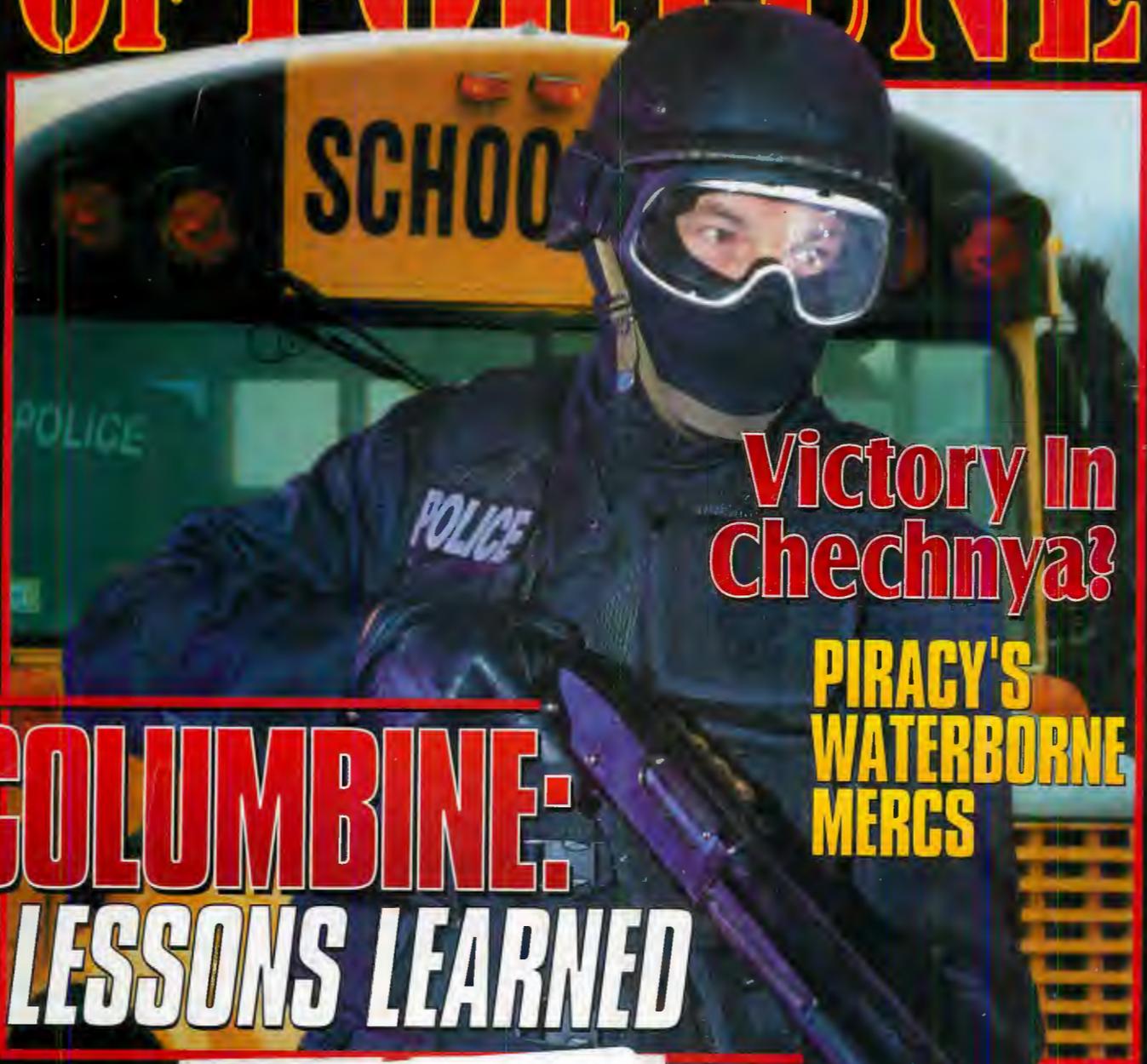




**CIA'S NAVY ATTACKS NORTH VIETNAM**

# SOLDIER OF FORTUNE



**Victory In Chechnya?**

**PIRACY'S WATERBORNE MERCS**

**COLUMBINE:  
LESSONS LEARNED**

**BLA:  
SLIP, STUMBLE & FALL**

MAY 2000



0 09128 48493 8  
CAN. \$5.75 UK £2.60 U.S. \$4.95

**SOF Celebrates 25 Years of Action in the Year 2000.  
Haven't You Waited Long Enough? *SUBSCRIBE NOW!***



1975 **25** YEARS 2000

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

CHOOSE YOUR SAVINGS—

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

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP/COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

  **TO USE MC/VISA CALL 1-800-877-5207**

INTERNATIONAL 1-815-734-4151 or FAX 1-303-444-5617

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

U.S. Funds Only. Canada add \$10/yr. (Includes GST BN 12847 8249 RT). Other Countries Add \$21/yr.

**B271B1**

# Remember the first time Dad let you shoot?

He helped you to hit a can on a fence post, and you learned about respect and responsibility. It's time to pass along that lesson to the next generation of responsible gun owners.



This faithful reproduction of the John Browning classic gallery gun harkens back to the days when your granpa won the heart of his sweetie with dazzling marksmanship at the carnival or state fair. You'll love this .22 LR pump action in either a 23" rifle or 17" carbine barrel. This takedown firearm is a great squirrel gun, or a beginner's plinking rifle, a fine tool you will use to teach firearms safety and build character in that child or grandchild of yours.



Each rifle and carbine is equipped with the Taurus Security System™ as well as a firing pin safety.

## Fun to shoot for that kid in all of us!



# TAURUS

[www.taurususa.com](http://www.taurususa.com)  
(305) 624-1115

*Taurus Security System™ included at no additional charge.  
For information about a FREE trigger lock for your Taurus, phone or visit us on the internet.*



Celebrating 25 Years Of SOF

# SOF

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE

MAY 2000 • VOL. 25 NO. 5



Military Spooce Photography/militaryspooce.com and Mark C. Ibb. Digitally enhanced by B. Bigler.

**On the Cover**  
SWAT units are ever the focus of Monday morning quarterbacking. In the case of the shooting at Columbine, perhaps some important lessons can be learned. See page 36.

## FEATURES

**COLUMBINE: LESSONS LEARNED** by Harry Humphries & Hugo Teufel **36**  
Cops inside Columbine: What can be learned from the tragedy? Is there any way to stop the slaughter if it should happen again?

**SLIP, STUMBLE, & FALL: PART 2** by Dr. Tom Marks **40**  
Our policy in Colombia is crafted by Gucci-treaded, buttoned-down theorists, with too much desk time — and not enough experience “under fire.”

**CHECHNYA UNMASKED** by Mark H. Milstein **44**  
“Pyrrhic Victory” best describes the Russian adventure in bloody Chechnya where “Get Me Out Of This Place” must be their anthem.

**A HUNDRED YEARS OF PACKING IRON** by Peter G. Kokalis **48**  
El Paso Saddlery, America’s oldest holster maker, still cranks out the best leatherware around.

**PIRACY: TO GIVE NO QUARTER, PART III** by Frank Hopkins **54**  
How incongruous: Dutch mercs operating from the old American base at Subic Bay, fast-boating after Asian pirates in the South China Sea. Plundering maritime herds still abound.

**OMEGA PROVING GROUND** by Frank W. James **59**  
*The Mauser M2 Pistol*  
Sig-Sauer’s acquisition of Mauser once again lifts the latter to marquee-status — with the introduction of the high-potential M2.

**OPERATION VULCAN** by Kenneth Conboy & Dale Andrade **60**  
CIA maritime ops against North Vietnam started with high hopes — but choked deep in the fourth quarter.

**UNLEASH THE FOGS OF WAR** by Colonel Louis Neatuns, USGAFF (Ret.) **65**  
Study Patton, Rommel, Sun Tzu, or von Clausewitz all you want, *Murphy* is the true strategic determinist.



Mark H. Milstein



Peter G. Kokalis

## COLUMNS

**Command Guidance** ..... **4**  
Hillary’s Not First — Nor Is She A Lady

**Bulletin Board** ..... **6**  
Hood Shells Neighbors

**Combat Weaponcraft** ..... **16**  
Lever Action Rifles: Primitive Or Practical?

**Freedom Watch** ..... **20**  
Baseball, Apple Pie, and the Right to Speak Free

**I Was There** ..... **24**  
Reflections Of Khobar

**Flak** ..... **26**  
Kudos NRA, RKB

**World Sitrep** ..... **30**

**Adventure Quartermaster** ... **32**  
The SniPod™

**Supply Depot** ..... **75**

**Advertisers’ Index** ..... **81**

**Product Index** ..... **81**

**Parting Shot** ..... **82**  
Helms Demands That U.N. Alter Course



PISTRIS, Boston, MA

# COMMAND GUIDANCE

by Robert K. Brown

## Hillary's Not *First* — Nor Is She A Lady

Back in 1969, a group of Black Panthers decided that a black man named Alex Rackley needed to die. Rackley was a fellow Panther suspected of disloyalty. Rackley was first tied to a chair. Safely immobilized, his "friends" tortured him for hours by, among other things, pouring boiling water on him. When they got tired of torturing Rackley, Black Panther member Warren Kimbro took Mr. Rackley outside and put a bullet in his head. Rackley's body was found floating in a river about 25 miles north of New Haven, Conn.

Maybe at this point you're curious as to what happened to these Black Panthers. Well, in 1977 — that's only eight years later — only one of the killers was still in jail. The shooter, Warren Kimbro, managed to get a scholarship to Harvard. He later became an assistant dean at Eastern Connecticut State College.

Isn't that something? As a '60s radical you can pump a bullet into someone's head, and years later, in the same state, you can be an assistant college dean! Only in America! Ericka Huggins was the lady who served the Panthers by boiling the water for Mr. Rackley's torture. Some years later Ms. Huggins was elected to a California school board.

How in the world do you think that these killers got off so easy? Well, maybe it was in some part due to the efforts of two people who came to the defense of the Panthers. These two people actually went so far as to shut down Yale University with demonstrations in defense of the accused Black Panthers during their trial.

One of those people was none other than Bill Lan Lee. Mr. Lee, or Mr. Lan Lee as the case may be, is the head of the U.S. Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. Lee is serving in that capacity *illegally*, by the way, but that's another story — another part of the Clinton saga of ignoring the rule of law.

OK, so who was the other Panther defender? Is this other defender now a school board member, an assistant college dean? Nope, neither. The other Panther defender was, like Lee, a radical law student at Yale University at that time. She is now known as The Smartest Woman in the World.

She is none other than the unofficial Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate from the state of New

York (drum roll) — our First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

And now you know the rest of the story — the one that the liberal press will never report.

Postscript: Quoted from "Hillary For The Defense," by John McCaslin, *The Washington Times*, 12 June 1998:

"... Hillary Rodham, "organized shifts for her classmates" to "monitor civil rights abuses" during the trial of Mr. Rackley's killers and aided the American Civil Liberties Union's defense of the Panthers, David Brock wrote in his 1996 book about the first lady [The Seduction of Hillary Rodham].

Through her involvement in the defense of these killers, he [Brock] reported, Ms. Rodham met Communist Party lawyer Robert Treuhaft and won an internship in his Berkeley law office. ✕



## SOLDIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE

Robert K. Brown  
EDITOR/PUBLISHER

MANAGING EDITOR Dwight Swift  
SENIOR EDITOR Don McLean  
TECHNICAL EDITOR Peter G. Kokalis  
ASSISTANT EDITOR Wayne Laugesen  
DEPUTY EDITOR Thomas D. Reisinger  
PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Kathleen Allard  
ART DIRECTOR B. Bigler

### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

Chief Foreign Correspondent:  
Mark H. Milstein

Senior Foreign Correspondents:

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

### CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

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



OMEGA GROUP, LTD

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS Richard L. Sherrow  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Trent Hanna

### ADVERTISING

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR Nick Souleles

SOF WEB SITE: [www.sofmag.com](http://www.sofmag.com)  
E-MAIL: [editor@sofmag.com](mailto:editor@sofmag.com)

FOR EDITORIAL/ADVERTISING, CALL  
303-448-3750

SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES CALL,  
1-800-877-5207

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

### IN MEMORIAM

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

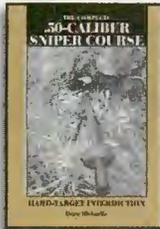
SOLDIER OF FORTUNE (USPS 525-810, ISSN 0145-6784), May 2000, Volume 25, Number 5, is published monthly by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Inc., 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Suite A-5, Boulder, CO 80303-1340. Periodicals Postage is paid at Boulder, CO and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, Subscription Department, POB 348, Mt Morris, IL 61054-0348 or call 1-800-877-5207. U.S. and APO-FPO subscription rate for twelve monthly issues \$29.95. Canada add \$10.00/yr. additional postage (includes GST tax registration business number: 12847 6249 RT). All other countries add \$21.00 U.S. FUNDS ONLY. Single Issue Price — U.S.: \$4.95; United Kingdom: £2.60; Canada: \$5.75. PRINTED IN THE USA.

CONTRIBUTORS: Manuscripts, photographs or drawings are submitted at the contributor's own risk. Material should be mailed to Articles Editor, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Suite A-5, Boulder, CO 80303-1340, and cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. Any material accepted is subject to such revision as is necessary to meet the editorial requirements of SOF. All manuscripts must be typed double-spaced. All photographs must be credited and be accurately identified. Payment will be made at rates current at time of publication. Editorial office phone number is 303-449-3750.

Copyright © 2000 by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine Inc. All Rights Reserved.

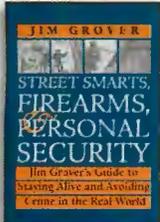
NOTICE: SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine is a magazine of national and international distribution. There may be products in the magazine of which sale, possession or interstate transportation may be restricted, prohibited or subject to special licensing requirements in your state or nation. Purchasers should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

**NEW!**



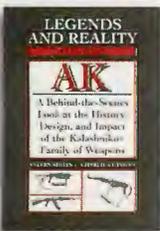
**THE COMPLETE .50-CALIBER SNIPER COURSE**  
Hard-Target Interdiction  
by Dean Michaelis

Nowhere are the big guns covered in more detail. Michaelis, a former sniping instructor with U.S. Army Special Forces, has developed a comprehensive course to teach every aspect of the sniper's art. Includes the author's exclusive program of instruction and details on the history, equipment and training of hard-target interdiction. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 576 pp. #10011336 \$60.00



**STREET SMARTS, FIREARMS, AND PERSONAL SECURITY**

Jim Grover's Guide to Staying Alive and Avoiding Crime in the Real World  
Here are the best of Jim Grover's "Personal Security" columns in *Guns & Ammo* covering the entire spectrum of crime avoidance and defense. Includes gaining street savvy, hardening your home, traveling safely, utilizing armed and unarmed options and training for practical firearm use. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 280 pp. #10011328 \$35.00



**LEGENDS AND REALITY OF THE AK**  
A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the History, Design, and Impact of the Kalashnikov Family of Weapons  
by V. Shilin & C. Cutshaw

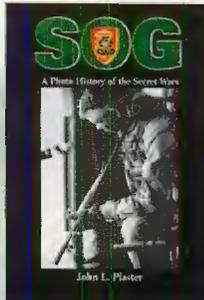
Get an up-close-and-personal look at the AK-47, Mikhail Kalashnikov, the Izhmash Arms Factory and new Russian small arms from the perspective of Russian arms designer and Kalashnikov associate Val Shilin. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, 192 pp. #10011351 \$35.00

**SOG** A PHOTO HISTORY OF THE SECRET WARS  
by John L. Plaster

**The most amazing special ops photo collection ever!**

**IN 1972, WHEN THE TOP-SECRET STUDIES AND OBSERVATIONS GROUP**

was disbanded, the U.S. military ordered its thousands of photos and documents burned so that a book like this would not be possible. But some SOG veterans had brought back with them personal copies of "official" photos of SOG in action, as well as snapshots, and kept them secret for more than three decades. While writing his history of SOG, John Plaster contacted his secret-war comrades and uncovered this wealth of never-before-seen photos. More than 700 photos bring to life the stories of the SOG heroes whose names had only been whispered before, as well as all 10 Medal of Honor winners. See for yourself what really happened behind the lines: Operation Tailwind, Son Tay, Hatchet Force operations, Bright Light rescues, HALO insertions, string extractions and much more. Includes first ever photos of U.S. forgeries of enemy documents! 8 1/2 x 11, hardcover, photos, illustrations, 496 pp. #10011187 \$79.95

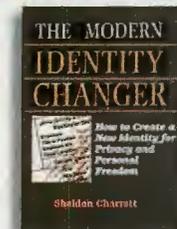


**BACKGROUND:** Hatchet Force heavy-weapon squad members cross a river in Laos, deep behind enemy lines.

**BELOW:** CCS recon man rap-ports from a US Air Force Green Hornet Huey.

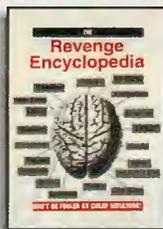


**BEST-SELLING PALADIN TITLES**



**THE MODERN IDENTITY CHANGER**  
How to Create a New Identity for Privacy and Personal Freedom  
by Sheldon Charrett

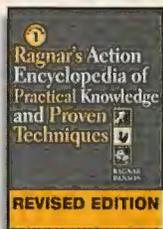
Finally, here is an all-new instruction book on how to obtain a new identity, produce supporting documents for it and use it safely in today's society. Learn how to get Social Security numbers, driver's licenses and more. For academic study only. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, illus., 152 pp. #10008712 \$20.00



**THE REVENGE ENCYCLOPEDIA**  
This is the mother of all revenge books! You'd have to buy more than 25 books to get all the wit and wisdom contained in this compilation from the best of Paladin's revenge books. Don't be fooled by cheap imitations that claim to know how to get even. Paladin is still your revenge source when you need to even the score with nosy neighbors, bungling bureaucrats, snarly clerks or other pests. For entertainment purposes only. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 120 pp. #10001675 \$25.00



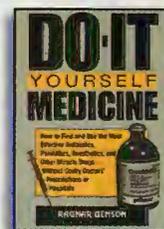
**GUERRILLAS IN THE MIST**  
A Battlefield Guide to Clandestine Warfare  
by Bob Newman  
Foreword by Robert K. Brown  
Learn every facet of the grim, violent world of guerrilla warfare: basic fieldcraft; mines and booby traps; tunnel construction and strategy; ambushes; urban and nocturnal tactics; interrogation, indoctrination and exploitation; psyops; and more. For academic study only. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, illus., 232 pp. #10008720 \$22.00



**RAGNAR'S ACTION ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE AND PROVEN TECHNIQUES**, Volume 1, Revised Edition  
by Ragnar Benson  
Learn how to build weapons, trap anything that moves, drop out of the rat race, defend yourself, protect your privacy, elude the bad guys, change identities, land a job and live well — as well as a little bit about everything else that might be important. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 344 pp. #10011096 \$35.00



**THE WHOLE SPY CATALOG**  
by Lee Lapin  
*The Whole Spy Catalog* shows you exactly how to hire an ex-KGB agent, order a photo of anyone on earth anytime during the last 20 years, order and install the latest electronic surveillance gear, get an instant background check on anyone, subscribe to an in-house FBI newsletter, and many more tricks to trace, track, surveil and investigate anyone or anything. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 448 pp. #10005536 \$44.95



**DO-IT-YOURSELF MEDICINE**  
How to Find and Use the Most Effective Antibiotics, Painkillers, Anesthetics, and Other Miracle Drugs... Without Costly Doctors' Prescriptions or Hospitals  
by Ragnar Benson  
Ragnar gives you precise instructions for securing and using the very latest drugs and supplies from mail order suppliers, animal health centers, military dispensaries, foreign pharmacies and other unusual sources. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, illus., 128 pp. #10008266 \$20.00

**CREDIT CARD ORDERS CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-466-6868 or 1-800-392-2400, USA AND CANADA**

CALL 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. FREE 80-PAGE CATALOG CONTAINING MORE THAN 700 TITLES.

**PALADIN PRESS®**

P.O. BOX 1307-0ES • BOULDER, CO 80306 • PHONE 303-443-7250 • FAX 303-442-8741 • E-MAIL SERVICE@PALADIN-PRESS.COM

**OTHER FASCINATING TITLES**

- Get Even: The Complete Book of Dirty Tricks ..... #10002400 .. \$19.95
- Acquiring New ID ..... #10006005 .. \$20.00
- The Invisible Advantage: A Step-by-Step Guide to Making Ghillie Suits and Custom Camouflage Accessories (video) ... #10009959 .. \$29.95
- US Army Special Operations Target Interdiction Course ..... #10010783 .. \$50.00
- Credit Secrets: How to Erase Bad Credit #10008878 .. \$18.00
- Disk Detective: Secrets You Must Know to Recover Information from a Computer ..... #10009900 .. \$20.00
- Identity, Privacy, and Personal Freedom #10010759 .. \$40.00

VIDEOTAPES ARE NONRETURNABLE. DEFECTIVE TAPES WILL BE REPLACED.

**PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING TITLES:**

**RESPONSE CODE: OES**

VISA  MASTERCARD  DISCOVER  CHECK/MONEY ORDER

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

Item # \_\_\_\_\_ Item # \_\_\_\_\_

Item # \_\_\_\_\_ Item # \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

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

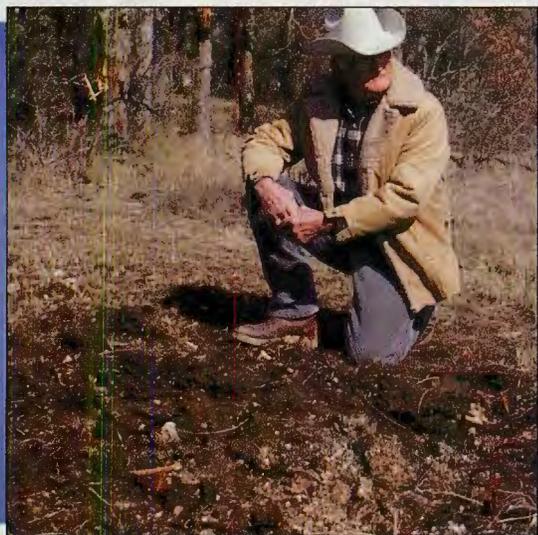
**SUBTOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**POSTAGE & HANDLING** \$ 5.00  
PLEASE ALLOW 2-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE • DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED • VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.PALADIN-PRESS.COM**

# BULLETIN BOARD



AP/Wide World by Harry Cabluck

that rained down on the ranch of Robert Shoaf, adjacent to Ft. Hood, Texas. One round of illuminating and 11 rounds of HE were fired at the 300-acre Shoaf ranch, several of the rounds hitting between 40 and 300 meters from three houses on the ranch. The minimum safe distance from impacting 155 HE rounds is 750 meters. Although shell fragments struck two of the occupied homes, there were no injuries to residents or ranch animals.

Aside from considerations on how the gunners got 180-degrees off, the timeliness of Ft. Hood's response is under examination. Shelling began about 2115 hrs and lasted about an hour, despite repeated phone calls from the rattled Shoaf family to Ft. Hood. According to Ft. Hood officials, after range control received relayed complaints from Mrs. Shoaf, military police were notified, and the Ft. Hood game warden, representing the Provost Marshal, was dispatched to arrive at the Shoaf ranch about 2300 hrs.

"It just worries me that they don't have any fail safe methods," Becky Shoaf told reporters. "When a civilian calls in, they obviously don't take it very seriously. My husband's family has been here at least 100 years on this property. I can't believe they would not take steps to prevent this." The Shoafs reported the initial round to the Coryell County Sheriff, and when the second round came in they called the Fort. After rounds kept on coming, they called the Fort again. "I called back and got him again. ... He got real flip, and said

## Hood Shells Neighbors

Incorrect data entered in the gun-system computer on an M109A6 Paladin SP howitzer is being blamed for 12 rounds of 155

*Continued on page 10*

If you want the BEST Value in Night Vision Systems...  
Call for our Free catalog!



The BEST Riflescope. The 4X RAPTOR has 1,500 yard detection with a quarter moon!



The BEST Single Tube Goggle. The GEN III 1700-4U can be used to see people moving at 1,000 yards in starlight.

The World's Largest Stocking Distributor of Night Vision Devices for over 23 Years!



The BEST Pockscope. The American Eagle can be hand-held, head- or camera-mounted. The Model 603U can identify a person at 200 yards unaided on the darkest night!

- ◆ High-Performing GEN II & GEN III Systems
- ◆ Limited 2-Year Warranty on All Night Vision Systems!
- ◆ Data Record Sheets Provided with ALL New Systems!
- ◆ Visit our website or call for equipment specifications & warranty details.

Other MILSPEC-type units available!

Distributor of the Highest Quality Night Vision Systems in the World!

## Excaltibur Electro Optics, Inc.

1-800-797-2849

PO Box 400  
Fogelsville, PA 18051-0400

FAX 610-391-9220

www.nightvis.com  
xcalibur@ptdprolog.net

# IRONWOLF ENTERPRISES

EXCLUSIVELY PRESENTS ...

## ISRAELI MILITARY

### M-15

### GAS MASK \$45.00

### (NEW IN BOX WITH NEW FILTER)

#### FEATURES:

\*DRINKING TUBE  
COMPATIBLE  
WITH US GI  
CANTEEN

\*ENHANCED  
VISIBILITY

\*VOICE BOX

SPARE  
FILTERS  
AVAILABLE \$4.00



WHY CHOOSE  
THE M15???

TERRORISTIC  
THREAT

PEACE OF  
MIND

WE  
ACCEPT  
ALL  
MAJOR  
CREDIT  
CARDS.

QUANTITIES ARE LIMITED!!!

ORDER NOW

## IRONWOLF ENTERPRISES

201 EAST SECOND STREET

BERWICK, PA 18603

PHONE: 1-800-752-WOLF OR (570)752-8800

FAX: (570)759-1800

website: <http://www.ironwolfent.com>

A full-line of military surplus and survival gear available.

# YEA, THOUGH I WALK THE SHADOW OF DEATH

# BLACKHAWK



The Blackhawk Snap-Short Assault Sling works on any rifle or shotgun regardless of barrel placement and keeps the gun in the ready position.



The Blackhawk Omega 45 cal Drop Leg Pistol Mag pouch is one of over 30 holsters and grenade pouches designed by the pros who use them.



Kevlar Certified, the Blackhawk Close Quarter Battle/Riggers belt has an emergency rappelling loop. The belt the Special Forces use everyday.



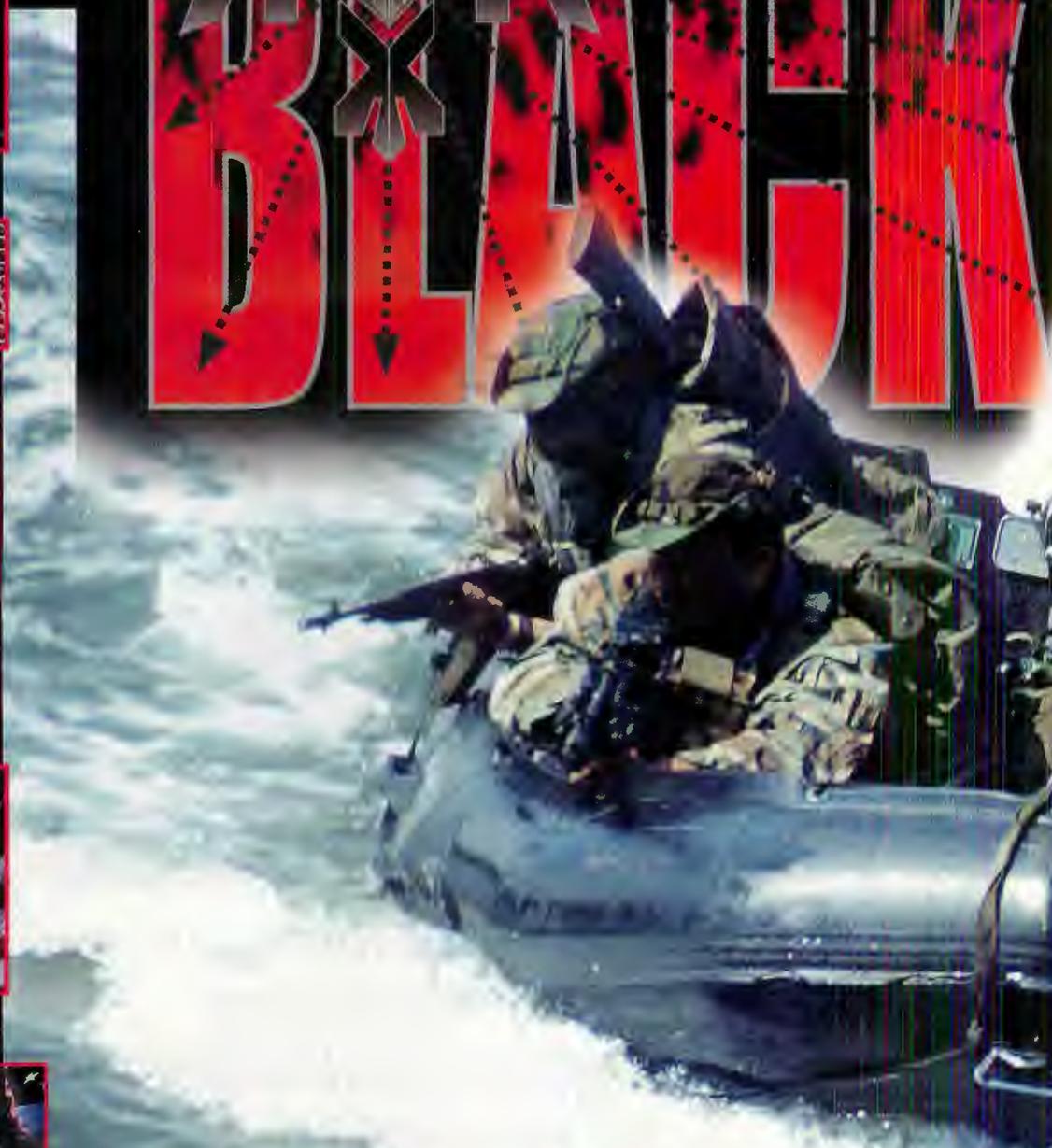
The Phoenix Pack features a weapon lock system, padded stabilizer belt, Fastex buckles, Blackhawk's Lifetime Guarantee and is CamelBak Compatible!



Blackhawk makes a full line of luggage and load-out bags, gun cases, med-vac bags, and specialty cases—all Guaranteed for Life. Call 1-800-694-5263 for info!



The Ultimate fashion statement for the off duty warrior. Premium, 100% cotton Anorak mock-necks. Brilliant 4-color front and back.



## FOR I AM THE MEANEST

When the mission demands it. When your life depends on it. When the objective must be secured at all cost, count us in. There are times when your gear cannot fail. We know this because we've been shot at ourselves. Our designers are cops. SWAT guys. SEAL's and Marines. We know what combat is like. That's why we manufacture the finest nylon on earth--holsters and vests, daypacks and gunstraps--all made with the absolute strongest materials money can buy. All backed by BlackHawk's Lifetime Guarantee. Featuring our exclusive

BLACKHAWK INDUSTRIES, INC. 1133 Executive Blvd. Chesapeake, VA 23320 [www.blackhawkindustries.com](http://www.blackhawkindustries.com)

# THRU THE VALLEY OF I WILL FEAR NO EVIL...

# BLACKHAWK!



BlackHawk is the exclusive tactical industry distributor for all the cool CamelBak products including the new HAWG and 90 oz. camouflage MOLLE!



The Omega Crossstraw Tac-Vest (above) and Enhanced LBV are two of over a dozen CamelBak Compatible premium quality Blackhawk vests. Call 1-800-694-5263 to find out about all the others.



BlackHawk's Patrol Radio Harness features a CoolMax and mesh backing for comfort and hidden map pouch. Fits all radios plus a knife and mag!



BlackHawk has secured worldwide distribution of Dynamic Entry's amazing new line of non-conductive, non-sparking battering rams, entry tools, and the revolutionary new LifeClaw NC/MS Halligan bar!

## MOTHER IN THE VALLEY

CamelBak Hydration Systems. Built with the Passion for Excellence that has made BlackHawk the fastest growing tactical nylon company in the world! To find out more, call for free info or the new '99 BlackHawk Catalog (\$4.00) featuring over 400 of the world's finest tactical nylon products!

[www.blackhawkindustries.com](http://www.blackhawkindustries.com)

See Your Dealer or call NOW!!

**1-800-694-5263**

(757) 436-3101 (757) 436-3088 FAX



'there's nothing I can do' he said. 'All I can do is log your call,' Mrs. Shoaf recounted to reporters.

## Claim Your Free Inheritance

You may have seen recent TV-magazine shows featuring the fact there are multi-millions laying unclaimed in bank and government coffers, because the rightful owners have not claimed an inheritance, funds-in-settlement, or tax refund. Tragically, much of these millions will be lost to the rightful owners because they do not claim it.

*NOTICE: YOU have an inheritance, a priceless inheritance, and if you don't claim it, you will lose it! This inheritance was bought with the blood of our American forefathers, and bequeathed to you at no cost. We speak here of the right to vote, and the freedoms protected by the Bill of Rights.*

If you do not register and vote, those with anti-freedom agendas will steal your Bill of Rights as surely as the state will command any unclaimed cash or tangible-asset inheritance. They have had the linchpin Second Amendment under attack for the last two decades; the Fourth Amendment has been chiseled into unrecognizable rubble, and as we write this the First Amendment is the target of legislation the would permit unelected government bureaucrats to decide (in your own best interest, of course) what information you have a right to distribute or possess.

The clock is running out on your priceless, unclaimed inheritance, folks: Claim it! Register to vote, then register your friends to vote and make sure they do.

As Dwight D. Eisenhower said, "All that is necessary for evil to triumph, is for good men to do nothing."

## Ho Chi Minh Highway

With considerable fanfare, Vietnam has announced plans for a

three-year project to build a modern highway over the 1,600-klick route of the old Ho Chi Minh trail from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City [Saigon]. The first phase of the project alone is expected to cost more than \$370 million; when finished the highway will have more than 300 bridges, and be an all-weather route, built above last year's highest flood levels. The original Ho Chi Minh trail comprised some 16,000 klicks of footpaths, dirt roads, canals and tunnels, mostly hidden in heavy tropical forest.

## Colt To Buy Heckler & Koch

According to industry sources, Royal Ordnance, which is owned by BAE Systems, and which in turn owns Heckler & Koch, plans to sell H&K to Colt Manufacturing. According to sources, Zilkha Assets, the main shareholder in Colt Manufacturing, has sent a letter of intent to Royal Ordnance. Based in Oberndorf, Germany, H&K has a staff of approximately 700, and was acquired by Royal Ordnance in 1991 on very favorable terms.

## "Blue Helmets" To Fight Piracy?

Pressure is mounting by the International Transport Workers Union (ITF) and the International Shipping Federation (ISF) for international governmental action to stem the tide of maritime piracy. The ITF wants the UN to get involved, and has suggested establishing a UN maritime unit, a "Blue Helmets Naval Force." Nations such as Britain with marine commando teams and units like the Special Boat Squadron might gain experience on active service patrols, by agreement in Indonesian waters, for example.

The idea of blue-water Blue Helmets is now actively being discussed by the ITF, the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) and the

*Continued on page 15*

# Baden K9 & Tactical Schools

Offering both trained dogs and training in:

- ◆ Anti-terrorist/hostage extraction
- ◆ Perimeter & crowd control
- ◆ Surveillance, counter measures
- ◆ Special ops for military, law enforcement and corporate interests
- ◆ S.A.R.

International security consultants, extraction teams and corporate advisory groups available for immediate global deployment. Our training personnel are active in their field in some of the hottest spots in the world.

U.S.M.C. and I.D.F. specialists on-site. We offer the most intense and comprehensive training courses in the world.

From the jungles of Cambodia to the streets of New York City, our dogs have proven their courage and stability. For more information, please contact us at:

**TEL: (905) 562-3095 ◆ FAX: (905) 562-4242**

Email: [SOF@badenk9.com](mailto:SOF@badenk9.com)

Visit our Web Site: [www.badenk9.com](http://www.badenk9.com)



**ON  
SALE  
NOW!**

# SOLDIER

The World is at war. You're the front line and the only hope.

But it'll take more than good aim and ammo to crush this enemy army. This is a battle of intelligence where strategy is the only plan of attack. Terrorists, drug lords, and countless militants await in 30 of the globe's most dangerous political hotspots, making the hunt just as tricky as the kill. With a sniper rifle, white phosphorous grenades, and a full load of ammo, you blow through enemy lines only to find yourself being tracked by the very organization you were sent to hunt down. The tables have turned. Your cover blown. So much for a successful mission.



You're the world's deadliest soldier of fortune and your mission is clear: survive. Track your prey across the globe in a series of secret missions to take down a fanatical terrorist organization ... before it takes you down. Maintain your cover as a covert warrior in a startling variety of explosive missions ranging from underhanded sabotage to stealthy assassination to full frontal assaults where skill marks the difference between the hunter and the hunted. Welcome to the secret world of the mercenary.



Based on the popular magazine of the same name, the Soldier Of Fortune Video Game delivers the most realistic, covert-operative themed shooter ever created.

The Soldier of Fortune Video Game is the all-new, explosive first-person shooter created by Raven

Software. Like a blockbuster action-thriller, the Soldier Of Fortune Video Game plunges players into the secret and deadly world of the modern-day gun-for-hire via dozens of real-to-life missions spanning five continents and innovative multiplayer modes.

# SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

## THE GAME

### Features:

- **Covert Mercenary Missions:** Enter the world of a soldier-for-hire, a deadly killer who journeys across the globe's most dangerous, political hotspots—from a speeding freight train in Africa to Iraqi oil refineries to Russian chemical plants. Take on 30 deadly missions in a race against time that could determine the fate of the world.
- **Deadly Weapons and Violence:** Tear your way past the enemy position utilizing the world's most lethal weaponry, including a .44 caliber pistol, 9mm submachine gun, and prototype microwave pulse guns. Bullets simulate actual damage: shoot someone in the leg and he falls, writhing and grasping his wound; shoot someone in the head and he falls down dead.
- **Living 3-D Environments:** Infiltrate foreign locations as non-player characters go about their daily lives as if you weren't there ... until you blow your cover. Beware, you may find yourself tracked by the very organization you were sent to hunt down. Hollywood motion-capture animation by House of Moves adds realism and intensifies the visual impact.



- **Multiplayer Hunting:** Infiltrate the ranks of the Internet via Deathmatch or innovative multiplayer games, including Assassin, where you track and kill a pre-determined player while someone else hunts you; and Arsenal, where you race to be the first to kill an opponent using each of your available weapons.

- **Revolutionary Shooter Technology:** Reap the benefits of the 3-D accelerator-optimized Quake II engine, upgraded with Raven's new GHDL rendering system for unprecedented enemy detail and violence, faster gameplay, and the most amazing 3-D graphics to date.

### AVAILABLE NOW!

for Windows 95/98 & 2000.  
Get it at Best Buy, CompUSA, Fry's,  
Electronics Boutique, Babbages, Etc.,  
AAFES and other participating retailers.



Soldier Of Fortune® ©1999 Developed by Raven Software Corporation. Published and distributed by Activision, Inc. Activision® is a registered trademark of Activision, Inc. Soldier Of Fortune® is a registered trademark of Omega Group, Ltd. This product contains software technology licensed from Id Software, Inc. ("Id Technology"). Id Technology® 1997 Id Software, Inc. All Rights Reserved. All other trademarks and trade names are properties of their respective owners.

# ACTIVISION®

**1Bi** WHITE PRINT L.C. ON BLACK T



**WHITE PRINT** **1Bj** F.F. ON BLACK T

**M-16 THUNDER**

**HARM'S WAY**

**60** BLACK JACKET LEFT CHEST AND FULL BACK WHITE PRINT

# T-SHIRTS

## ADULT SIZES

Printed on Front. Made in U.S.A.  
 PRINTED AS MARKED  
 Left chest = LC Full Front = FF  
 ADULT Sizes S-XL, add \$ 2.00 for XXL  
 100% Cotton Preshrunk Heavyweight

Short Sleeve (SS) \$14.90  
 Long Sleeve (LS) \$17.90



S.O.S. is owned by a disabled EX-SPECIAL FORCES survivor promoting positive self esteem in the handicapped world.

**BUY 3 SS OR LS. CHOOSE 1 MORE SS FREE**

**1AM** L.C. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT

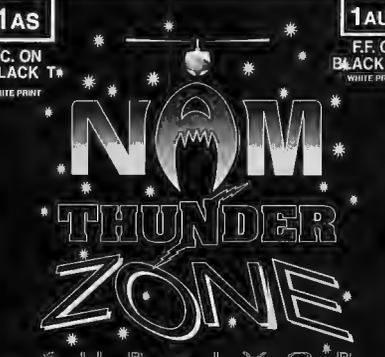


**1AN** F.F. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT

**SURVIVOR**

**6F** BLACK JACKET LEFT CHEST AND FULL BACK WHITE PRINT

**1AS** L.C. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT



**1AU** F.F. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT

**NOM THUNDER ZONE**

**6H** BLACK JACKET LEFT CHEST AND FULL BACK WHITE PRINT

**1AW** L.C. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT



**1AX** F.F. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT

**AIRBORNE WARRIOR**

**6i** BLACK JACKET LEFT CHEST AND FULL BACK WHITE PRINT

**1AZ** L.C. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT



**1AY** F.F. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT

**COMBAT ZONE**

**6J** BLACK JACKET LEFT CHEST AND FULL BACK WHITE PRINT

**1BC** L.C. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT



**1BD** F.F. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT

**ATTITUDE**

**6L** BLACK JACKET LEFT CHEST AND FULL BACK WHITE PRINT

**1BG** L.C. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT



**1BH** F.F. ON BLACK T WHITE PRINT

**WAR IS HELL**

**6N** BLACK JACKET LEFT CHEST AND FULL BACK WHITE PRINT

## SURVIVOR JACKETS

SATIN FINISH NYLON JACKET. FLANNEL LINED, KNIT CUFFS, COLLAR & BOTTOM BAND, ZIPPER FRONT & TWO SLASH POCKETS. MADE IN U.S.A.

