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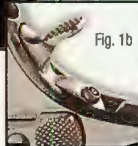
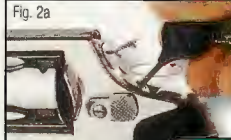
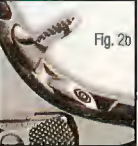


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SOF

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SOF Files

COMMAND GUIDANCE

by Robert K. Brown

'98 SOF Convention

Once again I am pleased to announce that *SOF's* 1998 Convention and Expo, 23-27 September, is shaping up to be another landmark event, even surpassing last year's gala. The Expo will be again located in the Sands Expo and Convention Hall — and it is filling fast. The doors will open 25 September. Many old timers are already on board, and new ones are calling in daily.

Those interested in exhibiting should call Steve Schreiner at 303-449-3750, ext. 312. Several mailings have already gone out. If you want to exhibit, I urge you all to call soon, space will quickly become limited.

There is no other event in the country — or probably the world, for that matter — where you can spend a few days discussing the latest in worldwide sniping developments, sign up for a jump tour in Estonia and then have drinks with a few "tourists" just back from the Congo. Every reader, at least once in his life, should plan a pilgrimage to an SOF Convention and Expo. Where else can you meet and eat with movie stars and mercs? We assemble the world's greatest collection of guns, gear, gadgets and grunts.

Those wishing to attend the convention should call our switchboard (303-

449-3750, ext. 8) for the latest information, or check out our website at www.sofmag.com. We are currently lining up seminars and participatory events. After last year's abbreviated show, we are pulling out all stops to try and rectify the situation. Stay tuned for more details.



We are well along in choosing our headquarters hotel. We plan to have an SOF event center all to ourselves with a restaurant, bar and plenty of room to "socialize." Additionally, there will be a laser tag and paint ball competition.

In keeping with tradition, we have a number of exciting keynote speakers on line for the awards banquet. Watch future issues for details on personalities-times-places.

The Three-Gun Match is on track and nearly sold out. Also at the range this year will be a new and improved manufacturers demo and a shit-hot firepower demo. This popular event will be back this year with more rounds down-range than ever before.

Because of construction, changes of command and *el Nino*, the past two years in Las Vegas have been difficult for conventions, but it looks like the storm clouds are behind us. I want to thank all you loyal conventioners for their support: This year no one will be disappointed. ☒

'98 SOF CONVENTION AND EXPO Sands Expo and Convention Hall 23-27 September

Exhibitors: contact Steve Schreiner, 303-449-3750, ext. 312
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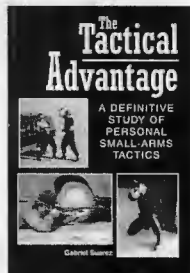
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THE TACTICAL ADVANTAGE

A Definitive Study of Personal Small-Arms Tactics

by Gabriel Suarez

By reading this book, you'll learn combat tactics that have been tested in the world's toughest school, where the tuition gets paid with the blood of police officers and innocent civilians. Find out how the author and other big-city police officers maintain the tactical advantage when the bullets start flying, including how to search corners, doors and hallways; the proper use of cover and concealment; weapon retention and combative countermeasures; distance intervals and close-quarters moves; and much more. This book is for anyone with an interest in personal defense, from the homeowner who hears a suspicious noise in the middle of the night to the cop who must search a dark building to a combat operative who is about to take part in an early-morning raid. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, illus., 216 pp. **\$20.00**



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by Duane Thomas
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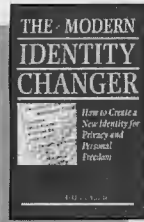
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by Col. Rex Applegate & Michael D. Janich
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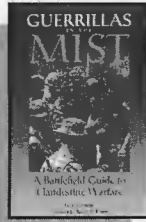
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How to Obtain Freedom from Your Debt
by Max Edison
If debt collection agencies are harassing you to settle your unpaid bills, you do not have to put up with their bullying tactics! This book tells you exactly how you can use simple tricks to get them off your back for good or resort to heavy legal firepower if they persist in calling you at work or home. Know your rights! 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 80 pp. **\$12.00**



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Foreword by Robert K. Brown
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by Jeff Cooper
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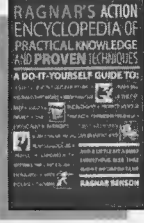
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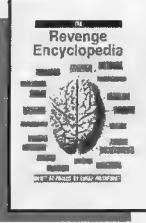
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by Leo Lapin
The Whole Spy Catalog shows you exactly how to hire an ex-KGB agent, order a photo of anyone on an instant anytime during the last 20 years, get an instant background check on anyone, open a door from 100 feet away, subscribe to an in-house 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**



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translated by James F. Gebhardt
This combination of two actual Soviet Army manuals covers the grenades and Molotov cocktails used by the Red Army against the Germans in WWII and modern grenades used by the Soviet Army from 1974 through the mid-1980s. Includes technical descriptions and sections on tactical deployment. For academic study only. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, illus. 112 pp. **\$14.00**

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FLAK



FINDING COLT KNIVES

Reference your "Adventure QM" article in the February '98 issue of *SOF* mag: You commented on Colt's new CSAR gravity knife. I checked with a local Colt dealer, who checked with his supplier etc., and everyone came up with a blank.

Please write and let me know who/where etc. I can contact to acquire one of these fine knives and at what cost ...

Thanks — Robert Glemaker

We contacted Colt's again, and were told the CSAR is in the distribution pipeline: If he does not yet have it in stock, your local Colt dealer will be able to order it from his distributor by the time you read this.

RUN FAST, NOT AMOK

I read with interest Robin Postell's article "Athletes in the Outback," *SOF* February 1998. I find it interesting and disappointing that she would characterize military teams as not doing well in the Eco Challenge. I would make the argument that they have done very well, and stand a very good chance of putting the first all-US team across the finish line.

I led a team of Army Rangers in the 1996 race in British Columbia. It was our first race of this type and we had a respectable 11th-place finish. Of the 70 teams that entered that event, only 14 ranked teams finished, of which three were military. Between the three military teams we had a total race experience of four races, compared to over 60 races by the winner, Eco Internet. This race is all about experience. As military teams return to this event for another shot at it, they will be tougher on the top foreign competition. The military teams usually approach problem solving in a methodical way that produces the best course of action based on the situation and race experience. Problem solving and decision making certainly seemed to be a weakness in most of the civilian teams we noticed.

Our team, U.S. Cavalry, adopted the strategy to move steadily and finish the race with all members. We did this. Being it was our first race, we learned a tremendous

amount about this type of event. We were not able to return for the Australia race because of operational reasons, but have submitted an application for the 1998 race in Morocco.

Like Mike Trisler, we also intend to race for the win next time. The nature of our professional obligations precludes us from racing as often as the top teams do, so we'll always lack the race experience of other teams. Despite that, I believe that military teams will be very competitive and offer the best chance that a team from the United States will put a team across the finish line first.

Luke Green
Fort Benning, Georgia

By this writer's standards, you're doing very well if you finish at all — but in an arena where there are no second-place winners, 11th out of 70 is only respectable if you're graded on a curve. But every race is a new slate and every additional race we field more experienced teams. Teams USA have as good as men anybody's, and as our guys gain experience, we'll put our money on the home team for sure. Luke, Good Luck this year in Morocco!



FROM THE MUD 'N' THE BLOOD [AND NO BEER]

Greetings from the world's best-kept vacation secret. This letter is in regard to the article by Col. Hackworth in the January 1998 issue ("Remfracket"). With all due respect to Col. Hackworth, I am afraid he didn't have all the facts he needed to properly write his comments. Not all of the officials who visit the FRY stay only a few minutes: Some are brave enough to stay one or two overnights. Coincidentally, I am sure, these visits seem to happen a lot with arrival on the 30th or 31st of the month, with departure on the 1st or 2nd. Go Figure.

Keep up the good work. From the land of boredom, mud, and no beer,

Regards,

CW3 Bradley E. Rassega
Operation Joint Guard

FEMME FIGHTER JOCK

[Thought you'd like to know that] First Lieutenant Karen F. Tribbett, USMC, graduated number-one in ceremonies at U.S. Naval Base, Meridian, Miss., and has been assigned FA-18 transition 8 Jan 98 at El Toro, Calif. Her permanent duty station expected to be Miramar, Calif. Her husband, First Lieutenant Christopher J. Tribbett USMC, is a data systems officer for Marine Corps Base, Pendleton, Calif.

Sherry J. Fuller
Ameliasys.com

RADICAL RADS?

I was watching the TV show *Investigative Reports*, and the subject of the show was the use of depleted uranium rounds and the supposed health effects of the uranium that had been vaporized as the round struck its target. There were several dramatic examples of radiation readings being taken and statements from various people who claimed to be victims of heavy metal poisoning.

I have come to depend on *SOF* for the straight story about anything concerning the military world, so I would like to hear your views on this subject.

Are we sending our kids into the battlefield without the knowledge to keep them safe? Or is this just another "assault weapon" type of story (all noise and no real world facts)?

My son is in the 1st Cav at Ft. Hood, Tex, so I have more than a slight interest.

Keep up the good work!

Gary D. Smith

The amount of radiation in depleted uranium, as opposed to enriched uranium as used for fission or fuel, is an order of magnitude less. As for its long-term or short-term toxic effects, we frankly do not know, although most doctors will hasten to tell you that the only good ionizing radiation is no ionizing radiation. We do know that our APCs wiped by friendly fire in the last Gulf War, with DU rounds, were flagged off as a radiation hazard, as we had photos of them. That, of course, may have just been an attempt to keep folks away from something we didn't really want to talk about.

DU shot was at one time used in silenced revolver rounds designed for offing tunnel

The California Tax Revolt

We, the pro-gunners of America, have the power to launch a state-by-state tax revolt!

When the enemy attacks, two things are targeted: the weapons depot and the gold supply. Take the weapons and they cannot fight! Take the gold (their paychecks) and they cannot restock the weapons depot! A poor opponent is much easier to enslave! Those who seek to disarm America are well aware of this fact! **Let's take a glimpse into the future:** Buy a gun? Not hardly! It was only with the greatest effort that Johnny could afford to feed and clothe his family, as 84% of his wages were, by design, taken in taxes. At midnight of July 4, 2076, the political elite ordered the round up of them thar Constitutionalists. Johnny and his family were quickly taken. No shot was heard around the world! A few days later, the Bill of Rights was repealed! Where have all the pro-gunners gone? Gone to concentration camps, every one! The real reason for tracking gun ownership!

We can allow ourselves to be divided, taxed into poverty, disarmed, defeated, and eventually enslaved, or we can unite in an effort to take back America in the same manner it was created, i.e., state-by-state rebellion.

The California Tax Revolt is financed through book and t-shirt sales.

No, Virginia, there is no Santa Claus! Tax revolts must be financed!

"We mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

YOUR TAX REVOLT DOLLARS AT WORK

"I'm pro-gun and I vote," declares publisher Keith Pullman. During *The California Tax Revolt*: "For every book sold, one dollar will be donated to my favorite national pro-gun association; for every t-shirt sold, one dollar will be donated to my favorite California pro-gun association; my annual income as publisher will be limited to \$40,000; and 100% of the remaining net profit will be used to place ads similar to this ad, until such time as a sufficient number of books and t-shirts have been sold to realize enough of a net profit to pay the entire cost of putting *The Best System of Taxation Ever Devised* on the California ballot," states Pullman.

THE BOOK UNITED WE SIT, AMERICA outlines, in a humorous and politically incorrect way, *The Best System of Taxation Ever Devised*. The monetary value of things, including income, is not taxed in any way, shape or form, and the efficiency of the system reduces the local, state, and federal taxes of virtually every individual and business by 50% or more! To be even more specific: personal and real property, sales, excise, capital gain, inheritance, unemployment, disability, income, social security, and medicare taxes are eliminated. All tax related payroll deductions are eliminated. All permit, license, entry, user, etc., fees are eliminated. All existing forms of raising revenue, at all levels of government, are eliminated, and the manner in which revenue can be raised is limited. How, then, is revenue raised? The tax liability of every individual and business is determined in the same manner at all levels of government, based on the perpetual existence of three carefully chosen objects, which are owned and/or used on a daily basis by every individual and business in the world. The number of objects owned or used is proportional to the wages and desires of each individual (you can choose how much you want to pay in taxes), and the size and physical function of each business.

THE T-SHIRT The I sponsored *The California Tax Revolt* t-shirt is just plain fun!

What about the IRS and IRS clone agencies? They're terminated! That's billions of man-hours saved!

THE CALIFORNIA TAX REVOLT IS AN ECONOMIC WEAPON! Putting billions of dollars and man-hours back into our piggy banks equals proportional increases in our economic and political powers, and individual liberties. What could you do with the money from a reduction in your local and state taxes of 50% or more? Spend it on yourself and your loved ones! Pay off your debts! Make larger and more frequent donations to your favorite pro-gun associations and constitutional candidates, to fight the fight against those who seek to disarm America!

IT'S A STATE-BY-STATE, DISCOUNTED, TAX-DEDUCTIBLE TAX REVOLUTION

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people." California isn't the only state that has an initiative process, and it's a proven fact that what happens in California is looked at very closely by all the states, as well as by Congress. Thus, the social, economic, and competitive nature of *The Best System of Taxation Ever Devised* will carry it over to the remaining states, and on to the "federal" level. Of course, a little outside help never hurts! Is it possible to turn *The California Tax Revolt* into *The Colorado Tax Revolt*? *The Washington Tax Revolt*? *The Oregon Tax Revolt*? And so on? You bet! And it's on Pullman's list of things to do! "We can hang together or we can hang separately," mused Ben Franklin. Not a Californian? Neither were the Founding Fathers! Pitch in and help kick it off! California first, and then on to the other states!

3,700 pro-gunners per state ordering 1 gift combo are about all it will take to finance *The California Tax Revolt*!

"Government is not reason. Government is not eloquence. It is force. Like fire, it is a dangerous servant, and a fearful master." G. W.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TAX REVOLUTION

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rats in Vietnam, and was under study as a possible substitute for lead shot used on migratory waterfowl. This would imply that, although it is nearly the heaviest of metals, its "heavy metal" toxicity may be less than its potential radiation hazard. Both the DU AP rounds and the DU armor our tanks use work because uranium is so incredibly dense (although brittle). It works so well in these roles, it may be that the trade-off for a certain level of toxicity is worth it in the long run.

In short, we can only speculate, as this is out of our field — but we solicit scientific input from our best research resource, our readers.

OILY, OILY AUCTION FREE?

While visiting a friend at Ft. Stewart, Georgia, I had the privilege of being given a tour of a cavalry motorpool. Since I was a tanker in Vietnam, C troop 1/4th Can in 1966, I was excited to be able to see and touch the M1A2 and the Bradley. When we were leaving I noticed that every vehicle in the motor pool had a large coffee can under it, the purpose, I was informed, being to collect any fluids dripping from the vehicle.

We came across a vehicle that fluid had over filled the can and the officer I was went into as, what I'll call a fit, a controlled fit but still a high level of alert. They informed me that the EPA, if they found the leak would impose a very large,

\$50,000 fine on the base's budget.

Is this where some of our defense money is going? What is the total amount of fines imposed on our military for such "spills"?

The officers asked me how I would have handled a situation like that 30 years ago and I laughed that our M48A2s and 3 dripped at the very least a quart a mile. I wonder how much money is easy pickin's for the EPA at the service bases throughout the world and where does that money derived from fines get re-cycled to? Just some input from an old scout.

Thanks, Jack Callahan

Doggoned if we know, Jack, but it's an intriguing question, isn't it? Anybody out there know?

PUNCH ME, KICK ME, HURT ME

I agree for the most part with the writer of the letter in this month's FLAK: "Soldier of Fortune, Inc." STINKS ON ICE!!! I watched the first episode and was appalled that you would lend your name to such a piece of trash! The characters are generic and juvenile, their missions are asinine, and the dialogue is laughable! I expected more from folks who have consistently been the self-appointed "Bullshit Police" of armed conflict in the modern world. After watching this tripe, I seriously have to reconsider

your analysis of that idiot Frank Dux!!! You have always stood up against those who thought your publication to be reactionary and pure fantasy, but to flog this show to your loyal readers can only be likened to a confidence scam. You got paid: let it go now, and pray you can regain your composure in the eyes of your readers ...

Frank Booth

Whew! Was it good for you too, Frank? Want to do us again? The show was renewed for another year ...

COUNTER-BATTERY REQUESTED

FLAK belongs to you, the readers. We merely manage it as a sacred trust, to bring even more truthfulness and light to the world. Therefore, always welcome are your: gripes, kudos, comments regarding *SOF*; your requests/ideas for *SOF* features; updates or corrections of what you saw in *SOF*; your thoughts/comments on the national/international scene; any questions on any topic that would be of interest to you and other readers — et cetera. Please come right to the point; be concise — we don't have space to publish long letters, no matter how worthy they may be. Write: FLAK, 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Suite A-5, Boulder, CO 80303. Webwons can e-mail us at: editor@sofmag.com. ✉

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WORLD SITREP

1 UNITED STATES

More nuke policy: Clinton signs nuclear weapons policy to allow U.S. to use nuclear weapons in retaliation for chemical or biological strikes. Clinton abandons prior claim air strikes could eliminate Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, saying strike could only delay Iraq. Nations/organizations opposing U.S. force in Iraq: Arab League, China, Cuba, Egypt, France, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Lebanon, Malaysia, Non-aligned Movement, Organization of Islamic Conference, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Syria, Vatican, Vietnam, World Council of Churches, Yemen. Those in favor: Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Britain, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Kuwait, Portugal, Poland, Slovenia, Sweden. • **Lying recruits:** Army recruiters begin policy of calling local police to check on recruits before sending them to basic training. Policy responds to failure of 1,300 recruits per year failing to admit previous criminal records, which are found weeks later in routine background checks. • **Adultery club:** Clinton nominates Air Force General Joseph Ralston for second term as Vice Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff. Adultery charges earlier prevented Ralston's nomination as chairman.

2 RUSSIA

Big threat: Yeltsin warns U.S.-Iraqi conflict may ignite global nuclear war. Parliament warns any strike on Iraq to derail ratification of START-2 nuclear weapons treaty. Russia insists U.N. resolutions don't allow U.S. force against Iraq, a point disputed by U.S. • **New Air Force:** Five new fighter aircraft under development at Russia's two main aircraft bureaus. West has only four similar programs under way. Russians expect new Air Force to include heavy fighter and lighter, smaller aircraft, to parallel U.S. efforts to field F-22 and JSF simultaneously. • **Space Stations:** Government says Mir space station to stay operational until Space Station Alpha manned in mid-1999.

8 SOUTH AFRICA

Truth Commission: ANC admits to Apartheid-era bombings; asks Truth Commission for amnesty. ANC admission reverses earlier claim that government staged bombings to discredit ANC. • **JCI,** among world's top gold producers, collapses amid allegations financier Mizi Khumalo, first black to head it, mismanaged. Collapse escalates fears of black empowerment. • South Africa's Defense Forces announce plans to cut 24,000 troops from 94,000 in next few years.

7 CONGO

Looting spree: Head of Criminal Investigation Department killed in dispute about collecting arms from militias. Militia members loyal to Ngesso go on looting spree for being rejected for induction into new army.

10 IRAQ

Fighting words: Saddam Hussein says food rations below minimum requirements due to U.S. obstruction of food contracts. Russia and China complain top U.N. arms inspector Richard Butler speaks to media before briefing Security Council. Butler claims Iraq has enough bioweapon-armed missiles to "blow away Tel Aviv — or whatever." Iraq complains comment is plot to organize combined U.S.-Israeli attack. • **Carrier shuffle:** U.S. carrier *Nimitz* leaves Gulf, heads to Norfolk, Va., ending speculation U.S. to keep three carriers in Gulf for strike against Iraq. U.S. carrier *Independence* arrives in Gulf. Carrier *John C. Stennis* to replace carrier *George Washington*.

15 SWEDEN

Alarming Soviet weapon: Military tests new Russian-built High Power Microwave (HPM) briefcase-sized bomb. Bomb does not explode, but produces 10-gigawatt pulse to damage or destroy computers or electronic components — such as radar and power stations, and telephone systems — within a dozen meters. Larger truck-mounted version has range of several hundred meters, while smaller pistol-size version can destroy electronic equipment from point-blank range. Weapon is major concern to security agencies world-wide, as no treaties or sanctions cover "non-violent" weapons. Weapon considered helpful tool to terrorists.

14 PHILIPPINES

Peace talks: Seven die in clashes between Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and army. Government pulls troops 4km from MILF main camp at Abubakar and halts logging near camp to allow peace talks. • **Communist attacks:** Security on power plants increased to forestall attacks by communist New People's Army. Government reaches agreement with Philippine communist party in the Hague on human rights and international law.

13 ZIMBABWE

Food riots: Government withdraws troops from streets as food riots subside. White farmers offer alternative to government plans to confiscate their land. Government fails to move forward with its own plans because international donors and investors express opposition to any idea of confiscating land.

3

CHINA

Muslim executions: Government executes 11 Muslim separatists in Xinjiang. • Three U.S. religious leaders tour China to investigate religious freedom; Chinese government bars media from tour. • Government admits tens of thousands of soldiers transferred to army security police units. • Tan Li arrested for organizing union. • **Hong Kong harbor:** Hong Kong continues confiscating military equipment and transiting harbor without proper paperwork, including Chinese armored personnel carrier, rocket fuel shipped from North Korea to Pakistan, artillery pieces shipped from North Korea to Syria, and American Sidewinder missile launch rail shipped from China to Israel.

4

COLOMBIA

Drug violence: Car bomb destroys police station in Viota. Violence in early 1998 kills 11 soldiers, nine police, 20 civilians and 11 rebels. *FARC* rebels predict they will take over country within six years, vowing to kill 200 mayors if they don't resign. Cano Limon pipeline blown up in February by *ELN* rebels. *ELN* destroys 50 vehicles between Barracabermeja and San Alberto.

5

MEXICO

Democratic leader killed: Leader of pro-Zapatista Democratic Assembly of the People of Chiapas killed. Zapatistas reject meeting with interior (police) Minister Francisco Labastida, claiming he launched police and Army sweeps in region. • **Dirty war:** Popular Revolutionary Army announces new 11-state offensive to protest "dirty war" against indigenous people and demand new constitution. • Interior Minister Labastida denies report by Washington Times linking him to drug traffickers. • **Corrupt cops:** Clinton says corruption rampant in Mexico's police. Police in Juarez and El Paso cooperate to close border as escape route for criminals. Mexico rejects U.S. drug-certification procedure.

6

SUDAN

Rebel offensive: Southern *SPLA* rebels launch offensive, attacking Way, Aweil and Qoqriyal. Rebels seize Wau airport. Offensive led by Major General Kerbino Kuanyen, a defector to the government in 1997. Kuanyen returned to *SPLA* side with most of his troops.

9

IRAN

Iraq's defected planes: Iranian government suspected to have following military aircraft which fled there during Gulf War: 12 MiG-23s, 4 MiG-29s, 40 Su-22s, 22 Su-24s, 7 Su-25.-AW&STs.

11

LIBYA

Bomb indictments: French judge charges Libyan intelligence with 1989 bombing of French DC-10 over the Sahara. Judge signs indictments against six Libyans, including Qaddafi's brother-in-law.

12

JAPAN

Air base plans: Okinawa rejects proposed offshore U.S. Marine helicopter base, ruining plans to close Futenma air base in exchange for new platform (500 X 1,600 meters). Okinawa still wants Futenma closed, but no replacement built. Tateo Kishimoto, supporter of new offshore base, wins special election as mayor of Nago.

17

ROMANIA

Massive army cuts: Armed forces to be cut by 12,700 of 200,000 military personnel this year in effort to free funds for modernization. State official says army oversized for present resources, and government wants smaller "more professional" army to meet NATO standards.

16

IRELAND

Hearing problems: Irish Army, reputed for efficiency and effectiveness in U.N. peacekeeping operations, faces compensations claims equal to \$720 million in U.S. dollars that threatens to hamstring 13-strong organization. Claims come from current and former army personnel who claim suffering from deafness, sunburn and food poisoning. Army officials say the claims are spurred by solicitors who advertise to soldiers. They claim no other country in the world has ever faced hearing claims on such a large scale.

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.

BULLETIN BOARD

SOG PHOTOS SOUGHT

A truly fine photographic history of SOG is being assembled by former SOG sniper and author Major John Plaster, USA (Ret.). Plaster has collected some 200 photos and slides thus far, and at



courtesy Robert Lohr

his own expense is making complete sets of copies and supplying them to the Army Center for Military History and the JFK Special Warfare Museum, so that future generations can access a cataloged collection of SOG photos. A portion of the proceeds of the book are being donated to the George Morton Scholarship Fund.

Additional photos are sought of the following topics:

- Medal of Honor, DSC recipients
- MIA and KIA Personnel
- HF or Recon Combat Ops

Elbe River, 1945? No, a Baltimore/Washington-area rifle range where for the past three years re-enactors have conducted their annual WWII service rifle match. Paul Martin, left, outfitted as a Soviet infantryman and armed with an SVT-40, is greeted by Robert Lohr wearing the Screaming Eagle patch of the 101st Airborne. Area history buffs interested in participating can call Lohr at 301-428-9450.

- Any action in/over North Vietnam
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Continued on page 17

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“All Your Fancy Fighting Skills Won't Earn You An Extra Second Against This Devastating New Natural Streetfighting System!”

Why are black belts, boxers, Ju Jitsu wrestlers... and especially those silly macho “military” guys who *claim* to be so tough... scared to death when faced with this amazingly simple new fighting secrets?

Dear Friend,

My name is Bob Pierce... and I have *serious* “inside” knowledge about every “new” fighting system that’s ever been “hyped” in this magazine. I have *financed* the marketing for many of these systems... I’m well-known in all the important military, martial art and military circles. (My contacts include former Navy SEAL and Army Special Forces, plus guys who train SEALs, FBI and CIA agents, big city SWAT police, and special “black bag” operatives the government doesn’t want you to know about.)

I don’t seek these men out. These hotshots come to *me*... often *begging* for a chance to show me their “stuff”.

Well, let me tell you something. You need to hear this: Almost *all* those super-hyped fighting systems are...

Pure Over-Rated Garbage!

Real fighting... especially the vicious, no-rules attacks and fights *you’re* every likely to see in the street... has *changed forever!* Almost *everything* you know is obsolete, and I don’t care how long you’ve been training or who you’ve trained with.

Worse... if you are ever forced to actually use anything you’ve learned — and if you’re like 99% of the guys out there trying to put together a few “guaranteed” skills to protect yourself and your family — you *will* likely get hurt if you attempt to use any *fancy stuff* against an experienced streetfighter or mugger.

Every fighting system I’ve seen is just *too damned complicated* to *master* in a reasonable time (and they’re just *lying* to you if they say different!) Those military guys are the *worst* too... anyone who *knows* the SEALs and Army “elite” special forces work knows these soldiers use *weapons* to fight with... **NOT their hands!** Hand-to-hand streetfighting is the *least important skill* they need or seek... and they learn a few “basic” hand-to-hand skills almost as an *afterthought!*

The truth is, when these “elite” soldiers are pitted against an experienced, world-class streetfighter...

They Lose!

I’d almost *given up* trying to find an *honestly* simple fighting system that was easy to master (not just “learn”)... and that I could *count on* if I was forced to defend myself.

And then I stumbled on something... I think

you’ll find it interesting, also.

Let me tell you a very short story that may be the most important one you ever hear in your life: Just outside of Tulsa, Oklahoma, there’s a beat-up warehouse where certain “unusual” types of people like to gather. If you’re a stranger out here, you’re not just unwelcome...

You’re Meat!

And it’s very easy to tell if you’re not one of the “in” group: These guys shave their heads and tattoo *swastikas* on their scalp. They’re permanently pumped with a steroid-and-amphetamine rage. They wear jack boots, carry chains, knives and baseball bats... and they never, *ever* fight fair. All fights are three, four, or a *dozen* to one.

They’re Skinhead Neo-Nazi’s... probably the most *vicious* and *dangerous* punks roaming America. (Compared with Skinheads, an inner-city Compton gang of Crips or Bloods look almost like *Boy Scouts*.) Skinheads never need a *reason* for violence — just being alone and close enough to jump will make you an instant victim.

These Sick Jerks Actually Enjoy Hurting And Humiliating People!

Anyway, on this particular night an ordinary-looking man named Chris Clugston made the mistake of driving out to this isolated warehouse. He thought he was going to see a band play music, maybe find a nice girl to dance with, have some fun on a hot summer night. He didn’t have much money on him — after paying the “cover” to get inside and ordering a beer, all he had left was *one little nickel* in his pocket. Remember that — a single nickel. Not even enough to leave as a tip at the makeshift bar.

Chris didn’t know what to make of all the skinheads giving him the “evil eye”. He thought they just had really bad haircuts and silly taste in clothes. He felt no fear... in fact, as he passed a table of them, he reached out and good-naturedly rubbed one of them on the scalp. “Nice haircut, fella,” he said.

Three skinheads stood up and quickly cornered him. The band played on.

Now, you have to get this scene right to understand the *importance* of what happened next: The *smallest* of the three Skinheads coming at Chris was his same size; the others were taller, more muscular, heavier. They were reaching for objects in their pockets (it was too dark to see clearly) smiling with relish for the stomping they expected to hand out. No

one in the warehouse had the slightest urge to help or stop the fight. There was nowhere for Chris to escape.

In less than a second, he suddenly realized he was about to be jumped by three experienced streetfighters... and if he didn’t do something right *NOW*...

His Life Wasn't Worth Much More Than That Nickel In His Pocket!

