

SAVE \$30

DON'T WAIT...

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

- 12 Issues for \$29.95 **SAVE \$30 Off Newsstand**
- 24 Issues for \$46.80 **SAVE \$72 Off Newsstand**

TO USE MC/VISA CALL 1-800-877-5207
INTERNATIONAL 1-815-734-4151 or FAX 1-303-444-5617

Please Check One: Payment Enclosed Bill Me (U.S. & CAN. Only)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____

ZIP/COUNTRY: _____

U.S. Funds Only. Canada add \$10/yr. (Includes GST BN 12847 6249 RT). Other Countries Add \$21/yr.

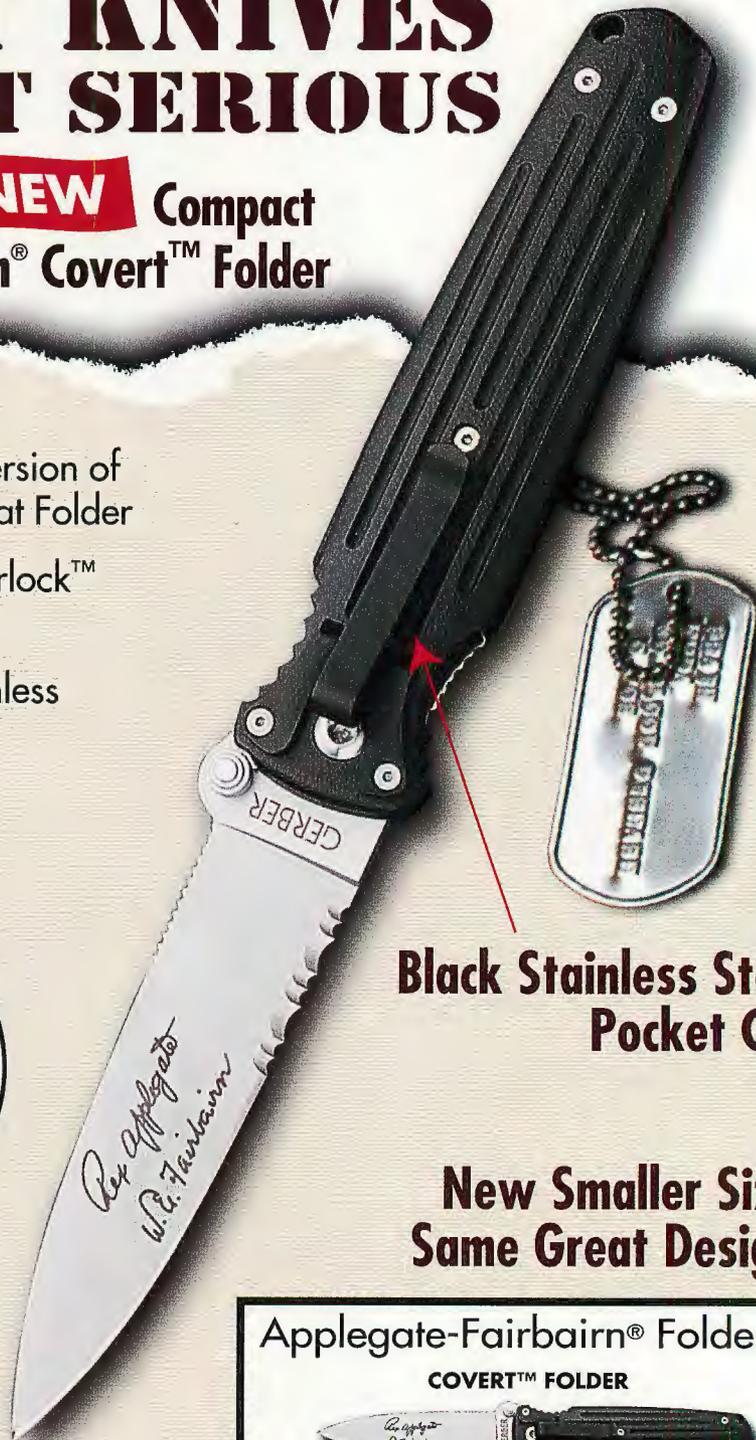
SOI
Soldier Of Fortune
MAGAZINE

B243BI

POCKET KNIVES JUST GOT SERIOUS

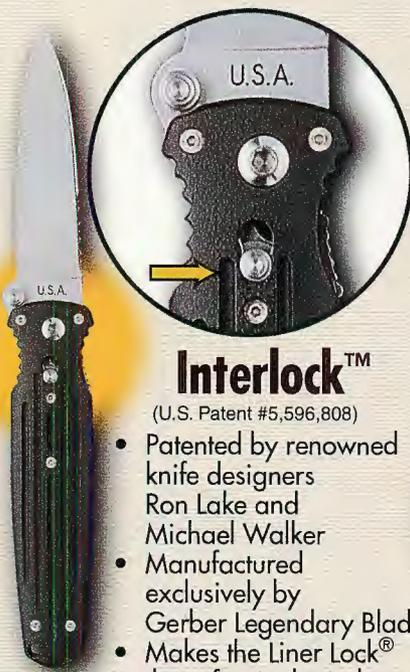
Introducing the **NEW** Compact
Applegate-Fairbairn® Covert™ Folder

- Smaller Folder: 3/4 scale version of Gerber's top-selling Combat Folder
- Liner-Lock® with NEW Interlock™ Manual Safety Lock
- ATS-34 High Carbon Stainless Steel Blade
- Made in the U.S.A.



**Black Stainless Steel
Pocket Clip**

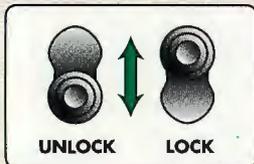
**New Smaller Size,
Same Great Design!**



Interlock™

(U.S. Patent #5,596,808)

- Patented by renowned knife designers Ron Lake and Michael Walker
- Manufactured exclusively by Gerber Legendary Blades
- Makes the Liner Lock® the safest in the industry



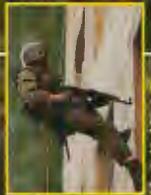
Applegate-Fairbairn® Folders:

COVERT™ FOLDER



COMBAT FOLDER

GERBER®
LEGENDARY BLADES
A Division of Fiskars Inc.



Mark H. Milstein

On the Cover
MOSCOW SWAT. With enough gangstas and street crime to make Al Capone humble, Mark Milstein teams with Moscow's elite to explore that city's volatile underbelly. Story on page

56

SOI

FEATURES

SEAL TEAM TWO

Capt. Larry Bailey, USN (Ret.)

Harry Constance and Bob "Eagle" Gallagher, Vietnam SEAL operators train *chieu hois* into crack commando units to combat the Viet Cong.

30

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF ORDNANCE

Richard L. Sherrow

Togo, in West Africa, serves up an international selection of armaments and munitions as ATF jets over — to investigate possible connections to the U.S.

36

AGAINST ALL ODDS

Dr. Tom Marks

Much akin to the U.S. military's "go-it-alone" dictum during the Vietnam era, Colombia's apathetic civilians appear to be flinging in the towel in that nation's internal war against narco-terrorists.

40

ARMOR ON A SHOESTRING

Steve Salisbury

Despite severe austerity measures, Guatemala's military develops perhaps its toughest ally, the twin machine-gunned *Danto* APC.

46

WHO'S AFRAID OF THE DARK?

Peter G. Kokalis

Recognizing the dangerous disparity of all-daylight defensive firearms training, Thunder Ranch annually schedules an alternative curriculum, where only the light — not the *esprit de corps* — is subdued.

48

PHONE TAG

Neil C. Livingstone & David Halevy

Israeli *Mossad's* resourceful technicians "reach out and touch" Yehiya Ayyash, *Hamas'* "Engineer" of death.

53

MOSCOW SWAT

Mark H. Milstein

OMON ("Police Special Assignment Group") units don't have to sweat Mirandas, nit-picking attorneys and mush-hearted judges. They, indeed, are Russia's "Nasty Boys."

56

MIDDLE-EAST MIND GAMES

Al J. Venter

A risk-saturated Beirut face-to-face with *Hezbollah's* spokesman, Ibrahim Moussawi, amid Israeli hostility, Iranian *mullahs* and Sagger missiles.

60



Dr. Tom Marks

COLUMNS

Command Guidance	4	I Was There	24
Bulletin Board	6	Simbas, Slyphits and Monkey-Meat Sandwiches	
A Day For The Bill of Rights		Adventure Quartermaster	26
World Sitrep	10	New Help For Nuke Naros	
FLAK	12	Supply Depot	73
Down-Hearted Down Under		Classifieds	77
Combat Weaponcraft	18	Advertiser's Index	80
Counting On A Long Shot		Sound Off	82
Slick Willie Watch	20	REMFRACKET	
Peddling Paranoia For Profit			



Richard Sherrow



Al Venter

page 36

page 60

COMMAND GUIDANCE

by Robert K. Brown

Trigger-Happy PR

SOF operatives in the nation's capital report one of the most appalling political blunders seen in recent history. And your gun rights are in the middle of it.

One Richard Feldman — a former state and local lobbyist for the National Rifle Association, who now purports to “represent the firearms industry” through a group called the American Shooting Sports Council — floundered frenetically around Washington during the week of 6 Oct. His frenzy culminated in his ill-advised appearance at the White House on 9 Oct.

Reliable Hill sources have confirmed that Feldman first attempted to persuade Republican leadership to celebrate his announcement, despite his having been part of a group lobbying against the Clinton trigger-lock mandate.

He pitched them hard with the promise of a big media event. He was looking to get “good PR” for a handful of companies that had decided to force their consumers to accept — and pay for — “child safety locking devices” with every new handgun. Most gun owners will remember these devices as trigger locks, which is what everyone called them before they were exalted on the White House altar of spin.

Feldman regurgitated a load of PR 101 nonsense that his clueless consultants had provided. He told the Republicans he was trying to “pre-empt” another Clinton announcement on the topic.

In fact, these well-placed sources now suspect Feldman was coordinating with the White House the whole time. They tell of countless other outright deceptions committed by Feldman during the episode, so coordination seems likely.

There is no question he ran to the enemy. The only question is when? Republican lead-

ers and gun-rights groups were aghast to see Feldman appear at the White House podium in a hastily arranged Rose Garden ceremony at 1030 hours on 9 Oct. The standard backdrop of “bleacher cops” was arranged, and Clinton patted Feldman on the back for voluntarily accepting the very mandate he couldn't get through congress.

This maneuver has wrought disastrous consequences in Republican circles, whose leaders rightly feel double-crossed for working hard to derail the Clinton mandate and then having it shoved down their political throats by Feldman and the White House. But Slick Willie was more than happy to take credit for another “victory for the children.”

And now, the most recent developments on the gun issue have seen the White House handing out favors and special treatment to a few of the companies that participated, even while they continue their relentless quest to strangle the rest of the industry.

As for our gun rights, it remains to be seen just how far the Feldman maneuver has set back the cause. By surrendering their own credibility on firearm safety to the Nanny-in-Chief, these companies have given an enormous boost to the same social-engineering activists who believe guns are the root of a “public health epidemic.”

The various justifications he's put forth are so nonsensical that veteran observers agree he must have another agenda in play. Gun owners should ask Feldman and the American Shooting Sports Council *exactly* what they hoped to accomplish through this hare-brained blunder.

American Shooting Sports Council
(770) 933-0200
assc@compuserve.com ✉



SOLDIER OF FORTUNE (USPS 525-810, ISSN 0145-6784), January 1998, Volume 23, Number 1, is published monthly by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Inc., 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO 80303-1340. Periodicals Postage is paid at Boulder, CO and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, Subscription Department, POB 348, Mt Morris, IL 61054-0348 or call 1-800-877-5207. U.S. and APO-FPO subscription rate for twelve monthly issues \$29.95. Canada add \$10.00/yr. additional postage (includes GST tax registration business number: 12847 6249 RT). All other countries add \$21.00 U.S. FUNDS ONLY. Single Issue Price — U.S.: \$4.95; United Kingdom: £2.60; Canada: \$5.75. PRINTED IN THE USA.

CONTRIBUTORS: Manuscripts, photographs or drawings are submitted at the contributor's own risk. Material should be mailed to Articles Editor, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306, and cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. Any material accepted is subject to such revision as is necessary to meet the editorial requirements of SOF. All manuscripts must be typed double-spaced. All photographs must be credited and be accurately identified. Payment will be made at rates current at time of publication. Editorial office phone number is 303-449-3750.

Copyright © 1997 by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine Inc. All Rights Reserved.

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE

Robert K. Brown

EDITOR/PUBLISHER

MANAGING EDITOR Dwight Swift

SENIOR EDITOR Don McLean

TECHNICAL EDITOR Peter G. Kokalis

NATIONAL AFFAIRS EDITOR James L. Pate

ASSISTANT EDITORS Marty Kufus

Wayne Laugesen

DEPUTY EDITOR Thomas D. Reisinger

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR John Walker

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Kathleen Allard

ART DIRECTOR Bix Bigler

SPECIAL PROJECTS Alexander McColl

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

Chief Foreign Correspondent:

Mark H. Milstein

Senior Foreign Correspondents:

Dale B. Cooper • Peter Douglas
Chuck Fremont • Rob Krott • Dr. Tom Marks
Steve Salisbury • Jack Thompson
Maj. Mike Williams • Mike Winchester

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Africa Al Venter • Aviation Dana Drenkowski
Explosives/Demolitions John Donovan • Forensic Sciences
Richard L. Sherrow • Gulf War Veterans Affairs Bob
Newman • Gun Rights Paul Danish • Latin America Hugo
Hartenstein • Military History William Brooks —
William H. Northacker • Outdoor Affairs Galen Geer
Paramedic Operations Dr. John Peters • Skydiving Kitty
Baran • UDT/SEAL Larry Bailey • Unconventional
Operations Brig. Gen. Heinie Aderholt (Ret.)
— James P. Monaghan
Vietnam Veterans Affairs Col. Chuck Allen (Ret.)



OMEGA GROUP, LTD

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR Gregg Peterson

BOOKKEEPER Carole Hayden

ACCOUNTANT Jenny Howard

CONSULTANT Zada Johnson

ADVERTISING

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR John Walker

SOF WEB SITE: www.sofmag.com
E-MAIL: editor@sofmag.com

FOR EDITORIAL/ADVERTISING, CALL
303-449-3750

SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES CALL,
1-800-877-5207

FOR LIST RENTAL, CALL STATISTICS,
STACIE NESTER: 203-778-8700

IN MEMORIAM

Craig Nunn — Art Director
Lance Motley — Foreign Correspondent
Barry Sadler — Contributing Editor
Robert MacKenzie — Contributing Editor
George Bacon — Foreign Correspondent

NOTICE: *SOLDIER OF FORTUNE* Magazine is a magazine of national and international distribution. There may be products in the magazine of which sale, possession or interstate transportation may be restricted, prohibited or subject to special licensing requirements in your state or nation. Purchasers should consult local law enforcement authorities in their area. All data in this publication, technical or otherwise, are based upon personal experience or individuals using specific tools, products, equipment and components under particular conditions and circumstances, some of which may not be reported in the article and which *Soldier Of Fortune* has not otherwise verified. *Soldier Of Fortune*, its agents, officers and employees disclaim any responsibility for all liability, injuries or damages.

PALADIN PRESS®

BEAT THE BILL COLLECTOR

How to Obtain Freedom from Your Debt

by Max Edison

If you are currently in debt or think you may be someday, you had better be aware of the dreaded debt collection agency. Collection agencies make it their business to hunt you down at work or at home and hound you until you promise to pay all of the money you owe, even if you can't afford to! It can be a humiliating and stressful experience . . . but it doesn't have to be. In **Beat the Bill Collector**, former collector Max Edison reveals what goes on behind closed doors at collection agencies, what makes the typical bullying bill collector tick and the secret tactics and outright lies he'll use to get you to pay up. More importantly, Edison tells you exactly how you can fight back with only one simple sentence, utilize an array of tricks to put you out of reach of these financial snoops or lay down heavy legal firepower if they persist in harassing you and your family. Know your rights. Know the facts. And shut these pocket-picking wolves out of your life for good! 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 80 pp.



\$12.00



BREATH OF DEATH The Blowgun Video with Michael Janich

The blowgun is the ultimate weapon of stealth, delivering a wide variety of projectiles with deadly accuracy and in total silence. This video is a comprehensive guide to this amazing weapon and includes little-known information on buying, constructing, modifying and shooting blowguns. Color, approx. 75 min., VHS only. **\$29.95**



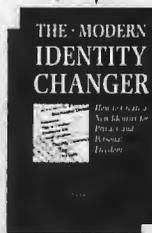
THE ART OF THE RIFLE by Jeff Cooper

"Riflecraft has been completely ignored since World War II," says Jeff Cooper, America's foremost rifle instructor. To remedy this situation, he took it upon himself to set down the fine art of the rifle before it was lost forever. In his no-holds-barred style, Cooper instructs you in everything you need to know about shooting the rifle, while entertaining you with tales of marksmanship, combat and big-game hunting. 8 1/2 x 11, hardcover, photos, 104 pp. **\$29.95**



GUNSITE TACTICAL SHOTGUN 1

This video presents the state-of-the-art in tactical shotgun technique as taught by the prestigious Gunsite Training Center. The master instructors at Gunsite teach you the best tactics and techniques for employing the combat shotgun and cover every aspect of gunhandling, shooting stance, reloading, tactical movement and combat target engagement. Color, approx. 60 min., VHS only. **\$29.95**



THE MODERN IDENTITY CHANGER

How to Create and Use a New Identity for Privacy and Personal Freedom
by Sheldon Charrett
Finally, here is an all-new instruction book on how to obtain a new identity, produce supporting documents for it and use it safely in today's society. Learn how to get Social Security numbers, driver's licenses and more. For academic study only. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, illus., 152 pp. **\$29.00**



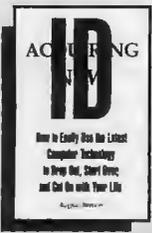
GUNSITE TACTICAL PISTOL 1

Learn the use of the combat handgun as it is taught at the world-famous Gunsite Training Center. Gunsite's master instructors present detailed instruction in the critical skills of self-defense with a handgun, including deployment, marksmanship, immediate action drills and tactical target engagement. This video also includes unique video dry-fire training exercises to hone your shooting reflexes. Color, approx. 60 min., VHS only. **\$29.95**



GUERRILLAS IN THE MIST A Battlefield Guide to Clandestine Warfare

by Bob Newman
Foreword by Robert K. Brown
Learn every facet of the grim, violent world of guerrilla warfare: basic fieldcraft; mines and booby traps; tunnel construction and strategy; ambushes; urban and nocturnal tactics; interrogation, indoctrination and exploitation; psyops; and more. For academic study only. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, illus., 232 pp. **\$20.00**



ACQUIRING NEW ID How to Easily Use the Latest Computer Technology to Drop Out, Start Over, and Get On with Your Life

by Ragnar Benson
Forget about using the old "dead-baby's birth-certificate" ruse to get new ID. Everyone's on to that trick. What you need is the know-how to make your own documents on a home computer. And by following the simple instructions in here, you can. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, illus., 152 pp. **\$20.00**



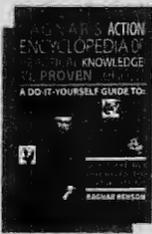
GET EVEN The Complete Book of Dirty Tricks

by George Hayduke
A hilarious overview of the methods people use to get even with big business, government and enemies. These dirty tricks range from the simple to the elaborate, including more sophisticated schemes devised by CIA and Mafia members and political dirty tricksters. For entertainment purposes only. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, hardcover, 208 pp. **\$19.95**



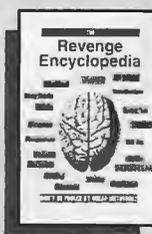
THE WHOLE SPY CATALOG

by Lee Lapin
The Whole Spy Catalog shows you exactly how to hire an ex-KGB agent, order a photo of anyone on an instant anytime during the last 20 years, get an earth background check on anyone, open a door from 100 feet away, subscribe to an in-house FBI newsletter, order and install the latest electronic surveillance gear and many more tricks to trace, track, surveil and investigate anyone or anything. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 448 pp. **\$44.95**



RAGNAR'S ACTION ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE AND PROVEN TECHNIQUES

by Ragnar Benson
Learn how to build weapons, trap anything that moves, drop out of the rat race, protect your privacy, elude the bad guys, defend yourself, change identities, land a job and live well -- as well as a little bit about everything else that might be important. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 456 pp. **\$45.00**



THE REVENGE ENCYCLOPEDIA

This is the mother of all revenge books! You'd have to buy more than 25 books to get all the wit and wisdom contained in this compilation from the best of Paladin's revenge books. Don't be fooled by cheap imitators that claim to know how to get even. Paladin is still your revenge source when you need to even the score with nosy neighbors, bungling bureaucrats, snarly clerks or other pests. For entertainment purposes only. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 120 pp. **\$15.00**



DO-IT-YOURSELF MEDICINE How to Find and Use the Most Effective Antibiotics, Painkillers, Anesthetics, and Other Miracle Drugs . . . Without Costly Doctors' Prescriptions or Hospitals

by Ragnar Benson
Ragnar gives you precise instructions for securing and using the very latest drugs and supplies from animal health centers, foreign pharmacies, mail order suppliers, military dispensaries and other unusual sources. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, 128 pp. **\$20.00**

OTHER FASCINATING TITLES

- | | | | |
|--|---------|---|---------|
| Fighting with Firearms (video) | \$29.95 | In the Line of Fire: A Working's Cop's Guide to Pistolcraft | \$30.00 |
| SOG: The Secret Wars of America's Commandos in Vietnam | \$25.00 | Bounty Hunter | \$12.00 |
| New I.D. in America | \$17.00 | Fugitive: How to Run, Hide, and Survive | \$12.00 |
| Bail Enforcer: The Advanced Bounty Hunter | \$16.95 | Ragnar's Action Encyclopedia: Volume Two | \$40.00 |
| Super Privacy: The Complete Guide to Personal Privacy and Financial Freedom in Tomorrow's Cashless Society | \$15.00 | How to Get Anything on Anybody | \$30.00 |
| Credit Secrets: Revised and Updated | \$15.00 | Advanced Ultimate Sniper (video) | \$59.95 |
| | | Just Say No to Drug Tests | \$12.00 |

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE — DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED

PALADIN PRESS · P.O. BOX 1307 · BOULDER, CO 80306 · (303) 443-7250
FAX (303) 442-8741 · E-mail service@paladin-press.com
Videotapes are nonreturnable. Defective tapes will be replaced.

Visit our Web site at www.paladin-press.com



PALADIN PRESS®

P.O. BOX 1307-8AS
BOULDER, CO 80306



CREDIT CARD ORDERS CALL TOLL FREE

1-800-392-2400, USA AND CANADA
CALL 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. SEND \$2.00 FOR 80-PAGE CATALOG OF OVER 750 TITLES (FREE WITH ORDER).

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING TITLES:

RESPONSE CODE: 8AS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

VISA MASTERCARD

DISCOVER CHECK / MONEY ORDER

CARD# _____

EXP. _____

SUBTOTAL _____

PLEASE INCLUDE POSTAGE & HANDLING \$ 5.00

PLEASE ALLOW 2-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

TOTAL _____

A DAY FOR THE BILL OF RIGHTS

Pop quiz: *On what day was the Bill of Rights to the United States Constitution ratified? Answer: 15 December 1791.*

The Bill of Rights defines what it means to be a U.S. citizen, setting our nation apart in its protection of the rights of individuals. Were it not for the Bill of Rights, the U.S. Constitution most likely would never have been ratified, because several states refused to join in a federal union without specifics to limit federal power and protect individual rights.

So why don't we celebrate this ultimate guarantor of Liberty? A national committee has formed to promote the idea that 15 December should be officially celebrated as Bill of Rights Day. Led by Aaron Zelman, executive director of Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership, the steering committee, including *SOF* National Affairs Editor James L. Pate, is working to cultivate a grass-roots movement, town by town, county by county, to pass resolutions of official observance.

That's where you, the reader, can get involved. Volunteers are needed to solicit the support of local governing bodies, to buy and distribute literature and to talk up the Bill of Rights. The emphasis is less on celebration than on education. Basic rights are at grave risk if citizens remain uninformed.

Ignorance of the U.S. Constitution and its first 10 amendments — the Bill of Rights — is at an all-time high, a survey by the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia indicates. Half of all Americans don't know the number of U.S. senators; 40%

of the respondents in the same survey did not know there are three branches of government — much less what they do — and only a third knew that the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution are called the Bill of Rights.

The theme of the effort to declare 15 December as an official day of observance is, "ALL of the Bill of Rights for ALL Citizens."

If a day of official observance is not set aside, Zelman said, "the Bill of Rights might otherwise be forgotten. Many Americans do not know their Bill of Rights. A special day would encourage even the government's schools to teach about it for at least one day per year. It would declare America's commitment to fundamental human rights to the whole world.

"It would also help force today's politicians to take a stand for or against fundamental rights, and remind policemen, prosecutors and judges that the government exists to serve, not to rule, the people," he added. "A Bill of Rights Day would annually remind America of how its history and philosophy have produced rights which oppressed people everywhere still long for. It would also honor the personal sacrifices and deaths of countless millions of people who struggled for basic rights for the last thousand years."

The idea is that if small towns, the cities and counties, pass resolutions of official observance, then all states will follow and, eventually, congress would be compelled to pass a resolution. After all, why would any freedom-loving citizen oppose the concept of preserving all of the Bill of Rights for all citizens?

Two cities — Rainier, Washington, and Monroe, Michigan — have already passed such resolutions. Georgia State Rep. Mitchell Kaye is sponsoring an essay contest on the Bill of Rights in conjunction with the crusade. It's time to get on the soapbox. Letters to the editor must be written. Informational packets must be handed out. Pitches to local governments must be made.

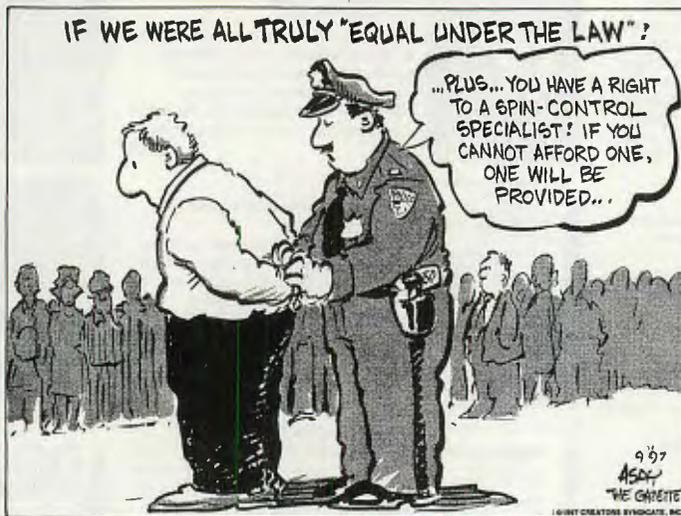
To get involved, call Aaron Zelman at 414-769-0760. Information kits are available, including a copy of the Rainier resolution and model letters to the editor. Ask about buying (tax-deductible) bundles of *JFPO's* latest publication for kids, number three in the Gran'pa Jack comic books series: "It's Common Sense to Use Our Bill of Rights ... or Lose them!"

U.N.: GLOBAL DATABASE OF GUN LICENSES

The United Nations Panel of Governmental Experts on Small Arms, a 16-nation panel, has recommended that the U.N. convene a global conference on what is being called "arms trafficking."

The hope of reducing what the panel called "excessive accumulations of guns" in the world, their report recommended that the U.N.: a) support the destruction of small arms left over once conflicts are settled, b) study the feasibility of high-tech "marking" of firearms from the time of manufacture for the purpose of tracing, and c) study the possibility of restricting the production and trade of small arms to manufacturers and dealers and establish a global database of licenses. Although the U.N. alone cannot dictate American laws and policy without such

a treaty being passed by a two-thirds vote of the American congress, this straw in the wind is a good indication of where the intentions of the globalcrats' thinking is headed. (See "Downhearted Downunder" in *FLAK*, this issue.)



ECHOES FROM RUBY RIDGE

An Idaho magistrate has dismissed all charges against Kevin Harris, the man accused by the Boundary County, Idaho prosecutor of murdering Deputy U.S. Marshall William Degan during the 1992 siege at Ruby Ridge. Boundary County District Court Magistrate Quentin Harden ruled that Harris, already acquitted on federal charges of the same offense, could not be subjected to double jeopardy. Meanwhile, a Federal Appeals Court in San Francisco has cleared the way for Harris, who was wounded by the federal sniper who killed Vicki Weaver, to file a \$10 million suit against the federal government, ruling that the Bureau's "shoot to kill" rule of engagement was "a gross deviation from constitutional principles and a wholly unwarranted return to a lawless and arbitrary Wild-West school of law enforcement."

THE FABULOUS TOPPERWEINS

Fanciers of fancy shooting won't want to miss the new video release by Col. Rex Applegate, *The Fabulous Topperweins*. Ad and

Attention Collectors & Sportsmen...

Get the *Full Auto* Advantage!



Model# 104/B THE GODFATHER \$39.95

The Classic Stiletto. Lightning quick, side opening 440 stainless blade. Mirror-clear, gleaming heavy gauge steel. Razor sharp. Traditional black pearlite handle w/ slide lock. 8.75" overall.



Model# 104/W THE GODFATHER II \$39.95

Exactly as above. Classic lines with the added elegance of white handles. Same rugged craftsmanship and durability.



Model# FP-500 COBRA \$79.95

Lever action side opener. 3.4 inches of satin brushed high carbon stainless steel. Instantly snaps to attention and locks into place. Buffed and polished solid brass hardware and liners. Handcrafted in Italy. Shown w/ black pearlescent grips. Or choose deep swirl Blue, Green, Red, or Ivory. Specify your color. 8" overall.

*Genuine, Rugged,
Completely Finished
Sold in Kit Form**



Model# 202/SB BLACK STEALTH NATO \$69.95

Deluxe front opener features lightweight, rugged cast aluminum handle. 440 stainless steel blade is mirror-polished and smooth as silk. Instantly retractable. Midnight black. 8.5" overall.



Model# 244/B SOLINGEN SLINGER \$49.95

Black checkered side opener features high impact ABS resin grips, finely honed and polished 440C Solingen, German steel blade. Holds a seriously sharp edge. 7.25" overall.

**CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-324-4371
PERFORMANCE CO.
1202 Lexington Ave.
RM 192 Dept. S-1
New York NY 10028**

FREE CATALOG with your order!
THE NEW 1997 PERFORMANCE KNIVES CATALOG
32 PAGES OF KNIVES & ACCESSORIES
IN FULL VIVID COLOR.

  **1-800-324-4371**

Police and Military: Send photo copy of ID & receive 10% discount

*Att: Collectors & Sportsmen: All automatic, factory fresh, and rushed direct to you in kit form. In some areas, completion of these kits may violate certain laws. Check your area before ordering or assembling, as compliance with such laws is the purchaser's responsibility. Not available where prohibited by law.

PERFORMANCE COMPANY 1202 Lexington Ave. RM 192, Dept. S-1
1-800-324-4371 New York, NY 10028

Gentlemen, Please RUSH the following items:
(check boxes)

- | | | | |
|--|------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model# 104/B | Qty. _____ | Please add \$6 | <input type="checkbox"/> Check or Money |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model# 104/W | Qty. _____ | for S&H | order enclosed \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model# FP-500 | Qty. _____ | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model# 202/SB | Qty. _____ | 100% NO RISK MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Model# 244/B | Qty. _____ | | |

Master Card/Visa # _____ Expiration _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

I certify that I am _____ Signature _____ Date _____
Over 21 years of age.

Plinky Topperwein may well have been the world's greatest-ever husband and wife exhibition shooting team. Active until the 1940s, the Topperweins shot on tour for Winchester, making the fairground circuit for a generation. Many of their feats have never been equalled. You may have been jealous of your dad for his having been able to witness such feats as Ad's 10-day marathon of hitting 72,500 wooden blocks thrown into the air (well, he missed 9), but fret no longer: After many years of searching, Rex Applegate, one of *SOF's* favorite pistoleros and shooting archivists, has located enough original color and sound 16mm film footage for a video release showing this famous shooting team at work. The original film had been professionally made by Winchester-Western more than 50 years ago. Why it was never made available is a mystery, but now it is and you should get a copy so you can tell your kids about it. Think you're handy with a rifle or handgun? Get this film and get humble! Available @ \$24.95 postpaid from Wells Creek Knife & Gun Works, 32956 State Highway 38, Scottsburg, OR 97473; phone: 503-587-4202.

FEINSTEIN PRESSURES ISRAEL OVER GUN EXPORTS

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Ca.) announced she has sent a letter to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, requesting him to block exports of "military style assault weapons" although the new iterations of Galils and UZIs produced by Israeli Industries Ltd. have been tailored and re-engineered to comply with new laws, including the "Feinstein Amendment." IIL, owned by the Israeli government, hoped to sell about 10,000 or more of these revised firearms on the U.S. market.

SOV SCIENTIST: KGB MADE TERRORIST NUKES

According to a Reuters story, former adviser to President Boris Yeltsin and respected scientist Alexi Yablokov confirmed that the KGB secretly made portable "suitcase" nukes. The flap arose when

former Russian National Security Adviser Alexandr Lebed stated that up to 100 portable nukes, made up to look like suitcases, were unaccounted for since the 1991 implosion of the former USSR.

According to Lebed, who had agreed to testify before a U.S. Congressional committee later in October, the devices have an explosive capacity of one kiloton, can be activated by a single person — and could kill as many as 100,000 people. Yablokov said he has spoken to the scientists who worked on the weapons and was certain of their existence, acknowledging however that the former Soviet Defense Ministry might have never been aware of them, as they were an "atomic demolition munition" developed for the KGB as part of a secret program.

According to Yablokov, the weapons were "designed only for terrorist purposes" and were to be used by specially trained units to destroy key installations such as power plants during wartime.

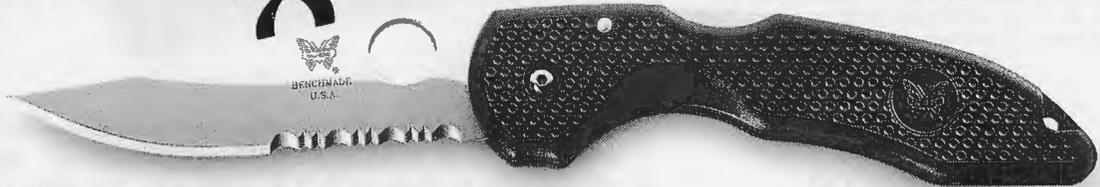
FBI Director Louis Freeh told a separate congressional committee early in October that "we have not seen any hard evidence of suitcase-sized nuclear devices unaccounted for or falling into the hands of terrorists or rogue states," but Rep. Curt Weldon (R-Pa.) said the threat was serious and needed to be given higher priority by the Clinton Administration. "No one in the West, and few in Russia, know for sure whether dozens of small nuclear weapons, ideal for terrorist use, are unaccounted for and perhaps in the wrong hands."

Noted Senator Richard Lugar, "The Russian inventory system is so antiquated and inefficient that the Russians do not have an accurate count of nuclear weapons or materials," adding that Russian nuclear records were mostly handwritten and scattered around the country.

WELCOME THE SMALL ARMS REVIEW!

The middle of September the first issue of *The Small Arms Review* rolled off the presses, and it was worth the wait. This new monthly color publication is cover-to-cover modern mili-

Benchmade® Engineered



MODEL 830S WITH BLACK POCKET CLIP

IF YOU WANT PROOF THAT THE NEW BENCHMADE 830S IS THE STRONGEST, SHARPEST LIGHTWEIGHT FOLDING KNIFE AVAILABLE ANYWHERE JUST COMPARE IT'S FEATURES TO ANY OTHER KNIFE ON THE MARKET. THEN VISIT YOUR DEALER AND SEE FOR YOURSELF.

DEMAND THE BEST! DEMAND BENCHMADE!



MODEL 830 WITH BLACK POCKET CLIP

MODEL 830 MADE IN THE U.S.A. BY BENCHMADE KNIFE COMPANY UNDER LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH SPYDERCO® INC.

BENCHMADE

FOR THE 1997 BENCHMADE CATALOG SEND \$2.00 TO:
BENCHMADE KNIFE COMPANY INC.

300 BEAVERCREEK ROAD
DEPT. SF

OREGON CITY, OREGON 97045 U.S.A.

VOICE: (503) - 655 - 6004

FAX: (503) - 655 - 6223

URL: <http://www.benchmade.com>

E-MAIL info@benchmade.com

MADE IN
USA
FOR THE WORLD

tary small arms. Their primary focus is on machine guns, silencers, assault rifles, destructive devices and NFA related information. The masthead reads like a Who's Who of writers from *Fighting Firearms*, the defunct *Machine Gun News* and other publications serving the interests of those whose passions lean toward the fast-firing and exotic. You'll recognize names such as Paulson, Truby, Choat, Shea, Ballou, Hillenburg, Dater, and a whole crew just as talented.

The first issue shows good, solid reportage and the last-pin-and-rivet sort of detail true aficionados love. A U.S. subscription is \$34.95 a year (12 issues). Contact them at, *The Small Arms Review*, 223 Sugar Hill Rd., Harmony, ME 04942; phone: 207-683-2959; fax: 207-683-2171; E-mail them at: sareview@aol.com — check 'em out.

FBI AGENT GOES TO PRISON FOR RUBY RIDGE ROLE

Retired FBI agent E. Michael Kahoe, former head of the FBI's violent crimes section, has been handed 18 months in jail, a \$4,000 fine and two years' probation for destroying an executive summary report of FBI actions at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, which was critical of the FBI's role in the affair. Federal prosecutors claimed that Kahoe destroyed the documents to prevent the U.S. Attorney's office from turning them over to lawyers representing Randy Weaver, whose 14-year-old son Sammy was shot in the back, and whose wife Vicki was killed by FBI sniper Lon Horiuchi as she stood in the doorway of their cabin holding their baby.

Federal District Judge Ricardo Urbina handed down the sentence on the charge of obstructing justice, to which Kahoe had plead guilty. Weaver and his guest Kevin Harris were acquitted on charges they illegally killed a federal marshal during the 11-day siege by federal agents, and Weaver has subsequently won a multi-million dollar wrongful-death suit against the government. Harris was also recently acquitted of local murder charges, under a double-jeopardy ruling.

"CHINA CONNECTION" DELAYED

"The China Connection," Part II, of the *SOF* series on the Army Research Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, has been unavoidably delayed because its author, *SOF* National Affairs Editor Jim Pate was injured in a freak target-shooting accident on 11 October, and is recovering from emergency eye surgery performed at Johns Hopkins University Hospital. Although expected to regain most of his vision, Pate is unable to read or write during a recovery period of several weeks. In the interim, Pate strongly encourages everyone to wear shooting glasses, even in informal shooting sessions. ☒

INVEST IN PRECIOUS METAL.



Springfield Quality Speaks for Itself.

Nothing says rugged reliability like a Springfield 1911-A1. Forged for maximum strength and machined to the most exacting tolerances, every Springfield is hand-assembled and individually inspected. Simply, Springfield delivers investment quality firearms, sure to hold their value for a lifetime.

More Than 60 Models To Choose From.

There's a 1911-A1 to fill every law enforcement, competition and personal defense need.



NEW
Trophy Match
Stainless Steel



NEW
Ultra Compact V-10
Stainless Steel



NEW
High Capacity
Blued



NEW
Ultra Compact
High Capacity
Stainless Steel

For every shooter, from the military purist to the demanding competitor, Springfield offers, by far, the most choices of any gunmaker.

The Industry's Best Warranty!

When you choose a Springfield 1911-A1, your investment is protected for a lifetime of reliable performance. Expect only the best from America's Finest Gunmaker!



The Oldest Name In American Firearms
SPRINGFIELD ARMORY
Springfield Inc. • 420 West Main St. • Geneseo, IL 61254



Springfield Inc. • Dept. SOF 1-98 • 420 West Main St. • Geneseo, IL 61254
ph. 309/944-5631 • fax 309/944-3676 • www.springfield-armory.com



Attention Soldier of Fortune, Inc. fans!

Soldier of Fortune Magazine's expanded anniversary issue, October 1997, features detailed coverage of the new hit TV series *Soldier of Fortune, Inc.*, with behind-the-scenes reporting, exclusive interviews and photos from the set of the military action-adventure show. Plus an awesome cover featuring the TV series cast. This jam-packed issue also contains a bigger-than-usual dose of the kind of reporting *SOF* readers have come to expect: from Russia to Vietnam, the Sudan to Peru, *SOF* is there.

A limited number of copies of this edition are available at the special rate of \$5 each including shipping and handling. Order now by calling 1-800-800-7630.

WORLD SITREP



1

UNITED STATES

Cost of spies: CIA ends 50-year secrecy, revealing annual intelligence spending of \$26.6 billion in 1997.

- **International fighter:** Pentagon officials want more overseas militaries to join Joint Strike Fighter program, which will develop next-generation worldwide strike fighter system. U.K. is only full partner with U.S., to date, pledging \$250 million. Pentagon officials hope more partners will shield program from budget cuts.
- **Landmine treaty:** Clinton refuses to sign new landmine treaty, citing need to protect U.S. troops. Several U.S. generals supported treaty; many more rejected it with concern for smart mines and Korean demilitarized zone. Treaty backers vow to keep pushing for U.S. participation.
- **New Tomahawk:** Navy will deploy new Tomahawk cruise missiles by 2002. New tactical missiles can circle over a battlefield for hours and be sent to a target that had not been seen at launch time.
- **Cyberwars:** Turf battle escalates between Pentagon and intelligence community over who controls attacks on enemy computer systems. Pentagon programmers forbidden from hacking enemy computers without CIA and NSA approval. Pentagon officials argue for need to hack enemy computers and steal data while its still fresh enough to be useful.
- **Chemical gear:** Military to spend \$1 billion through 2003 upgrading chemical warfare protective gear, in response to North Korean chemical stockpile.

2

RUSSIA

Power plant, or weapons? Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin denies Israeli allegations that Russia is transferring nuclear-missile technology to Iran. Chernomyrdin said technology will be used only for power plant, not weapons.

- **Mob with nukes?** Russian Mob would have "little trouble" gaining access to nuclear weapons, says new study by Center for Strategic and International Study. Chaired by former CIA Director William Webster, study concluded "it must be close to virtual certainty that (Russian Organized crime) would have little trouble finding willing military personnel who would provide, for example, a man-portable nuclear mine, fissile materials, or chemical and biological weapons for a 'consideration.'"
- **Out with new, in with old:** SS-19 missiles will be kept in service, with updates to make them last 25 more years. Meanwhile, Russia will retire SS-24s built to replace SS-19s.
- **Nuke tests?** Russia denies unexplained "seismic event" was nuclear test, insisting it was underwater quake. Nuclear tests violate self-imposed moratorium. Suspicion of seismic event fuels U.S. Congressional opposition to Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

12

1

8

SYRIA

Chemical bomblets: U.S. Ballistic Missile Defense Organization reports Syria will produce chemical bomblets for 'Scud C' missiles this year. Chemical agent production facility established near Damascus. Arsenal already includes 200 Scud-B missiles, some with VX nerve gas warheads, others with 985kg unitary explosive warheads.

9

ALBANIA

Government announces amnesty for return of more than \$750,000 in weapons and 1.5 million rounds of ammunition stolen from military this year. Disintegration of army leaves police as only force to control fighting in rural areas.

10

INDIA

Army to acquire five combat helicopters, upgrade 100 T-72M tanks, and award contract for 155mm self-propelled guns this year. Production underway on first of Army's new light combat helicopters.

- Belarus President Alyaksandr Lukashenka announces his country will offer technological and maintenance support for Soviet-built weapons in the Indian inventory.

11

NORTHERN IRELAND

Homemade bomb: 1,000-pound homemade bomb destroyed by British troops near the Lisbellaw holiday complex in August. First bomb since ceasefire. IRA break-away faction suspected. Irish police found bomb-making materials near Caven on 16 Aug.

13

KOREA

South Korea spends \$.32 billion for four airborne early warning planes. U.S. defense experts say move reflects South Korea's intent to maintain a hedge against potential future threats from Japan, China or other regional powers, as well as long-time adversary North Korea.

- **Chemicals:** In recent computerized war game, United States finds North Korean chemical stockpile enough to jeopardize American victory in future conflict.

14

SIERRA LEONE

Junta asks Togolese President Eyadema to mediate conflict with Economic Community of West African States. Former President Kabbah begs ECOWAS to oust junta by force. Summit rejects use of force. Nigeria warns that junta planned to launch attacks on peacekeeping troops (mostly from Nigeria). Junta and rebel troops defeat attack by Kamajors militia near Zimmi. Nigerian guns fire shells into Freetown, during artillery duel, killing 12. Nigeria flies more troops into Sierra Leone.

3 CHINA
Spies arrested: China arrests Xiao Tongszhi on suspicion he spied for Taiwan. Arrest comes after Xiao was jailed from 1950 to 1982 for spying. Taiwanese professor Lin Cheng-cheng arrested by China on charges of aerospace espionage during a visit to Beijing in July. • **Army downsizing:** Ruling elite announces plan to sell most state-owned companies and rebuild Army as smaller, more technical force. Army to be cut by 500,000 over next three years; Three top generals forced to retire. Ruling elite rejected all moves toward democracy.

4 SPAIN
 Conservative Popular Party government will end compulsory military service by 1 Jan. 2003. • Combined Spanish-Italian Amphibious Force (SIAF) should be in operation in 1998, following signing of formal agreement by Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi and Spanish counterpart Jose Maria Aznar.

5 IRAN
Nuclear warheads? Leaked U.S. CIA and Pentagon reports suggest Iran has been developing long-range missiles, possibly to carry nuclear warheads, in cooperation with Russia and China. State Department claims Russia has given repeated assurances it's not helping Iran but that there were "discrepancies between these assurances and reports of Russian firms cooperating with Iran." • Army Chief of Staff, Major General Ali Shahbazi, claims country has designed and built its first jet-strike fighter.

6 SOUTH AFRICA
 Government to cut military personnel by 30 percent over five years. Savings will pay for modernization and upgrades of equipment. • Marthinus van Schalkwyk elected head of National Party; ANC denounced him as former apartheid proponent.

7 ANGOLA
U.N. desertions: U.N. resolution sanctions UNITA for violating 1994 Lusaka Protocol. Joint commission supervising peace accords accused UNITA of "forced recruiting" of civilians. About 30,000 former UNITA soldiers said to have deserted U.N. camps.