SIZES; M, L, XL  
 ADD 5.00 FOR XXL, OR XXXL

**\$69.90**



PRINTED LEFT CHEST AND FULL BACK



## GREAT FOR GIFTS

USA + CANADA

**1 800-958-8876**

Have a credit card ready. We Accept VISA MC AMEX DISCOVER

Payable To;

Mail Check For Total + Shipping & Handling to S.O.S. California residents only; add 7.75% sales tax

S.O.S.  
 P.O. Box 2205  
 Carmichael, Ca 95609

Shipping & Handling If your order totals:

OUTSIDE USA;  
 Double shipping & handling charges. Mail official check (money order) payable USA funds

\$ 25.00 or less \$ 4.95  
 \$ 25.01 to \$ 50.00 \$ 6.95  
 \$ 50.01 to \$ 75.00 \$ 8.95  
 \$ 75.01 to \$ 100.00 \$ 9.95

Each additional \$ 100.00 (or portion of) add \$ 5.95

**Allow 1 to 4 weeks for delivery - U.S. Priority Mail**

**CATALOG** SEND S.A.S.E. FOR CATALOG OR GET IT WITH FIRST ORDER.

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE • SATISFACTION GUARANTEED • FIND US ON THE INTERNET [WWW.ISGNET.COM/SO/](http://WWW.ISGNET.COM/SO/)

**Immediate -- and FREE -- help for ANYONE who wants to learn fast how to fight to win!**

## **Amazing FREE Report By Famous Streetfighting Expert Reveals The 5 Simple Secrets of Winning Any Fight Against Larger, Meaner And More Skilled Attackers**

**Even if you're completely out-of-shape and have never been in a fight before in your life!**

- By Robert Pierce -

(Dateline: Visalia, CA) If you've ever wanted the kind of **solid confidence** that comes *only* when you know how to **win** a fight... and protect yourself and your loved ones in *any* kind of dangerous situation... then you need to know the **5 simple secrets** in this **free special report** by an influential streetfighting "insider".

The author is Dr. Russell Horine, a man who for over a decade has dealt and trained with the world's **top hand-to-hand combat experts**... including former Special Forces soldiers (Navy SEAL, Army DELTA and Rangers, Green Beret), big-city SWAT cops, "black bag" government operatives (FBI, CIA, DOE), Russian SPETSNAZ agents, illegal "cage" fighters, and notorious street fighters from all over the planet. Dr. Horine's office is called "action central" by every black belt, kickboxer, wrestler, backstreet brawler and elite "super soldier" of any note.

**Here's what this means for you:** After stripping away all the chest-pounding nonsense, Dr. Horine has discovered an amazing fact. The **bottom line** for winning most fights - even

against *trained, experienced* and *stronger* attackers - is actually a **very simple set of secret rules that anyone can learn in twenty minutes**. In fact...

- You do **NOT** need to be in shape, or strong, or even coordinated...
- You do **NOT** need to spend months (or even hours) in fancy, exhaustive training...
- And... you do **NOT** need any special skills!

Yet, the vast majority of men in this country have *no clue* what these 5 secrets are. They do not understand even the *basics* of fighting-to-win, and live with a *constant fear of confrontation*. When danger surprises them, they are **totally unprepared**... and become "easy pickings" for bullies and criminals.

This astonishing, easy-to-read special report - which Dr. Horine will send to you immediately, free and *without any obligation* - will **change your life literally overnight**. Just knowing these secrets will give you an incredible new **confidence** (plus *real tools* you can use) to handle *any* situation, no matter how violent or unexpected.

**There's just one "catch":** You must ask for this free report *before the end of this month*, and you must pay \$2 to cover the shipping and handling. You have 3 simple ways to order:

(1) Call **1-800-899-8153** (ask for Dept. 101) and tell whoever answers you want "**The 5 Secrets Of Winning Any Fight**". You can use your credit card to cover the shipping and handling.

(2) Mail a note with your address and the words "**Free Report**" to **OTS, 606 E. Acequia Ave., Dept. 101 Visalia, CA 93292** with your check or money order payable to OTS. Please do **not** send cash. Your free report will be *rushed* to you by return mail.

(3) Or, log on to the "hidden page" at our website at [www.threatresponse.com/5secrets](http://www.threatresponse.com/5secrets) (and *save* the \$2 s&h by downloading the free report directly). ■



ISF. Discussions have centered around placing such a force under the UN Security Council, with those in charge including representatives from industry, seamen's unions, the IMB and the IMO. Such an anti-piracy fleet force would have a mandate and a right of pursuit within territorial waters. Proponents are expected to lobby UN Security Council members, and are planning to meet with advisers to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

The biggest challenge is expected to be garnering government support among the involved nations. Some observers have suggested that this is a case of the commercial sector soliciting government funds and manpower to mitigate a problem that has been neglected, and thus encouraged, by industry. — *Capt. Dave Kellerman*

### **Grandma-4, Nards-0**

When a convicted rapist and his scum-bag companion carjacked and raped the 18-year-old granddaughter of 81-year-old retired Melbourne librarian Ava Estelle, the gutsy old granny tracked them both down and blew their balls off with a 9mm pistol.

When knife-wielding ex-cons Davis Furth and his former cellmate, Stanley Thomas, attacked the young motorist, they didn't in their wildest dreams figure on getting a taste of their own medicine from a gun-toting octogenarian. "When I saw the look on my Debbie's face that night in the hospital, I decided I was going to go out and get those bastards myself 'cause I figured the police would go easy on them. And I wasn't scared of them, either - because I've got me a gun and I've been shootin' it all my life," Mrs. Estelle told reporters.

Using a police artist's sketch and her granddaughter's description of their car, Ava spent a week prowling the seedy sections of Melbourne until she spotted the two going into their flophouse. She took their picture and had her recovering granddaughter vet it. Then she went back to the hotel and knocked on their door. When Furth opened the door, she blew all his hangy-down parts away, then blew the balls off Thomas (doctors were able to save enough of his plumb-

ing he won't have to be a piccolo player to take a leak). Mrs. Estelle then took a taxi to the nearest police station, laid her pistol on the counter and said, "Those bastards will never rape anyone again."

At last report, authorities were still pondering how to deal with this matter. Police Detective Evan Delp noted, "What she did was wrong ... but you can't really throw an 81-year-old woman in prison, especially when all three million people in the city want to nominate her for sainthood." Hey, Mate, are you so sure what she did was wrong?

### **Haiti: Hattin' Up And Headin' Home**

The last contingent of 20,000 American troops sent to Haiti in 1994 to restore the government of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide have come home. The Support Group, whose mission cost some \$20 million a year since its inception in 1996, was the last to leave. During that time, Support Group medics treated 138,000 Haitians in Port-au-Prince's slums and at the base field hospital near the international airport. GIs distributed more than 85 tons of donated goods and clothing, and 180 tons of other supplies. Some 170 water wells were repaired, and 40 more were drilled. Group engineers also built or repaired 50 schools and built or repaired 12 miles of roads, a bridge and a boat ramp. Aside from Congressional misgivings, many Haitian politicians had demanded the U.S. withdraw its troops, saying an American military presence was an affront to their national sovereignty.

Camp Fairwinds is scheduled to be handed over to the Airport Authority, and may be used for Haitian police training.

### **Montagnard Photo Tribute**

Check out <http://www.bidness.com/dega> for pictures of our valiant, and forgotten, Montagnard allies. If you also have jpg or gif photos, you can e-mail them to Steve Harrison at [merlin@advant.com](mailto:merlin@advant.com) for inclusion on this non-commercial tribute site. ✕

# COMBAT WEAPONCRAFT

Text & Photos by Clint Smith

## Lever Action Rifles: Primitive Or Practical?

Lever action rifles are deeply woven into American firearms history. From the first not so successful, ammunition-sensitive, Volcanic Repeating rifle, the mold was cast to make improved models of the future appear in many significant historical events.

The successful .44 rimfire caliber Henry, "that gawd awful, load it on Sunday, shoot it all week Yankee rifle," introduced near the beginning of the American Civil War, shone brightly in many engagements of this time span. The Henry also served its owners well in many of the unpleasanties involving the U.S. military and Native Americans.

On 21 December 1866, a fight occurred which is now simply referred to as the Fetterman Fight, although the *Atlas of the Sioux Wars* made by the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, calls it the Fetterman Disaster. In this fight, two ride-along volunteer civilians, Messrs. James S. Wheatly and Isaac Fischer were armed with the Henry rifle. While perishing in the fight, they apparently gave a good account of themselves as there were 65 "bloody spots" left from dragged off Indian warriors in and around their position. Mr. Wheatly must have been a severe source of irritation to the Indians as he had 50 spent cartridges near his body, which was found impaled with 105 arrows.

The Henry was followed by the "improved" Henry, the model 1866 Winchester. The "Yellow Boy," so called because of its distinctive brass frame, was also chambered for the .44 rimfire caliber cartridge. The 1866 rifle, along with the following model 1873 Winchester, were some of the most popular and prolific of Winchester rifles used in the settling of the American west.

In 1877 the Winchester Model of 1873 was the first rifle to be paired with the 1873 Colt Single Action Army in caliber .44-40. This gave the owner compatible ammunition for his revolver and rifle. This compatibility could serve as a real boon to the independent and often lone rider in wide open spaces.

The 1876 Winchester was an up-scaled version of the 1873 model and was produced in significantly larger cartridge options. The larger calibers of .40-60, .45-75, .50-95 were big medicine compared to the .44-40, .38-40 of the 1873 version. The Northwest Mounted Police for many years carried the Model 1876 in a .45-75 carbine configuration.

The Winchester Model of 1886 was truly an improved version rifle with vertical locking bolts and a comparatively short action for the size of its cartridges. The 1886 was offered in chamberings of .33 Winchester Center Fire as the smallest caliber, and the awesome 50-110 as the largest. The most prolific chambering for the 1886 was in .45-70.

The big action of the 1886 was followed by the Model 71 introduced in 1935 in caliber .348. This model was not appropriate to the year of introduction as is the case of most Winchester products.

Going in sort of a reverse mode, the Model 1892 was a scaled down version of the 1886 and was chambered in 44-40 and similar small cartridges of the era. Most cowboy aficionados remember John Wayne's large loop-lever model 1892 in *Hondo* or *True Grit*,



(above) Winchester lever actions used for article and accuracy testing. (top) Winchester 1886 (top) in caliber .45-70. Winchester 1894 (bottom) in caliber .30-30. (left) Uberti copy of the 1866 Yellow Boy rifle. (below) An original 1873 musket caliber .44-40 fired by Mike Venturino, noted gun writer.



or television's cut down 1892 Mare's Laig carried by Josh Randall (aka Steve McQueen) in *Wanted: Dead or Alive*.

The Winchester Model 1894 was and still is one of the most popular lever action rifles ever made. Although introduced with black powder cartridges, it was the first rifle to have specific loads chambered in smokeless powder. These original smokeless loads were made for calibers .25-35 and .30-30 W.C. F. The infamous cattle thief regulator Tom Horn, of Wyoming, was known to have done some of his work with his 1894 rifle chambered for .30-30.

Many old photographs of Arizona and Texas Rangers, as well as Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders, show the presence of the 1895 Model Winchester. Chambered for 405, 30-40 and 30-06, the 1895 was very popular at the turn of the century. Even the Czar of Russia ordered approximately 300,000 of these in 7.62x54R Russian.

Although most of the rifles discussed so far are Winchesters, many good lever action rifles were made by Spencer, Marlin and Savage. It is my personal opinion that the Winchesters were and are some of the finest lever actions ever made.

**TOMMY LEE JONES** **SAMUEL L. JACKSON**



A WILLIAM FRIEDKIN FILM

# **RULES OF ENGAGEMENT**

A HERO SHOULD NEVER HAVE TO STAND ALONE

PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENTS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH SEVEN ARTS PICTURES A RICHARD D. ZANUCK/SCOTT RUDIN PRODUCTION A WILLIAM FRIEDKIN FILM TOMMY LEE JONES SAMUEL L. JACKSON "RULES OF ENGAGEMENT"  
GUY PEARCE BRUCE GREENWOOD BLAIR UNDERWOOD PHILIP BAKER HALL ANNE ARCHER AND BEN KINGSLEY MUSIC BY MARK ISHAM PRODUCER ARNE SCHMIDT COSTUMES BY GLORIA GRESHAM  
EDITED BY AUGIE HESS PRODUCTION DESIGNER ROBERT LAING DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY WILLIAM FRAKER NICOLA PECORINI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ADAM SCHROEDER JAMES WEBB STORY BY JAMES WEBB SCREENPLAY BY STEPHEN GAGHAN  
PRODUCED BY RICHARD D. ZANUCK SCOTT RUDIN **IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE APRIL 7** DIRECTED BY WILLIAM FRIEDKIN

[www.rulesmovie.com](http://www.rulesmovie.com)



TM & COPYRIGHT © 2005 BY PARAMOUNT PICTURES ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



# GRIZZLY 50 BIG BOAR

Precision Crafted 50BMG

## Chambers the 50BMG cartridge!

- All steel construction
- 30.4 pounds • 45.5 inch LOA
- Thumb safety and bolt stop safety
- Very low recoil, like a 12 gauge shotgun
- Single shot breech loading bolt action bull pup
- Match grade chamber (requires match grade ammo)
- 36 inch 1:16 twist heavy barrel with compensator
- 4340 alloy steel bolt (Mil Spec 5000), heat treated to 46 R/C
- 4140 alloy steel receiver, heat treated to 42 R/C
- Comes complete with bipod, scope mount, leather cheek pad and hard carry case. Scope sold separately.

**Unsurpassed Accuracy and Impact!**



## TRIPOD AND PINTEL MOUNT

Lightweight tripod with positive locking elevation and windage adjustment. Perfect for locking the Grizzly 50 Big Boar on target! A variety of large game species have been taken using a tripod equipped Grizzly 50 Big Boar!



# L.A.R. MANUFACTURING

4133 West Farm RD, West Jordan, UT 84088-4997

Tel: 801-280-3505 • Fax: 801-280-1972

www.largrizzly.com • Email: guns@largrizzly.com

**BEAR ARMS WITH GRIZZLY™**

## SWITCHBLADE - AUTOMATIC KNIFE COLLECTORS!

### "The Automatic Knife Resource Guide and Newsletter"

#### Sources for ALL automatic knives!

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

Check out our WEB SITE:  
"thenewsletter.com"

#### A MUST for ALL switchblade fans!

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

Now in our NINTH YEAR!



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

**THE NEWSLETTER**

2269 Chestnut St., PMB 212-A  
San Francisco, CA 94123, USA

For 24hr. information call: 415-664-2105

## Strengths

Past and current lever action rifles have many strong points both mechanically and tactically. They are ambidextrous to manipulate, they have reasonable magazine capacities, the action lengths are short for the power of the cartridges they fire. The everyday .30-30 is ballistically comparable to the AK's 7.62x39mm. The bigger actions of the past and current Model of 1886 firing cartridges like the .45-70 can be very effective, as well as deep penetrators. With bullet weights from 300 to 500 grains it takes a lot of medium to make them slow down, and ultimately stop.

In the carbine configurations they are small packages, convenient for movement in small or compressed areas. As a whole group of weapons they do not appear as "dangerous looking" as do contemporary rifles lumped into the "assault rifle" category by the media. They are, after all, "just old cowboy rifles." The slight offset of the sights in lever actions compared to the line of the bore minimizes "clearing sights, clearing muzzle" problems associated with modern rifles.

## Weaknesses

It has been mentioned that the operation of the lever from the prone firing position can be difficult. I don't believe that is the case, and probably terrain, cover, and concealment structures may dictate difficulty of operation more than mechanics. The smaller magazine capacity of the lever action, as compared to the AR or AK might make a difference to some operators. As I would with shotguns, I would place some extra emphasis in training on loading since I know I am dealing with a smaller capacity.

## Potential Performance

For informational purposes and to show the effectiveness of these "old" rifles, I fired two versions of lever action rifles for evaluation purposes. The first rifle is a 26-inch, octagon barreled, full magazine 1886 Winchester manufactured in 1893. The rifle is chambered for the .45-70 cartridge. Three five-shot groups were fired with iron sights at 100 yards from a bench type rest. Ammunition used was Winchester smokeless because of the lack of availability of currently manufactured black powder loads which could be appropriate to these rifles.

Three groups were fired with the Model 1886 and measured in at approximately:

Group 1	3.1 inches
Group 2	2.0 inches
Group 3	2.1 inches

The second rifle was a 26-inch, octagon barreled, full magazine Winchester 1894 made in 1928. The rifle is chambered for the .30-30 cartridge. Three five-shot groups were fired with iron sights at 100 yards from a bench type rest. Ammunition fired was Winchester 170 grain smokeless loads.

Three groups were fired with the Model

**Continued on page 74**

How To Win Every Fight And Never Feel Fear... I Guarantee To Show You...

# How To Expose 'The Biggest Lie Of Fighting' Plus! How To Eradicate The Paralyzing Emotion Of Fear Forever!

Reap The Benefits Of Scientific Research In Just Hours, Not Years And Be UNDEFEATABLE In Every Aspect Of Life!

Sounds Too Good To Be True? Call 800-897-5492 And Get Your FREE Report Now! You Have Nothing To Lose...Except Your Fear!!!  
Warning: You must be 18 years or older to receive this Special Report

Dear Friend,

Did you know it is possible right now to possess MORE real fighting knowledge than the most 'Grandmasters' in any martial art? In fact knowing these closely guarded secrets instantly allows you to defeat any opponent... regardless of your size or strength. More importantly did you also know these secrets completely eliminate any feelings of FEAR? Yeah right, you say? Who could possibly have the balls to make that bold, seemingly outrageous statement? Well, I'm about to introduce you to a man who's made his livelihood for the last twenty years proving that the biggest lie out there is that it takes years to become a deadly fighter.

## In Mere Hours My Men Were Destroying 'Gurus' With 20 Years In The Martial Arts

I'm a former Navy SEAL (the US Navy's Elite Commandos) and in 1987 we were introduced to one Jerry Lee Peterson. This guy came to us from some, let's just say, 'highly credible' sources within our government. At the time the SEAL's were searching to standardize the way they taught hand-to-hand fighting to the hard charging SEAL combat platoons. We faced the same problems you face today; we didn't have twenty years to become effective fighters. Our guys needed a program, which got them to fight with or without weapons and guaranteed they could not be defeated, no matter what the attacker knew about fighting. It needed to be quickly learned and easily retained, based on natural body movement and had to work regardless of size or strength.

Needless to say EVERY martial art and fighting system we tested (and we tested them all: Karate, Kung Fu, JKD, Jui Jitsu, Sambo...) all failed the test. They either took way to long to learn, could not handle modern weapons, failed against multiple attackers or required excessive athletic coordination. More importantly these 'arts' or 'sports' were all DEFENSIVE in nature, a term we didn't know was a problem... until we met Jerry.

This guy comes in and takes 14 SEALs with very little hand-to-hand experience and announces after a few hours of training them we could put his guys up against the most highly experienced fighting gurus of the SEAL Teams. I mean some of these 'gurus' had been trained practically from birth in the martial arts. These dudes were feared within the tight community of the SEALs and anyone who has spent anytime around the "Teams" knows SEAL's fear next to nothing. But Peterson insisted and the demo went on; to the amazement of all in attendance the Peterson-trained SEAL operator DESTROYED each and every of the 'gurus' quickly and effectively. Not only that, these guys easily adapted whether the attackers used fists, kicks, grapples, chokes or weapons... it just didn't matter. Jerry's fighters seemed to just focus on taking out

the attacker (more about this in the FREE report). And you too can be just like the Peterson-trained SEAL commandos, when your armed with the knowledge of his AMAZINGLY effective yet simple to learn fighting system (more on that later).

## The One True Ultimate Fighting System

So who is this Jerry Peterson dude and what can his revolutionary fighting system do for YOU? *Only give you the confidence to never waste another day of your life fearing another man.* Ya see this system of his wasn't developed by some ancient 'grandmaster' with some mystical (or should I say questionable) background. Nor was it something that was watered down into some 'ultimate competition' that pretends to be real yet has rules and a ref. No this system was developed in the harsh jungle combat of the Vietnam War. That's where a 19-year-old soldier was literally dropped into a horrific fire-fight after only his 3rd day 'in country' (as they say) and what did he do? He felt the paralyzing fear of imminent death taking hold of him... why? Because the 'combat training' he had received failed him... he was waiting for someone, anyone to tell him what to do, to lead him, yet no one did. So if he was going to survive this, it was up to him and guess what he did? He got mad, I mean hellfire and brimstone MAD, and right then and there promised himself he would never wait for another man to tell him what to do. He then looked and found the enemy who pinned them down, CHARGED and took them out in one smooth action. That was the dawn of Special Combat Reactionary Systems (SCARS®).

## You Now Live The Fearless Life With The Offensive Mindset™

That 19-year-old kid was Jerry Lee Peterson. He went on to serve 2 tours as a 'pointman' with 173rd Airborne Charlie Company. That unit is credited by historians as seeing some of the MOST fierce combat of that war and Peterson arguably held the most dangerous job at 'point'. It was in those jungles that he saw what a defensive mindset did to men, how it caused them to freeze and die. He survived numerous overrun situations (where the enemy outnumbered and actually overruns you) requiring hand-to-hand and hand-to-weapon killing. This was due to the revelation of what he was later to call the Offensive Mindset. *The ability not to worry or fear what your enemy may do to you and only focus on what you are going to do to him.*

## Have You Ever Felt Fear?

If you have ever felt even a TWINGE of fear in any potentially violent confrontation, if you have been training in a 'sport-fighting' or a competition-based system, PLEASE don't risk freezing in a real life and death struggle. You need to see this FREE special report. You need to get the full story on SCARS and the *Offensive Mindset*. Because what

you learn in martial arts or 'sportfighting' may get you killed. And for those of you who don't think they have time to learn to live a fearless life I'm here to tell you can, IN A FEW SHORT HOURS, completely change the way you view the world and never fear any man from that day on.

## Fighting Is Fighting With Or Without Weapons

With SCARS you get THE complete fighting system. That's punching, kicking, throwing, grappling, joint locks that utilize ALL your natural body weapons. Standing up or on the ground, whether it's 1 attacker or 3, whether they or you have weapons... THE SCARS principles WORK regardless of the threat. You'll get the benefit of the \$2.5 million dollars that was spent on the academic research and the empirical data from real combat that's behind the SCARS program. The SEALs thought so highly of SCARS they had Jerry design 3 official courses for the SEALs and create a trainer program, which produced over 200 military SCARS Instructors (get the FREE report for all the details). You'll possess more fighting knowledge less than the top two tenths of one percent of the fighting world currently has and you'll get it in a clear usable format. You won't need to rely on strength or athletic coordination when you combine the Offensive Mindset with the secrets of Autokinematics™ (sorry, no time to explain Autokinematics call for the report). This is what you want, this is fighting the way it should, and now CAN be quickly and easily learned. Maybe these claims are too much for you, maybe you think this is just advertising hype and SCARS is just a bunch of BS. Well we'll make it easy to find out for yourself because...

## The Call Is Free The Report Is Free

Listen SCARS will change your life and to find out more all you have to do is call our 24hr toll free recorded message

**1-800-897-5492**

and leave your name to get your FREE REPORT. International call 602-437-3143. Get what up to now only the elite members of the US and NATO Special Operations Community and Federal Agents and some big city SWAT teams have received (clients like: *US Navy SEAL Teams, Army Green Berets, members of DELTA force and SEAL TEAM SIX, USMC Force Recon, FBI, DEA, Treasury...*) You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Become what most fighters can only dream of being; a true man of action, a man without the heavy burden of bear holding him back. Call NOW! You have only your life to lose if you don't.

If you are on the Internet check out our site at [www.scars.com](http://www.scars.com) serving you the world over 24/7

# FREEDOM WATCH

## Baseball, Apple Pie, and the Right to Speak Free

When Atlanta Braves' pitcher John Rocker dissed gays, AIDS patients, heavy-metal punks and teenage moms, he ignited a firestorm of controversy about his intolerant, bigoted comments in the community and the press, and ended up being psychoanalyzed and coerced into a "diversity" training program. What was lost in all the furor was any discussion of the fundamental principles and beliefs of our nation. John Rocker is a bigot, no question, but our entire history as a nation is geared toward protecting his right to be a bigot, and many of us have fought and died in defense of this right.

Bigotry is a civil right connected directly to the First Amendment rights of free speech and freedom of association. Everybody has a right to hold obstinate, intolerant opinions and beliefs. Rocker chose to exercise his rights in a socially unacceptable manner, but if he had reviled white racists or pedophiles instead of blacks, gays, and New York City, he would have been lauded as a model of sensitivity and a man of principle. But the First Amendment isn't about politically correct thought, it's about politically incorrect thought and the need to tolerate diverse and

even offensive speech in the interests of freedom.

In a 1949 case, the Supreme Court said, "It is only through free debate and free exchange of ideas that government remains responsive to the will of the people and peaceful change is effected. The right to speak freely and to promote diversity of ideas and programs is therefore one of the chief distinctions that sets us apart from totalitarian regimes."

"Accordingly a function of free speech under our system of government is to invite dispute. It may indeed best serve its high purpose when it induces a condition of unrest, creates dissatisfaction with conditions as they are, or even stirs people to anger. Speech is often provocative and challenging. It may strike at prejudices and preconceptions and have profound unsettling effects as it presses for acceptance of an idea."

"There is no room under our Constitution for a more restrictive view. For the alternative would lead to standardization of ideas either by legislatures, courts, or dominant political or community groups."

And that "standardization of ideas" is exactly what major league baseball, the pundits in the press, and the political correctness zealots of every stripe are demanding. Rocker is the bigot *du jour* and the designated whipping-boy for the



**GG&G**  
AR15/M16  
F.I.R.E. System  
Fully Integrated Rifle Enhancement

**A-2**  
Rear Flip Up Iron Sight



**M.A.D.**  
Rear Flip Up Iron Sight



**Aimpoint Ring**  
W/Spare Battery Compartment



**Front Flip-Up Sight**



**Rear Sling Thing**  
For Collapsible Butt Stock



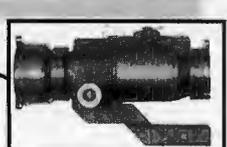
**ITT 6015/PVS-14**  
Tall Night Vision Mount



**Scout Rail**



**Aimpoint Cantilever Mount**  
W/Spare Battery Compartment



**"SLIC" Sling and Light Mount**  
Sling Attachment and Mounting Rail





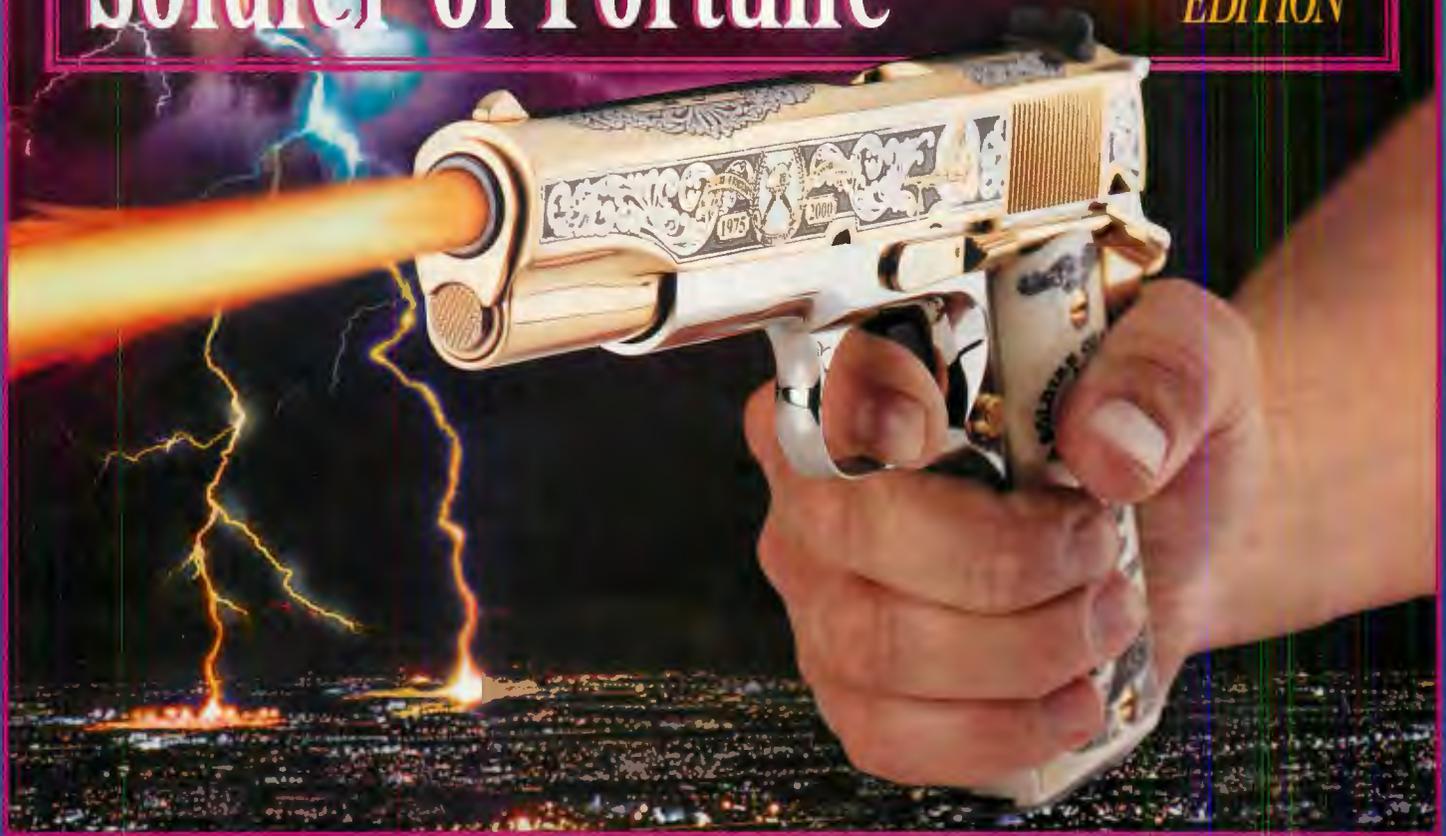
**GG&G**  
3602 East 42nd Stravenue  
Tucson, Arizona 85713  
520-748-7167 Fax 520-748-7583  
Email: gggaz@aol.com Website: www.gggaz.com

**Benelli and Remington Tactical Charging Handles**



# Soldier of Fortune

25TH ANNIVERSARY  
EDITION



Investment Arms, Inc. is proud to offer a limited edition of **250** 24-karat gold engraved guns. Each gun commemorates the career of Lt. Col. Robert K. Brown, USAR (Ret.), a Vietnam Special Forces veteran, one of America's revered warriors and founder of Soldier of Fortune magazine. Brown's adventures and support of Freedom Fighters took him to conflicts in over two dozen countries. He also covered American operations in Panama, Granada, and the Gulf war.

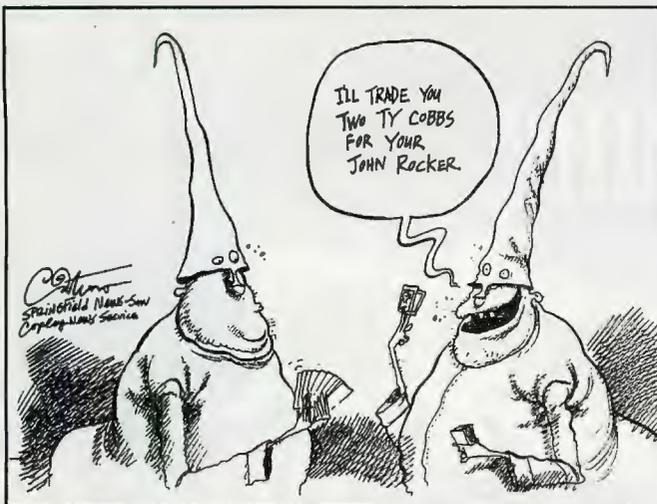
Each gun is individually gunsmithed, engraved, overlaid with 24 karat gold, and finished to museum quality.

All guns come in a custom American walnut box lined with velvet and engraved with the 25th anniversary Soldier of Fortune design on the cover. Your pistol will also come with a numbered "Certificate of Authenticity." Only **250** will ever be produced. If you do not have a Federal Firearms License, we will help coordinate delivery through your local firearms dealer.

The "Soldier of Fortune" pistol is available at the introductory issue price of **\$2,195**. A deposit of \$250 per pistol is available with payments of \$100 per month. No interest or carrying charges will be applied. Each pistol is numbered within the edition limit of 250. **Please call toll free 888/708-4867** to order your pistol now. Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, or check or money order accepted. Your satisfaction of workmanship is guaranteed.



**Investment Arms, Inc.**  
4631 South Mason, Suite B3  
Fort Collins, Co 80525  
Toll Free 888/708-4867



politically correct left.

What has been forgotten is the danger of mandatory political-correct speech and attempts at enforced political re-education. It didn't work in the Gulags of the Soviet Union, and it's not working in the People's Republic of China. It's never worked. Such efforts only drive dissidents underground, where they can plot and act in secret, free from the scrutiny of the public.

We should be thankful when racist bigots and other such slime crawl out from under their rocks and reveal their true natures, because it is the dissembling, hidden bigots like Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, who are most dangerous to liberty. In war, the better you know your enemy, the more successful you will be at attacking him or defending against him.

So, we should thank Roker for coming out of the closet, for showing us his true colors, and we should allow him to suffer the

natural consequences of his action at the hands of the fans of baseball. He should not be coerced into mouthing the politically correct dogma while concealing his true beliefs, because such mouthings are just that; an insincere public humiliation that only reinforces the obstinate, intolerant beliefs, but which hides them under a veneer of "civilized" political correctness which will soon delude people into believing that Roker is not what he is.

When the KKK members march, we should thank them, because by doing so, they have both identified themselves and revealed their true impotence. When Farrakhan denounces Jews and whites, we should encourage him to speak his mind, because only then will we know him for what he is.

If major league baseball finds his views to be intolerable, then it should fire Roker. If they don't find his speech intolerable, then they should simply butt out and let the court of public opinion dispense justice. Evidently, his employers care more about his ability to pitch no-hitters and make them money than they do his political views, so they took the politically correct road of slapping him on the wrist to appease the public and the pundits.

Leave the consequences to the people. Let them judge and punish bigots and racists. A public sanction, to someone whose livelihood depends on public acceptance, is much more effective than any punishment or re-education his employers can impose.

— Scott Weiser

### Editor's Note

Please e-mail us your best examples of affronts to the freedoms our Founding Fathers intended us to enjoy. We'll pay \$100 for any submission selected for publication. Send your tips to: editor@sof-mag.com, with the subject line "Freedom." Or, mail them to: Freedom Watch, *Soldier Of Fortune* Magazine, 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Suite A-5, Boulder, CO 80303. ✉

2 Harford Street, Mile End  
London E1 4PS  
England

**0171 7 900 900**

# SILVERMANS LTD

over 50 years of service to the services

internet: [www.military.co.uk](http://www.military.co.uk)

Fax: 0171 791 0008  
Email: [SOF@military.co.uk](mailto:SOF@military.co.uk)

prices subject to current cat  
please check - Air Mail P&P £20.00  
phone, fax or email for free cat quoting SOF



**SAS Windproof Smock**  
windproof gaberdien  
Genuine £90.00  
Para smocks and combat  
smocks available.



**Buffalo Special 6 shirt**  
Olive or Black £ 84.99 High  
performance - very warm &  
windproof. Used by  
British soldiers.



**1959 pattern Denison  
smock** £90.00 4 press stud  
pockets and jump flap,  
wool lined collar, wool cuffs



**PLCE Rucksack 125ltr**  
£ 170.00  
Also avail. Soldier 2000  
patrol pack £75.00



**Snuggak Merlin Soffie 3**  
Sleeping Bag - 2 season,  
very popular with British  
forces £ 59.99



**Soldier '95 PLCE DPM Tactical  
Assault Vest** £ 125.00 - All types  
of webbing stocked.



**SHEMAGH** £ 6.99  
used by British  
Army. Very warm



**Goretex Boot  
liners**  
British Army  
issue, designed  
to fit any boot  
for 100%  
waterproof.  
Great Value  
£20.00



**GORE-TEX**  
British Army  
Pro Boot £115  
Latest army issue,  
waterproof,  
insulated  
& very  
lightweight

**OVER 7500 STOCK LINES**



**CWC watches Mean Time!**

**BRITISH ISSUE NAVIGATORS** (dated)  
£99.00  
General Service (non date) £85.00

**PILOTS QUARTZ CHRONO** £230.00

**R.M. SPECIAL BOAT SERVICES**  
300M W/P £250.00

**PILOTS MECHANICAL CHRONO** £350.00

**Suppliers to the military**

- Swiss made
- Backed by 2 year warranty
- Tritium luminous
- 9 models to choose from
- Worldwide Sales Silvermans Ltd.
- Highly accurate Quartz or 17 jewel mechanical movements

# YOU PROTECT OUR COUNTRY... WE PROTECT YOUR WEAPON!

*"An absolutely superb cover for the soldier's most valued tool. I wish we had it sooner."*

R. Favati, Colonel (Ret.)  
Former 1st INF, 75th Inf. Ranger

The Combat Cover is the first water-repellent, silent fabric concealment system for M-16s, shotguns and scoped rifles

Combat Covers are lightweight, whisper-quiet, quick and easy to use and are incredibly tough. They feature a state-of-the-art, impermeable laminated fabric that sheds water day in and day out. Combat Covers are great for camouflage situations and for keeping your weapon protected from the elements after cleaning.

(616-2266)

M-16  
COMBAT  
COVER

# 1-877-M16-CAMO

Call toll free for more information

# COMBAT COVER

GUNBRELLA

From the makers of GUNBRELLA

Innovative Sports, Inc., PO Box 2267 Greer, SC 29652

SCOPED RIFLE  
COMBAT  
COVER  
GUNBRELLA



# I Was There

by Robert K. Hamilton

## Reflections Of Khobar

**O**n 25 June 1996, a bomb exploded in Khobar, Saudi Arabia, demolishing the front of a building occupied by U.S. servicemen and damaging many other buildings for several blocks. Nineteen U.S. Air Force personnel died and hundreds were injured. An Islamic Fundamentalist terrorist group claimed responsibility for the blast.

On 5 November 1997, I revisited the location of the tragedy. The building still stood, much as it was immediately after the blast. Some unstable areas were braced to keep them from collapsing, and personal reminders of the victims were still there.

I came to Khobar Towers for the first time in 1991 as a soldier in the 24th Infantry Division. We had just returned from the ground attack into Iraq, and were tired, yet happy to be on our way home. Khobar was the last step in that journey. This was the place where soldiers came to get cleaned up, to be issued new uniforms and boots, and grab some good chow to put some meat back on our bones that the adrenaline of combat had burned off. We got final pats-on-the-back from our division commander, then-Major General Barry McCaffrey, in talks he had with each individual unit.

I remember Khobar as a happy place. Phone calls home were placed from a parking garage where booths were set-up by the hundreds.

Even then there were lines. There were lines for everything good. I specifically recall waiting in line for over an hour at a Baskin-Robbins stand for ice cream. When I got to the front, I still hadn't chosen between my two favorite flavors, so I opted for both and ate them while standing in yet another line for pizza next door. We didn't mind the waits — we were going home.

As I drove through the Khobar Towers complex on this sunny November day, I couldn't help but pick out those places again — the field where the Baskin-Robbins was, the garage with the phone banks. I remembered the feeling of joy that I felt coming home from the Gulf War. Then I saw Building 131.

It stood on the corner of the compound just across the street from a park. It was a horrible sight. Pieces of concrete dangled from rein-

forcing bar. Rubble was everywhere. A ton of personal items had been bulldozed into piles around the perimeter of the building.

One of the members of my group comments that the blood is still here — he can see it as he stares into the gaping hole that was the front of 131. We made our way around back to the doorway. A boot laid on the ground as a reminder to us of who had been here — and who had died there. The aluminum door frame was twisted and its glass blown out. I viewed the other buildings in the area and saw that they, too, had no glass.

We entered the lobby where a mural of a C-130 on the wall is the dominant feature. I thought about the airmen who'd painted it. Were they here when the blast occurred?

We made our way to the front part of the building, where I was stunned to see the amount of military gear, personal items, and furniture still in the building, stuff seemingly waiting to be reclaimed. I wondered why it was never cleaned up as I climbed the stairs to the second floor.

The first room I entered in the front section had a pair of boxer shorts on the floor amongst the rubble. They were patterned after an American flag. A picture of the occupant's girlfriend — or perhaps wife — lay forgotten on an overturned mattress. I found myself praying that he was one of the ones lucky enough to have returned home, alive, to her.

We proceeded up to the third floor. A mangled air conditioner sat against a wall where it fell after blasted from the window out into the hallway. I entered the room it came from. A group member pointed out a place on the ceiling where a body was blasted. The macabre impact marks were still there.

We walked into another room where someone found a set of dog tags on the floor. We retrieved them with hopes of returning them to their owner — or his surviving family. I pocketed someone's ID card, the same guy's.

But I then saw another impact impression on the ceiling and I lost hope of returning them to their owner.

Subsequent rooms held much of the same. One had a board with different things written on it: "Get me out of this place!" "Twenty more days and I'm home," and a countdown calendar.

A teddy bear lay face-down on the floor at the foot of a concrete-covered bed. Again I prayed. On the top floor of the building I peered out from the ledge and down upon the crater where the explosives-filled truck sat. It was filled in now from its original 85-foot diameter/35-foot depth. I gazed at the park just across and wondered if any had been enjoying its serenity when death had made its visit.

I went to the roof and saw the place where the Air Force Security Policeman had stood. He'd seen the truck make its deadly approach and upon realizing what was happening bolted down the stairs screaming and banging on doors. He could have beat feet but he stayed on, alerting his comrades. The Air Force gave him a medal for heroism — but a medal can never repay him for putting his own

courtesy James L. Pate

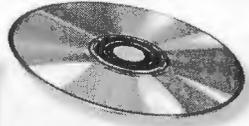


Road to death. There had been an aboveground bunker with HMG position just past these barriers — but it was removed after the Gulf War.

Continued on page 74



# Military & Technical Manuals On CD ROM



These CD's can be read by every version of Windows. Mac and Unix versions are also included. All of these manuals have been formatted into .pdf files, so they can be viewed by the Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is included on these CD's. These programs can be run directly from the CD; there is no need to download the manuals to your hard disk to view them. They can be sent to your printer, or copied to your computer for use in word processing, etc.



## Marines! \$19.95 \*

This collection includes Marine Guidebook for Essential Subjects, Warfighting, Engineer Operations, Marine Rifle Company and Platoon, Scouting and Patrolling, Raid Ops, Combat Water Survival, Urban Ops, Riverine Ops, Drill & Ceremonies, and more..



