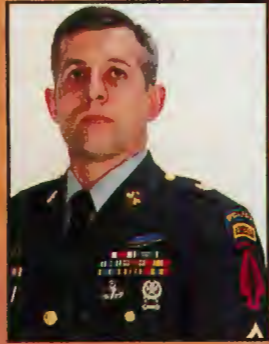




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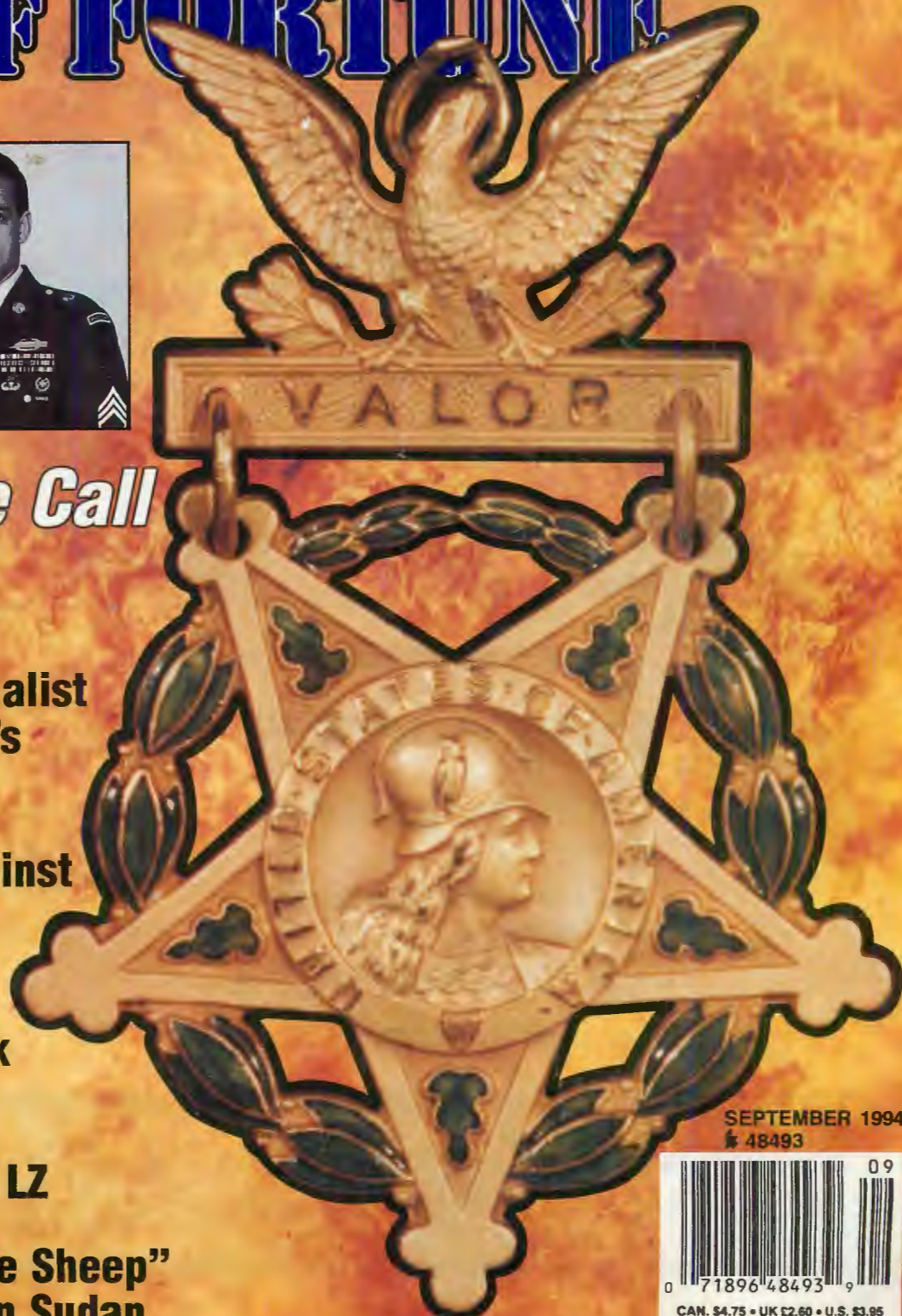
**Monument To Socialist
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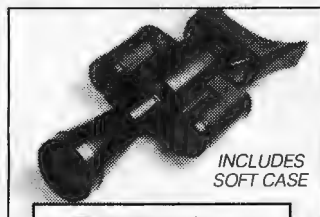
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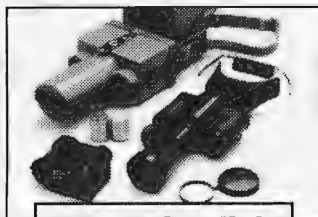
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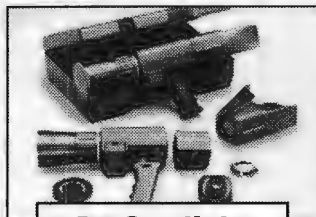


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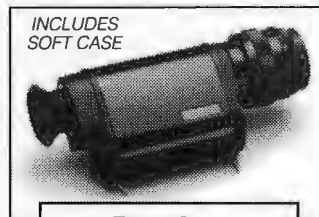
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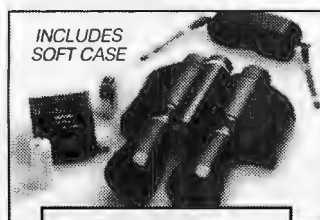


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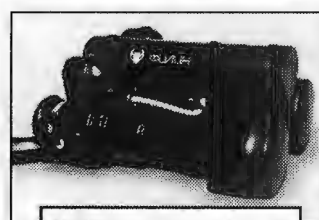


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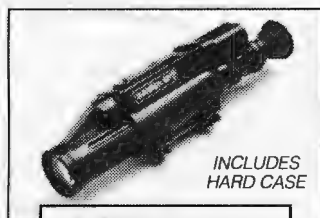
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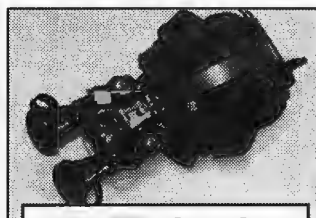
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Brady Bill 2

by Robert K. Brown

"SLAM" Marshall may have had it right after all. In the fight for our gun rights only one in four "soldiers" shoots back, the rest take cover and hope the danger will pass.

Unfortunately, it's becoming clear that the danger will not pass and those who don't join the fight will end up prisoners of a repressive regime that bears little resemblance to the United States of America we hold dear.

Case in point: Brady 2, Handgun Control Inc.'s (HCI) new bill designed to further tighten the vise of oppression on gun owners. Here's what the Brady Bunch have in store for us:

Anyone owning 20 or more firearms or more than 1,000 rounds of ammunition or primers would be required to get an "arsenal" license. This would involve being fingerprinted and obtaining permission of local zoning authorities, plus a \$300 tax every three years. It would also subject any arsenal holder to unannounced, warrantless home "inspections" up to three times a year.

"Firearm," by HCI's definition, includes magazines and "any part of the action," (even pins, springs and screws) so nearly every firearms owner would possess an "arsenal" under their definition. Even if you dodge the arsenal provision, owners of even one handgun would be required to obtain a state handgun license. This would require passing a state-controlled safety course, the

fee for which has no cap and can be set by state legislators.

Brady 2 would raise the current 11% tax on firearms and ammunition to 30% on handguns and 50% on ammunition, and divert the revenues to help pick up the tab for Clinton's socialized medicine.

It would become a federal crime to buy more than one handgun a month.

A permanent seven-day waiting period would be imposed on all handgun transfers, renouncing the compromise made to enact Brady 1.

More persons would be banned from owning any gun. If you're under 21 you could not own *any* handgun or handgun ammunition. If you're under 16 you could not own a firearm of any type.

All magazines of greater than six round capacity would be outlawed.

So-called "Saturday Night Specials," as defined by HCI, would also be outlawed.

"To me, the only reason for guns in civilian hands is for sporting purposes," according to Sarah Brady herself. Her vision is shared by 216 members of the House of Representatives and 56 senators who voted to start the ball rolling by passing the "assault" weapon ban.

It's past time for those gun owners who have been derelict in their duties to stop cowering and start fighting for the common cause. Marshall has been proven wrong on the battlefield; let's make sure he's also wrong in the fight for our rights. ✕



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Photo: Peter G. Kokalis

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SLICKEST COMPACT NINE EVER? Peter G. Kokalis
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Photo: SOLO



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Photo: Rob Krott

“WE KILL THEM LIKE SHEEP” Rob Krott
Southern Sudanese Christians slaughter northern Muslims who continue to attack in massive human waves across open ground against dug-in, machine-gun-armed defenders — with gruesomely predictable results 58

NO TIME FOR HEROES James L. Pate
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COVER

“For heroism above and beyond the call of duty” in Somalia, Master Sgt. Gary I. Gordon and Sgt. First Class Randall D. Shughart were awarded the Medal of Honor. The two Delta operators volunteered to go to the rescue of a downed American chopper crew and kept hundreds of hostiles at bay before running out of ammo and succumbing to overwhelming firepower.

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COLONEL CHARLIE BECKWITH 1929-1994

Colonel Charlie Beckwith, former battalion commander with the 101st Airborne in Vietnam, of the Special Warfare School at Fort Bragg, and prime mover of the elite counterterrorist Delta Force, died of natural causes at his home in Austin, Texas, 13 June 1994. Colonel Beckwith's distinguished career will be detailed in the next issue of *SOF*.

AMOCO: GOOD ON YA

Further to the report in July *SOF* regarding U.S. companies who deigned to do business with Burma's [Myanmar's] tyrannical State Law and Order Restoration Committee (SLORC), it pleases us to update that report with news that by the time this is in print, Amoco is scheduled to have pulled stakes.

REFUGEE RELIEF'S JOHN PADGETT HONORED

SOF contributing editor and Refugee Relief International (RRI) Vice President and Operations Director John Padgett, P.A.-C., has been selected as the National Humanitarian of the Year by the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA). The AAPA represents more than 20,000 practicing PAs worldwide. The award is made annually to a member who has demonstrated outstanding service to humanity. Padgett, Vietnam veteran and SF medic, was selected due to his work in Central America and Southeast Asia with RRI projects.

In conjunction with this award, the AAPA has donated \$1,000 to RRI. Our thanks go to them for this gift and our very hearty congratulations go to

John for this most distinguished and deserved recognition of his "corporate acts of mercy."

primary election by wealthy Sacramento developer and former Democratic Party chairman Phil



A cutlery breakthrough: Mission's new non-magnetic, non-corrosive titanium alloy MPK SEAL knife (see story this column). Photo: Steve Dick

For the most part, RRI volunteers get no recognition for their medical volunteer work in the malarial jungles and mine-infested backwaters of the world. If you'd like to follow suit with the AAPA, it's easy: Send John a note of congratulations c/o *SOF*, and if you can afford it, enclose a tax-deductible check for RRI. RRI can also always use donations of medical supplies and equipment (anything not requiring lock-up or refrigeration): Contact Col. Alex McColl if you have materiel to donate; phone: 303-449-3750.

ROBERTI SHOT DOWN

California State Sen. David Roberti, archenemy of gun owners in the Golden State and 28-year veteran of Democratic politics there, survived a grassroots recall election recently ... only to be soundly defeated in a

Angelides. Senate leader for 13 of his 28 years in California politics, Roberti was co-author of California's Roberti-Roos "assault-rifle" ban, which was the catalyst for the April recall — the first one in 80 years — led by irate California gun owners. Roberti's opponent was a big spender (\$3 million to Roberti's half a million): Roberti noted he would have been "far more competitive" if he had some of the \$800,000 he spent defending himself against the grassroots recall. "They obviously did cripple me," he said. Well, good!

DCM UNDER ATTACK

Last year, Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) tried to gut the Civilian Marksmanship Program via an amendment to the Defense Department appropriations bill. That failed, so she has introduced



Don't mess with these: Attending the 24-hour defensive shooting school by Defense Training International of LaPorte, Colorado, were *SOF* staffers (left to right) Gregg Peterson, Lynne Robertson, Tom Slizewski, Kristine Anderson and Dwight Swift. Persons interested in the training available or in their excellent training manuals should contact John S. Farnam, DTI Inc., Dept. *SOF*, Box 917, LaPorte, CO; phone: 303-482-2520.

H.R. 3128 to abolish the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice. DoD's general counsel responded to a query by Rep. Ron Dellums with a note that "The Department of Defense does not object to this legislation..." Maloney (rhymes with ...) then issued a letter to her congressional colleagues headlined: *DoD Urges Termination Of Civilian Marksmanship Program*. The semantic leap from "does not object to" to "urges" will serve to illustrate the ethical level of those trying to end the DCM program. Maloney's accomplices? She rounded up the usual suspects: Handgun Control Inc., National Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*, plus the National Taxpayers Union and Citizens Against Government

Waste. This bill will be coming up: Contact your representative.

HOT LOADS

Don't try this at home: Researchers at Sandia Labs in Albuquerque, New Mexico, have driven a one-gram projectile at some 52,800 feet per second, believed to be a world record for any projectile larger than a speck of dust. This hyper velocity was achieved using a unique tandem-barrel gun: In the first barrel, with a bore of 3.5 inches, a powder charge drives a heavy synthetic piston, compressing hydrogen gas ahead of it.

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bore, where it drives a second synthetic piston, called a "pillow," through a section of the bore under vacuum to impact with a titanium plate, driving the plate forward at nearly the impact velocity. The "pillow" gives enough to compress slightly, so when it rebounds, that energy is also added to the titanium projectile. It'll probably take a while for the slow-and-heavy vs. fast-and-light aficionados and the wound ballistics wonks to sort out the implications of this development.

PYONGYANG-WACO

A story in the *Bangkok Post* would lead us to believe that some of the entrenched tyrants of the Orient take lessons from the would-be tyrants of the West: North Korea burned more than a dozen army officers to death in a public "ceremony" that

was attended by some 1,000 onlookers, including the families of the soon-to-be-deceased. Accused of plotting to overthrow Kim Il-Sung and his son Jong-Il, the men were doused with gasoline and then torched, while the crowd threw rocks and chanted "traitors." Well, they probably deserved it. After all, plotting to overthrow your local dictator does rank right up there with suspicion of failure to pay the \$200 tax on Title II weapons.

NORTH KOREAN TUNNEL RATS

The Army may use sophisticated sound technology to locate, map, analyze and ultimately seal off a suspected network of 23 tunnels North Korea has burrowed under the DMZ. Four tun-

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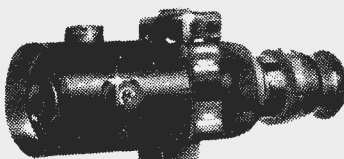
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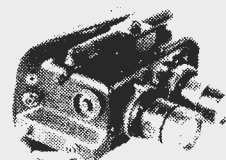
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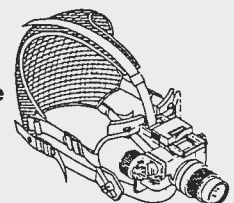
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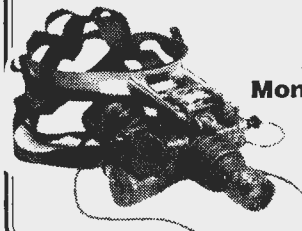
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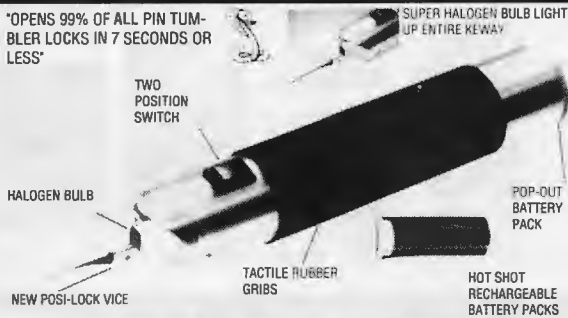
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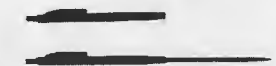
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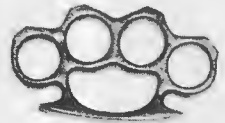
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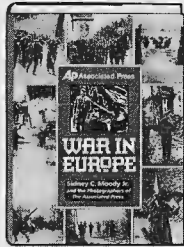
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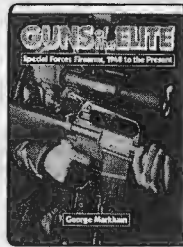
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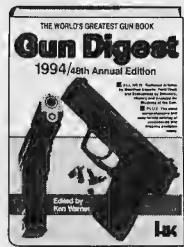
1297+ \$17.95



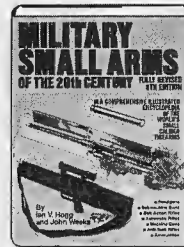
3376 \$19.95



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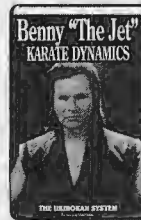
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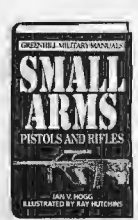
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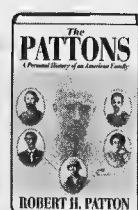
0232 \$29.95



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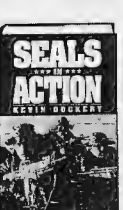
0208 \$25.00



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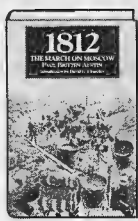


4069 \$14.95x

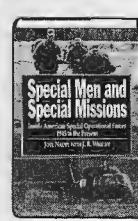


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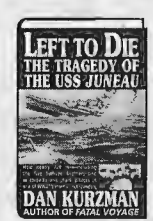
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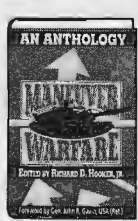
0554-9999* \$50.00



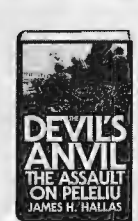
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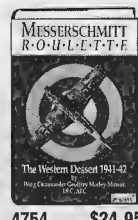
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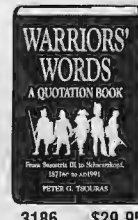
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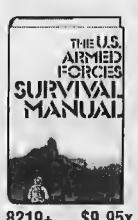
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SOF 9/94

Continued from page 8

nels have been discovered since 1974, complete with reinforced concrete construction, electric power, weapons storage, sleeping areas and a narrow-gauge railway with carts. The fourth tunnel was discovered by U.S. and South Korean forces in 1990 in the eastern sector of the DMZ, evidence that North Korea has dug invasion tunnels all along the front line.

Robert Rich of the U.S.-Korea Economic Institute was quoted in *Defense News* as saying U.S. forces used seismic technology shortly after the Korean War to monitor tunneling efforts by the North. Typical North Korean tunnels, he said, are dug wide enough for a jeep or small armored personnel carrier, or a four-abreast column of troops.

If undertaken, current acoustic technology would hopefully determine whether missiles, artillery, vehicles or other ordnance is stockpiled inside. The Army could then use helicopter-delivered ground penetrators to burrow into targeted tunnels and release chemicals or other access-denial agents.

TITAN'S KNIFE

In addition to SOG Specialty's new SEAL knife, Mission Knives of San Juan Capistrano, California recently announced the Navy has let a contract for them to supply a state-of-the-art "beta titanium" bladed diver's knife — designated the MPK (multi-purpose knife). This titanium blade is treated to 44-46 on the Rockwell C scale, to provide a very lightweight, high tensile strength, non-magnetic, corrosion-resistant,

multi-function cutting tool.

The blade (see photo) is 7.125 inches long and .25-inch thick, with a non-reflective black finish. It features two inches of rope-cutting serrations at the base of the edge. The one-piece, injection molded 4.75-inch handle is made of textured, grooved Kevlar fiber in a black Hytrel base, to provide a fire-resistant, dielectric gripping surface.

The knife comes with an ambidextrous Kevlar/Hytrel sheath suitable for field, scuba and jump operations. Field sharpening is accomplished with an Eze-Lap Model M diamond hone. Testing by SEAL units indicates the MPK is equal or superior to many of the conventional ferrous knives currently in use.

The Navy has purchased knives for issue to SEAL Teams 1, 3 and

5, Seal Delivery Vehicle Team Unit 1 and Naval Special Warfare Group 1. Representatives of Mission Knives state the titanium MPK will be offered for commercial sale once Navy contracts are completed. For information contact Mission Knives Inc., Dept. SOF, Box 1616, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693; phone: 714-661-3879.

— Steven Dick

GULAGS LIVE

According to the Russian police ministry (MVD), which runs the gulags, there are still some 516 "corrective labor camps" functioning in the Russian Federation. According to the MVD, total prison population in all RF penal institutions is 763,000, of a total RF population of 150 million. Approximately half a million inmates are in the corrective labor camp system. ✕

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TK-200 FM Tuneable Transmitter Kit* with tunable receiver \$199 (ship/ins \$7).

TK-600 UHF Crystal Controlled Professional Quality Transmitter Kit* \$399. Two frequencies available. Works with scanner or professional high gain receiver.

***NOTICE: Transmitter kits require simple (10 minute) final assembly.**



- **Body Wire and Receiver Set \$299** (ship/ins \$10)
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- **Tap Nullifier. Jams telephone taps. \$695** (ship/ins \$10)

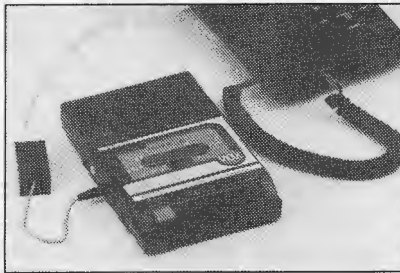
Audio Surveillance Kit

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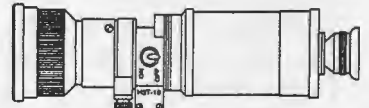


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SECOND AMENDMENT O.P.

Fighting The Crime Bill

by Jeff Nelson

With passage of the Brady Bill, the Feinstein Amendment to the Crime Bill (at this writing, the Crime Bill has yet to be reconciled by the House-Senate conference committee) and a full-court press by anti-gunners to strip Americans of their Second Amendment rights, gun owners are beginning to wonder where to turn.

This is normal: We gun owners are historically a self-sufficient lot — not a group of whiners dependent on Big Brother to protect us and show us how to live. Therefore, forming a coalition against a common foe is somewhat alien to us.

But the strategy for an effective fight against anti-gun forces is to band together, so the whole becomes greater than the sum of our parts. This banding together is necessary on both the local and national level.

At the national level, join the NRA. You may have some burr under your saddle about the NRA for some action in the past. Maybe some snot-nosed NRA lobbyist rubbed you the wrong way when he did not accept your "solution" to a problem, and did not take the time to explain that the idea had been unsuccessfully tried before. Whatever. In any case, the NRA is the "Big Guy" and the only really effective gun on Capitol Hill.

Pick up the phone and call 800-672-3888. You will get a voice mailbox. Follow the instructions and you can join with a credit card. On 1 July 1994 the dues were raised from \$25 to \$35 per year. Before you grumble about "someone raising prices," you should know that this was proposed to all NRA members via their magazines *The American Hunter* and *The American Rifleman*. Members were asked to give the Washington office feedback, voting 96.1% in favor of raising their dues.

NRA membership is critically important to anyone interested in preserving their Second Amendment rights. The more members the NRA has, the more money it has — and we all know Washington lobbying is expensive. The more people the NRA has writing and calling members of Congress, the better chance they have of defending our rights. And don't just send in your dues, but drop a few bucks in every time they ask for more contributions. None of us like to get requests for money, but if everyone sent in the price of a box of cartridges each time, we would be in tall cotton.

Buy your gun stuff from suppliers who participate in the "NRA Round-Up" where invoices are rounded up to the next full dollar, and the change sent to the NRA Institute

for Legislative Action (ILA). It may sound like chicken feed, but Midway (5875 D W. Van Horn Tavern Road, Columbia, MO 65203; phone: 800-243-3220) collected and sent to the NRA ILA more than \$150,000 in both 1992 and in 1993 through this program. If your favorite supplier or gun shop does not participate, ask them to. Mike Dillon,

we appear to be split in our opinions, legislators will not listen to us and the antis will publicly showcase this as our ineffectiveness. God knows that a strong-willed group like gun owners can be argumentative, but keep these discussions in the "family," not in public. NRA/ILA has a grassroots group, the Second Amendment Foundation



among many others, (12500 N.E. 10th Place, Dillon Precision Products, Bellevue, WA 98005; 7442 E. Butherus Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85260-2415; phone: 800-223-4570) also does this.

Next, join or organize a grassroots effort. There are plenty of groups that sit around talking to each other about how our rights are being eroded. Join or form a group committed to *acting* to preserve our rights.

The most effective strategy the antis have is divide and conquer. When

(12500 N.E. 10th Place, Bellevue, WA 98005; phone: 206-454-7012) that conducts seminars around the country. Write to them and find out when they have one scheduled for your area.

Ben Franklin said it best as he signed the Declaration of Independence: "We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately."

Jeff Nelson is an SF vet and Second Amendment activist. ✕

World Famous Street-Fighter Will Give You A **FREE GUN...**

Just To Prove He Can Take It Away From You *Bare-Handed As Easy As Candy From A Baby!*

By Dr. R. L. Horine, Director, TRS – Civilian Fighting Division

Dear Friend,

I want to send you a free gun. (It is identical in CAD-imaged specs to the standard military-issue "Red style" training gun.)

