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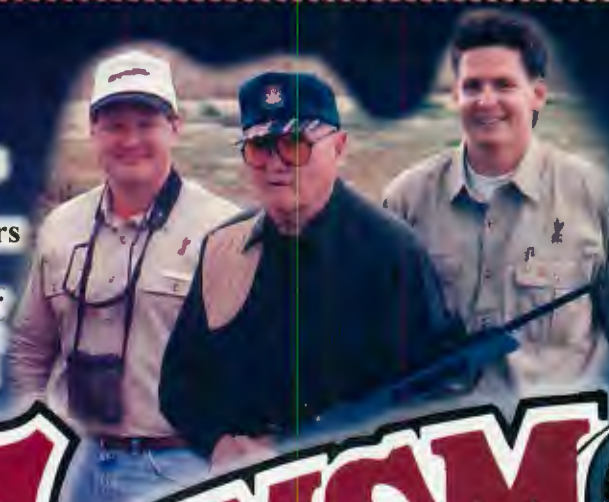


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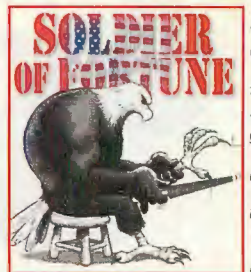
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Cartoon: Steve Breen/Copley News Service

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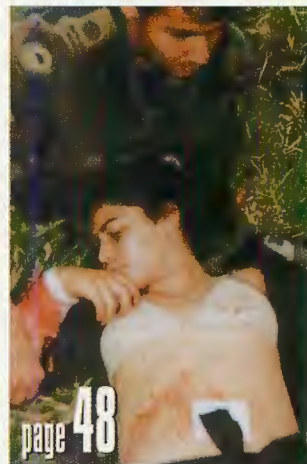
The United States, a nation of razored talons, gears-up to give world terrorists advanced degrees in surgical military retaliation. See section beginning on page 4.



AP/Wideworld



David Stone



Dr. Tom Marks

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Command Guidance

BY ROBERT K. BROWN

Fix Bayonets

As we go to press, a cadre of heroic rescue workers is combing the rubble of what was once an icon of American commerce, with a waning hope of finding and extracting just one more victim of the most monstrous, most yellow-bellied sneak attack in American history.

While we write this, American and many Allied forces have mustered and are forming the ranks of an international coalition that will attempt to destroy — not stem, but destroy — terrorism where it breeds, is nurtured and from where it strikes.

There has been a vast change across the United States. Politicians whom we have called to task for un-American behavior are now saluting President Bush. It has been amazing to watch the country come together in a manner unseen in more than 60 years. If our gut feelings and seething rage are to be believed, this generation may very well outdo those who have become known as the “greatest generation.”

This will be a war, not a police action, and we expect to be in it for the duration. Mark our words, we are not rattling sabers, we are fixing bayonets.

The obvious targets are all the usual suspects — Osama bin Laden *et al.* — but there is increasing intelligence being sifted that strongly supports the obvious: These madmen did not act alone, but with substantial

encouragement and assistance from established (as opposed to legitimate) governments.

American forces are relocating to the Middle East, and it may safely be assumed that whoever is behind this monstrous act is there as well. It also may be safely assumed that there will be one helluva a lot of steel coming their way stamped “Made in the U.S.A.” What we do know at this point cannot be told right now, but SOF combat correspondents are en route to the theater as this is written, and we will bring you the story from ground level. If the story comes from Afghanistan, well, we’ve sent more from-the-ground dispatches out of that arena than any other publication and we’ll be glad to pick up where we left off.

In the meantime, in this issue we have DX’d our usual columns in order that we may bring you the best editorials and related first-response material from the American Fourth Estate.

This will probably be a ride to remember and SOF will be at the sharp edge. It’s Payback Time, and payback will be a bitch.

If you want to ensure you get the inside combat reports from ground level, please note the enclosed subscription card — we have already had a run at the newsstands for our last issue. ☒



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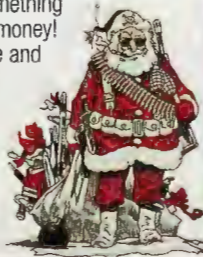
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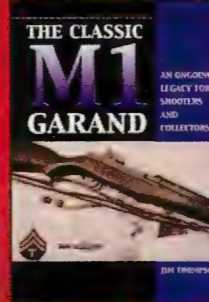
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THE BUSH DOCTRINE

BY JACK WHEELER

The “Reagan Doctrine” was the title the media (first by Charles Krauthammer in the 1 May 1985 issue of *Time Magazine*) bestowed upon a strategy adopted by the Reagan White House to assault and destroy the entire structure of Soviet colonial imperialism. This strategy was successful.

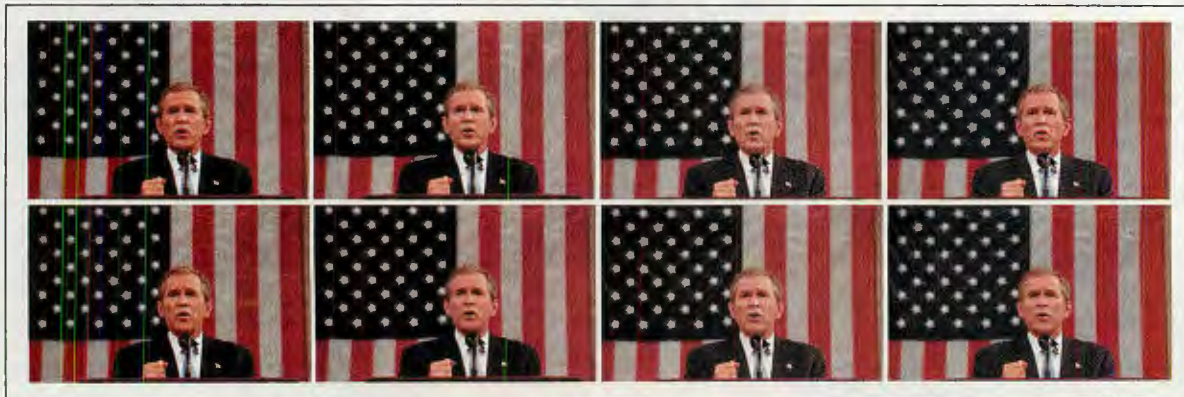
What is required now, in the wake of the 11 September atrocity, is a strategy to assault and destroy the entire structure of Muslim Terrorism. If adopted and put into action by President George W. Bush and his administration, it would become known as the Bush Doctrine.

Prior to the Reagan Doctrine, the strategy of the United States towards the Soviet Union was that of containment developed by George Kennan. It was essentially a defensive policy, to “contain” Soviet expansionism as much as possible and wait them out. As the Soviets went on the imperial march during the Vietnam-Watergate-Jimmy Carter 1970s, converting 14 countries into Soviet colonies from Brazzaville-Congo in 1969 to Afghanistan in 1979, this policy was proven an abject failure. With the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980, the possibility of an offensive strategy towards the Soviets emerged. The basic concept was to iden-

Arm the flight crews. Why do Muslim terrorists never hijack the planes of El Al (the Israeli airline)? It is because the flight crews (pilots and attendants) are armed and trained.

tify the most vulnerable weaknesses of the Soviet Empire and actively pursue methods to exacerbate those weaknesses as much as possible.

The goal of the Reagan Doctrine’s architects (of which I was one) was clear: Rid the world of Soviet imperialism. We did not want peace with the Soviet Union, we did not want to get along with it, we were totally sick and tired of its murderous tyranny and threats to our existence, so we wanted it gone, eliminated, eradicated, and off the world map entirely. We looked upon the Soviets as we did the Nazis. Just as the U.S. did not want to “contain” Nazi Germany but wanted — and got — victory over it, we did not want to “contain” the Soviet Union but wanted victory. So did Ronald Reagan. Because Ronald Reagan wanted victory, and had a clear, practical strategy to achieve it, we got it. The Soviet Union no



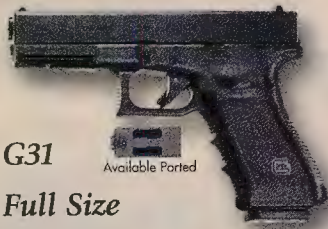
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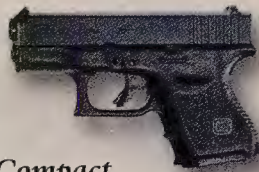
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President George W. Bush has announced that he and America will settle for nothing less than victory over Muslim terrorism. This can only mean that from now on we will not accommodate it, tolerate it, attempt to contain it, make excuses for it, nor shy away from fighting it with lily-livered "we can't be ruthless or we're just as bad as them" drool. Further, it also means that President Bush must put into action a specific blueprint — a Bush Doctrine — for such a victory.

The Bush Doctrine would be a comprehensive strategy employing various kinds of tactics. Among them could be the following:

The Anti-Terrorist Policy of the United States should be summed up in six words: "Hunt them down and kill them." The Israelis have figured this out. It's about time we do.

- Arm the flight crews. Why do Muslim terrorists never hijack the planes of El Al (the Israeli airline)? It is because the flight crews (pilots and attendants) are armed and trained. Flight crews of U.S. airlines are not allowed to be armed. This is a result of the "Victim Disarmament" policy of the gun-control lobby. U.S. flight crews aren't even permitted to carry pepper spray or tasers — either one of which could have immobilized the 11 September hijackers. All flight attendants on U.S. airlines should now be required to carry pepper spray or tasers and be trained in their use. All pilots on U.S. airlines should now be armed with guns and trained in



USAF

their use. The ammo should be either frangible rounds or #12 birdshot shot shells, which break up on contact so that a terrorist's face would be blown off but the plane's fuselage or plastic windows won't be penetrated. We must make sure that terrorists would be as terrified of trying to hijack an American plane as he would an Israeli one.

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- Rescind the Presidential Executive Order prohibiting assassination. This is a necessary — repeat, necessary — condition for the defeat of Muslim terrorism. The American government must now be in the assassination business. The operative word is “must.” Individual Muslim Terrorists must be targeted and personally killed. No trials, no “bringing them to justice.” The Anti-Terrorist Policy of the United States should be summed up in six words: Hunt them down and kill them. The Israelis have figured this out. It’s about time we do. President Bush can rescind the no-assassination EO with a stroke of the pen; he does not need the permission of congress. What congress can do, however, is:

- Issue Letters of Marque. Article II, Section 8, of the Constitution grants congress the power to “Declare War and Grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal.” It goes without saying that there must be a formal Declaration of War against Muslim terrorism by congress. Beyond that, congress should issue documents of legal permission — “Letters of Marque” — to competent private organizations authorizing them to capture or terminate specific identified Muslim terrorists. In other words, there should be an official U.S. government list of those who are wanted dead or alive, bounties in the millions of dollars placed on their heads, and private bounty hunters authorized with Letters of Marque to collect the rewards. There are a number of highly professional “risk-management” companies, such as GlobalOptions in Washington D.C., who are capable of fielding teams of ex-Delta Force and ex-Navy SEAL commandos to perform this task.

- Launch the Hammer of Thor. Despite the protestations

of anti-missile defense types, full funding and rapid deployment of missile defense systems is now a given. Further, however, these systems must be quickly put to anti-terrorist purposes. High Energy Chemical Lasers (such as the U.S. Army’s THEL, which has been successfully tested) can be positioned in space to target individual terrorists. Small enough to be carried by a 747 in flight or the Space Shuttle to be placed in orbit, a HECL is essentially a rocket engine burning special fuels such as deuterium/fluorine, with mirrors lasing the gases into focused

This is a struggle that will not be won in the light of day, glorious battle with the troops storming Mount Suribachi. It will be won in the darkness, with spies and assassins.

infra-red energy. The resultant coherent IR laser beam delivers roughly one pound of TNT energy for every one pound of rocket fuel at 20 pounds per fraction of a second. The beam diameter from orbit to ground is only a few feet, making extremely selective targeting possible. Hit by such a beam, all the fat molecules in an individual terrorist’s body would be instantly vaporized in a pillar of fire, leaving only a small pile of charcoal and ashes as residue. Terrorists would have to remain hidden in deep bunkers to prevent their vaporization, as the beam can penetrate vehicles and most buildings. Such a space-deployed anti-terrorist HECL system would appropriately be called The Hammer of Thor.

These are a few examples of what elements the Bush Doctrine would contain. One unifying theme is that of indi-

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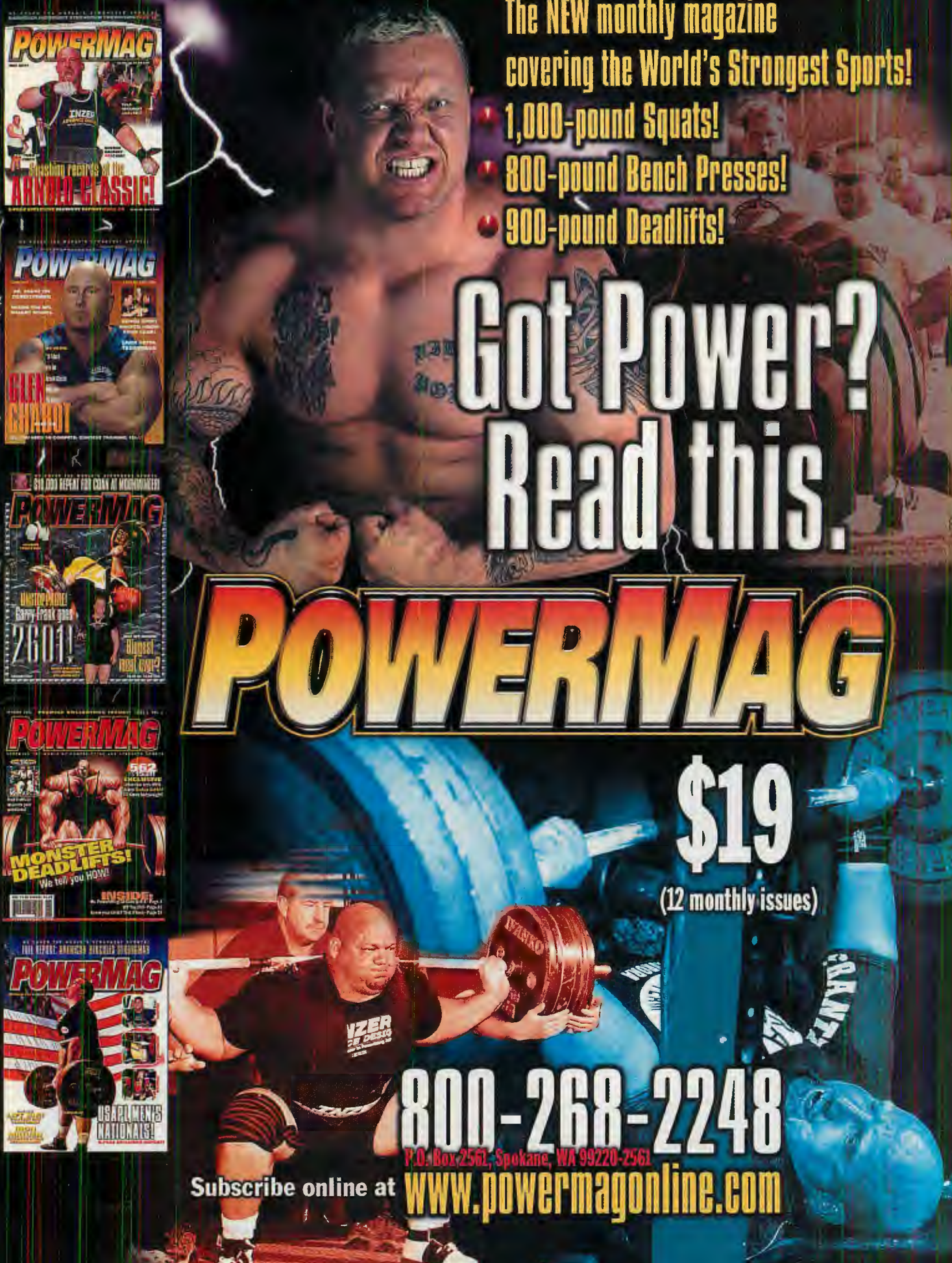
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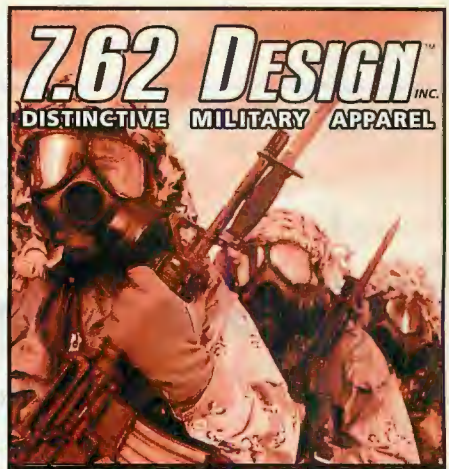
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vidual retaliation, not massive retaliation. We do not need to level Baghdad or nuke Kabul. We do not need B52 strikes. That's so 20th Century. As President Bush has noted, this is the first war of the 21st Century — and it requires going after specific individuals, not groups, peoples, and cities. We need to kill Saddam Hussein individually, kill Osama bin Laden individually, kill every Taliban assisting Osama bin Laden, kill every member of every cell of Osama bin Laden, kill every member of Hezbollah, kill every Iranian government sponsor of Hezbollah, kill every member of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, kill every Syrian government sponsor of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad — all of them must be located, hunted down, targeted, and personally put to death.

This requires not huge armies. This requires Special Operations teams of the various U.S. military services equipped and trained to target these individuals. This requires the private mobilization of those Americans who have the skills and training, but no longer serve in the U.S. armed forces, such as former SEALs, Marines, Rangers, Green Berets, Delta Force, and others. This requires the Pentagon brass to focus their efforts and funding on Special Operations, rather than continuing to prepare for a land war in Europe. This requires a mammoth funding of HumInt (human intelligence) resources for the CIA to provide reliable targeting information. And most of all it requires of the American people to have the will and the steel for such a struggle. This is a struggle that will not be won in the light of day, in glorious battle with the troops storming Mount Suribachi. It will be won in the darkness, with spies and assassins. The only way to win this war, the way to destroy the entire structure of Muslim terrorism, is to terrify the terrorists individually.

What we must all keep in clear focus is that America is not at war with Moslems, but with Moslem Terrorists. America is not at war with any nation, nor with any ethnic, racial, or religious group, but with individuals who have made a choice, a choice to suffuse their souls with murderous, envious evil. These individuals have freely chosen to become our enemies. We now have no choice but to ensure that they suffer the mortal consequence of that choice. That should be the essence of the Bush Doctrine.

Jack Wheeler, a frequent visitor to Afghanistan in the 1980s, is the director of the Freedom Research Foundation. ☒



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If We Beg For Protection, The Enemy Wins

BY WAYNE LAUGESEN

After the second plane sank into the World Trade Center, the tops of the two buildings burned like torches in a surreal scene in a far-fetched Bruce Willis flick. Then the buildings fell. How we react will determine whether our nation will fall.

When the smoke and dust clear, this will be far from over. It won't be like Oklahoma City. This isn't only about finding the bad guys and convicting them, or using hundreds of millions worth of insurance money and emergency government aid to rebuild and move on with our lives. We should be so lucky. This will hurt, and it will change freedom as we know it in the United States, for as long as we live.

The economy will recover, New York City will rebuild. What may not survive is the Bill of Rights. Post-Oklahoma City, voters demanded that politicians make new laws, to do something dramatic to prevent another major terrorist attack. We ended up with the Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996, a law that did nothing to protect us from terrorists yet did plenty to erode fundamental civil liberties.

We ended up with more police on the streets than our nation has ever seen. We eliminated most of the due process federal inmates had after being sentenced to death. We eliminated most of the protections for the privacy of persons not suspected of crimes by authorizing roving wiretaps without probable cause by federal agents. Playing off crime fears, Clinton urged random police sweeps of apartments in public housing projects to seize guns. He urged the abolition of the exclusionary rule that prohibits evidence obtained by the police in violation of the law from being used in court.

Anyone who has been to an airport knows what steps we've taken to try stopping would-be hijackers. Bags get X-rayed and sniffed by dogs, identification is checked, bodies pass through metal detectors and are often patted-down. We've been deluded into depending upon the government to protect us. And when the system fails, we immediately ask for more protection from government. We respond in the

same, flawed way every time, without success, and stupidly expect different results. It's insane.

Predictably, less than 48 hours after the worst terrorist attack in history, pundits and politicians are already calling for ever-more draconian "security precautions," none of which have a hope in hell of working. We are a nation of cowards and we're always willing to cash in freedom in return for the illusion of safety.

The collapse of two of the world's most magnificent buildings, the deaths of thousands of Americans, a crippling attack on our military's nerve center ... This is strong stuff, so devastating that it may indeed change the charter of a nation. The terrorists may have won. I would have a hard

time telling the grieving mother of a child killed in the World Trade Center that my constitutional rights are more important than the safety of her family. But they are more important, and we as citizens must come to that understanding or our nation will fall.

We can't trade freedom for security. It doesn't work that way, and only snake-oil politicians can keep straight faces and say it does.

In fact, our desire for government-guaranteed safety is

the very reason America was brought to its knees by two-bit terrorists. You see, the safety we've asked for has not been delivered by government. While existing regulations require high-level security at every commercial airport in the country, it's self-evident that neither laws, regulations nor the security precautions work.

We, as a nation, have done everything we can to disarm criminals, yet violent crime persists because in trying to disarm criminals, we have disarmed ourselves as well, leaving us at the mercy of zealots with plastic knives. We have a phone system so sophisticated that three numbers — 911 — allow cops to know the exact locations of people in distress almost instantly. Even people on the hijacked planes Tuesday were calling 911, for all the good it did them.

Our phony sense of well-being keeps Americans from tak-



ing responsibility for their own lives and safety. Recent events illustrate this better than all the millions of other crimes that could each stand as wonderful examples of how our 911 mentality cultivates violence.

The terrorist acts of Tuesday, 9-11, illustrate how government-packaged safety doesn't work. Pundits talk endlessly about the high level of sophistication, and the thorough planning skills of the perpetrators. Some would rule out one likely culprit, Osama bin Laden, saying the hijackings and suicide attacks were too sophisticated for him or his people.

Nonsense. Nothing about these attacks was sophisticated. It didn't need to be. For all the extreme security measures we've adopted at airports, hijackers don't need sophistication. Sure it's hard to get a gun on an airplane, and no law-abiding citizen would try. But this horrific event wasn't perpetrated with guns. It was perpetrated by insane religious zealots who evaded every security screening we had in place.

I possess a sharp, pointy, deadly knife made of hard composite plastic, perhaps the very same type used by the terrorists. It's called a "CIA letter opener." Hidden in a shoe or boot, it would be very difficult to detect this knife — short of asking all passengers to get nude at the metal detector. And even that wouldn't preclude one from hiding such a device in a body cavity. No matter how hard we try to make society safer by disarming law-abiding citizens in a vain attempt to disarm criminals, we achieve exactly the opposite of what we intend. Does it take sophistication to get around sophisticated airport security? No, it takes tiny knives.

The attacks also illustrate how our 911 mentality leaves us more vulnerable than we'd otherwise be. At this juncture, investigators suspect — based on 911 calls from the planes — that each aircraft was taken over by three to six men with

"knife-like objects." In some cultures, this would not be possible because passengers on the plane, knowing calls to cops wouldn't save their lives, would fight to their deaths trying to overcome the bad guys. Such a response from passengers, who always outnumber hijackers, might save the day. In fact, reports of a phone call from Thomas Burnett, a passenger on the aircraft that crashed near Pittsburgh, point to selfless heroism by several passengers who attempted to subdue the terrorists. This ended in the deaths of all aboard, but prevented the aircraft from being used as another flying bomb to kill thousands.

In the United States, we're constantly told by our government not to fight back, not to get involved, not to defend ourselves. Call 911, and let the professionals handle it, they insist. It is not your responsibility, we're told, and you might do more harm than good. If only the passengers on the planes that struck the World Trade Center and the Pentagon had ignored that advice.

Tuesday, President Bush assured us the terrorists won't win: "Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings," Bush said. "But they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve."

Our steel is our freedom, our independence and our personal resolve to defend ourselves, our fellow Americans and our nation, no matter what the personal consequences. If we give that up in return for more illusory safety, the terrorists will win, and we will deserve the destruction they wreak upon us.

A former SOF editor, Wayne Laugesen is a columnist for The Boulder Weekly. He may be reached at Wayne@Laugesen.com.

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CIA Officials Reveal What Went Wrong: **Clinton to Blame**

BY CHRISTOPHER RUDDY
NEWSMAX.COM

The worst, single most tragic day in the history of America has just passed.

Tuesday more Americans likely died than all the casualties of the Battle of Antietam on Wednesday, 17 September 1862.

Already the media spin on yesterday's events is relentless.

The talking heads are pushing several themes, including:

- Now is not the time to point fingers at responsible parties in America, i.e., political figures like Clinton or our own security agencies.
- The events of Tuesday are the "worst-case scenario" — the worst is over.
- Osama bin Laden is the culprit.

On these points of spin, the first one is baloney. Of course we need to find why our security failed. This is basic.

And unless the big media are consulting a psychic better than the one I use, no one knows what the future days, weeks and months may yield.

This is not the worst-case scenario. A worst-case scenario is a 25-megaton nuclear bomb detonated in New York or a full-scale attack against the U.S.! These should not be ruled out.

These dangers can be avoided, we pray, but only if we stop listening to the media idiots that feed us a diet of blow-dried nonsense. Is Katie Couric going to say how bad she feels for the terrorists who were driven to these cowardly acts?

It is the big media and the hack politicians that led us to this nightmarish day.

Smart To Examine Who Failed Us

We are Americans, so let's get our feet back on the

ground and use common sense.

The media say we shouldn't point fingers. (Funny, isn't it, how the media have spent 30 years pointing fingers at Richard Nixon for his alleged crimes, but when one of their liberal favorites is due for some blame, they feed us the mantras like "Let's move on!" and "No time to point fingers!")

Common sense, in fact, dictates that we need to critically examine the people who are to blame for this incident, both the perpetrators (and if you believe Osama bin Laden was the major mastermind behind this, I have a bridge in Brooklyn I want to sell you) and the people we pay to protect us — that is, our national security agencies.

Without question, these agencies failed miserably in preventing this sophisticated, wide-scale and coordinated attack against America.

Intelligence Agencies Failed Miserably

Tuesday I received an e-mail from a recently retired high-ranking CIA official. I will identify him as "Harry."

Here's what Harry said: "... Reacting effectively and justly to this [attack] makes us hugely dependent on intell [intelligence] capabilities that failed us miserably. This is an enormous liability, which we shall not be able to fix before we have to react. Payback time for the last eight years!"

He continued: "There were clearly enormous failures here. This operation was ingenious in its simplicity, which would have limited the size (number of people, actions) of the operation and hence detectability. But it could not have been that small for at least a dozen men to hijack four carefully chosen



AP/Wideworld

aircraft (routes, fuel load) with carefully coordinated timing. And to get through security with knives big enough to subdue four relatively large crews. If the intell and security systems claim that this challenge is simply too hard for them, they have to be replaced, root and branch. Because this challenge is the challenge. It is now pretty self-evident that claims of reform and adjustment [at the intelligence agencies] to new realities that we've heard over the past eight years or so are hollow."

Of course, it's obvious why the media doesn't want any finger pointing.

may end up paying a heavy price for Bill Clinton and the major media's complicity.

I don't believe the worst has passed with the incidents of today. We remain vulnerable and weak. Brutally, we witnessed our weakness today.

During eight years, Clinton decimated America's military. Our forces were cut almost in half under his stewardship.

Research and development on all new weapons systems were brought almost to a halt as other nations continued to build. Clinton destroyed nearly our entire arsenal of tactical nuclear weapons. Monsters like Saddam flourished as

... So Clinton just changed the rules of how spies are recruited, raising the bar on requirements to such a high degree that the most valuable spies could never meet CIA standards and couldn't work for us.

Guess who ran the U.S. government and was responsible for our national security for the past eight years?

Yes, you got it, Bill Clinton, Hillary's husband.

Clinton Responsible for Unpreparedness

The Clintons were supported vociferously by the media through the worst imaginable scandals.

During that time I was one of the lead reporters opposing the Clintons. I was mocked and vilified by my colleagues for doing so.

I said throughout that period that Bill Clinton's personal corruption was wholesale and mirrored how he was corrupting America's national security.

I wrote articles and said repeatedly that America, sadly,

Clinton bombed aspirin factories, tent cities in Afghanistan and worthless radar stations in the Iraqi desert.

These are open facts, easily verifiable.

Clinton The Clever

But Clinton, the ever-clever bastard, was more insidious. Little, systematic changes were undertaken to destroy America's intelligence agencies.

Let me explain. A regular NewsMax reader, "Roger," was a CIA spy in the Mideast.

I met him almost two years ago. Roger wanted to tell me why a gung-ho American quit the CIA in disgust.