## Ranger Training \$19.95 \* (Manuals & Movie!)

All of the manuals for Ranger School: Camouflage, Explosives, First Aid, PT, Map Reading, Combat Skills, Ranger Handbook, Desert Ops, Solders Manual of Common Tasks, M16, M60, M203 and more. This CD-ROM also includes a movie showing Ranger Training, which will play on your computer screen. The movie takes you through the training for all of the different phases of Ranger School.

## FM-200 \$19.95 \*

A set of 200 U.S. Army field manuals for Armor, Artillery, Aviation, Engineering, Medical, MP, NBC, Operations, PT, Radio, Security, Survival, Weapons and more.

## Spec Ops \$19.95\*

Includes the Special Forces Guerrilla Warfare manuals, SP Ops, Recon Tactics, Sniper, Scout, and Pathfinder manuals. Also Desert Ops, Jungle Ops, River crossing, Northern Ops, FM21-76 Survival, FM21-75 Combat Skills, and the Ranger Handbook. A total of 33 manuals.

## FM-50G \$19.95 \*

This CD includes manuals for the SKS, M1Garand, MK19, AK-47, Sten, Lee Enfield, M14, M16, M60, MAC, FN-FAL, P38, M24 Sniper Rifle, M9 pistol, M1911A1 Pistol and more. A total of 50 manuals.

## E.O.D. \$19.95 \*

This CD contains the Improvised Munitions Handbook, TM31-200-1 Unconventional Warfare Devices, TM31-201-1 Incendiaries, Book of Expedient Mixtures, FM5-250, Boobytraps and others.

## Medics \$19.95 \*

Includes FM8-230 Medical Specialist, FM8-36 Aidmans Medical Guide, FM21-11 First Aid for Soldiers, The Special Forces Medical Handbook and more.

## Skills \$19.95 \*

A collection of skill training manuals as only the Armed Forces can do it. It includes manuals on Carpentry, Plumbing and Pipefitting, Heating, Ventilation, Concrete, Sewage, Masonry, Hydraulics, Pier Construction, engineering and many others. These are HOW-TO manuals, with lots of diagrams and step-by-step instructions on construction techniques, materials, and planning. Build a wall, pour a foundation, add a room, design and build a complete structure. It's all here.

## Jeps! \$19.95 \*

A collection of TMs for the WillysMB, M38, M38A, M170, M151, M718, M825 and Ford GPW.

## 3/4 Ton Vehicles \$19.95 \*

A collection of TMs for M37, M43, M201, M42. Includes Operators, maintenance, power train, and engine manuals. Also parts listing, tools and more.

*Call toll free to order*

**1-800-321-2974**

You may also order by mail:

**Military Media  
PMB 321**

**7454 Lancaster Pike  
Hockessin, DE 19707**

Visit our web site for a complete listing  
of all manuals on our CD-ROMS

<http://www.military-media.com>

\* Please add \$5.00 shipping and handling to total order; \$7.50 outside USA. MasterCard and Visa welcome.

e-mail: [questions@military-media.com](mailto:questions@military-media.com) Inquiries: 1-610-268-5077 Orders: 1-800-321-2974 Fax: 1-610-268-0466

## Kudos NRA, RKB



Udos of kudos to RKB on his statement in March 2000 issue about people who are not NRA members. However I would like to take that statement one step further by saying that if you are reading this and are not a member of the

NRA you are not only part of the problem but in fact YOU ARE THE PROBLEM. Three million NRA members cannot bear the load of 70 million gun owners. What's it gong to take for you SLACKERS to wake up.

Unsigned  
Via E-mail

## Proud to Be a Cheap S.O.B.

I'm one of those "cheap son of a bitches" you referred to in your editorial. In the first place, the money involved has nothing to do with it. I recently resigned as a member of the NRA. I had been a member longer than I've been a subscriber to *SOF* (a long time).

For as long as I can remember the NRA has taken my money and used it to buy politicians to persuade them to defend my Second Amendment rights. Every time a crisis arose the NRA rolled over like a whipped dog and did nothing effective to preserve those rights.

The only time the NRA ever displayed sign of guts was when they called BATF "a bunch of jack-booted thugs" (which they are) but promptly apologized the next day. Buying politicians doesn't work. The despicable bastards won't stay bought.

We are now cursed with a traitor in the White House and a Congress of cowards.

I spent my money instead for a couple more boxes of 168 gr. .308 ammo.

Gary L. Smith  
Pocatello, Idaho

## No Longer A Member

I have been reading *Soldier Of Fortune* for about 20 years now, most issues being outstanding, the rest excellent. However the Command Guidance in March irritated me. No, I'm not going to swear to never read your magazine again, nor ever intend to cut

my nose off to spite my face: I am going to give you my two-cents worth and see if you print this.

I am not now a member of the National Rifle Association. I have been in the past and money is not the reason that I am not a current member nor will I become a member until somebody convinces me that my membership, dues, vote, etc. will help to accomplish something positive. The arguments I've read in the various gun publications are not convincing. My observations on the matter are simple. I began seriously following the gun control debate 20 years ago; the NRA was lobbying 20 years ago; we have more gun laws now than we did 20 years ago: conclusion the NRA at best is only delaying the inevitable.

I assume you know military history as well if not better than I do; delaying actions almost always end in defeat. Speaking of history, in the roughly 5,000 years of recorded history I have been unable to find one example where a people gained or regained their rights short of violence; if you know of one please enlighten me.

The simple facts of the matter are that lobbying will not get the job done. The NRA, *SOF* and the rest of the gun media are going to have to take a stronger stand. Thomas Paine's book *Common Sense* was a call to arms, not a call to write a letter to the House of Lords. If you think anything less will regain our rights then you are as delusional as the liberals with their world government Utopia. I'm beginning to wonder if the gun media even wants the gun rights issue settled. The debate is probably good for magazine sales.

I have read about the price the Founding Fathers paid for our freedom and my oath to support and defend the Constitution (first as a Marine, later in law enforcement) will probably get me killed, probably in vain. Why? Because people like you who have the resources at their disposal and the respect of the people who matter won't take the responsibility as leaders and give the people something more substantial than a lobbying effort to rally to.

I challenge you to print this letter (you're welcome to attach my name to it) but more importantly I challenge you, in the tradition of the Founding Fathers, to print what needs to be said, consequences be damned. Also to convince others in a similar position as you, like the NRA board of directors, to do the same. You do that and I'll join the NRA.

In conclusion, Robert K. Brown, if I am a cheap son of a bitch for not joining the National Rifle Association then you're a coward for not taking the leadership role that you know you can and should.

William A. Stansbury

## Yes, We Understand

Congrats, once again, for a great magazine. I am a police officer in Washington, D.C. and really enjoyed the article in the March issue written by Fred Reed. We in the law enforcement community seldom get any recognition from even our own agencies, so a kind word from a journalist is always welcome, He really seemed to understand.

I read *SOF* each month and frequently see anti-police sentiment from readers. Just so you all know, most of us are veterans, shooters and gun collectors who value our freedoms just as much as you. I shudder to think of a day when the government, using us as the physical means, confiscates firearms from the citizenry. I, for one, will refuse the order and resign. I will then be on the nearest "fast mover" out of here as this will no longer be a free nation.

I would like to receive info on the *SOF* Convention so I can make reservations early.

Keep up the good work. You publish a valuable and rare news source that more people should read. Keep your heads low and I'll see ya'll at the Convention.

W.R. Finkelman,  
Virginia

See the ad for the *SOF* Convention on page 34, or check our website at [www.sof-mag.com](http://www.sof-mag.com) for regular updates.

## Hit The Nail

It's about time! I must say that at first I had my doubts about this article ("A Walk on the Wild Side," by Fred Reed, March '00), but as I read it realized that you had hit the nail on the head! I don't always agree with your articles, but they are always straight up and in your face! I've been in law enforcement for 10 years and I must say this was a damn good article.

(Name withheld)  
Asheville, North Carolina

**FREE OFFER**

# Break the Big Media Cartel

*go to NewsMax.com*

“NewsMax.com and *Vortex* are an important source of new news – a must read for opinion-makers.”

— noted journalist Arnaud deBorchgrave

“NewsMax.com and *Vortex* are the best sources for news in America.”

— Admiral Thomas Moorer

The days of liberal media domination are over. Now you can break the Big Media Cartel and join millions of others who are logging on to [www.NewsMax.com](http://www.NewsMax.com). Edited by award-winning journalist Christopher Ruddy, NewsMax.com is breaking the stories the rest of the media are afraid to touch. Users of Deja.com have already rated NewsMax.com the #1 source for qualitative news on the World Wide Web.

## Special Offer to Readers of Soldier of Fortune from NewsMax.com

Pay 5 cents for long distance – any day – any time from GTC Telephone. No gimmicks. No risk. Save money all the time. Call to sign up for 5 cents a minute long distance!

**5 Cents a Minute Order Hotline**  
**1-800-686-0151**



## Second Special Offer to Readers of Soldier of Fortune

Not on the web? That's OK – you can order *Vortex* – the monthly publication of NewsMax.com mailed to your home. In *Vortex* you can read the exciting news reports from NewsMax.com and special reports from Christopher

Ruddy, Carl Limbacher Jr., Col. Stanislav Lunev, David Limbaugh, Michael Savage and many others.

**Get your FREE four-month trial subscription to *Vortex*. No risk. No obligation.**

**Call 1-800-220-8343**  
**to get your free trial subscription today.**

## Invite: A Meal, A Flop And A Beer

Congratulating you for your great magazine isn't necessary, others have already done it a thousand times. Just let me say this, I have 19 years of army life under my belt, and just as many reading *SOF*. (Says enough, I think)

I am in Kosovo, where we support KFOR HQ with a small helicopter detachment, BELHELI. For the Belgian Army, it is the first deployment of their Augusta A-109 in a real operation. Our mission: transport of personnel, recce, and protection of convoys.

To the point now: If you or one of your correspondents is passing by and is looking for a good meal, a decent bunk or just a good talk over a beer, please consider yourself as invited — we know these things are sometimes hard to find over here.

Either way, keep up the good work and maybe until Kosovo.

Lt. Dirk Willems  
CieComd-S4, BELHELI 3  
KFOR

## Vietnam Tomahawk

I am after some information on the fighting hatchet used by the Big Red 1 in Vietnam.

As a Vietnam veteran myself, I did hear through the rumor mill that some U.S. units were using an Indian-style hatchet in close-quarter fighting. However, until recently I was unaware of the exact shape/style of the hatchet or the fact that they are still in production in the United States.

Could you please give me any information or the address of the current American manufacturer.

I thank you for a great publication and wish you and your staff all the best.

Brian Norton  
Milloa Milloa, Australia

*The tomahawks you refer to were not a U.S. ordnance store, but locally made to the specs of individuals who appreciated what a good CQB weapon a properly designed tomahawk can be. A very close replica was made a few years ago by the Special Projects division of Cold Steel (Dept. SOF, 3036-A Seaborg Ave., Ventura, CA 93003; phone: 805-650-8481; fax: 805-642-9727). In our experience, Cold Steel makes quality products and is a good company to do business with; we examined their 'hawk, and it was good gear.*

## Private Heat

I'm interested in pursuing a career in Protective Services in the private sector. I

have no military experience and would like your advice in obtaining the best training. What would be the appropriate course of action for a 32-year-old kid with a martial arts background, coming from the private sector?

Shade Tusun  
via e-mail

*The best source of military training, of course, has always been the military. Were you of draft age we'd simply tell you to join the Army or Marines, as this can be one of the best educational experiences. Protective service careerists usually come in two flavors: thugs and professionals. The professionals get the better pay, but they are well-trained and professional. Your martial arts training will stand you in good stead, but there is a lot more to it — primarily training to avoid trouble for your client in the first place. We'd recommend affiliation with a professional organization, as once in the arena you will be aware of the training requirements, and who the good trainers are. Like everything else, not everybody with a shingle out as a trainer knows what he's doing. A good initial contact would be the Close Quarters Protection Operators Association (see them on the web at [www.CQPOA.org](http://www.CQPOA.org)). They are in the arena, they sponsor professional training, and their web site has lots of good information.* ✕

Now You See Him . . .



**StealthBag™** is the **only** personal emergency survival system that **preserves your body heat and makes you invisible to IR detection.**

. . . Now You Don't



# Become Invisible To Your Enemy.

- ★ Paperback book sized Mil-Spec StealthBag opens to roomy 3'x7' shelter
- ★ Ideal for all SERE (Survival Evasion Resistance Escape) modes
- ★ Reversible - Official Desert Storm Camo Pattern outside, Orange inside
- ★ Become invisible to aerial and hand-held Infrared
- ★ Weighs less than a G.I. poncho
- ★ Vacuum-packed in a mylar bag
- ★ Five Year Storage Life
- ★ Military and SOF-proven



"After a knife, this is now the first item that gets put in our go-pack, for certain protection against whatever elements one may encounter on land, sea or air."

— Soldier of Fortune Adventure  
Quartermaster, December, 1999

**Corporate Air Parts, Inc.** • 7641 Densmore Avenue • Van Nuys, CA 91406, U.S.A

**800-227-7811 / 818-997-0512 / Fax: 818-997-0478 • [www.stealthbag.com](http://www.stealthbag.com)**

*Stealthbag - You Can't Hit What You Can't See!*

# "C" WHAT YOU'VE BEEN MISSING!

When speed counts as  
much as accuracy...

nothing keeps you on target like  
Glock's complete line of compensated  
pistols. Available in full-size and compact  
models - in five popular calibers - these  
pistols have GLOCK's revolutionary parallel  
port compensation system. This innovative  
integral compensation system not only reduces  
muzzle flip and felt recoil, it also aids in quicker  
second-shot target  
acquisition.

From the first shot to  
the last, get improved  
shot speed and minimum  
muzzle rise with little  
or no loss of velocity.



PERFECTION

Available at a GLOCK Stocking Dealer near you.

© GLOCK, Inc. 1998

# WORLD SITREP

1

## UNITED STATES

**Anthrax vaccines:** Military anthrax vaccines should be suspended because they *aren't* supported by scientific evidence, says report by U.S. Congressional panel. Pentagon says vaccination program is needed as safeguard against biological warfare. • **Alien amnesty:** AFL-CIO backs amnesty for illegal aliens, marking major shift in policy.

2

## RUSSIA

**Brutalities of war:** Human rights groups and refugees accuse government of brutality toward Chechens in camps and rounding up 1,000 males after fall of Grozny. Moscow denies charges. Electoral authorities bar extreme nationalist Zhirinovsky from presidential ballot. • **Billions lost in fraud:** Two bankers who ran Moscow's DKB are under investigation after being identified by prosecutors as the primary clients of firms that moved \$7 billion out of Russia through Bank of New York accounts. • **Pigs in space:** Battered space station may be improved as U.S. investors and Russia's *Energia* sign contracts that could make the Mir available to private sector space travelers willing to pay \$25 million. • **Let's be friends again:** Russian and NATO announced plans to restore ties frayed by Moscow's anger over the Western campaign against traditional ally Serbia. Meanwhile, top U.N. refugee official blasts Russia for blocking access to victims of war in Chechnya, citing reports of mistreatment of civilians.

5

## KOSOVO

**Get out!** Balkan peacekeeping may last indefinitely and conditions for withdrawing troops won't exist until Milosevic is out of power, NATO's military chief told Congress. Meanwhile, Milosevic tells his Socialist party that Kosovo will always be part of Serbia and calls on NATO to get out of the province.

10

## CHILE

**Brain damage:** Pinochet suffers brain damage affecting memory and comprehension and is unfit to stand trial, say reports in Spanish newspapers that claim to have seen a British medical assessment of Chile's ex-dictator. Santiago protested the information leak.

6

## CUBA

**Cuban spy:** Spy charges leveled against high ranking U.S. immigration official in Miami, who was arrested by the FBI. Havana-born Mariano Faget had access to sensitive data in his INS job supervising rulings in matters such as political asylum, and is accused of spying for Cuba.

1

6

17

16

13

## ZIMBABWE

**Mugabe plan foiled:** Mugabe suffers setback with defeat of referendum that would have bolstered his powers and let white-owned land be seized. The loss has emboldened his opponents amid a limp economy.

12

## IRAQ

**Sanctions and civilians:** Relaxation of sanctions urged by bipartisan group of 70 U.S. House members whose bill would allow export of food and drugs. House opponents to sanctions say the 1990 sanctions hurt innocent civilians more than Saddam Hussein.

16

## COLOMBIA

**Guerrillas and the Pope:** Colombian peace talks progressing in Sweden, and representatives of Colombia's largest guerrilla group ask to meet with Pope John Paul II. Meanwhile, second rebel group blocked main Bogota-Medellin highway for four days.

17

## HAITI

**Election tensions:** Haitian protesters block highway south of Port-au-Prince demanding that electoral officials send them voter-registration forms. Photo ID cards are new requirement for participating in elections.

3

### CHINA

**Just say "No" to WTO:** Ads opposing China World Trade Organization deal are to begin running soon in U.S. districts of at least a dozen uncommitted lawmakers, AFL-CIO leaders say. • **Suicide bomb:** Tiananmen Square explosion kills a man in what Chinese police say was suicide by a mental patient. Explosion also injured a South Korean tourist, and authorities insist there was no link to Falun Dafa protests.

4

### IRELAND

**Disarmament plan:** Ireland's prime minister says Dublin opposed Britain's suspension of Northern Ireland home-rule government and passed to London a last-minute IRA disarmament proposal. British officials claim they never saw the plan before suspension. Ulster factions seek meetings in U.S.

8

### GERMANY

**Scandal:** Kohl's successor quits as head of Germany's Christian Democrats as widening campaign-finance scandal continues to claim victims and weaken opposition to Schroeder's government. Wolfgang Schaeuble resigned after admitting taking cash from arms dealer.

9

### ENGLAND

**Peace process:** Britain and Ireland fail to ease Northern Ireland crisis as a London meeting ends in recriminations by leaders of Sinn Fein and the province's biggest Protestant party over the issue of IRA disarmament. Clinton acknowledges peace process is at "rough spot," but sees signs for hope.

7

### UKRAINE

**International loan fraud:** U.S. and IMF react to allegations that Ukraine may have misused international loans by considering strict conditions on future lending to Kiev. Ukraine is negotiating to free up \$1.6 billion of a \$2.6 billion package.

2

4

9

8

5

18

12

14

3

11

### INDONESIA

**Coup speculation:** Ex-defense chief calls on military not to challenge his removal from cabinet by President Wahid. Wiranto's defiance of president's calls for him to quit had fed coup speculation.

14

### AFGHANISTAN

**Asylum, or a hijacking?** Britain sends back to Afghanistan 72 of 142 people who came to London aboard a commandeered jet in what may have been a hijacking, or just a mass bid for asylum. Embarrassed authorities had said earlier only 37 had volunteered to go home.

13

15

### ISRAEL

**Air raids:** Israel criticized by U.S. for air raids after recent Hezbollah attacks. U.S. contends air raids contributed to suffering of Lebanese civilians. Despite Washington's stance, Lebanese police fought with about 2,000 protesters at U.S. Embassy in Beirut. Hezbollah promises more killings of Israeli troops, like the ones that prompted the air raids. • **The Pope's view:** Vatican says Jerusalem's future must not be decided by Israel alone, calling such a policy "morally and legally unacceptable." Admonition came in accord signed with Palestinians ahead of Pope's visit to Holy Land.

18

### TURKEY

**Insurrection ceases:** Ocalan's Kurdish rebel group announces end to its 15-year insurrection against Turkey and will instead fight for more autonomy through the political system. Ankara didn't reply, but in the past has rejected Kurdistan workers Party overtures.

World Sitrep is compiled by the SOF staff with information from various media and correspondents.

# ADVENTURE QUARTERMASTER

## The SniPod™

We could count on one hand the "one-size-fits-all" items we've ever owned that actually worked: a GI poncho, that first roll of duct tape, our first single-shot 12-gauge, the favorite hunting dog, and our favorite piece of string too short to use.

But having tried out the SniPod™, we are going to have to either grow another finger or start on the other hand. This lightweight, strong, collapsible and reasonably priced rifle tripod readily adjusts from a 10-22 to a Barrett .50, and sticks in your pocket when you're done.

The strong oak legs have rubber feet, and the upper contact portion is rubber covered as well, so you may cradle either the rifle barrel or the stock as suits your circumstances or shooting style, without fear of hurting either the tripod or the rifle. If you punch paper from a bench, varmints from the prone, or hostiles at 500 meters from a variety of rifles, you need this new accessory — odds are good it will fit them all.



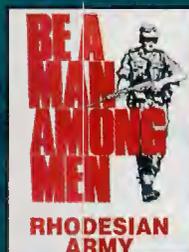
Simple, clever, functional, sturdy, handy and lightweight — and only \$24.99 plus \$5 S&H from SniPod™. Dept. SOF, 3240 Wright Ave., Boulder, CO 80301; or on the web at [www.snipod.com](http://www.snipod.com).



## EXCLUSIVE! SOLDIER OF FORTUNE LOGO ITEMS FROM OUR POLITICALLY INCORRECT COLLECTION



#T001M  
MP5 black 50/50 T-shirt  
with left chest logo.  
M-XL \$15 ea;  
XXL-XXXL \$17 ea



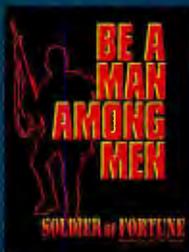
#T002M  
Rhodesian Army  
white 50/50 T-shirt  
L-XL only  
\$15 ea



#T003M  
Try Burning This One!  
U.S. Flag white 50/50  
T-shirt. L-XL only  
\$15 ea



#T004M  
Go Ahead And Jump.  
black 50/50 T-shirt  
L-XL only  
\$15 ea



#T005M  
Be A Man Among Men  
black 50/50 T-shirt  
M-L-XL only  
\$15 ea



#H001M  
SOF Magazine  
Embroidered Cap  
High-quality black  
and red cap.  
\$15 ea



#FG001M  
Silver Champagne Glass  
\$20 ea



#CC002M  
Coffee Cup  
\$5 ea

#CM001M  
Tall Coffee Mug  
\$5 ea

© 2000. Soldier Of Fortune is a registered trademark of Omega Group Ltd. All rights reserved.

ORDERING INFO	Circle Size	Quantity	Price	Total
#T001M MP5 Shirt	M L XL	@	\$15.00	
#T001M MP5 Shirt	XXL XXL	@	\$17.00	
#T002M Rhodesian Army Shirt	L XL	@	\$15.00M	
#T003M Try Burning This One! Shirt	L XL	@	\$15.00	
#T004M Go Ahead And Jump Shirt	L XL	@	\$15.00	
#T005M Be A Man Among Men Shirt	M L XL	@	\$15.00	
#H001M SOF Embroidered Cap		@	\$15.00	
#CC002M Coffee Cup		@	\$5.00	
#CM001M Tall Coffee Mug		@	\$5.00	
#FG001M Champagne Glass		@	\$20.00	

Shipping & Handling: \$3 /1st item; \$1 each add'l item.

TOTAL

Send Check/MO/MC/Visa To:  
**OMEGA GROUP LTD.**  
5735 Arapahoe Ave., Ste. A5  
Boulder, CO 80303

**ORDER TOLL FREE:  
800-800-7630**

PLEASE ALLOW 6-8 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

## Old Western Scrounger

If you enjoy tracing military history through the collecting of the old, rare and unusual — but miss the fun of shooting these venerable old war-horses because you can't find ammo, contact Dangerous Dave Cumberland. One of the pre-eminent scroungers on the planet for more than 40 years that I know of, Dave has been the go-to guy for those who want to shoot a rifle nobody but them and Dave has ever heard of. At present, Dangerous Dave has out under his own label nearly 70 newly made rounds that will get that war relic or inherited Whatzis Special back on the firing line or harvesting game, whichever blows your kilt up.

Old GI rounds like 6mm Lee Navy, 7.35 Italian, 7.5xx54 French, 7.92x33k, .32 French Long, 8mm Jap Nambu, 8x50R Lebel, 8x52R Siamese (and 8x50R also), 9mm Jap Revolver, .43 Egyptian, .43 Mauser, .43 Spanish, .45 Auto Rim, 577-450 Martini Henry and myriad other are available off the shelf. Impossible to find commercial rounds from .22 Automatic, .22 Rem Jet and .221 Fireball through .30 and .32 Remington to .401 Win Self-Loading, .45-120 Sharps, .50-70 Guvvermint and .577 Snyder are in production, too. And what Dave doesn't have on the shelf, he can probably find or make for you to factory-like specs. Save those 100-year-old rounds for the ammo collectors among us, and feed fresh and safe new rounds to those

long-in-tooth rifles.

Weird ammo is not Dave's only forte, however. *Scrounger* is the operative word in "Old Western Scrounger," and you can make this outfit your worlds-only source for obscure accessories from reloading dies for 23mm Soviet (and the humongous press that will take them) to 4-bore brass, arcane reloading manuals for blackpowder rounds, cannon fuze and parts (and cannon, of course). And lots of gen-u-ine stuff for cowboy shooters (ask for Floyd).

Dave Cumberland's greatest resource, however, is free: He unselfishly opens his warehouse of knowledge to those of good intent and pleasant demeanor, and what he doesn't know himself (haven't stumped him yet) he can point you to.

Send a couple bucks for the latest four-color catalog (worth more than that for entertainment alone) to The Old Western Scrounger,

Dept. SOF, 12924 Hwy. A-12, Montague, CA 96064; Tech Line 530-459-5445; fax: 530-459-3944; Order Line: 800-UPS-AMMO; peruse their web site at [www.ows-ammunition.com](http://www.ows-ammunition.com). Various plastic accepted; dealers also inquire.

# Ready for the REAL STUFF?

## Authentic Military Unarmed Combat

Join Canadian Regimental Sergeant Major and ERT/SWAT Team Leader Bill Wolfe together with Master Instructor Dennis Wolfe, the only qualified Unarmed Combat Instructors with direct training lineage to W.E. Fairbairn and his battle-tested system, as they expose the eye opening uncensored world of authentic modern Military Unarmed Combat training and it's application for use on today's violent streets.

Developed for British Commando's and Allied Special Forces of WWII and classified for decades, Defendo is the one and only original military system of unarmed combat by which all modern police and military CQB systems are measured.

No ridiculous claims, tough guy stories, or recycled martial arts. Just the real stuff, taught using the same training methods as the world's elite military units.

Order your video series today and see for yourself why Battleschool is the most advanced hands on CQB training ever offered to civilians and why Defendo is the most highly evolved and best proven personal protection system on the planet.



**DEFENDO**<sup>®</sup>  
C Q B



### INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO SERIES

- HISTORY and Mission
- BRICK I, Enemy Engagement
- BRICK II, Ground Strike
- BRICK III, Flank Attack
- BRICK IV, Immediate Action
- BRICK V, Razors Edge
- BRICK VI, Blackjack
- BRICK VII, Fire Fight
- BRICK VIII, Counter Measures
- BRICK IX, Battleschool
- BRICK X, Battleschool

**\*Any Tape \$79.99**

**\*Bricks I through IV \$249.99**

**\*Bricks I through X \$349.99**

**\*BONUS TAPE! Receive 'History' FREE with any purchase!**

Order Online at [www.defendo.com](http://www.defendo.com) or Call Toll Free 1-877-904-6666

BRICK I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X Credit Card orders, Visa / Mastercard: Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Check or Money Order, make payable to MODERN DEFENDO, 101 Bowser Ave., North Vancouver B.C. Canada, V7P 3H1. S & H charges: Under \$100 - add \$8 / Over \$100 - add \$15 (all prices in US dollars)



# SOF

# CONVENTION

# 2000

1975 **25** YEARS 2000

*Celebrating 25 Years Of Soldier Of Fortune*

## 3 Gun Tactical Match, Convention and Exposition

**October 11-15, 2000**  
**Cashman Center**  
**Las Vegas**

- This year's exciting schedule of events includes:
- World Famous Firepower Demo
  - Seminars
  - Participatory Events
  - Awards Banquet with guest speakers
  - Expo Hall — at the spacious Cashman Center with acres of parking!
  - Evening Activities
  - SOF Submachine Gun Match
  - Special Events Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of Soldier Of Fortune

- Also included in your Conventioneer fee:
- Exclusive 2000 Conventioneer T-Shirt (specify size)
  - Exclusive 2000 Conventioneer Pin
  - One-year subscription to Soldier Of Fortune magazine — worth \$60 on the newsstand

### 2000 SOF Convention Pre-Registration Form

- Yes! I want to be a part of the 2000 Convention
- Check or money order enclosed. \$150 must be received by September 11, 2000. \$175 after September 11. Half refund by 9/11/00 • No refund after 9/11/00

Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my  Mastercard  Visa

Card Number                 Exp. Date

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size (circle one) S M L XL XXL XXXL



Mail with payment to: SOF Convention 2000 Pre-Registration  
5735 Arapahoe Ave., Suite A-5, Boulder, CO 80303  
Credit card payments only call (800) 800-7630 or fax coupon  
to (303) 444-5617. Inquiries call 303-449-3750 ext. 300

## DPMS Multi-Tool



DPMS/Panther Arms Inc. has released their new tool for all your AR rifle needs. The new Panther Multi-Tool is designed to install and disassemble free-floating tubes, barrel nuts, compensators, barrel-extension tubes and carbine stocks. The tool also features a 1/2" square drive for socket wrenches, and a screwdriver tip for AR buttstock screws. Made from 4140 steel and manganese-phosphate coated, the Panther retails for \$33.95 (dealer/distributor pricing, also).

For more details on the DPMS Multi-Tool and the complete line of top-quality AR rifle parts and accessories, contact Defense Procurement Manufacturing Services, Inc., Dept. SOF, 13983 Industry Ave., Becker, MN 55308; phone: 612-261-5600; fax: 612-261-5599; or on the web at [www.dpm-sinc.com](http://www.dpm-sinc.com).

## White Lightning

All contraptions with moving parts need lubrication. Leading-edge tools and guns are often marketed with self-lubricating exotic-polymer or TiN coatings, but even those can work better in certain environs with the right lube. The wrong lube is one that collects grit, like conventional oils, as even lubed grit is abrasive, and in the tool you want smooth, not loose.

White Lightning Folding Knife and Multi-Tool Lube is a dissolved wax that penetrates every nook and cranny of folding knives and multi-tools, then dries to leave a water-resistant, dirt-repelling protective and lubricating film. Contact Kristen Calendrille at White Lightning, Dept. SOF, 1545 Fifth Industrial Court, Bay Shore, NY 11706; phone 516-206-1675. ✕



# PROOF OF

# Magick



**Huc Chung Kun Tao - Specializing in the Whip**  
*"The Secret Science of the Mind"*

**U.S. Army Special Forces Combat hand-to-hand video**  
 (S.E.R.E.) taught by Master Guy Savelli\* (Special Force Assn. #A-900)  
 hired by Colonel Nick Rowe (Contract #D.A.K.F. 40-85-M-3933).

**Send for Special Free Video Brochure!**

**Call 1-888-245-8833 Toll Free**

[www.worldkungfu.com](http://www.worldkungfu.com)

\*Master Guy Savelli has been tested at Duke University, the Mind Science Foundation, JFK University, The Psychological Research Institute and The Special Forces Laboratory at Fort Bragg.

## STEINER MILITARY/MARINE

### Battle Tested & Ready For Action.

They've stood up to some of the toughest conditions in the world. That's what makes these rugged, lightweight Steiner binoculars the free world's leading military binoculars. So whatever action you have in mind—whatever environment you challenge—Steiner stands ready with optics that deliver sharp, crisp images with German precision.

*The Steiner 8 x 30 Military/Marine. Once focused, it's sharp from 20 yards out for fast recognition of your target. Also available in 6 x 30, 7 x 35, 7 x 50, 9 x 40 and 10 x 50 models.*



#### Pioneer Research

97 Foster Rd., Moorestown, NJ 08057-1118  
 (609) 866-9191, (800) 257-7742, Fax: (609) 866-8615

#### Steiner Optik Canada, Inc.

52 Chatham St., West, Suite 300,  
 Windsor, Ontario N9A 5M6 Canada (519) 258-7263

## STEINER



GERMANY



# COLUMBINE

## LESSONS LEARNED

### The Active Shooter and Law Enforcement Preparedness

by Harry Humphries and Hugo Teufel

LITTLETON, COLO. — It's approximately 1115 hours, and you're patrolling a district in the suburb you call home. It has been a typical morning, full of routine traffic stops.

You pull into your favorite restaurant where you'll be meeting another cop from your agency for lunch. Then, you hear it. The auto alert tone goes off, indicating a major situation.

"Attention, all officers! Shots fired at suburban high school. Multiple students injured. Unknown suspects involved." Your daughter attends this school, and even though it's out of your jurisdiction, you and every other officer from your agency is responding.

Within minutes, you arrive at the school. There is no command post. There is no SWAT team ready to enter the massive facility, which holds more than 1,000 students and faculty. There is only you, and your fellow officers from neighboring jurisdictions, a few of whom you know none of whom you've trained with. You can hear shots, explosions, and screams. You have no idea where your daughter might be.

What do you do? What do you do?

#### **Cops Were In The Building**

This very situation happened last year near Littleton, a suburb of Denver. Two Active Shooters, bent on killing as many of their fellow students as possible and destroying as much of their school as possible, went on a rampage in Columbine High School. Fully equipped and coordinated SWAT teams did not enter the building for several hours.

Contrary to most media reports, however, cops were in the building within minutes of the first 911 call. Officers from various local agencies (Littleton, Lakewood, Douglas County, and Denver) formed ad hoc teams and entered the high school to find the suspects and save lives. Some were SWAT officers; others were regular line officers. Some were equipped with body armor and submachine guns, others had only their duty vests, and Remington 870s, Colt AR15s, or their duty pistols. Knowing they did not know what threat they might be facing, and knowing that they might very well die, these officers nevertheless went into the maelstrom. They did their jobs.

The metaphorical Mr. Murphy was also on the scene, doing his job well. Because of the improvised explosive devices that Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold detonated, the school's fire detection system went off. In some parts of the school, up to 4 inches of water accumulated on floors, and throughout the building the ever-present fire alarm drowned out any voice or radio communication. Not that the radios would have helped much. Not all agencies had access to the other agencies' radio frequencies. Nor, for that matter, did many radios work inside of the massive school building. Accordingly, the ad hoc teams leap-frogged from room to room, and hall to hall, using hand signals, as they moved toward the threat.

#### **Cops Engaged Harris, Klebold**

Also contrary to certain media reports, law enforcement officers engaged Harris and

Klebold a few times. Of course, in the first engagement, the school safety officer expended all of the rounds from his pistol at the two shooters from a distance of 75 to 80 yards. There were other engagements, with law enforcement expending a total of 144 rounds, as compared to the 188 Harris and Klebold shot. And reports indicate that the quick thinking and acting of the ad hoc teams bottled up Harris and Klebold, stopping them from killing even more students and faculty, before they ignominiously ended their lives.

In spite of the valiant efforts of the many law enforcement officers on the scene, 12 students and one teacher died. Many have asked in the aftermath whether law enforcement could have done a better job in responding. Perhaps, but to say so risks demeaning the fine officers who gave their all, knowingly risking their lives when they entered a completely unknown situation. Why do these tragic events happen? What then can be done to combat such deadly outbreaks of violence?

To answer the first question, one must consider whether sales promotion or "good copy" media sensationalism influences vulnerable members of society, and those with a propensity to violence. One must also consider whether our society is heading down a slippery slope toward self-destruction. Doubtless, a multiplicity of causes have created this new class of killer. Indeed, loss of family structure, copycat syndrome driven by an insatiable desire to get recognition in any manner at any cost, psychological issues such as inadvertent kill condi-

tioning resulting from excessive time on action video games (which are nothing more than commercial, off-the-shelf combat simulators) all play a role. The list is endless and the cures are beyond the scope of this article and irrelevant to the officer who must stop such a killer.

### Teen Active Shooters

To answer the second question (how to combat such deadly violence?), it is necessary to understand who and what the two shooters at Columbine were: *Active Shooters*. The term "Active Shooter" is defined in a recent Illinois Tactical Officers Association newsletter as, "one or more subjects who participate in a random or systematic shooting spree, demonstrating their intent to continuously harm others. Their overriding objective appears to be that of mass murder, rather than other criminal conduct such as robbery, hostage taking, etc." Importantly, Active Shooters are not just adults. They can also be adolescents, or pre-adolescents.

The Active Shooter is neither a serial killer, nor a spree killer. Rather, he's a hybrid. His actions are often organized, as are those of a serial killer, and his intent is the death of multiple victims. The Active Shooter does not go through phases leading up to killing, with cooling off periods. Rather, he kills, often over a period of hours, until his "mission" is accomplished. Often, he expects not to survive the spree of killings. But unlike more traditional serial or spree killers, such as Ted Bundy or Charles Starkweather, the Active Shooter works on a grander, more dramatic and public tableau of violence and death.

### History Of Active Shooters

Active shooters are not new, any more than school shootings are. Examples of high

profile Active Shooters include:

- Charles Whitman at the University of Texas, Austin, clock tower in 1966.
  - James Huberty at the San Ysidro McDonalds in 1984.
  - Patrick Sherill at a U.S. Postal Service facility in Edmond, Oklahoma in 1986.
- School shooters include:
- Brenda Spencer at San Diego's Cleveland Elementary School in 1979.
  - Patrick Purdy in Stockton, California, in 1989.
  - Marc Lepine at the University of Montreal in 1989.
  - Harris and Klebold at Columbine High School in 1999. Again, these incidents are fundamentally different from other high-

as an example, it took the Los Angeles SWAT team nearly an hour to arrive on the scene in heavy traffic. Even when SWAT team members do arrive on the scene in a timely fashion, as happened at Columbine, their full complement will be unavailable, as will the majority of their equipment. What then to do?

### Time, Talk, Tear Gas

Law enforcement has always been a step or two behind societal trends. The importance of tactical teams was not self-evident to police administrators until after Charles Whitman, in Austin, Texas, and Mark Essex, in New Orleans, Louisiana, and the Black Panthers and Symbionese Liberation

“Attention, all officers! Shots fired at suburban high school. Multiple students injured. Unknown suspects involved.”

profile criminal incidents, such as the Nor-Co shootout in 1980 or the North Hollywood shootout in 1998. They're fundamentally different because murder is the objective, not some other criminal act, such as robbery. Notwithstanding, the results often are the same: Law enforcement must confront and quell a very fluid and deadly, very chaotic incident.

What is law enforcement to do? Unlike Israel, in which a high percentage of the citizenry is armed, it cannot expect lawful use of deadly force from citizens to immediately put an end to an Active Shooter's efforts. Nor can it expect to have highly-trained and motivated SWAT teams on the scene to neutralize the threat. Using North Hollywood

Army, in California. Belatedly, law enforcement agencies added SWAT or tactical teams, but adhered to the "Time, Talk, Tear Gas" approach to crisis resolution.

With the proliferation of drugs in the United States, and the increasing need to engage in hostage rescue from barricaded suspects, American law enforcement turned to the techniques of elite counterterror organizations for dynamic building entries. Law enforcement would enter a building, if not at a time of their choosing, then at a time in which nearly all variables in the violent equation of entry had been accounted for (locations of suspects and hostages, physical layout of the structure, suspects' weaponry and intentions).



(above) Humphries prepares entry team to tighten stack at the door. (Note high port weapons and shotgun breacher kneeling low and out of direct line of fire from within.) (right) Humphries watches as hall boss, behind door covering long, calls for first entry team "Need two ... door left."





Instructor Jack Furr (kneeling) and instructor Chris Mathews (standing), polish rapid team movement, offering minimum exposure as next entry team is set up and executed.



Humphries observes as entry team moves up for next room entry. Hall boss covers long from behind most recently cleared room as the team passes nothing until it's cleared or covered.



Sequential clearing continues as Chris Mathews coaches clearing teams moving from cover of cleared spaces down the hall to the next room entry.

Some agencies saw the future of crime and knew that individuals bent on mass death or injury could strike at public structures. The lucky agencies that prepared for such contingencies and trained in schools and government buildings were ahead of the curve. Many did not, however, because of bureaucratic indifference and the "it can't happen here" syndrome. Columbine brought home to agencies, administrators, and elected officials across the country that it can, and indeed, is likely to "happen here."

### Confronting Active Shooters

When confronting the Active Shooter, the goals of law enforcement are three-fold: 1) contain the suspects; 2) rescue victims; and 3) apprehend or neutralize the suspects. It is likely that the situation will dictate that law enforcement pursue these goals concurrently.

First is containment. Ideally, law enforcement should limit the suspect to one floor, or one room of a floor. The less mobility, the fewer victims, the less likely the Active Shooter will escape, and the less likely that the Active Shooter will gain the assistance of confederates. There may not be enough time or personnel to set up a sufficient outer perimeter. In this case, containing the methods of ingress/egress to the building may be all that is possible. Important information for law enforcement at this stage is: 1) the number of suspects; 2) the suspects' weapons; 3) the suspects' ability to maneuver in the structure; and 4) the numbers of victims and potential victims.

Second, is the rescue of victims. Law enforcement, working in the hot zone with emergency medical personnel, must evacuate the victims. Emergency medical person-

nel will have to establish triage stations.

Third, is apprehension or neutralization of the suspects. Knowing what the threat is and where it is located is key to its neutralization.

The problem law enforcement faces is determining which takes precedence in a given situation and at a given moment: victim rescue or suspect neutralization. A very difficult judgment call. And whatever the officers decide will be second-guessed. Columbine amply demonstrated this point. Factors to consider include the number of suspects and their locations; whether additional victims are in the structure; and the presence of additional personnel.

### Police Must Enter

In order to rescue victims and apprehend or neutralize the suspects, law enforcement must enter the structure. The dynamic entry and clearance of a structure occupied by an Active Shooter is a dangerous undertaking. Victims are being injured or killed and the urgency to enter and stop the threat is very high. But unlike traditional dynamic entries, whether performed by crack counterterror units (such as SEAL Team 6 or GSG-9), or special operations law enforcement units, there is a dearth of knowledge of the suspects' capabilities, or locations and, likely, a dearth of specially-trained operators.

And who might "law enforcement" be at the scene of an Active Shooter incident? SWAT? Not likely, at least initially. This is the paradox of Active Shooter incidents. The Active Shooter is a live threat who must be stopped immediately by any lawful means necessary. This requires men and women of determination and specialized training ready to enter a high-risk, high-threat environment.

However, such officers often are not available immediately. Accordingly, this very difficult task falls to patrol officers, detectives, and intermediate supervisory officers.

