 4358 \$18.95 3764 \$27.50 0224 \$12.95+ 5306 \$24.95 0851 \$12.95 5017 \$19.95 4168/9999 \$26.95++ 2550 \$14.95

**TAKE 4 BOOKS FOR 98¢**  
**PLUS 2 WORLD WAR II MAPS FREE** with membership

2 FULL COLOR  
 24 1/2" x 19" WW II MAPS



3939 SP. ED. 3913 \$29.95 8292 \$16.95+

† Soft cover. ++ Counts as 2 choices.

Here's how the Club Plan works: You'll get 4 books for only 98¢ plus shipping and handling and your FREE WW II MAPS when accepted as a member. We reserve the right to reject any application. However, once accepted, if you are not completely satisfied with your introductory books, return them within 10 days at our expense. Your membership will be canceled and you will owe nothing. The FREE MAPS are yours to keep in any case.

**Huge selection:** As a Club member, you'll have over 350 titles to choose from—a tremendous variety of the very best military books in print. Many feature rarely seen photos, illustrations and maps. Many books are difficult to find anywhere else.

**How you save money:** The Club offers its own complete hardbound editions (sometimes altered in size to fit special presses). Club editions save you up to 30% off publishers' hardcover edition prices. A shipping and handling charge is added to each shipment.

**Club magazine:** About every 4 weeks (14 times a year) you'll receive the free Club magazine describing coming Selection(s) and Alternates. In addition, up to 4 times a year, you may receive offers of special Selections, always at discounts off publishers' prices. If you want the featured Selection(s), do nothing—shipment will be made automatically. If you prefer an Alternate—or no book at all—indicate this on the order form and return it by the date specified. You'll have at least 10 days to decide. If you have less than 10 days, and you receive an unwanted Selection, you may return it at our expense and owe nothing.

**The choice is always yours:** Your only obligation is to take just 4 books at regular low Club prices during the next 2 years. You may resign any time after purchasing your 4 books, or continue to enjoy Club membership for as long as you like.

Club editions save you up to 30% off publishers' edition prices quoted above.

Mail to: **THE MILITARY BOOK CLUB®** Garden City, NY 11535

☆☆

**Yes, please accept my membership application** and send me the 4 books marked in the boxes to the right, plus my FREE WW II MAPS. Bill me only 98¢ plus shipping and handling for the 4 books. I agree to the Club Plan presented in this ad, and understand that I need buy just 4 more books at regular low Club prices anytime I want during the next 2 years. **No-risk guarantee:** If not delighted after examining my 4 selections, I may return the books within 10 days at Club expense. My membership will be canceled and I will owe nothing. No matter what I decide, I may keep my FREE MAPS.

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Address Apt. No. City State Zip

NOTE: Some books count as 2 choices; if you pick any of these, please write 9999 in the next box.

FREE WW II MAPS #502

E5060

If under 18, parent must sign. Members accepted in USA and Canada only. Canadian members serviced from Canada where offer is slightly different.

## WORKING IN AN URBAN WAR ZONE...

Sirs:

For the last 10 years I've been working in the middle of the south central Los Angeles scum as a telephone lineman, cable splicer and now a repairman. I have been shot at, had guns swung in my direction four times and had three attempted robberies (in all three cases you should have seen the look on their faces when I pulled my knife and said "give me your fucking money."). Last but not least there's the bullet hole in my truck.

These are only my experiences; we all hear gunfire every day and the gangs think we're undercover police, or doing wiretaps. *U.S. News and World Report* a few weeks ago reported three phone men were shot. But they forget to mention they were in a manhole, shot like fish in a barrel.

Los Angeles police has told Pac Bell that we should ride double but Bell won't do it; it and we've been told if we carry any weapons we're fired! This ban includes mace or pepper spray to ward off dogs. Of course wrenches and screwdrivers can and are used as weapons, but I don't think that matters much to the young female repair tech who was assaulted in a basement. She's been off work for some time and we don't know if she'll be back.

Do we carry weapons? I will neither confirm nor deny, as they say, but lots of people use the old saw of "Better tried by 12 then carried by 6." Ma Bell won't even let us get the hell out. There's currently a four year hold on transfers.

Name withheld  
Los Angeles,  
California



## FLAK



## IOWA TRAGEDY NOT AGAIN...

Sirs:

Not long after I recounted my experience aboard the *USS Newport News* (see "I Was There," *SOF*, July '89) involving an explosion in a gun turret, history repeated itself aboard the *USS Iowa*. Both events took place in a three gun turret; both involved turret number two and it was the center gun in both cases; both turrets were trained out to the starboard side. And in both cases, the tragedy involved a lot of news coverage.

One thing is common to many military tragedies: the loss felt by those who must carry on the mission. A naval gun crew is a family. You work as a team. You live in the same compartment. You sleep within inches of each other. You eat together, play together and sometimes die together. The three gun crews are, in a very real sense, a family. To lose any part of it is a tremendous loss.

I was asked many questions when my ship pulled into port after the explosion. Some were less than tactful. The very first question was, "We heard it was human error, can you confirm this?" That nearly got a reporter thrown overboard. A good question would have been, "I don't know much about this gun, can you fill me in on how it works?" Followed by, "What could have gone wrong?" Never once was I asked how I felt about losing one third of everyone I knew. Journalism doesn't seem to have changed much over the years. Reporters are struggling to be first at the expense of accuracy.

One report had the turret packed with explosives. Another had the crew loading "tons" of powder into the gun. Black powder and smokeless were both described as being the culprit. The specter of human error crept into the coverage early on, as reporters started guessing games to fill air time.

Much of the reporting on the *Iowa* incident focuses on the families of the crew and rightly so. But do not forget the other family. The one that fighting men everywhere are part of.

Mike Singleton  
Spring Hill, Florida

## REMAINS FOUND — IGNORED?...

Sirs:

I hope that you and your magazine may be able to throw some light on the subject that I am going to write about. When I was told this information today it made me wonder if the U.S. government is really trying to get back the remains of missing GIs from Vietnam. Here goes:

In 1942, near Marshfield in the county of Avon, a P-38 Lightning, one of a flight of six, crashed into a river bed. The P-38 was a photo recon variant. The pilot was killed on impact. At the time only his head and one shoulder were recovered and returned to the USA for burial. Now in 1985, a wartime aircraft recovery group over here found the plane while looking for a British Halifax which crashed nearby. The local farmer informed them about the P-38. They then went on and recovered this aircraft along with a staff sergeant from the U.S. Army. When the aircraft was dug out, inside the cockpit they found the rest of the remains of the pilot. They asked what they should do with the remains and were told that since he was already buried back in the states to just put his remains back in the hole and cover them up. The man who told me this saw the remains and helped to uncover the plane. He said that they put the remains which were in a semi-preserved state into four black plastic bags and returned them to the hole. There was no marker put there and there is still none. The sergeant said a few words over this unmarked grave.

I find this disgusting. How the hell can the U.S. show so little respect for a man who died while in the service of this country. Please let me know if anything can be done to at least give the man a military burial and a marker.

John W. Devins  
Newport-Gwent, Great Britain

*According to Captain Randy Sipe, Director of Public Affairs at Headquarters Engineering and Service Center, Tyndall AFB, the U.S. Air Force has never encountered a similar situation but if they do instructions are to contact the next of kin and follow their wishes. And according to a Department of Defense spokesman, "We make every effort to recover and return remains wherever they are found but we also contact next of kin and respect their wishes."*

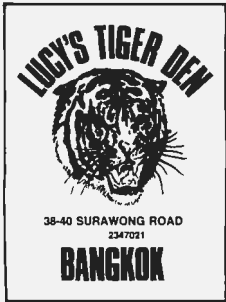


# SOF EXCHANGE

## OUTFITTERS OF THE PROFESSIONALS

SOF EXCHANGE • P.O. Box 687, Boulder, CO 80306 • Phone 1-800-323-1776 opr. 131.

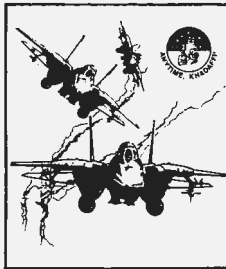
# NEW T-SHIRT! NEW T-SHIRT! NEW T-SHIRT!



#1025  
Lucy's Tiger Den  
White \$12.95



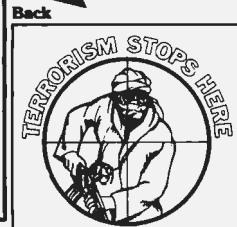
#1018  
Seal Team  
Silver \$9.95



#1024  
Anytime Khadaffi  
Lt. Blue \$10.95



#1035  
Assault Rifle  
White with  
design in red  
& blue \$10.95



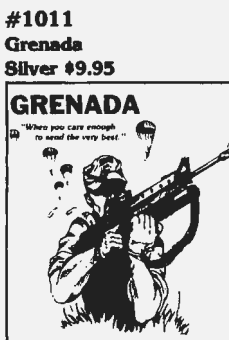
#1021  
Delta  
Lt. Blue \$10.95



#1008  
Visit Lebanon  
Tan \$9.95



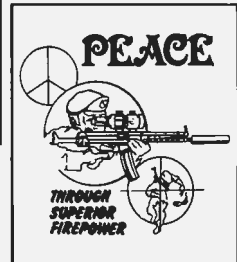
#1033 **NEW!**  
POW/MIA  
\$9.95



#1011  
Grenada  
Silver \$9.95



#1028  
SOG  
Black  
\$10.95



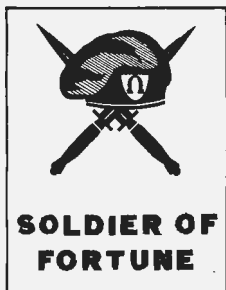
#1002 - Peace  
White \$9.95



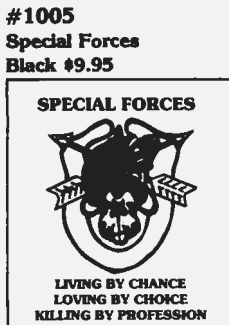
#1031  
Aeroflot  
Silver with  
design in Red  
\$10.95



#1009  
SOF HK  
Black \$9.95



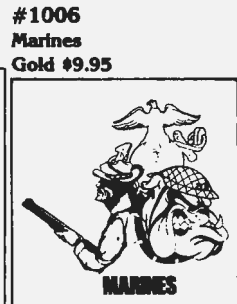
#1001  
SOF Logo  
Black \$9.95



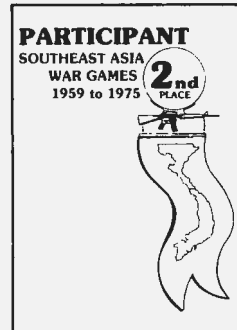
#1005  
Special Forces  
Black \$9.95



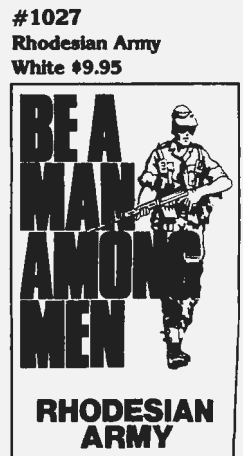
#1032 **NEW!**  
FDN  
\$9.95



#1006  
Marines  
Gold \$9.95



#1007  
S.E. Asia  
Black \$9.95



#1027  
Rhodesian Army  
White \$9.95

QTY.	ITEM NO.	SIZE	AMOUNT

T-Shirts available in S, M, L, XL. XXL available for \$1.00 additional. Please include \$2.00 for the first item ordered, include \$1.00 for each additional item for postage and handling. Overseas orders add 40%. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

SUB TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postage & Handling \_\_\_\_\_  
 3.7% Sales Tax (Colo. res.) \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

## SOF EXCHANGE

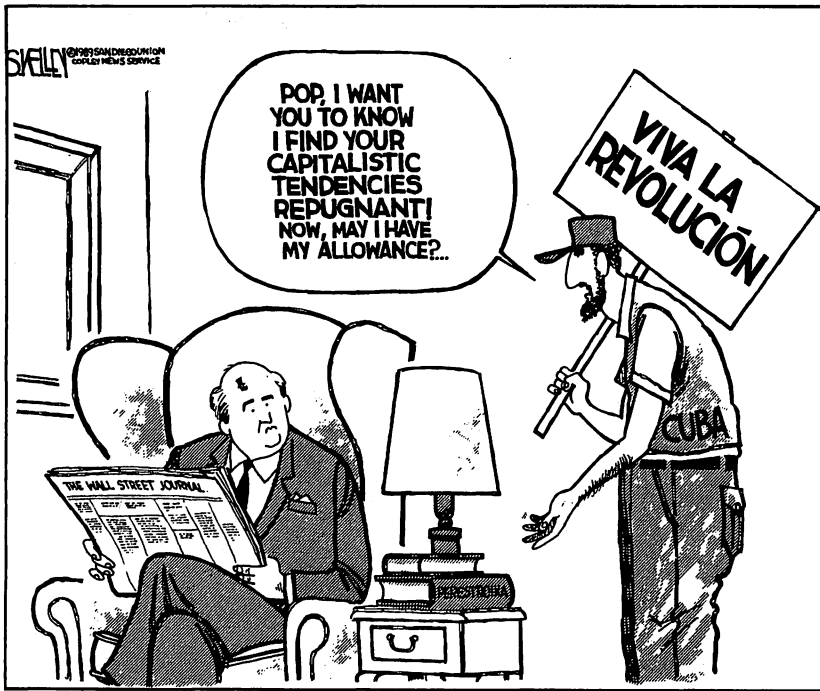
Mail to: SOF EXCHANGE, SF 8/89, P.O. Box 687, Boulder, CO 80306

We accept telephone orders on MasterCard & Visa — call us at toll-free — 1-800-323-1776, operator 131. **NEW! FAX YOUR ORDER 303-444-5617!**

PAYMENT:  VISA/MASTERCARD  CHECK ENCLOSED  COD

Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exp. \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

For customer service calls, dial (303) 449-3750 — between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. mountain time.



## A MODEST PROPOSAL...

Sirs:

The biggest obstruction to an effective criminal justice system (and I use the term lightly) is the character of those who guide, maintain and write the laws for that system. It seems that those who write the laws have bent over backwards to provide the criminal with ever more ingenious ways of escaping justice. There is nothing more threatening to law and order than a greedy judge or lawyer who has graduated from his practice and ACLU-type thinking into a position whereby he can write or influence passage of ridiculous loopholes simply to further his colleagues' noble profession. True justice is far down on such a person's list of priorities. In my opinion, he is more of a criminal than the misguided Richard Ramirez or adorable Ted Bundy, in that his actions and efforts perpetuate the continuous murder, rape, robbery and poisoning of the public, all in the name of providing current and future attorneys with six-figure incomes.

For the sake of argument let's assume reform has taken place. Now what about penalties? Make them

swift, sure and merciless. And make no mistake about the drug situation in this country. If we're serious about putting an end to the problem, we're simply going to have to start executing a lot of drug dealers. Anyone dealing over a pound pays with his life and all small-time dealers go to jail for life — no parole, no time off for good behavior, no weekend furloughs and no questions asked. Sound severe? You bet it is! The money to be made in the drug trade is simply overpowering and consequently the penalties are going to have to be even more overpowering if they are to have the desired deterrent effect. What about possession? If it's more than a pound, confiscate everything the person owns and deport him from the country forever; under a pound, confiscate everything he owns and warn them that a second conviction for any amount will result in permanent deportation.

Let's come down hard on the criminal instead of tying the hands of police. Ban criminals, not guns. Being a realist, I doubt that any serious change will come anytime soon, if at all. Therefore, my only advice to the general public is this — acquire a means of self-defense, become proficient in its use and don't leave home without it.

Frank Leech  
Palm Desert, California

## TEMPORARY BANS TEMPORARY CONFISCATIONS...

Sirs:

The people of the Soviet state of Georgia are presently finding out the hard way Gorbachev's policy of glasnost comes with a high price tag. Soviet troops recently fired on Georgians demonstrating for an autonomous government, killing 19 people. Dan Rather calmly announced on the CBS Evening News that Soviet troops were in the process of temporarily collecting thousands of hunting rifles from the citizens of Soviet Georgia. Thanks, Dan, for the national exposure of the best argument there is against registration of firearms.

This same Dan Rather will tell you to be reasonable and register your firearms. You have nothing to fear from your government, he will contend. He will tell you that registering your weapons will decrease crime.

I contend that my government has nothing to fear from my being armed, so long as it is working for the people of America. The Second Amendment was written to ensure it will continue to do just that, as well as providing for the defense of that government by the people.

Gun owners wake up! Write your elected officials at all levels of government. Let them know you will not tolerate ANY restrictions on your rights as free men to be armed. Do it now, before armed troops at your door temporarily collect your weapons.

George R. Roberts  
Louisville, Kentucky

*Letters expressing support for the Second Amendment swamped our offices after assault rifle bans were introduced in numerous states and a nationwide ban was enacted on importing such weapons. Space restrictions prohibit us from printing more of your comments, all of which echoed Mr. Roberts' sentiments.*

## LETTERS

Your input has made FLAK one of SOF's most popular columns. Write and tell us your opinion of SOF or any subject you consider worth our readers' attention. We reserve the right to edit for content and brevity. Send letters to FLAK, c/o SOF, PO Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306. ✕

# THE DUTCHMAN

MC/Visa & COD  
Call toll free, or  
use order form below

# 1-800-821-5157

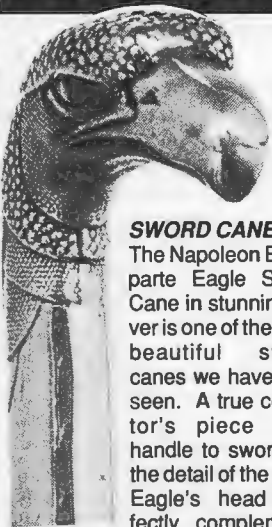
## AUTOMATIC FOCUS Binoculars



### Jason Perma Focus

Binoculars that focus AUTOMATICALLY in the blink of an eye! NO focusing wheel, NO diopter adjustment, NO bars - these binoculars are always in focus whether your target is near or far (from 40' to infinity). The secret is INFINITE DEPTH OF FIELD, which Jason Perma Focus binoculars have, and which conventional binoculars do not. Just put these hi-tech binoculars to your eyes...zero in on your target...and you're in focus PRONTO. Think of it - never miss a play, passing deer or significant moment again! Pass from person to person without clumsy refocusing. This computer designed optical system features magnesium fluoride fully coated optics for a bright, sharp view. Tough polycarbonate/graphite reinforced body is rubber armoured for moisture and shock resistance. Black color. Rubber eyecups allow full field viewing with or without glasses. Choose from #194, 7 x 35's, discount price \$86.00; #196, powerful 10 x 50's, discount price \$109.00; and waterproof #212 7 x 50's (nitrogen filled), discount price \$244.00. Take advantage of Dutch Buying Power and enjoy the most revolutionary binoculars available today.

## SWORD CANE



### SWORD CANE

The Napoleon Bonaparte Eagle Sword Cane in stunning silver is one of the most beautiful sword canes we have ever seen. A true collector's piece from handle to sword tip, the detail of the silver Eagle's head perfectly complements

the lustrous hardwood shaft (sheathed) and the tri-foil sword (unsheathed). The sword is made of high-carbon steel; the shaft of finely turned beechwood. Overall length 36"; sword length from handle to tip, 32". Internal pin-in-channel mechanism locks/unlocks the sword. Made in France by that country's premier cane maker, and an absolute steal at \$148.00 postpaid.

## DUCK PHONE

### HOLY QUACK!



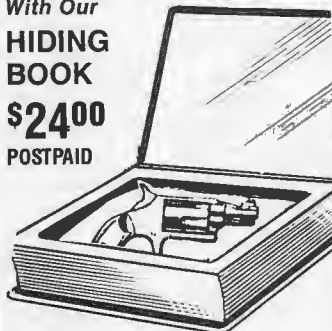
REPLACE THIS WITH THIS

Replace Ma Bell with the Duck that talks — the original QUACK Phone. Amaze your pals — pick up your Duck and dial! This colorful two-piece wood decoy has a full feature tone/pulse/redial phone built into its body. When the phone rings...err, QUACKS, the duck's LED eyes light up, too. The QUACK Phone is handcrafted and painted in bright duck colors. It's a lot more attractive than your standard phone and a conversation piece to boot! FCC approved and discount long distance service compatible. Order QU2 for just \$79.95

## HIDING BOOK

Protect Your Valuables

With Our  
HIDING  
BOOK  
\$2400  
POSTPAID



One of the slickest places to secrete money has always been in a book. Think of how many books a thief would have to look through: And now you can hide larger things...like a gun, or a box of jewelry...many things. And you can carry your hidden object with you in one of these "Hiding Books." Full size book, random titles used, handmade, and velvet lined in red. Brand new books. With cover closed you can't tell from any other book. The space inside is 5 x 8 inches. This is a top quality item.

## SECRET EAR

For Protection & Surveillance  
Via Your Telephone.

Tele-Monitor 2000 lets you discreetly listen in on unusual activities on any premises

via the telephone. Small device (5 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 1") plugs into any modular jack. Does not require beeper/pager; takes just a touch tone phone. Simply call number Tele-Monitor is attached to, access by pushing the correct touch-tone buttons. Once activated, super sensitive mike picks up the most minute of sounds. Monitor computer & printer operations while you're away; use for security to hear any unusual sounds — smoke alarm, surge alarm, cries for help, muffled sounds of burglars at work. Compatible with any American phone exchange. Up to four units can be attached to one phone line, so you can monitor from room to room. Normal phone operations are not affected. American-made, state-of-the-art and priced right for just \$169.00 (additional units \$150.00 each).



## NIGHT COMMAND



Classic Pilot's  
Watch  
Just \$46.00

Analog/  
Digital  
Combo

That's right, for only \$46.00 you can have this aviator/racer watch. It's finished in handsome gunmetal black with matching black stainless steel band. The classic watch, because it has all The Right Stuff — from its All Business outside to its high-tech electronic workings. This is today's most popular watch — the perfect blend of history and style for men on the GO. Check out these features: Both Analog AND Digital time displays with luminous hands and numeral markers and LCD display; allows for dual time zone settings; has 12/24 European/Military time settings; reads hours, minutes, seconds, AM/PM, month, date and day of week; has a daily alarm and hourly chime; has a one-hour stopwatch with 1/100th second resolution; times splits, laps, time-outs and 1st/2nd place finishes; has a rotary time ring bezel, is water resistant to 50 meters (165-feet); has a 1 1/2 year battery; and mineral glass crystal so it will never scratch! PLUS the intricate QUARTZ movement is accurate to an amazing +/- 15 seconds a month. At \$46.00 it's a deal, but save by buying two for \$86.00 and save again when you order three for \$120.00

## Bug Box

You Need The BUG BOX  
For Telephone Privacy

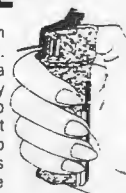


Assure telephone privacy with this telephone tap detector. It's the only device we know of that prevents same line eavesdropping PLUS notifies you of unauthorized intrusion onto your line. Just plug modular phone into tiny (3" x 2" 1/2") BUG BOX, then plug BUG BOX into wall jack. Now you've got PRIVACY: an indicator light tells you when someone is "listening in". BONUS: Attach BUG BOX to every phone in your house, then you, AND ONLY YOU, can access the phone. BUG BOX not only tells you if someone else is on the line, it KEEPS THEM OFF with its privacy shut-out circuit. Buy one BUG BOX and use its indicator light to monitor line intrusion; buy as many BUG BOX's as you have phones and enjoy total privacy shut-out plus visible light indicators. Order BUG BOX for \$48.00 postpaid and each additional unit for \$30.00.

## TEAR GAS

### MACE®

Don't mistake MACE with lesser tear gas aerosols. Chemical MACE delivers a potent punch of highly purified CN tear gas to incapacitate an assailant allowing you plenty of time to get away. MK-VI unit comes in individual gun-like case with real trigger action. Unique pistol grip allows quick hand orientation and sure action; attach to key-ring, purse or belt. Fires about 25 half-second bursts. Order one for \$14.50 and SAVE by ordering six for \$60.00.



## SOUND DETECTOR

DISTANT SOUND  
DETECTOR  
MULTIPLIES  
SOUND 5000  
TIMES

The VanSleek  
FARFOON®

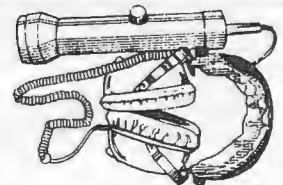


\$148  
Postpaid

The VanSleek Farfoon generation of Distant Sound Detectors combines best features of older units. Utilizes 3-1/2" built-in parabolic dish with sensitive microphone for Sound Mirror effect previously found only on larger, more cumbersome sound detectors. VanSleek has handy size (weighs about 2-lbs.) design, is small enough for use in tight places, yet still enjoys mirrored sound gathering not possible with direct receiver products. Made for professional hunters to hear approaching animals at a great distance, the VanSleek has now been discovered by the security industry. Solid-state circuitry, powered by 6 pen-light batteries for increased amplitude. Sold world-wide to governments, military, police, hunters & fishermen. \$148.00 postpaid.

## BIONIC EAR

## BIONIC BOOSTER



OUR PRICE \$68 POSTPAID.

Sound shut-off circuit and tape jack standard. Optional booster increases pickup 37%, \$39 postpaid. SAVE, buy the Combo Pak for \$98 postpaid.

MC/Visa & COD orders  
Call toll free  
1-800-821-5157

Missouri customers (816) 221-3367

Mail in orders

Send check or money order to the address below

The Dutchman  
Dept 8 8 9  
P.O. Box 12548  
Overland Park, KS 66212

Item	Price
TOTAL	

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

©1988

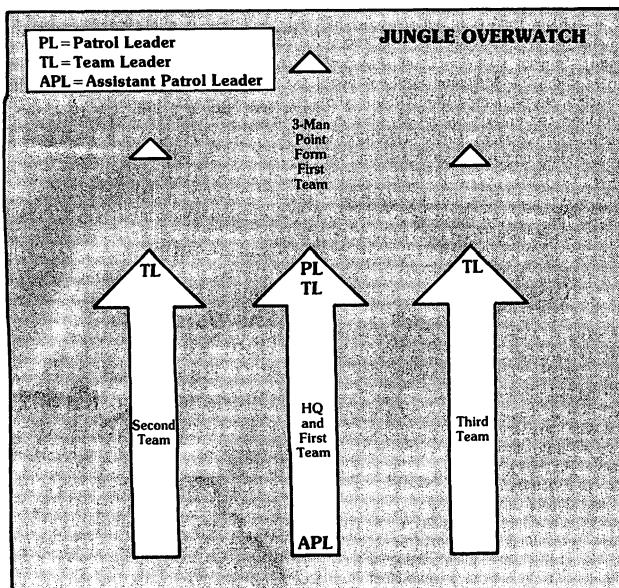
**I**T'S 0400. You're wet, tired and smell so bad that even mosquitoes keep their distance. Your patrol has come to a halt in front of the fourth road in 500 meters and muffled curses follow the flank security element as it stumbles over bodies on its way forward. Thirty minutes later you finally get the word to move out, only to halt 100 meters on the far side of the obstacle because flank security failed to follow the column across. At this rate it will take another four hours to cover the klick to your objective, and unless your target is deaf and blind, the noise your unit is making completely rules out surprise.

This scenario probably sounds familiar to anyone who has ever participated in a patrol. Variations of it have been repeated in almost every large (20 men or more) patrol that I have seen, in training or in combat. The problems stem not so much from faulty execution of tactics as from the tactics themselves. The plain truth is that many tactics treated as dogma in the U.S. Army and in armies of many of its allies just don't work worth a damn.

In this article I will list the most frequently recurring tactical faults that I have seen in armed forces throughout the world and will suggest some remedies. I know that everyone has their own methods, but I also know that my suggestions work because I have personally seen each of them succeed in combat. Note at the outset that this article deals primarily with patrols of 20 or more men but even smaller patrols can benefit from some of the suggestions offered.

**Leader Position** — *You must lead from the front.* Placing the patrol lead-

**Jungle Overwatch formation developed by U.S. Army is best bet for patrolling in hostile territory.**



# COMBAT WEAPONCRAFT

by Lance Motley

## Avoiding Bungles in the Jungle

er (PL) a third or half way back is nonsense born of the "management is leadership" disease from which some armies suffer. Because of thick foliage and limited visibility, patrols spend much of their time traveling in column formation. If the PL is the seventh man back he can't possibly direct navigation and make the dozens of immediate decisions necessary to control the patrol. One of two things occur if the PL is not up front: either the point becomes the de facto commander or the patrol constantly halts so the PL can move to the front to make decisions. Either case is unacceptable.

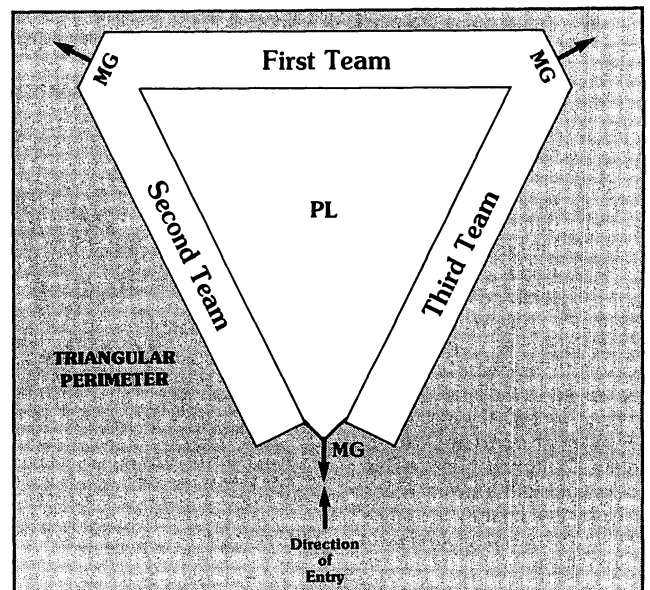
The problem is solved by having the PL walk in one of the first three column positions. I recommend that he be the #3 man in daylight and the #1 man (that's right, the point!) at night. In both cases the first team leader (TL) should be directly behind the PL as this arrangement allows him to quickly use his lead men (the point and slack) for far side security and reconnaissance missions and gives him easy access to his first TL if a maneuver or flank security element is needed.

At night the PL should be on point. In darkness everyone follows the man to his front. If you are not out front navigating, then you are following.

Many argue that the PL can keep the point on azimuth from the slack (#2) position with whispered commands and taps on the shoulder. Every time I have seen this tried it turns into a cluster, with the PL constantly correcting the point's direction and the point paying more attention to his rear than to his front. If the PL is close enough to touch the point he might as well lead. If the PL can't navigate and maintain frontal security at the same time then he isn't coordinated enough to be in command. If he doesn't take the point because he is afraid of dying then he is a coward and has no place in combat.

**Danger Areas** — *Don't take all day crossing danger areas.* Yes, security is important, but there is a great deal of security inherent in speed. When confronted with a small or linear (i.e. trail, road) danger area, placement of near and far side security is a must. If you come to a road while you are in an open field, drive on! You are already in a danger area and it would be foolish to halt the patrol to set up security in this

**Effective circular perimeters are hard to emplace, particularly at night. Author recommends triangle perimeter because of wide fields of fire and easy emplacement.**



exposed position. All security elements should be drawn from the front of the patrol. The common practice of using men from the rear as flank security is noisy and takes way too much time. Moving to the head of the column in rough terrain can seldom be done silently.

The far side of the obstacle or danger area should be secured by two men: the point element in daylight, the two men behind the first TL at night. They should stay together and zigzag their way to a depth roughly equal to the length of the patrol. If they separate during the initial clearing one of them is bound to get lost, or worse, mistake the other for the enemy and open fire. Once an area is secured one man should remain at the limit of the secure zone to provide frontal protection while the other man returns to the patrol to give the all clear.

As the far side is being secured, the next two men in the first team should form the left and right near side security. I prefer to use only one man in each position but many PLs use the acceptable four man option — two in each position. Also, if the patrol has machine guns assigned to a separate headquarters element these can be placed behind the first TL and used as flank security. The options are numerous but the main point is to take your security from the front of your unit. Flank security must be able to protect the patrol and see the crossing site. But their positions are terrain dependent; don't send them crashing through heavy brush to cover an intersection 200 meters away. It is better to have your flank security only five meters from the patrol than to give away your position with noisy movement.

Once the far side is secure the patrol crosses the danger area one at a time. Getting a unit on line to cross simultaneously may work with a five-man recon patrol, but 20 men attempting to do this sounds like a herd of buffalo. Nobody should stop on the far side. Each man keeps moving at half pace. The PL, who is first to cross after security, must control this. If the unit moves out at normal speed there will be a break in contact. If anyone stops the patrol will be dangerously bunched up.

The Assistant Patrol Leader (APL), as last man in the patrol, has responsibility to police up flank security. He does this by standing in the middle of the danger area where he can be seen and using hand signals, or a subdued light source at night, to indicate that he is last man. On receipt of the signal flank elements cross. I have seen numerous instances where the APL was forced to physically locate security elements, either because they were asleep or were so intently looking for the enemy that they didn't pay atten-

# SOG-TEC

"The new standard for combat knives"

Designed with the utmost utilization of modern technology available, the innovative SOG-TEC features SOG's carbon steel blade, Rc 57-59, scientifically heat treated to achieve a new standard in high-tech performance, hence the name, SOG-TEC. The hollow ground blade and sleek grind lines vividly express the superiority of the American bowie as the working man's blade of choice, in either camp or combat settings. The single brass guard allows the greatest degree of pressure to be applied during use. For total control, the SOG-TEC utilizes an ergonomically designed Kraton handle. Rugged full tang construction. Each SOG-TEC includes a double-stitched, top quality black leather sheath.

Maximum performance at a realistic price.

Retail \$119.95

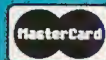
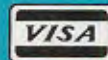
#SSTEC  
Your Price **\$99.95**

Blade length: 7"  
Length, overall: 12 1/4"  
Blade thickness: 1/4"  
Weight, knife: 13.1 oz  
Weight, sheath: 4.7 oz



**SOG**  
SPECIALTY  
KNIVES

Federal Express Shipping  
Available, Call For Details.



**Cutlery  
Shoppe**

Send to: CUTLERY SHOPPE  
Dept SF, 5461 Kendall St., Boise, ID 83706

Get our full color catalog, with great deals on the top knife brands. Just send \$1 or call 208-376-0430 to get your copy, PLEASE, do not call the "800" number as we reserve these lines for customers placing orders.

TOLL FREE ORDER LINE:

**1-800-231-1272**

INFORMATION LINE: 1-208-376-0430

We're open for your ordering convenience Mon-Fri 8-6, Sat 9-5 Mountain Time  
SHIPPING (per order): \$5 to 48 states—\$7 P.O. Box, APO & FPO—\$8 for C.O.D. 48 states only—\$10 AK, HI, PR, USVI & Canada. Foreign orders (excluding Canada), please write for shipping costs. PAYMENT: We accept VISA, MASTERCARD, C.O.D. (cash only), money orders & checks (checks allow 21 extra days after our receipt) FAX Machine Orders: 1-208-376-7608

## BROADEN YOUR SCOPE OF OPERATIONS Professional Night Vision From CCS



**PREDATOR V  
Night Vision Scope**  
• Passive 2nd Gen.  
Pocket Scope  
• Instantly couples  
to any photographic  
or tv lens.



**PREDATOR V-C  
Pocket Scope**  
• State-of-the-art  
• 18 mm tube  
• Extremely bright  
picture  
• Available with relay  
lens and C mount



**PREDATOR I  
Night Vision Scope**  
• Professional Quality, light-  
weight, weatherproof,  
superb resolution  
• Built-in Infra-red  
Illuminator  
• Full Military Spec.



**PREDATOR VI  
Night Vision Goggles**  
• Passive 2nd Gen.  
• "Hands Free"  
Operation

**Video Recording  
System**  
• Pocket Scope  
coupled to 8 mm  
color camcorder

**We Have The Largest Selection  
of Night Vision for Video  
or Still Photography**



**CCS COMMUNICATION  
CONTROL, INC.**

Call Mr. Brite  
1-800-722-4490

Call for free demonstration at any of our authorized distributors  
World Headquarters  
160 Midland Ave., Port Chester, NY 10573 (914) 934-8100  
TELEX: 238720 FAX: (914) 934-8093 (212) 557-3040  
630 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017 (202) 659-3432  
1801 K St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006 (305) 358-4336  
1435 Brickell Ave., Miami, FL 33131 (713) 626-0007  
The Galleria, Suite 3696, Houston, TX 77056 (213) 274-6256  
9465 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90212

DEALERS WANTED

© CCS 1989

Send \$25 for our 1989 catalog of exciting electronic surveillance products, applicable towards purchase. CCS Communication Control, Inc., 160 Midland Avenue, Port Chester, NY 10573 800-722-4490 or in NY, 212-557-3040.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_



# DON'T SHOW THE WHITES OF YOUR EYES.

*Camo Glasses from Hi-Tech Sport Glass keep you out of sight when you're in the field.*

**TOUGH** Maximum protection. Rugged safety frame. Adjustable temples. 3mm polycarbonate lenses, the most impact-resistant available.

**FUNCTIONAL** Lenses filter virtually all ultra-violet radiation. Frames meet strict ANSI safety regulations.

## CAMO OPTIONS

**Amber Shooting TR100** for misty, low light. For sharper target I.D. Adds half hour visibility to twilight hours.

**Combat Green TR200** fights eye fatigue in jungle situations.

**High Resolution Grey TR300** Developed for pilots to identify ground targets.

# \$49.95

**3-Pak Special Buy 3 for \$125**  
(Plus \$5.50 shipping & handling)

CALL TOLL FREE TO ORDER

**1-800-848-CAMO**  
**1-800-848-2266**

VISA, MASTERCARD ACCEPTED  
OR

MAIL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

**HI-TECH SPORT GLASS**

P.O. BOX 1443

SAGINAW, MI 48605



Prescription lenses available at additional cost. Made in U.S.A. 12-month, fault-free Guarantee. 3-week Delivery.



## THE SEMIAUTOMATIC PISTOL IN POLICE SERVICE AND SELF-DEFENSE

BY MASSAD F AYOOB

First quantitative, documented look at ACTUAL POLICE EXPERIENCE with 9mm. and .45 police service autos. A no holds barred assessment of technical and tactical advantages of the popular combat auto pistols.

To order: Police Bookshelf, Dept. SF, PO Box 122, Concord, NH 03301 or call toll free 800-624-9049. ONLY \$9.95 plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling.

tion to the crossing site. To avoid this mistake the security elements must look toward the crossing site every few seconds. When everyone is across the APL automatically sends up a head count. If the count is correct the PL resumes regular pace and continues the mission.

It is true that flank security elements must now catch back up to the first team but it is much better for them to do this while the patrol is moving away from the danger area than while sitting in front of it.

Crossing large danger areas is relatively simple. The PL instructs the first team to move across and secure the far side under cover of the main body. Once the far side is secure, the main body moves out covered by the first team.

**Movement Formations** — *Forget the wedge except for well-illuminated team crossings of large open areas.* In the best of cases the wedge is difficult to control; in rough terrain or limited visibility it is impossible. Most armies have scrapped it altogether in favor of the column. Here, however, we have a slight dilemma. Though the wedge cannot be controlled, column formation offers little security or flexibility. To our rescue come the boys from U.S. JOTC (Jungle Operations Training Center) at Fort Sherman, Canal Zone, with their Jungle Overwatch formation.

Jungle Overwatch consists of three team columns moving parallel to each other headed by a three-man point element. Team leaders head the flank columns while center column, consisting of the headquarters element and the first team is led by the PL.

Benefits of this formation are numerous: leaders are in constant eye contact so instructions can be quickly passed; flank columns can move out from centerline as terrain dictates; movement is easily controlled because leaders are out front and teams walk in column, and when heavy vegetation demands a column, Jungle Overwatch can be quickly converted to a single column by having teams fall in behind each other — 1,2,3.

Crossing danger areas in Jungle Overwatch is a snap. The point element secures the far side of the obstacle or danger area while each team provides a security element for their respective flanks. Since the flank security falls directly back into their respective team on the far side, there is no need for them to traverse the column to regain position.

This is by far the best movement formation I have seen. It is secure, flexible and controllable. I recommend it for every type of terrain. It is a shame that the U.S. Army keeps it locked away at JOTC.

**Perimeters** — *Most armies con-*

tinue to insist on using circular perimeters for extended halts — Rest Over Night (RON) positions, Objective Rally Points (ORP), etc. While barely adequate in daylight, at night you usually end up with an amoeba-shaped monstrosity that forces TLs to search for their men and has adjacent positions within each other's sector of fire.

I recommend cigar-shaped perimeters for the vast majority of extended halts, including RONs and ORPs. The perimeter is formed by having each man in the column step to the side in an alternating manner with the man to his front. The point and trail elements face their respective directions and machine guns are placed along the most likely avenues of approach. If a wider perimeter is desired troops merely take a few more steps from center line. This oblong perimeter provides all-around security and is quickly and easily formed. More complicated formations are unnecessary and should be avoided.

If, however, a position is desired with more space in the center than the cigar shape allows (such as patrol bases where shelters are to be built and cooking conducted), use the triangle. To occupy a triangular perimeter the PL places a man on each corner of the triangle with the apex pointing at the patrol. At night the marking men use subdued light sources such as filtered flashlights or luminescent tape. The PL stands at the apex and instructs the first TL to place his team between the men marking the triangle's base. When the second TL reaches the PL's position he is instructed to place his unit from where he is standing to the left or right base man (PL's discretion). The remaining side is taken by the third team. The PL then places his MGs at corners or along likely avenues of approach (one of which is usually the apex) and positions himself in the center where he can easily be found. This perimeter provides 360 security and arranges teams in straight lines that allow TLs clear sectors of fire and easy access to their men. It is far easier to emplace than a circular perimeter and is just as secure.

(Some armies use the four rifle-team organization. If this is the case add another parallel column to jungle over-watch and use a box perimeter rather than a triangle.)

Well, that's my advice. Of course, there is much more to running a successful patrol, but these are four problem areas that I have seen units constantly confronting. I have seen my solutions work in combat and I'm confident that if you use them, and your men have even a basic knowledge of individual skills, the grieving widows and flag-draped coffins will belong to the enemy, not to you. ☒

## HOT PRICES ON



We stock the entire Cold Steel line, call for pricing.

Each Cold Steel Tanto includes a black leather sheath.

### MAGNUM TANTO

Retail \$210.00 #CSMGT Your Price

Blade length: 9" **\$157.95**  
 Length overall: 14 1/2"  
 Blade thickness: 3/16"  
 Weight, knife: 12.2 oz  
 Weight, sheath: 4.7 oz



### MASTER TANTO

Retail \$200.00 #CSMAT Your Price

Blade length: 5 3/4" **\$149.95**  
 Length overall: 11 1/4"  
 Blade thickness: 3/16"  
 Weight, knife: 9.1 oz  
 Weight, sheath: 2.5 oz



### ORIGINAL TANTO

Retail \$150.00 #CSRTN Your Price

Blade length: 5 3/4" **\$109.95**  
 Length overall: 11 1/4"  
 Blade thickness: 3/16"  
 Weight, knife: 9.1 oz  
 Weight, sheath: 2.5 oz



### MINI TANTO

Retail \$110.00 #CSMT Your Price

Blade length: 4 1/4" **\$79.95**  
 Length overall: 8 1/4"  
 Blade thickness: 5/32"  
 Weight, knife: 4.0 oz  
 Weight, sheath: 1.2 oz



Federal Express Shipping Available, Call For Details.



## Cutlery Shoppe

Send to: CUTLERY SHOPPE  
 Dept SF, 5461 Kendall St., Boise, ID 83706

Get our full color catalog, with great deals on the top knife brands. Just send \$1 or call 208-376-0430 to get your copy, PLEASE, do not call the "800" number as we reserve these lines for customers placing orders.

TOLL FREE ORDER LINE:  
**1-800-231-1272**

INFORMATION LINE: 1-208-376-0430

We're open for your ordering convenience Mon-Fri 8-6, Sat 9-5 Mountain Time  
 SHIPPING (per order): \$5 to 48 states—\$7 P.O. Box, APQ & FPO—\$8 for C.O.D. 48 states only—\$10 AK, HI, PR, USVI & Canada. Foreign orders (excluding Canada), please write for shipping costs. PAYMENT: We accept VISA, MASTERCARD, C.O.D. (cash only), money orders & checks (checks allow 21 extra days after our receipt) FAX Machine Orders: 1-208-376-7606

## New State-of-the-Art PLS 500 Laser Sight



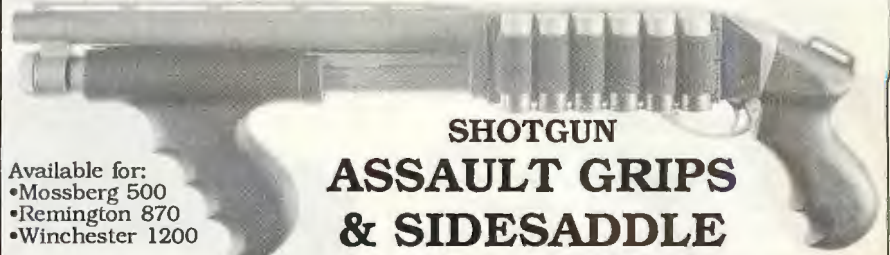
**LASER SIGHT**  
 The PLS 500 utilizes a solid state laser diode with a near 5 mw output. Made from 6061 T6 alum., it is only 1" in dia. and 6" long. Includes batteries, pressure switch and carrying case.

## And Muzzelite's New BULLPUP STOCKS

For Ruger's  
 Mini-14/30 & 10/22

PLS 500 LASER SIGHT \$399.00  
 MUZZELITE BULLPUP STOCK \$96.50  
 (When ordering specify Mini-14/30 or 10/22)

**BULLPUP STOCKS**  
 Injection molded from a black hi-impact glass filled polymer. Install in minutes with no alterations, all hardware included. Comes with a scope mount and assault sling.



## SHOTGUN ASSAULT GRIPS & SIDESADDLE

Available for:  
 •Mossberg 500  
 •Remington 870  
 •Winchester 1200

**ASSAULT GRIPS**  
 Injection molded from a high-impact polymer, these grips are quickly installed with no alteration to your gun. Instructions and hardware included.

**SIDESADDLE - Shotgun Carrier**  
 Attaches directly to the receiver with no alteration to shotgun. Holds six extra rounds in the easiest to load position. (Available for the Moss. 500 & Rem. 870/1100 only)

Rear Grip.....\$16.95 ForeGrip.....\$19.95  
 SideSaddle.....\$24.95

- Dealer Inquires Invited -

**ADVENTURER'S OUTPOST**  
 Box 70 • Dept. SF • Cottonwood, AZ 86326

(Add \$3.00 S&H with order - \$5.00 Canada)  
**VISA (602) 646-5814 MasterCard**  
 Phone orders: Visa, MasterCard or UPS COD

**W**HEN Captain Gary Powers and his U-2 spy plane were shot down over the Soviet Union in 1960, his equipment included a High Standard HD .22 LR pistol fitted with a sound suppressor. It was, even then, a World War II vintage relic. Sound suppressor technology has progressed by quantum leaps in the last several decades and new devices of this type bear little more than a cosmetic resemblance to their predecessors.

A superb example of these new "cans" — as they are referred to by their designers — is one recently type-classified by the U.S. Air Force for use with the M9 (Beretta 92F) pistol. Currently also in use with certain U.S. Army special operations groups, it was developed by C. Reed Knight, Jr. of Knight's Armament Company, a small, but versatile research, development and production concern with a primary focus on military and law enforcement small arms and their ancillaries.

During the Vietnam war, U.S. Navy SEAL teams were sometimes issued S&W Model 39 pistols, modified with a slide lock, raised sights and threaded 5-inch barrel to which was attached a sound suppressor, designed by the Naval Ordnance Laboratory. Commonly called the "Hush Puppy," it is reported that no more than 120 Model 39s in this configuration were produced. A few were fabricated from stainless steel. Subsonic ammunition with a heavy 159-grain FMJ (Full Metal Jacket) bullet was developed for these weapons by Lee Juras of the now-defunct Super Vel Cartridge Corporation.

Starting with a contract from the U.S. Navy to improve the original Hush Puppy concept, Knight's snap-on suppressor is uniquely state-of-the-art. With an overall length of just 5½ inches, the total weight of the unit is only 6 ounces, as the body, or "can" itself, is fabricated from lightweight, anodized aircraft aluminum.

Knight has achieved a sound drop of 32 db (decibels), incredible for a unit of this size and weight. It's important to *keep in mind* the logarithmic nature of the db scale. Every 3 db drop in the absolute sound pressure level (SPL) lowers the immediately previous sound level by half.

How has such a dramatic decrease in the sound level been accomplished? Threaded to the front of the suppressor's body is an assembly holding eight polyurethane bullet wipes (discs). To preserve the system's suppression integrity, these wipes, or the entire container pack, should be changed after every 30 to 40 shots. That's more silence than you should ever need. If you have to fire more than a handful of rounds in any scenario anticipated for a suppressed handgun, something has



## FULL AUTO

Text & Photos by Peter G. Kokalis

### Silence Is Plastic



**ABOVE:** Beretta 92F (M9) pistol and snap-on sound suppressor provide U.S. Air Force with a compact, lightweight system for use by downed pilots that will prevent position disclosure.

**RIGHT:** Suppressor can be quickly attached or removed and is held in place by stainless steel pins below the rear sight. Pins interface with notches on the half-inch barrel extension.

**BELOW:** Slide lock mounted to frame prevents slide from cycling and further reduces the system's sound level. It is automatically disengaged after the shot has been fired to permit rapid manual retraction of the slide.



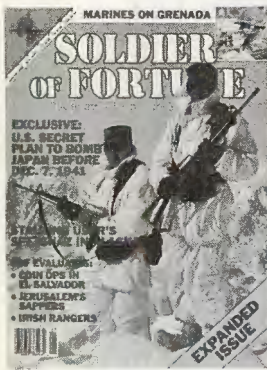
gone wrong and you've blown the op. There are no caliber-size holes or cross-cuts in the wipes as issued. The first bullet fired through a new set drills a perfect 9mm hole through each wipe

and subsequent shots merely follow in its path. By this means, the suppressor unit's accuracy has been enhanced by a significant margin.

There is an unbaffled chamber to the rear of the wipe assembly to dissipate the expanding propellant gases. That's it. Nothing else is required. The duration of the sound is so short that it appears to be of an even lower level than indicated by the sound meter. What you are actually hearing is nothing more than the bullet striking the polyurethane wipes. Knight's snap-on 9mm suppressor provides lower sound levels than most Ruger-type .22 LR rimfire rifle and pistol suppressor systems. Tested against all the currently

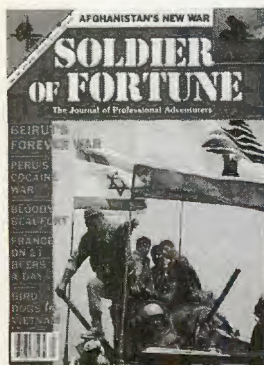
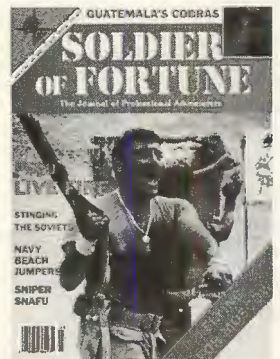
# \$18.99

**Subscribe to SOF Today.**  
**Save Over \$23**  
**Off Our Newsstand Price!**



You'll never miss another issue of SOF again!

All your issues will arrive promptly...delivered to your door...like clockwork!



You'll save \$1.90 on each of your next 12 issues of SOF!

**IT'S REALLY A GOOD BUY!**

Subscribe to Your Next 12 Issues of SOF and Pay  
**JUST \$18.99 — UNDER \$1.60 AN ISSUE!**

**USE THIS CARD AND ACT TODAY.**

# RUGER MEANS STRONG

If you own a .357 Magnum revolver, or are thinking of buying one, and want to see how it measures up to the new Ruger GP100, this information is for you. If you own a .357 Magnum revolver that bites your hand, and leaves you wondering if it can reliably and repeatedly handle all the pressure modern .357 cartridges produce, then this information is for you.

If you wonder why Ruger has designed the strongest .357 modern manufacturing methods and materials can produce, try shooting

the Ruger GP100. You won't need any more information, the GP100 will show you.

Free instruction manuals for all Ruger firearms are available upon request.



**STURM, RUGER & Company, Inc.**

123 Lacey Place, Southport, Connecticut 06490

GP100 is a U.S. registered trademark.  
Entire contents ©1988 by Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc.

*The design of the offset ejector rod allows Ruger to build a stronger frame at the forcing cone, the section which sustains the severest pressure.*

*Ruger's Magnum-strength top strap adds rigidity and structural integrity to match the modern .357 cartridge.*

*The cylinder locking notches are offset and cut into the thick part of the cylinder walls between the chambers.*

*Ruger's full-frame integral side plates accommodate a trigger mechanism inserted as a single subassembly, adding strength to the frame and greatly facilitating fieldstripping, cleaning and maintenance.*



available competition, it proved to be the smallest, lightest and most quiet.

Performance is at its maximum when subsonic ammunition is employed. Highly recommended is the so-called "Israeli blue-tip" 9mm Parabellum cartridge, manufactured by IMI and distributed by Action Arms, Ltd. (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 9573, Philadelphia, PA 19124; phone (215) 744-0100). Its heavy 158-grain FMJ bullet leaves the 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch barrel of a Mini UZI with an average velocity of 940 fps. Bullet drop at 50 yards is only 4.8 inches. Some subsonic JHP (Jacketed Hollow Point) can be used, but caution is advised. Olin's 147-grain subsonic JHP, for example, will commence expansion when it hits the wipes.



As the suppressor blocks the Beretta's slide-mounted sights, it incorporates its own sight system — an aluminum bead front sight and open square-notch rear sight.

As suppressors of this type will usually block both the front and rear sights on the pistol's slide, it has been common practice to permanently install higher profile sights on the slide itself. These increase the pistol's envelope and invariably snag on clothing and LBE. However this is not required with Knight's unit, as it has its own fixed sight system. An aluminum front bead sight, 0.129" in diameter, is aligned with an open square-notch (0.137" wide) rear sight.

The rear sight also serves as the top-piece for the suppressor's spring-loaded attaching assembly. Between the rear sight and the knurled and rounded push-release on the underside of the suppressor's body are two sets of stainless steel pins. The two inner pins are notched so that the suppressor can be removed from the pistol when the push-release is pressed upward. When locked to the pistol, the unnotched surfaces of the two inner pins interface with a slot on each side of a half-inch, threaded barrel extension installed on the muzzle. A hole in the center of the push-release accommodates the pistol's mainspring guide rod during the recoil cycle. Simply apply thumb pressure to the push-release to instantly install or remove the suppressor.

Another interesting feature is the ambidextrous slide lock, which has re-

## SPYDERCO POLICE CLIP IT

No matter how many knives you own, this is the one you will carry and use everyday. This is the fastest opening folder we've ever seen. Unique design allows you to retrieve it from your pocket, open it, use it, and close it so fast (with only one hand) that onlookers will wonder where the knife came from. Much faster than either switchblades or Ball-Songs, without the legal complications. "Spyderedge" serrated blade will easily defeat the toughest cutting challenge. Only the finest stainless steel is used throughout. Unique pocket clip allows the Police ClipIt to be carried in more ways & places than any other knife.

Rugged lockback design incorporates safety with tremendous cutting & slashing power.

Retail \$87.00

#SP1007

Your Price

**\$69.95**

Blade length: 4 1/4"  
Length, open: 9 1/2"  
Length, closed: 5 1/4"  
Blade thickness: 1/8"  
Weight, knife: 5.7 oz



To get Spyderco's great Tri-Angle Sharpmaker, include \$29.95  
Order code: #SP203MF

Federal Express Shipping Available, Call For Details.



**Cutlery Shoppe**

Send to: CUTLERY SHOPPE  
Dept SF, 5461 Kendall St., Boise, ID 83706

Get our full color catalog, with great deals on the top knife brands. Just send \$1 or call 208-376-0430 to get your copy, PLEASE, do not call the "800" number as we reserve these lines for customer's placing orders.



TOLL FREE ORDER LINE:

**1-800-231-1272**

INFORMATION LINE: 1-208-376-0430

We're open for your ordering convenience Mon-Fri 8-6, Sat 9-5 Mountain Time  
SHIPPING (per order): \$5 to 48 states—\$7 P.O. Box, APO & FPO—\$8 for C.O.D. 48 states only—\$10 AK, HI, PR, USVI & Canada. Foreign orders (excluding Canada), please write for shipping costs. PAYMENT: We accept VISA, MASTERCARD, C.O.D. (cash only), money order & checks (checks allow 21 extra days after our receipt) FAX Machine Orders: 1-208-376-7608



**M19-A BB SUBMACHINE GUN**

**FREE SHOULDER STOCK**

(For a limited time only)

Some guys seem to take their M19-A a little too serious - but with specs like a 3,000 BB per minute rate with an effective range of over 50 yards, can you blame them? It's rugged, reliable, and runs off compressed air or standard 1 pound cans of Freon 12. What could be better! A smaller pistol version? Well we have that too (The M-19-AMP). Get in on the auto action - get your M-19-A today!

**\$39.00 each or both for \$75.00**

OFFER VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW.  
FL RESIDENTS ADD 5% SALES TAX

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:  
LARC INT., • 736 INDUSTRY RD. •  
LONGWOOD, FL 32750 (407) 339-6699

THIS MUST BE SIGNED. SORRY NO C.O.D.  
I AFFIRM THAT I AM 18 YEARS OR OLDER,  
SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_  
SEND ME:  M19-A  M19-AMP  
PRINT OR TYPE THE FOLLOWING:  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ **SOF-08**

# COLD STEEL. HOT PRICE. YOURS NOW.

THE EDGE COMPANY *SLASHES*  
THE FULL AUTO PRICE BARRIER!

## Model #120-M CLASSIC

The elegant lines of this classic knife conceal a flawless action. In a gleaming area, the razor honed blade of heavy gauge 440° S/S locks into position above an opalescent grip of pear white, black, or blue. 8½". An incredible knife. On sale only while supplies last:

**\$19.95**

Limit 2 per customer.

**Swift,  
Silent,  
and  
Ready  
When  
You  
Are.**



Genuine, Automatic And  
Completely Finished

Sold in Legal Kit Form\*



THE EDGE COMPANY

P.O. BOX 826  
BRATTLEBORO, VT 05301

TO ORDER  
CALL TOLL-FREE  
1-800-445-1021  
OR SEND TO:

## Model #108 NATO MILITARY

Lock and load the most famous automatic in the world! Eight inches of ram-snap full-auto action, with a front opening blade of solid Vanadium S/S. O.D. grips, trimmed in gun-metal black. A well tuned machine. On sale while supplies last:

**\$12.95**

Limit 4 per customer.

