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AUGUST 2002 ✕ VOL. 27 NO. 8

AMERICA AT WAR

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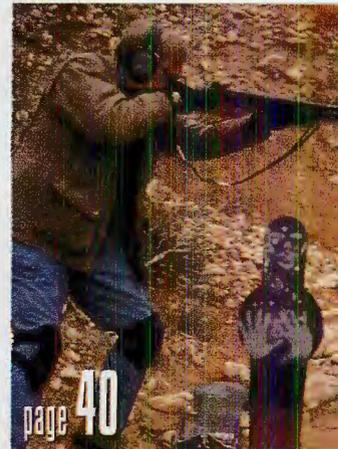
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Cpl. Lou Penney, 3 PPCLI Battle Group

On the Cover

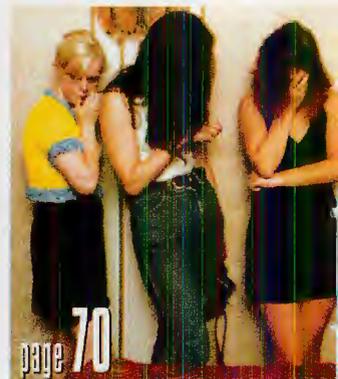
A sniper from the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (3 PPCLI) Battle Group, deployed in Afghanistan, demonstrates the fine art of vanishing into the landscape with his Parker-Hale C3A1 rifle. **See story on page 36**



Gary Paul Johnston



Samuel M. Katz

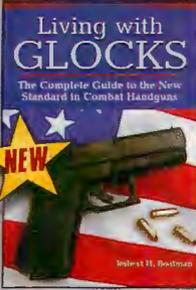


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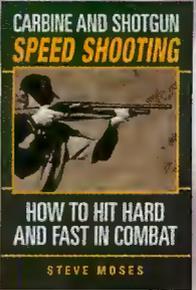
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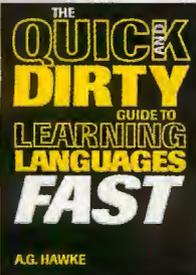
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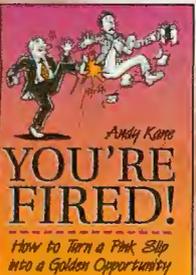
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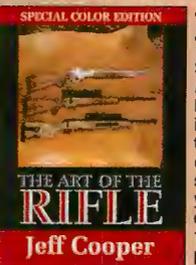
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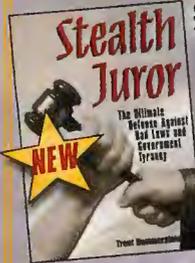
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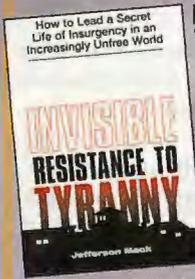
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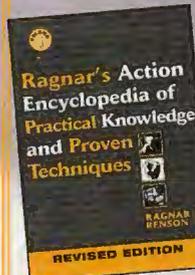
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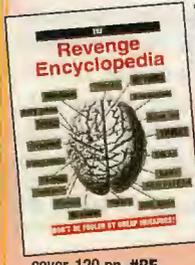
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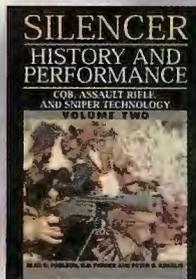
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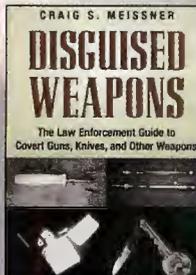
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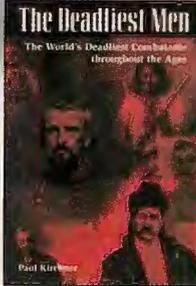
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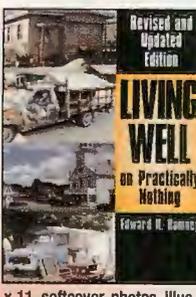
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Command Guidance

BY ROBERT BAER

It's Easy To Say "I Told You So"

The storm of criticism that hit the White House [recently] about what it knew and didn't know before Sept. 11 reminds me of something that happened to me when I was working undercover for the CIA in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley in the early 1980s. It was a time when the Bekaa was the black hole of terrorism. Almost every lethal terrorist group in the world, from the Japanese Red Army to Abu Nidal, kept a base there.