15 SUDAN
 Government claims it overran SPLA base northwest of Jaldo, killing 400 rebels, recapturing military outpost of Tindalo. The attack launched by forces including Army, militia, and Popular Defense Force units. Sudanese President al-Bashir calls for ceasefire with SPLA. Rebels reject ceasefire, claiming their advances have government desperate for opportunity to build up forces. Rebels of Sudan Alliance Forces capture government outpost near Eritrean border.

16 CONGO
 U.N. grows more impatient with Kabila, suspending refugee operations in response to Congo's forced repatriation of Rwandan refugees. Ethnic fighting continues in North and South Kivu Provinces as local groups ally with Rwandan and Burundian Hutus against Tutsi domination. • **Prime Minister Kolelas:** President Lissouba appoints Brazzaville Mayor Bernard Kolelas prime minister. Nguesso refuses to recognize appointment, claiming it brings neutral Kolelas into Lissouba's faction. Lissouba's four gunships attack Nguesso's positions in Brazzaville. Francophone summit in Gabon fails to resolve conflict; Democratic Congo closes mutual border.

12 CANADA
Military jobs: New study links 50,000 Canadian jobs to nation's defense industry. Industry officials hope their study will convince government that military cutbacks will hurt the economy. The only prior studies combined defense industry with Canada's aerospace sector, comprised mostly of civilian labor.

World Sitrep is compiled in part from the biweekly newsletter *For Your Eyes Only: An Open Intelligence Summary of Current Military Affairs*. Published by Tiger Publications (P.O. Box 8759, Dept. SOF, Amarillo, Texas 79114-8759); subscriptions are \$70 per year (26 issues), \$74.38 in Texas. Sample issue available for \$3. Those interested in world intel are encouraged to subscribe.

Down-Hearted Down Under

I am now home after two weeks in Australia. I would like to give the readers of *SOF* an idea of what's going down in the "land down under." From an *American* point of view it's about as dirty a deal as you can imagine.

I am a member of the NRA and a gun owner in good standing in both the USA and Australia. I live in the States and go to Australia for rifle competition every two years or so.

My equipment was in storage at a good mate's place. My mates let me know that due to the most terrible of gun laws and the way they have backed good people into a corner by intimidation and threats, they had until 30 September to give up their *legally bought* semiautos, pump-action rifles and any related parts to these rifles ... or face a five-year prison sentence and a \$20,000 fine (what a nightmare). In good faith I couldn't put my mates in legal and financial jeopardy so I agreed to turn in my rifles (treasures) and purchased a ticket to go down under. Little did I realize how much has changed for the worse in Australia.

We loaded their car with these soon-to-be-banned firearms, and went to the cop shop to do the dirty deed. We arrived and walked up to the tables and started to place our firearms on the tables; the cops took them from us and treated us as if we were a bunch of incompetent fools. After they confirmed they were safe they moved the firearms to the main office area. There was haggling over the value of the rifles, even though they had quoted a price over the phone the day before. After some grunts and hard words we came to the price I was quoted (bastards). After that ordeal was completed and a couple of extra condescending comments were made we decided just to keep our mouths shut.

As they took our personal information and printed our checks I asked the cops what they were doing to do with our treasures: They informed me they were going to crush them. I asked if I could watch the

process and after the cops put their heads together they decided that it would be OK for me to watch them crush the rifles. They placed the rifles in plastic garbage cans and wheeled them into the "death chamber." The first one to be crushed was an AR-15 with a match two-stage trigger. As the button was crushed the executioner stopped and looked over his shoulder with a playful I-don't-give-a-shit-I'm-only-following-

rifles home with me but the odds were they might have been confiscated for some reason or other, and would have still landed up in the death chamber. So I was more than happy to take their money and maybe help them go broke in the process.

So as I go down to my local gun shop in the States to buy a new AR-15 and a Colt .45 I can't help but think that another nation has gone over to the dark side. I can't help

but think our turn is next, and you can bet that the anti people are watching, listening and learning from what Australia is doing, and if they have their way these changes will be here sooner than later.

I would be happy to put my name to this letter but for the safety of my mates down under I will not — remember that paper trail. I will say this: I am a distinguished rifleman and a believer in the Constitution and very happy in the way it was written.

We had better lock and load now or we may live to regret it. *One visit to a death chamber in a lifetime is enough.*

An extra bit of information: The Australian government is putting together a 1,500-man strong "anti-terrorism" regiment which consists of 900 trigger pullers and 600 support personnel. But why would they need this unit? Because after September 30th, all will be good, the birds will be singing, the sky will be bluer and the beer will taste better.

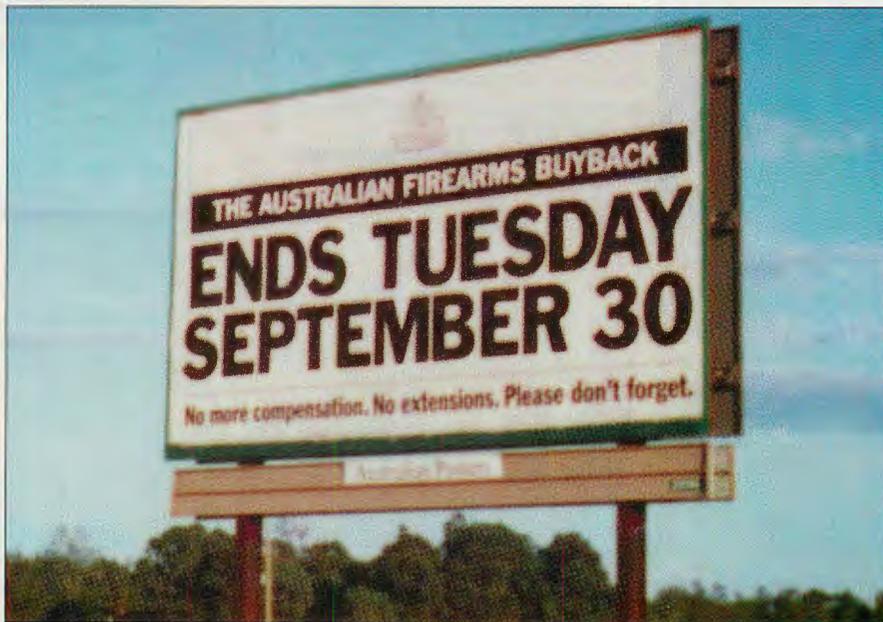
Name Withheld

Canada Calling



Did you notice how, when McVeigh got the death penalty, every newspaper, newsmagazine and program in the valley made a point of mentioning the highly irrelevant fact that McVeigh was a Gulf war veteran who won the Bronze Star? It is

Continued on page 16



orders smirk asked if I was ready. All I could do was look into his eyes and back to the condemned rifle, as I didn't want to miss a thing. The machine came down, crushing and bending the AR-15 into junk and little pieces. Out came my treasure and with it the loss of freedom, self-respect and self-determination of a nation (what could they be thinking of)? After that most terrible of moments we went, all of us feeling sick and violated in our own way. It felt almost as if someone close to you had died.

The day after the executions we went to cash the checks, but to add insult to injury they had to be deposited in your personal account, with a five working-day wait to get paid, to insure they would have a larger paper trail into your personal information.

Now that I am home and have had time to reflect about what I saw and felt, I am amazed how great was the job of orchestrating and putting into law this attempt to disarm a nation without firing a shot. The Nazis of 1933 should have been as clever as a handful of people in current-day Australia. I hope they live to see what they have done to the many just to keep the few quiet and happy.

As to my complicity in this national tragedy, I might have been able to take my

Our First, Only, and if it doesn't work LAST EVER SALE!

BLACKTRACKING—THE VIDEO

How to follow anyone, anywhere. The first hands-on, hard and fast guide to the black arts of physical surveillance and counter surveillance.

Includes: Side-by-side comparisons of 6 of the world's best electronic automobile tracking systems, including the latest FBI unit. Covert black bumper beepers that graphically display—exactly, instantly—where the target vehicle is, or where it has been, in the past few days, where it stopped, how long it was parked in any given location anywhere in the United States. Low cost, computerized tracking units for cars, packages, people, or your favorite animal. Which, where, why, and how much. Amazing unseen optical systems, infrared vs. thermal viewers...

Simple countermeasures to keep your car or body tracker-free, plus a conversation with MOSSAD—an agent shows exactly how to tell if you are under surveillance and how to lose the watchers. \$59.95
SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER, \$49.95



VIDEO II B AND E A TO Z

It's been exactly 10 years since the best selling lock opening and entry tape ever was produced. About time for the follow-up, don't you think?

VIDEO II—B and E A to Z.
Brand new, state of the art tools, tricks, and techniques for picking, bypassing, and opening buildings, locks, and automobiles. Technology so new you will think it's part magic.

Smart Opens—fantastic tools that open most doors regardless of the type of lock, on-site tests of three automatic garage door openers, comparisons of 5 electronic picks, a new pick set that lets you go where no man has gone before, latest tips to improve your picking hit rate, how to pick Ace (tubular) locks, nifty new automobile openers, alarm defaters, security bar opening tricks, plus much more!

Swat Openings—Speed vs. damage, from bombs to pad-lock poppers—getting in with speed and a degree of finesse.

What's New, What's Hot, Where to Get It and How to Use It. VIDEO II B AND E A TO Z. Graphics, cutaway views, good stuff. 1 hr 10 min. \$59.95



GPS TRACKING IS HERE!!!

Okay, suppose you want to follow any vehicle, anywhere in the world, in real time from the comfort of your office/living room/favorite bar... No kidding, utilizing a covert cellular transmitter and the government's GPS satellite system you can track any vehicle within 25 feet, on any road in the world. Readout includes, direction, speed, stops, all the good stuff. Right out of James Bond, huh?

Intelligence Incorporated Pro Trak GPS

Transmitter—1.1"x5.2" x7.0", weight 20 oz, 9-13VDC power, output 600 mw, DTMF signaling, .6 second update rate. Transmitter powered by 8 alkaline "C" batteries which give an average of several days use (depending on your inquiry rate).

TigerTrax CD ROM software with built-in maps for virtually every US location (IBM compatible, 8 megs RAM 100+ hard drive computer not furnished). Needs windows 3.1 or DOS 5+.

100 unit capability, street level maps with 10 scales, 500 overlay icons. Options include motion sensor (\$100, panic button alarm, Mapix software [worldwide maps included ability to scan in any map you please, add \$400, probably overkill]).

Basic system, one transmitter, software (TigerTrax), warranty etc., \$4500, (second x-mitter \$1800) system. Knock \$500 off with this ad...



Receive a copy of the video B&E-2 FREE with every Cobra order!

COBRA PRO

The one major improvement over manual lock picking that has surfaced in the last 20 years has been the invention of the "electronic" lock pick.

And the **Cobra Pro** is flat out the best ever...

The **Cobra Pro** has a number of important features not found in lesser picks including an adjustable throw, heavy duty motor, keyhole light, rubber grip, carrying case, etc., and it operates from standard 18 volt Black and Decker Batteries!

How good is the **Cobra Pro**?

I have personally worked a test door with 20 different types of locks mounted on it, including Schlage, with the **Cobra** and opened all of them, some in 2-5 seconds, some in 20+, but they opened under my moderately inept guidance. —Lee Lapin

The U.S. Seals have just completed a (uh, this is kind of classified, please don't tell any of your Russian friends) a Secret Site in Southern California (sounds like a song, doesn't it?) known as Seal City.

Said city is designed to test seals in a variety of both covert and SWAT type entry and building search/containment techniques.

Every so often the various Seal teams are pitted against each other in a direct competition to see who can get in fastest using everything from lock picks to plastic explosive.

We furnished a **Cobra Pro** to one of the teams for use in the last competition. Guess who won?

Cobra Pro sells for \$699, never less. Big sale price—\$599!!!

MULE TOOL

The **Mule Tool** is a deceptively simple appearing idea that inherits years of experimentation and design from a great locksmith and ex-engineer.

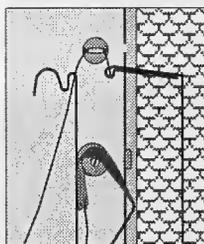
The inventor asked himself the age old question, "How can I get any door open with no damage and no picking?" and then spent years refining the original concept.

The **Mule Tool** consists of a number of pieces, the heart being a 3+ foot long rolled steel rod carefully shaped to manipulate a couple of different "tools" to accomplish what has previously been stone cold impossible.

As long as there is a tiny bit of clearance under the door to be opened the MT can slip underneath and inside. At this point a person with a few minutes practice (our secretary opened the front door in about 15 minutes of instruction/practice) can defeat: •Normal key-in-knob locks •Dead bolt locks •Hotel style inside bar locks •In-floor "club" style anti-open, anti-burglar bars •Press style panic bars.

In fact it's just as easy to re-lock interior deadbolts after one exits the premises.

This is the first major breakthrough I've seen in a long time with regard to no-harm, no-foul, covert entry. Deluxe MT works on locks of any height, \$399, Sale price \$299!!



PICK GUN

The snap gun has probably opened more locks in less time than any other single picking device. If you are a locksmith or covert entry specialist and don't own one you should be ashamed...

Our price, \$59.95. Our Sale price \$39.95 while supplies last.



How To Get Anything On Anybody—The Newsletter

For the first time ever the latest techniques, tricks, products and opportunities laid out in a single newsletter! Written/edited by Lee Lapin (author; The Whole Spy Catalog, How To Get Anything On Anybody; Books I and II, The Covert Catalog, Hands-On Surveillance, etc.) This is the only periodical to feature Lee's unique, hard and fast, chocked-full-of-information style.



PEOPLE TRACKING, ASSET SEARCHING BREAKTHROUGHS—The one stop, no sign up fee, company that searches 200 million records automatically—no hit, no pay! **SURVEILLANCE, COUNTER SURVEILLANCE.** Tests/sources for bloody amazing GPS trackers that provide real time or retroactive street-by-street mapped tracking. How to improvise surveillance devices from available products. A Ph.D. level course in counter surveillance taught by a real life MOSSAD agent. You can take one just like it in person for a mere \$2500!

PRIVACY? TRUTH IN BANKING? Flat out, here are the latest abuses and corresponding safeguards. Why the new \$100 bills (soon all other currency) can be more dangerous to your health than any other financial instrument or transaction. "Confidential" information the IRS is now handing out about your finances. How to protect yourself from unnecessary investigations and audits.

Slashing something in a safe "secret" Swiss account? Based in the Bahamas? Placed in Panama? Guess who's already rolled over to U.S. pressure, not to mention who is getting ready to snitch you off...

Too time sensitive for a book, **How To Get Anything On Anybody—The Newsletter** will pay for itself the first time you track down a "ghost," dig out "hidden" information, protect a bank account, safe deposit box, or just give golden advice to a client.

SURVEILLANCE PERSONNEL, PRIVATE DETECTIVES, PRIVACY PEOPLE, CORPORATE SECURITY, INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES, INVESTIGATORS, INFORMATION BROKERS, LAWYERS, AND INTERESTED PARTIES, THIS ONE'S FOR YOU!!

8 pages per issue, mailed first class 10 times a year. Satisfaction guaranteed? Of course it is, cancel at any time and Intelligence Incorporated will refund the remainder of your subscription price. \$89.00 per year.

THE COVERT CATALOG

Surreptitious Supplies? Surveillance, counter surveillance, audio surveillance, video surveillance, people trackers, covert entry equipment, night vision, cellular interception, covert video cameras, and scramblers. **CC** is THE MASTER list of information suppliers, specialized newsletters, OEM lock picks, reverse engineers, Spy Shops, alternate ID's, program crackers, and much more. The **Covert Catalog** provides hundreds of addresses, sample pages, catalog prices and recommendations that will save you money on everything from break-in books to undetectable bugs. \$34.95.



RULES OF THE GAME:

All sale orders must include this page or copy of same. Prices are good until December 24 ONLY. No exceptions. Phone orders 415-513-5544, credit cards accepted up to a \$300 limit. Checks will be held for clearance. Catalog FREE!

INTELLIGENCE INCORPORATED

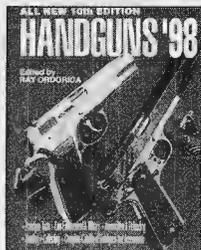
3555 S EL CAMINO #309

SAN MATEO, CA 94403

All orders must include \$6.00 shipping (except mule tool \$15) CA residents add 8% tax.

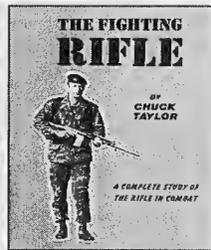
COMBAT

Creep with us through deadly jungles where the enemy may be no more than a bayonet away. Race with us through burning deserts to trap forces of tyranny.



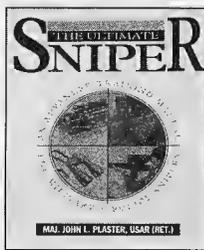
1164+

\$21.95



0166+

\$25.00



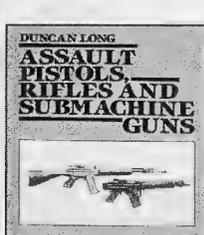
3871+

\$39.95



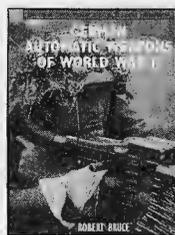
4598+

\$85.00



4085

\$21.95



0661-9999#

\$29.95



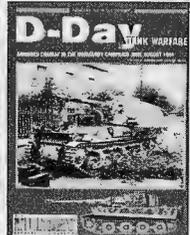
0869

\$49.95



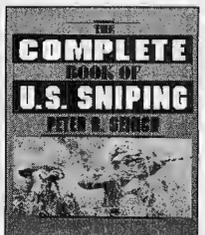
4135

\$29.95



1131+

\$14.95x



7187

\$39.95



2543

\$27.95



3111+

\$14.95x



0190

\$28.95



0117+

\$17.95x



3954

\$24.95



0596

\$39.95



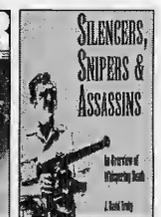
0729

\$22.95



0653

\$24.95



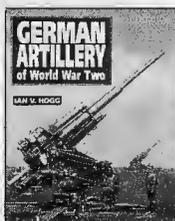
2410

\$29.95



2071+

\$24.95



0927

\$44.95



1263

\$24.95



4051

\$34.95



3228

\$29.95



5546

\$12.95x



2170

\$9.95x



4283++

\$24.00



2261

\$17.95x



4291

\$19.95x



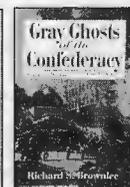
0604

\$19.95x



4515

\$29.95



2659

\$14.95x



0075

\$17.95x



0125

\$22.95



4192

\$24.00



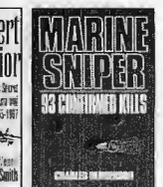
1222

\$18.95x



1776

\$24.95



1289

\$18.95



3160+

\$19.95



1040

\$23.00



2840

\$24.00



2451++

\$19.95x



1537

\$16.95x



4366

\$19.95x



1768

\$24.00



0091

\$24.95



0463

\$17.95x

Counts as 2 choices

x Special edition exclusively for Club members

+ Softcover

++ Fiction

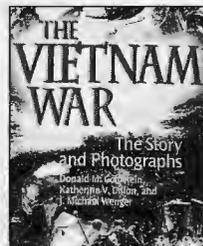
A-496

ZONE

Battle by battle, *The Military Book Club*® lets you witness history as it's made. Get in on *all* the action. Clip the coupon and join us today!



1735 \$21.95x



0265 \$31.95



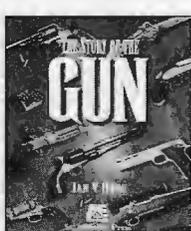
0471+ \$24.95



0802 \$27.50



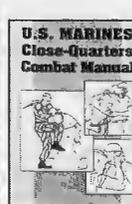
0950 \$22.95x



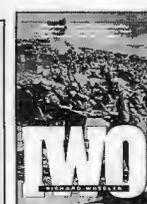
3624 \$24.95



4309 \$27.95



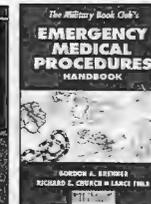
4077+ \$15.00



2519 \$5.99x



0794 \$23.95x



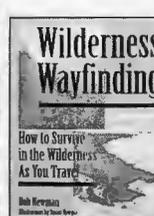
1305 \$12.95x



4499 \$28.95



0505 \$25.00



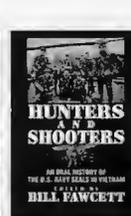
1628 \$15.00



0406 \$32.95



0307 \$16.95x



1693 \$23.00



3210 \$9.95x



4150 \$19.95x



3616 \$27.00

Take 4 for 98¢ with membership



0679 \$19.95x



0083 \$27.50



0059 \$23.95



3251 \$28.00

6 REASONS TO JOIN NOW:

1. **Joining is easy.** Start with 4 books for 98¢. Your bill (including shipping and handling) will come when membership is confirmed.
2. **Your satisfaction is guaranteed.** If you're not happy with your 4 books, return them within 10 days at our expense. Your membership will be canceled; you'll owe nothing.
3. **Save up to 40% off publishers' hardcover edition prices.** Just pick at least 4 more books at our regular low prices during your membership. Take up to 2 years! Then you may resign any time.
4. **Extra bonus!** Take a 5th book now for \$4.99, plus shipping and handling, and reduce your membership agreement to only 3 books.
5. **A FREE Club Magazine** comes to you up to 17 times a year. Each reviews the Featured Book Selections plus dozens of alternate books. Some are exclusive Club editions you won't find anywhere else. Every book we offer is a high-quality, full-text edition, sometimes altered in size to fit special presses. Look for up to 2 special issues a year with super selections and more discounts.
6. **Ordering is risk-free.** Featured Book Selections are sent to you automatically. To cancel—or order other books—simply mail in your Member Reply Form by the marked date. Shipping and handling (plus sales tax, where applicable) is added to each order. You'll always have 10 days to decide. If your Member Reply Form is late and unwanted books arrive, please return them at our expense.

Prices shown were current at press time.

Prices shown are for publishers' hardcover editions. Club hardcover editions save you up to 40%.



YES! Please enroll me in *The Military Book Club* according to the risk-free membership plan described in this ad. Send me the 4 BOOKS I've indicated. Bill me just 98¢, plus shipping and handling.

SAVE EVEN MORE! Send me this book now and reduce my commitment to 3 books. Bill me an added \$4.99, plus shipping and handling. (Books that count as 2 choices are not eligible.)

(write book number)

88333 96

Mr./Mrs. Miss/Ms. _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone, please (____) _____

Members accepted in U.S.A. only. Sales tax added where applicable. We reserve the right to reject any application.

Please write book numbers here:

42
If you select a book that counts as 2 choices, write the first 4 digits of the book number in one row of boxes and 9999 in the next.

SOF 1/98

Continued from page 12

times like these that everyone should be thankful for *SOF*, because *SOF* makes a point of informing the public of true heroes like Scott Fales and Tom Wilkinson, the two Air Force SpecOps pararescuemen who won the Silver Star in Somalia ["Fast Rope to Hell"].

Way to go *SOF*! Once again, you have demonstrated a sense of editorial responsibility unheard of among the prime-time networks and the big papers and magazines.

On another note, you may or may not have heard that up here, the Somalia Inquiry Commission released its report: What they have to say about the Canadian Forces is exactly what Col. Hackworth writes about the U.S. military. It is nice to see that other people besides you guys and Hack are unabashed truth tellers. Parts of the report have been released on the Net, and can be accessed as follows:

—FIND www.dnd.ca

—when you are at that page, click on "English" next to the display page, which has a big Maple Leaf and a CF-18.

—On the next page, go to the big grey box in the upper center, and click on the down-pointing arrow next to the white space filled by "Current CF Deployments."

—Find "Somalia Report" in the drop-down menu, and click on it. This will lead you to the released portions of the inquiry.

I remember you guys did a story on the Airborne when it was disbanded "*pour encourager les autres*" two years ago, and thought you may be interested in this development as a follow up.

Jose Fernandez
Canada, Via E-Mail

New Zealand Calling



I read with some interest about the Pentagon's offer of \$100 million in military equipment to offset the costs of cleaning up former U.S. bases in Canada.

As a former member of the Canadian Forces, and confirmed cynic, I have serious doubts about whether the Canadian Forces will be allowed to obtain any equipment under this offer. If the government accepts this offer, in lieu of hard cash, they'll actually have to acquire new equipment, instead of using the cash to fund tree-hugging feel-good touchy-feely things.

The Lefties that have controlled the Canadian government for years will never

agree to that. Nice thought though. The CF could sure use some new equipment. Keep up the good work.

Capt. D.O. Buck
New Zealand, Via E-Mail

4th Amendment #1

I read with interest the Lee French letter detailing how police officers harassed him and searched his vehicle, all because he belonged to a shooting range. Imagine what these *Waffen SS* wannabees might have done had Mr. French been legally carrying a concealed firearm or been en route to the range with weapons and ammo in his trunk! After also being stopped for a routine traffic violation two years ago, my son's car was searched by a state trooper while returning home from college immediately after an Army ROTC meeting because he was still wearing his camouflaged BDUs. Perhaps he "fit the profile" of a militia member.

The *SOF* suggestion to invite him to the pistol range to eliminate their ignorance may have been appropriate in times past. The actions of the "police officers" goes beyond the pale of peace officer and approaches police state tactics.

My suggestion would be to obtain their names and badge numbers and file a formal complaint with the police department

AUTAUGA ARMS, INC.

SUPER SNIPER SHOOTOUT

Only The Best!

SPONSORED BY

**AUTAUGA ARMS
INCORPORATED**

740 E. Main • Pratt Plaza Mall • Suite 13
Prattville, Alabama 36067

334-361-2950 • FAX: 334-361-2961 • 800-262-9563

EUROPEAN SUPER SNIPER COMING THIS SEPTEMBER!

All active certified police, SWAT, government, or private agencies and supervisors

TAKE AIM

for the Autauga Arms Inc. Super Sniper Shootout.® Two-man teams from around the world will be competing March 15-18, 1998 at the NRA Whittington Center, Raton, New Mexico. No registration after January 1, 1998. Call for details!

and the city. Perhaps the ACLU would be interested in representing a victim of police abuses. Contacting your local newspaper could produce a public relations fiasco for that police department.

In central Pennsylvania, county sheriffs, state and local police run DUI (Driving Under the Influence) checkpoints where some 200 to 300 motorists are stopped. In the latest, a single person of the 300 stopped was taken into custody for suspicion of DUI. But 30 to 40 are routinely issued citations for minor infractions such as expired vehicle inspection stickers, burned out lights, etc.: one stop fund raising for the state. I have also heard of vehicles being thoroughly searched at these DUI checkpoints, without benefit of search warrant, merely because an officer's authority was challenged.

These abusers of power will be stopped only when their law enforcement career path is limited to mall and shopping center security. If they treat everyone as the enemy, they will be fresh out of friends when they need them the most.

Tony Gonzales, Sr.
Gardners, Penna.

4th Amendment #2

I'm afraid I don't understand why Mr. French did nothing more about the Foster Police Department other than write a letter to *Soldier Of Fortune*.

He gave permission for an "SOP" pat-down search? Did the officer explain he suspected Mr. French was concealing weapons?

What kind of patdown search for weapons produces an ID card for an indoor shooting range? Patdown searches are just that. If it doesn't feel like a weapon, the officer is not justified to dig through pockets.

A 45-minute detention because Mr. French had an ID card for an indoor range? Did Mr. French submit to a thorough search of his car because he knows "SOP" in regards to warrantless searches of automobiles? That, and he is one hell of a good citizen?

It sounds like Officer Friendly was way out of line and an immediate complaint should have been filed with his superiors for violations of search and seizure, unwarranted detention, and violations of Mr. French's rights.

You folks want to see our rights go down the tubes? Then to submit to this anti-gun crap and let them detain and search you for the slightest reason. Next they will be doing cavity searches for machine guns because you left your copy of *Soldier of Fortune* on the front seat.

Bruce Stanton
Deputy Sheriff in California
Lemoor, Calif.

MAXIMUM Tool Technology.



**SCHRADE
TOUGH**

TOOL

The new Schrade Tough Tool is made in the U.S.A. by Schrade's master craftsmen, who have been making quality knives and cutting tools like Old Timer, Uncle Henry and Cliphanger, for over 90 years. So if you're looking for a folding multi-tool that's versatile and rugged enough for the toughest challenges, then look no further because the Schrade Tough Tool...



100%
Stainless
Steel

21 Functions/
Implements

Made in the U.S.A.

- Is the easiest folding multi-tool to open and use.
- Is uniquely designed so all implements can be accessed whether the tool is folded and closed or fully opened.
- Has an exclusive locking system that makes the full sized implements extremely safe to use.
- Has a contoured, non-pinch handle for maximum comfort.

Winner of the

1997 INDUSTRIAL DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Presented by the Industrial Designers Society of America and sponsored by Business Week.



Visit our Internet Site at <http://www.schradeknives.com>

The configuration of this product is a trademark of Imperial Schrade Corp. U.S. and foreign patents pending. Copyright 1996. All rights reserved.

New Emblems from Symbols Unlimited



High Quality
100% Cotton
T-shirts &
Sweat Shirts

Symbols Unlimited

PO Box 5, Depoe Bay, OR 97341

Phone/Fax: 541 765-3235

E-mail: symbols@netbridge.net

www.netbridge.net/~symbols/Symbols.html

Now available! The Five Guards Regiments in Full Color

Full color or one color: Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, Scots Guards, Irish Guards, Welsh Guards

One color only: Parachute Regiment, Royal Marines, SAS, French Foreign Legion, Scottish Borderers, 7th Gurkha Rifles

Full color: \$20/T-shirt \$30/Sweat Shirt

One color: \$15/T-shirt \$25/Sweat Shirt

Add \$4 S/H or \$8 S/H outside the U.S. Sizes: L, XL, XXL



Catalogue available on request.

Counting On A Long Shot

The average law-enforcement sniper shot is somewhat over 70 yards, so I realize the need for first-round hits at 600 yards may seem limited. Actually there are occasions when it is useful. One of the earliest and most prominent examples is the Charles Whitman case in Texas.

On a Texas college campus in 1966, Whitman randomly shot students and bystanders at ranges exceeding 450 yards with his hunting rifle. He was able to continue his spree largely because law-enforcement had no capability to respond to his long-range threat.

Rural officers can also envision circumstances where such long-range capability would be welcome. This includes service of felony warrants at remote locations in terrain that does not easily allow concealed approach. A long-range security team can add immeasurably to the comfort level of the service team crossing open ground to execute the warrant.

For a law-enforcement sniper to develop long-range capability, he needs to acquire the correct equipment, set it up correctly and know how to use it. The most obvious piece of long range equipment is the rifle. It must be

capable of a minimum of minute of angle (MOA) accuracy (1 inch at 100 yards). A rifle that will shoot 1/2 MOA is more suitable. The acceptable rifle is often a heavy barreled bolt-action, with a synthetic or laminated stock. Minimum caliber should be .308.

The second piece of essential equipment is a scope of sufficient power and clarity. A wise man once said there are two pieces of equipment on which you should spend more than you can afford: one is boots and the other is optics. He was correct. A quality scope is essential. A fixed-power scope of around 10X power or a high-quality variable that goes to the same level is recommended. The scope must have repeatable, reliable adjustments. I recommend scopes of the quality of the Leupold VariX III with turret target knobs.

Many times it will be discovered that because of manufacturing variances, the scope, after mounting, will not have enough upward adjustment to allow shooting past 400 yards. This is particularly true if the mounting holes on the receiver are not perfectly true to the bore. As a result, after adjustment the scope's reticle pattern will be off center. When the reticle is adjusted to the extreme for windage to correct for poor scope/bore alignment, the effect is a

lessened range of elevation adjustment.

This is because scopes actually are composed of two tubes: an inner and an outer. The inner tube is moved within the outer as the reticle is adjusted. If the inner scope tube is adjusted to the extreme inside edge of the outer tube, it cannot be adjusted to the same degree in the vertical plane compared to when it is centered.

To correct or avoid this problem there are two solutions: One is to use the windage adjustable base from Leupold. You may then make the major windage adjustments to sight the rifle with the bases

rather than scope, thus keeping the windage adjustments in the center of their range and allowing full vertical adjustment potential. The same effect can be had by using Burris posalign rings which can use offset synthetic spacers between the scope and the rings. The offset spacers can be positioned to prealign the scope with the bore. This same system allows you to mount the scope with a vertical offset that can and should be used to increase your potential "sight-in" range by raising the rear of the scope, thus saving your scopes elevation adjustments for long range adjustment. This system is very durable



It has been said that the long-range amateur is concerned with trajectory. The professional is more concerned with wind effect. Trajectory is predictable. Wind, however, varies with range plus velocity and direction.

and highly recommended.

Once you have a quality rifle/scope combination together with the appropriate mounts you need knowledge and skill. With regard to the former, you specifically need to know, to a very high degree of accuracy, the distance to the target, and how much drift you will experience from any wind present. Then, you must compensate for trajectory and drift.

There are numerous non-mechanical means for estimating range that we will not go into here. They are less accurate and take a greater degree of experience to use properly than my recommendation — laser rangefinders. Laser rangefinders are now becoming affordable for any sniper serious about his job. At the lower end of cost is a unit from Bushnell that ranges to 400 yards or a bit more for around \$300.00. A newly released unit goes to 800 yards for a few hundred dollars more. These are accurate, portable, and affordable units.

Do not try to get by with lesser equipment. There are more expensive units such as the Leica which is incorporated into a superb set of 7x42mm binoculars. These are made with typical teu-

tonic craftsmanship, but are for the serious long-range shooter or agency, with a starting price of \$3,000 ranging upward to \$15,000 with GPS input, vertical angle of fire indicator, horizontal distance to target read out, and compass.

Once you have the complete rifle and laser rangefinder you need range time to build a range card for various ranges. Access to a ballistic computer program is helpful in order to give you the calculated drops, but the calculated drop per a computer is no substitute for actual range time, spent shooting groups at *known* ranges with your actual rifle and load. Once you have shot at known long-distance ranges and recorded your necessary scope adjustments, you are at a point to really start having fun and building confidence.

The easy part is over. It has been said that the long-range amateur is concerned with trajectory. The professional is more concerned with wind effect. Trajectory is predictable. Wind, however, varies with range plus velocity and direction. Your problem is to determine the wind velocity and then calculate its effect on your shot. To determine wind velocity there are various rules of thumb. Learn them and practice them. For the purposes of this article I simply recommend that you spend \$150 and purchase one of the now available electronic pocket wind meters. Keep in mind that they only tell you the wind speed at *your position*, not down range.

Now that you know the distance, your trajectory adjustment and the wind velocity (at least at your position), you need to come up with your wind correction. The primary method uses a formula as follows:

(Distance to target x wind speed) ÷ 15 = MOA of correction

DRIFT FOR .308 168-GRAIN BULLET AT 2,650 FPS					
	5 mph	10 mph	15 mph	20 mph	
Range Yards	Drift Inches				
0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100	0.41	0.81	1.22	1.63	2.04
200	1.51	3.01	4.52	6.02	7.53
300	3.44	6.87	10.31	13.75	17.19
400	6.21	12.42	18.62	24.83	31.14
500	9.95	19.89	29.84	39.79	49.74
600	14.92	29.84	44.76	59.68	69.60

This looks complicated but with use is fast and easy to use. This formula will give you the minutes of angle of correction necessary. It is based on a full-value wind (one which crosses at a 90-degree angle to your bullet path). The range is expressed as a single digit number in terms of 100s of yards. Example: You are faced with a 300-yard shot in a 10 mph full-value wind. Your formula is: (3 x 10) / 15 = 2 MOA correction. Fifteen is a constant denominator for .308 168-grain match, out to 600

Continued on page 70

Protection for a Lifetime Plus.



FREE OF CHARGE — Every Rossi firearm you purchase new that ever needs repair will be fixed by Rossi for as long as you own it! And Lifetime Plus Protection continues from generation to generation, as you pass your Rossi family heirloom to your children and they to theirs.



Model 877
6-shot, .357 Magnum, Stainless,
26 ozs., Rubber grips, 2" barrel.
\$290.00 (suggested retail)

ROSSI
FIREARMS™

Model 677
6-shot, .357 Magnum, Matte Blue,
26 ozs., Rubber grips, 2" barrel.
\$260.00 (suggested retail)

 **Interarms.**
World Class Sporting Arms

Send \$7.95 for catalog, patch and video catalog to: Interarms, P.O. Box 208, Alexandria, VA 22313. To receive catalog & patch only send \$2.00 <http://www.interarms.com>

It's Time To
RELOAD
and save over \$1,000
GET LOTS OF FREE STUFF!



Springfield Armory announces an exciting new offer for MIA buyers. Call or write Springfield for a **FREE** mini-catalog and **FREE** promotion details.

The Oldest Name In American Firearms
SPRINGFIELD ARMORY®

Springfield Inc. • Dept. SOF 1-98 • 420 West Main • Geneseo, IL 61254
309/944-5631 • Fax 309/944-3676 • springfield-armory.com

SLICK WILLIE WATCH

Peddling Paranoia For Profit

Profiteering from paranoia in America has truly become a growth industry. Fear of the unknown and the misunderstood sells and sells big. For years we have seen the so-called right-wing "patriots-for-profit" raking in the bucks while roaming the country hawking their wares and warnings: *Beware of the black helicopters and the blue-helmeted U.N. invaders*. They offer everything from books and tapes to short-wave radios, MREs, and survival gear (some of which, admittedly, has been advertised in this magazine).

Everything you ever needed to prepare for Armageddon — as seen in a twisted interpretation of the Book of Revelation or the *evil Washington* scenario of some antigovernment groups — can be had for a price.

But if you think all of these big bucks are going to the so-called "right-wing fringe," think again.

Sporting the hardly appropriate name of the Southern Poverty Law Center, a Montgomery, Ala., group led by "civil rights" lawyer Morris Dees amassed a not-so-impooverished bankroll — around \$60 million — soliciting funds for its battles with the Ku Klux Klan and other racist groups. But, in recent years, with the KKK all but broken and out of business and the others discred-

ited as simply white-trash losers, Dees and the SPLC desperately needed a new cash cow.

Enter the patriot/militia movement.

These groups were just made to order for SPLC exploitation for profit. It's not that some of these people and groups aren't dangerous; clearly, a few are. But as to the rest, if these folks themselves didn't say or do something incredibly stupid, the SPLC and others on the Liberal Left could just make it up and no one would question it.

The scary thing is, the SPLC, Anti-Defamation League, and other "experts" have an open line to Bill Clinton, Janet Reno and the Justice Department, Congress, the national news media (with their urban-Democrat/elitist bias), and law-enforcement agencies across the nation. This open line has played heavily on the passage of some of the more Draconian "anti-terrorist" legislation seen recently.

Result: Otherwise law-abiding citizens who simply have controversial beliefs are lumped in with a small, hard core of truly dangerous extremists.

Dees and the SPLC have an agenda and will do whatever it takes — including lying — to promote their left-wing, Big

KEL TEC

First the P-11 Pistol. Now the SUB-9 Rifle



The SUB-9 is a semi-automatic rifle for the 9 mm Luger cartridge. By changing the grip assembly the SUB-9 will accept most double column high capacity handgun magazines.

By rotating the barrel the SUB-9 can instantly be reduced to a size of 16 x 7 inches. The reapplication of the barrel to shooting position can be achieved in less than a second.

The P-11 is a semi-automatic, locked breech pistol in 9 mm Luger. Double Action Only, it is still the smallest and lightest full capacity 9 mm ever made.

Many accessories are now available: Belt clip, Tritium sights, trigger shoe, grip and magazine extensions.



KEL-TEC CNC INC.
PO BOX 3427
COOQA FL 32924-3427

Phone 407-631-0068
Fax 407-631-1169
E: aimkeltec@aol.com
Web: www.kel-tec.com

NOW AVAILABLE



Laos, 1969.

The North Vietnamese Army has increased their cross-border attacks on South Vietnam. Elite Special Forces Studies & Observation Group reconnaissance teams operating deep inside Laos have sighted Caucasians fighting along side enemy units. A \$10,000 reward has been offered to any team capturing one of the foreigners.

Russian army advisors? U.S. Army deserters? Special Forces Sergeant Steve McShane and his SOG recon team are selected for a special cross border operation. Their mission: infiltrate the North Vietnamese jungle sanctuaries and hunt down the "round eye". They are to use any means at their disposal to capture him, dead or alive, once they are - Across the Fence.

Across the Fence is dedicated
to the memory of

KENNETH WAYNE WORTHLEY

Command & Control Central
5th Special Forces Group

7 March 1947 — 26 August 1969

ISBN: 1-55197-477-0

Price: \$5.99 U.S./ 7.99 Can.

10% of all Royalties on this book will be donated
to the Special Forces Memorial Building Fund.

Come and read more about *Across The Fence*, and other military novels on our web site:
<http://www.commonwealthpub.com>

Or order Direct from the Publisher



9764-45th Ave. Edmonton, Alberta T6E 5C5 Ph# (403) 432-1100 Fax# (403) 432-9409
Toll Free Order Desk: 1-800-491-7737

Commonwealth Publications Inc.

Brother agenda. A few examples of BS disguised as fact:

• SPLC's militia-watchdog branch, Klanwatch, recently published a list claiming 858 patriot/militia groups that were active in the United States in 1996.

Inconvenient reality: Of these 858, better than 10% are listed as "unknown group" or "unspecified location." (Excuse me? They either are or they aren't.) Among some of the more laughable entries: The John Birch Society (in some states, but not all); The American Taxpayers Party; the Fully Informed Jury Association; the Black Panthers (give me a break); and — are you ready for this — an organization calling itself the "Texas Rangers." (Chuck Norris, watch out...)

• In July 1996, during uproar surrounding the arrests of Arizona's infamous "Viper militia," the SPLC obligingly provided the (mostly gullible) news media with a list of 26 Arizona militia groups "known to be active from 1994 to 1996."

IR: Out of the 26 listed "militias," 22 either are not militias or don't even exist. That includes seven "name unknown" or "location unspecified."

• In its winter 1997 issue of *Intelligence* [sic] Report, Klanwatch writers blame "suspected right-wing terrorists" for "the 1995 explosion that derailed an Amtrak train in Arizona." Elsewhere appeared a photo of the train wreck accompanied by the caption, "The 1995 bombing of a section of track that caused the derailment of an Amtrak train may reflect tactical changes in the anti-government movement."

IR: Not only was there no "explosion" or "bombing" — the train was derailed after someone had manually removed 29 spikes from the track — but in October 1996 Bruce Gebhard, special agent in charge of the FBI office in Phoenix, acknowledged that there was little likelihood that the crash was the work of militia or patriot types.

Further, in September 1997 (it would seem, in plenty of time for Klanwatch's winter report) an FBI Behavioral Science Unit

profile of the derailment suspect described him as a "liberal" and a "loner" — hardly a "right-wing" militia member.

By no means is the Southern Profitable Law Center alone in peddling paranoia. For example, there's Kenneth S. Stern, the American Jewish Committee's "expert" on hate groups.

By his own admission, prior to 1994 Stern had never even heard of militias. Yet, according to his 1996 book, *A Force Upon the Plain*, he is now considered "America's leading expert on the militia movement." Pretty heady laurels for someone who can't seem to get his facts straight.

As only one small example, while discussing Timothy McVeigh and the OKC bombing in his book, Stern wrote, "Some remember McVeigh at a 1993 Soldier Of Fortune Convention in Phoenix." Oh really? It may come as a shock to Mr. Stern, but as any long-time SOF conventioneer can attest, there never was an SOF Convention in Phoenix in 1993, or any other year for that matter. (There has been only one in Arizona: in Scottsdale in 1981 — another inconvenient reality.)

When confronted on national television by SOF National Affairs Editor James L. Pate on this and other factual errors in his book, Stern resorted to the intellectual liberal's immediate-action drill of rolling his eyes skyward, shaking his head, and clucking.

In other words, Stern had no defense for his sloppy research.

The dangerous thing about such people and groups is not that they go after real criminals and hate-mongers, which is truly laudable, but that they sweep with such a broad brush that it tars anyone who doesn't march in lockstep with their ideals and agendas. (Kind of like the tactics of the Nazi party in Germany in the '30s.) And anyone who questions their propaganda or agenda is quickly branded as a purveyor of anti-Semitic, racist, etc., etc., hate speech.

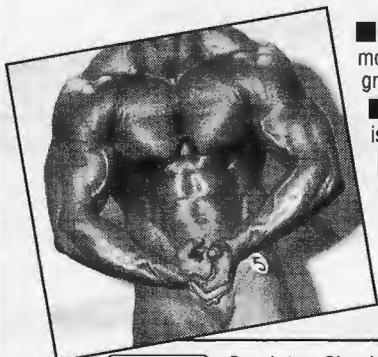
It is a tactic, unfortunately, that President Clinton himself embraces. ☒

• DIRECT FROM BULGARIA •

STEREROIDS

SAFE STEROID REPLACEMENT WITH NO SIDE EFFECTS!
- NO PRESCRIPTION NEEDED - ANYTHING STRONGER WOULD BE ILLEGAL!!

DIRECT FROM BULGARIA



■ TRIBULUS TERRESTRIS - Dramatically increases testosterone levels (the most potent natural anabolic = androgenic hormone). Increased testosterone means easier muscle growth along with increased fat burning.
■ TRIBULUS TERRESTRIS - Imported directly from Bulgaria. This anabolic is absolutely the best muscle producing, body fat reducing product available.
■ TRIBULUS TERRESTRIS - Maximum anabolic muscle enhancement, great for athletes who want to gain size, strength, definition, and enhanced fat loss.
■ TRIBULUS TERRESTRIS - Tested on healthy men show testosterone levels significantly increasing 30% or more in just 5 days (Milanov, Maleeva and Taskov, documentation, 1981.)
100% GUARANTEED RESULTS!