Well, what would *you* have done? You know, in your heart, you run the risk every day of being in the same situation... cornered by punks who want to do you (and your *family*, too, if they’re nearby) *serious* harm! It’s not even connected to robbery anymore — they don’t want your nickel, they want the thrill of stomping your face into hamburger.

It could be in a parking lot downtown, in a movie theatre, outside your local Seven-Eleven...

Or In The Cool Darkness Of Your Own Bedroom, Late At Night!

Have you *seriously* thought about what will happen to *you* during *real-life* crunch time... where *your* life (and that of your loved ones) aren’t worth a plugged nickel?

Back in that lonely Tulsa warehouse, Chris didn’t have *time* to think. He didn’t *need* to... in a *blink*, he turned that nasty situation around 180 degrees... and those three Skinheads, *even though they were poised and ready to attack*, found themselves suddenly thrust into a world of pain and confusion. But Chris didn’t use anything that even *remotely* resembles karate, or Judo, or Tai Kwan Do, or even boxing or wrestling. No. Instead...

Chris Did Something These Experienced Fighters Had Never Seen Before... And Hope They Never See Again!

There were other Skinheads in that old warehouse that night... *but they didn’t bother Chris!* Not after they saw what he did (with an absolutely chilling calm and sense of confidence) to those three streetfighters who cornered him! There was something in his eyes... something the *first* 3 punks missed in the dim light... that now warned the rest of them away.

The fight didn’t take three seconds... because while two of the Skinheads went down hard *immediately*, the third broke and

ran, and Chris couldn't catch him! These guys have been spotted around Tulsa occasionally since then, and they're still "jumpy". There isn't a flicker of that punk fire left in their eyes. Even the guy that got away (thanks to his reflexes of sheer, pants-wetting FEAR) won't go near anyone who even vaguely looks like Chris anymore.

The people who saw what Chris Clugston did that night all report the same thing: It was like nothing they'd seen before... the quick moves looked *too easy and simple* to have actually worked...

And Yet The Results Were Instant And Devastating Beyond Belief!

What Chris (the most normal-looking and likable guy you'll ever meet) used is the *strangest fighting technique imaginable* — unlike anything you have ever seen before... and yet (for guys like you and me) it is absolutely the most *ruthless and effective fighting style ever devised!*

- Hard-core streetfighters end up being *bullied* by people half their size using this system!
- Trained boxers *can't land a punch!*
- Wrestlers the size of Jabba the Hut get tossed into walls like puppies by women!
- Karate black-belts *never get a chance to strike...* and any *defensive* move they make only gets them hurt more seriously!
- Even the *highest-level* "elite" training in the U.S. military won't help a soldier last beyond a *few seconds* in hand-to-hand combat against this new, utterly-unique fighting system!

I never, never want to feel what it's like to be on the *other end* of this amazing stuff! Nevertheless, once you see how it's done, you'll see that this new fighting system is:

- Incredibly easy to master in short time! (People who have only been *shown* these moves — and never actually *done* them — have nevertheless had tremendous success in "crunch time"... with *devastating results* for their attackers!)
- So simple you can actually "learn it and forget it"... and yet it will be there for you whenever you need it! (There are only 6 components to the *entire* system... *less* to remember than most karate schools have for *one fancy kick!*) In fact, you can learn more intense fighting skills in *one short hour* than you'd learn in a *month* of "formal" martial arts!
- And yet these fighting secrets require *no special strength, speed or coordination to get started!* (*Everything* you need, Chris can teach you in about the time it takes to eat a big meal!)

I knew this was something you'd want to know about right away. This new system — Chris calls it "Combat JKD" — is *nothing* like those complicated "official" fighting systems... you know, the kind of "altered self-defense" used by guys in uniforms (who do all *their* fighting with automatic weapons in desert battlegrounds and jungles, and almost *never* hand-to-hand on pavement or on a porch or from inside a car... where *you'll* be needing the best skills you can get!). No. This is a *completely different way of fighting in the street*, where *you'll* likely be if you ever need help.

I think what Chris has is just perfect for guys like you and me. Perfect because you don't need to train much... you can use what

you learn immediately... and (because it's so incredibly simple)...

You Will Face Any "Situation" With A Steel-Eyed Calm Confidence You've Never Experienced Before!

In fact, this "Combat JKD" Chris teaches is *so* different that the results of *real encounters* I've discovered by his students (so far he's only taught about two dozen people) are almost too amazing to be real. For example:

- A young man named Mike Farrell (who *maybe* weighs 160 pounds soaking wet) begged Chris to teach him his fighting secrets after Mike was jumped and beaten senseless by a gang of 20 black guys in a Denny's parking lot. Mike wasn't what you'd call a "good student"... but he learned enough so that, when a 230-lb. truck driver tried to take him down, Mike instinctively reacted with a *single, indefensible move* that sent the monster flying (literally, feet, body, hands off the ground!) backwards and into a steel door. People inside later said it sounded like a canon going off. *There was no need for any other action* — one quick move and the "fight" was over. "Hey," Mike told me, "this stuff really works!"

- A bouncer called "C.C." in a Mid-West bar was pushed outside by 3 drunks who didn't like being told to quiet down. Ordinarily, even an experienced bouncer would have had trouble in that situation, but in this case C.C. mangled the first drunk so quickly, and with such *off-hand viciousness and authority*, that the other two ran off. (A lot of would-be fighters run when faced with the terrible certainty of Chris's new fighting methods!)

- Recently, at a local "hip" hangout, a couple of steroid-pumped fraternity boys decided that because they were young, privileged and beefy and this one scraggly-looking guy *wasn't*, he deserved to be beat up. Wrong — the frat boys picked on one of Chris's students... and now they don't talk so loud anymore, don't strut like roosters. Two jerks, two simple moves (that didn't look like much, and certainly didn't cause Chris's student to break a sweat)... equals one fight *over with* in a couple of seconds!

- Perhaps *more relevant*, however, than all the stories I could tell you... is this: When Chris recently trained alongside a group of U.S. military Special Forces soldiers... I can't use their names (security reasons), but they represented the top schools of the Army, Navy... he received the *highest compliment* ever paid to a civilian by these hard-ass soldiers. One of the super-elite "18-Zulu" Group sergeants took the others aside (after watching Chris train for a bit) and told these top soldiers to never, ever mess with this guy... because...

All Their Fancy Hand-To-Hand Combat Training Wouldn't Earn Them An Extra Second In A Real, Balls-Out Fight With Chris!

I know what you're thinking — if this "Combat JKD" is so great...

Why Is It Still Such An Astonishing Secret!

The answer's easy. It's *not* secret — this new fighting system simply did not exist until a few

short years ago... and the few people who do know about it are in no hurry to share their unique, viciously-effective secrets!

Chris Clugston — as far as I know — is the *ONLY man in the world* who was in a position to take modern fighting methods... and create new "twists" to them that are so innovative... so amazingly *natural* (you'll never feel awkward or have trouble learning *any* of it)... and so *instantly devastating*... that what he wound up with is an *entirely NEW way to fight*. *None* of his methods would be allowed in the boxing ring, or in a karate match, or in *any* kind of fight...

Where The "Rules" Say You Must At Least Give The Other Guy A Chance To Hit You Back!

This is the most honestly brutal, *barn-BAM-*and-you're-*done* kind of fighting you could ever imagine... and the best part is, it's *especially* easy for "non-fighting" types of people to master quickly!

That's because Chris Clugston spent a *lifetime* searching where no one thought to look for the simplest fighting secrets of the world. Here's the story:

- Streetfighting has been his overriding passion since he was 12 years old. (He earned black belts in 5 different martial arts before he was 20!) He even learned 7 languages so he could travel the world and uncover new styles of fighting and techniques *that hadn't reached the U.S. yet!*
- In East Germany, he worked his way inside the *most elite scientific-research organizations in the world*. The Soviets have training systems for hand-to-hand combat that are *light-years* ahead of us... with amazing techniques...

That Actually "Imprint" Brutally-Effective Fighting Skills Directly Into Your Nervous System!

- It's like *loading a computer with raw data...* so, *without conscious effort*, you can "download" amazingly advanced skills straight into your body's muscles and nerves in an incredibly short time! The result is a *shortcut* in your "learning curve" — which means you can learn in *hours* what others need *years* to master!
- Chris fought professionally for over 8 years (*twice* as long the average pro)... becoming one of the world's most *accomplished* fighters! (He was *Number One World Rated in Shoot Boxing* for 1991-1992... *American Kickboxing Colorado Champ* for 2 years... as well as *Maximum Total Light Heavy Champ*, *despite* fighting in a higher weight class!)

He also won over 50 vicious, no-rules streetfights during this time. This is how he realized how *stupid* it is to master any martial art style that has rules (no kicking in boxing, no strangling in wrestling, no head-punches in karate... and ridiculous time-limits in all of them!). *The real world of streetfighting has no rules!* Even the most brutal-looking "official" fighting systems can actually get you *killed* in the street... and the "confidence" you get from years of dedication to any formal training...

Is A Total Sham!

- And then, about a decade ago, Chris was invited to "try out" with perhaps the *most secretive group of people in the U.S.* — a small,

almost fanatical "fringe" bunch of fighters who had developed a combat-oriented system that emphasized simple moves... and brutally-quick endings to every fight. (This is about as far from "sport" fighting as you can get!) *No one* gets into this "secret society" without a personal invitation... and the initiation rites are too astonishing to even talk about here.

Nevertheless, this "over-the-top" fighting style was what Chris had been searching for! But because of his travels... his Soviet training... and all his professional insights... plus all the "official" martial art know-how he had... Chris brought something NEW to the table that even these hyper-secret fighters didn't understand.

What Chris discovered was this: Even the most cutting-edge fighting styles (like the ones used by the military) were still shackled with moves based on centuries-old situations involving fencing, stick-fighting and ritualized combat! These systems, though seemingly "modernized", still use only about 75% of your maximum fighting ability!

So he really had no choice. He was forced to create an entirely NEW fighting system... one that took the simplest moves of the best styles... and "blended" them with the scientific insights of the last few years to make...

A Natural, Utterly-Simple Fighting System That Can Defeat Any Other Fighter Instantly!

Of course, using this new system is not going to make you any friends. Everyone, it seems, *hates* Chris — martial artists hate him because he shows their formality up as *total B.S.*... boxers and wrestlers hate him because all their neat skills *vanish* before the onslaught his new style throws at them... the military guys hate him because they're embarrassed that a civilian "aced them out" on the advanced Soviet fighting technology (which they *still* don't understand)... and other streetfighters hate him because they *can't strut their stuff* around him.

No one argues with Chris anymore. Not elite military soldiers... not thick, muscled boxers... not murderous street-gang fighters. Because Chris doesn't like to "talk", he likes to "walk". He only has one thing to say to anyone who challenges him:

"Let's Go Outside And Fight Right Now!"

And, for the last few years, *no one's* had the guts to *do* that. He as an OPEN CHALLENGE out to *anyone* who thinks they've got a better system. Come on out and scrap with me, he says. They refuse. Chris Clugston's "Combat JKD" has changed streetfighting forever.

You will understand *why* when you see — for yourself — just what this amazing new system is all about. It's the chance of a lifetime for anyone interested in learning fighting skills that immediately "catapult" you in the *highest levels* of the fighting world, practically overnight!

This is what's in it for you: Chris has instructed me to give you an opportunity *no one else in the United States* will be offered, *ever*. He wants you to see his new "Combat JKD" system in action... in a complete, "uncensored" form that the rest of the world will never even hear about... learn the basic (simple) moves

yourself... see how it "fits" on you, and if you like it... *and do it all without having to risk a nickel of your own money!*

He's doing this because, finally, he's fed up with all the "hype" and hysteria out there about the "military-oriented" fighting systems now flooding the market. He knows his new stuff will make those Navy and Army-sponsored systems look *silly*... with less fuss, less learning time, and **more power** than anyone would believe. He wants to show you... so there will be *no doubt in your mind whatsoever*... that "Combat JKD" has changed fighting forever. And all the secrets of it can all be yours... *as soon as you want it!*

Here's how it works: A few weeks ago, Chris submitted himself to a grueling week-long video session, where he revealed — *on tape* — all the most closely-held secrets of his new fighting system. It's the best I've ever seen.

Now, I've been producing self-defense tapes for several years now — including ones by the guys who train the U.S. Navy SEALs, Army RANGERS, big-city police SWAT teams, and even agents in the FBI and CIA. I've used the same film crew for most of these videos. They've seen the BEST... but they were *totally unprepared* for what Chris had to show them. My crew couldn't get enough. (They even stayed after-hours — without pay — just to get a few personal tips from Chris!) I've never seen such intense interest by jaded, "seen that, done that" cameramen and sound guys before!

Most of the crew were *NOT* avid karate or self-defense fans themselves... but when they saw Chris in action they all told me, at the same time...

This Was, Finally, The Simple Yet Utterly Effective "Lazy Man's" Answer For 100% Self-Defense They'd Been Looking For!

They saw — as you will, too — that what Chris teaches can be mastered in the *shortest time humanly possible*... and yet obviously has exactly the kind of vicious fight-ending skills a "normal" man could ever hope for.

You'll see what I'm talking about. Even if you only "scan" these videos once, you'll be changed forever! There are nearly 4 hours of tape here, on two power-packed video cassettes. It's information that was completely unavailable just a few weeks ago, to anyone except the few "insiders" who knew Chris personally. Yet, with the advantages of slow-motion, rewinding and multiple camera angles (we used a state-of-the-art recording studio down in San Diego)... you actually get a **better and more complete education**, in a *shorter* time, than any of Chris's personal students!

You'll get it *cheaper*, too. Chris only takes a few students on every year, and they pay **outrageous fees** to get their personal education in "Combat JKD". It's an enormous risk, financially, for him to offer his secrets so inexpensively to you... but, frankly, he's so angry at all the **bogus** fighting information out there, he doesn't care about his high fees anymore. This is now a matter of **pride**... as a man, you can *easily understand* where Chris is coming from.

Look — here's just a "taste" of what you're about to learn:

- How to use the *billion-dollar secret training technology* developed by the Soviets (which put their athletes light-years ahead of anyone else) to put your fighting coordination and speed "over the top"... even if you haven't got an athletic bone in your body! ■■ Why you should *never* use your fist in a real street fight! (Even trained fighters make this crucial mistake... and risk serious injury that's 100% avoidable!) There's a *better way* to do more damage, **quicker**, with *no risk of hurting yourself* at all! ■■ A "lazy man's" training technique that's so simple, you can *master devastating moves* while watching TV! ■■ How to "expand" your 5 senses so you see *everything* happening around you, *all the time* — it's like having eyes in the back of your head! (This trick can save you enormous amounts of danger and trouble... and make you virtually *undefeatable* in any head-to-head fight!) ■■ Secret "2-minute" training techniques (that's all it takes!) that are guaranteed to make you look ridiculous... but which will pump up your fighting ability (and confidence) 1,000% almost overnight! ■■ New (and *simple*) exercises that actually *install* animal quickness and viciousness **directly** into your muscles and nerves... leaving it *locked* there until you need to spring it loose! (Go from calm to *frightening* in a split second, whenever you choose... or whenever you're threatened!) ■■ The "energy conservation" rules of fighting almost *every* street fighter breaks... leaving you a devastating opening *10 seconds* into any fight no one else will see! ■■ How to use the "two second" **stalking test** to see how trained your opponent is... and *what* he's trained in! (Crucial information to end the fight when you choose!) ■■ The hyper-advanced new fighting stance that *negates all others*... putting you in a position to keep boxers, wrestlers, and even the *dirtiest* fighters on the planet off-balance until you decide to strike! (They'll *never* get "settled" enough to hit you!) ■■ How to *never again* feel uncontrollable emotion (or even sweaty palms) in a tight situation... and how to channel all your adrenaline into purposeful energy that will charge you up like a *bomb*! ■■ Why your *best fighting moves* will come completely *naturally*... forget all that martial art nonsense about needing to train for years to do complicated moves! (The best fighters in the world use only a few simple moves... and routinely knock around karate dudes like they were children!) ■■ How to use the devastating "pop up" push taken from the way tigers hunt in the wild... so effective a *90-lb. woman* can use it to send a Sumo wrestler tumbling! ■■ What to watch when you're eight feet apart (it's *NOT* his eyes — a terrible mistake most fighters make that gets them hurt)... and what to watch **inside the two feet "crunch time" zone**... to keep you a precious step ahead of even *superbly-trained fighters*! ■■ The number one "Dirty Trick" of fighters who want to *decisively* end a fight as soon as possible! ■■ A ridiculously-simple **two-finger takedown** that will instantly bring any opponent, of any size and weight, to his knees! ■■ Leverage secrets (known *only* by students of Clugston's) that multiply every

pound of your weight ten times, giving you "Godzilla" advantages against even a much-heavier opponent! ■■ How to correctly use the "scissor choke" — which 99 of 100 fighters do so incorrectly it actually puts them at risk (instead of providing the fight-ending *certainty* you can have doing it right!) ■■ A 1,000-year-old move (which all but a handful of martial artists never learn about) that will **end the fight instantly** once you get to the ground... even faster than the most famous ju-jitsu move! ■■ How to handle worst-case scenarios: when you're surprised, caught in completely undesirable places, outnumbered... and *worse!* ■■ How to easily and *effectively* destroy your opponent's "wheels"... and why the *standard* karate knee kicks are doomed to fail 7 of 8 times (leaving you exposed and ready to go *down!*) Chris's understanding of "knee take down" fighting is *unsurpassed* by any other fighter on the planet... and he can show you how to *never* be without this fight-ending "out"! ■■ How to master the unbelievably-devastating secrets of the "Axe Kick"! ■■ Instant arm-locks that disable your opponent and let you decide what's next! (Including how to master the *most painful and effective arm lock* a human can suffer!) ■■ The secret of *correct head butts* — it's *not* what you've seen the military guys doing! (If you ever use the *wrong* method, you'll *split your head open*... proof most of those military guys have *never* been in a real hand-to-hand fight!) ■■ The *one take-down* move you will have open to you *every time* a attacker strikes... so simple, so easy to remember, it's like walking around with a cocked and loaded gun! ■■ The "can't lose" kick that does incredible damage *even when you miss completely!* (One of many "fail safe" moves Chris teaches!) ■■ Head-on moves that will *separate you from the boys* in the first second of the fight! (And send even the craziest attacker *running!*) ■■ How an *untrained fighter* tips himself off! ■■ Your *single best "one answer"* move in *any* confrontation — if you never learn anything else from Chris, *this* move will assure you survive almost any one-on-one fight you get into... even with trained fighters! (And it's so simple you don't even have to practice it very much!)

And more... including details so "sensitive" I wouldn't dare list them here for you!

PLUS... you get a very special **FREE** bonus that Chris wants you to have and **KEEP**

as his gift. It's a hour-long video he shot about **knife-fighting** — and, just like everything else he teaches, it's unlike anything you've ever seen before. Chris has been in knife fights... and he learned crucial new information that no other knife-fighter on the planet even has a clue about! No one wants to get in a knife fight... because your chances of surviving without getting cut are not good. But the knife has become such a common "tool" of the criminal attackers, *you absolutely need this advanced look at fighting with knives...* including bare-hands against a knife, and knife-against-knife.

The hyper-advanced fighting skills you learn from Chris have *already helped other people just like you...* in the most dangerous, out-of-control situations you're ever likely to face in the street! You can't walk around in a suit of armor, bristling with guns and knives and hoping you "look" threatening enough to avoid trouble. However, with Chris's help...

You Can Have A "Built In" Protection Device More Powerful Than Guns and Knives... Your Own "Inner Bodyguard" Trained To Devastate Anyone Who Attacks You!

People who have experienced Chris's training methods report a **deep and permanent change in their lives**. It's as if Chris has helped *install another person* inside you... a stronger, more *vicious* and unafraid warrior who won't hesitate a second to eliminate (with all the force necessary) any danger to you!

This is not like the training terrorists go through, however — that turns them into savage beasts that cannot be absorbed back into civilization again. Far from it... Chris's training techniques leave you normal and centered (much like a fighting master should be)... your same old lovable self...

Until The Time You NEED To Unleash That Brutal Warrior Inside You!

It's not even a conscious process! Imagine having little *danger-sensing antennae* (like a Geiger counter) inside you that leap into action even before you consciously understand you are in trouble!

Imagine having the *inner peace and confidence* to be relaxed anywhere in the world... **knowing**

your training and mastery has placed you among the most viciously-effective fighters on the planet if trouble occurs!

You can't *buy* that kind of confidence for any amount of money...

But You CAN Earn It... With Chris's Help!

So how much is Chris's video course going for? It's cheap — *less than you'd pay for two lousy lessons at the local karate school...* less than a big meal for two at a fancy restaurant... less, even, than a decent pair of cowboy boots! Ask anyone who has trained with Chris... they'll tell you how foolish it is to quibble over a few dollars when the result is *learning the most effective fighting skills on the planet!*

Here's what you need to do now: Call 1-800-294-9602 and tell the operator you want to order Chris Clugston's "CombatJKD" video course, Dept. CG-33. It's important to tell them that code, too — *don't forget!* You can use your credit card. The price for this amazing 2-video tape package (plus your **FREE** bonus tape on knife fighting!) is just \$97 plus \$4.50 shipping and handling. (Total: \$101.50) Or, if you prefer to pay by check or money order (payable to Underground Streetfighters Association), simply fill out the enclosed Priority Order Form and send it with your payment to the USA offices at 606 East Acequia, Visalia, CA 93292. Either way, your tapes will be rushed out to you by return mail as soon as we receive your order.

But remember — **you get Chris's personal guarantee on this:** Watch the tapes, at your own pace, in your own home, and learn everything he has... for a full 3 months without risk. Treat the tapes as hard as you like — they're yours for the entire 3 months. If, at the end of that time, you aren't **100% convinced** you've just been training in the most advanced fighting skills you could ever have, simply return the 2 tapes and Chris will see that you get an *immediate refund* of your purchase price. No questions asked. No nonsense... and Chris will still consider you a friend. He respects you enough to let you decide for yourself.

But — even if you decide to return the tapes for a refund, you can still **KEEP** the bonus tape on Knife-Fighting (worth the price of the entire package just by itself!)... as Chris's gift to you, just for giving his videos a look.

That's more than fair... and if you're *serious* about learning fighting skills you can use, wherever you find yourself in trouble... *this is a must-have course!* So far, only a handful of "insider" students (with deep pockets) have gotten this kind of acute attention from Chris.

Here's your chance... if you believe you've got what it takes... to become a master of that same secret fighting technique. **Call now.**

Sincerely,



Robert Pierce
President,
Underground Streetfighters Association

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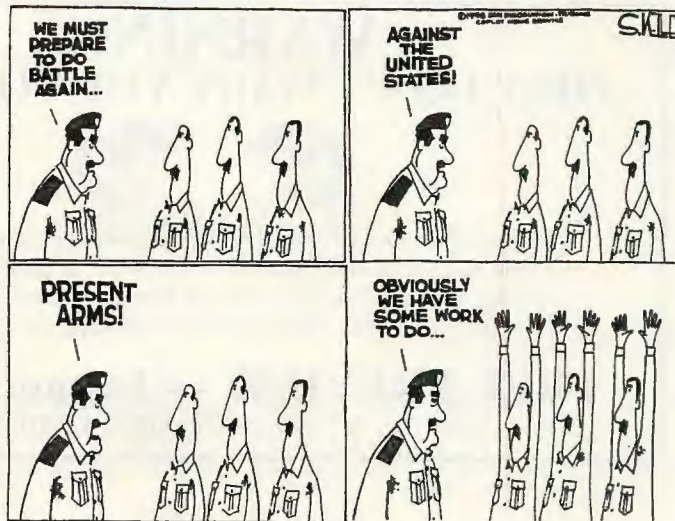
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**BATF DIRECTOR TO RETIRE:
VITA IN LINE FOR JOB**

Sources at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms tell *SOF* that BATF Director John Magaw will retire in October. But the inside favorite to get the post, Andrew L. Vita, now the associate director for enforcement, may lose out to an outside hire. Vita's problem is too much career baggage, the sources said.



His ascension into BATF management from his home-town in Chicago was clouded by allegations that he intervened in an arson investigation against a reputed organized-crime figure with whom Vita's own family has alleged ties.

More recently, Vita was the man in charge at the BATF command center when Special Agents Phil Chojnacki and Chuck Sarabyn phoned from Waco to say that Branch Davidian leader David Koresh knew that a BATF raid was imminent. Chojnacki and Sarabyn, who professed memory lapses as to what was said, were fired in the aftermath of the raid's bloody failure, but were rehired when their attorneys asked for phone records.

Sources tell *SOF* that it was Vita, not Chojnacki and Sarabyn, who made the final decision to go ahead with the raid, even

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6,000 pistols delivered for testing in December were deemed substandard.

S&W apparently didn't help its case with Customs when, asked to address quality control problems cited by Customs, S&W sniffed that the problem was not with the gun itself, but with "limpwristed" shooters testing the firearms.

Law-enforcement market sources quoted by the trade publication *Firearms Business*, which originally reported the contract loss, cited "quality control problems, mainly involving clearances and metal-to-metal fit. It looks like S&W took some short cuts on those guns and took this particular customer for granted." The contract was worth \$2 million to \$2.5 million, *Firearms Business* reported.

S&W, presently owned by the British holding company Tompkins PLC, has had other problems: Smith, which had cozied up to the Clinton administration in its support for trigger locks, withdrew from the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute (SAAMI) over the trigger-lock issue, which SAAMI opposes.

More recently, S&W asked SAAMI, which sets national minimum requirements for ammunition manufacturing, to lower the standard for the .40 S&W cartridge. SAAMI said not just "no," but "hell no." Awww, those SAAMI and Customs are just big, silly meanies.

— JLP

SOLON FEARFUL OF MUSLIMS TRAINED TOO WELL

According to a piece in February's *The American Legion Magazine*, some on Capital Hill are worried that Virginia-based Military Professional Resources Inc. (MPRI) may be doing too good a job of training — and the United States and allies too good a job of rearming — the Bosnian Muslim Army.

"The United States has set the stage for a slaughter of the Bosnian Serbs whenever the Muslims choose to initiate armed hostilities," *Legion* quoted analyst Gerald L. Atkinson, a retired Navy commander and author of two books on military affairs. A former test pilot with a doctorate in nuclear engineering, Atkinson said the Muslim army's American-supplied artillery and armor put their strategic capability far ahead of the Serbs'.

Representative Lee Hamilton, of Indiana, noted that, "Our policy should emphasize reducing forces, not adding weapons to a volatile region already saturated with them." Ranking Democrat on the House International Relations Committee, Hamilton warned that Muslim forces will achieve decisive superiority in a year, and said he wants training by the 170 retired American GIs terminated. No mention was made of the Croatian-oriented Bosnians and their MPRI-trained, U.S.-equipped forces (see related feature, Page 56). ✕

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Feminists have waged war on the United States military, corporate America and even school children for most of the past decade in a witch hunt run wild.

Where are they now?

As predicted in this column, the Monica Lewinsky issue has become a question of whether Americans should care about President Clinton's "personal life." If the public ever sobers from White House spin, perhaps the real issue will surface.

It's sexual harassment, stupid. Having sex on federal property with a subordinate is not, in this country, a personal affair.

If President Clinton had any form of sex at all with former intern Monica Lewinsky, it easily fits the witch hunt's definition of sexual harassment. If he only bought her a dress it will do.

Take a look at some criteria for sexual harassment as published in the 12 Sept. 1997 issue of the *Feminist News*. Any of the following activities, the newspaper contends, may constitute sexual harassment in the military, on the job or in school.

Of the 31 sexual harassment criteria, we've selected 13 that best fit the Clinton/Lewinsky affair. With *SOF's* comments italicized, they include:

- sexual innuendo (*Clinton exceeded this*)
- "accidentally" brushing sexual parts of the body (*inevitable, under the alleged circumstances*)
- pressure for dates (*"meet me in the oval office"*)

- sexually explicit gestures (*again, inevitable*)
- touching and hugging (*seen that clip on TV lately?*)
- demanding, "Hey, baby, give me a smile" (*perhaps Clinton asked for something a bit more substantive, but the point's well taken*)
- inappropriate invitations (e.g., hot tub) (*Again, point well taken*)
- obscene phone calls (*phone sex, Monica?*)
- inappropriate gifts (*here's a new dress, Monica*)
- pressing or rubbing up against the victim (*basically inevitable in this case*)
- soliciting sexual services (*"how 'bout some service, Monica?"*)
- leaning over, invading a person's space (*again, inevitable here*)
- indecent exposure (*inevitable*)

The official feminist Web site (www.feminist.org) features more than 100 headlines in a section devoted entirely to "Sexual Harassment in the Military." Several are stories of women claiming they had consensual sex, but felt compelled to in order to advance. Feminists, understandably, are outraged by such charges.

One story involves an eight-month internal investigation by the Army, in which the results clearly alarmed feminists. The investigation found 84% of women at 59 Army facilities had experienced "unwanted sexual attention," and 51% felt they had experienced sex-based discrimination.