We knew the U.S. was their main enemy, and that it would only be a matter of time before one of them would mount an attack on an American target in Lebanon. It was not unlike the situation in early 1998, when Osama bin Laden told ABC News that he intended to attack American targets anywhere he could get to them.

But just knowing that one of the groups would attack us was not good enough. The U.S. had learned from being under constant terrorist threat in the Middle East since the 1967 Israeli-Arab war that most terrorist threats were bogus, and that acting on them only ended up paralyzing us. Accordingly, CIA field officers understood that before CIA headquarters — or the White House — could start moving pieces around in reaction to a threat, it needed to have details: when where, and how an attack would arrive.

With this in mind I started to troll the Bakaa Valley for sources. It wasn't

easy. Eventually I ran into a man who was related to a radical Shiite Muslim leader who had threatened publicly to kill Americans. It took months before the man finally opened up. One crisp fall morning he took me outside and whispered: "Get out of Lebanon, they are going to kidnap an American official."

With this tiny gem in hand I rushed back to the office to report the threat to Washington and Beirut. Unfortunately, no one took it seriously. I dropped the source and forgot about my report, at least until four months later when, on March 16, 1984, the CIA's bureau chief in Beirut, Bill Buckley, was kidnapped.

My first reaction was to yell "I told you so." If Beirut station had only listened. But just as quickly I reminded myself that half the problem was that my report lacked the detail that would have made it more credible. Had it been more specific, Langley might have taken it more seriously, maybe even pulled out Buckley. I kicked myself for not having gone back to my Shiite friend and [pressed] him for more information. But I only figured this out with 20-20 hindsight.

Something a lot like this seems to be happening with the reporting on what President Bush and the intelligence agencies knew prior to Sept. 11. Neither the CIA nor the FBI had anything close to precise information

Continued on page 81

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Bulletin Board

Crusade Against Crusader Strengthens

SecDef Donald Rumsfeld has joined the ranks of those who are calling for the demise of the new Crusader 155 artillery system, probably sounding its death knell. Appearing somewhat stunned by Rumsfeld's decision, the Army is scrambling for other options. Under consideration are various European artillery systems, foreign designed smart 155 munitions, and an improved version of the M109A6 155 howitzer. Some particular foreign options that appear viable would be the German PzH2000, the British AS90, or the French Caesar.

9x19 A Good Round To Get Shot With?

ER doctors in Johannesburg see more gunshot victims in a single weekend than the average trauma physician will see in several months. The gunshot wound/fatality stats seem to bear out the thinking of those who favor something larger than 9x19 as a defensive round, as most of the gunshot wounds in Jo'burg are from 9mm hardball. Our correspon-



At last fall's Pahrump Machine Gun Shoot held in connection with the Firebase Las Vegas Warrior's Reunion, "Big Gene" is behind the .50 while Tom Beck, sponsor of the shoot, coaches. This September's Reunion (11-14 Sept., at Terrible's Hotel & Casino) will feature SMG competition, self-defense courses, large-caliber MG shoot at Pahrump, poolside parties and auctions with proceeds going to Refugee Relief International. For information contact Susan Smither; phone: 702-269-1610; E-Mail: nails@jvdi.net; or snailmail: 3890 W. Maulding Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89139-5917.

dent notes it is interesting to see the long lines of people shot [only] once or twice, standing in long lines at the ER waiting to be treated — typically an hour or more. Some are serious, but the vast majority just stand and wait their turn; almost all are released after a patch-up.

— John Farnham

(Through Defense Training International, Inc., John S. Farnham conducts sophisticated defensive training courses worldwide. His website is at www.defensive-training.com.)

Air Force Fields Force-Protection UAV

A new battery-operated, 10-pound UAV will be silently patrolling the skies over Afghanistan in a force-protection role, carrying a color TV camera and thermal imaging gear. The "Sentry Owl Force Protection Airborne Surveillance System" as it is called, can fly more than an hour on a charge, over a range of 3 km. Operating at about 500 feet, this UAV is bungee-launched and can glide to earth in a 100-meter-square clearing without runway. It can be flown remotely or programmed for autonomous flight, and requires a ground crew of two, who unlike Predator crews do not have to be pilots.