THE EDGE COMPANY  
P.O. BOX 826, BRATTLEBORO, VT 05301  
1-800-445-1021

Gentlemen,  
I'll take \_\_\_\_\_ Model #108 at \$12.95 each, and \_\_\_\_\_ Model #120-M at \$19.95 each.  
Please rush to:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
I'm over eighteen: \_\_\_\_\_  
Add \$2.00 shipping and insurance per kit.  
 Check or money order enclosed.  
 VISA/MC# \_\_\_\_\_ EXP \_\_\_\_\_  
Sorry, no Edge Onyx® Card or other discounts on these already low prices. SF-889

\*Attn. Collectors and Sportsmen: Though legal in parts form, in certain areas the completion of these kits may violate certain laws. Please check your area before ordering or assembling, as compliance with any such law is the purchaser's responsibility.

**ONLY EDGE COMPANY KNIVES ARE GUARANTEED FOREVER.**

## ROLLING BACK PRICES TO 1982 AND BEYOND

~~\$2750.00~~  
**\$1495.00**

STANO  
AN/PVS-2 NIGHT VISION  
SIGHT



Features: 25mm 1st Gen. Image Intensifier • Med-Range Starlight System • Infrared Light Detection • High Luminous Gain  
Includes: Daylight Cover • Pistol Grip • Manual • 'AA' Battery Adapter.

STANO AN/PVS-4  
MODULAR NIGHT  
VISION SYSTEM



Features: 25mm Second Gen. Intensifier • Flash Protection, ABC, & Manual Gain Control • 4x Optical Syst. • Detachable Eyepiece  
Includes: Daylight Cover • Securing Knob • 'AA' Battery Adapter • Cleaning Kit • Carrying Bag • Storage Case • Manual

New W/Excellent Condition Intensifier  
~~\$3750.00~~  
**\$2850.00**

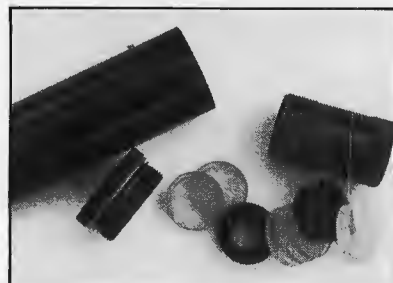
**Surveillance Target Acquisition Night Observation COMPONENTS.**

P.O. Box 6274 • San Bernardino, California 92412 USA  
(714) 882-5789 / (714) 883-2728 / FAX (714) 8833201

NOT SOLD FOR EXPORT

Send \$4.00 for comprehensive Catalog of our STAND Devices

quired some minor modifications to the slide and frame. So as not to weaken its already dubious strength, a V-notch has been milled into each side of the slide. Two allen-head axis pins, threaded to the front of the frame, permit the slide lock to pivot up into, or down away from, the slide's V-notches. A spring-loaded plunger on the left side holds the slide lock in place when it has been activated by pushing upward on the grooved thumb-pieces on either the right or left side. After a shot has been fired, the slide lock automatically drops downward and disengages, so the slide can be retraced by hand. The Beretta's frame-mounted disassembly lever has been replaced with a stronger and somewhat longer component to strengthen the slide lock which pushes against the lever when the pistol is fired from the locked slide position.



**Snap-on suppressor's quick-change wipe container pack holds eight polyurethane discs in front of the expansion chamber. System drops the sound pressure level by 32 db.**

What's the purpose of a slide lock, especially since it essentially turns the weapon into a single-shot firearm? When suppressed submachine guns or semiautomatic pistols are fired, if the absolute sound pressure level has been effectively reduced, the most noticeable sound becomes that of the burp gun's bolt clatter or the pistol's slide moving back and forth during the recoil cycle. Some Mission Essential Need Statements (MENS) require the maximum possible reduction in sound level. On the other hand, there may be missions where the ability to fire quickly in the semiautomatic mode is more important. Knight's snap-on suppressor permits both options.

Most U.S. Air Force pilots are not spooks. However, it has been demonstrated that downed pilots have a legitimate requirement for a survival weapon that will not disclose their position while in enemy territory. This snappy snap-on suppressor sure beats a crossbow.

Qualified buyers should contact Knight's Armament Company (Dept. SOF, 1306 29th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960; phone (407) 562-5697) for further information. ☒

**Like a puzzle**  
nearing completion, all  
the pieces to the 10th  
Annual SOF Convention  
and Exposition are falling  
into place ...

**Hotel**  
Sahara Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada.  
Rates: \$56.00/night (plus 7%  
tax). Cutoff date for room  
reservation is August 17,  
1989. Sahara Hotel Room Re-  
servation # is 1-800-634-  
6666. Be sure to tell them you  
are an SOF Conventioneer!

**SOF Convention  
Registration**  
Preregistration fee is \$135.00  
if received by September 10,  
1989. After that date registra-  
tion fee is \$150.00. No cancell-  
ation refunds will be given after  
August 31, 1989.

**SOF 3-Gun Match**

September 19-23, 1989  
Desert Sportsman  
Rifle & Pistol Club  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Patterned after military and  
police encounters and situa-  
tions designed to test practical-  
ly oriented skills with rifle, pistol  
and shotgun. Shooter is re-  
quired to engage targets be-  
fore, during and after negotiat-  
ing man-made obstacles or  
natural terrain features. Veter-  
an shooters as well as novice  
competitors will find the course  
safe, challenging and fun. Li-  
mited to 250 competitors, so  
*sign up today!* For more in-  
formation and application send  
an office size self-addressed  
two-stamped envelope to:

Michael Horne  
408 E. Harding  
Bakersfield, CA 93308

**10th Annual  
SOF  
Convention  
& Expo**  
Sept. 20-24, 1989  
Sahara Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**SOF Expo**  
September 22-24, 1989  
Over 200 dealers and retailers  
displaying and selling top-of-  
the-line and state-of-the-art  
military and police guns and  
gear. Open to the public. (Child-  
ren age 13 and under not  
admitted) \$5.00 admission.  
For exhibitor information write:  
SOF 1989 Expo, POB 693,  
Boulder, CO 80306.

**... but there's just one piece missing! YOU!**  
Help us complete the puzzle by sending in your registra-  
tion form. Today? Thank you!

**10th ANNUAL SOF CONVENTION REGISTRATION**

YES! I want to be a part of the SOF 1989 Convention! Sign me up for only \$135.00.

- Payment enclosed — payable to SOF Convention '89  
 MasterCard     VISA

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

No cancellation refunds will be given after August 31, 1989.

Circle T-shirt Size:  
S    M    L  
XL    XXL

Mail to: **SOF 1989 Convention & Expo**  
P.O. Box 693  
Boulder, CO 80306

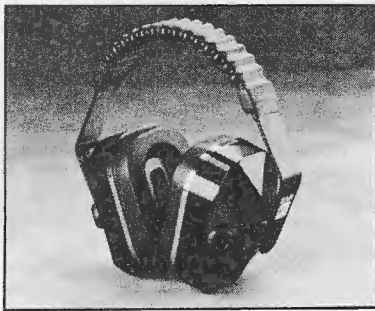




## HEAR, HEAR ON THE RANGE

Hearing protection and the battlefield are mutually exclusive. But on the practice range, whether you're firing a 20mm Hispano-Suiza or a Ruger 10/22, you'd be well advised to stuff something other than cotton in your ears. The trouble is that most conventional hearing protection prevents normal conversation and, worse yet, impedes your ability to hear even amplified range commands. Previously, there were only two alternatives to this problem: ear plugs with sound-activated valves that provided little real noise protection, or battery-operated earmuffs that offered effective defense against loud sounds, but magnified every snapping twig underfoot and cost hundreds of dollars.

Now E-A-R Division of Cabot Corporation has introduced a solution in the Ultra 9000 noise-activated earmuffs. Ultra 9000s feature a patented "bypass valve system" which responds to the noise level of its surroundings to give hearing protection that automatically increases to safeguard against gunfire's short, quick blasts, while allowing speech and other desired sounds to pass through the system and be heard during quieter periods.



The Ultra 9000 looks like conventional earmuffs. But, without delicate microphones, electronic circuitry or batteries, it provides a natural sound quality literally unheard of with standard earmuffs. It pops apart for easy parts replacement and storage. Comfort features include large earcups, soft foam cushions, and an adjustable headband that can be worn in three positions. Best of all is the suggested retail price of only \$49.95. We tried them and they work. Our Ultra 9000s effectively blocked out the cacophonous din of five belt-fed, tripod-mounted machine guns, including a .50 caliber Ma Deuce, yet permitted us to hear instructions in a normal tone of voice after the belts were emptied.

Contact E-A-R Division, Cabot Corporation, Dept. SOF, 7911 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268; phone (317) 872-1111.

# ADVENTURE QUARTERMASTER



by Tom Slizewski



## NO SLIP GRIP

No one ever expressed the pistolero's maxim better than Bill Jordan, renowned U.S. Border Patrol officer and noted gun authority, when he said, "There's no second place winner in a gunfight." In the course of his legendary career, Jordan learned more than a few tricks to help him stay alive — not the least of which was the right design for combat handgun grips.

Jordan's design was originally produced by Walter Roper. Executed in wood, these grips went a long way toward enhancing accuracy potential. When carved from wood, Jordan's grips were always expensive and too thick for those with normal-sized hands. They're now manufactured by Pachmayr from hard, smooth synthetic rubber. The price is a modest \$24.95 per set. Currently they're available for all S&W K-, L- and N-frame revolvers. We fit our set to an S&W Model 29, 4-inch .44 Magnum. Their smooth, hard surface is more comfortable than checkered wood and allows rapid readjustment of the grip position. Felt recoil is moderated with even the heaviest of loads. While they're still too large for those with very small hands, anyone still chasing desperados with a wheelgun should take a close look at Pachmayr's Bill Jordan Combat Grips.

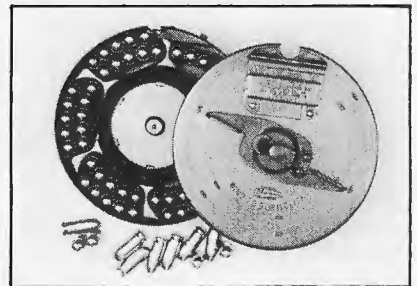
Contact Pachmayr, Dept. SOF, 1875 South Mountain Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016; phone (818) 357-7771.

## DRUMS THAT GO BANG

Drum magazines are synonymous with Thompson submachine guns. While exotic and quite rare, the 100-round Type C drum was never

popular, as loaded (it will actually hold 101 rounds) and mounted to the "Tommy Gun," it was more than a little clumsy and the overall weight was greater than a Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR). Far more practical was the 50-round Type L drum. It's still a useful container for those who envision their Thompsons as a bullet hose.

Until recently there were only two alternatives for those seeking a drum for their Thompson. You could purchase a newly manufactured Numrich Arms reproduction, but it holds only 39 rounds and that's hardly appropriate for the true Thompson aficionado. Or, you could try to acquire an early Type L drum. Depending upon rarity and condition, any of the Type L drums cost several hundred dollars and can approach a



thousand (early Auto Ordnance literature price the Type L drum at \$18!).

In a somewhat obvious play on the 1929 St. Valentine's Day Massacre, an Auto Ordnance subsidiary coyly called Valentine International now manufactures a Type L drum from the original blueprints. Markings are identical to those of the so-called Bridgeport drum, except that the locality has been replaced. The blued finish is a little more glossy than the dull matte of the early L drums. Quality and functioning of our test specimen were flawless. These drums can be employed on the Model 1921, entire M1928 series and the semiauto Model 1927. They cannot be used on the M1 or M1A1 Thompsons. Price is \$139.95 each plus \$3 postage.

Contact Valentine International, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 577, Hurley, NY 12443; (914) 679-7186. ☒





## A SPECIAL SUMMER DISCOUNT

Use the "Special Summer Discount" box on the order form and deduct 10% from any order of \$40.00 or more! This offer is being extended to you, our valued customers. It is our way of saying, "Have a good summer!" **ORDER NOW** to take advantage of this opportunity! Offer ends September 1, 1989. (Offer available to retail customers only.)

	<p><b>STREET LETHAL</b> Unarmed Urban Combat by Sammy Franco</p> <p>Want to survive a real streetfight? The fancy leaping kicks and pre-planned responses taught in traditional martial arts will <i>not</i> work on today's city streets. Discover Contemporary Fighting Arts, a hard-hitting combat system that ends streetfights quickly. 5½ x 8½, softcover, photos, 192 pp. <b>\$15.95</b></p>		<p><b>WARSAW PACT WEAPONS HANDBOOK</b> by Jacques F. Baud</p> <p>Know your enemy — and what he's packing. This guide to Soviet/War-saw Pact weaponry shows how to identify, disarm or even use enemy equipment. Read about the PB silenced Makarov pistol, AKR sub-machine gun, SVD Dragunov sniper rifle, antitank and anti-air-craft weapons, grenades, explosives and more. 8½ x 11, softcover, illus., charts, 168 pp. <b>\$15.00</b></p>		<p><b>AK47:</b> The Complete Kalashnikov Family of Assault Rifles by Duncan Long</p> <p>The Soviet AK47/AKM assault rifle is tough and dependable, and has spawned many spinoffs worldwide. These rifles are now available in the U.S., but solid information on them is scarce. Learn about specs, ammo and more—find out why the AK47 is the world's most widely used gun. 5½ x 8½, softcover, photos, illus., 192 pp. <b>\$14.00</b></p>
	<p><b>HIDDEN THREAT</b> A Guide to Covert Weapons by Mark Smith</p> <p>Belt buckle guns, personal flame-throwers, knives disguised as pens or lighters, booby-trapped shotguns — these are disguised weapons in use on the streets. This insider's guide, compiled from confidential police files, reveals over 150 innocent-looking items that pose a serious threat. 5½ x 8½, softcover, photos, illus., 168 pp. <b>\$12.00</b></p>		<p><b>SURVIVAL</b> A Manual That Could Save Your Life by Chris and Gretchen Janowsky</p> <p>Life-saving first-aid and wilderness medical care, water procurement, improvised survival tools and weapons — having this book in any emergency could mean the difference between life and death. One of the best guides we've ever seen, <i>Survival</i> details the L.I.F.E. system. The author lives by it — you can live by it, too. 5½ x 8½, softcover, illus., 208 pp. <b>\$14.00</b></p>		<p><b>WINNING WITH AMERICAN KATA</b> The New Breed of Competitors by Loren W. Christensen</p> <p>Find out about the dynamic new kata style that is sweeping the competitions with its realistic approach to creating new forms. This guide, written by a kata champion, will help you develop your own form, train hard, psych yourself up . . . and win! 5½ x 8½, softcover, photos, 136 pp. <b>\$14.00</b></p>
	<p><b>PUT 'EM DOWN, TAKE 'EM OUT!</b> Knife Fighting Techniques from Folsom Prison by Don Pentecost</p> <p>Anyone, including you, can be the subject of a knife attack. Maximize your chances for survival by learning realistic aspects of knife attack and defense. These deadly techniques were developed in the violence of Folsom Prison and go far beyond what you learn in karate class. 5½ x 8½, softcover, 50 photos, 64 pp. <b>\$8.00</b></p>		<p><b>HOMEMADE MORTAR CONSTRUCTION MANUAL</b> by Jeff Baker &amp; Thomas H. Tribble</p> <p>With the simple designs in this book and some common tools, you can make a mortar out of aluminum or steel cans that will launch tennis balls and other nonlethal ammo across great distances! Build and operate Basic, Intermediate and Advanced models. <i>These mortars will not fire military ordnance.</i> 5½ x 8½, softcover, illus., 56 pp. <b>\$8.00</b></p>		<p><b>SWITCHBLADE</b> The Ace of Blades by Ragnar Benson</p> <p>Snap. For most people, the click of a switchblade is an ominous sound. Once the symbol of the street hoodlum, these knives are experiencing renewed interest from those who understand the value of a good one-handed blade. Now get solid information on laws, uses, types of mechanisms and more. 5½ x 8½, softcover, photos, illus., 104 pp. <b>\$10.00</b></p>
	<p><b>MODERN SNIPER RIFLES</b> by Duncan Long</p> <p>This in-depth look at today's sniper rifles covers all aspects of their performance capabilities. Weapons expert Duncan Long evaluates .22 LR, single-shot, bolt-action, semi-auto and large-caliber rifles, as well as the scopes, ammunition and accessories that will maximize their sniping potential. 8½ x 11, softcover, illus., photos, over 100 pp. <b>\$16.95</b></p>		<p><b>KICKASS!</b> More Mayhem from the Master of Malice by George Hayduke</p> <p>Just when you thought it was safe to turn the other cheek, Hayduke and his pals return with their own twisted version of the Golden Rule: Do unto others before they do unto you! <i>Kickass!</i> is intended for entertainment purposes only. 5½ x 8½, hardcover, over 200 pp. <b>\$17.95</b></p>		<p><b>THE COMPLETE BOOK OF U.S. SNIPING</b> by Peter R. Senich</p> <p>Trace American sniping material from its infancy to today's sophisticated systems with this volume, compiled from Senich's early books, <i>Limited War Sniping</i> and <i>The Pictorial History of U.S. Sniping</i>. Almost 400 photos, plus information gleaned from official documents and military archives, pack this definitive work. 8½ x 11, hardcover, 375 photos, 288 pp. <b>\$34.95</b></p>
	<p><b>MAKE MY DAY!</b> Hayduke's Best Revenge Techniques for the Punks in Your Life by George Hayduke</p> <p>Hayduke is back and meaner than ever with this all-new bag of bully-busting tricks. Hundreds of ideas from readers who rallied to George's stirring cry ("Do unto others before they get unto you") fill this antic anthology that will amaze and amuse you. <i>Make My Day!</i> is intended for entertainment purposes only. 5½ x 8½, hardcover, 224 pp. <b>\$17.95</b></p>		<p><b>MANUAL of the MERCENARY SOLDIER</b> A Guide to Mercenary War, Money, and Adventure by Paul Balor</p> <p>"The Whores of War." Modern mercenaries make their living in today's most volatile hot spots. Old pro Paul Balor, reveals the experiences and tricks of the trade that have kept him alive on three continents for more than four decades! An authoritative, insider's guide! 5½ x 8½, hardcover, 320 pp. <b>\$19.95</b></p>		<p><b>U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES MEDICAL HANDBOOK</b></p> <p>Paladin's brand-new update of this classic best-seller gives you the info you need to stay alive and stay well in the field—600 pages show how to treat all kinds of diseases and injuries. In a new compact format, this book gives you the knowledge that makes the Special Forces medic so valuable. 4½ x 7¼, weatherproof softcover, illus., 608 pp. <b>\$19.95</b></p>

~ WANTED ~

**DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED!**

ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS ON MARTIAL ARTS, SURVIVAL, MILITARY SCIENCE, WEAPONRY, REVENGE AND OTHER RELATED SUBJECTS. SEND A COPY OF THE MANUSCRIPT TO PALADIN PRESS, P.O. BOX 1307, BOULDER, COLORADO 80306.

**MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE!**

# OTHER FASCINATING TITLES

## ESPIONAGE & INVESTIGATIONS

WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE.....	\$10.95
COVERT SURVEILLANCE & ELECTRONIC PENETRATION.....	\$10.95
HOW TO AVOID ELECTRONIC EAVESDROPPING AND PRIVACY INVASION.....	\$12.95
HOW TO FIND MISSING PERSONS: A HANDBOOK FOR INVESTIGATORS.....	\$ 9.95
MAKING SPIES: A TALENT SPOTTER'S HANDBOOK.....	\$19.95
UNDERCOVER WORK: A COMPLETE HANDBOOK.....	\$10.95
FINDER'S FEE: THE SKIP TRACER'S TEXT.....	\$19.95
YOU CAN FIND ANYONE!.....	\$14.95
DEA CLASSIFIED INTELLIGENCE REPORTS: INSIDE SECRETS OF THE SMUGGLING TRADE.....	\$15.00
SPYGAME: WINNING THROUGH SUPER TECHNOLOGY.....	\$30.00

## ACTION CAREERS

THE RESCUERS: THE WORLD'S TOP ANTI-TERRORIST UNITS.....	\$19.95
SABERTOOTH: THE RIP-ROARING ADVENTURES OF A LEGENDARY GAME WARDEN.....	\$19.95
CAREERS IN SECRET OPERATIONS: HOW TO BE A FEDERAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER.....	\$ 8.95
DETECTIVE'S PRIVATE INVESTIGATION TRAINING MANUAL.....	\$14.95
KEEP 'EM ALIVE: THE BODYGUARD'S TRADE.....	\$10.00
DEAD CLIENTS DON'T PAY: THE BODYGUARD'S MANUAL.....	\$12.00
BOUNTY HUNTER.....	\$12.00
OBTAINING YOUR PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR'S LICENSE.....	\$ 8.00
ACTION CAREERS: EMPLOYMENT IN THE HIGH-RISK JOB MARKET.....	\$19.95
BODYGUARDING: A COMPLETE MANUAL.....	\$14.95

## WEAPONS

THE AR-15/M16: A PRACTICAL GUIDE.....	\$16.95
MODERN BALLISTIC ARMOR: CLOTHING, BOMB BLANKETS, SHIELDS, VEHICLE PROTECTION.....	\$ 8.00
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW.....	\$ 8.00
SELECT FIRE 10/22.....	\$10.00
STREETSWEEPERS: THE COMPLETE BOOK OF COMBAT SHOTGUNS.....	\$17.95
FIREARMS FOR SURVIVAL.....	\$16.95
THE MINI-14: THE PLINKER, HUNTER, ASSAULT, AND EVERYTHING ELSE RIFLE.....	\$10.00
THE M9 9MM SEMIAUTO PISTOL: OPERATOR'S MANUAL.....	\$ 6.00
COMBAT AMMUNITION: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW.....	\$19.95
THE GDG REPORTS: EXOTIC AND COVERT WEAPONS.....	\$15.00
THE COMBAT SHOTGUN AND SUBMACHINE GUN: A SPECIAL WEAPONS ANALYSIS.....	\$16.95

## KNIVES & KNIFE FIGHTING

SURVIVAL/FIGHTING KNIVES.....	\$14.00
WARRIOR'S GUIDE TO KNIFE FIGHTING.....	\$12.95
COLD STEEL.....	\$16.95
COMMANDO DAGGER: THE COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE FAIRBAIRN-SYKES FIGHTING KNIFE.....	\$29.95
BLOODY IRON.....	\$10.00
BLADE MASTER: ADVANCED SURVIVAL SKILLS FOR THE KNIFE FIGHTER.....	\$10.00
THE COMPLETE BLADESMITH: FORGING YOUR WAY TO PERFECTION.....	\$25.00
SLASH AND THRUST.....	\$ 8.00

## FOR CONVENIENT RETAIL ORDERING

VISA OR MASTERCARD, CALL TOLL FREE  
7 days a week, 24 hours a day  
1-800-642-8300, ext. 24.  
Call from any state but Alaska.

## MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE!

## NEW I.D. & MONEY

CONSTRUCTION OF SECRET HIDING PLACES.....	\$ 8.00
GUERRILLA CAPITALISM: HOW TO PRACTICE FREE ENTERPRISE IN AN UNFREE ECONOMY.....	\$11.95
FLIMFLAM MAN: HOW CON GAMES WORK.....	\$17.95
MONEY FOR NOTHING: RIP-OFFS, CONS AND SWINDLES.....	\$17.95
SAVE YOUR LICENSE.....	\$14.95
HOW TO HIDE ANYTHING.....	\$10.00
ARMCHAIR MILLIONAIRE.....	\$ 8.95
GUERRILLA TACTICS IN THE JOB MARKET: HOW TO WIN THE JOB OF YOUR LIFE.....	\$19.95
DISGUISE TECHNIQUES: FOOL ALL OF THE PEOPLE SOME OF THE TIME.....	\$ 8.00
HOW TO USE MAIL DROPS FOR PRIVACY AND PROFIT.....	\$12.50
THE ECONOMIC GUERRILLA: A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY HANDBOOK.....	\$ 8.00
CLEAN SLATE: THE NEW LAWS.....	\$24.95
THE BIG BOOK OF SECRET HIDING PLACES.....	\$12.00
DIRECTORY OF U.S. MAIL DROPS: WITH AN APPENDIX FOR FOREIGN COUNTRIES.....	\$ 9.95
FINANCIAL INVESTMENT EXPERTISE: THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO TERMS, DEFINITIONS, AND WINNING STRATEGIES.....	\$17.95
TAKE THE MONEY AND STRUT! A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR'S GUIDE TO COLLECTING A BAD DEBT.....	\$19.95
ALL ABOUT CARNIVALS: CARNY CONS.....	\$ 6.00

## POLICE SCIENCE

THE POLICE SNIPER: A COMPLETE HANDBOOK.....	\$12.95
NEVER SAY LIE.....	\$19.95
S.W.A.T. TACTICS.....	\$10.00
S.W.A.T. TEAM MANUAL.....	\$12.00
S.W.A.T. TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT.....	\$14.00
THE FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.....	\$10.00
LEGAL HANDBOOK FOR SPECIAL AGENTS.....	\$12.00
FBI WOUND BALLISTIC EVALUATION.....	\$ 8.00
THEY WRITE THEIR OWN SENTENCES: THE FBI HANDWRITING ANALYSIS MANUAL.....	\$ 8.00
KILL OR GET KILLED.....	\$24.95
RIOT CONTROL: MATERIEL AND TECHNIQUES.....	\$19.95

## MILITARY SCIENCE

PHYSICAL TRAINING OF THE SOVIET SOLDIER.....	\$ 8.00
NIGHT FIGHTER'S HANDBOOK.....	\$10.00
RANGER HANDBOOK.....	\$ 8.00
DE OPPRESSO LIBER: THE ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES.....	\$29.95
FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION PARATROOPER COMBAT MANUAL.....	\$19.95
THE GERMAN ASSAULT RIFLE 1935-1945: THE DEFINITIVE STUDY.....	\$39.95
LONG-RANGE PATROL OPERATIONS: RECONNAISSANCE, COMBAT, AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS.....	\$14.95
THE SOVIET AIRBORNE FORCES.....	\$ 8.00
HOW TO KILL TANKS.....	\$ 8.00
BORDER SECURITY/ANTI-INFILTRATION OPERATIONS.....	\$10.00
SPECIAL FORCES OPERATIONS TECHNIQUES.....	\$17.95
THE PARTISAN FIGHTER'S MANUAL.....	\$ 8.00

## REVENGE & HUMOR

TECHNIQUES OF HARASSMENT: HOW THE UNDERDOG GETS JUSTICE.....	\$17.95
GET EVEN 2: MORE DIRTY TRICKS FROM THE MASTER OF REVENGE.....	\$17.95
THE REVENGE BOOK.....	\$ 8.00
MAD AS HELL: A MASTER TOME OF REVENGEMANSHIP.....	\$17.95
TENANT'S REVENGE: HOW TO TAME YOUR LANDLORD.....	\$ 6.95
YOUR REVENGE IS IN THE MAIL.....	\$ 9.95
THE SQUEAKY WHEEL: COMPLAINING FOR FUN & PROFIT.....	\$10.00
FORGIVE? FORGET IT! CREATIVE REVENGE AT ITS BEST.....	\$17.95
UP YOURS! GUIDE TO ADVANCED REVENGE TECHNIQUES.....	\$17.95

## SELF-DEFENSE

COMMANDO FIGHTING TECHNIQUES.....	\$12.00
PRINCIPLES OF PERSONAL DEFENSE.....	\$ 8.00
BLACK MEDICINE III: LOW BLOWS.....	\$10.00
FIGHT FOR YOUR LIFE! THE SECRETS OF STREET FIGHTING.....	\$ 8.00
EMPTY HAND, LOADED GUN: THE ULTIMATE SYSTEM FOR CLOSE COMBAT.....	\$ 8.00

## GUERRILLA WARFARE

HANDBOOK FOR VOLUNTEERS OF THE IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY.....	\$ 4.00
AMBUSH AND COUNTER AMBUSH.....	\$ 6.00
THE AUSTRALIAN GUERRILLA: SNIPING.....	\$ 8.00
SECRET FREEDOM FIGHTER: FIGHTING TYRANNY WITHOUT TERRORIZING THE INNOCENT.....	\$ 8.95

## SNIPING

U.S. ARMY SNIPER TRAINING MANUAL.....	\$16.95
THE GERMAN SNIPER 1914-1945.....	\$49.95
SNIPING—U.S. MARINE CORPS.....	\$10.00
COUNTER SNIPER GUIDE.....	\$ 5.00
SNIPER! SNIPER! (VIDEOTAPE).....	\$39.95

## SURVIVAL

SURVIVAL RETREAT: A TOTAL PLAN FOR RETREAT DEFENSE.....	\$ 8.00
SURVIVAL MEDICINE: NATURE'S WAY.....	\$ 8.00
RAGNAR'S TEN BEST TRAPS... AND A FEW OTHERS THAT ARE DAMN GOOD, TOO.....	\$10.00
TRAPPER'S BIBLE: TRAPS, SNARES, AND PATHGUARDS.....	\$ 8.00
AIRCREW SURVIVAL.....	\$14.00
GOOD BOOZE RECIPE AND COOKBOOK.....	\$ 6.00
GREAT HIDEOUTS OF THE WEST: AN IDEA BOOK FOR LIVING FREE.....	\$ 8.95
COMBAT SURVIVAL.....	\$14.95
FUR, FOOD AND SURVIVAL: AN EXPERT'S GUIDE TO TRAPPING.....	\$14.95



PALADIN PRESS  
P.O. BOX 1307—9HS  
BOULDER, CO 80306  
Phone (303) 443-7250



Call TOLL FREE for credit card orders:  
1-800-642-8300, ext. 24. Call 24 hours a  
day, 7 days a week. Call from any state but  
Alaska. Send \$1.00 for 50-page CATALOG  
of 300 titles (free with order.)

Please send me the following titles:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Payment:  Check or Money Order,  VISA,  MasterCard.

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SUBTOTAL  
Special Summer Discount.  
Deduct 10% from any  
order over \$40. NO  
EXCEPTIONS.   
Please include  
\$3.50 postage  
and handling  
TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

“NEVER volunteer, gentlemen. Never, ever volunteer.” That’s what my Sandhurst platoon instructor, Drill Sergeant David Elliot of the Coldstream Guards, always used to tell us. So why was I, a happily retired ex-Royal Horse Artillery battery commander, walking the perimeter of an infantry company position on a wind-swept hill in the pouring rain at 0100 zulu.

The letter from the Ministry of Defence had been disarmingly evasive. Reservists are wanted to take part in an exercise testing the arrangements to recall, equip and train Home Defence units in time of war. At the time, from the comfort of my journalist’s desk, it seemed like a good idea. Now I was having some second thoughts.

The exercise was to be called Drake’s Drum — in memory of the hero of the Armada who is supposed to be called from his rest by the beating of his drum when England faces deadly peril. I and hundreds of other reservists had answered the drum. I had expected to find myself employed as third watch-keeper in some obscure headquarters and was a fraction surprised to find myself commanding an ad-hoc infantry company.

The other officers were an interesting bunch. They included an Irish Ranger captain who had left the army before I joined it and had volunteered for the exercise as a way of celebrating his last year as a reservist. I’m not sure how old he was, but we soon discovered that if he covered up his badges of rank he was instantly taken for a senior general with all the ensuing chaos that implies. Another was a fiery Parachute Regiment lieutenant who had lost none of his zeal in two years behind a bank counter. They were the platoon commanders.

Some of the soldiers, who seemed to represent every unit in the British Army, had only been out for a few months; others—including some from units that had some time ago been disbanded—had spent a good 15 years as civilians. Very few non-commissioned officers turned up. The senior soldier in the company was a corporal, or had been 10 years before. He was swiftly promoted to company sergeant major and in 10 minutes looked and sounded as if he’d been doing the job for years.

After two days of splendid training at the hands of the staff of the School of Infantry at Warminster we were declared fit to look after ourselves, or perhaps they decided they could take no more. At any rate 217 Home Defence Company was ejected into a hostile world to sink or swim with the big boys.

Finding that nobody was going to tell me what to do, I went in search of



# I WAS THERE

by Major C.E. Parks

## Ivan And Her Majesty’s Invisible Tanks



**Soviet airborne officers confer with British officers, including an SAS lieutenant colonel (second from left), during their visit to Exercise Drake’s Drum. Photo: Public Information South East District**

orders and eventually tracked down the headquarters to which we were attached. I think the area commander, a Royal Artillery colonel, was a little surprised to find he had been blessed with an RHA company commander, but he bore up rather well and dispatched us to guard a KP or critical point.

Our KP was a mock radar installation consisting of an old box-bodied lorry and a set of bed-springs mounted on a pole on top of an otherwise bare-arsed hill. All the old skills came flooding back as we worked, and in no time the soldiers were disappearing into the ground like a colony of moles.

For two days we patrolled and carried out road checks and saw off peace protesters, worried wives and Redland diplomats—and generally forgot that we had ever been civilians. Then it started to rain.

What began as a gentle summer drizzle had turned into a real downpour by evening and the trenches were beginning to fill up with water. I was doing my rounds before turning in when I saw the lights of a Land-Rover approaching the gate of the KP. Surprised that anyone would want to see us at that time of night I started over towards the gate, only to meet a soldier running the other way.

“Sir, sir,” he gasped, “it’s the fooking Roosians.” And it was, too. Two of them, large as life and twice as ugly.

Standing at our gate were two real live Russian colonels, in camouflaged combat dress, including combat caps and the blue striped T-shirts of airborne troops.

“We wish to inspect your area, major,” said the larger of the two in impeccable English. “We are observers from the Red Army, and we are here at the invitation of your government.”

The exercise instructions had been most clear. “You may expect to meet people in a variety of dress who will attempt to gain access to the KP. They may try any ruse to get in, but they must be carrying Drake’s Drum ID.” However just as I was thinking that the exercise planners had excelled themselves this time, another soldier called me aside. “Sir, Zero wants you,” he said, handing me a radio headset.

The bored voice of a warm, dry third watch-keeper in an obscure HQ came thinly over the radio, “You may,” he said, “just possibly be visited by a couple of Russian officers. If they turn up, they are to be allowed to see anything they like and talk to anyone, but you must make note of who they speak to so they can be debriefed afterwards.” “Thank you,” I said. “They’ve been here for five minutes already.”

The two Russians were happy to accept a cup of army tea each, after which I took them on a guided tour of the KP. They must have been very confused after talking to the soldiers who, like soldiers the world over, took innocent delight in pulling their legs.

What worried them most was the absence of tanks on our position. “Where are your tanks, major?” they asked at least six times and chided me politely for lying when I denied having any. “You are supposed to tell us the truth,” they said.

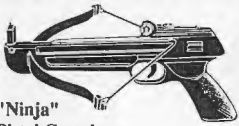
After a great deal of mutual photography they climbed into their Land-Rovers and drove off into the rain to enliven someone else’s night. I was sorry to see them go, for they were the first Russians I had met despite having spent most of my adult life preparing to fight them. My overriding impression

*Continued on page 81*

# Buy Direct & Save!

Call 1-312-253-7080 for Fast Delivery!

Visa, Mastercard and American Express accepted!  
 Low Prices! Top Quality Merchandise!  
 Mail Orders Accepted - Send Check or Money Order!



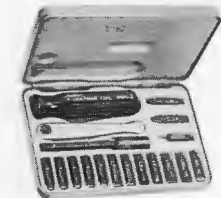
**"Ninja"  
Pistol Crossbow**  
 New hand-held crossbow is compact, silent and deadly. Powerful 40 lb. draw. Micro-adjustable sights. Aluminum body, contoured pistol grips. 11-1/4" overall. Comes with 3 - 6" bolts.  
 #214005 **\$49.95**

### Tap Detector

Protection for your phone, computer modem, FAX or telex.



Tap Detector - an indispensable tool which lets you know when anyone is tapping either your home or office phone. If the green light goes out you know someone is listening in! You can then continue your conversation, alter its course or simply end it. Use "Tap Detector" and have peace of mind. Easy instructions.  
 #311400 (Retail \$56.) **\$29.95**



**Gun Screwdriver Kit**  
 #240400 Chapman Kit **\$22.95**



**Grenades**  
 Look and feel like the real thing but are completely harmless. Full weight with detachable lever and pin. WW II Pineapple  
 #1721G0  
**\$9.95 ea.**



**New 60,000 Volt Mini-Zapper**  
 Smallest, lightest stun gun available. Weighs only a few ounces but packs a 60,000 volt bite that will stop any attacker. A one second jolt will cause muscle spasms and a dazed condition but will not cause permanent damage. Under no condition can you suffer a charge-back to your body. 1 year warranty. Uses 9 volt battery.  
 #310802 **\$49.95**  
**Ni-Cad Battery & Charger**  
 #310801 **\$19.95**



**"Little Black Box"**  
 Amazing device automatically starts your recorder whenever the telephone is picked up and stops recorder when phone is hung up! Attaches anywhere along the line. Plugs into any recorder. Creates no interference or noise on the line. 1"x2"x2". **Warning:** Not to be used for surveillance!  
 #310101 Alligator Clip **\$29.95**  
 #310102 Modular Plug **\$29.95**

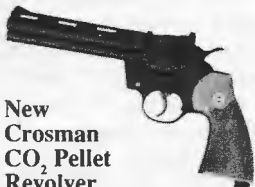


**Badge & Case**  
 Flaunt your authority! Professional badges in six styles - Special Investigator, Security Guard, Special Officer, Deputy Sheriff, Special Police, Private Detective. 1-1/2" wide, 2-1/4" high. Nickel plated brass. Specify model when ordering. Comes complete with badge holder and ID Card.  
 #B5 **\$6.95**

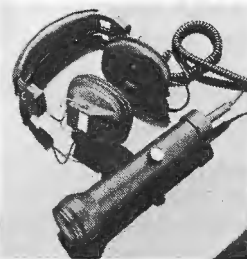
**New I.D. in America!**  
 The author, an anonymous private investigator, specializes in helping clients "get lost" - permanently! Now his expertise can be yours. Create a totally new person - with bona fide birth certificate, passport, driver's license, credit cards, Social Security number and more! 120 pages.  
 #P111 **\$15.00**



**Tear Gas Guns**  
 Eight shot .22 caliber revolver or 6-shot automatic fires tear gas cartridges or blanks as fast as you can pull the trigger. Heavy-duty metal construction with quick, easy ejection. Checkered grips. Comes with holster, tear gas and blanks.  
**8-Shot Revolver**  
 #260110 Blue **\$19.95**  
 #260120 Chrome **\$24.95**  
**7-Shot Automatic**  
 #260510 Blue **\$21.95**  
 #260520 Chrome **\$26.95**  
 Extra Tear Gas (10) **\$3.00**  
 Blanks (50) **\$4.00**



**New Crosman CO2 Pellet Revolver**  
 Brand new look-a-like, feel-a-like and shoot-a-like model of the famous .357 Python. Handles and shoots like the real thing. Fires .177 caliber pellets at velocities up to 390 fps with a 6" rifled-steel barrel for incredible accuracy. Comes with 6-shot and NEW 10-shot clip and maintenance kit. 60 shots per CO2 cartridge.  
 #464403 **\$69.95**  
 .177 Cal Pellets, 250/pkg. **\$3.95**  
 CO2 Cartridges, 5 to pack **\$4.95**



**Super Snooper**  
 Extremely sensitive, pointable, electronic listening device amplifies and feeds all available sounds through stereo headphones (included). Automatic shut-off circuit measures incoming signal and protects you from harmful high volume noise. You can hear a whisper at 100 yds.; a car door shutting at 5 blocks; your dog hot on a trail 2 miles away. Uses standard 9-volt battery. **Warning:** Not to be used for eavesdropping.  
 #310300 **\$84.95**  
**Bionic Booster** increases the receiving surface area 37 times, making it more directional and powerful. Snaps on and off easily.  
 #310301 **\$34.95**

### "The Black Book of Dirty Tricks"

"Improvised Munitions Handbook" is the most sought after here-to-fore impossible to obtain Army Manual. Includes revealing chapters on: Mines & Grenades, Small Arms Weapons & Ammo, Mortars & Rockets, Incendiary Devices, Fuses, Ignition & Delay Mechanisms. Tells how to make Rocket Launchers, Pistols, Shotguns and Recoilless Rifles from easy to obtain materials and more!  
 #BB **\$10.00**

### "The Big One"

**World's Largest Survival Knife**  
 This is the knife you've been waiting for! Made tough, it features a big 10 inch 420 stainless steel blade. Sports men, hunters, fishermen, and campers will find "The Big One" can take it no matter how tough the task. It's more than just a knife. Features:  
 • 5" watertight black aluminum hollow handle.  
 • Liquid filled compass.  
 • Rugged black leather sheath with sharpening stone.  
 • Survival kit inside handle features wire saw, matches, needles, nylon line, fishhooks, and sinkers.  
 #17718 **\$24.95**



**Phaser Super Tear Gas**  
 The safest personal defense product available. Ultra-high emission fire extinguisher valve shoots tear gas at distances up to 20 feet. Renders assailant instantly helpless, causing extreme burning to eyes, nose and throat. Will not cause permanent injury.  
 #261201 **\$14.95**



**Rambo III Miniature Bowie**  
 Exact replica of the giant 16" Rambo® III Bowie... only this one is just 6-1/2" long! Blade length is 4". Tang stamped RAMBO® III. Cowhide sheath included. Genuine hardwood handle. Heavy-duty Stainless Steel handguard and butt cap. Custom designed by Gil Hibben.  
 #K246 Miniature Rambo® III **\$29.95**  
 #K106 RAMBO III, Full Size (Retail-\$130.) **\$99.95**  
*Knife Design Patent pending by Gil Hibben of Hibben Enterprises. © 1988 Carolco. All Rights Reserved. Used under Authorization*



**New Z-77 Automatic**  
 All New! Fires 20 rounds as fast as you can pull the trigger! Authentic styling. 20-rd. magazine. Folding stock, adjustable sling. Solid steel smoothbore barrel. 80 shots per CO2 cartridge. Fires .177 BB's at 350-440 fps. Weighs 2 lbs. 3 Oz. Length: Closed 16-1/2". Open 25"  
 #464407 Z-77 Automatic **\$49.95**  
 #464405 Copperhead BB's, 2500 per pack **\$4.95**  
 #460604 CO2 Cartridges, 5 to pack **\$3.95**

### Mini-Nuck Keychain



#BN2 **\$7.50**



**Double-Lock Handcuffs**  
 Official Detective type carried by police officers. Nickel plated hardened steel.  
 #270200 **\$14.95**

## Your Supply Depot, Ltd.

1831 W. Algonquin Rd. #215,  
 Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

For Fast Delivery  
 Call (312) 253-7080

Illinois Residents add 7% Tax!

Qty	Number	Description/Size/Color	Price

Charge my:  
 Visa  MasterCard  Amex   
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal  
 Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping/Hand. **\$5.00**  
 Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Tax-IL Res Only  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Total  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. SF-16  
 Supply Depot does not warrant that you may legally purchase, possess or carry air guns, stun guns, etc. By ordering you acknowledge that you are an adult and there are no legal restrictions to purchasing.

### Ordering Information

**By Mail:** Use coupon or separate sheet. Mail order with check, money order or credit card information to Your Supply Depot, Ltd., 1831 W. Algonquin Rd. #215, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056  
**By Phone:** Call 1-312-253-7080. Have all product and credit card information ready. Hours 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. CST Monday-Friday. COD orders accepted. COD charge \$5 extra.

**SECRET WARS DIARY.** By David Atlee Phillips. Stone Trail Press, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 34320, Bethesda, MD 20817. 1988. 342 pages. \$15.90 includes p&h. (See ad on page 88.) Review by J.J. Boanerges.

**T**HE life of the late David Atlee Phillips paralleled and in many ways typified what a younger generation looks back upon as the Cold War. He was the consummate cold warrior.

Phillips was a principal actor in the 1954 overthrow of the Jacobo Arbenz regime in Guatemala and in the abortive 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion of Castro's Cuba. He was highly decorated by his government for operating undercover in several dicey situations. He cut short a promising climb up the CIA's management ladder to defend the Agency in the public buffeting it was taking in the mid-1970s.

Yet for those of us who knew him, he was a cold warrior with a warm heart. In that respect he also characterized a badly misunderstood period in U.S. history. It was a time of nuclear standoff when a wrong decision, a miscalculation, could have left the world devastated. Conflict was carried out in the shadows. It was there that Phillips fought the good fight, like his com-

## IN REVIEW



rades, unsung and unappreciated. (Phillips, 65, died of cancer in July 1988. Appropriately, he is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.)

**Secret Wars Diary** is Phillips' account of that period and the roles he and his comrades played in it. The book is more memoir than diary in the strict sense, a sort of anthology of Phillips' prolific writings in his lengthy professional career. It enlarges upon his well-acclaimed account of a career in the CIA, *The Night Watch*.

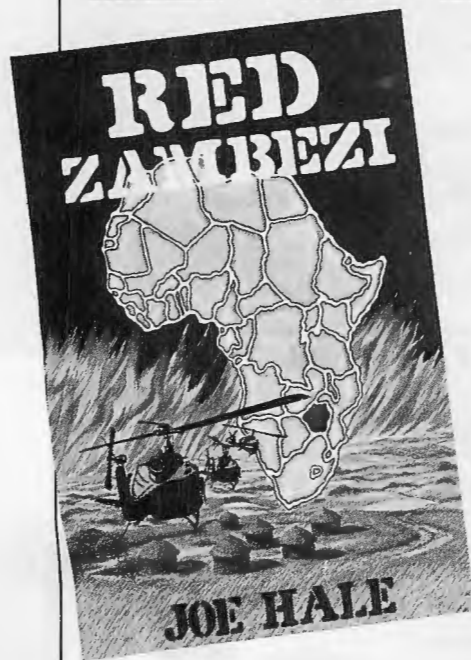
This book gives profiles of four key intelligence operatives whom Phillips knew: Allen Dulles, Director of Central Intelligence during the Guatemala operation and the Bay of Pigs; General Carl Eifler, crusty veteran of the OSS's Burma Detachment 101; Jim Angleton, the CIA's long-time genius of counterintelligence; and Dick Welch, the Agency's martyred Athens station chief.

Phillips claims that Dulles privately

attributed the failure at the Bay of Pigs to "the lack of resolve and determination to succeed among [President John F.] Kennedy's advisers which lulled the president into whittling away the military options — including, of course, the last-minute cancellation of air cover for the landing force — and in the end 'fatally weakening an otherwise sound plan.'" You get the impression that Phillips himself concurred in that assessment.

He also details his encounters with some CIA renegades, such as Philip Agee who, like Phillips, worked in the Latin American division of the CIA's Clandestine Services. Phillips pulls no punches: "I consider Agee a moral primitive, and a sorry excuse for a human being."

For those who want a perspective of the Cold War from its human side, David Atlee Phillips' well-written **Secret Wars Diary** is the book to get.



**RED ZAMBEZI.** By Joe Hale. J&T Publishing, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 6520, Ventura, CA 93006. 1989. Hardcover. 208 pages with maps. \$19.95 includes p&h, Visa and MasterCard accepted. (See ad on page 75.) Review by John Coleman.

**W**HAT made the 15-year civil war in Rhodesia interesting was that no one knew anything about it. To most Americans it was just another little African bush war — albeit with racial and international political implications — that occasionally splashed across the newspapers. Even though a number of Yanks (perhaps 200-300) served in the Rhodesian security forces throughout the conflict, African intramurals just didn't grab our attention.

Perhaps that's the main reason why so few novels about the Rhodesian war have hit print. There've been a number of good non-fiction books but a dearth of fiction works of any kind, and that's kind of surprising considering the length and intensity of that war and the international cast of players involved.

Joe Hale, however, has taken a major step in rectifying that state of affairs with **Red Zambezi**, one of the better novels to come out of the Rhodesian conflict to date.

Hale's protagonist, Colonel Joe Austin, is an American officer disillusioned with our final score in Southeast Asia in 1975 — the time frame when the Rhodesian civil war was starting to peak. At loose ends, Austin is recruited

by the Rhodesian government, specifically Prime Minister Ian Smith and his Central Intelligence Organization, to evaluate the military and political feasibility of cross-border raids into neighboring Mozambique and Zambia.

Austin, however, is a bit more of a hands-on operator, and what follows in **Red Zambezi** is a wild ride through fire fights, ambushes, deep-penetration cross-border raids, assassination attempts, political skullduggery and the murky world of intelligence operations.

Where Hale scores most highly in **Red Zambezi** is authenticity. His research is meticulous and his understanding of the Rhodesian scene — from weapons, units and tactics to government and intelligence operations — is unsurpassed. **Red Zambezi** is more than just a adventure romp through the southern African bushveldt; it's an outstanding piece of historical fiction that throws more light on how wartime Rhodesia fought than most other of its more clinical, non-fiction brothers.

For the war that never was, Hale does a remarkable job in bringing it to life. ✕



#2004



#2021



#7130



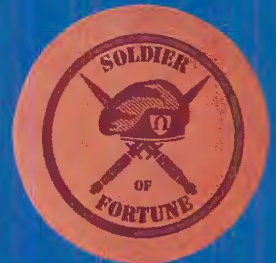
#7120



#7100



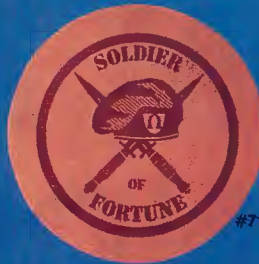
#7090



#7130



#5005



#7130



#5007



#5006

- #2004 SOF Black Ball Cap with Scrambled Eggs. \$9.95
- #2020 SOF Grey Ball Cap with Oak Leaf Cluster — your favorite pin or award fills the center. \$9.95
- #2021 SOF White Ball Cap with Oak Leaf Cluster. \$9.95
- #7130 SOF Leather Coasters (set of 4). \$5.95
- #7120 SOF Stein — Clear glass with red SOF logo. Holds 12 ozs. \$7.50
- #7100 SOF Shot Glass — Clear glass with red logo. Holds 4 ozs. \$4.95
- #7090 SOF Can Wrap — Black wrap with logo in white. \$4.95
- #5005 SOF Sports Bag — Black with SOF logo. Large size — custom made. \$24.95
- #5007 SOF Urban Recon Pack — Grey with black straps. This pack is insulated and will keep your favorite beverage cold. (Not for use with ice.) \$9.95
- #5006 SOF Sports Bag — Large custom made in grey with black straps. \$24.95
- #7051 SOF Tie — Navy blue with SOF logo in red. \$12.50
- #1515 SOF World Tour Jacket — Black Satin Jacket with SOF World Tour logo in yellow. Sizes s, m, l, xl \$49.95. Size xxl \$51.95
- Also available in T-shirts:
- #1015 Long Sleeve Navy — s, m, l, xl \$14.95. xxl \$15.95
- #1003 Short Sleeve — Black — s, m, l, xl \$10.95. xxl \$11.95



#1515

#7051

QTY.	ITEM NO.	SIZE	AMOUNT

SUB TOTAL

Postage & Handling  
3.7% Sales Tax  
(Colo. res.)

TOTAL

Please include \$2.00 for the first item ordered — include \$1.00 for each additional item for postage and handling. Overseas orders add 40%. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

## SOF EXCHANGE

Mail to: SOF EXCHANGE, P.O. Box 687, Boulder, CO 80306

We accept telephone orders on MasterCard and VISA — call toll-free — 1-800-323-1776, operator 131. **NEW! FAX YOUR ORDER 303-444-5617!**

PAYMENT:  VISA/MASTERCARD  CHECK ENCLOSED  COD

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

8/89

For customer service calls, dial (303) 449-3750 — between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. mountain time.





ABOVE: South African G5 155mm towed gun as used in the indirect-fire role.

# DEATH FROM A DISTANCE

## South Africa's Homegrown G5/G6 155s

by Peter Kokalis

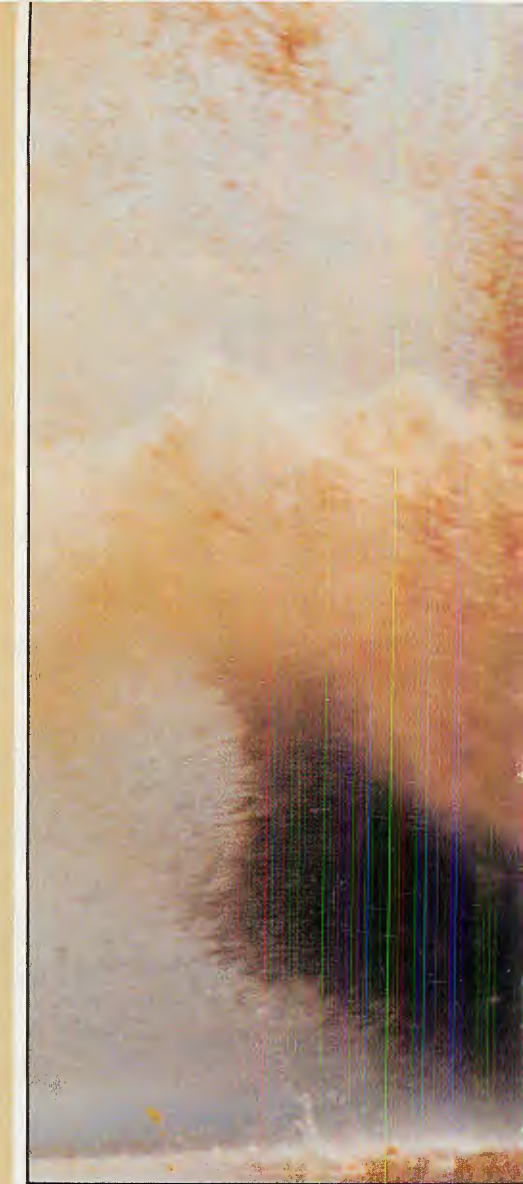
Photos Courtesy Armscor

**G**ROUNDPOUNDERS like me develop a deep-seated distrust of artillery early on. A master sergeant once told me that the *only thing* more accurate than enemy incoming artillery fire was friendly incoming artillery fire.

Five years ago in El Salvador, as part of a 217-man relief column humping toward the Atlacatl Immediate Reaction Battalion tactical operations center, established the day before after fierce and bloody fighting on a hill called Hacienda El Carmen just east of the Rio Lempa in Usulután Province, I found myself trudging across a railroad trestle bridge to reach our objective. Unbeknownst to me, a battery of 105mm howitzers were in place directly under the bridge on the west bank of the Rio Lempa. Without prior announcement, they cut loose with a salvo, and I clearly remember levitating

what seemed like 3 feet off the bridge. Coming down with one foot between the railroad ties, my previous bad attitude about "cannon cockers" was intensified severalfold.

Be that as it may, cannon have their uses. The first certain record of the use of ordnance, as they are sometimes called, on battlefields in the western hemisphere was the employment of brass cannon firing iron balls during the siege of Metz in 1324. They've come a long way since then. Most of the significant advances in artillery technology took place during the 19th century. In that time frame the transition from smooth bore to rifled artillery occurred, and this resulted in important increases in accuracy and range. By 1867 Alfred Nobel had perfected dynamite, which increased the explosive power of the projectiles. At about the same time, Alfred Krupp designed



ABOVE: South African G6 Rhino 155mm 45 caliber SP gun in action.

RIGHT: G5 is equipped with a dial sight and direct-fire system mounted just to the left of the breech, which is shown in the open position immediately after a round has been fired.

and produced successful breech-loading artillery pieces that were used with great effect during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71. Finally, near the end of the 19th century, Colonel Hippolyte Langlois, a Frenchman, developed a 75mm cannon with a recoilless carriage and quick-firing semiautomatic action (propellant gases were used to open the breech and eject the shell casing).

Since then, enhancement of artillery effectiveness has largely consisted of sophisticated refinement of these basic elements developed more than a century ago. Today, no country fields artillery superior to that of the Republic of South Africa (RSA).

When the South African Defence Force (SADF) marched across the Angolan border in 1975 to counter Cuban troops supporting

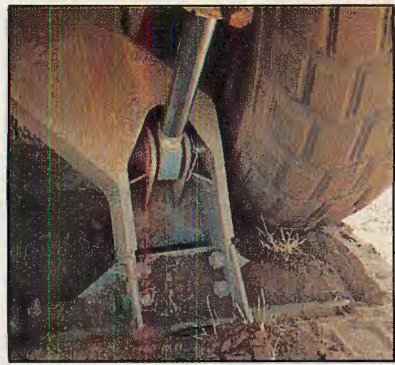


**ABOVE:** South African G6 Rhino 155mm 45 caliber SP gun in action.

**LEFT:** Projectiles are placed by hand on the G5's semiautomatic, hydraulically operated, electronically controlled flick rammer.

**BELOW:** Emergency ammunition supply for the G6 Rhino is stored in a compartment at the rear of the hull which is provided with blow-off doors.





One of the hydraulically controlled stabilizers on the G6 Rhino. In and out of action times are an amazing 60 and 30 seconds, respectively.

the communist MPLA forces, they were equipped with the same artillery they had used against the Germans in Italy during World War II. They were clearly outgunned by the more modern Soviet equipment provided to the Cubans. But within less than a decade, the South Africans reversed this imbalance in their favor.

Development of both a new artillery piece and ammunition system commenced in 1976. By 1983, the 155mm G5 towed howitzer had become operational with the SADF. Its origin, and that of its unique ammunition, can be traced to the now-defunct Space Research Corporation of Canada, although series production was established exclusively at Lyttelton Engineering Works (LEW), an Armscor affiliate, in Verwoerdburg outside of Pretoria.

Heart of the G5 is its 155mm/45 caliber barrel (i.e., the barrel length — 6.975 meters — is 45 times the 155mm bore diameter) designed to complement Extended Range Full Bore Base Bleed (ERFB BB) ammunition. The monobloc autofrettaged (frettaging is the process of reinforcing the barrel, originally by placing heated hoops of wrought iron or steel around it that contracted as they cooled to strengthen it) barrel comes to LEW as a forging manufactured from high-grade steel billets at the Union Steel Corporation in Vereeniging. Its starting weight of 3.5 metric tons is reduced by machining to 1.6 metric tons. The bore has 48 grooves, with a twist of one turn for every 20 caliber lengths.

The G5 barrel has an open-type, single-baffle muzzle brake. The breech mechan-

## ACTION IN ANGOLA

On 17 August 1987, one battery of G5s of the South African Defence Force became involved in combat for the first time during Operation Modular.

On that day the first Soviet T-54 tank was destroyed by a direct hit fired by a 155mm gun at a range of 20,000 meters. It was to set the pattern for what was to come. For the next eight months South African guns tore the heart out of the FAPLA/Cuban forces in Angola and gave them a taste of what hell was like.

But it was at the town of Cuito Cuanavale that the full effect of the G5s was felt.

South African artillery units were deployed with UNITA elements close to the Cuito River. They had a good view of the town and the airport terminal buildings.

"We had an aerial photo of the town with the exact locations of the HQ and deployments — we even knew where the Cuban advisers lived," said one of the gun commanders.

"Our task was to destroy three main elements in the town: one the HQ, two the radar systems, and three any enemy aircraft on the ground.

"As a very low priority we could destroy enemy artillery systems, but for that job another battery of G5s was deployed south of the Mianei River," he said.

"We went to work as ordered. We had a direct hit on the building we believed housed the enemy HQ. Our intelligence boys later confirmed this. We had hit the HQ of the political commissar and on that occasion killed 17 soldiers. Another time we killed 26 with a direct hit."

Yet it was the effect on morale that was most devastating to the FAPLA/Cuban forces.