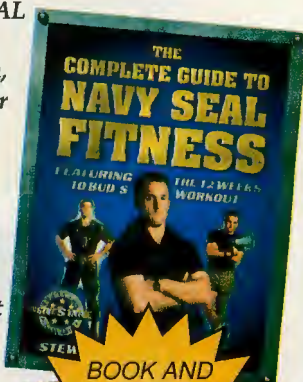
Continued on page 25

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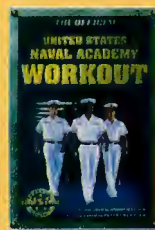
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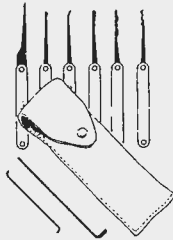
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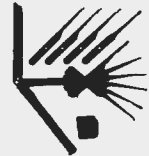
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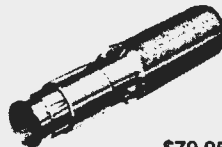
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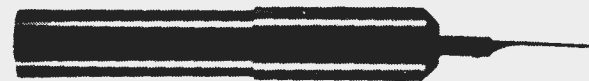


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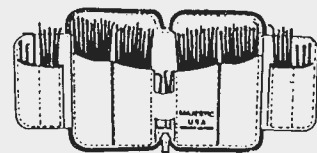
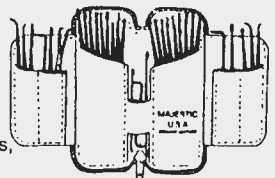
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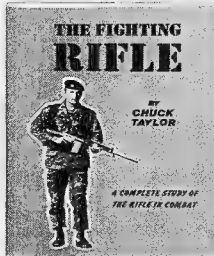
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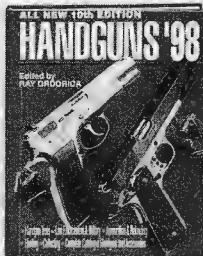
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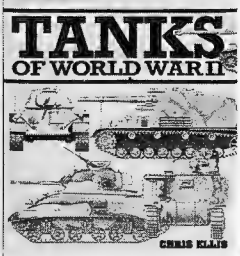
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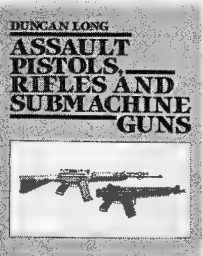
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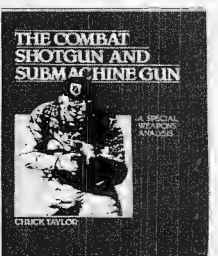
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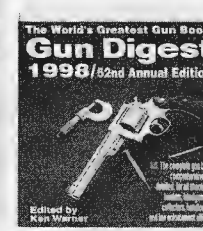
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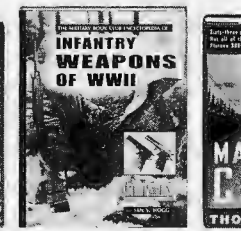
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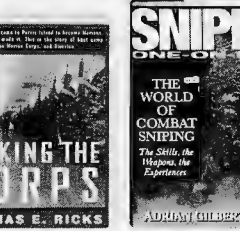
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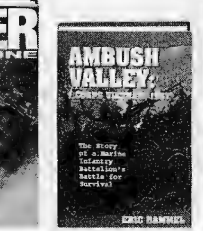
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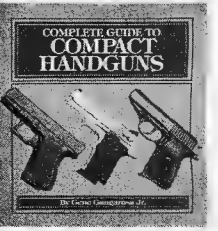
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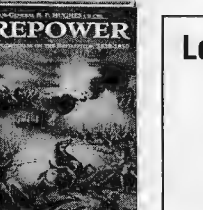
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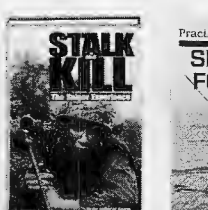


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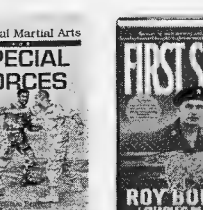


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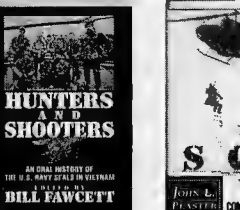
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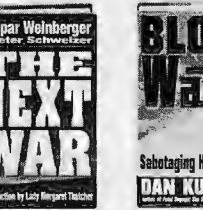
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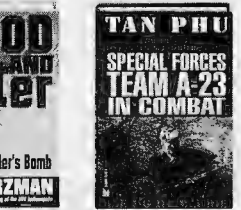
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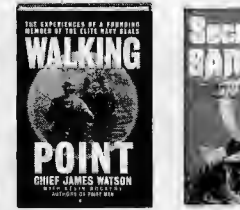
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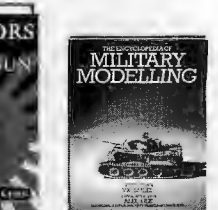
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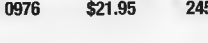
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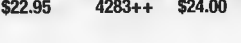
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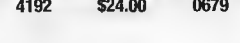
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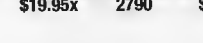
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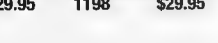
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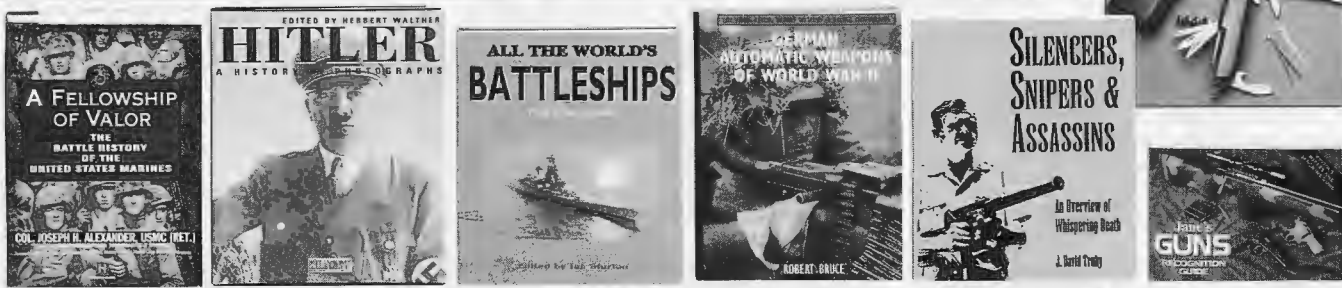


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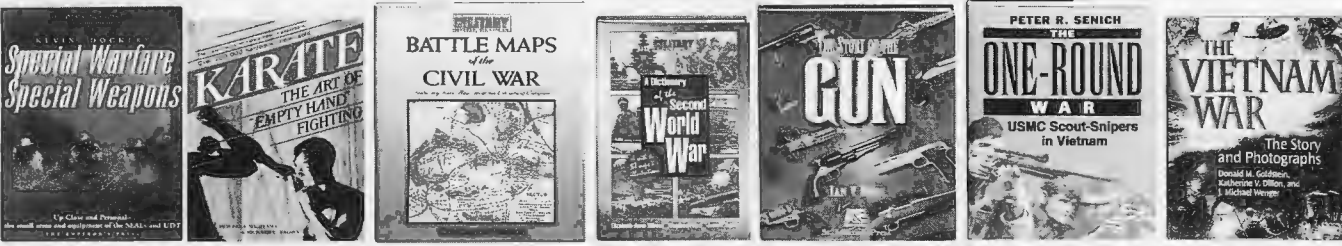
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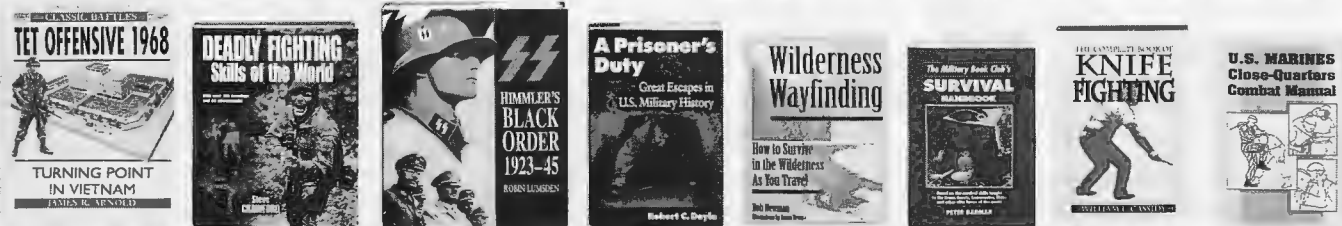
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Creator of Official U.S. Navy SEAL Combat System Releases Brutal New Gun & Knife Sections Of His Instructor Qualification Fighting Series

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.

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Official SEAL SCARS-CFC
Creator Jerry Peterson

Another Army outrage on the site involves seven Army personnel who worked in the 1st Corps Support Command Consolidated Dining Facility at Fort Bragg, N.C. The seven were disciplined for "making inappropriate sexual comments and fraternization." They didn't even have sex.

Even in elementary schools, feminists have targeted young boys for expulsion. Their crime: kissing young girls.

Stories of children punished for flirtation and playground grab ass are not aberrations. Feminists have institutionalized this stuff. A 1993 American Association of University Women (AAUW) study "Hostile Hallways," found 85% of all school girls have been "sexually harassed" at school.

This would alarm most parents, if it weren't for the AAUW's criteria for sexual harassment. Never mind oral sex on public property. The most common complaints of sexual harassment, the report states, involved "inappropriate jokes, looks or gestures," which AAUW contends should all be punishable. Sexually suggestive touching, grabbing and pinching were considered far more outlandish, and less common forms of harassment.

Feminists use these ludicrous, alarmist allegations to attack institutions and traditions they don't like — the military, beloved American cartoons and heterosexual young boys learning to flirt.

It goes from not funny to dangerous when they abandon their witch hunt in the wake of a serious sexual harassment case involving the world's most powerful leader. They've done so because Clinton is a political ally with a long track record of supporting and funding their leftist, self-serving, empire building agenda.

A search on the feminist Web site finds dozens of articles decrying alleged sexual harassment by former U.S. Sen. Bob Packwood, a Republican. Packwood was accused of kissing female staff members, and nothing more. No one accused him of indecent exposure, obscene phone calls or the other lewd exploits inherent to Clinton's dilemma. Yet feminists forced him from the Senate, casting his female subordinates as victims.

The feminist site also carries dozens of articles and editorials about Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. He was accused of "sexual harassment" for talking about pornographic video he supposedly watched at home — a charge he flatly denies. Guilty or not, Anita Hill's charge was a far cry from sex with an employee, half his age, on federal property, violating adultery rules of a military he commands.

Feminists have made no issue of the allegations against Clinton, and have been willing participants in the trashing of Lewinski. A 19 Feb. search of their Web site found no Clinton articles other than those praising his support of feminist causes.

Arguably, the allegations against Clinton represent one of the worst high profile sex-

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ual harassment cases in history. A young woman sexually services Clinton, resulting in gifts, favors, full access to the president and White House, and a good job offer right out of college. The Paula Jones affair isn't much different.

Feminists have embraced the college professor who went public to characterize Lewinsky as a slut. Had he been defending the wrong politician, the professor's affair — with a teenage girl who needed good grades — would be tantamount to rape.

Feminists have ignored the plight of Wash-ington interns who hope to get ahead without without a casting couch. Why aren't these young women paraded as "victims" of a White House that clearly

rewards sexual favors?

Because the feminist campaign on sexual harassment was a ruse. It was a witch hunt against men and traditional American institutions. Along the way, it insulted women — the backbone of most societies — as "victims" who can't even hear about sex without a trip to the court house.

Now the scheme has come full circle to intensify the very evil — sexual harassment — feminists purported to hate. The latest White House scandal, against the utter silence of organized feminists, has sent one message loud and clear: it's now OK for men in authority to sexually exploit young employees, and sexual favors spell career success for women. ☒

I Was There

by Lewis H. (Mike) Williams

War Crimes, Hard Times, And A Pulitzer

I left the Rhodesian army under a cloud of suspicion on 28 February 1978. Since, I've been accused of being a "War Criminal, Guilty Of Crimes Against The People of Zimbabwe."

Apparently, according to in-country sources, my name — together with others — was placed on a rogue's list prepared by the government of Robert Mugabe, a Christian "saint" of impeccable character and new Marxist dictator of the former Rhodesia.

After stewing for 20 years, it's time I set the record straight.

Prior to December 1977, I'd had no more problems in the Rhodesian army than any other Yank, and those mainly related to the hostile U.S. attitude toward the Ian Smith administration.

However, in my case, things were additionally complicated by entries in my 201 file: a record of graduation from Russian Language and Intelligence School, at Oberammergau, Germany, and subsequent assignment to the Soviet Repatriation Commission, in Austria, as a liaison officer and interpreter.

To my Rhodesian hosts, this spelled C-I-A, and from then forward I was eyeballed on a consistent basis.

My problems thickened on a pleasant Salisbury Saturday afternoon at Number 2, Ross Avenue, "The Crippled Eagles Club," the unofficial American embassy, presided over by author Robin Moore, who'd penned *The Green Berets*, *The French Connection* (Parts uno & dos), and *The Happy Hooker* some years before.

Moore's hangout was a "home away from home" for Americans serving in the Rhodesian

security forces, with plentiful weekend hamburgers and french fries served up to satisfy the Yanks' palates.

Journalists, too, were welcomed, often roaming about prowling for interviews from these "mercenaries."

One of these budding Hemingways, J. Ross Baughman, an AP stringer, introduced himself to Robin by dropping the name Horst Fass, one of Moore's comrades from his Vietnam days and a wheel at Associated Press.

Discovering that I was a commander of Grey's Scouts, Baughman sidled up and let fly a blunt request to accompany us on a patrol, a request I flatly squashed. No way in hell was I going to take him anywhere; he'd have to go through routine army media channels — army PRO and ComOps — like any other reporter. Besides, I didn't trust — or like — him: Somehow, his scraggly moustache, coke-bottle glasses, wet fishy handshake and general demeanor put me off.

Three weeks hence, though, he again turned up professing total clearance via ComOps, but with no written permission, without which he was going nowhere, at least with me.

Contacts within the intelligence community passed word to me that the guy wasn't a straight-shooter; he had a Stateside record of being an exposé reporter, moving in, gaining his marks' confidences, then sliding a shiv in their backs through sensationalistic, slanted tabloid-style articles.

A short time later, I received a call from the army public relations officer who advised that Baughman had been granted a ComOps' clearance and that I was to pick him up the following day at the Rhodesia Herald Building — and take him along to our operations area at Lupane Tribal Trust Land.

When we arrived at the Herald, Baughman was engrossed in conversation with a young African, loaded down with sufficient camera



Rhodesian Armed Forces

SOF had a grunt's-eye-view of the controversy thanks to Maj. Mike Williams.



J. Ross Baughman/AP

Journalist Baughman's Pulitzer-winning photograph was in the center of controversy. The Overseas Press Club, in New York City, raised questions about Baughman's conduct: He had worn a Rhodesian soldier's uniform and represented himself as a combat participant to get the pictures.



J. Ross Baughman/AP

gear for a Cecil B. DeMille epic. One look at us, though, pulling up in our Landrover, decked out in cammo uniforms and carrying FN's, the lad rolled his eyes, dropped his gear and sprinted off.

During the trip to Bulawayo, I explained to Baughman that he was on his own; that I wouldn't detach any troops to permanently wet-nurse him, and, should he wish to go on patrol, he'd have to mount whatever horse was available.

As we arrived at the Bulawayo Holiday Inn that evening, I ordered my driver, Corporal Ed Wandell, a former Marine from Chicago, to temporarily look after Baughman; to make certain he was fed and billeted. If the correspondent got drunk, got laid, and stepped in deep-sierra he was flying solo.

During the three-and-a-half-hour ride to Lupane the next morning, Baughman stated he was involved with the black nationalist leader Ndabaningi Sithole, who was to negotiate with Ian Smith on the forming of a new black-majority-rule government.

But my concern lay with J. Ross's incessant fumbling with his UZI.

At our CP, after I made sure that he was barred from the Comms shack and the SitMap, I shipped him to number 3 Troop, 60 kilometers southeast at Sipepa, escorted by Lieutenant Graham Baillie, the troop commander, just 19, tough, aggressive and competent during operations near Myadumbudzi on the Botswana border.

Two weeks later, however, Baughman reappeared, this time accompanied by a sergeant who requested to talk to me — alone. "Sir," he said, "Baughman really got into things." When his troop captured a prisoner, they tied him up and proceeded to search the area. The sergeant claimed that Baughman opted to stay behind, where he allegedly kicked the bound prisoner in the head "a couple of good ones," then heated the bottom of a Lion Ale bottle with a cigarette lighter and ground it into the prisoner's chest.

The reporter pulled another *faux pas* during an approach march to attack a hill occupied by dug-in CTs (Communist Terrorists). Aware of the previous incidents, I wanted J. Ross with me until I could persuade ComOps to recall him. So, after the horses were unloaded and the trucks parked beneath trees, I ordered the troop sergeant to form up the columns on the soft sand on either side of the road to observe noise discipline. Baughman, mounted on a bay gelding named Honcho, was placed directly to my front.

A teenaged Terr prisoner from the group occupying the hill, hands tied behind him, road off as our "point man." If an ambush were planned, he'd likely trigger it.

Desperate, the Terr kicked his horse into a gallop and headed for the hill.

"Shoot that sonofabitch! Shoot him!"

It was Baughman, screeching like a banshee. If the Terrs weren't up and moving now they were all deaf.

Continued on page 71

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Semiauto Snipers

Virtually every law-enforcement agency of any size has a Tactical Team of one sort or another. The vast majority of these special teams have one or more designated snipers, though they may be called a counter-sniper, a designated marksman, or have an even more politically correct title. The mission of police snipers is to support the situation commander with precision rifle fire in any way required.

Unfortunately, police sniping has been disproportionately effected by USMC military sniper doctrine and procedures, because of the FBI's Firearms Training Unit being co-located at Quantico Marine base near the Marine Sniper School. The FBI

In asking bolt-action users why they choose bolt actions over semiautos, the most common answers are that "the FBI recommends bolt actions," that semiautos are not accurate enough, or because bolt actions are more accurate. While it is true that the best bolt actions have a slight edge in accuracy over the best semiautos, the fact is that this edge is small and the best semiautos are more-than-accurate-enough for the police sniper role.

In general, the better police bolt guns with their favorite ammunition will consistently turn in groups between 1/2 and 3/4 minutes of angle (MOA). Examples that will shoot better than that are much less common than those that will shoot worse. The best semiauto



learned sniping from the Marines and has passed that knowledge along to police agencies all over the country. I say "unfortunately" because law-enforcement and military sniping have little in common other than both involve precision shooting with a rifle.

The Marines consider 600 yards as the inside range for sniping. The average distance for a police-sniper engagement is about 77 yards, with the longest on record being just over 400 yards. Indeed, it is rare for a police sniper to have to shoot beyond 200 yards; and the vast majority of times it will be under 100 yards.

Marines are taught to fire one shot or at most two, and then move, while the police sniper will rarely have such a luxury available. The Marines typically shoot for a body hit, while in many cases the police sniper must go for a head shot to instantly incapacitate a hostage-holder. A high percentage of the time the police sniper will have to take a shot through window glass, where the Marine will rarely have to. The Marine sniper may have to pack his rifle a long distance through surf, mud, sand, jungle, or other hostile environment. The police sniper will rarely, if ever, have to do the same. These are but a few of many differences between military sniping and law-enforcement sniping.

Even more to the point, in the military ambush-type sniping the Marines specialize in, if the shot at an enemy soldier is missed it is usually no big deal. But if the police sniper fails to neutralize an armed perpetrator, almost invariably some innocent person is killed or hurt.

Not surprisingly, the FBI advocates police snipers use a bolt-action sniper rifle similar to that used by the Marines. Consequently, 95% or more of law-enforcement snipers in the U.S. are using bolt-action rifles. By far the most common is the Remington 700 police model, similar to the Marine sniper rifle, but Savages, Rugers, Steyers, Winchesters, and others are also encountered.

What most police snipers do not realize is that a good semiautomatic sniper rifle is far more versatile and capable of handling many different missions better than a bolt-action rifle.



Some excellent examples of capable and cost-effective semiauto sniper rifles for police use are: (top, left) the Knight Industries 7.62mm NATO SR-25, (top, right) Springfield Armory's SAR-8HB counter-sniper rifle, based on the G-3 and capable of MOA accuracy at a fraction of the cost of the H&K sniper rifle; and (left) Springfield Armory's M1A Super Match or M21 rifles — superbly accurate semiautos that make excellent sniper rifles — shown are M1A Super Match rifles with the SA sniper scopes and two-position mounts.

sniper rifles will consistently shoot 3/4 to 1 MOA. I have tested several that would consistently approach or achieve 1/2 MOA.

The general rule in the sniper community is that a 1 MOA capability is adequate. That is easily achieved with a number of semiautomatic sniper rifles on the market, including: the Springfield Armory M21, M1A Super Match, and SAR-8HB; the Armalite AR-10T; the Knight SR-25; or a properly accurized M14.

This is more than adequate accuracy to make reliable head shots out to at least 300 yards, which is well beyond the range a police sniper can expect to work. Indeed, a rifle capable of "only" 1.5 MOA is perfectly adequate for taking head shots out to at least 300 yards.

The main advantages of the semiauto are its much higher rate of fire as well as the fact that the shooter does not have to move his hand or face out of the shooting position to make follow-up shots. I have had advocates of bolt actions tell me with a straight face that they could fire aimed shots just as fast with their bolt guns as could the guys with the semiautos. I have to admit that some of them were incredibly fast, but I have never seen one that could even come close to a good shooter with a semiauto, when actually tested.

Even if the bolt-gun shooter could keep up with the semiauto shooter under good weather conditions, he could not come close in cold, nasty weather when his hands are numb and stiff from exposure to cold. The same applies to conducting a reload or ammunition change in cold-weather conditions. Whereas, all current semiautomatic sniper rifles have large-capacity detachable magazines, the typical police bolt gun must be loaded with single rounds.

Situations where a semiauto sniper rifle is superior to a bolt-

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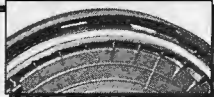
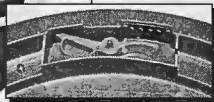
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action are myriad. The most common situation is when the first shot fails to neutralize, or completely misses, the target. The semiauto shooter can make an almost instant sighting correction and fire a follow-up shot with a much higher probability of taking out the target than can a bolt-action shooter.

Similarly, in hostage situations it is often necessary to shoot at a hostage-holder through automotive or window glass. It is quite common for the glass to deflect the bullet enough so that it will miss, or only wound, the target.

However, more than one sniper may not be available, or there may not be suitable firing positions with a view of the target for two shooters. Should the first shot be deflected by the glass the semiauto sniper rifle shooter can put in a fast follow-up shot, in less than 1/2 second, through the hole in the glass made by the first shot, to insure neutralization of the target.

Another fairly common situation is when an officer is wounded and down under the guns of the bad guys. Because of the high rate of accurate fire, its high magazine capacity, and ability to be reloaded quickly, there is probably no gun better than a semiauto sniper rifle for supplying effective covering fire for other officers, so they can get to the downed officer and get him out of the killing zone.

Still another fairly common scenario for a police sniper is one involving multiple bad guys. Short of having a designated sniper for each bad guy, which is highly unlikely, the best opportunity for success against multiple targets is with a good semiauto.

A sniper will occasionally have to engage a moving target, particularly during VIP protection, at roadblocks, or when faced with armed terrorists. The semiauto shooter does not have to use his shooting hand to manipulate a bolt and does not have to take his eye off of his sight picture to keep the bolt from hitting his face. Consequently, he can track the moving target much better than the bolt-gun shooter, and deliver repeat follow-up shots including aiming adjustments with substantially more ease and effectiveness.

A good semiautomatic sniper rifle simply can accomplish any mission as well or better than can a bolt-action sniper rifle in the police arena — plus many that it cannot.

One common excuse for not going to a semiauto is that the agency cannot afford their higher price. However, semiautos are so much more capable and easy to use they are well worth the price difference.

Plus, agencies can acquire M14 rifles from the U.S. government for little more than the shipping cost and filling out copious paperwork. For about the price of a good bolt-action sniper rifle, that M14 can be rebarreled, restocked, and accurized into a sub-MOA sniper rifle.

The bottom line is that police agencies need to get out of the Dark Ages and equip their snipers with good semiautomatic rifles. ✂



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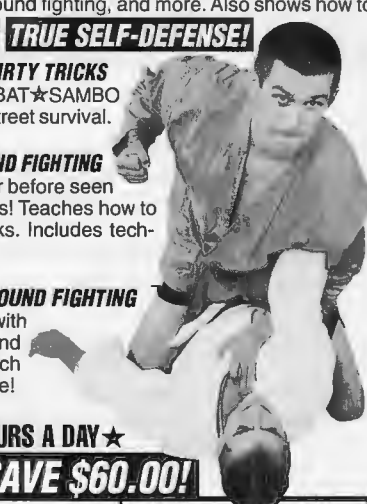
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Contact Front Sight Training Institute at P.O. Box 2619, Dept. SOF, Aptos, CA 95001; phone: 1-800-987-7719; or check them out on the web at www.frontsight.com.

HATS, HOLSTERS, SADDLES

Cost-conscious aficionados of Cowboy Action Shooting no longer have to make-do with NAFTA or Taiwan-made "Hollywood"-style hats, holsters and saddles, thanks to a new line of *authentic* replica cowboy gear from Jim Leatherwood. Each item in this line is painstakingly researched and manufactured with absolute and uncompromising attention to the details of original styles, materials and manufacturing technique.

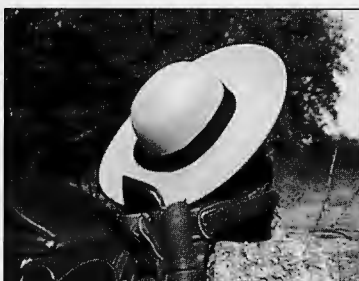
The hats, for instance, are all made of the highest-quality fur felt and have natural-leather sweatbands. Leatherwood's hats are designed to exactly replicate the hats of the period following the War Between the States, to the end of the 1800s. Currently available styles include the 4.5-inch crown (shown in fawn), correct with a 4.5-inch brim from the period of the Civil War (then worn by Terry's Texas Rangers) to the turn of the century, and common from the 1870s on with a 4-inch brim (the style called "Boss of the Plains," by Stetson, when they entered the cowboy hat market in the 1870s).



The 5.2-inch crown with a straight 5-inch brim (shown in white) is correct from the early 1880s until the early 1900s. The 4.5-inch crown with a 3.5-inch brim, shown here in black, became popular during the late 1800s, and is frequently pictured in Charlie Russel paintings, usually with Montana crease that evolved into the "Campaign" hat.

Holsters available include the "Mexican" loop style common after the mid 1870s, the California style common to the percussion period and a "half-flap" also common to the percussion period.

The Hope-style saddle, pictured here, appeared in Texas sometime in the late 1840s, a cross between the English riding saddle and the Mexican saddle,



and built on a rawhide tree. It quickly became the standard for many Texas civilians, and the Army (2nd Cavalry) bought a number, as well. Robert Edward Lee and both of the Johnstons owned Hopes. Hope saddles remained in wide use until the end of the 1800s; this particular saddle is patterned on an original saddle dating from about 1870.

All Leatherwood's period pieces are available from Caravan West Productions, phone: 818-353-8303 (check out their website at: www.caravanwest.com); or, from Navy Arms, Dept. SOF, Ridgefield, NJ 07657; phone: 201-945-2500 (their web address is www.navyarms.com). ❧





PRECISION on the PRAIRIE

Grad School For Snipers

Short of enlisting in an elite military unit, one of Thunder Ranch's Precision Rifle (the politically correct term for *Countersniper*) courses will provide the most thorough and grueling test and evaluation of a sniper rifle, scope and ammunition combination and the man behind the trigger that you are likely to encounter anywhere, anytime. I and SOF staff photographer Chris Mayer recently completed Precision Rifle 2, for which Precision Rifle 1 is an absolute prerequisite. Thunder Ranch's Precision Rifle courses form a triad, of which Advanced Precision Rifle is the final component. As with all courses at Thunder Ranch, the pace is distinctly high-speed and low-drag. Principally because that reflects honcho Clint Smith's personality, but also because three weeks is a highly compressed time frame in which to even approach accomplishing what the Marine Corps takes three months to do in its sniper training program at Quantico, Va. The Precision Rifle series should most certainly not be taken lightly, as they are among the most physically exhausting and mentally demanding programs presented at this unique training facility.

Thunder Ranch (Dept. SOF, HCR 1,

by Peter G. Kokalis
 Photos by Chris Mayer



Box 53, Mountain Home, TX 78058; phone: 830-640-3138; fax: 830-640-3183), which opened in 1993, is located 96 miles west of San Antonio, Texas and 46 miles to the east of Kerrville in the rolling-hills karst topography of southern Texas on a total of 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. 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. A significant amount of time is spent at the Black range during Precision Rifle 2.

Two of the most visually impressive facilities at Thunder Ranch are the Tower and Thunderville. The Tower is a monolithic

(left) Countersniper from Scottsdale, Ariz., PD SWAT unit fires his Robar sniper rifle with McMillan 2.5-10X variable-power scope from the offhand position during a field exercise at Thunder Ranch's PR2 course. The least stable of all the firing positions, it may sometimes be mandated because of high brush obscuring the target.



(above) USMC Sergeant Daniel B. Suttles fires his M40A1 that is based upon the Remington M700 action and has a Unertl 10X scope. This rifle has a 24-inch barrel and weighs 14.5 pounds. Note that Marines do not use a bipod and employ their rucks as a rest. (right) Sergeant Randy Long of the Commerce City, Colo. PD, monitors a student during a timed exercise in Thunderville, which requires firing from a number of awkward, but very realistic positions. (below) Thunder Ranch instructor, Jim Welch, monitors a student firing from a stairwell position in Thunderville.



sending 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. Between Thunderville and the Black Range, you will find yourself challenged with firing



(above) Law-enforcement countersniper team fires through ports on the stairwell in the Tower during a very tough night exercise at pivoting targets that remain exposed for less than 3 seconds.