Developed by the USAF Force Protection Command and Control Systems Office at the Electronics Systems Center, Hanscom AFB, Mass., it is being manufactured at Lockheed-Martin's skunk works at Palmdale, Calif.

Each stand-alone system comprises six UAVs, a laptop computer for the ground control station, and a bungee launch system, and day or night sensors.

Sudan Trains Volunteers To Fight Israelis

Khartoum announced 6 April, on Sudanese National Television that it had opened military training camps throughout the Sudan to train Islamic volunteers for Palestine, to support the Palestinian uprising against Israel. The training camps were set up in solidarity with the Palestinian people on orders of the Sudanese president, General Omar Hassan al-Bashir. "The training camps are ready to receive volunteer fighters as from today, Saturday," said the commander of the Popular Defense Force (PDF), Major General Ahmed Abbas. He called on every Sudanese capable of taking up arms to join the "holy war" against Israel for "freeing the Aqsa mosque from Zionist filth." MG Abbas said the paramilitary PDF would continue to mobilize all Sudanese people, including women, to protect the Palestinian people and liberate Jerusalem.

Continued on page 12

Are these high-level combat skills too powerful for the public?

The Shocking Story of How the Feds Are Trying to Prevent You From Getting This Elite Combat Training!

When we brought together former Navy SEALs and DELTA Force soldiers to teach their spec-op level armed and unarmed skills to a small group of ordinary civilians for 4 intense days, word quickly got back to Washington — *and the whole thing sent shockwaves throughout the entire Defense bureaucracy!*

Top-level government “higher-ups” started asking *serious* questions and even conducted “private” investigations. 3 different *privately owned* training locations suddenly “clammed up” and said we couldn’t rent their facilities for our Camp!

It was clear that the “Powers That Be” didn’t want us “sharing” such highly-valued military-level skills with ordinary civilians. *But we did it anyway!*

There will never be another *DELTA/SEAL Training Camp* at any price! The “Powers That Be” simply made it *impossible!*

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...

Then This Will Be The Most Important Message You Ever Get!

Here is what it’s all about: This message is going to *outrage* some very important (and very *dangerous*) people... *people who would very much like to see me go away and never again mention the words “Delta/Seal Training Camp” ever again!* You see, my company, TRS, put together a series of elite combat courses that were hosted by actual Navy SEAL and U.S. Army DELTA veteran trainers (with *real-life combat experience*)... who, for 4 incredibly intense days, shared *everything* they knew about close-quarters weapons and unarmed combat. And they shared it all with *civilians* like you... the *ONLY* time in the history of the U.S. military that this kind of high-level training was revealed to *anyone* not already *inside* the Special Forces!

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 *banished 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. Army DELTA Special Forces!



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!

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...

Without Doubt, The Most Respected "One-Two" Team In The Country For This "Real Combat" Training!

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 *hand-picked* to help their Navy go after the notorious **Shining Path** terrorists (the *bloodiest butchers* of this century)... private ops in **Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Ecuador** and **South Africa**... he has been written up in magazines on 3 continents (including **Newsweek**)... his corporate clients include **Solomon Bros. World Trade Center** headquar-

ters 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**...

Have Been Used In Every Recent U.S. War And Engagement!

Frank is a nice guy... but when it comes to hand-to-hand combat, he's absolutely the *last* man you'd want to come across. He teaches incredibly-effective (and *brutally vicious*) fighting secrets that come from his training in **Jeet Kune Do** (where he studied with the famous **Dan Inosanto**, **Bruce Lee's** training partner) and the respected Thai boxing master **Surachai Sirisute**. Frank is a professional who *knows* how to impart serious training secrets **FAST!**

Just *watching* these videos will literally **transform** you... because once you've witnessed the **inside secrets and tricks and special training** that can be yours (and so easily), you will be a *different man*. The kind of man who can hush a room just by walking in... with a **sense of calm confidence and centered power** that shines like a searchlight in your eyes.