There are 2 things I want you to do when you receive it:

1. I want you to set the gun aside, and watch the four videos I will also send.
2. Then, I want you to give the gun to the toughest, biggest and most coordinated friend you have... and ask him to:

Point The Gun At You And Squeeze The Trigger!

It is important that you choose someone who is larger than you. Preferably, he should also have some skill at fighting. *A black belt karate master would be perfect.*

Why am I asking you to do this? Because, I want to prove to you that what you see on these video tapes will allow you to instantly take that gun away (bare-handed) and *put him down on the ground* before he can move a muscle to squeeze the trigger! And once down, you will be able to keep him on the floor (and even slap him silly, if you please). You'll be in complete control.

As you will see in these tapes, you do not need strength, or special agility, or even previous skill in fighting. You will see how even a small man (5' 5", 140 pounds soaking wet) can easily disarm and take down a bodybuilder (6' 2", 240 pounds) trained in judo!

It's an astonishing fact to learn, but it is true nevertheless. What you are about to learn are the identical "Disarm and

Disable" tactics used by elite U.S. military personnel, big city SWAT teams, and high-profile security enforcement...

Which Have Been Kept Secret From Civilians (Like You) For Almost 20 Years!

Now, let me tell you about this gun. It is a detailed and exact replica of the "Red style" guns used by the military for training. It was designed by an American craftsman (who is now working with the military) and is hand casted, so that *all the tolerances are identical*. It has the feel, heft and balance of an authentic high-powered automatic pistol, yet is crafted from special solid polymers so it can be used for real-life training.

This gun would fool an expert who picked it up blindfolded — *only* the solid bore and the color (white) give it away as a training weapon. (The color is used for two reasons: To avoid misunderstandings with people who do not realize it is a training gun, and to keep *you* from accidentally picking up a real gun to practice with.)

There is one important alteration to this training gun. The **trigger guard** has been strategically changed so it will not snap the finger off your training partner, as a normal trigger guard would. (Your big, tough friend wouldn't like that... though he couldn't do much about it until you shared your tapes with him.) This alteration allows you to train without "pulling punches", and speeds up your learning curve dramatically.

Now, don't get the idea the "moves" you are about to learn are difficult, just because they have been held in secret by some of the most feared fighters in the world. *The moves are simple and natural...* yet utterly devastating when used against an armed



"I seldom give endorsements, but this is something special. The release of these tapes are unparalleled — you can learn a lot... it may save your life."

Colonel Robert K. Brown, USAR (Ret.)
Founder and publisher of
Soldier of Fortune Magazine.

attacker. You will be able to quickly take away your assailant's gun, and you will also learn:

- * How to "jockey" for your best first-strike position during an attack!
- * How to instantly "classify" any gun (single action vs. double action)... and how to tell if a gun is in "Condition One" — military jargon for "ready to fire"! (This "inside" weapon knowledge could give you a

precious extra second in any confrontation... enough to choose your best next move!)

- * The *most important* (and *toughest*) decision you **must** make in any armed confrontation... and how to make it intelligently and morally (so you never have to second-guess yourself later!)
- * Why the *incorrect* disarming techniques will actually force your attacker to fire... whether he's decided to or not!
- * Why a man with a gun standing just 2 feet away from you is at a disadvantage... and how to use simple "leverage" to make him regret it forever!
- * Why the correct way to "clear" a weapon increases your chances of not getting shot (first rule of bare-handed gun fighting) by 60%!
- * Why the fancy-schmancy spinning head-kick techniques most martial artists learn are *hopelessly inadequate* in surviving a *real* street-fight! (And the "false confidence" you get will cause you *desperate* trouble!)

What's more, you'll also learn how to disarm an attacker who has a knife... along with:

- * How to tell when your attacker is just "bluffing" with a knife... and when he's about to commit to stabbing you! (Crucial knowledge for making your best fight-ending move!)
- * The *single most important decision* you must come to terms with in a knife fight!
- * How to protect your most vulnerable "targets" during a knife fight... and how to use these rapid-blood loss areas *against* your assailant to end the fight instantly!

Plus, you'll learn the tactics of taking away a club or baseball bat from an attacker... and also:

- * How to tell where the "sweet spot" of a club or baton is... where all the *damaging* power is located! (And how to avoid it!)

- * Where the "safety" area of the club is: the 20% of any swing where the power of the club is wasted (and where your opportunity to *end the fight* lies!)

And, once you've disarmed your attacker and are facing him bare-handed... well, that's just child's play now. These tapes will show you:

- * How to use the secret of your body's natural "fulcrums" to bring anyone to their knees... using only 12 pounds of pressure and a tiny "torque" of your wrist! (Once you understand the secret, even a fighter twice your size can be dropped in a blink... with no more exertion on your part than you'd use to open a tin can!)
- * The one "dojo" karate trick to never use in the real world! (It's a silly, dumb thing to do... and yet it's one of the *first* things you learn as a rookie martial artist!)

- * How to master the strongest grip you're capable of — no matter how "weak" you think you are!
- * How to use simple "cat-like" tricks to force your body to fall correctly... so even if you get pushed down onto a concrete sidewalk, you'll bounce right back up without a bruise! (Plus — how to use your body's natural "cushions" to absorb almost any shock... and avoid the common bone-breaks *most* people suffer when knocked down!)
- * The devastating secrets of *joint manipulation* (the lazy man's method of effective fighting!)
- * The 4 crucial moves you must make when being "held up" from behind! (Or being forced to kneel from behind... one of the more *common* assault techniques used by desperate criminals and hostage takers!)



8 March 1994

This is an unsolicited endorsement:

Violence is on the upswing in America. Therefore it is important that both men and women possess the ability to defend themselves. The expert self defense instruction provided by Bob Taylor and Randy Warner, permits anyone to build a simple self defense strategy. The techniques presented in the tapes apply to the military, law enforcement, and all walks of the civilian community. The secret is practice and safety as stressed in the tapes.

Robert C. Kingston
General, USA Retired



TACTICAL RESPONSE SOLUTIONS

PLUS — and this is my *favorite* part of the package — you get an entire video of street-fighting “Dirty Tricks”... the same sneaky moves used by professional soldiers and cops who can’t afford to waste time fighting by the *old* “rules of the street”. You’ll learn:

- * The 2 psychological responses *all* top warriors “surrender” to the instant a fight is at hand... that *increases their chance of survival and victory by 400%*!
- * How to quickly “cancel out” any size or weight advantages your opponent has!
- * How to judge — *for yourself* — the “Escalation of Force” rule for any encounter! (So you are *instantly* in control of the fight, even if you’ve been totally surprised!)
- * The secrets of “Single Finger” take-downs... using moves that are *inde-fensible* even by a larger and more experienced opponent!
- * How to use “pain enhancement” tech to convince your assailant to stay down until the cops arrive!
- * How just 6 pounds of pressure on a nerve can set you free from almost *any* hold!
- * How to break away from strong-arm choke holds!
- * The natural “guides” on your attacker’s body that automatically guarantee a correct strike!
- * How to avoid the devastating mistakes even black belts make when attempting head butts! (And how to use the professional tricks of performing head butts perfectly — one of the surest ways of bringing an opponent “down” without further action!)
- * The amazing “filthy cat fight” trick that even urban street fighters never learn... which will allow you to control anyone who isn’t bald!
- * The 12 take-down tricks that are never taught in karate “schools”!

- * How to avoid the horrible mistake most fighters make with groin kicks!
 - * “Short Cut” kicks you can learn and use immediately... no matter how un-coordinated or clumsy you are!
 - * How to negate (with simple pain-control moves) the common “harassment” attacks — bear hugs, full nelsons, and head locks — that are used against women!
 - * Simple controlling moves that force your *attacker* to decide if he wants to come away with a broken arm or give up! (And how to keep him down — without serious damage — until the cops arrive!)
 - * How rookie fighters “telegraph” their moves... and not to do it yourself (and use your knowledge to gain advantages over your dumber attackers!)
 - * How to reverse the worst fighting position you could ever find yourself in!
 - * Your 5 best “first strikes” to end any fight instantly — a split second before it begins!
 - * The sneaky ways professional fighters use the element of surprise to turn around dangerous situations... even when they’re the ones who’ve been “jumped” by an assailant unexpectedly!
 - * The simplest way to gain a “technical” advantage when you appear to be overmatched!
- And more. A *lot* more, in fact. For example, you’ll get simple exercises to specifically strengthen what’s weak in your “falling muscles”. (The identical conditioning exercises used by professionals!) You’ll learn how to train into *mastery* without breaking your partner’s bones. These moves look simple (almost too simple)... but their devastating power becomes evident the first time your partner goes a fraction of an inch too far. (Don’t worry, though — there are easy ways to make your practice sessions “fail safe”!)
- You’ll understand “Shotgun and Uzi”



“...the research contained in this series of tapes is worth the price. Whatever the price of these tapes the total knowledge contained is worth ten times as much. I cannot say enough about this series, except that you should buy them and find out for yourself. Believe me, you won’t be disappointed.”

John “Dynamite” Donovan, U.S.A.R. Major-Special Forces, Demolition editor for *Soldier of Fortune* magazine, and 30 year practicing martial artist.

disarming techniques (many traveling Americans have found themselves in mega-armed terrorist situations overseas and here in the U.S.!)... How only 4–6 pounds of pressure can snap a shinbone... Why no professional would *ever* attempt the “spinning round house kicks” that are taught to every new karate student (and which take 2–5 years to learn correctly!)... How to “adjust” his attitude without doing obvious harm... A detailed “map” of anatomical targets (for example: where the thumb ends at the thigh is a *crucial* nerve point — reaction: numbing shock when kicked)... And, the most *decisive* move you can make to end *any* fight instantly!

As you can see, the secrets revealed in these amazing video tapes will give you a powerful new way of moving in the world, because...

You Will Never Again Walk Your Streets In Fear!

Are you having trouble believing all this? That's okay — I'm used to people being suspicious... *at first*. But the truth is, what you are about to learn is praised by professional soldiers, and law enforcement personnel all over the country.

I have included a sheet of "testimonials" with this letter from U.S. military generals, big-city police veterans and even the publisher of *Soldier of Fortune* magazine (who almost never gives endorsements). They *all* agree that this new system can be learned quickly and easily, and will work on the street under even the worst conditions imaginable.

Here is how we came to discover these "professional warrior" bare-handed fighting secrets: For a long time now, I have been connected to the "inside" of certain elite military and law enforcement circles. (Including the Navy SEALs — the most dangerous soldiers on the planet.) My goal is to help civilians like you to understand the super-effective fighting skills that have been developed. I want my family to feel as safe and protected as possible, and I'm sure you want the same for your loved ones.

Anyway, through certain inside "contacts" (which I am not going to tell you about) I was approached by two of the most respected professional combat trainers in the world: **Randy Wanner** is a feared martial arts expert who for years has been training federal and state law enforcement agencies in "street survival fighting tactics". (He was also the former Martial Arts editor for *Soldier of Fortune* magazine.) His name is well-known among the elite "warriors" of modern-day combat, and he has gone toe-to-toe with street fighters from all over the world to prove his techniques are superior to anything else out there.

Bob Taylor (who spent 2 tours in Viet Nam with the 101st Airborne, MACV-SERT, and the famous 75th Rangers) is considered one of the country's most experienced experts in counter insurgency operations; state, local and federal law enforcement agencies use him frequently for training. He is also a specialist in counter-terrorism for African, South American and Central American governments.

These two guys are in demand all over

the world. Their clients include the U.S. military, big-city SWAT teams, international anti-terrorist squads and top security firms in 15 foreign countries. These clients hire Bob and Randy for just one thing:

Their Incredible Skill In Quickly Teaching Their Unique "Bare-Handed" Disarming and Disabling Techniques For Armed Attackers!

This new fighting system took over 20 years to develop. It was necessary because the techniques the police and the military used to use — based on centuries-old karate moves — simply were **not** effective in real combat conditions. Soldiers and officers who were supposed to be disarming their attackers were, instead, *getting shot and disabled themselves!*



"In my 50 years of military combat experience no one has done the hands-on research of being unarmed against a live weapon... until now! Study and master this tape. It will either save your life or save you years of imprisonment — as POW."

Maj. General John K. Singlaub, USA (Ret.) General Singlaub's career was chronicled in his autobiography, *Hazardous Duty*, published by Summit Books.

Randy and Bob decided to find out what was wrong. There was only one sane way to do this. They used their connections within the military establishment to get "training" bullets for their weapons. These bullets (called "Red Jets") are almost impossible for civilians to get. They are made of wax and polymer, yet are calibrated to fire from real weapons and can blow a hole in quarter-inch plywood from 15 feet. These training bullets were necessary for Bob and Randy's research, because...

They Used This Live Ammunition On Each Other To Develop Their New Disarming System!

Let me tell you — it takes some kind of guts to face a gun loaded with live ammo. Those wax bullets travel at *over 400 feet per second*... and even if they don't tear up your body like real bullets, these guys have the scars to prove getting hit with them isn't pretty. (I personally saw Bob shred Randy's left earlobe during a demonstration of the "wrong" way to clear a gun! There was blood everywhere during the rest of the demo.) *No one else in the world has ever done this kind of live-weapon research!*

The first thing they found out, of course, was that 99% of the disarming tactics being used by soldiers and cops (and still being taught by smug karate masters who have never had to face a loaded gun in person) **DO NOT WORK!**

This has to stop. It's irresponsible. It's stupid — especially when Randy and Bob have, after 20 years of tough research, come up with simple and easy-to-learn ways that do work!

Their discoveries have revolutionized the way modern professional warriors approach armed attackers — already, there are cops who are on record saying these new skills have saved their lives in the street!

Why do you — as a civilian — need these skills? Are you kidding? The whole world has gone psycho. The odds that you will be faced by an armed attacker — without a weapon of your own to rely on — are getting worse every day. This kind of advanced knowledge (even if it is easy to learn) isn't a luxury for American men anymore. The facts are staggering:

* M.I.T. (the famous university) did a study uncovering the fact that **5 of every 6 twelve-year-old kids are going to be the victim of a violent crime in their lives!** That's almost *everybody*, sooner or later! (Most kids — and most adults, too — simply do not have a *clue* how to defend themselves in a tight spot. When you show a lack of confidence in yourself, you become the most attractive target for criminals there is!)

* Jean O'Neil (of the National Crime Prevention Council) says that victims who are forced into an attacker's car rarely walk away alive! (Yet most people cannot mount even a feeble defense against someone forcing them through the door!)

* And every kind of horrible crime is becoming more and more common — you are no longer safe in your home, in your car, in a restaurant, or on the street surrounded by other people! (Jerks with nothing to lose are now senselessly shooting their robbery victims even after they've gotten everything of value.)

attacker intent on harm. You saw what police "stun guns" did to Rodney King on that famous video: Nothing. Most rape-prevention seminars ignore the most common aspect of rape: The woman is thrown to the ground *first*, and then attacked. She will seldom get an opportunity to try the fancy knee-to-the-groin trick the seminars teach — a move which, by the way, is usually taught *completely wrong!* (You may think a "ball kick" is easy, but it's actually a *low-percentage* kick, and hard to pull off. There are several better and more *devastating* things to do, as Bob and Randy will soon show you.)

Even the fancy alarms and sirens people are "arming" themselves with are worthless

"For a long time now, I have been connected to the "inside" of certain elite military and law enforcement circles. (Including the Navy SEALs — the most dangerous soldiers on the planet.) My goal is to help civilians like you to understand the super-effective fighting skills that have been developed. I want my family to feel as safe and protected as possible, and I'm sure you want the same for your loved ones."

What's more, new studies show that women who *fight back* are less likely to be raped. And that learning some form of self-defense is your *best bet* against a criminal population who is prepared to use force and violence on a whim.

But there's a **BIG problem** here. The way most Americans are going about getting prepared to defend themselves is simply...

Not Going To Work!

Here are the facts, my friend: Most martial art studios are run by people who have *never been in a real fight before in their lives...* and you will probably be trained (in a *huge* class) by people who have been prematurely promoted to "black belt" just to handle the classes! These "store front" studios operate exactly like health spas — they lure in large numbers of people, and get the money up front. It's a business.

And the garbage being sold to women offers only the pale illusion of self-defense: Tear gas will not work on a drug-crazed

in most cases of attack. (They don't protect cars, they don't protect houses, and they won't "protect" you either.)

In reality, you have only two choices: Remain a vulnerable "potential victim" who trusts that God will protect you... or learn the **RIGHT** way to defend yourself.

It's not hard to do. In fact, it's relatively *simple...*

Once You Understand The "Inside" Secrets!

One of Bob's favorite hobbies is to attend the big conventions of gun enthusiasts. He will challenge 20 of them to line up with their favorite weapon (unloaded, of course) and, one by one, demonstrate how he could take the gun away from them before they could pull the trigger. And then he would do it, bop, bop, bop, all the way down the line, never using the same move twice, never breaking a sweat, and never using any but the most *simple* skills.

Sounds like something you might want to learn for yourself, doesn't it?

Well, there's a "hitch". You see, the only way to even get any personal training from Bob or Randy was to get into their heavily-monitored seminars. But to get in, you need *2 forms of official credentials and licenses* (plus about \$850 for the full board of instruction). Only professionals — elite soldiers, police SWAT teams, high-profile security agents — have been allowed to learn this life-saving stuff...

Until Now!

Why now? Because, after about a year of intense negotiation, we convinced Bob and Randy to go into a video studio and — taking as long as they needed — produce the **first video package** ever of their most trustworthy techniques for facing an armed attacker bare-handed.

And they did just that. After weeks of filming and editing, they created the only package in existence for people (like you) outside the world of professional warriors. **Yet they pulled no punches in presenting their new fighting system!** What you get here is all their best techniques, best advice, and best training methods!

Here's what you get in this amazing, just-released video package:

- * **Three full-length videos** (almost 5 solid hours) — teaching you all the advanced combat techniques for instantly disarming and disabling (bare-handed) any assailant coming at you with a gun, club or knife (the most common weapons you'll see on American streets!)
- * Included is the famous "**Dirty Tricks**" video of Bob and Randy's favorite moves — really sneaky ways to manipulate and "put down" any attacker before he knows what happened... and keep him down until help arrives or you decide an "alternative" course of action! Even trained street fighters *twice your size* will go down fast — and *stay down* — with these astonishing fighting secrets!
- * *Plus*, you get your specially-made "**replica**" gun... yours **FREE** just for ordering the video tapes.

The techniques you will discover on these tapes are the *identical* ones taught to

elite soldiers, SWAT team cops and high-security personnel...

With One Important Difference!

In these videos, you get the incredible advantage of seeing everything via 3 separate cameras (mounted stage left, right, and overhead)... so you get *multi-angles* and *slow-motion repetitions* of each and every move! This means you get an increased understanding... and you'll follow a faster "learning curve" than even the professionals get during a seminar!

This is no Hollywood B.S.... these are real techniques used by cops and soldiers! **And make no mistake** — this stuff should *only* be used when you are faced with what the professionals call "Condition Red": The point where you have **absolutely** decided that your assailant has already made the choice to harm you.. *and you must act to save your life!*

That's what this tape package is all about. You, ultimately, have to take responsibility for yourself, and for your actions. We can't do that for you. Neither can we guarantee that what you learn here will make you invulnerable to harm — that would be a stupid claim, and you would be a fool to believe it. No, what you have here is an **OPTION**. You are giving yourself one more (powerful) choice in this crazed, dangerous world — the choice to not be a vulnerable victim who has no idea what to do... even though you know that

certain harm is imminent!

I don't rob people. I don't like to hurt anyone, and I don't like to see other people get hurt. It sickens me that the criminal element has taken over our streets, and is invading homes with impunity. That *sucks* — and I, for one, am damned glad to have tools like these to *take back* my little piece of the world.

And I believe you feel the same way. That's why I've written this to you today. I want you to see these tapes for yourself. Right now.

Here's the deal: All you need to do is call my office at **1-800-899-8153** and ask for Department 22-G (that's a toll-free call and won't cost you a cent) and tell the person who answers that you want the "Fighting Chance" video package... along with your free replica gun. Have your credit card ready. Or, if you prefer to pay by check or money order, simply fill out the "Priority Order Form" below and mail it with your payment to:

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The cost of this incredible package is just \$97 — that includes everything (including shipping and handling charges)... *and* you have a...

**Full 3 Month Risk-Free
Money-Back Guarantee!**

If you aren't satisfied with this package

— *for any reason at all* — just send it back and I will rush your refund back by return mail. I trust your judgment here. I wouldn't be writing to you otherwise.

And, you get to **KEEP** the gun, even if you decide to return the videos! Consider it a gift, just for giving these astonishing tapes a "trial run".

But you do need to hurry! Even though we have many allies in the military and law enforcement "brotherhood" who support our attempts to "de-victimize" civilians, you should know there are many others who are scared to death with the idea of giving these secrets away. We have already been "stopped" by the U.S. Navy for offering another product... and the truth is, there are no guarantees this product won't be "stopped" also.

If that happens, you won't be able to get this information at any cost, anywhere. So, you see, it's very important that you order now, while you have this letter in your hands... and don't risk having these tapes withheld from you!

Sincerely,

Dr. R.L. Horine
Director, TRS

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COMBAT WEAPONCRAFT

Effective Aggressiveness

by Col. David Hackworth

The following monograph was extracted from the Vietnam Primer, co-authored at the height of the war by then Lt. Col. David H. Hackworth.

The record of U.S. Army operations in South Vietnam demonstrates one hard fact: A company-size attack upon an enemy fortified base camp or semi-fortified village, held in equal strength by NVA or VC Main Force with a determination to defend, and not subjected to intense artillery and/or air strikes beforehand, meant payment of a high price by the attacker. The result of such an attempt was either the ultimate withdrawal by the attacking force — too often after excessive loss — or a belated reinforcement and a more prolonged involvement than anticipated or was judicious.

Yet this tactic seemed to have had fatal allure for the average young U.S. rifle company commander. It was tried many times and just as often failed. The enemy deliberately tried to make his position look weak, and hence attractive. One ruse was to leave frontal bunkers unmanned, though the approach of the attacker was known. Initial resistance would be offered by a squad minus, while within the complex a company plus was preparing to maneuver. The effort was subtly directed toward getting the

attack snarled in a maze of fortifications not visible to the eye, whence extrication grew ever more difficult and advance became extremely costly.

The direct consequence for the rifle company that impulsively engaged a position well beyond its strength, was, at least 50% of the time: (1) its battle order, or fighting formation, was weakened through immediate losses in *its frontal* element; (2) it had to concentrate on extracting its casualties under fire; (3) its direct pressure against the enemy was diminished and disorganized. In short, impulsiveness ran counter to effective aggressiveness.

Upon contacting any such fortified position, where direct enemy fire by automatic weapons supplied proof of the intention to defend, the rifle platoon or company should immediately dispose to keep its strength and numbers (weapon power and men) latent and undercover to the full limit permitted by the environment. It should perhaps even simulate a withdrawal, continue desultory fire from its forward weapons, or seek the enemy rear when favored by terrain, weather, and light. The full-length assault is to be avoided until the heavy fires of supporting arms can be brought in. The careful, fire-covered probe is the called-for expedient.

The headlong rush, like the attempt at envelopment before any attempt has been made to feel out resistance, should absolutely be avoided.

Where environment and weather permit such intervention, artillery fires should concentrate on the rear, while tactical air targets the enemy camp. Otherwise the effect of bombardment is likely to result in the premature aborting of the position. Following bombardment, the direct frontal assault by the single rifle company should not be pressed unless reinforcement is already on its way, within 20-30 minutes of closing, in strength suffi-

vantage of natural cover and concealment, and avenues of approach. Gradual advance is the one safeguard against full exposure and undue loss, as in the taking of a city. Holding at least one platoon in reserve is insurance against enemy attack on the flank or rear.

When casualties occur in the initial encounter with the enemy in fixed positions, the extraction of WIAs by forward skirmishers should not be more than the distance required to give them the nearest protection from enemy fire. This position should include a relatively secure approach for the aid man. Extraction of the dead is



"The database clearly indicates the most effective way to deal with the enemy fighting out of a fortified camp or village is to zap him with the heaviest artillery and tactical air ordnance, not to maneuver against him with infantry only." Photo: DoD

cient to engage at least one flank of the enemy position.

The attack should then proceed by the echeloning of fire teams, taking ad-

to be delayed until development of the action makes it unnecessary to be done under fire. Un-

Continued on page 65



15TH ANNUAL SOF CONVENTION

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FIREPOWER DEMO — An awesome display of firepower caps off an action-packed day at the range: team shoot-offs, manufacturers' new-product demos, skydiving, big guns & explosives. All day Saturday — free to conventioners.

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- Twenty names will be drawn from first 500 conventioners — winners join Robert K. Brown for brunch.

SLICK WILLIE WATCH



CLINTON DEATH CLOCK

Last month we reported that the former wife of Arkansas State Trooper Danny Ferguson was found dead of "self-inflicted" gunshot wounds (the most recent reports are that it was with a .380 round to the temple, not a shotgun as originally reported). Trooper Ferguson, you will recall, was allegedly detailed by Clinton to escort Mrs. Paula Corbin Jones (now suing for sexual harassment) to his Little Rock hotel room, where she was target of Clinton's indecent advances.

As we go to press, of-

ficer Bill Shelton, boyfriend of the former, late Mrs. Ferguson, was found dead at her grave in the Rolling Hills cemetery — assumedly a suicide via his .40 service pistol, which was found with him.