Roger said the CIA was not interested in recruiting spies. Clinton and company knew they could not just tell the

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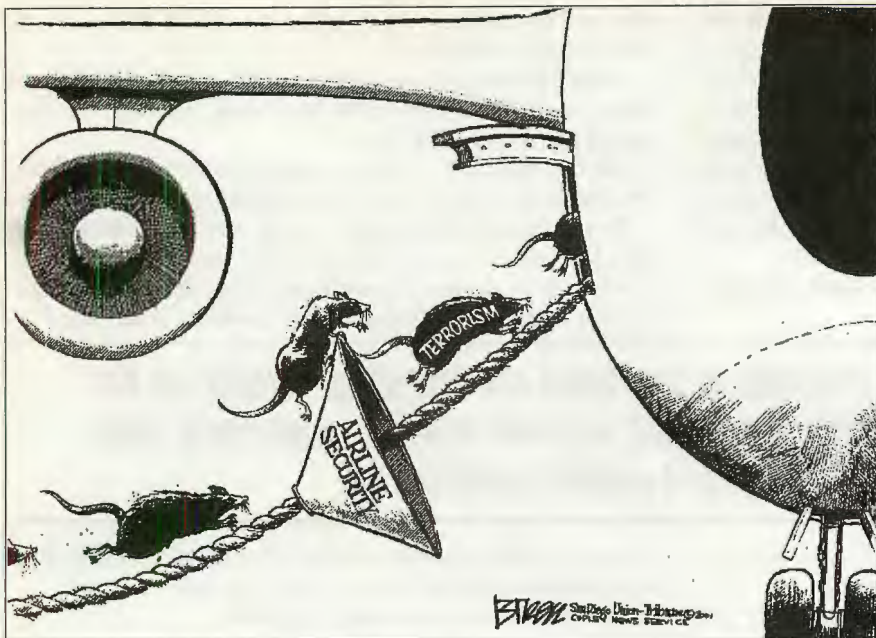
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CIA to stop recruiting spies. That would look stupid and embarrassing.

So they just changed the rules of how spies are recruited, raising the bar on requirements to such a high degree that the most valuable spies could never meet CIA standards and couldn't work for us.

Previously, I wrote how Clinton effectively stopped the recruitment of Chinese nationals by demanding that only high-ranking embassy officials could be recruited — knowing this

limits, in effect, terrorists, criminals, and anyone else who would have info on these kinds of people."

Roger says the CIA, even under new leadership, has never recovered from the "Human Rights Scrub" policy.

Perhaps that was the intention.

But we, the American people, Congress, and honest media need to examine all of these issues, now and quickly. If we don't, we risk even more grave dangers than those that we just lived through. ✕

is almost impossible. Roger told me that. Roger reminded me again of this today.

He noted that Clinton policies reached their zenith under CIA Director John Deutch and his top assistant, Nora Slatkin. The pair ran Clinton's CIA in the mid-1990s and implemented a "human rights scrub" policy.

Here's how Roger described it in an e-mail Tuesday evening: "Deutch and Nora, Clinton's anti-intelligence plants, implemented a universal 'human rights scrub' of all assets, virtually shutting down operations for 6 months to a year. This was after something happened in Central America (there was an American woman involved who was the common-law wife of a commie who went missing there) that got a lot of bad press for the agency.

"After that, each asset had to be certified as being 'clean for human rights violations.'" "What this did was to put off

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However, they didn’t stop us from videotaping the entire Camp. Now those tapes are available to *Soldier of Fortune* readers for a very limited time. **TAKE NOTE!** Once the “Powers That Be” hear about this, it could be ending soon...

Please don’t set this article aside. *Seriously.* Tomorrow may be too late to respond!

If you are finally ready to become 100% certain you’ve done *all you can* to protect your home and family from *any* assault from *any* type of criminal scum... and *quit* being a walking target for the robbers, rapists and psychopaths prowling your streets...

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These training camps will never be held again! They cost \$3,750 just to attend... and everyone who came *raved* about what they learned and came away with. The camps were the *most complete training* in “elite level” military hand-to-hand and firearm expertise *ever* offered to *anyone* outside the Special Forces. It was a **dream come true** for anyone who *ever* wanted

to learn (and *master*) the inside secrets of brutally-efficient hand-to-hand combat and expert-level handgun training... the kind of knowledge that will make even the *craziest* streetfighter think three times before trying to take you on... and, if he *does* come after you, he will suddenly (and painfully) realize...

He’s Made A Very Serious Mistake!

We went way out on a limb to offer these camps... and we made a lot of people *very* angry.

And now it’s over. These amazing camps will *never, ever* be held again. (We were **banned** from 5 of the country’s major gun ranges at the last minute, under *very mysterious* circumstances, before finding the courageous California range we finally held these camps at.) Now, even that opportunity is *gone forever*...

Slammed Shut By Outside Forces We Simply Cannot Fight Anymore!

That means you can *never* attend a DELTA/SEAL training camp like this yourself - even if you have the \$3,750 each attendee paid just to get in... plus the *hundreds of dollars* in airfare... plus hotel costs... vacation time off... food... and equipment. By even conservative measures, *most* attendees shelled out over \$5,000 to come. Yet, even at that outrageous price, they considered it *the bargain of a lifetime*. **Four days of intense, personal training** in combat-tested hand-to-hand fighting tactics... plus the *complete mastery* of “elite military level” handgun shooting skills. Taught by the *most respected trainers* on the planet - actual combat veterans from the ranks of the Navy SEALs and the U.S.



Former DELTA & SEAL Team Commandos came together to offer civilians elite “spec-op” level armed and unarmed combat training... and it will never be repeated again!

Army DELTA Special Forces!

But *you* can experience the **same training** - through a hyper-intense video package of the *actual minute-to-minute training* at the camps - and, even better, the price is a mere *fraction* of what everyone else had to pay! **Not even a significant percentage of the cost... less**, even, than what the attendees used up in 9mm and .45 bullets during a *single day* of these adrenaline-charged camps!

You read that right - these tapes are available to **you** for what amounts to *spare change* compared to the outrageous costs the attendees had to shell out! No matter how you look at this... it’s the *greatest bargain* you’ll ever come across... for what will *instantly* become...

The Most Important Fighting Skills Of Your Life!

Just like the attendees, you are going to *witness the highest level* of training instruction, direct from the best teachers in the world. In fact, because of the **advantages** of better camera angles, professional editing, up-close shots of whispered advice, and your ability to *rewind* and go over any point until you “get it”... **you have an even better opportunity to learn than many of the attendees did!** Just by studying these sophisticated, “executive-level” training sessions, you will learn:

- **Incredibly-effective fighting techniques you can master overnight...** skills that give

you the *devastating ability* to instantly take down even a steroid-enraged street *punk twice your size!*

- **Simple defense strategies** for “arming” your family and loved ones with the skills, know-how and awareness to *avoid 90% of the crime* that **ruin other** people’s lives (carjacking, rape, assault)... and to *reverse* any attack so you come out the *winner* and **never the victim!**
- **Expert “elite military level” handgun shooting skills that will instantly put you among the most respected “weapons savvy” people on the planet!**

And what’s so great about this training you’ll see is, it’s all “packaged” to be learned **fast** (*overnight*, really)... even if you’ve never trained in anything before! In fact...

- **You don’t need any previous training or skills at all** - *most* the attendees had no military experience, no gun-handling and no self-defense training before coming to these camps!
- **You don’t need to be in good shape** (or any kind of shape at all) - this was *not* a bootcamp based on survival skills! In fact, many of the attendees were “desk jockey” types, including executives from **Fortune 500 corporations** (aged 50 and over)... and others were young students *from every walk of life* and occupation imaginable!
- **In fact, all you really need to get the most from these training tapes is the simple desire to change your life, quickly... to stop walking in fear**, and instead, give yourself (and your loved ones) the **immediate, totally-devastating skills** necessary to control *every potentially-violent situation* you could ever encounter in this increasingly-dangerous world!

And the best part is, you’ll learn it all very **fast** - because you have the *very best trainers in the world*, right there, teaching you in the hottest training available anywhere! This high level of training is almost *impossible to comprehend* without witnessing it for yourself. It’s all given and overseen by **Tom Carter** and **Frank Cucci**...

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Tom Carter spent 17 years in active service, first in the **Green Berets**, and then as an “Alpha One” team leader with elite **DELTA Special Forces**. (He was *one of just 5 men* to complete the required selection course - 95 others couldn’t hack it!) He and his men were in some of the **heaviest firefights** (against Russian-trained Cuban storm troopers) of the **Grenada** invasion - *five* of the six Blackhawk choppers carrying them were too shot-up to fly again! In **Haiti**, protecting **President Aristide**... in **Peru**, Tom was *handpicked* to help their Navy go after the notorious **Shining Path** terrorists (the *bloodiest butchers* of this century)... private ops in **Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Equador** and South

Africa... he has been written up in magazines on 3 continents (including **Newsweek**)... his corporate clients include **Solomon Bros. World Trade Center** headquarters in New York, plus various **U.S. Senators and ambassadors** overseas (as security supervisor). Serious stuff.

This illustrates the **astonishingly high level of instruction** you get with these tapes.

Frank Cucci has an equally interesting history. For *12 years* he was one of the **top Navy SEALs** - a member of the “elite-of-the-elite” **SEAL Team Six** (which has had about a *dozen* books and movies dedicated to them), where he saw mortal combat. These are the “**first in, last out**” soldiers in any action... and they get very “unusual” freedom in how they do their jobs in the field because of their *spectacular success* in “black bag” operations. Frank was the **creator and Chief Instructor of the Naval Special Warfare Unarmed Combat Course**... and the techniques he brought to the **SEALS**...

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end was a messy affair. Even though *every single police officer* who visited the camps (and there were many) *liked* what they saw... even though *every news media person* who came by **raved** about the quality of the training (and discovered there was nothing even remotely "strange" about the corporate execs and business owners and students and blue-collar people who attended)... even though the *government agencies* who investigated found *nothing illegal* or even "quasi-legal" going on... even though there were no rednecks, no skinheads, no neo-Nazi's, no one with wild-eyes to be seen anywhere... *despite* all this...

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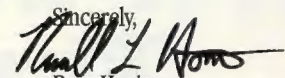
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Sincerely,

Russ Horine

P.S. One more thing - *it's important*. I thought you might like to see what the people who attended these camps had to say about the experience. Here's some of their comments:

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First We Cripple The CIA, Then We Blame It

BY TOM CLANCY

We know now that America has been the victim of a large, well-planned, and well-executed terrorist act. The parameters are yet to be fully explored, but that won't stop the usual suspects from pontificating (and, yes, that includes me) on what happened and what needs to be done as a result. A few modest observations:

As I write this we only know the rough outlines of what has taken place. We do not know exactly who the perpetrators were, though we have heard from Vice President Dick Cheney that there is "no question" that Osama bin Laden had a role. But many groups may have been involved, and we do not know their motivation, or for whom or for what particular objective they worked.

"Don't know" means "don't know" and nothing more. Absent hard information, talking about who it must have been and what we need to do about it is a waste of air and energy. To discern the important facts, we have the Federal Bureau of Investigation as our principal investigative agency, and the Central Intelligence Agency (along with National Security Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency) as our principal foreign-intelligence services. Getting the most important information is their job, not the job of the news media, which will only repeat what they are told. Gathering this information will take time, because we need to get it right.

Terrorism is a political act, performed for political objectives. The general aim of terrorism is to force changes in the targeted society through the shock value of the crime committed. Therefore, if we make radical changes in how our country operates, the bad guys win. We do not want that to happen. Whoever planned this operation is watching us right now, and they are probably having a pretty good laugh. We can't stop that. What we can do is to maintain that which they most hate, which is a free society. We've worked too hard to become what we are, and we can't allow a few savages to change it for us.

Next, our job is to take a step back, take a deep breath and

get to work finding out who it was, where they are, and what to do about it.

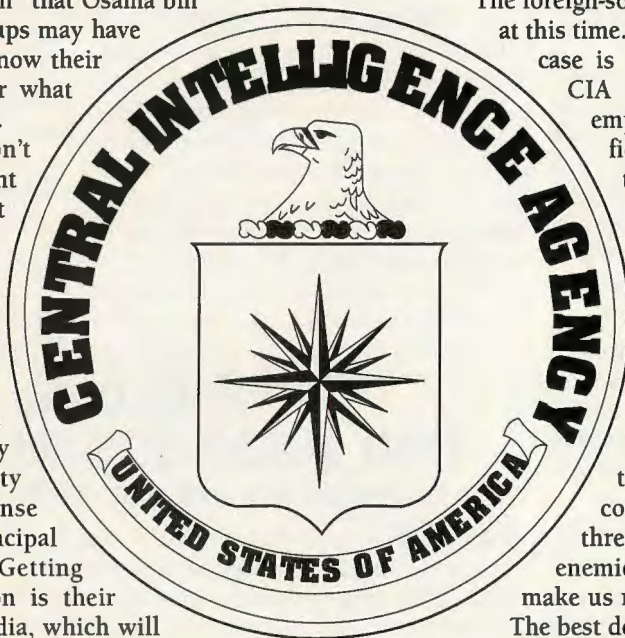
Terrorism is a crime under the civil law when committed by domestic terrorists; it can be an act of war when committed by foreigners. For domestic criminals we have the FBI and police. For acts of war we have our intelligence community and the military. In either case we have well-trained people to do the work. If we let them do their job, and give them the support they need, the job will get done as reliably as gravity.

The foreign-source option seems the most likely at this time. The first line of defense in such a case is the intelligence community. The CIA is an agency of about 18,000 employees, of whom perhaps 800 are field-intelligence officers — that is, the people who go out on the street and learn what people are thinking, not how many tanks they have parked outside (we have satellites to photograph those).

I've been saying for a lot of years that this number is too small. American society doesn't love its CIA, for the same reason that it doesn't always love its cops. We too often regard them as a threat to ourselves rather than our enemies. Perhaps these incidents will make us rethink that.

The best defense against terrorist incidents is to prevent them from happening. You do that by finding out what a potential enemy is thinking before he is able to act. What the field intelligence officers do is no different from what Special Agent Joe Pistone of the FBI did when he infiltrated the mafia under the cover name of Donnie Brasco. The purpose of these operations is to find out what people are thinking and talking about. However good your satellites are, they cannot see inside a human head. Only people can go and do that.

But America, and especially the American news media, does not love the CIA in general and the field spooks in particular. Recently, CBS's "60 Minutes" regaled us with the hoary old chestnut about how the CIA undermined the leftist government of Chile three decades ago. The effect of this media coverage, always solicitous to leftist governments, is to



brand the CIA an antiprogressive agency that does bad things.

In fact, the CIA is a government agency, subject to the political whims of whoever sits in the White House and Congress. The CIA does what the government of which it is a part tells it to do. Whatever evil the CIA may have done was the result of orders from above.

The Chilean event and others (for example, attempts to remove Fidel Castro from the land of the living, undertaken during the presidency of JFK, rather more rarely reported because only good came from Camelot) caused the late Sen. Frank Church to help gut the CIA's Directorate of Operations in the 1970s. What he carelessly left undisturbed then fell afoul of the Carter administration's hit man, Stansfield Turner. That capability has never been replaced.

It is a lamentably common practice in Washington and elsewhere to shoot people in the back and then complain when they fail to win the race. The loss of so many lives in New York and Washington is now called an "intelligence failure," mostly by those who crippled the CIA in the first place, and by those who celebrated the loss of its invaluable capabilities.

What a pity that they cannot stand up like adults now and say: "See, we gutted our intelligence agencies because we don't much like them, and now we can bury thousands of American citizens as an indirect result." This, of course, will not happen, because those who inflict their aesthetic on the rest of us are never around to clean up the resulting mess, though they seem to enjoy further assaulting those whom they crippled to begin with.

Call it the law of unintended consequences. The intelligence community was successfully assaulted for actions taken under constitutionally mandated orders, and with nothing left to replace what was smashed, warnings we might have had to prevent this horrid event never came. Of course, neither I nor anyone else can prove that the warnings would have come, and I will not invoke the rhetoric of the political left on so sad an occasion as this.

But the next time America is in a fight, it is well to remember that tying one's own arm is unlikely to assist in preserving, protecting and defending what is ours.

Reprinted from the Wall Street Journal, 18 September 2001. ✕

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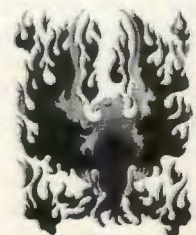
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A Day That Will Live In Infamy

BY BOB LONSBERRY

So many people spoke of Pearl Harbor and the day that will live in infamy. Of how that historical hell was surpassed in a morning in similar fashion. With kamikaze pilots against the symbols of our land. Of death dealt to the innocent by the darkest of the dark. By the killers of the young and weak and pure. A brilliant and simple plan from the chambers of evil's heart.

And we watched on live television.

An accident, for a moment we believed, like that Army bomber at the Empire State Building, with flame and smoke and, "Oh, my God!" And the silhouette of a plane, banking hard, and then a fireball and a sick feeling and a shock that most people never know, shared instantly, by tens of millions in front of their TVs. They blew it up, live on the satellite.

Oh, my God indeed.

A day that will live in infamy.

The Pearl Harbor of our generation, only 10 or 50 times as bad, a new "Arizona" hit and burned and sunk. And a pall hangs over Gotham and the home of the free and the brave. A great white cloud of fire and destruction, ignited by hate and fueled by trust. We lived like men and the savages have gone for our throats.

A day that will live in infamy.

December 7, 1941. That's what it made us think of. Of the last sneak attack. Of the last time some no-nut bastards were too cowardly to take us on man-to-man. Of the last time vile infidels spat in our face. The last time some deranged sub-humans prayed to their pagan gods and went thirsting for American blood.

And this time it may be in the tens of thousands. A small city of Americans killed. A year of the Vietnam War crammed into an hour and a half. Depending on how many got out and got away before the great monument of the 1970s came sloughing to the ground, a thundercloud of evil spreading from Manhattan across the globe.

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A day that will live in infamy.

December 7, 1941. That's what they all said. It was just



like then.

Except that then wasn't just then. Then was the beginning. And it was inextricably tied to the end.

To August 6, 1945. To the day America returned the favor. The day the world learned you don't mess with the red, white and blue. The day the sneak attack came home to roost. The day American might bought American security.

That is the date we look forward to now. The new day of payback. The day of justice and accounting. The day we blow them to hell.

In a flash of light with munitions from a plane, or in the

heavy bombardment of offshore guns, or in the nasty bite of a .45 through the head. They have tried to beard the lion in its den, and it will now rise up and devour them.

Cause somebody's going to burn for this.

Not some trial in three years with polite arguments at the Hague, not with blustering press conferences, not with hollow rantings at the United Nations, but with cold steel and hot lead. This was an act of war, it must be responded to with an act of war, ruthless and savage war.

Somebody's got to pay for this, just on principle. Somebody's got to be pounded good. Not a surgical strike, not a commando raid, but blood for blood, life for life. Not as an act of vengeance exclusively, but as an act of prevention and protection, because the failure to retaliate and demonstrate national rage and power will do nothing but invite further violence and attack. We must declare war on terrorism, on all terrorism and all terrorists, they are all our enemies. And we must physically destroy them and the nations and interests who support them.

If you do not repay the defiler of your home, if you do not recompense him fivefold for his violation, you have surrendered. You have empowered and enticed him and those who would emulate him. You have shown yourself weak.

And it is only the strong who are safe.

A day that will live in infamy. September 11, 2001. Nine-one-one. They called, and we're going to answer. We will bury our dead and nurse our wounded and soon we will visit our enemies, and the jackals will pick their bones.

Because Pearl Harbor was not an end it was a beginning. A beginning of the end of our enemies' might. Because the American spirit is not slain or wounded, it is only pricked, pricked and awakened and enraged.

We will pray and mourn and comfort, and then we will gird up our loins. And heaven help the bastards who did this.

Because their days are numbered. We didn't start this, but we're going to finish it.

And 50 years from now we will remember our dead, and piss on our enemies' graves.

Bob Lonsberry has a syndicated radio show in Utah and New York. © 2001, www.lonsberry.com .

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How The Soviets Won In Afghanistan

BY JACK WHEELER

Won? Huh? The Soviets lost in Afghanistan, didn't they? They were humiliated and defeated in the Afghan quagmire that the U.S. would helplessly sink into if it invaded now, right?

Nope — the Soviets won in Afghanistan. The famed mujahideen had slunk back to the refugee camps in Pakistan, demoralized, dejected, and defeated. I was there, I saw it. It was August, 1986, and the mujahideen had given up. The Soviets had won.

But then, the Stinger missiles that Ronald Reagan had promised them finally arrived. On 26 September 1986, the first three Stingers were fired by the muj and three Soviet aircraft were shot down out of the sky. The refugee camps erupted, the muj poured back into Afghanistan aflame with renewed passion. Over the next 28 months, Stingers would shoot down hundreds of Soviet Hind helicopter gunships and MiG fighter jets. The skies cleared, the muj fought with fury, and on 15 February 1989, the Soviets retreated back to the Soviet Union.

Ronald Reagan's Stinger missiles defeated the Soviets in Afghanistan, not the vaunted mujahideen.

Before the Stingers, the Soviets had won. After the Stingers, they lost. So the question for the U.S. military, as it contemplates sending ground forces into the "Afghan quagmire," is: What tactics did the Soviets use to demoralize and defeat the Afghan guerrillas as of August 1986?

The short answer is one word: Spetsnaz. Spetsnaz were the small commando teams of Red Army special forces. As long as the Soviets fought the muj with infantry tactics — tanks and lots of ground troops - the muj picked them off and cut them up. The early years of the war in Afghanistan were heroic guys with single shot, bolt action, World War I (or earlier — I saw many Lee Enfields with dates stamped on the barrel like "1909") going straight up against the Red Army of the Soviet Union. By 1985, Egyptian and Chinese copies of Soviet weapons (like the AK-47 and RPG-7) were pouring into the mujahideen's hands via a U.S. covert operation, and the muj

were confident of victory. But in the spring of 1986, I noticed a change. The Soviets had gotten smart. They switched their focus from infantry fighting to parachuting Spetsnaz commando teams into areas where bribed informers located muj encampments. They would then hunt the target camp down, attacking and killing in the darkness of night. For months, the Spetsnaz teams did this relentlessly, so by the summer the muj were flooding out of Afghanistan and giving up.

This provides an obvious lesson instructive for any U.S. military assault on Osama bin Laden forces and their Taliban supporters. Massive Gulf War-type assaults are not the way to go. Swarm the country with teams of Navy SEALs, Green Berets, and other Special Forces. The Afghan people as a

whole have been tyrannized by the Taliban worse than the Soviets, so legions of informers should be willing to provide accurate intelligence. It must be assumed that part of the deal Pakistan made with the U.S. is the cooperation of the ISI, Inter-Services Intelligence, the Pak CIA. The Taliban were placed and kept in power through the support of the ISI, as a business arrangement between them to operate a billion dollar

heroin smuggling operation. No folks know more about the Taliban than the ISI, who will now have to fork the info over. So the intel the Special Forces need will be available.

The country of Afghanistan is described as being one-quarter of an inch above the ground. No country in the world has been more smashed and beat up. The Afghan people have suffered unimaginably over the last quarter century. We do not need to add to their misery with some massive and massively destructive military attack. The Soviets' use of their Spetsnaz provide the blueprint for how to destroy Osama bin Laden, his operation, the Taliban regime, and liberate Afghanistan from the hell it has been through.

Dr. Wheeler made numerous trips into Afghanistan with various groups of mujahideen guerrillas through the 1980s, including one with RKB in 1989. ☒



SAS To Play Key Role In Capturing bin Laden

Britain's Special Air Service is likely to provide a key element in any British contribution to the American operation to capture, or if necessary kill, Osama bin Laden.

SAS teams played an important role in Western efforts to undermine the Soviet occupation forces in Afghanistan during the 1980s, training the Jamiat-i-Islami of Ahmad Shah Masood in the use of sophisticated weaponry such as Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

At one point an SAS team even went in to cut up an MI-24 Hind D helicopter shot down by the mujahideen they had trained. They brought back the control panel and its lightweight armour plat-



ing for Western technicians to analyze.

Although Masood is now dead, the relationship of trust built up with the Jamiat-i-Islami guerrillas is likely to be useful, providing the Special Forces "snatch squad" with a forward operations base in Afghanistan.

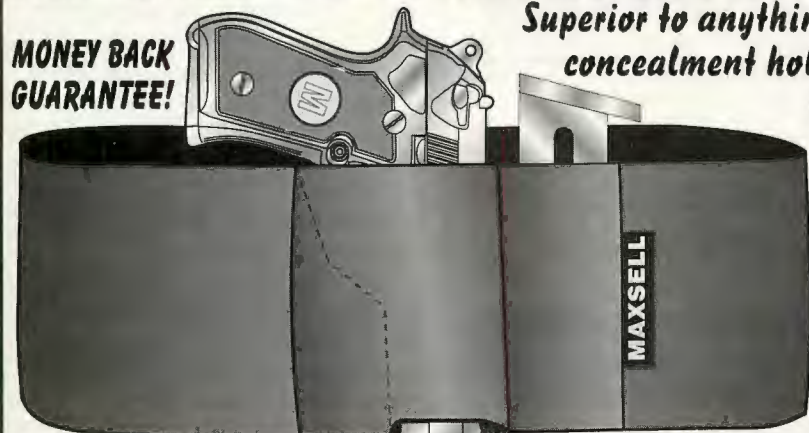
The Americans have a range of special forces available to them but are likely to leave the main operation to the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment, better known as Delta Force, which specializes in "aggressive special operations".

There were plans for Delta Force to mount an operation in Afghanistan to snatch bin Laden last year using a base in Tajikistan. But they

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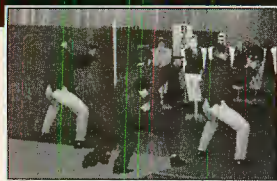
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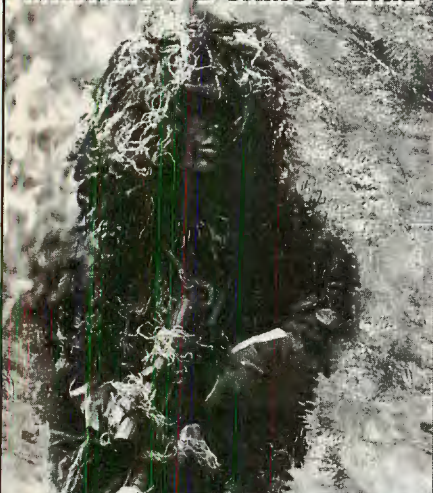


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were called off.

Although Tajikistan, which is itself under threat from Islamic fundamentalists, has publicly said it will not help, this is thought to be for internal public consumption.

While the former Soviet republic would not let bombers use its airfields to attack its southern neighbor, a special forces operation in the remote border areas would be much easier to keep secret.

There are a number of remote airfields along the border between the area of Afghanistan controlled by the Jamiat-i-Islami, any one of which could be used as the logistics base and assembly point for the operation.

Its initial phase would be concerned solely with setting up liaison with the Jamiat-i-Islami forces to give the team a safe forward operating base. That would require only a small team, almost certainly including SAS troopers who were involved in training the guerrillas.

At the same time, allied intelligence operations will be going on, ranging from the use of remote unmanned aerial surveillance drones to satellite collection of imagery and signals intelligence aimed at locating bin Laden.

Once he has been found, the special forces teams will set up landing zones at the forward operations base for the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters that will "insert" the main "snatch squad" and its support teams.

The operation to snatch bin Laden can be expected to be similar to that used to rescue British soldiers held hostage in Sierra Leone a year ago.

A relatively large force is likely to be required to provide sufficient covering fire. Given bin Laden's careful defensive planning, there may even need to be more than one squad to take both him and his deputies.

Although the SAS and Delta Force are renowned for their ability to operate in four-man teams, they are organized so that they can be deployed in larger numbers — in the case of the SAS as so-called Sabre squadrons. But large numbers drastically increase the chances of being detected.

The U.S. FM 7-93 special forces manual states: "The infiltration phase is the most complicated and dangerous aspect of any operation. During this phase, the danger of discovery is greater than during any other phase."

Once captured, bin Laden and his lieutenants, or at least those who survive the inevitable firefight, will be



extracted as rapidly as possible to the rear base in Tajikistan from where they can be put on trial.

Given that such an operation will demand highly coordinated actions, it is unlikely that other NATO countries will become involved, although the 2nd Foreign Legion Parachute Regiment has a company specializing in mountain warfare that could be useful.

France, Germany and other European NATO members could well contribute to the air forces that will bombard Al-Qaeda bases to flush out bin Laden. SAS sources say the Australian and New Zealand SAS are rated highly and could well add a further international dimension to the operation.

By Michael Smith, Defense Correspondent ©Copyright of Telegraph Group Limited 2001. ✕

The First Shot

British SAS troops have fired up an unknown number of Taliban troops in the foothills of Kabul in what appears to be the first confrontation in the war against terrorism. The gunfight is believed to have taken place on 21 Sept., but it is understood the SAS infiltrated Afghanistan five days earlier.

The SAS team entered Afghanistan from Tajikistan. The men's immediate task was to set up a communications link with their UK headquarters and to make an estimate of the situation.

The SAS force in Afghanistan is understood to have already linked up with forces of Jamiat-I-Islam, the military wing of the Northern Alliance which provides the only tangible opposition in Afghanistan to the hardline Taliban.

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	40 S&W	180	COPPER	FMJ	BOXER	990
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Washington Prepares For Long Campaign

Summary:

As Washington tries to build an international coalition against terrorism, the Bush administration is preparing the nation for a long campaign rather than a single retaliatory strike. With Afghanistan the primary initial target, Washington must deal with a problem it has rarely encountered since World War II: attacking a landlocked country.