In an intercepted radio message back to the high command at Menongue, the FAPLA commander at Cuito reported: "The enemy guns are giving me a headache."

Later the South African guns did more

than just give him a headache. Intelligence sources claim he was killed during an artillery attack shortly before Christmas.

There is no doubt the G5s proved devastating at Cuito. A good example was on 1 November 1987, when a report confirmed the following losses caused by artillery fire alone: four helicopters (two destroyed east of the Cuzizi River, and two at the Cuito Cuanavale airfield), two SAM-8 systems, six enemy tanks, five BM-21 multiple rocket launchers, two air defense radar systems, two MiG-21 fighter aircraft and one AN-12 transport aircraft destroyed at the airfield at Cuito Cuanavale.

But it was not only at Cuito that the G5 saw service.

"To me one of the highlights was the attack on 59 Brigade," said an artillery regimental commander.

"The important aspect was the enemy was as scared as hell of the guns at that stage. In fact, they were so scared that I only used 650 rounds in total to force 21 Brigade into withdrawing from their positions at the junction of the Cuatir and Cuanavale rivers, forcing 25 Brigade to withdraw to the Chaminga bridge and high ground and win the battle against 59 Brigade.

"I think our success against 16 Brigade, 21 Brigade, 47 Brigade and the Tactical Group eventually made the enemy realize there was no way to prevent a G5 projectile from reaching its target," he said.

"The POWs told us they were totally vulnerable and that we shot out or neutralized every enemy gun or battery that tried to fire on us."

The mobile, self-propelled version of the G5, the G6, was deployed in Angola largely as a high-speed, mobile artillery system. Its primary role was that of long-range tank killer, where it would fire on specific enemy tanks with devastating effect.

Just after dawn one morning in September 1987, FAPLA's elite 21 Bri-

gade, with support from Cuban sub-units and Cuban advisers, consolidated at the Lomba River with the objective of launching an advance on the UNITA stronghold at Mavinga.

A tactical group of 21 Brigade, consisting of a strengthened battalion of infantry and a tank company, attempted to cross the Lomba River at a point where the Cunzumbia and Gombe rivers flow into it. Using a Russian TMM bridge, five tanks managed to cross to the south along with the infantry sent to secure the area.

They were engaged by UNITA anti-tank units armed largely with 120mm mortars and RPG-7 rockets, but the assistance of the South Africans was requested.

"The observation post gave us a grid reference which indicated a range on one of the tanks of some 35 kilometers," one of the G6 commanders subsequently said.

"We fired and a few seconds later heard a whoop over the radio from the OP. We were spot on target, and the delighted OP reported a T-55 merrily burning."

In the ensuing battle six Soviet T-54/55 tanks were destroyed (three north and three south of the river) and an estimated 160 FAPLA and Cuban soldiers killed.

FAPLA then called in an air strike, and several hours later an ineffective high-level bombing run was carried out. Later in the afternoon four MiG-21s flew a sortie against UNITA forces, but by mistake FAPLA's 47 Brigade sited to the west was hit. The Cuban pilots obviously feared the U.S. Stinger missiles deployed by UNITA and consequently avoided more effective low-level ground strikes.

Cuban advisers were subsequently withdrawn north of the Lomba River and evacuated by helicopters. And 21 Brigade was forced to withdraw to a position north of the river from where it fled to Cuito Cuanavale, arriving badly mauled only in November.

— Hilton Hamann



ism is very similar to that of the U.S. M198 155mm howitzer and is semiautomatic with an electrical or mechanical firing mechanism. Behind the breech is a manually operated pneumatic rammer, on whose tray the projectile is loaded and slides into the chamber before it is rammed. While the length of its barrel, almost 23 feet, is partially responsible for the G5's exceptional accuracy and long range, its superior performance is largely due to the base bleed ammunition developed for this weapon.

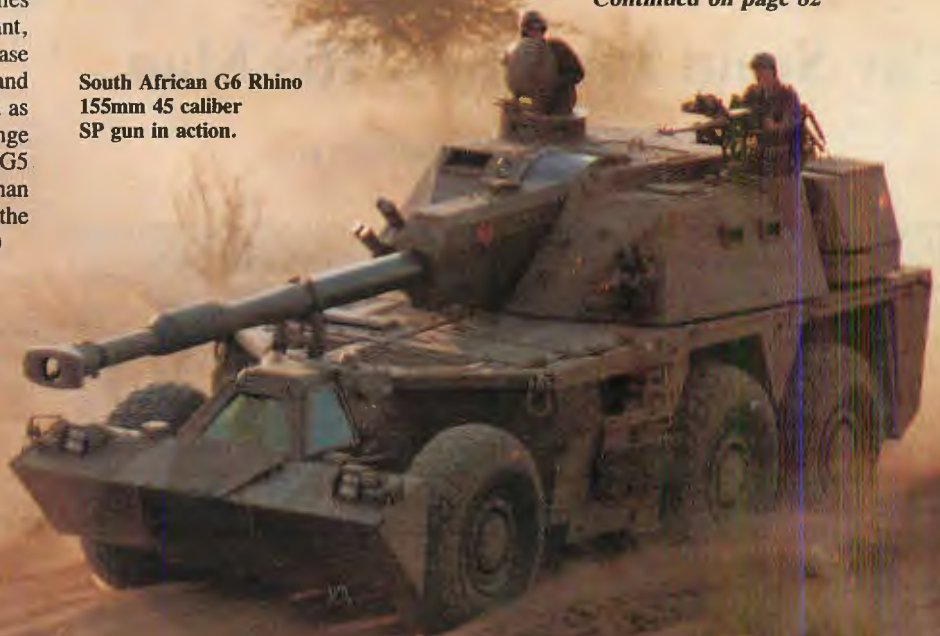
The range of an artillery shell can be increased by reducing "base drag." During its flight to the target, an area of low pressure behind the projectile, caused by its passage through the air, produces drag and reduces its velocity and hence its range. A cavity in the base of ERFB BB projectiles contains a small quantity of propellant, which when ignited bleeds gas into the base region to fill up the low pressure area and eliminate the drag. This system can add as much as 30 percent to the maximum range of the shell. With this ammunition, the G5 can reach out and touch someone more than 25 miles from the muzzle. This matches the range of the Mark 7 Mod O 16-inch/50 caliber gun (with barrel length of more than 66 feet) mounted in the turrets of USS *Iowa*-class battleships — albeit with a much smaller projectile. Others, such as Austria's Hir-

**Browning .50 caliber M2 HB machine gun, mounted to the G6 Rhino's left cupola, is loaded with the standard ratio of four ball rounds to one tracer.**

tenberger, Belgium's PRB, the Hellenic Arms Industry (EBO) of Greece, the People's Republic of China, Spain's SITECSA and Talley Defense Systems of the United States have all developed ERFB BB ammunition in recent years. However, to date, only South Africa has combat tested base bleed munitions.

South African extended-range projectiles include high explosive (HE), screening smoke (SCR SMK), illuminating (ILUM), red phosphorus (RP), propaganda (PROP)

**South African G6 Rhino 155mm 45 caliber SP gun in action.**



and submunition — anti-personnel/anti-armor (CLSTR). The hollow-charge submunition projectiles contain 56 individual bomblets which cover an area of 30x100 meters in size and will self-destruct on the ground after three seconds. .M57 HE ammunition is of the high-fragmentation type with welded splines. A TNT-filled version fragments into 3,032 pieces and another with Composition B filling breaks into 4,756 pieces. The projectiles can be standard (18.6-mile maximum range) or base bleed. A six-zone charge system is used to optimize the projectile/gun combination and give a range overlap for the total distance. Use of the newly developed M43A3 combustible cartridge increases the life expectancy of the barrel from 600 to more than 1,200 rounds with the maximum charge. Available fuzes comprise direct action (superquick or delay), radio proximity (with superquick selectable and back-up) and electronic time (with direct action back-up).

The G5 carriage has a slightly angled trunnion (the axis shaft on which the barrel pivots) for balancing the barrel and the recoil forces produced on firing. During firing the carriage is raised hydraulically on a firing platform by an auxiliary power unit which also supplies hydraulic power to raise and the lower the trail wheels and to open and close the trails. The hydraulic power is also used for the limited self-propelled mode, which enables the G5 to reach speeds exceeding 10 miles per hour and climb up gradients of 40 percent. The recoil system has a buffer, recuperator and replenisher. When traveling, the barrel rests over the

*Continued on page 82*



H-13S Sioux helicopter used by Cav scout pilots sits idle near Pleiku, January 1966. Photo: Doug Hill

**SOF VIETNAM**

# PROWLING FOR POWS

## Cav Scout Pilot Gets His Man

by David Bray

**E**ARLY February 1966, B Troop, 1/9 Cav, received orders to move into the Bong-Song area and support Operation Masher, which was then underway. Charlie Troop had preceded us by three weeks and had already suffered more than their share of casualties.

As our formation of H-13s, flying at 2,000 feet, neared Bong-Song we could see several downed aircraft burning or being rigged for sling-loading back to An Khe. Artillery strikes could be seen pounding targets along the coastal valley and air strikes were taking place north of our final destination, the village of De Duc, which was code named LZ Dog.

Squadron elements were set up on the edge of De Duc. A dirt airstrip had been carved out between two Buddhist temples. The Cav was well represented by lift companies, medevac units and infantry battalions. The "pod" modular operating room that was carried by a flying crane was there, too. The fighting would be bloody, and it would be needed.

### CAV CHRONICLER

David Bray served for 10½ months in Vietnam with the 1/9 scouts. During his time in-country he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and 22 air medals. Bray now works as a freelance writer in California. This is his second contribution to *Soldier of Fortune* (See "Ia Drang Aerial Ambush," SOF, June '88).



Our infantry platoon had arrived ahead of us so our gear was waiting when we landed. As soon as we landed a team of scouts was needed to move out north to screen for ground units that were engaging elements of the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN).

Captain Jerry Leadabrand, my section leader, and I took the mission. His observer was Specialist 5 Paul Bechburger, the son of a Marine general and the best chopper gunner in our squadron. Specialist 4 Melvus Hall volunteered to accompany me. Hall shared the irreverent sense of humor of Flip Wilson, as well as his looks, but when he was not clowning around he was a good man in a firefight. It didn't take us long to learn that there would be no time for humor on this flight.

We took off and climbed to our fighting altitude of 5 to 10 feet off the deck and immediately began to receive fire from hidden NVA and VC positions. As close as we were to the ground, they never got a second shot at us as we flew ahead to the area assigned us.

Near the southern edge of the battle area, which was a large scattering of villages, a Huey was burning and artillery was pelting the area. We circled to avoid flying through it, but could immediately see that our mission was pointless. Our job was to locate the enemy and maintain visual contact "at all costs," which we usually did by placing fire on the enemy to make them dig in until we could call infantry, artillery or air strikes on them. But up here the enemy was standing and fighting toe-to-toe with our troops.

There were so many NVA below us, most in khaki uniforms but many in black pajamas, that it was impossible and senseless to attempt to give a spot report. All we could do was draw their fire and duck. I felt like a deer on the first day of hunting season. Every place we turned we were under fire.

As long as we were over a village thick with palm trees we were all right. They could not get a clear shot at us, but dashing between villages was something else. Without cover, we could only cross rice paddies zigzagging and praying while Paul and Melvus emptied magazine after magazine of 5.56mm from their M16s in the direction of the enemy. Passing over the edge of one village I could see several NVA crouching in the midst of a herd of small cows while shooting at us. Doing a fast 180-degree turn, I fired two rockets at them and kept going without waiting to see if I had hit anyone.

Leadabrand and Bechburger were having things pretty much the same way. We were flying generally together but in no sense were we in formation. That would be too dangerous for the second chopper and one of us would have gone down for sure.

Captured 12.7mm machine guns used to fire on Cav helicopters. Photo: Barrie Turner

Passing over one coconut palm, I could have sworn I saw a man look into my eyes from less than 20 feet away. I thought for a moment that I was hallucinating, but Jerry and Paul had seen him too and they made a fast pass and Paul blew him and his AK-47 out of the treetop and into lullaby land.

About eight small villages were arranged around a large central rice paddy and paths crossed the paddy like spokes on a wheel. It was several hundred yards across this hub, and as we crossed it I pointed my rockets to any spot where I thought machine guns would likely be hidden. There were gun emplacements bordering the hub on all sides, but as low as Jerry and I were, firing at us would place machine-gun fire into the neighboring villages, so they held off with the heavy stuff and we only faced sniper fire as we crossed back and forth.

Off to our left we could see a couple of downed Hueys inside the paddy. Strangely, just as I reached the center of the hub I noticed an old lady, standing almost dead

center of the hub, casually planting rice. Still zigzagging, I looked back over my shoulder at her trying to figure out what she was doing there — was she crazy or just determined not to let the war interfere with her schedule? Glancing again at the burning Hueys it dawned on me what she was doing out there and I turned back.

“Shoot that old woman, Hall,” I yelled, but Hall, who had been busy on his own side of the chopper had not seen her before and looked at me as if I had gone crazy, so we passed her without firing and I zigzagged around the paddies, dodging sniper fire, while I filled Hall in.

“She has a 360 degree view over the trees around the villages, Hall,” I yelled. “The machine gunners are watching her and when

“He was a pitiful figure this ‘warrior from the north.’ He had a two day growth of beard and could not have been over five feet tall...” Illustration: Ralph Butler

she sees Hueys coming, she faces them and they concentrate their fire over that spot. That’s why so many are down around here — she’s a goddamned weathervane for them. Shoot her!”

Hall gave me a thumbs up and I turned to make another pass, but Jerry and Paul had caught on to her also and had already put her down. For some reason, as I again passed our burning Hueys, I could not feel anything but relief at the old woman’s death.

As we approached the edge of the village ring, I saw a machine-gun nest just ahead of us. “Get the coordinates, Hall,” I shouted at my observer, but as he reached for the map, I made an uncoordinated pedal turn to avoid fire and the wind sucked the map out of his hands. At first, knowing that our map had many positions marked on it, we felt we should try to retrieve it, but an attempt at landing near the machine-gun nest to get it back nearly resulted in getting us killed; so we decided that they knew where we were anyway and got the hell out of there.

About this time I again got over the trees of a village to *relative* safety. A violent shaking reaction took hold of my body and surely the chopper must have just been a blur as my hands and feet shook on the controls. Since it was my practice to weave back and forth over the tree lines to keep myself as poor a target as possible, this added shaking could have only made us harder to hit.

Jerry radioed me that it was time for us to get the heck out of there and I went to join him west of the village. He cut cross-country in a straight line, but I would have none of that straight-line flying. I weaved back and forth over the tree line that bordered our right side and using my peripheral vision to fly with, always watched the ground below.

Under one tree, as if it were Sunday afternoon, casually stood a young man wearing Italian-style shoes that were very popular with Vietnamese teens, wrap-around sunglasses, neatly creased wash-and-wear slacks and a sport shirt. His hair was in a ducktail and his left hand was against the palm tree; he was looking down, as if the helicopter only 20 feet over his head was no concern of his.

He sported the cool young punk look that movies used to portray during the '50s — only this guy had a problem that concerned me. Like a crutch, he held a rifle muzzle down under his right arm, and, as I darted away still looking back over my shoulder, I watched him prop it against the tree and attempt to get a bead on me.

I was counting distance and as *soon* as I was 300 feet from him, the point at which a rocket would arm itself, I made a violent left pedal turn with the chopper, stabilized it for just a second and squeezed off a rocket. I don’t know if I hit the well-dressed young sniper or not but the tree he was leaning against snapped forward and fell when the rocket hit it right at ground level.

We arrived back at our refueling point at

*Continued on page 74*



### BELL H-13S SIOUX STATS & SPECS

**Engine:** ..... One Lycoming 250-horsepower turbocharged piston type  
**Crew:** ..... One pilot  
**Passengers:** ..... One  
**Payload:** ..... 1,057 pounds  
**Weight (empty):** ..... 1,564 pounds  
**Length:** ..... 31.6 feet  
**Width:** ..... 8.3 feet  
**Height:** ..... 9.5 feet  
**Maximum Speed:** ..... 105 mph  
**Range:** ..... 261 nautical miles  
**Weapons:** ..... Two M60 7.62x51mm machine guns. Rube Goldberg rocket system also available, though many pilots refused to use it. This system mounted four rockets on each side which were armed by the observer and fired by the pilot. Sights were usually no more than tape or grease pencil marks on the canopy.

# ANGOLA'S



# AMBUSH ALLEY

## Savimbi's Guerrillas Rip Red Convoy

by Geoff Collins

**T**HROUGH thick bushes and trees I could see the stark silhouettes of 81mm mortar tubes thrusting into the black African sky. I crouched alongside them, together with their crews. We were waiting, silent and tense, sweating despite the below-freezing temperatures.

Some 500 yards in front of me, camouflaged in the dense vegetation, lay more than 250 heavily armed men. They formed our protection element, lying in forward positions to shield us from enemy infantry. Everyone was ready for the order to fire.

As I lay still and anonymous in the quiet darkness, it was difficult to believe that I was finally in a front-line position with Jonas Savimbi's UNITA army.

What was even more difficult to believe was that the enemy, some 2,500 FAPLA and Cuban troops with tanks, armored cars and artillery pieces, were less than two miles from us. A contact was about to explode into the night and I was to experience, first hand, the skill of an army I had heard so much about.

The journey that had led me up to this point had started 10 days previously at the



ABOVE: Flag of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — UNITA.

- Red bar at top symbolizes those who died during the colonial war.
- Red bar at bottom symbolizes those who died fighting against the MPLA communist regime.
- Black rooster and sunrise symbolize the awakening of Angolan nationalism.
- Green bar symbolizes "Free Angola."

### FROM AMBUSH ALLEY

Geoff Collins is a freelance war correspondent who spent a year fighting insurgents in the pre-Zimbabwe Rhodesian Army, then joined a combat unit of the South West African Territorial Force where he fought against SWAPO terrorists for two more years. He followed the bush war further north into Angola, and recorded this account of a large-scale UNITA ambush against communist FAPLA forces.

Dr. Jonas Savimbi, charismatic leader of UNITA. Unlike many other resistance leaders who direct their troops from outside the country, Savimbi has stayed inside Angola to lead UNITA's fight against the communist dos Santos regime.



UNITA soldier. They learn the rudiments of basic training similar to that of their European counterparts, then are given more specialized training in demolitions, weapons, or special forces operations.

between the highway joining the strategic MPLA-held towns of Menongue and Cuito Cuanavale, deep inside UNITA-controlled Cuando-Cubango Province.

The town of Cuito Cuanavale had been the center of international attention a few months previously. Repeated UNITA attempts to capture it had been repulsed by conventionally armed Cuban and FAPLA divisions dug in and around the outskirts.

UNITA was now, therefore, reverting to its guerrilla tactics: cutting off military logistical resupply convoys en route to Cuito Cuanavale. In an attempt to deprive the entrenched communist forces of munitions and fuel, UNITA had executed a series of aggressive ambushes on the road between Menongue and Cuito.

Reaching my destination was a trial on its own. Hellish sand roads, with ruts 2 feet deep, threw the captured Russian Ural truck in which we traveled from side to side. My English-speaking guide and 20 well armed "bodyguards," carrying AKM assault rifles and RPD light machine guns, seemed oblivious to the grinding gears and constant rolling of the vehicle.

We traveled only by night in order to avoid the prowling MiG jet fighters and Mi-24 helicopter gunships that, by day, infest Angolan airspace. With frequent stops for fuel, breakdowns and liaison with local area commanders, the journey took six days.

Finally, we reached a point close to the area I was to enter. From this small militia post we heard the muted distant sounds of artillery and, as it was no longer safe to continue in a thin-skinned vehicle, we completed the last 10 miles to the front on foot.

We reached the front-line position of the

town of Jamba, UNITA's headquarters in southern Angola. My intention was to obtain facts on UNITA's ongoing guerrilla war against the Soviet- and Cuban-backed MPLA government and government armed forces of FAPLA.

It was June 1988. The annual government offensive against UNITA the previous year had been repulsed. The war situation was

now relatively static and I was curious to see how UNITA was faring under these circumstances. After lengthy negotiations, I obtained permission from the UNITA hierarchy in Jamba to travel up close to the present combat zones, to see first hand the actual situation.

I left Jamba two days after my arrival and traveled north. My destination was the area

## SAVIMBI'S ARMY

UNITA's army, known as FALA (Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola) is considered by many military experts to be one of the most successful guerrilla forces in history. Against an overwhelmingly superior enemy, it has managed to seize and maintain total control over 1/3 of Angola, and attack its communist foes at will, at any given place or time throughout the whole country.

It stands to reason that no army could achieve such seemingly impossible results without high standards of discipline and training and an iron-hard will to succeed.

UNITA's army lives up to its classification as a "guerrilla force" only insofar as it usually employs classic guerrilla tactics; they do not possess the large stores of sophisticated military weapon-

ry necessary to engage FAPLA forces in head-on, conventional-style war confrontations.

That is where the similarity to a guerrilla movement ends, for the average UNITA soldier receives training and leadership and goes into battle more like a regular army soldier than a guerrilla.

FALA is primarily an infantry force. Although it has a small artillery, anti-aircraft and antitank element, it relies chiefly on aggressive, well-trained ground forces to carry out penetrating attacks and ambushes.

These infantry forces are divided into specific categories, each with its own role and method of operation:

1. Special Commandos. Groups of 40-50 men, trained for approximately a year in special forces techniques. They are used in a strike role similar to U.S. Rangers or the British Special Air Service.
2. Regular Battalions. Battalions of 700-

1,000 men, and consist of a large infantry element with attached anti-aircraft, antitank and artillery elements. These units are utilized for major attacks against FAPLA "hard targets."

3. Semi-Regular Battalions. Battalions of roughly 400-500 men, used to dominate liberated areas and attack softer targets (targets without extensive Soviet armor and other conventional heavy weapons). They do not possess the support elements found in regular battalions.

4. Special or Penetrating Battalions. Small, highly mobile battalions of 200-300 men that operate in small companies and carry additional firepower in the form of extra machine guns and grenade launchers. They are used for deep-penetration attacks into enemy areas.

5. Guerrillas. Untrained or semi-trained groups of varying sizes carrying varied weaponry. They form civilian resistance groups in enemy-occupied areas.





Senior Soviet officers (Lt. Gen. Petrovsky (left) and Maj. Gen. Kirsanov) with their FAPLA counterparts in Angola. Soviet strategy has centered around the idea of massed equipment and men overwhelming the enemy — a strategy that worked well during the Great Patriotic War in Europe, but has failed miserably in Angola.

guerrillas' 5th Regular Battalion just after 0400 the next morning. There were at that stage more than 700 soldiers and 20 light fighting vehicles, including jeeps mounting 106mm recoilless rifles and .50 Browning machine guns. The Unimogs had captured ZPU-4 14.5mm machine guns mounted with Soviet 120mm M-38 mortars attached to their towbars.

The vehicles and men were in a forward base camp consisting of a gigantic network of covered and camouflaged bunkers designed primarily against detection by air. In fact, the camouflage was so well prepared that a person could stand in the middle of the base and not be aware of a single soldier or vehicle in the surrounding walls of bush.

My guide led me to meet the battalion commander who was inside the command bunker studying maps of the surrounding area with his officers. They were busy planning an attack on a large Cuban/FAPLA logistical convoy which had left Menongue en route for Cuito Cuanavale two days previously and would, according to commandos who were monitoring its progress, that same night be bivouacking close to our present position.

After the necessary introductions I sat down to a briefing from the battalion CO on the present tactical situation.

The convoy he was planning to attack was traveling an average distance of 18 miles a day, from 0600 until 1700, whereupon it would stop and dig in for the night, forming a defensive position.

The defense perimeter for the convoy, when dug in, was about three miles long along the side of the road, and stretched about a half mile into the bush on either side

of the road. This formed an oval-shaped perimeter consisting of an unbroken line of bunkers and trenches. In these fortified positions were FAPLA's mounted 12.7mm and 14.5mm machine guns, 82mm B-10 recoilless guns and 75mm recoilless rifles, and AGS 17 30mm grenade launchers.

The defense in and around such a convoy is awesome. The convoy itself, according to the commander, usually consisted of about 200 military vehicles of which roughly 140 are logistical vehicles. The balance of vehi-

**RIGHT: Angola and the areas of occupation or activity by UNITA forces. If another major FAPLA/Cuban offensive is launched against UNITA's HQ at Jamba this year, some observers speculate Jamba may fall. That would be a hollow victory for the dos Santos regime as its lines of control, communications and logistics would be sorely stretched — a perfect target for UNITA's guerrillas.**

**FAR RIGHT: UNITA ambush of FAPLA resupply convoy. FAPLA/Soviet tactics call for major recon by fire into the bush surrounding the road during their advance; this tactic was negated by UNITA's stand-off firing points of one and three miles away. When the smoke settled, UNITA had won the brief battle.**

## BACKDROP OF WAR

To understand the war currently being waged between MPLA and UNITA forces in Angola, you have to go back 28 years to 1961. That's how long Angola has been a war-torn country.

In 1961 Angola, a Portuguese-controlled colony, saw the first uprisings of Angolan nationalists who were to struggle for 13 years to rid themselves of Portuguese colonial domination.

As the call for independence began to mount, three separate nationalist movements were formed:

- FNLA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola) led by Holden Roberto, supported by Western powers.
- MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) led by Aghostino Neto and backed by the Soviet Union and Cuba.
- UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) led by Jonas Savimbi. Not aligned to any particular international power, it received aid from various benefactors including China and other African states.

In 1974, after 13 years of fighting against Portuguese domination, Angola's future was suddenly altered when a coup d'etat in Portugal replaced the colonialist-orientated dictatorship of Marcello Caetano. The new rulers renounced Portugal's claim to its colonies and in May of that year they announced that free elections would be held in Angola and set the election date for 11 November 1974.

The MPLA, however, guided by its Soviet advisers, had other ideas. Supported by large numbers of Cubans, who had entered the country under the guise of "advisers" and "instructors" to the MPLA prior to elections, the MPLA began perpetrating hostile actions against FNLA and UNITA forces.

By 4 August 1974 incidents perpetrated by the MPLA against its two rival parties had escalated into full scale engagements, and the FNLA and UNITA found themselves fighting against a force backed by overwhelming superior weaponry (millions of dollars worth of sophisticated Soviet military hardware poured into the MPLA camp weekly) and a large force of Cuban troops who were in reality the MPLA's mercenaries.

Confronted with odds such as these, UNITA and FNLA forces were dealt blow after blow by communist forces and were slowly being defeated.

A temporary respite for the two desperate movements came when the South African Defence Force entered into the conflict in mid-1975 as a result of South Africa's fears of Cuban communist forces extending down to the borders of South African-controlled Namibia.

This respite was, however, short-lived as the South Africans, owing to international pressure, withdrew in early 1976 after penetrating as far as the Angolan capital of Luanda. They left behind them the still weak FNLA and UNITA troops with whom they had fought alongside against Cuban and

MPLA forces for the preceding months.

Defeat at the hands of the Soviet-armed MPLA and Cuban forces followed quickly.

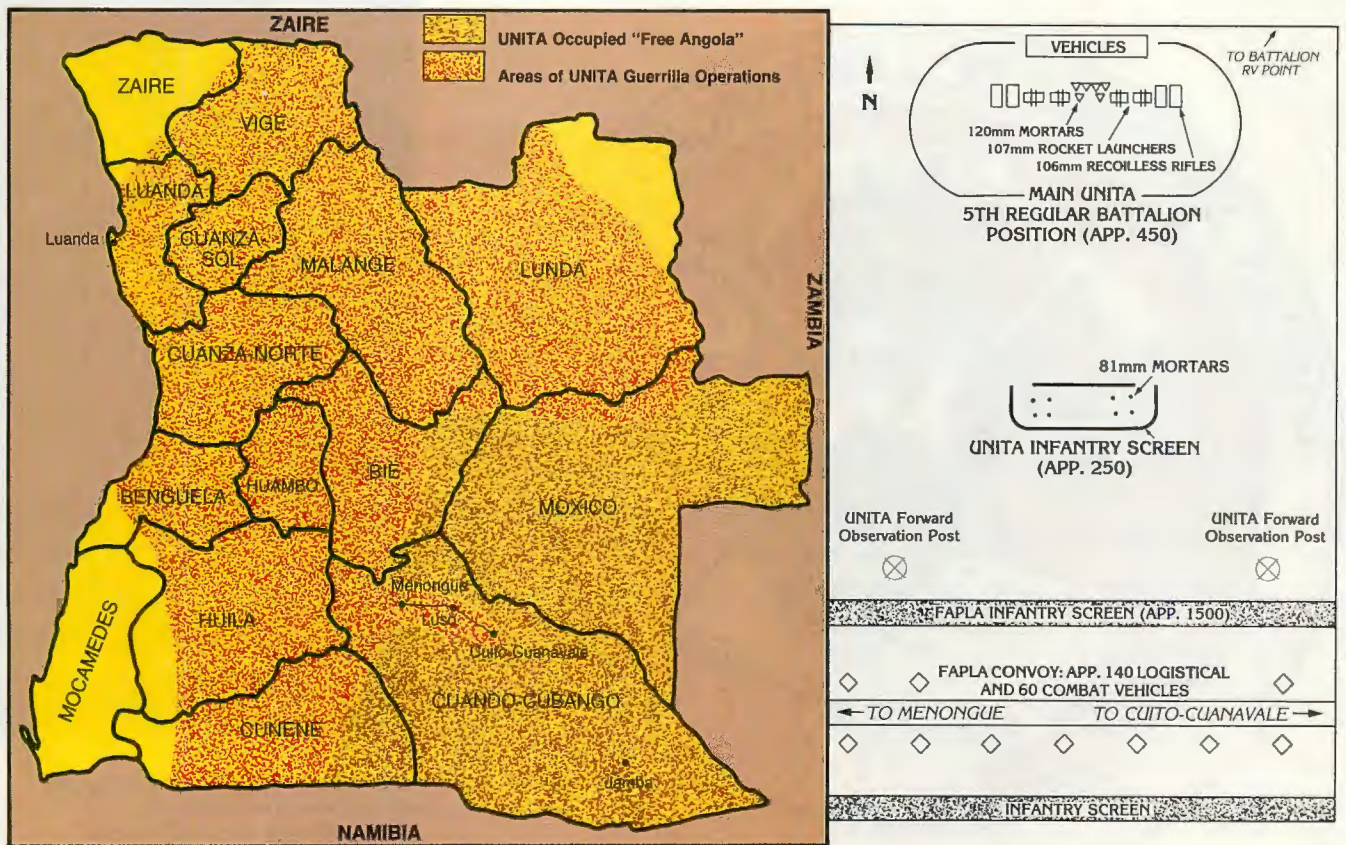
FNLA forces, all but annihilated, left Angola and entered Namibia where they formed the nucleus of the SADF's feared 32 Battalion.

UNITA entered into the remote bush regions of Angola and formed small groups with which to continue a guerrilla war against the self-proclaimed communist MPLA government of Angola.

Once in power, the MPLA set about reorganizing Angola's economy and work force according to communist principles. Owing to inherent failings within that economic system, especially when applied to Africa, as well as mismanagement and corruption, rife in government circles, this program was unsuccessful and has led the country to the brink of financial ruin.

The MPLA also agreed to the importing of large numbers of Cuban soldiers, surrogates of the Soviets, to aid and strengthen its military arm, FAPLA (Popular Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola).

The number of Cuban soldiers imported into Angola steadily increased until there were an estimated 50,000 Cuban troops resident in the country, and another estimated 15,000-20,000 Russian, East German and other Soviet-bloc "advisers." [Under terms of a tripartite agreement between Angola, Cuba and South Africa signed in New



York on 22 December 1988, Cuba was to cut back its forces inside Angola to no more than 47,000 by 1 April 1989; reduce that number to 25,000, all stationed north of the 13th parallel, by 1 November 1989; and complete its total troop withdrawal by 1 July 1991.]

As well as being a drain on Angola's economy, these foreign forces are extremely unpopular among the civilian population. They have reportedly murdered large numbers of civilians in "reprisals" against UNITA actions and have virtually become an army of occupation.

UNITA, on the other hand, is popular with a large percentage of the Angolan rural population.

After its entry into the bush in early 1976 UNITA spent several difficult years evading FAPLA and Cuban efforts to annihilate them, barely escaping with their lives and losing many men.

The charismatic leadership of Dr. Jonas Savimbi, however, changed that. Recently criticized for alleged assassinations of traitors, he is nevertheless a highly educated and strong fighting man. Savimbi obtained his doctorate from studies in Portugal and Switzerland prior to the 1961 Angolan uprising. As well as being fluent in many European and African languages and all Angolan dialects, he is a skilled soldier, politician and leader of men.

Savimbi set about reorganizing UNITA as a guerrilla-orientated force that would enjoy support and shelter

among the rural populations of Angola.

From UNITA's hideouts in southern Angola, he sent representatives into all parts of the country, explaining UNITA's principles, aims and policies to the civilian rural population.

At the same time he established training camps where his "old guard" of veteran soldiers started to train the first recruits of what was to become UNITA's army of FALA (Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola). Today this army numbers an estimated 60,000 well trained and equipped soldiers.

With the aid of the Angolan rural population — and using his by now larger, better trained and better equipped army thanks to captured weapons and donations from sympathetic European and African countries — UNITA started hitting back in earnest in the early 1980s.

The success enjoyed by UNITA in the period 1981-1988 has brought about the present situation where roughly 1/3 of Angola is completely under UNITA control. This liberated area is called "Free Angola."

Free Angola is virtually a country within a country. It has village and regional governments. UNITA has state-run agricultural schemes, schools, hospitals and trading centers. Basically, the area has a complete socio-economic and military infrastructure divorced from MPLA-governed land.

Furthermore, an estimated 80 percent of the country outside the liberated zone is guerrilla controlled. The only real

safety in this area for Cuban/MPLA forces lies in the garrisoned towns and the areas immediately surrounding these towns.

Revenue for UNITA's war effort and the funding of agricultural and medical schemes comes from both international donations and from UNITA-controlled diamond mines in Angola. Worthy of mention is that no one in UNITA — soldier, civilian or politician — receives a salary. All money obtained by the organization is pumped into the war effort and other essential systems. And the UNITA organization feeds, clothes and gives medical treatment to all its members free of charge.

UNITA has continuously offered MPLA President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Aghostino Neto's successor, an end to the civil war in return for free and fair elections. It is an offer which has always met with refusal. Recently Savimbi, placing the ball firmly in the MPLA's court, offered to distance himself from the peace initiative, thereby removing the last objection to negotiation with UNITA. At the time of this writing there had been no response to the latest offer, but there are few expectations that dos Santos will soften his stand.

It seems therefore that Savimbi will continue to wage guerrilla warfare against the communist government in an effort to force MPLA leaders to the conference table to resolve, by means of democratic vote, the future of Angola.



**ABOVE AND BELOW:** UNITA recruits undergo weapons training in a UNITA-occupied safe area. Although UNITA is primarily a guerrilla organization in terms of tactics, they're able to mount battalion-size ambush attacks using captured heavy conventional weapons. Photos: Geoff Collins



cle strength (about 60) consisted of Soviet T-55 and PT-76 tanks, BM-21 122mm multiple rocket launchers and armored fighting vehicles such as BRDMs, BTR-60s and BMDs. These are armored cars fitted with 12.7mm DShKMs, 14.5mm ZPU1s and ZPU2s as well as PKB, SGMB and PKT machine guns.

The tanks and armored fighting vehicles are equally spread among the log vehicles and among them are several armored flat-bed trucks mounting artillery pieces and mortars, which are ready for immediate firing.

As well as the fighting vehicles, there is a

**ABOVE:** Coat of arms of FALA, UNITA's army. Inscription on book reads: "Our credo is — combat, productivity and learning."

huge infantry protective element which, when in movement, walks patrol distance away from each other in an unbroken column of two on either side of, and at the front and rear of, the convoy.

This makes for an unbroken rectangle of almost 1,500 soldiers heavily armed with the latest in Soviet weaponry protecting the convoy.

## BUSH WAR — SOVIET STYLE

When discussing FAPLA (Popular Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola), one is not only speaking of the Angolan government's regular military forces, which number more than 60,000 men with all their paraphernalia of war, but one must also include the estimated 50,000 Cubans who operate with MPLA government forces on almost all occasions.

FAPLA/Cuban forces are probably one of the best equipped and supplied armies in Africa today. Their weapons, equipment and munitions are shipped to them in a never-ending supply from their masters in Moscow.

The extent and quantity of their very sophisticated and potent war machine is

greater than even some European and Latin American countries.

Modern tanks up to the T-64 range, armored fighting vehicles, all manner of troop transport and vehicles, artillery, missile systems, MiG jets of all description and huge numbers of helicopters — from Mi-8 Hips to sophisticated Mi-24 Hinds — are shipped in without hesitation to replace any losses that Angolan/Cuban military forces suffer.

The Soviets, in return for a valuable area of influence in the African subcontinent, have attempted to make "their" army invincible. These plans have failed dismally.

The failure of FAPLA to eradicate UNITA and its great losses can be attributed to two things: its reliance on conventional fighting tactics, and its failure to win the

support of the rural population.

FAPLA is totally conventionally orientated — structured into standard companies, battalions, regiments and brigades — and cannot fight against a more mobile guerrilla force that refuses to be enticed into a decisive battle where conventional weapons and tactics could triumph.

They rely on sheer numbers of men and equipment when fighting — a standard Soviet technique. In this they have committed a cardinal error: in the African bush the ability to move quickly and adjust planning rapidly, which is the guerrilla's forte, is impossible to implement when dealing with brigades of men with their tanks, artillery and support elements that make up such a force.

FAPLA has therefore been forced to



**ABOVE: Members of a UNITA commando take a break during ops. These recon men would shadow a FAPLA convoy, reporting its position to their higher command. Photo: Geoff Collins**

By day, with a combination of continuous air cover by MiGs and Mi-24s, the armored fighting vehicles and the massive infantry screen, such a convoy is an almost impossible target for UNITA forces. Apparently, though, daylight attacks have been made in extreme circumstances — with heavy loss of life to both sides.

UNITA, therefore, prefers to attack under cover of darkness — the guerrilla's ally. This they do by means of a stand-off bombardment, using artillery to destroy the communist vehicles from a distance and forcing the FAPLA reaction force to leave the defensive perimeter. They are thus forced to meet UNITA on its own terms, without the advantage of tanks and conventional forces that cannot effectively operate in the bush at night.

The preparation for today's action had

already begun. Six four-man teams — recon scouts of the 5th Regular Battalion — had left the position that morning to scout for suitable positions for UNITA's artillery. They were to select a number of positions, each with alternative positions. This would ensure that whatever deviance the convoy made from its estimated bivouacking position for the night, UNITA artillery would be able to move into position with the convoy in range of its mortars.

The recon teams were to select positions and then split up, with two men remaining on site. These men would join up with the UNITA commandos tailing the FAPLA convoy and report on the convoy's halting position that night. The other two men from each team were to make their way back to the 5th's position, to act as guides when the battalion moved into whichever position was closest to the overnight perimeter of the convoy.

The battle plan was now set. All that remained was for the convoy to move into its position for the night and for UNITA to approach within mortar range. What happened then would depend on the ferocity and accuracy of UNITA's bombardment — and FAPLA's reaction.

For the remainder of the day UNITA troops went through the motions of precombat preparation. One could feel the suppressed tension as they clustered in groups cleaning and oiling their rifles and machine guns, checking ammunition and machine gun belts. They moved carefully, staying under cover of the trees to avoid being spotted by the MiG 21s and 23s scouting overhead in front of the steadily approaching convoy.

The artillery that was going into action that night consisted of an incredibly varied selection of pieces. The smallest caliber pieces would be the 81mm mortars. They would deploy only one mile away from the outer defense perimeter of the convoy so as to be able, with their limited range, to fire effectively on the FAPLA vehicles. Five hundred yards ahead of them would lie a 250-man protection element to guard them against any FAPLA reaction force.

The remainder of the artillery was made up of Soviet 120mm mortars, small batteries of Chinese 107mm multiple rocket launchers and, incredibly, 106mm recoilless rifles being fired indirectly.

Because of their longer range these weapons would be concentrated three miles away from the FAPLA defensive screen. They would have with them the remainder of the battalion's infantry and vehicles.

By 1500 that afternoon we could already hear the approach of the convoy quite clearly. They were laying down a creeping artillery bombardment ahead and to the sides of the lead vehicles to discourage anyone from waiting close to the road in ambush positions.

Because we were out of range it had no effect on us in our present positions and the recon groups waiting by the road simply withdrew as the barrage approached them, returning to their positions when it had passed.

The barrage stopped just before 1700. UNITA's recon groups simultaneously sent word that the FAPLA column had stopped and that the position closest to the center of

resort to garrisoning the towns in areas under its control with great numbers of soldiers and men in defensive positions.

It does not move in UNITA-occupied rural areas and, when moving from town to town, does so in cumbersome, massive, well-armed convoys.

Since 1976, but with greater impetus since 1982, FAPLA has tried to eliminate UNITA through annual offensives. Starting in the dry winter season every year, huge mechanized and motorized armies advance southward into UNITA's liberated zone in an attempt to crush Savimbi's men between FAPLA forces and the Namibian border. So far these offensives have been a dismal failure.

By cutting off the FAPLA logistics train behind them and exhausting the enemy troops' supplies of ammunition and fuel in

ceaseless ambushes and attacks, UNITA forces have successfully routed the FAPLA offensives every year.

In 1987 the biggest confrontation of the 16-year bush war occurred when a Cuban army of immense proportions ventured south with FAPLA, only to be met on conventional terms and thrashed by South African Defence Force units who intervened on the side of UNITA to prevent Cuban forces from getting close to Namibia.

On equal footing with FAPLA's inability to win militarily is its inability to win the support of the majority of the civilian population in rural areas, most of whom oppose the MPLA government and are terrified of the FAPLA/Cuban soldiers' ruthless village reprisals and general contempt for civilian lives.

FAPLA's authority in many areas of Angola declines steadily. Having lost faith in the communist MPLA government and its Cuban allies — the theatrical scenes of weeping and cheering Cubans leaving Angola, giving rise to the impression that they bore the brunt of the war, has had a profound effect on FAPLA's morale — there have been large scale defections from FAPLA to UNITA ranks. Harsh measures enforce discipline in the communist army.

FAPLA forces, superior as they are in weaponry and numbers, are confined mainly to the cities and towns. Its soldiers can no longer venture safely into the Angolan countryside — unless in large numbers — without risking the too costly attacks and ambushes by UNITA's determined forces.



ABOVE: UNITA's coat of arms. Inscription at bottom means democracy and non-alignment.



LEFT: UNITA squad leader during preparations for ambush on FAPLA convoy. Weapon is Romanian AKMS with front grip sawed off to expedite the insertion of magazines during combat. Photo: Geoff Collins

the convoy, where most of the logistical vehicles were concentrated, was at recon group two's position.

Final orders were given by the battalion CO to his officers who, in turn, left to brief their troops.

Although everyone was now prepared to

leave at a moment's notice, another hour passed — until dusk — before we moved. This ensured that there would be no interference from the enemy air force, still flying shotgun above the convoy.

As the last rays of sunlight started to fade, the UNITA battalion began to move out. A company of infantry formed an extended

line in front of the column and we moved in a massive "T" formation, with the vehicles, carefully muffled for noise, and the rest of the men forming the tail of the "T."

At the point from where the 120mm mortars, 107mm rocket launchers and 106s were going to fire, the battalion halted and the 81mm mortar crews and their infantry protection element separated. They moved off toward their forward positions, the mortar crews carrying their mortars with the bombs being carried by the infantry.

We made our way silently through the trees and bushes. The infantry was in front shielding the mortar crews, who were maneuvering carefully with their bulky equipment to prevent any noise from the careless knocking of metal against metal or against a tree.

A silent hand signal was passed back and we stopped. The group commander indicated that this was the mortar firing position. Quickly and efficiently the mortar

## UNITA IN THE FUTURE

With the settlement of the independence question in Namibia and the projected withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola by 1991, there have been predictions of peace and prosperity returning to the region.

Yet, military observers both in Pretoria and abroad believe one of the major players in the game has been conveniently ignored and that unless UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi is part of any agreement, the prospects for peace in Angola are at best shaky.

Critics of the current negotiations — chiefly conservative U.S. interest groups and factions within the South African Defence Force (SADF) — claim the accord will signal the death of UNITA and without South African support the movement will invariably be faced with the prospect of extinction.

The facts, however, present a different picture and intelligence sources believe the deal will ultimately strengthen Savimbi's hand.

There is little doubt the MPLA government in Luanda believes that, without SADF support, UNITA will be defeated in a major conventional thrust.

Their conviction is based on the fact that SADF has had to rescue UNITA during every major offensive since 1985. As a conventional force the guerrillas simply do not measure up to FAPLA.

With the removal of the South Afri-

cans from southeastern Angola, Luanda believes its tanks and heavy armor will roll over the rebel resistance, through Mavinga and then on to Jamba, UNITA's capital. According to Pretoria intelligence sources, they are probably correct.

To FAPLA, the fall of Jamba will signal the end for UNITA and will be seen by Luanda as the final victory. However, in reality and in terms of military strategy, the significance will be more symbolic than practical.

The capture of Jamba is important only in that it will have taken the MPLA 14 years to achieve its objective and will offer splendid propaganda opportunities.

Part of the world's fascination with UNITA and Jonas Savimbi was undoubtedly due to the movement's achievements at Jamba. The "City" signified Savimbi's political base and strengthened his claims of already having the infrastructure to govern Angola. Journalists were shown hospitals, workshops, factories, sports fields and conference facilities at the town. It became a compulsory stop on the itinerary of any war correspondent and they loved it — and Savimbi knew it. He made sure visitors were impressed and worked tirelessly to ensure his bush-capital became the symbol of the struggle between Western ideals and communism.

Yet, in all truth, Jamba is little more than a cluster of reed dwellings and dusty roads. It serves little strategic purpose and with South Africa soon to be out of the game is really of no value to UNITA. In truth, Jamba is a millstone:

some 25,000 of the total 65,000 UNITA troops are required to guard it along with the surrounding "liberated" areas.

Although Savimbi has promised to fight to the last man to keep his capital, there is little doubt it will ultimately fall. Its transfer to MPLA control will undeniably weaken UNITA's standing in the international community but, from a military point of view, will be of little significance to the movement. The guerrillas will simply move into the bush and continue their campaigns.

In fact, some military strategists argue Savimbi will be better off without Jamba. Consider:

- Approximately 25,000 UNITA troops will be freed to fight the MPLA.

- The MPLA will be forced to defend areas that have little or no military value, resulting in a further commitment of already stretched manpower and equipment resources.

- UNITA will be forced to abandon its role as a semi-conventional force and return to its more usual role as a guerrilla army — a domain in which they have been singularly successful.

- Every gain made by Luanda is simply another target for UNITA's guerrillas.

- The MPLA will be hard pressed to protect economic targets without the aid of the Cubans. Savimbi believes this will ultimately force the Luanda government to negotiate with his movement.

However, South African military intelligence sources believe the Cubans are the wild card in the game and there is evidence that Castro is more than a little

crews fanned out into two groups of four mortar tubes apiece and started to erect their weapons quietly.

They were going to fire straight ahead on a compass bearing to the road, and rely on UNITA recon scouts, observing the enemy with their binoculars from the left and right flanks, to give corrections to their fire.

Meanwhile the infantry screen fanned out and disappeared into the undergrowth before us. They would move into a half-moon defensive position to our front and sides, making shallow shell scrapes in which to shelter from return artillery and mortar fire. They would also place banks of command-detonated claymore mines, prepared that afternoon, in front of their positions to use in case FAPLA counterattacked with infantry.

Suddenly the movement around me stopped. The preparation had ended. All that we waited for now was the order to open fire.

The order would be radioed; to prevent detection there was no speaking, only a series of clicks caused by the battalion commander depressing the "send" button on his radio.

I heard them clearly — three slow clicks — and watched as the group commander's raised hand came down and the first eight

white phosphorous bombs disappeared down the waiting mortar tubes.

The thump of the bombs shooting out of the tubes shattered the silence. I was momentarily blinded by the flames following the flying bombs from the tubes.

The fourth salvo of bombs was already in the air before I saw the flashes of the first impacting. Bright mushrooms of light strobed into the sky ahead of us followed seconds later by the sound of the first eight detonations.

Simultaneously, with an explosive bang, UNITA's 120mm mortars, 107mm rockets and 106mm shells cracked above us as they sped toward the still shocked enemy.

The noise was unbelievable with the thump of the 81s continuously firing and the commander screaming corrections to his crews. My ears were wrenched by the bang of the 120mms and rockets passing overhead, followed by the sound of them being fired, and detonations and flashes of light as the 81mm phos and 120mm high explosive bombs detonated on the FAPLA vehicles and men. The explosions hurled sheets of burning phosphorous and thousands of pieces of red-hot shrapnel into vehicles and men alike.

Through this deafening roar we saw, without hearing, a salvo of the infamous "red-eye" Russian BM-21 122mm rockets shoot into the sky and pass over us, their red tails spitting fire into the night.

FAPLA's reaction time was fast.

Aiming at UNITA's mortars' muzzle flashes, clear over a long distance when firing at night, they swung their own mortars and artillery into action.

All hell broke loose and the ground shook with the force of bombs and shells as FAPLA and UNITA tore up the ground, shattering trees, men and vehicles.

I saw a blinding flash and a ball of fire rise into the sky over the convoy, followed by a deafening roar. An ammunition truck had exploded. Illuminated by the fires of burning grass and vehicles ahead, tongues of fire and black diesel smoke started to fill the sky from the broken and burning FAPLA vehicles.

UNITA was also taking losses. Streams of "red-eye" rockets and D-30 cannon shells were passing over our positions toward the 120mm mortar site and now we started to take flak ourselves.

Judging that we were close to them,

*Continued on page 77*

reluctant to leave Angola. According to U.S. State Department figures, the Angolans pay approximately \$800 per month (revenue generated mainly from the oil-rich Cabinda area where, ironically, the main multinational companies are American) for each of the 55,000 Cuban soldiers. That in effect makes war Cuba's biggest export.

On the other hand, Cuban troop involvement in the Angolan civil war has presented Fidel Castro with the opportunity of portraying himself as a leader in the struggle against apartheid. Through a sophisticated propaganda machine he has successfully sold the idea that Cuba is in Angola to fight the "racist South Africans." Cuban regiments have, however, had very little contact with the SADF, rather having been deployed in the cities to guard key installations and in Cabinda. On the odd occasions when contact has been made they have been badly mauled by South African forces. In the period July 1987 to October 1988 alone, Cuban/FAPLA equipment losses totalled approximately \$1.5 billion. But it was South Africa's failure to take Cuito Cuanavale last year that presented Cuba with the opening to withdraw without losing face.

What happened at Cuito? SADF points out the military folly of taking a town offering no military or strategic advantages, while Cuba has successfully portrayed the incident as their victory.

Privately, military sources claim they were held back during the battle of Cuito Cuanavale by politicians who were loath to see conscripted national servicemen

killed or injured. "We could have taken the town if we were prepared to take the losses," an officer told me, "but the powers-that-be seemed afraid to make a full commitment.

"So we sat back and shot the shit out of them with the G5s. They (the Cubans) couldn't fly in or out or do anything so I suppose we achieved our objective, but I suppose it would have been better if we'd planted our flag in the town square. That way they wouldn't have been able to bullshit the world that we'd lost at Cuito."

In any event Cuito allowed the Cubans to leave with pride, real or imagined. Will they go?

There are indications the Angolans are keen to settle and begin the process of rebuilding the country. Sources close to Luanda claim most government leaders favor discussions with UNITA and would be glad to see the Cubans go as many believe Castro has hijacked the Angolan government. Yet there are problems: Cuban doctors, technicians, agronomists and teachers are keeping what little infrastructure there is going.

Where does this leave UNITA? Contrary to the arguments of some analysts, the organization is no puppet of South Africa. Had the Alvor agreement, set up when Portugal withdrew from from its former colony, remained in force there is little doubt UNITA would have won an election and Savimbi would today have been president of Angola.

According to *Africa* magazine, a nationwide poll taken by a Luanda newspaper in 1975 showed UNITA would

have won 45 percent, the MPLA 25, and the FNLA 20 percent of the votes had the promised elections been held that year.

The movement still enjoys widespread popular support in the country. This fact alone means it will be able to operate far and wide and hit economic targets in all 18 provinces — a fact borne out by recent sabotage attacks in Luanda itself.

UNITA's strategy will undoubtedly be to put pressure on the MPLA by attacking economic targets, a practice that has proven particularly successful in the past.

Diamond production has fallen nearly 60 percent in recent years and shows no signs of recovering. Angola, once said to be capable of being the Brazil of Africa in terms of coffee supplies, has seen annual production fall from 180,000 tons prior to independence to under 17,000 tons. Grain output has stagnated at around 300,000 tons for many years and, as a result, the country has had to import the same amount to feed its 8.2 million population.

As a result of the war, only two percent of Angola's 1.25 million square kilometers — more than twice the area of France — is cultivated.

This in effect means that if the Cubans withdraw their forces within the stipulated time frame, UNITA will have a shot at forcing the MPLA to negotiate.

But the key question — will Castro stick to the deal? — remains to be answered.

— Hilton Hamann

# OMAN'S DEAD

“**M**USTAHADIN ... Mustahadin ... Hajoom!”

On hearing the Arabic for “Standby ... Standby ... Go!” black-clad figures of the Sultan’s Special Forces (SSF) darted toward the darkened building. As they ran, pre-placed demolition charges blew the two doors off their hinges. At the same time, hooded figures in the bushes near the house fired tear gas grenades through the wooden shutters into the rooms where the terrorists were grouped.

Panting through their gas masks the assault troops crashed through the remains of the doors and hurled flash-bang grenades before them as they entered each room. Heckler & Koch MP-5 submachine guns fitted with laser target designators illuminated each target in the smoke and mist of the gas and grenade explosions. Bursts of automatic fire echoed throughout the inside of the building, adding to the cacophony. The wailing and screaming of petrified hostages further enhanced the nightmarish scene. “*Taht! Taht!*” shouted the black figures, urging the hostages to remain down, as they moved with surgical precision from room to room searching for hidden terrorists. A long burst of fire indicated that the last member of the Kalashnikov-armed terrorist group had been discovered and shot.

An SSF lieutenant gave a quick command into the microphone of the Cougar radio fitted inside his respirator. Hostages were picked up from their places of refuge and passed, none too delicately, from man to man to the support group waiting in the reception area outside.

Another quick message and the Omani lieutenant was joined by an identically clad figure, identifiable as a European only by his size. The two conferred briefly in Arabic and then the Omani saluted his squadron commander, pulled off his mask to expose a dark face dripping with sweat, and with a huge grin shouted to the other figures crouching throughout the building, “*Culas shebaab, kulshi addo muat. Burra.*” (It’s over boys, the enemy are all dead, let’s go.) Off came more masks exposing tired, sweating, grinning faces, as the Cobras of the Sultan’s Special Forces trotted proudly from the scene of another long but successful exercise.

Exercises can never replace operations, but in the world of counterterrorism, forces like the Cobras must constantly train to be ready for that day when real lives are at

Cobra team member boards a suspicious merchant ship at sea in the Arabian Gulf.

## Sultan’s Special Forces On Front Lines of Mideast Terrorism

Text & Photos by Matthew Lindsay



# LY SERPENTS



ABOVE: Helmet indicates this trooper with H&K MP-5 recently abseiled from chopper, one of the few times Cobras wear helmets.



Training staff at Cobra Regimental Headquarters in Dhofar, southern Oman.

## COBRA CORRESPONDENT

Author Matthew Lindsay has served in several armies around the globe in his 22-year military career and has seen action in Vietnam, Northern Ireland, South West Africa, Angola and Dhofar.

LEFT: Abseiling is only one of several heliborne assault techniques Cobras practice continuously.

stake and the bullets are not plastic. Even as this article was being written, the SSF Cobras were on standby in Oman's capital, Muscat, ready to assist the Kuwaiti government, if requested, in resolving the hijacking of a Kuwaiti Boeing 747 aircraft.

Responsibility for providing a counterterrorist force for Oman lies with the SSF regiment based in Dhofar in the south of Oman. The SSF recruits only from the wiry,

proud, aggressive mountain people of the south called *jebalis* (jebel is Arabic for mountain). Jebalis are naturals as irregular soldiers and adapt to the unorthodox ways of special forces easily. One squadron within the SSF is dedicated as the counterterrorist force. This squadron, the Cobras, has the only real operational task in the regiment and is on standby every day of the year.

There are 70 members in the Cobras and they are drawn from all fighting squadrons in the SSF. Soldiers may join the Cobras for two years after they have served two years in a regular unit and can pass a six-week training course. The Cobras have two operational teams and a small training troop. The training troop is composed of specialists who have demonstrated an aptitude for

Cobras gain entrance to Gulf Air 737 during training operation.



BELOW: Customized Land-Rovers, some armored, are used by Omani Cobras to assault aircraft.



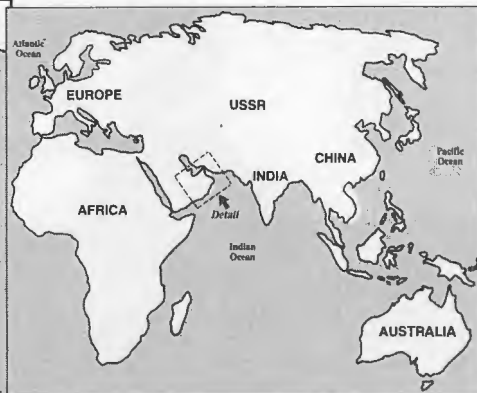
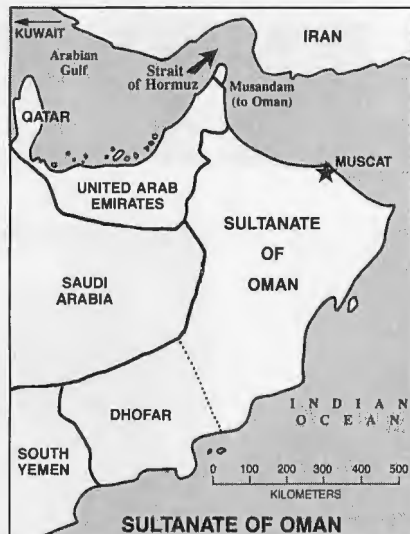




ABOVE: Unit insignia of Sultan of Oman's Special Forces — Cobras.

counterterrorist operations, and they remain on permanent staff at the squadron. They are either specialists in assault techniques, sniping, demolitions, methods of entry (MOE) or abseiling (rappelling).

Training cycle for new members of the Cobras begins early each year when a group of 30 starts the six-week course. This num-



Oman is a 1,000 mile long coastal plain at the southeastern tip of the Arabian peninsula. Dhofar Province makes up the southwestern half of the country.

ber is usually reduced to 26 by the end of the training term. First three weeks of training involve long hours in the "killing house" (an indoor range without a roof), where they

become experts with the weapons of the Cobra assault group. Their primary weapons are the H&K MP-5 SMG and the Browning High Power 9mm pistol. Other

## WARRIORS IN A LAND CALLED PEACE

Oman, the word, is thought to mean peace. If so, it is not a particularly appropriate term for a country that's seen battle, murder, massacre, piracy, treachery, slavery, and cruelty to an extent that at times is barely believable.