DIRECT FROM BULGARIA




Send Check or Money Order to: **P.H.D. PHARMACEUTICALS**
 5603-B W. Friendly Ave., #260 • Greensboro, NC 27410
1-800-914-6559

Suggested Cycle Using TRIBULUS TERRESTRIS

Week 1 - 500mg/day
 Week 2 - 500mg/day
 Week 3 - 500mg/day
 Week 4 - 750mg/day
 Week 5 - 750mg/day
 Week 6 - 750mg/day
 Week 7 - 750mg/day
 Week 8 - 500mg/day
 Week 9 - 500mg/day

One Bottle (90 Tablets) \$29.95 + \$5.00 S&H Two Bottles (Special get 3rd FREE) \$59.90 + \$5.00 S&H FREE Underground Newsletter with order	Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Phone (____) _____
---	---

• HOTTEST ANABOLIC ON THE MARKET •

Now, You Can Destroy Any Attacker Using Never-Before-Seen "Killing" Techniques

Creator of Official U.S. Navy SEAL Combat System Releases Brutal New Gun & Knife Sections Of His Instructor Qualification Fighting Series

Can you disarm a man holding a knife to your throat? What if a car-jacker sticks a gun through your window — and your wife, girlfriend, or child is sitting beside you?

In an often brutal yet professionally direct approach, Jerry Peterson's new video series shows you how to destroy these attackers, while taking you to the ultimate level of fighting.

The culmination of a 2-year transformation from actual SCARS military archive techniques, his **Instructor Qualification Series** offers you the opportunity to learn what until now was taught to military Special Operations forces (SEALS, Rangers, Green Berets, etc.).

It's been called "the most brutally effective fighting system ever seen."

Before explaining more about this system, here's how Jerry Peterson, the creator of this system, became the first — and only — civilian ever to standardize, license and teach a hand-to-weapon fighting system to the United States military.

In 1989, Naval Special Warfare Command (NSWC), the group which controls all SEAL activity, was looking for ways to standardize hand-to-weapon combat techniques. After an exhaustive review, they had rejected every single martial art form in the world.

They found each completely unworkable in combat-oriented fighting situations where SEALS were in full gear, carrying 100# packs, and often knee-deep in water.

Amazing Scientific System

Then a SEAL NSWC officer (with black belts in 3 martial arts) saw Jerry Peterson's scientific fighting system. What he stumbled on wasn't martial arts. In fact it was unlike anything he'd ever seen before.

The SEAL officer watched in disbelief as a class of inexperienced students threw real punches for virtually 1 full hour, never repeating the same sequences. In one session he witnessed more fighting than most martial arts students see in a year.

Later, two top brass at NSWC saw the officer demonstrating moves he'd learned. But intrigue turned to doubt when they learned the originator was an ex-Army enlisted man.

Still they met with Jerry, as much out of admiration for his Vietnam record as anything (he spent 15 months as lead point for Charlie Company, the 173rd Airborne — one of the most decorated units of the war). As Vietnam vets, the SEAL officers figured Jerry at least would understand their needs.

Easily Defeats Decorated SEAL

But they were totally unprepared for what happened. To prove his system, Jerry Peterson and a highly-decorated SEAL Officer (and at 240, 100 pounds heavier than Jerry) went toe-to-toe — but at half speed. To the Officer's amazement he was instantly disabled and dropped to his knees.

Only then did he realize — had he not been talked out of going full speed by others who knew the awesome power of Jerry Peterson's system, his false confidence in his martial arts training and in his sheer size advantage would have left him with an arm broken as easily as a match stick!

In 5 short minutes these SEAL officers — men who had seen everything in the way of brutal fight-

ing, and who had virtually unlimited budgets to develop the SEALS into the world's best — were blown away by Jerry Peterson's *Autokinematic™* fighting system.

Officially Required SEAL Training

Following a pilot program at Command headquarters all SEALS began receiving this training. Still, hardheaded, cocky, non-believing SEALS, many with extensive martial arts backgrounds, constantly tested Jerry:

□ SEALS are the most proficient combat swimmers in the world. Yet 40-year-old Jerry (who wasn't a particularly good swimmer) "drowned" SEAL after SEAL in training. His scientific principles apply on any terrain.

□ SEALS are trained to run 20 miles in soft sand. But Jerry (who really wasn't in great shape) had them gasping just 5 minutes into his first workouts while he participated effortlessly. He used breathing techniques others had never seen (techniques he can teach you in minutes).

□ In Europe Jerry challenged a deployed SEAL platoon to pin him against a wall. All thought it a joke. Yet he escaped — from the grasp of 14 of the most proficient fighting men in the world (then showed it was no trick — simply physics, and easily learned).

Today SEALS use all these scientific techniques and many more. Since 1989, Navy SEALS go through a minimum of 40 and up to 600 rigorous hours of Jerry Peterson's training prior to deployment (often in intense, 24-hour a day sessions).

Top Government Officials Amazed

His system was demonstrated to Navy Admirals, a 4-Star General, and Congressional leaders — as well as the Secretary of the Navy and the U.S. Secretary of Defense!

Jerry was even called in prior to Desert Storm to brief the military on using *Neural Offensive Linguistics™* (a cornerstone of his system, it defines a mind set which eliminates all defensive thinking, allowing anyone, even you, to make instantaneously correct decisions in the midst of any hostile environment).

Devastating Power Gives You An Unfair Advantage

In his HCS video course Jerry Peterson introduced you to his revolutionary system.

Now, with the publication of *Jerry Peterson's SCAR-HCS Hand-To-Weapon* fighting system, Jerry leads you into the never-before-seen world of brutal, no-holds-barred gun, knife and club fighting — material you've never seen (unless you were in elite Special Operation forces).

You'll learn the same hand-to-weapon techniques, the same mental approaches, the same 'kill' sets Jerry developed for over 200 SEAL SCARS instructors. (These SCARS instructors now teach this system to all branches of the military Spec Op forces — Army, Navy and Air Force).

You'll know how to defeat, seriously disable and, when necessary, kill anyone threatening your life or the life of a loved one or friend!

Guaranteed To Work In Your Most Nightmarish Hostile Situation

Everything in his system was proven in the most intense war lab of the past 30 years — Vietnam!

But this isn't a course to impress friends at your Karate studio. The Instructor Qualification Series is Jerry Peterson's complete professional fighting system.

And professional fighting has but one objective: to defeat an attacker incredibly fast. In 29 years Jerry's longest fight lasted but 5 seconds!

This system is only for those who need a powerful yet amazingly simple system (simple because it's based on quickly-mastered scientific principles not a difficult art form) to protect them in life-threatening situations.

No Navy SEAL has ever lost in hand-to-hand combat when correctly applying Jerry's system! And they never will (nor will you) because ... his system is undefeatable!

This Totally Integrated System Enables You To Destroy Any Attacker — With Absolutely No Fear Or Hesitation!

Cheap imitators advertise fighter after fighter after fighter — a hodgepodge of unrelated, non-scientific moves. Now they even lie, hoping to con you into believing SEALS would lose to these guys. But they know. No one beats a Peterson-trained SEAL.

These 'wanna-bes' teach one move if an attacker swings a fist at you, another if he's got a knife.

But Jerry Peterson's scientific system teaches you why you MUST use the exact same techniques — with a weapon or without! What everyone else teaches is wrong. Just ask the SEALS!

The imitators claim they've trained Navy SEALS. But Jerry Peterson is the sole creator of the official hand-to-hand and hand-to-weapon combat fighting system used by the SEALS today.

He's the only civilian with a Naval Special Warfare course number (SCARS-CFC# K-431-0096) plus a new \$2.5 million military facility predicated solely on his SCARS training.

The Navy SEAL 'wanna-be' trainers? They've got nothing — no official status, no course number.

Free Special Report Reveals GUN And KNIFE Fighting Secrets

Jerry Peterson's system is brutal. It has to be. Yet it's surprisingly easy to learn. It requires NO athletic ability, NO speed, NO conditioning.

And because his videos offer an unprecedented 3 camera angles (including a new overhead shot), you can learn this scientific system in just days; specific techniques often in just minutes.

Jerry has created a Free special report revealing the amazing details about his scientific weapons fighting system — the system which has made the Navy SEALS an undefeatable fighting force.

It's easy to get your free copy. Just call

1-800-600-1420

24-hours for a Free recorded message to get your Free report. International, call 602-921-8533.

© Copyright 1996 Charlton & Co., Inc.



Official SEAL SCARS-CFC
Creator Jerry Peterson

I Was There

by Major Mike Williams



Simbas, Syphilis And Monkey-Meat Sandwiches

In September 1964, I sat in a small *gasthof* in the town of Erlangen, West Germany, looking at an ad in a Frankfurt newspaper,

“WANTED: FIT YOUNG MEN. Interesting outdoor work, prior military service preferred.” A Johannesburg, South Africa, telephone number was added.

I phoned and a hoarse voice with an Afrikaner accent answered. He questioned me about age, prior military experience and foreign languages, if any.

When I asked him specific questions about what types of operations were ongoing, he said that based on what I’d told him he felt sure they could use me.

My wife, at the time, was visiting her eldest son stationed at a local U.S. Army post. While hardly delighted about my dashing off to Johannesburg, she agreed to chauffeur me to the Frankfurt airport for my flight to Rome — to Entebbe — then touching down, finally, in Salisbury, Rhodesia.

After a two-day rest, I departed Salisbury for Johannesburg. Jan Smuts Airport was all but deserted.

I approached Customs and Immigration where a short, barrel-chested Afrikaner, sporting a bushy, handlebar mustache, checked my passport and shook his head. “Ach, man ... you’re in a spot of trouble.”

His partner, a larger clone, walked over, glanced at me, then at my passport.

By their looks, I could almost hear the cell door clang shut and the wholly unwelcome *cracks* of whips across my bare back.

“What’s the problem, Sir?” I asked, striking a half-assed version of standing to attention.

(Saying “Sir” to anyone in uniform in a foreign country is always a splendid idea in that it will indicate that you are a boot-licking, ass-kissing, harmless, American idiot.)

The pitying looks I got from the immigration officers bolstered my theory.

“Ach, man, you don’t have a visa for South Africa.”

Telling him that no one in Salisbury had briefed me on that little matter seemed pointless.

“Why did you come to South Africa?”

I cleared my throat and blurted, “to join the mercenaries and fight for *your* country.”

Abruptly, clouds cleared, bands played, the sun shone and birds sang, smiles broke out, and handlebars waggled.

“Right, then. If you’re staying more than 48 hours you’ll have to call me. My name ees Van der Merwe.”

He handed me my passport and waved to a tall, skinny black African standing outside the exit doors next to a taxi. When the porter

trotted in, officer Van der Merwe spoke to him in a torrent of gibberish, ending in the words “Dawson Hotel.”

In the morning, I dialed the Jo’burg number and the same voice I’d heard in Erlangen answered and instructed me to meet him in the hotel coffee shop.

Mr. Ian Schmidt (given the situation in South Africa now, I’ll use that name) waited ’til I nodded, then walked over to the table and sat down.

After shaking hands and checking my ID, he said that *we* had an appointment near the Dawson. His small sedan was parked near the corner. Ten minutes later we walked into a small, musty office.

Sitting behind the desk was a partially bald fiftyish man with a heavily tanned weathered face.

Ian introduced me to Mr. “Van der Merwe.”

I opened my briefcase, pulled out my

(above) Major Mike Williams (right), author, former Congo merc and ex-deputy commander of Grey’s Scouts in Rhodesia; Paul Fanshaw, a former Sergeant Chef in the French Foreign Legion; and SOF Editor/Publisher Robert K. Brown (left) have devoted decades in helping freedom fighters around the globe.

license, log book, and airline ID and handed them over. Ian's eyes bugged.

"Ach, man! You said nothing about being a pilot!"

I tap-danced around, spilling nothing about my previous assignments with the 10th and 77th Special Forces Groups. Until I knew what was going on, I opted to use my flight time as a cover.

"Where did you get the Harvard time?" he asked. I was confused for a minute then realized he was using the British designation for our North American AT-6 advanced trainer.

"Sir, I owned a Harvard and used it to commute to work times."

Van der Merwe studied the rest of the pages and jotted down the total times in various types of equipment. Then he asked, "Do you speak, read and write French?"

I said yes.

He looked over at Ian and said, "Start Captain Williams tomorrow at the administrative office."

With that I was hired. I found out the next day that job was to translate from French to English the six-month contracts issued by the Congolese government to mercenary volunteers.

There were any number of bizarre things about the Congolese exercise, not the least of which was the fact that Moïse Tshombe, the President of the Congolese Republic, secretly flew into Jo'burg for a series of private talks with the President of South Africa, Dr. Vorwoerd, asking for help from the South African government to save the Congo from a communist takeover.

Those talks resulted in the call for volunteers to go to the Congo and help Tshombe in his fight for survival.

Foremost among the volunteer groups was 5 Commando, under the command of Col. Mike Hoare.

Such is the mystery of Africa, where a black government asks the head of an apartheid government for help.

After two weeks, aiding in the recruiting process, translating contracts from French to English, and answering questions about the Congo (about which I knew absolutely nothing) I was told of my transfer to Kamina Base, Katanga Province, Belgian Congo.

On final approach into Kamina, I noticed another C-54 parked on the hardstand with an ant-like line of people rushing toward it.

After deplaning, I asked one of the airport guards who those people were. He grinned and said, "Many want to go home. Some have disease from village girls, how do you call it? Syphilis?"

I congratulated him on his English.

In a barracks, which served as an officers' billet, I had just thrown my kit bag on a bunk when several people entered: Two of them unhappy returnees from the Stanleyville raid.

A major sat down on the opposite bunk and informed me that there had been a prob-

Continued on page 69

Save Big Money on Ammo... Hit What You're Aiming At!

It's no secret that sighting with ADCO dot sights is fast and accurate. Now ADCO has 2 lines to choose from: VANTAGE™ and MiRAGE™. Either one puts you on top of your game. MiRAGE Ranger™ has been part of ADCO's premier line of dot sights for years. Light weight and durable, MiRAGE models offer a 5 year warranty. Now the VANTAGE line offers similar features at a value price level with a 2 year warranty. The 1 inch versions shown here weigh only 3.9 ounces and are ideal for hunting and target. Also available: 30mm & nickel.



VANTAGE prices start at \$129

RANGER prices start at \$159

ADCO SALES INC.
10 Cedar St., Woburn
MA 01801, 617-935-1799

We have the future in our sights™

World Wide Web Full Color Catalog: <http://www.adcosales.com>

Even better after a few adjustments.

The new Custom Target has all the great features that make the Kimber .45 today's best production 1911, along with a premium adjustable sight. Designed for the Gold Match target pistol, this fully adjustable sight features positive steel-on-steel click adjustments for pinpoint, dependable accuracy. Suggested retail price is just \$745. For more information visit our web site at kimberamerica.com.



For a 20 page catalog, send \$2 to Kimber, Dept. 766, 1 Lawton St., Yonkers NY 10705, or call (800) 880-2418.

ADVENTURE QUARTERMASTER

NEW HELP FOR NUKE NARCS

As the potential smuggling of nuclear materials from former Warsaw-Pact countries has created a global specter of biblical proportions, a great deal of international effort has converged on an attempt to keep such materials within their countries of origin. That means, among other things, more effective border policing. Although also interested in preventing an outflow of nuclear materials, many former Soviet countries are essentially without funds to upgrade their detection ability for stolen nuclear fission material.

The Overseas Inspection Agency (OSIA — an arms control implementation agency under DoD) places emphasis



on preventing nuclear smuggling, and to enhance expertise on the part of countries whose governments we are encouraging to block such activity OSIA is supplying nuclear detection kits to more than a dozen countries bordering on the former Soviet Union. Government Systems International of Chantilly, Va., is supplying the detection kits, which include fiber-optic scopes, density detectors, laser range finders, radios and other sophisticated hand-held devices tailored to detect smuggled nuclear materials. For more information, interested agencies and NGOs may contact Steven J. Slater at ESTN Communications; phone: 301-585-5050.

DISASTER RECOVERY YELLOW PAGES

When disaster strikes (and it does, you can count on that) one of the hardest and most important steps is recovery. After the sandbags are up, after the fire is out and the fallen trees are out of the road, individuals, communities and municipalities have to start putting it back together. If you're well organized, you probably already have contingency plans in place ... *but where do you start?*

Probably one of the best places to start is with a cup of coffee and a copy of the *Disaster Recovery Yellow Pages*. In fact, this volume should be part the contingency plan you make *before* disaster strikes. Based on nearly two decades of disaster planning experience, the sixth edition of this 320-page comprehensive source book is designed to help its users locate scores of crucial but hard-to-find recovery services throughout North America. It lists more than

NEW! HOGUE OVERMOLDED™ RIFLE STOCKS

Available for the Ruger 10-22 & 77, Remington 700, Winchester 70 and AR15/M16 rifles models for standard and heavy barrels

Revolutionary O.M.™ Series stocks are made so that the action fits precisely in a rigid fiberglass reinforced insert (skeleton) assuring accuracy and durability. The insert is then completely **OverMolded** with the same rubber Hogue Grips are famous for.

- SLEEK STRAIGHT COMB
- VARMINTER STYLE FOREND
- AMBIDEXTROUS PALM SWELLS
- DROP IN INSTALLATION

COMFORTABLE
NON-SLIP
STEALTHY
QUIET



Bolt action models come standard with aluminum pillar bedding or full length aluminum bedding block.

Ask about our new target barrels for 10-22 rifles.

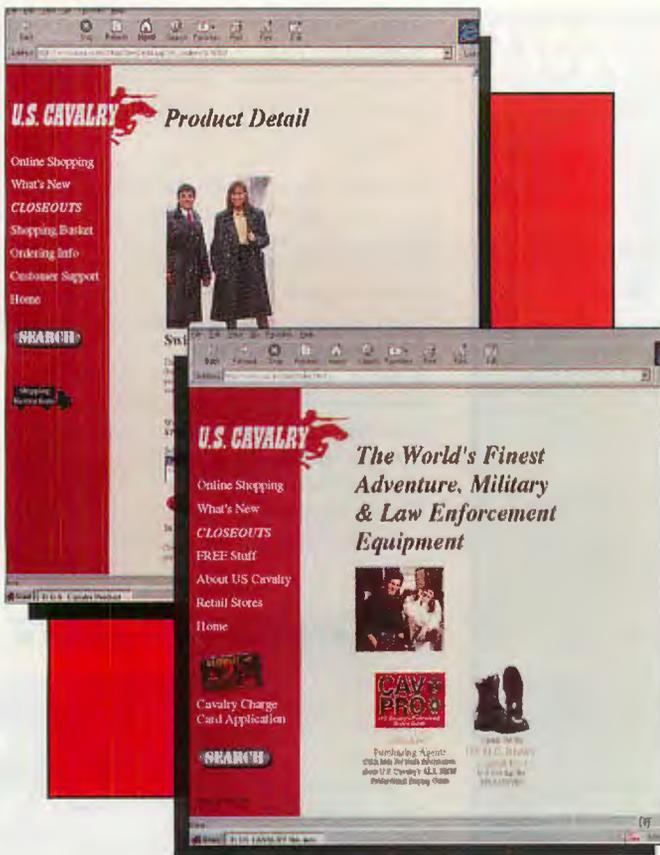
AR Kit includes a rubber OverMolded free float aluminum forend tube for a super comfortable grasping area that insulates your hand from the heat and vibration of rapid fire.

Super-strong, but lightweight rubber AR grip — designed to retain the aesthetics of the rifle while providing a comfortable grip with finger grooves and palm swells. Available with or without forend tube.

CALL TOLL-FREE FOR A
FREE CATALOG OF HOGUE PRODUCTS
1 800 GET GRIP (1-800-438-4747)

or 805-239-1440 • FAX 805-239-2553
P.O. Box 1138, Paso Robles, CA 93447
<http://www.getgrip.com>
(OVERMOLDED STOCKS ARE PAT PENDING)

HOGUE
INC



3,000 vendors and more than 350 categories from the drying and dehumidification of paper and microfilm records, smoke-odor counteracting services, trauma counselors, emergency rentals of

POS and other computer equipment and so on. This reference contains five comprehensive sections covering restoration services, mobile buildings, computer and emergency equipment, planning and data recovery — even training publications and videos. It also contains a tutorial on areas frequently overlooked when preparing disaster recovery plans, and hints on “getting started” and preparing such a plan. *El Nino* is here, and who knows what’s coming: Get a copy.

For free brochure or to order *The Disaster Recovery Yellow Pages*, contact: The Systems Audit Group, Dept. SOF, 25 Ellison Rd., Newton, MA 02159; phone: 617-332-3496; fax: 617-332-4358.

CAV CATALOG ON-LINE

Good news! No more waiting for the next updated edition of the U.S. Cavalry Store’s catalog of military, adventure, outdoor and law-enforcement equipment: Get it on-line. The beauty of this program is you get instant listings of special deals, limited purchases, closeout specials, free stuff and ordering info. More than 3,000 items — and a secure system for ordering on-line. Click ’em up and check ’em out at www.uscav.com. For technical information contact Ray Schuhmann of Kinetic Corporation; phone: 502-719-9561; or Mary Ann Fitzharris at ntr.net Corporation; phone: 502-583-3777.

MEAT OR MAGGOTS, IT’S YOUR CHOICE

Couldn’t have put it better ourselves. *Traps and Trapping* is the volume we have been waiting for in survival guru Dr. Ron Hood’s series the *Woodmaster*. The other excellent volumes covering shelter, water, navigation and other vital topics have been covered in earlier reviews: Now it’s time to get ready for dinner. Veggies will do, and insects and grubs may suffice, but critters are better — if you have the knowledge and expertise to efficiently and humanely take and prepare them. Aboriginal people have done it without

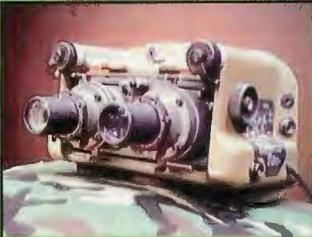
NIGHT EAGLES

FROM

EXCALIBUR

Contact us for more information on these and many other products.

Prices Include Shipping and Two-Year Warranty!

 <p>EAGLE EYES Military-Style Goggle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Great for Nighttime Navigation * Hands-Free Operation; Headstrap Included * Stereoscopic Vision Provides Depth Perception * As Low As \$1,995 	 <p>EAGLE SPIRIT Night Weapon Sight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Perfect for Hunting Nocturnal Varmints * Weaver Adapter Included * Adjustable Elevation and Windage * As Low As \$1,595 	 <p>NEW!</p> <p>STRIKE EAGLE Day/Night Weapon Aimer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Daylight, Red-Dot Aiming * Weaver Adapter Included * Night Vision Laser Aiming to 1,000 Meters * Shown with Optional 3X Lens * As Low As \$1,695 	 <p>AMERICAN EAGLE The “Original” Pocketscope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Excellent for Surveillance and Photography * Hand-Held/Camera Adaptable * Lens Options Allow Long & Short Range Photos & Video * As Low As \$995
--	--	--	---

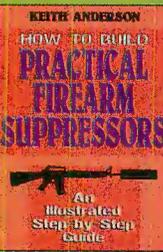
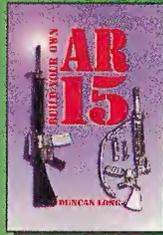
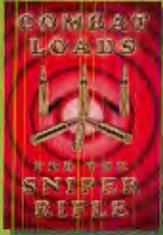
Available in
Gen II & Gen III

EXCALIBUR ENTERPRISES
PO BOX 400, FOGELSVILLE, PA 18051-0400
(610) 391-9105 e-mail: xcalibur@ptdprolog.net FAX (610) 391-9220

WORLD’S LARGEST STOCKING DISTRIBUTOR OF LITTON AND OTHER HIGH QUALITY NIGHT VISION SYSTEMS

Made in the USA!

CONSTRUCTION • DO-IT-YOURSELF BOOKS



COMBAT LOADS FOR SNIPER RIFLES

A long hard look at what sniper loads can and can't do. Accuracy and penetration tests on trees, steel plates, cars, etc. reveal surprising results with both commercial hunting and military AP ammo. Includes the author's own AP bullet designs and loading data. A must have for the military weapons specialist, survivalist, or handloader. 156 pp.

Item No. C-123 \$12.00

THE POOR MAN'S SNIPER RIFLE

At last, a complete work on the conversion of readily available surplus military rifles to high performance sniper weapons. D. Boone, describes and illustrates how to make the conversions. You will be able to accurize certain bolt action rifles to sniper grade performance for a price that is a small fraction of a commercial sniper type rifle. The book cover selection of a surplus rifle, stock to barrel/action fit, sniper triggers, sights, & ammo. 5 1/2" x 8". 150+ pages, photos, illus., soft cover.

Item No. C-9212 \$14.95

BUILD YOUR OWN AR-15

Have you looked at the various do-it-yourself kits and decided that they might be too tough to tackle? If you answered yes, then this book is for you. You can build your own AR-15 for no more than the cost of a stock rifle and have a one-of-a-kind weapon that you built yourself. This book contains all of the information and directions you need to completely assemble the AR-15 from a basic kit or with individually procured parts. 5 1/2" x 8 1/2", 104 pgs, drawings & photos, soft cover.

Item No. C-9281 \$14.95

CONSTRUCTION OF SECRET HIDING PLACES

Have you ever needed to hide something where no one could find it? Well this book is what you're looking for. Over 60 pages of clever hiding places, large enough for guns, jewelry, and just about anything else. Sure to help you out when needing a place to stash that valuable item. Soft cover. 63 pages, 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" illustrations.

Item No. C-415 \$11.95

THE LITTLE BLACK LOWER

At last, a complete work on the conversion of readily available surplus military rifles to high performance sniper weapons. D. Boone, describes and illustrates how to make the conversions. You will be able to accurize certain bolt action rifles to sniper grade performance for a price that is a small fraction of a commercial sniper type rifle. The book cover selection of a surplus rifle, stock to barrel/action fit, sniper triggers, sights, & ammo. 5 1/2" x 8". 150+ pages, photos, illus., soft cover.

Item No. C-9212 \$14.95

HOW TO BUILD PRACTICAL FIREARMS SUPPRESSORS

This book is written for people who have more than a passing interest in silencers, as well as those who just want something cheap and easy to build. While most of the suppressors in this book are designed to be cheap and very simple to build, they are also intended to provide a good degree of service and long lasting performance. The legal applications of silencers are numerous. Varmint hunters not wishing to scare the rest of the game away can find them valuable. Survivalist and paramilitary groups have numerous uses for them, as do collectors and enthusiasts who simply enjoy silent shooting.

Item No. C-9259 \$14.95

SUBMACHINE GUN DESIGNER'S HANDBOOK

This book was written to be a handbook for those interested in the design and construction of submachine guns. The first section on submachine gun history and design characteristics includes chapters on Future Trends, Historical Notes, Basic Requirements and Design. The second section covers ammunition. The final section includes working drawings of two of the most functional and easiest to build SMG's: the Sten MkII and the PPSH 41. 8"x11", 94 pp., illus.

Item No. C-113 \$16.95

CREDIT CARD ORDERS ONLY
(MC, VISA, DISC, AM EX)

CALL OUR
TOLL-FREE ORDER LINE

1-800-852-4445

CUSTOMER SERVICE

1-870-862-4984

FAX NUMBER

1-870-862-9671

ALLOW 2 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

SORRY, NO C.O.D.'s



Add \$5.95 S&H to all orders
plus an additional \$3.00 for orders to Canada.
Other foreign orders: add \$12.00 for first item
and \$2.00 for each additional item.

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

Delta Press Ltd.
215 S. Washington St.
El Dorado, AR. 71731

Dept. SF981

Send \$4 for a 72 page, color catalog
(FREE with an order)

sophisticated tools, as can anyone who has been properly trained. Let Ron Hood train you, as he probably knows more about the topic than any man you'll meet not wearing a loincloth.

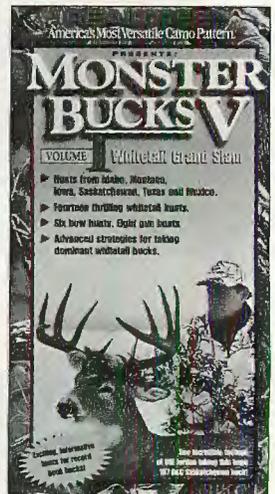
Covered in this excellent-quality video are topics such as safety, machine and holding traps, trap "engines," bird traps, figure-four traps, two-stick deadfall, quail cup trap, deer snares, X-cut traps, twitchups, "Hood Lunch Launcher," wishbone trap, hand fishing, tracking tricks, finding good trapping sites and much, much more. Ron Hood is a good mentor, and his videos are good trainers. Solid stuff, the sort of thing you want to learn before you need it. Contact Hoods Woods Wilderness Video Productions, Dept. SOF, Box 383, Lake Hughes, CA 93532; phone: 805-270-9435; order by phone at: 888-257-BUGS.

REALTREE'S MONSTER BUCKS V

Next best thing to stalking deer and frying 'em up is swapping hunting stories or watching real-life movies of others doing the same. The specialty of Bill Jordan, inventor of Realtree camo patterns, is sneaking up or luring them in close (very close, as in closer than any SOF staffer could because of scent considerations). And he puts together some excellent videos in the process.

Jordan's new video release comes in two volumes. Volume 1 covers hunts from Idaho, Montana, Iowa, Saskatchewan, Texas and Mexico (six bow hunts, eight gun hunts). It includes advanced strategies for taking dominant bucks, and includes some incredible film, as of an encounter between a coyote and mature buck; a 155-class Montana buck taken at seven yards, plus profiles of some of the largest whitetails ever taken and ride-alongs as various notables stalk and harvest record-book deer.

Volume 2 covers hunting with the pros in six bow hunts and seven gun hunts in Iowa, Montana, Texas, Saskatchewan and Mexico. Features unbelievable footage of Realtree's Mike Waddell coaxing a big 8-pointer to within 10 steps, and Milwaukee Brewers pitcher Ben McDonald arrowing a 168 P&Y Iowa buck over a decoy. Fascinating footage, and they come separately @ only \$14.99 each. See your local sporting goods dealer or contact Realtree Camouflage, Dept. SOF, Box 9638, Columbus, GA 31908-9638; phone 706-569-9101. ☒



SWITCHBLADE - AUTOMATIC KNIFE COLLECTORS!

"The Automatic Knife Resource Guide and Newsletter"

Sources for ALL automatic knives!

- Rare and scarce antiques.
- American-Italian-German
- High-Tech production models.
- Exotic handcrafted customs.

A MUST for ALL switchblade fans!

- Packed with FIRST-CLASS photos
- Maintenance & repair tips
- Free classified ads
- The LATEST trends
- Informative articles and features

Check out our WEB SITE:
thenewsletter.com

Now in our SIXTH YEAR!



TO ORDER YOURS: send \$10. for a single issue or \$30
[\$38. Foreign] for a one-year (4 issue) subscription to.

THE NEWSLETTER

2269 Chestnut St., Suite 212A
San Francisco, CA 94123, U.S.A.

For 24hr. information call 415-664-2105

Professional Locksmithing Tools

LOCKAID

Specifically designed to pick tumbler locks. Designed over thirty years ago to aid law enforcement agencies. Consists of tension wrench, three needles and Lockaid "Gun." Prices include a copy of the book "Lockpicking Simplified."

Lockaid \$69.95



PIX MODEL 13

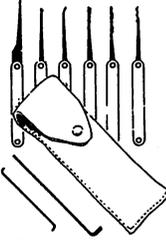
This deluxe yet compact kit features 11 of the most commonly used tools. Comes in a slim cowhide leather case for discreet undercover operatives. As a special bonus, a 5-piece set of warded picks is included. A 16-piece set total. Also included, a copy of "Lockpicking Simplified." Receive all this at a low price of Pix 13 \$42.95



PXP 8

- Shirt Pocket Size.
- Top Grain Cowhide Leather.
- Has 8 Picks, Tension Wrenches and Broken Key Extractor.
- All Picks with Metal Handles.
- Copy of Lockpicking Simplified.

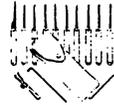
PXP 8 \$24.95



PXP 10

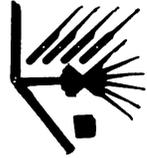
- Shirt Pocket Size.
- Top Grain Cowhide Leather.
- Has 13 Picks, Tension Wrenches and Broken Key Extractor.
- All Picks with Metal Handles.
- Copy of Lockpicking Simplified.

PXP 10 \$34.95



PIX-EZ All-In-One Pick-Set

100% American Made! As convenient to carry and use as a pocket knife! Only 4 inches long, half inch square, weighs under five ounces, works fast and opens pin and waster tumbler locks quickly, with very little effort. Six tempered spring steel picks, tension wrench. \$34.95



WKS PICKS

Made of the finest blue tempered spring steel, this 5-piece padlock pick-set is a must in every locksmiths' tool box. This set will pick open most every warded padlock made today. \$9.95



Lockpicking Simplified	\$8.50
Complete Guide to Lockpicking	\$15.00
Improvised Lock Picks	\$9.95
Tubular Locks	\$8.95
Lockout and forced entry	\$11.95
Involuntary Repression	\$10.95

BOOKS

Safe & Vault manipulation	\$9.95
How to Pick Pins & Wafers	\$9.95
Combination Locks	\$8.00
Keys by Impressioning	\$8.00
Key Casting Manual	\$8.95
Locks, Picks, Clicks	\$10.00

MONTHLY SPECIAL

RECEIVE A COMBINATION SET

INCLUDES — 5 ITEMS

1-MD-16 DELUXE SET	\$59.95
1-SCHALGE WAFER SET	\$29.95
1-SESAMEE DECODER	\$17.95
1-WKS PICKS	\$ 9.95
1-DOUBLE SIDED TUMBLER PICKS	\$29.95
A VALUE OF \$147.75	

AT A LOW PRICE OF \$89.95



ESP-13

This handy new pick set is the most popular set among professional locksmiths today. This kit consists of 12 different tools housed in a handsome black leather case designed for a shirt pocket. Included in the price, you receive a 5-piece warded key set and a copy of "Lockpicking Simplified." 17-piece set total. ESP-13 \$45.95



SESAMEE DECODER

This tool was designed to decode the exact combination of a sesame padlock without damaging the lock. Detailed instruction included.



\$17.95

MINI PICK TUBULAR

The most effective tubular pick on the market, unlike the larger picks with long handles or screwdriver handles. The longer the tool, the more pressure needed which causes easy breakage. The advantage of the Mini Pick is it is so short, you only use your thumb and index finger. With a little practice this tool will open a tubular lock in less than a minute. A. Your Choice: (1) Center (2) Offset left (3) Offset right; B. "Segal" 8 pin tubular; C. 5-pin Tubular; D. 6-pin Tubular; E. 8-Pin Ace.



\$79.95

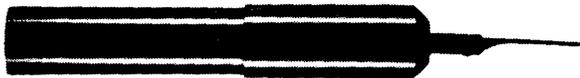


DOUBLE SIDED DISK TUMBLER PICKS

Set of 4 picks designed to be used on the most popular double-sided disk tumbler, showcase, cam and padlocks.

\$29.95

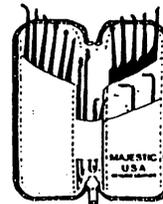
Electric Picks



\$29.95

The best single tool for most pin tumbler locks • Opens many locks in seconds
High quality aluminum construction • Used by locksmiths worldwide

E100C (3 volt) \$ 99.95

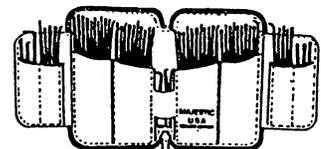
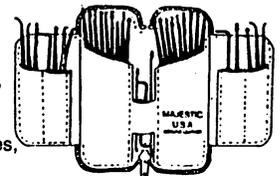


MD16

Shirt Pocket Size, Top Grain Cowhide Leather, Zippered Case, has 16 Picks, Tension Wrenches and Broken Key Extractor. \$59.95

MD32

Hip Pocket Size, Top Grain Cowhide Leather, Zippered Case, has 32 picks, Tension Wrenches, Broken Key Extractor. \$69.95



MD60

Top Grain Cowhide Leather, Zippered Case, has 60 picks, Tension Wrenches, Broken Key Extractor and Warded Master Keys. \$109.95

Catalog \$3.00 — Free with order.
Allow three weeks delivery
on Personal Check Orders.
Money orders ship same day
received.

NEW! All major credit cards
accepted.



P.O. Box 68, Dept. SF1, Dexter, OR 97431; (541)726-6360
Web Address: www.gun-room.com

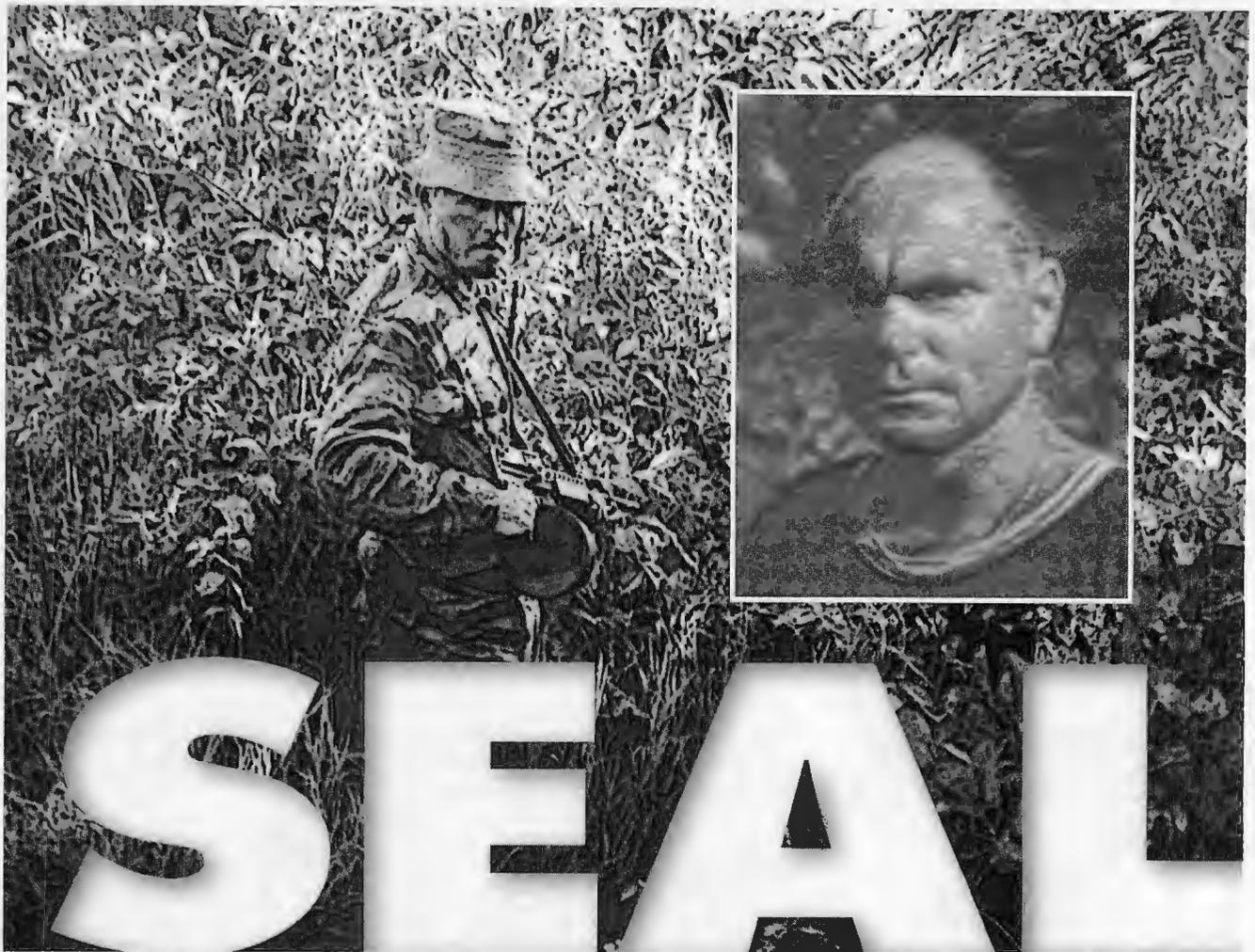
The law requires all
purchases be
made in good faith,
without make
believe or fraud by
genuine persons
within this industry

Send to
**Steve Arnolds
Gun Room**

Postage & handling
\$6.00

Overseas postage add
30% of total.

Must be 18 years
of age



SEAL TEAM TWO

PRUs To The Rescue

Editor's note: *The December 1997 issue of SOF contained Good to Go: 7th Platoon at My Tho, the story of how Seventh Platoon, SEAL Team Two, withstood assault after assault of Viet Cong regular forces during the Tet 1968 offensive in the Mekong Delta town of My Tho. While that account is certainly an epic example of how SEALs give battle while on the defensive, it does not depict the effectiveness of their offensive operations. The exploits of Bob "Eagle" Gallagher, Harry Constance, Roy Dean Matthews, Fred Keener, Bob Peterson, and many others are largely unknown outside the small community that was SEAL Team Two during that heroic era. This series of articles is designed to bring some of those exploits to light.*

Seventh Platoon, SEAL Team Two (ST-2), was in 1968 as formidable a combat force as ever trod the terrain of South Vietnam. Unfortunately for the Communists, several other SEAL units, just as lethal, fought throughout the country. While Can Tho and My Tho (in the Mekong Delta), Nha Be (just south of Saigon), and Da Nang (in the north of the country) were the best known SEAL "home bases" during the Vietnam War, several smaller operations went on throughout the country at all times.

Among the deadliest was a Provincial Reconnaissance Unit (PRU) led by Senior Chief Petty Officer Bob "Eagle" Gallagher and Petty Officer Second Class Harry

by Capt. Larry Bailey, USN (Ret.)

Photos courtesy Harry Constance

Constance — the same two SEAL operators who figured so prominently in the defense of the Navy compound in My Tho during Tet '68. As the only Americans in this

particular PRU — based in Soc Trang, another small Mekong Delta town — Eagle and Harry performed the functions of commander, operations officer, paymaster, intelligence officer, quartermaster, and all the other command-and-headquarters personnel normally found in a battalion.

PRUs, basically, were company-sized units comprised of "chieu-hoied" (defected)

(above) SEALs Harry Constance (left) and Bob "Eagle" Gallagher (right) led a Provincial Reconnaissance Unit on a variety of potentially deadly missions, including the live capture of a North Vietnamese Army colonel from his honeymoon hootch. Gallagher was awarded a Silver Star for the feat; Constance got a free beer.

Viet Cong, young men seeking legal draft exemptions, adventure-seekers, criminals, and draft-dodgers. According to Constance, his PRU was about 50% *chieu hois* (pronounced "choo-hoys"), with the rest a mix of the others. Gallagher disputes that, guessing about 80 percent were *chieu hois*.

Forging SEALs

Harry had been deployed to RVN with a new platoon. Upon his arrival in-country, however, Gallagher drafted Harry to be his "number two." During the early days of the 1969 Gallagher/Constance regime, Harry was told to select 12 likely candidates, from among the 120 or so PRU troopers, to train as SEALs (or something close as possible) within two weeks. As recounted by Harry in *Good to Go*, his wartime autobiography, Gallagher was specific in his instructions. "At the end of those two weeks, I want them to be able to sneak through the woods, and do everything we are able to do." Judging from the PRU's extraordinary accomplishments, Harry succeeded.

Harry described to me the difficulty he and Gallagher had in organizing and equipping the PRUs for combat against the Viet Cong. First, the two Americans had to overcome the reputations of previous advisors who lined their pockets with bonuses, and other funds, that were rightfully due the PRUs. Next, they had to retrain them in their own image — as professional military men capable of penetrating deep into enemy territory and wreaking havoc. Finally, they had to gain

trust — proving themselves as leaders who could take their men into harm's way and get them out again.

Capturing A Colonel

While scores of stories resulted from Eagle and Harry's tour with the PRU, among my favorites is the capture of a North Vietnamese Army colonel. Based on intelligence reports, this individual (let's call him Col. Dinh) was trained in the Soviet Union, was a member of North Vietnam's Lao Dong (Communist) Party, and was in South Vietnam to develop Viet Cong training procedures. His political level was comparable to that of province chief in the RVN government, and he was part of the policy-making elite of the communist forces.

Col. Dinh's capture involved every element of military planning and execution. Ironically, no RVN or U.S. forces would have even known of his presence in the South except for an egregious breach in Viet Cong operational security. Dinh, luck had it, made the mistake of marrying a local lass in something of an elaborate ceremony. Unfortunately for him, Gallagher's PRU intelligence network got wind of the wedding and the groom's identity, which set in motion a chain of events that resulted in Dinh's capture within days of his marriage.

After many days of careful planning and preparation, Gallagher and Constance led a picked party of Harry's specially trained PRU "SEALs" on a two-day approach march across the Delta countryside. While

the trek alone was a formidable consideration, it was complicated by known Viet Cong concentrations along the route, which caused the group to negotiate a dog-leg line of march in order to avoid them. Constance said Gallagher spent many hours poring over maps to develop a route least likely to result in enemy contact. The prospects for success — even survival — were "iffy," to say the least.

"Anybody going on that operation would have had to be out of their mind," Constance told me recently.

Maybe so, but the results were a sane victory.

Crashing The Honeymoon

Arriving in the wee hours of the morning at Col. Dinh's honeymoon hootch, after their 48-hour walk through the countryside, the patrol carefully reconnoitered the area. They posted security before executing the capture plan, which called for Harry to pin the sleeping colonel before he had a chance to wake up. When

Members of SEAL Team Two's 7th Platoon go ashore from the Mekong River in 1968. Assisting SEAL commanders in the late '60s were several Provincial Reconnaissance Units (PRUs), consisting of defected Viet Cong, criminals, draft dodgers and adventure seekers. To carry out special missions, such as the capture of an enemy colonel, 12 members of one PRU were trained in short order by Constance to do everything the Navy's elite SEALs could do.





Gallagher gave the order to assault the house, a PRU man held the front door open while Harry entered the darkened hut at full speed, intent on getting a quick pin-and-tie. Unfortunately, Murphy's Law took charge with a low-hanging rafter poor Harry ran into full speed, knocking himself senseless and becoming a non-player in subsequent events.

Entering the house just behind the stunned Constance, Gallagher immediately encountered his target — a fully aroused soldier of large stature — and had no weapons for defense. Eagle's intent was to take the officer alive, and he went immediately into a hand-to-hand mode. Recently, Gallagher told me his quarry was one tough son of a gun, and the outcome of the fist fight was more than once in doubt.

"That guy could punch like a mule," he recalled. "And I didn't know if I was going to subdue him or not."

Strong stuff, coming from a guy well-known for his ability to prevail in any such "social" situation, from barroom brawl to *mano-a-mano* confrontation.