Here's a "taste" of what you'll learn:

- Incredible "military tricks" that can take you from absolute rookie to a **master** of the handgun in *just a few short hours!*
- **Insider fighting secrets** that *only the most elite soldiers* who have faced *real* combat could ever share with you!
- How to handle a weapon *better* under **overwhelming stress** than most people can in the calm serenity of an empty firing range!
- **The 8 huge mistakes almost all men make with firearms...** and how to handle *your* weapon like an expert overnight! (Even if you've never picked up a gun before in your life!)
- Where to strike your opponent to **end any fight instantly**, no matter how big he is, or how surprised you are by the attack!
- **The 12 "tactical" survival rules you must know** to win an armed encounter with any attacker - including the horrendous "Hollywood" mistakes *most people make* that get them seriously hurt or killed! (Some of the most "normal tendencies" you have are **100% wrong!**)
- **The one "basic" mistake even some cops**

and soldiers make (despite their expensive training) that *erases their training advantage* in a streetfight! (You'll *never* fall victim to it yourself!)

- Why a simple change in your "**mindset**" will mean the difference between being a victim... and being *safe!*
- **How to handle pepper spray!** (A great tool that even the most deadly soldiers now consider *an important part of their self-defense package* - but you **must** know how to handle it correctly!)
- **Single takedown moves that require no strength whatsoever!** (*Perfect* to teach your kids and wife... or to use when you're hurt or attacked by bigger men!)
- **How to immediately win a fight** if you find yourself on the ground, on your back, with a *bigger opponent* on top of you!
- **Why untrained shooters often pick the wrong targets 100% of the time!**
- How to cancel out the **7 most common ways** criminals surprise families *inside their own homes!*
- **The 2 "warrior-tested" combat secrets of winning a fight every time!**
- **How to unleash the "animal secret" within you** that can *turn around* any situation where you are horribly outnumbered and surprised! (A *40lb. wolverine* uses this secret to drive off whole wolf packs from their *own* kill!)
- **The fastest way for even a gentle, never-in-trouble man to instantly bring up the necessary aggressive response to attack!** (This secret is often *all you need* to force back an assault, since most criminals are *not prepared* for expert, aggressive counter measures!)
- **How to control the "shakes" and super-hot adrenaline dump that occurs during tense, violent situations!** (You'll be *cool, smooth and effective* no matter how confusing things get... just the *opposite* of how most men react!)
- How to "finish" a complicated situation with clever (yet simple) pain-compliance tactics that will guarantee you have complete control over your opponent!
- **Plus**, how to fight (and win) *barehanded* against clubs and knives... how to choose **the right gun for you**... how to teach your wife and kids the **basics of self-defense** (so they will never be surprised by an attacker)... and *more*.

So much more, it would take me a **dozen more pages** just to outline it all!

What you get in this package is **7 complete video tapes** - over *9 solid hours of intense training and insight into real combat skills you can learn quickly!* These tapes were painstakingly edited down from over **245 hours of raw footage**... so what you get is **ONLY** the "down and dirty" important stuff. All the meat,

all the secrets, and all the "hot" info is there for you in a *super-condensed*, easy-to-watch (and *master*) format.

And you get *everything* the attendees received, too - *nothing has been held back*. In addition to the 7 video tapes, you also get the same **Manual of Self-Defense Tactics** the attendees got. This heavy manual is *packed* with information and details on home security, gun safety, secrets of effective shooting, tips on handling attackers, *everything*. Corporations have **paid over \$800** a piece for this manual (the exact one you will receive)... *and it is not available anywhere else in the world for any price!*

And the best part is... it is all yours...

For A Ridiculous Fraction Of What Everyone Else Had To Pay!

So here's what you need to do now: Call my office right away at 1-800-899-8153 (Ask for Dept. DS-33). Tell whoever answers you want to get your copy of the "Boot Camp Video Package" sent to you immediately. You can use your credit card. The cost for this amazing package is **just \$177**, plus \$12 shipping and handling (it's a *huge* package!). Once we get your order, your package will be **rushed** out to you by return mail - all 7 videos, plus the Tactics manual, *everything*.