Analysis:

The Bush administration is searching the globe for coalition support for its war on terrorism. At the same time, it is preparing Americans for a long campaign that may not include a rapid, high-profile, retaliatory strike.

Washington's initial military response to the 11 Sept. attacks will shape U.S. relations not only with Middle Eastern nations but also with the rest of the world.

For this reason the administration must carefully consider its reprisal so as not to undermine the confidence of allies or fuel wider enmity among Arab and Islamic nations. Although strikes are inevitable, they will likely take much more time and preparation than the cruise missile strikes that followed the 1998 bombings of the embassies in Africa.

By labeling Osama bin Laden the key suspect, Washington has also marked Afghanistan, where the Saudi exile has been living, as the likely first target. This presents a problem the U.S. military has rarely encountered since World War II: attacking a landlocked nation. The effectiveness of U.S. carrier battle groups will be severely reduced in any operation against Afghanistan.

In terms of logistics, Washington must find either land bases for a sustained coalition air strike against Afghanistan or provide in-air refueling for carrier-based planes.

Afghanistan's neighbors, with whom the United States has tenuous relations, limit both choices. Afghanistan is bounded by Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan to the north, Iran to the west, China to the east and Pakistan to the south. Any partnership with the northern neighbors will require substantial negotiations with Russia, which retains a strong influence and military presence in Central Asia. Even with permission to fly out of Central Asia, the supply chain into these nations would be long and difficult to maintain.

Iran, which has no love for the Taliban, is even more unlikely to offer basing for U.S. aircraft. China, too, is unlikely to offer basing, and even if it does, significant supply line problems would remain.

Washington's best hope for regional assistance, then, is Pakistan. Pakistan was once a close ally, and its port access is useful for logistical purposes. Pakistan's long border along the southern and eastern parts of Afghanistan also offers the closest access to the cities of Kandahar, the Taliban headquarters, and Kabul, the frontline in the battle between the Taliban and the opposition Northern Alliance.

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf has offered substantial cooperation to the United States in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks. But pro-Taliban forces inside Pakistan threaten his hold on power.

These threats come from those who feel he is too secular as well as from ethnic rivalries within Pakistan. Musharraf is a Muhajir, an Urdu-speaking member of an immigrant family from India. Although Urdu-speakers have dominated Pakistan's political and economic elite, the many of the country's indigenous groups - including the native Pushtun population, which geographically straddles the border with Afghanistan — view them as usurpers.

Even with Musharraf's promises of cooperation, military planners in Washington must be absolutely sure that he has control of his entire military. The main questions in Washington now are whether Pakistan's offer of assistance is firm and whether the government is stable enough to allow the United States to strike Afghanistan from Pakistan.

Whether the U.S. military is based in Pakistan or not, simply flying over Pakistan on the way to Afghanistan poses a serious security challenge. First, bringing significant firepower to bear on Afghanistan requires Washington to bring

in more carriers or — for a sustained and more effective operation — to establish land bases. The nearest places for such land bases are in India, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

If the aircraft are launched from carriers, they will require in-air refueling somewhere over Pakistan. This presents a significant security risk: Tanker aircraft would provide a ready target for potential rogue elements inside Pakistan's army or air force. With



the situation in Pakistan still uncertain, it would be hard for a U.S. military commander to confidently fly tankers over Pakistan. The loss of a single tanker to surface-to-air missiles or fighter aircraft would also lead to the loss of mission-bound aircraft that depended on the tanker for fuel.

Similar problems pertain to operations not based on carriers. Because land-based aircraft generally have a longer combat radius, it is possible that flights from Oman, the UAE or Qatar could refuel over the Pakistani coast and still have the range to strike at Kandahar or other targets in Afghanistan. Operating from land bases in the Gulf or from India, however, would require a long buildup.

It is for this kind of protracted operation rather than a quick retaliation that Washington is preparing. During a briefing Sept. 18, U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld reiterated the dominant theme in Washington now — that this will be a new style of war, one that will be fought for a long time. Rumsfeld emphasized that this is “not a matter of a single event” nor a campaign against one or two terrorist leaders.

Washington needed six months to gear up for Operation Desert Storm, and preparations for strikes on Afghanistan or other targets may take as long. Although pressure from within the United States for a retaliatory strike will grow, President George W. Bush currently enjoys high popularity ratings. His administration is much more likely to take the heat now rather than risk a disastrous attack that accomplishes little.

If Washington could fully trust Pakistan's stability, it would likely have begun operations already. But the administration is making every effort to prepare a long-term strategy — to avoid the appearance abroad and at home of a Clinton-esque strategy of launching an ineffective cruise-missile strike against some tents in Afghanistan as well as to avoid undermining tenuous relations with the Arab and Muslim world.

This strategy may involve more carrier-based aircraft, land-based assets or even long-range strategic bombers from the United States and the island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. Such strikes will ultimately take place but only after the administration can overcome the logistical concerns posed by Pakistan's delicate political balance

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Promoting a Plane Posse

BY GARY MARBUT

It is apparent that if law abiding U.S. citizens flying on commercial aircraft September 11 had not been prevented by federal and state laws from possessing firearms for personal protection, hundreds or maybe thousands of innocent lives could have been saved.

We must no longer go along with the demands by some that we all exist in a state of personal vulnerability, unable to defend ourselves and loved ones.

Below is the outline of a recommended piece of federal legislation to require that certain qualified gun owners, including law enforcement and civilians, be allowed to fly armed on commercial aircraft. If we are going to war against terrorism, you and I will be the "home guard," and help protect our fellow citizens.

Please forward this draft bill to your U.S. Senators and Representatives, and insist that they help sponsor and pass this measure. Please insist that this strategy be an integral part of any overall plan to deal with terrorist threats against the U.S.

Also, please forward this to every citizen you know who is concerned about our liberties, and our freedom from fear and terrorism.

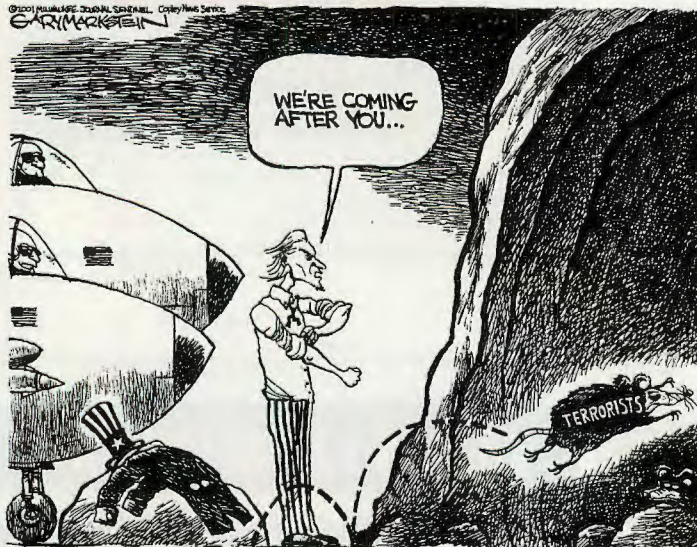
Thank you for your help.

Sincerely yours,

*President
Montana Shooting Sports Association*

Proposed is federal legislation, which may be called the "Airline Safety and Anti-terrorism Act of 2001," that would accomplish the following:

A. Remove all current prohibitions concerning carrying



firearms on commercial aircraft for certain persons considered to be "air safety assets" under certain conditions, and to exempt these people from punishment by local and state laws where airplanes upon which they are riding may land, as follows:

1. Persons identified as an "air safety asset" who may be called a "sky guard" include:

a. any current, sworn, law enforcement officer for any federal, state or local agency, and

b. any person with a permit to carry a concealed weapon issued by any state, or by any local agency under the authority of a state, and

c. any person who is a classified handgun competitor under the rules of the United States Practical Shooting Association or the International Defensive Pistol Association.

2. Persons not eligible to be a "sky guard" include:

a. persons who are not eligible to possess firearms under federal law, and

b. persons who are not yet 18 years of age, and

c. persons who are not legal citizens of the United States as a result of birth or naturalization.

3. The Federal Aviation Administration must accomplish the following:

C. originate and publish within six weeks a brief manual, called a "sky guard briefing" which explains the fragility and weak points of commercial aircraft, which aircraft parts may be susceptible to dangerous disruption from either gunfire or terrorist activity, and which explains several most recommended tactics for defeating terrorists onboard aircraft, and

D. publish this manual as a paperback book, which must be available to persons qualified to serve as sky guards at a reasonable cost or at no cost, and

E. devise a system of signals whereby any sky guard flying on a particular aircraft may be identified under emer-

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gency conditions by other sky guards
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4. Conditions under which any
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tions on U.S. soil, and the soil of U.S.
allies which accept this arrangement,
are:

a. when the person is carrying a
firearm that is concealed from view and
simple detection by casual observers, and

b. when the firearm being carried is
loaded only with frangible ammunition,
such as Glaser Safety Slugs or the
equivalent, and

c. when the sky guard certifies that
he or she has read the sky guard brief-
ing and understands the contents, and

d. when the sky guard consumes no
alcohol or mind-altering substances at
all within 12 hours before travel, or
during travel where the person serves
as a sky guard.

B. Persons serving as sky guards:

1. Would serve in a voluntary
(unpaid) capacity, and

2. Would be exempt from local or
state laws restricting their ability to
possess firearms along their route of
travel, and at any location on the
ground along their route of travel for a
period of 72 hours between landing and
departure, and

3. Both commercial airlines, and
sky guards not acting with gross negli-
gence, would be held harmless under
law for the acts or omissions of sky
guards serving voluntarily and while
traveling on commercial aircraft or
while in air terminals during travel.

C. The prerogatives and duties of
sky guards while serving in that capac-
ity would be limited to defeating any
attempt to wrest control of a commer-
cial aircraft from the airline crew, and
to interfere with any person aboard a
commercial aircraft who presents an
immediate threat of loss of life to any
crew member or passenger of a commer-
cial aircraft upon which the sky
guard is a passenger. The duties and
prerogatives of a sky guard specifically
would not include the use of a firearm
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Rick Rescorla, Cheerful Warrior

BY ROBERT POOS

The first time I saw Rick Rescorla he was laughing, an infectious chortle as he told about the footrace he'd just won: with a Viet Cong squad doing its level best to kill him. So it came as no real surprise when the last thing I heard of him, was that he perished while trying to lead people to safety from the stricken World Trade Center twin towers after terrorist-hijacked airliners crashed into them.

That first meeting took place in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam in the early Fall of 1965 when I was a combat correspondent for the Associated Press and Cyril R. Rescorla (no one ever called him Cyril) was a Second Lieutenant platoon leader in B Company, First Battalion, Seventh Cavalry, U.S. Army.

"Oh," he chuckled, "we did indeed do a bit of E and E'ing back there," pointing to a sergeant sitting on the side of a nearby creek bank as being the other part of the "we" who'd been doing the escaping and evading. "It was a bit of a close thing but it turned out all right, after all, now, didn't it!"

This was shortly after the Cavalry division's arrival in Vietnam and before the 7th cav's epic Ia Drang Valley campaign in which Rescorla distinguished himself in both the battles of Landing Zone X-Ray and Landing Zone Albany.

Rescorla had been directed to conduct a reconnaissance mission and as was typical of him, decided to do it himself, because he knew he was the best man on hand to do the job required and survive. For, unlike virtually everyone else in the outfit, Rescorla had real on-the-job experience at such stuff. He was something of a soldier of fortune, having been on active service in the British Army in Cyprus, doing the dangerous job of trying to keep Turkish and Greek guerrillas on the island from killing one another. He'd also done a tour with the British South African Police in what was then

Rhodesia. (A word about the BSAP. It was not British, not South African and not a police force. It was a paramilitary unit which spent most of its time chasing Communist guerrillas in the former British colony.)

This display was typical of the way Rescorla went about leading a platoon of infantry. He led by example. He knew he was exceptionally good at what he did; he showed his men how to do it and then left it up to them. He also inspired them by his unfailing good humor and by doing something

I've never before nor since — and I've had a lot of experience at this stuff — heard of any military leader of whatever rank doing — sing to them,

One example of this is found in that fine book *We Were Soldiers Once . . . and Young*, by former UPI correspondent Joe Galloway and Lt. Gen. Harold G. Moore. The incident occurs during the Battle of LZ X-Ray at a time during the night when it seems quite likely that a North Vietnamese Army regiment, which has the 7th Cav's First Battalion surrounded might very well attack the positions and overwhelm and wipe it out.

"When all else failed, Rescorla sang 'Wild Colonial Boy' and a Cornish favorite 'Going Up Cambrone Hill,' slow and steady tunes which were answered by shouts of 'Hard Corps' (the platoon's nickname) and 'Garry Owen,' the 7th Cav's battle cry and song."

Although he'd subsequently retired from the Army reserves as a colonel and become a top security executive for Morgan Stanley investment company, Rescorla changed very little over the years as is indicated in an article by Rob Jennings in the Morristown, N.J., *Daily Record* just after the World Trade Center disaster.

"The last time anyone saw (Rick) Rescorla, 62, he was racing up and down stairs at the World Trade Center's south



Lieutenant Rick Rescorla (left) and his company commander, Captain Myron Diduryk, assigned to Bravo Co., 2nd Bn., 7th cavalry. Both played major roles in the bloody fight at LZ X-Ray during the Ia Drang campaign.

tower, singing 'God Bless America' through a bullhorn and calming nerves as he shepherded people to safety."

Many survivors credited Rescorla and his security team with saving their lives by leading them out of the crumbling tower prior to its collapse. The firm had some 3,700 employees in the Center but only a dozen or so were lost, according to news accounts.

After the first hijacked airliner hit the Center's north tower, loudspeaker announcements advised Morgan Stanley employees — between the 43rd and 73rd floors — to stay where they were. Rescorla thought that bad advice and began leading people down stairwells.

"We had reports of him as low as the 10th floor and as high as the 73rd," said a daughter, Kim, 23.

His wife of two years, Susan, said he'd called her on his cell phone and told her not to worry, that he was leading people out of the building and that he loved her. Shortly after that conversation, Rescorla apparently decided to take one more check of the higher floors to determine if anyone was still left. It was one check too many but that's the way Rick Rescorla did things.

At the battle of LZ Albany, Rescorla led a helicopter borne relief force to assist the 7th Cavalry's 2nd Battalion which had been surrounded and was in grave danger of being overrun after a desperate 24-hour fight. It was a "hot" LZ — meaning there were enemy soldiers all around it — the pilot of the helicopter flying Rescorla was shot in the arm as the troopers were jumping out — but Rescorla was in his element. Lieutenant Larry Gwinn watched the relief arrive and, as quoted in the Galloway/Moore book:

"I saw Rick Rescorla come swaggering into our lines with a smile on his face, an M79 (grenade launcher) on his shoulder, his M16 in one hand, saying: 'Good. good. good. I hope they hit us with everything they got tonight. We'll wipe them up.' His spirit was catching. The troops were cheering as each load came in, and we really raised a racket. The enemy must've thought an entire battalion was coming in to help us."

Another witness, Lt. Pat Payne of the reconnaissance platoon, recalled, "I had the feeling we were actually being rescued, that the cavalry had, in fact, arrived, like in the movies. I admired the courage it took to land in Albany. Lieutenant

Rescorla was one of the best combat leaders I saw in two tours of Vietnam. He walked around and pepped everyone up by telling them they'd done a good job ... he never raised his voice, spoke almost in a whisper. We were awfully glad to see him and the others from Bravo Company.

As the Albany fight flickered to its end, Rescorla, while checking the battlefield, out of the corner of an eye caught some movement and fired a burst from his M16. A couple of North Vietnamese who'd been playing dead, suddenly got that way for real. On one of them, Rescorla noticed something shiny.

As reported in *We Were Soldiers* ...

"On the dying enemy soldier, Rescorla (found) a big, battered old French Army bugle carrying a manufacture date of 1900 ... On some long ago battlefield, possibly Dien Bien Phu, the victorious Viet Minh, had taken it as a trophy. And marked their own legend; two crude Chinese characters tattooed into the brass bell with nailpoint. Rough translation: 'Long and Powerful Service.' Now here in the Ia Drang in the elephant grass, the trophy had changed hands again. The 7th Cavalry had a bugle once more, and Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry would blow it time and time again on the battlefields of Vietnam."

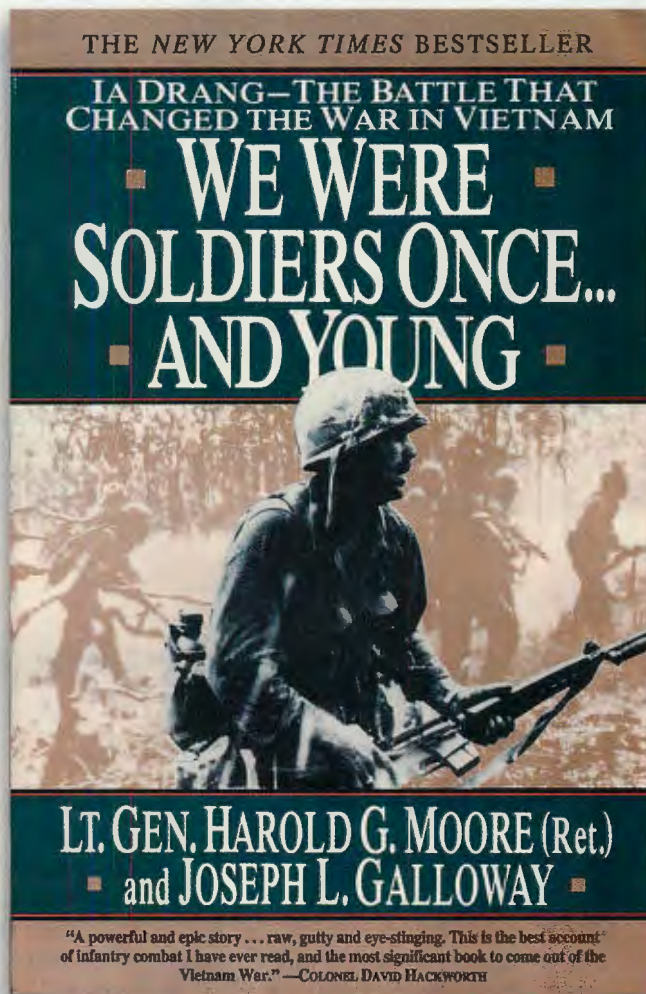
I recall one of those times very well. I was with A Company, 2nd of the 7th, when it once again got surrounded by vastly superior North Vietnamese forces. The Cavalry Division was able to get in one helicopter flight of reinforcements before heavy rainfall grounded all aircraft. As the troopers leapt from the thundering Huey choppers, one of them sounded the charge on the old brass bugle.

An A Company trooper lying next to me shouted above the gunfire "That's B Company AWWWWWRRRRRIGHT!"

Rescorla kept the bugle as a trophy until 1991 when he turned it over to the Ia Drang Valley Alumni Association which I believe has it to this day.

So here's to you, Rick Rescorla, you died doing what you did best; being a hero, a good natured hero who inspired others with his love of life and scorn for death.

Robert Poos is a former Marine combat veteran of Korea, an AP correspondent in Vietnam and a former managing editor of Soldier Of Fortune. ✕



Rescorla's photo adorns the book cover. The movie version of the book, starring Mel Gibson, will be released in the spring of 2002.



Yael Barshov

American Sniper In Israel

Guardian Angels Of The Israeli Police Civil Guard

Civil Guard sniper teams may be deployed in urban, desert or mountain terrain (right), and have the training and gear appropriate for the geography of any mission.

BY DAVID STONE

Damn, we didn't bring enough ammo," I observed. Visions of Davy Crockett's last moments at the Alamo, swinging his rifle like a club, flashed in my mind's eye. "No kidding," Avi-Hi responded, bringing me out of my momentary daydream. "This is simply unreal," was about all he could manage to add. We were both woefully understating our situation as we glassed the hillside to our front and watched over the dozen Israeli police immediately below.

"Operations wants [a certain number of] teams in East Jerusalem to protect the police 'on the ground down below.' You'll be manning the [censored] position. Ori was there last Friday. Call him for the position's range card," ordered

Artur, commander of our sniper unit. I called and got briefed. "You'll be on the ground, not on the building's roof, but you've got a good view and clear fields of fire. Bring a chair so you can sit in the yard behind the wall. Use it as a rest for your rifle. You'll be covering the entire area between the road to the Pope's Residence and the Mt. of Olives. Distances are from pistol range to 800 meters." Almost as an after thought Ori added, "Last Friday all the action took place elsewhere, but you won't be bored." Forewarned was not forearmed.

It was the Moslem Holy Month of Ramadan. Friday's late-morning prayer service would be the most heavily attended of the week. The conclusion of prayers the previous Friday had been followed by significant violence. "Youth" had charged out from the Temple Mount attacking police and Jewish worshipers. Stones, firebombs, iron bars, tear gas and "rubber bullets" filled the air for hours. Many rioters and as many police were injured. But neither Avi-Hi nor I had anticipated the policy introduced this Friday: In an effort to stem another round of violence, other than women and children, only male residents of Jerusalem over the age of 40 were allowed to attend prayers on the Temple Mount. In practical terms that resulted in about 100,000 men being kept from entering the Old City this morning. Instead, upset and angry, they kneeled to worship in rows 10- and 12-deep around the outside of the Old City's wall in East Jerusalem.

"Twelve-forty. Prayers are over. Heads-up." Avi-Hi cautioned. "It's starting to get nasty inside the Old City. There are lots of reports of violence," added one of the four Border Policemen (MaGav) assigned to watch our "six." We had given him the duty of monitoring the regular (blue uniformed) police and MaGav radio frequencies. Our position was across from the northeast corner of the Old City, about as deep into downtown Arab East Jerusalem as one could get. To our left was one of the main entrances into the Old City's Arab Quarter. To our front, immediately below, was the intersection of East Jerusalem's two main roads. Beyond was the entire hillside expanse from the Augusta Victoria Hospital to the Mount of Olives.

We occupied a "green knoll."

Natural and man-made obstacles on our position's front and sides would cause only inconvenience and a few minutes delay to anyone making a determined assault up the 15-yard slope from the roads below. A waist-high poured-concrete and stone wall behind a mix of trees and brush afforded concealment and a measure of cover for us if anyone began shooting. To our rear, across 30 yards of open ground, was the entrance to the building on which our position should have been located from a strategic standpoint.

"If it gets real bad, there is no way we're going to get out of here without them sending an APC to collect us." Pointing to the building looming behind us, Avi-Hi instructed our MaGav security force, "that's our fall back position. David and I will 'politely

explain' to the guards why they are going to let us in. You gentlemen will follow in an orderly fashion. We'll wait inside until the Calvary comes charging over the hill." There was nothing more to do. We continued scanning for any possible danger to the police down below and waited to see if the 100,000 worshipers would remain peaceful. Just another typically atypical day for a unique group of volunteers within the Israeli Police, the members of the Jerusalem Regional Command's Civil Guard Sniper Unit.

Israel's Civil Guard

The Civil Guard was established in the mid-70s as a distinctly Israeli-style (i.e. armed) Neighborhood Watch. Today it consists of more than 55,000 men and women volunteers. They are





Standard-issue sniper rifle is WW II-vintage Kar98k Mauser, fitted with Harris bipod, scope and modified stock — still efficient tools in capable hands.

trained to use .30 caliber USGI WWII vintage M1 Carbines and Motorola walkie-talkies. In groups of three/four, on foot and in police vehicles, armed with carbines, they patrol their neighborhoods between 20:00 and 05:00, 365 days a year. Most neighborhoods have a school, community center or communal bomb shelter that serves as the base from which these patrols originate. Many bases have an emergency response team (*Ketah Konnanot*). Its individually selected members are provided with carbines, loaded 15-round magazines of 110-grain jacketed soft-point (operational) ammunition and identification vests to be kept at home. They respond and take charge immediately, 24 hours a day, at the scene of any emergency that requires a police presence.

"Over the years the Civil Guard developed special units to supply the police with 'resources' it could not afford to provide for itself. For example, volunteers in the Galilee provide mountain rescue; volunteers in the Negev, desert rescue. A scuba diver unit responds to emergencies all over the country and a Jeep (4x4) unit gets the divers to wherever needed. When on duty, members of special units are uniformed police officers with all requisite authority, responsibility and accountability," explained Chief Inspector (Captain) Yael, herself a volunteer. Yael, originally from Colorado and a veteran member of our sniper unit, developed and commanded the Jerusalem Tourist Police's special unit of Civil Guard volunteers.

"Before one can become a member of a special unit, she/he must complete a comprehensive, 40-hour formal classroom course in basic police subjects. Then the candidate must complete a course(s) in the specific subject matter

pertinent to her/his unit. We all devote significant time [unpaid] and our own financial resources to participation in our units," Yael added. Members of special units must attend regular training sessions and operations. Generally, volunteers supply all their own individual gear and collectively most of their Unit's equipment. Little materiel comes from the Israeli Police.

The Civil Guard Snipers

The regular police have no dedicated marksmen (snipers). They rely upon the sniper group within the MaGav's crack anti-terrorist unit, the *Yamam*. If the *Yamam* "is busy" and the snipers from one of an extremely limited number of IDF Special Forces Units are not

immediately available, or for other reasons are not to be used, some Civil Guard Sniper Units are.

"The creation of special units of snipers was authorized in 1976. There are approximately six units dispersed among the police's geographic regions. Most units have between 14 and 20 members. Nationwide, there are fewer than 100 qualified personnel." I was speaking with Chief Inspector (Major) Dave Kutcher, Chief Weapons and Operational Behavior Instructor of the Police Civil Guard. Dave's background included time with IDF SpecOps, the *Yamam*, MaGav anti-terror unit and several years in charge of some "private sector" close protection. The weapons courses Dave designs are as serious and intense, as is his background.

"The Civil Guard sniper uses a police issued 7.62x51 NATO caliber sniper-configured Mauser K98k or USGI semi-auto M14. Both rifles come equipped with an already mounted 6X or 10X Weaver, Tasco or Nimrod scope, cheek piece and bipod. But without exception all snipers immediately replace the police-issue scope with something modern they purchase for themselves. Each unit receives an annual allotment of IMI 168-grain BTHP special "Police Match" ammunition. Marksmanship training exercises are conducted regularly. Each sniper must pass a semi-annual shooting proficiency exam (the "Bochen") in order to maintain her/his operational status.



Once on the sniper team, individuals often privately purchase the most capable weapon they can. SOF publisher Robert K. Brown tries out author's AR-10 (T) on the range. (left) Although the good-natured debate continues regards autoloading or bolt-action, the AR-10 (T) is highly regarded by all.

The lists of who passed come directly to me," Dave added.

By virtue of passing the Bochen, a sniper with three years seniority in the Civil Guard qualifies for a permit from the Ministry of the Interior to purchase and possess her/his own private (sniper) rifle. They are the only individuals in the country to be issued such permits. Most purchase modern rifles specially designed for use by snipers, of either American or German/Austrian manufacture, but not British. "The British Foreign Ministry has imposed a de facto arms embargo on us," explained Chief Inspector Yael, relating her personal experience of "being denied an export permit after an eight month wait," for the Accuracy International rifles ordered by her and another member of our Unit.

committed to devoting the considerable time required for training and operations." Artur continued, "A candidate who shows promise is invited back. She/he continues to be invited to Friday morning sessions until the Unit forms a consensus that the individual 'fits' or 'Command' decides she/he doesn't."

Once accepted into our Unit, new members are sent to the course in police basics. Upon graduation they receive both police blue and khaki (snipers' "BDU") uniforms. Simultaneously, we start the 60 hours of practical and classroom instruction in snipercraft and marksmanship they are required to complete before we can send them to Sniper Course "Alef." This course is considered "Basic Training" for snipers, and is given about every eight months. "Attending

of an exceptional event, shared by a fraternity of few.

Jerusalem Unit History And Operations

I asked Yael about our Unit's history, before I joined in '95. "We are one of the original units, going back to '76. During the *Intifada*, late '80s to early '90s, we worked extensively manning observation positions. We served as the eyes of the police and provided security for undercover operations. The Madrid and Oslo Accords brought about a change, fewer sniper ops. If we were called, it was 'bring binoculars and coffee, leave the rifles at home' rooftop duty — look out for car thieves."

The September 1996 outbreak of violence resulted in several Civil Guard sniper units being called-up to help the police. The Jerusalem Unit started being used in situations where precision (not necessarily long-range) marksmanship and a cool head were vital; for example, inside the Jerusalem Mall with M1 Carbines when a terrorist attack was anticipated. A couple of National Shooting Championships resulted in a permanent assignment for the Unit; manning a position overlooking one of the most sensitive locations in the World, the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest sight, and the Temple Mount, holy to Moslems.

Permanent operational status within the Jerusalem Region Police itself (as opposed to under the Civil Guard) came with the Pope's visit to Israel. "The Yamam's Command endorsed our working with their Unit. The Sabak (General Security Service or *Shin Bet*) gave our Unit's members the appropriate security clearance. We did recon, selected four positions from which we could cover our geographic area of responsibility and developed profiles with range cards for each. Twice a day, every day of the Pope's six-day visit, we manned our positions. Often we were the first to arrive and the last to leave the area."

"I guess our work was appreciated," Artur remarked. "Not long afterward we were asked to select and prepare positions in several of Jerusalem's neighborhoods. We developed profiles with range cards for each. We were also asked to 'ride shotgun' for the police-patrol vehicles in neighborhoods on the border with Bethlehem. We made the patrol officers feel more secure; knowing with us along they had the ability 'to reach out' to return fire. When the IDF relieved the police protecting Gilo, it was our positions the army took over and our range cards they used. I'd say



Major "Dave" checks zero on a pair of bomb-squad M24s. Longbow Frangible ammo (right) is used by the bomb squad.