Oil was discovered in the Sultanate of Oman in the 1960s and exports began in 1967. The sultan at the time, Sa'id bin Taimur, did not share this newly found wealth with his citizens and the country labored on in conditions of great poverty. Taimur soon found the coolness of the Salalah Plains in Dhofar more to his liking than the cruel heat of Muscat, the capital in the north, and he spent more and more time there.

The Dhofaris, however, were becoming increasingly frustrated with the conditions under which they toiled. The Salalah Plains had once been a huge bread basket watered by an ingenious method of wells and irrigation channels (*falaj*). During World War I, the British armies in Mesopotamia (now Iraq), including their hundreds of thousands of horses and mules, were fed from this area. Taimur dynamited all these irrigation systems so that rebellious tribes would not gain sustenance from them. Now they were dry and arid. Naturally, this punitive action did not endear him to the Dhofaris and Taimur lived practically under siege in his palace.

Taimur's only son, Qabus, was trained at Sandhurst and served a short while in the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). When Qabus returned to Oman

in 1963 he was immediately put under house arrest in Dhofar by his father; Taimur no doubt remembered how he had overthrown his own father and was taking no chances with the prince. Qabus remained in custody for seven years until in 1970 he deposed his father. The coup was meant to be bloodless but Taimur, defending himself with a Mauser pistol, shot himself in the foot. Qabus banished his father to Britain where he lived in luxury until his death in 1972.

Qabus now embarked on a comprehensive program of economic and social reform which dragged Oman into the 20th century. His most immediate problem, however, was to contain and defeat what had grown into a major uprising in Dhofar. Like highlanders all over the world, Dhofar's Jebalis are fiercely independent. The flag of rebellion had first been raised in 1962 and the insurrection began in small ways, primarily by mining roads and sniping at patrols of the one army battalion stationed in Dhofar. The rebels soon persuaded more and more people to join them. Across the border in Yemen, a party for the liberation of the occupied Arabian Gulf (PFLOAG) had sprung up. This was changed to the party for the liberation of Oman (PFLO) after the British withdrew from Aden. PFLO was strongly communist and received heavy backing from the Chinese and Russians in the form of weapons, money and training. When Qabus took over the country the southerners were in a strong position and the army was unable to move against them except for daylight forays. Qabus' army prevailed, however, and victory against

the communist insurgents was declared on 11 December 1975.

It was a war that was won largely by the presence of British Special Air Service (SAS) soldiers and Omani irregulars called *firqat*. There were never more than 100 British officers and men training and leading these local irregular tribesmen against some 2,000 well-armed communists supported by, and operating from, Yemen. The Sultan's army units, which included an Iranian brigade, principally held and guarded fixed positions while the SAS and *firqat* took the war to the communists.

A large part of the SAS success with the *firqat* came from the simple fact that SAS soldiers feel at home with things unorthodox and the *firqat* irregulars were just that — generally undisciplined, untidy and selfish. They were also fearless and won the grudging respect of the SAS. Notwithstanding this respect, the *firqat* had no sense of water or ration discipline; "Allah will provide" they would say. Efforts to unite men of different tribes proved a dismal failure.

Not surprisingly, at the end of the war Sultan Qabus decided that he wanted a force of Omani special forces established along the lines of the SAS, the unit which had such a great effect on winning of the war. He also directed that only jebalis would be recruited into the Sultan's Special Force, as it was to be called. The logic behind the formation of a force composed of only jebalis is rather subtle. Here you have the element of Oman that has almost successfully rebelled and defeated the government now

weapons used are the Remington shotgun, Franchi Spas shotgun and 40mm grenade launcher. During this initial phase recruits are trained in use of the flash-bang and gas grenades, and various types of shotgun rounds, including gas, buckshot and solid-shot (for doors). They are also taught the characteristics of the various 9mm rounds available for their MP-5 such as armor piercing, subsonic, Glaser and tracer.

After the initial few weeks the group is divided and those who are better shots go on to be snipers. Snipers specialize in using the H&K PSG-1. This semiautomatic weapon is accurate up to 600 meters and Cobra snipers have to be able to guarantee a head shot at 400 meters. It is difficult to be accurate over 400 meters in the Middle East because the heat mirage makes target identification difficult. Snipers are armed with one PSG-1 for daytime and another for night use. The night version is fitted with a special sight for low-light intensification. Snipers also learn stalking techniques, how to give a commentary so they can be positioned near a terrorist stronghold and pass information



Cobra assault team hooks ladder to ship's stern during mock attack.

back to the remainder of the teams in the holding area, and how to conceal themselves in urban and rural terrain.

While the snipers are learning these skills the assault group is perfecting its entry techniques on buildings, vehicles and aircraft.

They also learn helicopter drills so they can skid-jump, fast-rope or abseil onto a target. Helicopters are provided by the Sultan of Oman's air force or the Royal Oman Police.

Final phase of training incorporates the various options available to counterterrorist teams to take down a target, either by storming a stronghold (a building, aircraft or vehicle), ambushing the terrorists as they move to another destination, or by a sniper volley. Each option is practiced until the techniques are perfected.

Then, and only then, do the recruits receive their coveted Cobra badge to be worn on the right sleeve of their uniforms. They are entitled to wear this badge only for the time they are attached to the Cobras. If they serve for two years continuously as Cobras they are presented with a metal cobra which is a permanent award and is worn on the chest, on dress uniform, above the SSF para wings.

The Cobras are commanded by an ex-SAS officer and the training officer is an

*Continued on page 72*

incorporated into an exclusive unit based in the center of its own recruiting area — and well away from the center of government in Muscat. He then decreed that this new regiment would wear the beret of imperial purple.

The initial organization of the unit was one squadron of about 100 trained soldiers drawn mainly from the old firquat of the war days. Training was somewhat basic but after two years, the essentials of a competent regiment were established. The regiment has expanded rapidly over the last two years and now has seven squadrons. This expansion is for social welfare reasons as well as political. The jebalis will not take up any manual trades, as they feel such employment is beneath them. So, joining the regiment of the jebel provides them with employment, virtually for life. The high number of Indian noncoms, the support staff as they are euphemistically known, do the menial work that the jebali soldiers refuse to do.

All soldiers in the Sabre, or combat, squadrons are parachute trained by the Oman Parachute Regiment based in Muscat. Once basic tactical training is finished they are required to jump three times a year to maintain combat status. The regiment is organized along SAS lines with three or four troops in a squadron, and a troop being 20 strong.

There are two squadrons equipped with desert Land-Rovers. These vehicles carry 7.62mm FN or .50 caliber machine guns and have a crew of three. There is a newly formed boat squadron which is equipped with rigid inflatables and one fast-attack craft. This squadron

is mainly manned by Dhofaris with negro blood as they seem to be the only ones who will go into the sea willingly.

There is a heavy weapons squadron which has 81mm mortars, 60mm mortars and 106mm recoilless rifles (RCL). The RCLs are a recent addition, having been thrown away by most modern armies. They are being fitted to short-wheel-base Land-Rovers and I suspect the main reason for their existence is to look impressive driving past on the Sultan's parades. Their enormous backblast signature makes them very vulnerable in the desert. SSF also has a counter-coup role in the event of an attack upon the Sultan's rule.

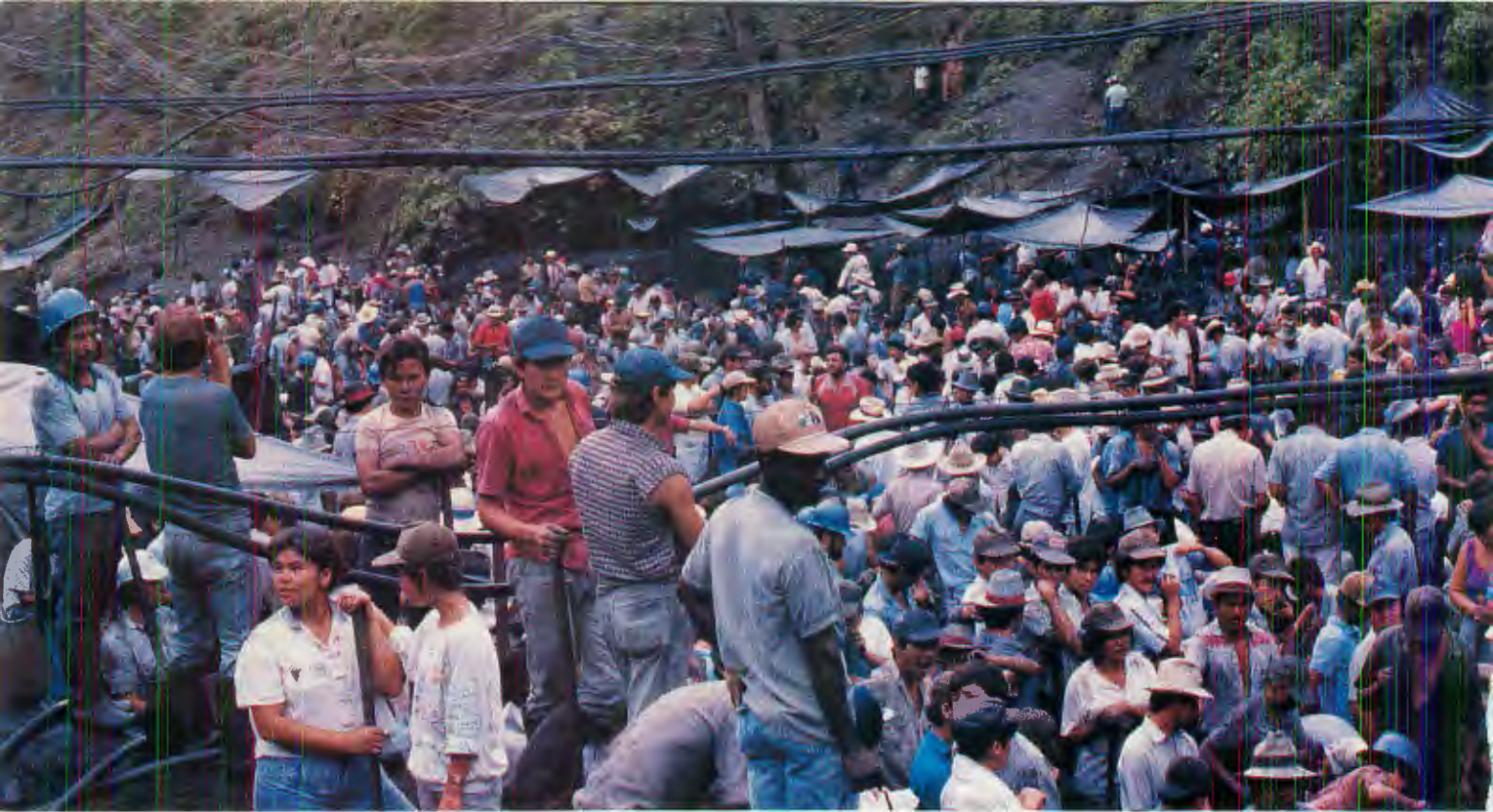
Regular SSF squadrons are armed with Colt M16A2s with various adaptations issued to specialist personnel. The boat troops use the carbine or Colt Commando; M203 grenade launchers are also issued within squadrons as necessary. The final, and only truly operational squadron, is the counterterrorist force called the Cobras.

The administration of the unit comes under the Headquarters Squadron. Most of this squadron are Indian tradesmen who provide the administrative backup to Sabre personnel. There is also a Gurkha guard force responsible for security of the unit base. The jebalis find it impossible to forbid their civilian friends and relatives from wandering into the camp whenever they wish. The Gurkhas have no such problem!

Training cycle for the regiment, although based on a 12-month period, has a number of restrictions imposed on it, some caused by climatic conditions

and some caused by cultural or religious requirements. The jebalis are muslims and as such fast during daylight hours in the month of Ramadan. During this month they cannot eat, drink or smoke during daylight. As a result they are unable to train in the day and refuse to work at night. Also, the jebali is reluctant to leave his family or the task of keeping his camels or cattle and therefore it's difficult to get him to go into the field for more than a week at a time. During the three month *khareef* (monsoon) when it is impossible to train because of the permanent mist, training cannot be carried out away from the jebel for any length of time without potential cause for mutiny — a not infrequent event. There have already been four mutinies since 1978. The training year therefore has one-third taken off almost immediately. Then there are the 40-plus days for annual leave, which cannot include religious leave. Religious leave can be up to another month each year. The time available for training in the year is never more than six months — and most of that has to be retraining. The standard of training therefore remains at a very basic level.

The general opinion in the Gulf and elsewhere is that the special forces of Oman are good in relation to their neighbors. Unfortunately, jebali officers and soldiers are not particularly well motivated and the older expatriate contract officers are not forward thinkers — two essential requirements of a true special force.



**SOF ADVENTURE**

# GREEN

**C**OLOMBIAN emerald czar Gilberto Molina and 17 associates lay face down in pools of blood — gunned down by fatigue-clad assassins while attending a party at Molina's ranch. Although famous for being the richest emerald merchant in Colombia, Molina was rumored also to be involved in the drug and death-squad activities of the infamous cocaine trafficker Jose Gonzolo Rodriguez Gacha, aka "El Mexicano."

Who were the assassins? FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) had tried to kill him twice before because of his involvement with anti-communist paramilitary groups, but a man with his connections and activities makes many and varied enemies. We may never know who killed him. Violence and death are part of doing business in Colombia, especially if your business happens to be emeralds.

Emeralds are commercially mined in countries as diverse as the Soviet Union, Australia and Zimbabwe, but 90% of the world's supply comes from Colombia. The United States imports the largest quantity of the gems, but falls a distant second behind Japan in the value of emeralds imported. Tecminas, Coexminas and Esmeracol operate mines on government-owned land near the towns of Muzo, Cosquez and Chivor,



# FIRE



## SOF Catches Colombia's Emerald Fever

Text & Photos  
by Lance Motley

### KILLED IN ACTION

SOF Foreign Correspondent Lance Motley, better known to SOF readers by his nom de plume Gene Scroft, died on 31 May as a result of wounds he received while on assignment covering the Karen rebels in Burma. Lance had been associated with SOF since 1986, traveling world wide to bring us some of our finest adventure stories and combat reports.

**LEFT:** Worth more than most prospectors expect to see in a lifetime, this bag of uncut stones was carried without escort across Bogota by the lady who ran the shop.

**RIGHT:** Stones from the mines and from the *guaqueros* find their way to the emerald companies in Bogota.

but it is an open secret that mining companies report only a fraction of what is found in order to bypass government taxes. Emeralds worth over U.S. \$93 million were officially exported in 1988, but government officials admit that this is only about a third of the gems actually sold.

The undisputed center of the emerald trade is the town of Muzo, located some 90 kilometers north of Bogota. Muzo is a mecca



for thousands of privateers, known as *guaqueros*, who seek their fortunes near the Techminas and Coexminas digs. The mines themselves are about 20 minutes outside of town and have been active since the early colonial period. The companies extract the emeralds by terracing down the weathered, black bituminous limestone host rock of the mountainsides meter by meter, and hydraulicking the gems free. Once the mining

Thousands of *guaqueros* toil among the tailings from the large mines, hoping to find the big one that was missed by the company.

companies have searched the black host rock, the tailings are simply pushed into the narrow Animas river valley, where thousands of *guaqueros* scramble to glean any emeralds missed by the mines. There are many.

The *guaquero* diggings are not like the women-hungry, adults-only mining camps of the California and Alaskan gold rushes. Here it's a family affair, where mom and pop, the kids and even grandparents dig together for their fortunes. I saw children as young as seven, amputees, and even some pregnant women standing in the inky-black water searching for the elusive gems. From daylight to dark they use shovels to turn rocks washed down by the river or by the hundreds of hoses that redirect mountain water into the valley. If a little green crystal is found embedded in the rock it is meticulously tapped out with a hammer and, like a dip of tobacco, placed 'tween cheek and gum for safekeeping — a necessary precaution. With so many people searching for so few stones, violent theft is endemic.

Weapons are openly and universally carried at the diggings. Nine-millimeter auto-loaders, nickle-plated .45s with extended magazines or .38 revolvers protrude from every waistband. The hard-won earnings of this place are not to be easily forfeited. If you visit the digs I suggest that you not get into a pissing contest with any of the locals, or you'll wind up dead before you can utter your first curse. At least six shots were fired while I was there and no one even bothered to look up. A *guaquero* told me that it was "probably just somebody practicing" but somehow I don't think that their reaction would have been any different if the target had been someone's head — nothing to stop work over.

*Guaqueros* always share a sad tale when asked how much they make at diggings. "I haven't found an emerald in months" is the common refrain, but the solid gold chains they wear around their necks and the packets of emeralds they inevitably produce for sale make me doubt these claims of poverty. While many *may* barely eke out a living, it must take a lot of emeralds to motivate thousands of people to work knee deep in black muck day after day. The fact that the world's largest emerald, a monster weighing 16,020 karats (about 7 lbs), was found at Muzo is also one hell of a motivator.

*Guaqueros* usually sell the emeralds they glean back to the mines (I wonder if these stones are reported to the government?). A small stone of medium quality might fetch about \$60 (U.S.) but *guaqueros* have told me that emeralds worth over \$3,000 (U.S.) are not uncommon.

As in any mining area, the merchants are here in force. Makeshift restaurants, bars and gambling halls line both sides of the valley and jewelry sellers wander through



**ABOVE:** The raw stones are chemically cleaned, then faceted on a diamond lap. Small stone at lower right is worth more than larger stones in picture (approx. U.S. \$9,000 according to company), because of its clarity and deep color.

the diggings advertising their wares over bullhorns. No costume jewelry here, only real gold. Unlike the gouging typical of most boomtowns, merchants here at the diggings charge prices which are competitive with prices in the surrounding towns. This

may be a result of the well-armed population — I doubt a shopkeeper would be anxious to overcharge a patron who has a 9mm Beretta tucked under his belt.

All this free-lance, free-enterprise bustle ends abruptly at the head of the valley where the mining company leasehold begins. A handful of company men aggressively display their handguns to ward off trespassers, but this meager show of force isn't what holds the *guaqueros* back. What keeps them

**BELOW:** Handicapped *guaqueros* are allowed to work the richer tailings closer to the company property. Armed company men (in hardhats, to rear), keep other *guaqueros* at bay.



**ABOVE:** Even children put in long hours — there are no child labor laws in Muzo. This little girl digs in her school uniform.

from the richer diggings is the sure knowledge that murderous retribution by the mining companies would follow any crossing of that invisible line.

Raw emeralds that are not sold in bulk to foreign buyers end up in the cutting rooms of Bogota and Barranquilla. After the stones are cleaned with solvent and nitric acid they

## THE DEVIL'S TRIAGE — DRUGS, DEATH SQUADS, AND GUERRILLAS

A month after Molina's murder, over 100 bodies of leftist supporters were found buried on a ranch owned by Molina's long-time friend and emerald colleague Victor Carranza. The heavily defended ranch was occupied only after the anti-drug police called in helicopter gunships and killed nine of its defenders. The reason for the unexpectedly stiff resistance became clear when the police discovered that the ranch contained an extensive paramilitary training facility, complete with underground firing ranges, arms warehouses and even torture chambers. It was obvious many of the victims suffered hours of pain before their "execution."

After the raid, the Colombian government released information collected from captured documents and informers, indicating that British and Israeli mercenaries under the command of a Brit called "Colonel Peter" trained rightist paramilitary groups at the site in body-guard and bomb-making techniques and marksmanship. One of the techniques described in captured documents was called the "ice bomb," which was a

pinless hand grenade frozen into a block of ice. When the ice melts the spoon is released and the grenade detonates. Instant time bomb!

Colombia's rightist paramilitary groups are largely under the control of the cocaine cartels. At the top of the command pyramid sits Jose Rodriguez Gacha ("the Mexican") who acts as the enforcer for the Medellin cartel. Also involved are emerald barons like Molina and Carranza who provide local control and facilities to the groups.

In other areas of Latin America, notably Peru, there is some cooperation between the narcos and the guerrillas but in Colombia these factions are at war. The conflict initiated when the cartels refused to pay extortion money to guerrilla groups in the coca growing and processing areas. The violence has increased in recent years as the narcos intensify their land buying efforts as a means to gain legitimacy in Colombian society.

The cartel control of right-wing death squads has proved an embarrassment to the Colombian army. Historically the army has viewed such groups as useful allies in the fight against communism, but their transformation into private drug armies have made them as great a threat to the government as are the guerrillas. These shifting alliances are demonstrated by the background of a paramilitary defector who

provided much of the government's information about the death squads. He says that he was a communist guerrilla for the M-19 movement when he was captured in 1980. The army then recruited him for a paramilitary group that was part of "the Mexican's" network. Communist-turned rightist-turned-narco? Clearly the battle lines in Colombia are not distinctly drawn.

Though military/death-squad cooperation has been severely strained by the narco connection, it is not yet completely dead. A military contact of mine offered to introduce me to members of a paramilitary group that was about to conduct a major operation. The meeting was never arranged but two weeks later the vice president of the UP (Patriotic Union), Colombia's legal leftist party, was gunned down in the Bogota airport. The rain of bullets also seriously wounded a respected liberal party senator. To this day I wonder if this was the operation that I had been invited to attend.

The discovery of the training site and burial ground has exposed the paramilitary groups for what they are — violent drug armies. While this may cause a reordering of the right and left factions in the country, it is doubtful whether it will mitigate the killing. Political extremism, drugs and murder are part of the very fabric of Colombian society. The future does not bode well for peace.

are cut (or more accurately "shaped") on a rotating diamond-embedded lap plate. The emerald is fixed to a metal rod with a putty-like dop and faceted and polished on the lap by a cutter who tries to follow the natural lines of the stone. Most often the finished stone is rectangular in shape but tear-drop shapes are also common. This process dramatically increases the value of the original stone. A note here to potential buyers: it is much safer to buy finished rather than raw stones, as it is very difficult to determine the quality of an emerald until it has been cut.

Stones not destined for the jewelry stores are sold on the street by an army of well-dressed salesmen who have never heard of the soft-sell. At the corner of Bogota's Seventh Avenue and 13th Street you are constantly assaulted by men brandishing handkerchiefs full of glistening emeralds. This practice is technically illegal because it bypasses government controls and sales taxes, but it is too widespread and too profitable to be stopped. This reality is blatantly illustrated by the fact that Bogota's street market is located directly across from a police station.

Three factors determine the value of an emerald: color (the deeper the green the more it's worth), clarity (lack of internal flaws known as "inclusions"), and of course, size. If a jeweler tells you that an emerald is worth more because it has a beautiful "garden" tell him he is full of it. A garden is nothing more than inclusions in the stone — in other words, imperfections. If you are really serious about buying emeralds, avoid the street vendors and purchase them directly from the wholesale cutting



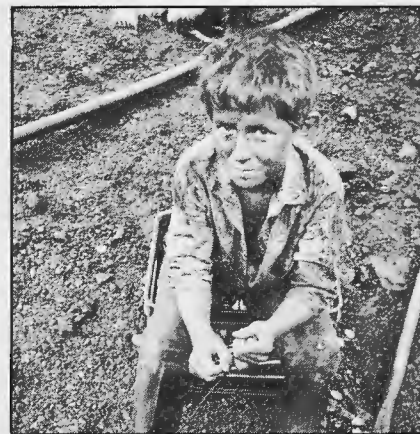
**ABOVE:** At Muzo, everybody digs and everybody has an equal chance to find the big one.

shops. You will get better stones at a better price. Back in the States expect a 40% to 50% markup on good quality gems. Of course, profit margins are cut if you report your purchase to the Colombian authorities and pay the required five percent tax. Luckily, there are no import duties on emeralds in the United States, so although an airport customs agent may be dazzled by your bag of gems you aren't liable for any duty on them — and you won't end up in jail as you would if you were bringing in Colombia's other popular export.

If the profit and glamour of the emerald

trade tempt you to forego small purchases and move directly into the world of high-volume transactions, a wise first investment would be a protective vest. The big movers in this trade live precarious and often short lives. Just ask Gilberto Molina, the emerald czar of Colombia.

Emeralds are gems of mystery and beauty. Through the ages they have adorned everything from Spanish crosses to Muslim daggers and they carry with them a history of grandeur and struggle. So the next time you buy an emerald necklace for your lady or a ring for yourself look closely at the stone, you just might see the sweat, tears and blood that have been sacrificed at its altar — the altar of the green god. ✕



**As in boom camps everywhere, merchants and vendors service the miners. Here this hard-working young fellow lugs a case of Cokes in search of customers.**

## RELATED MINERALS WORTH A BERYL OF MONEY

The precious gems emerald (colored green by traces of chromium), morganite (colored pink by traces of cesium) and aquamarine (colored blue to blue-green), are the Park Avenue cousins of the mineral beryl. Beryl is essentially beryllium aluminum silicate —  $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18}$  — and is the primary ore of the strategic metal beryllium.

Associated gem/minerals are chrysoberyl and green beryl ( $\text{BeAl}_2\text{O}_4$ ), which is most valuable in lemon-yellow as the "Yellow Beryl" of the gem trade. The less desirable yellowish-green chrysoberyl is heated to turn it green, and is then marketed as emerald (which it is not), and the green beryl is heated to turn it blue, and is then marketed as aquamarine (which it is not). True emerald is also synthesized, and is difficult to detect from high-quality natural (clear) gems, except that it will fluoresce deep red under a black light, whereas a natural stone will not.

Beryl is usually found in various granitic rocks, especially pegmatite (coarse-grained granite) dikes, and in

gneiss and mica schist formations. In the mines near Muzo, which have been in production since the 1500s, it is found in veins and dikes which cut through a dark bituminous limestone host rock (which is why everything in sight is black). The most common occurrence of ordinary beryl is as small, scattered crystals in pegmatite, but single crystals seven feet across or 27 feet long have been found — one weighed some 70,000 pounds. Even mineral-quality beryl in crystals this size is very rare, and gem-quality beryl has never been found in crystals which weighed more than several pounds. By far the bulk of available beryl is merely of mineral-quality, and in small crystals.

Until about 1925, nobody really cared that most common beryl was in small disseminated crystals, because there were no known uses for beryllium. But that has changed and now most of the money in the beryl trade is in ores of beryllium, rather than emeralds, as beryllium is a strategic metal used in exotic alloys of copper and in steels, and with several applications in various nuclear devices for which there is no substitute.

Gem beryl is found in the United States in Maine, Connecticut, New

Hampshire, North Carolina, Colorado (aquamarine) and California (morganite). Golden beryl is also found in the northeastern states. Non-gem (common) beryl mineral is found in Maine, South Dakota and Arizona, where it is mined commercially as beryllium ore. Recently the market has been such that prospectors in Arizona were forsaking their quest for gold and hand-picking beryl crystals from pegmatite dikes in the Bradshaw mountains. Buying stations were set up to service them, with field prices running over a dollar a pound.

A beryl crystal is typically six-sided (like a pencil) and will break flat across the crystal. Common beryl is usually translucent-to-opaque, pale yellow, greenish to brown, sometimes bluish. There are over 20 beryllium-bearing minerals, but only beryl is a viable ore. A few years back a husband and wife team found a single crystal in the eastern Bradshaws about the size of a compact car. It was hanging out of a road cut, and they recognized it by its six-sided shape. Any time one can sell a rock the size of a Volkswagen for a buck a pound, one should. And they did.

— Don McLean



**ABOVE:** Muj fighter armed with folding stock Kalashnikov at Karez-e-Kabir.

**RIGHT:** Muj hit airport with captured multibarrel rocket launcher at night.



# **FURY AT JALALABAD**

**Muj Guerrillas Face  
Baptism of Fire As  
Conventional Warriors**

Text & Photos by Mike Winchester



**ABOVE:** Armed with RPGs and Kalashnikovs, muj man firing line at the airport.



**LEFT:** Muj pound airport with captured MBRL.

**BELOW:** Mujahideen move up to front line in Khosgumbad.



## OLD AFGHAN HAND

Mike Winchester, a Bangkok-based combat journalist, has covered wars all over the globe. His most recent stories for SOF have been filed from Pakistan

and Afghanistan. As an old hand at covering the war in Afghanistan, Winchester's stories provide an understanding of the conflict and the people unmatched by most other Afghan correspondents.



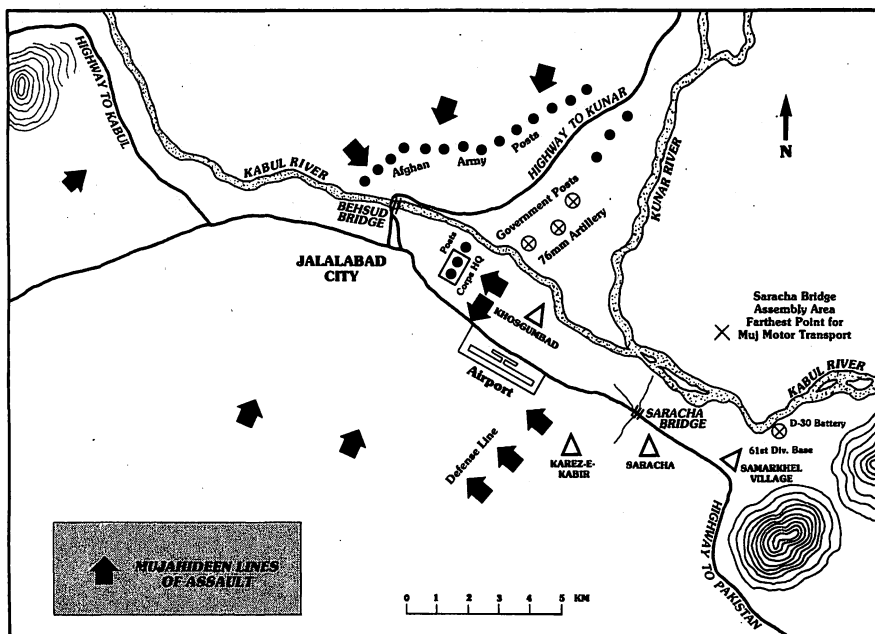
**A** GAINST the din of outgoing recoilless and RPG fire, I was only half aware of the first tank round. It came in on a low, flat trajectory, impacting short in the field a good 100 meters off to the right. But there was no missing the second.

It exploded close to the house with a deafening crack that left my ears ringing. The air was thick with dust, smoke, leaves and confused shouting as guerrillas scrambled for cover. My first thought was that the muj with the tanker's helmet who'd been firing an 82mm recoilless had to be dead. But God was with him that day: the low mud wall he'd been crouched behind took most of the blast. The rest shredded the tree. One piece of shrapnel found his shoulder. He staggered back across the open ground like a drunkard, dazed, bleeding and oblivious to the rounds snapping though the branches above him — but still hefting the 82.

Once he was behind the farmhouse out of direct line of fire, another fighter took the recoilless from him. He and two others with RPGs formed a loose fire team and prepared to move back out. Ducking across open ground the first guerrilla was down under cover of the wall. Then, crouched low, the others made their dash. Slinging my camera bag onto my back, I followed. Once behind cover again, we spread out fast along the wall. A couple of Kalashnikov-wallahs joined us, dodging and splashing along an irrigation ditch that flowed through what a few days before had been a peaceful suburban farm. It was now the front line in the battle for Jalalabad, Afghanistan's second city and the key to Kabul.

Three hundred meters of open field and the strip of tarmac that was the main highway into the city now separated us from government positions, some already ablaze. On the further side of the road was the airport, linchpin of regime defenses on the eastern flank of the embattled city. From the farms where the muj had taken forward positions, hangars, buildings and bunkers along the perimeter were clearly visible. And hidden in the treeline somewhere was at least one angry T-55 battle tank.

On the afternoon of 20 March, Jalalabad's eastern defenses were under the heaviest pressure they'd faced since the beginning of the battle. Since 0930 muj multiple barrel rocket launcher (MBRL) batteries had been pumping salvos of 107mm rocket fire into both the airport and the nearby corps headquarters without respite. Further to rear in the overrun 11th Division base at Samarkhel, Soviet D-30 122mm artillery pieces were also pounding the two strong-points that now stood between the advancing guerrillas and the city. This was the heaviest artillery barrage of the battle, the air constantly alive with the whistle-crump of falling shells. In several years working in Afghanistan, I've seen a fair spread of action. But this was something new. As I crouched behind that wall watching Jalalabad Airport burn and waiting for the next T-55 round, it was uncomfortably obvious that this was no hit-&-run guerrilla skir-



**Mujahideen lines of assault around Jalalabad during 20 March offensive.**

mish. I was on the sharp edge of a conventional conflict in which the stakes for everyone were suddenly very high.

The speed at which the battle for Jalalabad escalated had surprised even the muj. In a dramatic move that catapulted Jalalabad onto the front pages of newspapers across the globe, the mujahideen had opened their attack on 6 March. In a brief 48 hours, forces loyal to the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan (NIFA) punched through the outermost defense line at Surkh Dewal (Red Wall), a good 20 clicks from the city proper. Then they pushed on to overrun posts on the heights overlooking the Afghan Army 11th Division base at Samarkhel and the plain of Jalalabad beyond. With Samarkhel under fire from above, the triumphant guerrillas swept on down the highway toward the city, encircling the sprawling base in a pincer movement (see map).

Until May 1988, Samarkhel had been home to the Soviets' 66th Motor Rifle Brigade. Much of that unit's equipment had been handed over directly to the Afghans at the beginning of the Soviet pullout. The base's fall on the evening of 8 March after brief but intense fighting, handed to the guerrillas not only hundreds of prisoners, but also scores of still serviceable trucks, armored vehicles, and MBRLs — along with two fully operational D-30 batteries. Speed, audacity and brittle regime morale made for the guerrillas' biggest coup in a 10-year-old war.

From Samarkhel to the airport is a short six clicks down a straight tree-lined road that cuts across lush paddy fields. Moving up it a few days later, evidence of desperate regime counterattacks was still fresh: the gutted hulk of a BMP, the charred remains of two soldiers by its rear hatch, T-55s bogged in hurriedly dug emplacements by the roadside, a couple of BTR-60s, aban-

doned by crews who still lay where they'd been cut down as they ran.

By 10 March the mujahideen had reached the airport perimeter defenses, and began infiltrating around them, moving into a belt of villages called Khosgumbad that lies between the Kabul River and the northern edge of the airport. The battle had carried them to the airport and the corps HQ, with the city just two clicks away. But at that point the advance stalled, its headlong momentum exhausted, and the guerrillas without supplies or plan for further attack.

Now, a week later, across the open fields in front of us were some of the toughest units Najibullah could muster. Samarkhel had been an army installation, and the average Afghan conscript has never had much stomach for fighting the muj. The airport was a different ball game. In days leading up to the offensive of 20 March, regime forces had broken through the roadblock of the Kabul-Jalalabad highway, two convoys reaching the city. And even though the airport was now closed and under almost constant fire, Mi-6 and Mi-8 transport choppers could still reach the city itself. A few days before, sitting up at an artillery OP on heights above Samarkhel with a panorama of the battlefield spread out below, I'd watched them through field glasses, as many as 10 in line, thumping in low over the city in tightening circles to disappear amid the trees of Bagh-e-Shahi Park.

With the choppers and convoys came reinforcements, including units of the presidential Special Guard along with committed communist party activists. Many were rushed directly to the points of greatest vulnerability on the two most critical fronts: the airport and corps HQ to the east, and posts screening the Behsud Bridge to the north. Spanning the Kabul River and linking the city to the hotly contested Behsud District, the bridge was critical to the defense of Jalalabad.

Already in and around the city were

several thousand troops of the 9th Division; the remnants of the 11th that had fled Samarkhel; a Border Guards brigade; two tribal regiments; and numerous militia who, along with their families, had moved into the city from outlying districts. All together, Western intel sources reckoned that by mid-March there was a total of around 17,000 troops — a lot of them with good reason to believe the consequences of capture would be exceedingly unpleasant. Around the city were maybe 15,000-20,000 muj. You can draw your own conclusions.

A week around Samarkhel and the airport had been more than enough time to assess the performance of the regime's air force. In an effort to stem the guerrilla tide in what was now the most critical battle of the war, Kabul was pulling out all the stops. Save on days of thick clouds, MiG-21s and Su-22s pounded the FEBA (Forward Edge of Battle Area) around the airport and Behsud Bridge in relentless dawn-to-dusk sorties. Then they were back for more after dark. Favorite targets were Samarkhel — which was difficult to miss — and the villages of Karez-e-Kabir and Saracha close to the airport where a spine of high ground allowed the muj to overlook the eastern end of the runway.

In the first days as fighting swept over Samarkhel, the MiGs were coming in low with a wild courage that even won the muj's grudging respect. But after losing a couple of jets to Stingers — in abundant supply round the city — the jets backed off and began dropping ordnance from 12,000-15,000 feet.

Accuracy suffered, but with more than 15,000 guerrillas camped out around the city, pin-point precision was not a high priority. Casualties mounted steadily and by the end of March the muj had already taken at least 500 dead with probably 1,200-odd WIA — not huge losses by any means, but psychologically wearing on fighters used to melting away into the hills. Their response to this was all too often to claim that the sky was full of either Soviet MiG-27s — which have a nasty reputation for high-level accuracy — or that if they were 21s, they were piloted by Indians based in northern Afghanistan. This nonsense failed to cut much ice beyond Jalalabad. But it did reflect the dangerous tendency still to underestimate their enemy. The assertion that Afghan government pilots have neither courage nor competence may coincide with the muj perception of what their enemy ought to be, but it certainly doesn't help them form an objective assessment of what he is.

The regime also stepped up battlefield use of SCUD missiles. These are Kabul's version of Hitler's V-2. And the logic is similar to that of 1944 Germany: when backs are to the wall, reach for the big one. SCUDs are not going to change the course of the conflict, but they are rattling a few windows and giving armchair strategists in Pakistan pause for thought. The question is usually posed in pretty basic terms: if push comes to shove — as it may yet — can a



Muj watch airport burning in distance.

SCUD fired from Kabul reach Peshawar? Or, more interestingly from a diplomatic perspective, Islamabad?

What is now well established is that it has no trouble reaching Jalalabad. At the top of Kabul's hit list as the battle 'round the city raged was the Ghaziabad farm. This is — or was — an extensive "model" institution built by Ivan before the war to house joyful Collective Peasants and do to Afghanistan's agriculture what 70 years of socialism have done to the USSR's. More recently the muj have taken over and their current activities are not primarily agricultural. Occupation of Ghaziabad, like Samarkhel, has become a point of prestige for the guerrillas; reducing it to rubble has become a point of prestige for the regime. And 1,000-kilogram warheads propelled by 6,000-odd kilogram SCUD missiles have played their part.

Well over 30 clicks from the city, Ghaziabad is a safe enough target. But it's some reflection of the seriousness of the Jalalabad situation that the regime has also been using SCUDs in the FEBA between Samarkhel and their own defense lines with interesting results. On 16 March, I was sitting with a couple of muj and a French photographer at an OP above Samarkhel overlooking the airport and Jalalabad beyond. The battlefield lay spread out below us like a map. From the D-30 battery we were spotting for, fire was arcing in on the corps HQ. At the eastern end of the runway near Karez-e-Kabir an attack was going in along the perimeter defenses. Tiny puffs of smoke indicated a good deal of mortar and 76mm artillery fire was being thrown around. For once, there were was not an aircraft in the sky.

Then, at exactly 1307, our attention was riveted by a violent flash and a massive, spreading explosion. For a minute I could hardly believe my eyes. The Frenchman — with commendable sangfroid — simply said, "What ze fuck was zat?" "Zat" was now a towering mushroom cloud rising well over 1000 feet above the point of impact, somewhere on or even inside the airport perimeter. I'm not used to seeing intermediate range missiles being thrown about but

the spectacle before us looked something like a tactical nuke going off. At ground zero — not far from a sizeable army post — the perimeter had simply disappeared. The pillar of smoke and dust towering above it could be seen for miles. There are plenty of good reasons for avoiding a tour of duty with the Afghan army these days, but this has to be among the most compelling. Close air support is one thing; having SCUD missiles dropped a few hundred meters out on your perimeter wire is something else!

Any residual doubts I might have had that Najib wasn't taking the battle for Jalalabad seriously were cleared up at Khosgumbad on the afternoon and evening of 20 March. With a view to breaking the stalemate, the muj plan was to attack and overrun the airport. The calculation — and it was a sound one — was that if the airport fell, corps HQ would also crumble, and the eastern side of the city would be open.

Fortune seemed to smile on the muj: the days before brought rain. Low cloud meant the jets based at Kabul and Bagram stayed home. Along the road from the Pakistan border, heavy trucks rumbled up to Samarkhel laden with ammunition and men; in the FEBA between Samarkhel and the airport small trucks and jeeps jolted and skidded along muddy farm tracks dodging incoming artillery fire from the city. Around Karez-e-Kabir and Khosgumbad, parties of muj slogged forward on foot laden with RPG, recoilless and mortar ammunition.

Predictably, coordination among muj commanders had been a problem from the outset. Then, as now, eight separate factions were fighting around Jalalabad, each party led by three or four field commanders operating different fronts. Three of the parties are major ones: NIFA, the Hezb-i-Islami of Younis Khalis and the Hezb-i-Islami of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar. It suffices to say that these three had not even been able to agree on the desirability of attacking Jalalabad in the first place to illustrate there were problems.

Much of the initial pressure for the attack was from ISI which, along with the muj's political leaders, hoped to install the interim government in a major city by a mid-March meeting of the Organization of Islamic

# AFGHANISTAN



**Mujahideen of Hezb-i-Islami faction, dressed in camouflage, carries folding stock Kalashnikov.**

Countries. While NIFA was ready to go along with this schedule, Khalis commanders balked. Only after NIFA men were pouring through the outer defenses of Samarkhel did Khalis muj join in. But then, in the critical hours when fighting lapped up to the eastern gates of the city, virtually nothing was happening on the southern and northern fronts, permitting the defenders to concentrate their forces in the threatened east. The fatal lack of coordination probably saved Jalalabad for the regime.

**RIGHT: SCUD missile impacting at airport looked something like a tactical nuke going off.**

Only in the days leading up to the assault of 20 March was any progress being made in sorting out this mess. It was — and maybe still is — too early for anything approaching a unified command to emerge. But commanders from different fronts and parties were at least sitting with each other and trying to coordinate operations in *shuras* or councils-of-war. On the afternoon of the 19th, a major shura of commanders operating around the airport was held at Karez-e-Kabir. But it was to become all too obvious that agreements over tea and biscuits don't necessarily translate into effective operations on the ground.

I was based with a group of NIFA commanders headed by Rahim Wardak, a former Afghan army brigadier. In the first days of the fighting, our quarters had been a farmhouse near Ghaziabad which, as my hosts pointed out, was warm and comfortable. What they didn't tell me, I could see for myself: it was large, very visible and smack on the highway. After several air raids and one pre-dawn SCUD, Wardak — who appeared to enjoy being bombed — reluctantly decided to move to well-camouflaged tents concealed in a tree line well off the road. I began sleeping a lot better.

After a day of rain on the 19th, the morning of the 20th broke streaked with cloud and scattered squalls of rain. But our luck was running out. By the time we moved out, the sky to the east was clearing. I joined a group moving up to Khosgumbad. If there was to be a breakthrough, the airport's long northern flank seemed a likely spot.

We climbed onto a flatbed truck and be-

fore long were hurtling down the highway across a wide open plain. The driver slowed only to weave past blown bridges and knocked out tanks that marked the muj line of advance toward Samarkhel.

We didn't stop until we reached Samarkhel itself where the driver abruptly swung into the old Russian officers' compound. It was a stop I could have done without. If you enjoy living dangerously on lousy food, you won't find a better spot east of Beirut than Samarkhel. Earlier that week the Frenchman and I had been foolhardy enough to accept an offer of tea from a NIFA commander who, for reasons best known to Afghans, had chosen to set up his *markaz* next door to the base. In the space of an hour and a half the village was bombed seven times — an unpromising backdrop for sustained conversation.

The smudged scrawl in my notebook for that afternoon recorded the events if not the atmosphere: "1728: airstrike. Four bombs in Samarkhel area. // 1745: airstrike. Cluster bombs. Close. A real conversation stopper. // 1748: airstrike: HE bombs. Close. Bits falling off ceiling. Where the f--- is the Stinger-wallah? // 1750: HE again. Seems to be getting closer. Room full of dust. Confusion. Unclear whether chances better inside or out. // 1815-1830: more of the same. Four wounded outside. Have to sit it out. This is as close as I care to come."

Mercifully, the next visit was briefer. After picking up more muj, the truck moved on toward the front as far as possible — past abandoned APCs and rotting corpses up to the Saracha Bridge a couple of clicks from the eastern end of the airport. Then it was

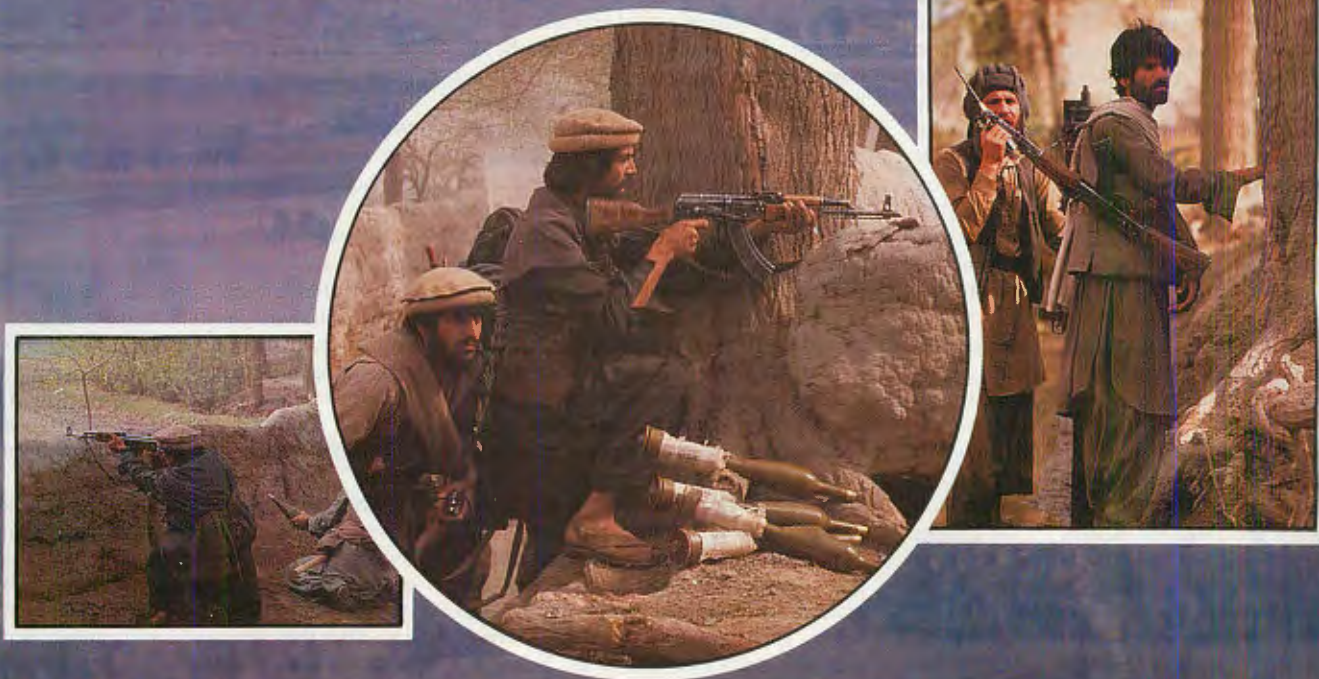
foot work on into the Khosgumbad salient. We weren't short of company. Hundreds of muj were also moving up from assembly points where mortars, Milans, Stingers and recoilless rifles were being unloaded. As Wardak had indicated, it looked like this was the big push.

For the first part of the march we were in dead ground, moving parallel to the airport perimeter but out of direct line of fire. To my amazement, plodding the other way, refugees were still moving out — children, women carrying babies, old men driving cattle. Despite the fighting that had already hit the area and the certainty of more to come, these people had refused to quit their homes. Pausing in a village as our group checked weapons and formed up, it wasn't difficult to see why. On well-watered arable land on the edge of the "Garden City" these villages were prosperous by Afghan standards. Abandoned in the exodus were cattle, bicycles and, in some houses, even portable Japanese TVs.

Moving on, we were pushing deeper into the Khosgumbad salient — and out of dead ground. The road and airport lay across the fields to our left and with several hundred men and assorted civilians moving along the track, it couldn't have taken much to see us. Suddenly machine-gun fire was sweeping overhead. We kept moving bent double, slithering in freshly churned mud but for the most part protected by low walls. Across open ground, it was a prayer and a sprint, one-by-one.

Cut off by the firing, one civilian family was moving with us — back the way they'd come. Getting out of Jalalabad in those days

Guerrillas at Khosgumbad pump in hail of recoilless, RPG, LMG and rifle fire.





**Muj fire captured D-30 battery at Samarkhel.**



**Muj armed with RPGs and Kalashnikovs man firing line at the airport.**

civilians died in numbers, often victims of their own ignorance. Many were killed waiting for motor transport in Samarkhel, unaware of the danger — until the first wave of MiGs came in and then it was too late.

Having worked near Jalalabad earlier in the war, I'd half hoped that with as much at stake as there was that day, the muj themselves would be better organized. With the place crawling with SCUDs, D-30s, armor (now on both sides), MiGs, Milans and Stingers, it was abundantly clear the war was in a new and decidedly conventional phase. But it also became pretty clear pretty quick that if the war was conventional, the combatants on one side still were not. If you're charitable or at a safe distance, you can call muj organization "loose." After you've nearly been killed a few times, it begins to strike you that in this corner of Afghanistan a lot of the time there simply isn't any.

At the Karez-e-Kabir shura the day before the decision had been to launch a general assault on the airport "at dawn." It was to coincide with assaults to the south of the airport and toward the Behsud Bridge, north of the river. My first and happily brief experience of dawn attacks was with Lon Nol's 2nd Division in 1974 outside Phnom Penh. With the Khmer Rouge coming through the wire, "dawn" meant well before first light, sometimes as early as 0330.

Jalalabad is a long way from Phnom Penh in more ways than one. By nightfall on the 19th, "dawn" had been postponed to 1000.

By the time the ground assault on our sector was actually underway it was around 1430 — after a pretty relaxed chicken lunch and prayers. By that time, the artillery barrage had been underway since 0930; troops in the airport had been treated to the spectacle of hundreds of heavily armed guerrillas tramping past since about 0800; and with the sky now clear, an Antonov recon aircraft had been droning around overhead for a couple of hours. You could say we lost the element of surprise; you could also put it other ways.

If timing wasn't the hottest, tactical recon was not a big priority either. I'd imagined that with the villages now in muj hands for over a week, most of the fighters would be thoroughly familiar with the terrain, fields of fire and lines of advance. Wrong. As we moved up through houses toward the start line, it dawned on me that a lot of the muj had obviously never been anywhere near the place before. Their tactical grasp of the situation was in fact on a par with mine — that the bad guys were somewhere "that-away." There had been no attempt to prepare positions in buildings providing fields of fire onto the airport: many were actually still padlocked and had to be broken into amid heated arguments after fighting had begun. Then the muj swarmed up onto roofs and into rooms overlooking the fields that separated us from the airport.

For over an hour the sheer volume of suppressive fire being laid on the airport perimeter suggested it was all going our way. Spread out in firing positions behind the walls, on roofs, and at windows, the guerrillas were pumping in a hail of recoilless, RPG, LMG, and rifle fire. Over 300 yards, you didn't need to be a crack shot to hit something (which was probably just as well). Before long trucks in the airport were ablaze, a tank had been hit and buildings were aflame. Thick black pillars of smoke streamed upwards.

Artillery fire was still impacting along the perimeter and near the runway. But watching through field glasses from an upper window, I was going crazy with frustration. Geysers of earth and smoke were spouting up just yards away from bunkers and gun emplacements. But with no forward observers, no one was correcting the fire; with no really qualified gunners it probably wouldn't have made much difference anyway. Round after round of 122mm fire which properly placed could have obliterated the strongpoints screening the runway was being wasted moving large quantities of earth from one spot to another.

Then to my amazement, across the fields in front of us a BTR-60 swung up on to the road and raced through the battle toward the city. They were getting out their wounded. Frantic with excitement, muj were loosing off RPG rounds but over that distance it would have taken a very lucky shot to hit a fast moving target. What we needed was Milan. But wherever the Milan-wallah was, it wasn't where he was needed and the BTR was soon out of sight.

But the biggest question was simply how anyone intended in broad daylight to cross the flat, open fields, raked by machine-gun fire to close on the bunkers. It didn't take long to figure out there was no real plan. Or more accurately, there were at least 50 different plans each being loudly voiced by a different fighter with his own views on how to proceed. Warfare among the Pushtun (Pathan) tribes that straddle the Pak-Afghan border is a highly democratic affair. But democracy-under-fire has never won wars.

Nor was this the Iran-Iraq war with the faithful ready to hurl themselves across minefields crying "Allah Akhbar!" There's no shortage of individual courage in Afghanistan. But the Pushtun tribesman is first and foremost a pragmatist with a highly developed instinct for self-preservation. He'll go a long way for his religion — but not as far as bayonet charges over open terrain.

While the muj argued furiously among themselves, the army was moving up the T-55s. And with the attack stalled, it was only a matter of time before the walls — and morale — began to crumble. The first casualties they weathered well enough. But once the tanks had the range, group commanders — who in tribal ranks tend to lead



from the front — began to go down.

From then on things unravelled fast. To say discipline broke down would be wrong — for the simple reason there was no formal discipline along a recognized chain of command. In the Pushtun areas of southern and eastern Afghanistan there is simply group loyalty held together by a combination of a strong leader, the lure of booty and — in an optimum scenario — the momentum of victory. And that, essentially, is what differentiates a tribal war-party from a modern army. Around Jalalabad, the one had come hard up against the other with predictable results.

In Afghanistan, retreat often begins with medevac. There are two reasons for this. First, the psychological impact of casualties on loose bands without defined chains-of-command is far greater than on real military units. Second, in muj groups without medics or stretcher bearers, casualties are tended to by friends and relatives — i.e., other combatants. Evacuating one casualty generally involves up to four other men abandoning their positions. The snowball effect is devastating: there's nothing better for morale than being on the front line under fire and looking around to find half your mates have just left.

As muj coordination crumbled, the opposition began getting theirs together in a big way. As a point of geography, I knew well enough that Khosgumbad formed a salient. What that meant practically only hit me when we started taking fire not just from the airport perimeter, but also from the corps HQ on our right flank, and from government artillery across the Kabul River to the north — in other words, from behind.

And from the airport return fire was also suddenly more intense. The 14.5mm and 12.7mm HMG fire was literally shredding the trees above us. More wounded were being dragged away. No one seemed to be in control. There was a nasty whiff of panic in the air. Then the jets came in. The Antonov had been circling for a while and there had been some scattered bombing earlier, the late morning milk-run that came in every day. But by 1700 it was clear they were reacting specifically to the concentration of

**Captured armor used as mobile arty near airport.**

muj forces and the attack. They knew exactly where we were and, Stingers or not, were coming far lower to prove it.

Guerrillas were now quitting the firing line in numbers, dodging and weaving back along the farm lanes as machine-gun fire hammered in over the low walls. Others were hunched despondently in ditches waiting for orders that probably never came. With the airport evidently not about to be overrun, I decided it was time to be leaving. Rounding a corner of a large farm house I found an impromptu field dressing point marked by a couple of charpoys, several guys standing around looking worried, and a lot of blood on the ground. More wounded were coming in. One man had lost his nose and half his face but was still managing to moan. Needless to say, there were no medical supplies and no medics. About the only thing in any abundance were incoming fire and rapidly recited prayer.

A shell exploded about 30 meters away. Judging from the point of impact there was no way it had come from the airport. This was from over the river. Which meant the 76mm guns to the north were now being directed in on us. When you're under fire from three sides AND about to be bombed, it's definitely time to be moving. And if the numbers of men streaming back from the firing line was anything to go by, everyone seemed to have reached the same conclusion at once.

We moved back out through the village where a few hours before we'd been lounging over lunch. The MiGs caught us in the fields just beyond, several straggling columns of men carrying weapons, dragging wounded, staggering under the weight of charpoys. I could hear that the jets were far lower than earlier. Just how much lower, I didn't wait around to see. We were flat on our faces in the mud as the bombs landed and a thunder of rippling explosions in a field to our left told me all I needed to know: cluster bombs. Cluster ordnance has been getting a big work out around Jalalabad,

dropped mainly by jets flying high. When they're armed with cluster bombs and then coming in low, you know you're in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Barely ordered retreat now teetered on the brink of rout. About the only thing holding the columns together was the need to hit the deck every few hundred yards as the MiGs — three pairs — came back for a fresh pass. Some men were simply for running for it while others were yelling to find cover and avoid movement. But this was Afghanistan and everybody was giving his own orders.

And the MiGs kept on coming. Sometimes they dropped clusters, sometimes "normal" 250 kilogram bombs. Sometimes they hit the villages; sometimes the track nearby, close enough for clods of earth to be raining down on our backs as we hugged the ground.

If they'd laid a few on Saracha Bridge around 1830 that evening they'd have killed scores rather than tens. At the end of the highway from Pakistan, the bridge was where ambulances and pickups waited to evacuate casualties. Groups of muj were milling around in confusion, or standing around the bodies of dead commanders. But as we arrived, bombing switched to Karez-e-Kabir some three clicks to the south, where it appeared the muj were also having a bad time. At least in Khosgumbad we'd had ditches and buildings; on the high ground overlooking the airport at Karez-e-Kabir you'd find better cover on a billiard table.

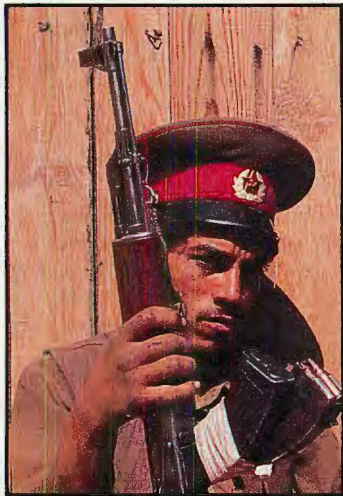
The dead and wounded got motor transport back to Samarkhel. So did a lot of the muj on flatbeds. The guys I was with decided to hoof it. We slugged back down the tarmac, a defeated straggle. Not that the battle was entirely over: from Samarkhel an MBRL was still pumping out salvos of 107s that streaked overhead toward the airport. From across the river, regime 76mm guns kept up desultory shelling of the road. Most of the rounds fell short. But the whistle of incoming had us groveling in the ditch every few minutes — an ignominious end to an ignominious day.

I didn't make it back to Wardak's base camp until close to midnight. The air force were working night shift with overtime and I sat with Wardak in a darkened tent as MiGs thundered back and forth along the highway to Pakistan looking for trucks or camps dumb enough to be showing lights. It wouldn't have been Afghanistan if there hadn't been a few and somewhere across the fields toward Ghaziabad cluster bombs were erupting.