That **outrageously-low** price is going to send *shock waves* through the country when word of it finally leaks out! (It's *less than 6%* of the total costs nearly all the attendees had to pay to come to the camps - you aren't even paying what the attendees shot up in shells *in a single day of training!* Their **hotel bills alone** were *bigger than that!*)

Your satisfaction is 100% Guaranteed. If, after examining these videos for a full 6 months, you aren't happy... simply return them... and I will refund every penny of your purchase price. No questions asked. This is the most generous guarantee ever offered for this kind of elite level training. You risk absolutely nothing.

My friend, if you are even *remotely* interested in learning the honest secrets of hand-to-hand combat and handgun shooting - as taught by and for the **Special Forces** - then this deal is the **absolute bargain of your life**. Corporations like the big oil companies and financial giants in New York pay *thousands of dollars* in fees to Tom and Frank for their advice... but even for all that money, those executives and big-wigs *don't even begin to see the detailed secrets and inside stuff you will get with these videos!*

You need to call **RIGHT NOW!** As soon as word leaks out that we are selling these tapes...

The Same "Powers That Be" Who Shut Down The Training Camps Will Attempt To Halt These Videos!

The DELTA/SEAL Training Camps are now *history*. I don't want to go into the details, but the 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...

We Still Were Stopped Cold!

I would *love* to tell you there is another camp coming up soon you could attend personally... but there isn't. *They are never going to be held again*. Not for \$3,750... not for a *million* dollars.

I would also like to tell you to relax about getting these tapes... but that would be wrong, too. I **absolutely cannot guarantee a set of tapes will be here for you tomorrow!** Too much has happened that has ruined my faith in the "future". If you want these tapes...

You Must Act Right Now... Today!

I'm *serious*. The money, really, is *irrelevant*. (The manual you get *alone* is worth twice the purchase price of the entire video package.) What you pay for these tapes doesn't even amount to much more than a few lessons at the local karate club... or a new handgun... or a couple of hot nights out on the town. Yet, **what you get is worth so much more**. The *confidence*. The *skills* to repel attacks, and *win confrontations in seconds*. The *sudden lack of fear* you will feel just going out on the streets... and the *incredible feelings of safety* you can offer

your family and loved ones.

But you must order right now - while the opportunity to get these amazing tapes *still exists*. And while you are still "hot" with the knowledge that - **truly - your life is about to change in fantastic ways...** as soon as a few short days from now!

The number, again, is 1-800-899-8153. **Order right now.**

Sincerely,

Russ Horne

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:

"The best money I ever spent. The training and skills I learned are invaluable!" **John Heltsley** -

"Now I have a greater sense of self-confidence." **Rick Chase** -

"It was an incredible experience to pick the brains of some of the best guys in the world." **Mark Johnson** -

"My investment was paid back a thousand-fold." **Chadd Mars** -

"There was an incredible amount of knowledge and skill imparted to us in a short period of time." **Patrick O. Harper** -

"I now have a tremendous ability and self-confidence in the use of a firearm." **Richard Sands** -

"I was skeptical at first. Every expectation I had was by far exceeded. Thanks!" **Brady Patrick** -

"Just the confidence of knowing that you're trained by the very best, most knowledgeable soldiers in the world makes this camp mandatory for anyone who's serious about protecting himself and his family!" **Briant Tennant** -

Priority Order Form!

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For **fastest** service use your credit card and Call Toll-FREE!

YES! I can clearly see that this is a unique opportunity to learn (and *master*) incredibly intense skills for self-protection (and the protection of my loved ones)... taught to me by hard-nosed combat veterans from the ranks of the Navy SEALS and U.S. Army Delta Special Forces! I realize that my chance to have and *own* the tapes of these famous training camps is truly a *once-in-a-lifetime bargain*... I also realize this rare opportunity may be **taken away at any time!** Therefore, please rush my package to me by return mail - all 9-plus hours of videotape, plus the Training Manual (all of it unavailable anywhere else, at any price)! Here's how I wish to pay:

I prefer to pay with my credit card; Enclosed is my Check /Money Order for \$189
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When questioned three days later about Abbas' comments, Sudan's ambassador to the United States, Khidir Haroun Ahmed, responded: "We are not going to operate any camps to train terrorists in our country, but the Sudanese people are very angry. Emotions are running very, very high." The PDF, established in November 1989 to help the Sudanese Army fight the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, hasn't been much of a success. How Sudan intends to send its "volunteers" to Palestine wasn't discussed.