Joining the Unit

Step One in joining our Unit is to convince our Commander (26-year veteran of Israel's Elite Navel Commando Unit) that you can shoot. Former IDF or MaGav marksmen/snipers and top shooters in the annual Civil Guard M1 Carbine Competition get a "try-out," an invitation from Artur to join a Friday morning range session. Before the morning (07:00 to 13:30) is over, a first-time visitor will fire one of our Mausers, M14s and Remington 700s. "Besides a demonstration of proficiency with a scoped rifle, candidates must exhibit maturity, physical fitness, good common sense and a 'pitch-right-in and not have to be told' personality. They also need to convince us they want to be part of our Unit bad enough that they are

the five-day course is a milestone. Until then you've been teamed-up shooting someone else's rifle. But you need to show up for the course already sighted-in at 200 meters with the rifle with which you'll build your data logbook. So this is the time you're issued your own. After you've completed Alef you're called "Sniper" and considered operationally qualified." Artur's tone of voice let you know he was speaking

we've done our part. Between July 2000 to June 2001 our Sniper Unit volunteers provided 1,200 hours of operational Sniper/Observer duty to the Jerusalem Regional Police Command."

The Jerusalem Unit reflects the make-up of Israel. Half of the snipers are native-born Israelis. Of the others, there are an equal number of Anglo-Saxons and Russians. There are religious, non-religious, and even anti-religious. Several are women. Most are combat veterans, some from the Special Forces or Yamam, some Olympic-level small-bore competitors. They are builders, computer geeks, lawyers, engineers, contractors, educators, craftsmen, watchmen and businessmen and women. Over half the members have been with the Unit more than a dozen years. No one will run!

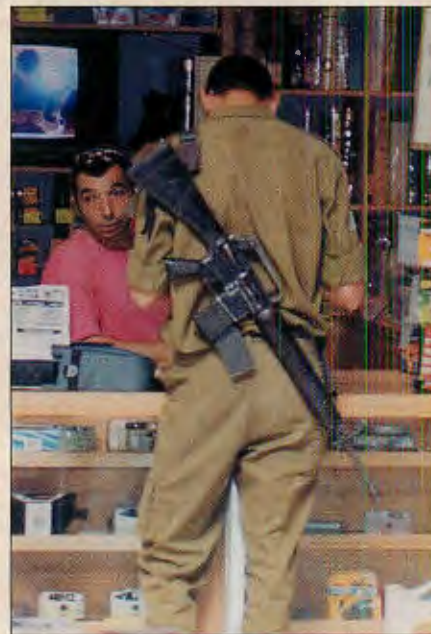
During the last several years the Unit has upgraded equipment and mainte-

nance. In doing so, good friends have been made in the States. As far as rifles, I have Bruce Westrom to thank for his assistance in getting me my ArmaLite AR-10 (T), simply the most serious firepower between Jerusalem and the coast. But I'm sure Yael and Ori, with thanks to Richard Garcia, would argue that their Tactical Ordnance — Tactical Precision Rifles are deadlier. (The debate never stops: semi-auto vs. bolt-action sniper rifles.) As individual budgets allow, everyone in the Unit is switching to a scope with a mil-dot reticle. Much credit for this advancement goes to Bruce Robinson and his Mildot Master, Lew Schwiebert, and his Ballisticards and Karin Christensen and her Long Range Shooting. Together they make a complete range estimation, practice and actual precision shooting system. The only alternative is Daniel Shepherd's Model P-2 SheperdScope.

ment, materiel and technique. Our Unit is the exception. A new rifle is a significant financial investment. It is also month's worth of filing out request forms, applications, export and import authorization paperwork and about a year's worth of waiting. Proper barrel break-in goes hand-in-hand with proper cleaning. So as new rifles began being purchased, a commitment to proper cleaning evolved. Today, just about every one of our snipers has managed to get someone to bring him an Otis Sniper Cleaning Kit from the States. It has become standard range and deployment gear. One quick demonstration and everyone is cleaning correctly. For further cleaning back home, the Unit has just done a group purchase of Dewey Manufacturing cleaning rods, bore guides and brushes. Thanks to Jerry Williams and George Dewey there are no dirty rifles in the Jerusalem Snipers.



(above) Within common caliber (7.62x51 NATO), team members are allowed to personally buy what they can shoot with. This TAC-ORD rifle and Black Hills ammo is highly regarded by its owner. (right) Israeli troopers carry at times, including when off-duty. (below) Two Israeli troopers examine Otis Cleaning Systems — contributed by SOF and Rich Wyatt — at the IDF sniper-training facility.



The reticle in an Israeli made/issued M16 scope is practically identical. The transition to a 7.62x51 caliber rifle with a P-2 is natural, instantaneous and preferred by some former MaGav and IDF Marksmen.

Whatever the scope, we get it mounted correctly utilizing the expertise of Marty Bordson and Badger Ordnance rings. There are none better. Collectively, for range estimating, we rely on a Bushnell 1000 Rangefinder. Lt. Col. Robert K. Brown, USAR (Ret.), Editor/Publisher of *Soldier Of Fortune* magazine, presented it to the Jerusalem Sniper Unit. It is simply the finest tool the Unit possesses.

Israelis are not accustomed to cleaning their rifles. They lack proper equip-

Back On Duty

Shortly after Avi-Hi and I arrived (07:00) at Friday morning's staging area, a contingent of Mounted Police arrived. They had been here last Friday and not a single a horse or rider went home uninjured. Today both donned armor. They looked like samurai warriors in black roller-blading gear, on horses similarly attired. We chatted and let them know where our positions would be located. They pointed out a small blimp being raised from the back of the staging area, attached by cables to a Ford Econoliner. Our mounted friends warned, "Don't scratch. The video and audio equipment the blimp hosts sees and hears everything. You do

not want to let the guys in the van catch you in a 'compromising position' because you'll be watching yourself on tape at every police social function for years to come."

"Everybody, gather up over here," Artur called. The group of us, in our Sniper/Observer pairings, quickly formed around Artur. He reviewed our assignments and standing orders especially for opening fire. "Where a clear, real and immediate threat to inflict serious injury or death is demonstrated and no other way exists to stop it, you are authorized to open fire if you can stop the threat without harming innocents." Final instructions came from the Head of Operations for the Jerusalem Region.

"You are at the most fragile spot on earth this morning. A single misstep could have horrific consequences. You're here because you are all mature, professional and experienced, but more important than any other reason, because your judgment is trusted. *Open Fire If And Only If Necessary To Save A Life And No Other Alternative Exists.* First and foremost you are here to protect the public and your fellow officers."

A MaGav jeep transported us to our position. The equipment we took with us had been carefully chosen keeping two rules in mind: First, anything you need, bring with you or be prepared to do without. Second, on the ground in Indian Territory if you can't haul it moving fast, don't bring it.

Both Avi-Hi and I wore our khaki BDUs, and blue police baseball caps. I had my Benchmade AFO clipped in a pocket. On my belt were my Leatherman multi-tool, Springfield Armory Government Model 1911-A1 .45 in a Fobus holster and two extra mags in a G.I. double-mag pouch. In addition to my ArmaLite AR-10 (T) in a Dorskocil hardcase and a thermos of coffee, I carried a medium sized A.L.I.C.E. pack. Inside were my binoculars, police jacket and personal web-gear comprised of USGI Y-type suspenders, pistol belt and BlackHawk belt pad. I rigged it with a pair of Israeli two 20-round M14 mag pouches, a G.I. four 20-round M16 mag pouch (perfect for three 10-round AR-10 (T) mags), an Israeli-made padded holster with flap from Frontline for my .45, two extra pis-

tol mags in a G.I. pouch and a sheathed SOG Special Forces Bowie. The pack's pockets contained a Sabco D-2 Gun Ghillie, some hard candies, PowerBars, bottled water, bean bag, boonie hat, several sniper scarves, a 50-round box of .45 hardball and two 20-round boxes of IMI Police Special Match.

Avi-Hi carried his police issue Mauser and wore his IMI double-action Jericho 9mm pistol and two extra 15-round double-stacked mags. He had his Spyderco Police Model clipped in a pocket. In his backpack was his D-2 Gun Ghillie (Sabco Industries is a sup-



The Israeli Mounted Police Unit is an effective crowd control tool.

porter of our Unit), police jacket, some pastry, bottled water, binoculars, three 20-round boxes of IMI Police Special Match and a 50-round box of FMJ 9mm. He also carried the all-important Motorola walkie-talkie that he used to call the commander of our immediate area as soon as we got our rifles uncased. "17 from 333, where are our MaGavnic's? Over."

"Can't tell you how happy we are to see you here, knowing you are glassing the hillside. Just keep watching forward and don't worry about your 'six.' These guys will." Jake pointed 'with emphasis' at the MaGavnic's. They got the message. We went to work. It was intense and especially tense as we watched tens of thousands of worshippers pass our position. Our area

remained calm, which was not the case everywhere. About 16:00 a police van collected our teams and took us back to the staging area. Our mounted friends immediately greeted us. "You've got to see this! Into the van," they ordered.

Once inside the Econoliner, our private showing began. We watched our mounted friends galloping down Main Street East Jerusalem under a hail of rocks and bottles. Suddenly, one of the horses was hit particularly hard in the front legs by an iron bar. It was sent into a fall, throwing its rider. The horse recovered immediately and continued down the street, leaving its rider behind. Surprised, the crowds on both sides of the street did nothing as the stunned rider a mere 10 yards away, got to his feet. We watched in horror as the crowd started gathering rocks, bricks and bars and began to move towards the officer. Neither the MaGav nor his mounted comrades would be able to get to him before the crowd would reach him.

Incredibly, the officer raised his head, as if motioning in the direction of the buildings to his left. His outstretched right arm also directed the gaze of the crowds now closing on him, up towards the left. The mob stopped. The MaGav arrived about the same time that the mounted police brought their brother his horse. The situation calmed and the crowd was persuaded to disperse. The video clip ended. We sat silent in the dark interior of the van. Then from outside we heard, "Thanks!"

It was the officer who had been thrown by his horse. "As the cobwebs began to clear I had a single thought. Is anyone watching? Is anyone covering me? I started to look up not really remembering you were around. And then, there you were, up above with four rifles clearly pointed in the direction of the danger to me. I pointed wanting to be sure the crowd saw the same wonderful sight (although I don't think they saw it as quite so wonderful) I saw. You saved me from a lot of broken bones, likely much worse. Hope you are always there. Again, Thanks!"

Rest assured, just look up and you'll see the Jerusalem Sniper Unit's volunteers watching out for you. That is a promise you can repeat to your spouse and your life insurance agent. ✕

"TORTURE" TO PREVENT "TERRORISM?"

SOF Interviews French Master Torturer

BY MARTIN BRASS

Osprey Military Elite Series,
French Foreign Legion
Paratroopers

The United States is being forced to face one of the most difficult decisions of its relatively brief history: how to deal with terrorists that have infiltrated not only the United States, but dozens of other industrialized nations. Time is of the essence. Americans anxiously wait in trepidation, hoping for the best, but expecting the worst. That is terror. But the alternatives are equally shocking. The effectiveness of massive military retaliation is uncertain, and civilian deaths are inevitable. There is resistance to the United States suffering the casualties involved in another foreign ground war.

Once more SOF dares to tread in what may appear to be unspeakable territory — looking to history to see how one modern country, faced with terrorist attacks against its citizens, dealt with the situation.

IN Morocco in 1942, an air force officer, Captain Delmas, had warned Paul Aussaresses: "Do you know what you risk in entering the special services?"

"Yes, my captain, I risk being killed."

"My poor sir, when you are killed, you are relieved, because you may be tortured before you are blown away. Torture, you see, is less merciful than death."

Captain Paul Aussaresses subsequently was briefed by the Chief of Police of Algiers, in 1955.

"Imagine for an instant that you are opposed to the concept of torture and you arrest someone who is clearly implicated in the preparation of a terrorist attack. The suspect refuses to talk. You do not insist. A particularly murderous attack is launched. What will you say to the parents of the victims, to the parents of an infant, for example, mutilated by the bomb to justify the fact that you did not utilize all means to make the suspect talk?"

"I would not like to find myself in such a situation," Aussaresses responded.

"Yes, but conduct yourself always as if you will, and you will

see which is the most difficult: to torture a confirmed terrorist or explain to the parents of the victims that it is better to allow dozens of innocents to die, than to make one who is culpable suffer.”

After a moment of meditation, Aussaresses cast aside his last reservations, concluding that no one had the right to judge him, even if his responsibilities forced him to conduct disagreeable actions, and he would never have any regrets.

Aussaresses, then 35 years old, was the intelligence official in charge of liquidating the Front Liberation Nationale (FLN). The FLN was conducting a savage insurrection that targeted the French colonists (*Pied Noir*) in Algeria. Many *Pied Noir* had already been terrorized, assassinated, or mutilated.

Algeria, a colony of France for 132 years, was explosive. Terror reigned. “I will not allow negotiations with the enemy of the nation. The only negotiation is war,” Francois Mitterand, Secretary of the Interior, had declared November 1954.

In a book published 3 May 2001, *Services Speciaux, Algerie 1955-57*, Aussaresses graphically details the wide use of torture and summary execution of the members and supporters of the FLN by the Algerian police and French military during the Algerian revolution.

The French government ordered the liquidation of the FLN and to suppress the rebels by “any means, any possible means,” Aussaresses emphasized.

The Algerian police were not equipped for such a mission.



In a recent Paris interview, R. K. Brown discusses the tactical use of torture in rooting out terrorists during the battle for Algiers, with retired four-star French General Paul Aussaresses. His tell-all book became a best seller, as it rattled French society to its foundations.

Nor was the regular French army. The French Government ordered the French Parachutists to Algeria and gave them *carte blanche* to destroy the FLN.

The situation in Philippeville, a city of 21,000 inhabitants, in the sector *Nord Constantinois*, where the FLN was headquartered, was about to ignite. Hundreds of thousands of French colonists (*Pied Noir*) remained in Algeria.

The Philippeville police maintained that torture was the most effective method to elicit information from an uncooperative terrorist, who, in the name of an ideal, was willing to shed the blood of the innocent. Timely information could

save dozens of lives.

The police made no apologies. Nor does Aussaresses.

SOF met with the 83-year-old General Aussaresses in a Parisian hotel that had been a contact point for the Nazi party during the Nazi occupation of Paris in World War II. Cold War intrigue still hung in the air. Aussaresses appeared to be “neither an executioner, nor a monster, but an ordinary man.” And that is also how he characterized the Algerian police who trained him in torture techniques in 1955.

“You admitted to torturing and killing 24 men yourself. Why torture?” asked SOF

“The FLN were involved in a savage terrorist movement,” Aussaresses said. “My role in Algeria was a struggle against unbridled terrorism — blind attacks against the innocent. The conflict was not Algerians vs. French. The fight was not a political one nor was it an ideological one. That holds no interest for me. Most Algerians, as well, were not interested in political problems. They only wanted to be able to go out on the streets and live in peace.

“I, who judge no one ... often ask, considering what happens in a city [French] today — with those blind attacks which decimate the innocent — why someone does not understand within a few weeks that the high authorities must utilize all means in order to put an end to the terror?”

I have been called a murderer, a monster, a communist ... I am a patriot. I take full responsibility for my actions. I do not seek to justify my actions but simply try to explain that from the moment when a nation demands of its army to fight an enemy that terrorizes the population and forces it into submission, it is impossible for the army not to resort to extreme means.

“In the profession I chose, I had killed.

“I never tortured or executed the innocents or children — only the terrorists who had made a choice and were implicated in the attacks.”

I had often thought that I would be tortured some day. But I never imagined that I would torture.

“Having opted for a military career and for Charles de Gaulle, I became a special agent. In the interest of my country I had clandestinely carried out operations unacceptable to the ordinary moral standards, had often circumvented the law: stolen,

assassinated, vandalized, and terrorized. I had learned how to pick locks, kill without leaving traces, lie, be indifferent to my suffering and to that of others, had forgotten and made others forget. All for France.

“I had interrogated prisoners, but I had never tortured,” Aussaresses said. “I had heard that such procedures were utilized in Indochina, but only in exceptional circumstances.”

“Each time I jumped in a clandestine mission at night,” he recalls, “I imagined that I might be tortured, burned to death by the enemy, or have my fingers or teeth torn out, as was done to a comrade ... I imagined the firing squad. I would never

accept a mask on my eyes. The door of the plane would open and I would only see the silence and the emptiness.”

“I never tortured or executed the innocents or children — only the terrorists who had made a choice and were implicated in the attacks. For each bomb, there was one who manufactured it, one who transported it — maybe twenty persons at a time. For each the responsibility was overwhelming even if they were simply links in a long chain.”

Torture

Aussaresses recalls his transformation into an intelligence officer in Philippeville.

“It is good that you come from the special services. I have need for an intelligence officer,” Colonel Cockborne, who commanded the unit in Algeria, welcomed him.

“I also am pleased with such a coincidence,” Aussaresses smiled, in return. “Except there is one problem.”

“What is that?”

“You have been misinformed. I am not an intelligence specialist. My background is in Special Operations.”

“I know perfectly well your experience and I am sure you will adapt swiftly. As for action, I guarantee you plenty. Although the town is calm, the countryside is aflame. Our battalions are fighting, the rebels attacking the villages and isolated farms, pillaging and assassinating the pied-noir.”

“I had lost a number of friends on the battlefield in Dien Bien Phu and I had no desire to revisit that nightmare,” Aussaresses told SOF. In Indochina, he had been a member of the 1st regiment of Paras, which at first consisted of three battalions. The second battalion, of which he had been a member, had been so decimated — 70% losses — that it had been dissolved. The French base at in Dien Bien Phu, com-



General Jacques Massu (left), and SOF Publisher Brown present a wreath at the Israeli Paratroopers' Memorial in 1984. Massau, commanding officer of the 10th Colonial Parachute Division, won the battle of Algiers. He was authorized by the French government to resort to torture, which broke the back of the FLN in Algiers.

uation was urgent ...”

The methods employed were always the same: beatings, electricity, water. Beatings often sufficed. *Le gengene* consisted of torture with electricity. Electrodes were applied to the ears or the testicles with increasing intensity. Or, water was poured over the face until the prisoner spoke or drowned.

Some prisoners spoke freely. For others, several beatings were sufficient. It was only in the event that the prisoner refused to talk or tried to conceal evidence that torture was utilized. The officers tortured personally so the young soldiers would not get their hands dirty. Many were incapable.

His commander, Colonel Cockborne, was one of those who “were more fragile than the victims.” After Aussaresses had been in Algeria for some time, Cockborne called Aussaresses in to question him regarding the use of torture.

posed of 16,000 men, had fallen 7 May 1954 after a fierce resistance that marked the beginning of the end of the French intervention in Viet Nam. The two remaining battalions were deployed to Philippeville, Algeria, in 1955. A third battalion of French Foreign Legionnaires reinforced them. Aussaresses was ordered to join them.

The terrorist attacks accelerated. On 18 June 1955, seven bombs exploded simultaneously. A colonist walking down the street was axed to death by a Moslem he knew. He identified his assailant before he died. Aussaresses attempted to extract information from the murderer to prevent further attacks. He tortured for the first time.

“I thought of nothing. I had no remorse for his death. If I regretted anything, it was that he refused to talk before he died. He had used violence against a person who was not his enemy. He got what he deserved. Had his victim been military personnel, I would have understood. I had neither hate nor pity. The sit-

TORTURES

IT is often said that the Algerian War was to France what the Vietnam war was to the U. S. In 1954, France was still reeling from its defeat at Dien Bien Phu when the French Foreign Legion was deployed to Algeria. By 1956, half-a-million French soldiers were stationed in Algeria. A total of 1.7 million French soldiers fought in the Algerian war: 25,000 died and 60,000 were wounded. It is estimated that more than half-a-million Algerians died.

The French military won the war on the ground but lost in the political circles in France. The public, which heard of the wide use of torture and summary executions, launched violent mass demonstrations. In the aftermath of Vietnam and Algeria, France was threatened with civil war. In

1959, French President Charles de Gaulle decided to allow Algeria to become sovereign. The French generals organized a coup in 1961, demanding that “Algeria must stay French.” The coup failed. The violent reactions in France to the unpopular war signaled its end in 1962.

General Aussaresses’ book has reignited the unresolved, fiery debate of the policies of the government and military in the Algerian war.

The stage for his book was set late 2000, when Algerian independence advocate, Louissetta Ighil Aghiz, told the French journal *Le Monde* of her torture in 1957 after being apprehended by the French: She was subsequently tortured for three months.

“I express regrets, regrets, regrets, but I cannot express remorse. That

"Are you sure there are no other means to make men speak?"

"More Rapid?"

"That is not what I meant"

"I know, my colonel, what you mean. More *prop-er*. If I shared your point of view, my colonel, I could not accomplish the mission that you have given me. I cannot think in terms of morals, rather I need to think in terms of efficiency. Blood flows here daily.

"And what do you do to your suspects?"

"After they talk?"

"Exactly?"

"If they are loyal to the terrorists, I assassinate them."

"But you must consider that the entire FLN is associated with terrorism."

"I agree."

"Would it not be better to remit them to the justice system before executing them? One cannot eliminate all the members of an organization. That's crazy."

"The French government has decided, my colonel. The FLN are too numerous. The justice system is efficient in times of peace. We are in Algeria and there is a war. You wanted an intelligence agent? You have one, my colonel. ... our mission demands the use of torture and summary executions. It has only just begun."

"It's a dirty war. I don't like it".

Colonel Cockborne did not last long in Algeria. He was replaced by Colonel Mayer, a former Para in Indochina.

The Battle Of Philippeville

Aussaresses explained how he had learned to recruit informers from the civilian populace while in Indochina, during the war that was also called "the people's war."

The Algerian police were faced with a mission impossible as they lacked the intelligence, the capabilities, the organization and the means.

Terrorist acts continued to escalate in Philippeville. Aussaresses liased with the local intelligence service, the



After a successful operation, 1st REP troopers assemble small arms captured from rebels. Man at left has shotgun, M1 Garand and Czech-made Mauser.

gendarmerie, and the police. He enlisted the help of judges and other government officials, politicians, intellectuals, merchants, businessmen, attorneys, journalists, patrons of the brothels, cafes and nightclubs. And often members of the FLN ratted on each other.

Feverishly, Aussaresses made a list of all prominent people and mandated a census of the population, sleeping only a few hours a day, in a race for time.

Mid July 1955, Aussaresses had learned from the police that there was a concentration of 3-5,000 guerillas in the woods surrounding Philippeville. An Arab grocer informed Aussaresses that he previously had sold a sack of flour every three days. Now he was selling two tons at a time and was paid in cash. That only meant that a large number of men were gathering close to town in the hills and required large amounts of food. His informants revealed that FLN agents

Continued on page 78

implies guilt," Aussaresses told AP. "I consider I did the difficult duty of a soldier carrying out a difficult mission".

"Everybody knew. Everybody knew," he said. "We reported not directly to the government but to the local authorities, including to the government's direct representative, the governor of Algeria."

"The situation was explosive. There were threats of bomb attacks on all sides. I needed information, to gain time and I couldn't afford to hesitate. Torture is very effective. Most people break and talk. Afterwards, for the most part, we would finish them off. Individual human lives count little for me, including my own. I was tough on my enemies, but also on myself," He said.

Prime Minister Lionel Jospin said he

was "deeply shocked" by the account. French President Jacques Chirac was "horrified" at the declarations of General Aussaresses and condemns the atrocities, acts of torture and summary executions.

Aussaresses' Legion of Honor, the highest honor in the French military, has been revoked. The military is concerned that its reputation has been smeared. The French Cabinet formally forced him out of the army, the first time that such a disciplinary action had been taken in 20 years. He can no longer appear in military uniform.

The Paris-based League of Human Rights filed a lawsuit against the General for being an apologist for crimes and war crimes. International Human Rights Federation wants the general to be charged with crimes

against humanity. An Algerian court has accepted a suit filed by the relatives of an FLN fighter they alleged died after being tortured by Aussaresses. A parliamentary commission of inquest has been established.

General Jacques Norlain wrote that "soldiers wage war on the orders of politicians and together with terror victims are among the only people to die for faults they did not commit."

Apparently, soldiers have to wage the war in the courts and the public arena. Alone. —M.B.

NEXT: Will Aussaresses face prosecutions for war crimes, crimes against humanity and torture?



Springfield Armory M1A Scout Rifle

A Weapon That Can Do It All

TEXT & PHOTOS BY CHUCK KARWAN

Can one rifle actually perform such diverse roles as a general-purpose tactical rifle, sniper rifle, tactical entry gun, target rifle, close and long range hunting rifle with reasonable efficiency in all areas? As unlikely as it may seem, the answer is yes. In fact, that one rifle, using a variety of different sighting systems and ammunition, can perform every one of those diverse roles to a level superior to many of its role-specific competitors. The rifle I am talking about is the Springfield Armory M1A Scout rifle mildly tuned and equipped with a variety of different sighting systems, accessories and ammunition.

The M1A Scout rifle is a slight variation on the standard M1A which is in turn a commercial semiautomatic-only version of the U.S. military M14 rifle. The differences include: an 18-inch barrel instead of the standard 22-inch, an extremely efficient muzzle break instead of a flash suppressor, a forward barrel-mounted scope mount base, and a modified handguard. In a nut shell, it is a carbine version of the M1A rifle set up to take a long eye relief Scout Scope or red dot optical sight. It is available either with a walnut or black fiberglass stock, the latter being my recommendation.

The M1A Scout rifle has all the good characteristics of its M14 grandfather. It is extremely reliable, durable and

rugged. It has one of the most reliable magazines ever put on a military rifle. It also has the best combat iron sights ever put on a military rifle. It has the advantages of being significantly lighter and shorter than the M14 and having significantly less recoil and muzzle jump thanks to its muzzle break.

One would think that the relatively minor differences between the M14 and the M1A Scout would not make much difference, but it does. The result is an incredibly versatile and flexible weapon system.

I have owned one of these for several years and have tested three others. Yet another advantage for the M1A Scout has surfaced. In spite of the fact

that none had specially selected match grade barrels and none were originally glass bedded, all would shoot sub-1.5 minute of angle (MOA) with ammunition they liked. Indeed, my personal rifle and one other will break MOA on a regular basis. The folks at Springfield have also noticed that this model consistently shoots better than it should, but are at a loss for an explanation why.

Being an engineer by education I put my mind to the problem and believe that I have an answer. I believe that it is a serendipitous combination of several factors. First, the shorter barrel does away with the slim whippy part of the M1A barrel, in effect making the barrel much stiffer. Second, the aluminum scope base sleeve that is clamped to the barrel with socket screws cannot help but stiffen the barrel even more, as well as serve to dampen barrel vibrations. Finally, with the 4-inch-shorter barrel the bullet leaves the barrel before the operating system begins to move to any significant degree, thus limiting the extraneous vibrations set up by the piston and operating rod moving while the bullet is still in the barrel. All of the above combined makes these rifles more accurate than you would expect.

If you take one of these already accurate rifles and have it tuned by someone that knows their business, this accuracy can be enhanced even more. In fact, unitizing the gas system with the front band and glass bedding the receiver, are often enough to get consistent sub-MOA capabilities.

The secret to getting versatility from this rifle is in the selection of accessories, sighting systems, and

ammunition. By using different combinations, the rifle can be configured to handle different roles to an incredibly efficient degree. Not every configuration or role that I will cover will be of interest to everybody. Some will apply more to police, some to the military and some will apply mainly to civilians. I will leave it up to you to judge the versatility and applications that you might find useful.

First, I have one general observation: The muzzle break that comes standard with this rifle is extremely efficient. It cuts down muzzle jump substantially making shot recovery much faster and quick follow up shots or rapid fire much easier than a similar rifle without such a muzzle break. Tests with the muzzle break removed or replaced with a conventional flashhider do not detect any detrimental effect to accuracy by the muzzle break.

The only advantage any of the other excellent 7.62mm NATO combat rifles like the FAL, G3, M14, SIG 510-4, AR-10, or BM59 may have over the M1A Scout is a slightly higher muzzle velocity if they have a significantly longer barrel. One should note that the standard German G3 (H&K 91) and Italian BM59 military rifles have barrel lengths of only 18.9 in. and 17.7 in. respectively anyway and consequently little to no difference in muzzle velocity difference from the M1A Scout.

The slight ballistic difference in favor of the longer barrels as found with most FALs and full sized M14s is not important at normal combat or hunting distances. At least out to 400 yards, the shorter rifle can do anything

the longer ones can, is much handier, and has faster shot recovery.

Iron Sights

I would rate the M1A Scout rifle with just its iron sights to be a better general purpose combat rifle than a full-sized M14, FAL, G3, or SIG 510-4 because of the above stated advantages.

In many tactical situations the 7.62mm NATO cartridge has major advantages over the 5.56mm and other assault rifle cartridges when it comes to penetration, defeating cover and accuracy in heavy wind. For police or civilian self-defense use it should be routinely loaded with the superb Hornady TAP (Tactical Application Police) ammunition with 110- or 155-grain highly frangible bullets to prevent over penetration. I particularly recommend the TAP load with a 110-grain bullet because of its low recoil, tremendous wound ballistics and unlikelyhood of over-penetration. Full metal jacket ammunition should be retained strictly for engaging targets behind cover. It takes a hell of a big tree to stop an FMJ 150- to 175-grain .308 bullet.