(above) Firing through a port in Thunderville — one of Thunder Ranch's most challenging simulators — at a pivoting target across the street.

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. The Tower is a key ingredient in the Precision Rifle courses.

Thunderville is an elaborate, day or night, in-depth facade over 200 feet in length repre-

at ranges from 35 out to 1,000 yards during Precision Rifle 2.

Clint Smith and his supporting cast of instructors parallel the quality of the incredible physical facilities available at Thunder Ranch. Clint, himself, 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 repre-

Training Unit), as well as the senior countersniper on the SWAT unit. He was Operations Officer for Jeff Cooper's API, started and served as director of Heckler & Koch's training services division and, with his late wife, Deborah, founded International Training Consultants, Inc., a highly regarded mobile training program. Guest instructors for our course included Randy Long, a 16-year veteran and sergeant with the Commerce City, Colo., Police Department; Jim Welch, with over 10 years' service with the U.S. Air Force as a pararescue specialist and currently a firearms instructor for the U.S. Department of Energy at the Central Training Academy; and my old friend of more than 25 years, Jim Swanson, aka "the Duck of Death," who recently retired from the U.S. Department of Energy, where he was instrumental in the development of advanced firearms and tactical training for the courier branch of the DOE. All of these men have seen the elephant and are well-known in the circle of armed professionals in which I travel.

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 ranges, in the field and in the Tower. Interspersed between these essential principles — all delivered at machine-gun speed — were the cogent expressions for which Clint Smith is so well known.

A brief, but typical, sampling of Clint's quotations are as follows. "Repetition is the mother of skills." "Camouflage: hide, blend and deception." "Don't confuse luck with skill." "Most rifles shoot better than the operator." "If you're looking for sympathy, you're in deep shit here." "A sling to a rifle is what a holster is to a pistol." "I don't believe anything unless I can touch it. I saw Forest Gump shake John Kennedy's hand."

There were 13 students in our class. Two were USMC snipers from Camp Pendleton, three were civilians and eight were law-enforcement personnel from SWAT teams. This is rather typical of the composition of most classes at Thunder Ranch. Five Marines had to cancel at the last moment because they lost their funding.

Remington M700 actions predominated. There were four Robar custom sniper rifles, two USMC M40A1 sniper rifles, an AWC Systems Technology rifle using an M700 action, my Chandler Sniper Rifle, a custom Remington M700 with a 20-inch barrel, a Remington M700 Police Tactical rifle, two Steyr PII SSGs and an Accuracy International AWP. The Marines used a Unertl 10X BDC-type and a McMillan ITT day/night scope, respectively. The Steyr SSGs were equipped with Hensoldt 10X

BDC-type scopes. Two of the Robar sniper rifles had McMillan 2.5-10X variable-power scopes. The other seven rifles were fitted with Leupold optics, either a Mark 4 or one of the Tactical series. Those with bipods had either the Harris or Parker Hale. Remington and Leupold clearly dominate the U.S. law-enforcement and military-sniper markets.

Record-keeping is an important aspect of precision rifle shooting, whether it be benchrest competition or in a law-enforcement/military countersniper application. All students were provided with a Thunder Ranch log book into which the number of rounds fired each day and the cumulative total of rounds fired were recorded, as well



(top) Tower stress drill requires students to fire nine shots from nine different firing ports on two floors in the Tower, with a tenth shot fired from the top of the target at an exploding target. Students must move as quickly as possible throughout the drill. **(above)** USMC Sergeant Travis S. Mitchell fires his M40A1 sniper rifle equipped with McMillan day/night scope during a night exercise at Thunder Ranch's PR2 course.

as the type and lot number of the ammunition, zeroing information at various ranges, target type and weather conditions, such as light, temperature mirage and wind.

The afternoon of the first day was spent on the 100-yard line at the Black Range, where everyone confirmed zero with their rifles from the prone position using a front rest or bipod. I also use a butt bag (a cloth bag or sock filled with Styrofoam or plastic beads) when firing from the prone. Subsequent to zeroing, we fired from the sitting, braced kneeling, squatting ("rice-paddy prone") and standing positions.

The second day commenced with firing a "cold zero" shot at the Black Range from

100 yards. This concept cannot be stressed too much. More often than not, a sniper will be presented with only one shot and it will be fired from a cold barrel. He must know exactly where that shot will strike. If you're lucky, it will hit to the same point of impact as succeeding groups fired after the barrel has heated up. But, it may not and one way or the other this information is almost always absolutely essential to a successful countersniper operation.

We then established our come-ups for 200, 300 and 400 yards. This was followed by a Tower stress drill involving a total 10 shots fired at targets in Thunderville from a maximum distance of about 90 yards. Nine shots were fired from nine different firing ports on two floors and the final shot is taken from the top of the tower at a Dapkus exploding target. You must move as quickly as possible during this drill and at each firing port my Chandler Sniper Rifle seemed to gain several more pounds in weight. In the afternoon, half of the class participated in a stalking drill while the other half attempted to spot them. After this, we were given a demonstration of bullet penetration through glass and wood into the head of a Styrofoam mannequin.

Throughout the course, the most outstanding shooters were consistently the two Marine Corps snipers. Highly skilled and motivated, they are a credit to those who trained them so well. It is, thus, an even greater tragedy that their rifles — of 1970s'

vintage — were almost completely worn out. It borders on the criminal to send men of this caliber into an operational area with shot-out "precision" sniper rifles. Our country has an embarrassing history of ignoring the armed forces during times of relative peace. Snipers, because they are politically incorrect (especially now), have been almost totally ignored in between every conflict we have fought in since the Civil War. Shame on those responsible for this travesty.

On the third day we fired "cold shots" from 300, 200 and 100 yards at the Black Range. After firing again on a steel silhouette at 400 yards, we established come-ups at 500 and 600 yards. This was followed by a Thunderville drill and the stalking drill for the other half of the class.

The fourth day of PR2 is a meat grinder that commences with 10-shot groups at 300, 200 and 100 yards. This was followed by a stalk that brought Chris Mayer and me to the work-shop area where we observed Clint Smith and several others but remained undetected throughout the

Continued on page 68

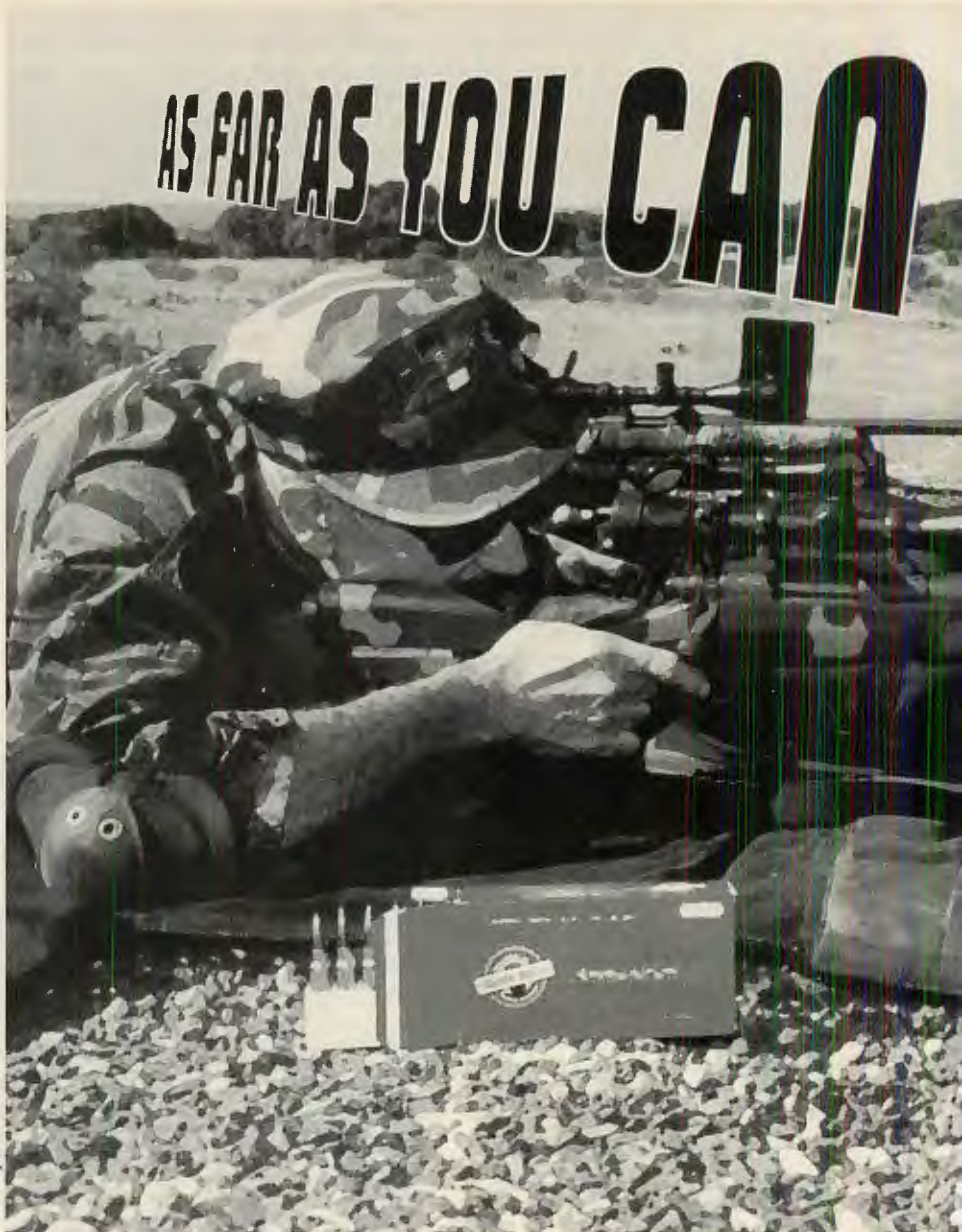
The 1,000-Yard Chandler Rifle

Text & Photos by
Peter G. Kokalis

Most often, writers for the popular gun press determine the accuracy potential of a centerfire rifle by sitting at a bench and firing groups into paper targets at a range of 100 yards. Some very mediocre rifle and scope combinations can look pretty good at that distance. In the case of a so-called sniper rifle, you need to shoot at ranges of 500 yards, and beyond, from actual field shooting positions in order to separate the few real contenders from the all-too-common pretenders.

The Chandler Sniper Rifle, made by Iron Brigade Armory Ltd., is a genuine 1,000-yard rifle built to exceed USMC specifications. I know because I own one and recently returned from running it through Clint Smith's ringer during Thunder Ranch's demanding Precision Rifle 2 course (see page 33). I am convinced that Lieutenant Colonel Norman A. Chandler, USMC, (Ret.), has designed and assembles the very best military/law-enforcement long-range sniper rifle in the world, bar none. However, be advised that there is no free lunch and rifles of this type are neither compact, nor lightweight, nor cheap. Overall length of my Chandler Sniper Rifle is 46.5 inches.

Chris Mayer



These rifles weigh from 13 to 15 pounds, depending upon the scope and stock selected.

Chandler uses a Hart barrel, Remington M700 receiver, McMillan stock and several different Leupold scopes. The barrels are all 26 inches in length. During the late 1970s, research conducted by the inner loop in the USMC sniper community clearly demonstrated that 26 inches provided a more complete propellant burn and a significantly reduced flash signature. Stating that air-

(top) *SOF's* Technical Editor, Peter G. Kokalis, fires the Chandler Sniper Rifle with Leupold Vari-X III 4.5-14X40mm variable-power Tactical scope at the 1,000-yard steel silhouette during Thunder Ranch's PR2 course using Black Hills 175-grain moly-coated ammunition. (left) Built to exceed USMC specifications, the Chandler Sniper Rifle is the most accurate long-range sniper system *SOF* has ever tested.



The Remington M700 Action

The Remington M700 action was introduced in 1962 and is almost identical to the Model 721/722 actions it replaced. The receiver is machined from round bar stock and has the same dimensions its entire length. The right side of the bridge extends past the magazine well to prevent the bolt from binding. The bolt body is machined from a steel cylinder. The bolt head, with two solid locking lugs, is brazed onto the bolt body. The low-profile bolt handle has also been brazed to the bolt body at the rear. This is one of the safest actions ever designed as the bolt extends about 0.150-inch ahead of the locking lugs and the barrel's breech face is recessed to receive the bolt with minimum clearance around its circumference. Furthermore, the bolt head's face is recessed for the case head.

The extractor, often criticized yet rarely failing, is a thin C-type flat spring which has a lip pressed into its inside curve. It interfaces with a shallow groove in the inside of the rim forming the bolt face recess. The ejector, which is a spring-loaded plunger in a hole along the perimeter of the bolt face recess, is retained by a cross-pin. The ejector prevents the extractor from rotating in its recess. The one-piece firing pin is spring-loaded and attached at its head to the bolt sleeve by a cross-pin. The bolt sleeve threads into the rear of the bolt body. Lock time is very fast, since the firing pin's total length of travel is no more than 0.300-inch. A flat steel stamping under the left locking lug raceway serves as the bolt stop. Pushing the bolt-stop release (a bent spring-steel metal strip sliding on the trigger and safety pivot pins) up pivots the bolt stop down so the bolt can be removed from the action.

The trigger and safety group is attached to the underside of the receiver by the bolt-stop and sear pins. The sear, a thin piece of hardened steel located in the top right side of the trigger housing and in the trigger housing opening in the receiver, pivots on the sear pin in front of the housing and is tensioned by a small coil spring. The trigger also pivots on an axis pin. When pulled, it releases the trigger connector. The trigger over-travel screw contacts the trigger connector. The weight of pull adjustment screw is just below this screw. A third screw, adjusts trigger-sear engagement.

A bent steel stamping on the right side serves as the safety lever. When the action is cocked, the safety can be pulled all the way back and both the firing pin and bolt are locked. To fire the rifle push the safety all the way forward.

—P.G.K.

borne operations were a design parameter, the Marine Corps adopted a barrel length of only 24 inches. This has proven to be a mistake in all regards.

Made from milspec 416R stainless steel, these Hart barrels are button rifled to a dimension of 0.3082-inch and then lapped with a plug to remove high spots. They feature six grooves with a right-hand twist of one turn in 12 inches. After installation on the receiver, the barrels and actions are provided with a black-oxide finish. As you would expect with match-grade equipment the barrel has a countersunk muzzle crown, as the slightest damage to the crown can significantly degrade accuracy.

Iron Brigade Armory uses only Remington Model 700 actions, which are highly modified. All Chandler Super Grade Sniper Rifles have the clip slot for the M14 charger guide milled into the rear of the receiver's ejection port. The Chandler scope mount is designed to interface with this clip slot to provide greater rigidity. The Chandler bases are made oversize and

then hand fit to the clip slot. Remington uses 6x48 screws to attach a scope base to the M700 receiver. Chandler enlarges these to 8x40 to further strengthen the scope-base-to-receiver interface. Leupold's quick-release scope rings have a spindle projecting below the ring that goes into the scope base. Chandler industrial-oven-brazes (at 850 degrees F.) the Leupold scope rings to their base. Incredibly, tests have indicated that this alone can add 0.5 MOA to the system's accuracy potential. The one-piece scope base is made from 4130 ordnance steel.

My Chandler scope mount has 20-minute angle-bored rings which were bored after the rings were brazed to the base. Chandler's new system is to put the 20 minutes of angle on the base. Either way, this gives you the ability to elevate the scope to 1,000 yards and beyond (actually out to 1,400 yards on my Chandler rifle/scope combination), but still have positive clicks at 100 yards. By this means, the scope's erector tube is

Leupold 4.5-14X40mm Tactical Scope

In the United States, Leupold & Stevens (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 688, Beaverton, OR 97075; phone: 503-646-9171; fax: 503-526-1475) have an absolute lock on the military and law-enforcement scope market. Justifiably so, as their Mark 4 and Tactical scopes exhibit superb milspec performance, complete reliability, and unmatched ruggedness and optical excellence.

I chose to install a Leupold Vari-X III 4.5-14X40mm variable-power Tactical scope with adjustable objective on my Chandler Super Grade Sniper Rifle. During Thunder Ranch's Precision Rifle 2 course you will shoot at ranges varying from 35 yards, in Thunderville, out to 1,000 yards. A variable-power scope is ideal for ranges of this extreme. I used the 4.5X power setting for urban scenarios and then powered up to 14X for long range shooting where precise target definition was essential. The objective lens is provided with settings for 50, 100, 200, 400 yards and infinity.

All exterior and interior lenses on this scope are treated with Multicoat 4 anti-reflective coating. This, in addition to a computer-designed optical system, results in edge-to-edge sharpness, precise resolution, minimal distortion and optimum low-light visibility. All of Leupold's military and law-enforcement scopes are 100% waterproof. In addition, all of the scopes in Leupold's Tactical series are economically priced and you can purchase one for almost half the price of a Mark 4 scope, which is the flagship in Leupold's product line.



It was my initial assumption that scopes with an elevation-adjustment system that is used as a BDC (Bullet Drop Compensator), such as the Mark 4 M3-6X and M3-10X, with replaceable elevation dials calibrated for an assortment of bullet types, would be superior to standard elevation adjustment knobs in the high stress environment of combat. My personal experience has demonstrated this to be an invalid hypothesis for several reasons. First of all, bullet designs are evolving rapidly and Leupold does not provide elevation dials for bullets like the 175-grain moly-coated BTHP (although an unmarked elevation dial is available for self-calibration). Furthermore, Leupold's Mark 4 M3 scopes have 1/2-minute adjustment increments. This is too coarse for really long range shooting. Remember, 1 MOA is the equivalent of 10 inches at 1,000 yards.

The 4.5-14X40mm Tactical scope has both windage and elevation adjustment knobs that feature audible and tactile feedback from one-minute numbered divisions with 1/4-minute click-stops clearly marked between each one-minute division. The ability to make 1/4-minute adjustments is an important attribute. Total elevation travel on this scope is 63 minutes and each complete revolution raises or lowers the point of impact by 15 minutes. The elevation knob also has a horizontal scale that is used to keep track of the number of revolutions that the dial has been turned. In addition, there is a built-in anti-backlash system that guarantees repeatable accuracy from click to click, and back again. Most snipers use an elevation adjustment system such as this by zeroing the rifle and scope at specific ranges and writing the elevation adjustment settings on a range card attached to the rifle's buttstock. The setting to which the elevation adjustment knob must be rotated for a specific distance is usually referred to as a "come up" by those who move in this elite loop. Mounted on the Chandler Sniper Rifle the Leupold 4.5-14X40mm Tactical scope, when zeroed at 100 yards, still has 7.5 minutes of depression available. The windage-adjustment knob provides approximately 30 minutes of lateral adjustment to both the left and right

Continued on page 65

operating at its optimum range of adjustment at the long ranges. In addition, the Remington receiver is milled by first indexing the front receiver ring and then milling down the rear bridge approximately 125 thousandths lower than the front receiver ring. This is somewhat lower than the Remington standard for this dimension.

Hart installs their barrels into the Remington M700 receivers for Chandler. They square the receiver before installation of the barrel. Hart also laps the bolt lugs and sets the headspace. At the very end of the production cycle, Chandler's armorers coat the bolt with Tetra gun grease, a polymer derivative, and hand work the action. The magazine follower is also altered to permit positive feeding of five rounds.

The USMC has been using standard Remington triggers for more than 30 years and so does Chandler. The trigger group is completely disassembled and tuned. The trigger is adjusted for a pull weight of 3.75 pounds, which Chandler feels is just about the lightest sear release you should have for a combat environment where the adrenaline is likely to be pumping. Badger Ordnance of Rapid City, South Dakota, makes the one-piece steel trigger guard with a wide trigger bow to protect the trigger and a hinged steel floorplate exactly to Chandler's specifications. Badger Ordnance also provides the new scope base and the heavy recoil lug.

Chandler Sniper Rifles are bedded twice. The first, or heavy, bedding is accomplished with titanium devcon. The rifle is then disassembled and skin-coat bedded with MarineTex, a high-strength, low-shrinkage two-part epoxy. The barrels are, of course, completely free floating.

I selected one of the superb McMillan (McMillan Fiberglass Stocks, Dept. SOF, 21421 N. 14th Avenue, Suite B, Phoenix, AZ 85027; phone: 602-582-9635; fax: 602-581-3825) A3 sniper stocks with a woodland camouflage pattern for my Chandler Sniper Rifle.

The outer shell of McMillan's A3 stock is made by a hand-laminated, pressure-cured process. It is laminated from about 130 pieces of 8-ounce fiberglass cloth, giving a finished shell wall thickness of six to 12 layers. The thickness is greater in high stress areas on the stock and less in other areas to reduce the overall weight. The interior is filled with different fiberglass compounds consisting of engineering-grade epoxy resins, chopped fiberglass strands, micro-balloons and other materials and slightly lighter than the A2 sniper stock. No polyesters or phenolics (both less expensive than epoxy resins) are used. There are no hollow spaces. All of McMillan's tactical stocks are filled solid. Inletting for the barreled action is done on CNC machinery to tolerances approximating a 0.001-inch. This yields a completed stock which is stable in environmental conditions ranging from -60 degrees F. to +240 degrees F. and is totally water-impervious.

McMillan's famous A2 stock was originally designed in 1988 at the request of a

Moly-coated bullets now dominate precision high power rifle competition, but have not yet made a significant impact in the law enforcement arena. Including myself, only three students used moly-coated ammunition in Thunder Ranch's PR2 course. All of it was provided by Black Hills Ammunition (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 3090, Rapid City, SD 57709-3090; phone: 605-348-5150; fax: 605-348-9827 — call for information about purchasing direct at retail if there is no Black Hills distributor near you). Black Hills loads .223 with 52-grain and 68-grain BTHP (boat-tail hollow-point) moly-coated bullets and .308 Win match-grade ammunition with either a 168-grain or 175-grain BTHP. I chose the 175-grain BTHP for its potential to reach out at long ranges.

This process involves impact-plating bullets with molybdenum disulphide and a protective coating of wax. Moly-coating produces a protective surface in the barrel with a number of important benefits.

Moly-coated bullets will reduce both chamber pressure and muzzle velocity because of the reduction in the coefficient of friction. Increasing the propellant charge weight will bring the muzzle velocity back up. When fired at identical velocities, moly-coated bullets will provide flatter trajectories at long range than untreated bullets. Accuracy is also significantly enhanced. Many shooters are reporting an improvement of 10-20% with match-grade projectiles. This is partially a consequence of the improved uniformity of muzzle velocity. The standard deviation is normally reduced by about 15%. Especially important is the incredible almost twofold increase in barrel life. Barrels that will normally maintain match-grade accuracy up to 3,000 to 3,500 rounds will last at least 6,000 rounds when moly-coated bullets are fired through them exclusively.

Out to 500 yards, my elevation come-ups with the Black Hills

175-grain moly-coated ammunition were 0.5 to 2 minutes higher than those firing 168-grain ammunition. But, at 500 yards, the 175-grain moly-coated bullet starts to get serious and my come-ups started to drop well below the others. At 1,000 yards, the USMC come-up for M118 173-grain ammunition is 39.5 minutes. Mine is 35.5 MOA, a full 5 minutes below the M118 173-grain projectile. That's an impressive difference. At 500 yards, firing from the prone position — not a bench — the Black Hills 175-grain moly-coated round printed a five-shot 0.5 MOA group with the Chandler Sniper Rifle and Leupold 4.5-14X40mm Tactical scope. A 2.5-inch group at 500 yards from a field shooting position is phenomenal and the only comment required on the rifle-scope-ammunition combination.

Metal fouling is also significantly reduced and less maintenance is required. While students firing standard ammunition had to punch their barrels after every ten rounds, I did not clean the bore until the end of each day, after more than 100 rounds had been fired. However, the cleaning procedure differs radically from the norm, and is essentially chemical rather than mechanical. First pass the cleaning rod through the chamber guide and out the muzzle. Then attach an undersize bronze bore brush (caliber .270 for a .308 barrel) and wrap a clean patch around it. Wet the patch with Rem-Oil or Shooters' Choice FP-10 lubricant and pull-push two times to remove the powder fouling. Replace the patch and wet it with Rem-Clean bore cleaner. Pull-push 10 times to remove the copper fouling. Replace the patch and cover it with J-B Cleaning Compound.

Again, pull-push 10 times. Then two passes with an oiled patch, followed by two more passes with another oiled patch and two passes with a dry patch. All of the cleaning materials required can be obtained from Brownells, Inc. (Dept. SOF, 200 South Front Street, Montezuma, IA 50171; phone: 515-623-5401; fax: 515-623-3896). — P.G.K.

Reach Out and Touch Someone with a Magic Bullet



federal law-enforcement agency and a U.S. military organization. It represents a high-point in the application of human engineering to stock design. Both the width of the forearm and the angle of the pistol grip (about 8-9 degrees off vertical) were determined by using experienced shooters pretending to hold a rifle in the prone position. The A3 model was designed in 1995 as a somewhat lighter version of the A2. The A3 stock weighs 3.25 pounds — exactly 1 pound lighter than the A2. It features a shallowed forend which is 1/3-inch shorter than the A2 stock, and this also provides it with a trimmer appearance. Its integral adjustable fiberglass cheek piece accounts for a half pound of the weigh shaving and provides lateral, as well as vertical, adjustment. Finishes available include black, gray and desert, woodland and urban camouflage patterns. The stock is equipped with QD-type sling swivels. This is the tactical rifle stock against which all others must be measured. The A3 stock is equipped with a half-inch Pachmayr recoil pad.

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Chandler Sniper Rifle

S P E C I F I C A T I O N S

- Caliber:** 7.62x51mm NATO (.308 Winchester)
- Operation:** Bolt-action. Two-lug bolt. Two-position safety on the right side of the bolt sleeve.
- Weight, empty:** Approximately 13 to 15 pounds, depending upon optical equipment and stock.
- Length, overall:** 46.5 inches
- Barrel:** Six-groove, heavy, match-grade, stainless steel, with a right-hand twist of one turn in 12 inches. Manufactured by Hart.
- Barrel length:** 26 inches
- Feed mechanism:** Five-round, staggered-column integral magazine with steel hinged floorplate.
- Optical sights:** Leupold, Mark 4 M1 10X or Tactical series with Mil-Dot reticle pattern.
- Furniture:** McMillan fiberglass stock; either USMC-type, A2 or A3
- Finish:** Barrel and receiver: Black oxide
- Manufacturer:** Iron Brigade Armory Ltd., Dept. SOF, 100 Radcliffe Circle, Jacksonville, NC 28546; phone: 910-455-3834; fax: 910-346-1134.
- T&E summary:** Built to exceed USMC specifications. Most accurate long-range sniper system ever tested. Expensive and somewhat heavy.



SPECOPS

“

DOOM BUGGY

”

USNSPECWARCOM PAO

Reminiscent of Steve McQueen's (actually, Bud Elkins') trans-barricade cycle jump in *The Great Escape*, U.S. SpecOps' forces most certainly turned in similar performances as the glimmer of several dawns broke over the foreboding desolation of western Iraq. Likely comments of "Given my druthers, I'd sure as hell want a Chenoweth under me when I hit 'Indian Country,'" by anonymous behind-the-lines operators, likely resounded over the endless topography. "If we hit deep shit, we wanna E & E as fast as we got in, and be able to hit back with a ton of firepower."

Easily pictured are flushed-with-adrenaline 3-man crews, now back among friendlies, after running smack into Iraqi patrols, crashing through their positions and enduring endless seconds of incoming small-arms' fire, rounds *zinging* past as

SEALs' Land-Locked Swift Boat

by Joel B. Paskauskas, II

American SEALs and Marine Reconns return fire in spades, swiftly dispatching dozens of Saddam's minions to the feet of Allah. These baptisms of fire for the teams — and their vehicles— were successful — and lucky.

But *luck* is the junction where preparation and opportunity intersect.

Buggy Of "Doom"

For deep-penetration missions into Iraq during Desert Shield/Storm, with a top-end speed of 60-plus mph and a laudable range of 650 miles, crewed by a gung-ho armed-to-the-max trio of "special operators," and utilized by U.S. Navy SEALs, USMC

Force Reconnaissance units, and selected Coalition forces, the still semi-classified Chenoweth Light Strike Vehicle (a heavily armed "Doom" buggy) is a perfect ally for daring-do for American forces.

With the LSV, operators were able to covertly identify and illuminate high-priority targets by utilizing laser designators, thereby offering up lethal *carte blanches* for coalition air assets to swoop in for surgical kills. Such targets included mobile SCUD launchers and underground command-and-control facilities that were difficult to spot for fast-mover, aerial photo-recon ships, and satellites. According to one source, the British SAS also employed LSVs in addition to their

Land Rover "Pinkies" during *Operation Granby* for similar direct-action missions.

The FAV was primarily used by SEAL Team Five during Operation Desert Shield in conjunction with satellite navigation and night-vision goggles. The official U.S. Navy name for the LSV is the DPV, or Desert Patrol Vehicle, a zero-30-mph-in-4-seconds beauty, the primary mission of which during Desert Storm was to offer standby search-and-rescue capability for downed coalition pilots.

While they did use the DPV for a classified CSAR (Combat Search-And-Rescue) mission, the DPV was the SEALs' primary means of insertion for recon missions into Iraq. Four FAVs of ST-5 were the first coalition vehicles to enter Kuwait City. Roadblocks, 8-foot berms, and other tank traps constructed by the disarrayed, demoralized and retreating Iraqi forces proved to be no match for the FAV.