Generally, emergency deployment requires a pragmatic, step-by-step approach from the initial stages of alert through establishment of TOC, assembly of tactical operators, operations briefing, team assignments, mission specific equipment issues, communications and finally, actual deployment to crime scene. These steps are required to maintain order and control of the operation by some central authority, such as the SWAT Commander, Scene Commander or even higher authority depending on the agency's bureaucratic complexity.

### Urgent, Extreme Measures

In contrast, Active Shooter situations are acts of extreme and immediate violence, and require urgent and extreme measures in order to stop human carnage in progress. There simply is not enough time to implement traditional emergency deployment procedures.

The scenario is similar to one posed to all law enforcement academy cadets: You respond to domestic violence report, shots fired, et cetera. Upon arrival, you hear gunshots and the screams of victims. Do you wait for back up, or do you enter the building and possibly get ambushed, becoming another victim?

In the academy, there is no right answer. In the real world, at a school, a shopping mall, an office building, or a postal facility, with dozens or even hundreds of victims, there is no time for philosophical musings. Entry is a foregone conclusion. And with

victims down, and possible hazardous materials or improvised explosive devices employed by the Active Shooter, you probably will not go in alone. The EMTs, Tactical Trauma Medics, or Hazardous Materials personnel will be joining law enforcement.

The responding officers must be prepared to aggress into the hot zone with trauma medics, set up internal triage sites and containment action, locate and remove injured victims to triage where injuries can be prioritized and stabilized as rapidly as possible, and mass evacuate/martial personnel within the scene. Halting the primary action at rescue and containment, while waiting for the tactical team to close and apprehend, is probably the best possible scenario one could hope for.

### **If Slaughter Continues ...**

What if shots continue and more people are being slaughtered? There can be no question; individual officers must, side by side, continue to aggress into the hot zone in order to stop the killing. Not a pretty picture considering the lack of training these line officers are given, not to mention the appearance of a Wild West, shootout mentality, the very image that police administrators throughout the Nation fight to prevent.

---

## **One final point to consider: All the training, tactics, and weaponry, all the multi-jurisdictional cooperation, and all the scenario running you can think of, will not save lives.**

Training and tactics will dictate much in what is an already no-win situation. Overlaid are the liability and public relations concerns of agency administrators. An agency must adopt reasonably controllable emergency contingency tactics, if police officers are to effectively stop ongoing killings and rescue wounded victims under fire. There are a few different techniques that operators have used with success in the past to enter and clear a building. Though each has its relative merits, there are two worth mentioning.

LAPD, having faced more and more varied situations than perhaps any other police department, has developed the Diamond formation dynamic rescue technique. The technique depends upon relatively large numbers of trained officers who comprise "Rapid Response Teams." Each unit is a four-officer team — one in front, one in back, one on either side — that surrounds the EMT or Haz Mat specialist. When the team has found a good triage area or potentially dangerous hazardous material, it will drop off the specialist, and continue in search of the suspects. These units are always on duty, ready to respond to a crisis situation.

The other technique is one based upon the work of Naval Special Warfare as a ship-board-clearing technique for cabins and large areas connected to a common passageway. In principle, the concept provides maximum unit control and cover during large team

entries into halls with connecting rooms. Nothing is passed until cleared or covered by an assigned shooter until it can be cleared; team members are minimally exposed to hallways unless stacking to enter a room.

### **Hall Boss Technique**

As taught by Global Studies Group, Incorporated (GSGI), this dynamic rescue entry method, the "Hall Boss technique," is ideal for multi-ported and multi-storied public structures, such as hotels, offices, hospitals, administrative buildings and schools and can be taught to Rapid Response Teams, as well as line officers.

Under GSGI's approach, the key person is the "Hall Boss." The Hall Boss, known as "HB," whether a Rapid Response Team leader, sergeant, field training officer, or senior officer on-site, reads the hall remaining behind cover of corners or doorframes, in complete control of a large team compartmented into sub-teams of three or four conducting simultaneous search and clear operations.

As the line of officers moves toward a hall entrance, the HB, third man in the group, allows the first two men to clear the corner or entrance to the hall and hold long, behind corner cover down the hall. The HB

then moves up and reads the hall for doors, corners, alcoves, skylights or anything that would offer a hiding spot for perpetrators. He will sequentially have each potential hiding space cleared by assigning small teams to one or two areas at a time.

For instance, the HB sees a series of room doors attached to the hall. The first and closest is on the left, so he commands verbally or hand signals "three — door left — go." The first two men move to enter the last of the two states "last man need one," the man behind the HB moves on the stack and squeezes the man in front, they breach and enter the first room, clearing closets, blind spots behind structures, and furniture. The HB moves up to and behind the door frame of the first room while the team continues securing the area. He reads the second room on the right across the hall and commands, "need three — door right 'stand-by' or 'go.'" The next three men in the queue stack at the door and enter, so he has two sub-teams operating. The HB continues to gain ground as each room is sequentially cleared stepping behind door frames and reading the hall as he brings the team down the hall. This sequence continues pulling people from the waiting queue until the last man is pulled, he indicates "last man" and the first team to enter now roles into action, covering the assigned clearing mission.

In cases of Active Shooters firing shots

exposing their location, the team goes into a high-speed, leap-frog action where they cover and move as partner pairs, sequentially covering or clearing suspicious doors or hides as the team moves rapidly to the gunshots for contact and apprehension. Here there is heavy emphasis on point alert and rear security as there is a large potential for being "sucked in" and attacked from both sides, a problem with the "Diamond" technique.

### **Principles Of Hot Zones**

GSGI first covers principles of unit movement or patrolling to the hot zone. This, too, is critical for responding officers. Too often teams moving toward the stronghold from the transport vehicle through exposed entry routes, danger areas, in a tight entry stack. This is insane as one "golden" bullet can fell multiple officers. The principle of controlled interval is covered, as are basic principles of patrol order and field movement and tactics.

GSGI next covers close quarter conflict resolution, preparing the officer to deal with surprise encounters within 10 feet, or contact distance. And finally before moving on to team clearing of halls, rooms, stairwells, etc., GSGI covers the basics of dynamic entry techniques in great detail. While GSGI has its views of what works best here, it does not espouse any one technique, but instead covers all entry methods as commonly used today throughout the world, giving the pros and cons of each; the teams and agencies decide which works best for them.

Getting to the "micro" level, first responder training, is critical. But it's not the only necessary step agencies must take to counter the Active Shooter. The agency must look at the "macro" level. Mr. Murphy is an equal opportunity meddler, interfering in the efforts of operators and administrators alike. Agencies should run scenarios in as many likely venues for the Active Shooter as possible.

For example, the Beloit, Wisconsin, Police Department recently ran a school-shooting scenario to determine proper response procedures. Five months in planning, Beloit PD learned a number of important lessons.

### **School Hostage Scene**

The scenario involved an emotionally disturbed father and an accomplice who seize a multi-storied school, taking hostages and killing the school resource officer. Some of the lessons Beloit PD learned include the following:

- First, it is important to have a multi-agency command hierarchy. Each agency may do the same things, but use different terms. Having common points of reference is critical to effective communication.

- Second, determine who the critical personnel are for a given situation. Beloit did not realize how important the school principal was. Had they not sent her home, the agency would have been able to clear the

**Continued on page 73**

# SLIP, STUMBLE, & FALL: PART 2

## It's Colombia — Not Vietnam, Not El Salvador

Text & Photos by  
Dr. Tom Marks

**"It's** like El Salvador, because they speak Spanish," grins the American military officer, describing Colombia. "It's like Vietnam, because there's jungle. And there are guerrillas. 'So what makes this place unique?' That's what you want to know?"

"When you look at Colombia, you see a number of factors which come together to make the place ungovernable.

"You have socio-economic problems; weak institutions like the judiciary (which hardly functions at all); narcotics and all it brings; common crime at epidemic proportions — for \$1,500 you can have someone killed, our sources tell us; kidnapping is a full-scale industry; issues of human rights, accompanied by NGOs (non-governmental organizations) by the hundreds (literally); guerrillas and paramilitaries ...

"Every factor interacts with all the others. [Thus] our policy is no longer adequate: We have a single-track policy directed against a multi-track problem.

"We have allowed drugs to drive our policy. The policy interest is counter-narcotics. The policy condition is human rights."

### The Eagle Has Landed

A more clear statement of what's going on in our newest war — arguably, our nastiest war — would be hard to come by.

A quick word of clarification: It's not nasty for *us*. There may be more refugees than we saw in Kosovo.

There may be double the number of murders each year as we have in the U.S. (32,000 versus 16,000, for 40 million people versus 270 million). There may be fierce battles being waged out of sight and out of mind. But it's the Colombians who have to live in the sewer. It's nasty for *them*. We float on top of it all.

Float on top of a God-awful mess which we, for all our best intentions, are making worse.

Let's look at that. Colombia's problem is that it presently faces an array of problems, any one of which could stagger a country.

Though a "real" democracy, it is an imperfect polity, with many dissatisfied at the options represented by the two major parties, the Conservatives and the Liberals. Long committed to the market, it has an economy mired in its first recession since 1932. A huge and rich nation, it has minimal government presence in much of its national territory; its resources are exploited unevenly and distributed in the skewed fashion so typical of developing areas.

Small wonder, then, that there is insurgency. Small wonder, too, that entrepreneurial acumen over the past several decades picked up on the opportunity offered by geography, topography, and available labor to move into the drug trade, first as middlemen, then as vertically integrated multinationals.

In another era, the U.S. felt the stability of Colombia, but three hours flight from Miami, was important. Washington had played an active role in counterinsurgency planning and operations between 1959 and 1965.

Then it largely forgot the huge country to its south. An area the size of Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico combined — France, Spain, and Portugal, if you're oriented towards Europe — with a substantial population

and strong links to the U.S., simply dropped off the radar screen.

That's overstatement, of course, since periodically the more prominent outbursts of insurgent activity startled Washington and led to minor responses. Yet Air Bogota was definitely put into a holding pattern by the controllers in D.C.

Only the rise of the drug trade caused a stir.

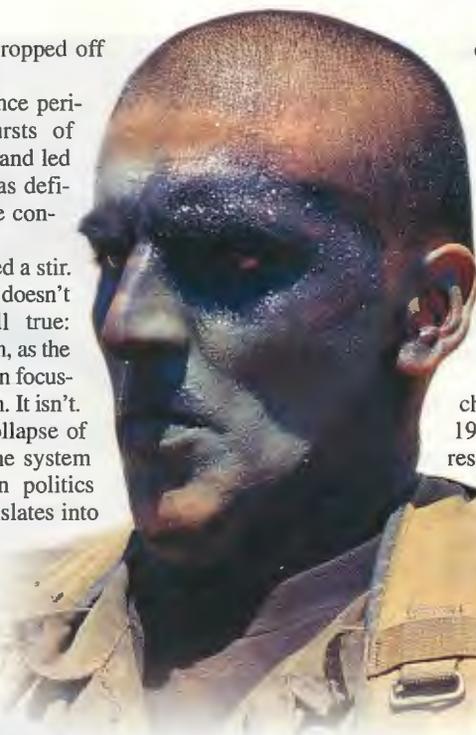
The pernicious role played by drugs doesn't need to be recounted here. It's all true: Colombia is drug-land. The U.S. problem, as the officer above recounts, is that Washington focuses upon this as though it was *the* problem. It isn't.

For the ordinary citizen, it's the collapse of the state. There aren't enough jobs; the system provides no security; participating in politics changes little. On the ground, this translates into "disorder."

It's a full-time job just to stay alive. Last year's (1999) murder statistics put Colombia in the major leagues of world crime (I have seen that only El Salvador and South Africa are reportedly more violent!).

Still, Colombia is a democracy — a point Americans seem quick to forget. Thus, though all sources agree that the deaths due to the insurgency *per se* are but a fraction of that 32,000+ total — at most, say, 3,000 (one could safely double this, I think, and make the same point) — it is the guerrillas that concern Bogota the most. For they are a *political* threat.

The two main insurgent groups, *Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia* (FARC) and *Ejercito de Liberacion Nacional* (ELN), have long advocated a Marxist reordering of society. They go to some lengths to hide this ideology from external



Heart of recent improvements in Colombian performance has been emphasis upon enhanced leadership at all levels, from squad to division.

observers. Internally, amongst themselves, though, they make no bones about their orientation.

They have drawn their manpower from the outcast, the flotsam of Colombian society. Yet for nearly three decades after their beginnings in the 1960s, neither group was able to become a going concern and did not represent any major national fraction.

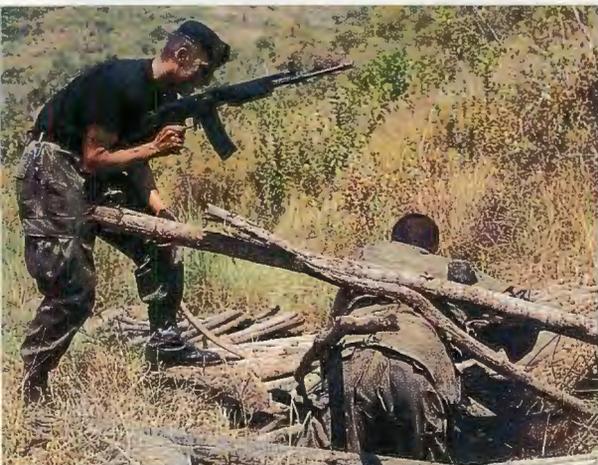
Suddenly, in the last decade, they have become a force. What happened?

What changed was not their popularity. They still command the allegiance of a very small portion of the population. No, what changed was the surge of the narcotics trade in the 1980s. It was this which gave the insurgents the resources to become serious players.

Various efforts to estimate the insurgent take from drugs come up with figures going from \$40 million to \$1 billion, with the most credible estimates in the \$350-\$500 million range (it should be pointed out that the rather large war in the Philippines was run by what we estimated was \$6-7 million per annum — true, \$40 million will now buy but the two computers on a C-130 gunship, but it's not exactly pocket change).

Other sources of money are utilized by the insurgents (especially kidnapping and revolutionary taxation), but these are less than half the total take (and perhaps

much lower). One has only to look at a map showing the location of FARC and ELN fronts [analogous to CPP/NPA "fighting fronts" in the Philippines] to appreciate where the money comes from — the fronts are clustered in a protective ring about the narcotics-producing areas. Likewise, analysis of insurgent message traffic reveals that as much as 90% of all front activity is concerned with



No article in the U.S. press seems able to pass muster without the obligatory nod to the *alleged* incompetence of the Colombian military. Reality is far different. Training (left, the infantry center) is sound and presently being augmented; support structures already exist and are being improved; combined operations are routine. New leadership has worked hard to instill vigor and enhanced professionalism. Widespread use of Mobile Training Teams, offering instruction in enemy tactics and operations (above), have been an important feature in this drive.

fund-raising activities, mainly those involving drugs.

### So What Are We Doing?

Hence, on the surface, our effort would seem to make some sense: Taking out the drug connection should have a salutary effect on the security scene as concerns the insurgency, which is an increasingly major player (if not the major player) in the drug scene

But that's not what we're about.

"What we are actually trying to do, asserts a U.S. State Department official, " is to get at the druggies.

"The mechanism for locking the U.S. out of counterinsurgency will not change. Those who want greater involvement are stuck with a counter-drug policy.

"With U.S. elections approaching, there seems to be no sense of either party wanting to change that.

"[Realistically, then,] it's important to keep the distinction between counterinsurgency and counter-drugs to preserve the latter, because all our approaches must play themselves out within [American popular] support for a [i.e. our] democratic government.

"The U.S. [thus] needs to remain constantly along counter-drug lines and gradually increment its assistance."

There it is. We're not much worried about *Colombia*, even if we should be.

Lacking the courage to take the issue of national security to the American people, but knowing it cannot leave the insurgent-dominated drug trade free to flood our streets (*that* sure would cause the opinion polls to drop!), the Administration opts for Operation Green Harvest, deploying U.S. power to assist in closing with and destroying coca plants.

We simply pretend, as a matter of public policy, that *the war* isn't there. There is no plan, only process.

At an *operational* and even *tactical* level, what we are up to looks a lot like previous efforts. In that regard, it is worth reading the "Colonel's Report" from El Salvador (A.J. Bacevich *et al.*, *American Military Policy in Small Wars: The Case of El Salvador* [DC: Pergamon-Brassey's, 1988], pbk ISBN 0-08-036723-2). Change the word El Salvador, multiply by a constant, *k*, and you've got Colombia. Every error identified is now being made again, in spades.

Unlike El Salvador, though, Colombia has a great deal going for it. We don't have to build democracy — it's already there. It has a flourishing civil society.

It has a diverse economy. It has a capable military which has been around for a long time. Instead of building upon these strengths, we treat the place as though it's Serbia.

*Strategically*, we simply choose to ignore what is really going on, because it doesn't fit our desire for what we would like to see going on! We talk in platitudes, about "lack of democracy" and "economic problems." We talk about the drug problem.

As discussed in Part 1 (last month), our presence in Colombia is an odd version of *The Untouchables* (with apologies to Kevin Costner). We're determined to go after Al Capone, which, down there, means drugs, drugs, drugs, and drugs.

But recall that Capone in the Roaring Twenties was only a factor because of Prohibition. It didn't much matter much to us, watching the movie that the only reason there was action was because of a foolish policy. We were there to watch the good guys win, not to think.

Unfortunately, bad policies do matter in real life, and therein lies the heart of the problem as concerns the U.S. Aroused from our long journey in political space, we have now landed in Colombia, ostensibly to make America's streets safe for the law-abiding. We are to do this by helping Bogota clean house on the *narcos*.

"What do we think we are accomplishing?" asks the officer cited initially. "How can a government deal with anything if it doesn't control its own territory? It seems axiomatic that you have to secure areas against the guerrillas — yet we don't recognize that part of the problem!

"We don't even accept *as a matter of policy* that there is a multifaceted problem.

"Now, the U.S. government doesn't have to deal with all the fac-



It is Colombians for whom the war is "real." Thus realism in training (above) — as well as relevance — are linchpins of the Colombian approach. Physical fitness and toughness of the troops has seen them through years of war.



Most important change in the Colombian military has been a new chain of command. Officers such as MG Carlos Ospina (below, on right), commander of the important 4th Division, exemplify this trend. Like armed forces head, LTG Tapias, and army chief, LTG Mora, he is the product of decades of combat. To enhance unit performance, the army is in the midst of a major program converting draftee units to formations manned by volunteers (above).



tors [above], but *somebody* has to. And we should be part of the solution not the problem.”

Adds a much-experienced player — whose time in Latin America includes the successful effort to use the *Contras* to force communist Nicaragua to hold free elections (which the *Sandinistas* lost): “Colombia’s institutions are threatened by collapse. One of the oldest, most sophisticated societies in Latin America is in jeopardy.

“The U.S. has become an active player in many ways. But we’ve distorted the battlefield and the relations of the actors.

“We are deploying a lot more resources now, but not much progress has been made in conceptualizing the war.

“We keep insisting there are two wars. No! There is only one.

“What this conflict is about ultimately is the ability of the government to establish its physical presence and protect its citizens. What we Americans are introducing is inefficiency and misuse of resources.”

I would go one step further and claim we are virtually guaranteeing increased chaos and bloodshed. We won’t help Colombia win the war, but we demand that Bogota dance to our off-key tune.

### Need For A New Approach

As the adage goes, you start from where you are and go with what you’ve got — hence, in Colombia, counterinsurgency — defined as “stability operations” — must be at the center of any solution — a “counter-narcotics” campaign operating on its own is not going to do much save aggravate an already serious situation.

If we were really trying to help Colombia, we’d be focusing upon law and order. But we don’t (or do little) — we talk about drugs.

Now, we can argue that much of the disorder stems from drugs, but there’s not a whole lot of evidence to support that. Further, such a claim is to ignore Colombian history, in which the country has always found a way to be a pretty bloody place, even without drugs!

“State breakdown” might be a better assessment of ultimate cause. And a crucial aspect of state breakdown has been the decline of the judicial system — to the point that it can be said to hardly function at all. If this were a British effort, I would suspect London would focus its attention there.

For the first requirement of all is order. Without it, man has nothing. Colombians are no different.

This is as good a point as any to state: The majority, the people who vote (or decide it’s not worth it to vote), are the good guys. The insurgents are the bad guys.

It’s important to get this out into the open, because a cottage industry has sprung up in the usual circles pushing the usual line: The insurgents are just abused peasants seeking social justice. Thus, goes the corollary, the problem has socio-economic origins, and the government should focus on “elimination of grievances.” Such analysis is mistaken.

Certainly there are groups which have been socio-economically-politically marginalized. Every country has them. And, yes, it’s important to have a strategic focus on reform. Yet in Colombia, the insurgents have not historically been a serious threat to the established order. That came only with enhanced funding, which should not be equated with increased popular support.

It is true that Colombia represents much of the worst that comes from imperfect democracy: a society with all the normal socio-economic problems associated with a development pattern built originally upon primary products (especially, obviously, coffee), compounded by historic political inefficiency, corruption, and lack of focus. Further, the historic fragmentation of the political elite means there is no central thrust to anything which goes on. Recent attempts at decentralizing democracy have accentuated this centrifugal trend without producing, as yet, alternative sources of national leadership.

Still, democracies earn a certain right to be imperfect. That doesn’t mean they have to answer to every dissatisfied fellow

who takes up a gun. It does mean there’s rough road ahead.

In practical terms, the U.S. has had to deal with an elite seemingly overwhelmed by the challenges it faces. When one factors in the elements outlined above, the result is that individual U.S. persons and organizations are dealing with individual Colombian persons and organizations.

The Political Section of the U.S. Embassy, to return to the body I spoke ill of in Part 1, has — by engaging in actions against the military in concert with elements within the government’s equivalent of the Justice Department (elements thoroughly infiltrated by both the legal and illegal left, as well as organized, and disorganized, crime) — perhaps won friends in some circles, but at the expense of influence in other circles.

(Let I be accused of overplaying this illustration, I should note that there have been, literally, dozens of articles in the Colombian press flatly accusing the U.S. Embassy of meddling in Colombian affairs.)

I might cite another illustration from the visit to Washington, the week in September (1999), of President Andres Pastrana. While there, he was taken to task (as the Colombians perceived it) by a U.S. Senator for failing to bring Police head, General Jose Serrano, with him — words to the effect that what sort of coach fails to bring his star quarterback along to a press conference? Pastrana grew angry, jabbed his finger in the direction of the speaker, and asserted that *he* was the president and the one who gave the orders.

Similarly, when I was in-country in summer 1997, I was watching on television, in the barracks of an elite unit, as a visiting U.S. “player” was interviewed as he deplaned in Bogota. He was asked, on camera, whether he thought the Colombian then-President Samper, was implicated in taking money from drug lords.

“Yes,” he boldly replied.

As I wrote at the time, I don’t care if you *think* the guy is a *mafia don*, there is a time and a place for everything. *This* U.S. administration is going to send its personnel to Colombia to call *them* “corrupt”?

Thus has our effort, to my mind, not only gone off on a tangent, but also forgotten whose country we’re in — and who has to bear the burden of *our* errors.

Indeed, our unwillingness to look at the reality of what is occurring has

caused us to make antipopular measures a central element of our policy. We are implacably opposed to raising of militia, when, in reality, no return to normalcy can occur without popular mobilization.

“Paramilitaries,” as they are called, already exist in Colombia and continue to proliferate. They will do so as long as the state is unable to provide security. The left attempts to claim the *paras*, as they are called, represent narcotics interests.

The reality would seem to be far more complicated — the mirror image, if you will, of the left’s people’s war. Indeed, in many areas, former insurgents are prominent in the *para* force structure.

Given the complete inadequacy of government manpower resources for the geography involved, there is, predictably, an accelerating growth of individuals arming themselves outside the mechanisms of state control.

Instead of encouraging popular mobilization — in whatever form, whether that used by the British in Ulster or Third World states such as the Philippines and Thailand — we are again emphasizing *real* militarization.

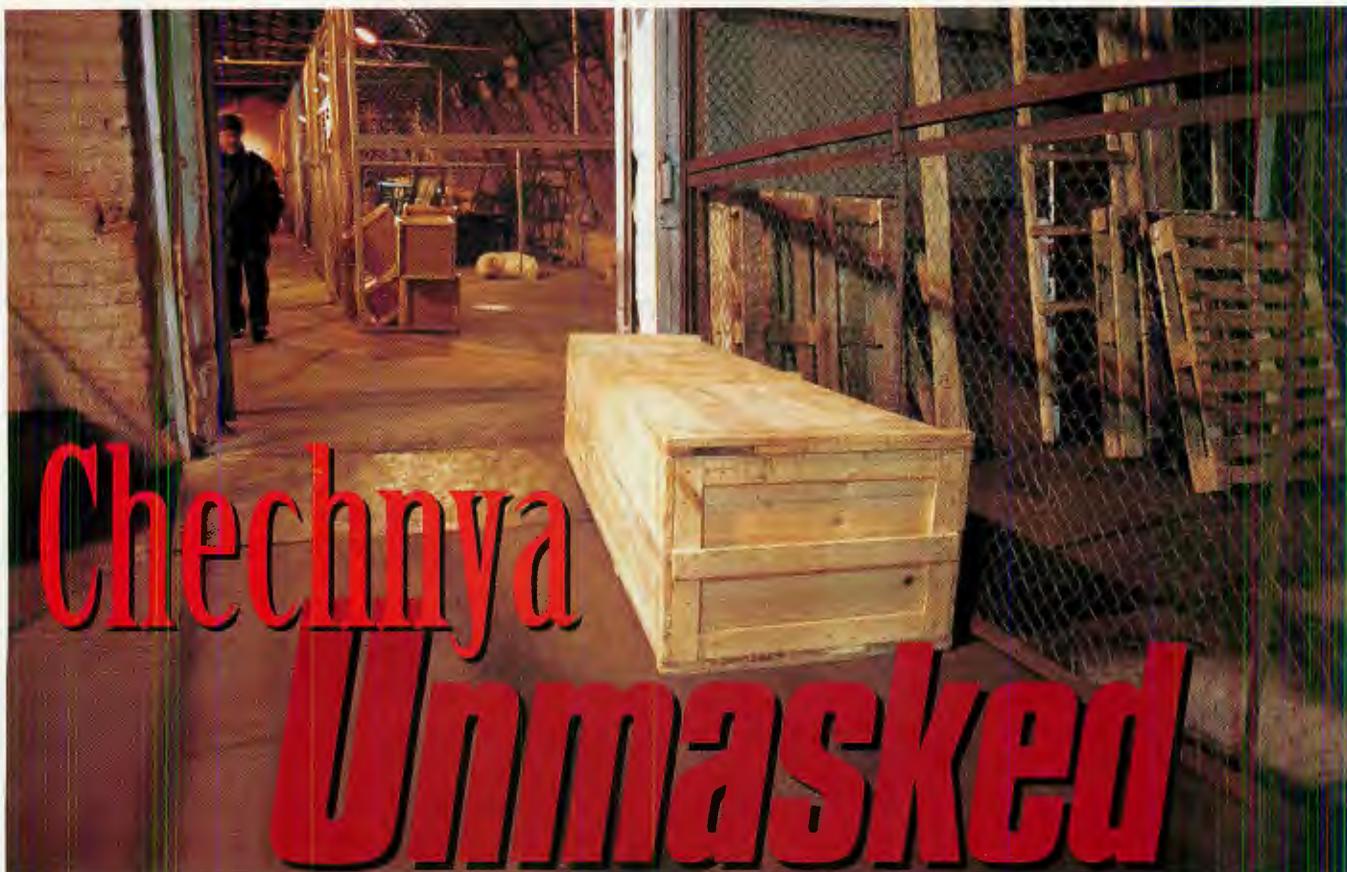
For instance, the new counter-narcotics joint task force will be the ultimate SWAT team. It has its own area of operations (AO) in the south — Caqueta, Putumayo, Amazonas departments; about half the serious drug-producing territory, the other half being in Guaviare, which is in 4<sup>th</sup> Division’s AO.

In support of the joint task force and the counter-narcotics battalion (*cum* brigade), the U.S. is standing up a joint intelligence cen-



Real war has meant increased casualties — not just training exercises (above). Bearing the burden have been Colombian elite units, such as the Lanceros (similar to U.S. Rangers), recognized as among the best in the world.

*Continued on page 70*



# Chechnya Unmasked

*Editor's note: Since this article went to press, the Russian army has finally succeeded in taking Grozny, albeit at a terrifically high cost in both casualties and morale. They may have received a "rose" for their victory — but for each rose one encounters a corresponding thorn — and the Russians must endure many such thorns on their bloodied crusade to consolidate territory, and to break the back of the Chechen resistance.*

DUBA-YURT, CHECHNYA (SOF) — It was a little before 0500 when we arrived at Moscow's

## Russian Gains Are Measured In Liters Of Blood

Text & Photos by  
Mark H. Milstein



Paveletsky railway station amidst complete darkness, freezing temperatures and a steady snowstorm, looking for a boxcar filled with "cargo 200."

"Cargo 200," for the uninitiated, is the Russian army quartermaster corps code number for Russian soldiers killed in Chechnya. The code appears in the "description of goods box" on the paperwork that accompanies every corpse from the battlefield to the grave.

The previous day, a friendly railroad worker had told us that he'd personally counted 27 coffins aboard the overnight train from Rostov-On-Don (home of the main Russian army med-

(top) A Russian railway worker in a freight warehouse at Moscow's Yaroslavsky railway station comes to retrieve a coffin containing the body of a Russian soldier killed last week in Chechnya and identified only as "Gavrikov, A.A." Each day the bodies of soldiers killed in Chechnya are shipped by train from the battlefield back to their home cities. Estimates are that upwards of 3,000 Russian soldiers, most of them conscripts, have been killed in combat in Chechnya since the beginning of hostilities in mid-September 1999. (left) A Russian soldier examines the bodies of four Chechen rebels killed the evening before in a battle outside a Russian army base.



(above) Russian army troops advance through a recently liberated village near Chechnya's second largest city. (inset) A column of Russian Army armor makes its way south from a Russian army base toward the front lines of Chechnya. (right) Russian ministry of interior grunts fire their mortar at suspected Chechen rebel positions just beyond their camp's perimeter.

ical corps forensics lab and morgue for the North Caucasus). He told us that if we'd come back the next morning we'd be sure to see as many dead soldiers as we wanted.

The Russian capture of the Chechen capital Grozny was still a month away, and from what we'd seen during our two tours of duty with Russian forces in Chechnya since last December, we knew that the Russians were taking a pounding at the hands of the Chechen rebels.

We also knew that Russian troops were dying at an alarming rate.

In a report issued in mid-January, the Soldier's Mothers Committee claimed that 3,000 soldiers had died since the start of hostilities last September.

The Russian ministry of defense denied the validity of the Mothers' claim, and maintained that casualty figures were much lower, nearer to 500 and not much more.

The ministry continued to stick with those figures for more than a week after the Mothers' report made headlines, then in a complete about-face, issued new figures showing that 1,055 soldiers had been killed

with more than 3,200 injured in Chechnya since October.

The ministry figures did not include soldiers who later died of their wounds or bodies too badly damaged to be identified. Nor did the ministry publish figures of troops missing in action, a category that covers dead soldiers whose bodies were never recovered.

Many Russians were stunned at the news. *SOF* wasn't.

Four times a week — Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday — a single boxcar is attached to the Rostov-Moscow overnight

and loaded with all of the past days' dead for the final 600-mile trip home.

### Misery Train

Thinking that the friendly railroad worker we met the day before would again be on duty when we arrived before daybreak, we took along a bottle of vodka and some cigarettes to act as icebreakers before we got down to the task at hand — photographing and counting the coffins before they were whisked off by the small Russian army honor guard that takes possession of each coffin after someone signs for them.

This morning's train, one of the baggage handlers told us, carried nine bodies.

We quickly calculated that if the average boxcar carried somewhere around 10 bodies a day to Moscow, four times a week, that meant that the Mothers Committee figures were pretty damn accurate.

Chechnya was a vicious meatgrinder with an unstoppable hunger for Russian conscripts.

"What are you doing over there?" shouted the darkened figure at the end of the concrete platform. "Stop!"

We quickly spun around to find ourselves challenged by a not-too-friendly man of about 40 years old, who later identified himself as the freight yard boss and who emphatically told us a dozen times that under no circumstances could we remain there or take one single photograph.

"No, no, no!" he screamed. "Get out! No photos. You can't look at anything."

When we tried to explain ourselves, he whipped out a walkie-talkie and began screaming for the police to come. The jig was up.

Four hours later we were finally released from police custody, but not until after we had been questioned by the federal security service (FSB), threatened with arrest for photographing military objects and attempted bribery of a policeman — we had tried to buy our way out with \$50 and the vodka.

It had been quite a morning, but luckily we had overheard one of the honor guards talking about some of the bodies being transshipped over to the Yaroslavsky railway station, and if we moved quickly enough we'd get over there and get the photos we were looking for — of the macabre contents of the lone boxcar sitting next to the warehouse.

The main door still had its padlock and seal attached, but we noticed the conductor's door ajar and decided to see if the freight handler would allow us a peek inside



A Russian Army transportation sergeant wearing a gas mask waves through a troop and supply train heading for the front. Local intelligence said that Chechen rebels in the area were going to begin using chemical weapons.

before the Russian army honor guard took possession of the bodies.

"In the first three months of the war," freight handler Vladimir Vasilchenko told *SOF*, "only one or two bodies arrived from Chechnya each week."

In the last few weeks, he went on, this Moscow train station alone has received up to 40 bodies a week. "It's a lot more," said Vasilchenko, barely visible under dim lights as he stood on a rail platform. "They used to put only one layer of coffins. Now they stack them to save space."

Vasilchenko told us about a friend of his, a fellow freight handler, who became sick recently after accompanying one too many boxcars of "cargo 200."

"The army sometimes doesn't do a proper job of preparing the soldiers for burial," Vasilchenko said. "They just don't care. They put them in the boxes and sometimes we have problems when they explode."

Vasilchenko went on to describe how his friend became severely ill when a number of bodies that weren't properly embalmed exploded, releasing a ghastly mixture of fluids that spilled onto the floor of the boxcar and nearly poisoned his friend.

### Chechnya No Cupcake

Chechnya hasn't been an easy fight for the Russians. Moscow, after all, until very recently possessed a military that policed one of the modern world's most formidable empires and still remains the biggest in Europe.

However, you'd be hard pressed to find anyone who's spent time humping through the mud on the road to Grozny who would disagree with *SOF*'s assertion that the Russian forces in Chechnya are corrupt, the soldiers are poorly trained, rarely paid and badly equipped, and consequently have no will to win.

The Chechens, on the other hand, are

pursing a centuries-old vow to drive the occupiers from their land.

Russian soldiers routinely beg for their food in Chechnya. A loaf of bread will get almost anybody by a checkpoint. Throw in a bottle of vodka and a pack of Camels, and questions will be asked of *nobody*.

They freely offer to sell their weapons to the highest bidder. Many now, regardless of rank, will openly state their belief that they have no stake in ensuring that Chechnya remains a part of the Russian Federation.

The rebels rely on a tightly knit network of Chechen expatriates who have flourished by trading real estate and commodities and by running protection rackets in Russian cities to provide them with money and — most importantly — weapons.

Those weapons come from a variety of sources. Some are bought on the open market, some come from "friendly" border states with Chechnya, and still others come from the Russians themselves.

### Chilling With The 245th

A few days earlier we'd been in the company of the Russian Army's 245<sup>th</sup> Gneznensky Guard, pushing through one destroyed village after another on the road linking the Chechen cities of Gudermes and Argun.

We had met up with the 245<sup>th</sup> in a village with no name as one of their recon units was returning from a scouting mission to determine if Chechen rebels still held the fairly large dairy cooperative that straddled a hilltop overlooking the road about six miles ahead of us. Beyond the dairy farm was the famed Argun gorge, and then Grozny.

While we pushed forward with the Russian Army's 245<sup>th</sup> on the road to the Argun gorge, we repeatedly heard stories of grunts selling their weapons to Chechens for cold cash, food and women.

Another portion of the weapons came to the rebels in a series of raids in early November 1999 on a number of strategic Russian Army weapons depots in Chechnya itself.

The lightly defended armories were easy targets for the rebels and reportedly netted them hundreds of weapons and tons of ammunition.

As *SOF* prepared to pull out of Chechnya, we heard a rumor that Chechen commanders had given orders to their troops to shoot only at the tires of Russian army armored vehicles, so the rebels could use them.

It would be a bloody advance for the Russians.

Two MiG fighters could be seen burning doughnuts in the sky above us. Every few minutes the faint silver streaks would eject flares that would make for cheap fireworks. The steady thumping of artillery could barely be heard over the grinding of gears from the returning column of BMPs.

"It's a perfect place for snipers to keep us from moving forward," said Sash, a former policeman from Samara who refused to tell us his rank or family name, in reference to a bulb-shaped water tower that could barely be made out through the haze which was settling in as the sun began to set.

"They [the Chechens] control the night here," a junior officer, who only identified himself as Vitaly, told *SOF*. "I don't know any soldier who likes to be on night patrol or manning a forward checkpoint at night. The bandits are deadly."

We'd heard from a number of grunts that a favorite tactic of Chechen snipers was to shoot Russian soldiers in the groin or hip. Russian body armor was notorious for not coming equipped with drop-down groin protection and the Chechens probably reveled in that knowledge.

"If I got shot down there then I'd still be twice as big as you," one soldier joked with a friend, overhearing our conversation.

We all knew that in any other place such a comment would have been easily laughed off as just another episode of foxhole humor. In Chechnya, however, it just masked a sense of absolute terror that resided just below the surface in every grunt's mind.

Every conscript pulling this tour of duty knew how the game was played: Never volunteer for anything, keep from being put on any type of night patrol or watch, and get home in one piece.

In fact, while *SOF* was in the 245th's company the sniper threat became such a problem that we thought Moscow was going to have to bring in a team of psychologists to deal with it.

"We've lost six men in the past two weeks," a grunt who told us his name was Andrei said. "Four of them to snipers. The bandits (Chechens) are very good fighters and we're much younger than them."

The next day brought some progress. Helicopter gunships had been called up and were scheduled to ferret out the dairy farm. If the Chechens had evacuated the place during the night the 245th's commanders were going to send forward another recon unit backed by some mechanized infantry as muscle. If the Chechens still held the farm, the gunships were going to pulverize them.

A steady drizzle was falling as our ears perked up in recognition of the telltale



(above) Russian Army armor troops try to keep warm and catch a few minutes rest between fighting Chechen rebels. (left) Russian Ministry of Interior troops line up for a morning planning session before beginning their patrols of Chechnya's second largest city, Gudermes.



best men for a foot patrol that was meant to reassure the ethnic Russian residents of the village that they were being looked after.

We asked the squad leader, an unlikely NCO who refused to identify himself to us, if we could follow the patrol. We took his lack of an answer for a yes, and began walking into town.

Everyone except the squad leader carried a disposable anti-tank rocket, something we found quite odd considering we'd never heard of the Chechens owning any armor.

"What are you taking those along for?" we asked.

"It's to take out the bunkers the bandits have built," one of the squadees told us. "In every village we've gone into they've reinforced almost every house. They've dug trenches and tunnels. They are good engineers, and we need these sometimes."

The patrol walked sloppily down the village's unpaved streets. No one kept distance, and on a few occasions we watched three of the soldiers walk down the streets abreast of each other.

When that happened we tightened the Velcro straps on our body armor and hung back a few more yards for safety. The last thing we wanted was to be mistaken for Russian soldiers in civilian clothes. "Why didn't we bring an American flag to sew to our jackets?" we joked.

Three hours later we were safely back at company HQ, milling around at what passed as the officer's mess waiting for someone to begin handing out tins of food.

The Russian Army still hasn't discovered MREs. Food comes to the field in tins and cans, and is bulky, heavy and many

*whap-whap* of the two giant Mi-24 gunships that were coming at us from the chopper base in Chervlennaya.

As they passed over our position a bunch of soldiers rushed out of their tents and shouted wildly, waving their hands in salute of the helicopters.

"I pray that they are able to take out the bandits," one soldier told us. "It will mean that we can take the position without having to risk any of my mates."

We could barely make out the Mi-24s as they swarmed over the dairy, firing bursts from their cannons into the compound. Smoke began pouring out of one of the buildings.

The helicopters then swung back toward the gorge and made one more pass over the dairy before flying over us so low that we could read the warranty tag on a bunch of cotter pins keeping an equipment bay door from falling off.

Vitaly, the junior officer we had met the day before, was calling together four of his

*Continued on page 69*

# A Hundred Years

America's  
Oldest  
Holster  
Maker:  
El Paso  
Saddlery

by Peter G. Kokalis

Photos by Peter G. Kokalis  
and Chris Mayer

Early in El Paso Saddlery Company's history, military holsters became a prominent component in their product line. Shown here from top to bottom: the 1½-inch leather garrison belt with "US"-marked brass buckle, the M1911 "Patton" (or Model 1912 U.S. Cavalry) holster — a cavalry-type with a brass swivel, the M1911 "Double Clip Pouch," and the classic M1940 (U.S. Model 1916) holster.



# Of Packing Iron

**N**obody, and I mean nobody, in the United States has been making gunleather longer than El Paso Saddlery Co. (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 27194, El Paso, TX 79926; phone: 915-544-2233; fax: 915-544-2535; website: [www.epsaddlery.com](http://www.epsaddlery.com); catalog: \$5). Famed Western historian, Leon C. Metz, states that it's the oldest continuous business in El Paso, Texas. While it was incorporated in June 1889, the company had already been in business a decade by that time. They were originally located at 400 El Paso Street, the town's first street and site of many bloody gunfights.

Sam D. Myres established the saddle company bearing his name in 1897. In 1920 he moved his business to El Paso. In 1939 Myres purchased all of El Paso Saddlery Company's equipment and hired its employees. He retained the name and under it manufactured and marketed harnesses, antique holsters and some military holsters during World War II. Sam Myres died in 1953 and the business was eventually taken over by his son, W. J. Myres. In 1976 Bobby McNellis purchased the company. In 1980 he moved El Paso Saddlery from its location at 5030 Alameda to its current site on

Yandell. Two years ago, Bobby's son Ryan, who had just graduated from college and was on his way to law school, joined his father in the business.

The number of famous lawmen, military personages, gun writers and infamous gun fighters that have worn El Paso Saddlery Co. gunleather over the past 120 years is almost overwhelming. The list includes John Wesley Hardin, General George S. Patton Jr., Ed McGivern, Tom Threeper-sons, Bill Toney, D.A. "Jelly" Bryce, Bill Jordan and Charlie Askins.