— Rob Krott

Rumors Of War (Medals)

A recent story by *Daily Telegraph* defense correspondent Michael Smith related that the Medal of Honor may be awarded to a British Special Boat Service commando. According to Smith, an SBS senior NCO leading six SBS commandos, rescued a member of the CIA's Special Activities Section during the prisoner revolt at the Qala-i-Jangi fort near Mazar-i-Sharif, Afghanistan, last November. The fort held 500 al-Qaeda and Taliban prisoners, many of whom had not been searched and were still armed. Two CIA officers who had been interrogating the prisoners were caught in the battle. Johnny "Mike" Spann was killed by the prisoners. The other, known as "Dave," was trapped inside but rescued by the SBS. Smith stated that if approved, it will be the first time the Medal of Honor has been awarded to a living foreigner and the Queen will have to give permission for the SBS soldier to wear it. Lt. Col. Dave Lapan, USMC, Pentagon Public Affairs for Afghanistan, told *Soldier Of Fortune* that the story is inaccurate. His impression was that only members of the U.S.

Armed Forces (whether U.S. citizens or not) may be awarded the Medal of Honor. After *Soldier Of Fortune* received differing viewpoints from various Pentagon sources whether the Silver Star or the Meritorious Service Medal is the highest award that could be bestowed on someone serving in a foreign military, Lt. Col. Ryan Yantis, Media Relations Officer for Army Public Affairs informed SOF that "Service members of foreign militaries are eligible to receive a variety of U.S. Army awards, depending on the circumstances and recommendations of local commanders. In this instance, any such recommendation must originate at U.S. Army Central Command headquarters." Lt. Col. Yantis also said that pending awards are not discussed. When contacted by *Soldier Of Fortune* Lt. Col. Whitlock, of Pentagon Public Affairs, and Lt. Col. Martin Compton, of CENTCOM Public Affairs, had no knowledge of any award recommendation for a British SBS NCO.

The six snipers from Canada's 3rd Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry who were attached to the 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division during Operation Anaconda, have also been mentioned for a U.S. award. In Canada a *National Post* article quoted a U.S. Army sergeant major as saying they would be nominated for a Bronze Star. Lt. Col. Lapan and Lt. Col. Compton both confirm knowledge of the article but state no recommendation has so far been processed through CENTCOM or the Pentagon. If such an award was approved it would eventually go through the U.S. State Department to the appropriate Canadian office for action as the Canadians determine. In a discussion about the possible award of a U.S. decoration to the 6 PPCLI snipers, Sub-Lieutenant Pierrette LeDrew, of Canada's Department of National Defence Media Liaison Office, said "We have received nothing from the U.S. government concerning this."

When Accuracy is Not an Option

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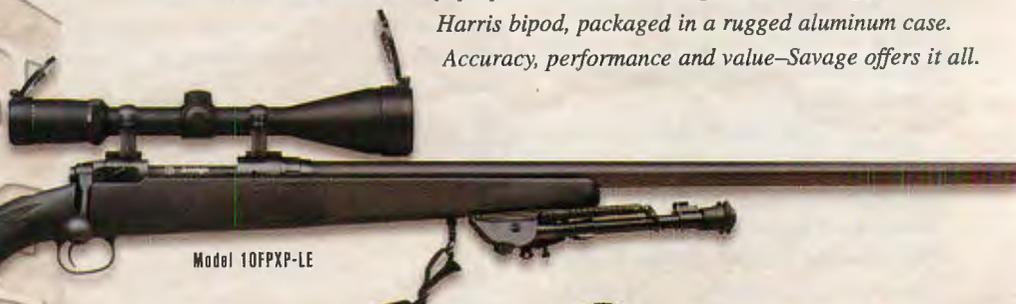
Our Law Enforcement series of rifles provide unparalleled accuracy.