Wardak was — understandably enough — in pretty somber mood. The muj had been repulsed both at Khosgumbad and near the Behsud Bridge north of the city. There was no solid news from south of the airport, but it was safe bet there'd been no breakthrough there either.

None of that came as any big surprise. It's become fashionable — and easy — to lay the blame for what went wrong at Jalalabad on Pakistan's ISI. There are some reasons for

# AFGHANISTAN



**ABOVE:** Muj fighter of National Islamic Front of Afghanistan at Samarkhel.

doing that and in particular, the timing of the offensive in early spring when snow and rain still immobilized guerrilla forces elsewhere and permitted a disastrous concentration of regime assets in and around Jalalabad.

But in the final analysis, responsibility for the lack of coordination and tactical organization must rest with the muj themselves. Difficult as it is for many of them to admit it, the fact remains that in more than 10 years of war, the Pushtun mujahideen of southern Afghanistan have failed to develop organizationally. They now field far greater

fire power but they are still fighting in essentially the same hit-and-run mode as before. Wardak himself summed it up bluntly enough that night: "When an insurgency reaches the stage of strategic counteroffensive, you have to have regular forces. But in our war we have failed completely to develop such forces. We still have the same type of guerrillas as in the first stages."

It doesn't need to be that way. In other parts of the country (which perhaps significantly are not Pushtun and not tribal) there has been conscious, planned development of guerrilla forces and tactics toward mobile warfare. Semi-regular and regular units have been organized and trained in preparation for a final reckoning with Kabul that will inevitably involve conventional engagements (see "Drivin' Ivan Home," SOF, Dec. '87). The tragedy is that those efforts have been the exception rather than the rule.

The mujahideen are now in a race with time because time is on Kabul's side. Politically, as Najibullah scrambles to project an image of moderation and tolerance, the guerrillas' Interim Government flounders in

**Muj furiously fires RPG-7, hoping for lucky hit on fast-moving targets at airport.**

disarray and infighting. Militarily, there's a desperate need for some hard self-analysis (as distinct from blaming reverses on mythical Indian pilots) and serious military reorganization. The lessons of Jalalabad are as simple as they're bitter: that the guerrillas must establish an effective unified command structure and at least some semi-regular forces. Whether there's time to learn those lessons and act on them before Western commitment and interest falter and Najib digs in is far from clear. The difficulties of pulling together after a decade of political and military fragmentation are immense. What is very clear is that the cost of failure is likely to be even more immense. ✕





**LEFT:** Muj fighter at Khosgumbad is ready for action: he has an RPG launcher over his shoulder, one round stuck in his belt and one in his hands.



**ABOVE:** Muj looses off PG-7 HEAT round.



**LEFT:** Muj move into Khosgumbad salient under fire from airport.



# AMERICAN SNIPERS IN BEIRUT

## Marines Teach Amal Militia Value of a Few Good Rounds

by Craig Roberts



### SNIPER OBSERVER

Craig Roberts' last article in SOF dealt with retired Marine Corps master sniper Carlos Hathcock (see "Master Sniper's One Shot Saves," SOF, May '89) and his training of police SWAT teams. Himself a Marine sniper in Vietnam, Roberts is a 20-year police veteran whose career has included patrol, EOD, SWAT and academy instructor positions. He is presently a helicopter pilot for the Tulsa, Oklahoma, PD and has held various Army Reserve positions since 1972. He has published numerous magazine articles, and his book *The Walking Dead: A Marine's Story of Vietnam* was recently released by Simon and Schuster.

ABOVE: Lance Corporal Tom Rutter and Corporal "Rock" McGlynn sight in on the Danielle Cafe across the field from Charlie Company's positions at Beirut International Airport, just before Shi'ite militia opened fire. Photo: Charles Cancellare/UPI



*There is a rock to the left, and a rock  
to the right,  
And low lean thorn between,  
And ye may hear a breech-bolt snick  
where never a man is seen.*  
— Rudyard Kipling,  
*The Ballad of East And West*

THE rifle he carried was like a well-trained and faithful attack dog. But unlike a dog, it could bark *here*, and bite *way over yonder*. As the Marine waded ashore, he wondered if the hand-built M40A1 with its Unertl 10X scope, now resting in its protective case, would have to bark in anger. His mission was to engage targets that grunts in the rifle companies couldn't touch with their M16A1s. He was a sniper — a *Marine* sniper.

Unlike the Marines who first landed in Lebanon in 1958 to quell the riots that threatened the pro-western government, the men of the 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, found themselves this time in the middle of a Lebanese civil war.

As Lance Corporal Thomas Gregory Rutter surveyed his new AO, he saw a city in ruin. High-rise buildings that once stood out like jewels in the Mediterranean sun had been reduced to burned-out shells. Battle scars defaced the streets and bullet holes pockmarked the walls. Rubble was piled into makeshift defensive positions, and roadblocks and sandbagged bunkers dotted the residential neighborhoods.

Armed men from different groups and factions held different portions of the city. The Lebanese army, the Amal Shi'ite Moslem militia and the Christian militia each fiercely clung to their respective sectors. Separating them in the area around Beirut International Airport and the various government buildings and universities were the United Nations peacekeeping forces — and the Israeli army.

With one last look over his shoulder at the "Mike" boat that brought him ashore from the USS *Austin*, Rutter shouldered his cased rifle and joined the line of camouflaged Marines wending their way inland.

The Battalion Landing Team (BLT) building was a large multi-storied concrete affair that housed the battalion headquarters, intelligence section, operations section and barracks. It backed up to Beirut International Airport and was conveniently located near the other posts that would have to be manned by the Marines. Half of the snipers in the Surveillance and Target Acquisition (STA) platoon stayed at the BLT building, while the other half, including Rutter, were sent to guard the Lebanese University.

Arriving at the four-story university building, Rutter asked "What's the scoop?" of a sergeant busily supervising a

Spyglass One, the snipers' outpost atop the university building. Note impact craters from 12.7mm machine guns. Photo: Tom Rutter



working party.

The sergeant surveyed the young Marines with the strange cases. "You snipers?" he asked.

"Yes, Sergeant, we are. What's the plan?" one of the sharpshooters replied.

"We gotta build a bunker on the roof so we can cover the surrounding area," answered the sergeant as he wiped sweat from his brow and squinted into the blazing sun. "It'll be a hot sonofabitch, too."

"How many bags do we have to fill?"

"Whatever it takes to make it six sandbags thick. The bad guys have RPG-7s. If they put one into the side of the bunker, we want to be well-protected." The sergeant replaced his helmet and walked toward the building. "Come on. I'll show you the roof."

From the roof, Rutter scanned the surrounding terrain. He was four stories above the streets and a field that bordered the building. To the north was the area controlled by the Christian militia. As he scanned around he could see the mountains and "Hooterville" — the urban area controlled by the Israelis. Between Hooterville and the building was a field about 500 meters across. Scrub brush grew in scattered clusters and traces of ditches crisscrossed the field. Rutter took note and looked south.

Five hundred meters away he could see the edge of a built up area. Buildings pockmarked by bullets and RPG rounds straddled streets dotted with burned-out hulks of cars and piles of rubble. Through his binoculars, past several high-rise buildings, he could see the roof of the BLT building.

"This place is a mess," Rutter said, putting the binoculars aside.

"Yeah. These people've been fighting for a long time. If this war ever ends, someone's gonna make a lot of money in the construction business," the sergeant snickered.

The bunker was built and the Marines settled into the boring routine of standing watches, cleaning weapons, and sending reports to headquarters over the PRC-77 radio. The snipers had to man the bunker around the clock in teams of two. With only three teams to draw from, they got little time off.

But all seemed quiet. As long as the

Marine brings his M40 sniper rifle to bear on a target in Beirut, 1983. Photo: USMC

Israelis were manning positions not far away, the fighters in the city avoided that sector. Action finally drew close one night when members of the Amal militia tried to cross the field between the University building and the Israeli positions.

The small team of Moslems crept through one of the ditches until they were within range and fired RPG and B-40 rockets at an Israeli bunker. The Israeli soldiers returned fire with machine guns and tanks. The Amal hastily retreated and things settled down.

"Guess those ol' boys learned their lesson," said Rutter's partner. "Don't mess with the Israelis — especially when they have tanks. Those guys don't have to get permission to fire like we do."

"Yeah, it's kinda nice havin' the Israelis around."

When politics interfered and the Israelis

**Embattled Beirut, with warring factions on all sides and the Marines in the middle.**



pulled out of Lebanon, it didn't take long before the situation began to heat up. Within a few days, the Amal Shi'ites took over the Israeli positions and occupied Hooterville. Rutter could hear fire from AKs and see skirmishes in the streets as the Amal pushed the Lebanese Armed Forces, the official Lebanese army or LAF, out of the area. He watched as these guerrillas ran through the city, spraying buildings with fire from assault rifles and RPGs. At one intersection, the Marines watched as Shi'ites swarmed over two LAF M-113 armored personnel carriers. The back door opened on one and the Lebanese Army crew jumped out into the street.

"Jesus Christ! Check this out," yelled Rutter, pointing at the scene which was unfolding. The Marines in the bunker swiveled binoculars and scoped rifles in the direction Rutter pointed.

Two Shi'ites spun around the .50 caliber machine gun that was mounted on top of the APC. Just as the LAF soldiers were in view, they opened fire. The Marines watched helplessly as the soldiers were executed in the street.

"Get on the hook and tell S-2 what happened!" ordered Rutter.

His partner frantically grabbed the handset and complied.

"Spyglass Two, this is Spyclass One, over?"

"This is Spyclass Two, over?"

"This is Spyclass One with a sitrep. We just saw a bunch of ragheads take over a couple of APCs and shoot the LAF troops that were manning them. They had flags that were green, white and red in color and carried AK-47s, over?"

The radioman looked at Rutter as he listened for the reply from headquarters.

"Affirmative. Spyclass One, out," said the Marine. He replaced the handset and turned to Rutter. "They said it's the Shi'ite Militia. They have intel reports that describe the flag, uniforms and weapons. Seems they got real bold when they found out the Israelis had split."

"Figures," said Rutter. He eased his rifle closer and peered out of the firing slit of the bunker. "I wonder just how bold they'll get."



The Marines didn't have to wait long to find out. Within a few days the Amal appeared with bulldozers and began building berms, bunkers and fortifications right along the edge of the field in front of the university building. Since they had not attacked the Marines, there was nothing the Americans could do but watch. It was as if they were cordoning off the U.N. forces into pockets. The Americans began to feel hemmed in.

The rules of engagement at this time forbade the Marines from shooting without permission from headquarters — or even putting a loaded magazine in their rifles. If they took fire or saw hostile targets, they had to call back to the BLT building to get permission to return fire. By the time permission came, the aggressors would have disappeared. It became very frustrating for the grunts on the line. The same rules that shackled the troops in Vietnam in early 1965 now did the same to our men in Beirut.

As soon as the Amal completed their fortifications, they once again got bold. The Marines began catching small arms fire. AK rounds *zipped overhead* at sporadic intervals. Rutter was not worried, as he knew the shots were being fired from well beyond the effective range of the Kalashnikov.

Yet it would be an easy shot for his M40. He could easily pick out targets through his scope, but he knew that by the time he received permission to fire, they would be long gone.

There were only six men on the bunker detail. Among them were Corporal David Baldree and Corporal Jonathan Crumley — Rutter's partner. As the Shi'ites grew braver, the Marines at the University got even less rest. One watch period seemed to

**Marines armed with M16A1 rifles take cover behind sandbags during terrorist attack on their position in Beirut, 1983. During these intermittent attacks Marine snipers came to the fore by suppressing enemy fire at long range. Photo: USMC**

into the next. They were tired and frustrated. This was not the way Marines were trained to fight.

Finally the rules of engagement changed. With more attacks directed at the American forces, it became apparent that the discretion to shoot would have to belong to the men on the firing line.

"Looks like we finally get to play," said Corporal Baldree.

"Yeah, and it's about time. I'm tired of these jerks popping off at us any time they want and we can't do anything back. This will really give them a shock," grinned Rutter, patting his scoped rifle.

Two days later, the Amal would see what

**Marine sniper scouts study territory surrounding their position in Beirut for possible targets, 1983. Photo: R.D. Lucas/USMC**



a shock it could be. Rutter and Baldree were on duty in the bunker when a burst of fire streaked by. Baldree grabbed the radio and called the Combat Operations Center at the BLT building. Even though they did not need permission to fire now, the Scout-Snipers were still the eyes and ears of the Battalion.

"We got incoming fire, over?"

"Roger, Spyglass One, can you suppress?"

"That's affirmative," said Baldree, nodding at Rutter.

Rutter picked up the field phone and called the line company Marines on the first floor. "Get the other STA platoon guys up here. We got targets!"

Within seconds, the other snipers had scrambled upstairs, taken their places and begun pinpointing targets. They already had several positions marked on the map and knew the ranges. Rutter and Corporal Crumley scoped the distant escarpments and buildings and soon located where some of the fire was coming from. A lone sniper was behind a berm 600 meters away. As they watched, he poked his head up and fired his weapon at the Marine bunker. That done, he ducked down and changed positions along the berm. He poked up from a new spot and fired another burst.

"I'll keep my eye on this one behind the berm until I can get a shot," said Crumley, looking through his scope. "See if anyone else is shooting at us."

Rutter scoped the area. It was mid-August and he sweated profusely. Salt stung his eyes. He blinked it away, concentrating on every detail as he swept his crosshairs slowly across the shattered terrain. Suddenly something caught his attention. In the firing revetment of a sandbagged bunker on the street, a second set of muzzle flashes erupted. Rutter settled his reticle on the target and fired. His single bullet streaked through the small window with pinpoint accuracy. The firing from that position ceased.

Crumley centered his scope on the man behind the berm. He had watched carefully and noted where this target presented itself on each occasion. Now it was payback time. Crumley was not the only sniper who wanted a piece of him.

"I want him. He's mine," Crumley announced, as he read the range from the "mil-dot" scale and set his scope for 600 meters. When the man stuck his head up again, Crumley fired. A puff of dirt kicked up in front of the man's face and his head exploded. The Shi'ite flipped over backwards and lay still.

The incoming fire stopped. A few minutes later, a white-and-red ambulance raced up the street and stopped next to the dead Moslem. Two men got out and lifted the body inside. Without a glance at the university building, they drove off.

The third week of August found Rutter and Baldree on duty in the bunker. It was not dark yet, but the sun was setting in the west, casting long shadows through the

streets in front of them.

Rutter sat back to rest his eyes. As a trained sniper, he knew how important it was to observe every detail before him on a regular basis. Had anything changed since his last watch? Did there appear to be anything new out there that he had not noted before? These and many other questions had to be answered every time a sniper came on watch.

Baldree peered through his firing port. Scanning slowly left to right, he also looked for any changes.

Rutter checked his watch and noted in his sniper log "1730 hrs. All quiet. No new obstacles or positions." He closed the book and moved back to the sandbagged wall of the bunker.

He had no sooner taken his position than a burst of machine-gun fire blasted past the bunker. Rutter and Baldree ducked back instinctively, then peered out, trying to locate the source.

Another burst, then another. The antagonist was smart. He was firing from inside a building, and he was firing no tracers. Unless the two Marines could see the muzzle flashes, they would not be able to pinpoint the source. Although the gunner was smart, he was no rocket scientist. The darkness inside the building that he obviously thought would protect him would prove his undoing.

More bullets whizzed by.

"See anything?" asked Baldree.

"Not yet — wait! Yeah, I think I was something in the shadows there... in that building at two o'clock. See? Back in the room. This dude knows his shit. He's not firing from the window. He's back in the shadows," said Rutter, looking through his scope.

"Yeah, I got him now. Jesus. If it wasn't for the shadows and darkness of the room, we'd have never spotted his muzzle flashes," Baldree observed. "We can't get the angle on him from here, and the grunts down below won't be able to locate him. Let's send Crumley downstairs and see if we can pull a little teamwork on this asshole."

Rutter picked up the field phone and spoke rapidly. Within a minute, Crumley was on his way down to the concrete barrier on the ground below. From there, he should be able to get an idea where the Shi'ite gunner was located and direct fire for the M60 gunners.

"Okay, Crumley's in position now. He's ready for us to mark the target with a tracer. Let's each fire one so he gets a good look. He'll have to be quick. If that shitbag runs when we shoot, Crumley won't get a chance," said Baldree as he eased his safety to "fire" and drew the scope to his eye. Each man checked the range with the mil-dot scale and set their Unertls accordingly.

"Ready?" whispered Rutter.

"Ready," said Baldree. Each sniper eased his trigger back and fired. Two tracers streaked down to the window and entered dead center. Rutter shifted his scope after



L/Cpl Tom Rutter sights through Unertl scope at sniper position. Note large windage and elevation knobs, camouflaged fiberglass stock on M40 sniper rifle, hand-built by Marine Corps on Remington 700 action. Photo: courtesy Tom Rutter

the recoil to reacquire the window. Before he could settle down again, Marine M60 machine-gun fire ripped through the gathering darkness. Angry red tracers blazed through the window and filled the room inside with ricocheting 7.62mm bullets. The grunts dispelled any notions about who outgunned whom. The Amal machine gun was now silent.

Throughout the city, Amal had built sandbagged bunkers at each street intersection of the area it controlled. The bunkers it built on the borders of the Marines' field of fire were hidden around corners for protection against the Marine snipers. But the Amal riflemen played a game. Individuals or small groups of men would run around the edge of a building, expose themselves long enough to fire a few quick bursts from their AKs, and then dodge back to cover. The fire was inaccurate, but annoying.

When they shot from windows, the Marines would return fire immediately and the building would become silent. The Amal gunmen rarely used the same location twice after they took fire from the Americans.

By late September, little action went on around the University. The Marine snipers in the bunker and the line company Marines below commanded the surrounding area with accurate fire from their weapons. The Amal could not get close enough to do any damage without sustaining casualties.

"Spyglass One, this is Spyglass Two, over?"

Crumley picked up the radio handset and answered. After a short conversation, he turned to Rutter. "S-2 needs one of us at the BLT building. Seems they got work for another sniper over at the airport."

"Let's cut cards. Low man goes," grinned Rutter.

A deck was produced and each man

drew. Rutter lost.

"Guess I'll see you later. Did Battalion say how I was supposed to get there?"

"They're sending a helicopter in the morning. It'll pick you up in the field," Crumley advised.

Rutter began gathering his gear.

The morning of 12 October dawned bright as the big CH-53 landed at Beirut International Airport. Rutter shouldered his pack, picked up his rifle case and stepped into the sun. The ramp was already beginning to dance with heat waves and the young Marine knew it would not be long until the chill of the night would be replaced by the warmth of the Middle Eastern sun.

"Hey Rock, what's happening?" Rutter grinned as he spied his friend, Corporal James "Rock" McGlynn, who had been in the contingent of scout-snipers that had stayed back at the BLT building.

"Oh, you know man, same old shit. S-2 has a briefing for us. Looks like we'll be working together again."

The two snipers entered the BLT building and made their way to the Intelligence office.

"Here's the picture," said Captain Walter Wint, the Intelligence Chief, "First Platoon of Charlie Company has been taking excessive amounts of small arms fire and RPG rockets over at their sector of the airport. They're located here." Wint stabbed his finger at the map on the wall and traced a line outlining Charlie Company's operational area.

"Yesterday a staff sergeant was driving down the road in front of their positions and the Amal opened up on him. He was killed. Charlie Company is pissed and so are we. You two get over there tonight and see what you can do. I'll see that the sentry positions are notified that you'll be moving across the runway, but watch your asses. Those lads out there on duty are ready to zap anything that even looks hostile. Any questions?"

There were none. Rutter and McGlynn picked their equipment up and started for

*Continued on page 79*

# FAREWELL HAM AND MAMMIES

## The Ol' Sarge Celebrates His Last Supper

by Sgt. Randall Bryan

### GASTRONOME

Randall Bryan first suspected he had been born under the wrong gastrological sign (*Escargarius*, The Snail) when in boot camp at Twenty-Nine Palms he discovered he could not swallow while sitting at attention. Later when serving in Vietnam with Company B, 1/9th Marines, he discovered he could not swallow while lying in a ditch full of muddy water.

He survived these handicaps when he discovered he was able to swallow anything good in any position, and went on to finish out his 20 with Company C, 1/225th Infantry of the Michigan National Guard. As related in the text, he recently retired as Platoon Sergeant and Culinary Consultant to the First Platoon.

NOT long ago, I sat down on the edge of my fighting position, placed my M16 with idiot cord across my knees, reached into my ALICE pack and drew a deep sigh of satisfaction.

After 20 years as a grunt, I was about to eat my last field ration.

I smugly announced this fact to my National Guard platoon. Well known for their iron discipline and deep, abiding love and respect for their chunky platoon sergeant, they answered with their usual military courtesy.

"Riiiiight, Bryan," they snorted. "You'd eat anything! You'll keep on eating

this stuff because it's Army green!"

Wrong. I'm done with Rations, Field, Individual Combat, forever. But 20 years of them has prompted me to make a few observations about the military's most universally reviled item of issue.

Let's face it. None, not even the French, have come up with a decent field-expedient replacement for "Mom's Home Cooking," or even the messhall. Anything you hump on your back is going to get tiresome quick, because it's eaten under extremes of discomfort and sometimes terror. Add the fact that the average grunt is no Julia Child and you'll understand why the word "C-rats" is

### THE McILHENNY CONNECTION

In a wonder of culinary synergism, sea food, C-rats and sawdust all take on a life of their own when born-again with a liberal baptism of McIlhenny's gastro-nomic elixir, *Tabasco*.

To the grunt in Vietnam, this universal condiment represented not only a way of salvaging C-rats for use as victuals, but being uniquely American it represented a taste — a touch if you will — of home and The World. And it was not mere happenstance that the grunts were well-supplied with *Tabasco*. The president of McIlhenny was retired Marine Corps Brigadier General Walter S. "Tabasco Mac" McIlhenny, winner of the Navy Cross and Silver Star on Guadalcanal during World War II. As a GI who himself appreciated the savory insufficiencies of issue field rations, McIlhenny was uniquely placed to do something about it, and back during the Korean Conflict the *C-Ration Cookbook* was born under his guidance. And since *Tabasco Mac* was of the troops and for the troops, if a needy GI couldn't get some *Tabasco* any other way, he could write the company and they'd send him

some, a policy which continued through to Vietnam.

Like any company that must turn a profit to stay in business (which McIlhenny Company has done since 1868), McIlhenny of course couldn't be in the free hot-sauce business but, by God, the General would see to it that none of our boys in uniform would have to do without their *Tabasco*! After all, *Tabasco* is to a GI what curry is to a Gurka.

And this troops-first mindset may have paid off for McIlhenny Company. With the introduction of MREs, they issued a new *MRE Cookbook* (which they will send free to any serviceman who writes to McIlhenny Co., Dept. SOF-MRE, Avery Island, LA 70513). Since McIlhenny Company loves GIs and GIs love *Tabasco*, *Tabasco* is now an item of issue with the new MREs — one of the very few proprietary products to be so honored — and in the past couple of years McIlhenny has packed some 30 million 1/8-ounce bottles of *Tabasco* to go in MREs.

Being a universal antidote for C-rats, *Tabasco* was universally carried by grunts in Vietnam. And being universally carried in the manner of coins, keys

and P-38s, it sometimes received universal application, i.e., for uses other than its intended purpose. After all, doesn't the label say "It's for more than you thought it was for?"

Although certainly not recommended by either McIlhenny or the military, there are tales of its application to treat foot fungus, as a wound disinfectant, and for all we know probably as a gun solvent and in boobytraps. One such tale related to its improvised use to disinfect a deep puncture wound to the "fleshy part of the lower back" caused by a nearly spent projectile which passed cleanly through both cheeks. When the victim was hit, he fell into a rice paddy, and due to the nature of the things that float and die in a rice paddy his buddies had no doubt that the wound must be disinfected with all undue haste. They had neither medic nor medical bag, but of course they had *Tabasco*.

The patient survived both wound and treatment though we suspect it may not have been because of an aseptic wound track, but rather from a surplus of adrenaline, or an overwhelming desire to live that he might kill his benefactors.

— Don McLean

enough to make the average vet sob uncontrollably and bite his knees while rolling around the floor.

For those of you who missed military service, try this experiment. On a cold, rainy night, go out into your backyard and dig a



ABOVE: Cuisine: Beef & Grease With Gravy. Gourmand: John Coleman. Photo: Tom Slizewski

hole armpit deep. Fill a suitcase full of rocks, strap it to your back and walk around your block 20 times. Come back to your hole, stand in ankle-deep cold water and open a can of cold beans and franks. Try sleeping for three or four hours, eat another can of cold beans and walk around the block lugging your suitcase again. Repeat for 30 or so days, and you'll begin to get the picture.

I remember my first taste of C-rations like I remember my first impacted wisdom

tooth. The Marine Corps of the 1960s sent everyone, regardless of military occupational speciality, through a month of "Infantry Training (ITR)." They had a motto of "every Marine's a rifleman first" and drove home the unpleasantness of the infantry by having you march all day and making you eat C-rats.

Continued on page 84

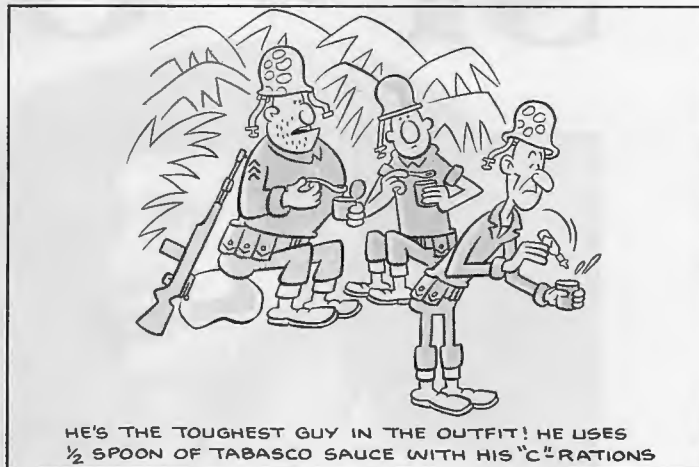


Illustration: Fred Rhoads, *Leatherneck* magazine, courtesy Paul McIlhenny. Copyright McIlhenny Co.

## EAT YOUR PEACHES

I'd already received my baptism by fire — harmless, thankfully, a result on my part of being less than alert. I was standing watch on the north side of the Khe Sanh trenches when an NVA prober snuck up to about 20 feet from me with an SKS for one poorly aimed shot, which brought some damned heavy and disconcerting but just as poorly aimed Marine supporting fire from the bunkers to either side of me.

The baptism came on only my second day with the unit. Two weeks later some of the new was ripped, torn and ground off my USMC utilities, but I was still enough of a "newbie" to be scared spitless of what they were asking me to do.

Northwest of Khe Sanh was a range of hills — 558, 861/861A, 881S and 881N — which every PFC in I Corps knew was home for everything from a regiment to a division of hard-hatted NVA complete with AKs, mortars, artillery and HMGs.

Some fearless staff geek miles and miles back at Phu Bai (3rd Marine Division HQ), further back in Da Nang (3rd Marine Amphibious HQ), or even nearly back in the world in Saigon (MACV HQ), decided to test the general PFC estimate of the NVA order of battle up in the hills by drawing a line across the virgin hills on his map for Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines — known not long after as the walking dead — to check out.

Our unit was in trail some distance behind one of Bravo's patrols when the

bangs, cracks, booms and thumps of colliding Marines and NVA snapped me out of my heat-induced fog, sent chills over my skin and dried every drop of spit from my mouth.

From the garbled reports coming back on the tactical net and down the line to me, it appeared our side was doing good and driving the bad guys off the hill. We were ordered off to the right up a damned steep trail into what someone saw as a possible killing ground for the withdrawing NVA.

As my squad was passing through our bushed-out lead squad — a little worn from busting trail — I met my first "real" Marine.

He was Corporal Ted Gammons, a machine-gunner from some hick town around Lubbock, Texas, who had already done a full year in Vietnam and was working on his first extension. He was a full-bore, salty Grunt, USMC type: profane, crude, rude, dirty, worn-down to a stub and mean enough to do the job.

With the thumps, crumps, bangs and other assorted noises still going on up above us the officers and NCOs were all scrambling about reading their maps, communicating, commanding, making hasty contact plans and otherwise kicking ass.

Gammons was cooling in a patch of shade, sucking real hard on a Lucky Strike and whipping open the top of a can of C-ration peaches. It was a singularly cool and curious performance and I just had to ask.

"Gammons," I wheezed, "what in the fuck are you doing?"

"Well, Bush Baby," drawled Gammons, "up on top of that thar hill is a bunch of unhappy, slant-eyed, little guys in green with rifles. I 'spect we're going to be up there with them real soon. Now I might shoot them and then again they might shoot me. If it goes bad for me they might get my body. Or if you're lucky you'll get my body.

"If you live here long enough you're going to learn the USMC is always going to give you a rifle, ammo, grenades; make sure you have a watch and water and some smokes. But if and when your luck is good the USMC is going to give you only one thing that's sweet and wonderful and that's a can of these here peaches. I always keep me a hide-away can for moments like this.

"If ole Nguyen pops my ass up there I really don't care who gets my rifle, my water, what Luckies I can't finish right now and my watch but I'll be damned if Nguyen's going to strip me down and eat the only good thing I've got. And if he gets me and you keep him from stripping me I don't plan on *you* eating my peaches either. I humped 'em up here; I'm eating 'em while I can."

Ted, wherever you are out there old buddy, it was the best piece of advice I ever got.

I always ate my peaches and I made it.

— Jim Graves

# TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY SPOOK



Portrait of Fritz Duquesne with bandolier and Luger, reproduced from original glass negative. Photo: Library of Congress

## Fritz Duquesne: Phantom, Freelancer or Fraud?

by Jamie Bisher

### MERC RESEARCHER

Jamie Bisher is a U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, naval analyst and member of the National Intelligence Study Center in Washington, D.C.

silhouettes of occasional huts along the dark sandy beach, and behind them, dense woods "which would afford excellent concealment for a defending force." A mile down, the first straw-and-mud huts of Acajutla appeared, then about a half-dozen sturdy houses and buildings, a water tower, railway station and simple port facilities. As the ship dropped anchor 300 yards from the sleeping heart of town Martin scrutinized

**W**ILLIAM F. Martin aimed his field glasses through the porthole of his roach-infested — albeit first class — cabin on the Pacific Mail & Steamship Company's *City of Para*. A few hundred yards away, the coast of El Salvador slipped by in the night. The Pacific waters frothing on the small reef nearby probably reminded Martin of the aging ship's shortage of lifeboats. In the pre-dawn shadows Martin discerned the

the area for fortifications or camouflaged guns, but noticed neither.

Every detail was important to Captain Martin, U.S. Military Attache to Guatemala and the other countries of Central America — El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. He was the eyes and ears of the War Department's Military Intelligence Division. Martin's trip from his Guatemala City home to San Salvador afforded him the opportunity to gather the raw intelligence data that would flesh out the reports he regularly dispatched to the General Staff in Washington. Descriptions of terrain and man-made structures, even cattle ramps, that could possibly serve or deter invading or defending warriors would be studied by the Military Intelligence Division staff. Martin evaluated everything in terms of potential wartime utility. By an 1893 Act of Congress, the Military Attache's mission, simply stated, was to "obtain foreign military information from abroad."

It was April 1915. Civil war and anarchy ebbed and flowed through Mexico, from the Guatemala border to the Rio Grande. The night before, Capt. Martin had learned from his chats with the ship's crew that Pancho Villa's forces had withdrawn from a previous port-of-call at San Blas, Mexico. It was rumored on the coast that the Villistas' very survival depended on rapid resupply.

The United States closely monitored the Central American republics while nurturing her commercial assets there, particularly the recently inaugurated Panama Canal and the burgeoning United Fruit Company. American secret agents kept an eye on foreign entrepreneurs who jockeyed to carve out commercial footholds of their own in Latin America.

The opening rounds of "The Great War" occupied the Old World powers, and Europe's bloodbath oftentimes sloshed intrigue or turmoil into unlikely locales far from the trenches.

Martin traveled in civilian clothes, though of course his intelligence gathering mission as Military Attache was known to the Central American governments. In any case, local authorities viewed all foreigners with suspicion. "The arrival or departure of any official in Guatemala or Salvador is carefully noted and an attempt made to thoroughly identify the traveler, his destination, etc.," Martin wrote.

Martin rode ashore in a lighter with other passengers and cargo to be disembarked at Acajutla, then proceeded to the Comandancia to present his credentials. Tending to some business in the Wharf Company office before his train departed for San Salvador, he noticed a fellow American that he initially mistook for a Wharf employee.

The American, attired in faded khaki trousers, olive drab shirt, leather leggings, army shoes and campaign hat — obviously "a Marine or Army officer travelling incognito" — aroused Martin's curiosity. Sources in Guatemala suggested that a Marine officer was traveling in the vicinity, but this man's uniform bore no insignia.

Captain Martin assumed he was a Marine. Shortly thereafter, when he saw the stranger outside making notes of the Acajutla pier and surroundings, Martin approached him and, "beyond hearing of anyone," introduced himself.

The American introduced himself as a U.S. government geographer stationed in Managua. Fritz Duquesne was his name. Martin later reported, "He resembles somewhat Captain Douglas MacArthur, General Staff." Apparently in his early to mid-30s, Duquesne stood about six feet tall with black curly hair, dark blue eyes, fine physique, "excellent teeth and continually smiles." He said that he had horses at La Libertad and mentioned an American acquaintance, an engineer, in Ateos, El Salvador.

"His manner indicated he was familiar with the form of greeting between officers of the services," Capt. Martin noted. He mentioned Duquesne's military bearing and uniform. Martin decided that Duquesne's "geographer" identity was a thinly veiled cover for a military intelligence agent. "Upon assurances that I was whom I claimed to be," reported the Military Attache, "he did not deny his identity although not admitting it."

---

### **Martin decided that Duquesne's "geographer" identity was a thinly veiled cover for a military intelligence agent.**

---

Upon arrival in San Salvador Martin inquired about the mysterious officer at the American Legation. They had no knowledge of him. Captain Martin went on with his business, met with Salvadoran government officials and dined with the cooperative Minister of War on 27 April. Early the next morning he left San Salvador to accompany Minister Boaz Long, a senior State Department official, to La Libertad by train and mule. Minister Long was to board the *City of Para* in La Libertad that afternoon. Bidding farewell to the Minister, whom should Martin run into again, but Duquesne.

There onboard the *City of Para* they chatted amiably for about half an hour. Duquesne held a "roving commission," he said, and "knew the Marine Corps officers at Managua intimately and continued to express himself in a manner similar to what might be expected from an Army or Marine officer." Around Duquesne's neck hung a pair of regulation Goerz binoculars. The man's knowledge of Nicaragua — "the anti-American sentiment of the people, the American Minister, . . . suppressed editions of newspapers containing violent attacks upon the United States . . ." — amazed the Military Attache.

The industrious Duquesne had also "secured a great deal of information" during a two-month foray to Guatemala many weeks before. Rather loquaciously, he confided

his findings to Martin, speaking, among other things, of "the extraction of private letters from the files of high officials in Guatemala." Martin was astounded by his "remarkable inside knowledge of the political conditions in Guatemala, individual characteristics, etc., etc." Duquesne had even managed to meet several times with Guatemalan President Manuel Estrada Cabrera, thanks to an expatriate Italian named Monteforte, Chief of the Guatemalan Immigration Bureau. Duquesne bragged of having "trailed Monteforte all over the United States, but did not give the reason."

Monteforte was another strange case who had rocketed to importance in Guatemala since he surfaced there three years before in 1912. Years later an American intelligence operative accurately described Mario de Monteforte's rise to power, saying "He's a man of considerable aplomb and savoir-faire, and promptly made his way into good society in Guatemala and wormed himself into the good graces of President Manuel Estrada Cabrera. There can be no doubt that this Monteforte acted as the bravo and assassin for the President." Administration of a feared secret police force fell among the numerous responsibilities of this shady Italian.

Surprisingly, Duquesne seemed "thoroughly familiar" with Monteforte's secret, scandalous history, even more so than Capt. Martin. It was known that Monteforte had served almost six years of a seven-year sentence for a "big jewel robbery" in Mexico before his release on good behavior in 1906 or 1907. His escapades in Maracaibo — masquerading as Italian artillery officer Giuseppe d'Erico, and in Cairo — as one Carlo Paladini — probably had not yet been uncovered by the paper-laden intelligence organizations of the day. The Venezuelan Monteforte disappeared "suddenly after passing many drafts for large amounts." In Egypt this illegitimate son of a Neopolitan Camorra boss (vice Italian count, as he claimed) served nine months for horse thievery. By 1911, there was said to be an outstanding warrant for Monteforte for "the murder of his paramour in Buenos Aires," or so read the 1920 report of Dr. Forbes, a U.S. Military Intelligence Division informant in Guatemala.

Before the *City of Para* left La Libertad that day, 28 April 1915, Capt. Martin told Minister Long of the "remarkable statements" related by Duquesne. Martin may have pointed out, as he subsequently wrote to his military superiors, that "[Duquesne] said he reported directly to Mr. Garrison, the Secretary of War, and did not know what was done with his reports." As he left the ship the steward asked him to post a letter. It was addressed to a Mr. Ricardo Gaw in Ateos, from Fritz Duquesne, return address: "U.S. Legation, Managua."

Both Duquesne and Minister Long rode the *City of Para* only the short distance to La Union, El Salvador. On the way Duquesne provided a detailed explanation of the hydrography of Fonseca Bay and the topography of the surrounding country to Minister



Long in the ship's chart room. The ship's captain, who had years of experience in those waters, remarked that "Duquesne's knowledge was remarkable for its accuracy and grasp of details."

Meanwhile, his bureaucratic ire thoroughly inflamed, Capt. Martin fired off a dispatch to the War Department immediately upon his return to Guatemala. He grumbled about not being advised of the presence of another military intelligence officer in his territory. "It would seem to the best interests of the service that visits of this and any other officer be confidentially known by [the Military Attache] and that copies of their reports be furnished the War College Division." Fearing that Duquesne's covert ramblings might unravel the progress made in San Salvador, Martin wrote, "there is probably no question of the fact that his visit is known to the secret service of Salvador and might be regarded with suspicion."

Captain Martin remembered a personal note placed in the *Army & Navy Journal* some time back about a "Lieutenant Duquesne, USMC, who speaks Japanese fluently," being detailed for some special duty. However, consulting the lists of officers in the Army and Navy Registers, Capt. Martin found no "Duquesne."

A Mr. Kastan, German manager of a Managua bank passing through San Salvador, informed him that Fritz Duquesne was "a Boer who hates the English." He also said, "Mr. Duquesne has been living with Mr. O'Connel, the manager of the railway, in Managua. His wife is there and she told me her husband is hunting." During their conversation on deck of the *City of Para* Duquesne had mentioned to Capt. Martin that he carried a shotgun and 150 shells with him, but had not fired it for years. Mr. Kasten added that Duquesne was not a Marine officer. "He is a lecturer and borrowed the Marine clothes he wears from the Marine camp at Managua."

Captain Martin decided to investigate Duquesne's American acquaintance in Ateos, El Salvador, a civil engineer named Ricardo Gaw. Gaw confirmed that he knew Duquesne — for a little less than three weeks. Shortly before crossing Martin's *path in Acajutla*, Duquesne had shown up at Gaw's home in Ateos claiming to be an "Engineer of the SMI (Secret Military Information) of the United States." Gaw invited him to stay. "He said he was expecting a brother officer to arrive overland from Guatemala," related Gaw, "and he was awaiting him at Ateos." The day Duquesne arrived, a mysterious telegram was sent from Ateos reading, "Tomocoannel, Managua. Acabo de llegar aqui. (signed) Captain" ["I have just arrived here"]. Duquesne professed not to speak any Spanish.

Over the next several days Duquesne took scores of photographs of the surrounding countryside with a very expensive camera he carried. Noticing the excellent sketches he recorded in his notebook, Gaw marvelled at the "SMI" man's civil engineering abilities. Gaw noted, "He was

especially interested in the poisonous swamps" — swamps crossed by the main road between San Salvador and Acajutla. Captain Martin immediately thought of the impossibility of moving artillery over the road in the rainy season. "Duquesne took samples of the water and mud from these swamps and carefully bottled them," Gaw testified. "He was also greatly interested in the subject of coal in the vicinity and seemed to be disappointed at not securing better results."



This photo of Duquesne accompanied an article he wrote on tiger hunting in India for *Everybody's Magazine*, March 1911. Photo: Library of Congress

Most peculiar was a fresh bullet wound in Duquesne's shoulder that he often had Gaw dress for him. According to Gaw, "He also had an old, long scar near the groin which he said was from shrapnel," and another long bayonet scar on his stomach, "... which he said was done several years ago."

Talkative Duquesne told Gaw of having been a military attache to Belgium, an observer in the Russo-Japanese War and an inventor of some sort of gun. He rattled on with obvious expertise in explosives, knowledge of medicine, France and parts of Honduras, and claimed to speak Japanese and fluent French. (Mr. Kastan had suggested that he spoke fluent German or Dutch as well.) Duquesne swore that he saw Japanese warships leaving Fonseca Bay ear-

ly one morning and avowed that the Japanese had a wireless station planted somewhere on Central America's Pacific coast. Concerning the World War he placed his sympathies with the allies. For some reason he pointed out that he had never been to Mexico or the Philippines. Certainly in 1915, Duquesne's knowledge of the globe was quite a rare thing.

Duquesne traveled with an "American Eagle" Luger pistol (and a "great quantity" of ammunition), a large, double-locked and chained kit bag, two small books from the Royal Geographic Society, and "plenty of gold, but no Salvador money," said an astonished Gaw.

When, after 11 days, the "brother officer" failed to show up, Duquesne went to San Salvador for two days, returned to stay at Gaw's one night, then left for Acajutla where he encountered Capt. Martin.

In San Salvador Duquesne had checked into El Nuevo Mundo Hotel and promptly met up with the Keeneys, a pair of Irish-American brothers peddling eye glasses throughout Central America. Perhaps as an oversight, Duquesne enscribed in the hotel register, for himself and one of the Keeneys, too, that they had come from Santa Ana, El Salvador. The desk clerk recalled Duquesne's claim to be a Boer and his expressed hatred for the English. The Keeneys had the bad habit of popping into the American Charge d'Affaires' Legation office when he was out, supposedly to look at the American newspapers. They addressed Duquesne as "Captain" and were overheard discussing a previous meeting with "the Captain" in San Francisco. The threesome was "well supplied with money" according to an American photographer they befriended at the hotel.

More than one month after he first met Duquesne, Capt. Martin finally received a response to his inquiries about the strange officer from Washington. Martin's memorandum had floated straight up to Secretary of War Garrison, Duquesne's alleged boss. Surely Capt. Martin's eyes widened when he read, "... he knows nothing whatever of this man."

Martin's investigation intensified. Mr. Klum, the American Consul in the Pacific port of Corinto, Nicaragua, stated that Duquesne had made several trips from there "but that no one knew where"; that he claimed to be a writer who was especially interested in taking moving pictures of the railway. According to the consul, Duquesne had allegedly authored several articles in the *New York World* "attacking ratification of the Nicaragua Canal Treaty." Another informant, the American Collector of Customs at Corinto who admired Duquesne, and a Marine lieutenant, remembered his appearance at a dress ball in Managua wearing a German artillery officer's uniform. The former vouched for Duquesne's strong military interest and apparent knowledge of state-of-the-art weaponry.

Some time before, a Commander Holden, captain of the U.S.S. *Annapolis*, which had been anchored in Corinto harbor,



**Captain Martin took this photo of the pier at La Libertad, El Salvador for intelligence files. Tramp steamer in the distance is the *City of Para*. Photo: National Archives, Military Intelligence Division**

had run into Duquesne while he was half-way en route to Managua. According to a later report to Washington, "Duquesne greeted him most cordially and informed him that he was 'from the American Legation. . .'" Mrs. Duquesne joined them in Managua and they remained together, with the U.S. Minister in tow, all day.

Captain Martin also consulted a Mr. Wilson, railway manager in Corinto, for information on Duquesne. Wilson had 14 years service as a Secret Service agent of the Military Intelligence Division and had helped crack a Japanese spy ring in Manila four years before in 1911. Wilson knew that the suspect was an able civil engineer, good photographer, explosives and weapons expert and a military veteran — "probably in the Boer War." While eavesdropping, Wilson overheard Mr. and Mrs. Duquesne "discussing the advisability of leaving \$700 in gold in one of their sealed trunks the night before they left." Wilson concluded his interview with Capt. Martin by saying that "Duquesne constantly associated with Germans in Nicaragua and was so pro-German in his sympathies, there might be good reason to suspect he is employed by the English." Wilson's view may have been tainted somewhat — he worked for the railway company and his boss was Tom O'Connel, Duquesne's host in Managua. O'Connel worked for a German who had controlled the Nicaraguan railway for the past 12 years.

In mid-June the mysterious Boer, wife at his side, boarded a steamship in Cortino bound for Balboa, Panama. Mrs. Duquesne was a young, blue-eyed woman of "rather stout build," apparently English. Mr. Klum the American Consul accompanied them aboard the steamer. At the quarantine station in Balboa, where the couple spent the night upon their arrival, Duquesne again awed a fascinated listener with his stories, this time the Quarantine Officer, Dr. Hoey. Though the occupation listed in his U.S. passport read "Agricultural Exploitation," the traveler confided to Dr. Hoey that he was actually an Army officer "on special

-duty with the Intelligence Department."

The following day, 9 June 1915, the Duquesnes checked into the Central Hotel in Panama City under the watchful eye of U.S. Canal Zone undercover policemen. They secluded themselves in their room for most of their four-day visit, even though the wife had relatives living in town. Nevertheless, at around 2000 hours on their last night in Panama City, the "Captain" appeared in the Ancon Police Station complaining about being followed from the hotel to a moving picture show. He described his tail as being "tall, balding and evidently an Englishman." Strangely enough, the man he described was a Canal Zone police officer, but not the one detailed to follow Duquesne. When he left the police station Duquesne stated that he would return the following day to "ascertain whether or not he was wanted by the American authorities for anything."

Next day, instead of returning to the police station, Duquesne and wife boarded Passenger Train No. 6 for Colon. By early afternoon they were joined by nine pieces of luggage forwarded from Corinto to the S.S. *Panama* at pier four. Only the two bags they carried had been inspected.

The Duquesnes left the ship for just two hours to visit the nearby home of the Arbouin family, long-time acquaintances it seemed. Mr. Arbouin, a Jamaican, related that Mrs. Duquesne, nee Alice Wortly of Kingston, was the daughter of an English clergyman and had married the South African-born "Captain" eight years before in New York.

At 0800 the next morning, two hours before the S.S. *Panama* sailed, the Duquesnes ventured into Colon to shop, visited Mr. Arbouin's office for about 10 minutes, then returned to the ship. Shortly thereafter the Arbouins went aboard to bid them

farewell.

When the S.S. *Panama* steamed out of Colon for Trinidad that morning, Duquesne disappeared from the view of American intelligence. Initially concerned that Duquesne might have come with "nefarious designs on the Canal," Canal Zone Chief of Police H.D. Mitchell could only conclude in a memorandum to the Acting Governor that "nothing unusual was observed, save that he appeared to be very suspicious and to be aware of being under surveillance."

Nevertheless, Capt. Martin had become noticeably preoccupied with Duquesne's peculiar behavior. Three months after the Duquesnes' June 1915 departure from Panama into oblivion, Martin wrote, "It is not desired to give undue importance to the movements of this individual, but aside from the fact that he posed as an officer collecting military information, the fact that he made himself thoroughly familiar with Fonseca Bay and other strategical points and has been able to keep his true identity a secret from every official in Central America and Panama, makes a thorough investigation of him seem worthwhile."

Officers at the Military Intelligence Division in Washington noticed Martin's obsession. As one staff officer scribbled to another, "Mr. Duquesne is a pet subject with Capt. Martin. He has been following this man's trail for many a day. Have you seen the other papers he has written on Mr. Duquesne? I wish we could resolve the mystery for him."

Information on Duquesne's sketchy past trickled in to the Attache's Guatemala City office from a variety of informants. From "W.B.M." — probably William B. Mallory, an editor of the *New York World* newspaper — a gossipy letter outlined Duquesne's earlier activities in New York City. "W.B.M." had met him in 1903 or 1904, when the "Captain" was reporting for *The Evening Sun* newspaper. "He wore Windsor ties and a Kossuth hat and spoke with the accent of a British West Indian colonel . . . He was exceedingly boastful of alleged war experiences and his personal quality of bravery. He talked like a hero of those adventure magazine stories you can't stomach. The impression he gave me at the time was that he was making a hard endeavor to be picturesque. His position on *The Evening Sun* was obscure and, of course, so was his work . . ."

One of "W.B.M.'s" friends, obviously another newspaperman, added that, in 1905, "D. was fired for borrowing money and not paying it back and being generally a damned liar. He was caught telephoning from a cigar store a block away from the office while at the time he pretended to be in the office in Harlem . . . [He] was thoroughly no account." Curiously, this informant stated that, at the time, Duquesne had a wife from Bermuda. In Panama, Mr. Arbouin had testified that Duquesne did not marry — a Jamaican — until 1907. "W.B.M.'s" scathing description of Duquesne was tempered by a few flattering

renditions from some of the Boer's acquaintances.

Apparently, after leaving *The Evening Sun* in 1905, the "Captain" acted as press agent for a "Boer military carnival" in Madison Square Garden. He authored a few good stories for *Adventure* magazine, then dropped out of sight in 1907.

Phoenix-like, Duquesne reappeared in New York six years later. Contrary to his character, the loquacious Boer never spoke of this extended absence. However, he spoke a good deal of his upcoming trip to South America. To some friends he said he would cross the continent taking pictures for an exhibition in San Francisco; to others, that he would sail at the head of an Amazon expedition "to outdo [Teddy] Roosevelt." He told a well-known German photographer that he was going to investigate the rubber cultivation potential of Central America for "certain French capitalists." Duquesne's objective was the interior of Bolivia or Peru, said another source.

William Mullins, United Fruit Company General Manager in Limon, Costa Rica, said that a Capt. and Mrs. Duquesne had arrived there from New York, via Jamaica and Panama, on 7 March 1914. Duquesne came with "quite an assortment of firearms and cartridges" and debated whether or not to leave them in Limon before a short trip to Guatemala. He departed Limon for Guatemala, with his small arsenal, after just a three-day respite. Sometime later he wrote

the general manager a friendly letter from Guatemala, saying that President Estrada Cabrera had confiscated his guns, was intercepting his mail and "having him followed around by special agents." Very strange, since Duquesne had told Mullins that "he acted as Cabrera's special agent in New York." Obviously, the "Captain's" Luger and shotgun were returned to him. Thence, he settled down in Managua with railway manager Tom O'Connell and commenced his thorough reconnaissance of the region.

The Boer's true profession and the source of funds for his extensive travels could only be guessed at. An intelligence officer at the War College bestowed upon Duquesne the title of "Soldier of Fortune"; he also dubbed him an "artistic liar."

Captain Martin and others concluded that the Boer himself had placed the personal note in the *Army & Navy Journal* concerning "Lieutenant Duquesne, USMC," but for what purpose? Why did he masquerade as an American military officer, geographer, and spy? Who fired the bullet plucked from his shoulder in April? Where had he been between 1907 and 1913? Was there a connection between the scoundrel Monteforte in Guatemala, the wandering Keeny brothers, nondescript Mr. Arbouin in Panama and Tom O'Connell in Managua?

Monteforte once again attracted the attention of American intelligence in 1920, when evidence surfaced connecting him with suspected Bolshevik agents operating in Cen-

tral America.

Fritz Duquesne would remain a mystery though. In March 1916, only nine months after he sailed from Panama, a newspaper announced that the "Captain" had been "killed in battle with Indians on the Bolivian frontier." A final entry to that effect was typed onto Duquesne's record in the Military Intelligence Division.

But then, the sly Boer just may have penned his own deceitful obituary. ✖

## OMAN'S COBRAS

*Continued from page 47*

ex-SAS NCO. Remaining officers and soldiers in the unit are jebalis. Omani officers are selected for service with the Cobras as part of their career profile but they must successfully complete the training. During the training period they are assessed for temperament and operational capability.

As the Cobra motto states, these soldiers are now "ready to strike." The Cobra was chosen as their emblem because it epitomizes the role of these teams: fast and deadly, but only striking when provoked. Cobras are organized into two teams and these teams change every two years. During their two-year tour each Cobra team spends every second month at 15-minute standby in Muscat. Regimental headquarters is more than 1,000 kilometers from Muscat, so there is a

## Learn the Secrets . . . Clandestine Operations, Security, Freedom & Privacy



### NEVER SAY LIE!

Find out how the FBI, IRS, CIA, job screening firms, detectives and countless others use various methods of lie detection. Using the polygraph, the super secret science of kinesic interviewing, drug testing, handwriting analysis etc., those in power are deciding your future. Learn to mislead anyone and know when others are lying. Beat the system--here is the knowledge you need to overcome the tests that can ruin your career and your life! 8 1/2 x 11, 42 photos, 164 pages, softcover. \$19.95

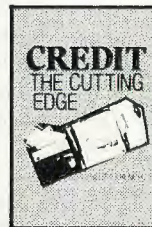
BOOKS!



### HOW TO GET ANYTHING ON ANYBODY

This is the encyclopedia of advanced investigative and surveillance techniques used by virtually every serious intelligence agency in the world! Now you can learn every trick used by detective and intelligence agencies. A source guide to assembling three super spy systems that out-class any packaged system for thousands of dollars less! Over 100 sources for surveillance and counter surveillance gear. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, illus., 264 pages. \$30.00

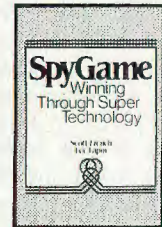
BOOKS!



### CREDIT: THE CUTTING EDGE

This hard-and-fast course in professional credit counseling reveals step-by-step instructions on how to legally repair damaged credit the same way the pros do it and offers more devious tricks that work like financial black magic. The 70 least-known credit facts, getting cards with no credit check, dealing with collection agencies and more! Use this info for your own needs or to set up shop as a credit counselor. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 264 pp. \$19.95

BOOKS!



### SPYGAME: WINNING THROUGH SUPER TECHNOLOGY

Scott French & Lee Lapin have put together an arsenal of information! Here is everything you need to know about covert ops & surveillance. Electronic surveillance, ballistic armor, high-tech weapons, and more -- this book provides information on all the equipment you'll ever need! Climb walls, read minds, change your voice--it's all here plus much more! Formerly Ninja 1990. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 520 pages. \$30.00

## CEP, INCORPORATED

P.O. Box 865-9HS Boulder, CO 80306 (303) 443-2294

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Enclosed:  Check or Money Order,  VISA,  MasterCard.

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me the following (indicate quantity desired):

\_\_\_\_ SPYGAME: WINNING THROUGH SUPER TECHNOLOGY . . . \$30.00

\_\_\_\_ HOW TO GET ANYTHING ON ANYBODY . . . \$30.00

\_\_\_\_ CREDIT: THE CUTTING EDGE . . . \$19.95

\_\_\_\_ NEVER SAY LIE! . . . \$19.95

Total and add \$3.50 postage & handling. TOTAL amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

political and strategic requirement to have a team permanently in the north. The team in Dhofar, in the south of Oman, is on three-hours' notice to move. In the event of an incident in Muscat the second team would make a priority move by air force C-130 transport plane.

Each team has its own dedicated vehicles and these are either specially designed Land-Rovers or Toyota Land Cruisers. The Land-Rovers have folding platforms on their roofs and some of them are armored. Armor is added in case they have to be used for an immediate assault against a stronghold. An immediate assault with its high attendant risks would only be launched if the terrorists suddenly started massacring their hostages.

Clothing and equipment used by the Cobras is based on the experiences of the ex-SAS squadron commander and the training officer, who have operational experience world wide. The Cobras have the best combination of gear available commercially. Basic uniform consists of a black fireproof overall and hood, with black Adidas GSG9 boots. Leather holsters from Britain are carried slung low on the thigh. Three magazines for the MP-5 are carried on the opposite side to the pistol, which has an extended 20-round magazine. An aircrew "upside-down" knife is sewn to the overalls. Spare shotgun cartridges are carried on a wrist bandolier as are spare Browning magazines. Over the overalls goes a set of body armor which sits above the holster. Protection of

this body armor can be increased by inserting ceramic plates in pockets on front and rear. These plates will stop an AK-47 round at close range. Normally a Cobra will wear his gas mask or a balaclava to conceal his identity. Helmets are unpopular and are only used during abseil training. Protective goggles and gloves complete the wardrobe of each Cobra. The Cobras have recently obtained British Cougar personal radios which allows encrypted speech within groups. Codes can be changed at will so the chance of terrorists or the media eavesdropping are remote.

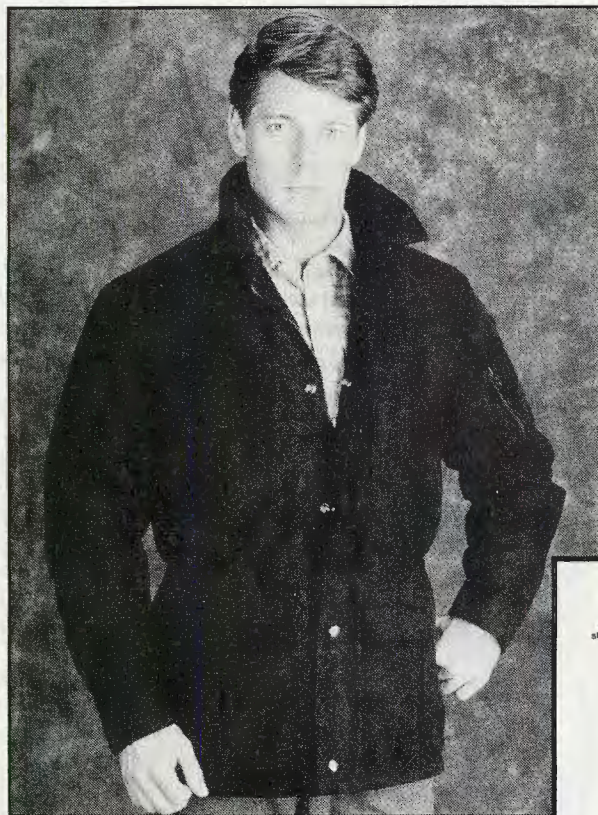
During their two-year tour some of the Cobras will visit other special forces units and counterterrorist teams. These visits allow team members to observe various techniques, compare tactics and use various weapons and equipment. These exchanges also benefit the hosts because they can establish liaison with a unit that may support them in the event of a deployment. During the last three years Cobras have visited West Germany's GSG9, Britain's 22 SAS as well as units in Jordan and Hong Kong. Cobras also train with other special forces based in the countries of the Arabian Gulf. Unfortunately, politics have precluded a visit to the U.S. Delta Force, but this may be a future possibility.

One particularly beneficial visit was to the Royal Hong Kong Police. This police force has an extremely effective Special Duties Unit responsible for counterterror-

ism. This unit also has a reputation second to none in the field of maritime operations. They have perfected the techniques of assaulting ships alongside, ships at anchor and even ships underway. They have a water unit which can approach a vessel underwater, using rebreathing equipment, and can climb aboard in total silence. While watching the oriental members of this unit operate one is immediately reminded of the Ninjas. These black-clad figures, using special techniques, climb almost magically up the sheer sides of large merchant ships.