## The Original

Last October on our way to Thunder Ranch to participate in the pre-1900 course, *Soldier Of Fortune* staff photographer, Chris Mayer, and I spent a day with Bobby and Ryan McNellis and observed a custom holster-making process that has changed very little over the decades. All of El Paso Saddlery's holsters are handmade from vegetable-tanned, premium saddle-grade cowhide and stitched with super strong bonded (woven) nylon thread. It needs to be emphasized that El Paso Saddlery does not make reproductions of historic western holsters.

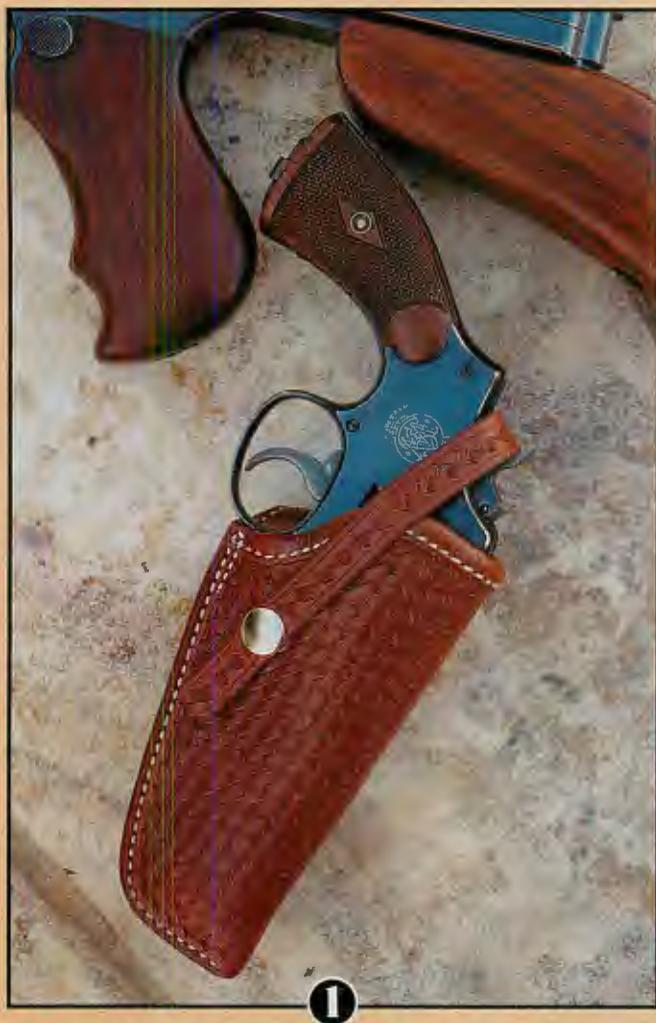
*Their holsters are made from 120 years of original designs.*

The process by which El Paso Saddlery holsters are handcrafted is both unique and fascinating. Holster patterns are cut with a "steel rule" die using a powerful hydraulic press called a "clicker." Looking very much like a kitchen "cookie cutter," the dies, with sharp edges on one side only, are made from El Paso Saddlery's patterns and to their specifications.

The sharp edges are removed by hand with an edging tool. After this, the edge surfaces are polished using a rough canvas cloth impregnated with saddle soap. The holster we observed being custom-crafted was for an S&W 4-inch "K" frame and a basketweave pattern was specified. This is applied entirely by hand at El Paso Saddlery. Some holster makers use embossing plates for this and it inevitably produces uneven results, as natural leather is never completely homogeneous. If specified, the safety strap is installed next, together with its snap on the holster body. If the holster is to be made with a lining, usually pigskin although cowhide and suede are also employed, it's glued with leather contact



During the 1940s and 50s a significant number of peace officers in the Southwestern United States packed their service sidearms in floral carved leather. This type of exacting handwork seems to be almost a lost art form, except at El Paso Saddlery. This #88 "Street Combat" holster, #2-FD open double-magazine pouch and #200 "New Ranger Belt" were made to carry the author's Kimber Ultra Carry .45.



cement called "Barge." The lining is rolled over at the mouth and stitched in place. This is done to prevent the lining from separating during repeated re-holstering. It's an El Paso Saddlery exclusive.

The belt loop is folded over, measured for the required belt width, and sewn to the body of the holster at the rear. A leather welt (or spacer) is installed at approximately the same width as the handgun's trigger guard to insure proper fit. The leather pattern is then folded and the main seam stitched. El Paso Saddlery uses Landis No. 3 Harness Stitchers. They have six of these famous machines, which have not

been manufactured since prior to World War II. Made in St. Louis, Missouri by the Landis Machine Company, they remain highly desirable pieces of equipment, as they are simply the best stitching machines ever designed for leatherwork. They pull the stitch tight and well below the surface of the leather to protect the thread from abrasion. One of the machines I examined has a plaque indicating it was made specifically for El Paso Saddlery. It was manufactured in 1916. The Landis No. 3 Harness Stitcher is easy to

repair and a machinist makes components as needed. Subsequently, both ends of the thread are burned with a soldering gun to form a ball of melted nylon that will never pull through. After stitching, the main seam is made smooth on a drum sander followed by the edging tool and polishing with the canvas cloth that has been impregnated with saddle soap.

First dampening the holster and then inserting an aluminum casting of the handgun for which the holster is being made achieves the all-important blocking process. Some holster makers use actual handguns, but this runs the risk of marring the inside of the holster. Furthermore, aluminum will not discolor the leather. The holster is allowed to dry naturally with the aluminum replica in place.

Bobby McNellis is adamant in his opposition to the so-called "boning" process so prevalent among

custom holster makers today. This is the use of a tool, usually made of wood or bone, to precisely mold the holster around the handgun's components, such as the slide, cylinder, trigger guard or barrel. McNellis believes strongly that this breaks down and damages the leather's fibers. If the holster is made tight enough — all of El Paso Saddlery's patterns are for specific handguns, not categories — boning is completely unnecessary. Finally, McNellis feels that boning destroys leather's natural beauty. All of El Paso Saddlery holsters provide the tight fit required to prevent excessive wear.



(above) Higinio, an employee of El Paso Saddlery for 32 years, trims that portion of the lining, which has been rolled over at the mouth and stitched in place. (right) Bobby McNellis, Head Honcho of El Paso Saddlery Company, with his son Ryan, who joined the business two years ago. (below) Yoli, a 25-year employee at El Paso Saddlery, applies by hand one of the ten to twelve coats of pure prime neatsfoot oil used on all of their leather goods.



Bling rubs off not from repeated draw strokes and re-holstering, but from a handgun constantly moving about and rubbing in a loose holster.

After blocking, the holster is cleaned with oxalic acid, a mild acid that removes fingerprints and dirt. Oiling is done by hand with pure prime neatsfoot oil (not neatsfoot oil "compound" with contains a substantial amount of petroleum byproducts). Neatsfoot oil is an animal product that comes from the hooves of cattle. Only a small amount is applied with each coat. As many as 10 to 12 coats are required. Subsequent to oiling, the holster is given a coat of Feibing's Harness Dressing. This non-acrylic leather dressing protects, waterproofs and provides a slight sheen. If it has a safety strap, the snap is installed. There is a final inspection for fit before the holster goes to shipping. All of El Paso Saddlery's holsters are handcrafted in this manner.



### Tom Threepersons

Their catalog contains a staggering number of historic, traditional and modern holsters for sportsmen, hunters, military personnel, cowboy action shooters and, of course, mostly for armed professionals, or "pistoleros" as we call them here in the West. I have many favorites. Here are just a few that I frequently hang from my waist or shoulders.

One of their most famous designs is the M1920 Threepersons holster. Tom Threepersons was a full-blooded Cherokee Indian. A white man gunned down his father. After the murderer was released from prison, Tom stalked and killed him. Subsequent to escaping to Canada and serving in World War I, Threepersons joined the El Paso Police Department. While there he designed the holster that bears his name. The most copied holster in the world and still popular after 80 years, this abbreviated rig was designed for gunfighting. The trigger guard is completely exposed and the holster is usually provided with a muzzle rearward rake. It has an integral 2.25-inch belt loop. While originally designed for revolvers, a semiauto pistol version is available, as well as a muzzle forward rake for crossdraw applications. In my opinion the safety strap, which is standard on this

(opposite, #1) El Paso Saddlery Company's M1920 Threepersons holster is without doubt the most copied holster in the world and still popular after 80 years. This abbreviated rig was designed for gunfighting. Shown here with basketweave pattern for an early 4-inch S&W .38 M&P revolver. The Thompson submachine gun shown is one of the original 15,000 made by Colt. (opposite, #2) These "JWH" (John Wesley Hardin) holsters are of the so-called late "California" style with the mainseam stitched through the toe. Shown here with the #2 "Texas" gun belt to carry a Navy Arms New Model Russian revolver in caliber .44 Russian and a replica Colt Cartridge Conversion single-action revolver in the same caliber. Pigskin lining and cartridge loops are standard on the "JWH." (opposite, #3) Constructed of rugged 3-inch webbing this bandoleer-type cartridge belt for .45-70 rounds holds 64 rounds. Also shown is a famed Shiloh Sharps rifle.

model, is absolutely mandatory for proper retention. Lining is also standard. The price varies from \$55 to \$68 depending upon the handgun's barrel length. This remains a great holster for armed professionals.

Nowadays I most often carry a Kimber Ultra Carry .45, extensively modified by their Custom Shop. To tote this piece I have selected the #88 "Street Combat" holster (\$50). It was developed in 1988 after a number of El Paso Saddlery Company's law enforcement clientele requested a concealment-type holster without safety straps. In compliance with this appeal, the #88 was designed specifically for concealed carry and has no thumbbreak. Instead, the user can adjust steel tension straps, hidden under leather at the muzzle end to keep the pistol secure. To increase the tension, remove the pistol and squeeze the muzzle end of the holster. To decrease the tension, place an unloaded pistol in the holster and twist it slightly from side to side. While 1.75-inch belt slots are standard, I asked for 1.5-inch slots since I prefer a narrower belt for wear with blue jeans. Suede lining is also standard on the #88 holster, and together with the bonded nylon thread, both assist the steel tension straps in guaranteeing the retention required of a holster made for gunfighting. This holster has an open muzzle. Usually provided with a muzzle rearward rake (also sometimes referred to an "FBI forward cant"), a vertical cant for crossdraw is also available at no extra charge. I have mated this holster with a #2-FD open double-magazine pouch (\$20) and the #200 "New Ranger Belt" with smooth lining (\$85). All three pieces are floral carved, an option at extra cost.

Why floral carving? During the 1940s and 50s a significant number of peace officers in the Southwestern United States packed their service sidearms in floral carved leather. I had always dreamed of owning such a rig. Unfortunately, this type of exacting handwork seems to be almost a lost art form, except at El Paso Saddlery. What passes for floral "carving" today is most often done on machines or with embossing plates. Not so at El Paso Saddlery. Their highly experienced craftsmen, some of who have been with them for considerably more than a quarter-century, do this work entirely by hand and to special order only. Three styles are offered: regular floral carving, frontier carving which duplicates the early low-relief carving done in western shops such as Main & Winchester of San Francisco during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and extra fancy floral carving with lacing and dyed backgrounds. All of this work is done completely by hand and thus no two are exactly alike. The quality and artistry of my belt, holster and magazine pouch are outstanding. You have to go back half a century to find carved leather that compares to this and the nostalgia associated with this leatherwork is almost overwhelming.

### Military Holsters

Early in El Paso Saddlery Company's history, military holsters became a prominent component in their product line. Most

military holsters, throughout the world, are of the flap-type and they almost always completely enclose the handgun they were designed to carry. Protection of the weapon in the most often adverse environment of the battlefield is a far more important design parameter than the speed of the draw stroke, and justifiably so.

Their M1940 holster is a case in point. An improvement upon, and high quality copy of, the original Model 1916 holster, it's available for not only the Colt Government Model, but the Beretta M9 and other semiauto pistols as well. The design is a model of simplicity. The holster and flap are made from a single piece of leather. The flap has a teardrop hole used to secure a brass stud sewn to the holster body. There is an unusual, but innovative, leather welt extension at the bottom of the holster that sheds water and draws moisture out of the holster body. A leather leg thong goes through brass eyelets at the bottom of the holster. A leather attachment strip is sewn and riveted to the back of the holster. It has



One of El Paso Saddlery Company's earliest and most infamous customers, John Wesley Hardin, the "Dark Angel of Texas," was a notorious gunfighter who purportedly killed up to 50 before being gunned down in the streets of old El Paso.

a belt loop slotted for the military police 1.75-inch garrison belt. When used in this manner, the holster rides high. More often, the GI holster was attached to the standard issue web belt by the brass hanger provided. In this position the holster hangs quite low on the leg. To prevent the magazine release button from being depressed while the pistol is in the holster, a leather positioning block is stitched and glued inside the holster. This pivots the pistol away from the inside back edge of the holster. As a consequence, the grip frame is placed somewhat away from the body, increasing its accessibility for the draw stroke, as well as its tendency to hang up on brush and vehicle frames. The latter deficiency aside, the M1940 holster remains one of the best military rigs ever designed. The flap can be embossed with the acronym of any branch of the U.S. military. This holster costs \$75. Add \$15 for lining.

While similar to the M1940 holster, the M1911 "Patton" holster is historically even more interesting. This is actually the Model 1912 U.S. Cavalry holster, in use from about 1913 to 1940. Our specimen was

made for the Colt Government Model, but its available for the same pistols as the M1940 holster. It can be ordered in either black or russet brown. I specified pigskin lining. Instead of a leather thong, it comes equipped with a brass buckle and 3/4-inch leather leg strap that passes through a small belt loop at the rear. The riveted and stitched leather attachment strip at the rear of the holster has no belt loop, only a brass hanger attached to a brass swivel assembly. I prefer this holster when riding in a vehicle. It sells for \$80, plus \$15 for lining.

To accompany these two holsters we were sent El Paso Saddlery's flap-type M1911 "Double Clip Pouch" with a Dot snap riding on top of a brass bracket riveted to the pouch and a 1.75-inch leather garrison belt and brass buckle. Either "US," "USMC," or "USN" buckles are available. The pouch sells for \$30 and the belts cost \$50.

El Paso Saddlery still offers the famous M1942 military shoulder holster, a substantially improved and beefed-up version of the World-War-II M-7 designed for the Colt Government Model 1911A1 pistol. Designed principally for pilots and vehicle drivers, it's not a concealable shoulder rig. El Paso Saddlery sold a substantial number of these holsters during Desert Storm to helicopter pilots and tankers. It's now available for a wide array of semiautomatic pistols and both double and single action revolvers. We ordered our test specimen for the Beretta M9 (M92F) service pistol. It came with nickel hardware and pigskin lining. This design features a single adjustable shoulder strap and a snap-operated belt strap at the bottom to keep the holster from flopping around. Ours has "US" embossing. Still a great shoulder rig for field use, the M1942 costs \$70. Lining, stamping, floral work and long barrels are extra.

### Real Gunfighters

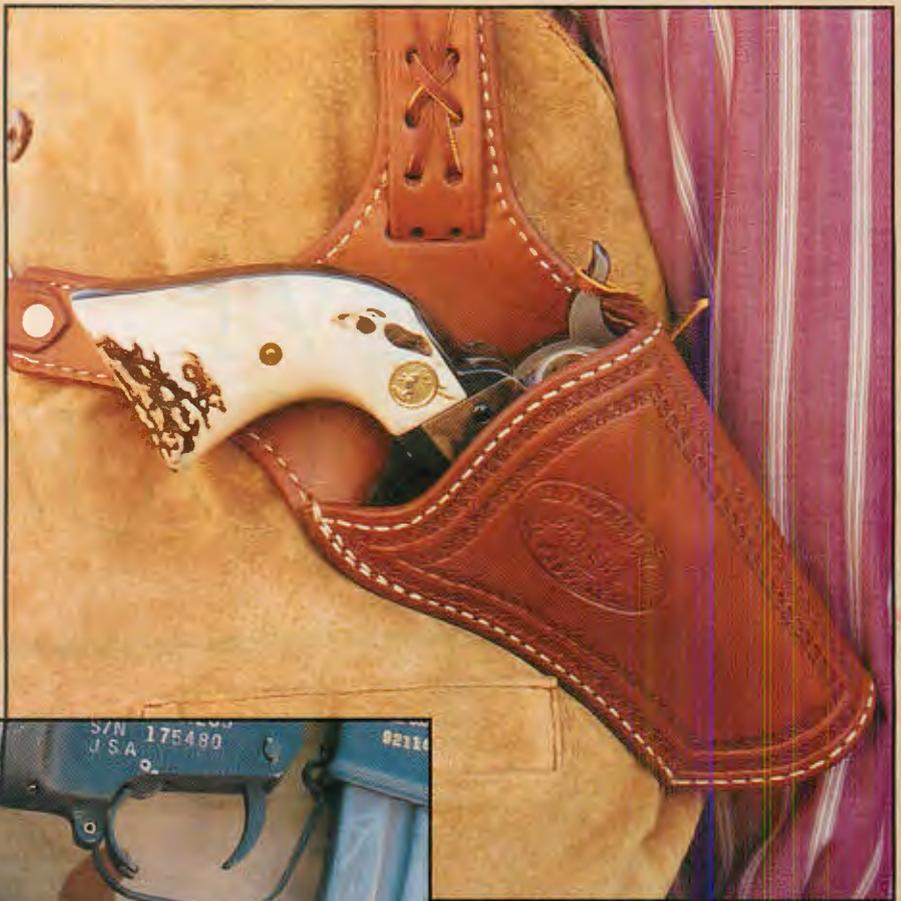
El Paso Saddlery Company has been making holsters for real western gunfighters, such as John Wesley Hardin, fully a century before the current bunch who stitch leather for Cowboy Action Shooting competition. El Paso Saddlery's M1895 "Hardin" shoulder holster is exactly that which they made for John Wesley Hardin (the "Dark Angel of Texas," who some say may have killed as many as 50) shortly before he was gunned down in the Acme Saloon in downtown El Paso by Constable John Selman on 19 August 1895.

Their other western shoulder holsters include the "Tombstone Speed Rig," an extremely fast, skeletonized-type using spring retention and the "1879 Texas" rig. One of the latest additions to their product line is the "Doc Holliday" crossdraw shoulder holster. Although all shoulder holsters are in essence crossdraw types, this unit is designed to ride low, just above waist level, with a modest muzzle rearward rake (in the crossdraw position). Our specimen was made to carry a Colt Sheriff's Model SAA with a 3.5-inch barrel in caliber .44-40/.44

This exact replica of Doc Holliday's shoulder holster is designed to ride low, just above waist level, with a modest muzzle rearward rake (in the crossdraw position) and is very fast. This one was made to carry a Colt Sheriff's Model SAA with a 3/4-inch barrel in caliber .44-40/.44 Special.

Special. This exact replica of Holiday's holster is very fast and available for a wide range of single-action revolvers and barrel lengths. Leather lined and fully adjustable, it sells for \$150. Add \$25 for border stamping or \$55 for floral carving.

El Paso Saddlery has a wide variety of western belt rigs available. My favorite is the "JWH" (John Wesley Hardin) holster combined with the #2 "Texas" gun belt. This holster has six cartridge loops stitched to its front face and exactly duplicates the holster in which Hardin carried a Smith & Wesson Model 3 First Model American .44 caliber revolver (serial no. 25274) that he used to kill Charley Webb. The holster is of the so-called late "California" style and the main-



El Paso Saddlery still offers the famous M1942 military shoulder holster, a substantially improved and beefed-up version of the M-7 originally designed for the M1911A1. Designed principally for pilots and vehicle drivers, it's not a concealable shoulder rig, but still a great unit for field use. This one was made for the military-issue Beretta M9 and features pigskin lining and nickel hardware.

seam is stitched through the toe. While the hammer is exposed, the trigger area is covered. I had this holster made for a Navy Arms New Model Russian revolver in caliber .44 Russian and a replica Colt Cartridge Conversion single-action revolver in the same caliber. Both holsters are pigskin lined. The "JWH" holster costs \$80 and that includes the cartridge loops and lining. The New Model Russian revolver is carried strongside, the crossdraw with only a slight muzzle forward cant. The #2 "Texas" gun belt is 2.25 inches in width and is suede lined. It has 24 .44 caliber cartridge loops. The price is \$65 plus \$25 for lining.

El Paso Saddlery also makes web and leather cartridge belts of authentic western design. Constructed of rugged 3-inch webbing, they are available for pistol and rifle caliber cartridges and shotshells. They can be ordered in either waist lengths or as an over-the-shoulder, bandoleer-type. Either type costs \$65. We were sent a bandoleer-type for .45-70 rounds that holds 64 rounds (almost enough to decimate an entire bison herd!). These very western web cartridge belts cost only \$65.

I am more impressed with the El Paso Saddlery Company's line of holsters than I have been with any other holster maker in the last 30 years and, believe me, there are some really great ones out there. Custom made, reasonably priced, the highest possible quality, made in Texas, a history of holster making that stretches back farther than anyone else in this country, and a stunning variety of leather to meet the needs of every type of shooter — that says all you need to know about the El Paso Saddlery Company. ✂

## TO GIVE NO QUARTER

**We** live in interesting times, when few things are impossible and no things are unlikely. What would we have said of an oracle in 1990 had he forecast that in the first year of the new millennium, there would be Dutch soldiers of fortune stationed in a former American military base in the Philippines, chasing pirates throughout the South China Sea and its many archipelagoes?

In the previous two issues, we have seen how the sleeping dragon of maritime piracy has awakened to once again threaten vital commerce and life on the high seas. It is a multi-billion-dollar "industry" that has taken hundreds of lives in recent years. It is causing alarm among shippers and sailors, insurance underwriters and governments.

### Hold And Deliver — To Whom?

A breakdown of the 275 incidents of piracy that were actually reported during the period 15 June 1997 to 15 June 1998 reveals the big-business aspect of modern maritime piracy. General cargo ships were hit the hardest (23%), followed by bulk carriers (13%). Obviously, when the targets are vessels such as a cargo ship with millions of pounds of aluminum ingots or bagged soda ash, or a bulk carrier with several million pounds of sugar or petro products, they are being stolen in liaison with — or on behalf of — organized crime syndicates and not petty thieves from some Third-World backwater merely trying to eke out a dishonest living.

More and more frequently, the vessel itself is either the primary or coincident part of the prize, as they are easily reflagged with the help of crooked officials. *Lloyd's List* recently reported that criminals linked to China's powerful Triad gangs have allegedly moved into ship owning and are colluding in the murder of crews.

Container vessels, comprising 11% of those attacked, likewise are seldom the target of penny-ante pirates, with the exception of the seagoing street gangs of Brazil who deign to rob the crew of any vessel swinging on the hook in a "safe" harbor. Fishing vessels, on the other hand, represent a target not for pirates who want fish, but who either want to rob the hard-working crew while they are busy trying to haul in a catch — or who want a fishing boat. Miscellaneous coastal vessels and yachts represented the 12% of marine traffic who are primarily victims of petty thieves or hostage-for-ransom takers. As was pointed out last issue, keep in mind that these international statistics represent only the tip of the iceberg, as a skipper who has been robbed but is unhurt is far more likely to lick his wounds and go on about his business, than he is to tie his vessel up while local authorities "investigate" the incident with his meter running at \$10,000 a day.

Not only are these incidents becoming more common and more organized, they are becoming more violent. In 1998, for example, there were at least 79 seamen killed and more than 35 reported injured

by  
**Frank  
Hopkins**

by pirates. Some 238 crew members were taken hostage. More violent — and better armed: Of the 202 incidents reported in 1998, in 45 incidents the pirates were carrying firearms, and in 39 they had knives. In 138 reports the vessels were boarded and in 11 cases the ship was fired upon; there were 15 reported instances of hijackings.

### Big, Bad Business

Pirates from the historical heyday of piracy would most often be mariners gone bad, while today's scourge of the oceans are for the most part plunderers who took to the sea. They vary from small gangs with homemade boat-hooks and machetes plying local waters from small craft, to well-equipped forces in seaworthy speedboats, armed with modern automatic weapons and anti-armor rockets, exhibiting discipline and considerable sea-faring ability.

The common denominator is that they have no regard for human life nor even the planet as a whole: When the fully loaded French oil tanker *Chaumont* was attacked by pirates who immobilized the crew, she was left drifting in the narrow waters of the Phillip Channel with the skipper's hands tied and a machete to his neck while the pirates robbed the vessel, risking a catastrophic oil spill. Noted some prominent speakers at an Asian seminar on safe navigation and the control of pollution, a major disaster is waiting to happen in the Malacca Singapore straits if things are allowed to go on as they are. But, as with other vandals, pirates are willing to risk a billion-dollar ecological disaster for their gain of a few thousand dollars worth of the crew's valuables and the contents of the ship's safe.

On a global average, pirate teams typically consist of six to 10 members. Usually operating from high-speed, small craft, they most often carry small arms and assorted edged weapons. In some instances, victims report that their attackers appeared to be operating small official patrol craft, and in multiple cases were in official uniforms appropriate for the waters. In June 1995, for instance, the Singapore freighter *Hye Mieko* was hijacked off Cambodia by a ship "resembling a Chinese Customs launch." The *Mieko* was forced to sail more than 1,600km through international waters to Shanwei, in south China. Although the ship's plight was broadcast worldwide, no one came to its rescue. On arrival in China, the ship was impounded. The owner, who had followed the ship's path from a small plane, was charged by the Chinese with intending to smuggle cigarettes.

Attacks underway are usually from astern of the target vessel; larger ships are boarded with the aid of grappling hooks. A number of incidents of ship takeovers have been attributed to attackers who relied on onboard accomplices (weplanted crewmembers and conspiring crewmembers). In cases where the ship is not hijacked and unloaded or stolen *per se*, raiders usually show a predilection for easily removed valuables and cash.

### Merchanteers On Their Own

As in the days of yore, it has reached proportions that promise to threaten the very fiber of international commerce. And, as in the historical heyday of marine piracy, the problem had to grow to the point that it could no longer be ignored — to the point that it could no longer be regarded as *someone else's* problem — to finally galvanize the global community into seeking a remedy.

There have been innumerable conferences and symposia

relating to the problem, and many have actually dealt with possible solutions. There has been a great deal of international cooperation among shipping states, and in many cases these efforts have shown what appear to be tangible results in the waters affected. Pirates comprising international crime syndicates, however, tend to simply ply the same trade in less protected waters: If they have received an order to abduct the M.V. *Sitting Duck* traveling from Colombo to Yokohama with a couple million dollars worth of Ceylonese tea, and the Malacca Straits and waters off Singapore are too well patrolled, they will simply board her in Indonesian or Philippine waters, for example.

Noted the 1999 *Report on Worldwide Maritime Piracy*, by Special Ops Associates, "take a look at the hot-spots of attacks and piracy and you will see that they all have one common denominator ... the inability of local governments to effect a timely and

Piracy at sea is a worldwide, but not universal, problem. Waters policed by incorruptible, highly trained and well-equipped forces such as the U.S. Coast Guard simply do not have a problem with piracy. Theft, fraud and smuggling continue, but pirates avoid waters where authorities can respond by air or water before they can make a getaway — and where authorities cannot be bought off.

continued response against the perpetrators ... lines of territorial jurisdiction in most cases prohibit an effective response by a single government agency. It raises the issue of a need for a concerted multinational solution." In the long term, just as before, it will require concerted international effort to clean up the sea. In the short term, as before, those who ply the seas may well have to take responsibility themselves for their own safety.

The Rome convention of 1988 that came in the wake of the *Achille Lauro* hijacking of 1985 reiterates the right of all nations to pursue pirates, arrest them and convict them under their own laws. One problem is that many of the affected states do not have internal legislation to facilitate such maritime law enforcement activity, the UN mandate notwithstanding. In some areas territorial waters are claimed by more than one country and the various competing states are hesitant to create an incident by pursuing pirates into contested waters. Thus, where in the old days pirates would seek refuge in waters nobody claimed, now they can in effect run to waters claimed by several states. Noted

Capt. Jayant Abhyankar of the IMA, "if international organizations and countries can be persuaded to actively intervene it would make a significant difference in combating piracy."

Active and effective local intervention however, can be difficult to accomplish. In 1980, the Thai government set up an anti-piracy unit with international funding, to protect Vietnamese refugees who were being victimized by pirates. It is reported that after eight years in operation and having spent U.S. \$13 million, not a single pirate had been captured.

### Home Alone At Sea

The British Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions publication *Marine Guidance Note No.*

75: *Piracy and Armed Robbery*, Paragraph 47 — Firearms, states, *The carrying and use of firearms for personal protection or protection of a ship is strongly discouraged and will not be authorized by Her Majesty's Government. Carriage of arms on board ship may encourage attackers to carry firearms thereby escalating an already dangerous situation, and any firearms onboard may themselves become an attractive target for an attacker. The use of firearms requires special training and aptitudes and the risk of*



Photos: Joseph Towers, Arms Communications

Statistically, most pirates board target ships from astern with the vessel underway. Guess what: so do forces who come to the rescue of hijacked ships. (below) Tankers, GC freighters, containerships — you name it: If it carries valuable cargo it can be vulnerable to pirates. Pirates, however, can in turn be vulnerable to proper awareness, planning, training and other preventive measures. In worst-case scenario, highly trained and properly equipped recovery specialists can out-pirate the pirates ... even on the high seas if the occasion demands it.



PISTRIS, Boston, MA

*accidents with firearms carried on board ship is great. In some jurisdictions killing a national may have unforeseen consequences even for a person who believes he has acted in self defence.*

Their recommended weapon of choice? Fire hoses. Fire hoses and evasive maneuvers such as jinking the vessel in hopes the wash and unsteady stern will be an uninviting target for boarding.

The idea that every person, every institution, every legitimate enterprise might have less than a natural right to immediate and, if need be, armed defense against violent attack is a peculiarly late-20th-century phenomenon. Not offering resistance in hopes the pirates will be nice is an idea that sounds swell across a polished mahogany table or echoing through the hallowed, hoplophobic halls

of those who would govern. But it is a hard idea to sell to those who ply the seas distributing the world's goods in an environ that is hazardous enough already.

At a conference of Numast, a British shipping union, a number of British maritime officers were quite forthright in their concern for the safety of crews using the Ghandi defense. Don Miller of Sealion Shipping said it was pointless to use fire hoses as a defense against submachine guns and that the time had come to "fight fire with fire." Miller said what was needed was four-man armed squads.

Mr. Brian Howe of Stolt-Nielsen noted that sometimes safety regulations must take a back seat in attempts to deal with piracy. He recommended that shipmasters turn on all deck lights and have all



PISTRIS, Boston, MA

hands turn-to with security considerations and let the ship be piloted by radar in dangerous waters.

While the British *Marine Guidance* goes on to say, "If the crew do apprehend an attacker he should be placed in secure confinement and well cared for," Tony Graham of Seaboard Ship Management proposed immunity from prosecution for seafarers who killed or injured pirates during raids.

Some attendees at the conference went so far as to question the usefulness of existing industry anti-pirate efforts: A Mr. Howe was reported to have called for the closing of the International Maritime Bureau Piracy Reporting Centre in Kuala Lumpur, as "a total waste of time and money ... What good is someone in a command centre doing me when I am being attacked by hatchets and AK-47s?" he asked pointedly.

### An AK Trumps a Fire Hose, Every Time

SOF asked one old salt with decades of experience in Southeast Asian waters, mostly in rust-buckets under flags of convenience, his thoughts on the British approach. Slow to reply, he finally said, "The figures you just showed me [from 1998] say half the pirates come aboard armed, so it seems to me the situation has already 'escalated.' But the Poms [Brits] may have a point. When you start shooting aboard a steel ship, the bullets will rattle around until they find something soft — either you, a pirate, or maybe some dangerous cargo. But remember, an AK trumps a fire hose, every time. As for being nice to captured pirates, I suppose you might as well. There have been improvements in anti-barnacle bottom paint since I first went to sea, so keel-hauling isn't a worthwhile educational experience anymore."

"Have you ever been attacked by armed pirates?" we asked.

"More than once."

"And what did you do?"

"We wrapped their bodies in anchor chain."

"Did that policy work?"

"I retired as an old man, didn't I?"

### Less Can Be More

Taking responsibility for one's own safety, however, does not necessarily mean "taking the law into one's own hands." With national attitudes regarding self-defense varying from one extreme to the other from nation to nation, seafarers must limit themselves to whatever restrictions are imposed in the waters they find themselves. And when meeting violence with violence, less can be more. Fortunately, technology is coming to the aid of seafarers with myriad less-than-lethal weaponry and high-tech comms that very precisely tell your home port where you are at any given point in time.

It goes without saying that over-reacting can be as harmful as being an inviting, defenseless target — and that a seaman who is unskilled in small arms may well be as much a threat to his comrades as the pirates, thus be better off with a fire hose. And bullets flying around a tanker of acetone or LPG or other hazardous cargo threatens not only the vessel in question but other vessels in the vicinity and quite possibly the environment at large.

Having the *option* of being able to respond to lethal force with lethal force, however, can be a strong deterrent factor. It was the

## THE GO-TO GUYS Vs. THE "COUNTER-PIRACY" PIRATES

It has not been the intent of this series to give advice to modern sailors, only cautions and options. The advice that does not need elaboration, however, is: Do not sail in harm's way unprepared, as you *do* have options. There are, for instance, many options for those who seek training or personnel to minimize risk at sea — and some of these options are much better than others.

There are many shingles out for "maritime security," including several with a shingle but no credentials or track record. They would like to sign you up as a client or sell you stock in their company, either way is fine as long as they get your money. There are others who have even initiated relationships with legitimate security firms or arms suppliers, but sail under false flags as far as credentials and experience. There are many very professional web sites, behind which we were unable to find a professional organization. Some companies are in the formative stages, and time will judge them by their track record.

In North America, two companies deserve particular recommendation based on their experience in the arena, their competence and their integrity. They are *not the only* such heads-up outfits in the field, but if you have a maritime security problem they can help with consultation, training, pro-active measures, or recovery — professionally and discreetly. They live and work on saltwater, and maritime security is their profession. Either one will get you started in the real-contestant side of the arena.

### Special Ops Associates

A hard-working, can-do outfit with more than 300 marine recoveries to their credit, and one of the longest-running players in the anti-piracy and training field; authors of *Marine Security Management & Piracy Countermeasures*; honcho is Dave Kellerman; host of worthwhile public-service web site: [MaritimeSecurity.com](http://MaritimeSecurity.com). Operating worldwide out of south Florida; phone: 954-426-9377; e-mail to [kellerman@usintel.com](mailto:kellerman@usintel.com).

### PISTRIS

A high-speed, low-drag team of former SEALs, entirely credible and well-connected; trains a lot of corporate and government agency types; go-to guys if you have a considerable maritime security problem; publishers of slick professional-service magazine *Combat Craft*; honcho is Rich McLellan. Operating worldwide out of Massachusetts; phone: 617-437-0471; fax: 617-236-0471; web site at [www.pistris.com](http://www.pistris.com).

### Foreign operations:

Systems Integrity International Pty., Ltd.  
(South Pacific waters)  
P.O. Box 297, Northbridge, Western Australia 6865  
Phone: 618-9375-9908; fax: 618-9375-8809

Kingswood Projects  
(emphasis on European vessels and waters)  
United Kingdom  
Phone: 440-1902-331154

Satellites Maritime Security  
(establishing security teams in Philippine, W. African and Caribbean waters)  
Phone: 31-513-654506  
email: [satellites@wxs.nl](mailto:satellites@wxs.nl)



PISTRIS, Boston, MA.

**Armed confrontation — or even armed protection — of vessels and cargo is not a game for enthusiastic amateurs. If your route takes you through waters where it is necessary, first try to find a different route. Then, train with, or hire, only the best — and expect it to be expensive. Prevention is usually cheaper.**

only immediate answer to piracy the first time around, and it still may be the best answer in specific instances today. But only competently trained armed force is worth considering. It is no place for enthusiastic amateurs. Fortunately, there are now available other proactive options besides capitulating and placing one's self and vessel at the mercy of pirates, or engaging in an armed shootout.

That merchant ships in the days of sail came more and more to be armed is significant. It may have been a worldwide effort of many facets that eventually quelled piracy on the high seas the first time around, but the only thing that would stop a particular vessel from being raided by a particular pirate ship was that it presented a hard target, not worth the risk. Merchant flotillas were escorted by naval vessels when possible, but no navies had the resources to protect every ship. Like all predators, pirates then and now prefer to harvest the weak. Even now, it pays the modern seafarer not to be weak.

Strength does not necessarily equate to ordnance, however. The single most effective defense against piracy is awareness. A five-year analysis of incident reports showed that 85% of all successful boardings were carried out with the attackers maintaining the elements of surprise. Observed the Special Ops Associates' *Report of Worldwide Maritime Piracy*, "It should be noted that in many regions there are no agencies that can or will respond. In areas where no response is available, ship's crews may be forced to deal with the attackers if a boarding is successful or imminent. The popular opinion is that it is far better for a vessel's crew to not resist the attackers than to risk an escalation of violence, and this is where the ships become 'perfect victims.' This passive attitude can be blamed for the proliferation of vessel attacks worldwide. There are many response options available to a vessel's master, and playing 'victim' should be the final option, not the primary option."

In other words, wolverines can eat porcupines — but they don't.

With the increased tempo of modern piracy, and the increased incidence of deadly, often wanton, violence on the part of pirates, counter-piracy endeavors are becoming a necessity. The fact that counter-piracy activities are a necessity is an indication that whatever anti-piracy preparations may have been taken, they were not sufficient. One of the most balanced discussions of this sticky wicket appeared in *The Special Ops Report*, and is reprinted wholecloth with their kind permission:

*Counter-piracy operations involve a direct response to acts of piracy and can be carried out by government authorities, the vessel's crew, or by specially trained, armed riding-crews. There is much debate on the issue of ships offering armed resistance to attackers, and increasingly more vessel masters are demanding that they be given a capability to defend their vessel and crew. In some limited circumstances this may be a viable option, but there is no cost-effective way to train the average ship's crew to an acceptable level of competence to offer an armed response. Specially trained and armed professional riding-crews do serve a purpose in some situations and can be considered an anti-piracy option, but there are a plethora of legal issues that come into play and they are outside the scope of this report.*

*The moment a ship decides to offer an armed response, it enters the realm as a combatant, even if only for self-defense. This will have a marked increase in the level of violence should any shots be fired. This is not to say that an armed crew doesn't offer a powerful deterrent to an attacker, but this is not a cure-all and it will only serve to act as a "band-aid" to the problem. The scenario where a*

**Continued on page 72**

# START BY STUDYING UP

There are not many books in print that directly address the practical aspects of maritime security, in particular dealing with the problem of piracy. Fortunately, there are two volumes that are very good:



*Maritime Security Management & Piracy Countermeasures:* Chapters include Marine Security Management Defined, Maritime Security Threats, Secrets of the Professional Maritime Criminal, Operational Security, Harden Your Vessel Through Physical Security, Implementing Security Measures and Countermeasures, Intrusion Detection Systems Explained, Administrative Vulnerabilities, Case Histories, Marine Piracy, Vessel Defense, Guns

on Board, plus Appendix and index; 124 pages, \$24.95 postpaid. By Dave Kellerman, who has nearly 20 years in the maritime security profession, and more than 300 vessel recoveries to his credit. Published by Crossed Arrows Publications, Dept. SOF, Box 1043, Boca Raton, FL 33429-1043.

*Maritime Terror: Protecting Yourself, Your Vessel, and Your Crew Against Piracy:* Chapters are Evaluating the Threat, an Overview; Maritime Defense, Beating Them At Their Own Game; Narrow Waterway Ship Attacks, Supplemental Assistance, and Checklists; 66 pages, \$14. By Jim Gray, Mark Monday and Gary Stubblefield. Published by Paladin Press, Dept. SOF, Box 1307, Boulder, CO 80306; phone: 800-466-6868; website: [www.paladin-press.com](http://www.paladin-press.com).



*Combat Craft Magazine:* A very professional controlled-circulation magazine published as a public service for maritime security personnel by PISTRIS, Dept. SOF, Box 268, Boston, MA 02117-0268; on the web at [www.combat-craft.com](http://www.combat-craft.com).

*No Quarter Given:* A lighthearted magazine comprising calm passage through the troubled waters of ancient piracy. Interesting history, connects to piracy buffs and events; Dept SOF, Box 7456, Riverside, CA 92513-7456; on the web at [www.discover.net/~nqgiven.nqgcrew.htm](http://www.discover.net/~nqgiven.nqgcrew.htm).

## Worthwhile Organizations, Worthwhile Web Sites:

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) International Maritime Bureau (IMB), based in London

Phone: 44-181-591-3000; fax: 33-181-594-2833

E-mail: [ccs@duak.pipex.com](mailto:ccs@duak.pipex.com)

Web site: <http://www.icc.wbo.org/>

*Founded in 1981, the IMB takes a leading role in countering maritime fraud, piracy and related problems.*

IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (RPC)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Phone: 603-201-0014, 603-238-5763; fax: 603-238-5769

Telex: MA 31880 IMBPCI

E-mail: [ccskl@imbkl.po.my](mailto:ccskl@imbkl.po.my)

*The Piracy Reporting Centre is open around the clock to receive and forward to proper authority reports of incidents of piracy.*

International Perspectives on Maritime Security

(a good web site put up by the U.S. Coast Guard)

<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nmc/security/papers.htm>

Mark Bruyneel: Maintains a public-service web site with updates of piracy and marine security issues in the worldwide press, on the web at [elmulato@geocities.com](mailto:elmulato@geocities.com).

Countryman & McDaniel: Law firm specializing in logistics and customs brokering, has very useful web site with recent piracy news: [www.cargolaw.com](http://www.cargolaw.com).

# Omega PROVING ground

## The Mauser M2 Pistol

by Frank W. James

It seems the world of big business presently is predicated upon consolidation. One conglomerate is always purchasing either the whole or parts of another. Perhaps that is why it was no great shock to learn that Sig, as in Sig-Sauer of Germany and Switzerland, recently completed the purchase of Mauser in Oberndorf, Germany, one of Europe's most prominent names in small arms production for the past one hundred years. Obviously, it was the allure of Mauser's name that prompted Sig's decision to buy this historic company.

But, like all industrial acquisitions that take place in our increasing globalized economy Sig has already begun to change the way things are done, both with the Mauser trade name and its product line. Unlike in years past where the trademark name was a direct representation of quality long guns, the most recent history before Sig's purchase had not been kind to the Mauser marquee. Guns have been sold carrying the Mauser trademark that were manufactured in Italy and Hungary and did not feature the quality one usually associates with the name.