"No Runs, Hits, Errors"

After assisting in its liberation, SEALs in DPVs provided security for the U.S. Embassy and ambassador in Kuwait City. According to SEALs who used the LSV in the Kuwaiti Theater of Operations (KTO), "We found that anywhere a 4-wheel-drive vehicle can operate at all, we can operate comfortably at twice the speed," and "the Chenoweth vehicles were the only vehicles having total access to the sand dune areas."

During Desert Shield/Storm, they were capable of a 650-mile radius; not one vehicle or crewman was lost; and no mechanical breakdowns occurred.

The FAV detachment from ST-5 worked closely with the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (160th SOAR) in support of CSAR missions. Often, a DPV team would be loaded aboard a MH-47 Chinook helicopter of the 160th SOAR and flown to an off-load site within striking distance of the downed crew. Once the mission was completed, the FAV team would rendezvous with the Chinook at a



Chenoweth Corporation

(opposite) Airborne! (Well, almost). The Chenoweth Desert Patrol Vehicle (DPV) *avec* M60E3 GPMG, AT-4 rocket launcher and Mk19 MOD 0 40mm machine gun. (above) Not the Baja "One-Thou," but the Chenoweth FAV working out in California's Mojave. (below) The Chenoweth Advanced Light Strike Vehicle (ALSV). Quite simply, "The fastest and most agile military vehicle in the world."

pre-designated extraction site for the flight out of "Indian Country."

The USMC Force Recon LSVs were an integral part of the recon element of Task Force Ripper during "The Storm." Recon Marines in their LSVs were key in pinpointing the Iraqi armored force defending the Kuwait International Airport which resulted in the decimation of the force. The

Marines also conducted long-range recon patrols in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait prior to final ground assault.

The now deactivated 9th Infantry Division in the mid-1980s pioneered the concept when it was called upon to become the U.S. Army's High Technology Light Division. Reliance was placed on light, high-speed wheeled vehicles, such as the LSV/FAV with its advanced electronic command, control, commo and intelligence (C³I) systems. The Chenoweth LSV is far superior to any other light vehicle; it is at least twice as fast as a HUMVEE through rough terrain. Evaluations conducted by the U.S. Army at the National Training Center, in the Mojave Desert were highly favorable. LSVs achieved a 3:1 kill ratio against M1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks, and a 9:1 ratio versus Bradley IFVs. These results were achieved by the LSVs' extraordinary speed, very low visual and infrared signatures and unparalleled agility.

The LSV's missions, both numerous and adaptable to individual user requirements, are as follows:

- Deep-reconnaissance and covert surveillance
- Light strike
- Scouting and flank security
- Artillery and air forward observer
- Infantry support



Chenoweth Corporation



Even Peruvian SEALs have adopted the FAV concept. Britain, Australia, Abu Dhabi, Jordan and Egypt have tested light, fast, well-armed vehicles for recon and CSAR missions.

- Defense and security of forward air bases
- Electronic warfare
- Combat search and rescue/hostage rescue missions

It is equipped with a detachable global-positioning system (GPS).

Its armament load potential runs the gamut from Mk19 MOD 0 40mm automatic grenade launchers to the Rockwell Hellfire Missile to the M2 HB .50-caliber heavy machine gun, the M60 and M240G GPMG family and man-portable anti-tank weapons. The LSV is "ready to rumble," but presents an unusually small burden on the logistics system.

The "Founding Father"

Chenoweth Corporation, based in Washington, D.C., is headed by a former USMC Lieutenant Colonel, Dr. Maxwell O. Johnson. Dr. Johnson has extensively trav-

eled in and worked with the armed forces of the Middle East, the Far East, and Africa.

Mike Thomas heads Chenoweth's El Cajon, Calif., plant, which also builds race and recreational vehicles.

Chenoweth currently produces the LSV.



Robert K. Brown

360, the LRV (Light Reconnaissance Vehicle), the GP (General Purpose Vehicle), the FAV (Fast Attack Vehicle), and the ALSV (Advanced Light Strike Vehicle). Over the past six years, Chenoweth has produced FAVs and LSVs for the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy Special Warfare Command, the U.S. Marine Corps, Greece, Portugal, Oman, and Mexico. Chenoweth vehicles are also on duty around several nuclear — and otherwise sensitive — facilities. Currently, Chenoweth is competing for a 300-vehicle contract for the USMC for the V-22 Osprey-capable LSV. Thirteen LSV/DPVs were recently sold to the U.S. Special Operations Command for use by the Marine Corps in their Warfighting Lab's Advanced Warfighting exercise "Hunter-Warrior," conducted in March 1997.

Worldwide, the exact number of vehicles in operational use is classified but the 500-1,000-range seems likely.

In June 1997, at the conclusion of the exercise, they were transferred to the Force Reconnaissance company for contingency operations. Chenoweth is likely to win this order as they have won every major U.S. government contract for this class of vehicle for the past 15 years. Currently, the LSV is being demonstrated in the Gulf, Singapore and Australia. Capable of mounting a plethora of virtually any weapons system, the LSV is viewed by many experts as a viable, inexpensive, and potent alternative to more costly and cumbersome systems.

The Advanced Light Strike Vehicle (ALSV) is the latest version of the LSV to appear center stage. The ALSV incorporates both greatly increased mobility and firepower (e.g. 110 kph off-road speed; 0-50 kph in under 8 seconds). The ALSV sports a much stronger Audi diesel engine, Steyr all-wheel drive, front and rear locking differentials and commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) components. The use of COTS parts ensures economical worldwide supportability. The ALSV can reach a top speed of 80 mph and can survive a roll end-over-end,



Robert K. Brown



USSOCOM PAO

(above and inset) SOF discovered a parking lot full of classified equipment and operators during Desert Storm.

A "Night Stalker" MH-47 "giving birth" to a SEAL Desert Patrol Vehicle at a classified location in southwest Asia.

land on its wheels and continue with the mission. Two ALSVs can be paraded from a C-130 or carried in the belly of a CH-47 Chinook. Also, the ALSV can carry four operators.

In terms of firepower, the ALSV features a 360-degree rotating pedestal mount capable of handling the .50 caliber M2 HB heavy machine gun or the 40mm Mk19 MOD 0 automatic grenade launcher, and can also employ remote-control and stabilized weapons platforms to increase shoot-on-the-move lethality. The ALSV is also capable of mounting anti-armor and anti-aircraft weapons systems as well as the M60 and M240 series general purpose machine guns.

Custom features for the ALSV include sensor- and C³I-integration, all-weather package, integral or configurable light-armor package, and custom-designed equipment storage. Currently, the ALSV was a candidate for "Project Mulgara," Australia's quest to purchase 300-500 Light strike and Reconnaissance Vehicles, recently canceled due to higher-priority considerations, attack choppers and M113 APC upgrades. The ALSV, however, remains a coveted vehicle by the Australian Defense Forces. One ALSV has been sold to Abu Dhabi for extensive trials

for their special forces. And a ALSV is currently being evaluated by the Jordanian Special Forces. Chenoweth has entered into a joint agreement with the Egyptian Light Transportation Manufacturing Company to produce the ELDAV, the Egyptian Light Desert Assault Vehicle. The ELDAV, basically an austere LSV, was designed to suit the needs of the Egyptian army with 500 vehicles to be produced under this joint venture.

In addition to the ALSV, Chenoweth is a

front runner in a competition to study, analyze and design a hybrid electronic Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Targeting Vehicle (R-STAV) for the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Special Operations Command.

The JTEV, or Joint Tactical Electric Vehicle, is a technology demonstrator for the R-STAV. The UTEV will test the feasibility of a small, electric drive, highly

Continued on page 69

The Advanced Light Strike Vehicle is the latest variation to hit the battlefield. Sporting greater speed, maneuverability, performance and firepower, the ALSV has sparked the interest of SpecOps worldwide.



Chenoweth Corp.

ALSV SPECIFICATIONS

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Length 4.25m 167 inches
- Width (outside wheel to wheel) 2.11m 83 inches
- Height 1.90m 75 inches
- Ground clearance38m 15 inches
- Wheel base 2.85m 112 inches
- Curb weight 1,250kg 2,750 pounds
- Combat payload 1,100kg 2,420 pounds
- Gross weight with payload 2,350kg 5,170 pounds

WEAPONS SYSTEMS:

- Mk-19 MOD 0 automatic grenade launcher
- M2 HB .50-caliber machine gun
- General purpose machine gun (M60 family/240 family)
- Anti-armor and anti-aircraft weapons

DRIVE TRAIN DATA:

- Engine type: 2.5L, 5-cylinder diesel, rated at 140hp (gasoline engine optional)
- Type cooling: Fan-assisted, water-cooled
- Transmission: Heavy-duty, off-road-proven, 5 forward, 1 reverse gear, transaxle
- Drive axles: All-wheel-drive with front and rear locking differentials

PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS (± GVW):

- Speed - Maximum 130 KPH
- Speed - Off-road Ranges from 25-110 KPH depending on type of terrain
- Acceleration: 0-50 KPH Less than 8 seconds
- Acceleration: 0-100 KPH Less than 20 seconds
- Cruising range 500 kilometers on main tank
- Maximum side slope40%+
- Maximum grade60%+

TRANSPORTABILITY:

- Helicopter internal CH47, CH53
- Tactical aircraft C-130: airdrop (2); airland (3)



Chenoweth Corp.



Henry Avridiscom, UNSCOM

WORLD AS APOCALYPSE

Saddam's Chem/Bio Threat

by Al J. Venter

Imagine it: Several pounds of anthrax are disseminated over the main business and residential areas of the capital city. It could be quietly and quickly done with a small private plane adapted with the appropriate aerosol sprays. The number of deaths occurring in the first few days would be about 400,000. Thousands of others would be at risk of dying if the proper antibiotics and vaccinations were not started immediately. That would be followed by the stampede of millions more, all of them fearful of themselves and their families being exposed.

The Office of Technology Assessment

placed just such a hypothetical scene before Congress not long ago. It painted a grim picture of the damage that might result if even non-contagious agents were spread across much of Washington, D.C.

"Chemical (and biological weapons) work. They are undergoing revolutionary developments which make them practical and very lethal participants in those human affairs which are ultimately resolved with blood and iron. Be ignorant and be damned, and condemn your children as well," wrote Dr. James A.F. Compton, in the introduction to his substantial primer *Military Chemical and Biological Agents*.

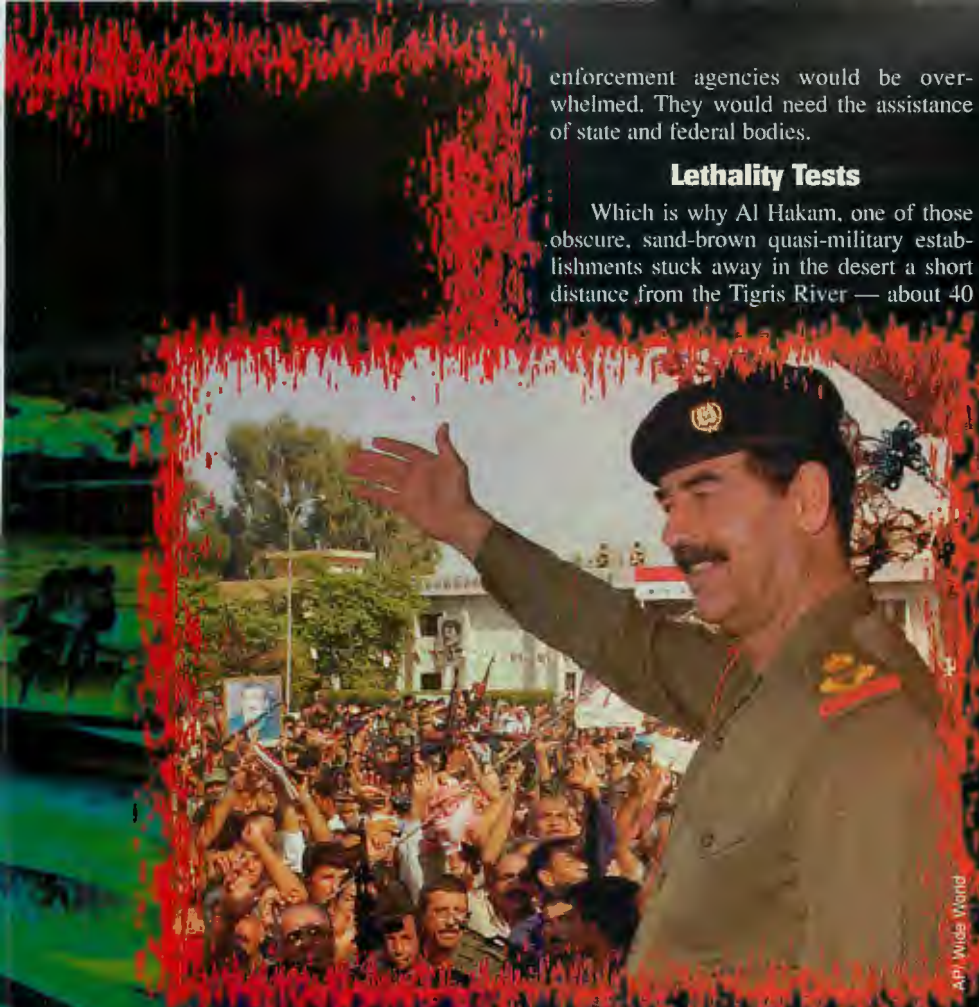
At about the same time, in August 1997, Dr. Jane Orient published an article on the

(top) UNSCOM inspectors seal these leaking 122-mm rockets, each filled with the chemical nerve agent Sarin. A weapons inspector (left) takes samples for a background air sample inside of a monitored Iraqi chemical plant.

enforcement agencies would be overwhelmed. They would need the assistance of state and federal bodies.

Lethality Tests

Which is why Al Hakam, one of those obscure, sand-brown quasi-military establishments stuck away in the desert a short distance from the Tigris River — about 40



AP/Wide World

miles southwest of Baghdad — was found to be so interesting.

Apart from the standard fence and nominal defenses, there appeared to be almost no security. Because the place seemed innocuous, Coalition Forces didn't touch it.

How different at the Iraqi chemical warfare plant at the Muthanna State Establishment, the original location of Iraq's biological weapons program. It was flattened by Allied bombers in 1991. Muthanna not only had air defenses and gun towers, but incorporated three separate and well-defended perimeter fences.

Researchers there carried out lethality evaluations of several biological weapons (BW) agents in animals and examined their growth characteristics and survivability. Agents investigated were anthrax, botulinum toxin (among the deadliest biological agents known to man) and, to a lesser extent, aflatoxin and ricin. That was before the Iraqis moved everything to Salman Pak, southeast of the capital.

Directly after the war, Al Hakam — with its fermentation tanks and ancillary equipment — was one of the places declared by the Baghdad regime as having a legitimate biological capability. The Iraqis stressed that it had a "strictly peacetime application."

Al Hakam, they told UN inspectors, was involved in the production of single-cell protein in yeast as a supplement for chicken feed and in the cultivation of BT (Bacillus thuringiensis) a bacterium that acts as an insecticide when applied to crops.

It took UN inspectors four more years to discover that the Iraqis were lying and that Al Hakam was the key to Iraq's BW program. To top it all, in the four years after Desert Storm, the UN conducted only three dedicated searches for biological weapons in all of Iraq, a culpable omission and one for which the West might one day pay.

As Dr. Dick Spertzel, Chief of the Biology Section at UNSCOM and a 28-year veteran of biological warfare and biomedical defenses in the U.S. Army says, "it was almost as if this threat did not exist. The biological weapons side was placed on the back burner." Much of the blame has been pinned to America's European UNSCOM partners, some of whom were looking over their shoulders at lucrative cash contracts once oil-rich Iraq had again joined the international fold; France, the Scandinavian states and Russia appear to be the main culprits.

Mass production of the Bacillus anthracis was started at Al Hakam in 1989. Eventually 8,500 acknowledged liters of liquid with an anthrax spore count of ten billion/cubic ml was produced. Much of this was used to fill weapons. The rest was secretly stored at the facility.

Iraq later admitted to Rolf Ekeus, former head of UNSCOM, that it had produced .5 million liters of botulinum and anthrax and that research work on mycotoxins had started.

Today, years later, UN officials in New York say from the start they were suspicious of Al Hakam. They maintain there had been much prodding and probing before the Iraqis finally admitted Al Hakam was the site of a plant producing agents for biological warfare.

Suspicious Confirmed

The first breakthrough came late in 1994. Iraq declared the Technical and Scientific Materials Import Division (TSMID) of the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialization had imported quantities of culture media on behalf of the Ministry of Health. Although Baghdad claimed the material was intended for disease diagnosis in hospital labs, the TSMID shipment totaled 39 tons packed in 25-100 kg drums, which created suspicion. Normally the stuff comes in packages weighing between 100gm and 500gm.

Moreover, the types of media imported were not suited for diagnostic purposes. Rather, they were ideal for the cultivation of BW agents such as anthrax. By early 1998, nearly 20 tons of this imported culture media remains unaccounted for.

That was followed by disclosures made by Iraqi General Waffic al-Sammara'i, former head of Saddam Hussein's Military Intelligence who fled the country in 1995 fearing for his life. Speaking from Damascus, where he was subsequently granted asylum, Waffic said apart from nuclear, chemical and missile assets, Iraq had "retained 255 containers of BW materials, 230 in dry form (which had no expiration date) and 25 with liquid." The powder

subject in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*. It was titled "Chemical and Biological Warfare: Should Defenses be Researched and Deployed?" There were some sobering observations even then, when such matters were regarded as arcane.

Orient pointed out that against civilian populations, chemical and biological weapons were extremely attractive because of simple economics: Casualties, she wrote, might cost \$2,000 per square km with conventional weapons, \$800 with nerve gas vs. \$1 per square km with biological weapons.

There is no question Iraq remains a threat. Not all of its weapons of mass destruction (WMD) have been uncovered.

Beyond the immediate health implications of biological attack, the potential panic and civil unrest would require an equally dramatic response. Local law-



UNSCOM team members prepare one of the fermentors at Al Hakam for demolition after it was found to be producing anthrax spores. Laboratory equipment is smashed at Al Hakam before being buried under concrete. Directly after the Gulf War, Al Hakam, with its fermentation tanks and ancillary equipment, was among places declared by the Baghdad regime as having a legitimate biological capability for "strictly peacetime application." A purveyor of deadly bacteria, this fermentation tank was destroyed by UNSCOM at Al Hakam.



(above) During inspections and destruction missions, UNSCOM officials salvaged for Iraqis some items determined to be harmless, including this array of electrical equipment.

of the warhead production records have been surrendered, raising questions as to exactly how many were made.

Saddam's Intent

Saddam Hussein had every intention to use these weapons in combat. This is evidenced by two American intelligence reports, one sourced to the DIA, the other to the CIA.

The DIA report (11 October 1991) describes a modified Su-22 Sukhoi *Fitter* of which a photo had been taken during Operation Desert Storm. The plane, with Iraqi markings, was at the Tallil airbase outside An Nasiriyah, roughly halfway between Baghdad and Kuwait. It revealed "what resembled a chemical/biological spray tank on the port-side pylon.



(above, left) This UNSCOM bulldozer destroys laboratory equipment scattered about Al Hakam, to ensure it won't be salvaged for future manufacture of biological warfare agents. (above) Taken off U.N. video, this photo shows animal cages the UNSCOM weapons inspectors suspect held animals used in biological weapons experiments at the Al Hakam facility south of Baghdad. (left) Richard Butler, chief UN weapons inspector, says Iraq has enough biological weapons to "blow away Tel Aviv."

Enlargements of the original photo showed an air scoop on the top front of the tank, giving rise to the hypothesis about a possible bio/chemical spray tank." Hoses and tubing attached to a partly destroyed vehicle parked alongside might have indicated a non-standard decontamination vehicle for bio/chem munitions.

A later (sanitized) CIA report titled *Iraqi BW Mission Planning* reads: "In the fall of 1990 (the Iraqi President) ordered plans to be drawn up for the airborne delivery of a BW agent...It called for a test mission of three MiG-21s to conduct an air raid (*deleted*) using conventional high explosive ordnance. If these aircraft were able to penetrate (*deleted*) then a second mission was to take off within a few days of the first, using the same flight path and approaches. The second mission, also comprising three MiG-21s and carrying conventional ordnance, was to serve as a decoy for a single Su-22. They would follow the same route but fly (at an altitude) of between 150 ft and 300 ft. Optimum delivery altitude for the BW agent was judged at 150ft at 400 knots ..."

On the first day of the war, the three MiGs took off from Tallil but were almost immediately shot down. The launch of the Su-22 — the same aircraft mentioned in the DIA report with the modified tanks — was canceled. There are also reports of a Mirage F1 at Kut Air Force Base with belly drop tanks that could take 2,000 litres of biological media. Since Tallil is much closer to the Gulf than to Israel, Allied ground forces were almost certainly the objective.

Some idea of the damage that could be caused by one aircraft spraying a single biological agent (in a mile-wide line with downwind travel of about 14 miles) was given by the World Health Organization in a publication *Health Aspects of Chemical and Biological Weapons* (Geneva) in 1970. Such an attack, with 100 lbs. of dried anthrax in a suitable aerosol form, would affect an area in excess of 30 square miles. It would result in hundreds of thousands of deaths.

U.N. Seeks And Destroys

Once the real purpose of Al Hakam became evident, UNSCOM went to work "removing, destroying and rendering harmless" everything that might be construed to be associated with a BW program at the base. Meanwhile, following other leads, U.N. inspectors had earlier discovered more such facilities at Salman Pak, Fudaliyah, Taji and the Daura Foot and Mouth Disease Vaccine complex on the outskirts of Baghdad.

Some were left intact; Daura's vaccine production is essential for livestock survival in the region, though evidence that there was also research on viral warfare agents including hemorrhagic conjunctivitis, human rotavirus and camelpox came later. Here, too, offending items were removed for destruction.

Certainly, there are other BW assets, but they still need to be uncovered, as do more clandestine nuclear facilities. This is evidenced by the incompatibility of declared

nuclear related items compared to those recovered, as well as the attempt by Iraq to acquire hydrofluoric acid, a chemical used in the production of uranium hexafluoride [UF₆] feedstock. The truth, according to Ewen Buchanan, UNSCOM's External Relations Advisor in New York, is that while the inspectors might have come close to doing so, they have found nothing new.

By early 1998, UNSCOM was monitoring almost 90 biological facilities throughout Iraq. It is important to look closely at what was being done at other Iraqi BW establishments:

Laboratory-scale research on anthrax (caused by the bacterium *Bacillus anthracis*) botulinum toxin (*Clostridium botulinum*), gas gangrene (*Clostridium perfringens*), fungal toxins (including aflatoxin and tri-



Rolf Ekeus with UNSCOM inspectors at the Hydrolysis plant for destruction of chemical agents. Iraq once admitted to Ekeus (pictured here), former head of UNSCOM, that it had produced 1.5 million litres of botulinum and anthrax, more than enough to wipe out the population of a major city.

chothecene mycotoxins) as well as ricin (extracted from the seeds of the castor bean plant, *Ricinus communis*) were among tasks performed at Salman Pak, an average-sized place about 30 miles out of Baghdad. Much of this was confirmed by Dr. Richard Spertzel who has made numerous trips to Iraq as part of the U.N. contingent, most recently January 1998.

Staff at the site (the national BW headquarters) carried out toxicity evaluations of these and other agents. They also examined their growth characteristics and survivability. The Iraqis eventually conducted initial scale-up production research at Salman Pak with a view to ultimately incorporating BW (and CW) in the warheads of Scud missiles being adapted for the purpose. Some of these, as we have seen, were ready for firing at the start of Desert Storm.

Iraq initially mixed aflatoxin, a carcinogen from wheat or ground-nut mold, experimentally with chemical riot-control agents. U.N. officials say the intention was to spray the chemical on Kurdish and other ethnic minorities opposed to rule from Baghdad in the hope that it would eventually produce an untraceable spike of cancer in the years ahead.

UNSCOM has listed five more Iraqi sites involved in research in CW agents. These are in addition to the ten nuclear and nine ballistic missile sites, the latter including

weaponization, production and test facilities.

Bio Warfare's Roots

Iraq's biological warfare program was started in 1974, five years before Saddam Hussein took power. Although Iraq joined 140 other nations and signed the BWC to forgo the production or acquisition of all BWs or toxins in 1972, Baghdad's Al Hazan Ibn Al Hathem Institute was founded secretly two years later. Much of the early work was targeted at opponents of the regime.

The West, by its own admission, was aware of Iraq's BW potential for some time. Much had appeared in print on the subject over the years, underscored by the effort that went into inoculating Desert Storm forces against an acknowledged threat. This watershed that forced Saddam's people to admit being engaged in a BW program came progressively, in September and November 1994, and, finally, in July 1995.

Why was such a serious lapse allowed? As one observer pointed out, it was almost as if some elements within UNSCOM were working for Saddam and not against his interest in weapons of mass destruction.

This issue has been raised often enough in the past. Each time the reply from the U.N. officer responsible has been along the lines there was "no smoking gun," a curious admission and for several reasons, including: The West knew from the start what it was up against; it had reams of evidence of previous BW programs; it knew what Iraq had been shopping for.

Yet almost all effort expended in the first 40 months of UNSCOM activity in Iraq was devoted to uncovering nuclear, chemical and missile assets. Looking back, we now see that in terms of immediate potential the BW program was the most potent.

Bio-Warfare Woman

Much of the early research in Iraq was conducted on small mammals at Salman Pak and Muthanna, which, until then, had been devoted to CW research under the supervision of two British-trained Iraqis. The BW Team leader was Rihab Taha who obtained her doctorate in microbiology at East Anglia University in the UK. She is married to a general in the Iraqi Armed Forces. Asked to characterize her, one observer said she was petite, with a dry, precise manner. For years she has been assisted by Amer Saadi who was later promoted to the rank of major general. Most observers in Iraq regard the Taha woman as the *eminent grise* behind Iraq's BW program.

Her mentor, Abdul Nassir Hindawi — who made a name for himself in microbiology after graduating from Mississippi State University — originally inspired Saddam with theories of cheap military victories using gas and germs. U.N. officials say his papers have never been surrendered. Iraq told UNSCOM, in September 1997, that Hindawi's perceived objectives "were to

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The Jump Into Stanleyville

by Rob Krott

PHOTOS COURTESY COL. DONALD R. STROBAUGH, USAF (Ret.)

Last month we saw the multinational force of English-trained Belgian paracommandos assembled and en route to the Congo on a fleet of 12 U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules transports. From USEUCOM, the transports of Operation Dragon Rouge would pick up the commandos in Belgium, fly to Spain, to Ascension Island, and on to a staging base in Katanga. From there they would be escorted by B-26s, flown by CIA-hired Cuban exile pilots, to the rescue of Europeans and Americans being slaughtered by rebel "Simba" forces in the Congo. In the dramatic conclusion, we see the heroic deliverance of hostages and expatriates by the commandos and Hoare's "Wild Geese" mercs — and the cruel murder of hundreds not-so-fortunate by "Simba" rebels.

The C-130s departed Kleine Brogel, Belgium, at 2240 Zulu, en route to their refueling stop at Moron Air Base, in Spain, before continuing on to Ascension Island. When the C-130s landed to refuel, an American major left one of the aircraft to supervise the refueling and to ensure the planes remained closed to observation. But someone opened a door for fresh air and one of the USAF ground crew looked inside.

Sitting inside were the Belgian paratroopers wearing their red berets. The surprised airman reported to the major: "Sir, who are

those guys in red hats?"

"What guys in red hats?" replied the major.

"Them guys in red hats!"

"What guys in red hats?"

The airman looked again at the planeload of Belgian paratroopers wearing their distinctive red berets. The major closed the door saying, "There's nobody in there wearing red hats."

The Men In Red Hats

The Belgian paracommandos, under command of Colonel Charles Laurent, would jump wearing their berets. The psychological effect *Les Paras* had on the Simbas would offer his green troops more protection than steel helmets. Laurent had earlier jumped into Stanleyville on a training mission, as had his sergeant major, and had led the paras who had taken the Leuopold airport from mutinous ANC troops in 1960.

Arriving at 1310Z, 18 November, the paratroopers and the C-130 crews waited on Ascension for three days. During this time, Captain Strobaugh taught 21 Belgian jumpmasters proper C-130 parachute-drop procedures and, along with Sergeant Dias, taught the radiomen how to use the PRC-41 and PRC-47 radios for ground-to-air communications.

Because of a shortage of Belgian jumpmasters, Strobaugh would jumpmaster Chalk-9, but was under strict orders not to jump himself.



(opposite) Armed with Vigneron 9mm M2 submachine guns, Belgian paracommandos on motor-tricycles speed across Stanleyville airport to rescue hostages being held/murdered by Simba rebels. (above) *Raison d'être*, rescued hostages prepare to evacuate Stanleyville aboard USAF C-130 transports.

Like any paratrooper, Strobaugh wanted to make a combat jump: "I jumpmastered the load, but couldn't jump. You can imagine my frustration."

On 20 November, the unit commanders were briefed on the assault plan. Strobaugh relayed the details to Washington and at 1800Z the men of *Dragon Rouge* were alerted. They didn't have to wait long; a half-hour later the "Go" order was given. At 1935Z, the first aircraft lifted off for Kamina Air Base, in Katanga, which would serve as their staging base for the air assault on Stanleyville.