After what seemed a lifetime of slug-

ging, scratching, and rolling on the ground, Gallagher managed to draw his pistol and shoot the colonel in the thigh, thus ending the fight. The group then exited the area, bringing with them the highest-ranking officer ever captured up to that time. Harry claims, of course, that Gallagher forced him to shoulder-carry the captive on the 1 1/2-day return trek to Soc Trang. Gallagher says that's half true — that he alternated with Harry in humping the incapacitated prisoner through paddy and tree line. At any rate, they arrived back in Soc Trang and turned the colonel over to "higher authority," which forbade them from discussing the capture and reading any of the treasure trove of documents found in the hootch.

Official Secrecy

The North Vietnamese soldier was considered such a precious commodity, in fact, that "authorities" told Gallagher and Constance he had died. What really happened, Gallagher surmises, was that he remained very much alive and the "authorities" simply didn't want the enemy to know one its senior officers was in American custody.

Despite their secrecy, the powers-that-were were so delighted with the result of the operation they awarded the Silver Star to Gallagher. Harry, in turn, says he got a free beer from Gallagher as just reward.

During the many hours spent with Harry Constance in recent months, I've made it a point to glean from him as much information as possible about his hero, Eagle Gallagher. Ever since I first met Gallagher in '64, I've wondered what made the man



(above, left) When Constance was deployed to RVN with a new platoon, Gallagher drafted him to be his "number two" man. They teamed up to lead one of the deadliest PRUs in Vietnam, each taking turns to perform functions as commander, operations officer, paymaster, intelligence officer, quartermaster, and all the other command-and-headquarters personnel found in a battalion. Here, Constance handles a Stoner 63 automatic rifle, the SEAL's trademark Vietnam weapon. (above) Seventh Platoon SEALs socialize just after the siege on My Tho during the Tet offensive. From hotel windows, the platoon fired rounds at the enemy for four hours before the firing died down, amassing hundreds of bodies in the kill zone.

tick. I still don't know the answer to that, but the accounts others have given me of his actions in combat compel me to state unequivocally that he was the most formidable warrior the U.S. military ever deployed to Vietnam.

No SEAL who ever operated with Gallagher will dispute that assertion, as each has his own tale of "what Gallagher did when ..." I recall a legendary instance of his unique ability to handle difficult social situations.

Gallagher, The Gunny, And His Wife

It occurred at the Chief Petty Officers' Club at the Amphibious Base in Little Creek, Va., back in the mid '60s. Seems Gallagher was minding his own business at the bar when a Marine gunnery sergeant attempted to provoke a fight with him. While Gallagher tried to avoid physical violence (really!), Gunny persisted in his efforts, which were rewarded when Gallagher exploded all over him. Result: one prostrate and unconscious Marine on the deck of the Chiefs' Club.

Upon seeing the animal Gallagher vanquishing her beloved with such brutality, Gunny's wife accosted our hero, cursing him and beating his chest with her clenched fists. When repeated warnings failed to dissuade her from beating a tattoo on his pectoral region, Gallagher had no choice — he nailed her on the jaw with a right that put her down for the count beside her husband. An eyewitness told me he never saw anything as funny as that devoted (if unconscious) couple laid out alongside each other on the barroom floor, with Gallagher sipping his beer just above them as though nothing had happened. (This was not, by the way, among the incidents that resulted in Gallagher being banned from the Chiefs' Club.)

Other accounts of Gallagher's pugilistic endeavors are nearly countless. This article, however, is supposed to be about military combat. So we'll return to Vietnam. There, Gallagher was viewed with awe by those closest to him, officers and enlisted alike.

Sometimes, however, those who didn't know him had to be awestruck in a forceful way, like when an overbearing Marine colonel tried to intimidate Gallagher during his PRU days. It seemed (and I heard basically the same version of this tale from both Eagle and Harry) the good colonel, a muck-amuck in the highest levels of the PRU organization in Saigon, arranged to visit Gallagher in Soc Trang, where he lived and operated in the so-called "Embassy House." Upon his arrival, Gallagher took the colonel to his room for a private conversation, leaving behind a SEAL lieutenant from Can Tho, who was accompanying the colonel.

Raising Gallagher's Ire

It soon became obvious the Marine was intent on imposing his own stamp of military discipline on the local PRU. There was some question in his mind about Gallagher's status. He knew Gallagher was military, but wasn't sure of his rank status — confusion Gallagher did nothing to clear up. In a series of pointed questions, the colonel made it clear he would impose con-

ventional military constraints on Gallagher's unconventional organization. A question of whether Gallagher and Constance carried U.S. identification cards sent Gallagher over the edge.

Says Gallagher: "I made a couple of strong statements to the colonel, and the colonel left shortly thereafter." I was unable to coax Gallagher to go beyond that, except to say that a few days later he received a conciliatory note from the colonel, along with a copy of *Rogers' Rangers 21 Rules* (the most important of which, in my mind, is "Take care of your men").

Constance recalls things slightly differently. He insists there was a USMC sergeant major accompanying the colonel, who thought it the better part of valor to depart the premises when it became clear a major confrontation was brewing between Gallagher and the colonel. Harry says, "I have a photographic collection of Eagle standing up behind the table he was sitting at and shaking his finger in the colonel's face. After the sergeant major and I went outside and closed the door, we could still



(above) "When Gallagher gave the order to assault the house, a PRU man held the front door open while Harry (pictured) entered the darkened hut at full speed, intent on getting a quick pin-and-tie. Unfortunately, Murphy's Law took charge with a low-hanging rafter poor Harry ran into full speed, knocking himself senseless and becoming a non-player in subsequent events." (left) Rin-tin-tin became a famous scout dog for SEAL Team Two in Vietnam. Capt. Larry Bailey, USN (Ret.), will tell the dog's full story in a future *SOF* edition, as part of his ongoing series about SEALs in Vietnam.



Seventh Platoon SEALs haul three Viet Cong prisoners out of a boat at the U.S. Naval Base in My Tho.

hear loud talk going on. I didn't know what to do, nor did the sergeant major. Anyway, a few minutes later the colonel came out while telling Eagle what a fine operation he was running." The PRU continued to function as before.

Softer Side Of A SEAL

As "bad" as Gallagher was in dealing with the curious, the bureaucratic, and the

incompetent, he was nothing short of goodness and light in dealing with those who depended on his courage, leadership, and instincts for their own survival.

As previously mentioned, he was hero-worshipped by his PRU troops, who frequently had been short-changed in their salaries and denied their bonuses by unscrupulous U.S. civilian "advisers." In *Good to Go*, Constance relates how he over-

heard conversations between two of those advisers in which they discussed inflating figures on weapons captures and how they sent thousands of dollars in cash back home. Gallagher, on the other hand, saw to it his men were paid fairly, treated courteously, and led from the front. And when a soldier was killed, he saw to it the family received all death benefits due them, and more.

The aggressive and focused leadership provided by Gallagher and Constance resulted in scores of dead, injured, and captured Viet Cong (not to mention hundreds of weapons) during their six-month tenure at the Soc Trang Provincial Reconnaissance Unit. Although no records were kept of their body-count effectiveness, I have it on highest authority that Gallagher's personal count was in the dozens.

In future issues, Larry Bailey will give more true accounts of how SEALs (and Bob Gallagher and Harry Constance, in particular) fought the Vietnam War. In the next article, learn how Gallagher won the Navy Cross and established himself as a SEAL Team Two legend. Future articles in this series about SEALs at war will provide detailed accounts of "Eagle" Gallagher's courage under fire, his leadership under pressure, and his unique ability to summon what Bailey calls "warrior instinct" to harm the enemy, but keep his own men unscathed. ✕

As a group, the Vietnam SEALs, who numbered some 500 at the war's peak, have no right to complain about the frequency and level of the awards they received. In terms of men involved, it's been said, SEALs were the most decorated combat force in the entire Vietnam conflict. Three Medals of Honor, nine Navy Crosses and a multitude of Silver Stars and Bronze Stars were bestowed on the members of SEAL Teams One and Two in Coronado, Calif., and Little Creek, Va., respectively.

believing that SEALs were properly held to a higher standard. In that context, Gallagher told me in a recent conversation that he has always believed that the entire framework of awards for valor should be re-examined. After listening to his rationale, I'm inclined to agree with him.

Basically, he maintains that too many high awards are given to men who — although comporting themselves dramatically, if not heroically — are acting out of necessity. He uses as an example

Consciously Tempting Fate

Had the SEAL leadership been as attentive to the award medals for valor early in the war as they became toward its end, there would doubtless have been significantly more ribbons worn on the community's uniforms. The experience of Seventh Platoon, SEAL Team Two, is instructive in that regard. As far as I've been able to determine, the siege of My Tho during Tet '68 by that band of determined sailors resulted in absolutely no awards to any of the dozen or so participants in that action (see "*Good to Go*," Dec. '97).

Considering the nature of its combat operations, neither did Seventh Platoon receive a significant number of awards prior to the '68 Tet Offensive. Yes, Bob "Eagle" Gallagher received the Navy Cross (next in seniority to the Medal of Honor) for the heroic actions he took in coordinating the rescue of LT Bob Peterson's squad during an epic encounter with a Viet Cong regular force battalion in late '67, but few, if any, of the other participants received so much as a Bronze Star.

This was typical of the early days of the SEAL Team Two commitment to the war. Nobody paid any attention to the lack of awards,

the action described above in which 7th Platoon fended off the VC battalion. While he acknowledges that he and others acted commendably, he points out that neither he nor the other squad leader, LT Peterson, planned to encounter an enemy force of such size. He seems to believe that it was expediency, not courage, that led him and others to perform so admirably.

What he is saying here is that greatest consideration should be given to those acts resulting from a conscious decision to expose oneself to the likelihood of serious harm or death, as opposed to that given those acts performed out of desperation. In truth, "no-choice heroism," — having to perform in dramatic fashion in order to save one's life — while commendable from a practical perspective, should not be the stuff of which higher awards are made.

Gallagher is right. Those military men and women who consciously go into harm's way knowing that injury or death is likely, as opposed to possible, should be recognized on a higher level than those who simply respond to the circumstances in which they find themselves, however hazardous those circumstances.

From 30,000 feet the vast Sahara Desert takes on the appearance of a surreal Martian landscape. For the past few hours there had been nothing under the wings of the *Air Afrique* Boeing 747 but the reddish-brown hue of the world's largest desert. There was plenty of time to reflect on the assignment ahead and to wonder why the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms was undertaking an op in Africa.

My part in this adventure began on a mild September night in Washington, D.C., in 1986, when the special agent in charge (SAC) of the Explosives Technology Branch (ETB) at ATF headquarters phoned me at home.

"Is your passport up to date?" he asked. "Are you up to date on foreign ordnance, especially Russian?"

After I answered both questions in the affirmative, I was instructed to report to the Department of State the following morning for a visa, shots, and a plane ticket.

"There's been an attempted coup in Africa and the State Department wants someone to examine and evaluate the guns and explosives and stuff," the SAC said. "You're going to Togo."

After hanging up the phone I thought, "I'm going *where*?"

Sitrep: Togo

The following day, a crisp new visa for the *Republique Togolaise* in my pocket and a throbbing load of gamma globulin serum in my butt, I and Ed Owen, chief of the ATF's Firearms Technology Branch, were briefed on the situation.

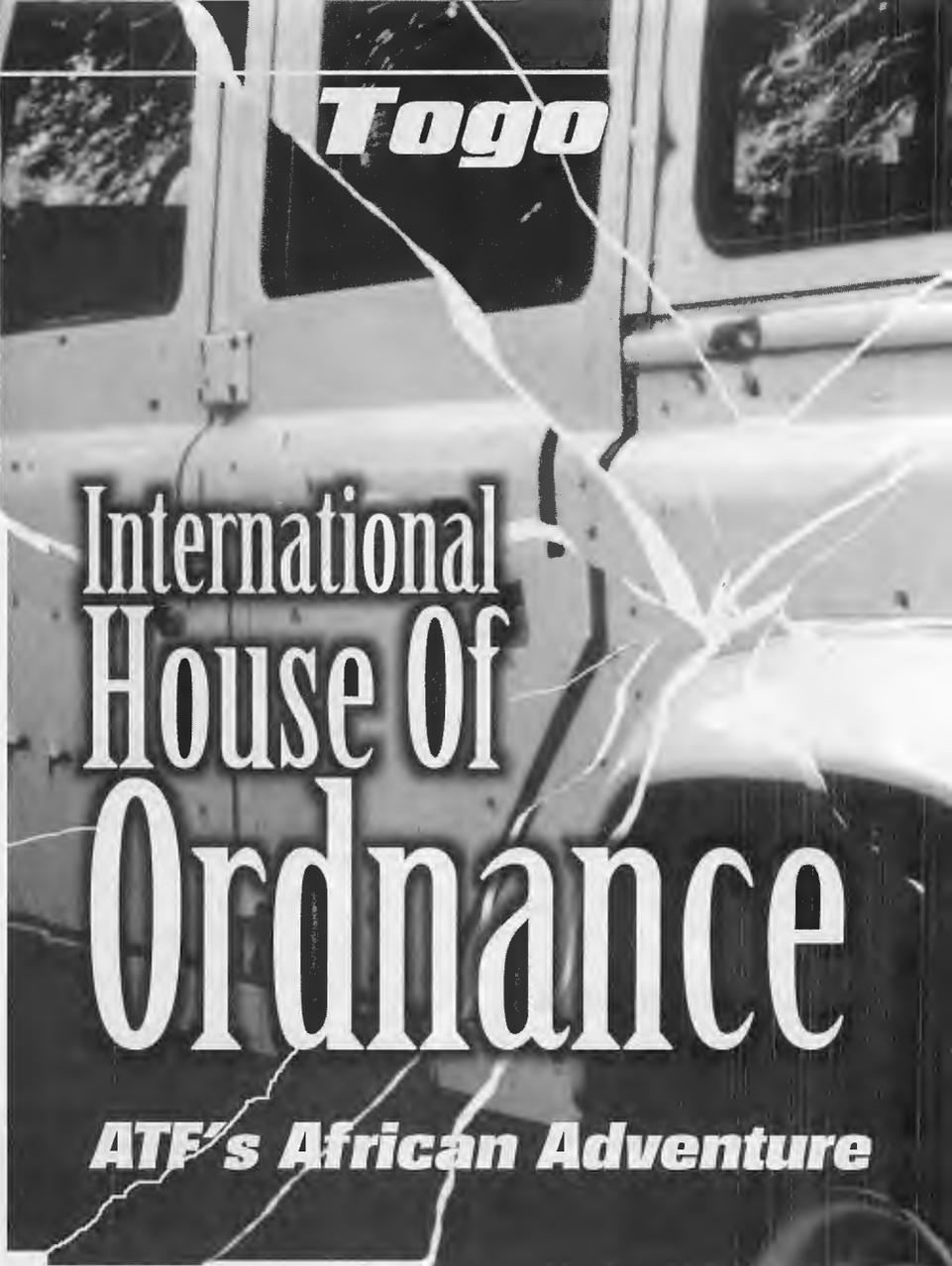
The West African country of Togo had just thwarted an attempted coup d'état and wanted U.S. observers to view firsthand the captured bounty from its victory over a communist incursion. A group of expatriate Togolese were said to have staged the failed

Text & Photos by Richard L. Sherrow

coup from the neighboring country of Ghana. Their plan was to slip across the border into the capital, Lomé, seize the radio and TV stations, and broadcast word that an overthrow had taken place. The rebels would then request military assistance from Ghana, whose president, Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, would release his troops (standing by on the border) to enter Togo and back up the "new" government.

As with most of Africa, ongoing friction between Togo and Ghana dated back to pre-colonial tribal conflicts.

In 1919, with the dissolution of the German protectorate, Ewe tribal land was split into British and French Togoland. In 1956, British Togoland and the Gold Coast merged to form what is now Ghana. Four



years later, French Togoland gained its independence and became simply Togo. Borders and names may change but tribal lands and animosities remain. What is now the southern region of Togo, including Lomé, was initially founded by the Ewe tribe, which remained dominant until the colonial and post-colonial periods. Although the Ewe outnumber the Kabye in

Togo by nearly 2 to 1, this was not reflected in the army, where 90% of the officers and 70% of the troops were Kabye. It is no surprise that President General Gnassingbe Eyadema was also Kabye.

On the other side of the border, Ghana's Marxist President Rawlings, an Ewe, had long sought to rout Eyadema and the Kabye from Togo. Making no bones about its leftist leanings, Ghana had openly courted Soviet military and economic assistance — all the



Occupants of a Land Rover riddled with automatic-weapons fire probably did not survive.

Frederick Forsyth's mercenary novel, *The Dogs of War*.

After a short night's sleep, we headed along the coastal highway toward Togo. At the border it seemed that half of the Togolese troops simply wanted to shoot these white devils and get back to sleep. The other half stayed asleep. After an hour or so of bribes, threats, and BS, we were safely across and headed to the capital.

Arriving in Lomé, the first order of business was to head north to the U.S. Embassy to pick up equipment and to get a current sitrep: Things had calmed down somewhat, but the military was still more than a trifle touchy.

We loaded our gear into an embassy Jeep and headed for the beach and the Hotel Sarakawa. Pulling up in front of the five-star hotel, we were greeted by the cold stares of two soldiers posted at the main entrance. When one of the State Department staffers pulled his backpack from the back of the Jeep and slung it over his shoulder, out popped the antenna of a portable radio. Up came two evil-looking submachine guns, bolts back and pointed right at us.

To say that the next few seconds were tense would be an understatement. The only sound — besides that of sphincters slamming shut — was Owen giving us a technical rundown on the subguns: "They're French MAT 49s: 9-millimeter submachine guns. They fire 600 rounds per minute from an open bolt and have a *shitty* grip safety." This didn't make me feel any better. Fortunately, a quickly spoken mixture of French and Kabye defused the situation; the weapons were lowered *most* of the way toward the ground.

The next morning we were off to the palace for a meeting with President General Gnassingbe Eyadema.

Foreign Muscle

Although Togo has been considered a pro-U.S. "island" in a sea of Marxist neighbors, it was no secret that it had kept its options open. Togo's ties to North Korea were obvious. Driving down the *Rue du Colonel de Roux*, past the Independence Square, you couldn't help but notice the larger-than-life bronze statue of President Eyadema, a gift of the North Koreans. In addition to maintaining an embassy in Lomé, the Pyongyang regime provides Eyadema's personal bodyguards.

A real eye-opener awaited us at the presidential palace: a ZU-23-4 Soviet-bloc

(far left) Togolese army lays out captured weapons, ammo, ordnance, and personal gear for inspection by U.S. experts dispatched by State Department. (middle) Americans inspect weapons and clothing taken from rebels, including (left) a variety of voodoo charms and amulets.



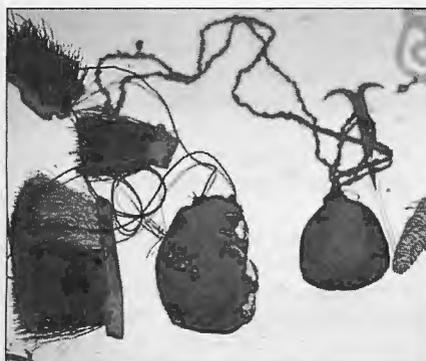
while suckering a gullible U.S. government out of millions of dollars in foreign aid.

Armed And Touchy

Since the situation in Togo was still "not quite stable" and the airport in Lomé remained closed, our plan was to fly into the neighboring (Marxist) country of Benin, spend the night, then drive cross country to the Togolese capital.

Stepping off the plane in the port city of

Cotonou, Benin, the first thing that hit us was the humid tropical air. A quick glance toward the bottom of the aircraft stairs was rewarded by icy eye contact with a pair of AK-47-toting soldiers. This sight — coupled with the fact that the day before, two European tourists had been blown out of their Birkenstocks for photographing the president's residence — suggested to me that Benin hadn't changed much since a 1977 coup that served as the inspiration for





Kalashnikov magazines, loaded and ready for use, cover several tables: nearby, a variety of 9mm semiauto pistols and magazines cover one table; Sherrow, then an ATF explosive-ordnance disposal technician, checks out a folding-stock AKM assault rifle.



courtesy author

23mm anti-aircraft gun perched on the well-manicured front lawn. Then, with brown-suited soldiers keeping an eye on us, we were escorted into the palace for our meeting with the president. Walking down the tiled halls to the presidential suite we were well aware of the North Korean bodyguards, tucked away in the shadowy corridors, eyeing our every move.

As we entered his office, Eyadema rose from his desk, smiling, and waved us over

to a table. "Please," he said, "join me in coffee."

With fine china cups brimming with too-strong coffee and the obligatory small talk soon out of the way, we were treated to Eyadema's heroic account of how he *personally* led his troops in victorious battle against the godless communist invaders. It wasn't exactly how some of the U.S. Marine embassy guards described it but, what the hell — it was his story and his palace.

Talk soon turned to why we were here: to examine the captured hardware. President Eyadema assured us of the fullest cooperation of the government, and that we were free to begin at any time.

Oh, by the way, some of the rebels survived the firefight. Did we wish to interrogate the prisoners, the president asked. No, thank you very much, we don't even want to see the prisoners.

Ordnance Smorgasbord

Arriving at Togolese army headquarters we found, lined up side by side on the dirt parade field, a dozen or so bullet-riddled cars, trucks, buses, and taxis the invaders were driving when they rolled into the army's ambush.

Our next stop was a thatched-roof, open-sided mess hall-turned-exhibition hall, where we found a smorgasbord of ordnance, field gear, explosive charges, and small arms and ammo, all laid out on a 15x30-foot rectangle of tables. Piles of blood soaked fatigues, improvised bandages, and cammies lay next to bullet-pocked helmets and civilian-style walkie-talkies. Alongside a boom box and cassette tapes of African chants was a motley assortment of voodoo fetish bags, sunglasses, and AKM bayonets. There were East German ammo pouches filled with scores of fully loaded AK-47 and AKM rifle magazines, and banded wooden cases of Soviet-made 7.62x39mm ammo.

As we made our initial walk-around, Owen asked an army officer if *all* of the weapons had been cleared. No sooner had he received an affirmative answer than Owen casually picked up an AKM, jacked back the bolt, and caught the ejected live round in midair.

Not content with merely making a liar out of the man, Owen immediately added insult to injury by angrily throwing the round across the table and into the chest of the open-mouthed officer. In short order a very pissed army colonel, bearing the tribal facial scars of a Hausa, made it abundantly clear that we were *persona non grata*.

Back to the embassy to sit on our thumbs.

The Lockerbie Connection

Without a doubt, the most intriguing and important of the materials recovered by U.S. agencies after the 1986 Togo coup attempt were two Swiss-made, compact electronic timing devices. Measuring just 3x3 inches, these state-of-the-art integrated circuit (IC) demolition timers were capable of 100% accurate delays of 1 to 99 minutes or 1 to 99 hours.

With no small amount of effort, one of these devices was brought back to the United States. After thorough examination and testing by the ATF, a briefing was given at CIA headquarters and the timer was turned over to the agency for evaluation.

Two years later, on 26 October 1988, the West German *Bundeskriminalamt* (BKA)



courtesy BKA



courtesy BKA

Toshiba radio-cassette player (left) seized by West German authorities in October 1988 raid on PFLP site was a disguised bomb identical to that which later destroyed Pan Am flight 103. Swiss-made demolition timer recovered in 1986 in Togo (middle) is identical to that used in this type of bomb. A timer is at lower-right in the interior of German-seized bomb (right).

raided a suspected PLO terrorist safehouse in Neuss. Found in an automobile belonging to Hafez Kassem Dalkamoni, a senior lieutenant in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), was an improvised explosive device (IED) concealed in a black Toshiba radio-cassette player. The device was professionally constructed, probably by Ahmed Jabril, a former Syrian army officer and chief bomb-maker for the PFLP-GC.

At the heart of the IED seized in Neuss were 312 grams (10 ounces) of Semtex-H plastic explosive, a barometric (altitude) switch — and an exact copy of the IC timer recovered in 1986 after the Togolese coup attempt.

Then, just two months later, Pan Am flight 103 was blown out of the sky by a terrorist bomb over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing all 259 onboard and 11 people on the ground. As investigators painstakingly sifted through the wreckage, they discovered the remains of a black Toshiba radio-cassette player and a clone of the now-infamous "Togo timer."

— R.L.S.



Rebels' factory-fresh, Soviet-made RPG-7 launchers and PG-7 rockets also were captured during coup attempt.

Not Quite Ready

The following day, after tempers had cooled and rank was pulled, we were back on site. It didn't take long for us to figure out that the attempted coup had not been a fully developed military threat. For one thing, most of the hand grenades had *not* been armed.

In addition to a number of French model-1935 fragmentation grenades, there were two cases of Russian F-1 frags. Unlike U.S. hand grenades, Soviet F-1s are issued without the fuzes installed. Packed 20 to a crate, F-1s come with a Bakelite-type plug in the fuze well, with the UZRGM fuzes packed 10 each in their own sealed metal cans.

To put these grenades into action you first must open the fuze cans using a supplied can opener (which resembles an extra-large "P-38" GI tool). Next, you remove the individually wrapped fuzes from their containers, unwrap them, remove the grenade shipping plug, and thread the UZRGM fuze into the fuze well — pretty time-consuming if you're under fire in the middle of a coup. (Interestingly, the markings on the grenades' shipping crates were in English, while the fuze cans were marked in Russian and French.)

A persistent myth about UZRGM grenade fuzes refuses to die. That is, that the numerical markings on the fuze's detonator tube indicate the *delay time* of the fuze. Not true. In fact, these are merely factory markings and have no bearing on delay times. (To re-verify this, I conducted Togo field tests of several differently marked fuzes: The average delay time was 3.72 seconds, which was within the Soviet-accepted standard delay.)

Spread out next to the grenades were

several shiny, new RPG-7 rocket launchers along with piles of Russian PG-7 and Bulgarian PG-7M rockets. As with the F-1 grenades, the rockets, launch motors, and launchers were factory-fresh in their stiff, canvas carrying bags and still sealed in protective plastic wrap. However, there was some dried blood staining the ordnance, and two of the launch motors had bullets imbedded in them. As with the Soviet grenades, the PG-7 rockets and launch motors were labeled with English instructions.

The captured bullet-belchers came in two categories: assault rifles and pistols. The rifles were a collection of wooden-and folding-stock AK-47s and AKMs of various Soviet-bloc manufacture. The handguns ranged from Makarovs and Browning Hi-Powers to French 9mm MABs — even a newer model Walther P.38. As it turned out, the only gun that was traceable was the P.38, whose last-known address was Tripoli, Libya.

International Cast

The explosives fell into two categories: military and commercial. While most had the unmistakable print of Ivan's hands on them, other material may have been added to "salt" the stash.

Among the military explosives was a case of French 250-gram (8.8 oz.) TNT blocks which, although reported to have been buried in the jungle for several months, didn't have a speck of dirt on them. Czech and Russian military detonators (blasting caps) were found along with French and Canadian commercial ones. Of particular interest were several commercial electric dets that were *very* similar to a shipment of 5,000 factory rejects that federal law-enforcement sources maintained had been sold by a "Canadian explosives firm" to a "Middle Eastern client" a year earlier.

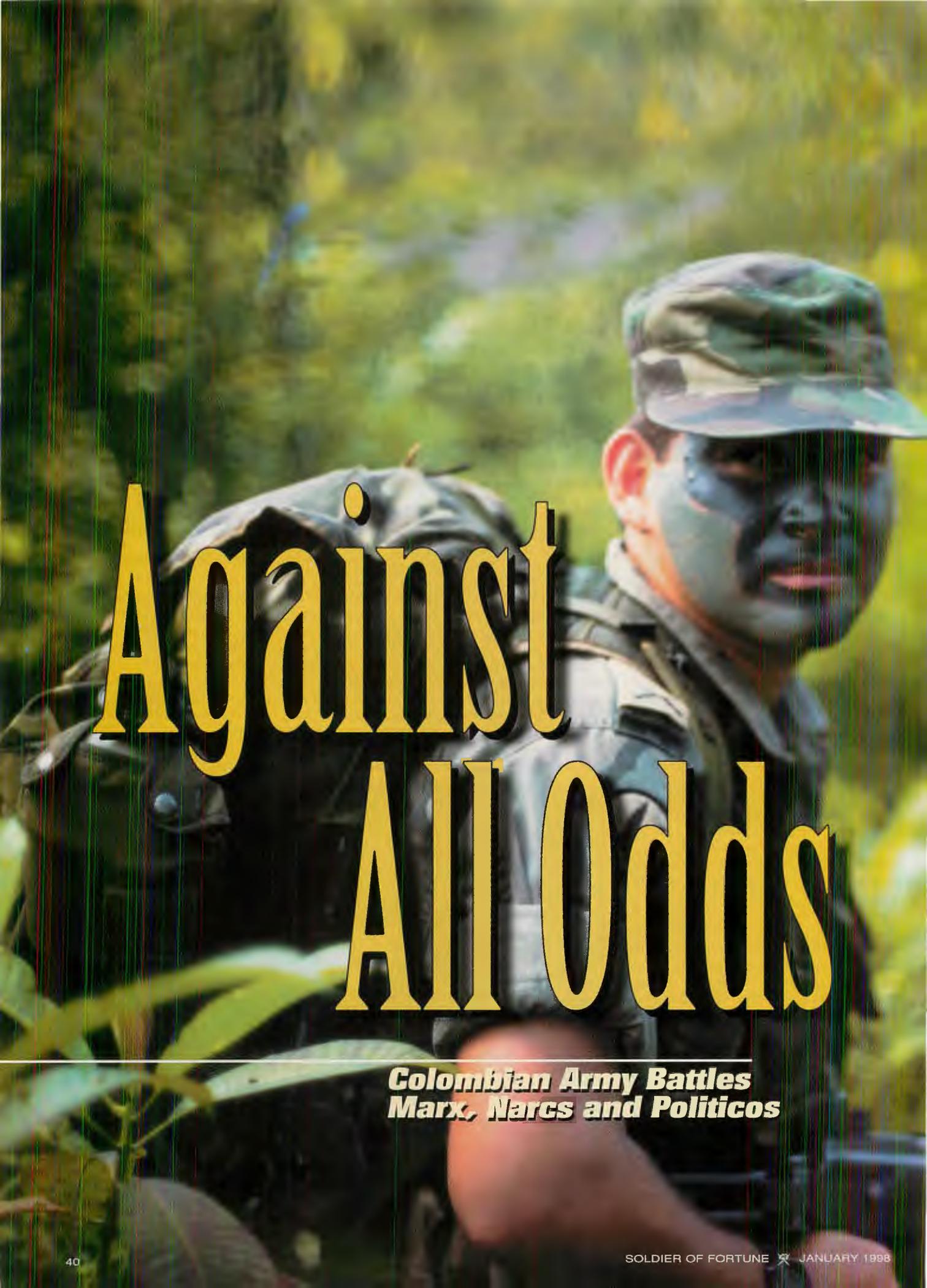


(top) Soviet F-1 fragmentation grenades: 40 at rear still have shipping plugs and have not been armed; eight (left, foreground) have been armed with UZRGM fuzes. At right are a dozen armed French model-1935 fragmentation grenades. (bottom) UZRGM grenade fuzes.

Along with the TNT was a score of wax-impregnated, string-tied burlap bundles. Unmistakable products of KGB terrorist-training schools, they ranged in size from 3 to 5 kilos (and were carbon copies of improvised explosive devices I have encountered in Central America and Puerto Rico). These packages are designed to be long shelf-life, ready-to-use bombs.

Continued on page 65





Against All Odds

***Colombian Army Battles
Marx, Narcs and Politicos***



“War is a test of institutions,” Lidell Hart once remarked. In Colombia, it is the weakness of institutions — their failure — which has allowed a low-level communist insurgency to grow into a danger which now seriously threatens the survival of the nation-state.

Of course, there are those who will say that this is to confuse cause and effect. The problem, they will claim, is that Colombia has never functioned as a “cohesive whole.” That, will go their argument, is why there’s an internal war!

There is merit in this analysis: A country the size of Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico, populated by only about 40 million people (nobody really knows the actual figure) can hardly be a candidate for anyone’s “most integrated” list. The economy is based, legally, upon coffee, illegally, upon cocaine. A fraction of the population dominates land ownership and everything else.

Abuse of power is rife. Current president Ernesto Samper, can’t even visit the United Nations without a special visa from the United States. We’ve barred him as implicated in the drug trade. His own campaign manager has detailed the millions Samper accepted from drug lords during the election.

At the other end of the social spectrum, campesinos endure lives of poverty, injustice, and corruption.

There’s a war in Colombia?

No kidding, concludes this line of reasoning.

But it’s not masses of peasants who join the insurgents; it’s whom-

ever they can pick up — and frequently these are simply the bored youth of a society struggling to move from an agrarian to industrial basis.

More importantly, terror is such a significant component of the insurgent approach that “popular support for the rebels” is a claim which can only be advanced, with straight face, by the “useful idiot” crowd that to this day roots for Cuba and the remnants of the Evil Empire.

What we have, then, is an insurgency that did start due to structural dilemmas, yet an insurgency that has taken on a life of its own and no longer responds to the original causes. To the contrary, since its major source of funds has become drug money, it no longer needs to respond to the very populace it claims to be liberating. Thus the ubiquitous use of terror.

A Country in Trouble

Still, we have a problem: A communist insurgency in 1997? Something must be amiss. That something, very bluntly, is that there is no “Colombia” waging a counterinsurgency — only elements of decent society hanging on for dear life, making their pacts with the devil, and hoping against hope that a knight on a white horse will ride to their rescue.

These decent folk don’t like their reputation as the drug kings of the world. They don’t like living amid the violence, in a country that has more than 28,000 murders per year — the death capital of the world.

Such violence occurs in a country once known for better things; for its beauty, industrious population, and intelligence.

Predictably, nobody is even sure who is killing whom. Those 28,000+ bodies appear to be a product of what has become a dog-eat-dog world, not the insurgency per se. But who knows? Certainly not the authorities. They view the insurgency as a military problem.

This is a country where the left-wing elements of the democratic political structure have written into the constitution such an array of restrictions on the military that the country is lucky it has anyone out there even trying to fight insurgents.

National authorities, in other words, are at a loss for an approach. They sit on the sidelines and lead lives disconnected from the problems of the country. They carp and

leave the dying and the problem of insurgency to those in the trenches, those who are the main target for insurgent violence, especially threats and assassinations. Small wonder that the desire for rescue grows stronger.

For the moment, the leading candidate for "man on horseback" is former military chief of staff, army Lieutenant General Harold Bedoya. Summarily relieved by Samper in August 1997, he apparently had told the president one too many times what he thought of his

they have so few other options. Predictably, the insurgents, needing money to conduct their campaign, also become involved.

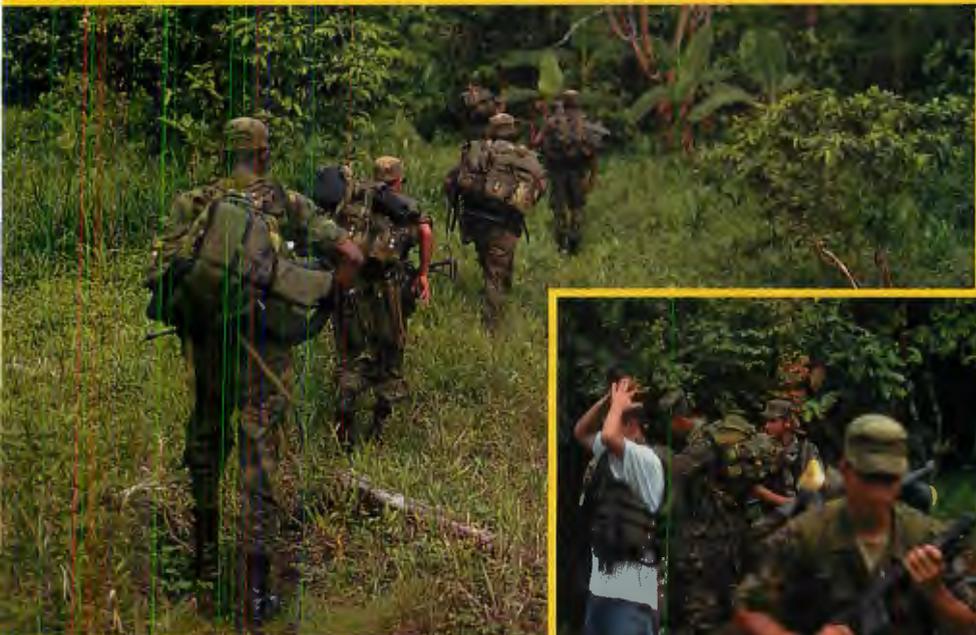
What has changed is that no longer are the insurgents content to take a cut of the action: They have gone into vertical integration in a big way, controlling an ever-increasing portion of the action from top to bottom, from growing to distribution.

In comes Washington with its demands that the Colombians solve America's drug problems, that a cam-

business about such matters, we "de-certified" them in February 1997, the practical consequence being to put on-hold much of our aid to Colombia (aid directly connected with anti-drug work continued). What irony: Corrupt Clinton government cuts off aid to corrupt Samper government.

"Growing Intensity Conflict"

Who are the foot soldiers? In the front lines, of what one Colombian general has called a "growing intensity conflict," are



(left) Patrols through Choco region follow common SOP: leave from base, land, patrol on foot, mingle with the folks. Engage insurgents when they find them. (below) Small, remote villages are particularly susceptible to terrorist influence, as they are beyond immediate response from government troops. Thus, presence of patrols is usually welcome.



"counterinsurgency" approach — which seemed to be little more than caving to rebel demands the military evacuate large areas of the country in exchange for unspecified concessions (which rarely, if ever, materialized). Now the general has emerged as leading contender in the presidential election to be held next year.

If he is elected, Bedoya would almost certainly bring a more focused approach to the struggle. He has stated so forcefully, simultaneously pointing out that there is no need for a relatively wealthy country such as Colombia (its GDP is U.S. \$172 billion) to be a narco-state, the source of 80% of the world's cocaine and 60% of the heroin seized in the U.S. Untouched by even a hint of drug corruption, he would certainly be more palatable to Washington than Samper.

For the moment, Washington remains both Colombia's greatest friend and enemy. As to the former, it is U.S. training (particularly at School of the Americas) and equipment (especially the Black Hawk helicopter) which has allowed the country to stay in the game militarily. Economically, we are Colombia's largest trade partner.

However, Washington's sole focus is upon Colombia's role in the drug trade. The poor peasants — the manpower — become involved in narcotics because

paigned of eradication, principally from the air, be conducted to choke off the narco Ho Chi Minh Trail. Little else matters in this battle save acres of plants neutralized — a plant body count.

To the peasants, for whom the plants are a living, that means war. Their ready and willing protectors, naturally, are the insurgents.

This dynamic should be familiar to us: It is that we have witnessed in the other Andean countries, particularly in Peru. We place the insurgents in a win-win situation.

Further, whenever the conflict gets too intense, they trot out the predictable charges of human rights violations. And, like clockwork, the U.S. hammers the Colombians on that score, as well. Pity Bogota: Damned if they do; damned if they don't.

To show the Colombians we mean

178,726 military personnel and 108,300 policemen. They don't function under a unified counterinsurgency plan or command. Consequently, the war is left to local arrangements struck between elected regional and local officials (voters elect the governors of the country's 32 departments and the 1,072 municipalities, or counties, which comprise the departments), and the military.

It is the army that takes the lead — and in combat with the insurgents, though the police are taking a reported 80% of the casualties. Though fairly large by South American standards, the army is small when considered within the context of the war in which it is engaged. Further, the constitution "hollows out" the force, prohibiting the use of draftees in counterinsurgency. This is a legacy of the negotiations that brought the insurgent group M-19 into the legal political

fold and produced the 1991 Constitution. Hence only a fraction of the manpower on the books can actually be deployed.

Structurally, the army has five divisions, organized in standard triangular form (three brigades, three battalions). Additionally, there is an Aviation Brigade, a Special Forces Brigade, and two Mobile Brigades, the closest thing to a strategic reserve that exists.

In fact, there are actually two armies in Colombia. The bulk of the forces, some 75%, are draftees, or conscripts. They enter between ages 16-18 and serve 18 months if non-high school grads, which most are; or 12 months if possessing a high school diploma. The first category is termed "regulars," a label that is generally applied to all conscripts.

This can lead to misunderstandings, since the quarter of the army that is not draftees is termed "professionals," a term which in English is generally synonymous with "regulars." The distinction in Colombia, however, is crucial, for professionals are regulars (conscriptos) who have decided to stay on when their time of compulsory service is over.

The difference between professionals and regulars is more than simply the pay: Constitutionally, it is the professionals who are to do the fighting.

The results are obvious: It's a very small army that is actually fighting the war. A typical brigade might have, for instance, as did the one with which I was deployed, three regular battalions in various states of service (newcomers will frequently be taken in by entire formation (e.g. a platoon), two counterinsurgency battalions (comprised of professionals), two military police battalions (for urban ops; these may or may not be professionals); a cavalry squadron (i.e. a battalion composed of regulars); and an aviation unit (professionals).

In our area of operations (AO), the regular battalions of all types were engaging in area domination. This at times involved shooting, but it was the professionals of the counterinsurgency battalions who were doing the bush pounding. It was the latter who also bore the brunt of casualties.

For the professionals, the bleeding is constant. Contacts are daily and frequently very close-in and intense, because night operations are the maneuver of choice for government patrols (indeed, virtually all patrols at the government's equivalent of Ranger School, Lancero, are conducted in the absence of daylight). Both sides are well-armed with modern firearms.

Four rifle squads will comprise a platoon, four platoons a company. There is no weapons platoon as in the U.S. force structure. Instead, each squad may carry a 60mm mortar, making for a total of as many as 16 tubes per company. Supplementing these are four 81mm mortars at battalion level (each battalion

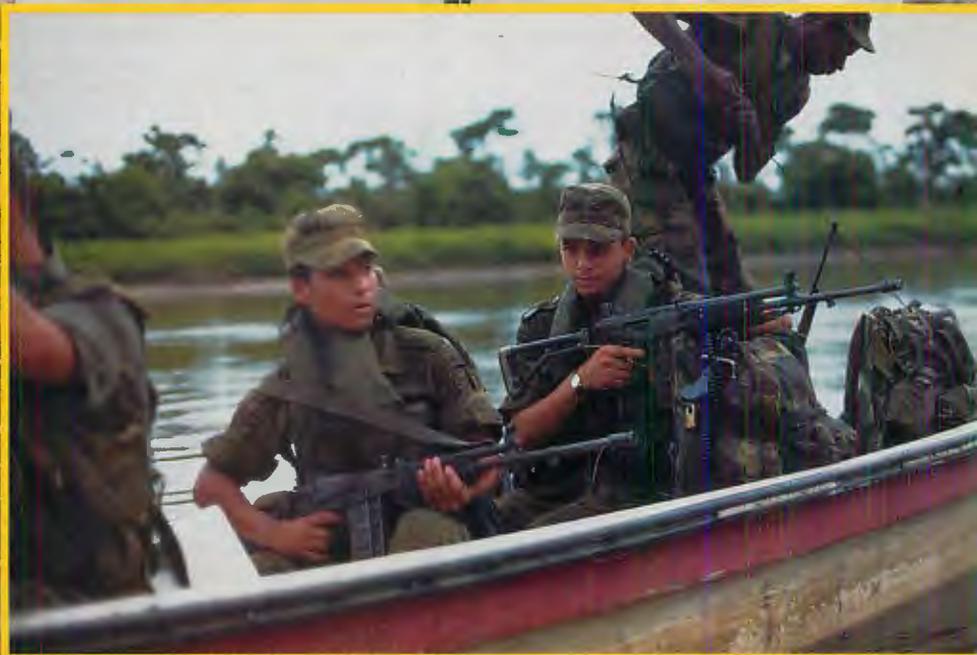
is three rifle companies).

Troops themselves are separated into just three ranks: soldier, corporal, sergeant, with the corporals performing squad leadership functions. Officer ranks, in contrast, mirror their U.S. counterparts. Pay has recently been increased quite substantially, with how much an officer actually makes dependent upon his particular allowances.

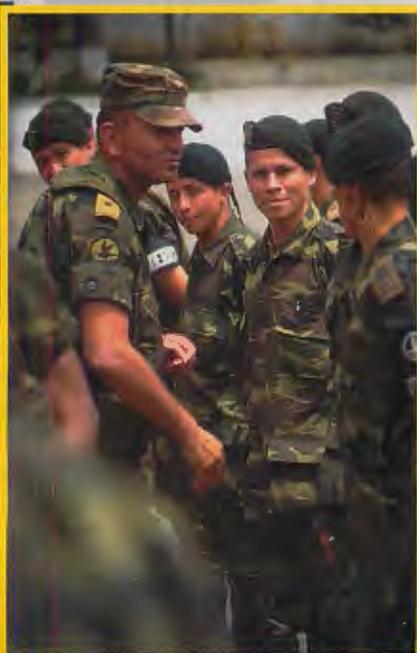
What one finds on the ground is a military of surprising sophistication conducting the normal operations of counterinsurgency. These span the gamut from extensive psychological warfare to airmobile assaults with

accompanying gunships blazing.

The problems of the counterinsurgency campaign do not lie with the military, rather with the lack of an overall concept, of a plan. So vast are the distances involved, so harsh the conditions, ranging from urban sprawl to thick jungle, that the counterinsurgency battalions are performing yeoman duty, forced to be all things to all elements of the population. Prohibited by the constitution from fielding militias, their numbers are inadequate to the domination of an area of operations so extensive. And the police are frequently poorly armed, badly trained, and insufficiently motivated. The results are predictable —



Transport net in low-lying Choco region is mainly natural rivers, making riverine ops common, effective way to fight Gs and maintain contact with locals. (below) Colombian counterinsurgency battalion returning from operation is congratulated by one of army's top combat commanders, Brig. Gen. Carlos Ospina, currently, 4th Brigade commander in Medellin.



the troops are spread very thin.

That such manpower has been able to prove itself in the difficult circumstances of the past decade stems in large part from a strong officer corps. Though small unit engagements are the essence of the counterinsurgency, officers have demonstrated the ability to deploy and maneuver division-size forces consisting of multiple arms (to include air).

Close With And Destroy

Anyone who has been on the ground with the Colombian forces knows that the problem of the counterinsurgency lies not with the military's approach, rather with that of the government. The army, as the lead agency in actual operations, wages a multifaceted campaign that places far more emphasis upon aspects of the combat spectrum such as psyops and intelligence, than it does actual fighting. Still, it does go after the Gs. It's not about to let them take over territory and terrorize the people.

Prior to the present decade, militia played a significant role in Colombian counterinsurgency. Naturally, some of them, in a world awash with drug money, became involved with the narcos. This placed them in opposition to the state, but their key enemies remained the insurgents.