NOT ON THE CLOCK

In response to queries: Yes, it is true that three of the four BATF agents killed in the Waco assault (*Steve Willis, Robert Williams, Conway LeBleu*) had earlier been detailed as Secret Service security for then-candidate Clinton. It is not uncommon for various federal agents to be seconded to the Secret Service to

cover candidates during an election year. At this point we have no reason to believe it was other than coincidence.

Probability buffs can crank these weird deaths into their computers, too:

—Seven servicemen escorted Clinton during his visit to the USS *Roosevelt*: Three died when their Hawkeye crashed into the sea; the other four died when their Blackhawk crashed into the Potomac River in May 1993.

—Paul Wilcher, a lawyer who was investigating alleged drug and gun-running operations in cooperation with Larry Nichols

(former head of the Arkansas Development Corp.), died of undetermined causes in Washington, D.C., in June 1993.

—Danny Casalero, an investigative reporter who was also working on the Arkansas drug and gun-running operations, was found murdered in a bathtub in Washington, D.C.

—Stanley Heard and Steve Dickson, both advisers on health care reform, died in a plane crash at Washington's Dulles Airport 10 September 1993.

—Ed Wiley, fund raiser for the Clinton campaign, was found dead of apparent suicide in November 1993, in Virginia.

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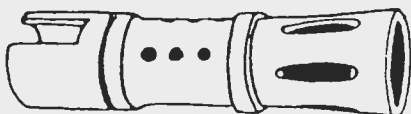
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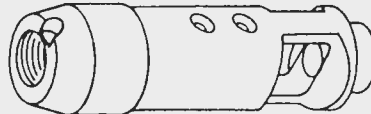
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AK-47

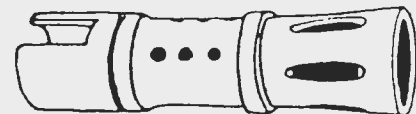
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—Victor Riser, finance co-chairman of the Clinton for President campaign, was killed in a plane crash in July 1992.

— Paul Tully, political director of the Democratic National Committee, died from unknown causes in his Little Rock hotel room in September 1992.

—David Hale, who plead guilty to defrauding the government in a \$300,000 SBA loan to James McDougal's wife (of Whitewater fame) and who

said he was pressured into it by Clinton, still lives. Perhaps that's because he's now in a witness protection program.

Wonder what further bodies will wash up on the shores of the Whitewater by next issue. Stay tuned.

SOMALIA SPIN

The tragic Ranger raid in Somalia surged back into public view with hearings by the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Clinton finally met with relatives of troops killed in last October's raid against the Olympic Hotel after he learned he was going to be sharply criticized by some of them when they testified before the committee.

The president's answer to the families at this face-saving meeting was that he was angered to learn that the Ranger unit assigned to capture Aidid had launched the raid. Clinton said it had been decided weeks before the raid to work things out diplomatically. However, Army Major General William Garrison earlier testified before the committee that the elite Ranger unit moves only on orders of the Secretary of Defense.

The first order of business for that committee should be to find out what the White House knew,

and when it knew it. The families of men who die in service to this country deserve a straight answer — as well as do those service personnel who might be sent next by a commander in chief without a clue. (See related story on page 42.)

NO ADMIRATION

During the White House ceremony to present the posthumous Medals of Honor to families of the slain heroes of Mogadishu, our fearless CinC was re-proached by one of the fathers, a veteran himself, who told Clinton, "My son died for nothing. And you, sir, are not fit to be commander in chief." The president visibly reeled, then resumed smiling and talking to other guests. The incident was *not* widely reported in the U.S. press. ✕

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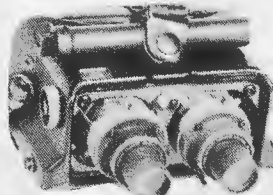
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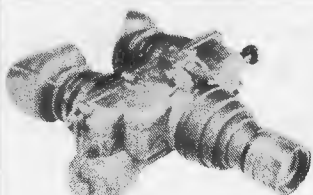


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PIX MODEL 13

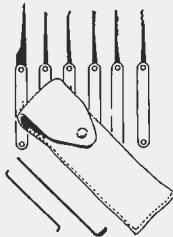
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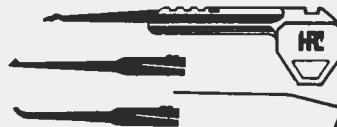


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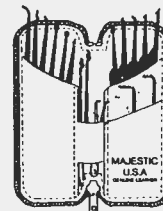
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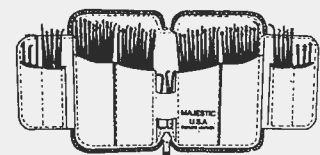
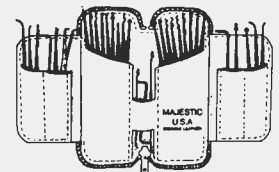


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WE THE SHEEPLE

Congratulations and thanks to *SOF* and James L. Pate for the article "Judgment Day: The Waco Trial, Part II."

Far more dangerous than the neo-feudalist predators in Congress are "judges" like Walter S. Smith who have granted themselves absolute immunity for any and all behavior remotely called "judicial." If you want to really understand how "decisions" like Smith's — and therefore holocausts — are made possible, go to your local law library and read the horrifyingly treasonous U.S. Supreme Court decisions in *Pierson vs. Ray* (1967) and *Stump vs. Sparkman* (1978).

Unfortunately, instead of understanding the principles involved, many "sheeple" (decent, asleep people) see a trial as an "it-takes-two-to-tango" squabble in which letting the government win on at least one or two points seems like a "fair" compromise. Consider Waco juror Jeanette Felger's statement, "I intend to write Judge Smith a letter saying I would never have voted that way if I had known it was connected to count one ... I don't want to see Ruth Riddle in jail." Hopefully such a useless letter will soothe Ms. Felger's troubled conscience, but it can't possibly substitute for doing the right and smart thing in the first place.

Instead of eating one's

heart out after the fact due to ignorance, any citizen who has a chance to be a juror in a Waco or Ruby Ridge-type trial should simply say "To hell with government criminals" and vote not guilty on every count, even if that hangs the jury. Maybe the next jury will acquit the government's intended political prisoner, and maybe the defense team will be able to use the extra time and publicity to bring out more exculpatory facts "government" always tries to cover up in political trials.

John R. Wilkenson
Glade Park, Colorado

register my firearms with top-notch professionals such as these.

Paul R. Lomske
Winchester, Ohio

BRIT EXAMPLE UTTERLY WORTHLESS

As a British citizen (or should that now be minion of the European Empire?), I am particularly familiar with U.K. firearms laws and can categorically state that the so-called British example is utterly worthless. Here we have some of the most stringent firearms controls anywhere in the world and yet we have IRA insur-

not have the firepower necessary.

If HCI thinks that the United Kingdom is an example to follow, they should know that U.K.-type gun laws in the United States will do absolutely nothing to reduce the armed crime statistics.

Robert C. Waddington
Worcestershire,
England

MARCINKO A MAN OF RARE CALIBER

I just read the article by Dale Andradé and the responses it received. Though I have never had the opportunity to serve under Mr. Marcinko, I know several men who have. They have all said the same thing about him: He took care of his men and he believed in unit integrity. One said that he wouldn't ask anyone to do anything he wasn't willing to do. How many COs are like that?

I would rather serve a man of Dick Marcinko's caliber, regardless of what oth-

ers may call him or his tactics than the self-indulgent dirtbag I served under (who thanks to, I am now a disabled vet).

Name withheld on request

BIGGEST PHONY OF THEM ALL

We are all fed up with the phony vets and the liberal media that uses them to promote their own



PRIDE IN CONFISCATION

Thanks for showing the bright and cheery faces of law enforcement ("Judgment Day: Waco Trial Part II," *SOF* July '94). It's good to see people like stud muffin "Super Dave" Aguilera and Herman the German radiate such pride. I already feel much more confident about the day I

gents, crack dealers, various other narcotics dealers and armed criminals who actually outgun our (mainly) unarmed police.

Full-auto weapons are virtually impossible to obtain a license for, yet crack gangs in Manchester have full-auto UZIs. In several cases, Manchester police have had to abandon patrolling certain areas of that city because they do

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TO ALL OF MY LOCAL GROUP CLASS AFFILIATES, ALLOW ME TO BRING YOU UP TO DATE... OVER THE PAST FIVE MONTHS PROGRESSIVE FIGHTING SYSTEMS HAS LITERALLY BEEN INUNDATED WITH INQUIRIES AND REQUESTS FROM MILITARY GROUPS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. AS A RESULT OF THIS INCREASE, I HAVE RETIRED FROM DOING PUBLIC SEMINARS. (AFTER APPROXIMATELY 3 SEMINARS A MONTH FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS, I HAVE PROMOTED THE PFS "ALBUM" LONG ENOUGH... YEA!!!) THIS ALLOWS ME TO DEVOTE MOST OF MY ENERGY TO THIS GROUP CLASS. THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLASS IS TWO FOLD:

1) TO FIND APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTORS TO WHOM SOME OF THESE NEW ACCOUNTS WILL BE DELEGATED TO. (With over 25,000 combined special warfare operators and countless more specialized law enforcement officers... 500 full instructors wouldn't be enough.)

2) TO PRODUCE STREET FIGHTERS

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agenda. But the biggest phony of them all is that draft-dodging weasel Clinton. Parading around Normandy trying to parlay the sacrifice of thousand of brave soldiers into

mitted their inferiority. But by singling out Vietnam service as their "claim to fame," they are in effect saying that those who served honorably are due the respect and esteem

der why we do business with China.

They control Tibet and abuse its people; they're still communist; they abuse their own people; they killed thousands of Americans in the Korean War; they helped North Vietnam; and for all we know, Americans are still held prisoner in China. All this despite the many Americans who died fighting for China (the Flying Tigers, et al.).

Why buy China's AKs and M1911s when you can buy a Colt AR-15 or M1911A1? Colt's may be more expensive but they're in bankruptcy, so you'll be getting a fine firearm and saving American jobs at a company with a rich history dating back to the wild West.

There's nothing wrong with buying guns from countries we're on good terms with, like Austria (Glock) and Italy (Beretta), but Red China? You'll never see Cuban-made guns being sold in Miami, if you know what I mean.

Emilio Sanzano
Port St. Lucie, Florida

TAKE GUN FIGHT TO COURT

With the passing of the Crime Bill it looks like Phase One of HCI's plan to disarm America is becoming reality.

In response I would like to see a class action lawsuit with the name of every law-abiding gun owner on it challenging the criminal act that is the Crime Bill.

Hopefully, Washington has not become so arrogantly powerful that it can make criminals out of law-abiding citizens and disarm them without at least a legal fight.

It is past time to evoke our Second Amendment rights and find out once and for all if our Founding

Fathers wanted us to be citizens with guns or subjects without them.

Jack Hensley
APO, AE

WALKING THE WALK

My daughter Elizabeth was shot three weeks ago leaving a movie theater three blocks from our home. Being an active competition shooter and part-time professional re-loader, I was forced to re-examine my beliefs and see if I could walk the walk that I had talked for so long. I am pleased to say my convictions are as strongly pro-gun as ever.

Several local television stations interviewed our family and were eagerly trying to elicit anti-gun sentiments. When I told them that this shooting was a product of low self-esteem and lack of understanding of the value of human life, not a gun issue, most of what I said was left on the cutting room floor.

Beth started rehab yesterday and prognosis for her walking again is not good. Expenses for medical and rehab equipment are astronomical. A trust fund has been established at:

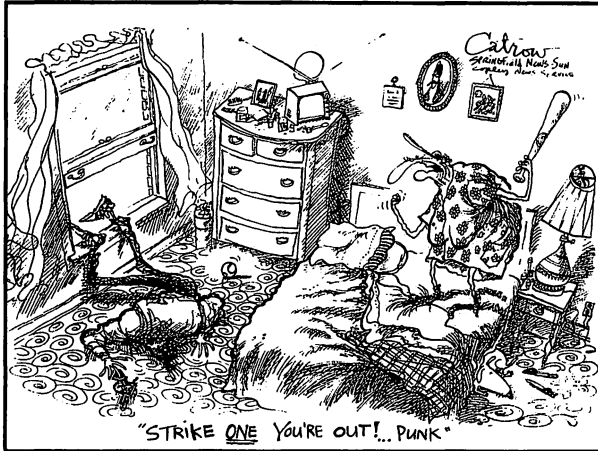
Wells Fargo Bank
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Attn: Elizabeth Venkus Trust Fund

Any help from SOF readers would be appreciated.

Robert Venkus
(SOF reader since issue No. 1)
Sacramento, California

WRITE TO SOF

We invite reader comments: Send letters to SOF, c/o FLAK, PO Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306. Due to limited space we reserve the right to edit for content and brevity. ✕



political advantage for himself. The same liberal media toadies follow him around, reporting every inane statement as if it were of earth-shaking importance.

When those brave men, who will never leave France, were making the ultimate sacrifice, draft-dodgers were ostracized and publicly ridiculed. Now we elect them president; it's enough to make you want to puke.

Gene L. Downing
Warrenton, Missouri

SCUM HONOR VETS

I'd like to pass along my own observations concerning the matter of phony vets. Ironically, the fact that the current scum find it somehow useful to claim Vietnam service does not denigrate those who served. In fact, what is happening is that these low-lives, in searching for some example of excellence to pathetically align themselves with, have hit upon the concept of claiming affiliation with some of the most honorable people on the planet. By their sick posing, these scum have unwittingly ad-

which many of us have always afforded them and which the rest of our country has just recently discovered (a decade too late).

Until my recent move, I found many of the phonies were "patients" in my emergency room in Oregon: usually claiming drug, alcohol or "suicidal" problems. Some were simply in drug withdrawal and looking for a fix in the ER. One thing I noticed was that many brought in by the police after being taken down following arrest were claiming Vietnam "made me do it." When I checked their date of birth, almost all these dorks were peeing in their diapers when Nick Rowe was eating VC shit and looking for a chance to escape.

John C. Freeman, M.D.
Pinehurst, North Carolina

BUY COLT NOT CHINESE

After reading your request to boycott companies that do business with the Burmese government ("Bulletin Board," SOF July '94) I began to won-

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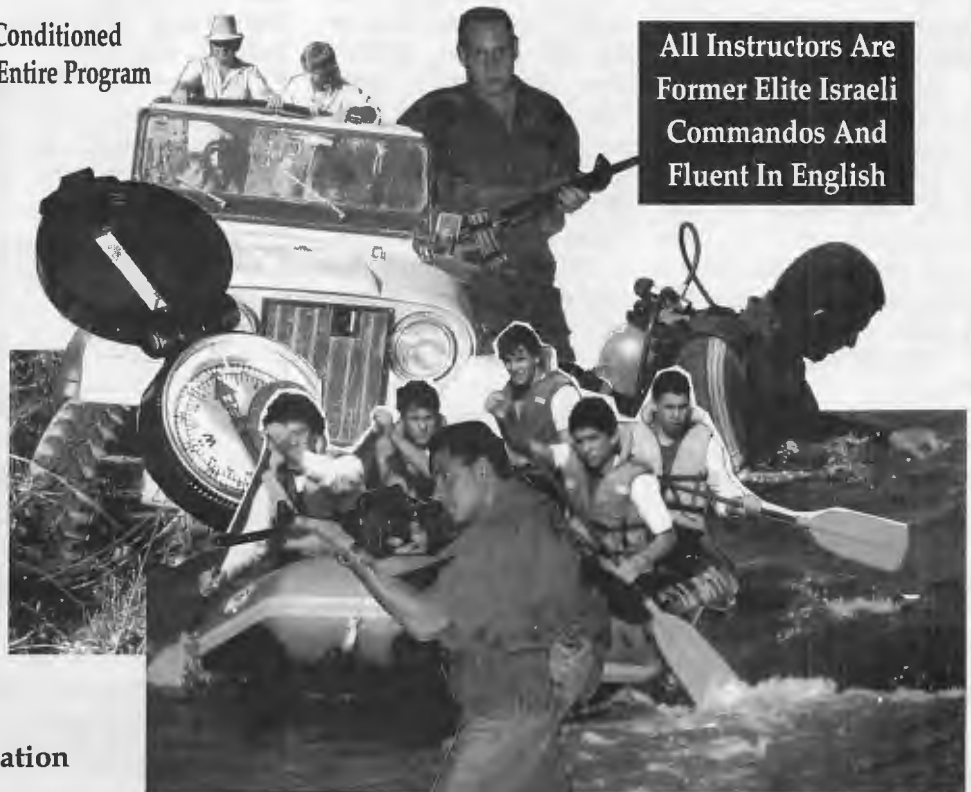
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I WAS THERE

Golan Fights

Text & Photos by
Peter Bartholomew

After leaving the Army I travelled to Israel and worked on a banana farm while planning a kayak trip down the Nile River. On 6 October 1973 I had gone through two barbed wire obstacles and a minefield to go fishing on the Yarmuk River — the border between Israel and Jordan below the Golan Heights — when Israel was attacked on two fronts.

After I returned from fishing, a reserve officer came to see me. He asked if I would be willing to help out. "Most of our young men are gone. Can you tell other foreigners what our situation is?" he asked.

"OK. What is our situation?"

"The Arabs attacked last night in the Golan and Sinai but it looks like it will be another short war. We need someone here to take care of bomb shelters and maybe set up trenches. It would help if you can do that with our men."

The first day I inspected bomb shelters and worked connecting outposts and machine gun emplacements with slit trenches. By evening we could hear the war. At night the entire Jordan valley was blacked out and we could see flashes of the battles and hear the roar of guns.

The next day a woman asked if I'd show her the difference between

Arab aircraft and ours. I smoothed a place in the dust and drew the boxy looking MiGs the Syrians were flying and silhouettes of Phantoms and Mirages. "So, those would be MiGs up there then?" she asked.

"No, they couldn't be. Whoa, they sure are!" Seconds later an air raid siren went off and people ran for the bomb shelters I'd inspected and repaired earlier. Before they were out of sight, two MiGs turned east with a squadron of Israeli fighters after them. One was destroyed fairly close to us.

That afternoon the highest ranking district officer asked to see me. He told me things weren't going to be settled as quickly as they were in '67. "You were in the American Army?" I told him I was. "Will you help us? We need drivers and men who can use weapons and maps. We will soon be receiving weapons from America and will also need help in training our men."

"Of course I'll help."

"I want you to know that since you're not Jewish you cannot be a member of the Israeli Defense Forces. If you get captured you will be treated as a mercenary." He sat forward during the entire conversation looking more like a Danish businessman than an Israeli officer asking a man to risk his life.

It was soon apparent from radio broadcasts and the number of wounded that things were not going well in the Golan. Near the end of the first week of fighting I was up in the Heights and saw wrecks of fighters which had run into Soviet-built SAMs. Debris from some planes was scattered over a quarter mile, while other planes dug deep furrows before exploding. Even behind the lines there would be fighters screaming overhead with missiles chasing them.

could take a strong hit. We pulled our van next to one of the walls, loaded our weapons and waited. Soon the village was full of smoke, dust and burning vehicles. Centurion tanks started backing out to the main road crushing buildings that hadn't been demolished in the fighting. We decided to get out of there before we were either crushed, blown up



Destroyed Arab tanks, aircraft and unexploded ordnance littered Israel after the October War. Armor, like this T-55, became graves when dug in Soviet-style. Thanks to Israeli competence, they didn't fare much better when they moved.

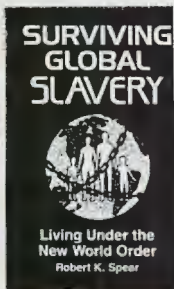
Exploding planes were often a greater danger than Arab tanks and artillery.

Running supplies to one village, we came under heavy tank and artillery fire. Thankfully, the older buildings were made from native stone and

or captured.

Later I was back in Golan en route to Mount Hermon. There was light sniper fire from Syrian positions but most of the enemy was out of ammunition, food and water. I walked between two APCs to find a place out of the

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Robert K. Spear**

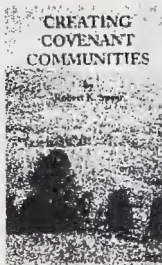


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wind to urinate. An Israeli ser-
geant called to me, "Piss over
here, piss over here," and guided
me to a more open, windy area.

"I don't want to get my boots
wet," I said.

"It drives the Arabs crazy! They
have no water," he explained.
"None of them have pissed for
days!" I did my part for Israeli
PsyOps and got my boots wet.

On the way back to the Jordan
Valley we stopped at a checkpoint
where a skinny, Hasidic sergeant
told me I looked like I needed a
rest and asked what unit I was
with. Since I wasn't with a unit I
just said, "It's a hard life," then
closed my eyes. Nobody ques-
tioned the U.S. Army patch on my
field jacket. He flagged us through.

We had to detour around a
blown bridge and went through
Druse territory. Druse villages had
been completely demolished, first
by Syrians on their way through
and then by Israelis pushing them
out. The survivors watched us like
Kansas farmers watching a swarm
of locusts.

Later, when we started getting
American arms and supplies I
was asked to show troops how to
use them. There were some ca-
sualties from the back blast of
the LAWs, but word got around
fast on how to use them. The
forward assist on M16s made no
sense to them. "If there is a prob-
lem with jamming why not fix the
problem?" Why not indeed? They
never did adopt a barrel-up posi-
tion for carrying the M16, but
preferred to loop a sling around
the front sight mount and carry it
like an UZI. Before I left, a
weapon being held like this went
off at a bus stop, severely injur-
ing several people.

I heard about the end of the
war while sitting in a radio bun-
ker on night shift. There was no
screaming or shouting to cel-
ebrate, just Old Testament thanks
for keeping the country intact
once again.

In December the officer who
asked me if I would help out
offered to send me to Bethlehem
for Christmas. I thanked him but
turned it down; the opportunity to
serve was its own reward. ✘

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COD

WORLD SITREP

1

UNITED STATES

After winning contract to provide 900,000 government employees with charge cards, American Express identifies employees of super-secret Defense Intelligence Agency in home mailings and credit checks.

At Clinton's request, Lockheed study estimates it would cost \$79.8 million and take three months to reactivate three SR-71 Blackbird surveillance aircraft for use over North Korea.

Congress plans to halt production of TOW missiles in '95, leaving an inventory barely large enough to provide current launchers with one basic load — no reloads. The 106,000 in stock are combination of new and old warheads, many of which must be expended in training prior to expiration. New LOSAT missile, TOW replacement, won't go into production for at least a decade.

Navy SEALs practice CQB drills constantly, each member firing more than 300 rounds of 9mm per month with both Beretta 92F and Heckler & Koch MP5. Many report slide breakage on 92F after only 3,000 rounds.

2

RUSSIA

Western intelligence agencies report various Russian organized crime groups are trying to steal nuclear weapons for sale on open market. There are unconfirmed but persistent reports that weapons grade plutonium has already been sold to North Korea.

Uralvagon Design Bureau is offering new export version of T72 tank — using T72 hull, reactive armor, gun and fire control system of T80B, it is designated T90E.

Su-34 strike aircraft are testing rotating missile pylons able to fire AA-11 Archer missiles to front and rear.

Ammunition depot in Vladivostok explodes, destroying 1,600 tons of ammo and 200 rail cars.

1

5

GERMANY

Karl Wienand, close aide to former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt, is arrested for spying for East Germany during '70s and '80s.

Officials call on Czech Republic to make concessions to Sudeten Germans forcibly moved from Czechoslovakia to Germany after World War II.

Economic institutions warn against further loans to Russia, predicting imminent economic collapse.

6

IRAQ

Mayor of Baghdad says city can no longer maintain water and sewage systems due to sanctions.

11

SUDAN

Government and SPLA forces sign agreement establishing safe corridors for relief convoys as government troops recapture Pageri, key rebel supply point near Ugandan border.

10

YEMEN

Southern forces continue using Scud, SS-21 missiles and air attacks against Northern armor. Northern-based units are unable to break through mountain passes into south, and southern-based Northern units have been unable to reach Aden. Diplomats note population of Aden is "armed to the teeth and hates the North," implying any attack on Aden would be extremely bloody.

14

13

RWANDA

Tens of thousands of refugees continue to flood into Burundi, increasing Hutu-Tutsi tension. Estimates of massacres now exceed 500,000.

3

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Ran a "spy school" from 1959 to 1989, training students in tactics, sabotage, weapons and surveillance. Afghan, Iraqi, Kenyan, Vietnamese, Cambodian and Nicaraguan students paid tuition in hard currency.

4

TUNISIA

French police alert Tunisian custom officials of suspicious Mercedes being shipped into Tunisia. Destined for use by PLO and loaded with Israeli listening devices, the find exposes deputy PLO ambassador to Tunisia as an Israeli spy.

7

TURKEY

U.N. sources say 6,000 Turkish Kurds have fled to Iraq to escape fighting between Turkish troops and PKK. Turkey admits to recently killing 186 PKK rebels and capturing 362.

2

8

BOSNIA

Serbs disarm and harass British convoy at Sokolac, and force commander to make a video confession.

Iran reportedly sends 60 tons of weapons and munitions into Zagreb for use by Muslims.

9

ISRAEL

Insists Israeli citizens have right to carry weapons in the self-rule area. PLO asserts this cannot be allowed for public safety reasons.

PLO's tiny navy — a gunboat flotilla trained in Yemen — sails up Red Sea, surprising analysts who had never heard of the force.

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SOMALIA

Scotland Yard detectives arrive to investigate disappearance of \$4 million from U.N. headquarters.