"Wild Geese"

After nine hours in the air, the *Dragon Rouge* force landed at Kamina airfield, still obscured by fog. At Kamina, the commander of JTF Leo and now the overall commander of Operation *Dragon Rouge*, Colonel Clayton Isaacson, gave the force a briefing. The paratroopers were forced to wait at Kamina while Belgian and U.S. diplomats continued negotiating for the release of the hostages held by the butcherous Simba rebels. Meanwhile Lima One, a column of trucks and armored cars carrying Congolese government ANC troops and Mike Hoare's 5 Commando, commanded by Commandant Albert Liegeois, a Belgian Army officer, had been fighting its way from Kongolo 470 miles away through the jungle, toward Stanleyville.

The hundred or so English-speaking mercenaries and the 150 Katangese soldiers of Lima One rescued many Europeans and discovered the bodies of others who'd been executed and mutilated. As they progressed, they engaged and killed thousands of Simbas. At Kindu, Lima One was reinforced by another group of mercenaries, bringing their strength to 120 white soldiers, and was joined by another motorized column, Lima Two. Lima Two consisted of 50 French-speaking



Wounded hostages being evacuated from Stanleyville aboard USAF Hercules transports that brought in Belgian rescuers.

white mercenaries and 300 ANC troops under the command of Commandant Robert Lamouline. Like Liegeois, Lamouline was on-loan from the Belgian army. Both units were under the overall command of Colonel Frederic Van de Waele. Van de Waele, 52, was a former *Force Publique* officer with more than 25 years' service in the Congo. It was hoped that this force would link up with Laurent's paras. Van de Waele had already convinced Laurent to delay the parachute assault for a day so that his force could strike on the same day.

Some American embassy officials disagreed. It would be politically safer for Laurent to rescue the hostages on Monday, 23 November, a day before the mercenaries arrived. Others agreed with Van de Waele. As it was, the assault was delayed a day because of negotiations with the Simbas. The jump was scheduled for Tuesday, the 24th. If the paratroops couldn't jump because of weather then Van de Waele's force would have to rescue the hostages by themselves. Without the surprise of the parachute assault it might be too late.

For many others it already was. On the 19th, at Isangi, about 100 miles downstream from Stanleyville, the Simbas had killed two nuns (an American and a Belgian) and a Dutch priest. Many other nuns were beaten and raped.

Rescue Raid On Stanleyville

On the 24th, at 0130 hours local time, just three hours after receiving the code word "punch" from the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the commander of JTF Leo took off from Kamina to rendezvous over Basoko with support aircraft and got a weather report for Stanleyville. The weather was good. Operation *Dragon Rouge* could proceed.

The first five C-130s, designated Chalk-1 through Chalk-5, lifted off from Kamina at 0300 hours.

At 0600, the first five C-130s dropped their paratroopers at 20-second intervals over the Stanleyville golf course. Colonel Charles Laurent, the regimental commander, led the jump and was followed by



Wounded hostages, survivors of the Simba massacre, preparing to load C-130 for air evacuation from Stanleyville.



Belgian paracommando marches a captured Simba into captivity. Weapon is Belgian 9mm M2 Vigneron submachine gun.

the remaining 63 paratroopers in his aircraft while the other four C-130s disgorged their payloads of 64 paratroopers each.

The paratroopers seized the airport against light resistance, cleared the runway of its obstructions of wrecked vehicles and 55-gallon fuel drums. Three vehicles were caught attempting to flee the airfield. Two were destroyed by gunfire and the third captured. Inside a vehicle the Belgian paratroopers found the passport of Christophe Gbenya — his ID card, vaccination record, and a large sum of cash. Gbenya had been Lumumba's minister of interior, and had founded the *Conseil National de Liberation*, subsequently joining the Simbas in September 1964. Overall resistance was light and most of the Simbas fled into the bush.

The Cuban-piloted B-26s circling above, hungrily looked for targets — but found none. So far, the mission was a success and, other than three paratroopers injured in the drop, there were no friendly casualties. According to Strobaugh “... within 30 minutes after drop, the troops had secured the airfield. Then minutes later they transmitted the clearance to land the assault aircraft. This is nothing short of miraculous considering that in the space of 40 minutes the Belgians not only fought and captured the airfield, set up a perimeter defense and marshaled an attack force for the city of Stanleyville, but also removed approximately 300 full 55-gallon drums and 11 vehicles without wheels, off of the runway where the rebels had placed them to prevent aircraft from using the field.”



U.S. Army



Slaughter, Deliverance Of Hostages

The telephone in the control tower, in use as Colonel Laurent's command post, rang at 0635 and someone in Stanleyville informed the paratroopers that the hostages

(above) Disarmed Simba prisoners are questioned by paracommandos shortly after seizure of airfield. Note kitbag containing parachute, on right. (left) Simba “priest” being questioned by an ANC officer, 27 November 1964. He was kicked to death later that day. American observers questioned whether locals would be able to tell difference in terrorism of rebels or of re-established government's troops.

were in Victoria Residence Hotel and in danger of being executed. Laurent sent the paratroopers into the city.

With the runways clear of obstructions and the airport perimeter secured, the other seven C-130s were ordered to land. Chalk-6 and Chalk-7 with their armored jeeps were to be followed by Chalks-8 and -9 carrying the company of paratroopers from the 2nd Battalion — the troops with only 5-1/2 months' service. Then landed Chalk-10 carrying the three-man motor tricycles, Chalk-11, which carried the ammunition, food, and medical supplies, was followed by Chalk-12, the hospital plane.

While Chalk-7, carrying four of the armored jeeps landed at 0645, Chalk-6, with the other four jeeps, was delayed an hour when shortly after takeoff a panel on the right wing of Chalk-6 popped open, exposing a life raft which inflated and then wrapped around the tail controls. The pilot, Captain (later Major General) Richard V. Secord, saved the aircraft and was subsequently awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In two armored jeeps, paratroopers of the 11th Para-Commando Company entered the outskirts of Stanleyville a mere 3 kilometers from the airport at 0740, meeting light resistance from the Simbas at each street intersection. They were several blocks from the Victoria Residence and the hostages at 0750 when they heard shooting.

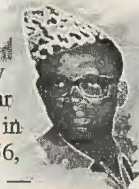
About 300 hostages (including 17 Americans) were being held in the Victoria Residence. When the Simbas heard the approaching C-130s they ordered all the hostages outside. Nearly 50 were able to hide themselves in closets and under beds. Of the 250 or so hostages lined up in three columns outside the Victoria about 100 were women and children. Only a dozen Simbas guarded them. While five or six had automatic rifles, the others carried spears and machetes. The Simba commander, “Colonel” Joseph Opepe, a former *Force Publique* and ANC officer, ordered them marched to the airport. Near the Congo

The Statesman, the Mercenary, and the General

Moise Tshombe. In a strange political turn-about, the highly popular Moise Tshombe was recalled from exile in July 1964, at the height of the Simba Rebellion, to replace Cyrille Abdoula as prime minister of the Congo. Tshombe and President Kasavubu were later deposed in Mobutu's coup of November 1965.

Colonel Michael Hoare. Was a professional soldier, who had fought under General Orde Wingate with the famed *Chindits* in Burma during World War II. After the war he became an accountant. He would serve Tshombe again in the Congo crisis of 1964 and go on to lead an unsuccessful mercenary coup of the Seychelles Islands. Hoare published his memoirs of the Katangese Rebellion, *The Road to Kalamata and the Congo, Congo Mercenary and Congo Warriors.*

Mobutu Sese-Seko [full name *Mobutu Sese-Seko Koko Ngbendu Wa Za Banga*; which translated “he who by his greatness is invincible”] was born 4 October 1930, in Lisala, on the Congo River, and christened Joseph Deste Mobutu. The son of a cook for the colonial magistrate, he was educated in Leopoldville in various Catholic missionary schools until expelled in 1950 at the age of 19. He received a seven-year disciplinary conscription into the *Force Publique*. Because of his fluency in French he was soon sent to noncommissioned officers' school. In 1956, Mobutu was discharged with the highest possible rank for a Congolese — sergeant major. As a civilian, he gained notoriety as an editorial writer and became an associate of Patrice Lumumba, heading Lumumba's Brussels office in 1960. When the army mutinied later that year and Lumumba was named Prime Minister, Mobutu was the logical choice for army chief-of-staff. Mobutu (deeply involved in the plot to assassinate Lumumba) rose to rank of Major General and C-in-C of the ANC (*Armée Nationale Congolese*) before usurping the presidency from President Joseph Kasavubu, 25 November 1965. Ousted by the recent rebellion led by Laurent Kabila, Mobutu died of cancer while in exile.



— R.K.

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Patrice Lumumba

Patrice Lumumba was the first prime minister (June-September 1960) of the Democratic Republic of the Congo was dismissed from office by President Joseph Kasavubu. Lumumba and his supporters contested the legality of this and set up their own central government. Nine days after Lumumba's dismissal, Colonel Joseph Mobutu seized power temporarily, before reaching an agreement with Kasavubu. In October the UN recognized Kasavubu's claim and in November Lumumba attempted to travel from his UN protection in Leopoldville to Stanleyville. He was captured by Kasavubu's forces en route and arrested. On 17 January 1961, he was handed over to Katangese secessionists and murdered. —R.K.

Palace Hotel, just two blocks from the Victoria, Opepe ordered the column to halt. Firing could be heard. Opepe ordered the hostages to sit down. Suddenly, a group of Simbas rushed up and informed Opepe that Belgian paratroops had landed at the airport. For the next few minutes confusion reigned. Heavy gunfire was heard nearby. Without warning the Simbas began shooting the hostages.

It was a massacre.

For nearly five minutes the Simbas shot hostages, most of whom fled. Some were chased down and stabbed or hacked to death by the Simbas. U.S. Consul Michael Hoyt and Vice-Consul David Grinwis escaped. Killed in the shooting was Dr. Paul Carlson. Phyllis Rine, 25, a missionary from Ohio, was also fatally wounded. Taken under fire by the approaching Belgian paratroops, the Simbas fled before they were able to kill more whites. When the paratroops arrived they found two little girls, five women, and 15 men dead or dying and 40 Belgians wounded (five would later die of their wounds). While the priest with the 11th Para-Commando Company administered last rites, the survivors, including Consul Hoyt and four consulate staff, were escorted to the airfield.

Saving Some, Losing Others

Laurent's paras continued clearing Stanleyville, engaging the Simbas in sporadic firefights, and effecting the rescue of hostages wherever they found them. The paratroopers suffered their first combat casualty at about 0900 when a paratrooper was shot in the back and wounded. Half an hour later, a second para was wounded and at 1000, a third, dying two days later. The first plane loaded with 120 evacuees lifted off for Leopoldville at 0945 and at 1100 the four lead vehicles of mercenaries from Van de Waele's column entered Stanleyville. Hoare's "Wild Geese" continued clearing Stanleyville while Laurent's paratroops concentrated on evacuating the civilians and securing the airport.

There had been approximately 150 rebels west of Runway 28 and another 180 rebels in foxholes in the tree line parallel to the runway. Later that afternoon, 150 Simbas unsuccessfully attacked the airport. The Belgians repulsed five attacks. Taking fire throughout the day, they were in several firefights that night. The sporadic incoming small-arms fire from the perimeter forced Strobaugh and his combat control team to orbit aircraft and change runway direction. Several of the C-130s boasted bullet holes. In the morning, a Belgian airman was killed by sniper fire.

Meanwhile, Van de Waele's force was having problems crossing the Congo River to the city's left bank. Hoare and his mercenaries made the crossing on the 26th and found the massed bodes of 24 priests and four Spanish nuns.

Herded into a small cell, the Simbas had

shot them and then cut their throats. The nuns were hacked to death.

"Lesser" Of Two Evils

With the mercenaries and the ANC in Stanleyville the *ratissage*, or "raking up," began. The Congolese of Stanleyville would find very little difference between the Simbas and the ANC troops bent of pillage and revenge. The ANC often considered all civilians found in a formerly Simba controlled area to be Simbas, or guilty of collaborating with rebels and treated them accordingly.

Regarding the conduct of ANC troops in Stanleyville Captain Strobaugh noted in his journal: "The senseless butchery and mutilation of civilians and military prisoners is unbelievable. There was absolutely no difference between the everyday acts of the

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Like many former European colonies before and since, shortly after emancipation the Belgian Congo fractured and fell victim to a series of rebellions as new players, this time of native descent, jockeyed for position on the African stage. Gray lines represent Simba advances.

Joint Task Force Leo and Oplan 519

Task Force Leo was dispatched on 11 August 1964, and was comprised of headquarters personnel from Headquarters, U.S. Strike Command; a rifle platoon from the 504th ABN Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division; four C-130s and crews from the 464th Troop Carrier Wing, Pope AFB; and three CH-34 helicopters from the 11th Transportation Company, Nellingen, Germany. Unfortunately, the troops of JTF Leo were placed under ridiculous and unrealistic restrictions requiring the White House to approve any use of the paratroopers on the helicopters during "rescues." The embassy was expected to forecast when armed Simbas would fire on the helicopters and where, and then request prior approval of action from the White House — a portent of things to come in Vietnam.

STRICOM Oplan 519 was submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for approval on 15 October. It established JTF High Beam: one airborne infantry brigade from the 101st Airborne Division, 16 tactical fighter aircraft, more than 80 troop-carrier aircraft, and 20 air refuel tankers. One battalion would parachute onto three drop zones, followed by a second battalion to parachute or land with the remainder of the brigade standing by in the United States. Oplan 519 was considered "overkill" by the Congo Working Group, in Washington.

The other plan to rescue the hostages, "Operation Golden Hawk" involved U.S. Army Green Berets. Colonel Edward E. Mayer, Commander of the 7th Special Forces Group, was notified while on the Fort Bragg golf course. Flown to MacDill AFB, he was told he had until the next morning to man a rescue. Fortunately, he already had his "hot" teams ready. The Special Forces A-Teams would make a HALO parachute jump below Stanleyville to infiltrate upriver by rubber boat. Golden Hawk was to be a "black op" (totally deniable and clandestine): The Green Berets were equipped with sterile (foreign or untraceable) uniforms, weapons, and equipment. One volunteer, an officer, even had a tattoo removed so he could remain on his team for the mission. —R.K.

Full-Speed Reverse

The BATF's new manual order on hiring, promotions and transfers may become the crucible that makes or breaks BATF's future, critics say.

Titled the *Competitive Selection of Special Agents*, the new blueprint for getting hired or promoted in BATF is a trophy in a seven-year struggle by agents of African descent. They filed a class-action lawsuit in November 1990, alleging a litany of institutionalized abuses and discriminatory acts in which bureau bosses turned a blind eye to racist conduct and administrative acts of retribution.

Champions in the Clinton Administration see the settlement agreement that resulted from the lawsuit as one of the most successful and aggressive affirmative action plans ever implemented in the executive branch.

Its critics, most of whom acknowledge that racism was a problem in BATF, characterize the new plan as "radical." They say that, as written, the new plan is neither competitive, as the title claims, nor is it based on merit. It is, they say, based solely on an applicant's skin color, and requires non-black agents to pass additional hurdles not required of black agents to get promoted or transferred.

But this new hiring-and-promotion policy at the BATF may ultimately face its most serious challenge in the outcome of a U.S. District Court lawsuit filed against the bureau by Vincent C. Noble, an agent supervisor in Louisville, Kentucky (see "Separate But Equal?" April '97).

Noble's suit alleges that he was discriminated against because of his race (white) and sex (male) when a job for which he applied was given to a black female agent with less than half his length of service and who he supervised.

Bureau bosses recently suffered an additional setback when Noble's immediate supervisor, whom Noble had accused of helping carry out the bureau's conspiracy of intimidation and harassment, told the unvarnished truth in a sworn deposition, essentially confirming

New Court Settlement May Institutionalize Discrimination In BATF

by James L. Pate

Noble's key allegations.

Noble's lawsuit is still months away from trial, but the revelations by Noble's supervisor, Special Agent John Rick Miller, may provide a strong incentive for the bureau to settle, rather than risk losing in court. Miller has filed three administrative complaints of his own, saying that now *he* is a target of the same conspiracy of intimidation and harassment waged against Noble.

Treasury agents involved all declined to be interviewed for this story, either referring questions to BATF's public affairs office or the agent's attorney. BATF spokesman Pat Hynes said he could not comment on the matter because it involves pending litigation.

Miller's deposition lends great strength to Noble's case, but whether Noble settles or goes to trial, the outcome will almost certainly lead to further legal questions about BATF's court-imposed, race-based promotion policy. While agents across the nation are watching the Noble case, the more immediate concern has been over the policy's short-term impact.

Bad Ruling = Bad Relations

Since the new selection guidelines were issued, "my phone has been ringing off the hook," said James L. Jorgensen, a recently retired BATF agent who is deputy executive director of the National Association of Treasury Agents (NATA), an employee-rights group representing male and female agents of all races from law-enforcement agencies in the Treasury Department.



Last year at least 20 ATF special agents were granted official time in which to attend a Miami, Florida conference sponsored by the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives. The estimated expenditure of ATF training funds for conference fees, travel costs, lodging and per diem exceeds \$40,000. Workshops at the NOBLE conference included "Minority Recruitment and Affirmative Action" and "Harassment of Blacks in Law

Enforcement." Shown above are some of the ATF agents who attended the NOBLE "training" conference. For the past several years, similar accommodation has been denied to agents from ATF and other Treasury law enforcement bureaus and services who asked to attend meetings sponsored by NATA. Equal opportunity litigation is being considered against top ranking Treasury law enforcement officials who have tacitly sanctioned this discriminatory practice.

And some more equal than others: NATA has raised questions about the 20-odd ATF special agents who traveled to Miami last year on government time and expense to attend a conference sponsored by National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, when similar junkets were denied others.

"Agents are stunned. They're amazed. They're outraged."

Under the new guideline, agents applying for "competitive" promotion or reassignment must have their applications screened through the Equal Opportunity Office (EO) at BATF headquarters. The first step for EO, according to the new guideline, is to "search the Race and National Origin database to determine if the recommended candidate is African-American."

"If the recommended candidate is African-American, the EO Office will return the package to the selecting official with written notification that the recommended candidate is African-American," the new policy continues. "The selection process shall then be complete and the African-American shall be promoted or reassigned."

If the applicant is not of African descent, the new manual order states, "the EO Office will check the database to determine whether there are any African-Americans on either the best-qualified list or roster of reassignment eligibles. If there are no African-Americans on either list, the EO Office will return the promotion package ... with written notification that there were no African-American applicants. The selection process shall then be complete ..."

"What they've done in this settlement agreement is formally institutionalize racism in the BATF," said Jorgensen, whose organization had to abandon its court battle against the settlement agreement because its legal defense fund was nearly exhausted. "Their so-called equitable remedies have codified a new system of reverse discrimination."

Jorgensen notes that neither he nor NATA ever disputed that racism was a problem in the BATF. "NATA didn't oppose the monetary remedies," he said, "but we fought the 'equitable' remedies. What they've done is try to solve one problem, racism against black agents, with another problem, racism by blacks against everyone else. Sanity, logic and reason have been sacrificed on the altar of political correctness. Two wrongs do not make a right. It's just a matter of time."

"BATF was hardly negotiating from a position of strength to start with," Jorgensen said. "News about the roundup [the Good Ole Boy Roundup — a whites-only, racially toned federal agent get-together in Tennessee] put their backs to the wall. The black

agents essentially grabbed BATF bosses by their 'good ole boys,' and their hearts and wallets had to follow."

Panic set in among BATF's management, Jorgensen and others believe, leading to an unreasonable and unfair settlement agreement. It has, according to more than a dozen agents nationwide with whom *Soldier Of Fortune* spoke, increased racial tension, rather than decreasing it.

Different Discrimination: Still Discrimination

Perceptions of reverse discrimination are documented in sworn depositions taken for the pending lawsuit of Special Agent Noble. Noble also claims that when he filed an EO complaint in the matter, his bosses began an orchestrated campaign of harassment and abuse of authority in an effort to get him to either withdraw his complaints or quit his job. Although he had an unblemished record of service and was highly rated in his job performance, after he filed his first EO complaint, he was subjected to six Internal Affairs investigations, was punitively transferred and was unjustly suspended, when his badge, gun, identification and government car were summarily seized.

Noble's troubles began soon after the arrival of his new first-line supervisor, John Rick Miller, who headed the group to which Noble was assigned. Miller was transferred to Louisville as a group supervisor in mid-October 1993. One of his first duties in the new job was to complete the scheduled annual evaluation of a Special Agent Dee Davenport.

Not yet familiar with Davenport, her abilities or her work habits, Miller asked for, and was granted, extra time to complete Davenport's annual job appraisal.

In his haste to complete the evaluation, Miller solicited input from others in Louisville who had known and worked with Davenport longer than he had. The most significant input, Miller's deposition says, came from Davenport's former training officer,

Michael J. Scanlan. Based largely on Scanlan's input, Miller rated Davenport as "fully successful." He signed her evaluation form on 24 January 1994.

Under careful questioning by Noble's attorney, Kathleen M. Kubicki, whose legal counsel was provided through Noble's membership in NATA, Miller said he later learned that Davenport had been "given credit for work outside the appraisal period," which was from October to October 1992-93.

Davenport had also claimed for purposes of her January evaluation that she provided key assistance in the prosecution of 27 defendants in state court. Miller said Davenport provided no documentation, and he did not try to verify the case. Documents subsequently obtained from Davenport, however, prove that no prosecutions were made during her rating period, and that six months after her evaluation was signed, it was still an open case and no one had been prosecuted.

Davenport also claimed credit in her submission for evaluation for a case which, a file check revealed, did not officially open until a week after Miller signed her final evaluation as "exceeds fully successful."

Boy, howdy! No wonder she got such a fine rating. She's so smart she solves cases before they're even opened!

Smoke And Mirrors

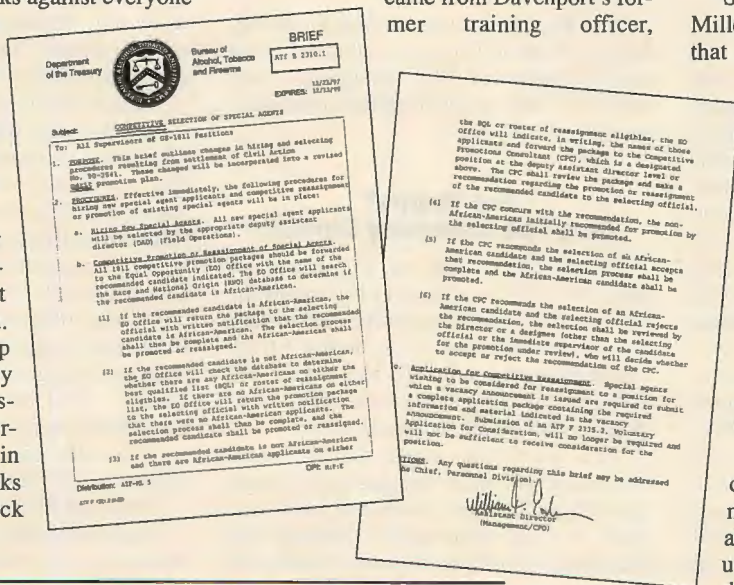
In another case she opened against gun buyers who make "straw purchases" of guns actually intended for someone else, Miller said Davenport was actually "chronically late" and "deficient" in her report writing, and that all the reports in the case were prepared by agents other than Davenport — many of them actually written by Vince Noble.

Quoting from Davenport's approved evaluation form, Kubicki read aloud that "her communications are well above average, reports are timely, accurate and complete."

Since he had time to review the records, Miller admitted that he no longer believed that to be an accurate statement. He also conceded that Davenport would be "least likely" to be timely in her investigative reports, adding that she did not fully document her cases with the required paperwork.

Kubicki quoted a document which Davenport submitted as part of her promotion package, one in which Davenport claimed to have "maintained the heaviest case load in the Louisville group office." Asked under oath about the statement, Miller acknowledged that ... Davenport's "statement on its face is incorrect."

Further questioning revealed serious deficiencies in Davenport's job performance. Based on what he later learned about Davenport, Miller said, if she was unqualified for the special agent's job she already held, Davenport was certain-



Institutionalizing reverse discrimination? New BATF policy in settlement of civil suit by black agents affirmatively gives African-American agents first crack — not an even chance at — promotions, plum assignments.

ly not fit to hold the Organized Crime Coordinator (OCC) job.

As Kubicki went, step by step, through various case files involving Davenport, Miller confirmed that she repeatedly failed to follow standard investigative procedures, that she required more supervisory assistance than other agents and that she was unfamiliar with property forfeiture laws, a major requirement for the OCC post.

"Did she have the qualifications to do this job?" Kubicki asked.

"I would say no," Miller replied.

Asked specifically if Davenport was the best person for the OCC job, or if Vince Noble was the best qualified, Miller was unequivocal. "I would have to say Vince, because of his prior experience in that area," Miller said.

Kubicki also submitted documents indicating that Davenport listed her name as case agent — and subsequently got all the credit — for a case that actually was completely handled and written up by Special Agent Thomas Hahn, a white male agent.

Davenport also created an adverse working relationship with local law-enforcement authorities, Miller acknowledged. The local police officers were peeved that their staff "did a lot of work" on a specific case also involving Davenport, Miller testified, and that "Dee [Davenport] just took the case and cut them out of it."

Kubicki also produced a list of case numbers, numbers from the investigative log that did not have corresponding case files. All were traced to Davenport. And there were other serious problems.

Privileged Player

And even though Davenport was advised repeatedly that she was not in compliance with required procedures regarding maintaining the chain of custody for physical evidence, she was never issued a verbal or written warning, nor was she punished. Asked who would be responsible for initiating such an adverse action, Miller said it would be Special Agent Scanlan, the same supervisor whom Miller now says provided him misleading information about Davenport's abilities as an agent.

Asked why Scanlan would have a motive to mislead him about Davenport, Miller said the two are "very good friends." Had Scanlan made any comments about Davenport that were "more than friendly?" Miller was asked. "He's made some comments along those lines," Miller replied, "but not just to me ... He more or less said he loved her."

Miller confirmed that Scanlan was Davenport's first-line supervisor at that

time, and remains her immediate boss. He also said other BATF personnel complained openly because Scanlan shows Davenport blatantly preferential treatment, specifically that she is seen spending a lot of time sitting in Scanlan's office and not working. This has put an unfairly burdensome workload on Davenport's colleague, a white male agent.

Davenport ended up working directly for Scanlan after she refused to work at the Organized Crime Coordinator's job — the job she wanted and which caused all the



Special Agent Vince Noble (left), who had an exemplary career until he filed a reverse-discrimination lawsuit, became subject of six internal investigations, psychiatric probe, other harassment. Comes trial, his suit may well effect new "affirmative action" guidelines at BATF.

Author's Files

trouble in the first place. Did she ever go to the OCC job, other than a first visit to be introduced to other OCC staff members?

"Not to my knowledge," Miller replied.

So she wasn't even doing the OCC job, was she? Miller was asked.

"No."

And she was ordered to report, wasn't she?

"Yes."

Did she follow orders?

"No."

Was there any verbal warning or admonishment made to Davenport after she failed to report to the new OCC job which she had requested, and to which she was ordered to go to?

"No."

Not Happy? See The Company Shrink!

When Noble filed an EO complaint about the OCC job going to Davenport, he saw his previously successful career make a radical shift. The first of six Internal Affairs investigations against Noble began. He even got an employee counseling letter, referring him to a psychiatrist.

That wasn't the worst, though. Noble was unceremoniously stripped of his badge, gun, ID and car, and suspended from duty, based on unsubstantiated allegations by Davenport — allegations which Miller now says were not true. Although Noble's status as special agent was soon restored, being relieved from duty, even temporarily, was

the most painful thing BATF management could have done to Noble, Miller said in his deposition.

In his 25 years as a BATF agent, Miller said he had never seen anything like it, that "I didn't think there was proof of the allegations" against Noble by Davenport. Contrary to his description of Davenport's work ethic, Miller said, "Vince is just a worker. He's a hard worker and to take him away from his job and the things he's interested in ... You know, any agent that is a good worker like that, you're taking a portion of their life away from them, and that's sometimes very difficult to bear."

Miller said that SAC Bill Curley knew Davenport's allegations that Noble stalked her were false, and pointed out that she never accused Noble of anything until he filed his EO complaint about her getting the job she never showed up for.

The most specific complaint she ever made, Miller said, was that "he [Noble] had followed her up 5th Street on a couple of occasions ... And I said, 'Dee, are you sure about this? You know, his wife works up at 5th and Main ...' And she said she was going to make a complaint about it."

Miller recalled a meeting with the SAC to discuss the merits of Davenport's allegations against Noble. "I told him that there's nothing here to substantiate this, and as best I can recall, he agreed with me on it," Miller said under oath.

In an earlier meeting between the two men, Miller said the dispute between Davenport and Noble was causing apprehension among managers who, despite any perception that Noble might be receiving unfair treatment, were afraid not to support Davenport, given the climate at headquarters.

Curley and other managers were "uneasy about it, what would happen, and ... he wanted to know if Vince had filed" an EEO complaint. Curley and Miller were unsuccessful in their efforts to dissuade Noble from filing an EEO complaint. Once he did, management decided to side with Davenport and try to fire Noble.

"I told (then-SAC) Gary Robben and Bill Curley, both, that I thought that a lot of what was going on was more or less orchestrated ... [by] her or somebody advising her," Miller said in his sworn statement.

"Was she being treated differently than Vince Noble?" Kubicki asked.

"Yes," Miller replied.