When insurgents were brought into the political arena, one of the prices they demanded was for militia to be outlawed. It was a solution only a leftist could love, for it was based on typical communist logic: if the people rise up on our side, they're the good guys; if they rise up to defend the system, to take the government side, they're criminals. Forcing the military to divorce itself from popular mobilization guaranteed only that such would go on without any oversight.

This is just what has happened. For such is the approach of the insurgents, based as it is not upon popular mobilization but intimidation through terror, that desperation has long since given way to the proliferation of popular militia. Some, as in the Philippines, have committed abuses. These are the individuals who invariably make the news and are held up by human rights organizations to represent the whole. This is not the truth of the matter.

The criminals are the insurgents. At varying times, there have been many insurgent bodies active in Colombia. Today, there are two main groups: the *Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia* (FARC), or Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia, the largest body; and the *Ejercito Popular de Liberacion Nacional* (ELN), or National Liberation Army. Still active but a distant third is the *Ejercito Popular de Liberacion* (EPL), or People's Liberation Army. These three loosely coordinate through an umbrella body, *Coordinadora Nacional Guerrillera* (CGN). It has no command authority.

The insurgents operate as "fronts" of up to 200 men. FARC and ELN further

divide fronts (their "battalions") into columns (a government "company") and then into companies (equivalent to a "platoon"). Companies are made up of cells. Above fronts are blocks, which answer to the national leadership.

There are apparently some 66 FARC fronts (7,500 men), 35 ELN fronts (3,000 men), and 13 EPL fronts (715 men). Both FARC and ELN assign their fronts to five blocks. Precise strength figures are, of course, lacking. What is important is that the groups, though they do not generally act in concert, do not normally compete with each other.

In such a vacuum, it is terror that is the essence of the insurgent approach. It was in Colombia in August 1997, because insurgents were trying vigorously to scuttle municipal elections scheduled for the end of October. By attacks and killings, they had forced some 1,000 candidates to withdraw completely, exactly the approach used by *Sendero*.

In a typical action, ELN, as the summer had begun, had moved into La Union, a prosperous farming community some three hours drive from Medellin, capital of Antioquia department. These were not the dispossessed rising up to throw off their shackles. They were outsiders come to wreak havoc.

An area unlike our image of Latin America, La Union, the town, has just 4,000 people; La Union, the municipality, has another 17,000. Responsible for law and order in this world of 21,000 people, electricity, good roads, and fertile soil (not to mention some impressive country homes of the well-to-do) were just 10 policemen.

The insurgent approach was standard: armed propaganda. When the peo-

ple resisted, the homes of the 11 families most central to popular resistance were attacked with explosives. Deaths numbered only a few, but terror did its job. The families fled, leaving the remainder of the populace leaderless. So spread out were the targets that the police could not have pre-empted even had they had perfect foreknowledge.

Two weeks before I arrived, a troop (company) of the 4th Mechanized Group (Juan de Corral), a cavalry squadron under command of the 4th Brigade in Medellin, had moved in. With its four platoons, it had not been difficult for the troop to dominate the area. Using a combination of foot and vehicular patrols, it restored security and confidence.

This was logical, because La Union, according to intelligence information, fell under the ELN's 12th Front (*cuadrilla*), *Regional Luis Fernando Giraldo*, of just 50 men.

Fifty men! Thus is the dynamic of terror revealed. Fifty men striking at times and places of their choosing could hold hostage a population of 21,000.

Most of the 12th Front's attacks continued to occur along the main transportation arteries. Much like vandals randomly throwing rocks at cars on California freeway, the insurgents would descend from the hills just long enough to destroy several vehicles, block the road, inflict casualties. Rarely did they remain in so much as an effort to ambush the inevitable government reac-

Thriving but isolated town of La Union was targeted by terrorist Gs: This is one of 11 houses which were bombed.

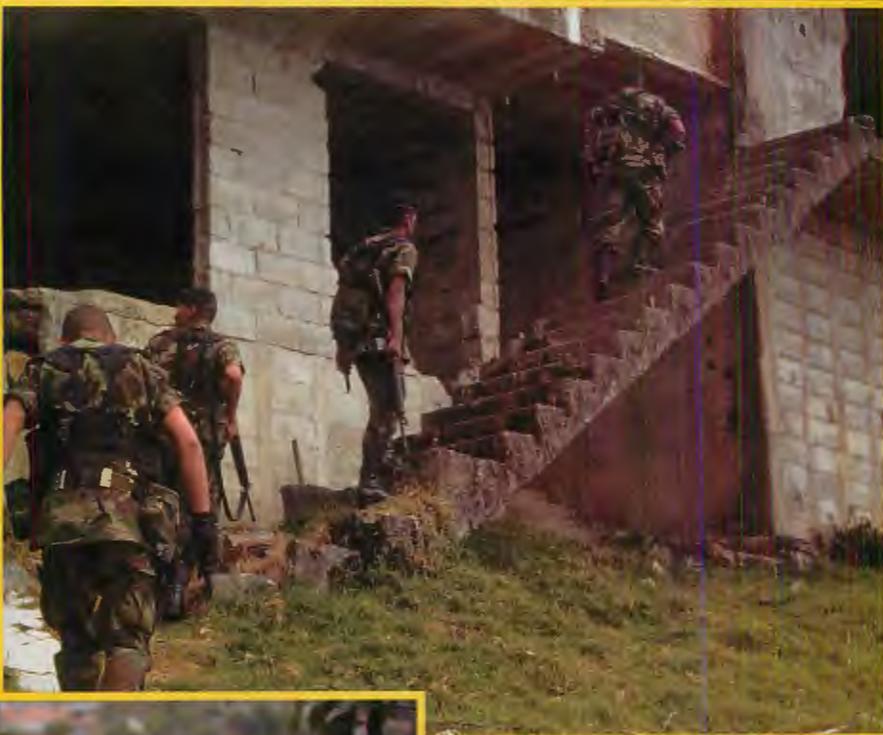


tion. For main roads allow the employment, among other things, of armored cars and the like — too much for the insurgents, regardless of their armament. But for an isolated police station or a defenseless populace, the insurgents had more than enough firepower.

Obviously, force multiplication is necessary in such a situation, force multiplication which can come only through the use of militia, which the constitution forbids.

There are ways around such a prohibition, but the Colombians seemed unaware of the manner in which, for instance, the Filipinos solved their similar problem by bringing militia within the force structure. They paid them, used regular personnel to officer them, and subjected them to military law during their time on duty. Thus they were “a part of” the military, not an external body.

Colombia will come to this solution, as well, for there is no other. Meantime,



(above) Troops prepare for urban ops: Ironically, they were using the palatial “prison” in which drug kingpin Pablo Escobar briefly “retired” in splendor. Now thoroughly trashed by the locals, it is in a gorgeous, isolated setting — very good for practicing clearing ops and using rifle grenades.



(left) Classic cordon and search operation in poor suburb of Medellin netted Gs, weapons, propaganda. Pair seated had a cache of propaganda literature. Man (inset) was arrested for possession of several home-made pistols.

(below) Winning hearts and minors: After cordon and search, troops pass out literature. Town is now thoroughly pacified and a boom town of sorts. Civic pride has been restored.

not content to wait while they are brutalized, local and departmental authorities have already taken the initiative, recruiting their own militias. Some have provided them only with radios to summon help. In zones of serious contention, though, the militia are armed and engage in all-out slugging matches with the insurgents.

As indicated earlier, there is no reliable casualty count. Nevertheless, every day, in every AO, there is action at some level. La Union is a fairly central, settled, well-off area. Yet it has come to suffer the level of attack I have just indicated. The more remote an area, the less government presence, the more it falls

Continued on page 71



The new, front and aft: Guatemalan-produced *Danto* APC avec Swiss-made Oerlikon 20mm cannon.



ARMOR ON A SHOESTRING

Guatemala's Answer To Crime In The Streets



The old: The resilient Armadillo refitted with automatically operated twin-mounted FN MAG 58 GPMGs.



(above) The mothballed: Once part of Guatemala's active-duty armored vehicle fleet, these U.S.-made M-3 and M-3A1 are now on museum-exhibit duty. (right) Almost big enough for John Donovan. A young troop crouches beneath roof port in mid-compartment of the *Danto*.



On 29 December 1996, Guatemala's government and leftist *National Revolutionary guerrilla coalition* (URNG), signed peace accords officially ending 36 years of war. But that hasn't doused hostilities in Central America's most populated country (some 10.5 million inhabitants, about half of whom are Indian).

Riots, mob justice and an uncontrollable frenzy of murder, which reportedly claimed over 3,500 lives in 1996 alone (double New York City's total) have overwhelmed police.

If this violence weren't enough, there have been recent reports of camouflage-clad gunmen, believed to be recalcitrant remnants of the URNG, opening fire on soldiers and security forces in the northwest highlands. No casualties have yet been reported and the URNG rejects the notion that these gunmen have ever belonged to its ranks.

Mayhem has gotten so bad that President Alvaro Arzu has ordered the army to patrol the streets as crime-busters, not a first tour for the military in this arena.

Crime Busters

But now the army has some potent backup: a new homegrown armored personnel carrier, the *Danto*. This twin machine-gunned APC will be added to the fleet of some 30 Guatemalan-manufactured Armadillos (see sidebar), 10 U.S.-made M-113s and seven V-100s.

A prototype designed by the Guatemalan army's War Material Service in 1994, the *Danto* is an example of ingenuity on a shoestring that has recently been approved for active-duty operational use. During several May visits to the War Material Service base in Guatemala City, *SOF* received an exclusive up-close look at the *Danto*. "We are at your service," said a proud Colonel Adan Arana, the base's XO, who introduced Captain Ricardo Valdez whom, along with his men, were happy to provide information on its armor-skinned ally.

Costing less, perhaps, than the estimated

Text & Photos by Steve Salisbury



The *Danto* struts its stuff. Guatemala's newest — and maybe toughest — ally.

\$75,000 per unit price tag of its predecessor, the Armadillo (a near look-alike of the American V-100), the *Danto* packs a lot of bang for the quetzal. This 6X6 APC sports a 290 hp Cummings engine and transmission, and can be outfitted with a Swiss-made Oerlikon 20mm automatic cannon housed in a manually operated *Hispano-Suiza* turret. It can reach a peak velocity of about 80 kilometers per hour, and, with a capacity to carry 108 gallons of diesel, has approximately 1,300 kilometers of road range.

A 10-wheeler, the *Danto*'s M-54A2 5-ton chassis provides a sturdy base to carry a heavy load without sacrificing performance, which would be greatly reduced using a lighter chassis.

It has three live axles, as opposed to the Armadillo's two. Fifteen millimeters of steel armor plating shield the floor against landmines; 8 inches of armor protect the hull. Nine, 2-inch thick polycarbonate windows (two forward, three on each lateral side, and one aft) also provide a significant measure of protection against small-arms fire.

Compartmentalized Design

Divided into distinct front, middle and rear compartments — designed to minimize damage and casualties if penetrated by explo-

Continued on page 67

Armadillo Combat

"We were almost always ambushed," said Guatemalan Lieutenant Selvyn Morales. It was no wonder. There was but a single dirt road leading to the Las Palmas army detachment, about 5 kilometers from the Mexican border, in northwest Guatemala.

Leftist guerrillas had plenty of strategic spots along the some 70 kilometers of tortuous road to hit army convoys. One of their favorites was a bend known as El Titulin where on a cool spring evening in 1991 the guerrillas packed the road with a terrifying surprise — 10 handmade landmines.

A life-or-death test was in store for Lt. Morales and his comrades, as their army convoy chugged in from Las Palmas in the silky moonlight. It would also be a test for Guatemala's War Material Service armory, and its new joy "toy", the Armadillo — a Guatemalan-manufactured armored personnel carrier similar to the American V-100.

One Armadillo led the column of troop trucks, another brought up the rear with two others interspersed within the convoy. It was fortuitous for the soldiers.

At 2100 hours, according to Morales, two powerful, simultaneous explosions rocked the darkness, thundering over the monotonous grumble of the convoy. Two mines had been electrically detonated, one squarely beneath the lead Armadillo, blowing it a foot in the air and into the crater left by the other blast.

Watching from the second Armadillo, Lt. Morales had no doubt the blasts would have destroyed a truck. He estimated they were produced by up to 10 pounds of explosives each. But the

Armadillo's 15-inch steel armored underbelly held, and none of the crew or other troops suffered serious wounds, the stocky 28-year-old officer recalled. Morales's dark eyes flash as he recounts his story, thrusting his square jaw at each dramatic moment.

As the trucks sped ahead and out of the killing zone, the Armadillos slowed, then hunkered down, eager to get it on with the Gs. Pairs of electrically detonated mines exploded all around them, while a torrent of RPG projectiles *whooshed* at them.

KaaBoom ... KaaBoom! KaaBoom! One RPG nailed a truck, wounding a young trooper. The Armadillos went into their quick-reaction mode, their gunners manning roof-mounted .50-cal. heavy machine guns and 7.62 x 51mm FN MAG 58 machine guns, laying down return fire as guerrilla small-arms rounds skimmed off the 8mm hull armor.

Officers and EMs, crouching halfway exposed through front roof hatchways, provided support by popping loose with M-79 grenade launchers and Galil automatic rifles.

An RPG round cratered in just in front of Morales' vehicle's left front tire — but only jarring the formidable Armadillo.

After 30 minutes of sporadic fighting, the discouraged guerrillas fled, leaving behind blood trails and detonating wires hitched to car batteries. Friendly casualties? One WIA.

"The Armadillo is really good," exclaimed Morales, and is very useful for our rough terrain. It has power. The soldiers feel secure in the Armadillo; it gives them courage."

—S.S.

Most gunfights take place in subdued light or in the dark. Most defensive firearms training takes place in the daylight. Thunder Ranch, recognizing this dangerous disparity, each year schedules a

Low Light Level 2 handgun course which I and *SOF* staff photographer, Chris Mayer, recently completed. This was my third class at Thunder Ranch and, as usual, it was a high-speed, low-drag experience from start to finish.

Thunder Ranch's highly respected honcho, Clint Smith, is a Marine Corps veteran with two infantry tours in Vietnam. His experience includes seven years in law enforcement, during which time he served as head of his department's FTU (Firearms Training Unit), as well as the senior countersniper on the SWAT unit. He was Operations Officer for Jeff Cooper's APL, started and served as director of Heckler & Koch's training services division and with his wife, Deborah, founded International Training Consultants, Inc., a highly regarded mobile training program.

Thunder Ranch has a guest staff of 28 instructors. The three who taught our Low Light course were representative of the impressive quality of Thunder Ranch's adjunct personnel. Bill McLennan retired from the San Antonio Police Department after more than 30 years of service, the last six and a half of which were spent as OIC of firearms training. McLennan's unflappable demeanor, dry wit and encyclopedic knowledge of gunfighting tactics were tremendous assets to the course. Bill Black, a 16-year veteran of the Littleton, Colo., Police Department is a patrol supervisor and tactical team leader for his agency. His background complements that of McLennan and together they provided us with enough tactical information to fill several field manuals. They were more than ably assisted by Lori Hauserman, a police officer with 15 years' service with the Glendale, Ariz., Police Department. Lori is an armorer and firearms instructor responsible for training 275 law-enforcement personnel.

Thunder Ranch classes never contain more than 20 students, as that is the number of firing positions on each range. As a consequence, students get more than their money's worth, since there is none of the usual down time associated with firearms classes that must be run in relays. You can expect to fire about 2,000 rounds in one of Thunder Ranch's handgun courses.

Ultimate Fighting Handgun

The students in this class represented the usual cross-section of individuals that attend courses to hone their gunfighting skills. Eight of the 20 were law-enforcement personnel, two from as far away as Australia. The rest were men and women who realize that purchasing a firearm is only the smallest part of the self-defense equation.

Their mix of weapons provided revealing



While it is the most commonly employed, the so-called "Harries Flashlight Technique" requires the support hand to control the light without providing the customary isometric pull associated with the standard Weaver position.

Who's ~~AFRAID~~ Of The ~~DARK?~~

Shooting In The Shadows At Thunder Ranch

by Peter G. Kokalis
Photos by Chris Mayer



The SURE-FIRE Model 6Z COMBATLIGHT permits the unit to be used like a "syringe" that puts the support hand back in more or less the standard Weaver position.



The so-called "Chapman Technique" was developed for flashlights with a button switch near the head.

information. There was one SIGARMS P226, six Glocks and 13 M1911-type pistols. Three of the Glocks were either G17 or G19 9mm Parabellums and two were chambered for the .40 S&W round. Most unusual was a police officer from the Clay County, Fla., Sheriff's Department who was armed with a Glock Model 20 caliber 10mm Auto pistol. His department is one of only a handful who issue Glocks in that caliber. However, there can be no doubt that the pistol Jeff Cooper popularized as the ultimate fighting handgun still reigns supreme. For all of its crankiness and the often extensive custom gunsmithing many variants require, the caliber .45 ACP M1911 is still perceived by most armed professionals in this country to be the handgun most likely to win the fight when drawn from leather by an experienced pistolero.

No small part of that perception is based upon confidence in the .45 ACP cartridge. Penetration is, without doubt, the single most important parameter in evaluating the wound ballistics performance of handgun ammunition. The bullet must penetrate deeply enough to crush, cut and break through the human body's vital structures and organs. However, once we've obtained the required penetration, *the bullet that makes the biggest hole will do the most damage.* It is largely because of this that the .45 ACP round remains the cartridge of choice among a substantial majority of armed professionals after more than eight decades.

I went through the course with a Kimber Custom Classic .45 ACP — without doubt the best production series M1911-type pistol ever assembled. I used a holster and magazine pouches made by the Hanson Leather Co. (Dept. SOF, 2724 N.W. Keel Ave., Lincoln City, OR 97367; phone: 541-994-8295). Ernie Hanson has 18 years' service with the Lincoln City, Oregon, Police Department and knows what is required of gear designed for slapping leather on the mean streets. He is also a guest instructor at Thunder Ranch.

Ernie made his first holster in 1978. For a period of time in the 1980s the famous George Lawrence Company of Portland, Ore., and then of Lillicut, N.C., made his holsters. As he packs a piece for a living, a great deal of personal experience goes into the Hanson designs. All of Hanson's holsters are individually made to order by hand out of Herman Oak leather, which is of exceptional quality. Stitching is done with harness needles using the two-needle back-and-forth method. After stitching, a handgun of the proper model is placed in the holster and it is once again wet-molded by hand for a perfect fit. Ernie applies Fiebings oil dyes and lacquer finishes to his completed holsters and pouches.

The holster I used was his H-1011, an off-duty vertical holster that can be used crossdraw or strongside and costs \$61. This holster features an internal steel tension lining at the bottom that maximizes the holster's retention qualities. Oil, black or brown finishes are available. Hanson also

makes single and double vertical magazine pouches, a horizontal magazine pouch, off-duty cuff cases and badge holders, an ankle rig with a magazine pouch, inside-the-waistband holster, cowboy holsters and belts. This is superb leatherwork, handcrafted in the most painstaking and fastidious manner. While as yet relatively unknown, Ernie Hanson must rank among the very top of the true custom holster makers.

Playing In The Dark

The morning of the first day of this five-day class was spent in the classroom being exposed to the important concepts we were to apply during the next four and a half days on the square ranges and in the Terminator and Tower. That afternoon found us on the Red Range, starting first with dry-fire practice and then with live-fire on the only stationary targets we would see for the rest of the week on that range.

At Thunder Ranch shooting a "Plan A" means firing at the torso, or the body's energy source, the number of shots determined by the threat. Firing a "Plan B" indicates a shot to the head — the body's computer, while a "Plan C" signifies the first two zones plus shooting at the pelvis, which should affect your opponent's mobility. Clint Smith says, "Shoot what is available as long as it is available and until something else is available." At Thunder Ranch you shoot until you win or the threat stops. When moving targets stop, you cease fire, as they have either gone down or you have achieved compliance.

Obtaining verbal compliance is an important aspect of training at Thunder Ranch and is stressed continually. This is, without doubt, a consequence of the law-enforcement background of most of the staff. As my background is entirely from the military, where this concept is a non sequitur, I have a great deal of trouble verbally communicating with targets. Bill Black informed us on several occasions that expressions such as, "Oh God, don't make me kill again!" were not acceptable examples of verbal compliance.

The important difference between *cover*, which stops or deflects direct and indirect enemy fire, and *concealment*, which only prevents you from being observed is also heavily emphasized at Thunder Ranch. This is because Clint Smith strongly advocates fighting your way out of the so-called "hole" — a distance of about two arm lengths or approximately 6 feet — back to cover. Throughout the week we fired most often at the Red Range while moving back to barricade cover. At Thunder Ranch, the barricades on the ranges are used to simulate cover and not as a brace for firing a handgun.

The third element in Thunder Ranch's fighting triad is an assertion of the impor-



(top) Used only at contact distances, Bill Black demonstrates the "retention" position while Lori Hauserman describes its tactical application. (middle) Students practice firing over their heads after they have been presumably knocked down during a gunfight. They must continue to fire as they get up and fight their way back to cover. (bottom) Having reached the sitting position, this Thunder Ranch student continues to fire as he moves to the standing position so that he can fight his way back to cover.



(above) Working up the stairwells in the Tower at Thunder Ranch will test your tactical skills to a level just below an actual confrontation with an armed opponent. (below) Day or night, at Thunder Ranch you always fight your way back to cover.



(right) Thunder Ranch's unique "charger" system represents threats closing quickly on the student and can be adjusted to run toward students at varying speeds. (far right) Laterally moving targets at the Orange Range present a major challenge to students, who must fire from behind cover.

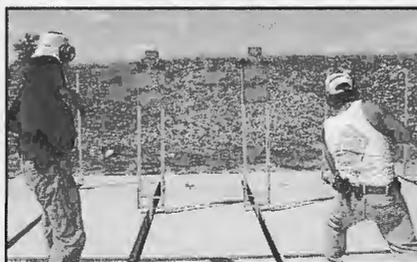
tance of team tactics. For example, magazine changes are preferably executed in conjunction with your partner, whose responsibility becomes covering your target as well as his. Most often, the shooter's commands will be something like, "cover" and then "clear" after he has changed magazines and is back in the fight, but any verbal sequence would work, providing it was agreed upon beforehand.

Three types of magazine changes are taught at Thunder Ranch. The first, and *most* important, is the so-called "empty magazine change" which is unique to this facility, but in my opinion presents the most realistic scenario. Traditionally, those in my loop are supposedly programmed to keep track of our shots and perform a tactical reload before the slide locks rearward after the last shot in the magazine sails downrange. It never happens this way in the real world. I have never been in a fire fight where anyone knew how many rounds he had fired. When the M16's bolt locks to the rear or the AK's trigger is pressed and nothing happens, you reload. There are too many insane things happening in a gunfight to count the bullets going downrange. So when the slide locks rearward, you dump the empty magazine, slam in the new one and press down on the slide lock lever with the thumb of the firing hand.

Still, if possible, it's better to load when you can — during a lull in the action — and not when you have to. This so-called "tactical load" is performed by first reaching with the weak hand for the new magazine. Move it up to the magazine-well between the index and middle fingers. Use the thumb and index finger to remove the hold magazine on the down stroke and insert the new magazine on the up stroke. The depleted magazine goes in your pocket, *not* to the ground.

The "expedited" or "speed" load is based upon a four count. First, the opposite hand goes to new magazine just before releasing the magazine in the pistol's magazine-well. Second, the flat back of the new magazine goes to the flat back of the magazine-well. Third, seat the new magazine half way into the well. And finally, seat the magazine completely with one sharp stroke, reinforce the firing grip, then "front sight and press," if required.

Most commonly, when practicing these drills, beginning students will release the magazine in the pistol *before* they have the new magazine firmly in hand. This is a potentially fatal error.



On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the Low Light course, the class commences at 1500 and ends at 2300. Tuesday afternoon we began work on the Red Range with malfunction drills.

How important are they? What are the chances you will have a stoppage during a gunfight? I don't know. Statistics on this topic have never been tabulated, except in an anecdotal fashion. I have experienced several "bolt-over-base" stoppages in M16 rifles at inappropriate times in El Salvador. Modern handguns, even Glocks and highly tuned 1911-types, can go down at any time and that's why so many who walk in harm's way carry backups.

Murphy's Malfunctions

The most common stoppage and easiest to clear is a failure to fire. This can be a result of either an empty chamber due to an improperly seated magazine or a defective or hard-cupped primer. One prominent gun writer has advised his faithful myrmidons to pull the trigger again if they have a double-action pistol. This is typical of the bad advice that so often fills the pages of the popular gun press. If the primer is defective, pulling the trigger again will only provide your opponent with more time to send missiles downrange at you.

The correct response is the so-called "tap, rack, bang" sequence. This simply involves slapping the bottom of the magazine to certify that it is properly seated, racking the slide and pulling the trigger. All of this should be accomplished with your eyes and the pistol on the target.

A "stovepipe" stoppage can be caused by problems with ammunition, extractors, ejectors or recoil springs, or even "limpwristing." Clearing this kind of malfunction is almost identical to the procedure used to overcome a failure to fire. After the magazine has been tapped to assure its proper seating, a horse-shoe-shaped swipe to the rear is used to wipe the empty case away while racking the slide. Then, fire if required.

The most severe stoppage you can encounter with a semiautomatic pistol is one variation or another of the so-called "double feed." In my experience, the most common stoppage of this type is not actually a double feed, but a round which stubs on the feed ramp, driving the bullet back into the case with a consequent failure to chamber the round. If at all possible, I would transition to a backup handgun if this occurred, as this malfunction takes the longest time to clear. After first observing what has gone wrong, you must lock the



slide rearward, remove the magazine, rack the slide at least, insert the magazine and then tap, rack, bang. Even a J-frame in an ankle holster is faster to access than performing a double feed drill.

Firing from the "retention" position is also covered in Level 2 handgun courses at Thunder Ranch. Used only at contact ranges, the handgun is held in line with the pectoral, with the wrist locked and the firing hand held tightly against the body. Special emphasis was placed on holding the support arm upright and tucked tightly into the body to plug the gap in your body armor under the arm pit and to present the "hard" or bony part of the support arm to your opponent's blows or an edged weapon. The fingers of the support arm should be kept open and spread apart so your view is not obstructed. As always, after firing from this position you must get out of hole quickly while continuing to throw lead into your opponent.

By nightfall, we were ready to begin working with our flashlights. Every student in the class was equipped with a SURE-FIRE unit manufactured by Laser Products (Dept.



Author went through the course with a Kimber Custom Classic .45 ACP and a holster and pouches designed by Ernie Hanson, a street-wise police officer with 18 years' experience slapping leather on the mean streets.

SOF, 18300 Mt. Baldy Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708; phone: 800-353-1334 — to purchase products or locate the closest dealer/distributor in your area). Since their introduction in 1987, they have come to totally dominate the field of combat flashlights.

Light Up The Night

The switch used on the hand-held SURE-FIRE 6P series is quite simple. Push on the neoprene diaphragm in the middle of the tail cap, and the light comes on. Stop pushing and the light goes off. Rotate the tail cap until it's tight, and the light stays on. Unscrew it a bit and the light goes off. These flashlights are most often employed with the so-called "Harries Flashlight Technique." This technique requires the support hand to control the light without providing the customary isometric pull associated with the standard Weaver position. A variation of the Harries method is the "Chapman" technique, which was developed for flashlights with a button switch near the head. Using this technique, the light is held on the opposite side of the handgun from that used with the Harries method. Another technique that was demonstrated is the "FBI" method which involves holding the light above your head and forward of the body. It can be used for looking over fences or other obstacles or glimpsing into vehicles.

However most of us had the now prevalent SURE-FIRE Model 6Z COMBAT-LIGHT. It has a smaller diameter body just in back of the head and two neoprene rings around the rear of this portion of the body that in conjunction with the neoprene diaphragm in the tail cap permit the unit to be used like a "syringe" that puts the support hand back in more or less the standard Weaver position.

Each technique was practiced by shooting at wobbler targets. At first we turned on the light, fired, turned the light off and then moved: right, left or out of the hole. But, we also fired sequences with the light kept on to illuminate the target during movement. We also fired without use of the flashlight to demonstrate that muzzle flash will not totally blind you. However, Bill Black informed us at this time that firing a pistol with a muzzle compensator while dressed in a polyester leisure suit would probably turn you into a 6-foot road flare.

Several of the students had pistols fitted with self-luminous tritium night sights. They can be useful, but they have their limitations. Self-luminous tritium sights do not assist target discrimination in total darkness. Furthermore, when a flashlight is used, light reflecting off the target down-range is sufficient to back light the weapon's sights and permit proper sight alignment. However, when goblins are shooting at you in almost total darkness their muzzle flash identifies them and self-luminous night sights can be used in lieu of a flashlight with great effect.

I prefer the tritium night sights manufac-

THUNDER RANCH: *A World-Class Facility*

The Thunder Ranch Training Facility (Dept. SOF, HCR 1, Box 53, Mountain Home, TX 78058; phone: 210-640-3138; fax: 210-640-3183), which opened in 1993, is located 96 miles west of San Antonio, and 46 miles to the east of Kerrville in the rolling-hills karst topography of southern Texas on 2,400 acres. This region, once known principally for Texas Longhorn cattle, is now a center for exotic game ranches.

Thunder Ranch's physical plant is world-class throughout. There are four ranges. Both the Red Range and Orange Range are 50x50-yard square ranges. Red Range is the base range for all handgun-related classes. This 20-position range has turning, stationary, wobbler and interface target potential with "cover" structures when required. While the Orange Range also has stationary and wobbler target potential, its most prominent facets include a unique "charger" system that represents threats closing quickly on the student. In addition, it also has a two- or four-target setup for high-speed lateral running targets with an 80-foot range of operation. The Yellow Range measures 50x100 yards and has IPSC body-style armored and disc-type resetting targets. The target options include steel, paper, hostage, stationary, wobbler and movers. This 20-position range is the base range for preliminary work in shotgun and some pistol courses. Also holding 20 positions, the 50x100-yard White Range has stationary, wobbler and high-speed turning targets available. Its numerous barricades represent protective cover and/or concealment. The two-section Black Range has a 20-position conventional rifle range in 100-yard increments out to 300 yards. The other portion is a field range for target engagements from 400 to 1,200 yards for both known and unknown distance applications.

The most visually impressive facilities at Thunder Ranch are the Tower, Thunderville and the infamous Terminator. The Tower is a monolithic four-story structure with its own tactical simulator that permits live fire in all rooms and stairwells. Problems of both internal and external entry can be addressed. The stairwells vary in dimensions and geometry. All of the window ports can be plugged. Students in the Countersniper classes fire from the Tower. Thunderville is an elaborate, day or night, in-depth facade over 200-feet in length representing a two-sided street setting. It's used in all of the rifle programs that present dynamic scenarios. With over 60 target options, as well as movers, hostages, runners and wobblers, Thunderville features computer-controlled lighting, doors, movement, timing and hit documentation. This simulator has been designed to test decision-making and target identification under maximum stress. The Terminator, used in handgun, shotgun and rifle courses, can simulate home, motel or office environments with over 400 floor plan options and targets that emphasize identification and selection prior to engagement. This building is covered by a free-span roof for training under all lighting or weather conditions.

— P.G.K.

Continued on page 64

Hunting human beings is tough business, especially when your prey is smart, elusive, and paranoid. Few times in their history have the Israelis confronted a more difficult challenge than to kill Yehiya Ayyash, known as "the Engineer," the master bomb-builder of the Islamic terrorist group Hamas.

On Friday, 5 January 1996, the telephone rang at 0830 and Osama Hamed picked up. The caller was his uncle, Kamel, and he asked his nephew why the cellular phone he had given him, number 050-507497, was off. He went on to say that he had given the number to a very important client and that he wanted the line kept open in case the client called. Osama promised his uncle that he would activate the phone immediately and make certain that it remained operational.

A few minutes later, when Osama tried to phone out on his regular phone, the line was dead, a routine occurrence in Beit Lahiya. Around 0900, the cellular phone rang, but it was not the uncle's client. Instead, the call was for Osama's tenant, Yehiya Ayyash, the second-floor fugitive.

Osama took the phone to Ayyash and told him that his father, Abed alateef Ayyash, phoning from Rafat, on the West Bank, was ringing him.

According to Osama, "I gave Yehiya the phone and heard him asking his father about his health. I left the room to leave him alone. Five minutes later I returned, believing that he had finished his call. I saw Yehiya lying on the floor covered in blood. He had no head."

What had happened while Osama was out of the room is that the line went dead. Ayyash apparently kept the phone to his ear, thinking it was just a temporary disruption. There was a flash and a muffled boom. A portion of Ayyash's head was vaporized in a bloody cloud of gore.

The Israelis had placed 50 grams of the Czech plastic explosive, *Semtex*, inside the phone. The device was activated by an electronic signal transmitted from a silent drone aircraft flying

2,000 feet overhead.

Ever paranoid about his own security, Ayyash had taken apart the cellular phone on a number of occasions, fearing exactly the kind of attack that ultimately cost him his life. Whenever he heard a plane or a helicopter flying overhead he turned off

his cellular phone and disconnected his regular phone.

This was not the first time that one of Israel's enemies had succumbed courtesy of a lethal cell phone. In 1973, Dr. Mahmoud Hamshari, Black September's number-two man in France, picked up the phone in his flat. The caller asked if he was speaking with Dr. Hamshari. When assured by Hamshari that it was he, the caller activated a high-pitched tone that set off a powerful shrapnel-filled bomb secreted beneath Hamshari's phone stand. Hamshari breathed his last a few days later in a Paris hospital.

Shin Bet refused to confirm or deny that it had any role in Ayyash's death, however, a high-ranking official of the agency told the authors that, "The Engineer" encountered an even better engineer, who works for us. He lived by the bomb and died by the bomb."

Aftermath

Following the assassination, the Palestinian National Authority issued special restrictions limiting the use of cellular phones, which are very popular among those who can afford them because of the often-sporadic regular phone service. According to the new regulations, no cellular phones are permitted in the immediate vicinity of the PNA's president, Yasir Arafat. A cellular phone owner who wants to visit Arafat at his home or headquarters must now check his phone, along with any weapons, with the guards. The guards store the phones in steel boxes until they are reclaimed by their owners.

PHONE TAG

Mossad Gives Terrorist Mastermind An Ear Full Of Ordnance

by Neil C. Livingstone and David Halevy



Three faces of evil. Yehiya Ayyash, "the Engineer," mastermind of seven suicide- and bus-bombings which murdered 55 Israelis and wounded 300. From student, to "martyr," to "hero." (right)

His father, Abed Alateef Ayyash, on his cell phone days after his son's demise, perhaps firming arrangements for his son's "star" on Hamas' "walk of shame."

According to Sacri Iyd, the chief executive officer of the company that provides cellular phone service in the Gaza Strip, he was interrogated by the Palestinian police for many hours after "the Engineer's" death. "They asked many questions," recalls Iyd, "regarding how the system works and how easy would it be to hide explosives inside a phone." Interestingly, few people canceled their phone service after the attack. As a footnote, a cellular phone owner was stopped by a Palestinian policeman as he attempted to enter the local court house in Gaza a few days later. He dutifully handed his phone to the policeman, but when the officer realized what it was he threw it away and dived for cover.

The Legacy Of Dread

Hamas is an Arabic acronym for Islamic Resistance Movement, an organization that came into being in 1988, as an alternative to the PLO. By contrast to Yasir Arafat's relatively secular world outlook, Hamas seeks to supplant Israel with an Islamic state. In this connection, it is part of the larger radical Islamic revolution sweeping the Muslim world, which looks to Iran as its source of inspiration and support. Iran and Saudi Arabia are believed to be the two largest financial backers of the organization, and Hamas also receives training, weapons, and explosives from Iran.

Ironically, Israel bears some of the blame for the rise of Hamas, since Jerusalem gave support to the organization in its infancy as a counterweight to the PLO, a way of putting pressure on Arafat. By 1994, however, Hamas had become a Frankenstein's monster, and had eclipsed the PLO as Israelis chief internal enemy.

Israel also can be faulted for its past support of Iran, Hamas's chief protector and patron. Israel, for example, provided secret

assistance to Iran during the protracted Iran-Iraq War in the 1980s, on the theory that the longer the war went on the more it weakened and distracted two of the Jewish nation's most implacable enemies. Indeed, thousands of Iranians charged Iraqi positions during the war carrying, in their pockets, small plastic "keys to Paradise" — made in Israel.

The Israeli pullout from the main Palestinian-dominated cities, and the complete removal of Israeli symbols of authority, shocked Hamas, which had argued that it would never happen. The subsequent Palestinian elections also were a major setback for Hamas, since 85% of those eligible to cast ballots did so, in defiance of a Hamas boycott. Arafat and his allied candidates received nearly all of the vote.

As Arafat gained in legitimacy, Hamas was increasingly marginalized which led to a major schism within the organization. Hamas leaders in Gaza favored cooperation

with the Palestinian National Authority, but this was opposed by those on the West Bank and in other countries who hoped that they could bomb the Labor Party out of office and bring hardliner Benjamin Netanyahu and his Likud party to power. Netanyahu, it was felt, would subvert the peace process with his support of Israeli settlers on the West Bank and his advocacy of security requirements that ran counter to Palestinian aspirations for an independent state.

No About Face

Beginning in 1989, Hamas launched a series of major attacks on Israeli targets. On 6 July, a Hamas supporter grabbed the wheel of an Israeli bus and steered it into a deep ravine killing 16 passengers and injuring 26. Two women were killed in a Hamas attack on a commuter bus on 1 July 1993, and on 6 April 1994, a Hamas suicide bomber killed eight people in the town of Afula. A week



AP Photo



AP Laser Photo

(top) Palestinians shout "Death to Israel, Death to the USA," and hold up posters of Ayyash during a Hamas rally in Gaza City, 12 January 1996. Israel (as of this date) had neither confirmed nor denied involvement in Ayyash's assassination. (right) Palestinian Abdel Hadi Ghanem, 23, left, charged with murder for grabbing the steering wheel of an Israeli bus and forcing it down a 200-foot ravine on 6 July 1989. Sixteen died and 25 were injured in the attack. Outside the court Ghanem shouted, "I want to die." (above) Police and emergency medics rescue victims of Ghanem's bus attack. Murdering unarmed civilians is hardly a noble deed.



AP Wirephotos

later, five more Israelis were killed in the town of Hadera by a suicide bomber. A bomb aboard a bus shattered Tel Aviv's central business district, killing 20 people in October 1994. In the weeks leading up to Israel's last election, nearly 70 people died and a hundred were injured in four separate Hamas bombings in both Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The bombings undermined the credibility of the government of Prime Minister Shimon Peres and ultimately contributed to Netanyahu's victory at the polls.

The Quarry

The terrorist mastermind behind the attacks was Yehiya Ayyash, the architect and builder of bombs and overseer of the recruitment of the suicide drivers who wheeled explosive-laden vehicles to their targets.

Yehiya Abed al-Latif Satti Ayyash was born in 1966 to Abed allateef and his wife, Lysha, in Rafat, a small and peaceful village,

university shut down by order of the Israeli military governor.

When Ayyash was enrolled at Bir Zeit, Hamas and Islamic Jihad had replaced the older, more established Palestinian organizations as the chief magnets for campus radicals. Hamas representatives described how they had driven the Israelis out of Lebanon with their car bombs and other acts of terror, and announced that they would attack Israelis and "torch the ground beneath their feet."

It didn't take long before Ayyash entered the ranks of Hamas and busied himself preparing bombs aimed at the hated Israeli enemy.

As his involvement intensified, Ayyash became more and more secretive and paranoid. He withdrew from almost all social contact, and trusted few people but his wife and father. He never met any of the individuals who ferried his bombs to suicide missions, but used a series of cutouts to ensure that he was several steps removed from

each action. He rarely ever set up a meeting in advance, and never accepted a meeting site or time chosen by anyone else.

Unpredictability became his watchword.

When he wanted to speak with someone, he always sought out the person on his own terms. If one of his associates was arrested, he changed every aspect of his plans and operations, down to the last detail.

He utilized Israeli identity cards, and generally dressed as an ordinary Israeli. He drove a van plastered with Likud and other political stickers typical of West Bank settlers. He carried a loaded pistol, which he, himself, had stolen.

As time went by, the mysterious and elusive "Engineer" became a Palestinian folk hero, who seemed able to run rings around the Shin Bet and always stay one step ahead of his pursuers. But the months on the run gradually took their toll and he opted to relocate his base of operations to the densely settled Gaza Strip, a rabbit warren of unmarked houses and unnamed streets where he felt it would be far more difficult for the Israelis to come after him.

This proved, however, to be his undoing. He underestimated his adversaries; it was a mistake the Israelis would not make.

Profile of a Suicide Bomber

Potential Hamas suicide bombers used in Ayyash's operations against Israel were generally recruited, or at least identified, by the Imam at his mosque. The average bomber was a young male, single, between the ages of 17 and 26. Most hailed from poor families in small villages or squalid refugee camps. Usually they were at some time pupils at religious schools or universities.

Then, as today, many suicide bombers had experienced traumatic encounters with Israeli soldiers or other authority figures. Iman Radi, for example, who blew himself up on 25 December 1994, was haunted by

Continued on page 68

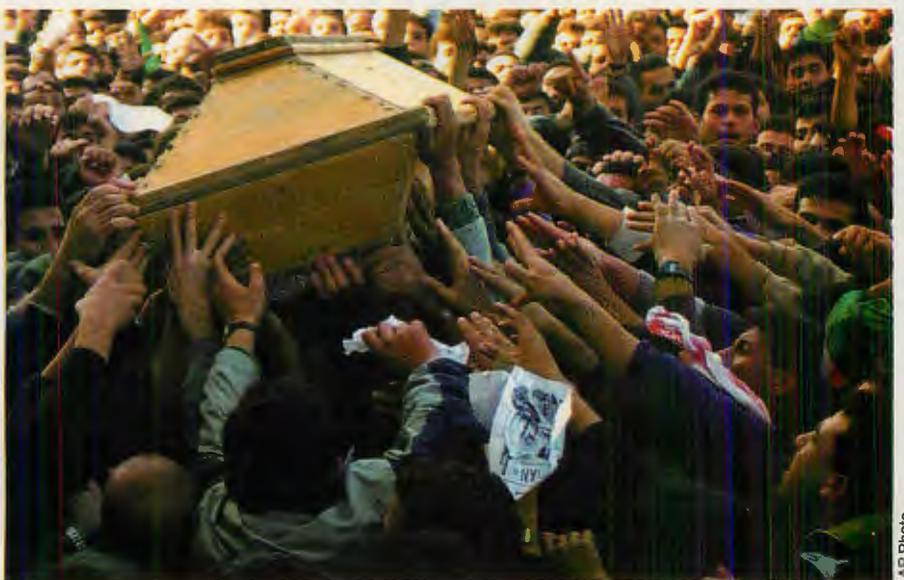


Rescue workers in the northern Israeli town of Afula wheel away the body of an Israeli killed when a Palestinian driven car bomb exploded near a passenger bus on 6 April 1994. The minimal toll amounted to eight dead and 30 injured.

which clings to the barren slopes of Samaria, that has seen considerable growth over the past two decades. Even during the Intifada, few residents participated in the uprising or even paid much attention to it. Most of the inhabitants of Rafat are small farmers, content to eke out a living tilling the soil.

The Ayyash family was the most prominent in the village, and Yehiya had two younger brothers, Mareen and Yunes. He is remembered as an outstanding student at the village school, ambitious and full of energy. When he completed high school in 1988, he entered Bir Zeit University to study chemistry.

Bir Zeit, the oldest Palestinian university on the West Bank, was, during the 1960s and 1970s, a volatile hotbed of radical politics and rabid support for the PLO and the PFLP. Because of the politicization of the faculty and students, and the constant demonstrations that seemed almost a part of the curriculum, Bir Zeit was frequently closed down by the Israeli authorities whom, for years during the '70s, kept the



Mourners carry the coffin containing the remains of Yehiya Ayyash through Gaza City. Thousands vowed vengeance and told Israel to "prepare the body bags."

MOSCOW



OMON Troops Tow The Thin Blue Line

It's 0630 in Moscow. As the overnight shift at the Kremlin prepares to leave work, I find myself crushed in the back seat of a special-police cruiser stalking a target: a known Chechen car thief. There was no *NYPD Blue*-like excitement to this operation, just the slow passage of time marked by overstuffed ashtrays and foul-tasting lukewarm tea. Stakeouts, I discovered, can be mind-numbing. My left leg went to sleep for the second time in as many hours.

Then the radio came to life with rapid-fire Russian cop talk. The target was making his move.

Quicker than you could say *Ivan Strashniy* ("Ivan the Terrible"), our Lada squad car screeched forward in the direction of a mini-van that was turning a corner not 50 meters in front of us. In a blur of motion, another car containing the second team slid in front of the van, halting it.

**Text & Photos by
Mark H. Milstein**

Doors opened and officers in military-style cammies and helmets dashed to the van. Semiauto pistols and bulletproof shields stabbed at the van's front and side doors — both of which were nearly torn off their hinges. Then the suspect came tumbling out and was hurled at the pavement. Then came his companion, similarly treated.



OMON troops yank a suspected Chechen car thief and his companion from a van during a Moscow traffic stop.

There were no niceties, no Miranda warning, just the sound of handcuffs being ratcheted tightly. The suspect, a young man wearing a tank-top shirt and jogging pants, spat a few obscenities at the *OMON* troops just before he was unceremoniously pushed into the back of a third patrol car and sent downtown for processing.

"That's how we deal with our crooks here," explained Deputy Commander Vitaliy Borisovitch Kiyko. "Not like your FBI." He had heard and read things about law enforcement in the United States.

"Why did they let those blacks destroy Los Angeles?" Kiyko continued, bluntly, about some widely publicized riots following a controversial trial verdict. "And look at what happened with that [Feb. '97] bank robbery: The police had to borrow guns. That wouldn't happen *here*."

Kiyko might be right. With a population of approximately 8 million, Moscow is well policed and still enjoys — excepting Russian "Mafia"-related violence — a relatively low crime rate. Law enforcement here

is not hog-tied by laws protecting criminals and citizens alike, nor does the average officer fear having to go before a review board to explain his or her excessive behavior.

The various law-enforcement agencies in Moscow altogether have nearly 100,000 men and women in uniform. Two thousand of them are of *OMON*, the *Otryad Militsii Osobovo Naznacheniya*: "Police Special Assignment Group."