Aidid returns to a triumphant welcome after spending six months abroad. Flown to Ethiopia by U.S. aircraft in December, America refused to return him and he simply remained abroad.

16

KUWAIT

Five Iraqis and one Kuwaiti are sentenced to death for plotting to assassinate former President Bush.

15

INDIA

Successfully test fires new Prithvi missile, and plans to deploy it near Pakistani border and in Kashmir. Pakistani officials protest — they turned down Chinese M11 missiles with understanding that India would not build missiles to threaten Pakistan.

14

ARGENTINA

Government officials assert that if Argentina can be forced to extradite former German war criminals to Europe, they can demand that Britain extradite former Prime Minister Thatcher for trial as a war criminal in ordering the sinking of the cruiser *General Belgrano*.

World SitRep is excerpted from the biweekly newsletter *For Your Eyes Only: An Open Intelligence Summary of Current Military Affairs*. Published by Tiger Publications, P.O. Box 8759, Amarillo, Texas, 79114-8759; subscriptions are \$65 per year (26 issues). Sample issue available for \$3. Those interested in reliable, up-to-date world intel are encouraged to subscribe.



Is America Becoming A Police State?

In the wake of monolithic communism's shuddering collapse after decades of brinkmanship, detente and fear of global holocaust, it is ironic that the Cold War is being remembered as the proverbial good old days. The former Soviet Union was an Evil Empire, but at least we had a good idea who held the launch keys. At least then the threats to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness were more easily identifiable because they came from a direction we were watching.

In those days, the U.S. Constitution wasn't just a fading artifact under armed guard and bulletproof glass, but a sacred parchment whose supreme legal authority guaranteed an inviolate boundary between institutionalized tyranny and government by consent. Its first 10 amendments, the once-revered Bill of Rights, weren't just quaint legal theory, but a living reality that high school civics teachers could explain in good conscience.

Now the constitutional cornerstone on which government and society were built has been — and continues to be — chipped away from within by certain of our "public servants." They serve mainly themselves, primarily at the public trough. Their hidden agendas are carried out by their handmaidens in Congress who daily betray the interests of the very people whose constitutional liberties they are sworn to protect.

These bureaucrats and constitutional corruptors — not the drug dealer, not the terrorist, not the street

Feds Seizing Property Without Due Process

by James L. Pate

gangster — are Public Enemy No. 1. In classic Orwellian doublespeak, many of these enemies of liberty go under the guise of “liberal,” a misnomer that implies they are forward-looking, magnanimous and interested in the betterment of all. But in their hard and hypocritical hearts, they hate individual liberty, except under the governmental cloak of their own pious privilege. They love Big Brother and advance the development of a federal police state. Yes, they are liberal, like a drunken sailor on payday; liberal most of all with our hard-won liberty and our hard-earned money.

Orwell In The USA

One lesson I learned in civics class, and in subsequent courses in history and political science, is the fundamental difference between the free-enterprise republic that our Founding Fathers intended and the totalitarian socialism that rose during the last century to challenge our national heritage of individual liberty. Under the latter, all property and jobs, virtually every aspect of life, are controlled by an “all-wise” central government. In socialist theory, all citizens are equal. But in practice, government leaders, along with the bureaucrats and secret police forces required to keep them in power under threats to the people of imprisonment or death, are “more equal” than the common citizen. In other words, the people serve the state and those who control it — the government does not serve the people.

In contrast to that socialist concept, under our constitutional form of government, the principles of individual liberty, private property and free enterprise are esteemed as capable of bringing the most good to the most people. Or so we were taught in the good old days.

Imagine a society in which mere suspicion and hearsay, perhaps fabricated by an angry neighbor, an unscrupulous police agent or a criminal lying to save his own neck, suffices for the government to seize your car, your firearms, your computer, your business, all your personal records, your bank and savings accounts and even your home and farm, whether or not you are ever charged with a crime. And what if this were done without even a hearing in front of a judge?

What would it be like to live in a nation where police seized your pri-

vate property first and asked questions later, where you’re assumed guilty unless you can prove yourself innocent, and innocence is of marginal relevance anyway? And if you couldn’t afford legal counsel, tough luck? And if you are poor or uneducated, the situation would be just that much more hopeless?

Sound like life in the shadow of the gulag? No. *Welcome to life in these United States of the 1990s.*

If it sounds hard to imagine, it may be harder still to believe that this is reality, but it is, the Bill of Rights notwithstanding. The first 10 amendments may sound emphatic. Its writers may have intended them to be inviolate safeguards. But thanks to Congress, which is more interested in scratching the backs of bureaucrats than serving the taxpayers who finance their lush lifestyles, the intended protections of the Constitution have become less and less of a benchmark to the so-called laws of the land.

For instance, Article IV of the U.S. Constitution states that: “the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated ...” Article V supposedly guarantees that: “no person shall be ... deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.”

But most of what we learned in high school civics about basic constitutional protections and basic legal rights “is no longer true,” wrote Jarrett B. Wollstein, a director of the International Society for Individual Liberty. “A combination of rising crime, the growing power of government, and increasing concern about drugs has done tremendous damage to the

Bill of Rights...

“Few Americans realize how grave and how ominous that damage has been,” Wollstein warned in the July 1993 issue of *The Freeman*, an essay periodical devoted to expanding ideas about personal liberty. “Today the government has the power legally to seize your bank account, your house, or your business, without trial, hearing, or indictment. Everything you have worked for and accumulated over a lifetime can now be taken away from you at the whim of authorities. Black or white, rich or poor, we are all potential victims.”

Donald Scott of Malibu, California, was one of the rich victims. Heir to a European fortune, the 61-year-old millionaire owned a 200-acre

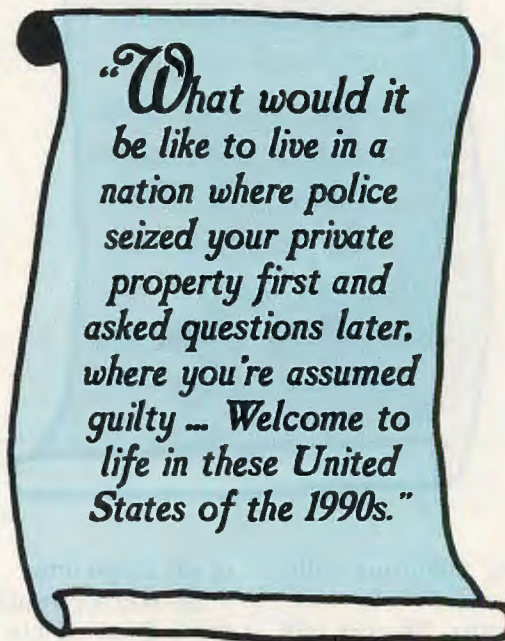
oceanfront ranch in the Santa Monica Mountains, where he had lived for 25 years. Valued at about \$5 million, his Trail’s End Ranch was surrounded on three sides by the National Park Service, which had repeatedly pressured Scott to sell out. He adamantly refused.

At 0830 hours on 2

October 1992, 32 heavily armed men and women from the U.S. Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement and the National Guard were led on a raid against Scott, organized by the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department. Also along were two scientists from NASA’s nearby Jet Propulsion Laboratory, assigned to collect specks of marijuana pollen.

Criminals In Uniform

Deputy Sheriff Gary Spencer, who has a reputation of being as big a hot dog with his gun and badge as he is with his surfboard, claims he had a confidential informant — which can



often be a criminal willing to lie to avoid prosecution — who alleged that Scott had 2,000 marijuana plants on his property. After a 10 September 1992 foot patrol by Spencer failed to turn up evidence against Scott, who had no criminal record, Spencer formed a task force and called in DEA Agent Charles Stowell for aerial surveillance.

Using National Guard aircraft, Stowell made four overflights. On the final flight, from 1,000 feet up and without the aid of binoculars, Stowell reported to Spencer that he "might" have seen about 50 plants being grown on platforms in trees. On 24 September, four heavily armed U.S. Border Patrol agents, wearing camouflaged clothing and with night vision equipment and climbing gear, hiked to the wooded area of the alleged growing platforms. They found no sign of marijuana cultivation.

On 30 September, Spencer told Stowell that the informant had changed his story to indicate only 50 plants were being grown — coincidentally the same number the DEA agent said he "might" have seen. So Stowell gave Spencer permission to use his report from the final overflight as evidence to request a search warrant. When Deputy Spencer applied for the warrant the next day, he inflated the number to indicate Stowell had definitely seen between 50 and 100 pot plants. On this fraudulent basis the warrant was approved.

Suspect Killed — Mission Accomplished

Although Scott was a somewhat eccentric recluse, the paramilitary raiding party that Spencer organized

would make it appear the old man was a heavily armed and well-guarded narcotics baron. The swift-strike tactics used were also unnecessary: It's doubtful Scott could have dashed out into the woods when the cops knocked at his door, lowered the fictional platforms from the trees, uprooted the nonexistent plants and flushed them down a toilet before being nabbed.

Other suspicious aspects about the raid also surfaced. One state narc and

a U.S. Forest Service Ranger assigned to the raid noted later that Spencer's pre-raid briefing specifically noted the possibility of seizing Scott's valuable property. Members were specifically told to look for any other contraband that might justify a seizure. As it turned out, not even the NASA scientists with their fancy equipment could locate a single speck

of any illegal drug.

Spencer apparently intended to deprive Scott of his property. The deputy had a real estate appraisal of the Scott ranch prepared before the raid — indeed, one day before DEA Agent Stowell first said he "might" have seen 50 marijuana plants. Even more damning, Stowell wrote in the margin of that document the comparable \$800,000 value of a nearby 80-acre parcel.

Deputy Sheriff Spencer no doubt also intended to deprive Scott of his liberty. But before he could do that, he deprived an innocent old man of something no court of law could give back: Spencer shot Scott to death in Scott's own living room.

As it turned out, the only "plant" the cops located was Scott's girlfriend, Frances Plante. She said they both were asleep when she was awakened by the sound of someone pound-

ing the kitchen door. "It sounded like an earthquake," she said. Pulling on clothes, she ran to the kitchen, where she saw faces peering through the window. A voice said, "Let me go first," she recalled, immediately followed by another voice that said, "Yeah, let Gary go first."

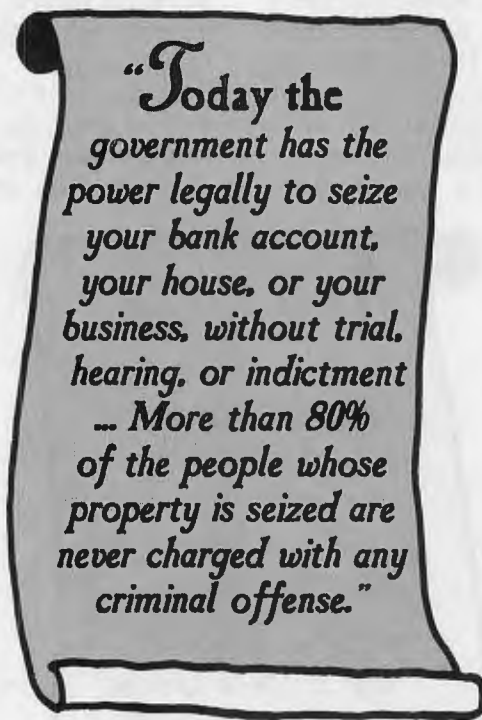
Followed by another deputy, the surfing super sleuth Gary Spencer burst in with gun drawn. Plante said she screamed not to shoot and backed into the living room, at which time Scott ran out of the bedroom, pointing a .38-caliber revolver at the ceiling. Plante said someone yelled for Scott to put the gun down, and as he began to do so, Spencer shot him three times, killing him instantly.

Another "Unfortunate Victim"

In a report delving into the suspicious circumstances and events that led to Scott's death, "District Attorney Michael Bradbury... concludes that the real motive behind the raid was not a search for drugs, but the raiders' desire to seize Mr. Scott's property under federal forfeiture laws," wrote Gideon Kanner, an emeritus law professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, in *The Wall Street Journal*. "The case, which is still unresolved, raises important questions about the interrelationship between personal liberties and property rights protected by the Constitution."

In that report, Bradbury noted that he could "find no reason why law enforcement officers who were investigating suspected narcotics violations would have any interest in the value of the ranch or the value of the property sold in the same area... But the crux of this issue is those deputy sheriffs shouldn't have been there in the first place... Donald Scott did not have to die, and he should not have died. He was an unfortunate victim of the war on drugs."

Bradbury's report recommended further action by a grand jury, but the case remains unresolved. The DA assured the public, however, of his belief that "only" Scott's property rights were violated, probably of little comfort to Scott. Of course, Spencer and his buddies claim they knocked loud and long, announcing their identity several times before bursting in. Not surprisingly, law enforcement authorities took the position that Spencer's



conduct was not criminal because he fired in "self-defense," conveniently avoiding the issue of Scott's right to self-defense in his own home.

Still, "there was virtually no way that [DEA Agent] Stowell could have seen through that canopy of trees," Bradbury's report acknowledged. "I think [Stowell] was under tremendous pressure from... Deputy Spencer." Further, Spencer's informant, while confirming his initial allegation of thousands of plants being grown, denied ever reducing the estimate to 50 plants, "raising the possibility that Spencer fabricated this information in order to induce Stowell to agree to use his name in the search warrant affidavit," the DA's report concedes.

Bill Of Rights: Exclusionary Clauses?

"What we have here is a grim reminder that the liberties protected by the Bill of Rights are not neatly divisible into 'property rights' and 'personal liberties,'" Kanner wrote. "Even where the invasion is 'only' of one's property rights, it often implicates violation of other rights as well, even the right to life itself. Here is an object lesson that where one category of fundamental constitutional rights is not secure from governmental overreaching, neither are the others."

The death of Donald Scott is only one of the most outrageous among hundreds of thousands of such cases. Property forfeiture laws were ostensibly written to seize ill-gotten gains from drug kingpins, to take away the profit motive. But most

often, the targets are poor or middle-income people, or casual drug users and racial minorities and those who speak little English. And like the crack-down on law-abiding federal firearms licensees to supposedly stem the flow of black-market guns, there is little or no practical effect on the alleged problem by forfeiture laws. Indeed, major drug kingpins transfer their millions to offshore bank accounts untouchable by forfeiture, and then hire the

best lawyers to fend off the feds.

More than 80% of the people whose property is seized are never charged with any criminal offense, according to a 10-month investigation into civil property forfeiture by *The Pittsburgh Press*. By 1990, the U.S. Marshal Service — only one of several federal law enforcement agencies that directly benefit from forfeited assets — had an inventory of more than \$1.4 billion in property that included more than 30,000 homes, businesses, vehicles and boats. Between 1985 and 1991, the value of annual total federal asset forfeitures jumped from \$27 million to \$644 million, an increase of nearly 2,400%. Annual federal seizures topped the \$1 billion mark in 1992. Federal seizures now total more than \$4 billion, a figure that does not include auctioned property and billions more seized under scores of various state seizure laws.

To The Victor Go ...

The history of legal forfeiture in this country goes back to the American Revolution, when those colonists who opposed independence had their homes and farms seized by victorious patriots who claimed domain under

the ancient belief in the adage, "To the victors go the spoils." This questionable credo was passed into law during Reconstruction to punish particularly recalcitrant Southern rebels, and was also used to seize property from rum-runners and bootleggers during Prohibition. It began to gain wide popularity again with the advent of

the war on drugs.

"We've adopted this demonology," said U.S. District Judge Robert Sweet of New York, an outspoken critic of federal drug policy. "Drugs and drug users are made scapegoats" at the expense of constitutional protections that no longer protect the average citizen.

The modern forfeiture crusade began in 1970, with passage of the Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organization law, or RICO Act. RICO

was expanded in 1984, and now extends federal jurisdiction to almost every property offense by anyone anywhere in the country. It empowers agents to freeze or seize all of any individual's real property or assets based merely upon suspicion that a crime might have occurred. It makes the investigating agencies direct beneficiaries of such seizures, which in times of budget cutbacks increases the potential for abuse. It was merely the first of many laws passed since then that allow the feds to summarily take property without indictment, trial or conviction.

Seizure laws are based on a legal fiction that the property itself, not the individual, is "guilty" of a crime and can be "arrested." Unlike individuals, property and other inanimate assets do not have constitutional rights, thus enabling police agents and prosecutors to circumvent normal due process and legal safeguards. The concept enables the government to impose a greater procedural burden on property owners and make the individual's personal guilt irrelevant to the proceedings.

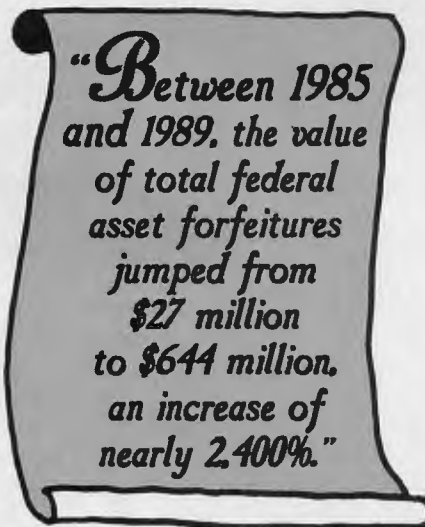
"Legal" Robbery

The Supreme Court has taken small steps to remedy this growing legal and constitutional travesty. In 1990, for instance, North Dakota resident Richard Austin sold two grams of cocaine, worth about \$180-\$200, to an undercover agent. Not only was he arrested, but the cops seized his mobile home and his auto body shop. Austin's lawyer challenged the seizure, arguing that the punishment did not fit the crime, and thus violated the Eighth Amendment's prohibition against excessive fines. The Supreme Court upheld the defense attorney's argument in June 1993, and ordered the house and business returned to Austin.

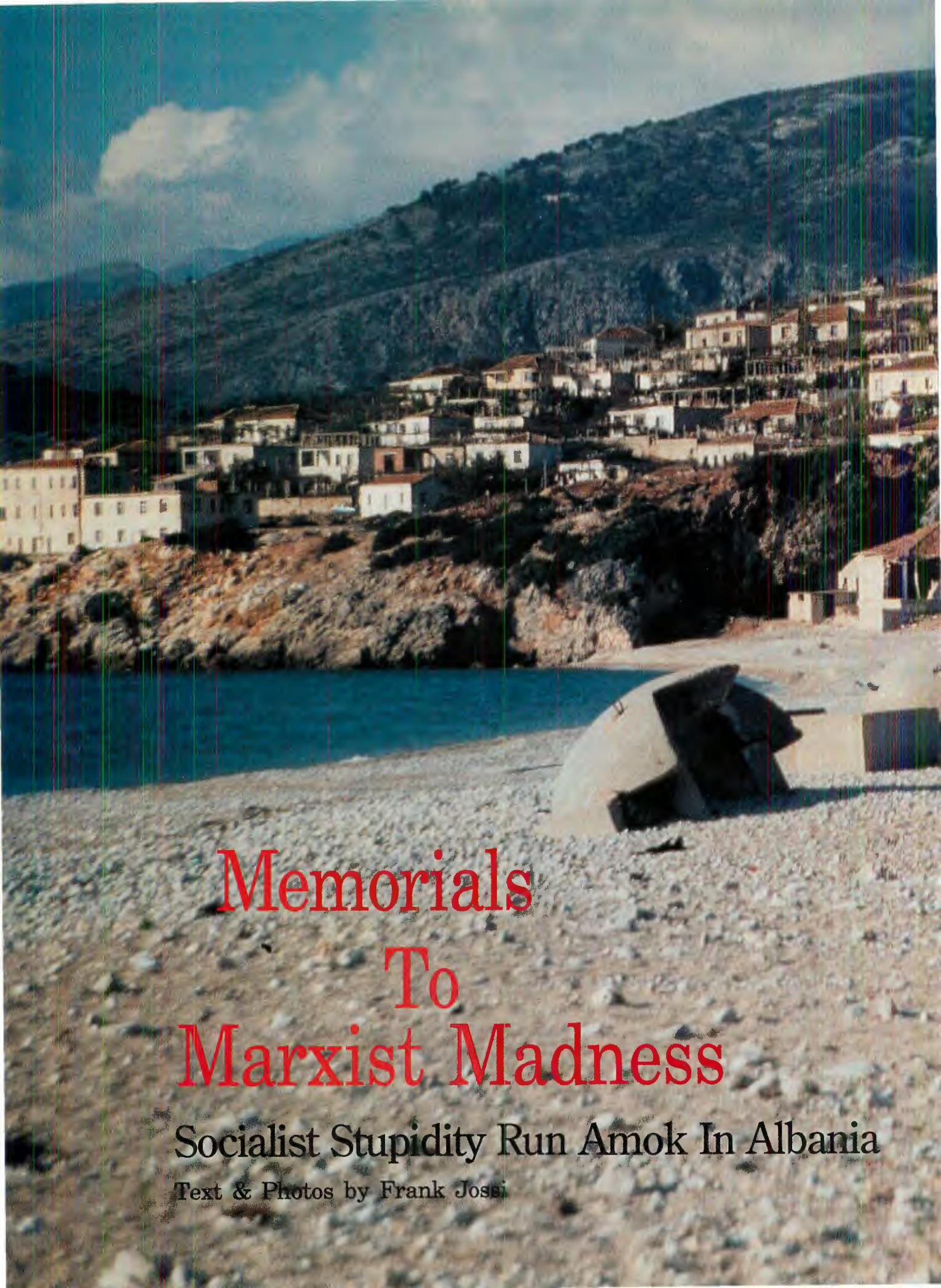
The decision, *The New York Times* reported, "demonstrated the Justices' concern with the increasingly aggressive use of forfeiture laws."

States increasingly rely on forfeiture laws, and California, one of the nation's most supposedly liberal states, is one of the most abusive, according to an investigative series by the *San Jose Mercury News*. Many of the seizures "have been legal street robberies," former Los Angeles drug

Continued on page 71



"Between 1985 and 1989, the value of total federal asset forfeitures jumped from \$27 million to \$644 million, an increase of nearly 2,400%."



Memorials
To
Marxist Madness

Socialist Stupidity Run Amok In Albania

Text & Photos by Frank Jossi

They blanket Albania from

the beaches to the mountains. Through the blur of a car window they look like bizarre idols erected to some deity of concrete. Closer inspection shows them to be domed bunkers of various sizes, huddled together to serve soldiers and civilians as fighting positions and shelters in the event of enemy attack.

You cannot avoid them. They hug the roadsides of Albania's tattered national road system; they blemish the gorgeous Adriatic coastline like giant warts; they dot the hills and mountains near cities and on borders — they even squat in front of apartment houses and schools as mute evidence of unfettered socialist stupidity run amok.

To Western eyes, the bunkers are the defining man-made phenomena of Albania, the one thing, except mountains, that never leaves your sight wherever you travel in that country.

These bunkers were a central element in an elaborate national defense system Albania concocted as a bulwark against the "imperialism and revisionism" of Western and Warsaw Pact powers, as defined by the demented communist dictator Enver Hoxha. Hoxha concluded that the United States, NATO, Italy, Greece and Yugoslavia, either separately or in tandem, would come to plunder this tiny country the size of Maryland.

Even though Albania has a per capita income roughly 5% of America's, and an industrial base more akin to Africa than to Europe, so firmly entrenched was Hoxha's cult of personality that he was able to convince Albanians they enjoyed the highest standard of living in the world: so advanced over other nations, in fact, myriad aggressors had Albania marked for conquest and pillage. Cut off from the rest of the world, Albanians, at least for a time, *actually believed him*.

Many countries have reminders of grandiose folly, but rarely are they as inescapable as Albania's bunkers. In a country where 70% of the landscape is scenic mountains, every vista is marred by empty, purposeless concrete domes now defaced and decaying in the elements.

In discussing the bunkers, Albanians rely on anecdotal information and few people know the details of their origin. Albanians point not only to the bunkers but also to such things as concrete fence posts festooned with steel spikes to impale invading paratroopers. But there seems to be no official history of the fortifications. Information presented to visitors during the communist regime makes no mention of



Conspicuous bunkers were also burrowed into natural terrain features like these limestone bluffs opposite Roman ruins at Apollonia, which face seaward to defend against invaders who had breached the "absolutely impenetrable" bunkers on the beaches.

The beachhead whales of a bankrupt political system; Bunkers lie strewn across the beach along coastal road in southern Albania between Vlorë and Sarandë.

them, as if tourists would politely not notice.

Obvious Secret

In March 1992, Albania became the last Eastern European country to declare itself a democracy, and the country is currently struggling with massive economic, social and political transformation. Free to speak for the first time, Albanians now openly discuss their time under a particularly cruel form of communism, arguably more harsh and Orwellian than any other form practiced in Eastern Europe.

From 1949 to 1983, some 176,000(!) bunkers were built. The anachronous and ubiquitous fortifications remain as mysterious as Albania itself. They exist in such incredible numbers as a result of military advice and aid from Maoist China, Albania's sponsor in the 1970s. And they exist at all because if anybody did dare to ask why all that concrete had to be poured to protect Albania, Hoxha shipped them off to prison or exile.

If the numbers bandied about by Albanians are accurate, the country spent an estimated \$185 million annually on bunkers during the early 1970s. An average bunker cost as much as a three-bedroom apartment to construct, a rotten shame in a country where even today more than 50,000 people have no home and hundreds of thousands live two to three families per apartment.

Planning and construction of the bunkers was handled by a special staff under the Ministry of Defense. Roughly 110 employees oversaw construction and distributed the bunkers throughout 24 military districts.