Such testimony in court could prove instrumental in Noble winning his suit — even in challenging the new BATF manual order, which if overthrown, could reintroduce new chaos among the rank and file. ❖

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Sarajevo — In a war characterized by medieval-like sieges and mindless ethnic cleansing, Operation Storm, the August 1995 Croatian blitzkrieg that recaptured from rebel Serbs nearly a quarter of its territory, stands out as a singularly successful military operation in a war characterized by its lack of military professionalism.

Combining a highly mobile Western-style strategy, backed by artillery and air-power, the Croat army — then regarded in some quarters as merely a rag-tag force of zealots or freebooters but certainly not professional soldiers — had, in less than 40 hours, routed a well dug-in enemy force with nearly double the weight of heavy weapons, and had come within miles of capturing the Bosnian-Serb stronghold of Banja Luka.

Having suffered many defeats, the Croats knew that any attempt to recapture the territory known as the Krajina from rebel Serbs wouldn't be easy. In fact, at that time many within the Croatian military openly wondered whether it could ever be done, given they were still saddled with a military doctrine fashioned by the command general staff of Marshal Tito.

The breakthrough they were seeking came in mid-1994 during a series of meetings in the Croatian capital of Zagreb when the then-U.S. military attaché, himself a Croatian-American, introduced senior Croat army officers to "friends" of his from a young Alexandria, Virginia-based, company.

The company was Military Professional Resources Inc. (MPRI). Unlike the many other foreign entities which had come to Croatia in the past offering "train-and-equip" packages, MPRI didn't promise or hint that their trainers would accompany their charges into action, or die with them on the battlefield.

In fact, MPRI didn't promise much. What MPRI did say, however, was that they would provide a team of retired U.S. military veterans, some fresh from the Gulf War, with the kinds of skills that, if followed, would most probably result in a high degree of success.

The die was cast. Croatia beefed up its arsenal by purchasing hundreds of tons of former East German weapons and equipment, and updated its aging air force with newer Chinese-made MiG fighters. MPRI-run training centers were set up, and soon senior Croatian military staffers were being schooled in the latest Western military strategies.

Months later Croatia had their much-needed military victory, and MPRI was basking in a positive light that caught the eyes of everyone from the Pentagon to Foggy Bottom.

Twelve weeks later the Dayton Peace Accord was signed and the governmental and military federation linking Bosnia's Croats with Bosnia's Muslims was created. MPRI was given the green light to enter the

troubled waters of Bosnia under the auspices of the U.S. State Department.

Their assigned task was straightforward: Create a Bosnian Federation force that would be capable of deterring and countering aggression in the region and stabilizing the tenuous situation. The mission, however, has been controversial since its inception despite the basic nature of the program.

Who Goes There?

What drew *SOF* to Sarajevo to visit MPRI was a combination of those controversies, and the growing background noise from military personnel attached to NATO's Stabilization Force (SFOR), who claim that while the ostensible reason for U.S. intervention in Bosnia was to bring peace to the Balkans, the real reason was to buy Bosnia enough time so that it could go toe-to-toe with the Serbs.

MPRI occupies the second floor of a school house along Sarajevo's Miljacka River. There's no security barring anyone from entering the building. In fact, there's not even a receptionist, just a long gray-carpeted hallway dividing two apple-green and white painted walls. Add to that a coffee machine, a photocopier, a few bulletin boards and a clutch of secretaries and drivers smoking cigarettes just outside the front door and it's easy to imagine you're in some Belt-Way office building.

MPRI's administrative staffers more closely resemble the corporate drones of IBM than the planners and tacticians of some military force. Suits, not BDUs, are the uniforms that color its nondescript offices.

Only MPRI's trainers actually look "military," and even then it seems they are more comfortable in gym suits than cammies.

"MPRI has been much more involved in Bosnia than it was in Croatia," said Joseph Allred, MPRI's director of public affairs in Sarajevo. "It has developed strategy, trained Bosnian and Croatian officers, developed a logistics system and coordinated a weapons distribution."

According to an MPRI handout, to date, it has overseen the distribution of more than \$100 million worth of surplus U.S. military equipment and services to the Bosnian Federation military as authorized by the U.S. Congress, while international donors have both donated equipment and provided funds for the purchase of additional equipment and services.

MPRI has been working across a multitude of fields since they first deployed to Bosnia in August 1996, but their role can be summed up in three basic elements: schools, doctrine and equipment.

Regular Training Builds Regular Army

Perhaps MPRI's most visible role has been the establishment of regular training schools for the Bosnian government army, the *Armija*, and their nominal Croat allies,

the Croatian Defense Council or HVO. Set up along standard NATO guidelines, the schools range from basic training and officers' command staff courses, to advanced communications and maintenance. While the schools are still segregated along ethnic lines with separate facilities in both Muslim and Croat territories, legally they must be integrated in three years. Already the two sides are working together at the Joint Army Command Center in Sarajevo and combined corps-size exercises are in the works.

The second component of the MPRI program is doctrine. For this, they are implementing standard NATO organization, strategy and tactics along defensive principles.

"We only teach defensive tactics. This is set in stone through both the U.S. State Department and our contract," notes Allred. "We only teach hasty defense, deliberate defense, call for supporting fires and counter-attack. We're looking to create a NATO standard force based on deterrence that could someday become part of the alliance, but politically that is a long way off."

Allred then suggested that we take a ride out to visit the Federation training facility simulation center in Zunovnica, about 15 minutes northwest of Sarajevo.

Housed in an old Yugoslavian National Army (JNA)-built base that was used by the Bosnian Serbs during the siege of Sarajevo and later bombed by NATO during their air



MPRI tank instructor Robert C. Thomson, at Hadzici motor pool, in the process of teaching an HVO crew to drive U.S. M60A3 tanks.

GIS In GYM SUITS

***U.S. Vets Bring Professionalism
To Bosnian Military***

Text & Photos by
Mark H. Milstein



(left) As a team, Bosnian and Croat soldiers service an M60A3 tank at Hadzici motor pool. Many had prior training in Turkey on M60A3. (above) MPRI instructor at Hadzici motor pool shows HVO crew how to use tanker's bar and come along to close belly escape hatch (which had probably been opened to clean tank from top down, inside and out).

campaign, in fall 1995, the Federation computer simulation center is quite impressive.

"We're trying to create a strong NCO corps," Allred explained as we walked towards the centerpiece of the simulation center, the rooms containing some 18 workstations. "You have to remember that an NCO corps did not exist in either the JNA or the Bosnian army."

Building "The Backbone Of An Army"

"You had officers — field officers — escorting grunts to the chow hall," Allred

continued. "We explained to them that a good army needs a dedicated corps of staff sergeants and second lieutenants. They agreed, but soon we found they were taking their newly trained NCOs and promoting them to officers. We had to tell them, no, keep them as NCOs. It's been a struggle, but the results have been good."

Allred said that while today MPRI could proudly crow about the high-level of respect its trainers receive from Federation troops, he noted that like any new business relationship there were questions of credibility and trust that had to be overcome.

"At first we had a credibility problem," Allred said. "Many Federation soldiers thought we were just a bunch of over-the-hill know-nothings."

"The Bosnians were like 'we've just been through a war, what are you going to teach us?'" Allred went on. "In one early class they put a Soviet weapon on the table and said to the MPRI instructor 'take it apart.' He did — blindfolded. That built some credibility."

Allred then introduced *SOF* to Major Terry Mills, U.S. Army (Ret.). Mills, a Long Island, N.Y., native helps oversee the battlefield-simulation training.

Mills said that while the simulation system wasn't the absolute state-of-the-art, it would still be a familiar sight to most U.S. military personnel who passed through Grafenwoer, Germany, during the late 1980s and early 1990s.

"We've tried to create a real combat feel to the center," Mills said. The "bunker," as it's known, has the look and feel of a real field command bunker, right down to the rough-hewn log walls, netting, maps, slit windows and the thick cigarette smoke traditionally associated with in-the-heat-of-the-moment battlefield planning.

"These men are Bosnian Croats, from the HVO's *Bruno Busic Brigada*," Mills said, showing *SOF* around the facility. "Training lasts one week, with battalion commanders staying two weeks."

But simple tactics are just the surface of



Through local translator, MPRI instructor runs HVO crews through the classroom portion of learning to be badass tankers. In addition to some 400 M60A3 tanks and M113 APCs, Bosnians were given 45,000 M16A1 rifles.

what is being accomplished. Explained one MPRI trainer: "You can do all sorts of training: Marksmanship, physical fitness, personal hygiene, and maneuvers. Likewise, you can also teach values and behavior patterns. Not only are we teaching Western military skills but we're also teaching Western values to go along with it."

In light of the horrid acts committed by Bosnia's rag-tag militias, or "community forces," as they were sometimes called, establishment of a professional force may be the only way to ensure there is not a repeat of those atrocities if the situation eventually slides back into war. A hard-hitting force led by competent officers will have a better chance for a speedy victory, and, hence, less bloodshed, than the ad hoc bands of armed ruffians that deadlocked the country in stalemate for four years.

Professional Tools For Professional Troops

The third level of involvement is in equipment. Already MPRI has overseen delivery from U.S. military stockpiles of 45,000 M16A1 rifles and 400 armored vehicles consisting mostly of M113s and M60A3 tanks. The armor is the showcase component for the Bosnians, who found themselves at a disadvantage against the Serbs and later the Croatian-backed HVO.

With the M60A3, Bosnian armor will be more than a match for the antique collection of T-34s and T-55s in the Bosnian-Serb arsenal. They would also prove and even match for the M-84s (T-72s) of the Yugoslav National Army in Serbia proper. Crews have already been training for two years on M60A3s in Turkey, doing basic maneuver and gunnery.

There has also been a marked improvement of Bosnian artillery capability in the form of 126 U.S.-supplied 155mm Howitzers (116 of which were refurbished and 10 for spare parts).

The U.S. also gave the Federation 15 UH-1 helicopters, and sent the Federation pilots to Germany for training.

From the Egyptian government the Federation received a dozen 122mm Howitzers, along with another dozen 130mm field guns and 18 towed antiaircraft guns.

The United Arab Emirates gave the Federation an additional three dozen 105mm towed Howitzers, 50 French-made AMX-30 main battle tanks, two-and-a-half dozen M190 APCs, and 11 French-made M3 Panhard transport vehicles.

MPRI also said that Turkey and Egypt between them donated to the Federation 20 T-55 tanks.

Building Around The Carpetbaggers

Mated with the new command and control training, all of the new equipment will bring the Bosnians on par with the Serbs and the Croats. This was another critical area where the Bosnians were lacking, paying dearly at the hands of Serb army superiority. Coming up to par with them and sur-



(left) MPRI instructor Terry Mills shows SOF the training command bunker at Zunovnica simulation center. (right) MPRI instructor Capt. Rick Haywood, U.S. Army (Ret.), teaches HVO soldiers at Zunovnica simulation center, through translator (right).



passing to a degree has done wonders for morale, both civil and military.

There have been downsides to all these programs, however. On the schooling and integration side, constant political bickering by the so-called leadership has blocked speedier implementation of joint military institutions. One MPRI staffer observed that, "While there is no great love between the Muslim and Croat soldier, at least they respect each other. The biggest problem comes from these nationalist politicians who see integration as a threat to their power base. Ethnicity permeates everything they do. Ethnic division has become a racket with them."

In fact, SOF was scheduled to visit a small-arms training class at a Federation facility outside Sarajevo being run by Jordanian soldiers in cooperation with MPRI, but was denied entrance because Bosnian Croat military officials said they did not want to be seen training together with the Bosnian Muslims or using Bosnian equipment.

There were, however, some bright spots. During SOF's visit to the Hadzici, Bosnia, Federation motor pool, MPRI trainer Robert C. Thomson proudly pointed out groups of Bosnian and Croat soldiers working diligently together on solving some mechanical problems with an M60A3 tank.

"These guys work together and they respect each other," said Thomson. "I imag-

ine there were problems at first, but they've been able to work them out between themselves and get on the with task of being good soldiers."

Then there are the problems with the equipment itself, most coming from "donor" nations. MPRI has to devote considerable time and energy to building logistic institutions from scratch to supply the never-ending demand for ammo and replacement parts. At one point, shortly after delivery, 80% of the new armor was collecting dust for want of gaskets, and the tubes of the Egyptian-supplied artillery were shown to be totally shot out.

Donor nations receive substantial economic credit for such equipment and it seems that "giving" (read: cleaning out the junk yard) has become somewhat of a racket as well. "Most of these vehicles had been sitting in storage for so long that the gaskets were dried out and useless," said one MPRI logistics specialist. "In addition to having to build the parts replacement system from scratch, I had to practically rebuild almost all the vehicles just to get them running. Some were so far gone, they'll never be fit."

American ... But Not American Army

Then there is SFOR, the NATO-led stabilization force with its 16,000 mostly-U.S. troops based throughout Bosnia.

According to an MPRI instructor,

Continued on page 67



(left) As normalcy returns to Sarajevo, Bosnian women in traditional Muslim dress are a common sight on city streets. (below) In interesting historical juxtaposition, Iranian cultural center is now open in Sarajevo's center on Marshal Tito Street.



GATHERING WAR CLOUDS

How Our Bungled Policy In Iraq Brought Us To The Brink

By Wayne Laugesen

After relentless pummeling by allied forces in the Gulf War, Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein agreed to give up his chemical and biological weapons within 15 days of the ceasefire agreement. Seven years later, the United Nations and U.S. President Bill Clinton suspect he's still manufacturing and hoarding them.

Even as we go to press now, Clinton is threatening massive air strikes — more of the same medicine that failed to stop Saddam in Operation Desert Storm.

Short of Saddam's death, a repeat of Operation Desert Storm may have little to offer the world. Clinton has made no personal threats to Saddam, but since taking office he's worked helplessly with the CIA in a covert plan to have Saddam assassinated or overthrown.

Current threats come, in fact, after a six-year parade of disastrous bungling by American bureaucrats trying to topple Saddam. Through repeated failure, American leaders once again showed their propensity to hang allies out to dry. It is necessary to ask the question: After the Gulf War "victory" how did we end up here?

In a 7 February airing of *20/20*, ABC News told the story through interviews with Iraqi opposition leaders and officials with the CIA, Pentagon, U.S. State Department and the former Bush Administration. In the following text, *SOF* uses some of their comments to help explain the debacle in Iraq.

"Bobs," "Toms" and "Johns"

At the end of the Gulf War, enemies of Hussein gathered in the hills of northern

Iraq to plot the overthrow of Saddam. They worked with a small group of CIA officials who went only by code names, such as "Bob," "Tom," and "John," according to interviews conducted with Saddam's Iraqi opponents by ABC News.

The CIA officers actively recruited Iraqis interested in overthrowing their dictator — people easy to find after the brutal dictator practically invited allied forces to devastate their country, killing and endangering innocent women and children.

Ridding the world of Saddam was a strategic loose end, of sorts, after a year of air strikes failed to get him. "It's not," says one former advisor to former President George Bush, "that the U.S. and its allies didn't try to hit Saddam during the war."

"Well, we don't do assassinations," said



AP/Wide World



AP/Wide World

Since the Gulf War, Saddam has built several presidential palaces such as this. In an address to the union on 17 Feb. 1998, Clinton said one such estate is larger, geographically, than the city of Washington, D.C. Clinton and United Nations weapons inspectors suspect Saddam is hiding chemical, biological or other illegal weapons at the estates.



AP/Wide World

General Brent Scowcroft, former national security advisor, told *20/20*. "But, yes, we targeted — we targeted all the places where Saddam might have been."

"So you deliberately set out to kill him if you possibly could?" asked ABC News anchor Peter Jennings.

"I guess, yeah, that's — that's fair enough," Scowcroft said.

Failing to off him with air strikes, Bush turned to Iraqis for help before the short, obligatory ground war began. Two weeks before the ground war, Bush encouraged Saddam's own generals to move against him. On 15 Feb. 1991, Bush said "There's another way for the bloodshed to stop. And that is for the Iraqi military and the Iraqi people to take matters into their own hands and force Saddam Hussein, the dictator, to step aside and then comply with the United Nations' resolution."

The speech was translated into Arabic and broadcast by the CIA into Iraq. Nothing happened. Saddam's generals did not turn against him, even though millions of Iraqis wanted Saddam to go in wake of the ground war.

Meanwhile, Saddam's opposition was organizing to take on what was left of the dictator's defeated army and rise up against him. One leader of the opposition, Jalal Talabani, spoke to Peter Galbraith, director of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to ask the United States for help. He then flew to Washington in hopes of speaking with someone in the Bush administration.

"I personally told them through our friend, Peter Galbraith, that we are planning for an uprising. And we have prepared the ground for it," Talabani told ABC News.

Ally Hits Red Tape

Red tape got in the way. Talabani couldn't get through to the Bush administration, despite Galbraith's efforts, *because no administration officials were allowed to talk to him*. Before the Gulf War, Saddam was technically an ally of the United States, making it illegal for American officials to talk to his enemies. The rule had not been changed, so the Bush administration was caught off guard when the Iraqi rebellion began.

Despite the lack of support from American troops, the rebellion was initially successful. Loyal Iraqi soldiers were pinned down by rebels as they reached the southern city of Karbala. Quickly, the rebellion

spread across southern Iraq.

Iraqi opposition forces in the north quickly joined the insurrection, driving Saddam's army south. U.S. intelligence reports showed rebellion had spread to 14 of Iraq's 18 provinces.

"Washed-up" Dictator

"The uprising almost succeeded," said General Wafiq Samarii, Saddam's former chief of military intelligence, to ABC News. "I will tell you a secret. At the very end, we had only two days of Kalashnikov bullets left over in the warehouses of the Iraqi army. The situation was very, very dangerous."



AP/Wide World



AP/Wide World

Politically, as well as militarily, Saddam was all but washed up. He was rejected by the masses of Iraqis who felt the west would relent if Saddam were dead or without power. But the Bush administration didn't want a government overthrow by the people, fearing mass chaos and anarchy potentially more destructive to Middle East peace than even Saddam's cruel dictatorship.

Rather, administration officials hoped the popular uprising against Saddam would cause the dictator's generals to turn on him, favoring the will of the people. More than ever, the Bush administration envisioned the eminent overthrow of Saddam by his generals, and a post-war military government that would impose military rule on Iraq.

That didn't happen. Instead, Saddam's generals turned on the Iraqi people and crushed the rebellion, killing tens of thousands of civilians. As their bodies were thrown into mass graves, the United States and the United Nations did *nothing* to stop the slaughter.

The Iraqi opposition was outraged. The same country that had encouraged their rebellion was standing by and letting them be crushed. The rocky alliance had only begun.

Why did the United States allow Iraq to kill anti-Saddam civilians? More red tape?



AP/Wide World

Iraqi families who are staying inside the presidential palace in Baghdad are given water and food. Some of Saddam's civilian supporters in Iraq have agreed to camp out in his palaces to act as human shields by discouraging the bombing of the dictator's estates. Supporters of Saddam hold up pictures of their leader on 10 Nov. 1997, in protest of any future American attacks on their country.



him. He has done it in the past.”

Realizing the Iraqi military would not kill Saddam, Bush turned to the CIA. He was being criticized for unfinished business in Iraq, as Saddam was still in control despite the devastation his military and arsenal took during the air and land war. So, in May 1991, Bush signed a “presidential finding” authorizing the CIA to create conditions for the removal of Saddam.

Plotting Saddam’s Death

The president’s finding was delivered to Frank Anderson, the CIA’s Near East division chief. Anderson didn’t like the idea, and had no tactical plans for overthrowing or killing Saddam. He turned to John Rendon, a political consultant who handled public relations for the government of Kuwait during the Gulf War.

Records of Rendon’s involvement, obtained by ABC, show he spent more than \$23 million in one year on anti-Saddam propaganda, which the CIA hoped would help create an environment in which some element in the Iraqi military might assassinate Saddam. Rendon produced videos and radio skits that ridiculed the dictator. There was an anti-Saddam comic book making rounds in Iraq.

Meanwhile, in May 1992, Iraqi Kurds held elections for a new regional parliament in northern Iraq, an area protected against Saddam by allied aircraft enforcing the no-fly zone. Shortly after the elections, leaders of Iraq’s other religious and ethnic groups met with Kurds to discuss forming a coalition government against Saddam. Chalabi brought the groups together and they formed a quasi-parliamentary structure called the Iraqi National Congress (INC). The CIA started giving about \$4 million in annual support to the INC.

Perhaps. But some Iraqi resistance leaders suspect the Bush administration was so opposed to a popular overthrow of Saddam that it wanted the rebels destroyed.

Red Tape, Or Sinister Plot?

The armed helicopters being used by Saddam’s generals, to kill rebels, were the very helicopters General Norman Schwartzkopf gave them permission to use in the cease-fire negotiations. “They permitted armed helicopters to fly and kill people and shoot them,” Ahmed Chalabi, an Arab Shi’ite, told ABC News. “They were the most significant factor in the suppression of the uprising. They made it possible for Saddam to regroup his forces and launch a devastating counterattack with massive firepower on the people.

By April 1991, the Iraqi uprising was over and the military coup the Bush administration hoped for against Saddam still hadn’t happened. That, says Chalabi, is because Saddam has made himself “coup-proof.”

“He will do anything to survive,” Chalabi said. “He anticipates what people will do to him. He has no compunction about destroying thousands of people if he feels that they pose the slightest danger to



(top) Iraqi official stands beneath a marble falcon in one of his Baghdad palaces. The palace had lofty and domed halls with a maze of rooms and corridors. Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz took foreign journalists on a tour of several palaces, on 19 Dec. 1997, hoping to convince them Iraq is hiding no forbidden material in them. (above, left) In showing foreign reporters a dozen palaces, Deputy Prime Minister Aziz (right) joined Saddam in vowing that U.N. weapons inspectors will never enter the buildings. (above, right) This American missile, which says “Down Down U.S.A.,” sits at the main gate of the al-Naser Palace, in Baghdad, built before the Gulf War. The missile reportedly hit the palace during the Gulf War but failed to detonate.

The CIA also began talking to General Adnan Nui, who once had a brigade in Saddam's special forces. He had been recruited into the INC and was exactly the kind of person Gen. Scowcroft and CIA officials thought might get Saddam.

After his election in November 1992, Pres. Bill Clinton picked up where Bush left off, re-authorizing the presidential finding that kept the CIA working against Saddam.

With encouragement from Washington, INC leaders began to build an army, trying to recruit disenchanted units from Saddam's own military. Chalabi traveled to Washington in November 1993 to tell CIA, State Department and Pentagon officials about an INC plan to mobilize troops from the north and the south to overthrow Saddam.

What Cowboy "Bob" Said

Chalabi told ABC News he received no U.S. support for the idea until October 1994, when the CIA set up a permanent station in northern Iraq, staffed by three teams of officers. Anderson, the CIA's Near East division chief, told ABC he instructed his officers to look for a coalition of forces that "might put us in a position to move forward against the Saddam regime."

Chalabi and others in the Iraqi opposition said they understood the CIA to be more ambitious, promising American support in getting rid of Saddam Hussein.

"Our view was, the United States would at least support us in our effort to do this kind of operation as indeed they said they would," Chalabi told ABC.



Saddam examines a letter concerning the U.N. weapons inspection impasse from French President Jacques Chirac. The letter was delivered 4 Feb. 1998, by French special envoy Bertrand Dufourcq (left in photo). At SOF press time, it remained unknown whether Saddam would break down and allow U.N. inspectors access to eight disputed sites suspected of containing illegal weapons.

INC members say a CIA agent known as "Bob" became like a full member of their group, updating them with intelligence information and helping plan INC operations. "Bob" is credited by INC members with coordinating a series of meetings that brought feuding factions of the Iraqi opposition together against Saddam.

In a meeting with Kurdish leader Talabani, Bob said the CIA agreed an attack by the opposition on Saddam's weakest army units in the north was a good step.

Despite some opposition in the state department, the plan for the INC offensive in the north continued forward. "Bob," Chalabi and Kurdish leader Massoud Barzani met to discuss the proposed attack.

Bob said "I am the envoy of the United States government and the representative of the U.S. president, and we have decided to change the regime in Baghdad," Barzani told ABC through a translator.

In that meeting, opposition leaders told ABC, Bob promised air support in the event of a tank attack on the opposition troops.

"There might have been a cowboy out there exceeding his instructions," said

Continued on page 72

Draft-Dodging War Mongers Can't Win

by Col. David H. Hackworth (Ret.)

When Trent Lott was in his early 20s, dying age during the Vietnam War, do you think the man ever led a rifle platoon across a bullet-swept field in Southeast Asia? No way. He was too busy leading cheers at Old Miss!

Now the Republican Senate leader foams at the mouth with war talk and wants the United States to bomb Iraq into a sandy waffle. He has become the ultimate cheerleader of death and destruction.

The White House from Clinton to his chief of staff to his national security adviser all are members of the same we-never-served-our-country-in-the-trenches club. In fact, most senior White House advisers belong to the same cozy anti-war elite. But baby, look at them now.

I reckon there's no one more dangerous than a fiftyish draft dodger-turned- Hawk. And that applies to Newt Gingrich and most of the congressional baby boomers now chanting "bomb, bomb, bomb," as well.

Only 9 percent of today's members of congress have seen combat duty. Nor does a single one have a son or a daughter on a ship, in an aircraft or in a foxhole in the Gulf. They learned well from the Vietnam War that the ruling class makes the policy, but doesn't execute it down where the bullets fly and the young die.

The war they evaded has spooky parallels with the war that they want now:

Borne of frustration — Ho Chi Minh then, just like Saddam Hussein now, wouldn't go away, continued to make trouble for all of his neighbors and wouldn't heel to Uncle Sam's order.

Bombs will do the job — In Vietnam, after a CIA controlled war failed, the Bomb Gang convinced the ignorant civilians in charge that a bombing campaign would do the trick. Even though bombs alone failed to produced a winner in WWII and Korea. The U.S. dropped more bombs on Vietnam than *both sides* employed during WWII, and we still lost. During Desert Storm I, the Bomb Gang, who said they could win all by themselves and dropped

88,500 tons of bombs trying to prove it, still needed over 500,000 warriors with bayonets at high port. Because at the end of the day, wars are always won by soldiers on the ground.

No objective — No general in Vietnam knew what the objective was. Today, there's not one clear attainable objective. If it's to neutralize Saddam's arsenal of weapons of mass destruction, forget it. Perhaps air power could destroy every Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) plant and storage facility, but what would prevent Saddam from filling up 10,000 gallon tankers with Anthrax, parking them on the Israeli border and blowing them when the wind was right? He still has Scuds that the fly-boys couldn't touch during "The Storm" and crop dusters that can fly nap of the earth to Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Fighting a war with the last war's tactics — In Vietnam, the U.S. refought WWII and lost. Now, our planners are preparing Desert Storm II with the same gear and tactics used during the Gulf War, but without grunts on the ground. Saddam isn't a fool. He's learned — like the Viet Cong — and will have many nasty new tricks to pull out of his gold braid-trimmed hat.

Getting into a fight that you can't win — War is like poker. You need to be smart, skillful and lucky to win. And anyone with a lick of common sense doesn't get into a fight that he surely can't win. Sun Tzu, an ancient master of war, wrote "The good fighters of old put themselves beyond the possibilities of defeat, and then waited for an opportunity of defeating the enemy." As with Vietnam, congressional bluster will not cause Saddam to change spots. Neither will airpower destroy all of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. We could pummel him from the air for six months, but without the costly seizure of Baghdad, Saddam will still be the world's number one tormentor.

Lott and his war chorus should chill out and spend an evening reading Sun Tzu to understand his bottom line: "The art of war is of vital importance to the state. It is a matter of life and death, a road either to safety or ruin?"

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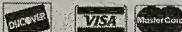
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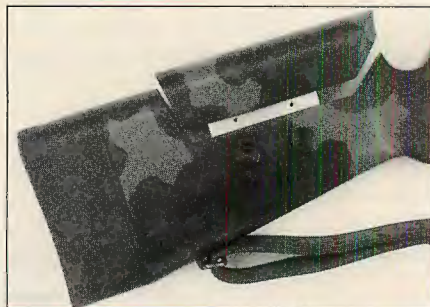
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As Far As You Can See

Continued from page 39

Marines don't use bipods, but I do. I had McMillan install an aluminum-alloy accessory rail to accept a sliding handstop and the superb new Parker-Hale bipod with lightweight aluminum-alloy legs. This is nothing more nor less than a scaled-down version of the excellent Bren LMG MkI bipod. Its adjustable legs permit the command height (the distance from the ground to the center line of the barrel's axis) to be varied from 8.5 to 12 inches. The head can be swiveled and canted approximately 15 degrees in either direction without altering the leg position. The bipod, which has a spring-loaded, heavy-duty catch/release, attaches to a spigot on the front of the handstop.



McMillan fiberglass A3 stock features an adjustable cheek piece and is equipped with QD-type sling swivels. This is the tactical rifle stock against which all others must be measured.

All Chandler sniper rifles are shipped in a Pelican hard case. Other collateral equipment includes a black or brown National Match leather sling made by Turner Saddlery (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 120, Clay, AL 35048-0120; phone: 205-680-9377; fax: 205-680-4250). Their slings are the standard by which others must be judged and the vast majority of competition centerfire match shooters use slings manufactured by Turner Saddlery. In addition, you will also find in the Pelican case, as part of the Chandler sniper rifle package, a sniper's log book, a takedown tool and Craftsman torque wrench for the trigger guard screws (which should be tampered with a little as possible), and a plastic-coated cleaning rod with a 44-inch shaft made by the famous J. Dewey Mfg. Co., Inc.