Unfortunately, interservice cooperation and command and control in Oman leaves much to be desired. Oman is essentially a police state and the Royal Oman Police are light on experience and strong on arrogance. The police are responsible for containing any terrorist incidents and only later call in the Cobras. In reality though there is a great deal of jealousy toward the special forces and so liaison is poor. The police have a quasi-counterterrorist force that attempts to emulate the Cobras, with little success. Its young, immature constables are not in the same league as the "wild men from the mountains."

Also, the police hierarchy is plagued internally with petty jealousies and there is always the concern among senior officers of losing face if they make a wrong decision—therefore they make no decisions. In a terrorist incident where split-second action must be taken in order to save lives, this



## ASSAULT SYSTEMS SHOOTING JACKET

**Insulated With 3-M Thinsulate.** Superbly designed and made in the U.S., it'll keep you warm, dry, and ready for action. The outer shell is a special weave of supplex nylon that's extremely rugged, and wind resistant. Ballistic nylon shooting patches beautifully accent the coat. Between the shell and the nylon taffeta lining, a layer of 3-M® Thinsulate® keeps cold air out, warm air in. Further protection by a stand up collar with built in hood, waist and bottom draw-cord, Velcro cuffs, and a full length 2-way zipper with storm flap. On the outside are two Velcro® sealed cargo pockets covering side-entry handwarmers, a flap chest pocket, and a vertical-zip gun pocket to stow a small handgun.

Any active shooter or outdoorsman will fully appreciate the features combined in this unique shooting jacket.

**MODEL #AJB-Black**

**Available Sizes: S(36-38) M(39-41)  
L(42-44) XL(45-47)**

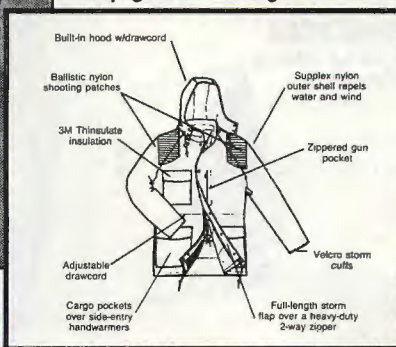
**SPECIAL  
INTRODUCTORY PRICE  
\$190.00**

### GUARANTEE

Assault Systems Shooting Jacket carries a lifetime guarantee against factory defects in material or workmanship. Both parts and labor are included.

### THE COMPLETE SYSTEM

Only ASSAULT SYSTEMS offers a complete line weapons cases, holsters, gear bags, Luggage, and accessories in nylon. Send \$2.00 for 28-page color catalog.



**TOLL FREE ORDER LINE  
1-800-325-3049  
Missouri 314-343-3575  
TWX 9107601429**

Include \$6.00 shipping and handling. (Canada, Hawaii, and foreign \$10.00) MasterCard, VISA, American Express, Diners Club, Money Order, Check or C.O.D. Merchandise held for clearance of checks not certified. Dealers and Law Enforcement inquire on Dept. letterhead or F.F.L.



**ASSAULT SYSTEMS**

**COMSEC INTERNATIONAL INC.  
ASSAULT SYSTEMS DIVISION  
1075 Headquarters Park  
Fenton, Missouri USA 63026**

**ORDER  
TOLL FREE  
800-643-1564**

Coit Authorized Parts Distributor  
Handgun Accessories by Wilson Combat



Match Trigger \$17.50

Extended Magazine Release \$22.95

Extended Safety \$24.95

Mag. Well Funnel \$30

Wilson Beavertail Grip  
Safety ..... \$21.95

Wilson .45 Match Magazine \$23.95  
8-Round .45 Magazine by MAG-PAC \$23.95  
9-Round 10MM Magazine by MAG-PAC \$26.95

Law Enforcement Inquires Invited

**L. L. Baston Co.**

P.O. Box 1995  
El Dorado, AR 71730

Send \$2 for complete catalog

infighting is of some concern to the commander of the Cobras.

Regardless of these problems, the Cobras are always vigilant like their reptile namesake, waiting for the moment when their country will need them, constantly training and revising techniques. The black-clad avengers of Oman, the Cobras, are the nation's scalpel, ready to excise terrorists who may try to infringe upon the liberty of their fellow Omanis. ✂

## PROWLING FOR POWs

*Continued from page 35*

De Duc and there I ran into Chief Warrant Officer Eddy Scott, a friend and classmate of mine from flight school. He was flying a scout ship for Charlie Troop and they had taken a lot of hits. He told Jerry and me to stay at altitude in the De Duc area, since there were so many NVA that our mission was pointless anyway. As shaken up as the four of us where, we could not have agreed with him more.

Back at our bivouac area we parked our H-13s and shut them down. As I started toward the place where I would set up my pup tent, I looked back and saw Paul Bechburger lean back against the bubble of his chopper and have a violent case of shakes, just as I had had earlier while airborne. As Paul leaned against the bubble and shook, I was thankful that my shakes had come while I was in the air where no one could see.

It was rainy at De Duc so we pitched our tents individually along a hedgerow behind a house. Several of us made a poker table using heavy planks and small hardwood mill wheels for seats. For chips we used various small arms ammunition, .45s were quarters, .38s were dimes and 5.56s were nickles.

After a few days of toe-to-toe slugging it out with the Cav's various elements, the NVA had melted away into the hills. Groups of two, three and four would endeavor on their own to hide wherever they could, until the time came for them to reassemble elsewhere. It was at this time that, in my opinion, 1/9th scouts did their best work.

Just over the first range of mountains west of the Bong-Song coastal plains was the An Lao valley. Before long we would have our share of adventure in that lovely place, but in those early days we found ourselves searching for a regimental headquarters and an underground hospital reported to be in the area.

As the NVA broke up and headed for the hills, Colonel John Hemphill's 2/12th, "Wild Joker," went in pursuit and we were often sent to support this crack infantry unit in its mission. We began flying real search missions again, not just the "let's see how many people can shoot at us today" type stuff we had experienced the first day.

We would slip up and down the hillsides, always moving horizontally along the face of the mountain. This kept us from being



## THE TRUE STORY OF LT. GEN. MITCHELL L. WERBELL III AND "WHISPERING DEATH" AVAILABLE NOW ON THIS EXPLOSIVE DOCU-VIDEO.

**The True Facts Of This Brave Soldier Revealed By His Sons.**

Recently slandered in death by TV networks and supermarket scandal rags as having been a "Georgia Hitman" for porno publisher Larry Flynt, The General barks back through sons Mitchell IV and Geoffrey. Accusations of WerBell having been paid \$1,000,000 to "hit" Frank Sinatra, Bob Guccione and Hugh Hefner were libelous and untrue, and this docu-video sets the record straight by unveiling the mystery of General WerBell's admittedly complex life via secret

files from his personal archives. Shot on location at the Sionics Anti-Terrorist Training Center at the WerBells' Powder Springs, Ga. farm, it's 45-minutes of truth, action, high-impact fire fights, and the inside story of the late General's "whispering death" concept that confounded the experts. Incredible but true.

**BQV345 \$14.95**

**THE PATHFINDER by AL MAR** Awesomely sharp on both top and bottom for TOTAL effectiveness. Overall length 19 3/4"; Blade length 14"; Handle 5 3/4"; Thickness 3/8". Blade steel, AM6; Rockwell Hardness RC 57-59. Black, glass-filled Zytel handle. Comes with deluxe sheath set up for cross draw. Features: 2 small Velcro closure pockets, quick attach belt loops, eyeleted lacing loops and drain hole. Made of coated Cordura® Nylon. Made in Japan.

**AMP401 \$249.95**



## PIT-STOP® 14-DAY-PLUS DEODORANT

Amazing anti-bacterial deodorant blocks body odor for 8-14 days OR LONGER and does not contain Aluminum Chlorohydrate used by other products because excessive concentrations have been discovered in Alzheimer's victims. Use under arms or on feet for odor-blocking while in the field, hunting, or? Personally used and recommended by Brigade President Mitchell L. Werbell IV.

**PBD201, Pit Stop Underarm Deodorant \$13.95**  
**PFD100, Pit Stop Foot Deodorant \$15.95**



**ORDER TOLL FREE 800/228-7344**

**FREE Brigade Quartermasters ACTION GEAR catalog with order. Or send \$2.00 for Catalog.**

Order enclosed, send FREE catalog.  \$2 enclosed, send CATALOG only.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



**Brigade  
Quartermasters**

1025 Cobb International Blvd./Dept. 60-Z  
Kennesaw, Georgia 30144-4300

**FREE with order**

targets on most flights and we began to be very efficient executioners, a role we took no real pride in.

I had mixed feelings about this, but as bad as it was, it was better than leaving NVA alive to attack American troops somewhere else. Often, orders for the day would be: Find NVA in this or that area for the Blues to pick up for interrogation.

We would drift up and down hillsides, following trails and literally looking under big rocks until we would find several NVA huddled on the ground, trying to hide. We would radio our find back to headquarters as we backed off far enough to arm our rockets. Orders would be "Wait, we're checking it out." Then the bad news would come, "Wrong area, Fixer. Are they making any signs of surrender?"

We would reply, "Negative," and then they would come back with, "Kill them if you can."

"For God's sake, can't you send someone out to take them prisoner?"

"There is no one available. Shoot them!"

"Roger," we'd reply, and then we'd cut loose. Sometimes they would understand and take off running for cover, but usually, they would just crouch in their holes until our rockets hit. Common sense told me that the senior officers were right; it was foolish to send a platoon after every little band of three or four armed men, but it took all the rationalization I could muster before I could accept what I was doing.

Dealing death like we were, I found myself wondering about an afterlife and religion as I had never wondered before. I never did come up with answers, just more questions. Distasteful as it was, looking back, I can see that what we did was the only effective way to counter the NVA tactic of breaking into such small units that there was no effective way to go after them. It was as if when a deer hunter took aim at a nice fat buck the animal was able to turn itself into molecules of gas, disperse, and reassemble elsewhere.

During this period of Operation Masher, I landed at Colonel Hemphill's CP to see what sector he wanted me to concentrate on. One of our crew chiefs, a young fellow from New England, was flying observer for me. Colonel Hemphill greeted me with his usual, "How are you doing today, Mr. Bray," and held out his hand. I'd always salute before shaking his hand and did so today. A Second Lieutenant stood nearby while the S-3 briefed me on the area they wanted checked out.

I paid the Lieutenant no mind until Colonel Hemphill came over and introduced him to me. "Mr. Bray, this is Mike Durkin. He just got out here in the field with us today and would like to see some action. Would you mind letting him fly a mission with you?"

I didn't even look at him as I shook his hand — I was making notes on my map — but I told the Colonel that as long as my observer did not mind sitting one out, I'd be glad to take him along, providing he could read a map.

## NAVY SEAL VIDEOS...NAVAL SEAL VIDEOS

SEE THE MEN THE VC  
WOULD NOT FACE.  
SEE WHY!



The COMPLETE MUSEUM COLLECTION now available! Tapes \$19.95 each. Save money: any 4 for \$76.95, all 6 tapes, only \$99! Includes shipping and handling.

"NAVY SEALS IN VIETNAM" Explosive video shows SEALs as they really were! First video written by SEAL TEAM ONE members. Covers uniforms, weapons, operations; all gear peculiar to SEAL use.

"NAVY SEALS ON PATROL" Rare footage of REAL SEALs in VIETNAM. Shot in Vietnam in 1968 by SEAL TEAM members. See an entire operation performed and explained! A MUST for any serious collector!

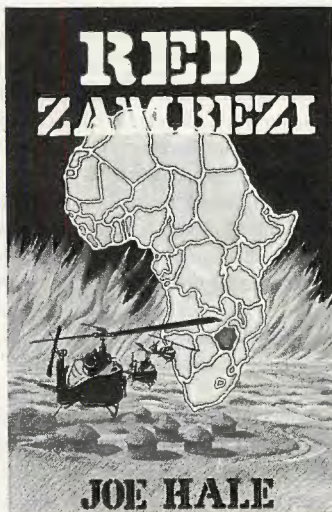
"MEN WITH GREEN FACES" A Real Classic! 1968 Defense Department documentary on UDT-SEAL BUD/S training.

"SOMEONE SPECIAL" 1972 recruiting film for Naval Special Warfare. One of the best to date!

"THE LONELY WARRIOR" Korean era b&w film. THE original film about NAVY Frogmen!

"SUBMARINE TRUNK TRAINING" Actual film used by the Navy to teach SEALs to lock in and out of submarines for covert operations. Fascinating!

Specify tape titles when placing order. Send check or money order to LOTI GROUP PRODUCTIONS, Dept. S., 8341 S.W. 157 Avenue, Suite 311, Miami, FL 33193. All tape sales benefit UDT-SEAL MUSEUM.



"...THE STORY MUST BE TOLD."

Jeff Cooper  
Guns & Ammo

"Red Zambesi" is more than just an adventure romp through the southern African bushveld; it's an outstanding piece of historical fiction that throws more light on how war-time Rhodesia fought than most other of its more clinical non-fiction brothers."

"...Red Zambesi is a wild ride through fire fights, ambushes, deep-penetration raids, assassination attempts, political skullduggery and the murky world of intelligence operations."

John Coleman  
Soldier of Fortune

"...Red Zambesi reads like fast-paced thriller and is historically accurate."

"It is a tale of proud soldiers, and warriors..."

Richard N. Anderson  
International Combat Arms

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED



For Fastest Service Call  
TOLL FREE  
1-800-422-9010 Ext. 4041




(Account Number - Visa & Mastercard Only)

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies @ \$19.95 each. Total \_\_\_\_\_ TO:

NAME

PHONE NO.

ADDRESS

CITY

(Allow at least four weeks for delivery)

STATE

ZIP

J&T PUBLISHING, 401 S. W. 11 Ave., SOF, Portland, OR 97205



Style 001



Style 002

**\$9.95**

Quality T-Shirts, Silk Screen Design.  
Dealer Inquiries Welcome; Group Discounts,  
T-Shirts available in S, M, L, XL.  
Colors: white, OD, gray or blue.

PHONE ORDERS FILLED IN 24 HOURS  
1-800-359-9494

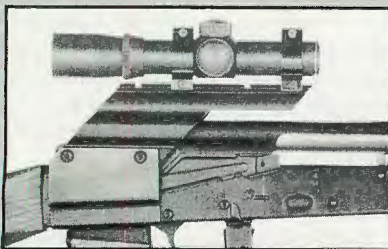
Check/MO to: Urban Survival Products  
1200 Westlake Avenue North, Dept SF  
Seattle, Washington 98109

Sales Order Form (print or type)

Name _____				
Address _____				
City _____		ST _____	Zip _____	
VISA _____	MC _____	Exp _____	Male _____	Female _____
CARD # _____				
Qty	Style	Size	Color	Amount
Shipping/Handling Total				2.50
Signature _____				

Photos by Ron Bailey

## AK47 Scope Mount



B-Square has a new receiver mounted scope mount for AK47/AKM/AKS rifles.

This *no-gunsmithing* mount attaches to the gun by simply clamping it between the gun's handle and receiver bottom to provide rigid no-movement mounting. The gun's sights can be used with the scope installed, and it does not need to be removed for cleaning, etc., since it does not interfere with gun disassembly.

Our mount has a standard dovetail for rings and other devices. Only \$59.95 suggested list price. When you're serious about mounting your handgun, shotgun, military or sporting rifle, **insist that your dealer carry B-Square.**

Contact your dealer!



**B-SQUARE CO.**  
Fort Worth, Texas

As we took off, I told Mike what we had been finding and advised him to watch under rocks and bushes as we passed them. As I spoke, we had covered perhaps a mile. Now on my left, I saw a stack of immense boulders, larger than houses, that formed a natural cave.

In the cave's mouth, peacefully watching the fighting in the valley below, sat an NVA next to his black-rubber-tire sandals. I almost dumped the chopper bringing it to a hover, and at that moment had an inspiration.

"There's one now, Lieutenant. Want to take a prisoner?" I said.

Startled by my sudden maneuver, Mike could only stammer, "Uh, Oh, Yeah, Sure." The NVA ran inside the cave. Jerry Leadabrand and Tex Helms were several hundred yards ahead of us and I transmitted, "We have a North Vietnamese cornered and we're going to land and pick him up." Then I turned off my radio before Jerry could order me to stay airborne.

We found a small, terraced rice paddy a couple of hundred feet down the hill and I made a quick circle of the paddy to make sure we weren't landing in the midst of a bunch of Charlies.

Confident that I had one of Hemphill's well-trained infantry officers along to protect me from my poor marksmanship, I handed Durkin an M16 and pulled my .45. He was carrying no weapon and my observer had taken his with him. I felt more confident with my .45 (on which I barely qualified) than I did with an M16, which I had only fired one-handed from my door hinge where I had it mounted. After all, Hemphill's troops were the best I'd worked with outside of our own Blues.

Before starting up the hill, I took one M34 WP (White Phosphorous) grenade from the case between the seats and placed it in the pocket of my flak vest. We looked for a trail leading up to the cave and as I tried one, my grenade slipped down between two large rocks. Not about to stand on my head trying to get it back I went to join Mike who yelled that he had found a trail. As we started up the trail I noticed Mike studying his M16.

"What are you doing?" I asked.

"How do you work this damned thing?" he replied.

"What do you mean 'how do you work that thing?' For God's sake, you're an infantry officer, aren't you?"

"Negative, Chief, I'm a frigging medic."

He flipped up his collar so I could see his insignia and for the first time, I really looked at him. Above his big, wise-ass grin, sat a pair of coke-bottle glasses that projected his eyeballs to the front of his face.

"I've never even held one of these things!"

Still, I felt committed and showed Mike how to work the safety and had him set it on semi as I prayed to myself that this dumb stunt wasn't going to get us killed. I was tired of shooting people and, besides, Fred Carl and Sergeant Butt had taken a prisoner the day before. They were both small and so

when they saw an NVA waving at them with rifle pointed down over his shoulder and a safe conduct pass in his hand, they landed, sat him on Butt's lap and flew him in. This would give me a chance to play catch-up if it worked.

As Mike and I headed up the twisted trail, Jerry and Tex kept passing back and forth overhead, which is probably what saved us from getting our butts shot off. I acknowledged their presence with a casual wave, but would not look directly at them because I knew Jerry would be waving me back toward my chopper.

We reached the cave entrance and Mike covered me as I went inside, jumping from one boulder to another inside as we went down successive levels. When we'd reach a corner, lead man would cover while second man would move to the front and proceed.

Just as Mike passed me for the second time, I saw our quarry slip beneath a rock at his feet. I yelled and Mike, who had balls even if he didn't know how to shoot an M16, reached down and dragged him out by his ankles.

He was a pitiful figure, this "warrior from the north." He had a two-day growth of beard and could not have been over five feet tall, yet it was obvious that he was several years older than either of us.

I now told Mike to put his M16 on safe since we were surrounded by solid rock. One accidental shot would ricochet around until it got one of us and I had no desire to die by my own hand, or by Mike's.

We looked around the well-lit comfort of the shelter. From where we were we could see another trail leading out of the cave, which was open at the back. Our man obviously had friends nearby. There were three hammocks that had been fashioned out of parachute-flare material. Near them was a bundle of khaki uniforms, a large leather saddlebag, a gunnysack half-full of potatoes and about a dozen rolls of cooked rice.

I thought that we might have hit the jackpot. The division commander had recently announced that anyone capturing a battalion commander or higher would receive a two week R&R in Japan. Still, looking over at the little man who was crying his eyes out, I realized that we had no great leader here. Mike grinned at the guy and made as if he was going to shoot him and he cried even louder. I told Mike to knock it off and handed him some sack cord and had him tie the man's hands behind his back.

Through the spaces between the overhead rocks, I could see Jerry and Tex passing back and forth over us. Below the place where we were tying the POW up, there was a natural square hole about 8 feet across that opened to the dirt below. Around the perimeter of this hole, below us between the rocks, were several shelves. I was certain that the man's friends and his weapons were hidden there, but I was not about to go down after them. I looked at the prisoner, pointed down in the hold and fired my .45 into the dirt below. "VC! VC!" I shouted, but all the poor man did was nod and cry louder. I told Mike to start loading up with their stuff

## STEINER MILITARY-MARINE BINOCULARS

**Battlefield  
Tough**



### PENETRATING LIGHTPOWER

Steiner-Germany, the No. 1 Military binocular for more than 40 nations. The toughest, the brightest. From Israeli Commandoes to Special Forces to Navy Seals. When you put it on the line, demand the best. Get yourself a Steiner Binocular. Steiner. The right gear for the right man.

The new Steiner 7 x 50 Commander RS 2000 with built in compass and rangefinder.



# STEINER

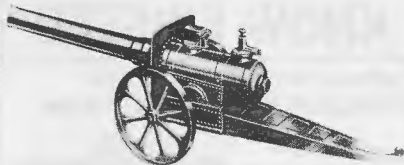


Pioneer Marketing & Research  
216 Haddon Ave., Westmont, NJ 08108  
(609) 854-2424 • (800) 257-7742

In Canada: Steiner Optik Canada, Inc., 500 Ouellette Ave., Windsor, Ont., N9A 1B3, (519) 258-7263

## Celebrate July 4th & All Events CARBIDE CANNON

BIG BANG! **\$29<sup>95</sup>**



Mammoth Cannons shoot with a terrific BANG! Have a bang-up time at special events. Uses powered carbide ammo. Hundreds of shots for few cents. All metal construction with large, rugged cast iron wheels. Machined brass mechanism for easy loading and firing. Authentic turn-of-century design. Handsome decor when not in use. Made in USA to last a lifetime. Available in 3 sizes: 9" cannon, \$29.95 postpaid; 17" cannon, \$59.95 postpaid; 25" cannon (shown here) with rapid firing and automatic loading, \$75.95 postpaid. The larger the cannon the louder the bang! Carbide ammo, about 100 shots, \$3.00; 3 packs for \$7.50. Send check, money order or phone. Visa, MasterCard accepted by mail or phone (215) 866-0777. Give card number and expiration. Money-back guarantee.

The Conestoga Co., Inc.  
Dept. SO, P.O. Box 405  
Bethlehem, PA 18016

SEND FOR FREE CATALOG

and motioned for the POW to sit while I did the same.

Looping the rice rolls over our shoulders, just as the VC carry them, we picked up the saddlebags, potatoes and uniforms. With my bayonet I shredded the hammocks then Mike and I began the trek out of the cave.

Not used to carrying heavy packs and not used to the humidity, I found it a real effort to pick up the POW, lift him up 4 feet to the next higher rock and then pick up the other stuff and climb up after him.

Mike, of course, had his own hands full since he was carrying most of the supplies out of the cave. At one point the POW tried to indicate an easier way out of the cave but I was having none of that and we kept working our way out. Once we exited the cave, I saw a very relieved Jerry Leadabrand giving me a big smile as he passed over. I was bushed.

We'd walk a few steps and I'd grunt loud and the POW would stop in his tracks and wait, while I let my chest heave a bit and catch my breath as sweat poured off of me. Arriving back at our paddy, where the H-13 was still running, we made the POW lie face down while Mike covered him and I went to radio Jerry to call for a Huey to pick up the prisoner. Telling me that one was already on the way, Jerry suggested I move the chopper over so it would have room to land. After moving the chopper, Mike and I sat down and waited for the arrival of the Huey.

As it touched down, two troopers ran over and picked up the POW and placed him aboard and another two grabbed the supplies we had brought out with him. As this was happening, a very gung-ho Major wearing a steel pot and pack suspenders came running out of the Huey and shouted at Mike and me, "I saw another one over here as we landed. Charge!" He took off down the trail at a dead run; I looked at Mike, "Do you think we ought to follow that silly son-of-a-bitch?" Mike gave me that wise-ass grin once more, "Not me. I'm a frigging medic." ✕

## AMBUSH ALLEY

*Continued from page 43*

FAPLA gunners suddenly unleashed a storm of heavy machine-gun fire in our direction.

Massive amounts of 14.5mm rounds and 23mm cannon shells poured toward us, most going high but many streaking near to and through our positions at head height, balls of tracer tearing past with the sharp crack of near misses, causing the upright mortar crews to crouch and shield themselves while firing.

My head felt as if it were folding inward and I had my breath knocked out by the convulsion of explosions.

FAPLA 82mm mortars were firing back at us and their first ranging shots had fallen just in front of us, between our mortar position and infantry screen.

I pressed my face into the loose sand of

## COUNTERFEIT GUNS

EXACT SIZE WORKING METAL MODELS THAT LOOK, FEEL, WEIGH AND HANDLE LIKE THE ORIGINALS. CAN BE "FIELD-STRIPPED" CANNOT BE MADE TO FIRE REAL BULLETS. DELIVERED FULLY ASSEMBLED



SAFE!  
FOR  
DISPLAY

M1921  
THOMPSON  
01-700

"STAGE PROP GUNS"

\$295 PPD

GOV'T. .45  
AUTOMATIC  
01-300

\$98 PPD

GERMAN  
P-08  
PARABELLUM  
01-200

\$98 PPD

CANNOT  
BE MADE  
TO FIRE!

357  
POLICE  
MAGNUM  
01-108

\$98 PPD

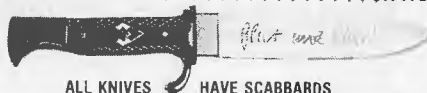
SEND FOR  
FREE COLOR  
CATALOG OF  
OVER 50  
MODEL GUNS

## MILITARY KNIVES

QUALITY REPRODUCTIONS OF FAMOUS, HISTORICAL EDGED WEAPONS AND MILITARY KNIVES.

U.S. M3 FIGHTING KNIFE.  
07-048 . . . . . \$21 PPD

FAIRBAIRN-SYKES COMMANDO KNIFE  
07-014 . . . . . \$41 PPD



ALL KNIVES HAVE SCABBARDS  
GERMAN HJ YOUTH KNIFE  
07-09 . . . . . \$35 PPD

FREE GIFT with every paid order from this ad, or send for FREE catalog. Phone Toll Free: 1-800-544-3456 Ext. 515

## MEDALS & BADGES

PERFECT REPLICAS HIGHEST QUALITY

THIS "RUPTURED DUCK" IS MADE FROM ORIGINAL DIES. U.S. WWII DISCHARGE BUTTON  
14-018 . . . . . \$11 PPD

GERMAN WWI "BLUE MAX"  
14-01 (W/RIBBON) . . . . . \$29 PPD  
14-77 (NECK CHAIN) . . . . . \$16 PPD

BRITISH WWI RAF OR WWII RFC PILOT WINGS  
15-11B (RAF) . . . . . \$18 PPD  
15-11C (RFC) . . . . . \$13 PPD

FREE GIFT with every paid order from this ad, or send for FREE catalog.

FREE Color catalog of Militaria, Replica Model Guns, Stage Prop Guns, Historic Swords, Suits of Armour, Flags, Medals, Badges & More.

COLLECTOR'S ARMOURY  
800 SLATERS LANE, DEPT. SO  
BOX 59, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313

SEND: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MONEY ORDER  CHECK ENCLOSED  
Credit Card Orders: 1-800-544-3456 Ext. 515

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MONEY BACK (LESS POSTAGE) IF NOT SATISFIED



my shell scrape, shielding my head with my hands. "The next ones will be on top of us," I thought as I tried to compress my body into as small a ball as possible.

As the second FAPLA salvo detonated I heard a wounded man's high-pitched scream, even though he was almost 500 yards away. They had fired short. In their searching fire they had dropped their range with the second salvo and it had landed in and around our infantry screen, killing and wounding the soldiers who lay there.

Around me the 81mms had ceased fire. The mortars were being dismantled in a furious race to withdraw before FAPLA fire became too accurate.

Commands were being hurriedly shouted, the need for silence long gone. The mortars had buried themselves deep into the ground, each tube having firing an incredible 40 bombs apiece in the six minutes since the first bomb had been fired.

Red-hot tubes were pulled off with asbestos gloves while deeply buried baseplates were ripped out of the ground by lengths of cord, attached to them before the action. My guide pulled me from the ground and we started to withdraw. Half running we moved back, crouching and jumping as the 23mm and 14.5mm shells smashed through the trees close by.

A T-54 tank started to fire in our direction and as the 100mm shell rushed overhead tearing the air with a ripping-smashing sound, I was thankful for the UNITA infantry behind us, covering our rear.

Over the convoy, the noise and light being generated was hardly believable. UNITA had by now stopped firing completely, but the noises of exploding vehicles and ammunition and the sounds of FAPLA mortars, rockets and heavy machine guns firing sounded as if a full-scale battle was still raging.

Above this, fire and smoke swirled into the air, silhouetted by FAPLA illumination bombs lighting up the sky, signalling the immense destruction that lay behind us.

Although we had moved quickly, leaving FAPLA mortar bombs falling some way behind us, we were not yet safe.

The enemy's searching fire was falling in irregular patterns ahead of us and we veered east, to make our way to the rendezvous by a roundabout route to prevent the risk of unnecessary casualties.

FAPLA's BM-21s had sent salvo after salvo in search of the UNITA 120mm mortar position and now we began to pass places where rockets had fallen. Whole sections of bush had been turned upside down, the shattered trees uprooted and scattered like matchsticks, the ground ploughed over leaving holes and clumps the size of cars. A stench of high explosives hung in the air and clung to the back of my throat.

If FAPLA had been able to detect UNITA's position accurately, I thought, there would not be much of a battalion for us to return to.

After moving at a fast pace for 2½ hours with only one brief break, we reached the

RV position at 0100 where the bulk of the battalion was waiting for us. The commander, concerned for my safety, greeted me with visible relief before he started issuing instructions for the withdrawal.

UNITA's wounded and dead were loaded into vehicles as were the heavy 81mm mortars. The battalion's vehicles were to move away toward a UNITA "safe area," leaving the infantry to follow on foot. Time and speed were now essential in order to open a gap between the enemy and ourselves as the first rays of sunlight would bring FALA (FAPLA's air force) seeking revenge for the previous night's ambush.

I climbed into a jeep and set out with the convoy. We jarred through the bushes until we reached one of the dirt tracks which abound in the area and started bumping and slewing our way back to the rear.

Dawn saw the vehicles camouflaged under thick bushes in the area where the Ural that had brought me to the front had dropped me. UNITA's infantry was still on its way but would be lying up in cover along its route to guard against detection by helicopters and jet fighters.

The dead and wounded soldiers had been carried away by UNITA medical orderlies who had been awaiting our arrival. I figured that the field hospital would be busy.

I sat, strangely objective after my experience, listening to a debrief on the night's operation by the battalion CO. According to radio intercepts UNITA had received from the convoy, the bombardment had caused

# NIGHT VISION

## DISCOVER A WORLD YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW EXISTED

### STARLIGHT WEAPON SIGHT OR VIEWER

**DRASTICALLY  
REDUCED  
PRICE \$1,695.00**

This is not a misprint. Our Purchasing Agent made an incredible buy on these *reconditioned units* and now we can pass this savings on to you. The AN/PVS-2, with its high performance nitrogen filled lens and high gain 25MM intensifier tube, is the best performing first generation scope issued in quantity to the U.S. Military. We sold this unit for many years at \$2,750.00, but now can offer it at almost a 50% price reduction. **ORDER ONE TODAY AND SAVE.**

These "like new" units won't last long at **THIS PRICE**. The chances of this offer ever being repeated are slim to none, so if you have ever wanted a high quality Starlight scope, the time to act is now!



First generation reconditioned intensifier.

4 X Magnification.

Range 400 to 600 yards for weapon aiming, up to ½ mile for surveillance, depending on light level and terrain. 6 MONTH LIMITED WARRANTY.

This versatile unit, with optional adaptors can be weapon mounted, or used for low light level photography.

Shipped with: Tripod/pistol grip adaptor, daylight lens cover, operating manual and batteries. Add \$100.00 for AR15/M16 mounting system. Other mounting systems are available, prices on request. Add \$15.00 for regular UPS shipping, \$30 for Next Day Air.

### WHEN NOTHING BUT THE BEST WILL DO AN/PVS-4 STARLIGHT NIGHT VISION SYSTEM

CURRENT STATE OF THE ART AN/PVS-4 2ND GENERATION NIGHT VISION SYSTEM — This is the finest unit available today. We are the National Distributor for Q.E.C., the current military contractor for 15,000 units of the AN/PVS-4. We can offer you the same unit the military receives at a **MUCH LOWER PRICE** than our competitors, due to this large production volume. **CALL FOR PRICE QUOTE.**

**New unit with exc. cond. intensifier tube.**

**\$3,895.00**

We use genuine MIL-SPEC A.R.M.S. mounting systems.

We offer a full line of top quality products, plus the unsurpassed service knowledge of night vision experts. We service, and stand behind every product we sell. For more information on additional night vision systems, goggles and viewers, write or call:

## Excalibur Enterprises

P.O. Box 266  
Emmaus, PA 18049  
215-791-5710  
FAX 215-797-3922

Excalibur gives you the covert edge without shooting holes in your budget!

- Quality multi-purpose products
- Experienced technical support
- Competitive prices
- Fast shipping

... just four of the reasons our customers come back again and again.

Send \$4 for our complete catalog. Add \$15 reg. UPS

*Many of Nature's Occurrences and Animals  
Only Appear at Night —  
Experience What You've Been Missing!*

the loss of 53 enemy vehicles, mainly ammunition trucks and diesel bousers, as well as one tank and several armored cars and armored fighting vehicles. FAPLA recorded 67 dead and 293 wounded.

Against this, UNITA's losses were a mere five KIA and 17 wounded. The deaths were caused by the 82mm bomb which fell directly on the forward infantry screen, also wounding three men there, with the other wounded coming from the 120mm mortar position where a combination of near misses from "red-eye" rockets and D-30 artillery shells had caused shrapnel wounds.

For UNITA the action was a significant success. By adhering to the classic principles of guerrilla warfare, it had caused disproportionately heavy losses to the enemy. In the process, it had also destroyed tons of much-needed enemy equipment and supplies, desperately needed by FAPLA forces at Cuito Cuanavale.

Destruction of the supply vehicles and devastation of the FAPLA convoy would cause the enemy to use much-needed resources to replace the lost vehicles, men and equipment. It would also delay the arrival of the already depleted supplies to Cuito by several days, enabling UNITA to perhaps launch yet another ambush on the same column before it arrived at Cuito.

In all, my period with the fighting guerrillas of UNITA had shown me what I had come to Angola to see. UNITA, in its ongoing guerrilla war against the Soviet-backed MPLA and Cuban forces in Angola,

was formidable. This was no ragtag band of reactionaries, but a skilled fighting force. Well-organized, well-armed, with a solid military and political infrastructure, UNITA was bringing the war to its communist-backed enemies with precision and calculated planning.

It was clear that the movement intended to continue fighting this way until Jonas Savimbi's dream of a free and independent Angola had been achieved. ✕

## MARINE SNIPERS

*Continued from page 65*

the door in search of a place to rest until nightfall.

"Oh Rutter, one more thing," grinned Wint, "Better get some new stripes. Your promotion came through *Corporal*."

"No shit? Uh, I mean... thank you, sir," exclaimed Rutter, embarrassed but pleasantly surprised.

"Come on, man," grinned McGlynn as he slapped Rutter on the back, "let's go see the gunny about some chevrons."

"Tom, the captain didn't mention that there were already *three* snipers over in that area now. With us, that will make five. That's the most snipers I've ever seen reinforcing one line company at the same time," said McGlynn.

"No shit. They must really be serious about putting the hurt on the ragheads over

there. This could prove interesting."

And it did.

After traveling for 45 minutes on foot across the runway and down to Charlie Company's bunkers, they reported in. The Platoon Sergeant for 1st Platoon briefed the two snipers on the latest activities. After that, Rutter and McGlynn analyzed the terrain and the boundaries. They picked what seemed the best position for their weapons and settled in.

With the morning sun, Rutter could see what lay in front of Charlie Company. To his immediate front, across a field, was a sign on a building proclaiming it the "Danielle Cafe." The cafe stood on a road that went straight away from Rutter's position. He could see the street well, and noted quite a bit of activity around the small restaurant.

"The Platoon Sergeant said that the whole area out there is controlled by the Amal. That staff sergeant was killed out there somewhere by those bastards. I imagine we'll get a fair share of targets here if they try anything," said McGlynn.

"If they do, we'll be ready." Rutter adjusted his scope for the range, then scanned across the area near the cafe.

On the wall of a building across the street from the restaurant, facing the Marines, was a large poster of Ayatollah Khomeini. His dark eyes staring between the Ayatollah's eyes, Rutter grinned. "There's one bastard I'd like to drop."

As the two snipers watched, Amal mili-

# KALASHNIKOV

## AK-47

### NOW ON VIDEO

- \* VHS
- \* 68 MIN
- \* HISTORY
- \* CLEANING
- \* TUNING TIPS
- \* ACCESSORIES
- \* 7.62 X 39 VS. 223
- \* ACCURACY TESTS
- \* MODEL VARIATIONS
- \* AR-15 COMPARISONS
- \* AMMO COMPARISONS
- \* HOW TO BUILD A SQUAD RIFLE FROM YOUR OWN AK

- \* ISRAELI
- \* FINNISH
- \* CHINESE
- \* HUNGARIAN
- \* YUGOSLAVIAN
- \* MORE

SEND \$49.95 + \$2.05 S&H TO:  
HELLER - HIGH WATER  
VIDEO PRODUCTIONS  
P.O. BOX 86  
FORDS, N.J. 08863  
DEPT. S.O.F.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

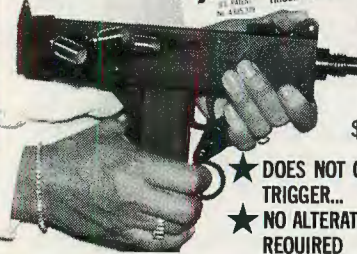
STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE ON THE AK-47'S AVAILABLE

# THREE SHOTS ARE BETTER THAN ONE!

**NEW IMPROVED**  
**Tri-Burst**  
TRIGGER ACTIVATOR

ONLY  
\$39.95  
POST PAID



REG.  
\$49.95

- ★ DOES NOT OBSTRUCT TRIGGER...
- ★ NO ALTERATIONS REQUIRED

Yes, from plinking to home defense, the Tri-Burst™ Trigger Activator will allow your gun to shoot three round bursts at a full automatic-type rate accurately and controllably. This device is perfectly legal and backed by our lifetime warranty. Comes complete and ready to install in seconds. Get one now while you still can!

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ Tri-Burst at \$39.95 ea.  
 Model A-AR15 & DAEWOO  Model B-everything except STEYR AUG. (Col. Residents add 3%)

Type Rifle (IMPORTANT) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROMPT DELIVERY: Cashier's Check or Money Order



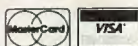
**RPHEUS INDUSTRIES, INC.**  
P.O. BOX 1415 • MONTEVERDE, CO 81402  
FOR MASTER CHARGE/VISA CALL (303) 249-0108

## DTI SECURITY PRODUCTS

First time offered to consumers!

**Highest Quality Professional-German Made**  
Sold to governments worldwide

- **Mini Bug Detector**—be alert to listening devices in office, conference room, home **\$259**
- **Voice Safe**—scramblers to protect the *privacy* of your telephone conversations **2/\$399**
- **Voice Changer**—for security, business, personal relations, amusement **\$199**
- **Stethoscope**—precision, state-of-the-art listening technology **\$199**
- **Phone Sentry**—monitor home or office via regular telephone lines **\$129**
- Over 100 other countersurveillance and surveillance products available



1-800-433-9547

In New York 212-557-7230

Digitech Telecommunications, Inc.  
342 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10173

tiamen entered the cafe and returned with weapons. The Shi'ites then took positions in bunkers and behind roadblocks. By late afternoon, the natives grew restless. A few sporadic bursts of gunfire sailed over the marine positions, but the shooters stayed behind cover. By nightfall, all was again quiet.

With dawn, Amal men again repeated their routine of entering the cafe to pick up their weapons. When they came out, they came out shooting.

While most of the Shi'ites had reached their bunkers before the shooting began, a few were still left caught in the open on the street.

"I'll take the first one," said Rock, drawing a bead on a moving figure carrying a Kalashnikov and wearing a green uniform and a helmet liner. "Must be a LAF deserter. Still has his uniform."

The M40A1 recoiled with the shot. Rutter saw the green helmet liner leap into the air, tumbling as it fell to the street. The man's head twisted grotesquely as brain matter erupted in a pink puff. The Shi'ite collapsed on the street. The two men who had accompanied him looked down briefly, horror on their faces, then ran around the corner to safety — abandoning their comrade where he lay.

Two minutes later, a little red foreign car pulled around the corner and stopped. Two men jumped out of the back while the driver stayed behind the wheel, gunning the motor.

The two Shi'ites ran to the fallen soldier and began dragging him toward the car. Another jumped out of the vehicle and began spraying bullets toward the Marine positions.

Rutter had already taken a bead on one of the men dragging the casualty. He let the crosshairs settle and began to squeeze the trigger. Four hundred and twenty-five meters. A long range for an AK. An easy shot for a Marine sniper.

The target flew backwards into the side of the car, his chest centered by the single bullet.

"You hit him!" exclaimed McGlynn.

"Yeah, two down, three to go," smirked Rutter as he worked the bolt.

The second Shi'ite who had been dragging the dead man dove toward the safety of the car. Just then, another Marine sniper located nearby, Corporal Frank Roberts, shot through the driver's side of the windshield. The glass exploded just as the driver threw the car into reverse and began smoking the tires. The little red car disappeared backwards around a corner. Two bodies lay in the street.

An old lady walked out of the building across from the Danielle Cafe and stared. She began yelling and pointing.

"Wonder what she's a bitchin' about," said McGlynn.

"Probably wants the mess cleaned up. You know, 'keep Beirut clean, bury a Shi'ite,'" joked Rutter.

The poster of the Ayatollah stared back at Rutter near the old lady. Rutter and

McGlynn couldn't stand the temptation any longer. As people began running around the streets in confusion and the old lady waved her arms and yelled, the two Marines placed their sights right between Khomeini's eyes.

Concrete dust exploded and the paper of the poster gapped wide as the two 172-grain bullets found their mark. It was a message: From America, with love — asshole!

Including two shots shot into the poster, only five rounds were fired by the Marine snipers. Each man had struck exactly what he was aiming at.

Charlie Company got into the act. M60 and M16A1 fire raked the Amal positions. It was payback time.

On 23 October, Rutter awoke with a start. The ground trembled and a huge concussion drifted across the airport. He glanced at his watch — 0626. What the hell was going on?

He rolled over and looked toward the source of the blast. A huge column of black smoke rose into the air and a gigantic smoke ring raced for the sky.

"Hey Rock, look at this!"

McGlynn stared toward the smoke. "That's headquarters, man!"

The BLT building, which could normally be seen from the Charlie Company positions, was gone. The roof was no longer in view in the distance.

The radios began screaming for every available corpsman to head for the ruined building. Men scurried around. Questions were asked. There were no answers.

"Musta been rockets or artillery," said McGlynn.

"No way man. That was just one explosion, and it was a helluva big one."

Word began filtering in throughout the morning. A Shi'ite Moslem had driven a truck laden with explosives through the gate of the Marine compound and right up to the front of the building. Once there, he detonated the truck bomb. The resulting blast caused the building to collapse, killing 243 American servicemen. Rutter and the other Marines felt helpless. They couldn't believe it. How could this happen?

Captain Wint was in the building when the bomb went off. He was dead. So was most of the command staff and the officers and NCOs of the battalion along with many Marines, sailors and army personnel who were quartered inside.

That afternoon, Rutter and McGlynn walked across the airport. As they neared the site of destruction, a horrible scene greeted them. The area was utter chaos. People were yelling orders and digging through the rubble. The damage was indescribable. Marine bodies lay covered with ponchos. Blood stained the ground. Rutter and McGlynn were speechless. They couldn't bear to watch anymore and left.

They wanted revenge. They wanted targets. They wanted to do what they could to bring pain on the people who had committed this cowardly act. But Amal stayed out of sight, and all was quiet in front of Charlie Company. Frustration once again overcame the Leathernecks.

The next day, the Reaction Force arrived

in Beirut to replace the lost Marines. The BLT headquarters was relocated to a building nearby that had previously served as a motor pool for the battalion. The new S-2 pulled Rutter back to the new location, where he was joined by Corporal Richard David, who would serve as Rutter's observer. A staff sergeant assigned the team to keep watch around the new building from the top of a large hangar nearby. From this position, the two snipers had a good view of the surrounding area.

After a few days, Amal's people began to shoot at Marine positions near the new BLT building. This time the attackers waited until after dark. It was 2230, and the Shi'ites used the darkness to their advantage. A fire-fight developed, with Marines returning fire and Amal militia running through the streets, firing as they went.

"I got two targets," said Rutter, centering his scope on a lighted doorway. He could just see two silhouettes in the light. "Over there at one o'clock, 350 meters. I'll take the one on the right." Rutter set his scope and brought the rifle to his cheek.

Corporal David located the doorway with his spotting scope and could just make out the two men. The staff sergeant that had assigned them to the rooftop lay next to them. He lifted his binoculars, located the two targets in the doorway and watched.

The scene of the destroyed BLT building rushed through Rutter's mind as he took the slack out of the trigger.

"Are you ready?" he asked. David was.

The shot rang out through the darkness. The Shi'ite slammed against a wall and went down.

"You got him," said David, "you shot him through the chest.

"Jesus Christ," said the staff sergeant.

"No, Allah," sneered Rutter, "That's where that bastard is going."

It would be the last time Rutter's faithful "dog" barked in anger.

Rutter and David were later pulled back to the artillery battery and relieved by fresh troops. It was time to go home. After a forced march to Green Beach, the survivors of the 1st Battalion were picked up by helicopters that hustled them out to the waiting USS *Iwo Jima*.

Behind, the shattered face of Ayatollah Khomeini stared sightless at the ruined city. Ragged curls of paper flapped in the desert breeze in testimony to American marksmanship.

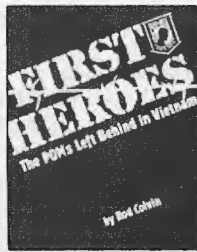
If the Amal militiamen had known the Marine snipers of the 1st Battalion's STA platoon were leaving, they would have breathed a great sigh of relief. ✕

## I WAS THERE

*Continued from page 26*

was that as soldiers we had more in common than divided us, whatever the design of our cap badges.

Be that as it may, they still didn't trust us. The next day a helicopter



**#3010 FIRST HEROES** The first non-fiction book with compelling evidence that American POWs are being held in Southeast Asia. \$23.35

**#3030 VIETNAM: OPENING DOORS TO THE WORLD** Experience this captivating culture through the pages of this book of photographs. \$19.45

**#3040 BLACK RIFLE M16 RETROSPECTIVE** From its origin to today, this book tells the true story of this remarkable weapon! \$50.00

**#3050 WE CAN KEEP YOU FOREVER VIDEO** After a year-long investigation, this video brings dramatic evidence that American MIAs are still alive and being held prisoner. \$32.95

**CALL TOLL FREE TO ORDER — 1-800-323-1776**

Or Mail Your Check or Money Order To: **Soldier of Fortune • Dept. PI-1 • P.O. Box 693 • Boulder, CO 80306. Sorry, no CODs on these books.**

QTY	ITEM#	DESC.	PRICE	AMT.
	#3010	First Heroes	22.35	
	#3030	Vietnam	19.45	
	#3040	Black Rifle	50.00	
	#3050	Forever Video	32.95	
CO Sales Tax Residents Only 3.7%				
Total				

Payment:

VISA  MasterCard  Check Enclosed

Card#: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please allow 4-6 Week Delivery  
Sorry, No CODs for these books.

## The Combat Master™

Designed by BLACKIE COLLINS. Made by A. G. RUSSELL Co. This 7.5" Bowie is intended to be a combat knife, a survival knife and a large utility or camp knife. The concealed compartment in the handle is the perfect place for keeping emergency fishhooks, snare wires, etc. The blade of a full 3/16" thick high-carbon stainless knife steel will sharpen easily and hold an edge just like you want.

The hand fitting handle is molded from fiberglass reinforced Zytel™.

Only \$89.97 plus  
\$3.00 for  
shipping and  
handling.

Handle 5"  
Blade 7.5"  
12.5" overall

Zytel™ and fiberglass  
handle has secret compart-  
ment for fish hooks etc.

Blade made of High-Carbon  
Stainless steel at 57-59 Rc

Immediate Delivery

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

**A. G. RUSSELL**

Dept F-96

1705 Hwy 71 N.

Springdale, AR 72764

501-751-7341 Catalogs

800-255-9034 Orders

OK, A.G. Ship me one of these knives. If I don't like it 100% I understand that I can return it for a full refund. Check M.O. \_\_\_\_\_

MasterCard or Visa # \_\_\_\_\_ expire \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

dropped out of the mist and landed alongside the KP. "Where are your tanks, major," said a familiar voice even before his boots had touched the ground. ✕

## SOUTH AFRICA'S 155s

Continued from page 33

trails in a clamp. Only two men are required to get the G5 into action. Elevation and traverse controls are manual.

To the left of the breech is a dial sight for indirect firing and direct-fire sight mounted on a mechanism that compensates for trunnion cant. The fire control computer has processing capability to compensate in elevation for range, projectile mass, zone of charge and temperature, all of which is communicated to the gun crew by means of the gun display unit. It also calculates the equivalent full charge (EFC), recoil length, number of rounds fired and pressure of each round. There are also alarms on the gun monitor unit for incomplete recoil run-up, low battery voltage, limits of firing arc, and a warning device that indicates high chamber temperature. The application range of the direct sight is 1,200 meters, but it can operate up to 5,000 meters. Additional optional equipment includes a fire-control computer, data-entry terminal, muzzle-

velocity analyzer, meteorological ground station and special helmet radios for the gun crews.

Weighing 13.5 metric tons, the G5 is air-transportable in the Lockheed C130. The G5 is towed by a special gun tractor which also accommodates the full crew of eight, charges, fuses, primers, and 15 projectile pallets. A hydraulic crane is used to handle the ammunition.

Soviet bloc countries have traditionally focused on towed artillery for indirect fire with some recent interest on auxiliary-propelled towed guns. In general, they still seem to consider the self-propelled (SP) gun as no more than a second-class tank that moves forward with the infantry and armor to destroy targets at close range. Few, if any, of their SP weapons exhibit the stabilizing devices required for consistent indirect fire. These ComBloc assault guns are almost exclusively "offensive" in employment.

Western views on SP artillery have, on the other hand, stressed their ability to "keep up with the armor" (some authorities feel this is a dubious capability) and "shoot and scoot" to avoid retaliatory fire. Heavy, complicated and expensive, their indirect-fire capabilities emphasize the "defensive" mindset of the NATO alliance.

Recognizing that while the towed G5 could adequately support their tanks and highly mechanized infantry it lacked protec-

tion against enemy fire, the South Africans commenced development of an SP gun in 1978. The major design requirements were 1) fire power, with particular attention to a high rate of fire, long range, increased lethality and quick engagement of alternative targets; 2) mobility, with emphasis on high speed, long range, cross-country capability and quick in/out of action time; 3) protection against direct enemy fire and counter-bombardment; and 4) standardization with existing equipment.

The 155mm/45 caliber gun (somewhat modified) and most of its optional equipment were selected because they would be standardized with the proven G5 system and its ERFB BB ammunition and, as the 155mm caliber is world-wide in operation, other 155mm ammunition could be used interchangeably. Its fume extractor, fitted two-thirds of the way along the barrel, is constructed of carbon reinforced epoxy which is lightweight and reduces out-of-balance moments. Directly behind the breech is a semiautomatic, hydraulically operated, electronically controlled flick rammer for ramming the projectile after the projectile has been placed on the rammer tray by hand.

Whether offensive or defensive, most SP artillery, with the exception of the Czech Vzor 77 152mm SP howitzer DANA, rolls about the countryside on tracks. However, after intensive investigations, the South

# GREENE MILITARY DISTRIBUTORS

Finest Quality & Lowest Prices Available in Military & Hunting Apparel & Accessories

## Battle Dress Uniform (Fatigues)

Brand New • Latest Issue • First Quality BDU

**Pants feature:** Double fabric seat and knees, 6 pockets (2 slash front pockets, 2 rear pockets with button flaps, 2 large bellows pockets on thighs); adjustable waist tab; button fly; drawstring cuffs.

**Shirts feature:** Double fabric elbows; 4 pockets (bellows style)

**Woodland Camouflage**  
(1) 50/50 NyCo Pants or Shirt \$25.95 ea.  
(2) 100% Cotton Rip Stop \$27.95 ea.

**Day Desert Camouflage**  
50/50 Nylon Cotton \$28.95 ea.

**Olive Drab (OD) Green**  
100% Cotton Rip Stop \$28.95 ea.

**S.W.A.T. Black**  
(1) 100% Cotton Rip Stop \$29.95 ea.  
(2) 50/50 Poly/Cotton \$29.95 ea.

**Tiger Stripe Camouflage**  
100% Cot. Rip Stop \$29.95 ea.

**Khaki**  
100% Cotton Rip Stop \$29.95 ea.

**Solid White**  
100% Cotton Rip Stop \$29.95 ea.

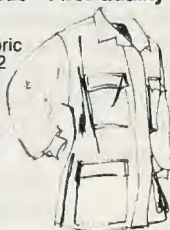
**Solid Grey**  
100% Cotton Rip Stop \$29.95 ea.

**Urban Camouflage**  
50/50 Poly/Cotton \$29.95 ea.

**Subdued Urban Camouflage**  
(no white)  
50/50 Poly/Cotton \$29.95 ea.

**Authentic Trebark® Camouflage**  
Pants or Shirt \$29.95 ea.

Sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL (regular and long lengths)  
XXL add \$4.00 XXXL add \$6.00



**G.I. Jungle Fatigues (OD)**  
Slant Pocket, 100% Cotton/Poplin \$28.95

**Jungle Hammock (or Tent)**  
Water repellent 27"x78" Olive Drab \$34.95

**Super Hammock (84" Bed)**  
Supports 2,000 lbs., O.D. Nylon \$19.95

**G.I. Sleeping Bag (6'6" inside)**  
Intermediate; Mummy; O.D. \$89.95  
G.I. Sleeping Bag Cover \$11.95

**Camouflage Sleeping Bags**  
Green Woodland (80"x39") \$49.95  
Day Desert (sand) (80"x39") \$49.95  
Green Woodland Youth (68"x33") \$19.95

**L2-B Reversible Flight Jacket**  
Lightweight W/E Sage Green or Navy \$42.95

**New Issue Combat Boots**  
Water resistant, speed-lacing, mud resistant sole \$39.95

**Genuine Jungle Boots**  
Panama soles, O.D. \$48.95

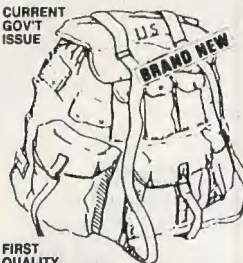
**Commercial Jungle Boots**  
O.D., Camouflage or Black \$28.95

**Ranger Vest**  
Khaki, Black, Camo, OD Sizes S,M,L,XL \$29.95

## U.S. FIELD PACK LARGE COMBAT W/FRAME

Our pack is complete with new issue magnesium frame, wider kidney belt and new wide strap. O.D. Nylon

CURRENT GOV'T ISSUE



FIRST QUALITY

Lg. Alice Pack Complete \$109.95

Med. Alice Pack Complete \$98.95

OD Nylon Med. Alice Pack \$49.95 w/shoulder straps

OD Large Alice Pack \$49.95 w/o shoulder straps

Alice Shoulder Straps \$12.95

LC-2 Frame OD \$49.95 w/waist & shoulder straps

**G.I. Alice Suspenders**  
O.D. or Black \$12.95

**Flight Suits (XS-XL)**  
Sage Green, Khaki, Black, Camo, Navy \$44.95

**"Boonie" Hat**  
Woodland Camo, O.D., Tiger Stripe, Day Desert, Khaki, Black and Urban. 7, 7 1/4, 7 1/2, 7 3/4 \$11.95

**Beret (with stiffener)**  
Black, Green, Maroon, Scarlet, A.F. Blue 6 1/2-7 1/8 Bancroft \$13.95

**B.D.U. Short**  
Khaki, O.D., Black, Woodland \$19.95

**G.I. Pistol Belt (quick release)**  
O.D. or Black; Med. or Lg. \$9.95

**Military Cot (OD)** \$39.95

**Cot Woodland Camo** \$44.95

**G.I. Rappelling Rope**  
Nylon O.D. 7/16" 120 ft. \$49.95

**Mechanic's Tool Bag**  
12x6x6 1/2 O.D. or Black \$10.95

**Tanker's Tool Bag**  
Approx. 20" long O.D. or Black \$14.95

**Helmet Bag**  
19"x19" A.F. Sage \$23.95

**Aviator's Kit Bag**  
23"x18"x12" \$24.95

**G.I. Duffel II Bag, O.D.**  
Double Nylon Shoulder Straps \$19.95

## PULLOVER (PARKA)



A strong, full cut, wind resistant but breathable parka available in 50/50 nylon/cotton Woodland Camo & 50/50 poly/cotton in Olive Green (O.D.), Navy, Winter White, Khaki, Black, Grey & Maroon. Sizes S (36-38), M (40-42), L (44-48) and XL (48-50).

ONLY \$29.95

**Boys' Size 4-18**  
Woodland Camo, 6 pocket pants w/drawstring \$15.95  
Woodland Camo 4 pocket shirt \$15.95

Large selection of boys' apparel available. Call for details.

**Military T-Shirts (silkscreened)**  
50% cotton/50% poly over 50 printed designs. (1) Army (2) Navy (3) Air Force (4) Marines \$7.95  
Sizes S, M, L, XL/XXL add \$2.00

Mail proper amount plus \$3.95 (double for Canada) (TN residents add 7% sales tax) for shipping and handling to:  
**GREENE MILITARY DISTRIBUTORS, INC.**  
7215 Kingston Pike, Dept. SF, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919  
ORDER TOLL FREE 1-800-521-7977  
in TN (615) 588-5945  
Satisfaction Guaranteed or Your Money Back



Africans determined that, at least for the terrain in which they operated, wheeled vehicles provided overwhelming advantages over tracked equipment. In comparison with tracks, wheeled operation offers exceptional strategic mobility (albeit lower tactical mobility), lower cost of acquisition and maintenance, simplicity of design, less noise and reduced chance of detection, less crew exhaustion due to better ride characteristics, superior buoyancy for amphibious applications, ability to move out of battle range on run-flat tires, much simpler logistic support, less training, lower fuel consumption, higher maximum speed and a longer range without refueling.

The G6 Rhino SP six-wheeled gun is now in service with the SADF. It is used for offensive and defensive fire support with direct firing capability and used in indirect fire service as a gun, howitzer or mortar. The G6 has a crew of six, with a driver and five other crew members who travel inside the turret. During firing, four crew members operate the gun while the driver and one other member of the crew resupply the ammunition at the rear. The G6 carries 47 projectiles and 50 charges together with the fuzes and primers. Nineteen of these rounds are directly accessible from inside the turret. For continuous bombardments, ammunition can be fed from outside via a transfer chute. Three crew members can replenish all the main weapon ammunition

in 15 minutes. A firing rate of four rounds per minute can be achieved for a period of 15 minutes. Experienced personnel can fire a burst of three rounds in 21 seconds.