The bunkers are of similar design and constructed in varying dimensions at four concrete plants, with most being cast at "The Steel of the Party" plant in Tiranë. Bunkers on international borders often had an exterior steel plate covering half the dome, but most were simply precast, reinforced concrete. Smaller models had steel pad-eyes to facilitate transport and placement.

The majority of bunkers comfortably fit one person, with an 18-by-40-inch gun port facing the assumed direction of enemy attack. Larger bunkers next to highways and on beaches could hold four or five people, with ample room for large caliber ordnance.

Although Albanians deride the bun-

kers, they now wax creative in making at least some of them serve a useful purpose as stables, temporary apartments, outhouses and, for young adults on the make, trysting spots away from their close-knit families. The bunkers are an eyesore, a constant reminder of the extreme isolationism and paranoia that plagued Albania's last four and a half decades of communist rule. They also represent a pathetically outmoded form of military strategy, a modern equivalent of the failed French Maginot Line.

Pinpricks Of Resistance

Within the limits of available materials (which do not compare favor-



While tens of thousands of bunkers were being built, the military forces were issued cast-off World War II Soviet tanks, obsolete planes and chintzy uniforms. With advisers and aid from the West, these Albanian troopers hope for better days.

ably to Western standards) the bunkers are structurally sound. They appear to be well-designed and would be able to withstand some level of direct fire and offer a degree of protection for the occupant. If you were an advancing force they might be a nuisance, a deterrent to some degree.

But the placement strategy behind the bunkers is without discernible plan. While those located on beaches and on the periphery of cities imply some sort of defensive strategy, others can be found placed at random between apartment buildings and neighborhood schools. Steve Bucci, a U.S. Army Special Forces officer serving as adviser in Albania, said military officials told him that at times

local military commanders would receive six to 12 bunkers to position at their own discretion.

Except for providing hard points from which to harass an invader, the bunkers would have been scant defense against an armored sweep, precise aerial bombardment or even a guerrilla with a satchel charge. An attack from the blind sides or rear of the bunkers would have disabled them. Bucci noted that, "You can't shoot anything with a backblast in most of them ..."

Their greatest effect would have been from their sheer numbers — 176,000 potential pinpricks of resistance for an invader to deal with.

Ultimate Bunker Mentality

Albanian paranoia about foreign invasion has at least some basis in light of the country's fascinating, little-known and tragic history. From its earliest days, despite its protective shield of mountains, Albania was a land to be plundered, overrun and governed by others. Albania first gained formal independence in 1912, only to be overrun again by foreign armies in World War I. During World War II, Italy annexed Albania; later the Germans occupied it and fought a bloody battle with Hoxha's partisan army that left 28,000 Albanians dead, but liberated the country.

Hoxha placed his prime minister, Memhet Shehu, in charge of expediting production and placement of the bunkers in the late 1960s, after the Prague Spring had fueled his paranoia concerning foreign invasion. Nicholas Pano, a professor at Western Illinois State University and a student of Albania for 30 years, said the Chinese advised Albania to plan for a "people's war," a guerrilla war where if the government fell to invading armies the people could carry on the struggle in the mountains and outside cities by fighting from the bunkers.

At the height of bunker-building in 1973 and 1974, Hoxha also began a Chinese-style "cultural revolution" that came down especially hard on artists and intellectuals. Under Chinese influence — or to keep the succor flowing — Hoxha also published the works of Mao and abolished military ranks. Having been underwritten by the Chinese, the grand bunker program halted abruptly in 1983, when China cut ties and financial support.

In an effort to prove that Albania was in the vanguard of military thinking, the leadership always liked to point out that other well-developed nations such as Switzerland employed similar civil-defense training, according to Oltin Prifti, a history instructor at Tiranë University. But by any measure, Albania's leaders were floundering in a twilight zone of military strategy.

More Bunkers Than Brains

Most Albanians still remember their teenage years when nearly all of them attended 15- and 30-day annual sessions for national defense training that included bunker strategy. Always willing to coerce young people into working for free while calling them "volunteers," the government had teenagers dig ditches to connect bunkers, employing the same sort of youth



Author rests atop small bunker — one of roughly 176,000 built — guarding a road into the capital city of Tiranë. Some bunkers, such as this one, incorporated steel sheathing.

camp that constructed the national railroad. The military training mixed pain and pleasure: Prifti said some participants who attended winter sessions ended up dead from exhaustion or exposure.

With a key aspect of Albania's strategy under Chinese tutelage being that civilians would play an important role in the defense system, one of many ironies is that too much concrete was poured to serve too few commandos. The combined troop strength of Albania's military divisions was only 30,000 and national mobilization would add another 200,000. With 176,000 bunkers, that's 1.3 "trained" fighters per bunker, which means if the bunkers were fully manned there would be little army in the field: The entire military force, would, in effect,

be sitting in conspicuous, indefensible bunkers waiting to be mopped up by an invading force.

And their myopic devotion to such fortifications left the Albanian military with little money for upgrading troop training or improving their aging hardware — but that was part of Hoxha's overall plan. To avoid conflict or the potential for a coup, Hoxha kept the military "marginalized," according to Bucci. "If you were young and unreliable you went to the military high school. And he spread the military out so different units had no way to communicate."

Albania's military still uses long-obsolete 1950s equipment, ranging from T-34 tanks to MiG-15s and -17s that ingenious technicians have somehow managed to keep flying despite a lack of spares. Military officials, now under the command of an Albanian civilian secretary, have asked for U.S. support in upgrading their clothing, personnel management, military law and other practical considerations.

What to do with the bunkers is not exactly a priority national issue, but it is a concern for Albanians, especially those who want to exploit the country's undeveloped tourist potential. Aesthetically, bathers and bunkers on beaches are an unlikely mix. Concrete has rarely been less sexy, but creative attempts to spruce them up have been made. On one spectacular highway along the Adriatic between Vlorë and Sarandë, a few bunkers were painted pink and other bright colors by Italian tourists.

Home-Domes & Low-Tech Disco

In a western village near Korçë, one bunker is used as a disco. Some families have moved into the larger bunkers built for 76mm or 100mm guns — one family managed to squeeze in a double bed, stove and TV, leaving the bathroom outside. And an entrepreneur in Gjirokaster opened a cafe in one of the larger bunkers.

The military plans to maintain at least some bunkers near border crossings, where they can be put to good conventional use, according to Bucci. A few Albanians, perhaps nostalgic for the old days, figure having them

around is a good idea after seeing what has happened in Bosnia, where such bunkers might have protected civilians from Serb mortar shelling.

Most, however, have fallen into disuse and are covered with dirt, grass, excrement and other refuse. Somehow peasants have managed to topple a few here and there, imploding the bunkers by burning car tires inside them to calcine the concrete, and then crushing the rubble by hand and using it for building materials. Whatever works ...

The government has no money for much of anything and has no plans to remove the bunkers unless they are in the way of development. Bunkers near beaches south of Durrës, a potential resort area, are being slowly removed from the sandy soil. Most Albanians would like to see them all removed, for they are a painful symbol of the repressive paranoia and isolationism from which they have only begun to emerge. They remind visitors and Albanians alike of the perverted regime that led this tiny country counter-current to the 20th century, only to leave it foundering a generation behind its neighbors.

They are Albania's cross to bear, her albatross. "To me, they look very ugly and they always remind me of the past," said Arben Kallamata, assistant director of Radio Tiranë. "As difficult as it is to remove these things from the ground, it is [more] difficult to remove the past from this country. When



Larger bunkers, such as this one on hill south of Tiranë which overlooked road to the sea, could accommodate crew-served weapons. Weathering-giraffe paint job was intended to be camouflage. Albanians now use many of these larger bunkers as living quarters and businesses.

I see them I get depressed because I realize how difficult it will be ..."

Frank Jossi taught journalism in Albania on a Fulbright scholarship. He is currently a freelance writer based in St. Paul, Minnesota. ✕

Above And Beyond



Uncommon valor became commonplace during 15-hour firefight in downtown Mogadishu. Somalis suffered more than 1,100 casualties, while U.S. SpecOps troops sustained just over 100, with 18 killed. Among the 18 were Delta operators Gordon and Shughart. Photos: Upper left: DoD; others: SOLO

d The Call ...

by Dale B. Cooper

Delta Snipers Earn America's Highest Award In Somalia's Fiercest Fight



Medal of Honor recipients Master Sgt. Gary Gordon (left) and Sgt. 1st Class Randall Shughart gave their lives to aid downed chopper crew in Somalia.

On the wall of the Special Forces Memorial Court at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, are etched the words of the Prophet Isaiah:

"I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send and who will go for us.'"

Answering that call in Somalia on 3 October 1993, Master Sergeant Gary I. Gordon and Sergeant First Class Randall D. Shughart became the first American soldiers since the Vietnam War to receive the Medal of Honor. This distinction cost them their lives.

Gordon and Shughart were Delta Force snipers assigned to Task Force Ranger in Somalia (although Army Special Forces Command still does

not officially acknowledge that Delta was in the African nation).

The two Army SF troopers had provided covering fire in six previous "snatch" missions where followers loyal to fugitive warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid were rounded up and interrogated in an attempt to locate Aidid himself — believed to have masterminded the massacre of Pakistani peacekeepers.

The task force's seventh mission on the afternoon of 3 October was similar to earlier ones. Once again, Gordon and Shughart were flying in an MH-60 Blackhawk providing covering fire. "While Gordon and Shughart were labeled as snipers, they



Crash site and remains of chopper where Gordon and Shughart made heroic stand to save their comrades in arms. Photo: SOLO



CWO 3 Michael J. Durant, right, poses with fellow crew members in front of their Blackhawk a month before being shot down in Mogadishu. SSgt. Winn Mahuron, far left, was not in crew. Also pictured from left to right are Sgt. Thomas Field, SSgt. William Cleveland and CWO 4 Raymond Frank. Only Durant survived, and only because of sacrificial heroism by his rescuers.

were not the sniper we have come to know," said a high-ranking SF officer who asked not to be identified. "They were in an overwatch mode."

SpecOps commanders would like to have their snipers occupy the top floor of a building across the street from where an operation is going down, but in a fast-moving situation such as developed on 3 October in downtown Mogadishu, you "had to dance with the people you brought." Helicopters became the multi-story building from which to fire. Though

BRASS STUMBLES, SOLDIERS FALL

When Marines hit the beaches of Somalia in December 1992, it was a humanitarian mission to restore order and distribute aid. Before it was over, it cost us 44 dead, 175 wounded and almost \$2 billion.

Marine General Robert Johnston's Marines had the warring clans awed enough to stand down while U.N. aid was distributed to the starving throngs, but on 5 June 1993, two dozen Pakistani troops were killed in an ambush. Aidid was blamed. Clinton's new team in Somalia wanted Aidid hunted down and tried: The U.S. mission changed from feeding to fighting.

Starting 11 June, USAF AC-130 Spectre gunships began pounding Aidid's HQ, preceding a ground operation. Clinton announced, "We're striking a blow against lawlessness and killing," but the muscle needed to back this up, including armor, had been largely withdrawn and wasn't coming back. Aidid struck back with hit-and-run attacks on U.S. forces.

Rangers were sent on fruitless raids based on faulty intelligence, while Aidid watched. On 3 October a CIA operative fixed two Aidid aides, and the task force was launched on their seventh heliborne raid.

But unknown to Army intelligence, Aidid had evolved a plan: Shoot down a chopper, surround it, wait for U.S. reinforcements and hit them from ambush. Like the VC he copied, Aidid carefully chose ground where he had all the advantages, and waited. Mogadishu's inner-city buildings and narrow, maze-like streets lent themselves to close-quarter fighting, which would decrease the Rangers' firepower advantage.

Our 3 October raid netted 24 prisoners, plus two top Aidid aides, and was in the ground withdrawal phase when Aidid's men shot down a chopper with massed RPG fire. Rangers, returning to base with their POWs, moved to the rescue. But there was no cover, and Somalis were firing down from rooftops and windows: Every intersection was a bloody gauntlet. Ranger Sergeant John Burns said, "It was like being a target in a shooting gallery."

The raid had the same effect nationally as the Tet Offensive of 1968, when a communist surprise attack jolted South Vietnam and killed 2,200 U.S. soldiers. Americans asked, "Just what the hell are we doing in Vietnam?" The same question was asked in Somalia. People wondered why we were in a clan-driven civil war with no impact on our national security. Like the 1983 bombing in Beirut that killed 244 men, 3 October was the death-knell of another badly thought-out mission. Clinton ultimately issued the order to withdraw all U.S. troops by 31 March 1994.

Though this action will go on record as one of the most courageous examples of small-unit daring — brave men executing a flawed plan — the generals

failed to ask whether the risk of the operation was worth the gain.

Had generals Montgomery, Hoar or Powell stood tall and demanded of their civilian chiefs — none of whom had ever smelled enemy gunfire — that a 14 September request for armor be honored, U.S. casualties would have been limited to chopper crews and a handful of Rangers. Ironically, USMC tanks were on ships just four days away.

If armor, instead of trucks, were with Ranger commander Lieutenant Colonel Danny McKnight's ground column — whose mission was to extract the POWs and Ranger force — they could have busted through to the first downed chopper within minutes and pulled out the dead pilot. Instead, while following the contemporary Ranger code never to leave a dead comrade, the pilot's body became an anchor. More casualties were taken trying to extract it, and the unit became too shot-up to move. Dying for the dead never made sense to this old Ranger.

The spin-doctors of history are already at work on this sad experience. Clinton kicked off the campaign when he blamed his wrong-headed war-fighting phase on the United Nations. During a 14 October news conference he said, "We cannot let a charge we got under a U.N. resolution to do some police work ... turn into a military mission." Then-Secretary of Defense Les Aspin quickly followed suit. He said the tank request "was never put in terms of protecting troops. It was put in terms of the mission of delivering humanitarian aid."

This has been followed by a chorus of U.S. Army generals who said that tanks, "would not have significantly altered the outcome of the events on October 3." That line may work with an unknowing public, but don't try it on the Somalia Ranger Task Force. This damage control won't wash, especially when, right after the fight, a Montgomery aide reported the general felt "that this could have been prevented if he had his armor."

Then there's the videotape from choppers flying over the fight, classified on Pentagon orders. It details our forces being ambushed, choppers crashing, rescue efforts and Somalis attacking. "It shows how magnificently our men fought," said a captain at West Point. The film also shows how USAF gunships would have turned the tide, and begs the question why the Spectres were in Italy and not overhead protecting our troops. Soldiers who have seen the film want it shown, but a friendly U.S. Army press officer observed, "The film's too hot for public consumption. It would bring the disaster back and present more questions than answers."

— Col. David Hackworth

not an entirely new role for Delta Force, it was the first time this type of "overwatch mode" was tested under fire. The other six missions had been a walk in the park. This one would be a walk on the wild side during which Gordon and Shughart would be credited with keeping more than 300 hostiles at bay while the main assault force rounded up 24 of Aidid's lieutenants inside a building near the

Olympic Hotel.

The operations plan included contingencies to rescue the crews of downed aircraft, but no one had foreseen that Task Force Ranger would lose *four* Blackhawk helicopters to RPGs, two of which would crash in Indian country. For this reason only one USAF Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR) Team was in the air that day.

When the first helicopter crashed in a narrow alley five blocks north-east of its objective, a 16-man CSAR team fast-roped into the crash site (see "Fast Rope Into Hell," *SOF* July '94). Gordon and Shughart provided protective fire from the air, allowing USAF pararescue (PJs) men Master Sergeant Scott Fales and Technical Sergeant Tim Wilkinson and 14 other CSAR team members to secure the

area around the downed helicopter and administer emergency aid to the two of four crewmen still alive.

As these PJs left their Blackhawk, it was hit in the rotor by an RPG round. The pilots fought to keep the 19-ton aircraft hovering so Fales and Wilkinson could fast-roped to the ground, before limping back to the airport to crash-land. Minutes after

Gordon and Shughart instinctively understood that if the downed crew were to survive, help would have to be on the ground. They immediately volunteered to go, but were denied by the ground-force commander who said, "It's too dangerous." Precious time was lost, enabling more Somalis to rush to the crash site, while Gordon and Shughart pleaded three more times

unfold from the air." "They knew it was a desperate situation down there and that's why they repeatedly asked to be inserted," Wilkinson said, "But Gordon and Shughart felt if they didn't get in there and try to effect a change, the downed crew would be killed."

Once on the ground, the Green Berets must have realized this was it. But those who knew them, including Fales and Wilkinson, say they believed passionately in the creed that says, *I will not fail those with whom I serve.* The Delta snipers jumped into a ferocious firefight from their hovering Blackhawk 100 meters south of the crash site.

The pilot, Chief Warrant Officer Michael Goffena, said, "Anyone in their right mind would never have gone in." As he pulled power and began to lift off, Goffena noticed the two snipers were a bit unsure of which way to go, because of dirt and debris blown in their faces by the Blackhawk's rotor wash. Leaning out his port window, Goffena pointed them in the direction of the crash.

As Goffena's craft turned to leave, an RPG round slammed into the starboard side, knocking his co-pilot unconscious and sheering off Holling's leg. Goffena was able to nurse his badly wounded bird and bloody crew back to the New Port of Mogadishu where the Blackhawk crash-landed.

Equipped only with scoped M16A2 rifles and Beretta pistols, Gordon and Shughart fought their way through a dense maze of shanties and shacks to reach the critically injured crew: They

then immediately pulled the two pilots and two gunners from the mangled wreckage and established a perimeter around the downed aircraft.

With the crew relatively safe for the moment, Gordon and Shughart constantly moved around the perimeter of the crash site, trying to keep

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Somalia is awash in weapons provided by successive major powers and filled with people willing to use them. Here elements of Aidid's militia shoot it out with American troops in downtown Mogadishu. Photo: SOLO

Fales and Wilkinson fought their way to the crash site, Somali RPGs nailed another Blackhawk. This third helicopter to get hit crashed into a densely populated part of the city as it was attempting to fly south to the U.N. compound. In its wreckage lay four critically injured crewmen.

With the CSAR team already committed at the first crash site, attempts to get a relief force from the Olympic Hotel to the second crash were foiled by Somali ambushes. That left only Gordon and Shughart to keep the Somalis off the downed crew.

Reaching the second crash site, Gordon, Shughart and a third member of his sniper team, Sgt. 1st Class Brad Holling could see movement inside the downed Blackhawk as they turned a tight 360 overhead and came under withering fire from Somali militia racing toward the crash site in trucks.

The door gunner was hit and seriously wounded by ground fire that ripped through the Blackhawk. Holling was also hit, but was able to pull the wounded gunner from his station and take over the gun.



Armed crowds could assemble in Mogadishu with incredible speed: "In 10 minutes, there could be 5,000 people at a location ... they came out of the woodwork," according to Master Sgt. Scott Fales. Photo: SOLO

to be put on the ground to help their downed comrades. Three times they were denied permission.

Finally the ground force commander reluctantly gave them the green light for insertion, but by then the die was cast.

"They had to know they'd bought a one-way ticket," Fales said, "because these guys watched the whole thing

LZ SUICIDE

**KKK Recon, RT Georgia
And Charlie Run Out of
Luck In Laos**





On 16 November 1968 four choppers signaled

reveille at Mai Loc, Forward Observation Base (FOB) 1. As usual, they were Vietnamese air force CH-34 Choctaws — codenamed Kingbees — making their final approach about 25 feet over the wire. On board were Sergeant Bader, First Lieutenant Stacks and Major Toomey from MACV-SOG Headquarters, as well as a platoon of KKK, *Khmer Kampuchea Kron*, an underground Cambodian political faction.

As the aircraft landed, I watched the KKK. They were all jokes and smiles, wearing black scarfs with “KKK Recon” around their necks. Something was about to go down and a bad feeling settled over Mai Loc.

That afternoon we were issued an operations order: Conduct an area recon of the Prairie Fire (PF) AO inside Laos, insert, snoop around, engage any enemy and disrupt their activities. We were assigned fast-movers — jet aircraft and A-1E Skyraiders — and would pick up our gunships on the other side of the fence.

Somebody decided to let Toomey and the KKK strap-hang. The CO told me to keep an eye on the major, “Don’t let anything happen to him, and keep it quiet.” That was a direct order.

I was the team leader (one-zero), Bader the assistant team leader (one-one) and Toomey’s job was to get some ground time. To keep them out of our way, Stacks and the KKK would provide LZ security. Our normal complement of six Bru, a tribal group similar to the Montagnards, made up the rest of Recon Team (RT) Georgia.

The night was spent getting the KKK ready. We had to walk them through all our last minute checks: call signs, maps, radio checks, clean your CAR-15, jump up and down to check for equipment making too much noise, PRC-25, URC-10, clean your CAR-15 again, check and re-check everything. Our equipment was our only life-line.

The next day was filled with bad omens. RT Georgia was ready to go



Diagram showing location of NVA hide position in cave and direction of NVA counterattack on LZ. Although NVA fire was sporadic and insignificant, it proved too much for the KKK. Map: Kristine Anderson

Left: CH-34 Insertion illustrates dangers incurred during LZ Suicide operations: loud slow-moving aircraft, large, open landing zone, disorganized and disoriented soldiers, all tempting targets. Photo: DoD

but the Kingbees showed up late and shut down. Then the KKK wouldn't fly with the Vietnamese, something about the pilots' heads being higher than the Cambodian's, very bad medicine. That took an hour to remedy.

Finally a low whine filled the air and the rotors started turning. Lots of thumbs up and grins from us, but the KKK looked as though they had shit their pants. They were not a happy group of campers.

Un-real Estate

Our ship led off and gained altitude as we crossed over the border and entered that piece of un-real estate known as the Prairie Fire AO. We were constantly on the lookout for signs of 37mm antiaircraft fire.

Thirty minutes later the door gunner "gave us the finger," pointing toward the LZ. It looked big and empty from where we were sitting, too easy. Our Vietnamese door gunner mumbled his usual broken English, "Kingbee go down now."

The LZ was at least as big as a football field and covered with ant hills. In the center was a group of hills for Stacks and his KKK to rally around. By the time the other ships dropped off the rest of the RT, the KKK had formed a loose perimeter. There was no fire, a cold LZ.

I got the go ahead to move out from "Covey," our forward air controller circling overhead in an OV-10. We went over a fence to our south and turned east, stopping for a moment to look back toward the LZ. There was little cover, trees every eight to 10 feet with minimum foliage. Visibility was good and we spotted smoke from several long houses only 200 yards away.

Our point man moved out and halted the RT at an assault position about 50 yards from the long houses. There was just enough gun ship activity in the area that we had to raise our voices. We made our final preparations for an attack and tried a quick commo check with the KKK — no reply.

The NVA, with weapons at port

arms, were running around, yelling at each other and stumbling over pigs and chickens. Clothes, helmets, uniforms and web gear hung from lines strung tree to tree. We stood there and looked at each other. How could we have inserted this close and marched this far without being spotted?



Author holds former property of NVA cave dweller: PRC Type 53 Carbine. Note NVA craftsmanship: commo wire sling swivels, hand carved stock, bullet hole through magazine.

Seven of us deployed on line and two of the Bru broke off heading toward the rear of the huts to cut off anyone trying to escape. Once they were in position, we trotted toward the long houses and began to fire. The NVA fled as they fired a few rounds in our direction. They were in such a panic not a single bullet was aimed our way.

We rolled through the empty huts and met up with the two Bru who closed in from the north. Any surviving NVA disappeared south.

We looked at each other and almost laughed at how easy this was. The Bru formed a loose perimeter and the team snooped around camp. Both long houses were filled with equipment: weapons, uniforms, rice and commo gear.

NVA Cliff Divers

Toomey and I headed south to follow up any escaping NVA and make sure they didn't surprise us later. We stopped at a canyon and peered over the edge. Eight feet down was a ledge littered with hammocks, equipment and cooking fires. Toomey jumped down and got a quick burst from someone hiding inside a cave. As fast as he jumped down, he jumped back up. I started laughing, it looked as if he had landed on a trampoline. Major Toomey was white, and shaking and all he could say was, "Fuck this shit man."

I jumped down on the ledge and moved cautiously toward the cave. Two NVA would stick out their rifle barrels, pop off a few rounds and scramble back inside. Toomey stayed on top of the ledge and moved di-

rectly over the cave. Stacks and a few KKK came running over to our location.

Toomey pulled the pin on a grenade and threw it in. Seconds later it rolled back out, dropped over the ledge and exploded. Bader peered over the rim, "Toomey, check this out man, give me a couple of rocks." He tossed two rocks to me and I inched closer to the cave, threw them in and waited. Sure enough, both rocks rolled back out. Bader pitched in a smoke grenade. It was kicked out and fell over the ledge.

I signaled to Bader and Toomey. On the count of three, we would all throw in frags. One, two, three ... one grenade rolled back out, then another followed by two wild-eyed NVA. Bader and Toomey were leaning over the ledge waiting for our guests. As the two came out they were met with three CAR-15s on full auto. To their rear, for their added enjoyment, the third frag exploded and launched our two friends into the air.

I'll never forget the expressions on their faces. They looked like those trick divers going off a high dive. The first one, staring at me with all these little holes in him, turned his head 180 degrees to look me square in the face. I swear to God he told me in perfect English, "Fuck off."

From across the draw we started receiving a few rounds of small arms fire. It wasn't enough to worry about and we moved back to the long houses. After taking a quick inventory of the captured equipment, our mission began to make sense. We would use the KKK to hump all this out. I got on the horn to Covey, "You want all this shit, right?"