That is about to change, because during a visit to the Sig Arms Training Academy, near Epping, New Hampshire, in the fall of 1999, Sig introduced a new handgun they entitled the "Mauser M2." A number of things are at play here, but the important thing is the Mauser-trade name is once again associated with a quality product.

Sig announced at this press conference the Mauser trademark would be used to designate a separate product line that will be distinct from the standard Sig Classic line. The Mauser M2 handgun is the first product in this line and there will be no U.S.-manufactured products in the Mauser line. (Sig currently manufactures stainless steel slides at its Exeter, New Hampshire, facility that are used in the Sig handguns assembled and sold in the rest of the world.)

The Mauser M2 pistol is a semi-automatic pistol in the medium to compact size range. It is a striker fired design that utilizes a rotating barrel, a double-stack magazine with single-position-feed, and it features three manual safeties. The three manual safeties are (in no particular order); a magazine disconnect safety, a hammer intercept or half-cock notch, and the most controversial — a manual safety that is located at the rear of the aluminum alloy frame. A loaded chamber indicator was present on the prototype pistols we were shown and allowed to fire, but Sig officials stated this feature may prove to be an option on the final production run.

The Mauser M2 slide is manufactured from nickel chrome 4340



steel and the frame is an aluminum alloy. The magazine tube is steel. The magazine catch is located at the junction of the rear of the trigger guard and the frame, but it is ambidextrous. The prototype pistols featured hammer-forged moly steel barrels, but Sig officials later emphasized that production M2 barrels will not be hammer-forged. The front sight on the M2 is the same unit used on the Sig Classic pistols, while the rear sight is distinctive to this new handgun.

There is a strange lever on the left side of the frame that when raised will disengage the sear from contact with the internal parts of the M2. Sig also considers the fact the slide must be locked to the rear before take-down as an additional safety feature.

Sig had three prototype pistols available for our review. They were chambered in .45 ACP and .40 S&W calibers. We were told the .357 Sig chambering would also be available with the initial production run.

The barrel length on the Mauser M2 is 90mm. The barrel rotates by action of a stud on the bottom of the barrel that fits inside a channel piece in the bottom of the frame. While rotating barrel handguns

*Continued on page 73*

*Editor's note: The following article is excerpted from a new book by Ken Conboy and longtime SOF contributor Dale Andradé titled: Spies and Commandos: How America Lost the Secret War in North Vietnam (University Press of Kansas; 2000).*

**AS** the sun rose over the Tonkin Gulf, fishing boats ventured out onto the sparkling sea. Behind them lay the verdant coast, sharply outlined in the clear morning light. Fishermen came here regularly to cast their nets, taking advantage of the rich waters near the mouth of the Gianh River, about 40 kilometers miles north of Dong Hoi, North Vietnam's southernmost town of any note. But this was wartime, and the peaceful appearance was merely a facade. A kilometer upriver, on the south bank, lay Quang Khe naval base, home to part of Hanoi's fledgling

options. Frustrated by North Vietnamese involvement in the burgeoning southern insurgency, especially its expansion of the Ho Chi Minh Trail, the Kennedy administration groped for some way to react. Using covert action to send signals would become an increasingly common tool as the war escalated.

Maritime operations were nothing new to the CIA. Beginning in 1951, the Agency had frequently used motorized junks and Taiwanese commandos to strike at the Chinese mainland, and during the Korean War, had deployed sabotage teams along the northern half of the peninsula. Adapting this experience to a North Vietnamese setting, the CIA case officers in Saigon envisioned a motorized junk making its way up the coast, and from there deploying a team of commandos to steal up the Gianh River and set charges against the Swatows.

In April 1962, the CIA secured loan of four Taiwan-trained commandos. Code named Team VULCAN, they were brought

## CIA Maritime Operations Against North Vietnam

by Ken Conboy & Dale Andradé

coastal defense fleet.

On 16 May 1962, the scene looked much the same as on any other day. No one suspected that just below the surface lurked an American submarine, the *U.S.S. Catfish*, carefully watching the naval base. A few days earlier, the submarine had sailed from the Philippines toward the mouth of the Gianh River on a mission codenamed WISE TIGER. Remaining in international waters, the *Catfish* was collecting data on Hanoi's fleet.

The submarine was interested in Swatow gunboats, a Chinese-made vessel that formed the backbone of the North Vietnamese navy. Measuring 83-foot long, the boat packed up to three 37mm automatic cannons, two twin 14.5mm heavy machine guns, and eight depth charges. With a crew of 30, a Swatow could travel at 28 knots and use its surface-search radar to detect incoming boats. A trio of Swatows was thought to be harbored at Quang Khe. After patient monitoring, the *Catfish* confirmed the presence of all three and sent word back to Manila. This was then relayed to Saigon, where the CIA was finalizing plans for a bold maritime strike against the gunboats.

This mission was long in coming. Back in March 1961, the CIA had first proposed sabotaging North Vietnamese ports as part of a diverse covert warfare menu forwarded to President John F. Kennedy. The scheme lay dormant until the early spring of 1962, when Hanoi's increasing aggressiveness in both South Vietnam and neighboring Laos prompted Washington to re-examine its

to Danang and trained in planting limpet mines on the hulls of boats. The following month, after receiving confirmation of the gunboats' presence from the *Catfish*, the CIA decided to make a trial run. VULCAN and 10 crewmen loaded into the Agency's specially outfitted junk, *Nautilus 2*, and headed up the coast. Anchoring off the mouth of the Gianh River, the commandos sneaked to shore in a raft for a beach reconnaissance. After looking around for signs of activity, they returned to the junk. No one had seen them.

### Borrowed Commandos

Captain Ha Ngoc Oanh, known by his callsign, *Antoine*, looked around the table at the four VULCAN commandos. A two-year veteran of the covert war, this was the first team under his direct supervision. When the final order to attack the Swatows came on 28 June, he scheduled this final briefing. Joined by a pair of CIA officers, Antoine translated instructions into Vietnamese, aided by aerial photos of Quang Khe taken just a few days earlier. On the wall behind him was a map of the naval base marked with avenues of approach and retreat.

The commandos listened closely. From the junk, they would switch to a smaller wooden boat and head to the river mouth. Since there were three Swatows at Quang Khe, only three frogmen would enter the water and swim the rest of the way using scuba gear. The fourth combat swimmer, Nguyen Chuyen, would remain on the boat



Norwegian Nasty boat undergoing modifications at Subic Bay, Philippines, before being shipped to Danang to run covert operations along the North Vietnamese coast.

as backup. They would target one boat apiece, planting a limpet mine below the waterline near the engine, then swim back to the boat.

On the night of 29 June, Team VULCAN boarded the junk along with a dozen crewmen and cast off. Sailing through the night and all the next day, *Nautilus 2* blended with the other junks at sea. The following night they closed on their objective. Darkness cloaked the coastline. Just before midnight on 30 June, they cut both engines.

Two crewmen lowered a small motorized launch into the gentle swells, then climbed in. The VULCAN commandos, dressed in scuba gear and each clutching a limpet mine, joined them. As its small outboard coughed to life, the skiff slowly parted from the junk.

Fifteen minutes later, Le Van Kinh, one of the commandos, could clearly see the shores of the Gianh River. In the darkness, the VULCAN members set their mines to detonate in two hours — sufficient time for them to swim in, plant the charges, and get back to

## Spies & Commandos



### How America Lost the Secret War in North Vietnam

#### Kenneth Conboy & Dale Andradé

the skiff.

Kinh put on his mask, cleared his mouthpiece, and slipped into the water. He was soon joined by two other commandos, Nguyen Van Tam and Nguyen Huu Thao. They quietly adjusted their masks and mouthpieces and entered the sea.

The swimmers reached the North Vietnamese base about 45 minutes later and set about their work. In the oily water, Nguyen Huu Thao was in the process of fixing his limpet mine to a Swatow's hull.

Hearing a commotion on the deck above, he apparently panicked — and the mine exploded in Thao's hands. What had been a stealthy raid was now a race for survival.

Kinh, the first commando in the water, had managed to place his mine without incident. Twenty meters from the Swatow, he surfaced to get his bearings. It was at that same moment that Thao's limpet detonated in a blinding flash. The shock wave hit Kinh on the back of the skull, then slammed into the rest of his body. As his limbs went numb, he floated helplessly on the surface. Kinh saw that the Swatow was badly damaged, but he also knew that the North Vietnamese would soon be swarming about the base.

In the skiff, Nguyen Chuyen and the two crewmen watched as the explosion lit up the night. It took only moments for the North Vietnamese to spot the bobbing boat silhouetted in the smoke and flames. Frightened by the sound of revving Swatow engines and fearing the worst, the men did not wait around to see what would happen next. Their own engine coughed to life and the little boat turned tail for the open sea. In the stern, Chuyen raised a machine gun and fired long bursts toward his pursuers. The North Vietnamese fired back, and by the time the little boat reached the junk, Chuyen was hit and bleeding.

Alone in the water, Kinh had little time to think. In pain, he kicked toward shore and rolled out of the water into a bush. Peeling off his tanks and wetsuit, he planned to hide until the commotion sub-

sided, then try to swim south. It was not to be. Within an hour, North Vietnamese patrols found him. Beating Kinh almost senseless, they marched him off for interrogation. Blindfolded, he managed a smile as the sound of a second limpet detonation rumbled in the distance.

Nguyen Van Tam, the third swimmer, had only slightly better luck. After placing his limpet, he headed back toward the skiff. Then the first mine detonated prematurely and he suddenly found himself abandoned in the middle of the river. Tam spied a boat lying at anchor nearby and silently swam alongside. Hoping to creep out to sea unnoticed, he climbed over the gunwale—and into the arms of some North Vietnamese militamen.

### Sinking Ships

Quang Khe erupted into action. Holed by the first limpet, Swatow 185 was taking on water fast. In the confusion, one gunboat, Swatow 161, took to sea after the escaping skiff. Throttling up its engines, the

maritime program. A seasoned paramilitary operative, Gogleman was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran of the Pacific campaign who walked with a permanent limp courtesy of a Japanese bullet. This handicap had not prevented him from transferring to the CIA, where he spent the Korean War conducting strikes along the embattled peninsula.

Gogleman could not have been pleased with the operation he took over. The CIA had half a dozen junks in Danang—and no qualified commandos. That fall the Agency put out a call for combat swimmers, and by November 1962 more than four dozen volunteers had been assembled at makeshift camps strung along the Danang waterfront. But without qualified teachers and training facilities, instruction proceeded at glacial speed.

Gogleman's arrival quickly improved things. Shortly after he took over, a team of U.S. Navy Sea, Air, Land (SEAL) commandos were detailed to Danang for support, making Gogleman's job much easier. Two SEAL officers and 10 enlisted men spent six

Harkins, the MACV commander, had suggested that U.S. motor torpedo patrol (PT) boats be used for missions north. His proposal had already been sent for review by President John F. Kennedy's top national security advisors.

President Kennedy, himself a PT boat commander during WWII, liked the idea. On 27 September, Washington cabled approval for the scheme. Acting on this mandate, the U.S. Navy took two of its 1950-vintage, aluminum-hulled torpedo boats, PT-810 and PT-811, out of mothballs at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard to fill the bill until new boats could be sent to South Vietnam. The two aluminum boats, nicknamed "gassers" because their antiquated engines, burned gasoline rather than more efficient diesel, took a couple of months to refurbish. Each was given a 40mm automatic grenade launcher on the bow, a .50-caliber machine gun amidships, and engine muffling to run more quietly. They were also renamed: PTF-1 and PTF-2 (Patrol Torpedo Boat, Fast, in

***The two aluminum boats, nicknamed "gassers" because their antiquated engines, burned gasoline rather than more efficient diesel, took a couple of months to refurbish. Each was given a 40mm gun on the bow, a .50-caliber machine gun amidships, and engine muffling to run more quietly.***

gunboat surged into the bay looking for the culprits and soon spotted the little wooden boat. Tailing it back to the junk, the Swatow bore down on its quarry with guns blazing.

Far from helpless, the crew of the *Nautilus 2* aimed machinegun fire at the gunboat in their wake. For the next three hours they kept the Swatow at bay as they ran south along the coast. At 0600 hours, however, gunfire from the North Vietnamese vessel struck the junk's engine compartment. With *Nautilus 2* dead in the water, the circling Swatow pummeled it to matchwood. Nguyen Chuyen, the frogman who had earlier escaped in the skiff, and one other crewman died in the exchange.

As the Swatow picked its way among the floatsom, 10 surviving South Vietnamese were plucked from the water and blindfolded. Unknown to the gunboat crew, an 11th crew member, Nguyen Van Ngoc, was hiding in the junk's partially submerged cabin. Clinging to the wreckage, he floated south toward the 17th Parallel, where he was spotted by a patrolling aircraft and rescued.

On 21 July, Hanoi placed the captured commandos and crew before a jury. Receiving sentences of up to life in prison, the somber commandos headed for their cells. Photos of their captured equipment were splashed across English-language publications coming out of Hanoi, and one of the commandos was even coerced into making a public condemnation of the program.

### Try, Try Again

Despite the failure, there would be other operations. CIA headquarters sent a new man, Tucker Gogleman, to shape up the

months training the South Vietnamese, and by late summer 1963, four action teams were ready, each made up of civilian agents combined with a handful of former South Vietnamese army sergeants. One of them, NEPTUNE, was qualified in scuba. Another, CANCER, consisted almost entirely of ethnic Chinese Nungs.

Gogleman now had plenty of commandos, but he still had a problem with his boats. Although the North Vietnamese navy paled in comparison to the South Vietnamese, Hanoi's gunboats both out-gunned and outpaced the CIA's motorized junks. Clearly, Gogleman needed a better vessel to get his men to and from their target.

The search for such a boat dated back to 1959 when the U.S. Navy began looking for something to replace its aging WWII torpedo boats. One of the top choices was the Norwegian Nasty-class patrol boat. Built by Westermoen in Mandel, Norway, the Nasty was one of the fastest and most reliable patrol boats of its day. Its superior performance came from two diesel Napier engines which could propel the 24-meter, 80-ton mahogany and fiberglass hull at speeds of more than 40 knots. Packing a wide range of light weapons, it could cover 1,600 kilometers without refueling. Best of all, its foreign manufacture afforded plausible deniability for covert operations.

The VULCAN failure brought the CIA into the picture. In Washington, the Joint Chiefs of Staff pushed for a new boat, a call echoed by American military commanders in Saigon (represented by the newly formed Military Advisory Command, Vietnam—MACV). In August 1962, General Paul D.

Navy nomenclature).

While the gassers were being readied, the CIA bypassed the Pentagon's bureaucracy and ordered two Nastys. In early 1963, at the same time that Gogleman arrived in Danang, the Agency passed both ships to the U.S. Navy for comprehensive testing. Designated PTF-3 and PTF-4, they were refitted that spring with U.S. equipment for familiarization drills at Little Creek, Virginia.

On 28 June, Admiral George W. Anderson, the Chief of Naval Operations, assigned the boats to the Pacific Fleet's Amphibious Group 1, to occur immediately following modifications to their armament. Technicians added two 40mm automatic grenade launchers and two 20mm automatic cannons, plus two 3.5-inch rocket launchers and provisions for up to three flamethrowers. Work was completed by the end of August, and the boats were loaded aboard the transport ship *Vancouver* for the journey to San Diego via the Panama Canal.

All this took time, however—and the CIA needed to get its maritime operations back up to speed. Gogleman needed an interim boat to put into immediate operation before the arrival of the Nastys. The answer came from another covert operation, this one in Cuba. Since the 1961 Bay of Pigs disaster the Agency had been authorized to conduct a maritime harassment campaign against Cuban ruler Fidel Castro, and they picked a boat that already was a common sight on the Gulf of Mexico—a vessel made by Seward Seacraft in Burwick, Louisiana, known as the *Swift*. Originally designed for oil companies operating in the Gulf's far flung drilling plat-

forms, it was 15 meters long, displaced 20 tons, and had two diesel engines.

The Swifts were still in California undergoing modifications when the call came for boats to handle North Vietnam missions. Three were immediately crated and sent to the Philippines. From there, they were ferried to Saigon. Sailing up the coast to Danang, they were ready for action by October 1963.

While the Swifts were a welcome addition to Gougleman's clandestine maritime force, they had one drawback. Though easier to maintain than the temperamental Nastys, they represented an insurmountable leap in technology for the CIA's existing roster of junk crewmen. This put the Agency in a fix. Forbidden from recruiting experienced sailors from the South Vietnamese navy, and also unable to use Americans in order to uphold plausible deniability, there was nobody on hand to operate the boats.

So the CIA turned to foreign experts. As



Frank X. Hamel

The first "fast boats" sent to Vietnam for covert operations were WWII-era PT boats. The PT-810 was redesignated PTF-1 and took part in several operations.

***It would be one of the last CIA maritime operations in Vietnam. In January 1964 the entire covert program was transferred to the Pentagon and called Operational Plan 34A. The military would continue the missions — using the new Nasty patrol boats — under the command of SOG. ...***

they already had developed good contacts in Oslo during the Nasty purchase, they arranged for three Norwegian civilians to be hired on six-month contracts. Arriving in Danang, they were given the barely disguised codename "Viking" and assigned as skippers, one per Swift. Young and aggressive, the Norwegians got along well with the South Vietnamese. "They were *real Vikings*," remembers Captain Truong Duy Tai, a maritime case officer. "They knew about navigation so well."

Now with boats as well as crews, the CIA planned its first maritime hit-and-run since the VULCAN debacle. But planners showed little imagination — their plans called for essentially a repeat of the failed strike against the Swatows at Quang Khe. The only difference was the team would ride a Swift instead of a junk.

On 15 December, one of the new power-boats headed north. Aboard was Team NEPTUNE — the lone scuba-qualified team — with a supply of limpet mines. Short of their target, however, the skipper became lost, forcing an abort.

Returning to Danang, the CIA waited out the New Year. Finally, on 14 January 1964, they launched an ambitious double-header. Plans called for two Swifts to leave their berths shortly before midnight. They would stay together until they crossed the Seventeenth Parallel, then continue to their objectives alone. One would head for a coastal desalinization plant near the town of Dong Hoi. The other would go to the Ron River, 18 kilometers farther up the Quang Binh coast from the Swatows on the Gianh. One kilometer inland along the Ron was a

ferry which connected North Vietnam's major north-south logistical artery, Route 1.

The Dong Hoi team, codenamed ZEUS, had no problems. The Norwegian skipper approached his designated target just before dawn, throttling back on the engines as he neared shore. Unlike the earlier scuba attacks, the ZEUS commandos took a rubber boat to shore. There they off-loaded a makeshift weapons package devised by CIA technicians. Consisting of six 3.5-inch "flat-firing" rockets, the cluster was affixed to a central battery pack. Pointing it in the general direction of the desalinization plant, they set a timer, slipping back into their rafts, and reached the Swift without incident.

The second team, codenamed CHARON, was not as lucky. When the Swift was less than 19 kilometers from its target, the Norwegian skipper spotted a boat heading toward them from the north. Though not moving fast enough to pose a threat, the Viking reversed course, taking evasive turns until he lost his pursuer. Hugging the coast, he then doubled back north. They were now more than an hour behind schedule.

Electing to proceed with the mission, the team leader ordered CHARON into a rubber raft. As they neared the mouth of the Ron, the team donned flippers and entered the water. Dividing in two, a pair of swimmers headed along the north bank, while the other two pushed along the south. Quickly, things began to fall apart. One pair soon encountered a junk coming downriver. With heavy silt clogging the entrance of the Ron, they feared that the water was not deep enough to clear the passing hull without

being seen. Panicking, they turned tail and swam back to the rubber raft.

The second pair was nowhere to be found. After exceeding their proscribed wait, the first two swimmers headed back to the Swift alone. With dawn fast approaching, the Norwegian captain reluctantly decided it was time to leave. But as the engines throttled up, he spotted a flashlight blinking near shore. Taking an enormous risk, he turned the Swift inland. To his relief, bobbing in the water were the two missing swimmers. With a full complement, they headed south.

Back at Danang, the CIA had mixed emotions about the missions. CHARON had failed to reach its objective, and ZEUS, while claiming it was sure the rockets went off, had not actually been there to witness the event. On the other hand, both teams had returned safely, marking the first time any of the Agency's saboteurs had managed to return home intact.

It would be one of the last CIA maritime operations in Vietnam. In January 1964, the entire covert program was transferred to the Pentagon and called Operational Plan 34A. The military would continue the missions — using the new Nasty patrol boats — under the command of SOG, the Studies and Observation Group. Ranging up and down the North Vietnamese coast the Nastys were only moderately successful, but in August 1964 they helped trigger a wider American role in the war with their role in the Tonkin Gulf incident.

*Dale Andradé, Ph.D., resides in Washington, D.C.* ✍

# In Honor Of SOF's 25th Anniversary Special Limited Time Offer!



1975 YEARS 2000

## LIFETIME SUBSCRIPTION TO SOLDIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE

**SPECIAL OFFER**  
**\$150<sup>00</sup>**

*HURRY! OFFER EXPIRES 1 MAY 2000*

**Soldier Of Fortune Magazine  
Lifetime Subscription for \$150**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP/COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

  **TO USE MC/VISA CALL 1-800-877-5207**

To pay by check or M.O., enclose payment and mail to:  
SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, P.O. Box 348, Mount Morris, IL 61054-9817

Offer Good In U.S. Only. Expires 1 May 2000.

A270L

For the past 25 years, SOF has been your most reliable source for worldwide intel, combat reports, no-nonsense weapons reviews, and exposés of attacks on our Constitutional freedoms.

You know you can count on SOF for the news the mainstream press will report months after the fact ... or not at all.

Now, during this rare, limited-time offer, you'll receive every future issue of SOF. Come on board for the long haul and don't miss any of our exciting future.

Pay \$150 now and insulate yourself from all future cost increases!

**New subscribers:** If you've been waiting for the right moment to subscribe — this is it!

**Current subscribers:** Upgrade now! Your lifetime subscription will begin at the end of your current subscription.

# UNLEASH THE FOGS OF WAR

Celebrating 25 Years  
of *Soldier Of Fortune*,  
and the Past Millennium  
of G.I. Bloopers

by Colonel Louis Neatuns,  
USGAFF (Ret.)



When the ancients looked around and realized they weren't really in control of anything, they invented a complete system of deity to be in charge of various facets of life that were important to them: Apollo would be in charge of the sun, Oedipus would be in charge of disgusting cuss words, Aphrodite would be in charge of messing around, and so on. Zeus, they decided, would be in charge of war.

They were wrong.

*Murphy* has always been in charge of war.

In retrospect, it is entirely logical that *Murphy* should hang around battlefields and war-rooms, war being as it is man's most counter-productive enterprise next to the American Congress.

When the brilliant Prussian military theorist Karl von Clausewitz observed and spoke of the "fog of war," he had no idea what kind of fog men would create during the next 100 years, when they had bigger and better toys at their disposal — including bigger and better von Gilbert chemistry sets. Had he any idea they would create additional, even poisonous fog, he probably would not have mentioned

it at all. Our guess is that he read Sun Tzu, the first military theorist to observe that all war is based on deception, and decided that deception was redundant when you already have fog.

But it was *Murphy* who in more modern times combined the inherent fog of war with strong doses of the enemy's *disinformatzia* and one's own self-delusion to create a chaos that would make Dante proud.

The results are striking. We probably won't learn from any of these mistakes any more than we have ever learned from any war, but we should examine them as we start a new millennium, just so we can say we did.

### **Want Fog? Watch This!**

It was von Clausewitz who, although a rather genteel and refined sort, expounded on the concept of total war, the "Kill 'em all, let God sort 'em out" philosophy that has resulted in cute modern euphemisms such as "collateral damage" and droll T-shirts for sale at the SOF Convention.

Contemporary with von Clausewitz came the blossoming of the industrial age, to make more slaughter less work.

Thus in 1899, and again in 1907, Russian Czar Nicholas II mustered all the international powdered-wigs to grandiose conferences in which the various great powers solemnly agreed to ban poison gas, expanding bullets, mines, torpedoes, the use of any aircraft to drop explosives, and ham-and-limas.

A follow-up conference, sort of a booster shot for international morality, was planned for 1916 — but it had to be canceled on account of World War I, in which all of the above banned weapons were in frenzied use. (Except ham-and-limas, which did not appear until many years later.)

As it happens, it was the Germans who initiated the use of poison gas. In 1915 they launched a major gas attack, only to have the wind shift, blow the chemical agents back onto their own German lines, and destroy four Prussian regiments.

Karma? Buddha may have formalized it, but Murphy invented it.

*He who diggeth a pit shall fall therein.*

— King Solomon, inventor of the bumper sticker

### Define Obfuscate

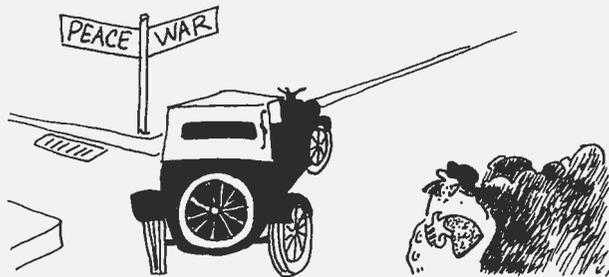
Definition from *Army Joint Actions Handbook*:

**OPSDEP:** short for Operations Deputy. By JCS charter, the Army representative is the DCSOPS. However, the ADCSOPS(JA), who is the DEPOPSDEP, may act for the OPSDEP on all joint matters. The use of the term OPSDEP also includes DEPOPSDEP. OPSDEPs or DEPOPSDEPs can approve papers for the JCS.

**British Admiralty instructions dealing with the storage of warheads and torpedoes:** It is necessary for technical reasons that these warheads should be stored with the top at the bottom, and the bottom at the top. In order that there may be no doubt as to which is top and which is the bottom, for storage purposes, it will be seen that the bottom of each head has been labeled with the word TOP.

### “... Let Me Sort 'Em Out”

When large masses of infantry were committed in World War I, large masses of infantry were slaughtered. Although most belligerents of the war were caught up in treaty entanglements that got them involved whether or not they had any real national interest or desire, the Germans were hoping that a war would come and were pretty enthusiastic about it all when it did. Thousands of German university students volunteered for what was billed as a great adventure, given eight weeks training and thrown into battle. Such were the troops thrown against the British near Ypres, Belgium: 36,000 of them are buried in a mass grave there. One of the few survivors was a dour little Bavarian corporal the British would meet again under the name of Adolf Hitler.



### How A Backseat Driver Caused The Great War

It is generally acknowledged that the loose ends of World War I caused the chafing that lead to World War II. It is also generally accepted that due to the smoldering resentment among the various powers, states, ethnicities and royal families in southern and central Europe, *somebody* would have figured out a reason to start the World War I.

Possibly. And possibly not.

It doesn't always work out this way, particularly in the Balkans where folks never forget an old war they lost, but sometimes a people does learn to get along with whatever boundaries they are born with. In other words, the woods may be a tinderbox, but sometimes it rains before a pivotal spark is struck. But who is to say, since history is not the study of what might have been, but what *was*.

History is thus often the study of those sparks that ignite the tinder box, and not infrequently it was Murphy holding the flint and steel. And a pivotal event that will ultimately cost millions of lives is no more dramatic than a simple wrong turn in traffic.

Take the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand of Austro-Hungary and his wife in Sarajevo on 28 June 1914. To begin with, this was not an auspicious date for ruling Austro-Hungarian government dignitaries to visit: It was Serbia's National Day, when they celebrated their grinding defeat at the Battle of Kosovo in 1389, and the Archduke's visit was at minimum a study in arrogance and insensitivity.

En route to visit the Bosnian governor at his residence, Ferdinand and his wife were the target of an assassin's bomb, which bounced off the door of their open touring car before exploding, injuring two officers in the car behind. The Archduke and his wife continued on to a reception at City Hall, sending the injured officers to the local hospital. At the reception, Ferdinand chided his hosts for "greeting their guests with a bomb."

The diplomatic niceties behind them, the Archduke and his wife proceeded toward the hospital to visit the two injured officers. Since this was not part of the scheduled trip, Ferdinand's driver, Franz Urban, did not have a route planned, but felt he knew the way from other visits to Sarajevo. Dressed too warmly for the season, Ferdinand goaded Urban to hurry, and he made a wrong turn down a narrow street — so narrow he had to back up slowly to get out. Standing along that street, where he had just happened to go to drown his disappointment at a cafe, was a 19-year old Serbian anarchist named Gavrilo Princip. He had missed his chance earlier at spotting the Archduke, and he was aware that the bomb his comrades had thrown was ineffectual. Now, fate and Murphy delivered them almost to his hand. Once within 30 feet, Princip pulled an 11mm Montegro revolver from his coat, firing twice. The Archduke and his wife bled to death on the way to the hospital.

Austro-Hungary declared war on Serbia; Russia mobilized, and Germany declared war on Russia, then moved through Luxembourg and Belgium into France. Then England declared war on Germany, and the world has not been the same since, because of a wrong turn in traffic.

### Merciful Murphy

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, a Hawaiian DC-3 airliner, on landing approach, was hit by a Jap tracer round and set on fire. A minute later, the plane was hit by another stray round, which whacked the valve of a fire extinguisher — safely putting out the fire.



### A Bridge Too Close

The term credited to the Marines, "Hey diddle-diddle, right up the middle" may have actually been invented by U.S. Army Civil War General Ambrose Everett Burnside. The single bridge over Antietam Creek was exposed and under heavy, concentrated Confederate fire. But it was the only bridge, and victory lay on

the other side of the creek, so Gen. Burnside massed his troops at the bridge and they surged across under a maelstrom of Confederate fire, sustaining crucial losses. The bridge was, however, only there as a matter of convenience — the creek was entirely fordable at that point.

### Bombs Awry!

When fought up close and personal, wars used to be fun for kings, financiers and rear-echelon officers. Some of the first battles of the American Civil War, for instance, were observed at a comfortable distance by picnicking civilians. Before the turn of the last century, 95% of war casualties were soldiers. Non-combatants used to be just that — spectators with or without a personal stake in the outcome.

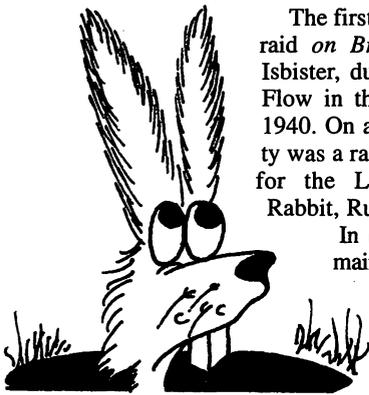
Now, anybody in the area of a conflict has a helluva stake in the outcome, or even the very fact there is a war on. According to current UN statistics, 95% of war victims today are *civilians* — and of those some 80% are *women and children*. In the decade 1987-1997, for instance, war killed 2 million children and maimed 6 million.

Not content to savage the next generation, Murphy sees to it that those on the same team kill also each other — *fratricide* or “friendly fire” we call it in these days of video-game warfare. In the Gulf War, for instance, we were some of the best troops Saddam had: Of 148 American KIAs, 20% were caused by “friendly fire” and the bulk of Saddam’s came from one get-lucky Scud that came down on a U.S. transient barracks in Saudi. We also greased nine Brits for Saddam, and killed another 121 of our own in “non-hostile” actions such as traffic accidents. And Murphy didn’t quit there: In April 1994 two USAF F-15s shot down two Army helicopters on a diplomatic mission over Iraq, killing 26.

*No one makes more mistakes in battle than the Americans. And no one learns faster.*

— Erwin Rommel, as a company-grade officer in WWI.

### Hare Raids



The first British civilian killed in an air raid on Britain was 27-year-old James Isbister, during a German raid on Scapa Flow in the Orkney Islands on 24 July 1940. On a previous raid, the only fatality was a rabbit, which was the inspiration for the Limey marching song “Run Rabbit, Run.”

In the first British air attack on a mainland German population center, 36 RAF planes bombed the rail yards at Monchen Gladbach on 10 May 1940. Only one person was killed — an Englishwoman.

The first British bomb of WWII to land on German soil was dropped on 3 December 1939 by a Wellington from the 115 Squadron. The squadron was on a mission against German shipping in the North Sea, and one bomber had a hang-up: The bomb finally shook loose and fell on the return trip, onto the island of Heligoland.

### Gotta Keep The Humor

In both World Wars I and II, German U-boats took a heavy toll on British shipping. In WWI the Brits were somewhat incensed that the Germans weren’t playing fair, sending civilian shipping to the bottom and such (the rules in effect at the time called for hostile parties to first unload any civilian passengers or crew before sinking merchantmen, or to only board and impound enemy war materiel).

But like a bar fight that may start by Queensbury Rules, a war of any duration quickly deteriorates to whatever works best for the parties involved, and British umbrage at the WWII German submarine



fleet quickly grew severe. Not that there were any stiff upper lips quivering, of course, but the Nazi subs were likely to get whatever the Brits could dish up. And dish up is the operative phrase here. When the British SO,E (Special Operations, Executive) learned that a particular cannery in Trondheim, Norway, was making a massive production run of canned sardines for the German U-boat service which was raising havoc in the North Sea, the initial reaction was to poison the whole lot. The *better* idea, however, which came from the Norwegians, was to crotan-oil the whole lot. (Crotan-oil, you may remember, is a violent laxative.)

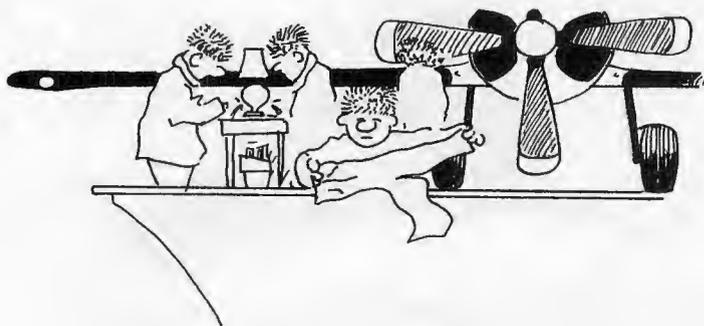
The SO,E was started early on when the British were strapped for resources, and proved to be a very creative and cost-effective tool behind the lines. And more than once their second idea proved to be the best. For instance, when SO,E learned that the Germans had stockpiled thousands of compasses to give as gifts to nomads in the Middle East to gain favorable relations, the SO,E resisted the initial impulse to destroy them. A compass can be an important gift to a Muslim in terrain with no terrain features, since he needs to know which way Mecca is for his daily prayers. But no, the SO,E bade their time until the Germans had distributed the compasses to the nomads they were courting. Then, they let the word spread that the Germans had given them all bad compasses that had them bowing with their backside to Mecca — and the SO,E should know, since they had sneaked in and repolarized the compasses backwards.

I suppose there was nothing the SO,E wouldn’t have done to further the war effort, and since they didn’t start the war I don’t fault them. There was a great deal of cross-pollination between the British SO,E and our own fledgling COI (Coordinator of Information) which became the OSS (Office of Strategic Services) and after the war was shut down, became the CIA. The Brits had been at the black-bag business for a few years, and part of the sub-deals made with the lend-lease program was that we would have access to their expertise and technology until we got our own act together.

### Horse Biscuits And War Gas

One of the no-holds-barred avenues of research the British undertook was the development of biological weapons. In 1940, work began on a cattle-cake to be impregnated with anthrax and dropped by RAF planes to infect Germany’s livestock. This idea was adopted and about five million of these cakes were made, but never used operationally. If attacking the Motherland’s livestock strikes you as not particularly worthwhile, bear in mind that when the Germans left Holland under fire, they took with them 320,000 cows, 472,036 pigs and 114,220 horses that belonged to the Dutch. (They also absconded with 154,647 kilos of Dutch gold, 60,000 automobiles, 40,000 trucks, 25,000 motorbikes, 90,000 lengths of rail, 500,000 sleeper cars, 7,000 barges, 31 dredges, 13,786 metal-working machines, 2,729 textile machines, 18,098 electric motors and 358 printing presses.) Oh, and they also stole 346 works of art, including 27 Rembrandts, 12 Hals, 47 Steens, 40 Rubens and 12 Van Goghs.

Yes, the Nazis featured themselves as art connoisseurs, all right. In 1944 Herman Goering paid 165,000 pounds sterling for the painting “Woman Taken in Adultery,” by the Dutch artist Vermeer. It was later proved to be a forgery painted by Hans Van Meegeren and in 1945 Van Meegeren was arrested by Dutch authorities and sentenced to a year in jail; he died after less than 20 days in jail. Goering’s “Vermeer” is now stored in the basement of a Dutch art gallery.



### Spoiling The Spoils

The first — and only — German aircraft carrier *Graf Zeppelin* was started in 1936, and launched at the Deutsche Werk shipyard at Kiel in December of 1938. Continuing work on the vessel was suspended in 1939 and again in 1942 because the Germans had been unable to produce a combat aircraft suitable to operate from its flight deck. Work on the ship progressed slowly, sometimes sporadically, throughout the war, but the *Graf Zeppelin* never saw action. At war's end, the Germans scuttled her in the Baltic Sea to prevent her falling into Russian hands. However, the Russians raised the ship and loaded her to the gunwales and beyond with war booty. The *Graf Zeppelin* was being towed to a Russian port in 1947, when she capsized and sank — because of a top-heavy flight deck overloaded with plunder.

### Donkeys Don't Die

Another successful development that as far as we know was not deployed — at least successfully — was botulin toxin. One of the strongest toxins known to man, a fly-speck of botulin can kill. A cooperative plan between the SO,E and OSS called for the removal of one of the pivotal Japanese generals in the China-

Burma-India theater with this method. They had worked into his stable of prostitutes an agent, who was to secret the tiny wafer containing the botulin toxin behind her ear, and at an opportune moment transfer it to his food, which he took in his quarters.

At this point, all U.S. intelligence matters in the Far East were under the auspices of ONI (Office of Naval Intelligence), and the traditional services hadn't yet really warmed up to the maverick OSS under "Wild Bill" Donovan. When the wafers were delivered



to ONI operatives in the CBI, they simply did not believe such a tiny speck could kill a general. Perhaps sicken a captain or dispatch a private, but kill a general? *Nah, better test it before we go to any trouble.* The ONI boys tested it on a burro, and when it had utterly no ill effect they saw no reason to carry through with the plan, which could have changed the course of the land war in Asia. A donkey, of course, is an animal with a total natural resistance to the effects of botulism.

*Next month, the lyingest general in the American Army, why the Brits dropped wooden bombs, and just maybe — who killed Kenny!* ✕

## PROFESSIONAL LOCKSMITHING TOOLS

### MONTHLY SPECIAL

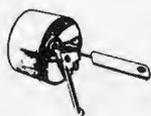
#### RECEIVE A COMBINATION SET (INCLUDES 5 ITEMS)

1-MD-16 DELUXE SET .....	\$59.95
1- SCHALGE WAFER SET .....	\$29.95
1-SESAMEE DECODER .....	\$17.95
1- WKS PICKS .....	\$9.95
1- DOUBLE SIDED TUMBLER PICKS .....	\$19.95

A VALUE OF \$137.75



MD-16 DELUXE SET



SCHALGE WAFER SET



WKS PICKS



SESAMEE DECODER



DOUBLE SIDED TUMBLER PICKS

NOW AT A  
LOW PRICE OF  
**\$89.95**



### SUPER SPECIAL

#### INCLUDES 4 ITEMS

- 1-LOCKGUN
- 1-ESP 13 LOCKSMITHING KIT
- 1-SET OF Warded KEYS
- 1-COPY OF THE BOOK  
'LOCKPICKING SIMPLIFIED'

A VALUE OF \$124.40

**SUPER SPECIAL**  
**\$79.95**



LOCKGUN



ESP 13 LOCKSMITHING KIT



Catalog \$3.00 — FREE with order.  
Allow three weeks delivery on  
personal check orders.  
Money Orders ship same day received.

**NEW!** All major credit cards accepted.



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

Send Payment To:  
**STEVE ARNOLD'S GUN ROOM**  
P.O. Box 68, Dept. SF4  
Dexter, OR 97431  
(541) 726-6360  
[www.gun-room.com](http://www.gun-room.com)

Postage & handling \$6.00. Overseas postage add 30% of total. Must be 18 years of age.

times arrives totally incredible because of poor vacuum packing. Bread comes in from Mozdok, and sometimes a unit will have time to prepare fresh rice or boil potatoes. We even heard that there was an armored unit on our flank that had a full-time cook who prepared hot soup every day.

### Culinary Of Fright

"If the Chechens don't get you," we were told a thousand times, "the food will."

We honored those words twice a day when we began looking for someone to part with a can of salmon or a tin of meat for a \$5 or \$10 "donation."

The Russians might not love Uncle Sam — but Abraham Lincoln, Alexander Hamilton and Ben Franklin all have places of honor in every Russian's wallet.

The next day brought progress. Vitaly told us that we could ride along in one of the BMPs that was part of a convoy of mechanized infantry unit that was under orders to take the village of Duba-Yurt, at the entrance to the Argun gorge.

The convoy moved slowly down the road, passing destroyed homes and a few cars flattened by Russian tanks which had come this way earlier in the week.

We were stuffed into the crew compartment of a rather small BMP, the *SOF* team and four rather thin, nervous-looking grunts. These guys were not the A-Team, but they were the only protection we had if anything happened.

"What kind of training did you get before you came?" we asked a pimply-faced kid of about 19.

"Four weeks in a camp near to Nizhny Novgorod," came the reply. "I didn't know we were coming here. I thought I would be learning how to repair trucks. I just want to get home without any problems. I'm no fighter."

All of a sudden we came to a halt. We tried to peer out the inch-thick glass window above the gun ports behind our canvas seats. All we could see was brick houses and little else.

Then it happened. Two short bursts from what sounded like the heavy automatic weapon mounted on the first three BMPs shook the ground and made our hearts race. We heard a muffled explosion, and assumed it was a grenade or mortar round landing not far enough away.

We looked at our shoes, making sure they were tied tight, and checked out cameras and film.

The driver yelled for one of the grunts to open the rear doors on the BMP, and we spilled out into the sunlight — immediately crouching behind the steel tracks.

"Come here!" one of the officers yelled at us from his BMP, which was ahead and a little to the right of ours. "Keep down!"

We sprinted over and fell behind two soldiers, using the huge rear tires of the BMP as

cover as they steadied their weapons. The four soldiers who had accompanied us in the tracked BMP soon came behind us, and now we were eight plus an officer.

"Go over to that wall and stay put," four of the conscripts were told. "There are bandits somewhere ahead of us."