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Additionally, two SAS soldiers are being considered for the Victoria Cross (Britain's highest military award) for an attack on a heavily defended al-Qaeda cave complex near Kandahar. According to reports in the *Daily Telegraph* and *The Times* there is a dispute between the British Government and the SAS over the award of gallantry medals for Afghanistan, and whether the recipients should be publicly identified. So far, no decision has been made about what decorations should be awarded to the SAS for its involvement in Afghanistan, although senior British MoD officials said it was "unlikely" that a Victoria Cross (VC) would be awarded. During the attack on the al-Qaeda training camp, which involved about 100 men, one of the NCOs nominated for a VC led his men in close-quarters gun battles. The other SAS NCO was involved in intense hand-to-hand combat and knife-fighting. Both were wounded. Despite being outnum-

bered by almost two to one, the SAS killed 27 al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters, wounded about 30 and captured another 30. If the soldiers do not receive the VC, they may be given the Conspicuous Gallantry Cross, the next highest award, or the Military Cross. The last Victoria Crosses were awarded posthumously to two Parachute Regiment soldiers killed in the Falklands War 20 years ago.

— Rob Krött

Lebanese Chicken Bombers

A bomb exploded outside two American-based fast-food restaurants at 0400 ours on 9 May, causing extensive damage but injuring no one. Lebanese police said 3.3 pounds of TNT were used in the blast outside the Kentucky Fried Chicken and Hardees restaurants on the south side the Lebanese port city of Tripoli. The fast-food franchises are operated by Lebanese businessmen and employ local staff. Lebanese police are investigating links between the bombing and a local campaign to boycott U.S. products in retaliation for Washington's perceived support of Israel. Americana, a 38-year-old Kuwait-based food distribution and retail company, operates Kentucky Fried Chicken and Hardees franchises in the Middle East. Americana also has Pizza Hut, TGI Friday's and Baskin Robbins franchises. In April three people were arrested on suspicion of planning to bomb a Pizza Hut restaurant in south Beirut. Some local owners of American fast-food franchises have published advertisements in newspapers denying rumors that Israel benefits from their revenues.

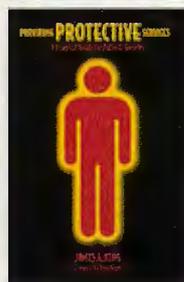
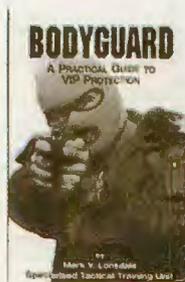
— Rob Krött ✂



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SMARTER • BETTER • STRONGER



American Sniper In Israel

BY DAVID STONE

Jerusalem Diary

PHOTOS COURTESY AUTHOR

7 April: The Ministries of Internal Security and Education came up with a uniquely Israeli solution to protect the country's 1,000 unguarded daycare centers, pre-schools, kindergartens and grammar schools: Two volunteers per day, parents, or in Jerusalem, municipal employees, will ride with police on patrol around a school from before the students arrive until after most students have gone home. One volunteer in a police van, one police officer in a volunteer's car. Bring your firearm if you have one. We are the only country in the world where school children need protection from terrorist attacks.

9 April: There is a lesson emerging after eight days of Operation Defensive Shield. The IDF moves into the terrorists' safe havens and the terrorists stop their attacks. They are too busy running for their lives. Hundreds with "blood on their hands" have been captured. The IDF is destroying the terrorists' infrastructure and present offensive capabilities. Finally, we are doing something effective.

10 April: Hamas's welcome to U.S. Secretary of State Powell who arrived today ended 10 days without a bombing. A terrorist dressed in IDF fatigues blew-up an intercity passenger bus killing eight.

Surprise! Our sniper Unit got a last-minute request to provide the precision marksmen component of the VIP protection for tonight's Holocaust Remembrance Day ceremony at Mount Herzl. The *Yamam* (Border Police's elite anti-terror unit) marksmen must have been pulled elsewhere. It doesn't get much more high-profile than this.



Deployed during the crisis in the Bethlehem area, this M1919A6 Browning soldiers on, on an Israeli APC. Bumper sticker on front of APC (below) is at home on New York taxis, or Israeli armor.



12 April: Half our Unit is "working." The rest of us meet at 07:00 for range practice. Time to check our zeros. We'll be working virtually every day next week. There is a level "D" Alert. It is the first time this highest of all Alerts is being used in the absence of War. Before we depart for the range, harsh reality injects itself. "Y" answers his mobile phone and then leaves. A member of his *kibbutz*, an officer in a Reserve Unit called up for Defensive Shield, has just died of wounds suffered two days earlier. The funeral is at 11:00.