The G6 is also equipped with a gun display unit to communicate firing orders to the crew. A gun-monitor system can also be provided, with all the alarm functions and a chamber temperature warning device. An optional direct link between the gun display unit and gun control system permits automatic laying of the gun.

To the left of the breech is a panoramic sight and direct-fire system mounted on a compensating mechanism. Range capabilities of the direct and indirect sight is the same as for the G5. To enhance its performance, the G6 can be equipped with a navigation system and inertial fire directing system while still retaining the direct fire capabilities.

In and out of action times are an astounding 60 and 30 seconds, respectively, including lowering and raising of the four hydraulically operated stabilizer legs. From one position, the G6 can cover an area of 415 square miles. It can elevate from minus five degrees to 75 degrees in five seconds and traverse through 80 degrees in seven seconds.

Another superb feature of the G6 is its exceptional mobility. It can reach a speed of almost 55 mph on the open road, and it has a strategic range of 375 miles without refueling. Maximum speed over desert terrain is

20 mph with a turning circle of 105 feet in sand and 82 feet on the road.

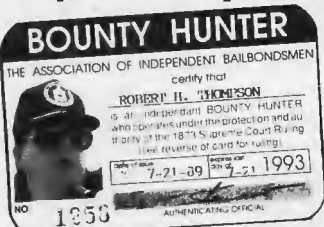
The G6's mobility is, in no small measure, due to the run-flat tires used on the G5/G6 artillery series (as well as the Ratel AFV). South Africa originally employed Michelin tires of the type found on heavy-duty grading equipment, but quickly found the sidewall construction too thin. In addition, the tread design was incorrect for arid-region terrain, so the South Africans designed their own instead. Called "Sand Trails," they have a 28-ply rating, and with their special run-flat insert a vehicle equipped with them can be driven for about 45 miles at 25 mph with one or more tires flat. Air pressure in these 21.00x25 tires is controlled by the driver to provide maximum flotation.

The vehicle hull (manufactured by Sanddock Austral) and turret are fabricated from high strength armor steel and offer all around protection from 7.62x51mm NATO armor piercing (AP) ammunition and artillery fragments, and protection from 20mm AP from a 60-degree frontal angle. The double-armored floor offers increased protection against mines. The driver's side and front windows provide the same degree of protection as the hull and excellent visibility through the front 180-degree arc. The center window can be covered by an armored shutter, in which case the driver views the terrain ahead through a periscope.

**NIC, inc.** MC/Visa & COD  
Call 24 hours!

**1-318-222-2970**

**Specialty & Novelty Cards\***



Only **\$4.95 ea.**

Our Professional quality, laminated photo card system will amaze your associates! We provide the cards, plastic laminate and easy instructions! You provide only a photo. Your Card can be finished in the privacy of your home! The result is a distinctive, professional system! The highest quality cards in the US! Lost your original? Replace it now! **Each card has been individually designed! The wording, style and format of each card is unique!**

**Select from these kits!**

- AA-2 AIR AMERICA, NO.2
- AS-1 ARMY SNIPER, NO.1
- BB-1 BLACK BELT
- BG-1 BODYGUARD, NO.1
- BG-2 BODYGUARD, EXECUTIVE
- BH-1 BOUNTY HUNTER, NO.1
- CF-1 FIREARM'S APPAISER
- CO-1 COMBAT PILOT
- CP-1 CERTIFIED PARACHUTIST
- CS-1 CERTIFIED SCUBA
- DF-1 DELTA FORCE
- EE-1 EXPLOSIVES EXPERT
- 82-1 EIGHTY SECOND AIRBORNE
- FIB FEDERAL INTERNAL BUREAU

- FG-1 GLAMOR PHOTOGRAPHER
- HG-1 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP PILOT
- IO-1 INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, NO.1
- IR-1 INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER
- LS-1 LOCKSMITH, CERTIFIED
- MC-1 MERCENARY, REGISTERED
- MN-1 MASTER NINJA
- MR-1 MARINE RECON
- MS-1 MARINE SNIPER, NO.1
- MV-1 MAC-V, CIA, LATE WAR
- MV-2 MAC-V, CIA, EARLY WAR
- OC-1 ORGANIZED CRIME BUREAU
- OM-1 ORDAINED MINISTER
- IOI IOIST AIRBORNE
- PC-1 PRESS CARD
- PF-1 PRO. PHOTOGRAPHER
- PG-1 PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER
- PI-1 PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR
- PP-1 PHOENIX PROGRAM
- PT-1 PILOT
- RA-1 RANGER, US ARMY
- SC-1 SECURITY CONSULTANT
- SE-1 SECURITY
- SF-1 SPECIAL FORCES
- SI-1 SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR
- SL-1 SEAL TEAM
- SO-1 SPECIAL OPERATIONS
- SP-1 SPECIAL WEAPON'S PMT.
- ST-1 SWAT TEAM
- SW-1 SUPPRESSED WEAPON'S PMT.
- VV-1 VIETNAM VETERAN
- WS-1 WEAPON'S SPECIALIST

Any Three Only **\$11.95** Any Six Only **\$19.95**  
Any Twelve Only **\$29.95** **FREE CATALOG With Order**

**INTERNATIONAL BOUNTY HUNTER'S ASSOCIATION**



"YOU CAN RUN BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE"

- TEE SHIRTS** - Full four color emblem on black tee shirt! S-M-L-XL.. **\$9.95**
- HATS** - Embroidered four color patch on black mesh hat!.. **\$8.95**
- MEMBERSHIP CARD** for the International Bounty Hunter's Association Room for photo, name! **\$5.00**
- Bounty Hunter STICKER** Full four color emblem on 4"x4" adhesive backed vinyl.. **\$2.00 or 3/\$5.00**
- Bounty Hunter PATCH** - Full four color embroidered patch! **\$4.95**
- Bounty Hunter WINDSHIELD PASS** States that the car is on Official Business: Laminated 4"x6"; **\$2.00**

**SPECIAL BOUNTY HUNTER KIT!**  
**All of the above \$28.95**

**CIA CREDO COLLECTORS PRINT**

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY CREDO**

We are the Central Intelligence Agency  
We produce timely and high quality intelligence for the President and Government of the United States  
We provide objective and unbiased evaluations and are always open to new perceptions and ready to challenge conventional wisdom  
We perform special intelligence tasks at the request of the President  
We conduct our activities and ourselves according to the highest standards of integrity, morality, and honor and according to the spirit and letter of the law and Constitution  
We measure our success by our contribution to the protection and enhancement of America's values, security, and national interest  
We believe our people are the Agency's most important resource. We seek the best and work to inspire them better. We support our desire for public recognition in the need for confidentiality. We strive for continuing professional improvement. We give credit freely to each other and to our common purpose.  
We seek through our leaders to stimulate initiative, a commitment to excellence and a propensity for action, to protect and reward Agency personnel for their special responsibilities, contributions, and sacrifices, to promote a sense of mutual trust and shared responsibility.  
We give our commitment and our best to excellence from the moment we begin our work.  
And we shall know the truth and the truth shall make us free!



In 1985 the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency authorized the creation of an official CREDO. The result clearly outlines the mission and objectives of the Agency. Our print duplicates the original in every detail. The four color crest of the CIA is shown in full color. The heavy, acid free, stock 8 1/2" x 11" is ideal for framing or display in your office!  
**Order No. CIAP1.....\$5.95**

\* Specialty Cards Are For Novelty Use Only - Not for Identification Purposes!

**NIC inc.**  
1600 Fairfield, Suite 233-SC  
Shreveport, LA 71101

Please add \$2.00 per order postage & handling

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 VISA  M/C  Check  M/C  Cash  UPS COD  (\$4.55 Extra)



# LEARN GUN REPAIR

No previous experience needed... Train at home in spare time. As a "gun professional" you will be an expert in ballistics and reloading. Know how to accurize, customize, repair almost any firearm; custom-make ammunition, rechoke shotguns, fit and finish stocks. Know where to buy rifles, pistols, shotguns and accessories at lowest wholesale prices!

Start your own business full or spare time, or work in gun shop, sports or discount store, for firearms manufacturer, distributor or importer

**START MAKING MONEY ALMOST IMMEDIATELY!**

We show you how to apply for Federal Firearms license to buy and sell guns while still a student. Included with course... at no extra cost... precision gauges, fine gunsmith's screwdrivers, honing stone, checking tools... plus with your first lesson, Powley High Velocity Trajectory Chart to improve your marksmanship. Graduation from this course does not insure that you will get a job. To find out how our graduates have done, send for information that includes their employment success.

**MAIL COUPON TODAY!**

North American School of Firearms, Dept. RS079  
925 Oak Street, Scranton, PA 18508

Rush me full information telling how I can train at home for an exciting career as a gun expert. No obligation. No salesman will visit.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

© A Subsidiary of National Education Corporation

Entrance to the turret is by means of a main door on the right-hand side or two roof hatches. There are four firing ports on the turret, two on either side. I doubt that they are ever used in combat. They reduce the rifleman's hit probability and increase the possibility of an accidental discharge within the vehicle.

Some degree of NBC protection is provided, and the design permits additional armor to be fitted as a shield against gamma and neutron radiation. Because of its over-pressure system, personnel inside the vehicle do not have to wear protective clothing. Blow-off doors at the rear cover a storage compartment for emergency ammunition. In the event of a pressure build-up, one of these doors will blow off. A fast reacting, automatic fire extinguisher for both engine and crew compartments (with manual back-up) has a 12-millisecond flame detector and uses halon gas for fire suppression. An air-conditioning unit with NBC filters, directly to the rear of the turret, feeds air into the turret from the outside.

A wedge-shaped box in front of the driver's compartment holds 16 projectiles and serves as brush-clearing device capable of cutting down shrubs and small trees.

Overall length of the G6 is 33.8 feet with a total combat weight of 101,660 pounds (46 metric tons). Powered by an air-cooled diesel engine developing 525 hp, the G6 has an automatic transmission with six forward and two reverse gears and both automatic and manual gear selection. Steering is power-assisted and the drive system is a permanent 6x6. The engine and gearbox are mounted on a subframe and can be changed within two hours. Independent suspension with torsion bars and a hydropneumatic damping system helps reduce crew fatigue during extended combat operations.

Mounted on each side of the turret is a bank of four electronically operated 81mm grenade launchers that fire smoke grenades. Optional auxiliary weapons include the Browning .50 caliber M2 HB heavy machine gun (mounted to the left cupola on SADF G6s), Browning caliber 7.62x51mm NATO machine gun or the GA1 20mm automatic cannon (a derivative of the World War II Mauser MG-151).

In the SADF, G6 Rhinos are deployed in batteries of eight, with three batteries to a regiment. In Angola, the batteries were often split into two troops of four each while shooting and scooting about in the operational area.

Battle-proven in Angola, the G5 and G6 Rhino currently stand supreme among heavy ordnance. The G5 has also demonstrated its ability on the Iraqi side of the front in their recent war with the Ayatollah. It will soon be manufactured under license by Chile. Other nations will be hard-pressed to match the performance level of the G5/G6 series anytime in the foreseeable future. Military procurement agencies should contact Lyttelton Engineering Works (Pty) Limited, Dept. SOF, Private Bag X5, Verwoerdburg 0140, Republic of South Africa, for further information. ☒

## FAREWELL HAM & MAMMIES

Continued from page 67

We'd spent a typical delightful day humping notable landmarks like "Mount Mother-----," and were put in pre-dug fox-holes to defend our stretch of California beach from attack by Viet Cong swimming the Pacific.

Our troop handlers, with sadistic glee, threw boxes of C-rations at us and announced, since we were simulating *real* combat, we'd eat them cold (meaning someone had forgotten the heat tabs).

We'd never seen C-rations before. I guess they thought boot camp was traumatic enough without them. We were hungry (a boot always being hungry) and curiously excited to be eating what "real" Marines ate. So we tore into the brown boxes in what anthropologists call a "feeding frenzy," when applied to lower species and grunts.

(Well... I said "tore." The sadist who invented Cs also came up with the fiendishly simple idea of putting only two P-38 can openers in each case. This meant that unless you were the biggest and baddest, you had no way of opening them. As ITR wore on and you got your own, to prove you were "salty" you wore them around your dogtag chain, where they gouged you every time you fell down, and you fall down a lot in the Corps.)

My "entree" was Spaghetti and Rocks, which was actually one of the more edible possibilities. I hungrily opened the can, to stare at the huge ball of congealed grease at the top. I tried to stir it, succeeding only in breaking my plastic spoon. Saying "OOHRAH!" I ate it anyway, ignoring the ominous rumblings from my gut. It immediately rebelled, being used to much finer cuisine, as in "cooked."

Still starving, I opened another can, finding John Wayne cookies, which can be charitably described as "some sort of crack-er." I never met anyone who actually ate one, including starving Vietnamese.

Under that, though, was a treat known as a "jungle bar." This was a candy designed for tropical climates. It wouldn't melt in your hand. Or your mouth. Or your esophagus or lower bowel, the ensuing condition being treatable only by doses of the Corps' ubiquitous green Kool-Aid.

Some boxes contained canned fruit, which were wonderful bargaining tools and pretty fair blunt weapons. The prize catch was fruit cocktail, with which you could curry the dubious favors of female indigenous personnel or in extreme cases the issue of entire small villages.

Most of the boxes contained a can of what was optimistically labeled "poundcake." Eating it was considered a legitimate suicide attempt, as it took huge quantities of water (generally unavailable) to wash it down. You could disguise it by mushing it with water, cocoa powder packages, dirt, small twigs and rocks and closing your eyes as you swallowed. I once saw a picture of a

**CUSTOMIZE YOUR HANDGUN WITH WILSON COMBAT PARTS**

MATCH TRIGGER

EXTENDED MAGAZINE BUTTON

BEAVERTAIL GRIP SAFETY

8 RDS. MAGAZINE

AMB. SAFETY

COMBAT COMMANDER HAMMER

SHOOTER'S DEPOT • Box 3238 • Hialeah, FL 33013

VISA 1-800-553-0844 SEND \$2.00 FOR CATALOG MasterCard

# I WON THE BATTLE FOR MOSCOW!

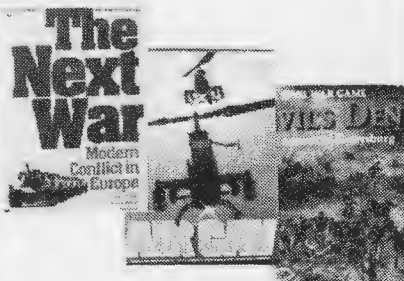
**Zhukov was good.  
I was better.**

Home in time for Christmas? I was home in time for supper.

Several hours was all it took to accomplish what some of the greatest military minds failed to do in their entire careers.

Conflict simulation games, commonly called wargames, have emerged as a growing and exciting hobby enjoyed by thousands of armchair strategists and tacticians around the world. Already over 1200 simulations are in print covering events from Alexander the Great's triumph over the Persians at Arbella, 331 B.C., through the American Civil War, World Wars I and II, Vietnam, near-future and far-future conflicts. One book details nearly every wargame ever produced:

**Game Collector's Guide-Wargames.** This guide is an invaluable reference for the beginner wanting to see what the hobby has to offer as well as the experienced player and collector. If you order now you will receive — FREE — a copy of Game Designers' Workshop introductory simulation game of the German drive to take Moscow in 1941 — *The Battle for Moscow*. The guide is available for \$9.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling (books are shipped free to active duty military, please specify).



Above are just some of the games featured

PANZER PRESS  
11530 W. 84th Place  
Avada, CO 80005

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER FOR \$11.95 FOR EACH COPY OF **GCG — Wargames**

- I want a free copy of *Battle for Moscow*  
 I'm active duty military

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

smiling grunt who put candles on them for a birthday cake. I never tried one with wax, but it couldn't hurt.

The box also yielded an "accessory pack." They used to contain small boxes of the world's most unpopular cigarettes, which the military stopped, preferring to have you die in combat with healthy lungs. The packs also had brittle chewing gum, flavored toothpicks, pre-digested coffee and the most sadistic touch of all — miniature toilet paper.

I say sadistic because they're about the size of a razor blade (comparison intentional) and the 'rats are eaten in less than sanitary conditions and in times of great stress, with predictable results. Without resorting to scatological humor, I will note there were many very unhappy faces returning from quick trips to the bush.

One thing about a relatively steady diet of Cs, though: You adapt, improvise, and overcome, mainly by dumping Tabasco sauce over everything in sight, including the box. It not only kills the taste, but kills many species of bacteria, and it is better to be safe than to rely on the toilet paper packs.

The thrifty grunt also found uses for the packaging itself. Used cans became booby traps, ashtrays, coffee mugs, rattle traps and stoves. The lowly plastic spoon was used in a booby trap. And the cardboard box itself doubled as fuel, writing paper, and even toilet paper when the minuscule issue ran out and local flora was in question. You saw many unhappy faces when this happened.

I once had a price on my head because of an incident involving Cs. A nameless sergeant, to whom I had lost many labor/management discussions, was out on an outpost and I was tasked with loading his resupply bird. I industriously went through about 10 cases of Cs, pulling out all the Ham and Mothers (ham and lima beans, the *universally* hated delicacy). I loaded his bird with nothing *but* Ham and Mothers, having first locked in R&R for myself starting the following day — figuring he'd be cooled down by the time I got back. He wasn't. But luckily for me he was transferred before I returned. I guess no one would work with a raving madman.

The Corps' mess halls of the era seemed to serve nothing but SOS on soggy toast, so the true chowhound was driven to extremes. Like trading his Cs meal-for-meal to the locals.

It was somehow heartbreaking to watch an agrarian peasant, no doubt in awe of American technology, wolf these horrible Cs down while his trading partner just as eagerly tore into the Rat and Rice or Fido and Rice entrees favored by the locals. However, even Rice Paddy Daddy drew a line at Ham and Mothers, and they were useless as booby traps. Even a starving guerrilla turned his nose up at these, giving lie to the popular conception that the Viet Cong were unsophisticated peasants.

A much sought-after commodity of this time frame was the "LRRP," a wonderful concoction of dehydrated rice and meat. You added water, put the package on top of your

# WANTED: AK-SKS-AR AND RUGER MINI OWNERS... NOW!



AK Model*	\$69.95
SKS Model*	\$59.95
Colt AR's	\$36.95
Ruger Mini*	\$54.95
AK-SKS Baseplate	\$12.95

Scope mounts for all AK, SKS, Colt AR's and Ruger Mini 14/30 Models, allowing sportification of one of the most affordable hunting rifles available.

- Rigid Hardened Steel, virtually indestructible
- Full use of open sight with scope mounted: best of both worlds
- Will hold zero under rugged conditions
- No shell casing damage upon ejection
- Minimum loss of expended casings
- Scope and mount not affected by disassembly
- AR, AK, and SKS Mounts now feature quick disconnect baseplate.

\*Minimum of gunsmithing required. AR's require no gunsmithing.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN TO:

**KLOC MOUNTS**  
INC.

90 Madison St. #702  
Denver, CO 80206  
(303) 399-2904

©1989 K. LOC MOUNTS, INC.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  AK47  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  SKS  
\_\_\_\_\_  Colt AR's  
\_\_\_\_\_  Ruger Mini's  
\_\_\_\_\_  All

ADD \$2.00 FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING  
\$2.75 ADDITIONAL FOR COD



# NEAT STUFF

## 15MM BIRD SCARE LAUNCHER PISTOLS

The most powerful in the world today! Scare the *HELL* out of birds (or any other pests!)

\$14.95 each

Revolver Style #6001 Automatic Style #6002



## 15MM CARTRIDGES

### #6007 FLASH/REPORT

These travel 30-50 yards, then explode with a tremendous charge! *More powerful than an old style M-80 firecracker!!*

\$29.95 per 100 rounds

### #6006 WHISTLE

These travel over 100 Meters giving a piercing, screaming whistle. *VERY LOUD!!*

\$29.95 per 100 rounds

### #6008 BLANKS

You must have these to shoot the above FLASH/REPORT or WHISTLE cartridges! *Extra EXTRA POWERFUL!!*

\$5.95 per can of 100

## EXPLODING TARGETS

2"x2"x1/2" Peel & Stick Back, Hit the Bullseye & watch 'em **EXPLODE!** 10 Targets/Pack. #6705

\$6.95 pack/10 targets

\$25.00 per 4 packs (40)

\$59.50 per 10 packs (100)



## 12 GAUGE "BIRD BOMBS"

2 & 3/4" Length. Range 70 meters with **VERY LOUD FLASH REPORT.** 25 Cartridges per box. #6102

\$18.00 per box (25 rds.)

**\$68.00 per 4 boxes (100 rds.)**



## ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

Minimum Order \$25.00. Send payment or card number & expiration date with a description of the items wanted. Include statement, "My date of birth is \_\_\_\_\_"

and there are no laws prohibiting me from purchasing ammunition. Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Georgia Residents add sales tax. All orders must include shipping charges AND signed statement. Personal Checks take 3 weeks to clear. Add \$3.00 per order - shipping/insurance.

SEND ORDERS TO:

AZTEC INTERNATIONAL Ltd.  
P.O. Box 1888, Dept. 63  
Norcross, GA 30091

DEALERS & DISTRIBUTORS! Send signed FFL copy for volume prices.



WE ACCEPT



VISA - MASTERCARD - DISCOVER

pack and let the sun warm them. The Corps didn't issue them and the Army did, forcing us to add words to our vocabulary like "trade," "barter," "beg," and "steal."

I once scrounged something called a "K" Ration from a Navy lifeboat. If the World War II soldier *really* ate these, then the old duffs at the local VFW are right. They were tougher than us. And dumber.

This last meal I sat down to in the Guard was something called a "Meal, Ready to Eat (MRE)," the newest in the line of gastronomic/NBC experiments by the service. They comprise a mostly dehydrated concoction in a plastic bag whose only saving grace is that they are lightweight. The idea here is that if you have spare water, you eat them in reconstituted form (an important tip for those attached to their teeth); if you don't have water you eat them in the raw. They come in foil boiling bags scientifically designed to ensure you can't get a spoon in them without spilling half the contents.

They also come with two warnings. One is to not use the boiling water you use to heat MRE packets for coffee, since it's now contaminated. That's enough to make even those with a room-temperature IQ wonder about the food *inside*, if the outside is so nasty.

The other warning is that they're not for pre-flight or in-flight use, printed there no doubt at the insistence of crew chiefs who have an aversion to reconstituted *anything* on the floor of their birds.

However, as one of the first Guard units to be issued this new ration, I grasped the obvious tactical advantages immediately.

"It's simple," I told my troops. "We feed you these, then have you jump in your foxholes. *Then* we give you the water, and you bloat to the point of not being able to climb out, and will fight to the death to defend your position. So, don't think of these as food. Think of them as a *new weapons system*," I concluded cheerfully.

They answered as only the long-suffering grunt can. They threw the MREs at me, and various small animals at Camp Grayling, Michigan, promptly ate them. We are still working on the Environmental Impact Statement and writing rebuttals to SPCA lawyers.

Scuttlebutt is, the services have planned microwaveable meals — much like a TV dinner — for the next generation of grunts. Since I'm getting out, they will probably taste terrific or something, although I have my doubts. They're still Rations, Troop, Individual Combat, which is kind of an FDA code for "unfit for human consumption, except for grunts."

I suppose soldiers since they wore Roman sandals have been complaining about rations. But until the day they figure out how to send your wife or mom to the field, they serve their purpose, which is keeping you alive to fight (or making you mad enough to fight). After 20 years, I know such rations have left their mark on me.

Just yesterday, my wife interrupted my viewing of *Tour of Duty* to serve me a steak

with all the trimmings. Flashback style, I absently told her to pass the bleeping Tabasco sauce to kill the bleeping taste of the thing.

She replied as only the long-suffering wife of a grunt can.

She threw it at me.

## FOOD AND FORAGE FOOTNOTES

One of the truest truisms is that an army travels on its stomach. Ancient hordes, and even some fairly modern ones that were into marauding, traveled largely at the expense of the populace they happened to be overrunning, like locusts.

Formal, authorized foraging was an honorable art practiced in the U.S. Army well into the 20th Century; rifles were converted to 20-gauge shotguns for the taking of game, and strict protocols were set forth for the conduct of foraging activities (essentially the rules were that friendlies got money or a receipt which could later be redeemed for coin of the realm, whereas the enemy did not, and troops engaged in foraging were not allowed to engage in side activities such as pillage and rape). Foraging-denial operations were perfected during the war between the states, when Sherman endeared himself to the already-hungry Confederates with a "scorched earth" policy designed to leave nothing around that *his* troops weren't using, to prevent its use by the enemy — like a wolverine urinating on what's left after he eats, so it will be of no use to another.

Although scrounging the enemy and/or environs for food, supplies and weapons may still be practiced upon occasion by the most modern and well-supplied of armies, way back in the days of the Roman legions it became obvious that time and energy spent foraging was time and energy *not* spent in fighting or other mission-related activities. Thus was born the idea of the individual soldier carrying his own chow with him.

The Romans invented "Roman Meal," which was a mixture of whole grains suitable for eating parched, as gruel, or made into bread when conditions permitted. The American Indians favored parched corn or pemmican, an MRE made from ground seeds, nuts, dried berries, insects and/or slow-moving meat species. In Vietnam, Charlie carried a ball of cooked sticky rice. No matter who started it, Rations, Field, Individual Combat were an idea which made good operational sense.

Almost as though constrained by an unknown natural law, however, although Rations, Field, Individual Combat have made good sense for centuries, they have never made good taste. Pre-packaged individual rations are be-

## ADVERTISERS INDEX

Advertiser	Page
Adventurer's Outpost	15
Assault Systems	73
Aztec International	86
Barnett International	Cover 4
Brigade Quartermasters	74
B-Square Company	76
CCS Communications	13
CEP Inc.	72
Collector's Armoury	77
Conestoga Company, The	77
Consolidated Marketing	83
Digitech Telecommunic.	80
Cutlery Shoppe, The	13, 15, 19
Dutchman, The	11
Doubleday Military	6, 7
Edge, The	20
Excalibur Enterprises	78
Executive Protection Products	Cover 3
Greene Military Distributors	82
Guardian Products	23
Heller Highwater Video	79
Hi-Tech Sportwear	14
J&T Publishing	75
Kaufman's West	Cover 2
K-Loc Mounts, Inc.	85
L.L. Baston Company	74
Larc International	19
L.O.T.I. Group Productions	75
North American School	84
Orpheus	80
Paladin Press	3, 24, 25
Pioneer & Company	77
Police Bookshelf	14
A.G. Russell	81
Stano	20
Shooters Depot	84
SOF Subscription	17
SOF Exchange	9, 29, 81, 87, 91
SOF Convention	21, 90
Sturm Ruger & Company	18
Urban Survival Prod.	76
Your Supply Depot, Ltd.	27

### SUPPLY LOCKER

American Pistol Institute	90
American Schools	89
Auto-Ordnance Corp.	89
Blowgun World	90
Booktrain, Inc.	88
Cloak & Dagger	88
Eden Press	89
Gun Parts Corporation	89
House of Bolin	89
Matthews Police Supply	88
Quartermaster Military	90
Red Dragon Kennels	90
R.E. Reeves	88
Stone Trail Press	88
Survival Books	88
U.S. Cavalry Inc.	89
USI Corporation	88
Uncommon Creations	89
Westbury Sales	89

lieved to have been first issued to the French army in Italy around the end of the 18th Century, although why anyone would prefer snails to spaghetti is beyond me. Packaging technology made several advances around the turn of that century, and not long thereafter various delicacies were available canned. But a universal staple in most armies was hardtack, also known as hard-bread, biscuits, common sea-biscuits, sea bread, pilot biscuits, and most recently as John Wayne cookies.

During the Civil War all hardtack was stamped "B.C." Nobody seems to know why although two guesses are "Brigade Commissary" for its agency of issue, or "Before Christ" for its date of manufacture. One of the most famous hardtack manufacturers of that era was Carr, at Carlisle, England, who exported their hardtack to troops all over the world; maybe it stood for "Biscuits, Carr."

Soldiers told of pounding hardtack with rifle butts to make it edible. Contemporary wisdom stated that hardtack worn over the heart would stop an enemy bullet. In one popular story a sergeant says, "Boys, I was eating a piece of hardtack this morning and I bit into something soft."

"What was it Sergeant Bryan?"

"A nail."

The same soldier drove his lieutenant to distraction by endlessly eating hardtack. His incessant oral milling of the flinty hardtack finally unnerved the lieutenant. "Bryan," he screamed, "why are you always eating hardtack?" "The juice, sir, I am very fond of the juice."

A mid-1800s military publication described the manufacture of hardtack thusly: "The materials [wheat flour, salt, water] are kneaded together, either by manual labor — that is, by the hands and feet of the workmen — or by... machinery." ("Gosh, Sergeant Bryan, considering the feet of some workmen, I'd sure appreciate it if you could find us some hardtack kneaded by machinery!") It went on to note that "It can be re-dried in [its original wooden] boxes without removal therefrom, by being exposed for about 40 hours to a temperature of 140 degrees Fahrenheit." ("Gosh, Sarge, it fell in the *what?* Do you have any boxes which are dried so they're just a little charred around the edges?")

A variation of hardtack — and probably the first MRE the U.S. Army ever issued — was the "Meat Biscuit." It was "A preparation of the substance of meat combined with a certain quantity of flour, and made into the form of biscuits, by which process the nutritive qualities of the meat are preserved for any length of time." Note that even in the mid-

Continued on page 91



## BOOKSHELF

Books for the Professional Adventurer  
SOF EXCHANGE • P.O. Box 687, Boulder, CO 80306  
Phone 1-800-323-1776, opr. 131  
NEW! FAX YOUR ORDER 303-444-5617

#8037 - **The Road to Kalamata**  
by Mike Hoare. A straight forward account of Hoare's 4-Commando actions while in the service of Moise Tshombe's newly created Independent State of Katanga. Hardcover. \$17.95



# 8038 - **Portugal's Guerrilla War**  
by A.J. Venter. The ten-year war in Portuguese Guinea is not just another African military conflict. On its outcome hinges the destiny of all Africa. Hardcover. \$9.95.



Book # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Book # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SUB TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Postage & Handling \_\_\_\_\_

3.7% Sales Tax (Colo. res.) \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT:

VISA  MASTERCARD  CHECK  COD

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery — Add \$2.00 P&H for 1st item, \$1.00 for each additional.

## PRESERVE THE SECOND AMENDMENT

The Right to Keep and Bear Arms is a right shared by all Americans, including our youth. The NRA places great emphasis on programs and activities designed especially for young people. A junior member in the NRA receives:

★ **InSights**, NRA's official publication sent to all junior members.

★ Assistance in learning basic marksmanship and hunter safety.

★ The opportunity to participate in NRA Junior Olympic Shooting Programs.

Help preserve our country's freedom by signing up a junior member today.

Contact:

**Shooting Sports Development**  
**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION,**  
1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

## THE HOUND DOG

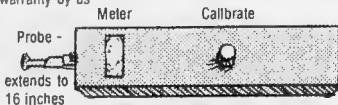
### Sniffs Out Hidden Transmitters

Throughout the world today, corporations, professional men, and businessmen are spending millions annually to insure privacy in their offices and homes where important plans and policy making decisions are discussed and formulated. The "HOUND DOG" is a wise investment for anyone who has reason to believe that an eavesdropping device is now hidden, or may be hidden in the future, in either home or office. No radio transmitter, no matter how well it may have been hidden, can escape detection by the "HOUND DOG".

The "HOUND DOG" is an advanced electronic instrument designed for the sole purpose of locating hidden transmitters. An average size office or room can be thoroughly searched in only a matter of minutes. The "HOUND DOG" sniffs out any transmitters hidden in pictures, walls, desks, chairs, etc., regardless of their operating frequency.

The "HOUND DOG" is simple to use. Single knob adjustment calibrates the meter and any transmitter signal received is indicated by the meter movement. By simply sweeping the probe past walls, chairs, pictures, desks, etc. the presence of any transmitter will cause a rise in the meter reading. The meter reading will continue to rise as the probe approaches the transmitter.

We believe you will find the "HOUND DOG" outperforms most other units selling for several times the price. This item has been built since 1962. Each one is backed by a 3-year warranty by us.



SIZE: 1.6 x 2.4 x 8.2 INCHES

**\$195.00**

USES A COMMON RADIO BATTERY



### Super Powerful FM TRANSMITTER

Many times more powerful than other transmitters. Transmits up to 1/4 mile on any FM radio - Easy to Assemble Kit - up to 9V battery (not incl.)

**\$19.95**

Call 407-725-1000 or send \$195.00 plus \$5.00 shipping for Hound Dog and \$19.95 and \$1.00 shipping for FM Transmitter to USI Corp. P.O. Box SF-2052, Melbourne, FL 32902. COD's OK. For a catalog of transmitters, voice scramblers & other specialty items enclose \$2.00 to USI Corp.



**\$24.95**

## THE ANARCHIST COOKBOOK

by William Powell

The original, once restricted, now available.

### HOW TO GET ANYTHING ON ANYBODY

State of the art investigative/surveillance techniques from the worlds best intelligence organizations. "Possibly the most dangerous book ever published," NBC News states ... \$33.00

## ARMALITE AR-180

**\$6.50**



### FACTORY MANUAL

- Operating instructions
- Assembly/disassembly details
- Maintenance instructions
- Parts list with factory numbers
- Accessory list
- Specification list

Factory publication, 23 pages, 35 photographs.



**\$11.95**

## MERCENARY'S MANUAL VO. II

written by Terry Edwards  
edited by Robert K. Brown

This technical book is the condensation of manuals, books, interviews, ARTICLES, and personal experience dealing with every aspect of the profession and is intended to broaden the knowledge and contribute to the survival of soldiers and mercenaries. Paperback, 324 pgs., 300 photos & drawings.

## SURVIVAL BOOKS

11106 MAGNOLIA BLVD., N. HOLLYWOOD, CA 91601 • ATTN. LORI (818) 763-0804

OPEN 7 DAYS

Prices subject to change • Catalog \$7.00 • Orders paid with money order or credit card sent immediately • personal check orders held 4 weeks

Hot off the Stone Trail Press!

## "SECRET WARS DIARY"

by David Atlee Phillips

My Adventures in Combat, Espionage Operations, and Covert Action" 344 pgs.

**\$15.00**

OTHER BOOKS AVAILABLE

Careers in Secret Operations (Phillips) \$10.00  
Thwarting Enemies at Home and Abroad (Johnson) \$12.00  
The Night Watch (Phillips) \$8.00

CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
STONE TRAIL PRESS  
P.O. Box 34320, Bethesda, MD 20817

Include .90 for postage  
for one book, and .35 for  
each additional book.

# INSURED BY MAGNUM POLICY NO .357

Red, Top Quality T-Shirt  
Satisfaction Guaranteed  
Specify S, M, L, XL  
**\$8.50 plus \$1.50 S&H**

Booktrain, Inc.  
P.O. Box 30  
Allons, TN 38541

## The Original COMBAT HARNESS



SHOOTERS, Improve your readiness and efficiency with the all new improved deluxe Combat Harness or Sportsman's Harness (for shotguns). Designed specifically to be lightweight, durable and field ready.

- Fits close to the body.
- Adjustable, one size fits all.
- Webbed side and back panels for ventilation and easy movement.
- Quick release nylon/plastic buckles

- Made of Cordura nylon
- CH: Fitted with six ammunition pockets with cartridge retriever and detachable back pack.
- SH: Carries up to 38 rounds.

Products Patent Pending

Please send me

- \_\_\_\_\_ Combat Harness(s) at 129.95 ea.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sportsman's Harness(s) at 64.95 ea.  
\$5.00 Shipping and Handling

Check Color:

- \_\_\_\_\_ OD Green Camouflage  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brown Camouflage  
\_\_\_\_\_ Black

Include check or money order.  
(KS Residents add 5.5%)

R.E. REEVES INC.  
P.O. BOX 500  
PITTSBURG, KS 66762  
FOR VISA OR MC  
CALL 1-800-84-VESTS

## CLOAK & DAGGER COLLECTABLES



SWEATSHIRTS 3" left breast logo	\$18.50
SWEATSHIRTS 9" centered logo	\$18.50
HOODED SWEATSHIRTS 3" logo	\$24.50
SWEATPANTS 3" logo	\$18.50
SWEATSHORTS 3" logo	\$14.50
T-SHIRTS 9" centered logo	\$8.75
TANK TOPS 9" centered logo	\$9.95
POLO SHIRTS 3" logo (CIA & AA only)	\$14.95
SATIN JACKETS Red, White, Blue, Black	\$49.50
Sizes available Medium, Large, Extra-Large	
BASEBALL CAPS One size fits all	\$8.25
PATCHES Iron-On \$5.00 Sew-On \$4.50	
HAT PINS Beautiful full color Hat Pins	\$4.00
COFFEE MUGS (18oz.)	\$11.95
BEER STEINS (23oz.)	\$15.95

### Cloak & Dagger

P.O. Box 8301 Hooper, Utah 84315  
Visa/Mastercard-Money Orders-Cash C.O.D  
UPS Shipping & Handling \$3.00  
Catalog \$2.00 --- FREE with order!  
**24 Hr. Order Hotline - (801) 399-1202**

## BULLETPROOF VEST

Will stop the .357 Magnum, 9mm and 00 Buck. Meets and exceeds "Threat Level II-A" tested in accordance with the NILECJ-STD-0101.01. Weighs 2 3/4 lbs. Fits easily under T-shirt.



Front & Back Protector ..... \$175.00 ppd.  
Detachable Side Panels ..... \$35.00 ppd.

Officially tested by the U.S. Government Edgewood Arsenal at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds under the U.S. Department of Justice Standards. State height, chest and waist measurements.

**MATTHEWS POLICE SUPPLY CO.**  
(a division of David Matthews, Inc.)  
P.O. Box 1754  
Matthews, N.C. 28105

## AFFORDABLE LEGENDS...

**THAT ANYONE CAN OWN.**

See your local dealer or send \$2.00 for color catalog.



We're proud to present our semi-automatic .45 caliber legends.

**Auto-Ordnance Corporation**  
 Box SF-8 West Hurley, N.Y. 12491 (914) 679-7225

### YOU'VE TRIED THE REST NOW BUY FROM THE BEST!

Mil. Spec BDU Clothing XS-XL	26.95
Camo Rip Stop Pants or Jkts	24.95
Camo 50/50 NYCO Pants or Jkts	24.95
G.I. O.D. Jungle Rip Stop Pants or Jkts	24.95
Blk. Rip Stop Pants or Jkts	26.95
Tiger Stripe Pants or Jkts	26.95
Urban 50/50 Pants or Jkts	26.95
Authentic Trebark* Pants or Jkts	26.95
Desert Camo 50/50 NYCO Pants or Jkts	24.95
XXL Camo or Blk Pants or Jkts	28.95
XXXL Camo or Blk Pants or Jkts	29.95
Camo T-Shirts S-XL	6.95
O.D. or Blk T-Shirts S-XL	5.95
6-Pkt. Ranger Vests Camo or Blk	29.95
G.I. Boonie Hat O.D. Camo Blk Tiger	11.95
Berets Blk Red Navy Grn or Maroon S-XL	12.95
Mil. Flags All Armed Forces	9.95
G.I. Pilot Sunglasses S.M. Lens	29.95
G.I. Pilot Sunglasses Lge. Lens	32.95
Specify: Gold Blk or Chrome Frames	
Mil. Rings Gold Clad All Armed Forces	
Whole Sizes 7-13 Only	39.95
G.I. Angle Head Flashlight O.D. w/cover	11.95
F.M. S-31 Boobie Trap Manual	6.95
F.M. 21-15 care and use of cloth & equip.	7.95
Pistol .45 Cal. Auto M1 911 A1 Manual	4.95
M16 A-1 Colt Rifle Manual	5.95

Ordering Instructions  
 Mail Cash, Check or M.O. plus 10% for Shipping and Handling (double for foreign) to:

**UNCOMMON CREATIONS CO.**  
 P.O. Box 5458, Glendale, CA 91221  
 (213) 738-8163 3311 W 3rd St., L.A.  
 Send \$2.00 for our complete information catalog

## LEGIONNAIRES SURVIVAL BOOT KNIFE

ONLY \$12<sup>95</sup>  
 Add \$1.05 Hndl.



Model K-99-A

Double edge 440 stainless steel blade. Full tang one piece construction. Leather sheath with quick release snap and metal boot/belt clip. Money Back Guaranteed If Not Fully Satisfied!!

**WESTBURY SALES CO. Dept. BK-8-SF**  
 156 Post Avenue, Westbury, New York 11590

## Army & Navy Lighter

Authentic Replica in solid brass of First World War lighter. Lasting and strong, for outdoor, camping and sport. Easy to fill.

**\$10.95**

(Including Shipping, Handling & Tax)  
 WRITE TO:  
**The House of Bolin**  
 P.O. BOX 450007, HOUSTON, TX 77245

## GUN PARTS CORPORATION

SUCCESSORS TO NUMRICH ARMS

### THE WORLD'S LARGEST GUN PARTS SUPPLIERS

PRESENTS ITS NEW #14 CATALOG

Featuring an inventory of over 300 million gun parts in house. A 480 + page catalog with exploded drawings that are invaluable to the gunsmith or hobbyist. Commercial, military, antique and foreign gun parts (many exclusively available from us) are listed and priced along with accessories, surplus & specialty items. A veritable encyclopedia of gun parts, this catalog will pay for itself time and time again with information and time saved in identifying parts.

**SURFACE FOREIGN - \$10.95 U.S. \$5.95**  
**AIRMAIL WRITE FOR QUOTE send**

GUN PARTS CORP. BOX SF-8 W. HURLEY, NY 12491  
 914-679-2417 TELEX 145331 FAX 9146795849

## LEARN LOCKSMITHING!

Become a Master Locksmith  
 Secure your financial future  
 Learn at home  
 Be Your Own Boss!

### Basic Locksmith I Course:



**INCLUDES:**

- Video (VHS)
- How to Pick Locks
- Professional Lock Picks
- ID Card
- Certificate
- 12 Course Catalog

Earn up to \$48.50 per hr., full-time or part-time. Be a master locksmith after completing our 12 course education program. Each course has its own video, tools, supplies, instruction, and certificate. After only 1 course, be able to open locked homes, offices, and autos for paid fees! Train further about locks, autos, safes, etc.

**SEND TODAY!** \$79.50 + 2.50 handling (\$82.00 Check, Money Order, US Funds Only)  
 OR  
 Without Video (Same course with written instructions, professional picks. Same as above with ID Card, Certificate, Catalog)  
 \$49.50 + 2.50 handling (\$52.00 Check, Money Order, US Funds Only)

Send \$82.00 or \$52.00 To...

**AMERICAN LOCKSMITH SCHOOL**  
 P.O. BOX 20446, TAMPA, FL 33622

## PRIVACY ?

### Avoid BIG BROTHER.

#### Best techniques for creating COMPLETE PRIVACY!

- Avoid Surveillance, Eavesdropping
- Become "Invisible" to Investigators
- Stop Generating Financial Records
- Communications Privacy . . . Phone, Mail
- How to Stay Out of Government Files
- Begin Eliminating Negative Records
- How to Create Helpful New Records
- Generating Quick Cash Income
- Hiding Your Assets ■ Privacy Afloat
- Banking Alternatives ■ "Low Profile"
- Privacy from Taxes ■ Nomadic Living
- Multiple Addresses
- Hideouts, Deep Cover
- How to "Disappear"

**ALL THE PRIVACY YOU WANT — and MORE!**  
 Don't wait! Order TODAY!!  
**ONLY \$18.95**

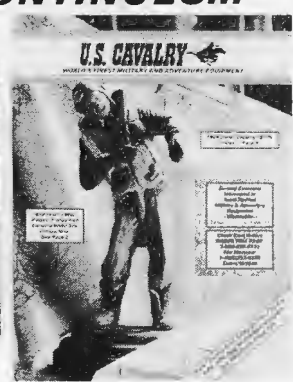


**EDEN PRESS**  
 11623 Slater "C", Box 8410-AP, Fountain Valley, CA 92728

Your  Regular P&H, \$2.00 (Please add Choice  **FIRST CLASS, \$5.00 to order.**)  
 (California residents please add 6% sales tax.)  
 Send latest Book Catalog — FREE.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_


## THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES...



136 pages of high quality and functional gear; genuine military clothing and equipment for outdoors, survival and the streets. Send \$3.00 for copy of our full color catalog.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail This Ad To:

**U.S. CAVALRY**   
 WORLD'S FINEST MILITARY AND ADVENTURE EQUIPMENT

Dept. SF08  
 2855 Centennial Ave., Radcliff, KY 40160-9000



**"OFFICIAL" TAXPAYER CARD & BADGE**

The Eternal Revenue Service wants you to commemorate yourself with a badge of distinction, honoring the person who pays all the bills. This impressive shield is solid bronze and enlaid with red, white and blue cloisonné. Complete with custom carrying case and personalized card. A real conversation piece and unique collector's item.

Q01-TAX Taxpayer Badge . . . \$19.95

**DIRTY HARRY BADGE**


**"DON'T DO THE CRIME IF YOU CAN'T PAY THE FINE" BADGE**

You Movie and TV buffs will recognize this replica badge as it is a duplicate of the one used by super cop Dirty Harry of the SFPD. "Go ahead make our day". Q01-15 Inspector 21 "Dirty Harry" Badge . . . \$21.95

Phone & Mail Orders Accepted  
Call **800-444-8643**  
Toll Free (For Credit Card Orders Only.)  
Add \$3.50 shipping and insurance charges.  
CA residents add sales tax.

Color Catalog Free With Order or Send \$3.00 To:  
**THE QUARTERMASTER** Dept. SF.  
750 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90813

JEFF COOPER'S  
**AMERICAN PISTOL INSTITUTE**



\*\*\* THE CRISIS MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS \*\*\*


Take the initiative and dominate your environment. Train with the professionals at API. Learn modern weaponcraft: practical shooting, skillful gunhandling, mental conditioning and applicable tactics with Jeff Cooper and the incomparable API staff.

Consider the API Advantage:

- We originated and have continuously evolved modern smallarms techniques
- We offer courses in rifle, pistol, and shotgun (machine pistol with departmental arrangement) for every level—introductory, refresher, remedial, intermediate, and advanced.
- Our curricula are based on extensive research into smallarms conflict, both in the past and as now occurring. We teach what happens.
- Our student-teacher ratio is three-to-one on the range and one-to-one in tactical simulation.
- We are a complete private smallarms training facility, encompassing over twenty firing ranges and indoor/outdoor tactical simulators, plus gunsmithing services on the premises.
- We also provide off-campus and customized courses for military, government, law enforcement and private audiences, anywhere in the free world.

**WE ARE "THE FIRST WITH THE MOST"**

For more information about courses and current scheduling, write:  
**AMERICAN PISTOL INSTITUTE**  
P.O. BOX 401-S  
PAULDEN, ARIZONA 86334



**RED DRAGON DOBERMANS**  
*Bred For Courage, Loyalty & Intelligence*

Now available — Schutzhund Grade puppies sired by German Import Erwin Von Hause Erlich VI, SCH III F.H. I.P.O. III

Contact Red Dragon Kennel  
3316 Magazine  
New Orleans, LA 70115  
Phone: 504-899-6617



**NEW 6 FT. "4 IN 1" TAKE-DOWN BLOWGUN**  
New 1989 Survival Hunting "Commando" Models

Camouflage or Black NINJA Models add \$3.00 each gun.  
Regular Range 1 or 2-pc Models in Fast take-downs:  
2 ft. 20' \$8.95  
3 1/2 ft. 110' 9.95  
4 1/2 ft. 220' 10.95  
5 1/2 ft. 300' 11.95  
6 ft. 350' 12.95

**3-piece "4-in-1" Guns** Aluminum collars. All guns fully assembled—No Kits!  
6 ft. 350' 17.95  
8 ft. 450' 22.95  
9 ft. 550' 24.95  
Add \$2.25 U.P.S.

**100 FREE DARTS ANODIZED** Camouflaged. Free quiver holds 12 darts.  
EACH paid gun.  
Combined get 2 ft. gun + 3' ft. gun + 4' ft. 6 ft. gun + Actual Photos FROM REG \$29.95  
DEALERS 1 OR 2 PC. GUNS  
12 3/4" \$72.00 12 5/8" \$86.00  
12 3/4" \$79.00 12 6" \$102.00  
12 3/4" \$89.00 12 6" \$120.00

**SILENT POWERFUL ACCURATE** bullet impact! Kills game. Blast's warms. Best's target. plinking, thrilling sport! Astound friends! Compressed breath gives rifle power! Percus by wood! NO TOX! Rugged aluminum. Ideal gift! 100 steel darts. instruc. Extra darts 100 \$3.95, 200 \$6.95, 500 \$15.00, K \$25.00. Cone darts 100 \$8.88, 200 \$16.88, 300 \$39.88. Broadhead tips 12 \$5.99, 224 \$10.95, 560 \$24.99.

**Bonus:** Buy 2 guns get 400 darts! quiver! target! poison info! carry case! Buy 3 same get 600 darts! Buy 4 same get 900 darts + free 2' gun! Buy 5 same get 1100, + free 7' gun! Buy 6 same get 1300 + free 8th gun! 10-day money back guar. Lifetime breakage guar. 1 Day Service. Scud cash, check, M.O. Millions sold! USA Made Use 10-Days No Fish!

**VISA, M.C., AM.X. (C.O.D. \$20 MINIMUM)** No C.O.D.'s to this number  
**TOLL FREE 24-HRS. 1-800-222-3119** ORDER DESK  
Blowgun World, Inc., Box 25183-S, Salt Lake City, UT 84125

Special Invitation to All SOF Readers:  
**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**  
10th Annual SOF 3-Gun Tactical Match  
September 19-23, 1989, Las Vegas, Nevada




Patterned after military and police courses and designed to test practical shooting skills with rifle, pistol and shotgun. Each shooter is required to engage targets before, during and after negotiating man-made obstacles or natural terrain features. Course scenarios are those that could be encountered during a confrontation with an armed adversary. Individual and team trophies, cash and prizes total over \$60,000.00.

**SOF** was pleased to have the following law enforcement departments and agencies represented in 1988:

Anaheim (CA) PD	DOE — Idaho	Ouachite (CA) PD
Arizona Dept. of Public Safety	DOE — Tonopah, NV	Palm Springs (CA) PD
Arvada (CO) PD	East Point (GA) PD	Pierce Co. (CA) SD
Athens (TN) PD	E.R.T. — Washington, DC	Polk Co. (OR) SD
Beverly Hills (CA) PD	Fountain Valley (CA) PD	Pueblo (CO) PD
Boone Co. (MO) SD	Frankville (PA) PD	Salem (OR) PD
Chicago (IL) PD	Hallsville (MO) PD	San Diego (CA) PD
Clackamas Co. (OR) DC	Hermosa Beach (CA) PD	San Fernando (CA) PD
Columbus (OH) PD	High Point (NC) PD	Starks (LA) PD
Dearborne Heights (MI) PD	Los Angeles (CA) PD	Suffolk Co. (NY) SD
Dillon (CO) PD	Mesa (AZ) PD	Tucson (AZ) PD
DOE — Albuquerque	NYC Dept. of Corrections	Washington Co. (OH) PD
	North Las Vegas PD	

To be a part of the World Championship 3-Gun Tactical Match and to receive further information, please send a business size SASE to: Michael Horne, 408 E. Harding, Bakersfield, CA 93308.

Continued from page 87

1800s the U.S. Army thought they could preserve something edible "for any length of time." The "substance of meat" mentioned was the product of "large pieces of beef" boiled until it became "about the consistency of syrup." One pound of meat biscuit contained the soluble parts of five pounds of beef and about a half-pound of flour. This product could "be eaten like ordinary biscuits; but boiled in about 20 times their own weight of water for half an hour, with the usual condiments, they make an excellent soup..." Riiiiight. Sound familiar?

Shortly after the Civil War, the U.S. Army standardized the daily allowance of food for one person as: "12 ounces of pork or bacon, or 1 pound and 4 ounces of fresh beef, or 22 ounces of salt beef; 18 ounces of soft bread or flour, or about 16 ounces of hard-bread, or 1 pound and 4 ounces of corn meal. To every 100 rations, 15 pounds of beans or peas, or 10 pounds of rice or hominy; 10 pounds of green coffee or about 8 pounds of roasted (or roasted and ground) coffee, or about 2 pounds of tea; 15 pounds of sugar; 4 quarts of vinegar; 1 pound and 8 ounces of adamantine or star candles, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera."

Various tables of substitution were delineated, in the event beef was not available, but mutton was, or fish and

cheese, and so on. ("Hey, Bryan, I'll trade you 1 pound 8 ounces of green coffee for 2 pounds of cheese." "Hey, Bryan, I'll trade you 20 pounds of fresh red meat for 10 pounds of salt fish. No, I don't know anything about no missing horse, I'm not Cavalry.")

In the same time frame the army ration in England, at home, was "3/4 pound of meat, and 1 pound of bread ('best seconds') if in barracks, or 3/4 pound of meat with 1 1/2 pounds of bread if in camp." When abroad, the English ration was "1 pound of bread, or 3/4 pound of biscuit, and 1 pound of fresh or salt meat, except at certain stations, where, for climatic reasons, a different ration is provided. The bread ration may be increased during operations in the field, though not above 1 1/2 pounds of bread or 1 pound of biscuit. During active operations, the officer commanding may direct the issue, in addition to the above, of wine, spirits, or any other article of subsistence equivalent thereto.

"The families of soldiers accompanying them abroad are allowed the following rations: the wife (married under regulation), half a ration; each legitimate child under 7, a quarter ration; from 7 to 14, a third part of a ration." What might be used to provide for illegitimate children or those over 14 was not specified, although there has been speculation they were inducted into the officer corps.

— Don McLean ✕

**\$49.95**

**\$29.95**

**BACK BY  
POPULAR  
DEMAND!**

**BARRY SADLER'S  
SYSTEM OF SELF DEFENSE!**

- ✕ This Self Study Video Course Contains:
- ✕ 17 Easy-to-Learn Lessons
- ✕ Defense Techniques Against Guns, Knives, Clubs, Chains and Other Improvised Weapons
- ✕ Special Forces Exercise Workout Segment
- ✕ Designed for Men, Women and Children
- ✕ Order Toll-Free Today  
1-800-323-1776, Opr. 131 or  
FAX Your Order 303-444-5617

Check    COD    Visa    MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

# Tapes Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to: SOF Exchange  
P.O. Box 687  
Boulder, CO 80306**

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

## Join The Struggle For Freedom!

Now Offered Through Soldier of Fortune

### FREEDOM FIGHTER COMMEMORATIVES

Freedom. Taken for granted by some and longed for by many. Afghanistan ... Mozambique ... Nicaragua ... even here in the U.S., the struggle for freedom is being waged daily.

Now, your chance to aid the world-wide fight for freedom is at hand.



#3020 Renamo



#3022 Ollie

Freedom, Inc., has been commissioned to create these beautifully minted, one ounce silver commemoratives. A portion of the purchase price will be used to aid these men and women dedicated to the fight for freedom.

Presently available are commemoratives honoring the Renamo Freedom Fighters of Mozambique, the Jamait-i-Islami Freedom Fighters of Afghanistan\* and the Contras of Nicaragua\*. In addition, Freedom, Inc., is minting an Oliver North commemorative. Although Col. North's fight for freedom is being waged in the courtroom instead of the battlefield, it is nonetheless just as important and expensive.

The Freedom Fighter Commemoratives represent an exceptional collecting opportunity — even for those who have not considered themselves collectors. Won't you join the fight for freedom and liberty? Send your order in today!

#### FREEDOM FIGHTER COMMEMORATIVES

\$35.00 each or \$33.00 each with purchase of 3 or more.

Credit card orders call toll free 1-800-323-1776 opr. 131

ITEM#	DESCRIPTION	QTY.	AMOUNT
3020	Renamo		
3021	*Afghan		
3022	Ollie		
3023	*Contra		
Subtotal			
Colorado Residents Only Add 3.7% Sales Tax			
Total			

Payment:  Visa    MasterCard    Check.

Card# \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Soldier of Fortune  
Dept. PI-2  
P.O. Box 693  
Boulder, CO 80306

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. No COD orders.

\*Photo not available at press time.

# CLASSIFIED

**CURRENT REQUIREMENTS** — \$2.00 per word per insertion — \$40.00 minimum. All ads **MUST BE PREPAID** and received by the 1st, four months prior to issue cover date. Ad copy must be typed or written clearly with authorizing signature, a telephone number (for our files) and full payment. Advertisers offering information packets for a fee must send a sample of packet (packets will not be returned). Name, address and telephone number are to be included in your word count. **EXAMPLE:** P.O. Box 693 = 2 words; 80306 = 1 word. Abbreviations such as DI, SGT, 20mm, U.S., etc., count as one word each. Hyphenated words and telephone numbers are counted as two words. No personal services ads accepted. We reserve the right to refuse, delete or change any copy which we determine to be objectionable. Mail classified ads with payment to **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, Classified Dept., P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306.**

**READERS OF BOTH DISPLAY AND CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING ARE ADVISED THAT SOLDIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE DOES NOT VERIFY VALIDITY OF EVERY ADVERTISEMENT AND/OR THE LEGALITY OF EVERY PRODUCT CONTAINED HEREIN. SHOULD ANY READER HAVE A PROBLEM WITH PRODUCTS OR SERVICES OFFERED BY AN ADVERTISER, HE SHOULD SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM HIS NEAREST POSTAL INSPECTOR AND ALSO CONTACT OUR ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT. SOLDIER OF FORTUNE DOES NOT INTEND FOR ANY PRODUCT OR SERVICE ADVERTISED TO BE USED IN ANY ILLEGAL MANNER.**

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine is a magazine of national and international distribution. There may be products for which sale, possession or interstate transportation may be restricted, prohibited or subject to special licensing requirements in your state. Purchasers should consult the local law enforcement authorities in their area.

## THE P.I. CATALOG PRIVATE INVESTIGATION

Manuals, Courses, Badges & Laminated Specialty cards, Directories, Newsletter, Investigative Forms, Equipment, certificates, Certified Missing Persons Investigator program, much more. Write For Big catalog from the fastest growing investigative association in the world. Send four stamps to: National Association Of Investigative Specialists, Box 33244-SFY, Austin, Texas 78764.

## FREE FALL TRAINING

### HALO — HAHO

Now available for the first time from one of the most respected parachute training centers in the U.S. AFF East Inc. is offering a Free Fall Training course which will put you in the company of the elite - the Halo qualified jumper! Classes for 1989 will be limited so act now! Training is discreet!

Become Free Fall qualified in 10 days and 12 jumps — basic course only \$1995.00.

\*All jumps from 10,500 feet +

\*60 seconds of free fall per jump

\*Ram-air canopies

\*Modern training techniques

\*Parachute packing course

\*1st jump certificate and log book

\*Graduation certificate and wings

\*Optional free fall photos/video of your jumps (additional cost)

\*Optional O<sub>2</sub> familiarization jump - \$150.00 (includes 1-day flight physiology course)

\*Optional Haho course (additional cost)

Call or write now for information and class dates.