OMON troops, like their American SWAT counterparts, act as the police department's muscle. When a bank robbery or hostage situation erupts, it's *OMON* that is entrusted with the task of ending things safely. The troops are hand-picked, highly trained, and are outfitted with the latest equipment and Russian weaponry. Unlike many of their counterparts in today's Russian armed forces, *OMON* troops *don't* lack in esprit de corps.

Bad Boys, Bad Boys ...

Back at *OMON* barracks, a crew from Russia's *Cops*-style TV show joined us in

Kiyko's office. Over the requisite shots of vodka and humorous toasts calling for "Death to Yankee imperialism," Kiyko and the crew hashed out plans for a series of complicated training exercises the following morning at *OMON*'s "terror town" facility.

The highly animated, 44-year-old Kiyko comes across as a cop's cop.

A 10-year veteran, Kiyko's hard-biting Russian wit and love for anything to do with law enforcement quickly earned him the respect of his men and the coveted job of *OMON*'s deputy commander. "I started out as an immigration officer with the KGB," Kiyko said. "I then went on to the juvenile-crimes division before joining up with *OMON*."

During a 12-month stint in Chechnya, however, Kiyko, then commanding a Ministry of Interior military-police company, got his wings clipped and found himself branded a troublemaker and media hog.

"I was too much for those old men," Kiyko said, referring to his higher-ups. "They couldn't stand that a lower-ranking officer like me could be on TV and in the news. I got too big for my shoes, they said."

Once back in Moscow, Kiyko worked overtime to shed some of his bad-boy image. Through the *fraternity* of Ukrainian officers serving in the Russian uniformed services, he channeled his way up the ladder and soon was offered the position of deputy commander.

"I don't like to sit behind a desk all day," Kiyko said. "I like to get out with my men and work with them. They respect that."

"Look, later this afternoon, some of my men will be providing security at a *Spartak* [Moscow soccer club] football match," said Kiyko. "You and Tamara [*SOF*'s translator] should meet them at the entrance at 1630."

Soccer Hooligans

Unlike American-football games, football matches in Europe can attract a decidedly lower class of fans, many with extreme political views and a propensity towards violence. Whether in Britain or Russia, if you're a cop on this beat, it can be tough work. And for this correspondent, this Moscow match could be an ideal opportunity to get up-close and personal with a bunch of riot-baton wielding *OMON* troops thumping on Russian skinheads.

I wasn't disappointed. Not five minutes after placing myself safely behind the cordon of cops and *OMON* frisking every single fan entering the stadium, a scuffle broke out between a plainclothes Moscow police officer and three "neo-Nazis" who claimed their meter-long pine logs were not weapons but *canes* needed to aid their injured legs.

"Ivankovich and Ageyeva — get over



Using a firepower combo of 9mm semiauto pistol and 7.62x39mm Kalashnikov assault rifle, two *OMON* troopers *on rapel* stage a live-fire assault into a target-practicing room.

there and give him a hand," yelled Lieutenant Boris Avremenko, OMON's senior officer on site. "Use gas if you have to!"

Both OMON men waded into the growing melee. With the aid of three patrolmen, they dragged the three thugs to a police bus for a quick beating and a formal arrest.

Soon the bus was filled with another 15 or 20 other troublemakers or *khoorigany*, as the OMON called them. All had been busted trying to sneak past security with some sort of weapon, or were on a list of known troublemakers.

On the other side of the stadium, though, more serious trouble had broken out: An OMON officer and a gang of fans got into a full-blown tug-of-war over a Nazi flag and a nail-studded club. The fans were arrested, but from what we could learn the OMON man suffered serious leg injuries and was taken to the hospital.

"We take all kinds of abuse for little money," said Avremenko. "The average OMON officer only gets about [the equivalent of] \$250 a month. That's not much if you get hurt like that officer. Many of us have to work two jobs. I do a little plumbing on the side. My wife holds two jobs, too."

From Bust To Bang

Moscow was celebrating its 850th anniversary. The city never looked better. The streets had been scrubbed clean of prostitutes, drug pushers, and the homeless.

Two British friends of mine were using the occasion to throw a monster party at their \$3,000-a-month apartment overlooking the Moscow River. I needed the break. The weekend before our visit to OMON, I had tried to squeeze a story out of the Moscow air show. It had been a bust.

Every major military-aircraft manufacturer in the world had descended on the Russian capital for a week-long marketing fest. But after two days of pounding the tarmac, I had come up empty. Our contacts at the Sukhoi Design Bureau Aviation Scientific-Industrial Complex, manufacturers of the front-line Su-27, Su-33 and Su-37 warplanes, turned out to be of no help. While dozens of 10-year-old kids sat in cockpits playing with the latest in Russian-made heads-up technology, the *SOF* (American edition) correspondent had to settle for excuses and a pounding headache. Thankfully, Tamara the translator's persistence and powers of persuasion

got us connected with OMON, and that story was a "go."

On our second day with the special police troops, we arrived as scheduled at the barracks housing Deputy Commander Kiyko's office. There he sat, wearing a crisp uniform, under two spot lights, answering a series of *softball* questions from the correspondent from the TV show. Outside, about 15 OMON troops were smoking cigarettes and preparing themselves and their equipment for a series of rappelling and entry exercises.

"Gee, where are the blank rounds?" I asked one of the team leaders.

"Sorry, we don't use blanks," he nonchalantly replied. "We always practice with live ammunition."

"Chambered?" I asked.

"It depends," he said. "If we're practicing an entry with 'bandits' and targets then yes — we chamber a round. It has to be as realistic as possible."

I watched the OMON team members load their magazines with round after live round. Maybe the TV crew would get more action than they bargained for.

Getting It On Film

The OMON "terror town" wasn't what I



(above) A cop's cop: OMON Deputy Commander Vitaly Borisovitch Kiyko. (top, right) Some of Kiyko's troops in Russian military-style formation. (right) The deputy commander smokes and jokes with the boys during a lull in dynamic-entry exercises filmed by the Russian TV equivalent of *Cops*.



Negotiating vertical obstacles: scrambling up a human pyramid; handing off the sniper rifle (Dragunov bullpup, sound-suppressed variant), then taking a leap; or, clinging to a lifting pole.



had imagined. It instead turned out to be the rear of an actual dormitory and the adjacent abandoned buildings. One TV camera crew had set up in the "target" room and another was walking back and forth filming the OMON men prepping themselves.

An OMON team, in full "dynamic entry" gear, was now rappelling down the face of the building toward the target room. Window by window they descended, then safely positioned themselves outside the target window. On command, they swung in one after another and opened fire.

"Cut," yelled the TV producer in Russian. "Could we please do that again? This time I'd like the officer with the assault rifle to wait a second longer before shooting the target. It'll give our cameraman an extra few seconds of footage."

Time and time again, the OMON went through the paces for the cameras. Finally, after getting that right, a second team of OMON assaulted the room from the ground using a pole and ladder to gain entry.

"Someone has got to be a star," Kiyko chimed in from behind me. "I'm going to show everyone how we grab a suspect from a speeding car."

Kiyko then asked one of his guys for his service pistol. He let the magazine slide out, checked it, pushed it back in, checked the safety, and put the pistol into his shoul-

der holster. Two identical, beige Lada squad cars pulled up. Kiyko got into the front seat of the second car, while six other OMON troops divided themselves up between the two cars.

On Kiyko's order, the OMON spilled out of the cars in well-practiced motion. One trooper dropped to a knee and aimed a Kalashnikov rifle to give covering fire while everyone else ran toward the fictive target. It probably looked very good on film.

Snapping gum and smirking over his ability to still keep up with OMON half his age, Kiyko walked back to the camera crew and pointed at the top of a garage behind us. "See, while you were shooting us, I had my best shot shooting you," Kiyko said. He pointed at an OMON sniper behind an air vent. The barrel of a 7.62mmx54R SVD sniper rifle was barely visible, and pointed at us. The Russian sense of humor just kills me.

"When I think back to some of the more interesting operations we've mounted," Kiyko mused later that afternoon over vodka, "I'd have to say the most satisfying was the [Russian] White House siege." That event occurred early in President Yeltsin's administration.

"We really felt like we were fighting for something real," Kiyko continued. "Not like Chechnya. Crushing the coup [attempted in 1993] was for Russia."

"I'm not a lover of guns and blood," Kiyko concluded. "I take my job seriously. I am entrusted to keep peace, but criminals shouldn't come to Moscow and think they'll have an easy time with me."

SOF Chief Foreign Correspondent Mark H. Milstein, who is based in Budapest, has the distinction of being declared persona non grata by Bosnian Serb officials. ☒



Practice makes perfect for the Moscow detachment of OMON, Russia's federal "SWAT" force.

MIDDLE-EAST MIND GAMES

SOF Tracks Hezbollah In Beirut

Text & Photos by Al J. Venter

It was a chilling display, and they played it time and again on Syrian television.

The opening gambit showed a *Hezbollah* guerrilla group on operations somewhere in southern Lebanon in the Israel-declared Security Zone. The group of four or five hirsute soldiers, clutching M16s and wearing Hezbollah's distinctive black uniform, had taken a position on a small knoll. Below, standing alone and unescorted — which was unusual, for this was a war zone that had been tested often enough by opposing forces in recent months — was an American-built M113 armored personnel carrier. It had no markings, though its light-gray color indicated its origins: Israeli Defense Force (IDF).

The cameraman, a little unsteady at times, moved to the left of another man preparing a device. Suddenly there was a blast. In a blink of an eye, a round ball of fire hurtled toward the APC in a slight clockwise rotation. The gunner, peering through sights, carefully worked a control stick, directing the antitank missile via wire guidance. Seconds later, the armored vehicle exploded in a sheet of flame.

I eventually was able to establish that four or five Israeli soldiers had died. A Hezbollah man I spoke to later wasn't sure. "We never really know. The Zionist enemy always lies about these," he said and spat into the dust at his feet.

On several earlier visits to this Levantine theater of operations, I had observed Hezbollah's preference for a weapon that had long been obsolete.

Time and again U.N. and other opera-

tional reports spoke of "Sagger" missiles being fired at Israeli or South Lebanon Army (SLA) positions or patrols. There seemed to be no end to the availability of the weapon. Hezbollah appeared to have thousands of them: a Soviet-designed high-explosive, manually commanded, antitank missile that delivers 6 pounds of explosive to a target at almost 400 feet per second and with penetration of about 18 inches of steel. The range is 1,600 to 2,000 meters. The Sagger has the charming nickname of *Malyutka*, Russian for "little one."

I discovered during my visit to Beirut in September this year that the Sagger missiles deployed by Hezbollah cadres against the Israelis and their surrogates are *not* the weapon left over from the Soviet Union. It is an Iranian derivative, manufactured in Tehran by the Shahid Shah Abady Industrial Group.

The Iranian "Sagger" is essentially the same as the Soviet missile down to the waterproof case that floats and forms the base for the launcher. As with the original version, a well-trained crew can launch two missiles a minute through an eight-power sight and guidance system.

During an earlier visit to an Israeli border position ("Road Killers," April '97 *SOF*), the youthful IDF lieutenant who escorted me about the base admitted that twice he had come under Sagger fire. He didn't know whether they were the Soviet *Malyutkas* or those made in Iran.

"It didn't matter. It was mind-blowing: When you see this ball of fire coming at



Hezbollah posters are found throughout southern Lebanon.

you, you're transfixed. It's almost like being under a spell. You just know that someone's going to die. But on both occasions, it just wasn't my turn," he said quietly, with an American accent. His family had done their *Aliya* to the Promised Land from Michigan when he was still in junior high school.

Not In Our Interests ...

Recent events in the Middle East had prompted me to return to Lebanon in early August. The Israeli border had again become porous to *Katyusha* rockets and, for a while it looked as if we were to see a repeat of last year's Operation Grapes of Wrath, the Israeli military's retaliation against guerrilla activity in southern Lebanon. Even now, that scenario cannot be ruled out.

Customarily, I enter Lebanon through Israeli lines, either at Rosh Haniqra at the coast or at Metulla, on Israel's northern border in a rugged area locals refer to as the "highlands" of Upper Galilee. Accordingly, I made a formal approach to the Israeli Embassy in Washington to do so. When officials there asked why, I told them that I hoped to meet up with the "Party of God" (Hezbollah).

"No way," said Major General Yoran Yair, the (then) Israeli military attaché. "You are intending to visit with Hezbollah. It is neither in our interests or yours to bring you through our defenses. What do you think Hezbollah would do to you if they discovered you had come to Beirut directly from Jerusalem *and* with the help of the IDF?"

The general had a point. So I came to Lebanon by air from Cyprus.

I took the usual step of notifying the British Embassy that I was in Beirut. When I asked Larry Bond, one of the senior diplomats there, about the guerrilla group, he suggested that I try elsewhere. He couldn't — or wouldn't — help me. "We have no contact with those people and for very good reason — which I don't need to explain to you," he said.

I seemed to be drawing a lot of blanks.

Not For Tourists

Media contact with Hezbollah is always tenuous. In my case it was an adventure: I could hardly tell Tehran-backed fundamentalist organization that I was representing the American *Soldier Of Fortune* magazine. I said, honestly, that I was a correspondent with the European *International Defense Review* (IDR).

Though Hezbollah is unofficially headquartered in Beirut, the movement has no fixed address. It is not listed in any directory. On inquiry, those asking are usually directed towards what is termed the organization's Central Information Office in Beirut's southern Harek Horeik suburb. But even this address (in the street of the Martyr Ragheb Harb, who had been killed in an Israeli rocket attack) is reached only after following numerous false leads. Hezbollah, someone else said, uses this time and confusion to find out exactly *who is this person*: a legitimate journalist, or spy for Israel's *Mossad* or the CIA?

At one stage, my driver, having been wrongly directed by a group of women (all of them wearing the *roustay* scarf, as is the custom in many of the poorer Moslem societies) ended up in the approaches to what obviously was one of Hezbollah's complexes. We were challenged by black-clad guerrillas with M16s. After questions, they directed us to a building at the other end of the block. We got nowhere.

It was interesting that while we were there, a black seven-series BMW, accompanied by more black-uniformed guards, roared out into the road past us. We had almost entered the lion's den.

I had noted the changes getting there from built-up central Beirut. They were subtle at first, but became more marked the farther we traveled south. The middle-class areas that we passed through gradually yielded to a bleak zone of rutted streets and overcrowded poverty. The tank tops and shorts of the women that are everywhere along the Corniche in the summer heat soon were supplanted by garments that covered every part of the female body except the hands and face.

The stares that we got became sullen and suspicious. This was not a part of Lebanon usually frequented by tourists. I quickly realized that it also was a part of town that, for several years, had played host to a variety of Western hostages, many of them journalists. I had been told only the night before in the Wild Geese Pub (in the former



(above) Israeli army APC creeps through south Lebanon village, crewmen alert to ambush. (right) A *wadi* (valley) a few miles north of the Israeli border is an infiltration route for Arab guerrillas, even though terrain is rough and cover and concealment are sparse. A few months ago a ferocious wildfire erupted here, ignited by tracers from a firefight between Israeli army *Egoz* counter guerrilla troops and Hezbollah. Israeli casualties reportedly were a handful of soldiers killed and up to a dozen wounded. (below) A U.N. vehicle (bottom, left) approaches a South Lebanon Army outpost along the coastal road south of Tyre. Such security-zone posts are manned by local troops who are trained, equipped, and paid by Israel — and attacked by Hezbollah.



Christian sector) that one of the U.N. Irish Battalion men had been kidnapped by a group of fundamentalists. He had been released after a day, though. His problems, apparently, were of his own making: You don't mess around *here* with Lebanese women, boy.

It had not been easy getting this far. Everywhere I went, I seemed to be met by





Israeli gun jeep patrols the heavily defended border with Lebanon. Troops, probably of the famed *Golani* infantry brigade, show tension of duty in the security zone, a buffer shielding northern Israel.



strong and fit men with neatly trimmed beards, the hallmark of Hezbollah's converts.

Hezbollah's Spin Doctor

As the days passed there seemed to be more and more of them. Some appeared to be just lounging about whatever route I took. When I thought I was surrounded by them on my evening walks along the Corniche, that beautiful stretch of built-up waterfront in West Beirut which is still the hub of Lebanon's Islamic society, I then realized I was being paranoid: They just like dark clothes and beards in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Eventually, through a contact within the Lebanese Army, I was able to speak with Ibrahim Moussawi, spokesman for Hezbollah and a national media figure in Lebanon who often appears on television, including Hezbollah's own *El Manaar* station. A charming, amiable individual who

spoke good English, he belied the stereotype of a zealot. (See interview, page 63.)

He told me he had been following my reports from the other — Israeli — side of the conflict in *IDR*. It was my job, I said. He didn't argue. Later he said that he was aware that I had recently been with the Israeli army as well as with SLA units. He also commented on my interest in matters relating to nuclear developments in the Third World. It was all a little ominous.

Once in his office, Moussawi, 30-something and dressed in the customary Iranian-style dark suit — sans shirt collar and tie — listened patiently, making notes while I spelled out my journalistic needs. I asked to go on a full military operation in the south. He then questioned me closely about the nature and intent of my visit. The last 15 minutes of our meeting were devoted to the reasoning behind *why* an Israeli pullout from South Lebanon was

inevitable and why I felt it would take place in the near future.

While not every question posed in my interview with the Hezbollah spokesman was answered, it did provide graphic insight to a guerrilla movement that has been unusually successful on the battlefield in the past two years.

Israeli and SLA casualties have never been higher. Hezbollah appears to have achieved the objective of being able to move about the security zone and strike, if not at will, then far more resolutely than before. With the Israelis more directly involved in the war, the IDF consequently is taking more knocks.

The situation in southern Lebanon is best summed up in the words of a columnist writing for the Israeli newspaper *Yediot Ahronot*: "We seem to have unleashed a monster in the occupied zone ... our own Vietnamese debacle. ..."



Other armed factions exist in Lebanon: *Amal* militia poster stands in town of Qana. (right) House near town of Nabatiya was destroyed by Israeli combat engineers: Occupants, forced to relocate, were suspected Hezbollah supporters.



Mounting Losses For Israel

Moussawi and I did not talk about one of the issues about which there has been much comment of late in Israel, America, and Lebanon itself: the (perceived) factional split within Hezbollah. Word had it that there have been sharp differences between Hezbollah General Secretary Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah and the more extreme, less-eloquent, Beka'a Valley-

based Sheik Subhi Tufeili. Tufeili was the first general secretary, and remains a Hezbollah leader who is thought to be closer to the Iranian mullahs than Nasrallah — if that were possible.

I raised this issue during a subsequent meeting with the head of the Lebanese armed forces, General Emile Lahoud, at his headquarters at Yarze on the outskirts of Beirut.

There was no split within Hezbollah, he

said. The report was an attempt by Israel at "disinformation." Nasrallah, Gen. Lahoud told me, was in overall command of the organization; where applicable, Tufeili took his orders from the Hezbollah *shoura* or council.

"No matter what you read or hear," Lahoud told me, "I can assure you that the movement [Party of God] is intact and thriving. And believe me, I should know."

Continued on page 66

Q&A With Hezbollah

The following is from a September '97 interview of Ibrahim Moussawi, the Hezbollah spokesman in Beirut.

Al J. Venter: *To what do you ascribe Hezbollah's battlefield successes in the past year?*

Moussawi: There are several reasons. For a start, we believe implicitly in our cause.

There is consequently a high level of motivation and a strong sense of belonging to the region, in which the conflict is taking place, among our Holy Fighters. Couple this to the demand for absolute obedience to the leaders and you have a good combination among the fighters.

Also, we rely heavily on past experience and evaluate the ongoing situation constantly. The organization benefits greatly from the mistakes of the enemy. As always, a well-prepared ambush, even if we have to lie in wait for two or three days, can provide us with good results. Our tactics, broadly speaking, are as follows:

We do our best to prevent the enemy in their efforts to keep their [southern Lebanon security-zone] outposts supplied, hitting them as often as possible. For this we can use mortars, antitank missiles, or an ambush at close quarters. We try to use different options at different times.

We like to confuse our adversary, at the same time create crises of confidence between the Israelis and their surrogate allies, the SLA. In doing so we attempt to extract from the enemy the maximum cost in terms of human lives, weapons, and equipment. Like us, for every weapon or soldier wounded or killed, more have to be brought in, providing fresh opportunities.

The Hezbollah Command tends to concentrate its attacks on military buildings and headquarters.

We give as much support as possible to the people living in the occupied zone, making them aware that the eventual outcome of the war is also about their freedom. Obviously, this has certain serious psychological implications for those trying to counter our efforts. We have been more successful in achieving this objec-

tive than the enemy in recent times.

What weapons we have, we try to use to the best effect. We also attempt to improve our training in the use of this material.

AJV: *Have you used examples from other conflicts: Vietnam, the PLO, or Cuba possibly?*

Moussawi: We regard the war in south Lebanon as a school in itself. We have our own methods and teaching systems which, as you know, have proved to be successful, like the suicide bombers who follow the orders of their leaders without question. The objective, basically, is to kill the biggest number of the enemy. In any war an ambush is an ambush. The same with a mortar attack. You look for casualties to be inflicted.

AJV: *In your operations against the Israelis, what normally constitutes a strike force and for how long, on average, can an operation last?*

Moussawi: It might be anything from two days to a month to get through enemy lines, depending on the nature of the operation. Obviously, there are often many obstacles to get to a specific target. Some of the considerations might be enemy positions and those of their allies; laying mines or booby traps or ambushes for their first line of defense, and doing the same for their second line of defense; closely monitoring their positions ahead of and behind these lines; the ability of the enemy to use night-vision equipment; their [Israeli] use of advanced radar systems that can detect our presence, often at ranges of several thousand meters; the round-the-clock use by the Israelis of unmanned aerial vehicles [UAVs]; traitors in the occupied land.

AJV: *How do you manage to counter the presence of UAVs?*

Moussawi: The best way to avoid these devices is to mislead the enemy. We also have to carefully select the times and places where these attacks take place to avoid being targeted, especially by the IAF [Israeli Air Force]. With time we are getting better at it.

AJV: *Hezbollah forces have achieved some striking successes in land-mine warfare; much more so than in the past. This is*

obviously new technology for your organization. Who provided it?

Moussawi: This kind of technology is progressing constantly. We benefit from it as the enemy does and we try to use it to our advantage.

AJV: *The U.N. in Lebanon (UNIFIL) puts your regular operational strength at "less than a thousand" with many thousands as part-time volunteers. Is this correct?*

Moussawi: No comment. We keep this to ourselves.

AJV: *I have noticed that some of your men are armed with M16s; others seem to prefer the AK-47. Any reason?*

Moussawi: While the M16 is more comfortable for the average soldier because of its light weight, it is sometimes subject to breakage or stoppages. The AK-47, in contrast, is much more reliable.

AJV: *Does Hezbollah still have training camps in South Africa?*

Moussawi: We never had any training or activity in South Africa and we challenge anyone to prove it.

AJV: *Is the Party of God going to continue to use suicide attacks against the Israelis?*

Moussawi: Of course. We have lost units in South Lebanon fighting the enemy.

(Note: When the question of five active Hezbollah training camps in South Africa was raised in Parliament earlier this year, a spokesman for the ANC government of President Nelson Mandela initially denied that any such camps existed. Only after their location had been pinpointed and numbers cited by opposition politicians did the government concede and give assurances they would be closed. There is also evidence that former members of South African special forces have been involved with this guerrilla movement and that mine and counter-mine warfare were among subjects taught. This could be one of the reasons for Hezbollah's recent land-mine successes against the IDF.)

Afraid Of The Dark?

Continued from page 52

tured by Innovative Weaponry, Inc. (IWI, Dept. SOF, 2513 E. Loop 820 N., Forth Worth, TX 76118; phone: 800-334-3573). IWI's optional multicolor night-sight system focuses attention on the front sight and speeds target acquisition by a considerable margin. Most tritium self-luminous sights glow green, simply because this color is the highest on the night visibility spectrum. However, operator alignment of three green dots in subdued light can be confusing. This detracts from emphasis on the front sight

and retards target acquisition.

The largest self-luminous dot is installed in the front sight and it is green. The two smaller dots in the rear sight are either yellow or amber. In use, I have found that the eyes instinctively focus on the green front dot with a strong 3-dimensional triangulation effect that helps to funnel the shooter's vision directly onto the target. I can personally recommend IWI's multicolor system highly and without reservations of any kind.

By the third day, shirts had been placed on the wobbler targets to more accurately simulate reality. And, we began work in the Terminator. The application of the tactical techniques required to survive a gun fight are an essential ingredient of all training at

Thunder Ranch. Moving through the unending labyrinth of rooms in the Terminator or working up the stairwells in the Tower will test your tactical skills to a level just below an actual confrontation with an armed opponent. Each step you take brings you into another potential threat area. Manmade funnels, such as doors, halls, corners and windows constrict movement and represent maximum hazard areas. They are bullet magnets and to survive you must stay on the outside of corners and visually "slice the pie" as you move forward. Shoot an innocent bystander in one of the simulators and the instructors will gleefully inform you that "you're going to share a cell with Bubba in the big house." There is a large sign in front of the Terminator which states, "Remember, you have the rest of your life to solve the problem. How long your life lasts depends on how well you do it."

During our night runs through the Terminator we learned not to set patterns of search with either movement or the flashlight. You should move away from the weapon's flash signature after firing. Crouching lower can help to back light the threat. In addition, you must stay away from windows or anything that would silhouette you.

Interspersed with our runs through the Terminator and Tower were a seemingly endless variety of drills on the Red and Orange Ranges. Most important to me were a series of stoppage drills, set up by each student's partner with both your pistol and his, that you had to clear in complete darkness from behind the barricade. Each of us was forced to clear about 80 malfunctions and then fire from cover.

During the daylight hours, we practiced both the drawstroke, shooting and reloading with one hand, first the normal firing hand and then the weak hand. Laying on our backs, first facing the target and then away from it, with the pistol on the ground, we fired laying on our backs, then sitting up and finally standing and firing while moving back to cover. Sound preposterous? Just picture yourself laying on the ground in a parking lot after being knocked down. No handgun course at Thunder Ranch would be complete without a run with the "chargers" on the Orange Range. This is especially challenging shooting, as the target advances almost faster than you can fire and get out of the hole.

All you need is money to acquire a pistol. Far more is required to insure that your opponent, and not you, goes down like "an asphalt snow angel" should you be forced into a deadly confrontation. You will need more than just a little true grit to attend a course at Thunder Ranch. Your physical endurance and emotional fortitude will be tested to their absolute limits. Personally, I wouldn't have it any other way. Only those who are really serious about survival end up on the firing line at Thunder Ranch. Their courses are booked far in advance with long waiting lists. Those looking beyond dry firing in their hallway mirror should contact them now — many of the classes in Thunder Ranch's 1998 schedule are already filled. ✕

SAFTA: NAVY SEAL FIGHTING SYSTEM New Navy SEAL Video Featuring Lew Hicks

Fear No Man! Protect yourself in any situation using the fighting system created by the Navy SEALs' top hand-to-hand expert. Unsatisfied with Black Belts he holds in Okinawan Shorin-Ryu, Aikido, Kung Fu-San Soo, and his mastery of Free style and Greco-Roman wrestling, **Lew Hicks** created for his Navy SEAL Teammates, **SAFTA** — Scientifically Applied Force Training of America. Learn how to command total control using the fighting skills developed for the world's most elite commando force. "**SAFTA: Navy SEAL Fighting System**" features step by step instruction using fifty action-filled training lessons. **Lew Hicks** demonstrates over 150 SAFTA movements that develop the physical skills and "Affirmative Mindset" needed to dominate any violent encounter. Once limited to the Navy SEALs' secret training areas, this proven system has been filmed for the first time. Take an inside look as Navy SEALs train "**full contact**" using SAFTA, the *unbeatable scientific approach* to dynamic physical control.

- Discover how special SEAL skills and scientific principles combine to make SAFTA the most effective fighting system.
- See the Navy SEALs' premier unarmed tactics instructor expose the mysticism and false promises that surround all other fighting systems.
- Train with the Navy SEALs' best. Learn the "Weapons of the Body" Target Indexing" and "The Three Musts".



Join the SAFTA Team; develop the self-confidence and ability to fight like the legendary Navy SEALs. *This training is not available from any other source. Don't miss this chance — SAFTA is the real thing!* Meditation and psychology won't dispel the fear of being attacked. Only knowledge can conquer fear — by understanding anatomy and how the body responds when the skeletal structure is manipulated. This film is guaranteed to arm you with this knowledge.

Fear No Man!

Two Hours VHS Only **\$79.95 + S&H**

Endorsed by top SEAL Commanders & Elite Law Enforcement Tactical Units

Add \$3.00 S&H. FL residents add 6% tax. Send check or MO to: **LOTI GROUP**
15720 Sunset Drive Suite 305 Miami, FL 33193 (305) 386-1154
Tape sales benefit UDT SEAL Museum.

Continued from page 39

Made by wrapping any available high explosives in paper and burlap, tying it with string, and dipping it in hot wax, would-be bombers simply have to insert a detonator and fuze or a timer and it's ready to go. Samples of the explosives from these particular bundles proved to be high nitroglycerin-content commercial dynamite.

Perhaps the most enigmatic of the explosives examined were contained in several clear plastic bags. Weighing approximately two kilos, each contained a putty-like material that ranged in color from dirty yellow to off-white. Laboratory tests later revealed the material to be U.S.-manufactured C-4 plastic explosive. The color discrepancies in the C-4 were traceable to various contaminants, probably introduced when the C-4 was reprocessed.

So, how would U.S. C-4 wind up in Ghana or Togo? A good bet was that it was part of the several tons shipped into Libya during the infamous Wilson-Terpil affair in the late '70s. It was during that time that renegade CIA operatives Edwin Wilson and Frank Terpil hatched a deal with Libyan strongman Muammar Khadafi to provide the instructors and explosives Khadafi needed for his terrorist-training camps. While not a smoking gun, this evidence, coupled with other materials that are known to have originated in Libya, certainly made for a warm barrel.

Attack of the Alphas

For the next few days we measured, tested, and photographed the piles of weapons and explosives. Now it was time for a little fun.

As mentioned, some of the PG-7 rocket motors had taken small-arms fire and, even though the Togolese soldiers were perfectly willing to fire them, I finally convinced them that it would be hazardous to their health and that the motors should be blown up. So, off we went to the Togo motocross track and firing range.

Since explosive-ordnance disposal (EOD) troops were nonexistent in this particular AO, I inherited the task. Besides, it would be a good excuse to test the UZRGM grenade fuzes and play with some of the other "toys." In the process, it was a chance to give the Marine embassy guards some hands-on training with Soviet weapons and ordnance.

While I prepared the demolition charge, Ed Owen took the Marines to the firing line to fire the AK-47s and AKMs. Since the only explosives available were from the captured stockpile, I had to improvise. The French TNT was out, as the army representatives made it clear *that* wasn't going anywhere. I ended up using the high-nitro-content dynamite.

After test-burning some fuse, I triple-primed the charge with non-electric caps and yelled, "Fire in the hole!" After a quick safety check, I lit the fuses and we headed

Quality Grip Extensions

for
GLOCK®

MODELS 26/27/28/29 & 30



Suggested Retail \$9.95

See your local dealer or for information contact:

PEARCE GRIP, INC.

P.O. Box 187
Bothell, WA 98041

1-800-390-9420

(425) 488-9497



(Shown with optional helmet mount)

NEW! F-6015B

UNIVERSAL TACTICAL MONOCULAR

ITT
NIGHT VISION

WITH US MILITARY AN/PVS-14 TECHNOLOGY

ITT's most versatile, high-resolution, GEN-3 image intensification system ever! Lightweight and capable of being used hand-held, head/helmet mounted, attached to a 35mm/video camera or weapons rail mounted in conjunction with a laser or optical sight!

Standard Features:

- 45 lp Resolution (min)
- 1300 ua Photosensitivity (typ)
- IR Illuminator & Low Battery/IR Indicators
- Water Resistant Mil-Spec Housing & Optics
- Bright Source Protection Circuitry
- Uses 2x 'AA' Batteries (included)
- Waterproof Pelican Hard Storage Case

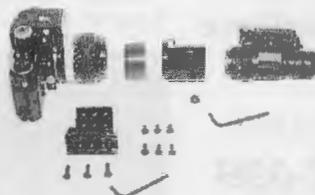
Standard System

\$3199⁰⁰

Deluxe System

w/Military Headmount

\$3499⁰⁰



F6015B w/Universal Adaptor Kit (Camera Not Included)

F6015 Universal Adaptor Kit

Use your F6015B for night vision photography! Includes adaptor ring for 35mm/video cameras and fully adjustable weaver rail mount for use with a variety of optical sights.

Only **\$225⁰⁰**

THE POLICE SUPPLY STORE <http://www.policesupply.com>

PH (800) 998-7007

FAX (800) 998-7006

P.O. Box 411, Diamond Springs, CA 95619

The Level Of **INTENSITY**
On The **BATTLEFIELD**
Depends On Your
PERSPECTIVE

Get a new perspective on the world of small arms with **SMALL ARMS WORLD REPORT**

—the journal from the **INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON SMALL ARMS IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

Write for more information or send US \$5 (refundable with membership) for sample copy of **SMALL ARMS WORLD REPORT** to:

IRSAIS

6320 Olde Towne Ct., Dept. A
Alexandria, VA 22307
(703) 765-9771
FAX: (703) 765-9773

IRSAIS accepts American Express

for the safety position.

Six minutes later a thick column of dirt climbed skyward, followed by a resounding *Craaack!* Success. One last trip back down-range to check out the crater and it would be "Miller time."

Halfway to the crater, we heard the roar. Heads snapped skyward.

Four Togolese Air Force Alpha jets were streaking down at us. *Oh shit.* There was really nothing left to do but swing my camera up at the jets. Then, as quickly as they were on us, they were winging away over the palm trees and out of sight. As it turned out, word of our EOD ops wasn't passed on to all levels. The jumpy jet pilots were taking no chances.

The job done and our butts still intact, we headed for the Marine House for some cool brews and a good BS session. Later, on the flight home, I realized I had a new appreciation for the film title, *Out of Africa.*

Richard L. Sherrow, SOF contributing editor for forensic sciences, was a senior NCO in Army EOD before working for the ATF. He still has all of his fingers and toes, too.

Mid-East Mind Games

Continued from page 63

He also said the Lebanese military has an excellent working relationship with Hezbollah, politically and militarily.

This subsequently became clear when those two groups, purportedly acting on a tip-off, jointly repulsed a fairly concerted Israeli raid on the Lebanese coast, just north of Sidon, in early September. Not since February's collision of two helicopters flying a special assault force to Lebanon, killing 73 troops, had Israel suffered such a jolting loss.

The mission on the night of 4 September was to have been a classic commando raid with a quick entrance from the sea by an undisclosed number of troops of Israel's "Flotilla 13," a SEAL clone. The naval commandos were to move quickly across a well-reconnoitered route to their target. But things went terribly wrong: A guide — possibly a double agent — led the Israelis into a minefield. Hezbollah and Lebanese army troops were dug in nearby, heavily armed with rifles, machine guns, even Sagger missiles.

The battle lasted several hours as Israeli helicopter gunships and patrol boats intervened to save the commandos. Even so, 11 commandos were killed, one was missing (and presumed dead), and more than 20 were wounded, some critically.

Lebanese television later carried film of Israeli weapons, gear, and body parts — all laid out for the news media by jubilant Lebanese and Hezbollah troops. The TV report likely played well in Syria, too.

SOF Contributing Editor Al J. Venter has authored several military books and covered conflicts in Africa, Asia, Central America, and the Middle East.

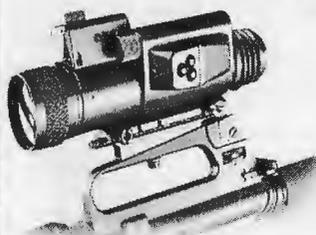


Starlight Systems is your one stop shopping center for the latest **Night Vision, Personal Protection & Surveillance** products at the lowest prices in the industry!

"Smart Technology"

Complete line of Night Vision:

Modular System



Goggles
Binoculars
Rifle Scopes
Spotting Scopes



Starts at \$349!

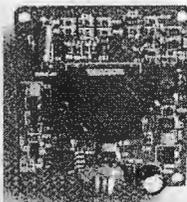
Comprehensive line of Spy Gear:

Covert Camera
hidden in desk clock

Audio & Video
Countermeasures
Covert Video Surveillance
Personal Protection

Micro Video
Camera

with pin-hole lens
1-1/2"x1-1/2"x1-3/4"



Only \$299!

90 So. Spruce Ave., Ste. F
So. San Francisco, CA 94080

Surveillance Systems

Start at \$99!

Armor On A Shoestring

Continued from page 47

sive projectiles, the Danto can ferry up to 20 troops including its three-man crew — four more than the Armadillo. Entry and exit are easily accomplished through the two side doors, a rear door and a roof port, where the turret is mounted.

Being a prototype, the Danto is undergoing continual scrutiny for adjustments and improvements. Captain Valdez mentioned the possibility of reducing its silhouette. With a length of 6.25 meters, a height of 3.45 meters (including the turret), and a width of 2.35 meters, the Danto is a *big* tar-



Proud as hell, and why not? Col. Adan Arana (right), Capt. Ricardo Valdez (center, right) and base CO, Col. Solares (center, left) show off refitted Armadillo to visiting VIP.

get — something, indeed, to consider when matched against antitank rockets.

During Guatemala's 36-year guerrilla war, at least a dozen APCs were knocked out of action — mostly by RPGs — according to Sergeant Pedro Antonio Garcia, a 16-year armor veteran. A guerrilla RPG attack, in November 1992, in which a soldier lost an arm and an eye when one of the open double doors of his hatch was blown shut against his arm as he manned an Armadillo's roof-mounted .50-caliber machine gun, gave impetus for the army to field a new weapons system to upgrade protection of its APC machine gunners.

Last year, improvement in cover and firepower were realized. Twin FN MAG 58 machine guns operated on a hydraulic mounting were introduced. Capable of being adapted to all APCs in Guatemala's inventory, this new configuration obviates the exposure of machine gunners. With 360-degree operation, the weapons systems are aimed and fired electronically by a gunner *inside* the vehicle, who locates his target via a video camera that feeds black and white images onto a TV screen.

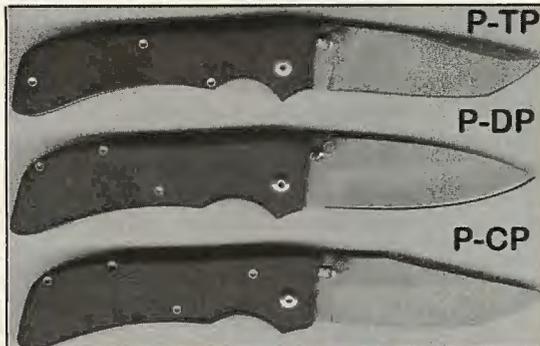
"We do what we can with what we have." is the slogan of the Guatemalan army.

Its War Material Service has shown what major strides can be taken, with *very* limited resources.

Steve Salisbury, an SOF correspondent for more than a decade, resides in Guatemala City. ✕

"There Can Be Only One"

Strongest is an absolute term in defining strong Lock strength in a folding knife is our number one concern and, it should be your first consideration in choosing a folding knife. After all the only thing you have to lose is your fingers!



The Pioneer Series
Rolling Lock™ Strong
Three Blade Styles
Specifications
Blade Steel ATS-34
Blade Length 3.20
Handle Length 4.05
Over All Length 7.25
Liners Stainless Steel
Scales Black G-10
\$129.95
Shipping \$5.00

R.E.K.A.T Exclusive *Rolling Lock™* The **STRONGEST** one handed folding, blade lock knife in the World (U.S. Patent 5,685,079)



SPECIFICATIONS
Blade Steel ATS-34 RC59-60
Blade length 3 15/16th
Handle Length 4 15/16th
Over All Length 8 7/8th
Liners Stainless Steel
Scales Black G-10

Pocket Hobbit with Breakfront Kydex Sheath
\$179.95 \$5.00 Shipping

Complete Product Catalog
and 19X26 Poster \$5.00

Visit our web site [http:// www.roundeye.com](http://www.roundeye.com)

Round Eye Knife and Tool Company
American Innovation and Craftsmanship

Dealer Inquiries
Write or Fax

P.O. Box 818 Sagle, Idaho 83860 (208)265-8858
FAX (208) 263-0848 Email : roundeye@nidlink.com
Credit Card Orders (888) 801-8858 Visa and Mastercard

SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMETH

SUPERIOR KNIFE DESIGNS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL--MILITARY, LAW ENFORCEMENT, SPORTSMEN

Model 117-2 Combat Blade

- 7" x 1 1/4" x .214" Blade
- Black Oxide Finish
- "LBE" Compatible KYDEX® Sheath
- 59-60 RC Hardened Edge,
Soft Spine
- 1095 High Carbon Tool Steel
- Black Electrical Grade Linen
Micarta Handles

KYDEX Sheaths for the APPLGATE-
FAIRBAIRN® Combat Folder &
NORTH AMERICAN ARMS®
Mini-Revolvers. **Choice \$20.00**

"WOO" (TM) Neck Knife 7-3/16" of .125"
1095 High Carbon Tool Steel.
KYDEX Sheath included **\$25.00**



Airborne Ranger
With a Model 117-2
Combat Blade
\$150.00

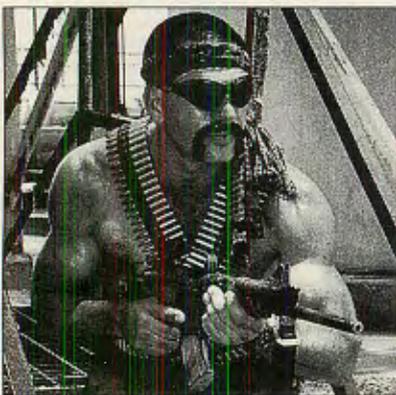
Visa & Master Card Accepted
Catalog of products \$2.00
Deliveries 2-4 weeks, shipping & handling Approx. \$5.00
"FORCE XXI COMBAT KNIVES--WE CUT PLUM TO THE BONE"
WKC, INC. SILOAM SPRINGS, AR.
501-549-3356 or FAX 501-549-3357

“NAVY SEAL BUDS TRAINING VIDEO”

Altho there are many men physically strong enough to be SEALs, few have the mental toughness to go with it. Identifying those few is what BUDs training is all about. Witness the harsh physical & mental training programs that condition SEALs to prevail under any type of pressure. See motivation & self control tested to the limit as trainees endure the tortures of Hell Week. Discover mind control techniques used by SEALs to persevere despite extreme stress, cold and fatigue. Don't miss this chance to see the extraordinary abilities that define the modern Navy SEAL. *A LOTI Group film.*

Only **\$19.95+S&H**

“NAVY SEAL INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH PT” featuring C.J. Caracci



When you perform at an optimum level, the mind and body are one. At those times even the most strenuous tasks seem easy. Combat survival frequently depends on this developed toughness. The role of physical training can't be over emphasized. SEAL veteran & tactical training expert C.J. Caracci conducts this fast paced one on one session. This concentrated series of SEAL exercises is guaranteed to deliver twice the results in half the time. This new **accelerated total body workout** is the answer to those requiring maximum results in minimum time. This video has all the vigorous physical conditioning needed to achieve optimum level performance *A LOTI Group film.* Only **\$19.95+S&H**

Videos \$19.95+\$3.00 S&H per order. FL residents add 6% tax. Send to: **LOTI GROUP 15720 SUNSET DRIVE SUITE #305 MIAMI, FL 33193**

Sales benefit UDT SEAL Museum.

Phone Tag

Continued from page 55

an incident that occurred during the Intifada when Israeli troops broke into his family home. His mother was smashed in the face with a rifle butt, and Radi had to carry her to the hospital.

Suicide bombers often have problems at home and a most have very low self-esteem. To make up for these deprivations they become “born again Muslims,” surrendering themselves wholeheartedly to the movement. Their world view is black and white and they embrace military solutions to all of their problems, in contradiction to the real spirit of the Koran. Indeed, they misinterpret many elements of their religion, or are often provided misleading religious interpretations by their Imams.

Most bombers have few prospects for a better life and willingly opt for deliverance for their worldly woes and a quick trip to Paradise, where they will be provided young virgins and live a life of ease.

Once a suicide bomber has been recruited and agrees to participate in an attack, he receives training aimed at steeling him to his fate. They are buried alive in coffins to give them a sense of what their future holds. Two days before the actual attack, the bomber begins fasting, to purify his body. Like any devout Muslim, he prays five times a day, and between prayers receives political and religious indoctrination, often from his Imam, who continuously reminds him of the joys of Paradise.

Nearly all of Ayyash's suicide bombers were dressed in IDF [Israel Defense Forces] uniforms, with IDF insignia and documentation. They carried their explosives in kit-bags provided to IDF soldiers. In the wake of the terror campaign, Israeli soldiers in uniform, but without weapons and battle gear, were subjected to random security checks to verify their identities.

The Operation

Ayyash acquired his nickname, “the Engineer,” from none other than former Israeli prime minister Yitzak Rabin, who took a deep personal interest in efforts to bring an end to his terrorist activities. By 1994, Ayyash's operations had become so successful that Rabin and his top advisors decided that the Palestinian would have to be killed. “It was not a matter of revenge,” explained a former Shin Bet official. “It was a matter of security. Ayyash established a school for bomb-making in the Gaza Strip. We could not let it go on. We had to take him, dead or alive. Dead was more preferable, and this is what happened.”

A retired Deputy Chief of Shin Bet, Gidon Ezra, who led the pursuit of Ayyash, said that, “We assembled the best people and best teams for the chase. There were no limits on the amount of money we could spend, but two critical elements — time and opportunity — were against us.”

On two occasions, Ayyash's pursuers were certain that they had cornered him, but twice he eluded their grasp. The first was in 1994 when they raided a house in Nablus belonging to Ali Assi, a Hamas operator, only to discover that they had missed Ayyash by mere seconds. His bed, in fact, was still warm.

In February 1995, a house in Sheik Raduwan in the Gaza Strip exploded. A near-miss: In the ruins, authorities uncovered the body of Kamel Kachil, Ayyash's deputy.

The Israelis, however, vowed they would not falter again. To ensure that they finally snared their man, they hatched an elaborate plan that encompassed a combination of technology, deception and, above all, betrayal.

Ayyash had taken up residence in the home of an old friend, 27-year old Osama Hamed, located at 2 Shahid al-Khaluti Street in the small town of Beit Lahiya, in the Gaza Strip.