This same configuration can also be used in NRA type high-powered rifle competition in the NRA Match Rifle category, particularly if you exchange the standard rear sight on this rifle for the M14 National Match model with finer adjustments. In spite of its M14 heritage it can not qualify for the Service Rifle category because of its shorter barrel and other differences from an M14. It has the accuracy with match grade ammunition to be competitive and because of the effective muzzle break I can shoot this rifle faster and better in timed and rapid fire than I can the full-sized M1A Match rifle.

Put a five-round magazine in this rifle and use a good .308 hunting load appropriate for the game being hunted and this rifle is an excellent close range hunting rifle for use in the tall timber or thick jungle.



Rather than a flash suppressor the M1A Scout Rifle has an extremely efficient muzzle brake (above) that cuts muzzle jump down to almost nothing with most loads. (right) M1A Scout rifle with a 10X Springfield Mil-Dot Government Model scope and mount with a Harris bipod. This rig could be used as a military or police sniper rifle or as a long range hunting rifle.



Scout Scope

When this rifle is equipped with a long eye relief Scout scope, as popularized by Jeff Cooper, it becomes an even better tactical and hunting rifle because of improved aiming ability. Typical Scout Scope magnification is between 2X and 3X with examples available from Burris, Leupold, Springfield Inc. and others. Most people find that with

a little practice keeping both eyes open this setup is as fast or faster to use than with iron sights. I have shot big game with such a scope out to 200 yards with no problem and would be confident at even longer ranges.

The Scout Scope should be installed using quick detachable rings like those offered by Leupold, so that backup iron sights can be used if needed. I have the peep sights pre-zeroed and then just

turn the elevation knob down all the way to get it out of the way, recording the number of clicks needed. I can pull the scope off and crank up the rear iron sight the required clicks in just seconds. The Leupold quick detachable (QD) rings also allow the scope to be remounted quickly with no loss of zero. Recently, a friend using Leupold QD rings took his scope off and remounted it after every shot in a five-shot group. The group was still well under one MOA.

The Scout Scope allows accurate enough shooting out to at least 200 yards that it can actually be used in the police sniper, precision marksman, or counter sniper role. A head shot at 100 yards using the Hornady TAP ammunition is ridiculously easy. Most modern police snipers would scoff at such low powered optics, but WWII British, Russian, and American snipers did tremendous work out to 600 yards with only 2.2-3X optics not nearly as sharp. Typically police-sniper engagements are at well under 100 yards.

The forward mounted Scout scope offers a number of other advantages over a conventional receiver mounted scope beside those already mentioned. It allows open access to the rifle's action for reloading and clearing of stoppages. It allows carrying the rifle by wrapping your hand around the action. In extremely cold weather it puts heat and moisture from the shooter's face and breath well away from the scope so as not to frost it up. The Scout scope takes some getting used to but once you are comfortable with it, it is extremely efficient.

Red Dot Sights

The installation of a red dot sight in the forward position of the M1A Scout makes this rifle a better general purpose combat or hunting rifle than it is with just iron sights in much the same way as a Scout scope does. However, in this case the advantage is not so much an improvement in aiming precision, but speed of aiming, particularly in poor light conditions or with multiple targets. This type sight is the fastest to use in almost any circumstance which is why it is so popular in action shooting competition.

Among illuminated red dot sights Aimpoint has the most rugged and waterproof version on the market according to recent tests that resulted in the adoption of the Aimpoint Comp M-XD by the U.S. military. Also, these sights have tremendously long battery life ranging from a minimum of 200 hours up to as much as 1,000 hours



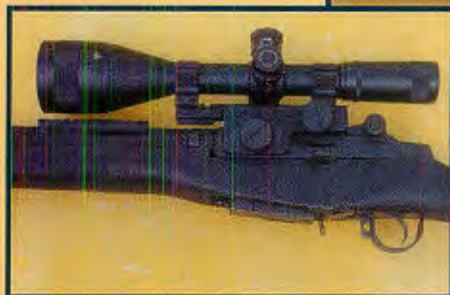
The M1A Scout rifle with its excellent iron sights can be used as a combat/tactical rifle, a hunting rifle, or a competition rifle.



Four sighting systems combined with the M1A Scout Rifles iron sights give this rifle incredible versatility.



(above) An Aimpoint red dot sight mounted on the M1A Scout rifle's forward mount position makes the M1A a superior woodland hunting rifle, a better tactical rifle, and an excellent entry gun for police and military type tactical entries.



(above) The M1A Scout with a Springfield Sniper scope. This is a superb police or military sniper rifle, sniper support rifle, designated marksman rifle, or what ever the current buzz word is.



(above) Adding the Scout Scope to the M1A Scout makes it an even better tactical rifle and hunting rifle. (left) The 2X Aimpoint shown here gives the M1A Scout both the advantages of a low powered scope and those of a red dot sight.



depending on temperatures, duration, and intensity settings used.

This type sight has no critical eye relief and eye position does not matter because it has no parallax. The red dot catches the eye and contrasts extremely well with any reasonable game animal or tactical target.

This rifle loaded with Hornady TAP 110-grain ammunition and an Aimpoint sight with a 3 MOA dot would also be my pick for the single best entry long gun there is. Currently, most of the military and police pros are using .223 M4 carbines or 9mm MP5 submachine guns in this role. I prefer the M1A Scout because with the 110-grain Hornady TAP load it has no discernible muzzle jump and it hits twice as hard as a .223. Each 110-grain TAP bullet is the ballistic equivalent of two 55-grain 5.56mm bullets at about the same velocity. Terminal wound ballistics in either flesh or gelatin has to be seen to be believed. In tests conducted on animals a hit several inches from a bone or the spine will break them. Over-penetration is extremely unlikely.

Why a rifle as an entry weapon? Long hallways such as at Columbine High School can easily offer shots out to 100 yards that require the precision and effectiveness of a rifle. The other primary reasons are much higher precision and less danger of collateral damage than a shotgun and quicker, more decisive, and reliable incapacitation than a submachine gun.

Aimpoint has a 2X red dot scope that I have recently tried with my M1A Scout. It has most of the advantages pre-



Just a few of the many different types of .308 ammunition available to give the M1A Scout its incredible versatility. They range from the Hornady 110 grain Tactical Application Police load to the Lapua Match. Note the sexy black bullet of the Winchester Premium 165 grain load.

viously mentioned but its 2X magnification and 1.5 MOA dot allow for aiming precision nearly equal to that of a Scout Scope. This would be an excellent choice for hunting and general utility use and maybe for combat applications as well. However, it does offer a significantly smaller field of view than my Scout Scope or Aimpoint CompM-XD.

The M1A Scout has yet another capability denied most other tactical rifles. The Aimpoint CompM-XD red dot sight has two night vision settings that allow shooting with night vision goggles. The forward mounting position prevents interference of the scope with the goggles. Optionally, with an Aimpoint mounted on the barrel mount at the right height, a night vision scope can be mounted in tandem on the receiver behind it. The Aimpoint's zero is

retained with or without the night vision sight in place. I tried out such a setup with a borrowed night vision scope and could make accurate hits at 100 yards in conditions so dark that nothing could be seen with the naked eye. Interestingly the red dot shows up as green in the night vision sight.

Receiver Mounted Scopes

The original M14 had a single position scope mount as part of its receiver design. While generally satisfactory, experience with this mounting system in Vietnam indicated that something a little stronger and more secure was desirable. Eventually a two-position system using the stripper clip guide for the second position was developed. There are several two-position mounts for the M1A series of rifles on the market including the Brookfield, the McCann, and Springfield Armory's own.

I have one of the latter fitted to my M1A Scout that can be installed in less than a minute with remarkable repeatability of zero. It currently wears a Springfield Armory 10X Mil Dot Government Model 3rd Generation sniper scope with 30mm tube and illuminated reticle.

The illuminated reticle allows accurate shooting in any light conditions with any background that still allows target identification. While this is not a night scope I have used it in semi-dark conditions where I could not have taken the shot with iron sights or a conventional scope. The Springfield scope mount is just high enough that the shooter can see the peep iron sights underneath it for situations where the scope would be too slow, unusable, or inappropriate. The shooter just uses a head position with a conventional cheek weld for the iron sights and a chin weld for the scope.

This is a deadly accurate rig that will shoot sub-MOA all day with certain loads and not much larger groups with almost any quality load. I would prefer this set up to any bolt-action sniper rifle for police or military work. A primary reason is the ability to take near instantaneous follow-up shots if the first shot misses or is deflected by an obstruction between the shooter and the target. Another is the ability to keep up steady covering fire so a downed fellow officer or civilian can be extracted out of the killing zone.

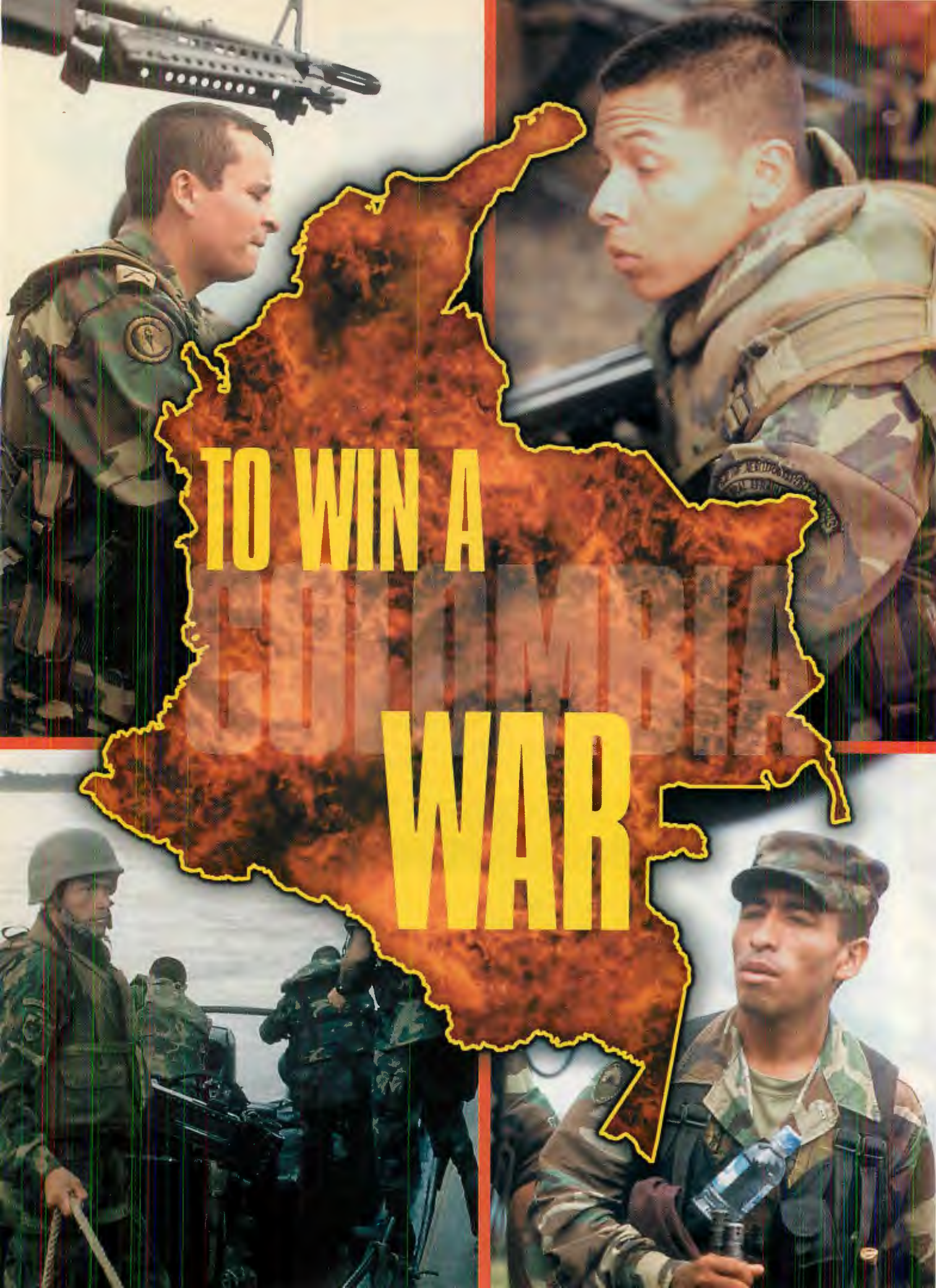
In the police tactical marksman role I would again strongly recommend the Hornady TAP ammunition, particularly

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Springfield Armory M1A Scout Rifle

SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber:	7.62mm NATO
Operation:	semiautomatic via gas piston with rotating bolt
Feed mechanism:	5-, 10-, or 20-round box magazine from the bottom
Weight empty:	8.5 pounds
Length overall:	40.14 inches
Barrel length:	18 inches
Sights:	post-type front with protective ears, peep-type rear fully adjustable with one-minute clicks. National Match sights have half-minute windage clicks and a rotating hooded aperture that allows half-minute elevation changes.
Furniture:	wood or synthetic stock w/metal or rubber butt plate and synthetic handguard
Finish:	phosphate (parkerizing)
Accessories:	cleaning kit, sling, winter trigger, muzzle break, blank adapter, shell deflector
Manufacturer:	Springfield, Inc. 420 West Main Street Geneseo, IL 61254 (309) 944-5631
T&E summary:	A reliable and accurate battle rifle that is one of the best and most versatile of its breed.



TO WIN A

WAR

AS

July moved to a close, it was business as usual in the Colombian counterinsurgency:

- In the dark of the early morning hours, the last day of the month, a FARC column of approximately battalion strength, 500-600 men, launched a violent assault on a company base blocking access to the productive heartland of Cordoba.
- On the border of Venezuela, an ambush waited for the latest shipment of arms and ammunition to be sent by corrupt elements of Caracas' armed forces to the insurgents.
- Throughout the country, the police moved forcefully to end blockades of major highways set up by farmers protesting everything from imports to exports; even as the capital itself, Bogota, was brought to a standstill by a wildcat taxi strike that saw yellow cabs come to a stop at all key intersections.
- And in Washington, Congress grappled again with the issue of U.S. aid to Colombia.

It was the fighting in Cordoba which was of most interest. Though

machineguns toward the guerrillas.

What the audience did not see was the remaining two hours which showed more than 60 insurgents go down — this from a single weapons platform.

So prodigious was ammunition expenditure by the Blackhawk mini-guns that ammunition had to be flown into a forward staging area so that the aircraft could engage in a deadly game of tag team, with at least one on station at any point in time.

Hardly had the smoke of the battlefield lifted, when Bogota went into gridlock. Ironically, it was this display which seemed to be replayed in Washington.

There, the anti-Vietnam War left, still smarting from its loss of El Salvador and Nicaragua to democracy, mobilized yet again, putting out instructions on the net as to the best way to influence lawmakers to end all assistance to a country fighting for its democratic life. The activists found a receptive audience in the usual circles, a hard core group which had yet to find a foreign policy challenge it could not reduce to platitudes and cant (*aka* PC).

As for lawmakers in general, the common denominator was near total

relationship with the U.S. which has never ceased, and a healthy supply of US weaponry, everything from 106mm recoilless rifles to 105mm howitzers to 40mm anti-aircraft pom-poms.

To listen to the debate in the U.S. Congress, it was fortunate it did! Not only is the weaponry still in use, but it seems unlikely that Colombia will ever get anything again from the U.S. save whatever is deemed irrelevant and inappropriate — thus non-controversial. It is indeed a tough time to be fighting an internal war.

As one former high ranking State Department official aptly commented recently, "Politicians have to have a ready supply of doggie bones to throw to the wolves who constantly surround them, and I would not be surprised to see the Bush Administration (or any U.S. administration) decide Colombia is an expendable bone to be thrown to the hounds."

He continued, "Sad perhaps, but my job isn't to pronounce moral or ethical judgments, rather to spread wide open the corpse of the freshly slain goat and examine (and analyze) the entrails as best I can."

A sound point. Colombians, of

Colombian Army's Strategy For Victory

TEXT & PHOTOS BY DR. TOM MARKS

the attack by the insurgents of the *Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia*, or FARC, had been well-planned, launched under cover of night, and came in overwhelming strength, it had not counted on the ability of the Colombian air force (FAC, *Fuerza Aerea Colombiana*) to bring on station everything from AC-47 and Blackhawk gunships to OV-10s. The results were spectacular.

Glued to their television sets, Colombians were able to witness a brief segment of gun-camera footage from the AC-47. Like a scene from *Predator*, it showed the hapless neon-green shapes scrambling for non-existent cover even as FLIR guided the .50-caliber heavy

ignorance of the realities on display in the likes of the Cordoba fight — which occurred but several hours flight from Miami. Colombia's professed friends sounded at times as though they were more interested in supporting favorites than in helping a friendly nation with longstanding ties to the U.S. — and a deplorable habit of consistently coming through for us when the chips were down.

Colombia had even fielded a battalion in the Korean War, a unit which ended up much decorated (to include our awards) but paid for the glory in blood. When it came home, it brought not only the medals but also two more valuable commodities: a military rela-

course, in contrast to American lawmakers, recognize that it's their carcass that's lying there. For them, day after weary day, there aren't any bones to be thrown away, only "the real thing." Absent a ticket to Miami, entrails are going to remain right where they have splattered.

Those who do go to the U.S. make good copy for the American press, which likes to paint a picture of every Juan Valdez and his burro jumping on a coffee boat and washing up in Miami. But the presence of close to half a million displaced Colombians in the U.S. (though no one really knows) only serves to spotlight the reality — most Colombians don't go anywhere. If they

did the logical thing and actually washed up in copious numbers, the *gringos* would have to pause and take a stab at a serious foreign policy discussion, as they did when the Haitians and the Cubans poured in.

Playing devil's advocate here, perhaps we all should start supporting the goal of the human rights cartel and advocate a total U.S. pullout. There are those, in Colombia itself, who have long felt the best thing for their country would be to tell the U.S. to take a hike. After all, they argue, "Who has the drug problem?"

Colombia as a society is as opposed to drugs as any other place, for Bogota has for more than a decade experienced the corruption, crime, and economic distortion narcotics bring. Yet, when all is said and done, those issues could probably be dealt with.

Pontificating politicians like to think that it is the U.S. that has Colombia over a barrel and thus can make demands. *Au contraire*, would seem the logical response.

Where the U.S. Fits In

Reduced to its simplest essence, the operational reality "down there" is that the communist insurgents of FARC have become completely integrated with the drug industry — and, increasingly, have gone into business for themselves.

FARC has fewer than two score major base areas which support its operations (see map). These are linked, for troop movement and supply, by mobility corridors, which further branch out to reach main areas of operation. The Colombian army (COLAR) has been systematically reducing both



Shortages of airframes are a significant problem. The logistics workhorse of the war is the Russian Mi-17.

of those. It is severely hampered by its lack of operational funding, or it would be moving at a quicker clip.

COLAR has proceeded on the basis of identifying, prioritizing, and attacking the mobility corridors in each FARC area, so as to prevent access to populated zones, by either guerrilla units or the much larger maneuver warfare columns (see Sept and Oct 2001 issues of *SOF*). It is the battle over these unseen "highways" which has driven much of the action of the last several years. Beginning in 2001, the army moved on to attacking the base areas used to "generate" FARC combat power.

Our \$1.3 billion in "Plan Colombia" support is overwhelmingly devoted to

the operations directed at just one of those base areas, that in Putumayo (a small department in the extreme south).

Colombian *political* support for our participation derives from the same personalities who have made such a hash of the war in general. Their motives can be attributed to a mix of logical and illogical reasons. At heart is the misguided notion that only by pressing ahead in a search for "peace" can Bogota retain the backing of Washington and its European allies. Though strategically this stance can be supported, the operational implementation has been an embarrassing mess which has placed the country at risk.

Militarily, though, support came from the entreaties of the recently resigned Minister of Defense, Luis Ramirez, to the military that it *not* act upon its intention to refuse the aid package entirely — the military's motivation being to avoid precisely the sort of meddling inherent in the recent debate. The military was convinced by Ramirez that the politicians would cover the "meddling front," while the military could create a firewall of sorts by carving out a Joint Task Force South (JTFS) area (Putumayo and Caqueta) for "Plan Colombia" operations.

The material benefit to the military, it was argued, would on the surface be substantial: in numbers and equipment, the 3 x "heavy" battalions of the Counter-Drug Brigade (CD BDE) would equal the heart of the Colombian strategic reserve, the 3 x BRIM (mobile brigades). Plus the number of heli-



General Jorge Enrique Mora Rangel (left) and COLAR's second-in-command, MG Nestor Ramirez Mejia.

copters to be provided, about 60, would equal the approximate total that could be fielded by the air force and army aviation combined.

Against this, though, the Colombian military has weighed reality: when all is said and done, the U.S. is funding a brigade which is going after a base area; and the U.S. is providing a helicopter force, most of which is aged (though refurbished) and weighted down with armor to the point that each helicopter, according to COLAR sources, can carry fewer than half a dozen troops.

In contrast, the 20-year-old *Blackhawk*, the combat workhorse of the war, is normally loaded with two squads, or

18-22 personnel. The low numbers of troops that can be put on the ground in a first wave make any operation a problematic exercise in terms of time and space (and presentation of potential targets). Further, funds for interdictions and the like, though having benefit, are not true force multipliers in the war effort.

One may quibble about particulars here, but the Colombians have reached the logical conclusion that our involvement generally supports our goals, not theirs. It is obvious, then, that where the hostile Congressional faction's argument falls down is in viewing our assistance as crucial to the Colombians.



FARC'S PLANS

In a key meeting, its seventh party conference (there have been eight, none since 1993), held at Cubarral, Meta, 4-14 May 1982, FARC outlined its "Strategic Plan for the Taking of Power" (*Plan Estrategico pra la toma del poder*). This was to take place in three phases – offensive, governance, defense of the revolution — over a period of eight years (1982-90).

The priority task to implement this design was to create a revolutionary army capable of taking on the security forces, an army of 28,000 men in 48 fronts. The eastern mountain range, Cordillera Oriental, was to serve as the key base from which the offensive would be launched, as the "center of strategic deployment" (*centro de despliegue estrategico*).

To fund this endeavor and to gain manpower, FARC opted to exploit narcotics (and to increase its existing involvement in kidnapping and the drug trade). By taxing all facets of the drug trade, it would obtain money. By protecting and controlling production areas, it would not only secure its income but recruit from the marginalized.

Captured shortly after FARC's Seventh Conference (normally rendered in Colombia with the Roman numeral, thus VII Conference), the official party text of this proceeding, mimeo, 41 pages on legal-size paper, and titled simply *Informa Central a la Septima Conference*, has long been available in Colombia in photocopy. Also useful is a FARC publication, *Historia de las FARC-EP* (no publications data, original in cloth wraps), which contains discussion of conferences and plenums from the II Conference to the 25-27 December 1987 Plenum.

Myriad such FARC documents have come into the hands of the authorities over the decades of the conflict. Summaries and assessments are in circulation. All major Colombian security force units have access to a "Power Point Paper" titled *Conferencias-Plenos*, which presents the main conclusions and directives of important FARC congresses and plenums (both regular and enlarged). Long since reduced to virtual boilerplate for widespread, continuous dissemination, the "paper" has lost all original identification and publications data.

The VII Conference itself has been closely analyzed, as has the "Strategic Plan." Though the plan has been amplified (especially at the VIII Conference in April 1993) and revised slightly — principally as concerns anticipated time frame (clearly, a 1990 victory did not happen) — it remains the basic strategic document towards which all FARC activities are directed.

— T.M.



This it is not. If we pull out, their internal war effort will not be seriously affected. The people who do the fighting have believed this all along.

Where we are important is in general support, such as through the MIL-GRP, but even these areas are "add-ons." None involves amounts of money or services which Colombia could not handle (and it could certainly contract for services directly itself).

Indeed, in a worst case scenario, Colombia could fund its own war; and there are alternative sources for everything the U.S. presently supplies, from equipment to training. "Soviet Bloc" gunships, for example, as best can be discerned, have not appeared in the Colombian inventory only because the level of bribes being demanded has

thus far been too high. Yet the hardware has been available, as have been maintenance packages.

Thus the tail wags the dog — not the other way around as some in Washington seem to think.

COLAR Strategy for Victory

Even as such controversy swirls about, the Colombian military is determined to survive the political games and to press on with its present approach, thus to take the fight to FARC:

minimally, placing it in a situation where it is willing to negotiate in good faith, something it has not done up to this point; maximally, driving it from the field.

This is not far-fetched. The Colombian Army (COLAR), guided

operationally by the thinking of its Commanding General (CG), General Jorge Mora, and his Director of Operations, MG Ospina, has subjected FARC to close scrutiny in order to arrive at a dynamic concept of operations, the ongoing phase of which is called simply "Plan 2001."

Their assessment is that FARC is extremely vulnerable. For it is in reality a stunted political movement — still in search of a viable mass base — which has militarized itself to the extent that it is a target for a military response accompanied by a supporting level of development (civic-action) and area domination (either by a revitalized police force, a newly formed militia, or other means).

FARC has reached critical mass and become a dangerous opponent due to its ability to recruit from a particular fragment of Colombian society (the rural poor, especially those tied into the drug production/trade cycle) and to maintain funding external to that fragment (drugs, kidnapping, extortion). This places it in "free rider" status with respect to society and exposed to assault at its critical nodes.

These, COLAR, which has assumed the leading role in counterinsurgency planning in default of national leadership, judges to be the base areas and the mobility corridors, without which FARC would be capable of only the low-level guerrilla activity which characterized it in the past.

What the FARC switch to maneuver warfare in 1996 meant on the ground was that guerrilla and terror actions were used to spread out government forces, which then could be defeated in detail by columns (*columnas*) deployed in what were essentially light infantry

units using appropriate tactics. These were augmented by support from homemade mortars (*ramplas*) and armor, as well as sappers trained in the Vietnamese fashion.

Yet absent FARC roots amongst the population, FARC formations, whether guerrilla or maneuver warfare, were largely dependent upon supply lines and base areas. Last year, COLAR completed a series of actions designed to disrupt or cut the major mobility corridors being used to project FARC power

out of the eastern plains (*Ilanos*) and the *Zona* (for map, see Oct 2001 *SOF*). This year, while continuing to attack the mobility corridors as divisional targets, COLAR-coordinated operations are targeting the base areas.

As COLAR assesses the battlefield, base areas are "generators of action." These it further categorizes as "generators of combat power" (*areas generadoras de poder de combat*), those whose main function is to produce the wherewithal for FARC to wage internal war, and "generators of direct action" (*areas generadoras de acciones delictivas*), those used as staging areas for assaults aimed at facilitating FARC expansion.

Both types of base areas have been hit by recent COLAR major operations. This is particularly the case of the base area of 16 Front (see map), for this was the area seized (left position of the two on the map) in the important March 2001 operation, "Black Cat" (*Gato Negro*). The base occupied a central position in the FARC supply scheme, for it was a key link in the exchange of coca for arms.

It is by eliminating such critical nodes that COLAR plans to cause the progressive contraction of FARC's power projection capabilities. Unable to use local forces to dominate the areas thus seized, the military has engaged in imaginative positioning and rotation of units so that a vacuum is not merely seized against by the insurgents.

Complementing this has been limited civic-action, a burgeoning use of information warfare, and enough special operations, normally at the initiative of the brigades, to keep FARC formations off balance. The police, who at present are the principal local force, have remained virtually outside the structure of joint planning for counterinsurgency, this despite being administratively under the Ministry of Defense (which at one time had operational control over the police, this control now exercised by the Ministry of Interior).

In certain respects the COLAR approach resembles that of U.S. forces in Vietnam under General Westmoreland. The difference, though, is signal: the COLAR strategy is predicated upon a determination that the center of gravity of FARC — a Marxist-Leninist movement committed to seizing power (see Sidebar), supposedly for the people — is its limited mass base.

While it is in form a classic insurgency following the Maoist approach, as filtered through the Vietnamese and the FMLN of El Salvador, its mass line



(above) Teenage FARC who was hit three times in a firefight with COLAR forces. She was treated tenderly, and the entire episode videotaped to prevent the inevitable charges of "human rights violations." (below) As recently as the aftermath of the intense fighting of July 1999, when FARC's powerful effort to attack eastward out of the Zona was roundly defeated by MG Ospina's IV Division, bodies were simply displayed. Since that time, though, in deference to the fact that the insurgents, too, are Colombians — albeit seriously misguided ones — corpses are covered.



and united front components are severely underdeveloped, leaving only the military component. That component is subject to disruption by the normal (if fairly complex) application of operational art and sound tactics.

Whether such a strategy can be successful depends upon any number of factors, not least of which is enhancing COLAR mobility and sustainability of units in the field. The most immediate factor here is enhanced operational funding.

This cannot be overemphasized. Equipment shortages, naturally, are severe. In June 2001, for instance, only two of the air force's 6 x C-130s were operational due to lack of spare parts. Even so, it was the allocation of meager funds *sufficient for only half the necessary flight hours* which was devastating.

In a tangible sense, the funding needed to purchase, in particular, aircraft, as well as the other components for an improved tempo of operations, depends upon the state of the economy, but this appears to be steadily if slowly improving.