"Negative, burn it." I looked at Toomey. Thinking he could use his rank to convince Covey to grant permission to take all this gear back to Vietnam, I handed him the radio. Another negative from Covey. "You're to burn everything and get back to the LZ." If that was the case, why did we bother to come here?

Stacks headed back to the LZ with the KKK while Bader and I tried to call in a Skyraider to take care of the fire from across the canyon. Covey came in low and marked it with white



North Vietnamese "Zippo" liberated by author. 504th was a Main Force VC battalion.

phosphorous (WP) for the A-1E. Soon she came rolling in and laid napalm right on target. Whoever had fired on us was no longer worrying about mama-san.

Our team then set everything on fire with WP grenades and I managed to get a few tokens from our worthy enemy. Once that job was done and the long houses were ablaze, we headed back to the LZ.

While the KKK manned our perimeter, Stacks called for an extraction, Covey approved it and the ships were on the way. I knew the NVA would soon be back to salvage anything we left.

Everything was quiet until the first Kingbees and slicks came in for their approach. NVA opened up west of the LZ, but just like before, their fire seemed weak.

Covey saw what was going on and called for gun ships to roll in on the west side of the LZ. The Bru and the RT were up and firing. The KKK just lay there. No one on the perimeter was returning fire. We had the NVA outnumbered at least three to one, but still the KKK wouldn't fire. A B-40 exploded just west of our RT's position hitting one of the Bru in the thigh.

Lieutenant Stacks crawled over to see what was wrong with the KKK. When he returned, he motioned to Bader and I, "Two KKK over there just killed themselves." Bader and I couldn't believe it. "Two fuckin' KKK just sucked the ends of their M-16s and committed suicide." We looked at each other in disbelief.

Stacks told me to check the rest of the KKK on perimeter. I found them spread eagle on the ground as low as they could get. Their weapons were laying in front of them and they had these little religious amulets in their mouths, chanting away like there was no tomorrow.

I pleaded with these guys to return fire but all they could tell me was they all were going to die. "Shoot, just shoot, *ti-ti NVA*, no sweat, *sat cong*, kill the fuckers!" No luck, the KKK were frozen.



Items "liberated" during Prairie Fire mission. Clockwise from top: bamboo comb mounted on plaque, bamboo candle holder containing NVA-issue candle, hand-made knife, hand-made loupe used to study maps and photos, and a hand-made punch or awl.

Back at the center of the LZ, the Bru were returning fire while Bader and Toomey directed what little outgoing we had. The NVA fire wasn't serious, but because of the KKK, it was slowly getting out of hand. Three more Bru were wounded.

The first ship rolled in and we loaded our wounded. A second ship landed and the KKK scrambled to get aboard in total chaos. Toomey tried to restore order, but the KKK were out of control. Another Kingbee came in, took fire and split. Off to the east, a ship went down and another slick had to divert to pick up that crew. A fifth slick powered through and picked up another load of hysterical KKK.

Alone On The LZ

The Bru kept firing until all the KKK were off the LZ, then they loaded up. Bader, a Bru and myself stayed on the LZ taking cover, returning fire and praying for the last ship to make it in. A Kingbee radioed he was on the way, but as he flared to land, fire from the west increased. The Kingbee took off. He tried one more time, but the fire was too hot.

Another slick darted in and tried to land just a few feet from us. We laid down suppressive fire and threw our gear on the aircraft at the same time. Bader and the Bru jumped on while I continued firing. I turned to throw on my equipment only to see the slick taking off, leaving me alone on the LZ. Off to the north I could see another aircraft waiting to come in.

There were two other gun ships making firing runs over the NVA to our west. As my slick rolled in and hovered to get me out, I noticed the crew chief standing on the skids looked as though he was ready to jump in and fight. While laying down covering fire, he flipped up his visor. I caught a glimpse of an ear-to-ear grin and realized I knew this guy: It was Private First Class Rusty Armstrong from Harlingen, Texas. He was blow-

ing everything away and yelled at me to get on board. I complied and we were out of there, leaving the dead KKK on the LZ.

As we landed back at Mai Loc, the KKK were standing around talking big, "No sweat, no sweat, kill VC, kill VC, KKK numbah one." Even the Bru had a good laugh at this group of human waste.

The CO grabbed us as we headed for a debriefing. The first thing Stacks mentioned was how the KKK nearly got everyone killed. No one blinked an eye. Our debrief turned into a charade, everyone just nodded their heads. We ended this little act and headed outside.

The CO followed me out and told me to get my team together, re-supply and be ready to go back into the same LZ next morning. RT Georgia would conduct some kind of an assessment of the area.

Déjà Vu All Over Again

Next morning we went through the same drill, only without the KKK. Not only were we in the same AO, we were on the same LZ. We sat there for

an hour waiting for permission to move out. It never came. Kingbees pulled us out almost as quickly as we landed. What was the point?

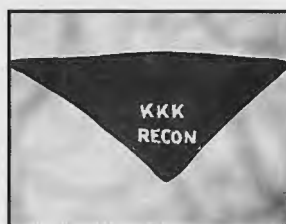
When RT Georgia got back to Mai Loc, I looked for the CO. He had been waiting for me with another operations order. We were going into the LZ again. Why the hell would we get pulled back to 'Nam

only to have to reinsert back into the same PF AO?

I flipped. "No fucking way am I going in, *Negative!*" I stood there and argued. "Same AO, same flight path, I guess? Same everything." I wasn't going anywhere near that mission.

The CO caved in and gave me a target with a different RT in the Nickel Silver AO (North Vietnam). Without any further briefings, I grabbed my assets, loaded and flew north. Had anyone properly planned the operation, they would have gotten a weather report. Nickel Silver was fogged in, mission scrubbed.

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Scarf worn by recalcitrant "heroes" of Prairie Fire AO. When NVA proved unable to inflict losses on KKK, they took matters into their own hands.

Khmer Rouge Back On The Move — Pailin First To Fall

Return To The



Cambodia is home to more than 9 million people and 10 million mines. Largely Buddhist, soldiers of both sides prefer these surrogate killers to any karma-depleting battles.

KILLING FIELDS

by Robert MacKenzie

Photos by Franck Nolot

Cursing dirt roads in general, and this one in particular, I bounced about in a rented Land Cruiser on a deeply rutted and potholed Highway 10 from Battambang to Pailin, Cambodia. The latest government offensive against the Khmer Rouge (KR) had commenced four

days earlier and I wanted to see how it was going. The offensive, directed at guerrilla strongholds in Pailin and the surrounding countryside, had the potential to inflict severe and permanent damage on guerrilla forces.

If successful, government sovereignty would be reestablished over a

large area of Cambodia, insurgents would be deprived of more than a million dollars a month from smuggling gem stones and timber into neighboring Thailand, and a political settlement with a weakened KR might finally be achieved. If government forces were repulsed, or failed to hold

Pailin, not only would there be enormous political embarrassment, but army morale, already low after a recent defeat at Anlong Veng, could crumble beyond salvage. These were high stakes indeed.

The cliché “war torn” fits Cambodia better perhaps than any other country. Since Prince Sihanouk’s government fell in 1970, Cambodia has been ravaged first by the KR and then by Vietnamese who occupied the country from 1979 until 1989. Since then there has been continuing guerrilla activity, widespread banditry and a legacy of some 10 million mines planted by various combatants.

After the Vietnamese were forced out the United Nations moved in. Under their dubious guidance, Cambodia lurched toward elections in May of 1993. In an outpouring of popular support for peace and democracy, despite intimidation by the KR, 90% of eligible Cambodians went to the polls and elected a new government. Four months later Sihanouk returned from China as a constitutional monarch with few real powers.

Ailing and elderly, Sihanouk presides over a fragile coalition government. While his National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC — one of the world’s more necessary acronyms) won a plurality, it has to share power with the Cambodian People’s Party (CPP), a renamed communist party which holds 51 seats in the assembly, controls security forces and many provincial administrations.

Cambodia is also burdened with



Cambodian T-55 tank position leaves much to be desired. Their leisurely approach to war-fighting results in few casualties and even fewer decisive victories.

two Prime Ministers — Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Sihanouk’s son and head of FUNCINPEC, and Hun Sen, who leads the CPP. Sihanouk, suffering from cancer, spends a good deal of time in Beijing undergoing treatment.

Illegitimate Khmers

Initially part of the peace process, KR guerrillas boycotted the elections — presumably having decided an electorate would not willingly give power to the same people who so horribly misused it earlier. Since Cambodia’s constitution stipulates that all government posts be filled from those represented in elections, the Khmer Rouge have no legitimate claim to government office. Instead, they have chosen to conduct a low-intensity guerrilla war in northwest Cambodia.

Pailin, one of their main headquarters, has been occupied since 1989. Its rugged terrain and isolation make it ideal for a guerrilla stronghold. Its proximity to Thailand allows them to conduct lucrative smuggling activities with impunity. Valuable timber and gem stones are as abundant in Pailin as corrupt Thai businessmen and arms dealers just across the border. According to a 1992 classified Thai intelligence report, the KR have banked \$1 billion in future profits from concessions already granted to Thai logging companies.

Nevertheless, government authority and legitimacy has been tenuously growing, and the number of KR guerrillas has significantly decreased. Estimated at nearly 35,000 in 1991, their ranks have dwindled to only about 9,000 today. Since elections in May, around 2,000 have defected to the government and many more have just drifted off into the bush.

Khmer Rouge guerrillas, however, fight on. In February government troops captured the guerrilla stronghold of Anlong Veng in northwest Cambodia, only to lose it three weeks later. The KR, allegedly with Thai assistance, cut the only road into Anlong Veng and starved government soldiers out. Low on water and ammunition, badly equipped and fed, the army troops fled, abandoning tons of materiel.

Khmer Rouge target Pailin, Anlong Veng and other strongholds close to Thai border, providing quick access to safe havens and lucrative markets for timber and gems.





A handful of T-55s, rocket launchers and these BTR-60s and BRDM-2s comprised the bulk of motorized assets of the 5,000-man army poised to capture Pailin from the Khmer Rouge.

Khmer Rouge connections with Thailand present a difficult practical and diplomatic problem for any new Cambodian government. Lucrative timber contracts are cited as motivation for Thailand — as soon as Anlong Veng was back under guerrilla control, logging trucks started to roll toward the border. There are reports that “combatants” make deals to leave certain roads mine-free so logs can continue to move.

Pailin presents many similar logistical problems as Anlong Veng. Both cities are connected to the rest of Cambodia by only one long dirt road winding through jungle. Roads are easy to interdict. At the end of May the rainy season begins and Highway 10 to Pailin may become impassable due to guerrilla ambushes, mines and plain old mud.

Surrogate Killers

A few wounded soldiers straggled down the road as we drove “to the sound of the guns.” There weren’t really many guns sounding, though, as Cambodian war-fighting methods avoid taking or inflicting casualties on a scale achieved by more civilized countries. Perhaps because they are predominantly Buddhist and don’t want to lose karma by actually killing someone, they prefer to let surrogate killers, mines and malaria, do that for them. Clearly that does not always hold true, but many military operations are notable for the relatively low numbers of casualties.

Three hours out of Battambang we reached the end of the road, 20km east of Pailin. A couple of tents,

T-55s, BTR-60s, BRDM-2s and rocket launchers scattered around suggested we had found General Pol Saroeun’s, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Royal Cambodian Army, headquarters. There were not many other indications that we had just driven in to the operational HQ for the entire Pailin offensive.

There were no sentries and people

hung about in haphazardly slung hammocks or wandered around barefoot in the oppressive heat. Few troops seemed to be anywhere near their weapons. There were no fortifications or defensive positions, although Saroeun did have a log bunker near his tent. Camp location seemed to have been determined solely by the fact that the road ended there. Bulldozers and trucks stood by, ready to push the road as far as Pailin. Maybe I missed something, but I don’t think so.

Saroeun met us outside his tent and gave us a briefing complete with map and overlays. A middle-aged ex-guerrilla fighter, he at least had blue lines on his map for friendly forces, and red for enemy, but there was no evidence of staff training in his briefing or his camp.

The Cambodian army had advanced very slowly toward Pailin on three axes, strengthening their flanks as they went. A sad lesson of Anlong Veng was the hazard of being attacked from the rear while advancing — so supplies were being stockpiled to guard against disaster if the road was cut off. Government forces were deliberately (slowly) making their way through jungle and hills to the city.

More of a non-event than a battle,

the capture of Pailin saw relatively little fighting of any kind. Five thousand troops, 10 tanks and some artillery encountered sporadic resistance, but only about 100 KR and 25 of Saroeun’s men were killed. Four days into the operation there was still some doubt as to whether government troops had actually reached Pailin, although government press releases announced its capture as early as 18 March.

“Don’t Break The Lock”

One problem with this leisurely advance was that only about 100 KR remained in Pailin. Given days of warning, 2,900 guerrillas, along with nearly 20,000 civilians, had drifted across the Thai border accompanied by two or three KR tanks. The town was virtually empty, and many civilians had fastened signs on their doors saying, “Please be careful with my house” and “Please don’t break the lock.”

Probably the most serious problem with the operation was a shortage of water. While no one had actually produced a poisoned water sample, rumors were rife that guerrillas had poisoned local streams and other supplies. True or not, government troops were unwilling to drink local water and were dropping by scores with heat exhaustion.

As proof of the superiority of government arms, Saroeun described a tank engagement between five government T-55s and one KR Type-59, a Chinese version of the same tank. According to the general, government tanks prevailed but the Type-59 was still able to disengage and flee across the border into Thailand. One would

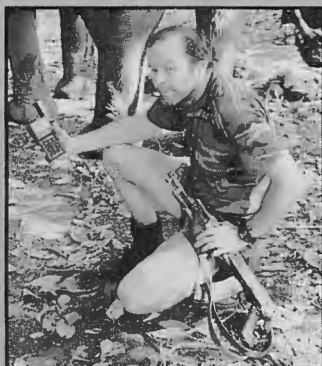
Assembly area visited by SOF was not chosen because of any overriding concern for defensive terrain, suitability for resupply, or current tactical situation — it was simply where the road ended.



YOU STILL CAN'T BEAT A COMPASS

Long accustomed to navigating with a map and compass, I viewed the small green computer-like device in my hand with curiosity and misgiving. We had been walking for seven hours over flat terrain under a canopy of trees solid enough that I had not been able to see a single terrain feature. Based purely on time-distance and directional calculations, I had a reasonable idea where we were in eastern Cambodia, but I hoped that the Magellan GPS Trailblazer would tell me our exact location.

Never having used a GPS before, I had taken particular care in initializing the device before leaving Phnom Penh. Turning it on in the jungle, I waited hopefully for a grid reference to appear on the display screen. I waited, and waited, and waited. Moving around a bit, as suggested by the instruction manual, I waited again. Finally, I turned it off. Thirty minutes of watching it say, "searching, searching," was enough. Maybe every satellite over Cambodia was down that day, but I was not impressed.



SOF found Magellan Trailblazer GPS system a useful aid to land navigation as long as you stay out of the jungle — but don't throw away your compass yet.

Over 10 days or so, I tried to get position fixes in a variety of environments with varying results. When used in the open, it quickly produced a grid reference agreeing with my map-and-compass work.

Problems arose when I tried to use it under even thin canopy — most often it would not acquire enough satellite signals to determine a location, clearly a major shortcoming in many parts of the world. Though I'm sure that for desert or boat use, where there are no terrain features, the Trailblazer is most useful.

Lightweight and compact, the Trailblazer was easy to carry, and its clear and simple programming and operating instructions make it infantry-friendly. It runs for hours — up to six according to the book — on three AA batteries. A thoughtful addition from the manufacturer is a waterproof instruction manual that conveniently fits into a carrying pouch.

Although the Magellan Trailblazer has major limitations, when it did work it made a useful addition to land navigation. Don't throw away your compass just yet, though.

— R. M.

one-fifth of the countryside and, as long as they remain wealthy, they are unlikely to relinquish their power.

Khmer Rouge leaders continue to be treated as dignitaries by Thailand, and are offered military escorts and free use of Bangkok international airport. The Thais even built a lavish compound for genocidal Pol Pot, offering him sanctuary in spite of Cambodia's attempts to repatriate him and make him stand trial for his war crimes and crimes against humanity.

United Nations peacekeepers doubt that a mutually beneficial relationship between certain influential Thais and KR can be disentangled. Guerrillas derive logistical, military and technological support, while enriching their accomplices on the spoils of Cambodia.

On top of military difficulties, the area around Pailin is becoming an environmental catastrophe as well. The countryside has been raped by strip mining and clear cutting. State land, once covered with forests, has been pillaged and thousands of cubic meters of timber and plywood lie along main roads ready for shipment into Thailand. Gem mining has been made easy by sophisticated, imported Thai machinery, but no thought has been given to environmental damage.

Cambodia is also battling against internal corruption. Finance Minister Sam Rainsy is a heartening voice with his call for reform and an end to old business cabals. Under attack from both political parties, Rainsy was supported by Sihanouk himself, and so retains a delicate hold on his office. Even Prince Ranariddh, Sihanouk's son, issued a veiled warning to Rainsy to back off in his fight for honest government and business practices.

Despite Rainsy's best efforts, corruption remains rampant. A Japanese company, recognizing the profit potential of construction projects, allocated \$2 million dollars for one venture, three-quarters of which was spent on bribes. Similar stories abound across the country, and "informed conjecture" has opposing sides in military actions agreeing on a division of spoils before opening fire. Growth potential is good if excesses of business and governmental corruption can be eliminated.

There are also some indications that

Continued on page 65

have thought with five opponents, the Type-59 would have been reduced to its component parts, but Saroeun called it a victory, so it must have been. While the government is declaring victory, it may be a little premature. Khmer Rouge strategy could well be, as Mao advised, "run away to fight another day." Since the government is heavily supplying Pailin to avoid their mistake at Anlong Veng, the Khmer Rouge may wait until the rainy season closes the road and attack, capturing all those supplies.

The Cambodian government does not possess enough air assets to maintain a garrison of any strength, even in good weather. Stockpiling enough stores to last through the rains might work, but would present enormous temptation for an enemy short of

provisions.

Government sources counter that they will hold the town or blow up 100 tons of munitions captured from the KR. Such destruction would be a significant loss for guerrilla forces. In addition, each day that the government holds Pailin, gem mines and the logging routes into Thailand costs KR coffers a considerable amount of smuggling revenue.

Blight At The End Of The Tunnel

No matter who eventually controls Pailin, northwest Cambodia will continue to be a problem for some time. The Thai connection frustrates government efforts to consolidate control over its own territory. Some estimates claim that the KR retains control of

Slickest Compact Nine Ever?

LIW's CP1 — Human Engineering At Its Zenith

by Peter G. Kokalis

When dropped into a true pocket pistol envelope, the 9mm Parabellum cartridge reaches the highest level of its usefulness. In my opinion, full-size service sidearms should be chambered for more effective rounds, such as the tough-to-beat .45 ACP or the .40 S&W (an excellent, but unnecessary compromise between the 9mm and .45).

The problem has become separating the wheat from the chaff, as so-called "compact nines" are as common as cockroaches in a sewer pipe. Many are unreliable junk — most of the Spanish-made pistols so highly touted by the popular gun press are an example — and a large number of the others are not really very compact, e.g., the SIGARMS series.

Many armed professionals have a legitimate requirement for a hideaway handgun. Small semiautomatic pistols are thinner than any revolver, even the S&W "J" frame series with their five-shot cylinders, and thus easier to conceal.

Unfortunately, in the past, pocket pistols were limited to little more than the .380 ACP (9mm Kurz) cartridge. To date, the most effective ammunition in this caliber is the Hornady 90-grain XTP Jacketed Hollow Point

(JHP). With a muzzle velocity of about 1,000 fps, this bullet will penetrate about 10.5 inches of soft tissue while expanding from .42 to .45 caliber.

The most effective 9mm Parabellum ammunition (147-grain JHPs like the Federal Hydra-Shok, Winchester Black Talon and CCI Gold Dot) will penetrate from 12.5 to 18 inches of soft tissue while expanding anywhere from .54 to .69 caliber.

Remember, we want a minimum penetration of about 12 inches. Once we achieve that goal, the bullet that makes the biggest hole does the most damage. Thus, a really compact, reliable pistol chambered for the 9mm Parabellum round is to be preferred over any similar-sized envelope containing the .32 ACP, .380 ACP or 9mm Makarov rounds.

Selecting a compact nine is not an

easy task. Gun magazines are of no help as their survey articles on generic topics do no more than puff every product mentioned. A good place to start is with a manufacturer whose products have demonstrated superiority, both in the past and currently.

South Africa's Lyttelton *Ingenieurswerke* (Afrikaans for Engineering Works) — or "LIW" as it is now referred to — has a proven track record in the defense industry. They produce the Z88 and SP1 9mm Parabellum pistols, the new SP2 .40 S&W pistol, the R4 rifles series, the SS-77 caliber 7.62x51mm GPMG, a new 5.56x45mm Squad Automatic based upon the SS-77, several different 20mm automatic cannons, the G5 towed and G6 self-propelled 155mm artillery, a 35mm computerized anti-aircraft cannon system, the Rooikat



South African CP1 is not only eye-appealing, but exhibits human engineering at its small arms zenith. Note location of manual safety in the front end portion of the trigger guard. Photo: Peter G. Kokalis

Armored Fighting Vehicle, mortars of all types and numerous other defense products.



CP1 front sight is adjustable for windage. Fixed, open square-notch rear sight is part of the slide casting. Photo: Peter G. Kokalis

This highly regarded company has just introduced what I personally feel is the slickest-looking compact nine ever designed. Called the CP1 (Compact Pistol 1), its attractive and unique frame and slide configuration is the result of a complex design process between LIW and Pentagraph, an internationally respected and well-known industrial design firm. These graphic, product and environmental design consultants, together with input from consumers, were commissioned to create the pistol's exterior envelope. The final result is not only eye-catching, but exhibits human engineering at its small-arms zenith. Thoroughly unconventional in appearance, here's a pistol that literally fits your hand like a glove and almost instinctively comes right up on target every time it's presented.

The CP1 has a polymer frame and a black stainless steel slide. The slide is an investment casting with a nitrite finish called "QPQ" — both highly scratch and corrosion resistant. Resistance to oxidation is an important criterion for deep-concealment weaponry.

Both the front and back strap areas of the frame have a pebble-grain textured surface that provides just enough gripping adhesion without inhibiting the shooter from shifting his grip, if required.

The CP1 operates by means of gas-retarded blowback in a manner similar to the Heckler & Koch P7 series pistols. This operating principle was

first employed in the World War II-era German *Volksturm*gewehr (People's Assault Rifle — VG1-5) and in an experimental Swiss pistol developed by Eidgenossische Waffenfabrik, Bern. Much later, it was also used to operate the now almost forgotten Steyr-Daimler-Puch 9mm Parabellum GB pistol.

Most often, gas pressure is used to unlock and open a firearm's action. Reversing this principle, the LIW project engineers have used a gas-actuated piston to hold the breech closed until chamber pressures drop to a safe level. After the cartridge is fired, gases are diverted into a cylinder below the barrel. Acting upon a hinged piston attached to the front of the slide, the propellant gases retard rearward movement of the slide. This system eliminates the requirement for a locking mechanism, permitting a lightweight slide, less powerful recoil spring and fixed barrel (pinned to the gas block).

Because the CP1 is much lighter than the H&K P7, a larger gas port is required. The CP1's gas port measures 2mm in diameter, while that of the P7 is only 0.9mm. The gas piston is nickel plated, a process more chip-resistant than hard chrome, and is pinned to the slide.

Overall length of the CP1 is 6.9 inches (176mm). Height with the standard magazine is 5.5 inches (139mm) and with the compact magazine only 5 inches (128mm). Width at the thick-

est point (the grip area of the frame) is 1.1 inches (28mm). The weight, empty, with the standard magazine is 24.7 ounces (700 grams) and 24.3 ounces (690 grams) with the compact magazine.

The polygonal-rifled barrel is 3.9 inches (99mm) in length and is fabricated from stainless steel. Polygonal rifling seals propellant gases behind the bullet and increases barrel life. CP1 barrels have four-groove rifling with a right-hand twist of one turn in 9.85 inches (254mm). This is the rate of twist most commonly found on 9mm Parabellum barrels. However, this is of academic interest only. Because of the short ranges at which handguns are employed (which doesn't allow proper stabilization of the bullet — pistol bullets being closer to round balls than to boat-tail rifle projectiles), the launching platform's extremely short sight radius and the inherent shakiness of the operator's hands, the rifling's rate of twist becomes an insignificant factor in the pistol accuracy equation.

This single-action pistol has an internal hammer with a torsion spring and a half-cock notch in the event the weapon is dropped. The spring-loaded hammer is cocked when the slide moves rearward. When the trigger is pulled, the trigger bar moves backward to trip the sear (which projects



CP1 exhibits somewhat less muzzle jump than would be expected from a 24-ounce pistol chambered for the 9mm Parabellum cartridge. Photo: Peter G. Kokalis

out of the right side of the hammer housing) and release the hammer. Consisting of only seven parts, the modular hammer assembly is compact and simple. It can be removed by driving out its retaining pin in the frame. The fixed ejector is attached

to the hammer assembly.

The barrel and gas block assembly, held in place by grooves on the polymer frame, can also be removed. The magazine hold-open device is attached to the left side of the gas block. Activated by a step in the magazine follower, the hold-open mechanism is spring-loaded. In the pocket pistol style, the hold-open has no external slide-stop lever on the frame. Once caught rearward, the slide can travel forward again only after the empty magazine has been removed and/or a loaded magazine has been inserted and the slide has been manually retracted slightly to the rear before permitting it to fly forward.