More gunfire crackled from down the road. Three tough-looking, blue cammo-wearing soldiers carrying Dragunov sniper rifles ran past us and cut down an alley way.

More gunfire echoed from behind the houses directly in front of us.

Someone was yelling for a medic to make his way up to the front of the column. We tried to follow him, but were told to stay put. Gunfire was now coming from the houses to our right and in front of us.

Hours went by, and by nightfall we hadn't moved an inch. Word had filtered back to our position that one of the company's best soldiers had lost his arm when he tried to open the door of a booby-trapped house and that triggered a firefight between our patrol and a Chechen unit that had waited in ambush.

The next morning we'd heard that the 245th had lost three more men trying to take Duba-Yurt.

It was still 10 more deadly miles to Grozny. It was clear that any Russian victory in Chechnya was going to have to be measured in liters of blood, rather than in captured villages or miles.

Mark H. Milstein is a longtime *SOF Foreign Correspondent*. ✕

CT41 Colt®  
COMBAT COMMANDER®



# QUALITY MAKES IT A

# COLT®

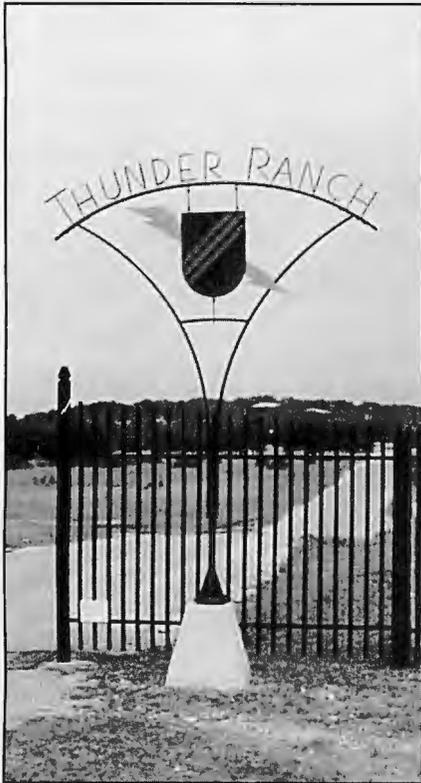
CT45 Colt®  
JUNGLE COMMANDER®



1425 United Blvd.  
Sevierville, TN 37876  
(865) 428-2532

See our full line of Colt® knives at your local Colt® dealer or knife retailer. For information on a dealer near you, call 1-800-548-0835 and ask for Dept. SF5 or fax 865-428-2267. Dealer and distributor inquiries invited. Exclusively from United® Cutlery Brands.

©2000 New Colt Holding Company, Inc.



## VIDEOS AVAILABLE

### THUNDER RANCH, INC.

the people who are bringing you  
world class facilities and training

**NOW!**

Training videos are now available from  
Clint Smith and Thunder Ranch.

No promises of what's to come. Thunder Ranch and its doctrine are available here and now with quality videos on Defensive Handgun, Handgun Tactics, Urban Rifle, Defensive Shotgun, Vehicle Defense & Low Light Techniques.

\$29.95 each plus shipping  
2000 course schedule available now. Contact  
Thunder Ranch, Inc., HCR 1 Box 53  
Mountain Home, Texas 78058  
(830) 640-3138 • Fax: (830) 640-3183  
www.thunderranchinc.com

**TRAIN AT YOUR HOME RANGE.  
MOBILE TRAINING TEAM AVAILABLE.  
CALL FOR DETAILS.**

## Slip, Stumble, & Fall

Continued from page 43

ter (JIC) in the AO. Finding qualified, will-  
ing personnel has proved a chore but is  
apparently being accomplished. It will pro-  
vide the data to guide the effort to close with  
and destroy the plants.

This will lead to some battles with the  
plant guards, who are in multiple-battalion  
strength. But how a single battalion, or even  
three, is supposed to secure itself amidst an  
insurgent force of multiple battalion size,  
which has made it a main mission to ambush  
and destroy such a force, remains to be seen.

### The Bottom Line

Still, in the absence of a course of action,  
what else is there to do save chase the White  
Whale?

Not only the U.S. is drifting. Colombia,  
too, suffers from lack of a national plan. The  
document delivered to Washington during  
Pastrana's visit ("Plan Colombia") is a use-  
ful outline of approach but not really an  
IDAD scheme ("internal defense and devel-  
opment" i.e. what formerly was called  
counterinsurgency). That is reportedly  
being worked on.

None too soon. Amidst all the bad news,  
there is a significant ray of hope. Ironically,  
despite all the recent difficulties, political  
and economic, the reliance of the insurgents  
upon drug-funding has served to push for-  
ward the military aspects of the conflict in  
such a manner as benefits the government.

For the military, far from being the hope-  
less case portrayed by the *New York Times* and  
*Washington Post* — drawing, as best I can tell,  
upon State Department sources, especially  
those in the Political Section of our embassy  
— is quite a competent organization by "Third  
World" standards (it's probably more correct  
to see Colombia as *Second World*).

It has a viable training, maintenance, and  
organizational infrastructure; it has estab-  
lished procedures and units; it has personnel  
capable of carrying out complex, combined-  
arms operations. It now, under changes  
within the past year-and-a-half, has a com-  
petent, aggressive leadership dedicated to  
improving operational posture. This has  
already resulted in a steady string of suc-  
cessful actions, some of significant size,  
most unreported (or belittled) in the press.

These have a large impact precisely  
because of the shallow insurgent roots. Easy  
access to drug money has caused the insur-  
gents to focus upon gearing up for "parity,"  
without realizing the contradiction — true  
parity in a revolutionary war scenario is an  
outgrowth of popular mobilization, hence  
greater resource extraction. "Free rider" sta-  
tus, as allowed by the drug windfall, can  
make for a rapid boost in capabilities; but,  
in the absence of state disintegration due to  
other causes, cannot be decisive.

This the insurgents discovered when the  
military successfully countered the FARC's  
July (1999) effort to use the demilitarized

FREE Report Reveals G-Jo Acupressure, First-Aid of the Samurai ...

## Now—Fear No Pain or Injury!



It's true! As a Master of G-Jo Acupressure, you  
can "erase" pain (and most other common ail-  
ments) in seconds ... using nothing but the touch  
of your finger! G-Jo is based on a network of  
secret pressure points (many of them used in the  
martial arts). When an injury occurs, simply reach  
for the right G-Jo point ... "trigger" it in a special  
way... and sigh in relief!

Be up and ready for action in moments -- or  
help your loved ones, friends or students -- using  
this remarkable technique. G-Jo is so foolproof it  
works for skeptics as well as "believers." Armed  
with this secret, ancient knowledge, you too can  
now erase pain and suffering anytime, anyplace!

This skill is vital for those in the martial arts ... healing arts ... survivalists and  
outdoorsmen -- or anyone who ever finds himself far from doctors, medicines  
and hospitals. G-Jo is safe for all ages ... natural ... effective in healing  
hundreds of injuries and ailments ... and it works instantly! Not only for the  
relief of serious injuries -- G-Jo relieves headaches ... backaches ... and  
most other common ailments in seconds!

In fact, G-Jo is so powerful and effective, it can even become your total  
health care program! Yet this profusely illustrated training program is so easy,  
you can actually become certified as a Master of G-Jo Acupressure in as  
little as one weekend of study! It's the world's only home-study acupressure  
program available. Act now!

**The G-Jo Institute, Dept.201, PO Box 1460, Columbus, NC 28722**

Or Call (828) 863-4660 **Send for your FREE Report Today!**

"Teaching G-Jo Acupressure Since 1976"

www.g-jo.com

zone (*Zona Distension*) as a base from which to sally forth — and pulled the hat trick by snuffing another FARC effort in November (1999). Though the insurgents (we are talking about FARC in the main) have now returned to their effort to drive the government security forces from the countryside (i.e. the police), they have continued to seek battle in the mobile warfare mode. The military has proved more than up to the challenge.

The danger lies in the military's getting sucked into an aggressive focus on operations at the expense of dismantling the infrastructure. In the latter, though, it is severely hampered by a lack of manpower. The size of the forces is such that most territory cannot be even kept under surveillance, much less occupied.

By way of illustration, 4th Division, mentioned above, has an AO in the southwest the size of France, to be covered by just three brigades (3rd Mobile Brigade is OPCON; the other two brigades are organic — one of the 4th's organic brigades is OPCON to the counter-narcotics force in the south). Since the U.S. actively works against militia formation, popular mobilization which occurs to counter the insurgents, by necessity, must be outside the law and draw resource support from the same sources utilized by the insurgents, to include narcotics.

So perverted has the justice system become that the military is in a classic *Catch-22* situation: A crime of "omission" has been added to the civil register so that unit commanders who fail to respond to a call for help from an isolated area can be charged with failing to do something which may or may not be possible.

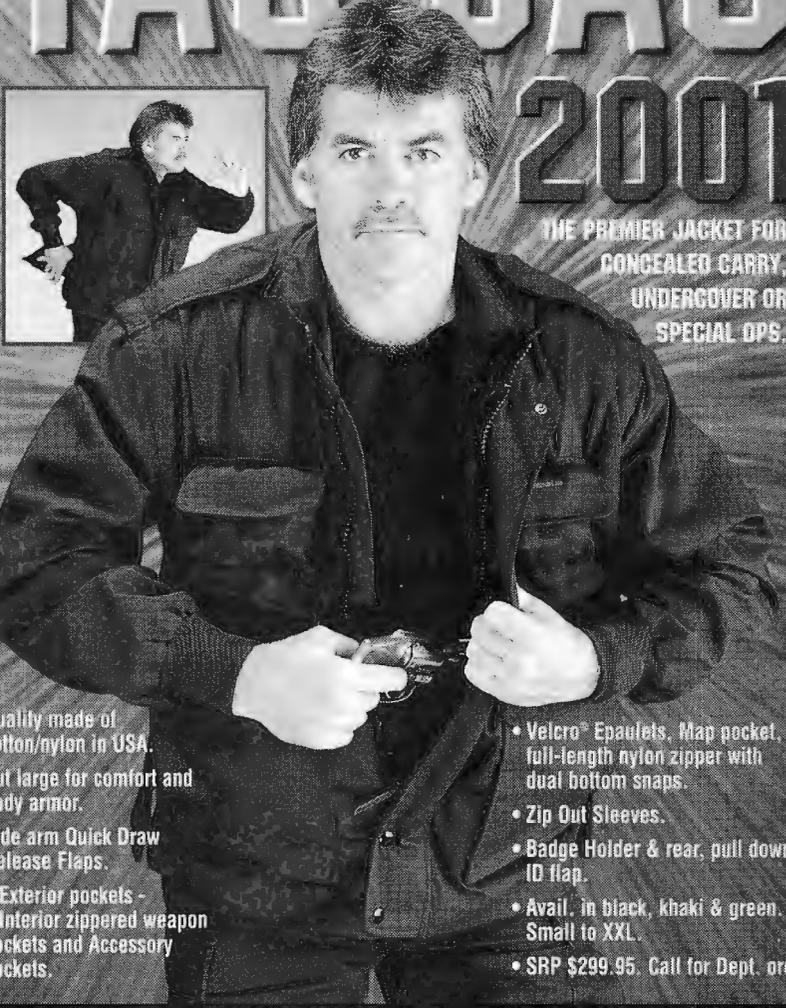
On the dark side, I spent a week recently with a former battalion operations officer (S3) who had been relieved for following orders to send troops in answer to a call for help which turned out to be an insurgent ambush. He was told, in effect, he should have known when to refuse orders (right!). Though the battalion commander was cashiered, such actions simply sidestep a major problem area: The war continues to be waged under an essentially unmodified regime of civil law, which makes for a dysfunctional situation in all but the most clear cut — and unobserved — cases.

Faced with such a situation, the military is reacting in the only way that would seem possible: A version of "critical node" theory. That is, go after what matters on the other side: command structures, key personalities, key functions. That such an approach can hold the line is possible; that it will not work towards any sort of solution is probable.

And where does responsibility lie for that? Sadly, in Washington. For we have the money and the power and thus could make a difference. Instead, we strong-arm Colombia. That we don't really know what we're doing doesn't seem to much matter.

*Dr. Tom Marks, a West Point grad, is a longtime correspondent for Soldier Of Fortune.* ☒

# UNDERCOVER WITH THE TAC-JAC 2001



**THE PREMIER JACKET FOR  
CONCEALED CARRY,  
UNDERCOVER OR  
SPECIAL OPS.**

- Quality made of cotton/nylon in USA.
- Cut large for comfort and body armor.
- Side arm Quick Draw Release Flaps.
- 6 Exterior pockets - 2 Interior zippered weapon pockets and Accessory pockets.
- Velcro® Epaulets, Map pocket, full-length nylon zipper with dual bottom snaps.
- Zip Out Sleeves.
- Badge Holder & rear, pull down ID flap.
- Avail. in black, khaki & green. Small to XXL.
- SRP \$299.95. Call for Dept. orders

**FOR CIVILIAN OR POLICE WEAR. WHEN THE NEED ARISES - TAC-JAC 2001 CARRIES THE LOAD.**

Orders/info contact: RidgeLine, Inc • 101 RidgeLine Dr. • Westcliffe, CO 81252 • 800-891-3660  
719-783-4161 • fax 719-783-4162 • email: sales@Pro-Ears.com • On the web: www.Pro-Ears.com

## Aluminum Training Blades

Get the look and feel of real knives without the danger of getting cut!

**Military**  
Law Enforcement

**Stunt Work**  
Stage Work

**Knife Fighting Instructors**  
Martial Artists



Free Brochure  
&  
Check it out on the web!!  
**trainingblades.com**

**EDGES2, INC.**  
6805 Furman Pkwy  
Riverdale, MD 20737  
Voice: (301) 306-0194  
Fax: (301) 306-5382



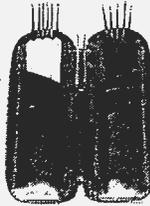
## FIST OF STEEL

Each glove loaded with 8 ounces of Granulated Steel across the knuckles.

- D-180 Kidskin ..... \$49.95
- D-50 Cowhide w/Powdered Iron ..... \$42.95
- D-100 Deerskin w/Granulated Lead .... \$74.95

## SUPER PRO SERIES

The MPXS-20 Super Pro Series Lock Pick Set contains 14 assorted picks, a broken key extractor, and 5 tension tools housed in a rugged top grain zippered Leather Case.



MPXS-20 ..... \$44.95



## SOUTHERN ORDNANCE

Manufacturers & purveyors of Locksmithing Tools, Pellet Rifles, Swords, Knives, Switchblades, Boxing Equipment, Books, and Videos, Police Supplies, Knucks, and Much, Much, Much More! FREE To place an order or to request our free catalog - call Toll Free 1.877.667.7292. Shipping \$4.95 per order.

CHECK, MONEY ORDER, VISA, MASTERCARD, AMERICAN EXPRESS, OPTIMA

WARNING: Check State and Local Laws. Must be 18 years or older to order.

[www.southord.com](http://www.southord.com)

e-mail: [sales@southord.com](mailto:sales@southord.com)

P.O. Box 279 • Babson Park, FL33827

CALL: (863) 638-2499

FAX: (863) 638-2486 • FAX: (810) 821-8263

"INTELLIGENCE SOLUTIONS"



**JARVIS**  
INTERNATIONAL  
INTELLIGENCE, INC.

### THE ACADEMY:

- Eavesdropping Countermeasures
- Video Surveillance
- Executive Protection
- Advanced Criminal Investigation

### OTHER:

- Law Enforcement Only Courses

Ask about our Las Vegas & Orlando Seminars

### PRODUCTS:

- Eavesdropping Countermeasures
- Covert CCTV

### SERVICES:

- Eavesdropping Countermeasures
- Investigations
- Security Consulting

11720 E. 21<sup>st</sup> St., Tulsa, OK 74129

Phone: (918) 437-1100

(800) 843-0258

Fax: (918) 437-1191

E-mail: [jarvisint@jarvisinternational.com](mailto:jarvisint@jarvisinternational.com)

Since 1982

## To Give No Quarter

Continued from page 58

*ship's crew attempts an armed response to attackers who are already aboard is scary to say the least. Special operations forces spend hundreds of hours in training for this type of operation, and even for them the task is extremely difficult to carry out. Regardless of the available options, the first priority should go to spending funds on crew anti-piracy training and for the addition of new technology in the area of detection and deterrence countermeasures.*

*The reckless use of amateur and untrained "mercenary" riding-crews is gaining favor with some vessel owners and operators. The economic, political and legal ramifications will not support their long-term use. This knee-jerk approach will offer only short-term results at best, and may result in both ecological disaster and human tragedy at worst. The users of such services have not been fully briefed as to the far-reaching effects such an action could have. The ability of the adversary to launch retaliatory attacks against other fleet vessels, against shore-side facilities, and against executive staff must be taken into account, but apparently has not been addressed.*

### The Validity Of Anti-Piracy Training

*Anti-piracy training is a solid and common-sense approach to the issue, but it must be more involved than simply the distribution of a generic security guideline that is the current industry standard. It must consist of a comprehensive program that is structured to provide a solid foundation of operational security awareness. An effective anti-piracy training program is a "value-added" benefit, as it will enhance the overall security of any vessel since it creates a "security awareness" of more issues than just piracy. The program should be directed at the vessel crew and the shore-side management so that all personnel have knowledge of the concepts involved. It can be used to develop the company or the vessel's crisis management and incident response plan. The training can provide a basic level of knowledge to the crew and it can provide advanced leadership skills to the senior personnel and ship's officers, enabling them to choose from several courses of action in the event of such an incident. On larger vessels this can allow the creation of an additional duty assignment such as "ship's security manager." In situations where firearms are an option, the security manager and selected crew-members should receive specific training in this regard as well.*

*Programs currently exist that provide the required level of training. There are also instructor development programs that create "in-house" anti-piracy instructors so companies can establish and maintain their own initial and refresher training courses.*

Between crews receiving adequate anti-piracy training and the availability of pro-

fessional-level trainers and security agents, the most immediate telling effect on the modern buccaneers may well come not as a result of high-sounding pontifications from international bodies. It may well result from the availability of well trained and equipped commercial marine security forces operating out of North America, Europe, Africa and Southeast Asia — driven as the pirates are by the pursuit of profit. Although the long-term solution is not hiring shotgun riders in the fashion of an 1870s' stagecoach, and in *no* term is hiring armed amateurs a solution, for the near-term armed professionals aboard may be a viable — if costly — option for some.

### Pro-Active Professionals

As we go to press, a new Dutch company called Satellites Protection Services (SPS) announced it has set up a task-force base in Subic Bay for mercenaries, almost all former Dutch Marines, at a projected strength of 225 men. The force plans to use a combination of leading-edge technology and traditional Marine boldness to track protected vessels and pounce upon pirates with real-time reaction capabilities. Headed by former Dutch Marine and company director Anton Melein, SPS is not merely a group of waterborne doershakers. Their cadre of Dutch marines, former members of the BBE anti-terrorist unit and 7-Troop SBS NL (frogmen), plus former British SAS are predisposed to be "pro-active." They have also established operating centers in Gambia and Curaçao to ply their craft in African and south Atlantic waters.

Other commercial security companies cover the globe from New England, south Florida, and from offices in Switzerland, England, Norway and Australia. Most who have the capability to properly train or equip, or supply personnel appropriate for any contingency, also consult. Consultation with someone who has a wealth of experience in this arena is probably the best place to start if you have a maritime security problem: Knowledge and technology may turn out to be your best defense in the long run. Some firms concentrate solely on the training of merchant crews and yachtsmen in the fine art of successfully avoiding pirate attack (which may translate to "don't go where there are pirates"). Merchant vessels of various types, however, may not have the luxury of picking which waters they will sail, nor routes they will select.

Piracy is here, and all indications are that it will not go away soon. It must go away eventually if international commerce is to continue to flourish into the new millennium — but it will not unless there is a concerted and effective cooperation among sea-faring states to effectively end piracy. Until that happens, the merchant, fishing and pleasure craft which ply the seas are sailing in harm's way.

*Globe-trotting Frank Hopkins is a frequent contributor to SOF.* ✕

## Omega Proving Ground

Continued from page 59

in modern history, specifically the Colt All American 2000 and the Beretta Cougar, have not set sales records or even acceptable standards of performance, in the case of the defunct Colt 2000, the Mauser M2 promises better accuracy than that seen with previous examples.

Upon grasping the Mauser M2 prototype one is reminded of the older Smith & Wesson Model 469 compact 9mm pistol with its square corners and slab flat grips. The Mauser M2 we handled suffered from the same deficiency. We did not appreciate the somewhat sharp and hard corners at the rear of the grips.

However, the grips are a small problem compared to the location of the manual safety. It makes no sense at all unless you read the new laws governing handguns in the state of California. Everyone knows that America is the market for handguns in the world and California is often the future — whether the subject is science, automobiles, environmental standards, or other trends for the rest of the United States. Sig's concern is the recent laws passed in California will be the coming wave in what is permitted in firearms sold to the civilian consumer market. California in its most recent legislation regarding handguns mandates a need for a manual safety, but why Sig put it exactly at the rear of the Mauser M2 frame proved beyond a reasonable explanation. Even the Sig engineers who were present at the press briefing were unable to give a satisfactory answer as to why it was located where it was. It fails all logic, unless of course you are a governmental bureaucrat.

The Mauser M2 manual safety takes two hands to take the gun off SAFE whether you are drawing it from a holster or picking it up from a table. The obvious solution for the worldly wise would be to take a Dremel tool and cut the stupid lever off with the thing in the "FIRE" location, but two things are wrong with this option: The first is it could always move unknowingly back to SAFE when you would really need it to FIRE. And the second deals with the liability situation in the United States. If you did this modification and you did have to use this gun to save the lives of those close to you, the unauthorized modification could be used to imply criminal or negligent intent.

The Mauser M2 has a lot of potential if the manual safety thing can get straightened out. The reason why is Sig announced they expect the retail price point to be around \$425 USD.

Even without all that, however, is the fact the Mauser name has returned to a manufacturer who promises to guarantee its integrity and quality. The future remains unknown at this point as to its final design, or even its final retail price, but the Mauser M2 represents a valid attempt to resurrect a legendary name in the sporting small arms trade. ❧

## Lessons From Columbine

Continued from page 39

building more effectively and communicate better with the students.

- Third, know the limitations of your communication equipment. Murphy sees to it that radios always go down when you need them. Frequencies vary among departments. Better to figure out what the issues are with respect to communication and resolve them or work around them, than wait until Murphy points them out. Further, fire and EMT personnel should have access to the police frequencies in use at the scene.

- Fourth, be prepared to treat the victims. "Treatment" includes emotional as well as physical injury. Psychologist and counselors, hospitals, and EMTs should be standing by.

- Fifth, expect varying weather. Was the last gunfight you were in under optimal weather and lighting conditions? Probably not, and so expect that the weather will not cooperate when confronted with an Active Shooter.

- Sixth, prepare for traffic and crowd control. In high profile Active Shooter situations, expect that family, friends, and onlookers will swarm the site. This will exacerbate the problems that arise from the high number of law enforcement and medical personnel, as well as media, on-site.

- Seventh, debrief after the training exercise. This seems self-evident.

- Eighth, and last, train often, and under varying scenarios. If you train hard for the unexpected, when it arises it will neither be hard nor unexpected.

- One final point to consider: All the training, tactics, and weaponry, all the inter-agency, multi-jurisdictional cooperation in the world, and all the scenario running you can think of, will not save lives. Nor will these variables stop an Active Shooter. Above all else is mindset. If the first responder, whether the individual line officer or a member of a Rapid Response Team, is mentally unable or unwilling to go into the hot zone, confront mass carnage, and use deadly force to quell an Active Shooter, he or she should not be engaged in a dynamic entry rescue. At best, that officer should be positioned on the perimeter, to allow other, better, men and women to do the necessary work of saving lives and stopping threats.

*Former Navy SEAL Harry Humphries, a longtime SOF contributor, specializes in tactical training for military and law enforcement personnel, and provides security consulting and services to businesses and individuals.*

*Hugo Teufel is an attorney in Colorado who represents military and civilian contractors and small arms manufacturers. He's the former Deputy Solicitor General for the state of Colorado and a law enforcement academy graduate who is P.O.S.T.-certified.* ❧



**When the elite units  
of the U. S. military  
searched for high quality  
sleeping bags, they  
found the very best.**

The Navy Seals demanded a sleeping system that would function in a temperature range of summer conditions to -40° F. The Special Forces Group needed the same protection. Both found what they were looking for in Wiggys's Flexible Temperature Range Sleep System or FTRSS.

Today, Wiggys's FTRSS has been assigned a National Stock Number and is the most widely purchased sleeping system in the U.S. armed forces.

Compact, durable, machine washable, and available with a lifetime guarantee, Wiggys's bags are today's choice for the professional soldier. Make Wiggys's your choice, too.

For more information and a brochure, call toll-free today.

**Wiggys's**

Wiggys's Inc. • P.O. Box 2124  
Grand Junction, CO 81502

**1-800-748-1827**  
[www.wiggys.com](http://www.wiggys.com)

**PLANET AMMO**  
A limited liability company

# 'Out Of This World Ammo!'

## FUN PACK POWER PACK

**One Pack Each Of Our Most Popular PYROTECHNIC Products**

12 Ga. DRAGON'S BREATH  
Three Second Flame Thrower - 3/Pak

12 Ga. BIRD BOMBS  
Shoots an M-80 Bomb 90+ Yards - 3/Pak

12 Ga. COMET TRACER SLUG  
Bright Long Burning Non-Corrosive - 3/Pak

12 Ga. FLASH BOMBS  
Bird Bomb with Firework Display - 3/Pak

12 Ga. FIRE SIREN  
110 Yard Ear Piercing Whistler - 3/Pak

12 Ga. NAPALM INCENDIARY  
Sparks Burn On Impact Then Burns - 3/Pak

12 Ga. POWER BLANKS  
120 Decibel Concussion - 6/Pak

12 Ga. SUPER FLARES  
Bright Red Signal Over 400 Feet - 3/Pak

12 Ga. SMOKE BOMBS  
Hundreds Of Cubic Feet Of Thick Smoke - 3/Pak

22LR TRACER ROUNDS  
Non-Corrosive Bright Trace 100+ Yards - 10/Pak

ARTILLERY SMOKE BOMBS  
Thick GRAY Smoke - Burns for 3 Min. - 6/Pak

MUSTARD SMOKE BOMBS  
Thick YELLOW Smoke - Burns for 3 Min. - 6/Pak

EXPLODING TARGETS  
2 x 2 Square - Delimites Like A Cannon - 8/Pak

**SPECIAL PACKAGE PRICE**  
**\$125.00**  
SAVE \$22.69!

**INCLUDES SHIPPING**

**One Pack Each Of Our Most Popular HIGH POWER Products**

12 Ga. BOLO  
Two Lead Slugs Connected by 5" Steel Wire - 3/Pak

12 Ga. BOUNCER  
Two Large Zytel Balls/Non-Lethal - 3/Pak

12 Ga. CHAIN REACTION  
Six Inch Steel Chain/Expands Shive Area - 3/Pak

12 Ga. DETONATOR  
Loadable Exploding Tip Hollow Core Slug - 3/Pak

12 Ga. DOOR BUSTER  
Impact Disintegrating Lead Shot Slug - 3/Pak

12 Ga. DOUBLE TROUBLE  
Two Slugs with One Shot - 3/Pak

12 Ga. FLECHETTE  
Multiple Steel Darts for Trauma Effect - 3/Pak

12 Ga. HAMMER  
Lead Bean Bag Round For Non-Lethal Use - 3/Pak

12 Ga. MINI MISSILE  
Steel Core Slug For Super Penetration - 3/Pak

12 Ga. PIT BULL  
Super POWERFUL Slug & Six 00-Buck Pellets - 3/Pak

12 Ga. STINGER  
Sixteen 00-Plastic Pellets Pepper Objective - 3/Pak

12 Ga. SHREDDER  
Multiple Steel Tacks Shred Like A Razor - 3/Pak

12 Ga. TERMINATOR  
Tiny Shot Core Slug Creates Huge Expansion - 3/Pak

**SPECIAL PACKAGE PRICE**  
**\$100.00**  
SAVE \$15.69!

Send \$1.00 For Complete Planet Ammo Exotic Catalog

Send \$6.98 For "LIVE ACTION" Planet Ammo Video

"REFUNDABLE UPON PURCHASE"

We're Online at [www.funammo.com](http://www.funammo.com)

517 Concord Drive  
Seneca, S.C. 29672

24 Hr. FAX - (864) 882-5239  
Ad Code - SF

ORDER TOLL FREE **1-800-870-AMMO** OPEN 24 HOURS

**37mm THUMPER Grenade Launcher**  
6061-T651 extruded aluminum barrel.  
Overall length is 27-1/2 inches.  
Steel parts and steel receiver.  
Weight is 5-1/2 lbs.

"Thumps" when fired, hence the name!

Single Action Hammer Fired Break-Open

**\$249.98 Ea.**

**37mm Cartridges**

10 Rounds Per Box

37mm BIRD BUSTERS \$69.98/Box

37mm SUPER FLARES \$59.98/Box

37mm SMOKE BOMB \$69.98/Box

BUY ANY FOUR BOXES SAVE \$10.00!

**TRACERS**  
10 Rounds Per Pack

.380 ACP • 9mm • .38 Spl  
.357 Magnum • .44 Magnum  
.45 ACP • .30 Carbine  
.223 Cal. • 7.62 x 39mm  
.308 NATO • .30-06

**\$11.98 Per Pack**  
SAVE! Any 4 Packs for \$45.00

**.22 Long Rifle TRACERS!**  
\$6.98 Ea.  
SAVE! 4 Packs for \$25.00

## I Was There

Continued from page 24

life in jeopardy to save many others.

As I left the building I thought of what being in the military was about. I was confident in my own abilities — I had participated in war. But would I have had the psychological stamina to survive an attack like this? Would I have had the spur-of-the-second courage to do what SP did? I suppose one never knows until he or she is face-to-face with the hard fact of dying.

As we slowly left the Building 131, demolition crews were hard at work preparing it for destruction.

On a February morning, Building 131 came down. Everything was buried — the from-home letters, the photos, the face-down teddy bear lying on the floor.

The memories, though, will never be buried: The shining bright optimism of all those servicemen and women who passed through Khobar on their way home; the memories of phone calls home to parents, wives, kids, and girlfriends.

And, the memories of the ones who gave their lives there on 25 June 1996.

This is Robert K. Hamilton's first contribution to SOF. ✕

## Combat Weaponcraft

Continued from page 18

1894 and measured in at approximately:

Group 1	3.1 inches
Group 2	2.1 inches
Group 3	1.1 inches

The groups fired are more than acceptable for purposes of defense and food gathering and they are both effective calibers.

I am intrigued by the vast sums of money exchanged for defensive rifles. In the last five years prices on, for example, Colt AR15s have fluctuated from a fair market value of \$700 to up to \$3,000 as government intervention in personal ownership was threatened. The prices of the Winchester 94 stayed appropriate to their fair market value through all the stupidity of the "rush to get an AR before I can't have one," although the AR may be more effective in a *bonsai* charge of home intruders. If the first guy through the door gets hit center with a .45-70 or a .30-30 I'll bet you five bucks the fight stops for him. As it has been and will be, "It's not the gun, it's the operator."

The lever action rifle is not a Colt M4 .223 caliber, 30-round magazine, battery powered, laser-sighted, red dot-mounted, retractable-stocked, flash- or sound-suppressed wave of the future, but I wouldn't want to get shot by a hundred-year-old rifle, would you? ✕

# The Pat Crawford Design Carnivore

Rolling Lock™ Strong

3.75 inch ATS-34 Blade, 5.05 Grip Textured G-10 Handle  
Hardened Stainless Liners, REKAT Rolling Lock™ Pocket Clip  
\$169.95 ATS-34, Black T Coated \$169.95, Talonite Blade \$325.00  
Pioneer Series "Fix Blade Performance in a Folder."

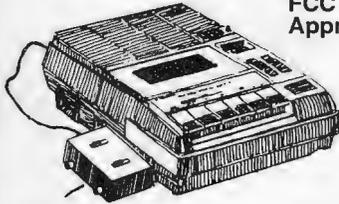


3.2 inch ATS-34 Blades, 4.05 inch Textured G-10 Handle  
Hardened Stainless Liners, REKAT Rolling Lock™ Pocket Clip  
\$139.95 ATS-34 Blade Black T Coated \$149.95

**Round Eye Knife and Tool L.L.C.**  
P.O. Box 818 Sagle, ID 83860 (208) 265-8858 Fax (208) 263-0848  
Credit Card Orders Only (888) 801-8858 Email: [roundeye@nidlink.com](mailto:roundeye@nidlink.com)

## TELEPHONE LISTENING DEVICE WITH 12 HR. RECORDER

FCC Approved



Record telephone conversations in your office or home. Starts automatically when phone is answered, records both sides of phone conversation. Recorder stops when phone is hung up. \$99.95 + \$7 shipping. For telephone listening device separately \$19.95 + \$2 ship.

### VERY POWERFUL FM TRANSMITTER



Transmits to any FM radio up to 1/2 mi. Easy to assemble kit. Up to 9V (not Incl.) \$29.95 + \$2 sh.

For comprehensive 50 page catalog of Micro Video, VHF transmitters, Surveillance and Counter-surveillance and much more! Send \$3.00.

CALL 407-725-1000

**USI CORP**

P.O. Box SF2052 Melbourne, FL 32902  
COD'S OK

## Turn Any Briefcase Into A Bullet Resistant Shield

Discreet - Effective - Affordable

Thin, Lt. Wt. & Able To Pass Un-Noticed Through X-Ray & Metal Detectors. Protect Yourself At Work, School & Traveling. Protection From 9mm To .44 Cal. Magnum. Anti-Knife Layer Available In All 5 Panel Sizes.

**Citizen Shield Corp.**  
(512) 834-2705

[www.citizenshield.com](http://www.citizenshield.com)

The Ultimate Consumer Protection Plan

## BULLETPROOF VEST

This Class 11-A-Kevlar soft body armor will defeat the .45 ACP, .357 Mag., 9mm. 00 Buck and knife attack. Tested at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds by the U.S. Government Edgewood Arsenal. Front and back protectors: \$220. Side Panels: \$45 per set. Trauma plate \$35. Sizes S, M, L, XL.



ALSO: Reloaded Ammunition: .38 spl. 158gr. FMJ \$125/M, 9mm 115gr. FMJ \$125/M, 40cal. 180 gr. FMJ \$165/M, .45 ACP 230 gr. FMJ \$165/M. Reloading since 1974.

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

**MPS Co.**  
Established 1970

1441 W. John St., Matthews, NC 28106  
Phone: (704) 847-8793 Fax (704) 847-4447  
website: [www.mpscompany.com](http://www.mpscompany.com)

T I M B E R S H E P H E R D

WHEN CALLING 911 JUST WON'T DO.

## LRRP K-9

SECURITY SERVICES



Pups and Trained Adults Available  
Brochure \$3.00/Brochure & Video \$8.00  
Major Credit Cards Accepted  
Box 1620-MA - Aiken, SC 29802  
(803) 649-5936



"The Mercedes Benz of executive protection dogs."

"The Premium K-9."

- SOF Magazine

## CAPITALIZE ON CRIME

EARN HUNDREDS DAILY!



Larry Anderson  
President

It Can Pay **HUGE Profits!**

FREE WHOLESALE CATALOG

Crime Prevention is a Multi-million Dollar Business!  
OUR DEVICES SELL LIKE CRAZY!

We carry the best line of security sprays, stun guns, personal sound alarms, burglar alarms and much more. We specialize in offering the best security products at the very best wholesale prices.

We can meet or beat any price on the market.

### 10% Pepper Sprays

4 oz. Fogger  
Retail \$22.95  
Sample \$6.25

Key Chain Sprayer  
Retail \$19.95  
Sample \$4.25

### Electronic Stun Guns

Security Plus® 100,000 Volt Straight or Curved  
Retail \$69.95  
Sample \$22.25



Security Plus® 300,000 Volt Curved Only  
Retail \$139.95  
Sample \$45.95

Security Plus® 160,000 Volt Baton  
Retail \$129.95  
Sample \$43.95



CALL OR WRITE TODAY



We are committed to your success. Crime does not wait, will you?



**L.A. LAW ENFORCERS**  
209 W. Walnut • Yakima, WA 98902  
(509) 457-9033 • Website: [lalawenforcers.com](http://lalawenforcers.com)

## Need NEW ID?

NOW YOU CAN GET...

## ID BY MAIL

20 SOURCES-FULLY ILLUSTRATED

- Birth and Baptismal Certificates
- Drivers Licenses (blank)—50 States
- Blank Social Security Cards
- College Degrees—Bachelors, MA, PhD
- High School Diplomas, also GED
- Photo ID Cards—all 50 States
- "Professional" ID Cards—over 200 Styles
- Job Reference Kits, Past W-2 Forms
- Foreign & Camouflage Passports
- Police/Military ID and Patches
- Photographer ID, Press Credentials
- Embossing Seals, Rubber Stamps
- "Do-It-Yourself" ID Kits
- Secured MasterCard at 2X Deposit

ALL-NEW 64-PG. BOOK!

## ID BY MAIL

**\$24.95**

Cash, Check, Money Order, Visa/MC accepted, NO CODs

**EDEN PRESS**  
Box 8410-AD  
Fountain Valley, CA 92728

Latest Book Catalog FREE

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



## STEROIDS ALTERNATIVE

TO BE TAKEN Orally. Best results, apply proper training.

1. **ATDC™** is used to dramatically increase testosterone levels up to 337%. Higher testosterone levels means faster, easier muscle growth.  
2 month cycle \$29.95

2. **Boron** is another product that has been used by serious body builders all over the world to raise testosterone levels up to 300%.  
3 month cycle \$19.99

3. **G.H.R.X.** releases growth hormone in an abundance like no other. Extraordinary results are expected when combining testosterone enhancers like 1-2.  
60 Tabs \$21.00

4. **L.S.C.** is a very potent product with a combination of sterols, aminos, electrolytes and much more. This finishing product has been used to build muscle, strip away fat, and get a tremendous pump.  
60 Tabs \$19.95

PURCHASE PRODUCTS 1,2,3 and receive #4 FREE!

Get the most powerful anabolic stack on the market. \$70.94

Use your personal check, over the phone or order by cash on delivery

**ORDER NOW!!! 1-800-275-7822**

**MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!**

Call 24 hrs a day 7 days a week or send check or money order to:

S&K Labs, P.O. Box 2025  
Pompano Beach, Florida 33061

1. ATDC 2 month cycle \$29.95 + \$5.00 S&H
  2. Boron 3 month cycle \$19.99 + \$5.00 S&H
  3. G.H.R.X. 60 Tabs \$21.00 + \$5.00 S&H
  4. L.S.C. 60 Tabs \$19.95 + \$5.00 S&H
- Special: Buy 3 Bottles get 4th FREE \$80.94 shipping included  
Add \$10.00 for Priority Mail  
International orders add 25% (C.D.D.'s U.S. only)  
Yes, I would like a FREE catalog with my order

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

## BE A DETECTIVE AND EARN YOUR BADGE

**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**

**MEN & WOMEN!**  
Train at home for an exciting part or full-time career as a Private Detective. Start your own agency or work for others. Learn all the latest techniques from the experts. Taught by former military intelligence specialists, police and private detectives. *The only course of its kind, the unique Global School of Investigation program will make you a PRIVATE DETECTIVE.*

**LEARN THE SECRETS to making money WITHOUT a license or experience. The biggest, most amazing home study course ever offered. Learn how to make money and become a Private Investigator. GUARANTEED!**

**CALL NOW 1-888-33 PVT EYE** **FREE INFO-PACK**  
**FAX 413-584-2140**

### GLOBAL SCHOOL OF INVESTIGATION

535 No. Farms Rd, Northampton, MA 01062

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

[www.pvteye.com](http://www.pvteye.com)

## BECOME A LOCKSMITH!

Home study course. Learn locksmithing for a great career, or to start a profitable at-home business of your own. Key-making machine included. **Send or call 24 hours a day.**  
**FREE LITERATURE: CALL 800-223-4542**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
The School of Locksmithing, Dept. LKF171  
PCDI, 430 Tech. Pkwy., Norcross, GA 30082

**WORK AT HOME!**

## BECOME A GUN REPAIR EXPERT!

Professional-level home study course. Learn to repair handguns, rifles, and shotguns. Work in a gunsmith shop or start your own business. **Send or call 24 hours a day.**  
**FREE LITERATURE: CALL 800-223-4542**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
The School of Gunsmithing, Dept. GGF171  
PCDI, 430 Technology Parkway, Norcross, GA 30092

## BACK ISSUES

25 years of SOF back issues, 1975 through 2000, are still available, but going fast! Many issues have sold out. Each issue costs only \$5, including domestic postage and handling.

Search back issues online — or fax or write to request a comprehensive list of available issues and quantity discounts.

BACK ISSUE DEPT. / OMEGA GROUP, LTD.  
5735 Arapahoe Ave., Ste. A-5  
Boulder, CO 80303  
Fax: 303-444-5617

**www.sofmag.com**

## LILE HANDMADE KNIVES

*"Arkansas Knifemith"*  
EXCELLENCE SINCE 1970

Designer & Maker Of First Blood & Rambo Knives

TANTO  
GRAY GHOST

We Accept    
Also Lay-away

2721 S. Arkansas Ave.  
Russellville, AR 72802  
501-968-2011 • FAX: 501-968-4640  
[www.lileknives.com](http://www.lileknives.com)  
email: [knives@lileknives.com](mailto:knives@lileknives.com)

## FREE BROCHURE

All the camo in the world won't mask the sound of a twig snapping under a boot...

**HEAR WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE**

**Silver Creek INDUSTRIES**  
A Sound Advantage

Wide range of sound amplifiers for hunting & surveillance

**1-800-533-3277**  
P.O. Box 1988 Manitowoc, WI 54221  
[www.silvercreekindustries.com](http://www.silvercreekindustries.com)

## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM A .44 MAGNUM for as low as \$165<sup>00</sup>



- Soft, comfortable, concealable body armor that weighs less than 3 lb.
- Vests are made with 18 layers of DuPont Kevlar
- 5 year warranty on ballistics
- Adjustable ballistic panel carriers available in white and navy

**MEDIUM \$180** **SMALL \$165** **LARGE \$220**

\*plus shipping & handling  
X-LARGE AND XX-LARGE ALSO AVAILABLE  
All orders must be pre-paid or C.O.D.  
Preferred Shipping: via FedEx 2/3 Day Service

### MICHIGAN BODY ARMOR

37637 Five Mile Rd. Ste. 324  
Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 394-2134

## BIG & TALL T-SHIRT BLOWOUT!

Miss the SOF Convention last year? We have a limited number of T-Shirts available in XXL & XXXL sizes only. Blue & gray design printed on quality 50/50 black shirt. These won't last...order yours today.