According to what Hamed told a gathering at a mosque in Gaza on 7 January 1996, “I'd known Yehiya Ayyash for a very long time. We studied together at Bir Zeit University and we remained in touch.

I knew that he had arrived in the Gaza Strip after he escaped from the West Bank. Last July, he established contact with me and asked if he could live with me at Beit Lahiya. I told him that I could not guarantee his safety as I live close to the Erez [main] border crossing into Israel.

“He insisted, though, and moved in with me and lived on the second floor of my house. At the time I worked for my uncle, Kamel, who is a developer. I told Ayyash that I was working on my uncle's building projects. I told him that I wasn't sure whether my uncle was ‘clean.’

At the time of the operation, Kamel Hamed was residing in a luxurious house near the beach in Gaza. He drove a Mercedes Benz and appeared to be living the good life; married for the third time, he had 14 children.

Osama Hamed continues: “My uncle Kamel gave me a *Pelephone* [the Israeli nickname for Motorola's cellular phone] so that he would be able to find me whenever he needed me. Last Thursday [4 January 1997] Kamel arrived and asked for the cellular phone. He took it and returned it later. I did not suspect anything. It appears to me now that during this time somebody changed something in the telephones. My uncle told me that he was leaving for Israel and that he would call me on Friday morning.”

Upon discovering Ayyash's body, Osama Hamed “called the Hamas people and told them. They arrived immediately and took the body.”

How the Israelis managed to compromise Kamel Hamed remains a secret, but what is known is that he hasn't been seen since the day of the assassination. According to some sources he is now living under another identity in the United States.

If there is a lesson to be learned from the Israeli hits on Ayyash and Hamshari, per-

Get
Gun Smart
Today!

Getting gun smart means knowing where the firearms bargains are, and the only lesson you need is taught in every issue of SHOTGUN NEWS.



From the first easy-to-read page to the last, you'll quickly learn how to get the best deals in the nation on practically every kind of rifle, handgun or shotgun on the market. Plus there are optics, ammunition, militaria, gun parts and hundreds of other accessories and services.

SHOTGUN NEWS serves every firearms need — target shooting, sporting, dealers, collecting, personal defense, and more! Test it and see with our *No-Risk Guarantee!*

Get *Gun Smart* today with SHOTGUN NEWS

Subscriptions only



1-800-345-6923

Order Code OA97G

Call daily 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. CT

1 year/36 issues — \$28.95

(Only 80¢ per issue)

prices subject to change without notice - order today!

Send ad with check or money-order to:

Shotgun News

The World's Largest Gun Sales Publication
PO BOX 669 • Hastings, NE 68902

haps it is this: If you're a terrorist, you might want to think about using Western Union.

Neil C. Livingstone is a frequent contributor to SOF and a well-known Washington-based author, speaker, and media commentator on terrorism and other national security issues. He has written nine books and runs a crisis management company. He and David Halevy collaborated on the 1990 best-seller, *Inside the PLO*, published by Morrow.

David Halevy lives in Israel, where he writes and pursues a number of business interests. For 19 years, Halevy was Time magazine's chief correspondent in the Middle East. ✕

I Was There

Continued from page 25

lem with one of the aircraft as a result of sabotage. It had crashed the week before, killing the entire crew.

I produced one of two bottles of scotch I carried along and, after a couple of belts, the major invited me on a tour of the camp. At our initial stop, on the dayroom's ping pong table, lay a young trooper wrapped in filthy, blood-soaked bandages, his wounds inflicted by a spear to the face and a panga in the side.

The following morning, I sauntered over to Base Operations and ran into a Belgian officer laboring hard to convey a weather report, in French, to a Cuban who spoke no French, but did speak *some* English. I spent 20 minutes interpreting French to Spanish, Spanish to French, with English tossed in. When I asked the Cuban where he hailed from, *naturally* he said, "Miami." He and several of his amigos were flying aircraft on interdiction missions against the communist Simbas.

Later, I meandered out on the flight line and inspected some very tired AT-6D aircraft.

Before I could energize the starter on one, a Congolese, in a witch-doctor get-up, began screaming and waving his arms, and then began pulling handfuls of white powder from the bag and sprinkling it on the wings of my plane. No airplane would fly unless the medicine man sprinkled *dawa* (magic powder) on its wings.

I began to wonder if this trip was a well-intentioned mistake, or God's idea of a bad joke.

Things, though, seemed to change the following evening. A U.S. Air Force C-130 landed and I and several other pilots were told we were going to Leopoldville, 700 miles from Kamina. We were met by Lt. Col. Jerry Puren, a South African officer and an aide to President Tshombe.

He took us to a hotel, then we were transferred two days later to a rancid Congolese flophouse anointed the Hotel Continentale (a better moniker: The "Alpha and Amoeba.")

ELECTRIC LOCK PICK

Most electric lock pick ads are grossly exaggerated - and most electric lock picks are grossly overpriced. Enter the E100HO by SouthOrd. Machined aluminum construction and a 4.5 volt motor combine with precision, durability and factory support to bring you the greatest value in the industry. Includes four picking needles, three tension tools, and adjustment wrenches.

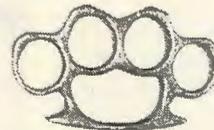
E100HO (assembled) - \$179.95
E100HO Kit - \$99.95

AUTO WEDGIE

For police officers, repo people, wrecker drivers, auto repair shops, car dealers, and anyone who needs to open a vehicle, this tool that we fondly call "The Auto Wedgie", is about all you'll ever need. Forget about spending hundreds of dollars on specialty tools, bent wire devices, jigglers, tryout keys and so on. This "wonder tool", by SouthOrd, opens just about every car, van, and small truck on the road—even the new models that are immune to a slim jim. We know it all sounds just too good to be true—but buy one, and you will be a believer! The set comes complete with a Slide Rod, and a Nylon Wedge for compromising convertibles. SJW-3 \$79.95

SAP GLOVES

I love these gloves—used them for years! They're great protection when climbing fences during a foot pursuit, just riding your 'cycle, or protecting your knuckles when some cowboy decides to run his face into them! Each glove has 8 oz of powdered lead embedded in the knuckle area. Discreet protection. State size when ordering. D-100 (deerskin) \$69.95 pr. D-50 (cowhide) \$39.95 pr.



BRASS KNUCKS

A blast from the past! These "1928" knuckle dusters take us back to the days of prohibition, black sedans, and "Tommy" guns. They look great just laying on your desk, holding down those important papers. And believe it or not, they are so slick that many of our customers have used them to make foot pegs for their Harleys!

KNB (brass) \$13.50 each; \$24.00 per pair
KNA (aluminum) \$8.00 each; \$14.50 per pair

SOUTHORD RECON FIGHTER

Ok guys, if you like a fighting knife that's built like a Hummer, we've got one for ya! This beauty is heavy—and heavy duty. All stainless steel construction with checkered rubber handles. The feel reminds me of my old S&W 66 with the Pachmyers—it's rugged, reliable, and it won't let me down! Believe it—once you buy one of these "picks", you'll never let it go! Comes complete with a Web sheath. Overall length, eight and one quarter inches. KN-2n \$29.95



SOUTHERN ORDNANCE

THE SOUTHERN ORDNANCE CATALOG - loaded with hard to find items - Locksmith Tools, Pellet Rifles, Crossbows, Switchblades, Transmitters, Bug Detectors, Books, and Videos, Boxing Equipment, Police Supplies and Much, Much, Much More! Only \$5.00 or FREE with any order.

CHECK, MONEY ORDER, VISA, MASTERCARD, AMERICAN EXPRESS, OPTIMA
WARNING: Check State and Local Laws. Must be 18 years or older to order.

www.southord.com

e-mail: sales@southord.com

P.O. Box 279 • Babson Park, FL33827

CALL: (941) 638-2499 • FAX: (941) 638-2486

South African pilots warned me about the food and native beer, available in suspiciously unmarked bottles with caps marked "POLAR."

A lab test of the contents revealed disconcerting traces of fecal matter, urine, grain alcohol, sugar, and tobacco juice.

Breakfast at the hotel's "dining room" was served by a Pigmy with filed teeth. When asked what type of sandwich he brought me he borrowed a napkin and sketched — a monkey.

The following afternoon, following a bout of intense gastric rebellion, I was sitting outside at a sidewalk table, when a safari-suited European motioned to me.

As he flashed Agency (yes, *that one*)

credentials he "invited" me to accompany him to the American embassy.

There, two Belgian security officers told me to follow them back to my hotel, pick up my kit, and we would motor straight to the airport. I had a choice: cuffs or *sans-cuffs*. The reason for my being booted out was a new State Department political *white lie* that *no* Americans were fighting in the Congo. (The Cubans from Miami were not, apparently, *full-fledged* Americans.)

Major Mike Williams, a longtime contributing editor, has served in several armies — and as good amigo and father confessor to several on the SOF staff. ✕

Combat Weaponcraft

Continued from page 19

yards. Your correction is 2 MOA. You can dial this in your scope adjustment or hold off the correct amount. If you choose to hold off, you need to translate 2 MOA into inches of hold-off at 300 yards, 2 MOA equals 6 inches.

I have developed another formula which I feel is easier to use and somewhat more accurate. Try both methods and use the one you prefer. My formula bases all initial calculations on a 10 mph, full-value wind. Once the basic calculation is made you must modify the result to take into account wind direction (no-value, half-value, or full-value). For winds other than 10 mph round to the nearest 5 mph increment (5, 10, 15, 20 mph) and modify your wind correction accordingly. Wind affects your bullet's path in a direct ratio to wind velocity. A 20 mph wind will have twice the effect of a 10 mph wind. The basic formula is $r^2 - (r - 1)$ where r equals the range in yards divided by 100. Using our same example of a 10 mph, full-value wind with a range of 300 yards, this formula would work as follows:

$$3^2 - (3 - 1) = 9 - 2 = 7 \text{ inches wind correction.}$$

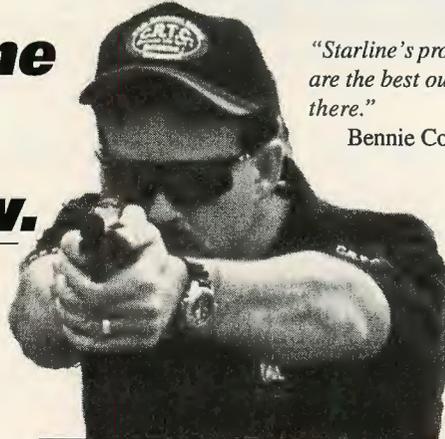
Now suppose the wind is actually 20 mph. Double your calculation 7 inches x 2 = 14 inches wind correction. After calculating your wind effect be sure to adjust if it is not a full-value wind. A half-value wind requires only half the wind correction. This formula is accurate from 200 yards to 600 yards. For closer or longer distances than that simply drop the subtraction, part of the equation. For a 10-mph wind at 100 yards the formula is r^2 which equals 1 inch correction. If the wind is 20 mph the correction is 2 inches (your original calculation, doubled). Please note that this formula gives the wind correction in inches, rather than minutes of angle.

I have included a chart of actual wind drift for a .308 168 grain match bullet at 2650 fps with winds of 5-, 10-, 15- and 20-mph so that you can practice calculations and compare your results with the two methods to actual wind drift.

Study the traditional wind and range estimation techniques. Technology is nice when its available but you still have to function when the goodies such as laser range-finders and digital wind-meters aren't in hand. Remember, also, that even though you can hit your target at long range, the surest way to shoot well is to get closer. Military snipers typically will not shoot at *under* 300 yards, but any hit is often acceptable for them, and a miss is occasionally expected. In law enforcement, your shot must be surgically precise for most instances and misses are *never* acceptable.

Train hard — fight easy. ✕

Try Starline handgun brass now. Use it forever.



"Starline's products are the best out there."

Bennie Cooley, Jr.

When you shoot thousands of rounds of handgun brass each year like SOF 3-Gun International World Champion Bennie Cooley, Jr., you try them all. When you do, you discover that Starline makes as good a case as any manufacturer, and at a much lower price.

You've tried the other brands. Now try Starline. It'll be the last brand you buy.

Order toll-free at
1-800-280-6660.



1300 West Henry Street • P.O. Box 833
Sedalia, MO 65301

800-280-6660 • 660-827-6640

FAX 660-827-6650

Visit our World Wide Web site at
<http://www.starlinebrass.com>

NEW ★ UNPRIMED ★ UNPLATED HANDGUN BRASS

CALIBER	500 PAK	1000 PAK
380 AUTO	\$ 38.00	\$ 72.00
9 SUPER COMP	\$ 52.00	\$ 97.00
9MM	\$ 36.00	\$ 68.00
9MM+P	\$ 37.50	\$ 69.50
9X21	\$ 41.00	\$ 72.00
9MM MAKAROV	\$ 39.00	\$ 70.00
9MM LARGO	\$ 45.00	\$ 79.00
9MM WIN MAG	\$ 60.00	\$105.00
38 SUPER	\$ 41.00	\$ 72.00
38 SPECIAL	\$ 35.00	\$ 65.00
38 SPECIAL+P	\$ 36.50	\$ 66.50
38 SUPER COMP	\$ 49.00	\$ 92.00
38 SHORT COLT	\$ 39.00	\$ 70.00
38 LONG COLT	\$ 41.00	\$ 74.00
32 H&R MAG	\$ 48.00	\$ 91.00
357 MAG	\$ 38.00	\$ 70.00
44 MAG	\$ 48.00	\$ 90.00
44 SPECIAL	\$ 48.00	\$ 91.00
41 MAGNUM	\$ 48.00	\$ 91.00
45 AUTO	\$ 46.00	\$ 86.00
45 AUTO+P	\$ 56.00	\$104.00
45 SUPER	\$ 60.00	\$111.00
45 COLT	\$ 50.00	\$ 93.00
45 WIN MAG	\$ 66.00	\$119.00
10MM	\$ 49.00	\$ 92.00
40 S&W	\$ 48.00	\$ 91.00
10MM MAGNUM	\$ 63.00	\$117.00
445 SUPER MAG	\$130.00	\$228.00
414 SUPER MAG	\$130.00	\$228.00
45 S&W SCHOFIELD	\$ 56.00	\$ 96.00
44 RUSSIAN	\$ 56.00	\$ 96.00
356 TSW	\$ 51.00	\$ 89.00
357 SIG	\$ 53.00	\$ 94.00
32/20	\$ 60.00	\$112.00
38/40	\$ 65.00	\$118.00
454 CASULL	\$ 98.00	\$184.00
44/40	\$ 60.00	\$108.00
400 COR-BON	\$ 55.00	\$ 96.00
7.62X25 TOKAREV	\$ 61.00	\$107.00
30 MAUSER	\$ 61.00	\$107.00

Prices include shipping and handling within the United States except Alaska and Hawaii. Prices effective June 15, 1997 and subject to change without notice. TERMS: Payment must accompany order. VISA, MasterCard, Discover, cashiers check, money order, personal checks accepted. Missouri residents add 7.1% for state and local sales tax. Orders subject to check clearance.



Against All Odds

Continued from page 45

under insurgent sway. And the more intense is contact when it comes.

Even Medellin itself is a battleground. In the early hours of one morning, I accompanied a raid targeting a slum area where the ELN has been active. Techniques were standard: blocking forces, assault forces, search forces.

Our timing was perfect, but two figures



The problems of the counterinsurgency campaign do not lie with the military.

who bolted into the maze could not be engaged — rules of engagement. In a house identified by intelligence personnel, though, we nabbed an ELN operative and a half-dozen homemade pistols. In another house, several targeted individuals were nabbed with a cache of propaganda.

The operation worked to perfection, but the commander was disappointed because no high-powered firearms were captured. Nonetheless, the cell was captured, the neighborhood freed.

Again, the effectiveness of terror is obvious. A handful of individuals with rudimentary weapons can dominate a neighborhood of law-abiding citizens. Our sweep involved at least a hundred men — to catch several.

Intelligence nets provided a picture that allowed a perfect raid (save for those who bolted and escaped), but they can only do so much. Only the force multiplication of a population "armed and numerous" can provide the ultimate neighborhood watch.

Clueless in Washington

This raises a point: It is decidedly not American policy to encourage militias, despite that they have been used in every insurgent conflict and are a necessary ingredient for victory: The mobilization of the people was the turning point in Thailand, the Philippines, and Peru. So thin is insurgent strength that militia will have a similar effect in Colombia.

This is an eventuality the insurgents will go to virtually any lengths to prevent, as they know what the results will be.

Their major weapon is to tar their oppo-

Quality Grips

for
Colt's Government Model 1911
(And Duplicate Frame Models)



- Finger grooves and rubber side panels are available separately or as a set.
- Use the finger groove component with your favorite wood or any other panel grips.
- Use the finger groove compartment with our sculptured rubber side-panels for an ultra thin wrap-around rubber grip.



U.S. Patent Number 5621997
Foreign Patents Pending

PEARCE GRIP, INC.

P.O. Box 187
Bothell, WA 98041
<http://www.pearcegrip.com>

Phone (800) 390-9420

Fax (425) 488-7102

BODY ARMOR THAT STOPS .44 MAGNUMS

and weighs only 3 lbs.!



SOFT, COMFORTABLE, CONCEALABLE

MED: \$170 LRG: \$205 XL: \$275 XXL: \$315

Adjustable ballistic panel carriers
available in white and navy.

5 YEAR WARRANTY ON BALLISTICS
Prepaid orders add \$5. \$10 charge for COD's.

One week shipping for stock sizes.
State height and weight when ordering.
Money orders and certified check's accepted.
COD's cash only. Air Shipping Extra.

MICHIGAN BODY ARMOR

P.O. BOX 251423, WEST BLOOMFIELD, MI 48325
TEL/FAX: 248-788-2234

WANTED BY THE FBI FOR RICO, EXTORTION

JAMES J. BULGER
AKA WHITEY BULGER



DOB: 9/3/29
POB: Boston, MA
HEIGHT: 5'7"
WEIGHT: 150 lbs.
BUILD: Medium
RACE: White
SEX: Male
HAIR: Silver/White
EYES: Blue

ALIASES: • Whitey Bulger • Jimmy Boy
• Thomas Baxter • Tom Harris

Bulger, a major organized crime figure in Boston, MA is being sought for extortion and RICO charges. Bulger has funded his activities through the extortion of illegitimate criminal operations to include gambling, loan-sharking and drugs.

Warrant Information: A federal warrant was issued on January 4, 1995 in Boston, MA charging Bulger with Extortion and RICO.

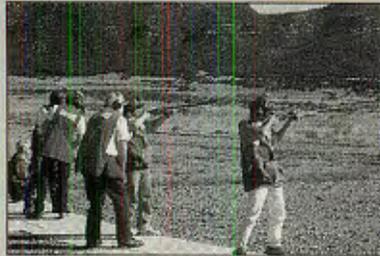
Anyone having information regarding Bulger should notify the Federal Bureau of Investigation Violent Fugitive Task Force at Boston, Massachusetts, (617) 742-5533 or the nearest FBI Office.

**BULGER SHOULD BE CONSIDERED
ARMED AND DANGEROUS**

CALLERS MAY REMAIN ANONYMOUS
(617)742-5533

\$250,000 REWARD

ADVENTURE CAMP



The NRA Whittington Center Adventure for Kids!

Located in the Rocky Mountains of Northeastern New Mexico, the camp is designed for young people between the ages of 13 and 17. Instruction in camping, outdoor cooking, safety and marksmanship with all firearms, tracking, map and compass skills and much more is provided in a positive two-week learning experience by some of the most proficient instructors in the nation. Call us at 505/445-3615 for more information.



THE NRA
WHITTINGTON CENTER,
BOX 700,
RATON, NEW MEXICO 87740

Advertising space donated as a public service by Soldier of Fortune Magazine

nents with charges of human rights violations. Such charges are willingly picked up by the intact networks of Western wannabes who have never found a left wing cause they could not love.

They are particularly effective in the United States, where the level of understanding concerning Colombia is abysmal. Consequently, rarely has a country so important to America's interests been so poorly treated, not by design but from sheer arrogance and ignorance on Washington's part.

It is not that Washington's strategic myopia has left it totally off-base. Not being able to focus upon anything save drugs doesn't mean that drugs are not worth focusing upon. It's just that they're only part of the picture.

"The U.S. insists upon seeing the guerrillas as our internal political problem and narcotics as an international problem," analyzes a Colombian lieutenant colonel. Like many of his compatriots, he is bilingual, with an advanced degree from an American university. He is as intimately familiar with us as we are ignorant of him.

"The U.S. insists upon seeing them as separate problems," he continues. "They're not. They're all one big problem."

He has hit the nail on the head. We have long had the data which details, chapter and verse, the extent to which the insurgents have financed themselves through the drug trade. Further, we know in excruciating detail the extent to which they have moved to integrate the trade vertically, becoming cartels in their own right, FARC specializing in cocaine, ELN in heroin. Still we tell the Colombians to get with the anti-narcotics effort but refuse to help them, except on the margins, where "internal security" is concerned.

It would be a bad joke if men's lives weren't being lost. Ironically, it is a bad joke on both sides of the American political spectrum. Washington won't help Bogota, because it is not doing enough to go after the narcos (and takes their money). Yet the American left, which peddles the insurgents' Robin-Hood image, seems completely unaware that it is the needs of the drug trade which dictate insurgent policies and actions, not concern for change. Who suffers, therefore? The people, of course.

What is it the insurgents are after? FARC was formally founded in 1966, though it is an outgrowth of earlier peasant guerrilla movements. ELN was formed two years before FARC; EPL became active in 1967. All have hard-line communist leaderships which want "liberation." But do they want to seize power? And, if so, how?

In this, I found Colombian intelligence lacking, even as they had quite a clear operational and tactical picture of what was occurring. The reason there is question as to what the insurgents want is because they don't seem to actually do anything that would fulfill a strategic —

or even operational — plan. They simply do what they do, which is to terrorize and work the drug trade.

That, however, leads to a second issue: Where's the money? If there is one thing that stands out on the ground, it is the relative paucity of armaments possessed by the insurgents. They're as well armed as any other insurgent group knocking about these days, but they do not even seem to use anything as heavy as an RPG-7, much less an SA-7. No grenade launchers proliferate; no mortars. Why?

The amounts of money are considerable. Figures published are usually in the hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars! It makes no sense that a movement with access to nearly half a billion dollars per year would be manufacturing homemade weapons in slums — not in today's environment, where anything can be picked up if the cash is there for the purchase.

In addressing this reality, Colombian security personnel invariably theorize that the insurgent leadership is either investing the money so as to generate income in a future world when the drug trade is shut down, or simply skimming the money for individual accounts someplace. These are plausible explanations, but in the absence of data, they remain only speculation.

Even the lowest estimates come up with income in the tens of millions (say, \$20-\$40 million). That's advanced purchasing power for any group.

If there's that kind of money backing up a reasonable number of insurgents, whether we're talking \$40 million or \$400 million, what's the goal? Liberation, in other words, isn't, on the face of it, being very vigorously pursued. Pushing drugs is.

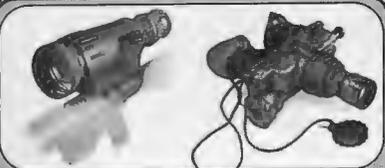
That reality won't change until the security environment is set straight. That's unlikely to happen soon. If we've got Colombia wrong, so, too, as I've said above, does the Colombian government. Opines the lieutenant colonel, "At the heart of our problem is a very bad government. It is a government without historical perspective."

That perspective would tell Bogota that communist insurgent movements can be brought into the political fold through only one route — to be bummeled and then offered redemption. This is what has worked in the past for Colombia itself, where the insurgents have been a particularly cheerless, bloodthirsty lot.

Perhaps of greatest importance strategically, perspective should dictate that Colombia's leadership realize there is at issue a national problem: integration, if you like; counterinsurgency, if you're more militarily oriented. Either way, the nation must respond to the terror of the insurgents, rather than leaving the chore to the men on the front line.

In this battle, the U.S. can play a far more constructive role than it has thus far.

Former infantry officer Dr. Tom Marks is SOF's senior foreign correspondent. ☒



U.S. MANUFACTURED NIGHT VISION
LOWEST PRICES GUARANTEED!

- Largest Selection in the USA!
- Super Specials: **Now Save up to 40%!**
- 2-Year Warranty!
- Optional Lifetime Warranty!
- Iron-Clad Money-Back Guarantee!



ITT **Litton** **MADE IN USA**

ORDERS: 1-800-424-8222
 Info: 714-497-4683 • Fax: 714-497-1270

M.O.R.O.VISION
 NIGHT VISION SPECIALIST SINCE 1991

219 Broadway, Suite 307/SF, Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Be a tax preparer!

Career-level home study course gives you an expert's knowledge of how to figure and prepare federal tax returns. **Send or call today.**
Free literature: 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____
 Zip _____ Phone () _____

School of Tax Preparation, Dept. TPA171
 6065 Roswell Rd., PCDI, Atlanta, GA 30328

Be a private investigator

Home study. Solve crimes, find missing persons, expose frauds. Work for attorneys, and insurers—or start your own business.
Free literature: 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age _____
 Address _____ Phone () _____
 City/State _____

School of Private Investigation, Dept. JPA171
 6065 Roswell Rd., PCDI, Atlanta, Georgia 30328

Bodyguard Training Videos

Step by step VIP protection specialist training by highly respected and internationally experienced instructors. Each video is approximately 2 hours long.

VIDEO #1 – Classroom lecture covering
 • clothing
 • weapons
 • equipment
 • client relations
 • press relations
 • motorcade operations
 • team formations/positions
 • advance surveys
 • bomb searches

VIDEO #2 – Driving and firing range lessons
 • selecting vehicles
 • loading the principal
 • emergency evacuations
 • precision driving – reverse 180's, J-turns and L's
 • motorcade operations
 • firearms techniques
 • head shots
 • weapon retention

VIDEO #3 – Advanced techniques due out in Dec. 1997
Each video is only \$79.95 + \$5.95 S & H
1-800-380-2709

outside U.S. call _____ P.O. Box 339 • Stoneville, NC 27048 USA
 1-407-975-5242 www.bodyguard-training.com

U.S. CAVALRY 

120+ page catalog includes

- uniforms
- boots
- knives
- body armor
- target practice devices
- shooting accessories
- night vision optics
- batons
- flashlights
- camping, rappelling & paintball gear



www.uscav.com

For Your FREE Catalog Call
1-800-317-9455

IRONSTONE
 Distinctive Bladeware

Full-Line Spyders. DEALER

SPYDERCO. G. SAKAI. MOKI.
 AL MAR. HIRO. GERBER.
 BENCHMADE. OUTDOOR EDGE. COLD STEEL.
 LEATHERMAN. SOG. BOKER.

FREE SHIPPING! FREE RETAIL CATALOG!
1-800-828-1925



PO Box 1279 • Dept 5F • Golden, CO 80402
www.fe3stone.com • info@fe3stone.com

T-SHIRTS
 ADULT SIZES PRINTED AS MARKED

Left chest = LC • Full Front = FF
 ADULT Sizes S-XL, add \$2.00 for XXL
 100% Cotton Preshrunk Heavys weight T-Shirt. Printed on Front. Made in U.S.A.

Short Sleeve (SS) \$14.90
 Long Sleeve (LS) \$17.90

S.O.S. is owned by a disabled survivor promoting positive self esteem in the handicapped world.

1i L.C. ON BLACK T

 WHITE & GREEN PRINT

1AD FF. ON BLACK T

 WHITE PRINT

1AJ L.C. ON WHITE T

 WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH... THE TOUGH GET GOING.
 BLACK PRINT

1AM L.C. ON BLACK T

 WHITE PRINT

1AN FF. ON BLACK T

 SURVIVOR

Need NEW ID?

NOW YOU CAN GET...

ID BY MAIL

20 SOURCES-FULLY ILLUSTRATED

- Birth and Baptismal Certificates
- Drivers Licenses (blank)—50 States
- Blank Social Security Cards
- College Degrees—Bachelors, MA, PhD
- High School Diplomas, also GED
- Photo ID Cards—all 50 States
- "Professional" ID Cards—over 200 Styles
- Job Reference Kits, Past W-2 Forms
- Foreign & Camouflage Passports
- Police/Military ID and Patches
- Photographer ID, Press Credentials
- Embossing Seals, Rubber Stamps
- "Do-It-Yourself" ID Kits
- Secured MasterCard at 2X Deposit

ALL-NEW 64-PG. BOOK!

BULLETPROOF VEST

This Class 11-A-Kevlar soft body armor will defeat the .45 ACP, .357 Mag., 9mm. 00 Buck and knife attack. Tested at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds by the U.S. Government Edgewood Arsenal. Front and back protectors: \$220. Side Panels: \$45 per set. Trauma plate \$35. Sizes S, M, L, XL.

DEALER PRICED



ALSO: Reloaded Ammunition: .38 spl. 158gr. FMJ \$125/M, 9mm 115gr. FMJ \$125/M, 40cal. 180 gr. FMJ \$165/M, .45 ACP 230 gr. FMJ \$165/M. Reloading since 1974.

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

MPS Co. 1441 W. John St., Matthews, NC 28106
 Phone: (704) 847-8793 Fax (704) 847-4447
 Established 1970

1AO FF. ON ASH T

 BLACK PRINT

18" NECKLACE
 ACTUAL SIZE

BAD Gold \$25. each
 or 3 for \$50.
 Silver \$15
 E-S \$5

BLACK HAT
 ADJUSTABLE STRAP ONE SIZE FITS ALL
\$12.90

3H WHITE PRINT


Call Toll Free 1 800-958-8876

Have a credit card ready. We Accept VISA MC AMEX DISCOVER
 Or Mail Check For Total + Shipping & Handling to S.O.S. California residents only; add 7.75% sales tax

Payable To: S.O.S. P.O. Box 2285 Carmichael, CA 95609

Shipping & Handling If your order totals:
 \$25.00 or less \$ 4.95
 \$25.01 to \$50.00 \$ 6.95
 \$50.01 to \$75.00 \$ 8.95
 \$75.01 to \$100.00 \$ 9.95

Double shipping & handling charges. Mail official check (money order) payable USA funds. Each additional \$100.00 (or portion of) add \$ 5.95

Allow 2 to 6 weeks for delivery

MAIL S.A.S.E. FOR CATALOG OR GET IT WITH FIRST ORDER.
 PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE • SATISFACTION GUARANTEED • *PRO US ON THE INTERNET • WWW.SOS.COM/SOS

ID BY MAIL

\$24.95

Cash, Check, Money Order, Visa/MC accepted, NO CODs

EDEN PRESS
 Box 8410-AD
 Fountain Valley, CA 92728

Latest Book Catalog FREE

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ ZIP _____



SUPPLY DEPOT

FREE Catalog!

OUR LOWEST PRICES EVER!

Knives, Swords and Self-Defense Items



**BUY DIRECT
Save
UP TO
60%**

Toll Free 1-800-543-5061 Ext. SD1

Clip coupon and mail to address below.

YES! Please send me the FREE 64-Page Catalog!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



BUD K Worldwide, Inc.

P.O. Box 2768 • Dept SD1 • Moultrie, GA 31776

#1 WORLD SUPPLIER BODY ARMOR

NIJ Certified
and
U.S. Gov.
Approved



MADE
IN
THE
U.S.A.

COMPLETE LINE OF
CONCEALABLE VEST
AS LOW AS

\$199.95

AND TACTICAL,
INCLUDING FLAK JACKET,
HTV, NATO ASSAULT
AND DESERT STORM

STARTING AT

\$499.95

For Armor Catalogue send \$4.00
or \$15.00 for 1500 page complete set

*Inter-American
Security Products, Inc.*

13605 S. Dixie Hwy., Suite 136-1
Miami, Florida 33176-7252

Ph.: (305) 256-0370

FAX: (305) 256-9587

E-Mail: interam@thenet.net

BE A PARALEGAL!

Attorney-instructed home study course.
Train now for one of America's fastest
growing careers. Free career literature.

CALL 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City/State _____
Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

School of Paralegal Studies, Dept. LLA171
PCDI, 6065 Roswell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30328



OUTDOOR CAREERS!

Home study. Train for great careers in forestry,
conservation, wildlife, parks, ranges, preserves.
Free literature: send or call 24 hours a day.

CALL NOW: 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City/State _____
Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

School of Conservation, Dept. NNA171
PCDI, 6065 Roswell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30328

World's Most Powerful Glove
Steel Packed - Leather KARATE
Training Glove

Patent 5575008



1-800-355-3365

or Send Check - Money Order
Cardio/Impact Glove's
PO Box 858195
Westland, MI 48185

\$54.95

Plus \$4.00
S&H
Visa/MC

New Factory Direct PVS-7b's



3rd Gen New!!!

Direct from the factory of ITT you will know what you're getting. Don't be fooled by "exc. cond tube" or "recondition tube" which really means used!!

Special Price of only.....\$2,495.00

(Note: Not for Export)

The VCR-Cam is a complete and covert video recording system. Built inside the working VCR is a hidden Video camera that records all the action. Great for keeping a eye on the babysitter or areas of larceny.



VCR-Cam™

Complete system\$895.00

Wireless AM/FM Clock Radio

The Radio Video Link II contains a hidden Black and White (or optional Color) camera that transmits a clear video signal up to 1 mile (using the optional high gain ant). The receiver will connect to any TV or VCR and the transmitter (2.4Ghz) is fully FCC Approved. (picture not shown due to security)

Complete system ... \$895.00

Tactical Video Security International

Order Line: (888) 588-6386 Fax: (540) 574-2494

E-Mail: ROBE101@AOL.com

P.O. Box 473, Pleasant Valley, VA 22848

BE A DETECTIVE AND EARN YOUR BADGE

BADGE
INCLUDED WITH
COURSE

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

MEN & WOMEN!

Train at home for an exciting part or full-time career as a Private Detective. Start your own agency or work for others. Learn all the latest techniques from the experts. Taught by former military intelligence specialists, police and private detectives. The only course of its kind, the unique Global School of Investigation program will make you a PRIVATE DETECTIVE.

LEARN THE SECRETS

to making money
WITHOUT a license
or experience.

The biggest, most
amazing home study
course ever offered.

Learn how to make
money and become a
Private Investigator.

GUARANTEED!

CALL
NOW

1-888-33 PVT EYE

FREE
INFO-
PACK

413-584-2140

GLOBAL

SCHOOL OF INVESTIGATION

535 NO. FARMS RD., NORTHAMPTON, MA 01062

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

www.pvt-eye.com

Discover The Power Of Night Vision



SPOTTING SCOPES

• Built with unprecedented quality and equipped with a powerful built-in IR-illuminator, this unit is the best 1st gen. scope ever made.

GOGGLES & BINOCULARS

• With a smart flip-up mechanism, this is the best affordable goggle on the market.

WEAPON SIGHTS

• Available in 1st, 2nd, and 3d gen, this scope beats out units costing over \$5,000 at a fraction of the cost.

Now Save 20% With This

- 2 Year Warranty
- 10 Day Money-back Guarantee
- 30 Day Store Credit
- Optional Lifetime Warranty
- Guaranteed 2 Year Full Credit Toward Any Higher End Unit

Call now TOLL FREE, to place an order, receive a technical consultation, or a FREE full color brochure:



1-800-54-NIGHT

1-800-546-4448

Visa, MC, AMEX, Discover

484 El Camino Real, Redwood City, CA 94063 • Tel: (415) 363-1404 • Fax: (415) 363-1408

SUPPLY DEPOT

High Capacity Magazines!

Original Cobray M11/9 32rd Zytel Mags



ONLY
\$19.95!

Prepaid - Add \$7.00 for S&H COD \$9.50

Call today for FREE parts catalog!

P.O. Box 367
Avondale Estates, GA 30002
Order Line 1-800-858-0809

RPB

BE A LOCKSMITH!

Home study course. Become an expert locksmith. Prepare for a great career— or open up your own at-home business. Tools and key machine included. Send or call 24 hours a day for your free career literature.
CALL NOW: 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City/State _____
Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

THE SCHOOL OF LOCKSMITHING
Dept. LKA171, 6065 Roswell Rd.
PCDI, Atlanta, Georgia 30328

STEROIDS

WARNING! DON'T GET FOOLED BY FRAUDS!
Other companies claiming to have similar, better all in one products can't compare because of m.g. dosage. Ask compare beware.



THIS PRODUCT IS TO BE TAKEN *Orally*.
100% Natural. No harmful side effects.

S&K LABS Boron

Can greatly increase your muscle, mass, strength and size. Industry claims Testosterone levels up to 300%! Greatly enhance your physical appearance literally sculpting your own body with huge, healthy, **HARD MUSCLE!**

Get that lean awesome body builder physique now with one 3 month cycle for only \$14.95!

If you are not completely satisfied with the growth you obtain within 15 days return it for a full refund.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

To get your super anabolic growth cycle from:
S&K LABS

\$14.95 + S&H C.O.D.'s WELCOME!

Use your personal check over the phone or order by cash on delivery

ORDER NOW!!! 1-800-275-7822
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Special Buy 2 bottles, get 3rd bottle FREE!
Call 24 hrs a day 7 days a week or send check or money order to:

S&K Labs, 2637 E. Atlantic Blvd., Suite 101
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062

- One Bottle (3) Month Cycle \$14.95 + \$5.00 S&H
- **SPECIAL Buy (2) Bottles Get (1) FREE!** \$29.90 + \$5.00 S&H
- Add \$10.00 for Priority Mail
- International orders add 25% c.o.d.'s U.S. only
- Yes, I would like a catalog with my order.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone (____) _____

Tactical American Night Vision at Import Prices
100% U.S.A. MADE

NAVSTAR Versatile Spotting Scope
• 2nd or 3rd Generation
• Hard Case Included
• Illuminator
• Camera and Headmount Adapt.
• 2 Year Warranty

DARKSTAR Precision Night Scope
• 2nd Generation
• Hard Case Included
• Elcan military mount inc.
• 10 Day Money-Back Guar.
• 2 Year Warranty

WEAPON SIGHTS • SPOTTING SCOPES
AFFORDABLE HIGH QUALITY NIGHT VISION
TNT CORP.

8331 Sierra College Blvd. Suite 221 Roseville CA 95661 (916-791-5255) FAX 916-791-6211 **(800) NIGHT-OPS**
all major credit cards accepted. 1-800-644-4867

Build The Body You've Always Dreamed of.. Without Exercise - FAST!

Now you can develop the body you've always dreamed of in only 25 minutes a day! Safe, adjustable impulses work Abs, Pecs, Biceps, Quads, Lats, all muscles. Fully upgradeable up to 8 pads. Results guaranteed in 30 days or your money back! (less a 15% restock fee).

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
Wave Form : Bi-Phase square pulse.
Output : Constant current.
Pads : 4. (Upgradeable to 6 or 8)
Intensity : Adjustable 0-100 mA peak into 500 ohm load each channel.
Pulse Rate : Adjustable 2 Hz-120 Hz.
Pulse Width : 250 microseconds
Ramp Time : Adjustable 1-8 seconds.
ON Time : Adjustable 1-30 seconds.
OFF Time : Adjustable 1-30 seconds
Battery : One 9 volt battery.
Size : 1 X 2.5 X 3.75 inches!



This marvel of miniaturized electronics is so advanced that it defines the state of the art in EMS technology. No other unit on the market offers all these features. Each unit comes complete with 4 rubber pads AND 4 adhesive hydrogel pads for added convenience. It's even upgradeable to power 6 to 8 pads! This EMS 400 is being sold by Medical Supply Houses for \$495. Our price is Now ONLY \$299! Get Yours Today!

• FDA Registered, Proven Safe and Effective.
• Use While Reading, Traveling, or Just Relaxing in The Privacy of Your Own Home.
• Gain the "Unfair" Training Advantage.

Credit Card Orders Call 1-800-401-4677
OR money order to: David Steele (SOF198)
1280 Bison, Ste. B9507, Newport Beach, CA 92660
Information Only Call (714) 856-2023
Internet: <http://www.davidsteele.com>

ONLY!
\$299.00
plus \$10.00 S&H
CA res add \$23.17 tax

THREADED/PORTED HANDGUN BARRELS

COMPETITION HANDGUN BARRELS
MADE FROM STAINLESS STEEL

LARGE SELECTION OF THREAD-ON ATTACHMENTS

STARTING AT \$59.⁹⁵/ea
Send \$2.⁰⁰ for a Catalog

- Stock Length, Threaded, and Ported
- MAKAROV
 - GLOCK 17, 19, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30
 - ASTRA 400/600
 - BROWNING H.P.
 - 1911 Govt.
 - CZ52
 - BERETTA 92 all types
 - TAURUS 92, 99
 - STAR A, B, SUPER

FEDERAL ARMS CORP. of AMERICA
7928 University Ave. N.E.
Fridley, MN. 55432
612-780-8780 Fax 612-780-5747

GENUINE BRITISH MILITARY KIT

Genuine SAS & PARA Smocks
Genuine SAS Tactical Assault Vest
Genuine British 1950 Denison Smock
Genuine SBS Military Watch
SPECIAL BOAT SERVICES
Genuine British Military Watches
Beware of imitations
MECHANICAL GENERAL SERVICE

Phone or send for FREE 100+ page catalogue
Silverman's (SOF), Mile End, London E1 4PS
England Phone 011-44-1717-900-900
Fax 011-44-171-791-0008

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State / Zip _____

Sorry, no APO Addresses
Orders dispatched by air
mail £19.99 per order

When calling 911
just won't do...



TIMBERSHEPHERD®

-*"The Mercedes Benz of executive protection dogs."*
-*"The Premium K-9."*

-SOF Magazine

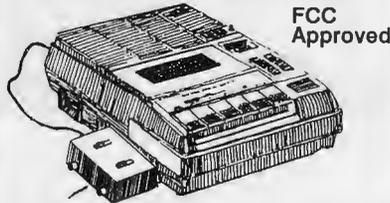
Pups and Trained Adults Available

L R P K-9 SERVICES

Box 1620-MA
Aiken, SC 29802
(803) 649-5936

Brochure \$3.00 Broch & Video \$8.00

TELEPHONE LISTENING DEVICE WITH 12 HR. RECORDER



Record telephone conversations in your office or home. Starts automatically when phone is answered, records both sides of phone conversation. Recorder stops when phone is hung up. \$99.95 + \$7 shipping. For telephone listening device separately \$19.95 + \$2 ship.

VERY POWERFUL FM TRANSMITTER



Transmits to any FM radio up to 1/2 mi. Easy to assemble kit. Up to 9V(not Incl.) \$29.95 + \$2 sh.

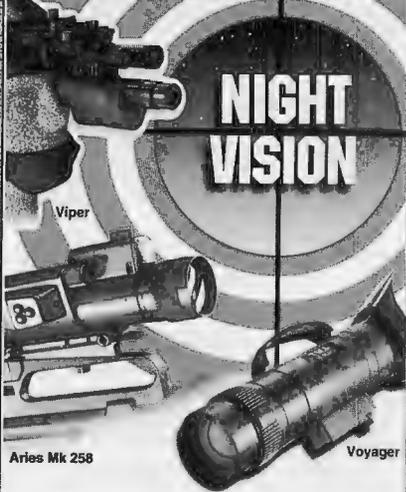
For comprehensive 50 page catalog of Micro Video, VHF transmitters Surveillance and Counter-surveillance and much more! Send \$3.00.

Call 407-725-1000

USI CORP

P.O. Box SF2052 Melbourne, FL 32902
COD'S OK

GET ON TARGET



Aries Mk 258

Voyager

BLOWOUT SALE 40% OFF

- Computerized Scopes
- Increased Scope Life (5 fold)
- Night Time Photography
- 2 Year Warranty

CALL NOW! 1-800-910-ATNC

Phone 415-588-3018
101 Townsend #207B
San Francisco CA, 94107

CAPITALIZE ON CRIME

EARN
HUNDREDS
DAILY!



It Can
Pay **HUGE**
Profits!

FREE
WHOLESALE
CATALOG

Crime Prevention is a
Multi-million Dollar Business!
OUR DEVICES SELL LIKE CRAZY!

Larry Anderson
President

We carry the best line of security sprays, stun guns, personal sound alarms, burglar alarms and much more. We specialize in offering the best security products at the very best wholesale prices. We can meet or beat any price on the market.

10% Pepper Sprays



4 oz.
Fogger
Retail \$22.95
Sample \$6.25



Key Chain Sprayer
Retail \$19.95
Sample \$4.25

Electronic Stun Guns

Security Plus®
100,000 Volt
Straight or
Curved

Retail \$69.95
Sample \$22.25



Security Plus®
300,000 Volt
Curved Only

Retail \$139.95
Sample \$45.95

Security Plus® 160,000 Volt Baton
Retail \$129.95
Sample \$43.95

CALL OR WRITE TODAY

We are committed to your success.
Crime does not wait, will you?

L.A. LAW ENFORCERS
209 W. Walnut • Yakima, WA 98902
(509)-457-9033 • FAX (509) 576-0969

WARNING! Don't Get Fooled By Frauds.
Other companies claiming to have similar, better or all in one products can't compare because of mg dosage ask compare and beware.

STEROIDS

Alternative

This product is to be taken orally.
100% Natural, No harmful side effects.

S&K Labs Dibencozide!

Can greatly increase your Muscle mass strength and size. Greatly enhance your physical appearance literally sculpting your own body with huge healthy, hard muscle. Most people say the effects from Dibencozide are more than equal to Dianabol™, the "illegal Steroid."

Get that Lean awesome body builder physique now with one 2 month cycle for only \$22.50! If you are not completely satisfied with the growth you obtain within 15 days return it for a full refund.

Money back guarantee!

To get your super anabolic growth cycle from:

S&K Labs

C.O.D. Order Now!!! \$22.50 + Shipping
Cash On Delivery Welcome

1-800-275-7822

Special Buy 2 Bottles, Get 3rd bottle FREE
Call Toll Free-24 Hrs. a day-7 days a week
Or Send Check or Money Order To:

S&K Labs 2637 E. Atlantic Blvd., Suite 101
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062

One bottle (2 month cycle)
\$22.50 + \$4.00 S&H

SPECIAL BUY 2 BOTTLES GET 3RD BOTTLE FREE
\$45.00 for 3 bottles + \$4.00 S&H

Add \$10 for Priority Mail

Out of Country Orders + an Additional 25% C.O.D. U.S. Only

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone () _____

MOVING?



PLACE LABEL HERE

MR/MRS _____
Street _____ Apt. No. _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____

Mail to: Soldier of Fortune Magazine
P.O. Box 348, Mount Morris, IL 61054-9984

South African .223 Ammo

*NATO M193 SPEC *55GR FMJ
*BRASS CASE *BERDAN PRIMED
*WATERTIGHT PACKAGING *NON-CORROSIVE
*PERFECT FOR LONG TERM STORAGE

Battle Packs: Sealed, Watertight package contains 10 boxes of 30 rds. each=300 Rds.