Yet more important is the intangible, the political will to allocate a growing proportion of the budget to counterinsurgency needs. For this to happen, Colombia apparently will have to wait until the presidency changes hands in August 2002.

What is to be Done?

Overshadowing all other factors at present is the lack of leadership by President Pastrana. With a year remaining in office, the President is already viewed as a "lame duck." Fears are high that he will attempt one or a series of final desperate gestures to conclude some sort of agreement — even if completely sham — with FARC. In most circles, however, it is felt the system contains enough checks to be able to block any moves fraught with disaster for the country.

Meanwhile, the leading candidates to replace him have all spoken privately of the need to take a more realistic approach to the counterinsurgency. The shadow cabinets of the frontrunners have been actively gathering information and soliciting proposals for a new course when there is a change of power.

This reduces any calculation of the future to a stark query: can the security forces "hang on" in the absence of systemic mobilization for internal war? This would seem likely, for the situation is not critical — just bad.

The most ironic feature of the

Colombian war is the *relative* ease with which the mess could be sorted out. Unlike the Vietnam and El Salvador conflicts, creation of institutions, to include those of civil society, is not necessary. Reform is necessary — and that is quite a less complicated matter than wholesale construction.

In particular, the mechanisms of governance and economy are of long standing and do function well when allowed to do so. Corruption is not so pervasive that it could not be rooted out.

Just as fundamentally, the shield behind which reform must take place is sound — the security forces are one of the most coherent and competent organizations in the country. What is urgently needed, then, are:

- A National Campaign Plan. "Plan Colombia" was a statement of strategic vision rather than a plan. The closest thing to an actual counterinsurgency approach is COLAR's ongoing effort against the mobility corridors and base areas, called "Plan 2001." This, by default, is the guiding concept of the struggle but is not systemic mobilization directed against the insurgents. A key element of that mobilization must be the constitution of local forces, adequately controlled by integration with the



Coca seized in an operation. FARC has become so integrated into the drug trade that it is now inseparable from it. This allows it to operate without a substantial mass base.



regular security force structure.

- Political Leadership. There is no one running the war — there are many small wars being run simultaneously. Principal blame for this rests with the befuddlement and corruption of elements of the national political class, exacerbated by the lack of leadership displayed by President Pastrana. By default, COLAR is thus directing the fight; yet it is but one branch of the armed forces.
- Coordinated, Integrated Effort. Colombia as a system is not involved in its own struggle. Though commendable initiative has been shown by some government organs, others, in particular the offices of the *Fiscalia* (Attorney General) and *Procuraduria* (Solicitor General), have proceeded as though an internal war was not raging. Within the military itself, though great strides have been made in fostering a joint approach, even the forces falling under the Ministry of Defense are not integrated into a coordinated effort. The police, who have done an excellent job at neutralizing insurgent efforts to build urban infrastructure, have alienated the other services through their previous, overly close relations with the U.S. and thus are not integrated into COLAR's "Plan 2001" or any other national scheme. Yet they are the first line of defense.
- An Appropriate Legal Framework. Emergency laws and regulations have not been passed (though a first step was taken as this issue prepared to go to press). In their absence, it is difficult to expect sustained progress to be made in restoring the national writ over alienated

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Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?

Part II Of the Nigerian 419 Scams

BY FRANK HOPKINS

Last issue, we cited examples and gave an overview of the problem of AFF (advance fee fraud), or as it is known by its section in the Nigerian criminal code, “419” scammers. It is big business. The U.S. Secret Service receives some 100 calls and 300-500 letters a day from people approached in Nigerian 419 scams — three of whom have already lost money. It is serious business. It can be a very ugly business as well, for its ties to world-wide organized crime and its rotting effect upon the social fabric of Nigeria.

For well over a decade, various iterations of the Nigerian “419” fraud have been bilking billions from victims worldwide by soliciting them for fraudulent schemes, purporting to suck illicit gains from forgotten government accounts, from unclaimed invoices for services, and the like — always in the millions — which they will generously share. All you need do is help them by letting them use your bank account to put it in. Once we accept the fact that this is facilitated by the common human failings of gullibility and nascent greed, we have to ask, how can this go on for so long without official action. As in, since the term itself “419” comes from the section of Nigerian criminal code that outlaws such scams and frauds, isn't it against the law?

While in no way denigrating the millions of honorable and hard-working Nigerians, themselves often the victims of these or similar scams, the simple answer is that it has not been in the interests of sufficient Nigerian banking and governmental officials to close such scams down. Noted the “Australiatrade Bulletin Board,” ...when you report this to the Nigeria Government Authorities they retort by saying they should lock you up for Treason for Conspiring to Defraud the Government and people of Nigeria. Bottom line: don't get sucked in telling the Nigerian Government. It's a waste of your time and resources, this scam has been going on for years, plenty of time for the Nigerian Government to close or shut down these operators. You can see this money laundry scheme is a real good money earner for Nigeria.”

How good? Howard Jeter, Deputy Assistant Secretary for African Affairs at State, told the House International Relations Committee's Subcommittee on Africa, “approximately 30% of heroin intercepted at U.S. ports of entry in recent years was seized from Nigerian-controlled couriers, and already Americans lose \$2 billion annually to white collar crime syndicates based in Nigeria.” (emphasis ours). According to the fraud-risk specialists Adkisson Consulting, these fraudulent schemes have become the third



No one is safe from Nigerian scammers — not even former Nigerian strongman General Ibrahim Babangida. After Babangida lost the reins of power he was in a good capital position with a business empire — but subsequently lost millions to repeated hits by local fraudsters.

largest industry in Nigeria!

It is a big business with its own international infrastructure and even established training schools with handbooks for turning out more professional fraud operatives, which accounts for the unfamiliar precision and polish on the new genre of scam letters sent out electronically. And not only are banking and governmental officials either complacent or actually involved, the Nigerian legal code itself works to the favor of the scammers, and to discourage any victims from seeking their funds back, or from pursuing criminal justice.

Through The Looking Glass

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs noted, "there has been little success in prosecuting these perpetrators. One explanation is that only 5-10% of AFF victims will come forward and report an incident. Other reasons are:

- AFF victims may not want to admit they were defrauded, and involved in what they were led to believe was an illegal proposition.

- Victims may believe they can recoup their losses by continuing to play out the fraud. Criminals rely on this logic, referred to as 'gambler's mentality,' resulting in more losses for the victim.

- Victims may believe if they report the fraud they will be prosecuted under U.S. law as a co-conspirator. At least one U.S. court has upheld civil forfeiture of the proceeds attributed to AFF.

- Sections 5 and 6 of the Nigerian Presidential Decree of April 1995, make receipt and/or possession of a fraudulent letter by a victim an offense. [!] This may deter victims from returning to Nigeria to aid in the prosecution of these criminals." (emphasis ours)

And, consider the theater where this drama unfolds: Transparency International has awarded Nigeria the dubious distinction for 2000, as being the most corrupt nation on earth (the joke among Lagos cabbies is that Nigeria tried to bribe Pakistan to take first place, so Nigeria would only be second).

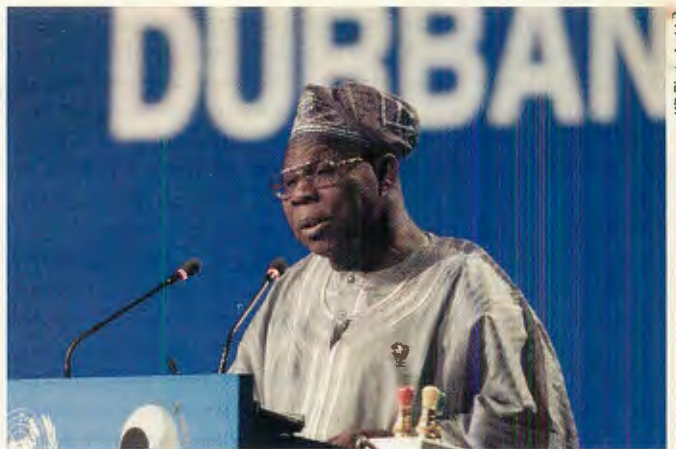
On a semi-regular basis, the Central Bank of Nigeria feels obliged to issue a press statement warning potential victims of the 419 scams, and piously washing their own hands of such matters. One recent such issuance said, *The "business proposals" should ordinarily have put any respectable individual on inquiry. However driven by greed and the urge for quick money, many have ignored the warning by the Central Bank of Nigeria...* The CBN governor has stated that the bank has "spent over \$4 million (N400 million) in placing warning advertisements in over 80 newspapers and magazines in 12 languages in 36 countries" since 1996.

Seen in some quarters as like the madman who scrawls "Please stop me before I kill again" on the wall in his victim's blood, the Central Bank of Nigeria's governor further called for "the establishment of a national inter-agency committee that would properly and more effectively coordinate the fight against financial fraud."

The lady surely doth protest too much, as time and time again Central Bank of Nigeria officials have been caught white-collar deep in the mire they pretend to abhor — and not just clerks and couriers, the electronic trail has gone all the way to the top.

Taking Names And Kicking Assets

Although some find plenty of room to criticize the lack of effective action by officialdom, credit has to be given to Nigeria's Fourth Estate who, representing the moral majority



Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, leader of a new Nigerian regime that has given world leaders reason for optimism, speaks before the World Conference Against Racism last September in Durban, South Africa. Interestingly, Nigeria was the only African nation at the conference to state that reparations were not necessary.

of the country, are doing what they can to shed light — and hopefully spur corrective action — on the 419 frauds that are damning the country's potential for world trade. In a gutsy bit of investigative reporting in *The News* magazine, reporter Obiora Nwosisi listed the top 20 419 kingpins by name. In case some may sound familiar to you, we will in turn list them here:

1. Fred Ajudua aka Dr. Coker
2. Ade Bendel
3. Victor Okafor aka Ezego
4. Dele Llori
5. John Nebolisa
6. Banji Balogun
7. Obi Eze, aka: Tanko Ibrahim, Chief Bola Ige, Phillip Asiodu, Prof. Inus Haruna, Prof. Sharafa Gambari, Ufot Eksette
8. Shina One Ore
9. Tunde Adaba
10. Tayo Osekita
11. Solomon Agbaja
12. Chief C. Onucha
13. Bright Eseguze
14. Tope Eleti
15. Prof. Peller
16. Collins Eze
17. Aminu Isiaka
18. George Chidera
19. Osara Onaiwu
20. Obina Okoroafor

If you wish to access the International Investigation Services web site (<http://superhighway.is/iis>), you can view some 180 pages (and growing) listing the usual suspects. Even these identified 419 scammers, however, are but the tip of the iceberg: police investigative files contain tens of thousands, but are not publicly accessible.

Anathemas Or Folk Heroes?

How far up does the corruption go? With no indictments of *honourables* thus far, and with the kingpins of officialdom protected by layers of expendable underlings, it is hard to quantify. There can be little doubt, however, that even in the highest circles, despite official pronouncements to the con-

trary, these billion-dollar frauds and those who conduct them are socially acceptable. A case in point would be Ms. Siobhan O'Donnell of New York, who in 1997, was scammed out of \$330,000 by Moses Agwuna, Chukwudi Agwuna and Ms. Uchenna Agwuna. As this crime was committed in New York, the Secret Service and FBI have arrest warrants for them in the United States. The Special Fraud Unit of the Nigerian Police has identified and declared the Agwunas wanted for a variety of fraud-related crimes in Nigeria. *On 6 January, Nigerian Vice President Atiku Arubaker went to Eastern Nigeria and was a guest in the Agwuna home, as widely reported in the Nigerian press.*

Not only does Nigerian law favor the perp over the victim, it would also seem to be a pervasive official attitude. Following the logic of a John being as guilty as a hooker, it is hard to argue against the concept of a mutuality of guilt in many if not most 419 cases, but this premise ignores the lack of predisposition on the part of the victim/co-conspirator and displays an interesting official double standard that would equate one's leaving his keys in the car, to being guilty of auto theft.

In an interesting exchange between the director of the vic-



AP/Ric Feld

Nigerian Vice President Atiku Abubakar (right) attends a Martin Luther King commemorative service in Atlanta last January with Sen. Max Cleland (D-Ga.). One year earlier the vice president spent his New Year holiday at the eastern Nigeria home of 419 scammers who have warrants out for them in the United States and Nigeria, according to Nigerian press sources. The idea of international scammers with highly placed friends in Nigeria is often distressing to the international police community.

419 As Interactive Entertainment

Had Sam Clemens and Allen Funt ever shared a jug, their reaction to 419 scammers might well be that of "John Smith," a Boeing retiree now living in Texas, whose friend received one of the "I'm an orphaned prince, need your help to smuggle my father's cash/diamonds/gold out of Sierra Leone" letters. When shown the letter, "Smith" realized its comedic potential, and dangled the bait: What could be more fun than scamming a scammer? Keeping complete recordings and transcripts of messages by phone, fax and email (and photos of sacks of corn purported to be "gold"), "Smith" has built one of the most amusing multi-media websites that deal with the 419 problem, tracing the con from its inception to its climax. "Smith" arranged to meet the "prince" in Ghana, and "for identification" the scammer — now the Mark — stood under the Independence Arch in Independence Square, in a red hat, hopping on his left foot, flapping his arms and running around like a chicken, while being surreptitiously filmed by the intended victim. It did not end there, but space prevents us from giving away any more of the hilarity (which would be grist at least for a *Funniest Home Video* and possibly the basis for a Danny DeVito movie) but check out "John Smith's" web site at www.buddyweiser.com and you can even log in your own witty message to "Prince Jubril." We are fortunate that "Smith" is not a scammer in real life, as he is creative indeed.

Another who realized the creative possibilities inherent in the "I got a scam letter" scenario is Oregon author Brian Wizard. He thought about it and, being a writer, decided to risk a few grand for travel in pursuit of a story. He got the story, which he is publishing as a work of "historical fiction." The volume is entertaining, is spot on — more historical than fiction — and one of the best tools available to illustrate how 419 scams work. Log on to his web site at www.brianwizard.com for more information on his adventures, and information on how to get his book *Game Over*. —F.H.

tim's advocate organization "419 Coalition" and the Nigerian Assistant Crisis Investigator [i.e. damage control spin doctor] Godson Etiebet, Etiebet stated, "The solution to this problem, is that at this point, the two or several countries of these originalities will come together under a known legal consensus to prosecute the victim. This is the only way this mischief could be drastically reduced."

The 419 Coalition spokesman responded, "[this is] not even worthy of consideration until Nigeria starts prosecuting *en masse* the perpetrators. Surely you would not suggest that the money-losers in these things be prosecuted and the money-makers get away with it Scot free. And keep the money. Which is generally the case in these matters?"

With nothing left to play but the race card, Etiebet replied: "this unfounded campaign against Nigeria is a direct attack against her social, economic, political, cultural and legal development and prosperity. This attack has grossly and awfully affected Nigeria and Nigerians. It has affected Nigerians inside and outside Nigeria. This unfounded and frivolous attack is similar to the frame up attack on the blacks across the world via AIDS/HIV."

Riiiiight.

The distressing aspect of that exchange is that this official apparently takes an attack on Nigerian scam artists and fraud to be an attack on Nigerians in general — and for him to think that, he would have to view Nigerians in general as scam artists, which is not the case. Just as the 5% of "communist" countries who were actually communist flavored the whole country, a similar percentage of crooks if in positions of influence or if unfettered can flavor a whole country's economic scene. And there can be scant doubt on the face of it that 419 crimes in Nigeria are regarded as absolutely the problem of — if not the fault of — the victims, and a practice widely acceptable in social circles.

"Government Collaborators"

It might be well at this point to survey how the honorable majority of Nigerians, and the good Nigerian cops, view the

419 situation. In a cover story entitled "Government Collaborators" in the Lagos paper *The News*, reporter Obiora Nwosisi summarized, "the racket is definitely not without the knowledge and at times active connivance of security agents, government agencies, and known collaborators." Nwosisi recounted incidents of Nigerian government involvement in 419 scams, to include calls in to the main switchboard of the Central Bank of Nigeria (for example) in which victims got the bank number from Lagos directory assistance and asked for 419 scammers by name and have been put right through to them; cases where victims were escorted into the vaults of CBN to be shown the money available for their "deal" — and who subsequently picked the perps from an authenticated photo lineup in the U.S. that included high CBN officials. One victim met with Nigerian diplomatic corps officials at consulate facilities in California — both the personnel and facility a matter of public record — to vet a "proposal" and he subsequently lost \$75,000. The national telephone company NITEL's historical inability to track 419 telephone and fax numbers and their account holders makes one wonder, how do they manage to bill for their services? You'd think they could muster one or two, since according to the 419 Coalition some 60,000 various phone numbers are listed in the files of the U.S. Joint Task Force on West African Fraud as having been used for 419 scams — and thousands have been made a matter of public record by International

The News also noted, "There are very few certainties in life but one of them must surely be that wherever fraud is being committed the Nigerians will be somewhere near the front of the que. As one commentator observed, 'if there were a World Cup for fraud, the Nigerians would win it every time.'"

Investigative Services. According to the 419 Coalition, when pretense and obfuscation do not work, Nigerian government officials have been caught in outright and demonstrable lies — in writing — in references to arrests that were not made.

When some 3 million scam solicitation letters were discovered in a single stash, according to Nigerian press sources a syndicate comprising employees of the Nigerian Customs Service, the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), and the Nigerian Postal Services (NIPOST) were responsible.

Observers hope for a change in the moral tone of Nigerian government and finance under the new regime, but past complicity in the 419 scandals by financial and governmental officials in Nigeria is a readily demonstrable fact.

"Nigeria has the largest number of dummy corporations on the African continent," the *News* continued, "the largest number of business scams, and, as a result of those, probably the largest number of fictitious government offices anywhere on this planet."

African "Slick Willies"

Lagos paper *This Day* reported that, addressing a news conference in Lagos, Mr. Ade Ajakaiye, commissioner of police in charge of the Special Fraud Unit, publicly accused some Nigerian lawmakers in the National Assembly of being involved with 419 and other criminal activities, and of refusing to honor police "invitations." "The lawmakers are hiding

under the cover of being honourables for four years," he said — noting that four years was not such a long time. "When they have finished their tenure, they will come back to us: 419, murder and drug cases have no expiry date."

According to the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, "profits obtained in AFF are often used to support other more violent crimes such as narcotics trafficking. In the early 1990s, Nigerian drug traffickers expanded their operations to include AFF, which is less risky, does not require much trav-

Making a Good Boy Go Bad

One would think that people in the business world for any length of time would have enough street smarts not to fall for such transparent appeals to the weaker side of human nature. But nooo! In fact, it seems those in the business and financial realm only fall harder, then seduce themselves into being the medium that would in turn bilk their associates to help cover their own assets. Some of the best convictions to date (these were not, of course, in Nigeria where scammers appear to be a semi-protected species) have been of business professionals who were looking to make a big score and got stung, then bilked their own contacts in turn hoping to pull their chestnuts out of the fire, subsequently got busted and are now doing time.

One victim-cum-scammer who paid the ultimate price for living in a nation of laws is Nelson, New Zealand accountant Kerry Francis, now serving 4-1/4 years on 18 charges of fraud, theft and forgery. Francis ran an accounting business in Trafalgar Street with more than 200 trusting clients and was well respected until "I was sucked into the Nigerian investment scheme. I stuffed up. I was naive and foolish ... I should have got out. They would pressure me. They were threatening to expose me to the media" Francis told reporters he "went off the rails" after being "sucked in" by the Nigerians — and proceeded to use his clients' money in an attempt to extricate his own funds from the Nigerian swamp.

Although those who wield it have noted that power is the greatest aphrodisiac, the most seductive and addictive drug is greed, as well illustrated by the case of Massachusetts businessman Glenn Elion. Now doing federal time for wire fraud, Elion is also faced with the prospect of making \$3,495,697 is restitution when he gets out. According to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Elion's fall from grace began with a 1995 call from a Nigerian calling himself Frank Chuba, who told Elion they could share millions in U.S. currency if he would but put up the cash for chemicals to clean it of a black substance put on it to preclude its theft. By May 1996 Elion had gone through some \$700,000 of his own money, and had begun enticing others in his circle of associates to send theirs. He told some he needed the money to secure funds he was owed on a Japanese consulting contract, and others he was trying to bring millions of dollars back from Taiwan. Waxing creative, he forged many documents, even Secret Service letters and agent signatures (oops!). By December of 1998, Elion had schmoozed some \$3.5 million from friends and associates and even family members, according to government documents. All the money, of course, went to Nigeria, and Elion went to jail.

el, nor the movement of contraband. According to the Nigerian Drug Law Enforcement Agency, drugs and financial fraud are inextricably intertwined in Nigeria. Conservative estimates indicate that about 30-40 percent of heroin that moves throughout the world is either moved by or its movement is controlled by Nigerian criminals." And, like organized criminals everywhere, they are not above violence. More than a dozen people who have traveled to Nigeria in a vain attempt to get their money back are known to have been killed, including Americans. There is utterly no one they will not fleece: They have, of recent, specifically been targeting churches and charitable groups with a variety of scams tailored for their particular gullibilities; one church lost \$75,000. And even the former military dictator General Ibrahim Babangida, one of a long line of dictators reputed to have drained national coffers, was himself separated of N800 million by a scammer who was supposed to purchase transmitting equipment for Babangida's Triple Heritage media complex. Still waiting for that scammer to show with his equipment, the general was subsequently bilked of another N212 million on another deal. Other Nigerian notables scammed include generals, wing commanders, admirals, chiefs, governors and promi-

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Once the hook is set, the victim is hit with a series of unexpected fees, licenses, expenses and a blizzard of counterfeit, officious documents.

and ... he said that is their business; 'this is the way we live.' I told him I am going to call the police at Nigeria and I am going to send a letter to the Nigerian president. He said he didn't care and used an excessive amount of profanity towards the president and the police. Then he proceeded on by saying that this is another way of income besides the oil that is coming into the country. He said the president and government knows about this. He also pro-

nent members of the clergy.

Poster Child of Innocent 419 Victims

An interesting case is that of a gutsy but naïve immigrant citizen named Shala Ghasemi, of Tampa, Florida. A nurse working with her physician husband at a clinic in Tampa, Mrs. Ghasemi had never even heard the word "scam" when she was contacted late last year by the 419 scammers in Nigeria, who told her a contractor had died and left millions to her husband. Although shocked, when the packet of forged official documents arrived she was convinced, and thus began the familiar walk of the innocents down the 419 primrose path.

Tracking her money from bank to bank to bank, to an outfit in Nigeria by the name of Atlantic Precision, Mrs. Ghasemi was finally referred to the man who ended up with the money,

Although they always hope better, most Third World dictators inwardly know their gig can't last forever, and the way to play a winning game is to thoroughly ravage the finances of your country and have it set aside in offshore accounts, where, if you know when to fold 'em, with a little luck during the terminal days of your regime's collapse you can go rejoin your money. Sometimes this works, and sometimes it does not, but one way to get your hands on a lot of stashable cash is to run up huge international debts in your country's name, and siphon off as much as you can as these funds are supposedly used for national purposes. The financial instruments representing these national debts are then traded back and forth on the international market — a murky venue at best — by various well-heeled speculators (usually banks) until they are ultimately paid off and retired as a successor regime tries to put the country back together.

There appears to be growing evidence indicating that the Nigerian

Banking Robbers ...

government (*per se*, not a particular regime) has taken a beating at the hands of international bankers. At best, they could be characterized as having taken advantage of Nigeria's situation and, according to their detractors, at worst having at least facilitated if not been complicit in illegal scams themselves, designed to soak the Nigerian treasury.

Nigerian businessman John Fashanu was the catalyst for what became known as the *Fashanu Report*, wrought on his behalf over a considerable peri-

od of time by indefatigable French investigator Pierre DeMonte, after Fashanu stumbled upon what appeared to be high-dollar chicanery, in a routine background check of some contemplated business partners. We quote from an interview with Fashanu and DeMonte by George Noah and Richie Johnson of the Nigerian newsweekly *The News*. DeMonte's investigation indicates that Americans Robert Minton and Robert P. Smith worked with the collusion and "tacit approval" of international banking organizations to manipulate Nigerian debt instruments. DeMonte stated, "Nigeria's reputation has been tarnished by numerous reports of corruption and financial scams which gave Minton and Smith the perfect environment and opportunity to engineer this bold sophisticated financial fraud. The point is they would not have been able to do this without the willing participation of what we have come to know as the most solid banks in the world. If you look at it, these banks actively helped launder the money and conspired against other debt holders of Nigerian debt to sell their debt for cents on the dollar, so that

ceeded on by using curses and also by threatening.”

She looked up the number of the CBN president, and called him at work. She was told by the person who answered the phone at the bank to call the bank honcho on his private number, which he gave her. She did so and the man who answered the phone, not knowing the jig was up, proceeded to tell her everything was A-OK, and asked her to fax all the information to a number in London. *Yadda, yadda, yadda.*

Some \$400,000 dollars poorer but a lot wiser, Mrs. Ghasemi went straight to the authorities in the United States and Nigeria, and with courage and tenacity she's not letting it go.

Although Mrs. Ghasemi is yet to get back the money she was beat out of, it's a safe bet the scammers will wish they had never picked on her. Unlike the 90-95% of victims who haven't the guts to take on Nigerian organized crime, she went straight to the authorities, and has gone as public as she can without compromising the ongoing U.S. federal investigations. As we write this, she has informed *Soldier of Fortune* that there have just been nine arrests in the United States related to her case, and while cooperating fully with the Secret Service et al., she's not just sitting back and waiting for things to happen.

She has received permits to picket the White House during the state visit of the new Nigerian President Obasanjo, which is due as we go to press with this issue. A ray of light on Nigeria's political horizon, it is hoped President Obasanjo will have the courage and will be able to muster enough support at home to facilitate the housecleaning that the governmental and financial institutions of his country so desperately need if they are to take their place in the family of nations. And to help the new Nigerian President focus on the problem, American Citizen Ghasemi will be exercising her First Amendment rights while he visits Washington. Let's hope she gets a lot of press, as one courageous person such as her may

be all it takes as a catalyst for the other 90% of the victims to find their own courage and come out of the shadows so the true scope of this problem, and the underlying social and political ills of which it is but a symptom, may be addressed by our Nigerian friends, and the world community.

TOMORROW

And, there may be reason for hope. The new administration of President Olusegun Obasanjo has sufficiently impressed Western nations that various types of government-to-government aid are beginning to flow to Lagos. The U.S. Army has sent a large detachment of Special Forces to professionally train Nigerian troops, whose seconding to various UN operations provides a great deal of national income, and U.S. law-enforcement agencies are supplying aid in the form of equipment and training, and co-ordination with other police agencies. These efforts have born fruit, and arrests are increasing within Nigeria. In light of the overall problem, they would have to be characterized as a drop in a very large bucket, but they at least represent a step in the right direction.

A recent international TV broadcast from Nigeria featured current official efforts to combat the 419 problem, showing confiscated electronic equipment and alluding to arrests having been made. The U.S. ambassador appeared on the show, praising Nigerian efforts and cooperation with international police agencies, noting that many of the Nigerian 419 operators have been driven from the country.

Honest Nigerians, and the world community, can at least hope that these represent a change in direction that, lead by a democratically elected and morally oriented new administration, will continue.

Frank Hopkins is a frequent contributor to SOF. ✕

Minton and the banks could make hundreds of millions... The fraud revolves around how they bought the debt, who they employed and the banks they conspired with in the scheme, essentially that is the crux of the story."

The reporters asked, "These are the so-called reputable international banks?"

"Yes." DeMonte replied, "Chase Manhattan, Solomon Brothers, Bank Boston, Bank Austria, Ansbacher Ltd., Maryland National Bank (Luxembourg), Goldman Sachs of New York, Bank of America, Standard Chartered Bank of London and the largest bank in the world Citibank. Some of these banks acted as the holding or nominee banks. These were the banks in the scheme that knew exactly what was happening... Many of these banks are currently under investigation for other money laundering offenses... Chase Manhattan is so important because they were the official registered agent for all promissory notes for Nigeria. Chase knew all the details of all the holders of promissory notes issued by the Nigerian government ... anytime a Nigerian note was created, transferred or swapped,

Chase Manhattan knew about it."

The reporters asked how the IMF and World Bank fit into the scandal and the investigators minced no words: "The very same IMF and World Bank that are currently big news with various scandals being exposed worldwide. It's the same IMF and World Bank everybody falsely believes is this great big wonderful organization that financially assists Third World countries in emerging markets and developing countries programmes. These financial institutions [IMF and World Bank] were set up to suppress Third World countries and keep them under control with money from the rich capitalistic institutions that want to control the human and natural resources in these developing nations."

John Fashanu noted, "By presenting these facts, we will educate the public about the dubious characters within the banking industry, which in recent years proved themselves to be unprincipled and totally profit motivated. In conclusion let me reiterate that there are those within the financial community who see Nigeria's assets as something they must plunder. What they must be taught is

that Nigeria has a government now committed to anti-corruption and it is this government that sets the moral tone and culture and like most things, ethics starts at the top. Our people cannot exist on hope. They need money. We need the looted money back in Nigeria"

For details on the mechanisms allegedly used by these accused defrauders, the reader is referred to the web site for the Nigerian Democratic Movement: <http://www.gamji.com/NEWS69.htm>

The Fashanu investigative files have been publicly turned over to appropriate U.S. federal and Nigerian taxation and law-enforcement agencies. It will be interesting to see how this other side of the coin turns out. Part of the conventional wisdom in oil-rich Nigeria is that they are poor because they have been robbed by the international banks, and this idea is often trotted out as a valid rationale for scamming and defrauding Westerners per se out of billions.