Quality at this level is not inexpensive. Prices of the Chandler Sniper Rifle vary according to the scope selected. For further information contact Iron Brigade Armory Ltd. (Dept. SOF, 100 Radcliffe Circle, Jacksonville, NC 28546; phone: 910-455-3834; fax: 910-346-1134). Together with his brother, Roy F. Chandler, Norm Chandler has authored a highly-regarded five-volume series on Marine Corps sniping, entitled *Death From Afar*, and a fascinating authorized biographical memoir of Carlos Hathcock, entitled *White Feather*. All of these books are available from Iron Brigade Armory, Ltd. ☒

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Leupold Tactical Scope

Continued from page 38

for a total of 63 minutes.

My Leupold 4.5-14X40mm Tactical scope is equipped with a Mil-Dot reticle pattern. Mil-dots were developed by the USMC in the late 1970s to assist Marine Corps snipers in estimating distances. It is now the standard reticle pattern with all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. The term "mil-dot" comes from "mil" — a unit of angular measurement used in artillery and machine gunnery and equal to 1/6,400 of a complete revolution — and the fact that the dots are spaced in 1 mil increments on the crosshairs. It should be made clear that the dots themselves are *not* measured in mil increments, but rather in increments of MOA. Premier Reticles (who make these reticles for Leupold & Stevens) uses wire (or "mechanical") crosshairs onto which the dots are applied wet. Because of this, the dots cannot be made circular and are, thus, oval-shaped (with the long axis oriented in the vertical position on the vertical crosshair and in the horizontal position on the horizontal crosshair). In this particular instance, the dots are actually a ¼-mil in length (slightly longer than ¾ MOA). In any event, the distance between the dots is ¼ mil and the center-to-center distance between them is exactly 1 mil as is the distance from the top (or bottom) of one dot to the top (or bottom) of the dot above or below (or to the right or left). There are also four thick posts at the edges of the field of view.

The formula for using the mil-dot system is:

$$\frac{\text{Height or width of target (in yards)} \times 1,000}{\text{Height or width of target (in mils)}} = \text{Distance (in yards)}$$

All of my Leupold scopes are equipped with Butler Creek (Michael's of Oregon Co., Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 1690, 1710 Red Soils Court, Oregon City, OR 97045; phone 503-557-0536, ext. 160; fax: 503-655-7546) lens caps. They are the best available. For tactical rifles avoid the see-through types. Butler Creek also has a glint screen system built into a front lens cap that I have installed on the Leupold 4.5-14X40mm Tactical scope. The KillFlash system used by Butler Creek is a honeycomb glint-suppressing screen with a highly specialized coating that eliminates the reflection from the surfaces of lenses. The loss of light transmission is only 15%.

On the battlefield, glint kills. Moshe Dayan, the famous Israeli general, lost his eye from the bullet of a sniper who caught the glare of his binoculars. During World War II, in the Battle of Stalingrad, Russia's top sniper, Vasili Zaitsev, won his famous three-day duel with Germany's ace, Major Zossen, by looking for — and targeting — the reflection from the German's scope.

— P.G.K. ✕

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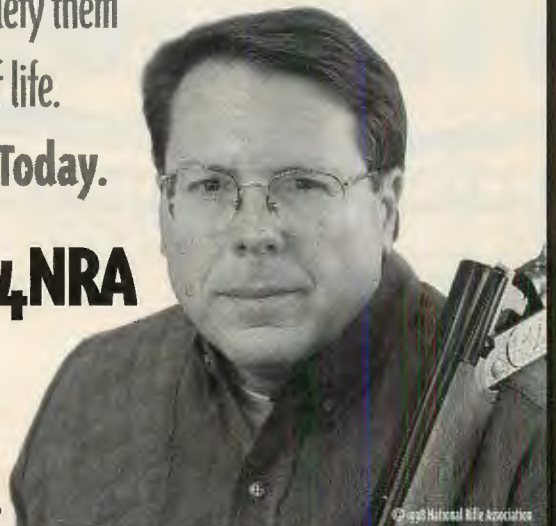
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Flight Of The Red Dragon

Continued from page 51

ANC and the well-publicized atrocities committed by the rebels. Only the uniforms were different ... I wonder if the people of the Congo might possibly find that the cure is as bad as the disease."

Over the course of the next few days, Van de Waele's command and the Belgian paratroops would find many more massacred whites. During the Stanleyville operation a total of approximately 2,000 foreign nationals and 300 Congolese were evacuated on 80 aircraft sorties.

Postscript: Dragon Noir, The Assault On Paulis

On the evening of 25 November, men and equipment were loaded at Stanleyville for *Operation Dragon Noir* (Black Dragon) — the airborne and air-landing assault on Paulis. Because of the success of *Dragon Rouge*, there were concerns that the Simbas would massacre whites held in other cities. Hoare's 52d Commando (a sub-unit of 5 Commando) was already moving on to Paulis after seizing Aketi on 24 November. At Aketi, the mercenaries had rescued 117 adult Europeans and 17 children, who reported that Europeans held in Paulis were at risk.

It was decided to launch a second air-

borne operation the 26th, on Paulis and Bunia, followed by a move overland to Watsa. Colonel Laurent, however, felt his troops were too tired and his force too small to accomplish simultaneous assaults and rescues: But he would hit Paulis on the 26th with two companies of paratroops.

The flight to Paulis took only 52 minutes and at exactly 0600 the C-130s were over the fog-shrouded airfield. The lead aircraft overflew the drop zone and had to orbit, which alerted the Simbas. The four C-130s discharged their cargo. The last paratrooper out the door was shot in the chest, but the other 255 "red berets" landed safely. Because the 27 hostages massacred in Stanleyville were killed almost two hours

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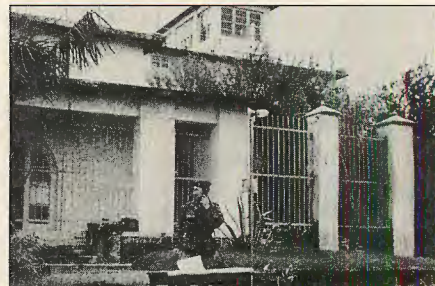
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Paracommandos set up their tactical operations center at Stanleyville airport's control tower; within 30 minutes had cleared field for rescue/resupply planes to land.

after paratroopers on Chalk-1 had hit the ground, Laurent ordered the 11th Para-Commando Company to proceed immediately into Paulis, while the 13th Para-Commando Company seized the airfield. Chalks 5, 6 and 7 began landing at 0640 hours. By 0815, almost 200 refugees had gathered at the airport.

They had a horrible story to tell: Two nights before, the Simbas had executed 21 Belgians and 1 American.

The victims were then thrown into the Bomokandi River. After the Simbas tortured him for nearly an hour, Joseph Tucker, an Assembly of God missionary from Arkansas, was the first to die. Thirty-five others, including Tucker's wife and his three children, were rescued. By afternoon of the next day, Operation Dragon Noir had rescued and evacuated 375 foreign nationals.

Despite the presence of other Europeans at Bunia, Watsa, and Wamba, Laurent's paratroopers were withdrawn from the Congo. Many debated that decision then, and have since, as the mercenaries went on to rescue further hostages and recover the bodies of more Simba victims. Some were no doubt slaughtered in retaliation for the assault on Stanleyville. When Wamba was taken nearly a month later, it was learned that 30 hostages had been killed during Operation Dragon Noir, with a total of 185 white hostages killed since *Dragon Rouge*.

Rob Krott is an SOF senior foreign correspondent. This two-part story on the rescue of hostages during the Simba rebellion is excerpted from his book, *Great Raids*.

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Continued from page 59

SFOR's U.S. commanders have gone out of their way to make sure there is a defined distance between the two and that MPRI's personnel and training don't "threaten" their mission with "hot dog antics."

"I am hurt," said a senior MPRI official, "both as an American and as a former soldier. We're made to feel like we're the problem. We are not permitted to have official meetings to discuss progress, training, etc. Many of the other SFOR contributing nations have no problem with MPRI or our program, but the U.S. Army seems to have it in for us."

"I've heard it said that it is because of our training of the Bosnian Federation forces that SFOR has to remain in Bosnia," the MPRI official continued. "Because now they [the Federation] have the ability and weaponry to attack the Serbs."

"I can tell you that even at this stage of training, after we've worked with six brigades of Federation troops, that the Federation could not hold up on its own in the field for more than 72 hours," *SOF's* MPRI source went on.

Because of SFOR regulations, Federation forces are not yet permitted to conduct exercises with more than 500 personnel at a time, according to MPRI.

"That is one major stumbling block at this stage," *SOF's* source said, referring to the claim that the Federation is already a threat to peace in the region. "They have not had the ability to even train at brigade level."

Corporate Soldiers Building A Balance Of Power

Within MPRI itself there are also problems that effect the efficiency of the mission. Grumbling of "corporate bullshit" has sent many senior trainers and force-structure experts packing at the end of their tours. While none of the MPRI trainers *SOF* spoke with over beers at "Texas," Sarajevo's only Tex/Mex restaurant, would elaborate on the exact nature of the problems, they all agreed the somewhat high turnover was bound to effect continuity.

"They're losing some of their best people because of all the red tape they wrap our work in," one disgruntled MPRI trainer told *SOF*. "I don't think I'll be back after my contract ends. The administration here knows there are serious problems within the program, but when they're told about them they just shrug. No one wants to rock the boat. There's too much money at stake."

While sometimes portrayed as "mercenaries" by the popular press, most of the 175 MPRI personnel in Bosnia are retired military with families. Each employee has a one-year contract, and salaries are negotiated on an individual basis. MPRI's Allred said the company chooses applicants from its roster of nearly 5,000 former service personnel based on need and expertise. None

of MPRI's trainers have gone through any additional training before being "deployed" to Bosnia. All MPRI employees in Bosnia are billeted in private apartments or homes.


Despite the problems and delays, however, the MPRI program has provided mainstream Bosnian society with the one thing Western Europe failed to do: A sense of security, both economic and military, and a professional officer corps. As the society there develops out of the shambles it has become, this will be a greater source of stability than all the humanitarian handouts in the world.

A high-level diplomat in Bosnia recently compared the nation to a patient hospitalized in critical care, and stated that only a long term commitment would achieve

any lasting results. With physical power being the only yardstick that ruling factions in the Balkans always respect, "Stability Through Strength" becomes an essential ingredient to national recovery. With strong deterrent forces matched across the region, players on the political and economic field are much more likely to negotiate realistic and lasting solutions.

Despite setbacks and complexities, it is in that arena that MPRI plays the leading role.

Based in Budapest, Chief Foreign Correspondent Mark H. Milstein is SOF's man on the scene for Europe and the Middle East. ✕



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Precision On The Prairie

Continued from page 35

approach, observation and withdrawal.

We then shot on steel silhouettes at 500, 600 and 700 yards. After trudging back to the 100-yard line, we fired five head shots standing-to-prone in five seconds and five body shots standing-to-kneeling in five seconds. These are very real scenarios and certainly 13- to 15-pound sniper rifles are not ideal for this type of shooting. However, as Clint frequently says, "No one cares." An operator with a rifle designed for maximum precision at 1,000 yards will probably be overwhelmed by a trained enemy with a tactical carbine at ranges under 100 yards. But, you must learn to make do with what you have, as you cannot generally carry an assortment of weaponry on the battlefield. Clint is correct for including close-range snap shooting in the precision rifle courses, as the average distance to contact on battlefields throughout the world, in terrain of all types, is under 100 yards.

That night we fired under low-level ambient light, road flares and vehicle headlights — all very authentic law-enforcement environments. This was followed by a night exercise in the Tower. Each team of two men was assigned two firing ports in the stairwell and a single pivoting target that appeared in a window in Thunderville for about three seconds. The target was illuminated by back light coming from a road flare. The target appeared five times in about 30 minutes. One partner took the head shots, the other center-of-mass hits. If you took your eye off the scope's ocular for even a moment, the target was more than likely to appear in the window during that time frame. This very challenging drill duplicates scenarios all too often encountered by law-enforcement SWAT teams.

Friday morning of PR2 started with a stalk with our rifles and gear from Thunder Ranch's entrance gate to the Tower, a distance of approximately 2.5 miles. We had 2.5 hours to slap the wall of the Tower undetected. After that each student had to fire one shot from the fourth floor of the Tower at a steel silhouette approximately 550 yards away. In the afternoon, we continued our long-range shooting on steel silhouettes at distances of 800, 900 and 1,000 yards. PR2 ended with a field exercise in which we had to locate four steel-silhouette, knock-down-type targets at unknown ranges (varying from 100 to 200 yards) by means of a compass.

There are few facilities that can even come close to the quality provided by Thunder Ranch. The instruction is superb and students are pushed to the very limits of their physical and mental capabilities. A training certificate from Thunder Range indicates achievement respected by law-enforcement and military small-arms authorities throughout the world. ☒

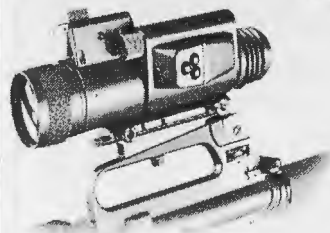


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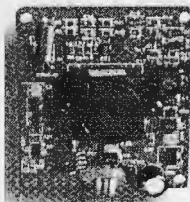
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Continued from page 43

mobile off-road platform. Lessons learned from the JTEV will be used to fully develop the R-STAV. The R-STAV is being procured and purposely designed for the Marine Corps' V-22 Osprey aircraft. Compatibility testing between the JTEV and V-22 was recently conducted at the Patuxent River Naval Air Test Center, in Maryland.

Rangers Hardly Left Out

The U.S. Army Ranger regiments recently completed delivery of the Ranger Special Operations Vehicle, or RSOV. The RSOV program began in 1989 resulting from the Rangers' requirement to replace the aging M151 heavily modified jeep with roll cages, bigger tires and improved suspension. The requirements demanded a vehicle that was transportable over a wide variety of aircraft (including helicopters) while still being able to carry a substantial payload. Three vehicles were tested: the Land Rover Defender 90; Land Rover Defender 110; and the AM General HMMWV or "Hummer." The Land Rover Defender 110 was selected as the new RSOV and is now the primary ground-mobility system for the 75th Ranger Regiment.

The RSOV is a Land Rover 110 designed to specifically meet the needs of the Ranger mission. It is a light, diesel-powered, all-wheel-drive unit with standard transmission which flawlessly performs the following functions: weapons carrier, command and control and medical evacuation. The RSOV has a gross weight of 6,860 pounds with a payload of 3,000 pounds. The RSOV can be transported inside a C-5A Galaxy, C-141 Starlifter and C-130 Hercules. In addition, it can be ferried internally in the CH-47 Chinook and the MH-53J Pave Low III helicopters.

The weapons carrier variant was fielded in 1991 and 1992. The command-and-control and medical-evacuation versions were fielded in 1993. The weapons carrier variant provides a platform for the Mk19 MOD O 40mm automatic grenade launcher, the M2 HB .50-caliber heavy machine gun or the 7.62x54mm M240 GPMG. The medical carrier provides four-litter evacuation capability and the command and control — or C² vehicle — provides command and control-communications on multiple- tactical radio nets.

The Rangers have deployed the RSOV in a wide variety of operational scenarios and the vehicles have performed superbly. The vehicle is expected to have a 15-year life and there are no plans to replace the RSOV in the foreseeable future.

Joel Paskauskas, II, is a photojournalist residing in the Southeastern United States. This is his first article for SOF. ✕



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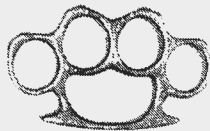
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Lethal Assets

Continued from page 47

produce a viable deterrent in answer to a possible Israeli nuclear attack."

The man who has come closest to unfolding what Saddam had been trying to achieve in BW is Dr. Richard Spertzel. It was Spertzel who ventured that because the U.N. devoted so little effort to Saddam's BW program, the Iraqis eventually became over-confident. "Perhaps they did not believe that sampling would take place," he told a symposium on BW in Washington, D.C., recently.

Dr. Spertzel maintains Iraq had been particularly skillful at using disinformation techniques to twist seemingly trivial events to its political advantage. In 1994, for example, UNSCOM conducted a biological audit at the Al Hakam facility in which samples were collected from fermentors and other equipment at various locations within the site. Sewers and septic systems were also tapped.

The sampling, he says "took place at a time when we were trying to persuade the Iraqis to acknowledge their past BW production activities, including the role of the Al Hakam plant. Yet Iraq tried to convince some members of the UN Security Council that there was nothing in UNSCOM's allegation by claiming that we had 'sampled all over Al Hakam including the toilets' and found no evidence of misdeeds."

Later the same month, an inspection at the plant obtained samples providing the first positive indication that Iraq was making a small particle size *Bacillus thuringiensis* (BT) product lacking pesticide activity. This was incongruous for a facility that was supposed to be producing state-of-the-art pesticides. It was a turning point, even though BT is a legitimate product.

Asked whether UNSCOM took samples to confirm that the microbial agents declared by Iraq were present (or, rather, tended to identify undeclared BW agents that might be present in the samples) Dr. Spertzel said that both approaches were used.

The U.N. had not tested samples for every possible microbial pathogen; instead the organization tended to look for the standard list of BW agents and for very good reason, Dr. Spertzel said.

There was clearly a limit to how much testing could be done without producing some sort of result, he said. "The commission could not afford to make repeated allegations about illicit BW agent production that was not corroborated by sampling and analysis. After several negative results, the commission would lose all credibility with the U.N. Security Council." This was obviously what Baghdad was waiting for.

What is of serious concern to the West is that it is not impossible that Iraq could employ a free agent to do its dirty work. Or Saddam could pay someone to take a package across.

Even in the United States, some nutheads

have experimented with biological agents. In 1995, members of a Minnesota militia group were convicted for the possession of ricin which they had produced themselves for use in retaliation against local government officials. A year later, an Ohio man with connections to an extremist group was able to obtain bubonic plague cultures through the post. In both cases, it mattered little that there was a good chance innocent family members would die along with intended targets.

During my own visit to Beirut, in mid-1997, I was told by contacts who had close links with Pasdaran elements in the Beka'a, that the Sudan government had recently taken an unusual interest in biological weapons.

Last November, a report in the Paris-based *Al-Watan Al 'Arab* claimed the Sudanese Peoples Jihad had, with the support of the Iranian-based Saudi Islamicist billionaire Osama bin Laden, built a chemical and bacterial factory in the Khartoum-Bahri suburb of Kubar.

By implication, Iran is involved in both events, though it's difficult to put something on the table to prove it.

Our Kids, Or Theirs?

Regardless, the situation forces the West to consider the most frightening scenario of all — the potential attack on an American city.

The reality of such a situation is that while terrorists can often be implicated by association with state sponsors (Iraq, Iran, Syria, North Korea, Libya and others), the quantum of proof we would require before responding to such a perceived linkage is, as things stand now, unacceptably high. Consider, for example, the forensic difficulty in assigning responsibility for the tragic attack on Pan Am Flight 103 that exploded over Lockerbie, in 1988. We have a pretty good idea who was responsible. But proof is *not* irrefutable. And, it looks like it will remain that way, at least until Libya's Qadaffi cooperates, or is removed from office.

The United States has warned these countries often enough that any chemical or biological attack on the West would result in unequivocal nuclear retaliation. But, as we have seen, some of these countries have become pretty adept at covering their tracks. Also, does one wipe out the cities of those countries highest on the suspect list on the basis of hearsay or unsubstantiated intelligence? Such a proposition would be as extreme as the actions of those attempting to murder millions of people using germ agents.

Sadly, the suspects rarely takes such matters into consideration. Rationality is not the preserve of those who strap explosives to their bodies in order to make a point.

As one U.N. observer noted, "basically, it comes down to choice. And at some time or another we're going to have to make it: their children or ours?"

Al J. Venter, a regular SOF contributor for much of the past quarter-century, resides in Washington state. ✕

I Was There

Continued from page 27

A Matebele scout chased down the escapee and secured him before he made the hill.

At 0430 we reached the base of the hill and set up our mortars. I told Baughman that during the attack he'd accompany me with the assault group since he'd nearly drowed earlier at the prospect of getting "real combat footage."

At 0455 the first mortar round impacted the hilltop, Wandell adjusting fire as HE rounds started ripping up the real estate. But there was no return fire.

The Terrs had vanished.

Back at Lupane I finally got rid of Baughman.

With the help of Acorn, the special-branch cop, I got Joint Operations Center, at Wankie, to send over someone to police up J. Ross. Shortly, an Islander aircraft touched down and the JOC 21C and an SB rep. collected him and flew away. The cord was mercifully cut.

Not quite.

A week later a signal came in to me from the Brigade Commander. "Report to Brigade tomorrow. Out."

The colonel questioned me about my knowledge of any skull-bashing by my troops at Sipepa. I informed him that the sole incident involved Baughman, not any of my men.

Once again, the bitter memory of J. Ross was laid to rest and I focused on my Stateside R & R.

But upon my return to Rhodesia, the feces had hit the fan, and the stains were everywhere, particularly on me.

For his "combat tour" photo portfolio, J. Ross Baughman, had talked some of the troops at Sipepa into posing with a group of Terrs in the lean-and-rest position, with a sergeant holding a pistol on them. Others were asked to put a noose around the neck of a teenaged Terr, with the rope's end in the hand of an ominous background horseman.

The final photo *de guerre* was of Lieutenant Graham Baillie posed in the foreground, holding his baton, his apparent African "victim" on the ground to his rear.

Terrified of world opinion, the Rhodesians went ballistic. After my thorough world-class ass-chewing at army HQ, I was advised that, while I could stay on, my effectiveness as a commander would be seriously impaired.

I decided to resign my commission.

When I returned to the United States, Baughman's photos, via AP, had hit the international wires and caused a stir. I phoned Robin Moore who informed me that the pictures and accompanying prose had garnered a Pulitzer nomination.

Good news, however, wasn't far beyond the horizon: The professional photographers of the Overseas Press Club, in NYC, raised doubts about the photos' authenticity and Baughman's conduct. ✕

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Continued from page 63

Robert Pelletreau, who was the senior state Department official for American policy in the Persian Gulf.

Alone Again, Naturally

On the morning the offensive was to begin, opposition leaders say, the CIA delivered a message, via a White House cable, telling them they were on their own.

"The United States will not support his operation militarily or in any other way," the White House cable read.

Barzani and other opposition leaders were shocked. "I said, 'I don't understand.' Perhaps the Americans speak two different languages," Barzani told ABC. "They tell us one thing, then send us a message telling us another. It was all lies."

Despite the White House cable, the INC attack proceeded. Within four weeks the offensive collapsed. The CIA stopped working with Iraq's opposition completely, turning its full attention to Saddam's generals instead.

In January 1996, the CIA's covert operation moved to Amman, Jordan, under the direction of then-CIA director John Deutch. The CIA paid \$6 million to former Iraqi military officers to plan a coup. Members of the accord quickly blew their cover, however,

and even held a news conference in February 1996 to announce their secret intentions.

The CIA went forward anyway, with "covert" plans for a coup that Iraqi intelligence and Saddam Hussein surely had full knowledge of. The CIA smuggled special communications equipment from Amman into Baghdad, which ended up in the hands of Saddam.

On 26 June 1996, Saddam began arresting more than 800 military officers thought to be plotting with the CIA. At least 30 were executed.

In the north, the Kurds were fighting among themselves. The INC — once a unified force against Saddam — was beginning to fragment from internal strife. The CIA was merely observing, and Saddam's army was stationed just across the Zaab River, which marks the southern border of the area protected by allied forces.

Like Ducks In A Pond

In August 1996, while Clinton was busy campaigning for re-election, U.S. intelligence detected Iraqi military movement toward the Zaab and the city of Irbil, the headquarters of the Iraqi opposition. On 31 Aug., Saddam's forces reached Irbil.

Only days before Saddam's attack, all CIA agents moved out.

"Everybody was waiting for the American fighters," one Iraqi opposition leader told ABC News.

The United States did nothing, and the

Iraqi opposition was left to fend for itself. Two trucks loaded with opposition soldiers were taken by Saddam's army, and more than 150 of them were thrown into a ditch and shot.

The only response, as ordered by Clinton, was a cruise missile attack on Iraqi radar installations 500 miles to the south of Irbil. Clinton explained his strategy was part of a larger plan to keep Saddam in a box and limit his ability to threaten neighbors.

Super Saddam

By now, the message was clear for any Iraqi opponents of Saddam: The United States doesn't care much what Saddam does to Iraqis inside his own border. Saddam seems fortified by every Iraqi he has killed.

His own army seems unlikely to turn on him, no matter how badly defeated in war.

"The truth is that Saddam Hussein now is stronger than he was since the invasion of Kuwait. He is defiant and transcendent, and he is dangerous," Chalabi told ABC News.

So Clinton wants to bomb Iraq again, in order to "weaken" Saddam. The bombs, Clinton said in an address to the nation on 17 February, cannot destroy all of Saddam's lethal arsenal. However, the president says, they can leave him "significantly worse off than he is now."

If history repeats itself, that's not true. Saddam may be living proof that what doesn't kill a man only makes him stronger — raising the nagging question, why? ✖

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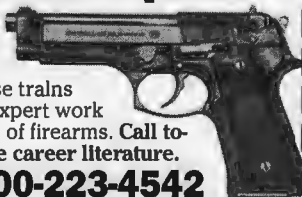
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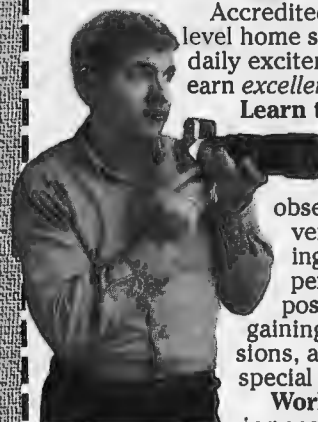
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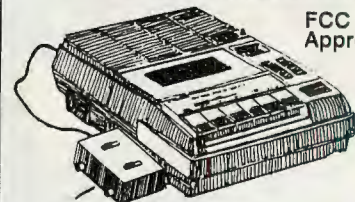
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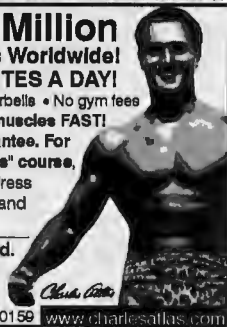
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A Rare Act Of Moral Courage

The V Corps Commander, Lieutenant General John W. Hendrix, has blown the whistle on his own 41,000-man outfit, saying it needs 180 days to become battle-ready," says a Pentagon source.

Wait a minute! Hendrix commands one of the U.S. Army's best units which is currently deployed on a red-hot mission in Bosnia, and is the first to go if trouble strikes anywhere else in Europe, Africa and Southwest Asia, and it ain't ready?

V Corps — whose 1st Armored Division and 1st Mechanized Division whipped Saddam Hussein's army in less than 100 hours — is supposed to be fit to fight anywhere, anytime, and able to roll in a few hours' notice.

Brave Gen. Hendrix has told it like it is. A tank leader in Hendrix's outfit says, "We're broken. We have been forced to do too much with too little without clear focus for too long."

Only a few months ago, V Corps reported, "We're best in the West," but that was under Gen. John Abrams, who's now back in the States being groomed for four stars.

His successor, Gen. Hendrix, after a couple months in the saddle, is saying his active-duty corps, which costs the taxpayer \$207 million a year, needs as much time to be combat-ready as the Pentagon says a National Guard division needs.

Only a congressional investigation will reveal when the war-fighting skills of proud combat units in Germany slipped to those of weekend warriors.

These units have been the main-ground striking force in Europe for almost 50 years. Their readiness did not suddenly plummet from perfect to horrible in the last six months.

The real issue here that needs immediate investigation is have politically correct senior leaders let combat-readiness decline while they were telling congress their units were ready?

It's been a long time, too, since a senior officer such as Hendrix has had the moral courage to sound off. In my memory, only four Army generals since the Korean War have fallen on their swords and put honor over career to tell the truth in matters affecting national security.

They are James Gavin, Henry Emerson, Harold Moore and John Singlaub. All were given the boot. All are in my personal hall of fame.

And now, so is Hendrix. He skips one of the four fighting corps in the U.S. Army, and he's saying our military machine is broken.



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.

For two years, I've been reporting in this space what your kids have been telling me: Our military aircraft are crashing in record numbers, tanks are failing apart like 1930s' Grapes of Wrath trucks, combat units are under-strength, and not trained for war, and ships are sailing with crews that are overworked and understaffed.

Any grunt or junior leader (off the record, of course) from a green replacement — to a navy lieutenant — to an Army or Air Force captain — will tell you that operational readiness stinks.

Even the mainline media are reporting the story. They're saying things have not been worse since the dark, grim days after Vietnam when our military machine was broken and couldn't even execute a raid to snatch the Iranian-held hostages without turning it into a bloody disaster.

But still the high brass in the Pentagon and their lying taxpayer-funded spokesmen are insisting all is well. Sadly, even General Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has bought into this party line.

U.S. News and World Report recently lashed the Pentagon about their sad readiness condition. Shelton responded by saying our forces are good-to-go and "the Pentagon's carefully monitored readiness statistics do not indicate serious degradations in the force."

I could expect such a snow job from someone like Max Taylor, who brought us Vietnam, or Colin Powell, who, after

Desert Storm didn't bring us the promised snake's head, or John Shalikashvili, who brought us our military's current meltdown — but not from a great, straight-shooting warrior such as Green Beret Shelton.

A message to Henry Shelton: Don't believe your briefers or the puffed-up readiness reports. Take off on a recon by yourself and spend a week each on a fighting ship, with a grunt platoon, a fighter squadron and a maintenance unit.

Talk to the Joes and Janes and get the real word. They are the truth.

[Http://www.hackworth.com](http://www.hackworth.com) is the address of David Hackworth's home page.

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