Cases: Factory Sealed case contains 9 Battle Packs=2700 Rds.

BATTLE PACKS...#SA1...\$55.00

SPECIAL: 3 Battle Packs (900 rds.) \$155.00

CASES...#SA2...\$427.00

We accept checks, Money Orders and VISA & MC (Visa/MC Orders must add 3% to price)

FREE SHIPPING in Continental US!

Dealers call for Quantity Discount prices

Mail order & fax customers must include photocopy of drivers license and a signed statement to read: I certify that I am 21 years of age and no federal, state or local laws prohibit this purchase.

NIC, Inc. Law Enforcement Supply
500 Flournoy Lucas Bldg. #3-SOF198
Shreveport, LA 71106
TOLL FREE 888-642-0007 FAX 318-688-1367

CLASSIFIED

1998 ADVERTISING DEADLINES

ISSUE	AD DEADLINE	ON SALE DATE
March	14 November 97	27 January 98
April	15 December 97	3 March 98
May	16 January 98	31 March 98
June	13 February 98	28 April 98
July	20 March 98	2 June 98
August	17 April 98	30 June 98
September	15 May 98	28 July 98
October	12 June 98	25 August 98
November	17 July 98	29 Sept 98
December	14 August 98	27 October 98

Classified Rates and Policies now located on page 81!
On-line: www.sofmag.com/mediakit.html

ARMY BASIC TRAINING SKILLS

ATTENTION RECRUITS: Inside-Information can give you "the edge" to SUCCEED and get PROMOTED!

Free information! Request by mail:
Training Skills #2
P.O. Box 594
Cudahy, WI 53110
Request by voice-mail: (414) 548-4254



REGIMENTAL INSIGNIA & WEAPONRY

•SAS •RAF •BLACK WATCH
•PARA •ARM •CAMERONS
•RSDG •RN •GUARDS etc.



45-Page Illustrated Import Catalog \$6.00
BRITISH REGALIA IMPORTS
Department-6
P.O. Box 37 · Palm Harbor, FL 34683

APPAREL

"DON'T TREAD ON ME - 2ND AMENDMENT" T shirt. Menacing rattler entwined around a BOLD 2 on a quality gray T. \$15.00 + \$3.00 S&H. Sizes to XXL. Add \$3.00 for larger sizes. Bob Shuta, PO Box 129, Brackney, PA 18812.

BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

QWEB™ MEN OF ACTION AND ADVENTURE - Paladin Press has been described as "the most dangerous press in America." Millions of satisfied readers disagree. Outrageous and controversial books and videos on firearms, exotic weaponry, new identity, creative revenge, espionage and investigation, privacy, personal freedom, action careers, and more! To order our 80-page catalog describing over 800 titles, send \$2.00 to: Paladin Press, Box 1307-BAQK, Boulder, CO 80306, (800) 392-2400, e-mail service@paladin-press.com. Visit our Web site at www.paladin-press.com.

✓ **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine Binder.** Holds 12 issues, \$12.00 plus \$4.00 P&H. VISA/MC accepted. No CODs. SOF BINDER, PO Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306.

WHO KILLED KENNEDY? Assassination research materials; Videocassettes, photographs, books, unpublished manuscripts. Catalogue: \$3.00. COLLECTOR'S ARCHIVES; Box 2, Beaconsfield, Quebec. H9W 5T6 (Canada).

✓ **MILITARY/INFO PUBLISHING.** Twenty unique books on Military Science and 1200+ manuals. Catalog \$5.00: Military/Info, P.O. Box 27640-SF, Golden Valley, MN 55427

RADAR DETECTOR DIDN'T WORK!

Authoritative State Agency "Radar Traffic Training Manual." Technicals, Ranges, Interferences, Case Law, Learn Secretive Knowledge.
PRO-LEGAL DOCUMENTS INC.
1-800-817-7733
<http://www.torcom.com/prolegal>

FREEDOM COUNTRY



20 big acres in WESTERN MONTANA, starting at \$19,950.00. Trout fishing, backpacking, camping, Elk, deer, moose, bear. ADJACENT to National Forest, near established towns. Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks nearby. GUARANTEED ACCESS, INSURED TITLE, WARRANTY DEED. FREE color brochure, photos, maps. FULL MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE "Video Available"
CALL TOLL-FREE 1-800-592-5990
TREASURE STATE RANCHES
210 Milwaukee Street, Dept. S
Deer Lodge, Montana 59722 — (406) 846-1000

300,000 Volts Stun Gun



Take Down in One Second.
Most Powerful Stun Gun Available!
Protect Yourself & others. Makes a Great Gift! Satisfaction Guaranteed or Refund.
Order Online at: <http://www.safemarket.com>
Send NOW only \$45.⁹⁵ + \$5.⁹⁵ S. & H. to:
Safe Marketing Co, 113 N. Washington St. 366SF, Rockville Md 20850
1-800-521-8521

EXOTIC WEAPONS - Grenades, Mines, Rockets, Bazookas, Mortars, Silencers, Full-Auto's, Flamethrowers...Common tools and parts. 40 item catalog \$5.00 - Kephart Publications, 495 PVR, Murphy, NC 28906 - 704-837-8067 - VISA/MC/COD - <http://www.xmission.com/~chad/egs/comads/>

QWEB™ SOLDIER OF FORTUNE RUSSIA! Collectors item, published in Moscow. Various months. Invaluable resource for researchers, military and intelligence professionals. Printed in Russian only. \$5.00 each/3 for \$12. Overseas, add \$10 for Priority Mail. SOF Back Issues, 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO 80303-1340.

TRAVEL GUIDE FOR SINGLE MEN. Meet the beautiful women of Thailand, the Philippines, and Vietnam. Free catalog. 310-393-8596.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES AND MILITARY MANUALS. Combat Skills, Weapons, Tactics, NBC, more. Catalog \$5.00. IIPD/ACCP, Box 1237, Alpine, TX 79830

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR. 75-year tradition of quality book publishing, promotion, distribution. "Author's Guide to Subsidy Book Publishing" 1-800-695-9599.

FRIGHTENING! DEPRAVED! True Crime Chiller paperbacks will chill you to the bone! We have what you want! Fascinating brochure's! INFO-EXPRESS, Box 12S, Holtsville, NY 11742

■ 25,000,000 died, but the fifteen-year-old blonde Russalka survived the Russian Civil War, fighting the Bolsheviks for every blood-soaked step they took across her motherland! Discover the truth they don't

CABLE T.V. DESCRAMBLERS AND TEST CHIPS

All major brands.
30-day money back guarantee.
1-year warranty.

JCB ELECTRONICS
1-800-579-3285

LOST DOCUMENTS REPLACED

SEND \$2.00 for 8-PAGE CATALOG
MILITARY AWARDS / CERTIFICATES / MEDALS
UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE / HIGH SCHOOL
FOR ENTERTAINMENT & COLLECTORS
Couch Potato Publishing
443 FOX RUN DRIVE, BLUE RIDGE, GA 30513



BADEN WORKING SERVICE CENTRE

To some, survival is merely a term; at Baden we make our own terms for survival. Baden K-9 offers the ultimate training facility for tactical K-9s. We train for live theatre deployment. No sporting dogs. No excuses. Trained adults and pups. From the jungles of Cambodia to the streets of New York City, our dogs have proven their courage and endurance time and again. Phone 905-562-3095 or fax 905-562-4242. All clients and inquiries are kept secure and with the strictest of confidence.

want you to know, in the historically-accurate novel *Rage of the Bear* by Bert Byfield. \$9 (add \$3 S&H) to Caravela Books SO77, 134 Goodburlet Road, Henrietta, NY 14467 - More information FREE

Scientific Principles of Improvised Warfare Vols. 1&2 Basic, #3 Explosives, #4 Incendiaries, #5 Chemical Weapons, \$30 each + \$5 S&H to STIP, PO Box 59, Silver Creek, NE 68663 - 308-773-2455.

Double Secret training manuals, 195+ publications on hacking, spying, weapons, revenge, electronic devices and lots more! Impossible to find information! Free catalog. Information Center, P.O. Box 876, Hurst, TX 76053 - www.theinformationcenter.com

COUNTERMEASURES monthly publication provides up to date details on hi tech surveillance, espionage, counter espionage, and spy equipment. Call for a free sample - 704-529-4059

NEW SURVIVAL COMMUNICATIONS BOOK - How to build complete home communications systems. Covers all needs - shortwave radio, amateur radio, citizens band, scanners, federal, weather, alternate news, satellite radio, equipment sources. How to build and use alternate emergency power sources, solar, generators, backup batteries. 200 pages. \$24.00 Fast Delivery Priority Mail. MC or Visa. Call Universal Electronics 800-241-8171.

BECOME A GUN REPAIR EXPERT!

Home study. Learn to repair handguns, rifles, and shotguns.
FREE LITERATURE: 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____ Phone (____) _____
City/State _____ Zip _____

The School of Gunsmithing, Dept. GGA171
PCDI, 6065 Roswell Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30328



FS BOOK COMPANY

P.O. BOX 417457, DEPT SF
SACRAMENTO, CA 95841-7457

Free Shipping! Fast Service!

How to Get Anything on Anybody.....\$30
The Whole Spy Catalog, 448 pages.....\$45
Divorce Tactics for Men.....\$20
The Anarchist Cookbook.....\$30
Get Even: Complete Book of Dirty Tricks \$20
Homemade Guns & Homemade Ammo...\$15
The Poor Man's James Bond #1, or #2....\$30
Ragnar's Book of Homemade Weapons..\$25
Privacy, How to Get It, How to Enjoy It....\$18
Ask Me No Questions, I'll Tell You No Lies..\$17
How to Avoid a Drunk Driving Conviction..\$15
Secrets of a Super Hacker.....\$20
Check Fraud Investigation.....\$17
Counterfeit I.D. Made Easy.....\$16
The 211 Book....\$17 Drug Testing At Work..\$17
Never Say Lie....\$20 Armed Defense....\$17
The Rip-off Book...\$15 New ID In America...\$17
The Outlaw's Bible...\$20 The Paper Trip..\$17
Reborn in The U.S.A..\$16 I.D. By Mail....\$20
Ditching Your Debts....\$15 Free Space...\$15
How to Buy Land Cheap.....\$15
WE SPECIALIZE IN DRUG EDUCATION BOOKS
MANY CENSORED TITLES WE CAN'T LIST!
FAX 1-916-771-4201 FS Catalog.....\$2
Adults Only! CA Res. Add 7.75%
Air Mail Delivery (USA) Add \$3 Per Book.
All Orders Are Shipped In A Plain Package.
Add A \$3 Pro. Fee On Credit Card Orders.
Credit Card Orders 1-800-635-8883
Customer Service 1-916-771-4203
24,000 Titles www.fsbookco.com
SERVING YOU SINCE 1985

CABLE DESCRAMBLER KIT — \$14.95

See all the premium and
pay-per-view channels.
Why pay hundreds more?
800-752-1389

Did this get your attention? It's a "Dingbat." So
are ✓ and ●. Add them to your SOF classified
ad for \$5/each.

COLLECTORS

QWEB™ MILITARY COLLECTIBLES CATALOG
1900 TO PRESENT, LEE-JACKSON MILITARIA,
P.O. Box 8663, San Jose, CA 95155. Call 408-295-
1136 or fax 408-288-6350 (mailing charges: foreign
\$8.00, domestic \$5.00) credit cards accepted, U. S.
Militaria wanted!

BRITISH/SCOTTISH MILITARIA COLLECTORS.
Regimental insignia and accessories of elite
Regiments; including SAS; Paratroops; Royal
Marines; Black Watch; Guards, etc. 45-page illustrated
Import Catalog \$6.00. BRITISH REGALIA IMPORTS,
Dept. 6A PO Box 37, Palm Harbor, FL 34683

PONDEROSA PRODUCTS

- MRE'S (Meals Ready to Eat) with heaters
- \$57/12 assorted \$53/12 (10 cases or more)
- MRE Entrees (Assorted) \$125/72
- MRE Heaters \$10/12 \$150/288
- USGI OD Ripstop poncho (new) \$25
- USGI Camo Goretex Jacket \$200 Pants \$110
- USGI ECW Parka with liner (new) \$40
- USGI Inter. Cold Sleeping Bag (New) \$120
- USGI Collapsible water bukct (New) \$15
- CHEMLIGHTS (Red, green, yellow) \$15/10

Free shipping (USA) CATALOG \$2
PONDEROSA SPORTS & MERCANTILE
6854 Highway 55 (208-793-3121)
Horseshoe Bend, Idaho 83629

Need NEW ID ? CREDIT · PRIVACY

OUR BOOKS HELP YOU GET: New identity & credit.
• Jobs in 48 hours. College degrees. ID by mail.
• Cash income. Private loans. Foreign passports.
FREE 40 pg. **PRIVACY CATALOG**: 800-338-8484
EDEN PRESS • Box 8410-HB • Fountain Valley, CA 92728

PHOTO I.D. CARDS

Birth Certificates
High School Diplomas
College Degrees
Trade School Diplomas
Martial Arts Certificates
Investigator, Security Certificates
Marriage, Divorce Certificates
Much More!

Call Now! FREE BROCHURE!
1-800-935-5171 ext. 3023
M.P.C.

VIETNAM WAR INSIGNIA and Uniform List. I mail
a list of Vietnam War Militaria six times per year.
Lists are \$4.00 each. Insignia are pictured so you
know what you are buying. I always have a nice col-
lection of original patches, insignia, books, maps,
uniforms, field gear etc. Both U.S. and VC/NVA. I
also buy singles and collections of Vietnam War
souvenirs. 100% guarantee from me. Buy with con-
fidence. BILL BROOKS, P.O. Box 230832.
Montgomery, AL 36123.

RHODESIAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN badges,
medals, and uniforms to sale. For a list send \$2 to
KAPLANS, Box 890638, Lyndhurst 2106, South
Africa - <http://users.iafrica.com/r/rh/rhodesia> or e-
mail: rhodesia@iafrica.com

● **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE BACK ISSUES** — \$5
each including shipping and handling. Buy three,
get one free; buy six, get two free; buy nine, get
three free plus an SOF binder to keep them in. Most
issues available; see address below.

✓ **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE RUSSIA!** Collectors
item, published in Moscow. Various months.
Invaluable resource for researchers, military and
intelligence professionals. Printed in Russian only.
\$5.00 each/3 for \$12. Overseas, add \$10 for Priority
Mail. SOF Back Issues, 5735 Arapahoe Ave.,
Boulder, CO 80303-1340. www.sofmag.com

EDUCATION

TERMPAPER assistance. 19,278 topics available!
306-page catalog—rush \$2.00. Research, 11322
Idaho, #206EX, Los Angeles, CA 90025. TOLL-
FREE HOTLINE: 800-351-0222 or www.research-assistance.com

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED?

**GET
LEGAL
FAST!**

SEND \$3.00

**TWO
SIMPLE
STEPS!**

LEARN HOW YOU CAN GET A LEGAL
DRIVER'S LICENSE FAST AND EASY.
NEW AND UNIQUE METHOD WORKS
EVERYTIME REGARDLESS OF YOUR
PAST RECORD. 100% GUARANTEED.
FOR SOME VERY REVEALING INFORMATION!
QUALITY RESEARCH, DEPT. 51
P.O. BOX 192, LINCOLN PARK, MICHIGAN 48146

SURVEILLANCE

COUNTERSURVEILLANCE
Electronic Devices

- Hidden Video Cameras
- Smallest Pinhole Board Cameras
- Voice Changer • Micro Recorders
- Bug and Phone Tap Detectors
- Shotgun Mics • 10 hour Telephone
Recording System \$139⁰⁰ • 16 Hour
Telephone Recorder \$199⁰⁰
- Telephone Scramblers
- Vehicle Tracking System
- Much More...

Catalog \$5⁰⁰
SPY OUTLET
P.O. Box 337, Buffalo NY 14226
(716) 695-8660 / 691-3476

QWEB™ Internet ads are now available on the
SOLDIER OF FORTUNE web site www.SOF-MAG.COM
Classified advertisers: Pay \$30/ month
in addition to your print ad charge. Free QWEB™
tag for your print ad included. Display advertisers:
\$50/ month surcharge for B&W ads, \$100/ month
color. Limited availability; some restrictions apply.
Prices subject to change.

EMPLOYMENT

PROFESSIONAL BODYGUARD ASSOCIATION
(Employment Notice) All US citizens with Police,
Military, or Security experience who attend a training
course with the PBA, will be offered some form
of employment contract after their training. For full
details, send a large Self Addressed Envelope with
either \$2 or 2 International postal reply coupons to:
**The White House, 24 Cumberland Tce, Willing-
ton, Co Durham, DL15 OPB, ENGLAND, UK.**

INTERESTING CAREER LISTINGS. Police, secu-
rity, investigation. Nationwide, some international.
Executives to \$119,300. Positions explained. Four
monthly issues. \$21.95. PSIC/FO, P.O. Box 3831,
Springfield, IL 62708.

KNIVES - BAYONETS

COLD STEEL, Spyderco, Gerber, SOG,
Benchmade, Smith & Wesson and more. Huge dis-
counts! Free List. KNIVES PLUS MAIL ORDER,
(800) 687-6202.

MARTIAL ARTS

Interested in a warrior religion? Order The Odin
Brotherhood (\$19.95 hardback / \$10.00 soft) from
World Tree Publishing, PO Box 961, Payson, AZ
85547

MILITARY INSIGNIA

NAVY SEAL MERCHANDISE - FREE CATALOG -
UDT-SEAL Association, Dept. 33, PO Box 5365,
Virginia Beach, VA 23455; CALL 757-340-9331;
FAX 757-363-7491; www.udt-seal.org

Men & Women! Be A ...

PRIVATE EYE



Amazing one-of-a-kind home study course tells all! Want a life of intrigue, excitement, adventure?! Quickly learn from the experts:

- How To Earn \$100,000 A Year As Your Own Boss!
- How To Conduct All Types Of Private Investigations, Skiptracing & Surveillance!
- How To Start Your Own Private Detective Agency!
- How To Work From Home, Part-Time or FullTime!
- No Experience Necessary, No Investment Required!

STATE APPROVED

Located in the Entertainment Capitol Of the World! **(213) 879-1165**

FREE DETAILS

UNITED STATES ACADEMY OF PRIVATE INVESTIGATION
P.O. BOX 2133 (SF)
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213

MILITARY EVENTS, AIR SHOWS & REUNIONS

QWEB™ Attention Military, Veterans: SOLDIER OF FORTUNE will run a 30-word notice here and on our Internet site for one month, half price, for any legitimate reunion, military base open-house, air show, battle re-enactment, firepower demonstration or similar military event. Non-commercial events only; standard rate applies to for-profit events. www.sofmag.com

MISCELLANEOUS

✓ **INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF MERCENARIES** Membership Coin. Free registration with order. \$15. ea. plus \$3. S&H. John Langley, Box 804, Nokomis, FL 34274.

■ **Did this get your attention?** It's a "Dingbat." So are ✓ and ●. Add them to your SOF classified ad for \$5/each.

GOT A TATTOO? TRY FLASHBACK! The lotion that puts the flash back in your tattoo. Odorless, greaseless, great for older tattoos. Money back guarantee. Lauthryn Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 117, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060. 1-800-632-9413. \$14.95 (NJ 6% tax) plus \$3.95 S&H. VISA/MASTERCARD

LET THE GOVERNMENT PAY for your new or existing home. Over 100 different programs available. Free recorded message: (707) 448-3210. (8KW5)

That's what turtle soup is ... mmm-mmm cash! Want to turn your old rations into \$\$\$? We will offer \$15 per can of Campbell's Turtle Soup. Contact Harlan, PO Box 14064, Gainesville, FL 32604.

C-Ration Can Opener, Great Gifts! 1001 uses, Veterans Love, Send \$2.00 to DK1, PO Box 210042, Chula Vista, CA 91921-0042.

Highest Quality Dog Tags! Up to 5 lines of text, 15 characters per line, with chains, 2 tags, choose black, red, blue, or yellow silencers. Type or print very legibly. All for \$12.00. DK1, PO Box 210042, Chula Vista, CA 91921-0042. CA residents add \$1.00 for tax.

QWEB™ Internet ads are now available on the **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE** web site www.sofmag.com Classified advertisers: Pay \$20/month in addition to your print ad charge. Free **QWEB™** tag for your print ad included. Display advertisers: \$50/ month surcharge for B&W ads, \$100/ month color. Limited availability; some restrictions apply. Prices subject to change.

U.S. MILITARY You Get: 2 Stainless Steel Dog Tags with imprint, Silencers, 4.5" & 27" Chains **\$6.00** Add \$1.00 shipping & handling

DOG TAGS
Stainless Steel * Bright Shiny
Black * Brass

We will imprint your Name, Address, Phone & more on each tag.
5 lines of print, 18 Spaces.
Your choice of 1 or 2 Silencer colors
Black, Red, Blue, Orange, Green, Yellow

NEW! Bright tags \$6.00 - Black & Brass \$7.00 add \$1.00 S&H
MHC, INC. Dept. SF • 2137 Rust Ave. • Cape Girardeau MO 63703



WORLD'S LARGEST SURPLUS MARKET

for used military vehicles:
jeeps, tanks, HMMWVs, military trucks, more.



100's of ads, tech tips, how-to, articles, event listings, much more!

MILITARY VEHICLES MAGAZINE

1 year (six BIG 100+ page issues)
USA \$18, Canada \$28, (Sample \$5)
12-L2 Indianhead, Morristown, NJ 07960

AK SKS MAK 90 MAKAROV



Send \$2.00 for a Catalog

Catalog containing rifles, parts, accessories, scopes, muzzles, stocks, magazines, muzzle brakes, and 100s of other products for SKS, MAK 90, AK 17, and a huge selection of threaded and ported Stainless Steel barrels for Browning H.P., Glock, Makarov, Beretta, Taurus, Astra 100/600, Star, CZ52, and 1911 Govt.

FEDERAL ARMS CORP. OF AMERICA
7928 University Ave. N.E. Fridley, MN. 55432
612-780-8780 Fax 612-780-5747

NEED NEW I.D.? Because we care and can help you. U.S.I.D. Protection, Charles Reagan, 612-362-4375. Consulting services: \$1295. Call when serious and ready to proceed.

REMAILING SERVICES

PRIVACY, CONFIDENTIAL MAIL RECEIVING/Forwarding, Since 1981 Single ReMails \$1.00, Phone, Fax, Box, Street Address available, Maildrop, Box 608039-SOF, Orlando, FL 32860-8039, Website -<http://www.orlandomaildrop.com>

QWEB™ CONFIDENTIAL ADDRESS. Mail received here, then forwarded to you worldwide. Voicemail, too! Website address - www.netcom.com/~mailpost. MAILPOST, 2421SOF Pratt, Chicago, IL 60645. 773-764-0100. 800-890-3199.

RELIABLE MAIL FORWARDING - Confidential and forwarded to you world wide. HOMETOWN SERVICES - TEL/FAX: (702) 575-4809, SOF1, P.O. Box 820, Fernley, NV 89408-0820.

PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY! P.O. Boxes, mail drops, and home addresses leave a trail. We are not a remailer, but we do have the answer! 501-785-3424 or www.abservices.com

CONFIDENTIAL WORLDWIDE REMAILS - Receiving/Forwarding - \$1.00 each. MARCH, 3720 Collins - Box 512, Miami Beach, FL 33140 (Free Info).

The Catalog of: Restricted Devices & Publications



You Won't Believe The Stuff Contained In This Catalog!

Thousands of hard to find devices including:
Auto Entry Tools, Restricted Potions & Powders, Digital Voice Changers, Drug Education Books, Anti-Theft Products, New ID & Credit Publications, Telephone Recording Devices, Covert Operation Devices, Electronic Harassment Devices, Explosives and Munitions Manuals, Lock Picking Tools, High Tech Video Systems, Self Defense Products, Revenge & Harassment Books plus much more!

Catalog Only \$3.00

THE UNDERGROUND SHOPPER

P.O. Box 54400 • Dept. SF-1
Phoenix, AZ 85078-4400

CALL TOLL FREE: 1(888) 588-0123

Send For Your Copy Today!

U.S. GOVERNMENT LAND

Federally owned land currently available in AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, WY for **\$2.50 per acre**. U.S. citizens entitled to purchase up to **160 acres per person**. For complete information package including maps, telephone helpline, filing forms, etc. send \$20 check or money order to: **FEDERAL LAND CO., Dept L, Box 21598, Washington, DC 20009.** (Note: this is not homesteading—lands are sold outright.) **MONEYBACK GUARANTEE!**

HAT PINS • MEDALS • BUCKLES • PATCHES • BALL CAPS



- **FREE COLOR CATALOG**
- 2500+ Military Designs
- Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines
- **Call now! Toll-free! 1-888-223-1159**
- Custom pins & patches available.
- Dealer inquiries welcome.

HONORS

by Hoover's Mfg., Co.
P.O. Box 547SF, Peru, IL 61354
Fax: 1-815-223-1499

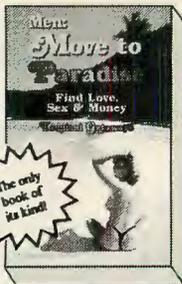
SURPLUS

GOVERNMENT AUCTIONS in your area! Must sell: Cars, trucks, computers, more! Great deals! Call Now Toll Free: 1-800-601-2212, ext. SP7770

TRAINING

Learn Seal, Delta, Spetsnaz & SF Secrets to achieve in fighting, shooting, fitness and more. Free Info Call 800-908-0107 ext. 2 / Training.

Bodyguards at W.A.R.I. - Learn devastating 'secrets' of real world professionals with Cliff Stewart of W.A.R.I. Also courses in tactics, firearms, driving and more. W.A.R.I., 8306 Wilshire Blvd., Dept. SF, Ste. #697, Beverly Hills, CA 90211.



Men: Move to Paradise!

Want to live in paradise?

You can!

In this exciting new book you'll discover ways that you can enjoy a fabulous tropical lifestyle!

Contains EVERYTHING YOU NEED including:

"Female" information — "Can't miss" paradises for sizzling romance. Enjoy hot romance with beautiful foreign women - regardless of your age, income or looks!

Business information — Best business opportunities and sources of financing. Get rich while having fun!

Job information — Great jobs and how to get them. No degree or foreign language required!

Passport & Visa information — Insiders' secrets to getting visas and keeping them current!

Others are doing it and so can you — Order now!

Mention this ad & save \$5 off the regular price of \$24.95. Now only \$19.95 + \$6.00 Shipping & Handling. Visa/MC/Amex/Discover orders Call (800) 460-5056 or Mail check or money order to: Alexander & Watson, P.O. Box 330155 - Suite 7051, Ft. Worth TX 76163. **FAST SHIPPING * MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!**
* Cannot be found in book stores.*

Be a DETECTIVE

Explore a secret world! Fascinating new career. Experience a new adventure every day. Dynamic home study course. Diploma, Badge. State approved. **FREE DETECTIVE CAREER KIT 1-800-742-9007 Ext. 301**
DETECTIVE TRAINING Box 909 • San Juan Capistrano, CA 92653



TELEPHONE SURVEILLANCE DEVICE



W/12 HR. RECORDER
Automatically record all incoming and outgoing calls! **\$99.95** + 5.00 sh. Telephone surveillance device **\$19.95** + \$2 sh. (separately)

VERY POWERFUL FM TRANSMITTER



Transmits voice to any FM radio up to 1/2 mi. Easy to assemble kit. Up to 9V (not incl.) **\$19.95** + \$2 sh.
For comprehensive 50 page catalog of Micro Video, VHF Transmitters, Surveillance & Counter-Surveillance and much more! Send \$3.00. Call 407-725-1000

1 x 1 3/4"

USI CORP

P.O. Box SF2052 • Melbourne, FL 32902
COD'S OK

ADVERTISERS INDEX

ADCO	25
ATN Night Vision	76
Autauga Arms	16
Automatic Knife Resource Guide	28
Benchmade	8
Bud K Worldwide	74
Cardio-Impact Gloves	74
Chase-Durer	Cover 4
Colt	Cover 3
David Steele Enterprises	75
Delta Press	28
Direct Action Video	23
Eden Press	73
Excalibur Enterprises	27
Federal Arms	75
Federal Bureau of Investigation	71
Force XXI Combat Knives	67
Gerber Legendary Blades	Cover 2
Global School of Investigation	74
Hawk East	73
Hitek International	74
Hogue Grips	26
Imperial Schrade Corp.	17
Intelligence Inc.	13
Inter-American Security Products	74
Interarms	19
Ironstone	73
IRSAIS	66
Kel-Tec	20
Kent White	21
Kimber	25
L.A. Law Enforcers	76
LRRP K-9 Services	76
LOTI Group Productions	64, 68
Matthews Police Supply Co.	73
Michigan Body Armor	71
Military Book Club	14-15
MORO Vision Night Vision	73
National Rifle Association	72
NIC, Inc. Law Enforcement Supply	76
Paladin Press	5
Pearce Grip	65, 71
Performance Knives	7
PHD Pharmaceuticals	22
Police Supply Store	65
Professional Career Development	73, 74, 75
Round Eye Knife & Tool	67
RPB	75
S&K Labs	75, 76
Shotgun News	69
Silverman's	75
SOF Subscriptions	34
SOS	73
Southern Ordnance	69
Springfield Armory	9, 19
Starlight Systems	66
Starline Brass	70
Steve Arnold's Gunroom	29
Symbols Unlimited	17
Tactical Night Technologies	75
Tactical Video Security Int'l	74
U.S. Cavalry	73
USI Corp.	76
Walker's Tactic'l Ear	81

ADVERTISING POLICY: Publication of any advertisement in *Soldier Of Fortune Magazine* is not an endorsement of the advertiser of the product(s) or service(s) advertised, either by *SOF Magazine* or by the Editor and Publisher.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUPPLY

Knives-Gun Holsters-Web Gear-T SHIRTS-Uniforms-Boots-Hats

Order, by Mail
On the WEB or Call
(210)661-6507



Credit Cards
Accepted

SKULL T-SHIRT L-XXL white skull/on black
50/50 Hanes \$7.95 + \$3.00 S/H in US. XXL add \$2.00
P.O. Box 8141 San Antonio, TX 78208 <http://www.sostx.com>



COMPLETE LINE OF A-15 RIFLES,
PARTS, KITS AND ACCESSORIES

LEATHERWOOD
ART II
Sniper Scopes



DPMS

Please send \$1.00
for our new catalog

13983 Industry Avenue • Becker, MN 55308
PHONE 1-612-261-5600 FAX 1-612-261-5599

MARSHAL STYLE YOUR CHOICE! BADGES SILVER \$64 • GOLD \$69

- DIGITARY PROTECTION AGENT
- BAIL ENFORCEMENT AGENT
- SECURITY ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
- PROFESSIONAL FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR
- CONCEALED WEAPON LICENSE
- U.S. BAIL RECOVERY AGENT
- FUGITIVE ENFORCEMENT AGENT
- REGISTERED EXECUTIVE BODYGUARD



Whatever You Can Write We Can Engrave
Concealed Weapon Badge # Engraved Free
LEATHER LD./BADGE CASE \$15
Add \$3.00 USA Shpg \$10 Foreign
WE SHIP WORLDWIDE

ACTUAL SIZE 2 1/4" x 2 1/4"

MAXSELL CORPORATION (954) 568-1480
4038 POWERLINE RD. • DEPT SOF • FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33309, USA
visit our web site <http://www.maxsell.com>

VIDEOS

"WORSE THAN TAILHOOK", screamed "American Journal" "lewdness and debauchery" outside our Pacific military bases. Raw, explicit, uncensored videos, books and tours. For catalog, send \$3.00 to: B.A.O. Video, 47 Raymond Ave. (SOF), Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

BUSTY BIKINI BIMBOS, STRIPPERS, NUDE DANCERS, AMATEURS, biker babes & most nude pay-TV events. 1000 videos, B-movies, adult cards & photos. 10th anniversary catalog & 30-min. preview video: \$10 to Perfect 10, 12880 Hidalgo St, Desert Hot Springs CA 92240; fax 619-329-0817; (800) GIRL-USA; www.perfect10.com.

Did this get your attention? It's a "Dingbat." So are ♣ and ●. Add them to your SOF classified ad for \$5/each.

WANTED

WANTED - Executive Protection & Investigative Professionals. International Networking Association. Send \$17.50 for infopak to: BASECA, 4 Maple Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960.

WEBSITES

WEB™ NEW CATEGORY - For only \$25/month (2-month/\$50 minimum), you can list your Website or Internet URL + 10 words right here. This is a great way to get out the word on your site. \$10/month more gets it listed on the SOF website (www.SOFMAG.COM). Limited time offer; prepay up to 12 months at this low rate.

Tax Revolt on the Internet! Check it out! It's Awesome! <http://members.aol.com/ttax/revolt.htm>

"The French Foreign Legion - A Guidebook to Joining" - See our web site at: <http://www.ivynet.co.uk/foreign-legion/>

Ninjutsu - Martial Arts Seminars in Switzerland: www.ninja.ch

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE ADVERTISING RATES AND REQUIREMENTS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING: \$3 per word per insertion, \$60 minimum. You may prepay two months for 10% discount; six months for 20% discount; or take 30% off for 12 months prepaid (\$2.10/word). See below for details. Repeat your same ad in another section for half price. \$10 charge for copy changes (new address, Dept. #/key code, etc.). "Dingbats" (✓, ●, ■), **bold words** (other than first 3-4): \$5.00/each extra. Computer word count of grammatically correct copy. EXAMPLE: PO Box 693 = 3 words; 80306 and 303-449-3750, etc. each = 1 word; abbreviations such as DI, SGT, 20mm = 1 word. No ads accepted by telephone. **Ad copy must be typed.** If you cannot type it, include an additional \$10, and print clearly. Include authorizing signature, mailing address, telephone or fax number (for our files) and e-mail address if available. Mail classified ads with payment to SOF, ATTN: Classified Dept., at address below.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING: Rates start at \$140/month for 1" (2.5 cm) boxed text ads in our classified section. Supply Depot rates start at \$296/month for a 1/12th page ad and \$407/month for 1/6th page. These rates are based on 12x contracts.

ΩWEB™ INTERNET ADS are now available on the Soldier of Fortune web site (WWW.SOFMAG.COM) at special introductory prices. Classified advertisers: Pay \$30/month in addition to your print ad cost for each text ad; \$40/month for small display ads. Free ΩWEB™ tag for your print text ad included. Display advertisers: \$50/month surcharge for B&W ads, \$100/month color. Limited availability; some restrictions apply. Prices subject to change. Inquire for rates on hypertext links to your site.

CONTACT US AT: OMEGA GROUP ADVERTISING · 5735 Arapahoe Ave. · Boulder, CO 80303-1340
 Telephone: 1-303-449-3750 ext. 4 · Fax: 1-303-444-5617 · E-mail: advert@sofmag.com
 On-Line Media Kit: www.sofmag.com/mediakit.html

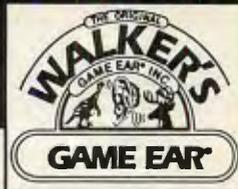
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS: We reserve the right to refuse any ad for any reason and to delete or change any copy that we consider objectionable, false or in poor taste. It is our policy not to accept advertisements for personal services, including 'will do anything' or 'go anywhere' type ads. We accept no ads without signed authorization or an insertion order. Advertisers offering information packets for a fee must send sample (non-returnable). All new ads must be prepaid (check, wire transfer, money order or Visa/MC).

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT: By authorizing placement of advertisement in Soldier of Fortune, advertiser agrees to abide by all applicable local, state, national and international laws governing his product or service. Advertiser further agrees that Soldier of Fortune and Omega Group shall have no liability beyond the price charged for the advertisement in the event of any losses incurred by him due to his ad running (or not running) in Soldier of Fortune.

NOTICE TO READERS: SOLDIER OF FORTUNE is an adult magazine of national and international distribution. There may be products advertised or described herein for which sale, possession or interstate transportation is restricted, prohibited or subject to special licensing requirements. Soldier Of Fortune does not verify validity of every advertisement and/or the legality of every product offered. Purchasers should consult their local law enforcement authorities. Soldier Of Fortune does not intend for any product or service advertised to be used illegally. Should any reader have a problem with an advertiser, he should seek assistance from his nearest postal inspector and also contact our advertising department. Soldier of Fortune and Omega Group assume no responsibility nor liability for any losses incurred by purchasers due to non-compliance with applicable laws or for any other reasons. *Caveat emptor; buyer beware.*

WALKER'S

TACT'L-Ear™



From the makers of Walker's Game Ear®

The perfect device for tactical training, live fire exercises, and real world applications.



Size
 .46" x
 1.6" x .35"
Weight
 under 1 oz.
 including
 battery

HEARING ENHANCEMENT WHILE MAINTAINING HEARING PROTECTION

- ***OMNI-DIRECTIONAL MICROPHONE**
 — EXCELLENT FOR ELIMINATING BLIND SIDES CREATED WHEN RADIO COMMUNICATIONS, EARPLUGS, OR HEADSETS CLOSE OFF OPPOSITE EAR.
- ***EMPHASIS ON HIGH FREQUENCY SOUNDS**
 — PICKS UP SLIGHTEST SOUNDS FOR 360 AROUND WEARER
 — MOVEMENT ALONG ABRASIVE SURFACES
 — WHISPERS BETWEEN UNIT PERSONNEL AND SUBJECTS WITHIN RANGE
 — RUFFLING OF CLOTHING
 — ANY METALLIC SOUNDS
- ***50DB OF AMPLIFICATION POWER**
 — INCREASES HEARING BY 5-8 TIMES

SPECIAL SOUND/TUBE-EARPLUG HAS A NOISE REDUCTION RATING (NRR) 29-33db
 — CAN BE USED IN BOTH TRAINING & LIVE EXERCISES
 • TO HEAR RANGE COMMANDS & INSTRUCTIONS
 • SPECIAL SAFETY CIRCUIT SHUTS TACT'L-Ear DOWN WHEN FIREARM IS DISCHARGED

YES! Enter my order for the Walker's TACT'L-Ear. (\$219.95 + \$6.95)

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 Quantity _____ Total \$ _____
 Payment enclosed Visa Mastercard Discover
 CARD NUMBER _____ EXP DATE _____

\$219.95
 Suggested Retail Price \$299.95

To order call
(800) 424-1069
 + \$6.95 shipping & handling
 30 day money back guarantee.
 Penn. residents add 6% sales tax.

30 day money back guarantee. Penn. residents add 6% sales tax.
 Please allow 4 weeks for delivery.
 Mail to: Walker's "Game-Ear," Inc., P.O. Box 1069, Media, PA 19063

REMFRACKET

Wars are a racket. That's why they won't go away! But now even peacekeeping is a racket. Which explains why we have American peacekeepers spread as thick as peanut butter from Angola to Zambia.

Peacekeeping makes it easy for the top brass to justify their force/level/budgets/existence and the parasite civilian contractors — such as former Defense Secretary Richard Cheney and his gang — who milk them bigtime.

Take that \$2 billion-plus a year running sore going on in the former Republic of Yugoslavia. Cheney and Company alone sucked in over \$250 million last year doing what engineers and mess sergeants used to do.

Our uniformed men and women deployed there call themselves "Prisoners of Peace," POP for short, which is an apt description. They're locked up like maximum-security prisoners in little forts right in the middle of a country that's become a huge insane asylum filled with serial killers and armed drunks.

Duty is normally as boring as watching grass grow, but every so often the shrapnel hits the tent. Since 1995, our peacekeepers in Bosnia alone have been blown up by mines and shot, stabbed, booby-trapped and grenaded by the inmates.

Every peacekeeper there deservedly draws hazardous-duty pay and gets a tax break. Let's face it, you cannot pay enough extra money to anyone to stand down range in a shooting gallery manned by crazies. Our POPs deserve every extra nickel we can give them.

But not the cheats and scammers who, according to a Bosnian-based sergeant, "have been flooding into former Yugoslavia for the sole purpose of fraudulently collecting the lucrative tax-break and fire-pay benefits."

Another irritated sergeant says, "I have seen people come in on a C-130 (transport aircraft) for a 20-minute 'fact finding' visit while the plane undergoes an engine-running off-load of cargo and passengers, only to re-board the plane for a speedy departure and a guarantee for the thieves that next month's pay check will be a lot bigger."

An airman says "I have had officers tell me they frequently put troops from locations such as Hungary and Italy onto aircraft that are entering FRY (former Yugoslavia) airspace for the sole purpose of gaining benefits they don't deserve."

These "tax free" vacations happen every day. A captain sent me a bootlegged copy of the SFOR (Stabilization Forces in Bosnia) distinguished visitors sign-in log. It's 3" thick, heavy



Col. David Hackworth (Ret.) also writes a syndicated weekly column titled "Defending America." "Hack" doesn't pull any punches and many liberal rags won't carry his writing. If your local paper falls into that category, call the editor and let him know you'd like to see "Defending America" on the Op-Ed page. It's syndicated by King Features, 235 E. 45th St., New York, NY 10017.

with the names of too many general officers who visit FRY for a few days once a month.

Of course, they're out there to make sure our troops health and welfare are being well-looked after and that Cheney's boys are earning their fat profits. These brief monthly visits sure don't have a thing to do with qualifying for extra dough.

Another sergeant in NATO Headquarters reports that "It takes the Joint Visitors Bureau (officer) about ten minutes to give his weekly visitor briefing" to the four star [FOR] commander. He says, "The number of 'distinguished' visitors is absolutely unbelievable."

An Airman says, "It's not only the generals who pour in here. We get stacks of colonels and others right down to the lowest rankers. It's wild! A colonel, for example, who just visits for a day gets \$650 extra."

At the USAF airbase in Tuzla, Bosnia, the crew who run the airfield have produced a "Bosnian Tax Free Certificate." A sergeant cynically says, "We give these to those 'weary travelers who are obviously ripping off the American taxpayer.'"

It reads: "Spent at least 2 minutes in the former Yugoslavia ... present this certificate when filing your travel voucher and you can earn the same tax break that Tuzla Airbase residents get by spending 30 full days in the mud."

Sure, some of these visits are necessary. But there's a lot of stealing going on that's taking money away from mission-essential activities and blasting the morale of those who do deserve the extra money.

This problem is easy to fix. Only award extra pay to the POP folks hunkered down in former Yugoslavia doing "mission impossible" and don't give the visitors zilch.

Oh, and torture of tortures, make the cheaters reimburse Uncle Sam. And, as usual, generals first in line. ✖

[Http://www.hackworth.com](http://www.hackworth.com) is the address of David Hackworth's home page.

Copyright 1997 David H. Hackworth
Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Hackworth's best-selling book, *Hazardous Duty*, has topped 90,000 copies in worldwide sales. ✖

Ready... TRAIN... Fire!



NEW!

Ideal for safety instruction, sport shooting or target practice. The all new Colt CO₂ pistols are made with the same commitment to quality you find in every Colt firearm. Colt CO₂ pistols provide a safe, economical and convenient alternative to traditional firearms, allowing you to practice as often as you like, even in your own home. With the look and feel of a Colt 1911, the new CO₂ pistols offer an ideal way to teach safe gun handling and improve marksmanship.

*Pistol shown on left feature optional accessories.



CO₂ Pistols

Colt's Manufacturing Company, Inc., P.O. Box 1868, Hartford, CT 06144-1868 1-800-962-COLT ©1997

Warning: Never chamber a round until ready to shoot. Read and follow manual accompanying each firearm. Free manuals available on request.





**NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES**

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

PERMIT NO. 8

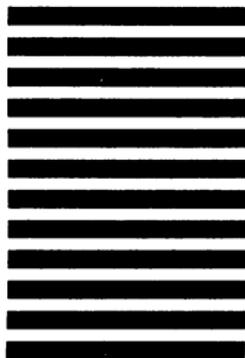
MT. MORRIS, IL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**SOLDIER OF
FORTUNE**

PO BOX 348

MT MORRIS IL 61054-9817



Holiday Gift Guide



Beverly Hills
Geneve



WING COMMANDER

CHRONOGRAPH

- Designed for Military Pilots
- Solid Stainless Steel Case & Band
- Double Lock Security Clasp.
- Sapphire Crystal Lens
- Tritium Full Glow Hands
- Revolving Computer Bezel
- VD57 Quartz Movement by SEIKO Corp.
- Water Resistant to 330 ft.

\$395 VALUE **NOW
ONLY \$179**

PLUS \$6 S&H

**CREDIT CARD
ORDERS CALL:
1-800-544-4365**
ASK FOR OPERATOR 468

PILOT COMMANDER

CHRONOGRAPH

- Designed for Military Pilots
- Solid Stainless Steel Case & Band
- 6 Hands; 4 Dials
- Double Lock Security Clasp
- Hardened Mineral Crystal Lens
- Revolving Bezel
- Tritium Glow Hands
- VD57 Quartz Movement by SEIKO
- W/R to 330 ft.

\$350 VALUE **NOW
ONLY \$159**
PLUS \$6 S&H



BLACK STEEL F-1 RACING

CHRONOGRAPH

Made For Race Drivers

- PRECISION 23 JEWEL SWISS ETA 251.265 QUARTZ MOVEMENT
 - 1/100th Sec Timing
 - Dual Time Zones
 - Speed Tachymetre
- Alarm • Mineral Crystal Lens • Month & Date
- W/R to 330 ft • Solid Stainless Steel Case & Band • Revolving Bezel • Tritium Hands & Indexes • 12 Hr Elapsed Time • 12/24 Hr Display
- Also available in Silver Steel

\$800 Value - ONLY \$150
a month for 3 months on credit card
orders for total of \$450 + \$6 S&H

Or send check or money order for \$456.00

All CHASE-DURER Watches Feature: 30 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
LTD LIFETIME WARRANTY • SAME DAY SHIPPING

CHASE-DURER Ltd. • 270 No. Canon Drive • Department 1402-468 • Beverly Hills, California 90210
Phone: 310.550.7280 / Fax: 310.550.0830 / www.WatchShop.com

On display at: LOS ANGELES, CA - Feldmar Watch & Clock Ctr., 213-272-1196 • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA - B-Anthony Jewelers, 805-544-8968
• SAN MATEO, CA - Carlyle Jewelers, 415-344-2145 • San Antonio, TX - Mandarin Gems, 210-344-5678 • And Selected Fine Jewelry Stores.