— F.H.

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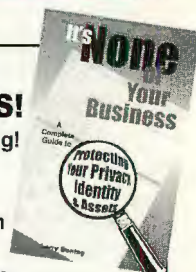
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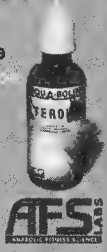
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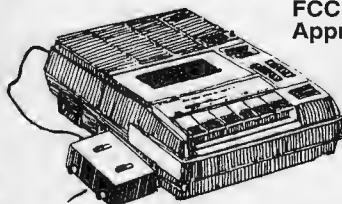
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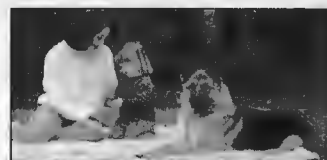
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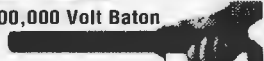
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THE WINDS OF HAVOC PART II

A Memoir of Adventure and Destruction in Deepest Africa

BY ADELINO SERRAS PIRES AS TOLD TO FIONA CLAIRE CAPSTICK

PHOTOS COURTESY AUTHORS

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A very special, genuine and valuable contribution to the modern history of Mozambique, and also of post-colonial Africa generally. From my experience as a scholar of contemporary Mozambican affairs, as an active participant in the Mozambique peace process 1989-1995, and as special Advisor to the then Special Representative of the Secretary General of the UN, Mr. Aldo Ajello, I can recommend this book as essential reading ... a journey of adventure and passion and tragedy ...

— Dr. Andre Thomashausen
Professor of international law

If you want to buy a book about what it is like to have lived through uhuru and Macmillian's winds of change – this it.

—Pierre van der Walt
Former Editor, *Safari Times Africa*

Part I of this feature introduced Adelino Serras Pires, one of the pioneers of the African hunting safari in Mozambique. It told of the sudden abduction in Tanzania, in August 1984, of Adelino and his group just after he had come off safari with President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of France. On entirely false charges of being the mastermind behind a plot to overthrow the Marxist Mozambican government, Adelino was rounded up by the Tanzanian secret police in Arusha. He and his group were then kidnapped and flown into Mozambique and into the hands of SNASP, the infamous Mozambican secret police but not before Adelino had had his hands and feet tightly bound with rubber tubing to 'make him talk.' After about 50 days of horror, during which he was kept blindfolded, in caked filth and in solitary confinement on a bare cement floor, eating starvation rations off the floor like a dog because his hands were unusable, the door suddenly opened ...

"Adelino!" A mocking voice called out my name. I knew instantaneously. It was Sergio Maria Castelo Branco da Silva Vieira, the Minister of Security and the head of SNASP. He was the ideal person to head the security organ of Marxist-Leninist Mozambique. You have to have certain characteristics to run an apparatus cloned along the lines of the Soviet KGB and the infamous East German STASI and which was operating in constant and close liaison with both. Vieira had been handpicked by President Samora Machel.

What irony, to meet under those circumstances! As this chief of the most feared organization in the country settled into a chair while I sat blindfolded on the floor, essential memories crowded into my fogged mind. His family, of Goanese Indian, black, and mulatto origin, and mine had been good neighbors in Tete where his grandfather had been the clerk of the court and a friend of my father. My sister, Lucinda, became godmother to Vieira's sister, Gabriella, known as Gaby. The families were on good terms always and, over the years, the families had remained in touch in one way or the other. Lucinda met Vieira again in Portugal in 1961 where he was a student. We have a photograph showing my parents with his parents, Dr. Delgado, the local medical doctor, and Vieira when he left Tete as a youngster to attend one of the most prestigious "Salazar establishment" educational institutions in Portugal, the *Colegio Santo Tirso*. My cousin, Jose Luiz Serras Lopes, attended this school at the same time. Only the very best was considered for the young Vieira, who was about 13 years my junior.

Vieira did not complete his law studies in Portugal. He eventually went to Paris at a time of radical political ferment in Western Europe. Among the fellow students who were with Vieira in Paris was Joaquim Chissano, the current President of Mozambique. When I was in Paris on safari business at one stage, I looked up several old contacts from Mozambique, some of whom had been very closely associated with Vieira during his sojourn in France before he left for the Soviet Union, Algeria and like-minded countries. Snippets of some of the utterly chilling conversations these contacts had had with me were cut off as Vieira's voice suddenly sliced into my

thoughts like a bloodied scalpel.

The interrogation became more and more menacing but not before the SNASP boss spoke of our Tete days and of the Eduardo Baptista Coelho Primary school we had both attended at different stages in those far off and very happy times when our families had been next-door neighbors. It is quite extraordinary what the voice reveals about the essence of a person's character through tone, cadence of speech, the use of emphasis, of silence and of dark word pictures as tools to intimidate, and the manner in which hate stains and distorts the voice. Vieira, eloquent defender of the Marxist-Leninist revolution, was always at pains to speak the same cultured Portuguese of the now departed Portuguese colonial ruling elite. Once again, I had the impression that I was detached, that I was floating outside of my painful, exhausted body, looking down on this extraordinary scene.

Although I was undoubtedly extremely debilitated, I clearly remember making myself speak in a muttered, barely audible whisper, feigning even greater malaise as the verbal attacks gathered and grew. I was threatened that I was done for unless I came to my senses and confessed. One thing became apparent to me straight away. If the Minister of Security and SNASP boss himself, a man whose reputation preceded him wherever he went, was taking a personal interest in our case — a totally trumped up case of quite frightening dimensions by now — it was a clear indication that pressure from outside was being exerted on the Mozambican government in some way concerning us. By not being treated as “ordinary” prisoners, like the faceless, anonymous, wretched thousands who disappeared into SNASP's “mental decolonization camps” beginning in 1975 onward there was a measure of hope, of protection for us that we would get out alive some day. I knew in my battered bones I was right. The more I was shouted at and buffeted by threats, the more I knew in my innermost self that something or, more likely, someone from outside was preventing our summary execution. I would only learn quite a bit later on how right my instincts had been that day in that cold, dank cell where the stench of malevolence hung like the stench of burned flesh.

Something Was Up

Those last few days smudged into one another as trick after trick was tried. The “voices” told me that my mother had supported Frelimo, so what was the point of my holding out? When I heard them mention my mother, I felt a fresh rage. Yes, she knew Frelimo was passing through our Guro farm and she instructed the staff not to seek confrontation. The area was infested with these guerrillas, and the staff always reported back to us any strange presence on our huge property. I had inherited her indomitable will, and we sometimes clashed because of our similar personalities. That day,

hearing her name in the mouths of those “voices” gave me a strange new strength to survive, to defend her in death, to remember for her. If my mother was supposed to be a Frelimo enthusiast, why did the party take away our farm and all we owned? Why were we not still living in Mozambique, a country none of us ever wanted to leave, but from which we were driven because of the madness which had swept away all order, all stability and hope from 1974 onward. I let the “voices” rant on. I would survive. I would speak for my mother and, symbolically, for all those who had been rendered silent by the new masters.

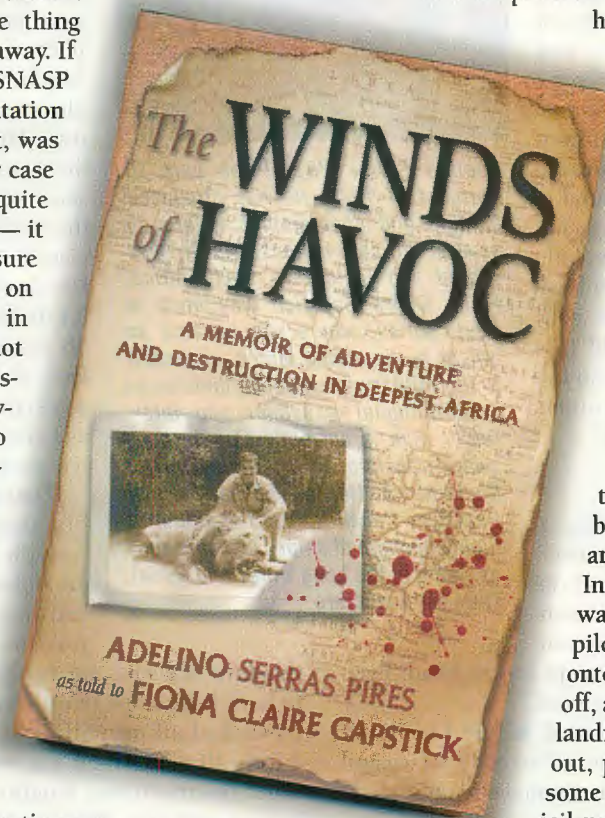
Then the “voices” started on a topic I had secretly feared. What was this “group” all about which had been attached to the Safrique operation? It was Portuguese army, wasn't it? This was a reference to Carnaval and the Mandioca group with whom I fought our secret war against Frelimo for almost two years. Much to my great relief, Carnaval's name did not come up at all. Although he had died in South-West Africa eight years previously, I did not wish to be drawn into any talk about our activities. I merely said that the bank owners of Safrique were trying to boost the security of their hunting concessions in the light of the prevailing bush war. And the topic was dropped.

With Vieira's brusque departure amid dire threats to my continued existence, I was moved yet again. Around the 51st day or so, I was guided onto what appeared to be a bus by the sounds of the engine and the steepness of the steps into the interior of the vehicle. I sensed I was not alone and had renewed hope that my son, Caju, and Rui were all still alive.

The bus bumped over poor roads to what I assumed was an airport because of the sounds of jet engines and of aircraft taking off or landing. Indeed, as I found out later, my son was on the bus. He was able to hear the pilots of a Russian Antonov aircraft onto which we were all taken. It took off, and we flew for about an hour before landing, whereupon we were bundled out, pushed into a vehicle, and taken to some other destination. This time it was a jail proper. I was put into a cell, where I felt two cement bunks and a tap with no water in it. Then I heard Rui shouting for the guards. He was alive! I had been allowed to hear him. We were together.

Something was up. Where were we? I learned much later that we were back in Maputo, that I was in the jail now, where my son and the others had been all the time that I had been kept in isolation elsewhere in the Maputo region. We had all been taken to that airport for a flight somewhere, only to have been obliged to return to the same airport from which I was taken with the others to the jail. They had been imprisoned there for the entire time that I had been kept in isolation elsewhere.

About two days later, on the 53rd day of our incarceration, we were again taken out of the jail and put into a vehicle and then onto yet another aircraft. It was painfully slow. After



several hours or so, we landed for a refueling stop. It was probably Beira. Not long afterward, we took off and the flight droned on interminably. The thought crossed my mind that we were being flown into the far interior of Mozambique, to one of those “re-education camps,” to disappear and be left to die.

But this flight was too lengthy. We landed. From what I could distinguish, it was a busy airport. Sounds of several aircraft engines, the noise of small vehicles driving about, hoists working. Dar-es-Salaam? Then off we went again, flying for less than one hour. Another airport, another vehicle, another ride. I was brought into a building and was able to push up the bandages of the blindfold and peep. What I saw — and I was given a deep shock at how poorly my eye seemed to focus — convinced me we were back in a compound like the one in Arusha, where I had first been abducted over seven weeks previously. The sound of other pairs of feet told me that I was not alone in this fortified house. If we were out of Mozambique, there had been some fresh development. Something must have gone wrong — otherwise why would the Mozambicans let us leave Mozambican territory? If I was out, hopefully, the others were out, too, and with me.

A Shift In The Wind

I perceived a shift in the wind of this latest havoc in our lives. This feeling overrode my filthy physical condition and the weeks of caked dirt and odor, my still-sensitive extremities, the total lack of any control over my life, the lack of sight. Except for my head. Even after all this, I could still control my mind.

Someone pushed me onto a chair and, before I could sit down properly, an open flat hand cracked across my face and a Black man's voice shouted at me simultaneously in English, “Do you still want to fight me, White man?”

“Stop that!”

Another Black man's voice, speaking English. The “good-guy, bad-guy” routine? Whatever, we were back in Tanzania. I was so stunned by the blow across my face, so weak and physically shaky, that I did not react as this new person took me by the arm and helped me to my feet, apologizing as he guided me down a passage and into a room. There, he removed my blindfold. I struggled to cope with the daylight, which I had not seen for 53 days — almost eight weeks.

I was equally stunned to see a proper bed with sheets and blankets, a decent room with the essentials. My escort was very pleasant to me, indicating that I would be able to shower or take a bath and get clean when I said that I could not even lie on the bed in such a state of personal filth. Now I knew something had gone badly wrong with this Tanzanian/Mozambican exercise. That could only mean that



Bernard Clark

*Adelino Serras Pires, was born in Portugal in 1928. He has organized hunting and photographic safaris in several African nations. He is now retired and resides in South Africa. Fiona Claire Capstick was born in South Africa, where she became an officer in the armed forces, seconded to the military intelligence division as a multilingual translator and interpreter. She is currently serving as a sworn translator to the High Court of South Africa. Her late husband, Peter Hathaway Capstick, was the author of highly acclaimed safari accounts such as *Death in the Long Grass* and *Safari: The Last Adventure*.*

news of our plight had reached the outside, and that people of real influence outside were rocking the boat, fit to capsize it. I could smell approaching freedom the way I used to smell the approach of the first, lifesaving rains on the Manica Sofala savanna.

I had a bathroom with soap and hot water and a flush toilet with plenty of toilet paper. Nobody who has not been deprived of such basic facilities we all take for granted every day of our lives can understand at all what it means to again be able to shower, take a bath, to be clean, to have access to a proper toilet at any time, to have some kind of control over personal dignity again. My entire body was covered in blue dye from the Machava prison uniform. It took three changes of water to get off most of the dye. The water ran dark with dirt until the geyser ran out of hot water. I was shocked at the pitted marks in my arms, the terrible scars on my wrists, the emaciated, bearded face and the hollow, faintly crazed eyes. I felt disembodied, as if I did not belong to this face. I had aged 20 years, but I still had my hands and feet, and they worked. I could not see any sign of infection on my arms and legs as I shaved off nearly two months of matted growth from my face.

That night, I ate a little meat for the first time in all those weeks, but the rest was the usual *sadza*. I slept. I slept a dreamless sleep, the first proper sleep I had been allowed to have in 52 days. I was too emotionally drained to ponder

this turn of events any further. It was enough to still be alive, to have fresh hope that this ordeal was all going to end soon. I switched off mentally, as I had tried to switch off mentally during all those traumatic weeks of pain, constant noise, constant interruptions, lengthy interrogations, abuse, threats, hunger, and rage. A Tanzanian doctor saw me and stated that I was in a bad way and that I needed rest to recover my health. He went one step further. I had to recuperate so that there would be no sign of the maltreatment I had endured when I left there!

What did that mean? Release, transference to some other jail in some other like-minded country? I heard Rui's voice. He was in the same house, but I did not know where my son or Caju were being kept. During the lengthy flight back to Tanzania, I was aware that there were several people on board. They were SNASP agents, accompanying me back to Tanzania to continue the interrogations on Tanzanian soil. I discovered this after a few days' rest when suddenly, I was blindfolded yet again and confronted once more by Portuguese-speaking interrogators. I had heard these “voices” before. They were from Mozambique. I recognized one voice, in particular. He had been in on this sordid little circus from the start.

Days of the same SNASP tactics. I continued to deny all accusations and I continued to resist succumbing to any kind of panic whenever I was told anything about the others. After all, had not the others “died” in Mozambique? I knew they were alive and that they were back in Tanzania. Although I was blindfolded, I was undoubtedly stronger. I was allowed to sleep on a bed, and I was no longer in such pain.

The Tanzanians came into my room with a fairly thick wad of papers, telling me to sign. I started reading the documents which were in Portuguese. A classic commie “confession.” The Tanzanian snatched them from me, shouting “You are not allowed to read them! Sign!” I refused. I told the Tanzanian that I was not about sign something I had not read. Out he went. Back he came, on went the blindfold, in came the Mozambicans. “Sign!” spat that particular “voice.” “Sign, or you’ll never leave this place alive!”

That was the clue: “Or you’ll never leave this place alive!” It was no longer on the cards that we were going to be killed. The Mozambicans had lost the initiative in this dangerous game. They did not dare kill any of us. They were no longer in their little Marxist paradise where all semblance of human rights had been jettisoned. Everything pointed to one fact: They had been pressured into returning us to Tanzania, and the Tanzanians now wanted to be rid of their southern comrades. Make the old man sign and go home! That was it! Tanzania was under pressure.

I thought about it. Maybe they could keep us for years in this state of emotional limbo. Maybe if I signed, we would all be up against a firing squad. If I refused to sign, we could all still mysteriously sicken and die. There were no guarantees from these bastards. We had no access to newspapers or radios. We could not communicate amongst ourselves. We had no idea at all of what — if anything — was being done at intergovernmental level to free us. If I signed, we were damned, and “proof” of our alleged perfidy would be paraded God knows where. If I did not sign, we were probably damned, anyway.

I signed. And as that particular “voice” came in and took the documents, he threatened me: “You’re going to lose your head in this place! And if you ever leave this country, we’ll find you and kill you!”

I had faced my share of mock charges by elephants, rhinos, and lions. This was a verbal mock charge. The Mozambicans were clearly anxious to get out and go home. The Tanzanians were anxious to see them go. So was I.

Now it was the Tanzanians’

turn. It would go on for three-and-a-half months. I had already been in captivity for 55 days.

My door opened and a Tanzanian told me to strip to my underpants. I was always barefoot. No shoes could fit my feet, anyway, as they were still misshapen and very tender. Interestingly enough, I was never blindfolded by the Tanzanians during those months of interrogation. The guard then took me to the interrogation room where two Tanzanians sat, ready to make me talk about this supposed international plot I was spearheading to wreck Mozambique. Whom do I see before anyone else at the table? The man with the slanted eyes who supervised the rubber-tubing ordeal. Was he about to order that I be trussed up again, right there? If so, that was probably it. Oddly enough, I never felt fear. It was always totally overridden by a deep loathing, which also gave me the mental fuel to survive in my head.

“Sit!” ordered one of the men.

I looked around. No chair. The Tanzanians were up to the old humiliation tactic.

“Sit!” barked the slant-eyed man.

I sat down on the cement floor and the interrogation began — from the most minute details about my childhood to the present, and what I was up to with d’Estaing and a variety of intelligence agencies to destroy Mozambique from Tanzanian soil. The slant-eyed man did not utter another word to me then or at any other stage. A tall man with glasses

seemed to do all the questioning. It was often curt and most abusive. I never took my eyes off them, never raised my voice, and never wavered from the truth.

The underpants-on-the-cement-floor routine continued for a few days and then stopped so abruptly that I could only conclude word had been received to change tactics and be a little nicer to this subversive Portuguese fascist intent on destroying the African “scientific socialist” revolution. I was offered a chair and was allowed clothing. I was always barefoot, but I was able to sleep, and I was not hauled out in the middle of the night or made to hear tapes of my relatives being tortured. I was even given a cigarette or two every 10 days or so. I would carefully hoard the butts, from which I would take the scraps of tobacco to stuff into my pipe, which had been given back to me.

“How’s your friend Bob Denard? You may as well talk — the others have already told us everything.”

I had never met the French



Adelino Serras Pires and his chief tracker, Radio, in the Mozambican bush in 1974 at a secret meeting arranged by FRELIMO guerrillas.

mercenary leader and still have not met him. I had also never been to the Comoros, where Denard was effectively in control of the Presidential Guard, was working closely with the South Africans in this regard, and was really the boss of that archipelago. Certainly, neither my relatives nor I was remotely connected with Denard. All threats about what the others had already said were rubbish. There was no truth at all in this latest Tanzanian fairy tale. The interrogators dropped this line of questioning as quickly as they had started it, never to resume it.

"Now you may as well tell us about Oscar Kambona. Talk!"

Kambona was a well-known Tanzanian opponent of Julius Nyerere's "scientific socialist" policies, whatever the hell that meant. Apart from what I had read in the media from time to time, I had no further idea of Kambona's life, activities, or whereabouts, and could not have cared less, anyway. The Tanzanians, however, kept hammering away at this point and the chief interrogator finally lost patience and told me that it was known that President d'Estaing had twice granted formal audiences to Kambona in Paris. For a one-party state, any such opposition activities were seen as a threat to the country. D'Estaing had known me for years; he had recently been hunting with me in Tanzania; I was a subversive. Therefore, all this was linked. I was to hear this over and over again.

Naturally, this was further fantasy, and I denied any such nonsensical allegations. But I did manage to get their attention when grilled about Hunters Africa and the irrefutable evidence I had uncovered about the fraudulent activities of Theo Potgieter. He was busy manipulating the Tanzanian authorities in order to defraud Hunters

Africa of its entire Tanzanian operation. I packed it out to the Tanzanians. As I learned eventually, Potgieter was one of the key factors behind my present ordeal because he knew I was at the point of blowing the whistle on him, which would have involved his highly placed associates. Potgieter was arrested while I was still in captivity in Tanzania, but managed to flee the country using a different passport. You cannot do that unaided under such circumstances. The last I heard, from an impeccable source in Kenya, was that Potgieter was seriously ill on the Kenyan coast, where he had been living with a local woman. Psalm 55 comes to mind.

The days dragged on into weeks, which dragged on into months. I was never allowed out into the sunshine, and the barred window in my room was curtained, blocking any view. I was told never to open the curtains, but I did so once. My

defiance was immediately seen by a guard, who threatened to have me blindfolded if I ever dared touch the curtains again. I did not touch the curtains again.

Now there was a change. A Tanzanian doctor visited me quite regularly and assured me that he had seen the others in my group, and that they were all alive and coping. I knew he was not lying to me when he spoke of Caju complaining of toothache, because he had had this problem before our abduction. Further proof came when he spoke of my son having an allergy and that he had given Tim-Tim some medica-

tion for this. I would soon learn, however, that they had all been subjected to repeated physical abuse and atrocious mental torture. They were made to do push-ups until they collapsed from exhaustion, only to be beaten on the Achilles tendon. My son's back and buttocks were still very painful because of the SNASP whippings. Rui had had an AK-47 pressed against the back of his head and cocked, being threatened with imminent death if he did not talk. He could not talk. He could not have begun to invent any story to satisfy his tormentors and stop the torture. They eventually gave up on him when they understood he was in no way "connected." Rui had also been told repeatedly that Tim-Tim and Caju were already dead.

I did not know the whereabouts of my son and nephew, and I never asked because nobody would have told me. I presumed I was back in Arusha. It was difficult enough to cope with each day without agonizing over information nobody would give me.

The doctor also told me that the Tanzanians had wanted to release us all a long time previously but that President Machel

of Mozambique and his security minion, Sergio Vieira, had requested that we be held ad infinitum. This was revenge because the Mozambicans knew damn well they had come away empty-handed from our maltreatment. The paper I had signed under duress was meaningless, concocted by SNASP and containing not a shred of proved evidence. We were not remotely involved in anything concerning their now-truly-wretched country, and they knew it. The Tanzanians had to show solidarity with their southern neighbor by continuing to incarcerate us. I was immensely grateful to the doctor for all this information.

Now it was a waiting game. The tedium, the mental and emotional limbo, can be a potent form of mental torture, but I knew this and did my best to switch off. My group and I were now becoming an increasing embarrassment to the



Adelino Serras Pires in December 1991 in Renamo-held territory inside Mozambique, during 1991 Renamo Congress. He is photographed with Manuel Lisboa, the oldest member of Renamo at that time and a former original member of the FRELIMO Central Committee.

Tanzanian government. Ironically, we would wait them out.

We had had no access to any legal representation; we had not been formally charged with anything at all; we had had no duly conducted open trial, and we had all been subjected to torture and degrading behavior by both the Tanzanians and the Mozambicans. We had all been in solitary confinement for what was now well over four months.

Another factor fed my hope: my international contacts with the hunting fraternity were so strong that I could not simply vanish into some bush gulag and die. It is a fraternity with immensely influential connections in many countries. My common sense told me that too many prominent people already knew of our abduction. The nature of my business meant that these same prominent people would be banging on the doors of heads of government in several countries and that they would not let up until we had been found. I had survived the nightmare so far. I could survive a few more weeks, even months. Suicide never entered my head and escape was out of the question. My revenge would be for me to live! White-hot hatred kept me going. I would eventually tell of our ordeal and expose our tormentors. My integrity was intact.

Every Friday, crates of beer would be delivered to the compound. I could tell by the characteristic clinking of the bottles as they were unloaded. The guards would then get plastered over the weekend, their drunken shouting and singing reverberating around the compound. Youngsters would take over the guard duties, bringing my food while their seniors slept off hangovers. Even the sadistic creature who headed the compound, and who once laughed on seeing me charging off to the toilet with stomach upsets after drinking coffee he had given me, was absent most weekends.

Early one Friday, one of the Tanzanians came to my room suddenly and said it was high time I got a breath of fresh air and come out for a "glass of beer," as I had been inside for so long! This particular Tanzanian, although he had the look of a hangman and the eyes of a vulture, turned out to be pretty humane. He would sometimes bring me fruit like oranges and papaya. My antennae now pricked up at his words. I was told to shower and shave. Even more suddenly, I was given my blazer, a clean shirt and gray slacks, clean underwear and socks, as well as ordinary shoes and told to dress for the outing. My feet managed to fit into the shoes, and my hands were not so discolored or puffy, although I struggled to shave. I was wary. Was I being taken out to be disposed of?

From the blaring Swahili of the guards' radios I had worked out that it was December 2, 1984. A blanket was

tossed over my head as we drove some distance by Land Rover to a building. Once inside, I was uncovered, given a chance to comb my hair, and asked to follow my escort to a large room where a group of eight Blacks sat behind an oblong table. There was a lone White man with a beard sitting in the middle. He looked Portuguese. He smiled, stood up, and spoke my name, saying in Portuguese: "Ola, Adelino. I am Jose Gama, a member of the Portuguese Parliament for Emigration, and have I come here on behalf of Hunters Africa and your family to see you. I have just been in the United

States, in Midland (the seat of Hunters Africa) and in San Antonio where I saw your friends, Bert and Brigitte Klineburger. I have cigarettes and medicine for you."

I relaxed as it became immediately apparent that Gama was genuine. He told me that the Tanzanian government had received him well, that he now knew more about the whole situation and that I was to remain hopeful, that matters were progressing well. As it was clear that Gama wanted his hosts to understand the entire conversation, we spoke in English. I was convinced that one or two of the others, however, were from down south. Having been

blindfolded throughout that time in Mozambique, I could not identify them. Nobody interrupted Gama.

Gama then told me about Potgieter, that he had been jailed in Tanzania because he had stolen a huge amount of money from Hunters Africa, and that he was to be considered the number-one suspect concerning our present situation because he had tried to use us as pawns for his own nefarious purposes. I experienced a measure of satisfaction on hearing this from the mouth of a high-ranking Portuguese parliamentarian in the presence of a bunch of Tanzanians and, no doubt at all, some SNASP agents from Mozambique. I had suspected all along that it was Potgieter who had started spreading the potentially life-threatening rumors about us to the Tanzanians in an effort to have us removed from the scene. This had nothing to do with the big-game-hunting industry but everything to do with human treachery and greed on a colossal scale. Potgieter was poison.

Gama said he had already seen my son and the others. As I found out later, they were brought into Gama's presence as they were, in a shocking state. Apparently, this made a poor impression on the Portuguese government emissary, as it should have done.

Gama took his leave after about an hour, saying that he hoped we would all be home for Christmas.

With that, he left for Dar-es-Salaam where he hung around for two weeks, struggling with the Tanzanian authorities to



Crossing the Zambezi River from Malawi into Mozambique in December 1991, flying low in a Piper Aztec to avoid enemy radar. The bush war was still raging and Adelino had been invited to attend the 1991 Congress of the Mozambican National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) inside Renamo-controlled Mozambican territory.

have us released. I was driven back to the compound, got back into my shorts and the Machava prison shirt, and waited. We had all become fairly good at that. I actually received a letter from Gama, posted in Dar-es-Salaam before Christmas, and explaining that he was trying his best to have us released soon. The letter was delivered to me intact, all interrogations have long since ceased. Christmas Day came and went, completely ignored.

A day or two after that first outing, the chief interrogator, who wore glasses, came to my room, sat down next to me on the bed, and asked that I not speak ill of Tanzania in the wake of our captivity "as we are not a cruel country."

I heard him out and then turned to him, showing my scarred wrists, and asked, "Then what's this?"

He looked away, got up, mumbled good-bye, and left. I did not see him again. If I ever got out of that place, of course, I was going to speak. How else does one begin to counteract criminal acts or keep one's self-respect? Nobody was going to silence me. To remain silent would be cowardly, to admit defeat and guilt concerning these heinous accusations.

On December 29, I was once again told to clean up and get dressed, as I was going out. The same procedure as with Gama; a blanket over my head, a short drive, into a building, off with the blanket, and into the same room where, this time, I was introduced to Luiz Barreiros, a Portuguese diplomat attached to the Portuguese embassy in Maputo, Mozambique, with jurisdiction for Tanzania as well. He was the first Portuguese embassy official I had seen since my abduction.

Barreiros was very aggressive with the Tanzanians in my presence, berating them for what was a patently illegal action and for our continued captivity. He branded the whole business "*uma palhacada*" — a circus — explaining that the embassy had not been told of our presence in Mozambique and that when it was learned that we were in the country, no diplomat was allowed to see us. My physical condition would have been a little difficult to explain. Barreiros spoke in English and told me; "Talk, Adelino! Don't be afraid. Tell me everything!"