More unconventional for a small pistol of this type is the manual safety, which is located in the front portion of the trigger guard and blocks a safety plate connected to the trigger. Color coded red, as is the trigger safety, the safety is pushed forward with the front of the trigger finger to enable the pistol to fire. Placing the pistol in a holster will push the safety back into the *safe* position.

Pressing the red trigger safety (cosmetically reminiscent of the Glock's) in the center of the trigger draws a spring-loaded pin on the left side of the trigger inward to permit the trigger's rearward travel.

The CP1 trigger bar is spring-loaded. When the slide is open, the trigger bar is forced down by an integral cam on its upper surface and is thus disconnected from the sear. Furthermore, the hammer cannot go forward unless the slide is in battery, as it will otherwise impinge on the feed bar (an integral part of the breech block). Premature ignition is impossible with this system.

The manual safety is also employed to disassemble the CP1. After removing the magazine and clearing the chamber, press inward on the safety (spring-loaded when pressed past the *safe* position) while retracting the slide fully rearward and then upward to separate it from the frame. Withdrawing the recoil spring from around the barrel is the only other disassembly step required. Remove carbon fouling from the piston and the gas cylinder (which is directly under the barrel). After cleaning and lubricating the other components in the normal manner, reassemble in the reverse order.

There are two different magazines

CP1 SPECIFICATIONS

- Caliber:**9mm Parabellum.
- Operation:**Gas-retarded blowback — gas-actuated piston holds breech closed until chamber pressures drop to a safe level.
- Feed:**12- and 13-round, detachable, staggered-column, box-type magazines with magazine floor plates curved to match the contour of the frame.
- Weight, with empty magazine:**24.7 ounces (700 grams), with standard magazine; 24.3 ounces (690) grams, with compact magazine.
- Length, overall:**6.9 inches (176mm).
- Height:**5.5 inches (139mm), with standard magazine; 5 inches (128mm), with compact magazine.
- Thickness:**1.1 inches (28mm) in the grip frame area.
- Barrel:**Four-groove polygonal rifling with a right-hand twist of one turn in 9.85 inches (254mm).
- Barrel length:**3.9 inches (99mm).
- Sights:**Blade-type front sight, adjustable for windage zero by drifting in its dovetail in the slide; fixed, open square-notch rear sight which is an integral part of the slide casting.
- Finish:**Black, nitrite-finish stainless steel slide and black polymer frame.
- Manufacturer:**LIW, Dept. SOF, 368 Selborne Ave., Lyttelton, P.O. Box 7710, Pretoria 0001, Republic of South Africa; phone: 27-12-620-2103, fax: 27-12-620-2407.
- T&E summary:**Exhibits human engineering at its small arms zenith. Fixed barrel enhances accuracy potential. Reliably feeds all modern JHP bullet configurations. Designed for concealed carry. Small envelope with more effective chambering than traditional pocket pistol calibers.



CP1 fieldstripped, with both standard and compact magazines. Photo: courtesy LIW

for the CP1. The standard magazine holds 13 rounds and the compact variant has a 12-round capacity. The bodies are fabricated from stamped sheet-metal pressings. Both the followers and floor plates are made of polymer. The magazine floor plates are curved to match the contour of the frame. These magazines are incredibly simple to disassemble (something John Moses Browning forgot about when he designed the M1911 magazine). Simply press inward on the floor plate's integral polymer projections that protrude through a slot on each side of the magazine body and withdraw the floor plate.

Located on the left side of the frame to the bottom rear of the trigger guard, the magazine catch/release is almost flush-mounted, yet easy to depress. It



CP1 with compact 12-round magazine (right side view). Note that the unconventional appearing magazine catch/release can be moved to either side of the frame. Photo: courtesy LIW

has a spring rod in the manner of the Glock, with the added advantage that it can be used with the catch/release button moved to the right side of the frame. When released, empty magazines fall freely out of the magazine well.

There is a feed ramp on both the gas block and integral barrel collar. The CP1 has been designed to reliably feed all modern JHP ammunition and *Soldier of Fortune's* test and evaluation indicated this to be so.

The fixed, open square-notch rear sight is an integral part of the slide casting. A blade-type front sight has been attached by means of a dovetail in the slide. It can be adjusted for windage zero by loosening the grab screw that locks it onto the slide. Sight radius is 5.4 inches (136mm).

The extractor, retained by a conventional spring and plunger, is located at the rear of the ejection port on the right side of the slide.

During test firing sequences, the CP1 exhibited somewhat less muzzle jump than would be expected from a 24-ounce pistol chambered for the 9mm

Parabellum cartridge. There were no stoppages at any time during *SOF's* test and evaluation of this firearm.



CP1 with standard 13-round magazine (left side view). Note red color coding of manual and trigger safeties. Photo: courtesy LIW

Accuracy was at the level required for the anticipated use. This is not a target or hunting pistol. The vast majority of gun-fights involving handguns occur at distances less than 7 meters. The target is bobbing and weaving and the shooter is under intense stress. Firing for maxi-

Those addicted to placing the index finger of the support hand on the front of the trigger guard will not be able to apply this nonsense to CP1 because of the location of its manual safety. This useless technique only serves to weaken the support arm's isometric pull inward when firing from the Weaver stance.

Another brilliant and innovative design from a company whose string of successes appears to be unending, the CP1 is issued with a plastic storage box and one of each of the two types of magazines.

LIW has now provided law enforcement agencies and military organizations throughout the world with a superior replacement for their less effective PPKs and Makarovs and a more concealable pistol than the majority of handguns chambered for the 9mm Parabellum cartridge. ✕

mum theoretical accuracy from a Ransom Rest does not approach a realistic simulation of this scenario.

Because human engineering was a salient feature of the envelope's design, target acquisition times during drawstroke sequences were noticeably lower when compared to pistols of more conventional configuration, such as LIW's Z88 or SP1/2 series.



Top: While the CP1's barrel does not move during the recoil cycle, the barrel and gas block to which it is pinned can easily be removed from the frame. Bottom: CP1 gas piston is hinged and attached to the front of the slide. Photo: courtesy LIW

Muslim Fanatics Slaughtered By The Thousands In Southern Sudan

“We Kill Them Like Sheep”

Text & Photos by Rob Krott

It's only 97 clicks from the runway in Juba, the Khartoum government's Antonov bomber base, to the village of Pageri. Weeks earlier the government attacked this civilian target by rolling 50kg bombs off the back ramps of their aircraft. I was surveying the damage with two combat photojournalists fresh from Somalia, Gilluame Bonn and Marc Dominic Cunningham-Reid II.

“They hit this place pretty good. Why can't they hit any SPLA (Sudanese People's Liberation Army) positions?” Dominic asked. I was reminded of the terror bombing of another civilian target a few weeks earlier, the Catholic mission at Chukudum (see “Land Without Mercy — War Without End,” *SOF* Aug. '94).

The three of us were heading north from Nimule toward Juba to witness the ongoing National Islamic Front (NIF) offensive. We passed through a countryside devastated by decades of conflict and neglect. Scattered about was the detritus of war and famine: expended cartridge cases, empty vials of injectable meds, spilled sorghum and empty grain sacks — from which troops make sandbags, field packs and web gear. A few SPLA guerrillas dressed in rags wandered about listlessly, many looking like AIDS victims, one sniffle away from a casket.

We were riding with an SPLA unit to meet up with Commander Oyay Deng Ajak, Sendru Hills AO commander. A 10-year combat veteran and one of the ablest and most successful SPLA commanders, Ajak is sent to whichever section of the front is hot.

We linked up with Ajak and continued north toward the front. I was impressed with his intellectual bent; he's extremely well read on socio-political and military affairs. When asked how the war was going he seemed unconcerned about the NIF offensive and commented on SPLA strategy, “We'll take Kapoeta, Torit and Juba this year. We're not concerned with losing small towns. We know we'll take this territory. There is no solution, no end to this war except to take our territory and rule ourselves.”

As I'd noticed in the Didinga Hills, the SPLA is well equipped. They are either the rag-tag conventional army of New Sudan, or a well organized, well equipped guerrilla force. According to Ajak, “In 1991-92 our major problem was a lack of munitions.” Now the SPLA has sufficient stocks of captured ordnance and receives supplies from friendly African nations. Ajak continued, “Our major problem now is supplying our outlying outposts. We need transport.



Khartoum victims of human wave tactics fall prey to unrelenting sun, vultures, dogs, and SPLA scavengers looking for uniforms. Thousands have been killed in ill-conceived headlong charges at dug-in machine gun positions.

We also need heavy weapons and especially SAMs, which we were getting from Mengistu [former president of Ethiopia]. In other areas we can continue our light infantry guerrilla tactics, because of the terrain.”

Human Waves

When we arrived at the Sendru Hills AO, Ajak showed us hundreds of SPLA dug in among towering outcrops of boulders, defending a blocking position 20km south of Juba across the only road from Nimule into the city. This high-speed avenue of approach, a rutted and poorly maintained single dirt track, is guarded by Ajak's light infantry with old RPD light machine guns, a few RPG-7s, a venerable old 82mm recoilless rifle, and Ajak's only armor, two captured T-55 tanks. The recoilless has knocked out one NIF T-55 and disabled two others.

The troops keep watch for the next human wave attack. I've seen the grim vestiges of these fruitless assaults, resembling over-the-top charges. The sun-bleached bones of Khartoum dead



Kalashnikov and moved forward with two guerrillas for a look-see. We had fun peering from behind a boulder and looking into enemy positions only 200 to 300 meters away, well within small arms range. I could hear NIF soldiers talking above the idling tank.

Although we were within spitting distance, it was actually safer up on the line, dug into the rocks and caves, than back at Sendru base 4km to the rear. There, bivouacked in thatch huts and threatened daily by Antonov and MiG attacks, and incoming rocket fire, you have to sprint to the dugouts, slit trenches and bunkers. At least up on the line you can hear the “cough” of the incoming mortars.

I found 7.62x51mm NATO rounds with Arabic headstamps lying in piles by some older remains, left after pockets were emptied and equipment and uniforms stripped from the bodies. Most SPLA wear “captured” uniforms — well laundered and bullet holes patched. The rounds hadn’t been scavenged by the guerrillas who apparently have ample supplies of 7.62x51mm for their few captured H&K G-3s.

Taking Tea At The Front

The next day while at the front positions I was standing to the left of a 12.7mm DShK heavy machine gun when, Ka-Bam! There was a loud report from the enemy opposite us and an incoming round from a 12.7mm streaked over my head. Fortunately, the gun must have jammed because only a solitary round came my way. I jumped down behind our machine gun and we all had a nervous laugh.

Further along the ridgeline we received more automatic weapons fire.



SPLA has sufficient supplies of captured stocks and donations from “friendly” nations to fight on for years. Motor transport and SAMs, however, are desperately needed and hamstringing offensive operations.

litter the killing ground — stark reminders of the fatal sum of a combat equation containing poorly trained, charging fanatical religious conscripts on one side, and the muzzles of dug-in automatic weapons on the other. Sun-blackened corpses lie on the open ground where they were cut down, providing food for vultures and carrion dogs.

Ajak, disgusted with slaughtering such cannon fodder, said, “When they

ribbon.”

NIF officers are likewise poorly trained and lack experience. Khartoum purged its best officers and tactical commanders, and most professionals have defected to the SPLA. In Ajak’s opinion a soldier should receive six to nine months of training.

Ajak let me tour the front line. Sitting in the shelter of the rocks I could hear the starter grind on a nearby NIF T-55. I grabbed my borrowed

hit us with rocket and mortar fire we just lay down and wait for their advance. We’re facing mostly these students conscripted from high schools and universities, civilians in uniform with only two or three weeks of training. They’re issued a rifle, a Koran and a ‘key to paradise’



Sendru AO commander Ajak surveys NIF avenue of approach from B-10 82mm recoilless rifle position. SPLA has exploited its commanding terrain, well-stocked reserves and poor NIF tactics to inflict serious damage on Khartoum government’s units around Juba.

BATTLING TO GET TO THE BATTLE

The only way to link up with SPLA forces facing the NIF offensive south of Juba from the Didinga Hills was to leave Sudan all together. I flew from Kenya to Uganda, landing at Entebbe and experiencing a bit of a thrill stepping onto the tarmac with my Israeli Para's mapcase. It took two days travel via Nissan bus to Gulu, last stop south of the Sudan.

The situation "upcountry" in northern Uganda is intense. President Yoweri Museveni issued a surrender ultimatum to Joseph Kony and the bush rebels: One week or we come and get you. The ultimatum to Kony's Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) ran out the day I entered the AO. Great timing.

The LRA AO is the heavily forested Acholi tribal area from Gulu, north to the Ugandan border. Rasta-haired, dirty and dressed in rags the rebels hijack and rob civilian vehicles for clothes, money and food. Even relief organization and NGO vehicles are frequently stopped and robbed.

Teenage boys are pressed into the rebel ranks and sent to bush guerrilla camps for training and indoctrination.

The local troops I saw enroute to Gulu wore a hodgepodge of uniforms. One soldier carried a poorly maintained AKM with its barrel plugged with dried mud. Slings were often made of rags, and the sole magazine dented, the bottom caked with mud. The mud on the bottom of the magazines indicates that the soldiers are shoving them into the ground and then using the top of their AKM receiver as chairs — a fairly common practice among poorly trained conscripts in the Third World.

By contrast, three troopies I joked-n-smoked with outside the Acholi Inn in Gulu were well equipped with woodland pattern camouflage uniforms, decent looking leather boots and serviceable web gear. The

NCOIC, armed with an FN 5.56mm Minimi light machine gun, had a belt of 5.56mm crisscrossing his chest, Frito bandito style. He gasped in disbelief when I told him that privates in the U.S. Army carried the SAW. In Uganda only junior NCOs are competent and literate enough to use anything more technologically complex than a Kalashnikov, the universal peasant rifle.

These guys were recently transferred from Kampala. "Professional" units had been shipped in during the past week in preparation of the ultimatum. The troop reinforcement was also convenient should the Sudanese government offensive succeed in pushing the SPLA back to the Ugandan border.

They snapped to attention as a civilian in a blue cotton safari-leisure suit appeared, some type of government official. After he passed, as with most troopies worldwide, the conversation returned to weapons, whiskey and women.

The next day I caught a ride north with the relief convoy. Rebels had recently stopped a Catholic Relief Services (CRS) vehicle and robbed the Kenyans of their clothes. They left the field representative, Todd Cornett of Eugene, Oregon, his clothes, but took his money. He was thrown face down on the road and a Kalashnikov muzzle jammed against his skull.

I found out later that two civilian vehicles 20 minutes behind us were ambushed by rebels. Eight were killed and several wounded, a typical scenario in the bush. The next week, while I was in the Sudan, a government official's Land Cruiser and military escort were blown away by an RPG. I hope it wasn't my buddies and the guy in the blue leisure suit.

— R. K.

Ajak and his staff continued on, leaving me beside another 12.7mm gunner.

The 1st Brigade "Commando" CO, Assistant Commander Deng Kuat Nyang ran over and gave the order to open fire. I frantically jammed in my ear plugs and snapped my pistol belt. The 12.7mm really gave them hell. Dust was flying and the air was thick with cordite fumes. My eyes burned and I blinked back tears and stifled a cough as I helped feed links.

We'd given any dozing *jellaba* (recruits) their morning wake-up call. The

reply was intense: 12.7mm and 14.5mm machine gun fire, and the distinctive ripping from a dozen or so RPDs, an obsolete belt-fed Soviet 7.62x39mm light machine gun. Rounds impacted around our position and smacked against the granite behind me. I suddenly realized how exposed this position was. My gunner fired back burst after burst, his face locked into a leering grimace.

The incoming was getting too thick not to be in a hole somewhere. Nyang yelled at me to follow him. There wasn't enough room on the hilltop for all of us and we were the odd guys out in a dangerous game of musical foxholes.

As we started down the backside of the hilltop we heard the first unmistakable toy freight train rattle-rattle of incoming rockets. Everyone flashed each other that "oh shit" look and double-timed up the forward slope of the next hill where Ajak and his staff were beginning to orchestrate the battle. As I rounded the bend of a large boulder, flinging myself down into the safety of a rocky crevice, Dom looked at me and yelled, "Rob, what the hell did you start back there?"

BM-21 rockets began impacting 100 to 200 meters to our front. The fire let up a moment and suddenly Ajak's orderly appeared with a tray of steaming tea mugs. This was the first time I ever sat in the open, sipped tea and watched rockets smack into my own lines. The secret is to sit the tea down as you hear the rocket come in and then flinch. Fifteen minutes into the exchange — though it seemed like an hour — Ajak called for 120mm mortar support. He spotted the rounds himself and sent them in on the *jellaba* headquarters. Then he worked over a poorly camouflaged T-55 tank — the same one that was idling the day before. After the mortars hit, the *jellaba* knocked off the firing for a while to rinse out their underwear.

They Die In Thousands

This brief but heavy exchange was just a taste of what was to come. Dom and Guillaume were about to get blooded as combat photographers when 45 minutes later an even more intense rocket bombardment began, sending us scuttling for cover. We were pinned down for two hours.

Over the rattle of small arms fire and the whoosh of incoming, Ajak



Lacking the precision necessary to hit military targets, Khartoum bombers hit civilian centers by rolling 50kg bombs off back ramp of aircraft. Pageri is latest ghost town in terror campaign.



SPLA Chief of Staff Salva Mayardit holds captured NIF banner. Khartoum purged its best officers and new NIF conscripts receive only few weeks training before “they are sent from the north to die in the south.”

said, “It’s not tactics ... it’s a bullfight ... trying to push through ... just, go, go, go!” He discussed previous ground troop assaults, “We kept repulsing their attacks and they kept coming back. These ‘mujahideen’ they come in thousands and they die in thousands. They’re stupid. We kill them like sheep.”

I asked Ajak if he took any prison-

ers in the previous week’s fighting. “No,” he replied, “the mujahideen, they don’t surrender. We haven’t been able to capture any. We do have many prisoners, but that’s from before a POW we had was killed in Pageri during the bombing.” How convenient for the SPLA, who aren’t disposed toward taking POWs and

then having to feed them.

“Using this route it’s impossible for them, unless we withdraw.” Oyay smiled slightly as he said this. The meaning was clear — Withdraw? Not bloody likely.

Despite the fact his command faces a fanatical force of light infantry supported by seven 120mm mortars, seven 107mm MRLS, two BM-21

section of the line occasionally flinched and ducked for cover. Junior officers, full of bravado, stood partially exposed, exchanging grins at each near miss — the Sudanese version of playing chicken with the family car. These guys were motivated, enjoying every minute of the exchange, confident they were inflicting damage or at least further demoralizing the poorly trained conscripts “sent from the north to die in the south.”



SPLA trooper has no idea who Rambo is. Grateful for any clothing, most SPLA uniforms are taken from dead — well washed with bullet holes patched.



SPLA provides morning wake up calls for NIF with crew served weapons such as this 12.7mm heavy machine gun. Tit-for-tat return fire often escalates into hour-long rocket and mortar duels.



Machine gunner mans position with PKM light machine gun. Subject to incessant bombing and rocket attacks, Sendru Hills base is more dangerous than nearly impregnable front line.

MRLS, several 82mm mortars, and three or four T-55 tanks, his position is practically impregnable. The valley and road, nearly devoid of cover and concealment, are now heavily mined. Attacking across open ground, the NIF are enfiladed from the surrounding hilltops and rocky crags. The hills offer commanding fields of fire over the AO. The NIF attack here has stalled, so they’ve begun to concentrate on another front in the direction of Kit. The guerrilla soldiers manning this

As enemy rockets continued to slam into the nearby hillside 150 meters away, Ajak began calling in counter-battery fire. Perched behind a flat-sided neck-high boulder, he used binoculars to spot targets for his artillery, shouting commands over his shoulder for the radio operators safely ensconced in a crevice.

Drop Five Zero, Fire For Effect

After the first six rounds of rocket fire the enemy got serious. A smoke round exploded. When I mentioned this, an SPLA officer said, “No, it’s a dud.” Unfortunately, I’d watched the rocket strike, heard the BANG, and watched a sizable plume of white smoke appear: spotter round. I said to Dom, “We’re about to really catch shit now.”

I was hoping the enemy FOs wouldn’t walk the rounds in on top of us. The next round was HE, on target

Continued on page 67

No Time For Heroes

Vietnamese Pilot Shot Down By State Dept. Red Tape

Text & Photo by
James L. Pate

If South Vietnamese air force Major Quy Nguyen An had been as ponderous and persnickety as the U.S. State Department, four more American names would be chiseled into The Wall. And we'd have one less hero to cherish in a world that needs all the heroes it can find.

Even a blind hog can find an acorn once in a while, but the State Department's striped-pants set isn't always as astute. While tripping over each other in the headlong rush to re-establish diplomatic relations with Vietnam's communist government, they vacillate in deciding whether An

ciation and the Vietnamese Air Force Veterans Association of Colorado. His appearance is part of a nationwide campaign, spearheaded by retired U.S. Air Force Colonel Noboru Masuoka of Sunnyvale, California, to generate enough public pressure to compel the State Department to do the right thing. You be the judge.

Major An's moments of glory were many during the Vietnam War — as were his rescues of U.S. military personnel — but the most momentous took place on 17 January 1969. Then a captain, An was flight leader and aircraft commander in a combined

operation to insert U.S. Special Forces teams into a target-rich environment near the Ho Chi Minh trail in Laos.

As one of the outstanding pilots in an elite Kingbee Squadron (219th Squadron, 41st Wing, Vietnamese air force), An's mission was to insert a Green Beret team into a bomb-crater LZ. Hovering above, An saw a UH-1H "Ghost rider" Huey hit by sev-

eral 37mm anti-aircraft rounds soon after dropping off its Green Beret passengers.

"We were hit several times," recalls retired U.S. Army Col. Robert A. Stratiff, then a captain. The Huey was hit "once in the fuel cell, setting us afire, with another [round] sever-

ing our hydraulic lines. We were in a very bad way, searching for a suitable clearing in the [enemy-held] jungle to set down in before we exploded."

An "entered a high-speed dive," Stratiff said. "In what seemed like a split-second, Kingbee Leader took up a position beside us."

Guided by An's H-34 Choctaw, Captain John Liner, the Ghost rider pilot, steered desperately for a clearing. But An saw danger — sharpened tree trunks hidden in 15-foot elephant grass, waiting to impale the ship of any unwary pilot who might set down.

An quickly "maneuvered his ship across our flight path, causing us to veer away from the clearing," Stratiff said. "He vectored us a little farther on" to another clearing. An set his ship down close to the disabled Huey and ordered his crew chief out with a machete, to clear a path through the elephant grass to the burning aircraft. Almost immediately, the makeshift LZ began to draw fire from a nearby enemy held tree line.

Liner's emergency LZ was "a very short distance from the Ho Chi Minh trail," Stratiff recalled. "It was crawling with NVA."

Guided by An's crew chief, Stratiff, Liner and the other two crewmen from the downed American aircraft, Staff Sergeant Ronald King and Private First Class Terry Whitehurst, ran for the safety of An's H-34, its spinning rotors fanning the black smoke of their burning chopper over tossing waves of elephant grass.

"There was never a more welcome sight than to see Major An calmly smoking a cigarette and asking us if we were all right as we climbed aboard his ship," said Stratiff, now a northern Virginia resident. "Amid heavy enemy fire, he lifted us from that jungle



Left to right: Colorado veterans affairs activist and former SF trooper Jim Robertson, Maj. An and SOF Editor/Publisher Robert K. Brown at reception for An sponsored by the Colorado National Guard, U.S. Air Force Association and the Vietnam Air Force Veterans Association of Colorado.

is worthy of the special consideration necessary to prevent his forced return to Ho Chi Minh City — and a probable prison term.

Major An received a hero's welcome in Colorado recently, his appearance sponsored by the Colorado National Guard, the Air Force Asso-

clearing to the safety of the staging area near Dak To," where more than a dozen fresh bullet holes were counted in An's helicopter.

"Major An clearly saved four American lives by displaying extraordinary courage, skill and daring in making this rescue in the middle of a hostile enemy camp," said retired Army Col. Robert Morrison, who recommended An for a Silver Star. (He was ultimately awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.)

"Our relationship with Major An's Kingbee unit was truly unique," Morrison recalled. "Our missions were always at great peril... We all share in the proud profession of soldiering... Few ever exceeded those expectations as did Major An... He has my hand for all my born days."

On learning that An was alive, Liner, now living in Lafayette, Louisiana, said he "always thought he'd been killed" in a later crash.

There was good reason for Liner to think An was probably dead. An was shot down four times in four-and-a-half years. The final time, on 17 September 1970, the fuel cell caught fire and exploded. An's arms were severely burned and had to be amputated below the elbows. He still smokes cigarettes, though, and can eat, write letters and ride a bicycle, with or without his artificial limbs.

South Vietnam ultimately fell and An, as a South Vietnamese air force major and war hero, was arrested by the new communist government and sent to a "re-education camp." An was deemed a "useless" candidate for "re-education" because he lacked arms for forced labor. After nine weeks of captivity, he was turned penniless onto the streets of Saigon.

An eked out a subsistence living by teaching English and mathematics, and growing orchids. But he and his family wanted desperately to leave, to somehow get to the country of so many of his old comrades-in-arms, the United States. His wife and step-daughter fled with many others in a boat. They were never heard from again. An was caught three times trying to escape, which drew a two-year prison sentence.