**\$15** plus \$3 Shipping/Handling



22-26 SEPTEMBER LAS VEGAS

Ordering Info	Quan.	Price	Total
#1991 '98 SOF Convent. Shirt XXL	@	\$15.00	
#1992 '98 SOF Convent. Shirt XXXL	@	\$15.00	
Shipping & Handling \$3 / per item \$1 each (all items)			
Send Check/MO To: OMEGA GROUP LTD. 5735 Arapahoe, Ste. A5 • Boulder, CO 80303	<b>TOTAL</b>		

VISA/MC ONLY — ORDER TOLL FREE: 888-888-7638

## #1 WORLD SUPPLIER P.A.I. BODY ARMOR

New Mfg.  
NIJ Certified  
U.S. Gov.  
Approved



MADE  
IN  
THE  
U.S.A.

COMPLETE LINE OF  
CONCEALABLE VESTS  
STARTING AT  
**\$249.95**  
AND TACTICAL  
INCLUDING TAC/CON,  
LEGIONNAIRE, IMPERATOR,  
NATO, OVERVEST  
STARTING AT  
**\$175.00**

For Armor Catalogue send \$4.00  
or \$15.00 for 1500 page complete set

**Inter-American  
Security Products, Inc.**  
PMB 456 • 13615 S. Dixie Hwy.,  
Miami, Florida 33176-7254  
Ph.: (305) 256-0370  
Fax: (305) 235-0603  
E-Mail: interam@gate.net  
Shop online: www.interamer.com

## STEROIDS

ALTERNATIVE

TO BE TAKEN Orally. No harmful side effects

### S&K Labs Boron

*This product has been historically used to raise Testosterone levels up to 300%. When you raise your bodys testosterone level you drastically increase your body's ability to create lean muscle mass. Would you like to sculpt your body with huge healthy hard muscles and get that lean awesome body builder physique? Our 10mg Boron is 3 times the strength of almost all competitors. If you are not completely satisfied with the growth you obtain, return it for a full refund!*

**3 month cycle for only \$19.99**

\$19.99 + S&H C.O.D.'s WELCOME

Use your personal check over the phone or order by cash on delivery

**ORDER NOW!!!** 1-800-275-7822 VISA  
954-630-9722  
**C.O.D. MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!** VOICE CHECK

S&K Labs, P.O. Box 2025  
Pompano Beach, Florida 33061

\_\_\_ 1 Bottle (3) month cycle \$19.99 + \$5.00 S&H  
\_\_\_ Special, Buy 2 Bottles get 3rd FREE \$49.98 shipping incl.  
\_\_\_ Add \$10.00 for Priority Mail  
\_\_\_ International orders add 25%. (C.O.D.'s U.S. only)  
\_\_\_ Yes, I would like a FREE catalog with my order

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

## U.S. CAVALRY



### Lead On, Soldier!

- Survival & Camping Gear
- Shooting Accessories
- GORE-TEX® Outerwear
- MREs
- Blankets
- First Aid
- Tools
- Knives
- Boots
- Uniforms
- Flashlights
- Navigation
- Night Vision
- Water Purification

For Your **FREE** Full-Color Catalog Call  
**1-800-317-9455**

Shop Online



## SOLDIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE PRESENTS TWO SEPARATE, UPCOMING

# 3-GUN TACTICAL MATCH COMPETITIONS

**SPRING/2000**

**FALL/2000**

**NEW!**



**MAY 3-6**

*SOF announces a new 3-Gun Match to be held at the NRA Whittington Center in Raton, New Mexico. This event will emphasize rifle marksmanship at this outstanding range.*

**10-14 October 2000**

*Desert Sportsman's Range  
Las Vegas, NV*

*The original World Championship 3-Gun Tactical Match returns with all-new challenging stage scenarios. This match fills up quickly so get your entry in early.*

For match info and applications, send a self addressed stamped envelope to:  
**Michael Horne, Match Director**  
4128 Abbott Drive • Bakersfield, CA 93312  
or visit our web site at: [www.waidelich.org](http://www.waidelich.org)



# CLASSIFIED

**SOLDIER OF FORTUNE CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS!** Start getting **your** results at only \$3 per word per insertion, \$60 minimum. Prepay two months for 10% discount; six months for 20% discount; or 12 months for 30% off. Repeat your same ad in another section for half price. "Dingbats" (✓, ●, ■), **bold words** (other than first 3-4): \$5.00/each extra. Computer word count of grammatically correct copy. **EXAMPLE:** PO Box 693 = 3 words; 80306 and 303-449-3750, etc. each = 1 word; abbreviations such as DI, SGT, 20mm = 1 word. No ads accepted by telephone. Ad copy must be typed. Include authorizing signature, mailing address, telephone or fax number (for our files). Mail classified ads with payment (check, wire transfer, money order or Visa/MC) to SOF, Attn: Classified Dept., 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Suite A-5, Boulder, CO 80303. Phone: 303-449-3750; fax: 303-444-5617; e-mail: trent@sofmag.com.

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:** We reserve the right to refuse any ad for any reason and to delete or change any copy that we consider objectionable, false or in poor taste. It is our policy not to accept advertisements for personal services, including 'will do anything' or 'go anywhere' type ads. Advertisers offering information packets for a fee must send sample (non-returnable).

## 2000 ADVERTISING DEADLINES

ISSUE	AD DEADLINE	ON SALE DATE
July	5 April	30 May
August	3 May	27 June
September	31 May	25 July
October	5 July	29 August
November	2 August	26 September
December	30 August	24 October

## BRITISH/SCOTTISH REGIMENTAL INSIGNIA & ACCESSORIES ETC

- SAS
- PARA
- ROYAL MARINES
- RAF
- GUARDS
- BLACK WATCH ETC

45 PAGE ILLUSTRATED IMPORT CATALOG \$6.00

BRITISH REGALIA IMPORTS  
Department 6, P.O. Box 37  
Palm Harbor, FL 34682

## SURVIVAL PRODUCTS

- MRE'S (USGI) \$70/12 assorted or
- \$65/12 for 10 case orders + shipping
- MRE Wheat Snack Bread \$60/80
- MRE Chocolate Brownies \$100/100
- MRE Poundcakes \$75/100 Assorted
- Survival Stew Mix \$36/12
- USGI Goretex Jacket & Pants \$300
- USGI Kevlar Vests \$200-\$250

Catalog \$2 Survival Checklist \$5  
**PONDEROSA SPORTS & MERCANTILE**  
 208-793-3121 6854 Highway 55  
 Horseshoe Bend, Idaho 83629  
[www.ponderosasports.com](http://www.ponderosasports.com)

## WORLD'S LARGEST SURPLUS MARKET

for used military vehicles:  
 jeeps, tanks, HMMWVs,  
 military trucks, more.  
 100's of ads, tech tips,  
 how-to, articles, event  
 listings, much more!



## MILITARY VEHICLES

1 year (six BIG 100+ page issues)  
 USA \$18, Canada \$28, (Sample \$5)  
 12-L2 Indianhead, Morristown, NJ 07960

## TELL THE WORLD YOU SERVED!



ARMY-NAVY  
 AIR FORCE-MARINES  
 DESERT STORM RINGS AVAILABLE.

PRESTIGE RINGS you'll wear with pride. World's largest selection of military rings. Over 1000 combinations. Visa or MasterCard. Money Back Guarantee! Send \$1 for full color catalog today.

### T-J JEWELRY CO.

P.O. Box 2730, Apache Junction, AZ 85217  
 (successors to Royal Military Jewelry)

[www.t-jjewelry.com](http://www.t-jjewelry.com)

## LOST DOCUMENTS REPLACED

SEND \$2.00 for 8-PAGE CATALOG  
 MILITARY AWARDS / CERTIFICATES / MEDALS  
 UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE / HIGH SCHOOL  
 FOR ENTERTAINMENT & COLLECTORS  
**Couch Potato Publishing**  
 443 FOX RUN DRIVE, BLUE RIDGE, GA 30513  
 E-mail: WOSCP1998@YAHOO.COM

## Built to last



Buy  
 Factory  
 Direct

Save  
 up to  
 60%

SAVE ON SELECT SIZES

- America's #1 Arch-Type Manufacturer **25X34 • 30X46**
- 20 Year Warranty
- Easy Financing Available **40X56 • 50X116**
- Easy Do-It-Yourself Construction
- Free 16 Page Brochure

**STEELMASTER**

Save Thousands  
 Call Today **1 800 526-1110**

## PANTHER™ EXTREME SUPER BULL TWENTY-FOUR



COMPLETE LINE OF AR RIFLES,  
 PARTS, KITS AND ACCESSORIES

LEATHERWOOD  
 ART II  
 Sniper Scopes



13983 Industry Avenue  
 Becker, MN 55308  
 PHONE 1-612-261-5600  
 FAX 1-612-261-5599  
[www.dpmsinc.com](http://www.dpmsinc.com)  
 e-mail: dpmsinc@aol.com  
 Business Hours:  
 M-F 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central Time

**BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR-** 75-year tradition of quality book publishing, promotion, and distribution. "Author's Guide to Subsidy Book Publishing" 1-800-695-9599.

**COMPLETE NEW IDENTITY SYSTEM:** ID Cards, Birth Certificates, SSN's, 100% Effective-Safe, \$60.00 Cash/Money Order, Morphiss Press, 1000 W. 4th St. #359, Ontario, CA, 91762

✓ **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE RUSSIA!** Collectors item, published in Moscow. Various months. Invaluable resource for researchers, military and

**GET LEGAL FAST!**

**DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED?**

LEARN HOW YOU CAN GET A LEGAL DRIVER'S LICENSE FAST AND EASY. NEW AND UNIQUE METHOD WORKS EVERYTIME REGARDLESS OF YOUR PAST RECORD. 100% GUARANTEED! QUALITY RESEARCH. DEPT. 55

FOR SOME VERY REVEALING INFORMATION!  
 P.O. BOX 192, LINCOLN PARK MICHIGAN 48146

SEND \$3.00

## BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

■ **MANHUNT: THE BOOK** - \$13.95. Gives you the knowledge and secrets to find missing persons, A Skips Tracer Tool Box - 1-904-788-8745

**HACKING, PHREAKING, CRACKING!** 190+ Publications. Impossible to find underground info! Revenge, moneymaking and lots more. Very unusual stuff! Free catalog. TIC P.O. Box 876SF, Hurst, Texas 76053. [www.theinformationcenter.com](http://www.theinformationcenter.com)

# BUGGED??

**EAVESDROPPING** is unbelievably widespread!

Are you sure you're safe? Would you like to learn how others (without prior experience) earn \$250 HR in the fascinating field of **COUNTER-SURVEILLANCE?**

Call for **FREE CATALOG!** **800 732-5000**  
[www.Spy-City.com](http://www.Spy-City.com)

## GET THE MOST DANGEROUS BOOK IN THE WORLD!!

The International Underground Directory lists the insider sources for • Anonymous bank accounts, credit cards • Cheap surveillance gear • Legal second passports • Equipment to open locks in under seven seconds, plus master keys for cars • Free phone-calls • Self defence gadgets • Smart nutrients • Computer viruses that will destroy your enemies in seconds • Controversial underground/financial magazines, you won't find these advertised • A new identity • Speed trap detectors • ID papers • Anonymous mobile phones • Discover the secrets on computer hacking, banking, credit card & ATM scams & other frauds • Network with freedom minded folk • Find out about insider privacy secrets and become free • Plus much, much more.....

"Your directory was a goldmine of essential information. I loved it!"  
Lt. Lawrence Frego, Florida.

### 30 DAY NO-RISK MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Send check, MO, cash for \$24.99 including shipping, normally \$60.00 made payable to Megastep, 4951 Netarts Highway West, Dept. 2134/SB, Tillamook, OR 97141, USA  
SOLD STRICTLY FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. MISUSE MAY BE ILLEGAL.

intelligence professionals. Printed in Russian only. \$5.00 each/3 for \$12. Overseas, add \$3 for first issue and 1.00 each after for Priority Mail. SOF Back Issues, 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO 80303-1340. [www.sofmag.com](http://www.sofmag.com)

New! Hock Hoheim presents **CLOSE QUARTER COMBAT** Magazine, bi-monthly professional publication dedicated to real world tactical hand, stick, knife and gun combatives from the best of martial, military, policing, and psychology experts. \$29.95 per year. [www.americanknifefighters.com](http://www.americanknifefighters.com) 706-866-2656, or CQC, Box 5372, Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742.

**195 U.S. GOVT REPORTS PROVE EXISTENCE OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER.** W W W . T P . S M A R T W E B . N E T <<http://www.tp.smartweb.net/>> FOR CATALOG SASE to MD PO Box 208 NY NY 10044

**CORRESPONDENCE COURSES AND MILITARY MANUALS.** Combat Skills, Weapons, Tactics, NBC, more. Catalog \$5.00. IIPD/ACCP, Box 1237, Alpine, TX 79830

## COLLECTORS

**BRITISH/SCOTTISH MILITARIA COLLECTORS.** Regimental insignia and accessories of elite Regiments; including SAS; Paratroops: Royal Marines; Black Watch; Guards, etc. 45-page illustrated Import Catalog \$6.00. BRITISH REGALIA IMPORTS, Department 6A, PO Box 37, Palm Harbor, FL 34682.

● **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE BACK ISSUES** are available on-line. With our new search engine, you can check our entire back issue inventory for any topic from Afghanistan to Zambia, and order through our secure server. [www.sofmag.com](http://www.sofmag.com)

■ **Did this get your attention?** It's a "Dingbat." So are ✓ and ●. Add them to your SOF classified ad for \$5/each.

## CABLE T.V. DESCRAMBLERS AND TEST CHIPS

All major brands.  
30-day money back guarantee.  
1-year warranty.

**TKB ELECTRONICS**  
**1-800-579-3285**

## NUDISM LIFESTYLE: FAMILY RECREATION

Publications • Videos  
\$3 for details:  
LIFESTYLES-SF  
Box 661268, Los Angeles, CA 90066

[www.SURVIVALSTORE.com](http://www.SURVIVALSTORE.com)

Stun Guns, Pepper Spray, Black Jacks, Martial Arts Supplies, Knives  
P.O. Box 2965  
Carson City, NV  
89702-2965  
Fax: 775-841-3679  
Lock Picking Kit  
\$12.95+FREE shipping (USA only)  
EASY PICKINGS  
VISA-MC-Amex-Check-Money Order  
Survival Store  
Catalog \$2.00  
Expandable Batons, Surveillance

## INVESTIGATION

✓ **CYBER DETECTIVE TOOLKIT!** The software private investigators wish was kept secret. <http://www.xspy.net>

## KNIVES — BAYONETS

**COLD STEEL** Spyderco, Gerber, SOG, Benchmade, Smith & Wesson and more. Huge discounts! Free list. **KNIVES PLUS MAIL ORDER**, (800) 687-6202

## MILITARY EVENTS, AIR SHOWS & REUNIONS

● **Attention Military, Veterans: SOLDIER OF FORTUNE** will run a 30-word notice here for one month, half price, for any legitimate reunion, military base open-house, air show, battle reenactment, firepower demonstration or similar military event. Non-commercial events only; standard rate applies to for-profit events. [www.sofmag.com](http://www.sofmag.com)

## MISCELLANEOUS

LET THE GOVERNMENT PAY for your new or existing home. Over 100 different programs available. Free-recorded message: (707) 448-3210. (8KW5)

■ **MINE, GRENADE & FIREARMS POSTERS:** 50+ set; single posters and poster books available. Securesearch, Inc., 3500 Pharmacy, U-4, Toronto, ON., Canada M1W 2T6. (1-416) 492-5349, Fax: (1-416) 492-3656

## U.S. GOVERNMENT LAND

Federally owned land currently available in AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, WY for **\$2.50 per acre**. U.S. citizens entitled to purchase **up to 160 acres per person**. For complete information package including maps, telephone helpline, filing forms, etc. send \$20 check or money order to: **FEDERAL LAND CO., Dept L, Box 21598, Washington, DC 20009**. (Note: this is not homesteading — lands are sold outright.) **MONEYBACK GUARANTEE!**

## SURVEILLANCE COUNTERSURVEILLANCE Electronic Devices

- **Spy Pinhole Cameras \$99<sup>00</sup>**
  - **Wireless Video • Voice Changer**
  - **Micro Recorders • Bug and Phone Tap Detectors • Locksmithing**
  - **Phone Call Register • Shotgun Mics**
  - **Realtime 15 Hour Telephone Recording System \$149<sup>00</sup>**
  - **Vehicle Tracking System • And more... Catalog \$5<sup>00</sup>**
- We will not be undersold  
[www.spyoutlet.com](http://www.spyoutlet.com)

**SPY OUTLET**  
P.O. Box 337, Buffalo NY 14226  
(716) 695-8660 / 691-3476

## INFORMATION SERVICES

Know who you are dealing with?

Locate Telephone Number and Addresses, Identity Verification, Criminal Records Checks, Motor Vehicle Reports, Background Checks, Business Reports, Marriage and Death Records, More. Contact:

**JGS Inc.**  
P.O. Box 120176,  
Staten Island, New York 10312-0176  
718-984-9012, Fax: 718-356-7256

**50,000 MAPS:** Topographic, Tactical Quads, Travel, Political, Vietnam, Nevis, Roswell, Anyplace! 7700 Air Photos. Catalog \$4.00 (refundable). MONARCH, Box 42003-203F, Phoenix, AZ 85080.

**NEED ALTERNATE USA ID?** Privacy, protection, peace of mind. Only \$1898.00. Hilton A. Vandamme, 214-890-6884, 24 hours a day. Strictly confidential consulting services. Now call when ready with available funds.

**Adventure Courses.** Tactical, bodyguard, spy, survival, swat, firearms and more. [www.security-opsgroup.com](http://www.security-opsgroup.com)

**ESPIONAGE UNLIMITED:** Your one stop shop for surveillance, counter surveillance, privacy, new ID's and new identity, asset protection, covert weapons, investigations, and more. (802) 864-0951. [www.espionage-store.com](http://www.espionage-store.com)

**HIRED GUN** logo merchandise now available! Gold on black: caps, polo shirts, T-shirts, coffee mugs. Volume discounts! Call now TOLL FREE: (877) 544-1155 [www.hired-gun.com](http://www.hired-gun.com)

**FS BOOK COMPANY**  
 P.O. BOX 417457, DEPT. SF.  
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95841-7457

**Free Shipping! Fast Service!**

Secrets of a Super Hacker.....\$20  
 Counterfeit I.D. Made Easy.....\$16  
 I.D. By Mail: 20 Sources Fully Illustrated....\$25  
 The Anarchist Cookbook.....\$30  
 Your Revenge Is In The Mail.....\$13  
 The Poor Man's James Bond #1-4, CD-Rom...\$50  
 Personal Defense Weapons.....\$12  
 Privacy, How to Get It, How to Enjoy It....\$18  
 The Paper Trip III Master Guide To New ID....\$29  
 Home Workshop Professional Lock Tools....\$22  
 The Complete Guide To Lock Picking.....\$15  
 Drink As Much As You Want & Live Longer...\$15  
 B&E Book.....\$17  
 Reborn in the USA.....\$16  
 Gaslighting...\$15  
 Fraudulent Credentials.....\$10  
 Ur-ine Trouble.....\$20  
 Recreational Drugs.....\$25  
 Take No Prisoners...\$10  
 Document Fraud...\$15  
 Ditching Your Debts...\$15  
 Subway Survival...\$8

**WE SPECIALIZE IN DRUG EDUCATION BOOKS**  
 MANY CENSORED TITLES WE CAN'T LIST!  
 FAX 1-916-771-4201 FS Catalog.....\$2  
 Adults Only! CA Res. Add 7.75%  
 Air Mail Delivery Add \$3 Per Book (USA),  
 Canada Add \$5, Europe Add \$10, Per Book  
 All Orders Are Shipped In A Plain Package.  
 \$3 Pro. Fee On Credit Card Orders  
 and Orders Under \$15 Subtotal.  
 Credit Card Orders 1-800-635-8883  
 Customer Service 1-916-771-4203  
<http://www.fsbookco.com>  
**SERVING YOU SINCE 1985**

**FREEDOM COUNTRY**

20 big acres in WESTERN MONTANA, starting at \$19,950.00. Trout fishing, backpacking, camping, Elk, deer, moose, bear. ADJACENT to National Forest, near established towns. Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks nearby. **GUARANTEED ACCESS, INSURED TITLE, WARRANTY DEED. FREE color brochure, photos, maps. FULL MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE**  
 "Video Available"  
 CALL TOLL-FREE 1-800-592-5990  
**TREASURE STATE RANCHES**  
 210 Milwaukee Street, Dept. S  
 Deer Lodge, Montana 59722 — (406) 846-1000

✓ **INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF MERCENARIES** Membership Coin. Free registration with order. \$15. ea. plus \$3. S&H. Dave Olson, Box 804, Nokomis FL 34274.

**SPY GEAR**

■ **SPOOK TECH: THE SPY SHOP CATALOG** – We sell over 300+ Covert Spy Video/Audio Products at wholesale prices. Call 1-877-464-4-SPY for Catalog \$2.50 (includes 10% off coupon).

**SURVEILLANCE**

Electro-Optics Proudly Presents, Tiny Wireless Micro Video Cameras, Micro Security Cameras

**Need NEW ID? CREDIT-PRIVACY?**

Our Books Help You Get • New Identity • Credit • New SSN  
 • ID by mail • College degrees • Better jobs • Credit repair  
 • Cash businesses • "Free Money" [www.edenpress.com](http://www.edenpress.com)  
**FREE PRIVACY CATALOG: 1-800-338-8484**  
 EDEN PRESS • Box 8410-AB • Fountain Valley, CA 92728

**PROTECT YOUR GLOCK**

From DIRT DUST GRIT RAIN SNOW SNAGS etc. entering the hollow backstrap that is open **ALL THE WAY** to the pistol's internal action!!

"THE PLUG" installs or removes in a second on

**MODELS 17-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-31-32-33-34-35**

Does NOT permanently alter pistol or interfere with magazine insertion or ejection. Improves the look & feel of the GLOCK.

DEPT. APPROVED & CARRIED ON DUTY BY POLICE ACROSS THE U.S.A. **ORDER NOW AT ONLY \$5.00** plus \$1.25 shpng/hndng (foreign orders \$10 cert. U.S.)

VISA, M/C, AMEX, DISC  
 call 570-669-7027 (orders only) Mon to Sat 9am-11pm EST  
 Or mail check or money order WITH MODEL # to:  
 O.W.L. ENTERPRISES, Box 146, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

**LIFETIME MONEY BACK GUARANTEE**

**DESCRAMBLE**

Cable for **\$14.95!** (Kit)  
 Satellite **\$19.95**

Gets all channels! Why pay hundreds? 800-752-1389

that hook to TV and VCR only \$49.00. Online-Catalog [www.covertsurveillance.com](http://www.covertsurveillance.com) <<http://www.covertsurveillance.com>> Orders 1-888-474-9409

■ **Did this get your attention?** It's a "Dingbat." So are ✓ and ●. Add them to your SOF classified ad for \$5/each.

**TRAINING**

"SUPERIOR TRAINING FOR PROFESSIONALS!" Executive Protection, Maritime Security, CQP, Technical Surveillance, Counter Intelligence, Investigations Management, Career Development, and Tactical Courses. Enterprising Securities (770) 723-1683 or [www.enterprisingsecurities.com](http://www.enterprisingsecurities.com)

**BOUNTY HUNTER, STOLEN-CHILD, AND BODY-GUARD TRAINING BY PROFESSIONALS.** Call or write for details: National Institute, PO BOX 32230, Tucson, AZ 85751. 520.290.8051

**WANTED**

**UNIQUE COLLECTION.** I collect unissued military identification cards from all over the world. I need for my collection, the old Army green identification card or the pink National Guard card. Willing to pay \$500.00 for each. Send name, phone number, and time to call. Mr. Z. P.O. Box 34, East Bridgewater, Mass. 02333

**Extended Slide Lock For** \$9.95 P.P.D.

**GLOCK®**

• DROP IN REPLACEMENT • FITS IN ALL HOLSTERS

Manufactured in U.S.A. by:  
 Ranch Products PO BOX 145 Malinto, OH 43535

**DO YOU BUY SOF ON THE NEWSSTAND?**

Now you can help your favorite magazine with our **GUERRILLA MARKETING PLAN!**

- Is SOF racked with gun magazines at your local newsstand? If you find it there, move it into the military magazine section.
- Is SOF hidden at the back of the rack? Move it to the front!
- Can't find SOF at your local newsstand? Please ask the store manager why he/she isn't carrying SOF. And thanks!

**BUSHPILOT WINGS**

**BADGE QUALITY – CORROSION FREE RHODIUM**

Send \$9.95 to: BUSHPILOT  
 P.O. Box 211296  
 Bedford, TX 76095-8296  
 Catalog with purchase -- Allow 4-6 weeks  
<http://www.bushwings.com>

**WEBSITES**

✓ **FOR ONLY \$25/month** you can list your Website or Internet URL + 10 words right here. This is a great way to get out the word on your site!

**ACTION KNIVES** Automatics, Butterflies, Nunchakus, Stars, Batons, Lasers, Knuckles, [www.actionknives.com](http://www.actionknives.com) (877-3KNIVES)

**POLICE BADGES, Guns, Weapons** "Find Icon Win Gift" [www.maxsell.com](http://www.maxsell.com) (954-568-1480)

**SURPLUS/SURVIVAL:** Low Prices – Free Shipping, [www.GorillaGear.com](http://www.GorillaGear.com)

**XTREMELY-SHARP.COM** Swords, Knives, Armor, Blowguns, Crossbows, Martial Arts Equipment, and such...Checkout our website! <http://extremely-sharp.com> (Mention "FOR-TUNE" for 5% off!)

■ **SPY GEAR FOR YOU,** Words Smallest Wireless Video Camera, \$199 – [www.SpyGear4u.com](http://www.SpyGear4u.com), or call 1-8-SPYGEAR-4-U

**Authentic U.S. Govt. Issue Army / Navy Surplus.** Best prices - OnLine catalog [www.americanarmy-navy.com](http://www.americanarmy-navy.com) Phone 888-566-ARMY

● **CYBER DETECTIVE TOOLKIT!** The software private investigators wish was kept secret. <http://www.xspy.net>

**SOLDIER OF FORTUNE ON THE WEB!** A comprehensive list of all back issues is available at our website, [www.sofmag.com](http://www.sofmag.com). Read descriptions of all issues and order through our secure server. Quantity discounts and free domestic shipping and handling! **WWW.SOFMAG.COM**

"COWBOY ACTION SHOOTERS, action work, etc. Recommended by Mike Venturino." [www.ycsi.net/users/gunsmith](http://www.ycsi.net/users/gunsmith)

**Civil War/Western Pistols,** swords, rifles, and pit-toons. [www.collectorsarmory.com](http://www.collectorsarmory.com) (954) 568-1480

# Be a DETECTIVE

Explore a secret world! Fascinating new career. Experience a new adventure every day. Dynamic home study course. Diploma, Badge, State approved. FREE DETECTIVE CAREER INFO.



1-800-742-9007 Dept. 301  
www.detectivetraining.com

## YOUR KIDS WILL LOVE THIS!

LEARN TO SHOOT!

Rifles/Pistols/Shotguns/Muzzleloaders.  
WE TEACH

Hunting/Camping & Wilderness Skills.  
NO OTHER SUMMER CAMP MATCHES  
THE NRA WHITTINGTON ADVENTURE!



Call NOW for  
FREE Information  
(505) 445-3615

NRA WHITTINGTON CENTER

P.O. Box 700, Dept. SOF, Raton, New Mexico 87740

195 U.S. GOVT REPORTS PROVE EXISTENCE OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER. Type in browser: WWW.TP.SMARTWEB.NET <<http://www.tp.smartweb.net/>>

Visit the Most Incredible Internet Marketing Site That You Will Ever Find! Guaranteed!  
<http://www.americanprofit.com>

# Be A... PRIVATE EYE



Have a life of intrigue, excitement, adventure! Learn from the REAL experts:

Investigation • Surveillance • Skiptracing  
Start Your Own Business  
State Approved • Diploma Awarded

Free Brochure!  
Call Or Write

(310) 657-6333

United States Academy  
of Private Investigation  
P.O. Box 2133 (SF)  
Beverly Hills, CA 90213

## VISIT OUR SPY SHOP

"On The World Wide Web"

[www.spytechagency.com](http://www.spytechagency.com)

"On The Sunset Strip"

8519-8521 W. Sunset Blvd.

West Hollywood, CA 90069

- Web Site Features -

PI Agency • PI Academy • Spy Shop  
Online over 2500 investigation - surveillance  
countermeasure products, books & videos!!

# ELECTRICITY

## STOP BUYING IT!

Legally reduce your cost to as low as \$10-\$15 per Month!

And, make FANTASTIC MONEY showing friends and neighbors how to do the same!

Call Toll Free Now!  
**FREE PROOF!** 800-668-1878  
[stopbuyingelectricity.com](http://stopbuyingelectricity.com)

The World's Finest Line of Thematic Military T's.



WWW.7POINT62DESIGN.COM  
San Diego, CA. • Ph. 658.693.4130

HAT PINS • MEDALS •

BUCKLES • PATCHES • BALL CAPS

- FREE COLOR CATALOG
- 2500+ Military Designs
- Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines
- Call now! Toll-free!  
1-888-223-1159
- Custom pins & patches available.  
Dealer inquiries welcome.

## HONORS

by Hoover's Mfg., Co.  
P.O. Box 547SF, Peru, IL 61354  
Fax: 1-815-223-1499

## ADVERTISERS INDEX

Activision/Raven Software . . .	12-13
Automatic Knife	
Resource Guide . . . . .	18
Baden K-9 . . . . .	10
Blackhawk Industries . . . . .	8-9
Bud K Worldwide . . . . .	11
Chase-Durer . . . . .	Cover 4
Citizen Shield Corp. . . . .	75
Defendo CQB . . . . .	33
Direct Action Video . . . . .	19
Eden Press . . . . .	75
Edges2 . . . . .	71
Excalibur Electro Optics Inc. . . .	6
gasmasks.com . . . . .	Cover 3
G. G. & G. . . . .	20
G-Jo Institute . . . . .	70
Global School of Investigation .	76
Glock . . . . .	29
Innovative Sports . . . . .	23
Inter-American Security	
Products . . . . .	77

Investment Arms . . . . .	21
Iron Wolf Enterprises . . . . .	7
Jarvis International	
Intelligence, Inc. . . . .	72
L.A. Law Enforcers . . . . .	75
Land Shark . . . . .	28
L.A.R. Grizzly . . . . .	18
LRPP K-9 Services . . . . .	75
Master Guy Savelli . . . . .	35
Matthews Police Supply . . . . .	75
Michigan Body Armor . . . . .	76
Military Media . . . . .	25
NewsMax.com . . . . .	27
Paladin Press . . . . .	5
Paramount Pictures . . . . .	17
Pioneer . . . . .	35
Planet Ammo . . . . .	74
Professional Career	
Development . . . . .	76

Round Eye Knife & Tool . . . . .	74
S&K Labs . . . . .	75, 77
Silver Creek Industries . . . . .	76
Silverman's . . . . .	22
SOF Back Issues . . . . .	76
SOF Convention . . . . .	34
SOF Convention T-Shirts . . . . .	76
SOF Lifetime Subscriptions . . .	64
SOF Logo Products . . . . .	32
SOF Three-Gun Matches . . . . .	77
SOS T-Shirts & Jackets . . . . .	14
Southern Ordnance . . . . .	72
Steve Arnold's Gunroom . . . . .	68
Tac-Jac 2001 . . . . .	71
Taurus International . . . . .	Cover 2
Threat Response Systems . . . . .	15
Thunder Ranch . . . . .	70
United Cutlery . . . . .	69
U.S. Cavalry . . . . .	77
USI Corp. . . . .	75
Wiggy's . . . . .	73

Combat Craft Magazine . . . . .	58
Crossed Arrow	
Publications . . . . .	58
DPMS/Panther Arms . . . . .	35
El Paso Saddlery . . . . .	49

## PRODUCT INDEX

No Quarter Given . . . . .	58
Old Western Scrounger . . . . .	33
Paladin Press . . . . .	58

PISTRIS . . . . .	57
SIG-Sauer . . . . .	59
SniPod . . . . .	32
Special Ops Associates . . . . .	57
White Lightning . . . . .	35

# PARTING SHOT

## Helms Demands That U.N. Alter Course

*Editor's note: The following is excerpted from Senator Jesse Helms' recent, and controversial, 19 January 2000 address before the United Nations Security Council. As you might imagine, the American press largely ignored his remarks. Not many politicians have the courage to place America first. We heartily salute Sen. Helms for his guts in proclaiming the truth — and for remaining an American, instead of a "citizen of the world."*

**‘It’s** my hope that there can begin today a pattern of understanding and friendship between you who serve your respective countries in the United Nations, and those of us who serve not only in the United States government, but also the millions of Americans whom we represent.

It may very well be that some of the things that I feel obliged to say will not meet with your immediate approval, if ever.

I'm not a diplomat, and as such, I'm not fully conversant with the elegant and rarefied language of the diplomatic trade. I'm an elected official with something of a reputation for saying what I mean and meaning what I say. So I trust you will forgive me if I come across a little bit more blunt than you are accustomed to hearing in this chamber.

Let me share with you what the American people tell me. Since I became Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, I have received literally thousands of communications from Americans all across the country expressing their deep frustration with this institution. They know instinctively that the U.N. lives and breathes on the hard-earned money of the American taxpayers, among others, yet they have heard comments here in New York constantly calling the United States a "deadbeat nation." I dissent from that, and so do the American people.

They have heard U.N. officials declaring, absurdly, that countries like Fiji and Bangladesh are carrying America's burden in peacekeeping.

They see the majority of the U.N. members routinely voting against America in the General Assembly.

They have read the reports of the raucous cheering of the U.N. delegates in Rome when U.S. efforts to amend the International Criminal Court Treaty to protect American soldiers were defeated.

They read in the newspapers that despite all the human rights abuses taking place in dictatorships around the globe, a U.N. special *rappporteur* deciding that his most pressing task was to investigate human rights violations in the United States of America, and he found our human rights record wanting, of course.

The American people hear all of this and they resent it. And I think they have grown increasingly frustrated with what they feel is a lack of gratitude.

And I won't delve into every port of frustration, but let's touch for just a moment on one — the deadbeat charge. Before coming here, I asked the United States General Accounting Office to assess just how much the American taxpayers contributed to the United Nations in the last year — 1999.

And here is what the G.A.O. reported to me: Last year, the American people contributed a total of more than \$1.4 billion to the United Nations system in assessments and voluntary contributions. That's pretty generous, but it's only the tip of the iceberg.

The American taxpayers also spent an additional \$8,779,000,000 from the United States military budget to support various U.N. resolutions and peacekeeping operations around the world.

Now, let me repeat that figure just for the purpose of emphasis: \$8,779,000,000. Now, this means that last year, 1999 alone, that 12-month period, the American people have furnished precisely \$10,179,000,000 to support the work of the United Nations and no other nation on Earth comes even close to matching that investment.

But — and candor compels me to say this — if the United Nations seeks to move beyond ... core tasks, if it seeks to impose the United Nations' power and authority over nation states, I guarantee that the United Nations will meet stiff resistance from the American people. As matters now stand, many Americans sense that the United Nations has greater ambitions than simply being an efficient deliverer of humanitarian aid, a more effective peacekeeper, a better weapons inspector, and a more effective tool of great power diplomacy. The American people see the United Nations aspiring to establish itself the central authority of a new international order of global laws and global governance.

This is an international order the American people, I guarantee you, do not and will not countenance.

The United Nations must respect national sovereignty in the United States and everywhere else. The United Nations serves nation states, not the other way around. This principle is central to the legitimacy and the ultimate survival of the United Nations, and it is a principle that must be protected.

... When Ronald Reagan sent American servicemen into harm's way to liberate Grenada from the hands of a communist dictatorship, the U.N. General Assembly responded by voting to condemn the action of the elected president of the United States, Ronald Reagan, as a, quote, "violation of international law," end of quote, and, I am obliged to add, they did so by a larger majority than when the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was condemned by the same General Assembly.

Forty years later, the U.N. seeks to impose its Utopian vision of an international law on Americans.

And that is why Americans reject the idea of a sovereign United Nations that presumes to be the source of legitimacy for the United States government's policies, foreign or domestic.

There is only one source of legitimacy of the American government's policies, and that is the consent of the American people.

The demands of the United States have not changed very much since Henry Cabot Lodge laid out his conditions for Joining the League of Nations 80 years ago. And Americans want to ensure that the United States of America remains the sole judge of its own internal affairs, that the United Nations is not allowed to restrict the individual rights of U.S. citizens, and that the United States retains sole authority over the deployment of United States forces around the world.

If the United Nations respects the sovereign rights of the American people and serves them as an effective instrument, it will earn and deserve their respect and support.

But a United Nations that seeks to impose its presumed authority on the American people without their consent, begs for confrontation and — I want to be candid with you — eventual U.S. withdrawal." ❧

# Pissing off terrorists since 1997

Hey, we take it for granted that terrorists don't like us. The reason? We have the world's largest selection of BRAND NEW (not nearly new, not used, not surplus), technologically advanced gas masks and accessories from the United States and Western Europe and we sell them to people just like you. People who want to know that they and their families will be safe in the event of a chemical, biological or even nuclear attack.

[www.gasmasks.com](http://www.gasmasks.com)

or for more info, call us TOLL-FREE 1.877.GAS.MASK  
(1.877.427.6275)



military gas masks • civilian gas masks • NBC hoods • filters • gloves • spectacle kits • chemical protective suits • potassium iodide • shelters



**NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES**

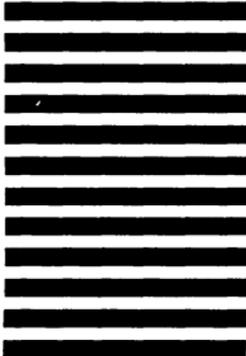
**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

PERMIT NO. 8

MT. MORRIS, IL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE



**SOLDIER OF  
FORTUNE**

PO BOX 348

MT MORRIS IL 61054-9817



# CHASE-DURER BEVERLY HILLS GENEVE

DESIGNED FOR MILITARY PILOTS

## PILOT COMMANDER XVA Alarm Chronograph

Precision multi-function YM52 chronograph movement, Power alarm, 1/5th second, Elapsed time, Case and band in solid 316L stainless steel, Screw-locked crown & screw-in back, Revolving E6B flight computer bezel, Tachymetre, Tritium/SPO advanced illumination system on hands & indexes, Hardened mineral crystal, Water resistant to 100m/330 feet, Diameter 42mm, Double lock security clasp, Serial numbered

Credit card orders call: **1.800.544.4365**

Ask for operator D131

270 N. Canon Drive #1402-D131 Beverly Hills, CA 90210 Fax: 310.550.0830

**5 Year Limited Warranty, 30 Day Money Back Guarantee, Same Day Shipping**

[www.chase-durer.com](http://www.chase-durer.com)



\$500 Value  
Now Only  
**\$249**  
s&h \$9.95



**ALABAMA** Selma: ROGER BUTLER (334) 874-4616 **ARIZONA** Scottsdale: SCHUBACH (888) 724-8222 **CALIFORNIA** Bakersfield: CARRIAGE (661) 322-2246 Century City: ARVA (310) 556-1317 LaJolla: C.J.CHARLES (858) 454-5390 Sherman Oaks: TIC TIME (818) 905-9333 Tarzana: DARVA (818) 881-4653 Thousand Oaks: THE GOLD STORE (805) 495-5464 **COLORADO** Denver: RIGHT TIME (888) 846-3388 Greeley: WEISS JEWELERS (970) 352-6580 **CONNECTICUT** Greenwich: JEWELRY BY ROSE (203) 869-4054 **FLORIDA** Boca Raton: ALTIER (561) 395-3462 Gainesville: MARKS & MORGAN JEWELERS (352) 331-8396 Jacksonville: MARKS & MORGAN (904) 363-2080 Orlando: MARKS & MORGAN JEWELERS (407) 855-5719 Tampa: ALDO BRIONI (813) 253-2288 KING JEWELRY (813) 287-2599 **GEORGIA** Augusta: DORIS DIAMOND (706) 733-6747 Savannah: MARKS & MORGAN (912) 925-0497 **IDAHO** Coeur D'alene: WATCHES BY GOSH (208) 667-3305 **ILLINOIS** Lake Forest: CLOCKWORKS (847) 234-7272 **KANSAS** Garden City: LINENBERGER (316) 276-2770 **MASSACHUSETTS** Florence: MURDUFF'S (413) 586-8760 **MISSOURI** Liberty: THE POLISHED EDGE (816) 781-6360 **NEW MEXICO** Albuquerque: DYLAN JONES (505) 888-1331 **N. CAROLINA** Fayetteville: RHUDY'S (910)488-2971 **NEW JERSEY** Atlantic City: BRANDEIS at CAESARS (609) 340-1335 Elizabeth: SALERMO (908) 289-7791 Pt Pleasant Beach: GOLD FEVER (732) 892-3535 **NEVADA** Las Vegas: BERGER & SON (702) 737-7118 **NEW YORK** New York: FINESSE (212) 967-6853 KAMIA SoHo (212) 334-6046 VINCENT GERARD (212) 732-6400 Schenectady: NORTHEASTERN (518) 372-3604 **PENNSYLVANIA** Butler: GOLDEN DREAMS (724) 282-4653 Easton: BEVERLY PALM (610) 258-7256 Kennett Square: BOVE (610) 444-4525 Philadelphia: GOVBERG (215) 557-1002 Pittsburgh: CHAPEL HILLS JEWELRY (412) 782-1757 **RHODE ISLAND** North Kingstown: BROWNE & CO. (401) 295-2420 **SC. CAROLINA** Charleston: MARKS & MORGAN JEWELERS (843) 572-1171 **TEXAS** San Antonio: K&S WATCH (210) 599-9337 **UTAH** Sandy: TIMEPIECES (801) 816-7744 **VIRGINIA** McLean: DIAMOND CREATIONS (703) 883-1818 **WASHINGTON** Spokane: WATCH WORLD (509) 482-0743 **WASHINGTON D.C** SWISS WATCH WORKS (202) 333-4550