This was my chance to tell Barreiros that I did not believe the socialist-dominated Portuguese government would do anything for us on their own. Anything to do with the former colonies had the socialists scuttling for cover so as not to offend. Their servility was sickening. I let rip. Although I stated that the Tanzanians had since been a bit more humane than their Mozambican brothers, I condemned the lack of any formal charges, any legal representation, any due process, the solitary confinement, the terrible diet, and our gross maltreatment over a prolonged period. One of the Tanzanians then said weakly that they hoped to have some-

thing going by the next week. I laced into him, stating it was a bit late, wasn't it? There wasn't a shred of evidence, an iota of proof. The meetings ended and I returned to the compound, pessimistic. I felt nothing at all had been accomplished. The ride back to the compound was in stony silence. That was fine. I had lived through much worse. I would live through this, too. Maybe.

It crossed my mind that night that we could be sent back to Mozambique if the Tanzanians could not release us for fear of offending Machel and Vieira in Mozambique. If that was the case, I had to devise a way now in order to sabotage the aircraft and make it crash. I knew that if we returned to SNASP, it was as good as a death sentence. I stored a couple of the cigarettes I was occasionally given, together with a box of matches. If there was any clear evidence that we were going to be flown south, I would ask to be taken to the toilet in the rear of the aircraft, and I would do my utmost to set it alight and make it crash. Desperate times, desperate measures.

January 24th 1985 dawned. There was a knock at the door. A guard with my "best" clothes requested that I shower, shave, and dress. Before doing so, I secreted the two cigarettes and some matches with a side of the matchbox in the cuff of my "good" gray slacks. Out came the blanket, and off we went in a Land Rover, but this ride was quite lengthy. Then the smell of avgas and the whine of aircraft engines. Dear God! Was this the last day of my life? I was determined to end it all and take the bastards with us in a flaming crash into the Indian

Ocean rather than return to Mozambique and SNASP.

I was escorted onto an aircraft and the blanket was removed. There, before me were my son, my nephew, and Rui, all looking thin, sickly, and traumatized. It was the first time we had seen one another in almost five months to the day of our abduction. The expression in their eyes when they saw me told me that I did not look very good, either. We barely spoke as we taxied onto the runway. One good sign was that it was a scheduled flight, not one of Nyerere's private jets this time. Another shock awaited me. This was Kilimanjaro Airport. I found out that Rui and I had been held captive all those months in Moshi, a town east of Arusha on the southern slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro. Tim-Tim and Caju had been held in Arusha. Where the hell were we going now?

We flew southeast for some time. I was waiting for the aircraft to reach the ocean and veer true south before attempting to set it alight, but we soon started our descent, coming in to land at Dar-es-Salaam Airport, where we were met by Tanzanians in dark glasses. They escorted us to what I presumed was an ordinary house, but with increased security. It was probably a military safe house, of some sort. No blankets were tossed over our heads, and we were not handcuffed.



December 1991 in Renamo-held territory inside Mozambique with the only means of transport available in the bush.

Once inside the house, we were offered beer, cigarettes, and cordial treatment from some Tanzanians, who were probably from military intelligence. They informed us that we would be told what was going on and that we should just be patient. A radio was playing in the background. We did not speak much. Emotional exhaustion had set in.

After the Swahili newscast at 5:00 P.M., during which we picked up our names, an English-language radio bulletin came over the radio set the officers had turned up. It was 7 P.M. The announcer stated that we had been arrested for "subversive activities against African countries," but that we were being "released from Tanzania on humanitarian grounds," owing to the intervention of the president of Portugal, General Ramalho Eanes.

I noted the plural "countries" and was not at all surprised at the lack of any statement that we were innocent of any of the vicious accusations leveled against us and which had almost cost us our lives. As I was to discover, it was heavy, high-level international pressure which forced the Tanzanians and their Mozambican partners in crime to release us. Had this pressure not been exerted, had we been just another anonymous group arrested on mere rumor, we would probably have disappeared without a trace and been killed.

Africa is a desensitized and dangerous continent where, at any one time, more than a dozen countries are embroiled in serious armed conflict, and where human rights are often buried by unbridled brutality.

The newscast over, we were told we would be spending the night at the house and that we would be leaving Tanzania the next morning. None of us was able to open up and talk freely of our ordeal. It was sufficient to be alive and to be back together. We were surrounded by guards who were decent enough, offering us coffee, cigarettes and quite good food. We were silently agonizing over our final destination the next day.

Early the next morning, the cigarettes and matches still in the cuff of my gray slacks, we dressed, had breakfast, and were driven to Dar-es-Salaam Airport. None of us was blindfolded. Once at the airport, we were met by a number of Tanzanians in civilian dress. I asked where the chief interrogator was, the man with the glasses who had asked me not to speak of our torture to the outside world.

I was told that there had been a



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tragedy. His little daughter, a toddler, had drowned in a swimming pool around Christmas. I expressed my sorrow at the news and asked that this be conveyed to him because, despite everything, he had been more humane than his other countrymen, let alone the SNASP thugs of Mozambique.

A distinguished-looking man came up and introduced himself in Portuguese. It was Dr. Fernando Reino, the Portuguese ambassador to the United Nations in Switzerland. He had been especially designated by President Eanes to fly out to Tanzania and personally escort us back to Lisbon via Switzerland. We all began to relax for the first time in five months. It was now clear that we were not going to be handed back to SNASP.

With passport formalities completed, we were escorted onto a Swissair flight, where the cabin crew had clearly been briefed as to who we were. It was a fresh shock to the system to be treated with such deference after all the horror, and to eat the first decent English-style breakfast in months. I sat next to Ambassador Reino, the first civilized company I had had in months. The aircraft took off, gaining height rapidly, as we left Tanzanian airspace and headed for Switzerland.

The aftermath of this episode in our lives would be extensive.

SOF readers will undoubtedly be interested in two other books, both explosive and totally factual. *MOZAMBIQUE: The Tortuous Road to Democracy*, by Joao Manuel Cabrita; ISBN: 0-333-92001-5; published in England by Palgrave in association with St. Martin's Press, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010, 2000.

Extensively documented, and authored by a long-standing personal friend of Adelino Serras Pires, this work presents a fascinating and moving history of the Mozambican National Resistance Movement (RENAMO). Its contents will shock and thoroughly familiarize you concerning the lies and treachery which engulfed Rhodesia and sank Mozambique. In short, it's a wealth of "name and shame" exposures.

BEYOND THE SHADOW, by Ellie Hein; *Texas 2000*; <http://222.cfnl.org> also deals with the civil war in Mozambique and is authored by a missionary who worked extensively with RENAMO refugees. This work is full to bursting with chilling facts of the terrible suffering of the ordinary people on the ground. ☠

To Win A War

Continued from page 53

territory and populace. Not only have the security forces been left unprotected and operationally hamstrung, the door has been opened to abuse of human rights concerns by activist groups. Thus the first responsibility of the state, to secure the lives of its citizens, has been abrogated. Instead, a military with a relatively good human rights records has been systematically, consciously hampered in its efforts to conduct stability operations.

- **Enhanced Information Warfare.** COLAR presently conducts some of the most effective information operations being waged by any armed forces in the world. Yet these are not integrated into a national concept, directed at both internal and international audiences. Neither have they been deployed as an integral element of military strategic planning.
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Of course, "tactical opportunities" have their place — the ambush mentioned at the beginning of this piece did succeed in policing up the arms shipment. It is through such professionalism that victory will be achieved. ✕

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Springfield M1A

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the 110-grain bullet version because of its low recoil, great accuracy, and low penetration in soft tissue. The recoil is so low in my M1A Scout rifle that I set up a head shot scenario at 100 yards, fired a two-shot hammer or double tap (aim once, fire twice, as fast as possible), and had two shots in the head of the silhouette that were well-centered and less than 2 inches apart. When I say as fast as possible I mean less than a quarter-second for both shots. Try that with a bolt action sniper rifle! A scenario where this is important would be when shooting through glass where the first shot takes out the glass and the second shot takes out the target.

The factory fiberglass stock on my M1A Scout has the front sling swivel replaced by a detachable swivel stud. This allows the easy mounting of a Harris bipod. This is the configuration I use when using a high powered scope and I have gotten excellent accuracy when shooting from the excellent Harris bipod. The lightest weight version only adds 10 oz. to the overall weight.

It should be obvious that an M1A Scout set up with an appropriately powered receiver mounted scope would also be an excellent, though somewhat heavy, hunting rifle for big game hunting out to 350 yards using the appropriate ammunition for the game hunted. Personally, I prefer the Scout Scope for most big game hunting applications but if you prefer a conventional scope it is easily accommodated.

The two-position receiver scope mounting system can also be used to easily and quickly mount a night vision scope. While I do not own such a scope I have used several in training and in Vietnam on M14s and M21s and they can be incredibly effective in military and police night operations.

There you have it. By just selecting the right sighting system, accessories, and ammunition, the M1A Scout rifle can be an excellent general purpose combat rifle, tactical marksman/sniper rifle, close range hunting rifle, long-range hunting rifle, target rifle, and even a tactical entry weapon. It can do all these jobs not just well but extremely well. If I had to pick just one rifle to live with it would be this one. If I had to pick my all around favorite rifle it would probably be my M1A Scout rifle. It's incredible versatility and efficiency make it hard not to like. ☒

Torture To Prevent ...

Continued from page 43

had infiltrated the city.

A pharmacist informed Aussaresses that an individual had purchased several dozen bandages. His informers alerted him to the fact that 20 August 1955 at noon the FLN would launch a massive frontal attack of several thousand strong against Philippeville. Zighoud Youssef, 34 years old, chief of the FLN in Nord Constantinois, had decided to launch a spectacular, bloody action on the second anniversary of the exile of Mohamed V, sultan of Morocco. Youssef sought world-wide attention and sympathy in the wake of a UN resolution promoted by seven Afro-Asian countries including India, in favor of the independence of Algeria.

Aussaresses was able to determine the precise date, the hour, and the operational order of the upcoming attack.

Convincing his new chief Colonel Mayer that the forewarnings were real was another matter. Mayer did not believe a word, yet did not dare to halt a preemptive attack.

Aussaresses determined that the FLN commandos had concealed themselves in the basements and cellars.

"To be burdened for two days with the prospect that there are hundreds of murderers in town laid heavy on my mind" Aussaresses said. His four hundred men faced several thousand rebels. The civilians were unsuspecting.

"Do not change any of your normal routines. They will become suspicious." Aussaresses told his men. "But at five minutes before noon, everyone is to be at his post, fingers on the trigger. When the attack commences, open fire. Don't spare the ammunition. All weapons will be locked and cocked. I will provide reinforcements. When the frontal attack has subsided, eliminate the guerrillas in the cellars. No quarter will be given."

That morning he took his scheduled jump at 0300 then took breakfast on the streets in his favorite bistro, ordering his usual menu: espresso, fried eggs and wine. The African sun was sweltering.

The radio frequency and telephone lines were monitored by the FLN. Captain Thomas' second battalion six kilometers south of Philippeville was on high alert.

The police commissioner, Filiberti, the number-two man of urban security, arrived flanked by two bodyguards. "I need your vehicle. Two of my men must

make an arrest at AcARRIERE, 2 kilometers south of Philippeville close to the second battalion."

Impossible. The clock was ticking. The attack was to start in one hour. The Commissioner insisted: "An hour is plenty."

Aussaresses relented. He sent his subordinates and ordered their immediate return. Half an hour later Filiberti returned. Aussaresses' men, Issolah, Misiry and the other two, were overrun by a 500-man rebel unit. Filiberti flew out of the car and gave the alarm.

A hundred meters away, a truck reeking of gasoline was transporting Molotov cocktails. Destination: the attack on Philippeville. One of Aussaresses' men destroyed it with a grenade.

The encounter with the five French troopers alerted the 18/2 Paras who wiped out the entire rebel unit. Unfortunately, the rebels had used their own women and children as human shields.

At noon, hell broke loose in the center of Philippeville. Rebels and countryfolk, poorly armed and members of the FLN, well armed, advanced like a parade. Although many of the 20 thousand inhabitants of Phillipville were at the beach, a catastrophe was imminent. The rebels, who had been hiding in the cellars and basements for two or three days, attacked. The French returned fire. Aussaresses and his men came under machinegun fire by FLN emerging from a hotel opposite where he was located in his tactical operational center in a bistro. The assailants, surprised by the French return fire, retreated to the hotel, still firing. The paras were caught in cross-fire from the hotel across the street and from rebels moving down the streets.

Aussaresses and Misiry blasted rounds through the door. Cries were heard from inside. Aussaresses and Misiry retreated to their TOC in a hail of fire. The sound of hundreds of bursting bottles in the bistro added to the deafening gunfire.

The rebels returned to their hideouts, still firing. "Don't be heroes!" Aussaresses commanded his men. It would be impossible to dislodge the rebels with a frontal attack without large losses. Aussaresses threw two grenades into the FLN position, setting the building on fire. Twenty men emerged from the flaming cellar and all were gunned down. As the battle raged on a group of militant communist party members ran, leaving 50 FLN behind.

As the FLN advanced down the main street, the legionnaires picked them off one after the other. When a rebel fell, his comrades charged without searching for cover. None retreated: 134 cadavers lay in the streets, along with hundreds wounded. The demi brigade gathered them up. A medic was killed in searching for the wounded.

A rebel was treated in the hospital without anesthesia. The pentethol injected had no effect. Nor did the second. The surgeons discovered that the assailants were smoking kif.

By 1300 hours the battle was over. The peasants who the FLN had recruited were high on hashish, which explained their bizarre suicidal attack. "Their deaths meant no more to their chief, Zighoud Youssef, than the French civilians he had massacred." Aussaresses recounted.

The cadavers had been transferred to a municipal stadium, where photos were taken by local journalists. The American journalists in *Life* magazine explained that 134 poor prisoners were executed by the "dastardly French paratroopers."

General Jacques Massu, Commander of the French forces in Algeria, received an extensive briefing

on the battle. Amazed that only two of Aussaresses' men had died while the rebels lost 500 men, Massu recommended promotion for the officers. His supervisors in Paris did not share his sentiment as the French public was horrified by the killing. There was no reward for the men of the second brigade. Though they had saved thousands of civilians from a disaster, the Republic did not recognize them.

Without Aussaresses' intelligence, the populace of Philippeville would more than likely have suffered the same atrocities in d'El-Halia, where Aussaresses had not anticipated an attack.

d'El-Halia

Twenty-two kilometers east of Philippeville, an isolated iron mine complex had also been targeted by the FLN. In the adjacent village of d'El-Halia, two thousand Moslems lived alongside a hundred and thirty Europeans. Zighoud Youssef, local head of the FLN, ordered all European civilians killed. The goal was to terrorize the French, who would initiate a draconian repression against the Algerians. That in turn would weld the Moslem population against the

colonists and would ignite international opinion against French repression.

The town was off guard. Aussaresses did not believe the rebels would attack a town where the colonists trusted their Muslim comrades implicitly, smoked kif with them, and shared in all of their activities. Two groups of rebels attacked and massacred children and women tranquilly having lunch. One citizen had alerted a nearby military camp where rifles and machine guns were kept, but tragedy was in the making. The soldier who had the key where the arms were stashed was bathing at the beach.

Two miners escaped and alerted Aussaresses. He immediately led a reaction force which inflicted heavy casualties on the rebels and captured 60 of them.

"Why did you kill your neighbors?" Aussaresses asked one of them.

"Someone told me there would be no risk. A representative of the FLN told us that the Egyptians and Americans have arrived to help us. They told us that it was necessary to kill all the French. I killed whomever I found."

"I do not know what Allah thinks of what you have done — you must go and explain to him. You have killed the inno-



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cent women and children. You also must die. That is the law of the parachutists.

Aussaresses ordered their execution. "I was indifferent." He said, "I was obliged to give the orders myself. They had to be killed. That is all. And we did it. We then pretended to leave the mine area but in fact set up a well-concealed ambush. The *fellaghas*, as expected, returned, and we took them under fire. We took a hundred prisoners who were killed at once.

Aussaresses surveyed the site several days later. Babies had been crushed against the wall. The women had been raped, disembowled, and decapitated. Aussaresses thought that he had forgotten what pity was. The innocent were killed by their neighbors with whom they drank and smoked kif.

Other massacres occurred in El Arouch, Loued, Zenatti, Catinat, Jemmapes in the same time frame. Youssef, the FLN leader, was still at large and Aussaresses learned that the guerrilla chiefs were four nationalists that had escaped from prison in 1952. Police suggested publishing information and photos of FLN guerilla chiefs in French and in Arabic. A price was put on the head of the principals — seven names including Zighoud Youssef and Petit Messaoud. The leaflets with photos were dropped by air. The campaign was met with great success.

One suspect was apprehended. Without torture, he spilled information for three hours, attempting to describe the location of the cave near the burned forest where Youssef was hiding out. Ground units could not determine the precise location. An observation plane targeted the general location of the guerilla position outside of Philippeville.

Aussaresses and his men immediately mounted an operation with the limited intelligence. They walked in search of the camp for hours. One pretentious Legion captain got fed up:

"Tell me, sergeant, your phony tip is truly shitty. For hours we have been on a wild goose chase with no results. How long will this circus continue?"

"A little patience my captain. The informant is good. I'm sure."

Shortly thereafter, they saw a rebel scurrying through the woods. One of the men fired. The rebel stopped and raised his one arm. The other had been shattered. His capture proved to be the stroke of luck they were waiting for.

The prisoner led them to a cache of arms: 150 Italian rifles, several Mausers and miscellaneous hunting rifles. Later, Youssef walked into an

ambush by the Senegali legionnaires west of Phillippeville. Neither he nor his comrades came out alive.

Another rebel that was terrorizing Philippeville was a 23-year-old, Gharsallah Messaoud. Of small stature and a carefree, juvenile demeanor, was nickname Petit Messaoud. He was courageous, ambitious, vigorous, and ruthless. He had mobilized a group of young fanatics who were positioned in an observation post in a cliff near Phillipville that was immune from bombardment.

A petty criminal who had been recruited by Petit Messaoud begged the police to put him in prison for his safety, confessing that he had been recruited by Messaoud and was too cowardly to face the Paras.

Aussaresses requested that the judge arrest the deserter. He refused without cause. Aussaresses enlisted him as an informer and positioned him as a chauffeur. He lost his head, blabbed to his former FLN comrades, and was killed.

In Philippeville the police commissioner was attacked by a commando. The commissioner informed the Captain and everyone was prepared to receive the assailants who were none other than Petit Messaoud and 12 of his men. There was a furious battle.

The villagers cooperated, wanting to expose Petite Messoud: "He lives with five prostitutes" "I hate him" "he's in the mountains." "Little Massoud will attack." Little Massoud, chief of a small, active powerful group in the mountains was "silenced," thanks to the photo attack.

Aussaresses had trailed the suspects "with the most blood on their hands." Those he captured were not heroes, just brutes, he said.

The insurrection the FLN planned for November had failed. By spring it had fizzled out. Then the FLN radically changed their tactics. The FLN focused on terrorizing civilians, specifically the Europeans which the Muslims labeled as "friends" of France. The FLN easily terrorized the countryside. The cities, however, were much more difficult to penetrate, and became the primary targets. The situation continued to degenerate. The new Faure government, with Maurice Bourges Maunoury, secretary of the interior who had replaced Mitterand and Robert Schuman minister of Justice, decided to escalate the French response: 60-100,000 French soldiers were deployed. Severe retaliation, including bombardment was authorized.

Attacks were increasing to more than 12 a day, particularly in Algiers where the FLN focused the majority of their efforts. The city was largely inhabited by *pieds-noir*. The FLN goal was to terrorize them into such desperation and fear that they would flee. The Casbah, in old town with its narrow, winding streets and stone houses with interior courtyards and terraces offered the rebels an impregnable fortress.

It was a different game in Algiers, with different players.

The director, Larbi Ben M'Hidi, who had inherited fortunes, aimed to escalate terrorism to such a crises that France would be forced to abandon Algeria. Bombs in the Milk Bar and the Cafeteria frequented by the young Algerians killed four and mutilated 52. On 13 November 1956, three bombs were launched, one on an autobus that left 36 victims, the other in a grand market which gravely injured nine, and the third in a train station. On 28 November, three bombs detonated in the same hour. It became apparent to Aussaresses that a strong, well funded organization had mobilized thousands of supporters including informers, suppliers, bomb manufacturers, and those who provided food, medical care, and safehouses. The next month, Christmas Eve, a bomb in a school bus killed the child passengers. The anxiety of the *pied-noir* was rapidly being transformed into psychosis.

Aussaresses was ordered to report to Colonel Mayer, who told him General Massu wanted someone who could perform unusual operations — clean up the Casbah of the rebels.

"I was given a far dirtier job than Philippeville. I wasn't born to clean up the Casbah," I told Mayer. I refused. "I hate it! I hate it! I hate it!"

The plan was to create two adjuncts — the first was lieutenant Colonel Roger Trinquier, with whom Aussaresses had worked and trained in Indochina with the paratroopers. Trinquier's mission had been to operate behind the Viet Minh lines and gather intelligence for subsequent airborne operations. Trinquier was appointed to head up intelligence, and Aussaresses operations, for Algiers.

"Either I accepted or I quit the army. Quitting the army is to quit special services; to renounce an ideal. That is to become a traitor. I got in my Jeep and left for Algiers."

Next issue: Algiers, the decisive battle of the Algerian war. ✕



Gun Ban Promotes Hijacking

BY MARTIN L. FACKLER, M.D.

Each time I am delayed by “security” at airports, the same painful thought crosses my mind: This metal-detector-enforced prohibition of handguns on airplanes not only doesn’t prevent hijackings, but it contributes to their success. Metal-detector-based “security” effectively disarms the passengers; and takes away any chance they might have of thwarting the hijacking. What hijacker could ask for more?

The hijackings of 11 September proved the truth of another part of my thought: That sufficiently motivated and well-financed terrorists can hijack any airliner they wish. We saw four separate airliners hijacked within minutes of one another. All were specifically selected because they were scheduled for a transcontinental trip, with full fuel tanks.

Lets face it: Five strong males, working together, can take over a plane with no more than their own hands and fists as weapons. Who is going to stop them? Passengers taken by surprise and paralyzed by fear? Or they can claim to have a bomb — and who is going to call that bluff?

Only passengers carrying concealed handguns (and adept in their use) can thwart a hijacking. Sky marshals are a poor second choice. A terrorist group could easily learn to identify them, so they could be disarmed by surprise as the first step in a hijacking. Brave passengers can attack with bare hands, maybe disrupting the terrorists and causing the plane to crash, but they can’t prevent the initial takeover.

The solution is simple. Solicit all active-duty and retired military and law-enforcement personnel, and all who have a state concealed-carry permit, to carry concealed handguns when they travel by air.

The element of surprise is critical. If the hijackers don’t know who is armed, they subject themselves to being shot at any time chosen by any armed passenger. That is why random armed citizens are the most effective deterrent to crime. The uncertainty created in potential hijackers by knowing there are unidentified armed persons aboard would certainly prevent the success of multi-plane coordinated hijackings.

Those who predicted disaster here in Florida, and in the 31 other states whose laws permit qualified citizens to get a permit to carry concealed handguns, will again be horrified at what I am suggesting. Yet they were wrong about those states: Violent crime has declined in all of them. Rational analysis shows they would also be wrong about

armed airline passengers.

Some respond negatively to any increased use of firearms. These also probably believe the popular myth that one bullet hole in the fuselage of a high altitude airliner will cause it to crash. One bullet will not cause an airplane to crash; neither will a dozen.

The crime-deterrent effect of concealed handguns carried by ordinary citizens is clearly predictable. Nothing is more disquieting to the criminal than the recognition that a potential victim is likely to be carrying a concealed handgun, and might be very adept in using it.

Although we cannot prevent hijackings, we can prevent them from succeeding — if we act rationally. But what have we seen thus far?

More of the same system which failed to prevent the events of 11 September. More stringent actually means more wasted time and increased inconvenience to airline passengers: For example, removing the capacity to peel an orange or slice a banana — or cut off a loose thread.

The solution is simple. Solicit all active-duty and retired military and law-enforcement personnel, and all who have a state concealed-carry permit, to carry concealed handguns when they travel by air.

The cost, the time-wasting effort, and the mind-boggling inconvenience caused by the futile expansion of our airport security system could have a paralyzing effect on our entire democratic system — which is the ultimate goal of terrorists. Even the damage done in these attacks will cause little harm to our republic compared to our system’s erosion by unthinking overreaction to that damage.

As the shock wears off, it will become apparent that we have entered a new era. A hijacking no longer means simply a detour through Cuba; it is now likely to mean death. When this sinks in, future hijackers are less likely to have such compliant victims as they have had in the past.

Dr. Fackler is a retired colonel in the U.S. Army Medical Corps and, for many years, was director of the Army’s Wound Ballistics Laboratory. ✕



Sound Off

BY COL. DAVID H. HACKWORTH (RET.)

We Are All New Yorkers

For too many years I've been a voice in the wilderness trying to warn the American people and the military-industrial-congressional complex that we've entered a new era of war. Even after World Trade Center I, the embassy attacks and the savaging of the U.S.S. Cole, most people didn't want to know the truth. Nor, tragically, did our leaders in government — probably because it's hard to think out of the box, especially when there's all that pork out there for the easy picking.

Five years ago, my wife decided to take me seriously. We were walking in Central Park when a car backfired. Several seconds after I'd thrown her to the ground and rolled with her under a bush, she asked shakily, "What's going on?"

So I told her that New York was at the top of the terrorist hit list. As a student and survivor of many wars, I could see it all coming down as clearly as I saw and warned the top brass in 1966 that we'd lose in Vietnam unless we fought that war with the correct guerrilla tactics rather than refighting World War II.

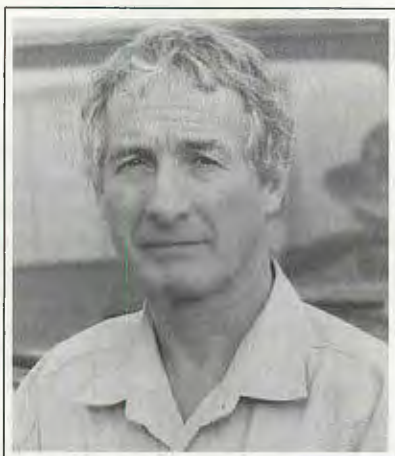
My wife loves New York City more than anyone I know. But within the year, at her insistence, we'd left the vibrant Big Apple to live in Connecticut.

Today, of course, much as I wish my predictions had been off-target, nobody rolls their eyes any longer when I carry on about how terrorism has become this country's biggest threat.

But we can't all move to Connecticut — in fact, nowhere we go can ever be far enough from either the threat or the physical and emotional fallout. There's no longer any safe spot for Americans except what we mindfully make for ourselves.

We are all New Yorkers. We are all the target, all under a shared siege, all bonded in spirit and in blood. Each and every American was hit last week — and now we must take the hard steps necessary to protect our democratic way of life from an enemy with absolutely no respect for life, even his own.

This means instituting a level of security we've never known and having the unwavering commitment to an unconditional frontless war against an enemy who strikes at unarmed civilians from the shadows with increasingly more unthinkable weapons.



Col. David Hackworth (Ret.) also writes a syndicated weekly column titled "Defending America." "Hack" doesn't pull any punches and many liberal rags won't carry his writing. If your local paper falls into that category, call the editor and let him know you'd like to see "Defending America" on the Op-Ed page. It's syndicated by King Features, 235 E. 45th St., New York, NY 10017.

Our very survival depends upon our no longer allowing the MICC to keep trying to fight today's battles with yesterday's war machine. We must instead quickly punch into the basics of counterterrorism and common sense and stop fantasizing about the supposedly miraculous, all-protective Missile Defense Shield.

We must set aside our unilateralism and not-infrequent national arrogance and forge the alliances necessary to close down any terrorist sanctuaries and cut off all support. We must make clear that the friend of our terrorist foe is our enemy and will be treated accordingly: Any state harboring terrorists will get what Imperial Japan and Nazi Germany got after Pearl Harbor. And then we must move in a global effort of civilized nations to bring these monsters to justice — either in the courtroom or by doing unto them as they've done unto us.

But in order to succeed, we need to act, not react. We must strike only when we are truly ready, only when we know where our

enemies are and only at the times and places we select. And our weapons should not only be the sledgehammer we wielded in Serbia and Vietnam, but the pre-emptive scalpel the FBI used so effectively at the beginning of this Millennium to prevent terrorist strikes in Times Square and Seattle.

We need to get smart as much as we need to get even — to put in the time and the bucks to do whatever it takes to make our anti-terrorism defense shield permanently proactive. Just as our New York cousins set a daily example with their courage as they clean up and carry on, so must we all come together as a nation to let the world know loudly and clearly, "Never again."

Terrorists such as Osama bin Laden and sponsors of terrorism like Iraq's Saddam Hussein will soon learn that a fine line separates fear from rage and rage from revenge.

<http://www.hackworth.com> is the address of David Hackworth's home page.

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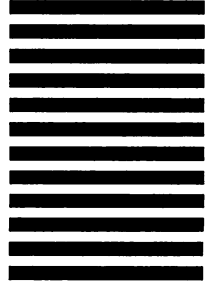
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