**AFF EAST INC.  
MFF DEPT.  
3506 AIRPORT ROAD  
CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201  
(717) 264-1111**

## APPAREL

**FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION** Camouflage Uniforms, Current F-1 "LIZARD" Pattern Camo Suits NEW \$70.00, Matching Cap \$17.00. A.H.A., Box 21606 Denver, CO 80221 MasterCard & VISA Accepted! (142)

**FOREIGN CAMOUFLAGE** uniforms. Unissued, best prices, vast inventory. Omani, Indian, West German, Hungarian, Pakistani, Syrian, Egyptian, Russian, Spanish Desert, Chilean, many others. Send for latest listing. 812-876-2171, West-em Survival, PO Box 48, Spencer, IN 47460. (146)

**VIETNAM "SPECIAL FORCES" TIGERSTRIPE** Vietnam 1968 Pattern \$70.00 Matching Boonie Hat \$17.00 NEW. A.H.A., Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221 MasterCard & VISA Accepted! (142)

**U.N. OBSERVERS/PEACEKEEPERS BERETS**, Sky Blue Beret with U.N. Enameled Metal Crests \$28.00 A.H.A., Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221 (142)

## BOOKS • MAGAZINES

**MILITARY HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY** Book and article finding service. Free brochure. Write: Military/Info, PO Box 27640-SF, Golden Valley, MN 55427. (142)

**"MOST DANGEROUS BOOK EVER PUBLISHED"** — NBC, Can you — duplicate CIA tricks; save on surveillance gear; listen thru walls; see in the dark; get unlisted phone numbers, credit/personal records; chemically read thru envelopes; etc? **HOW TO GET ANYTHING ON ANYBODY**, 264 pages 8 1/2 x 11, \$33. postpaid, CEP Incorporated, PO Box 865-91K, Boulder, CO 80306. (303) 443-2294. (144)

**DIVORCE DIRTY TRICKS**. Protect property. Win custody. Sharpest tactics revealed. 228 page book. \$16.95. Visa/MC accepted. EDEN Press, Box 8410-DD, Fountain Valley, CA 92728 (147)

**UNARMED COMBAT** Survive the Streets! New, ultra-powerful self-defense system. Hardcover book reveals secrets. \$13.00. Libra Enterprises, P.O. Box 31719, Dept. SOF, San Francisco, CA 94131-0719. (142)

**MENTAL FIRE POWER!** Demolish defense fallacies with high-caliber thinking! For U.S. Strategic Superiority: Understanding Defense monthly. Free sample. 1633 Best Lane, Eugene, OR 97401. (143)

**TRACE MISSING PERSONS** big money and adventure with our proven professional techniques. Learn how in our critically acclaimed bestseller. Send \$14.95 to Tower Hill Press, PO Box 1132, Doylestown, PA 18901. (154)

**NEW AT LAST! 100 FREE DARTS** **REG. \$23.95**  
LUNG POWERED **PARA-COMBAT MAGNUM "Guerrilla"™ AIR-DART®** **\$8.97**  
Used in Vietnam **ZAP-SHOOTERS™** **MILITARY™** **UP**  
SILENT, POWERFUL ACCURATE HUNTING, target, plinking, survival. Kills varmints, pests, etc.  
Breath-tight steel darts 75 ft (200psi) Hunting, target, plinking, survival. Kills varmints, pests, etc.  
Great fun! Astound friends! Super gift! Not to Toy! Heavy duty aluminum target, quiver, muzzle cap.  
Total case + 100 FREE Steel Darts  
Zap darts 4x100 \$17.200 \$15.500 4x4" POWER-MAG (50 in.) 2pc \$11.97  
5x5" Zap darts 4x100 \$17.200 \$15.500 5x5" SUPER-MAG (25 in.) 2-pc \$14.97  
5x5" Zap darts 4x100 \$17.200 \$15.500 5x5" BUILT-MAG (35 in.) 2-pc \$19.97  
Buy 2 Zap darts for \$30.00 Free. Order by 3:00 PM. Add \$3.00 for shipping. Camo or 51 pack. Allow 15 day NO RISK money-back guarantee. May ship Order Today! **800-222-3119** **CALL FREE!**  
Send cash, check, M.O. VISA, MC, AMV disc (CO.D. 520 min. \$3.00) to: **ZAP-DART, INC., P.O. Box 2505-15 Salt Lake City, Utah 84125**

## ARE YOU PAYING TOO MUCH?

BUY HANDGUNS, ASSAULT RIFLES, SPORTING RIFLES AT WHOLESALE & BELOW EASY METHOD — SEND \$6. USA

(CHECK OR M.O.) to  
HARBOR PUBLICATIONS  
BOX 120050 DEPT. Z  
EAST HAVEN, CT 06512

## LAW ROUND, INERT

66MM NEW \$65  
Shipping included continental U.S. only. VISA/MC CODs \$3  
send \$1 for product catalog 602-749-5730

## C & T ENTERPRISES

P.O. Box 18564 Tucson, AZ 85731

**NEWMAN'S GI SUPPLY 201-948-6260**  
Rt. 10 Box 10419 Dept. SOF  
NEWTON, N.J. 07860

## JUNGLE HAMMOCK

\$39

WE PAY ALL SHIPPING & POSTAGE Send \$2.00 For 200 Item Catalog!

We have not seen a hammock of this good quality in a long time. This Hammock is a copy of the Hammock used in WWII and Vietnam. It is a combination insect proof hammock or stake it as a tent. Full length canopy keeps you dry and the nylon netting keeps those flying and crawling insects off of you.

Cashiers check, money order, personal checks or Visa & MasterCard gladly accepted. NO COD's. All merchandise is 100% guaranteed. Residents of Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico add 5% for shipping.

**BRITISH/SCOTTISH MILITARIA COLLECTORS REGIMENTAL** Insignia, Blazer Crests, Ties, Plaques, Tankards, etc., of Elite British/Scottish Regiments. SAS, Para, Guards, etc., and RAF. Also Scottish Clan Regalia, weaponry and miniatures. Import catalog \$2. **BRITISH REGALIA IMPORTS**, Dept. 6, PO Box 50473, Nashville, TN 37205. (142)

**THE INTELLIGENCE LIBRARY** Many unusual informative books on Electronic Surveillance, Weapons, Investigations, Unusual Technologies, Documents, etc. Free Brochures: MENTOR, Dept. G-2, Drawer 1549, Asbury Park, NJ. 07712. (148)

**NEW BOOK CATALOG!** 50-page catalog describes over 300 fascinating titles. The best books available on weaponry and dozens of other subjects! Send \$1 to: PALADIN PRESS, PO Box 13079AQT, Boulder, CO 80306. (144)

**TRACE MISSING PERSONS** big money and adventure with our proven professional techniques. Learn how in our critically acclaimed bestseller. Send \$14.95 to Tower Hill Press, PO Box 1132, Doylestown, PA 18901. (142)

**BUY GOVERNMENT SEIZED VEHICLES** and surplus merchandise. Complete, detailed book shows how. Only \$9.95 ppd. Source Communications, 207 SE Oak Street, #205, Hillsboro, OR 97123. (142)

**DIVE INTO HISTORY; U-BOATS**. Riveting saga of U-Boats sunk in US waters — all in SCUBA range! Follow Henry Keatts inside their devastated remains through dramatic underwater photos. Detailed descriptions, actual photos of sinkings and recovered artifacts. 8 x 11 hardcover, 183 pages, maps, 200 + photographs (47 color). Send \$29.95 plus \$3.50 postage. Aqua Quest, Drawer A, Locust Canyon, NY 11560. Visa/MC 516-759-0476. Dealers inquire. (142)

**SWITCHBLADE:** The Ace of Blades — by Ragnar Benson. Here is solid information on laws, uses, types of mechanisms and more. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, illus., 104pp. Send \$13. ppd to: Paladin Press, PO Box 1307-9GQK, Boulder, CO 80306 (143)

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**BUILD YOUR BUSINESS** by advertising in the classified section of SOLDIER OF FORTUNE magazine... Reach nearly Half a Million readers monthly... Just \$2.00 per word (\$40.00 minimum order). Mail ad with full payment to: Classified, PO Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306. (142)

**EASY \$1804 MONTHLY!** Buy and sell used cars. Great home business. Free Proof. Write: Automobiles, 507 Oak Drive, Friendswood, TX 77546. (142)

## COLLECTORS

**RHODESIAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN BADGES** Medals Books & Militaria Send \$1 for list. Kaplans Box 890638, Lynchurst, 2106 Johannesburg, South Africa. (147)

**WW2 GERMAN MILITARIA:** Insignia, flags, medals, uniforms, daggers, camouflage, books. World's biggest catalog \$2. Krupper, Box 1775F, Syracuse, NY 13208. (150)

**WORLDWIDE** authentic military medals, wings, insignia. Five different medals from 5 different countries \$98.50. Catalogue \$2 cash. Invidia, 740 Gladstone, Ottawa, Canada. K1R 6X5. (144)

**WHO KILLED KENNEDY?** Assassination research materials. Videocassettes, photographs, literature, Zapruder film. Catalogue: \$3. Collector's Archives, Box 2, Beaconsfield, Quebec, H9W 5T6. (150)

**MILITARY RELIC INVESTMENTS!** Telephone "hot" line. From common daggers, helmets, uniforms, weapons and medals to rare investment items. What do you need? We'll locate and ship. We also buy. Call John at 612-689-1146. (144)

**WWII WAR SOUVENIRS!** Includes daggers, swords, helmets, everything! Illustrated catalog \$10. (refundable) Disco, Box 331-X, Cedarburg, WI 53012. (143)

## SURVEILLANCE

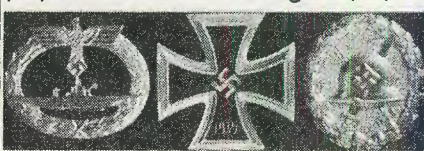
**SHERWOOD** - The first name in surveillance equipment. Complete line of investigative, communications & countermeasures equipment.

CONTACT THE SURVEILLANCE SPECIALISTS

**SHERWOOD COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATES, LTD.**  
PO Box 5355, Southampton, PA 18966  
(215) 357-9065

## MILITARY COLLECTORS

postpaid. • German War Badges • postpaid.



### Sub — Iron Cross — Wound

Your choice any one = \$8.00 or all 3 = \$20.00. All are full size, not miniatures. These made from originals. Your choice W.W. #1 or #2 (state choice) We have most complete stock of W.W. #2 German badges-caps-flags, etc. in U.S. **OVER 40,000 ITEMS IN STOCK.**

Postpaid. (Sent free with any order).  
Our 224 page fully illustrated CATALOG - \$5.00.  
W.W. #2 Ltd. Box 2063-F, St. Louis, Mo. 63158

**VIETNAM COLLECTOR?** Patches, books, DI pins, T-shirts. Catalog \$1. SATGONG, Box 177V, Syracuse, NY 13208. (150)

**WWII RELICS!** Cheaper than Globe, WWII Ltd., Collector's Armory! Flags, daggers, medals, insignia, helmets. Illustrated catalog \$5 (refundable). RELICS, Box 261-D, Cambridge, MN 55008. (142)

**EDUCATION**

**ACCREDITED DEGREES — POLICE SCIENCE.** Security, Business Administration, etc. through home-study. Catalog — \$4.00: St. John's University, 31916 Pat's Lane (SF), Springfield, LA 70462. (147)

**BECOME A PARALEGAL.** Work with attorneys. Home study. Lawyer instructed home study. Free catalog. The School of Paralegal Studies. 800-223-4542 dept L171. (142)

**TERMPAPER ASSISTANCE.** 15,278 papers available! 306-page catalog — Rush \$2. Research, 11322 Idaho, #206EX, Los Angeles, CA 90025. TOLL FREE HOTLINE: 800-351-0222. (California: 213-477-8226). (153)

**EMPLOYMENT**

**EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:** Jobs, any state, any occupation, including government, state, public. Also cruiseships, tugs, ships, riverboats, oilrigs. Women-Men. Work month-home month. USA plus overseas. Information \$5. Nationwide Employment, B242, Central, IN 47110. (144)

**OVERSEAS, STATESIDE.** \$100-\$1000 daily. Now hiring. FREE list. ZINCS 117, Box 13110, Las Vegas, NV 89112. (143)

**FOR SALE**

**VALUABLE, HIGH-EXPOSURE SPACE** is available now to advertise items you have for sale. Reach nearly Half A Million readers monthly... Just \$2.00 per word (\$40.00 minimum order). Mail ad with full payment to: Classified, PO Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306. (142)

**U.S. MILITARY INSIGNIA: 1940 through Current Large Catalog, \$2.00 SAUNDERS**  
Box 3133-SF • Naples, FL 33939-3133

**DEHYDRATED WATER.** Greatest gag gift for the survivalist who has everything. Boxed with instructions. Buy it to believe it. Check or money order, for \$5.95, plus \$2.00 postage and handling to Durlin Water Company, 7324 Reseda Blvd. #163, Reseda, CA 91335. (142)

**INTERNATIONAL CAMOUFLAGE & EQUIPMENT.** Summer/Fall Catalog of Camouflage, Equipment & Insignia from over 25 Countries! Send \$1.00 INTERNATIONAL MILITARY SUPPLY, Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221 (142)

**NEW MERCENARY BOARDGAME!** Players control the real armies, navies, aircraft of six major countries in RISK-like combat on colorful world mapboard (20"x22"). Players raise mercenary units from conquered countries. Includes: elite airborne, marines, paratroopers. Send \$19.95 (\$3. postage) to: Dunning Limited, PO Box 70497, Bellevue, WA 98007. (142)

**RUSSIAN PARATROOPERS BERETS.** Reproduction with Original Insignia \$32.00, Repro Paratrooper Badges \$17.00 A.H.A., Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221. (142)

**RARE WARTIME POSTERS!** Hitler, two Jima, Churchill, Tanks, Warplanes, Battleships, Old Recruiting Posters, British War Posters, Custers Last Stand, 100's more in stock! Delicious Pinups: Blondes, Brunettes with dangerous curves! Many other topics, also low prices! \$1 for catalog. Liberty Poster Co. #112F, Box 268559, Chicago, IL 60626-8559. Act Now Soldier! (143)

**U.S. CAMOUFLAGE PONCHOS,** Current Marine Issue, NEW \$25.00, A.H.A., Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221 (142)

**HAT PINS - PATCHES - FLAGS**  
600+ MILITARY DESIGNS  
FREE 24 Page ILLUS. CATALOG  
WE DO CUSTOM WORK  
Dealer Inquires Welcome  
**HOOVER'S MFG. CO.**  
40155F PROGRESS BLVD.  
PERU, IL 61354  
(815) 223-1159, Ask For David

**MERCENARY AVIATION BADGE**  
Rugged, die cast, silver metal wings with clutch back device. Show all that you have the right stuff. Send \$15.00 for each badge ordered. Swift response to all orders.  
R.D. LAFFERTY, P.O. Box 1213, McKeesport, PA 15132

**PAGER HOLSTER**  
PRESS BUTTON, CASE FLIPS OPEN. LABEL MAY VARY.  
FITS: DAVIS DERRINGERS  
BAUER, BROWNING .25 AUTOS  
FREEDOM ARMS .22LR, 1" BARREL  
N. AMERICAN ARMS .22LR, 1 1/4"  
\$19.95 plus \$1.50 S&H, or two for \$34.95  
SPLIT SECOND SECURITY, INC.  
P.O. BOX 16142-S, HOUSTON, TX. 77222

**KEVLAR HELMETS;** due to rigid regulations we are unable to deliver certain helmets to the government. However, these helmets are offered to you at a substantial savings. The minor defects in no way affect their performance or appearance. Quality Guarantee! SM-Med-Lg \$100. ppd., Helmets, PO Box 371, Breesport, NY 14815. (142)

**REGIMENTAL INSIGNIA & WENPONY**  
• SAS • AAF • BLACK WATCH  
• PARA • AM • CAMERONS  
• RSDG • AN • GUARDS etc.  
**Import Catalog \$2.00**  
**BRITISH REGALIA IMPORTS**  
Department-6  
P.O. Box 50473 • Nashville, TN 37205

**AFRICA-KORP. CAP & GOGGLES**  
German 1942 Mfg ORIGINAL sand & dust goggles, still in their pocket pouch  
Tan Oic. caps = New REPLICAS State S-M-or Lg Size. Both - Only \$39.00  
We pay postage Our 250 page fully illustrated catalog \$5.00 (FREE with order)  
**OVER 40,000 ITEMS IN STOCK**  
W.W. #2 Ltd., Box 2063-F St. Louis, MO 63158

**LATEST MODEL 6 HOT ITALIAN AUTOMATIC TEAR GAS GUN**  
ONLY \$9.95 POST PAID  
Fires 22 cal. tear gas or blank ammo. Solid metal. 6 shot, clip fed. Rapid firing. With instructions. For self-protection, theatre, dog training, sports. Purchaser must be over 21. Money back guarantee.  
WESTBURY SALES CO.  
Dept. TA-8-SF 156 Post Avenue, Westbury, New York 11590

**MOVING?**  
PLACE LABEL HERE  
MR/MRS  
Street Apt. No.  
City/State/Zip  
Mail it to: **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine,**  
P.O. Box 348, Mt. Morris, IL 61054

**MILITARY MEDALS**  
WORLD WAR II \* KOREA \* VIETNAM  
Full Size U.S. and Vietnamese Medals, Ribbons, Badges, Fine Display Cases, Miniature Medals, Personal Service. Display the valuable Medals awarded you or your family. Guaranteed!  
• FREE CATALOG! •  
WRITE TODAY! ► MEDALS, BOX 16279SF  
FT HARRISON P.O. INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46216-9998

**ARREST Violators!**  
TRAIN FAST AT HOME  
BE YOUR OWN BOSS!  
USE SECRET EQUIPMENT  
Wear the Badge of a **DETECTIVE**  
NO PREVIOUS TRAINING NEEDED  
• Your spirit of adventure, danger, and self reliance can lead you to an exciting career opportunity. Solve mysteries, bring criminals to justice, protect the innocent. Experts guide you every step of the way. Men and women needed to work in challenging situations, withstanding hardships, make on the spot decisions.  
Learn the latest investigative techniques using special law enforcement equipment... the same equipment used by the FBI, the CIA, and the Secret Service. Start your own investigative agency. Save up to 25% and more on all equipment. Send for free details.  
Approved by Calif. Dept. of Public Instruct.  
**THE ROUSE SCHOOL of Special Detective Training**  
DEPT SF907 P.O. Box 23750, Santa Ana, CA 92799  
Push me your "Detective" Career Kit—No salesman will call.  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**NOW AVAILABLE!**  
The Original **ADVENTURER'S™ BULLWHIP**  
Thick, High-Grade Leather  
From **CATTLE BARON™ LEATHER CO.**  
• SOLID LEATHER CORE — The ORIGINAL As Used in EXPEDITIONS Around the World  
• All HAND-PLAITED. THICK, Genuine TOP-GRAIN BELTING LEATHER w/ Permanent THICK TIP  
• Original "Rudky-Brown" Color  
• LEATHER COVERED HANDLE & BALL W/ WHIST LOOP  
Color Catalog \$3.00  
4 TO 6 WEEK DELIVERY NO HASSLES • NO DELAYS  
Add 5% Shipping & Ins. in U.S.A. — Foreign Add 25% —  
PRICES: ORIGINAL 10 Ft. Length \$129.95  
Extra Long 12 Ft. \$149.95  
LEATHER BELT CARRIER \$9.95  
• A FOrmIDABLE SURVIVAL TOOL •  
When Swung Properly, KINETIC ENERGY Makes the TIP Of the ADVENTURER'S BULLWHIP™ MOVE AT OVER 1400 FEET PER SECOND.  
• WHIP-HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS Included  
The HIGHEST QUALITY, TOUGHEST BULLWHIPS Available — Perfectly BALANCED FOR ACCURACY.  
CREDIT CARD PHONE ORDERS Call (512) 697-8900  
Send VISA MC, Check or M.O. To **CATTLE BARON LEATHER CO.**  
P.O. Box 100724 Dept. SOF-8  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78201

**The Most Powerful Slingshot in the world**  
Silent  
Accurate  
Deadly 100% hand made in the USA  
We Pay Postage  
\* More "muzzle" energy than some .22 cal. cartridges.  
\* Shoots 184 gr. lead ball (50 cal.) 200 ft. per sec.  
\* Over 300 yard range.  
\* Kill instantly grouse, duck, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, cat, dog, fox, badger, even coyote.  
\* Shoots 50 cal. holes clear thru 1/4" plywood.  
\* Up to 50 lb. draw (can you pull it?)  
Slingshot with 4 extra power bands: \$20.00  
Extra power bands: \$3.00 per set. Ammo: \$8.00 per lb.  
Get new patent pellet adapter and shoot 68 cal. pellets over 350 ft. Hole 12" group at 100 ft. Add \$2.00 for adapter.  
**WAR GAMES!!**  
Will Send C.O.D. 702-361-8341  
Ron Sinclair 279 E. Warm Springs Rd. #6, Las Vegas, NV 89123



**NOTICE TO READERS**  
**SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine** is a magazine of national and international distribution. There may be products for which sale, possession or interstate transportation may be restricted, prohibited or subject to special licensing requirements in your state. Purchasers should consult the local law enforcement authorities in their area.

**FREE**

**FREE 40-PAGE PRIVACY CATALOG.** Cash income opportunities. Secret loans. Home businesses. New credit, jobs, degrees, foreign passports. EDEN PRESS, Box 8410-SR, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. (147)

**SURVEILLANCE MICROPHONES,** best prices, equipment anywhere. Free catalog and information guide. Send SASE to: QueTech, PO Box 1585, Van Buren, AR 72956. (142)

**FREE KUNG FU LESSONS** Guaranteed satisfaction. Send \$1 for postage: McLisa, P.O. Box 1755 Dept. SF89-H, Honolulu, HI. 96808 (146)

**KNIVES • BAYONETS**

**FREE DISCOUNT KNIFE catalog.** Major brands, Military Daggers, Swords, Butterfly, Stars, Airguns. Gift with order. Save. Write! Midwest, C6111, 9043 South Western, Chicago, IL 60620. (143)

**B-2 or NOT B-2**

*silk screened yellow field wordless black only*  
**\$11.95 T SHIRT**  
**\$19.95 SWEAT**  
 Specify S-M-L-XL  
 add \$1.50 P&H  
 CA Res. add 6.5% tax  
 check or money order  
**LOW OBSERVABLES**  
 1116A 8TH ST. SUITE 169  
 MANHATTAN BEACH, CA 90266



**MAILING SERVICES**

**WANT A LAS VEGAS POSTMARK?** Send your stamped addressed letter and one dollar to PO Box 90013, Henderson, NV 89009. SASE for info about other services. (142)

**MAIL FORWARDING** State Income TAX FREE Florida. Low Cost. Reliable. Confidential. Free INFO: Call 800-321-9950 or write FAST FORWARD #SF, Box 917729, Longwood, FL 32791. (142)

**MOVING FAST?** Keep a permanent address for as low as \$7/month. Not a box number but your own address and ste. number. Also available—phone number, remailing, mail forwarding and more. ALL CONFIDENTIAL. For information enclose a stamp to THE BRANCH OFFICE, 3341 W. Peoria Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85029. (143)

**PRIVATE/CONFIDENTIAL OVERSEAS MAIL DROP** Professional remailing/forwarding. Economical rates. Private numbered address \$24.95/year. KATTEGAT, TSTPO 98108, Kowloon, HONGKONG. (142)

**PRIVATE MAIL SERVICE** Letters Packages, whatever, re-route, hold or rendezvous at your convenience. Wilson, PO Box 22, Amherst, OH 44001. (147)

**PRIVACY-CONFIDENTIAL** mail forwarding/receiving single remails \$1., since 1981, street address, phone available. OMD, Box 608039-SOF (131) Orlando, FL 32860. (142)

**REMAILING:** West Germany \$2 includes postage. Confidential forwarding, receiving, holding. Brochure \$1. TWG, Postfach 1151, 6460 Gelnhausen, West Germany. (148)

**SECRECY** — reliable mail receiving/forwarding, remails \$1. Meyer, 721 Church St., Medina, NY 14103. (143)

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**FLAGS 3 x5'. Military, states, nations, biker, rock, custom.** All banners. SASE for lists. FLAGS, PO Box 572, DuBois, PA 15801. (142)

**LOWER PRICE.** World Inel Report, the best source for hard data, mailed twice/month. Sample US\$1.50 one year US\$19.95. PO Box 1265, Merchantville, NJ 08109. (147)

**FREE CATALOG**

**UNIQUE**

**ESPIONAGE & MILITARY MEMORABILIA**

Historical Military Art and Collectibles  
 P.O. BOX 1806 - SF Lafayette, CA 94549  
 Phone 24 hours (415) 283-1771



**VIETNAM VETERANS RINGS**

cVVMF/F. Hart  
 Royalties go to Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund

Cast in stainless steel. Expertly modeled Vietnam Veterans' statue and the RVN medal are displayed in bold relief on ring sides. Bezel reads **VIETNAM VETERAN.**

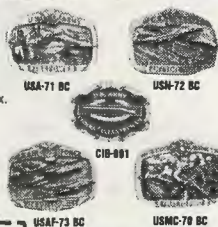
Red or Blue European spinel stones ..... \$69.95  
 Marine Corp emblem mounted on red stone ..... \$79.95  
 Green spinel and birthstones available ..... \$79.95

Size accuracy is very important due to the hardness of the metal. Allow 6-8 weeks delivery times. Add \$2.00 for shipping.

Major Don Wortman, USAF Retired  
**EAGLE LTD • 1051 Opal Dr.**  
 Prescott, AZ 86303 • (602) 778-5656

**HIGHLY DETAILED COLORED BUCKLES**

\$9.00 ea.  
 (fits 1 1/2" to 1 3/4" belts)  
 Add \$1.75 Postage & Ins.  
 PA residents add 6% sales tax.



1 1/2" Sculpted belt, antique brown (genuine leather), \$12.50 each

Please give waist size \_\_\_\_\_  
 R.G.R. DISTRIBUTORS  
 125 Rock St., Hughestown, PA 18640  
 I enclose \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
 Brochure. SORRY NO C.O.D.s  
 10 Day Money Back Guarantee  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Or send \$2.00 for color brochure (deductible with 1st order.)



**WINE.** Make with ordinary materials in your home. Instructions copyrighted and guaranteed. Rush \$2.99. WINE, Box 1650(D), Carolina, P.R. 00628. (142)

**MUSCULAR BODY** in six weeks! Unique 24 minute program "Works Miracles". Write: World's Simplist Bodybuilding System, Box 147, Dept. C4, Duquesne, PA 15660 (142)

**LITTLE SAIGON SOUVENIRS!** Vietnam memorabilia. Books, photos, bookoo more! Garden Grove, CA 92645. (142)

**HIGH-SECURITY** in floor safe. 14" high, 9" diameter. \$269.00 — free delivery. Confidential! Discount Safe, 117 Grand, Paines Park, NJ 07650. 201/944-4900. Credit Cards honored! (142)

**RUSSIAN GEAR,** Catalog of Uniforms, Insignia, Original & Reproduction Color Photo & List \$1.00, A.H.A., Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221 (142)

**MILITARY INSIGNIA CATALOG**—Over 6,000 different items and genuine military clothing and equipment. Send \$2. Kaufman's West Army & Navy Goods, Dept. A-508, 1660 Eubank, Albuquerque, NM 87112. (146)

**CRIMEFIGHTERS** send \$2 for Police Catalog. BPEC, Dept. SN1188, Box 7638, Moreno, CA 92303. (150)

**FIREWORKS WHOLESALE:** Bottlerockets, Firecrackers, Roman Candles, Sparklers and more. Save up to 50% on over 100 Classic C fireworks. Send for our free wholesale Class C catalog. K Classic Products, PO Box 142, Middlefield, CT 06455-0142. (142)

**WORLDWIDE MILITARIA SALE,** Camo Uniforms & Gear from around the World. List \$1.00. A.H.A., Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221 (142)

**BRITISH MILITARY SUPPLY,** 1989 Catalog of Camouflage Uniforms, Insignia & Equipment. Send \$1.00. B.M.S., Box 21606, Denver, CO 80221. (142)

**SECURITY PRODUCTS**

**FOOL BURGLARS** Medical quarantine sign helps protect home while you vacation. SASE \$10. Arc Angel, Dept. F Box 10527, Detroit, MI 48210. (142)

**PROTECT VALUABLES,** important documents in Sentry Home/Office Safe! Fire-resistant, burglar-deterrent. Lowest prices! Free delivery! FREE CATALOG! "Value", PO Box 67, Leonia, NJ 07605. (142)

**HIGHLY SENSITIVE, ULTRA SMALL FM** transmitters (bugs). Highest quality, lowest prices. Catalog \$2. Cony Electronics Distributors, PO Box 4172, Springfield, IL 62708. (143)

Subscribe to...

**MILITARY VEHICLES**

**ADS • ARTICLES • NEWS**

**MILITARY JEEPS, TRUCKS, TANKS & MORE!**  
 Over 5,000 paid subscribers larger circulation than any other magazine for military vehicle enthusiasts... and still growing rapidly! Many more advertisements than any other magazine... Exclusive comprehensive listing of upcoming rallies... and much more!



**SUBSCRIBE NOW!**

One Year (6 Issues) \$12  
 Two Years (12 Issues) \$20  
 Foreign - Canada \$15, other \$20  
 US Dollars payable by US Bank  
 Sample Issue \$3 USA, \$5 outside

P.O. Box 1748-L, Union, NJ 07083

**Be a DETECTIVE**

**AND EARN YOUR BADGE**  
**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**



MEN — WOMEN —  
 TRAIN AT HOME FOR AN EXCITING PART OR FULL - TIME CAREER AS A PRIVATE DETECTIVE. START YOUR OWN AGENCY OR WORK FOR OTHERS. LEARN ALL THE LATEST TECHNIQUES FROM THE EXPERTS.

EST. 1973

VALID IN ALL 50 STATES

**GLOBAL SCHOOL OF INVESTIGATION**  
 Box 191S Hanover, MA 02339

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO**



on Video for the first time **\$39.95**

75 minutes of pageantry, precision formation marching and military ceremonial splendor.

**BRITISH REGALIA IMPORTS**

Department 6  
 P.O. Box 50473, • Nashville, TN 37205



**U-BOAT CAPTAIN'S CAP**

White top Gold insignia and visor braid  
 Leather chin strap State size wanted \$89.00

Knights Cross with its 17" neck ribbon  
 and oak leaf with swords \$21.00

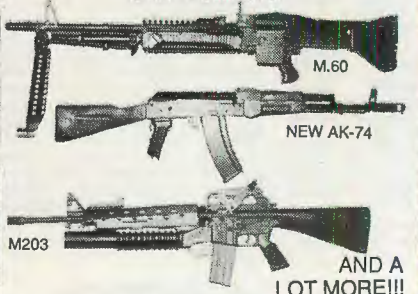
We pay postage. Our 224 page fully illustrated catalog (free with order) \$5.00

**OVER 40,000 Items.**

W.W. #2 Ltd., Box 2063 •F, St. Louis, MO 63138

**DIRECT IMPORT!**  
**COLLECTOR AIRSOFT GUNS**

"THE FUN OF INDOOR SHOOTING"  
 Shoots 6MM plastic or paint-filled BB's!  
 SEMI & FULL AUTO!



AND A LOT MORE!!!

**AEL AIRSOFT**

875A Island Drive, Suite #145, Alameda, CA 94501-0425

(415) 522-1798

open 24 hours/7 days for COD phone orders only

Send \$3.00 for illustrated catalog

**RETAIL • WHOLESALE • MAIL ORDER**

## SURPLUS

**GENUINE MILITARY CLOTHING, GEAR, EQUIPMENT, AND INSIGNIA.** Our name has meant quality for over 65 years. Catalog, \$2. Kaufman's West Army & Navy Goods. Dept. A-208, 1660 Eubank, Albuquerque, NM. 87112 (146)

**ARMY SURPLUS** Large inventory new and used, plus survival items. Send \$1 (refundable) for price list: Hugh Wade's Oakshire Place, Hwy. 51 South, Union City, TN 38261. (142)

**\$3. GETS 1,000 ITEM** Fully illustrated Military Surplus Catalog. Deduct \$3 first order. New-Used Military Surplus Clothing, Camping Gear, Survival Gear, War Game Supplies. Old Sarge PX, 4344 Archer Ave., Dept. 171-9, Chicago, IL 60632. (149)

## SURVIVAL

**WIN THE BATTLE!** Join the force for life and freedom. We've got the publications, the programs, the organization that you've been looking for. Send \$2. for complete information or \$15. for one year membership and big monthly newsletter. Live Free, Box 1743, Harvey, IL 61426. (142)

**SMOKE GENERATING DEVICES** (Candles, bombs, pots, grenades) — For \$2.00 we'll send you a catalog of brand-new smoke products, more smoke products than anyone else offers. Plus you'll receive a \$5.00 credit towards your first purchase. Also included are other items and surprises, some of which can't be advertised. Signus, Box 33712-JK, Phoenix, AZ 85087. (142)

**THE WORLD SURVIVALIST MOVEMENT** is here! Join us and work with survivalists in all nations to save life and freedom. Send \$2.00 for information. Live Free International, Box 1743, Harvey, IL 60426, USA. (142)

**SURVIVAL FOODS** Ready Reserve & Yurika Storage Foods. Neo-Life & Multiway Food Supplements. Free information. Spartan Distributors, PO Box 2085-A, Spring Valley, CA 92077. (142)

## TRAINING

**RANGER, AIRBORNE, BODYGUARD TRAINING** Catalog and information \$6. (\$10 foreign) USTC, 2020 N. Broadway, Ste. 103, Santa Ana, CA 92706. (146)

## SURVEILLANCE TELEPHONE



This is a normal functioning telephone! EXCEPT it has a secret built in monitor. Only YOU can call and monitor all conversations, using a secret code, and never be detected! **Range Unlimited**  
\$175.00 - 6 month Warranty - Phone Tap Catalog \$3.00  
LISTEN ELECTRONICS, 603 E. High, Muskogee, OK 74401  
1-800-633-TAPS

## FREEDOM COUNTRY



20 BIG acres in WESTERN MONTANA, starting at \$9850. Trout fishing, backpacking, camping. Elk, deer, moose, bear. ADJACENT to National Forest, near established towns. Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks nearby. **GUARANTEED ACCESS, INSURED TITLE, WARRANTY DEED.** Free color brochure, photos, maps.

—FULL MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE—

CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-592-5990

**TREASURE STATE RANCHES**

210 Milwaukee Street, Dept. 5

Deer Lodge, Montana 59722 - (406) 846-1000

## RANGER JOE'S

International Military Supply

P.O. Box 2568 • Columbus, GA 31902 U.S.A.



**THE ORIGINAL "NAM" BOONIE HAT**



**12.95\***

A favorite of American fighting men in Vietnam. Original 2" short brim design. Made of 100% ripstop cotton.

Color: Olive drab  
Sizes: 7, 7 1/4, 7 1/2

\*Add \$4.95 shipping

**1-800-247-4541**

GA Call Collect (404) 689-3455

Catalog \$2.00

Refundable with order

**OFFICERS WANTED** for the American Guerilla Force. For information, membership patch and commission application send \$5 to AFG, PO Box 4972, Falls Church, VA 22044. (142)

## VEHICLES

**IS IT TRUE** you can buy Jeeps for \$44 through the U.S. Government? Get the facts today! Call 1-312-742-1142 ext. 331-A. (143)

## VIDEOS

**VIETNAM VIDEO** — Original never before seen 8mm and 16mm films from Vietnam available on video tape. Catalog \$1.00 Vietnam Video, PO Box 15619 Detroit, MI 48215 (144)

**SEE MILITARY AND POLITICAL HISTORY** as it actually happened! WWI through the Falklands Campaign. Over 300 titles on videocassette. Send \$1 for illustrated catalog. International Historic Films Dept. 11B, Box 29035, Chicago, IL 60629 (142)

**NAVY SEAL VIDEOS!** Museum Collection includes: "NAVY SEALS IN VIETNAM" Cowritten by Seal Team One Members. Covers uniforms, weapons, equipment — all gear peculiar to SEALS \$15.95. Also "Navy Seals On Patrol" — Incredible rare footage of Real Seals on patrol! Shot in Vietnam 1968 by Seal Team One Members. See entire operation performed and explained! A MUST for every serious collector \$21.95. Also "MEN WITH GREEN FACES" and "SOMEONE SPECIAL" Navy Special Warfare Tapes \$24.95 each. Save get all four \$76.95. Profit from sales benefit UDT-SEAL MUSEUM. LOTI GROUP, Dept. A, 8341 SW 157 Ave. Ste. 311, Miami, FL 33193. (Charlie)



## BUSHPILOT WINGS

BADGE QUALITY — CORROSION FREE RHODIUM

SEND \$6.95 TO: BUSHPILOT

P.O. BOX 541384

DALLAS, TX 75354-1384

CATALOG WITH PURCHASE — ALLOW 4-6 WEEKS

## FREE CATALOG



Packed with 1000 Martial Art products, knives and weapons all at Discount prices.

**AMERICAN LIQUIDATORS, LTD**

SOF Free Catalog Offer

4009 Pacific Coast Hwy.

Torrance, California 90505

## TELEPHONE LISTENING DEVICE



Size 1cu. in.

Record telephone conversations in your office or home. Connects between any cassette or tape recorder and your telephone line. Starts automatically when phone is answered. Records both sides of conversation. Stops recorder when phone is hung up.

**\$19.95** EACH Qty Disc. Avail

## Super Powerful FM TRANSMITTER

Many times more powerful than other transmitters. Transmits up to 1/4 mile to any FM radio - Easy to Assemble Kit - up to 9V battery (not incl.) For catalog of Transmitters, Voice Scramblers and other specialty items, enclose \$2.00 to USI Corp



Call 407-725-1000 or send \$19.95 + \$1.00 shipping per item to: USI Corp., P.O. Box SF-2052, Melbourne, FL 32902 COD's OK.

## 'INTERNATIONAL' COMBAT TRAINING



Handgun Familiarization  
Combat Handgun  
Commando  
Counter Terrorist  
SAS

TAKE THE INITIATIVE - Invest in an Exciting and High Paying Career. Brigade is a Complete International Small Arms and Elite Forces Training Facility

Brigade teaches Modern International Firearms Tactics with Superior Tactical Firearms - PROVEN IN COMBAT. Our Competitors continue to teach out dated tactics with inferior Firearms. You owe it to Yourself and Loved Ones to get the Very Best Training in the World - By PROFESSIONALS

## BRIGADE SECURITY FORCES

P.O. BOX 1237, MOORESVILLE, NC 28115 USA

BROCHURE \$1.00

PHONE (704) 663-6740

## WANTED

**RHODESIA VETS AND RHODESIANS** Contact RVA, PO Box 1221, Agoura Hills, CA 91301 or call (213) 234-9201. The RVA is a non-political, non-military/paramilitary organization. (149)

## SHOCKING MANUALS!!

Survival! Electronics, Computers, Phones, Energy, Weapons, Finance! Medical. 100+. Plus Special Projects and Technical Research Services. Confidentiality Guaranteed! Send \$3 for catalogs. By John Williams, as seen on CBS "60 MINUTES". Since 1971.

## CONSUMERTRONICS

2011 CRESCENT DR. P.O. DRAWER 537  
ALAMOGORDO, NM 88310

## UNUSUAL BOOKS

OVER 900 TITLES—ALL AT DISCOUNT PRICES!

MANY AVAILABLE NOWHERE ELSE  
PRIVACY • UNDERGROUND BUSINESS • NEW IDENTITY  
BLACK MARKET • LEGAL SELF-HELP • SURVEILLANCE  
SURVIVAL • DISGUISE • CRIME • REVENGE • CHEMISTRY  
EXOTIC WEAPONS • FIREWORKS • LOCATING PERSONS  
PLUS MANY OTHER CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS-DISCOUNTED!  
HUGE 112 PAGE DISCOUNT CATALOG—\$1 (Ref.)

ANVIL • Box 640383F • El Paso, TX 79904

## W.W. II COLLECTORS OVER 40,000 ITEMS



Hats, Badges, Medals of all Nations.  
U.S. Officer's Cap (new from original U.S. maker), tan with brown leather visor, chin strap and U.S. Eagle pin. State size S, M, or Lg. ....\$58.00

We pay postage. Our 250 page fully illustrated catalog \$5.00 (Free with order)

W.W.#2 Ltd., Box 2063-T, St. Louis, MO 63158

## TIMBERSHEPHERD®

Timberwolf/German Import Shepherd

As featured in SWAT MAGAZINE, Nov. '83

Survival Guide Magazine, Aug. '84

American Survival Guide Magazine, Feb. '87

Atlanta Journal-Constitution Sunday Magazine, Jan., '88



"One of the Nations Most Approved Dog Trainers"  
Atlanta Weekly Jan. 31, 1988

**Home & Family Protection**  
Pups & Professional Training Available  
EXCELLENT WITH CHILDREN

—Shipping Available Worldwide—

LRPP K-9 SERVICES, INC.

Box 1620 ME • Aiken, SC 29802 • (803) 649-5936 (24 Hrs.)

—SEND \$3.00 FOR BROCHURE—

## BUTTERFLY KNIVES

The Folding BALISONG

knives originated in the

Philippines — used by their

fighting forces. Now made into

fine quality hunting knives.

The blade is of surgical

steel. The butterfly design

protects the working

portion of the knife. A

lever locks the

handle securely

in the open or

closed position.

Model K98-P

**\$850 Ea.**

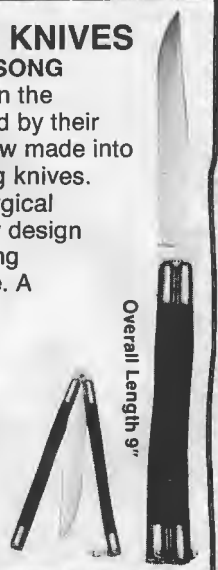
and \$1.50 UPS charges

WESTBURY SALES CO.

DEPT. P-8-SF

156 Post Avenue

Westbury, NY 11590



Overall Length 9"

# SITREP

by Paul Danish

**T**HE wave of anti-gun hysteria that swept through the media last winter spawned gun-grab legislation throughout the country as well as in Washington. The good news is that more than a few of these state and local bills have already had a spike put in them. The bad news is that some are passing, including sweeping restrictions on semi-autos in California, the nation's most populous state, and a favorable outcome to the fight at the federal level is by no means certain.

First the good news: Gun grab attempts have been totally or partially spiked in Arizona, Colorado, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Washington state, and in several cities including Indianapolis and Des Moines.

In Arizona, where gun control is about as welcome as the clap, the announcement that Republican House Majority Leader Jim Meredith intended to sponsor an assault rifle ban ignited a firestorm of public outrage that exploded so quickly that the idea was dropped even before a bill could be formally drafted. Dillon Precision, the reloading equipment manufacturer, played a key role in rallying the troops; employees volunteered to call Arizona customers urging them to raise hell with their legislators. A week later the state house was digging out from under more than 1,000 telegrams and hundreds of angry letters, and the proposal was dead.

In Colorado, a bill to ban assault rifles was executed in the Senate Judiciary Committee by a 4-5 vote, after a furious, month-long campaign by angry gun owners who flooded the legislature with more than 2,500 telegrams and turned out more than 100 citizens to testify against it at public hearings. The pro-gun uprising has resulted in the formation of the Firearms Coalition of Colorado, a statewide grassroots coalition. It is now mobilizing to fight national gun-grab legislation — and to end the political careers of anti-gun legislators in next year's election.

In Rhode Island, the Senate Judiciary Committee defeated an assault rifle ban on a 6-12 vote. A bill to establish a seven-day waiting period for all gun purchases — and requiring prospective buyers to list all their addresses for the last 10 years — was as of this writing stalled in the Judiciary Committee but not yet dead.

In Tennessee, the Senate Judiciary Committee defeated a bill seeking to outlaw handguns.

In Washington state, the Senate Judiciary Committee killed a proposed ban on semi-

automatics.

In West Virginia, a bill establishing a permissive concealed carry law and repealing a number of anti-gun provisions in the state code was signed by the governor.

In Indianapolis, the city-county council defeated a proposed semi-auto ban 1-8.

In Des Moines, the city council rejected a semi-auto ban 0-5 with two abstentions.

In Clemsford, Massachusetts, voters shot down a proposed semi-auto ban 50-350 at the annual town meeting.

Unfortunately, there is no shortage of bad news.

In California, the governor signed a bill banning the sale of 50 different types of semiautomatic rifles and requiring present owners to register their weapons. This has resulted in a surge of assault rifle sales. The legislation did not include the Ruger Mini-14, but it did establish a procedure whereby the state attorney general can get a court order from any judge to ban any "rapid fire" weapon in the future. The only silver lining in the cloud is that the state law appears to override the even more restrictive city ordinances in Los Angeles, Stockton, and Berkeley, which ban possession of semi-autos.

In Maryland, the legislature has approved a law extending the state's seven-day waiting period for handgun purchase to selected semi-auto rifles.

In Michigan, legislation is pending (S.B. 325) that would extend current handgun restrictions to most semi-auto rifles.

In New Jersey, there is the possibility of a state-wide referendum on anti-gun legislation.

In Cleveland, the city council passed a ban on the sale and possession of assault rifles. It is being challenged under the Ohio constitution, which contains a clause stating: "The people have the right to bear arms for their defense and security, but standing armies in time of peace are dangerous to liberty, and shall not be kept up; and the military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power."

The most crucial gun control fight of the year will come in Congress, of course. There are now no fewer than five bills being considered there, the worst being H.R. 669 by Representative Howard Berman (D-Calif.), which would ban possession of most semi-autos as well as their sale, importation, and manufacture. Fortunately it doesn't seem to be going anywhere.

The most serious threat seems to be coming from S. 386 by Senator Howard Met-

zenbaum (D-Ohio), and its companion bill H.R. 1190 by Rep. Pete Stark (D-Calif.). Those bills ban manufacture, sale, and import of selected semi-autos and require some form of registration for existing owners (we can't be specific because the sponsors keep fiddling with the bills).

Bills by Rep. Sam Gibbons (D-Fla.) and Sen. Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz.), which impose various import restriction schemes, don't seem to be going anywhere but could turn into threats since the situation is so fluid.

Meanwhile, the Bush administration's import ban was scheduled to expire in mid-June, and the BATF was due to report on which semi-autos had "legitimate" sporting uses in its estimation.

Perhaps the most grotesque anti-gun move so far this year is not legislative. It is the brainwashing campaign mounted by anti-gunners in the New York City School system intended to indoctrinate children with anti-gun propaganda.

Schools have started passing out book-marks embossed with anti-gun slogans, such as "Fact: Murder and other crimes committed with firearms occur more often where guns are most plentiful and gun control laws least strict." (That is a demonstrable lie. New York City has some of the most restrictive gun laws in the nation — and one of the highest murder rates.)

Even worse is the "See a gun, call 911" campaign in the schools, which encourages children to report firearms to police. Since the most likely place New York children will see firearms is at home — New Yorkers own an estimated two million firearms, most of which are held unlawfully under the city's gun laws — the anti-gunners are trying to get children to inform on their parents.

No fewer than 12 million American women own firearms, and the number of women buying guns is growing much faster than the number of men. And now there is a new magazine aimed at them.

*Women & Guns* does not offer bland fare. In a recent issue editor Sonny Jones discussed "ballistofeminism," a term coined by *Los Angeles Daily News* editorial writer Debra Saunders to describe "the healthy reaction to the plodding earnestness of earth mother/feminists who want to turn the world into a child-proof day care center with no toy guns."

Editor Jones also had this tart riposte to the gun controllers' specious claim that there are "enough" guns in the country: "There aren't enough assault rifles in this country until I own one," says she.

Although it is aimed at a female audience, *Women & Guns* magazine should appeal to anyone who finds no virtue in being a victim. It is also an excellent way to introduce that significant other in your life to the other side of the gun issue. Publication is monthly, and the introductory subscription rate is \$18 a year. To subscribe, write *Women & Guns*, Dept. SOF, 201 Paradise Point, Hot Springs, AR 71913. ☒

## Executive Protection Products, Inc. — The Professionals

1834 First Street ■ Suite S ■ Napa ■ CA ■ 94559 ■ (707) 253-7142

We are security professionals. We will be happy to answer your questions and provide you with the latest in privacy assurance devices.

If you need... the straight scoop... high quality equipment... great service, at fair prices...

Send \$3. (refundable) for our latest catalog. You won't find the quality and selection anywhere else.

MasterCard ■ VISA ■ American Express ■ COD

— NEW —  
Visit our store  
— INTELLICEPT —  
in San Francisco  
1215 Market  
Hours 10-6 Monday-Friday

### New! EAR 200

Hear Sounds Through Walls!

The EAR-200 is an amazing contact microphone with built in audio amplifier that produces clear, recognizable sounds through walls or other hard surfaces.

Utilizing a resonating chamber and advanced circuitry that even includes automatic sound leveling. Just plug in the headphones (included) and place the EAR-200 against any hard surface that you want to hear through and adjust the level of amplification. If you want to keep a record of sounds produced just plug a recorder into the built-in tape jack. The Ear is only the size of a pack of cigarettes, weighs 3 oz. and is powered by a 9 volt battery.

EAR 200 \$249. (Ship \$5.). See warning.



### ULTRA II



The size of a quarter, it is so sensitive it can pick up sounds 20' away and transmit them to any FM radio receiver (even the one in your car) up to several blocks away!

Ultra II uses a four stage circuit and quality components to achieve maximum performance. Uses

9 volt battery. Simple final assembly required. Intended for testing and experimentation; illegal to use for surveillance.

See warning.

Reg. \$195.

Special \$149.

(Ship \$5.)

Lithium 9 Volt Batteries \$15 ea.

(Lasts 2-3 times longer)

### BULLET PROOF VESTS

Stops .357 magnum and 9 mm pistol. High quality vest made from 18 layers of Kevlar. Rated class IIA. Covers front and back for full protection.

Compare these vests with others at over \$400.

Satisfaction guaranteed. Call now!

Only \$269.

(Ship/Insur. \$10.)

Optional hardplate available. Stops 9 mm

sub-machinegun. \$99. (Ship \$5.)



### VOICE CHANGER

Works over any phone, makes your voice totally unrecognizable! Change your voice from deep to very high or vice versa. No one will know who is calling.

Reg. \$498. Limited offer \$298. (Ship \$5.)

### TSD-5000 TELEPHONE SECURITY DEVICE



The TSD-5000 is the ONLY telephone security device that JAMS or DEFEATS series and parallel transmitters, tape recorder switches, infinity transmitters, hookswitch bypass and other modifications on single line telephones. Based on advanced military countermeasures it stops eavesdroppers four ways: 1) changes line voltage which shuts off recorders and other devices; 2) covers your conversation with "white noise" so all an eavesdropper will hear is a loud hiss between you and the telephone company central office, the person at the other end can hear you normally; 3) monitors line voltage on L.C.D. display; 4) protects your phone from becoming a room bug.

A TSD-5000 is for standard single line telephones, and is best used in situations where you are the only one with a security device or when you don't want others to know that you are using one. Only one is required. The only way to have a higher level of telephone security is to use our scramblers, one required at each end of conversation (see below). The TSD-5000 is not FCC approved and is sold for export use; however, you can purchase it here in the USA. Export permit required at time of export.

TSD-5000 \$1,995. (Ship \$20.)

### TRANSTEC Don't be trapped by hidden "bugs"

Transtec fits into your pocket and silently vibrates when it detects an R.F. transmitter (bug) in your presence, from up to 20' away! It warns you but doesn't tip off anyone else! When it gives a warning signal, Transtec can now be used with its special antenna attachment to verify that an actual "bug" is present (not an innocent signal) and then can be used to "sweep" and locate it.

Transtec \$695.

(Ship/Insur. \$10.)



**WARNING:** NOT TO BE USED FOR SURREPTITIOUS INTERCEPTION OF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS. ALL EQUIPMENT IS SOLD SUBJECT TO PUBLIC LAW 90-351, TITLE III, 18 U.S.D., SECTION 2511, ALL LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ORDINANCES, RULES, REGULATIONS, ETC. IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BUYER (NOT THE SELLER) TO CONSULT LEGAL COUNSEL FOR INTERPRETATION OF ANY LAWS APPLICABLE TO THE AREA OF INTENDED USE.

### More Products That Protect You

**TELEPHONE SCRAMBLERS** Several models from \$299. to \$6,000. each. (minimum 2 required).

Available for telephone, cellular, data and FAX. Fixed or portable units. Call for details.

**STUNLIGHT** A combination of rugged lightweight rechargeable flashlight and 40,000 volt stun gun. Have it with you when "things go bump in the night" or when you travel. Most attacks happen at night, be prepared. \$149. (Ship \$5.50).

**TELEPHONE AUTOSTART SWITCH AND LONG PLAY (8 hour) RECORDER COMBINATION**

Best switch built, not a cheap one that breaks or puts a heavy load or noise on the line. Starts and stops recorder automatically and silently each time any phone on the line is picked up or hung up. Sets up in minutes. Recorder uses standard cassette tapes. Autoswitch \$59.95, Recorder \$125. Save! Both for \$165. (Ship/Insur. \$7.). See warning.

**COUNTERFEIT BILL DETECTOR** Just press button and pass unit over any U.S. bill. In about two seconds the unit detects the presence of the magnetic ink used in real U.S. currency and beeps, indicating that the bill is okay. Small, fits in your pocket, carry with you. Don't get burned! \$79.95 (Ship \$3.).

**PEN MICROPHONE** A sensitive remote powered microphone has been crafted into a standard roller point type pen case. The "pen" fits unnoticed in your pocket but is actually attached by an 18" wire to micro recorder hidden in your pocket. Ideal for note taking or interviews. AL-2 Pen Microphone \$99.

We have the world's smallest micro cassette recorder, fits INSIDE a pack of cigarettes. Uses standard micro cassettes. \$349. (Ship/Insur. \$5.). See warning.

**PROFESSIONAL LONG RANGE PARABOLIC DISH MICROPHONE** with our exclusive audio amplifier and graphic equalizer, greatly enhances sounds. Made of clear, high impact plastic. Jack leads provided to hook up your recorder. This is the one you have seen on TV. While nothing works as well as suggested by TV shows, this unit provides the best performance available today. Others sell for \$2,800. Our price \$1,200. (Ship/Insur. \$15).

**FRISK™ EM HIDDEN WEAPONS DETECTOR** Small lightweight hand held detector, can even find a pin.

\$59. (Ship \$3.).

**COMPLETE COUNTERMEASURES SYSTEM** Enables you to professionally check for phone taps, room bugs, laser listening devices and more! Detailed instruction manual included; comes in fitted briefcase. Call for more details. \$2,995. (Ship/Insur. \$25.).

**40,000 VOLT SHOCKING BRIEFCASE** Remote activated! If a thief tries to steal your case, just smile and push the button on your pocket transmitter. 40,000 volts of electricity will knock them flat! And a 125 decibel alarm will sound off causing them to flee. Safe to use. Rechargeable. \$895. (Ship/Insur. \$15).

**REMOTE ACTIVATED RECORDING BRIEFCASE (RAR-B)** This attractive leather briefcase has a hidden recording system built in. Just push the button on your pocket activation transmitter and the case will silently start recording. Activate from up to 100' away. Keep a record of a conversation without having to move or open your briefcase. \$459. (Ship/Insur. \$10.). Micro Cassette Recorder to fit case \$99. Full Size Long Play 8 Hour Recorder (4 hours per side) \$125. (Ship/Insur. \$7.).

**TELEPHONE EAR** Listen in to your home or business from any phone in the world. This unique device permits ONLY YOU to hear every sound in the building it is placed into. The Telephone Ear plugs into any modular phone jack or can be attached anywhere along the phone line. Simple to hook up and use, just dial the number and enter your special access code. Now you can listen into your premises for as long as you like. Great peace of mind while you're away! Complete with instructions \$249. (Ship \$7.) See warning.

**DL-1000 HAND HELD "BUG" DETECTOR** Sweep your home, office, car or take with you to check hotel rooms, etc. for hidden radio frequency (R.F.) transmitters. The L.E.D. bar graph will lead you right to the signal source. Then by listening through the headphones (included) you will be able to quickly determine if it's an actual bug or just an innocent signal. Will detect room bugs, transmitters in telephones, bumper beepers, etc. Easy to use, instructions included. High quality! \$795. (Ship \$10)

**CPM-1000 PROFESSIONAL RF BUG DETECTION UNIT** Wide band detection up to 2 GHz. Portable and rechargeable. L.E.D. bar graph monitor, silent or active search modes, tone generator, etc. Incorporates 5 most important features into one unit. Great to use alone or with our CMS-3 package. \$2,495. (Ship/Insur. \$25.). Best portable R.F. detection unit on the market.

**SURVEILLANCE ■ COUNTERSURVEILLANCE**  
**INFORMATION SECURITY ■ VIP PROTECTION**



**NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES**

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST CLASS MAIL      PERMIT NO. 8      MT. MORRIS, IL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE



**SOLDIER OF  
FORTUNE**

PO BOX 348  
MT MORRIS IL 61054-9817



"The World's Leading Crossbow Manufacturer."

**Barnett's Compound Crossbows...**

**FAST, FASTER, FASTEST**

NEW!



**THUNDERBOLT II**

NEW!



**XT-2**

**#1 SELLER**



**DEMON**

Compound crossbows are celebrated, top-performers and are legendary for their added power capabilities. Now Barnett, the world's leading crossbow manufacturer, offers three commanding, compound crossbows - the XT-2 Compound, the Demon, and the Thunderbolt II. Each delivers the matchless combination of a unique design, attractive price, power and incredible speed.

**FAST...NEW!** The striking XT-2 Compound, has a unique high-tech design and is flexible to meet your needs through extended stock capabilities and adjustable rear and front sight pins. It also has a specially designed grip and stock for optimum comfort and maximum performance... Barnett's affordable, *XT-2 is simply the fastest compound crossbow in its price class.*

**FASTER...** *The world's best-selling compound crossbow, the Demon, is power-packed for maximum performance and accuracy. The sharp, modern crossbow features an improved prod and is now available in a 150 lb. draw weight, making it one of the fastest, smoothest, and most powerful compound crossbows*

available. Barnett's Demon is also light, quiet and available at an attractive price.

**FASTEST...NEW!** *The explosive, Thunderbolt II is powerful and has one of the smoothest trigger pulls available. An extended trigger mechanism also allows it to retain a longer power stroke reducing the overall length for balance, control and maximum maneuverability. Now, take a closer look at Barnett's completely new version of the original favorite...the Thunderbolt II will spark excitement in every hunter - as it's easily the fastest production, compound crossbow in the world.\* It sets the standard.*

*\*Based on available specifications.*



**Barnett International Inc.**

P.O. BOX 934/ 1967 GUNN HWY. • DEPT. 50F  
ODESSA, FL 33556 • (813) 920-2241

WRITE OR CALL TODAY FOR A  
FREE, COLOR CATALOG FEATURING  
BARNETT'S EXCITING PRODUCTS.