An and his daughter applied for the Orderly Deportation Program, set up by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to bring South Vietnamese veterans to the United

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States as political refugees.

There's one major piece of red tape for An, though: The INS program requires at least *three years* in a re-education camp.

Thanks to an intense lobbying effort in the San Francisco Bay area led by Masuoka, and key assistance by U.S. Air Force General Charles Horner, An was granted a humanitarian visa. But unless the State Department relents, the 51-year-old An and his 21-year-old daughter must return to Vietnam — and probable imprisonment — by January 1995.

It's not that President Clinton hasn't recognized An's heroism: He sent An a letter of greeting, acknowledging that "over 25 years ago... [sic: Clinton's grasp of Vietnam history is admittedly hazy] you risked your life to save four American pilots. Your bravery and selfless devotion to your fellow man serve as an example for us all..."

Having made that noble pronouncement, Clinton went off to do other noble deeds. In the meantime, while the fate of An and his daughter twist in the winds of bureaucratic indifference, the State Department granted political refugee status to approximately 4,000 *enemy* soldiers who surrendered in Iraq. If that makes sense, you must be getting your drinking water out of the Potomac River.

"An came to the United States... to claim... freedom," said Chanh Duong of Golden, Colorado, a former pilot in the 112th Observation Squadron and later chief intelligence officer for South Vietnam's Third Air Division at Bien Hoa. "But the U.S. government denied his request... He dreamed of a future in the United States... a land of freedom, of opportunity, of prosperity. The denial of residency will destroy his future... Was it worth the risk of his own life to save the lives of four American airmen?"

Let's hope so. In the meantime, U.S. Rep. Norman Y. Mineta of California and Sen. J. Bennett Johnston of Louisiana are studying sponsorship of a private bill that would save An and his daughter from deportation. Write them in care of the U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC 20515; or call them at: 202-224-3121. Tell them it's time the United States government stops turning its back on its friends.

A former SOF staffer, James L. Pate is a frequent contributor. ✕

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COMBAT WEAPONCRAFT

Continued from page 21

less these rules are followed during engagement, unit action stalls around the attempt to extricate casualties, thereby yielding fire-and-movement initiative to the enemy. This effect was observed in approximately one-third of company actions researched.

The database clearly indicates the most effective way to deal with the enemy fighting out of a fortified camp or village is to zap him with the heaviest artillery and tactical air ordnance, not to maneuver against him with infantry only. The "finding" infantry must also carry on as the "fixing" force, leaving the "finishing" to the heavy weapons that can both kill men and batter down protective works.

If overextension is to be avoided, the sealing-in of the position cannot be assigned to the unit that has initiated the action. The sealing-in is higher command's problem. Additional maneuver elements should be dropped to the rear of the position, and if need be the flanks, to block likely escape routes, strike the withdrawing columns, and continue the mop-up once the enemy — realizing the assaulting infantry will not fall victim to his subtle trap — wearies of the punishment. How far these reaction deployments are spread depends on the topography, availability of natural cover, and all else connected with the enemy's ability to vanish into the landscape and our chance of cornering him before he does so. ✕

KILLING FIELDS

Continued from page 53

the KR are changing. Several members of the old guard power elite have fallen out of grace and been replaced by younger faces. In November 1992 the KR announced formation of the Great National Union Party (GNUP), headed by 10 intellectuals. These leaders are known as

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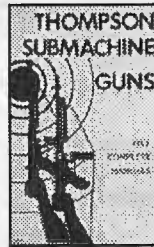
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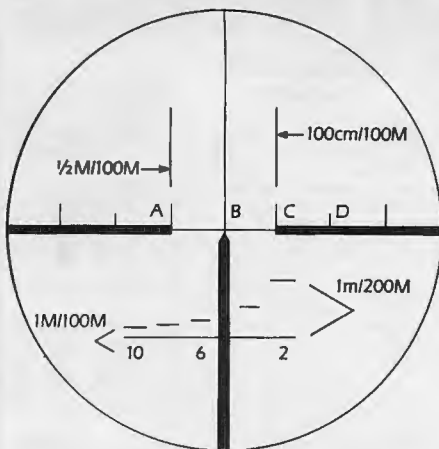
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technocrats, not hard-liners. Dismissed by many as a front organization, GNUP has been steadily gaining power and influence and may be the KR's first attempt to transform itself from a guerrilla army into a legitimate political party.

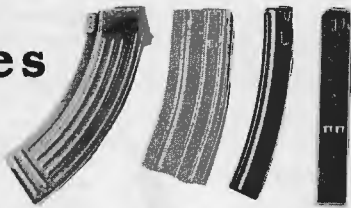
On the tooth-rattling trip back from Pailin to Battambang I began to hope that General Saroeun and his troops would hold Pailin through the rainy season. If they do, they would administer a blow to Khmer Rouge prestige and power, moving them closer to the negotiating table. In a climate of peace and reduced military expenditures, rebuilding Cambodia could proceed at more than its current snail's pace. The Cambodian government has offered amnesty to all KR who will lay down their arms, and many have even been given government and military jobs. Cambodia needs peace. And, as I reflected on the eight-and-a-half hour spine-shattering ride from Battambang back to Phnom Penh, Cambodia could also use a good asphalt and paving company.

Contributing Editor for Unconventional Operations, Maj. Robert MacKenzie is a veteran of the Rhodesian SAS, U.S. Army, South African and Transkei defense forces.

Shortly after SOF left Cambodia, the army announced its next objective would be Phnom Malai, 80km north of Pailin and reportedly the last guerrilla stronghold. However, in early April, the government's hold on Pailin became tenuous as the Khmer Rouge began blocking resupply efforts and stepped up attacks on remote villages along the Thai border. Under heavy pressure, government forces withdrew from Pailin on 19 April in the face of a major KR offensive. Pailin is in KR hands as of this writing but government proclaimed in mid-June that it could retake the town whenever it wanted.

Government hopes for peace talks with a defeated and weakened opponent have dissolved. Guerrillas claimed to have captured village after village while government forces scrambled to regroup and keep open major highways. ☒

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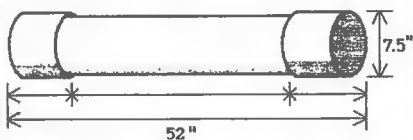
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SOUTHERN SUDAN

Continued from page 61

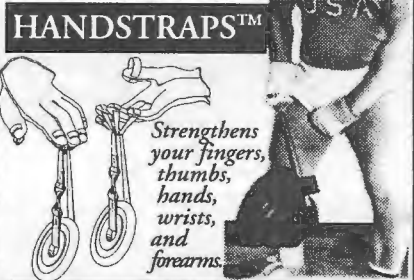
with the marker round about 100 to 150 meters from us. I saw the flash of the third round's impact. Frags bounced off the tree in front of me. The fourth round popped my ears. The bastards dropped another 50 and we took a lot of shrapnel from the next salvo. More frags hit the tree and I was showered with wood chips, branches, leaves and caught a lungful of dust. I coughed up gritty, gray phlegm all day long.

Dom shot a video which (though the Sony HandyCam blinked out a couple of times from the near misses) captured the action, interspersed with my coughing and good old American obscenities. Some of the tape appeared on CNN — minus my soundtrack. As long as we ducked low behind our rock wall and didn't take any ricocheting frags we were OK. We crouched behind the stone, our foreheads pressed against the cool granite in supplication to the god of near misses. Ajak joined us in the hole. We chain-smoked Sportsman cigarettes and ducked every time we heard the telltale rattle of another incoming rocket until the bombardment subsided. Miraculously, no one was injured. The only casualties from the firefight and rocket and mortar exchange were chipped stocks on a few Kalashnikovs and dirty underwear.

Once the arty leveled off we took the opportunity to return to the guerrilla base, where we were sporadically bombed by Antonovs and MiGs for the next two days before departing. During this time I found out that the guerrillas conduct hit-and-run raids on NIF outposts, forcing them to guard their lines of communication to Juba with fortifications every few kilometers. Despite my pleading, Ajak wouldn't let me participate in any raids or ambushes on these outposts. The NIF would get a lot of propaganda if they killed an American and captured his body. "I don't want you to get killed," he said.

"Good," I said. "I don't want me to get killed either." In the Sendru Hills, getting killed is a real possibility.

Rob Krott is a Senior SOF Foreign Correspondent. This is the second part of his Sudan coverage. ✕



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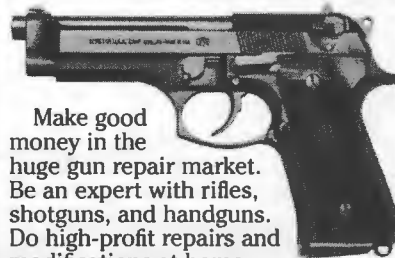
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LZ SUICIDE

Continued from page 49

As we headed back to FOB 1 we took fire from a mountain near the PF AO. Our request to engage was disapproved. My confidence in SOG's sanity was sorely lacking by then.

When we landed back at Mai Loc, FOB 1 was all but empty. There was no one to meet us at the pad as we walked back to the mess hall. Something had happened.

A Kingbee had gone back into the Prairie Fire AO for a third time to lay down booby traps. On the way back out the ship was hit with 37mm anti-aircraft fire and blown out of the sky. From 3,000 feet you don't walk away. Both crew and passengers were killed: Bader, Stacks, Toomey and several others. According to the State Department, they were all listed as missing until five years ago, when a recovery team "positively identified" a few teeth and bone fragments.

We all knew something was very wrong with what had happened. Who decided to leave all that equipment behind on the first mission? Why did we take all the strap hangers? Why go into the same LZ, same flight plan two more times? Why wasn't a Bright Light Team sent in to recover bodies? Whose fault was it? Who's to blame?

We all knew the odds. Everyone who died that day knew what could happen. Trying to figure it out today, after all these years, leads me to only one conclusion: It doesn't matter.

J. L. Junkins is a four-tour Vietnam veteran whose time in-country ended after he broke his back during a helicopter extraction in Laos in 1970. ✕

ABOVE AND BEYOND

Continued from page 45

their position from being overrun by the ever-growing, angry crowd of Somalis. While patrolling their tight perimeter they killed an undetermined number of Somalis probing their position.

Chief Warrant Officer Michael Durant, the lone survivor of the crash,

remembers sitting in the cockpit of his Blackhawk "in some kind of daze," after the crash. Although stunned and a bit confused, Durant was able to talk to his co-pilot, CWO Ray Frank, who had hurt his back and was starting to get out. Durant remembers undoing his shoulder harness and trying to climb out the right side of the cockpit, but a broken right leg prevented him from getting very far.

Durant did not know the condition of the other two crewmen, but remembers seeing one of them face down in the dirt about 10 feet away from him. "He was hurt pretty bad," Durant said, "talking, but not making any sense."

When Gordon and Shughart reached the wreckage, Durant explained that he had broken his right leg and injured his back. "I don't remember hurting, so obviously they were concerned for my well-being when they lifted me up." One of the Delta operators reached inside the cockpit and retrieved Durant's weapon and several ammo magazines.

Durant said he could then hear Gordon and Shughart firing from the left side of the aircraft while he started shooting on the right side. Durant survived the ensuing firefight because of the position the Delta operators put him in.

"It was perfect the way they put me," he said. "There were only two ways anyone could have come in and I had a perfect view of both. I controlled the right side of the aircraft." Unfortunately, Durant soon ran out of ammo. "I heard Randy get shot. He had a unique voice, a distinctive voice."

When Gordon returned to Durant after the skirmish, he brought with him an M16A2 carbine. Since Shughart was the only one who carried such a weapon, it meant that the Delta sniper was badly hurt, or dead.

After his friend and fellow sniper fell, Gordon returned to the wreckage one more time, recovering an M16 rifle and five more rounds of ammunition, which he gave to Durant. Before leaving Durant to defend the right side of the aircraft, Gordon used a survival radio to call for additional aircraft. Durant said Gordon was told a ground reaction force was en route.

"Good luck," whispered Gordon as he once again went out to secure the perimeter, now armed only with his 9mm Beretta.



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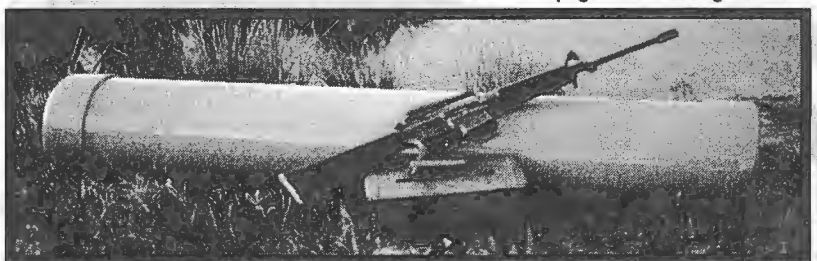
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Once Gordon got hit and went down, the shooting stopped and a mob overran the crash site, beating Durant and stripping him of his flight gear, before parading their prisoner through the streets of Mogadishu.

"Before those guys came in ... they had to know it was a losing battle. There was nobody else left to back them up. They were two guys in the middle of the city in the daytime. You've got a very slim chance of success," Durant said, "but if they had not come in, I would not have survived. I was sitting in the cockpit unable to get out." A day doesn't pass where Durant doesn't remember the sacrifice Gary Gordon and Randall Shughart made on his behalf: "I'm 100% convinced I would have been killed by gunfire if those guys had not been there," Durant said. "Without a doubt, I owe my life to these two men and their bravery."

Precious Delays

"Had it not taken so long for Gordon and Shughart to receive permission from the ground-force commander to be inserted, and had the task force had another CSAR team in

the air," Fales said, "I believe Gordon and Shughart might have gotten Durant and his crew out of there." But the planners who put the mission together did not expect to lose four choppers that day.

Fales, who fought for 15 hours to stay alive at the first crash site before help arrived the next day, said, "What got them was the amount of time they had to stay on the ground."

When Rangers finally reached the crash site, the bodies of the four crewmembers and the two Delta operators were gone. Only the smoldering wreckage of the Blackhawk remained — that and several hundred small arms casings. "I'm sure they made every round count," observed Fales, "because you don't hear automatic weapons fire from SpecOps personnel."

After-action accounts indicate Gordon and Shughart expended all their ammo. While that may sound like they went into a situation unprepared, SF sources say Gordon and Shughart were not there to fight a protracted battle. "They were in there to do a job and get the hell out," according to one Special Forces officer.

Soldiers like Gary Gordon, a fa-

ther who filled notebooks with stories for his two young children, and Randall Shughart, who loved the outdoors and planned to build a log cabin in Montana when he retired, were selected from the ranks of Special Forces to become Delta operators because of their high degree of proven self-reliance. They were not easily rattled and they more than proved it.

So what motivates men to go into situations like the one in Somalia knowing that their chances of survival are extremely bleak? "We do it for each other," noted a veteran SF officer, "We sure don't do it for mom and apple pie."

Why Heroes Died

After the ill-fated raid of 3 October, the Clinton administration was accused of failing to provide adequate support for U.S. troops in Somalia. Flak from key members of Congress caused the president to eventually withdraw all U.S. forces.

"If there are any debates still to be had about our mission in Somalia, let people have those debates where they belong — with the president and policy makers," Clinton said as

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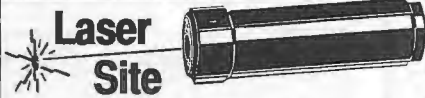
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Gordon's wife, Carmen, handed the mahogany box containing her husband's Medal of Honor to their six-year-old son Ian. "But let there be no debate about the professionalism and the valor of those who served there, and the valor of those who died there. We are proud of what they did. We honor them. We thank them. Their actions were clearly above and beyond the call of duty."

The somber scene that unfolded in the East Room on 23 May 1994 was eerily reminiscent of Medal of Honor presentations in that same room by the late Presidents Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon during the Vietnam War. A total of 238 Medals of Honor were awarded during that war — 150 posthumously. The last Medal of Honor was awarded to the Unknown Soldier of the Vietnam War by President Ronald Reagan on Memorial Day, 1984. No American has been awarded a CMH for action since the Vietnam War.

The SpecOps men I talked to don't have a problem with paying the ultimate price in the national interest. Observed one decorated veteran, "We are cut a lot of slack, because at some point we're going to be asked to give a lot." But this veteran and others in the SpecOps community do have a problem with the administration's "cut and run" policy. "There's too much of this liberal crap of not wanting anybody getting hurt," he observed. "In the real world, people do get hurt, some get killed. That's why it's an honor to serve with men like Gary Gordon and Randall Shughart, who are willing to pay the ultimate price."

Senior SOF Foreign Correspondent Dale B. Cooper has provided first-hand accounts of the American military in action from the Gulf War to Somalia. ✕

DUE PROCESS

Continued from page 37

detective Robert R. Sobel, who headed one of L.A.'s most productive anti-narcotics units in the 1980s, told the newspaper.

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Continued on page 76

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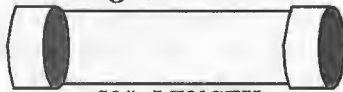
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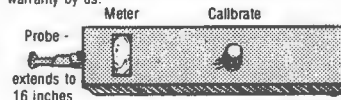
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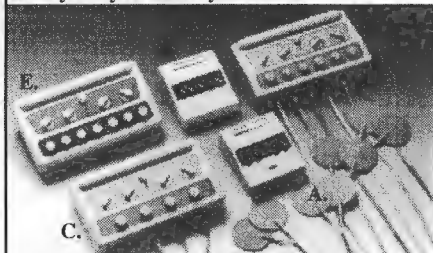
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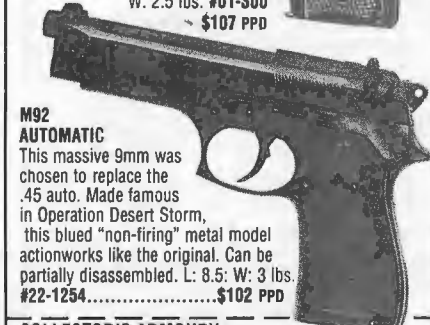
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Continued from page 71

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The fact that the seizing agency gets to keep three-fourths of the value of the property is problematic at best, the newspaper reported, especially when such funds are used to heavily supplement salary and equipment budgets. "Much like a drug addict becomes addicted to drugs, law enforcement agencies have become dependent on asset forfeitures," California Deputy Attorney General Gary Schons said.

The only hope for relief lies with the courts, a prospect that could take decades and cost innocent citizens millions and possibly billions of dollars. Unfortunately, the only immediate hope is with the same myopic group of people who passed the laws that got the nation into this mess: Congress. Two senators, Bob Dole, the minority leader and a Kansas Republican, and Howell Heflin, an Alabama Democrat, have sponsored a bill that would provide limited relief. Other proposals are in the works.

Still, the crisis should have and could have been avoided if Congress did not willingly fan the flames of public hysteria over crime in general and drugs in particular. At least one state judge more than a century ago, ruling on a civil forfeiture case against a former Confederate Army officer, foresaw the massive abuse implied in such supposedly legal circumvention of the Constitution:

"These proceedings may [now] be the engines of punishment to the rebels, but, in the future, they may be[come] the instruments of oppression, injustice and tyranny."

A former SOF staffer, James L. Pate is a frequent contributor on issues of liberty and the constitutionality of government actions. ✕

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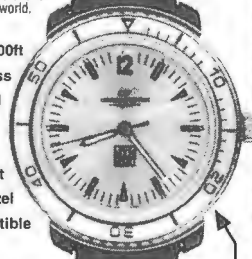


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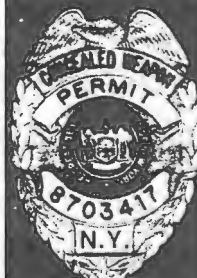
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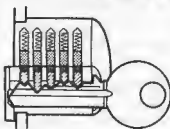
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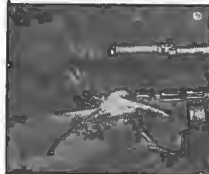
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... Shoveling Shit In Louisiana

Colonel David Hackworth sent along these excerpts from General George S. Patton's speech given in England 29 May 1944 to U.S. troops preparing for the D-Day invasion. Can you imagine any of our so-called leaders, military or civilian, giving a similar speech in the politically correct '90s? We couldn't either.

Men, this stuff we hear about Americans wanting to stay out of this war, not wanting to fight, is a lot of bullshit; Americans love to fight — traditionally. All real Americans love the sting and clash of battle. When you were kids you all admired the champion marble player, the fastest runner, the big league ball players, the toughest boxer. Americans love a winner, and will not tolerate a loser. Americans despise cowards. Americans play to win — all the time. I wouldn't give a hoot in hell for a man who lost and laughed. That's why Americans have never lost, nor ever will lose a war, for the very thought of losing is hateful to Americans.

You are not all going to die. Only two percent of you here, in a major battle, would die. Death must not be feared. Every man is frightened at first in battle. If he says he isn't, he's a goddamn liar. Some men are cowards, yes, but they fight just the same, or get the hell shamed out of them, watching men who

do fight who are just as scared. The real hero is the man who fights even though he is scared. Some get over their fright in a few minutes under fire, some take hours. For some it takes days. But the real man never lets his fear of death overpower his honor, his sense of duty to his country, and his innate manhood.

All through your army career you men have bitched about what you call, "this chicken shit drilling." That is all for a purpose. Drilling and discipline must be maintained in an army, if only for one reason: instant obedience to orders and to create constant alertness. I don't give a damn for a man who is not always on his toes. You men are veterans or you wouldn't be here. You are ready. A man, to continue breathing, must be alert at all times. If not, sometime a German son-of-a-bitch will sneak up behind him and beat him to death with a sock full of shit.

There are 400 neatly marked graves somewhere in Sicily, all because one man went to sleep on his job. But they are German graves, for we caught the bastards asleep before they did ...

My men don't surrender. I don't want to hear of a soldier under my command being captured unless he is hit. Even if you are hit, you can still fight. That's not just bullshit either. The kind of man I

want is like a lieutenant in Libya, who, with a Luger against his chest, jerked off his helmet, swept the gun aside with the other hand, and busted hell out of the enemy with his helmet. Then he jumped on the gun and went out and killed another German. By this time this man had a bullet through his lung. That's a man for you.

All the real heroes are not storybook combat fighters either. Every man in the army plays a vital part. Every little job is essential to the whole scheme. What if every truck driver suddenly decided that he didn't like the whine of those shells and turned yellow and jumped headlong into the ditch? He could say to himself, "They won't miss me — just one guy in thousands." What if every man said that? Where in the hell would we be now?

No, thank God, Americans don't say that. Every man does his job. Every man serves the whole. Every department, every unit, is very important in the vast scheme of things. The ordnance men are needed to supply the guns, the quartermaster to bring up the food and clothes for us — for where we're going there isn't a hell of a lot to steal. Every damn last man in the mess hall, even the one who heats the water to keep us from getting diarrhea, has a job to do. Even the chaplain is important, for if we get

killed, and he was not there to bury us, we'd all go to hell.

Each man must not only think of himself, but think of his buddy fighting beside him. We don't want yellow cowards in this army. They should be killed off like flies. If not they will go back home after the war and breed more cowards. We've got to save the fucking for the fighting men. The brave men will breed more brave men. Kill off the goddamn cowards and we'll have a nation of brave men.

One of the bravest men I saw in the African campaign was one of the fellows I saw on top of a telegraph pole in the midst of a furious fire while we were plowing toward Tunis. I stopped and asked him what the hell he was doing up there at that time. He answered, "fixing the wire, sir."

"Isn't it a little unhealthy right now?" I asked.

"Yes, sir, but this goddamn wire has to be fixed." There was a real soldier. There was a man who devoted his all to his duty, no matter how great the odds, no matter how seemingly insignificant his duty may have seemed at that time ...

Thank God that at least 30 years from now when you are sitting around the fireside with your grandson on your knee, and he asks you what you did in the great World War II, you won't have to say, "I shoveled shit in Louisiana." ✕

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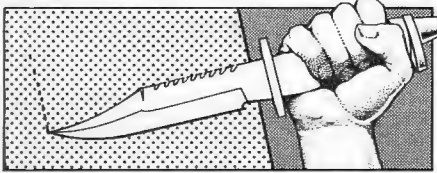
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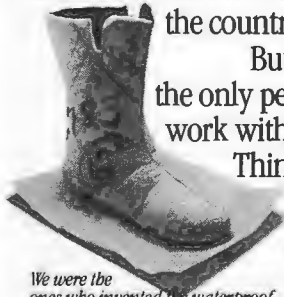
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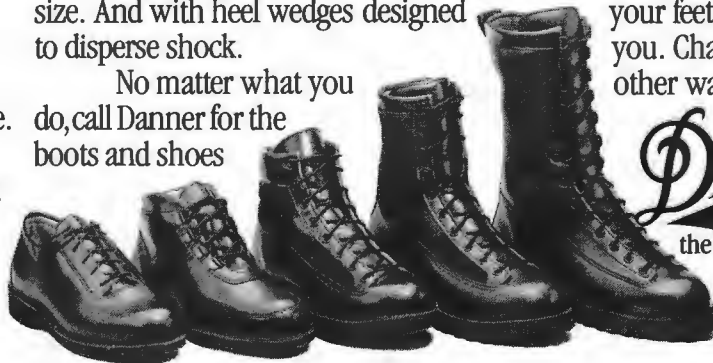
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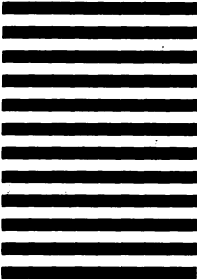
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