Mrs. Stone collects me after practice. We pick up our younger daughter from the central bus station. She has just returned from several days down south.

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You can learn the very system that has killed the enemy in combat in order to save US soldiers. This is our profession and we are the best at training military and civilians for lethal combat. You can be one of thousands of men that know the truth.

Since the mid to late 1980's there has been a secret system used to teach close combat killing tactics to the elite US military. Sometimes to a few elite teams, sometimes it was open to the complete SpecOps Forces, including NATO and the UN. On and off the political powers of the Military made choices as to how and who this lethal system would be trained.

Sometime within 1997-99 the military moved from lethal to a less than lethal approach using police style training for duty not requiring combat. Reason, it was more politically correct. However, those that are allowed to learn this lethal system use it today in conflicts of war.

Today **Special Combat Aggressive Reactionary System** is hidden from the public as to its use. If you don't believe it, you can get historic information on it through the United States Truth and Information Act.

Since 9-11-01, Americans will need fighting skills that are lethal! You must stay on top of the criminal or terrorist by learning the most lethal hand to hand in the world. To fully understand, read this short interview with the founder of SCARS, Mr. Peterson.

WHAT IS SCARS? It is a mathematical blueprint of the human species for the purpose of physical and physiological control in both non-lethal and lethal confrontation in close combat and field operations. (*"The mind is your primary weapon and your body is your secondary weapon, all else is ancillary."*)

WHERE DID IT COME FROM? It is a subset of Peterson's Dominate Process Systems released in part to the United States Navy SEALs in the mid to late 1980's under the project name SCARS. Its purpose was to set a standard above all known fighting systems of hand-to-hand and hand-to-weapon combat. The results were above and beyond what the US military expected. It was tested, officially approved, and implemented.

ARE MARTIAL ARTS USED IN THE MILITARY? Yes and they are effective programs for teaching confidence and coordination building skills along with limited defensive skills.

IS SCARS A PART OF THOSE PROGRAMS? NO, the military does not consider SCARS a form of martial arts, SCARS is solely for real world combat application. SCARS is not just hand-to-hand combat, its the complete process of modern combat, utilizing movements, weapons, and protocol that are simply restricted to base line units. They will not engage the enemy under the same conditions as Tier-I Units.

IS IT STILL USED? Yes, by our best men.

CAN THE PUBLIC ACCESS SCARS? Yes, it was declassified in some parts and exposed to the public in 1993, under the name Hostile Control for non-lethal use. It was later combined with more lethal information under the name of SCARS IQS-1.

This was put together from archival information from the original Military SCARS project to form a complete system for the public so they could receive both non-lethal and lethal fighting skills to protect themselves against crime and war.

SCARS IQS Level- 1 is broken down into several study and training videos and manuals just like the SEALs program, covering every aspect of conflict, all weapons, guns, knives, and clubs.

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HOW DO YOU TRAIN IN SCARS? SCAR, unlike martial arts requires very little time. It is a process that is immediate from the start. Soldiers do not have years to learn to be functional fighters, they have only a few weeks to get ready to fight for their lives.

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WHY OFFER IT TO THE PUBLIC? It is the TRUTH and we are at war, right here in the USA. I am doing my part by allowing this information to the public, after all, everyone has a duty to stop Terrorism. SCARS has been proven and accepted to be the only scientific based fighting system in the world. It is the BEST of the BEST and remains undefeatable.

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After several weeks of operations in and around the Bethlehem area, tankers from Israeli reserve unit get ready to go home.

"How was Be'er Sheva?" Our daughter answers that she felt uncomfortable there.

"It was freaky. There was no one with a gun around. I was scared there was no protection."

We drive to the home of a friend who has secured for me the last 500 rounds of Winchester .45 in Israel. (The U.S. Department of State has been holding up shipments to Israel of arms and ammunition.) We are all actually relaxing when my wife's mobile phone goes off. It's our older daughter calling, checking that we are all safe.

the price; six dead, 84 wounded, to Secretary Powell who is close enough to hear the sound of the blast.

14 April: U.S. Secretary of State Powell visits Yassar Arafat, even before all the dead from the Mahane Yehuda bombing have been buried. Later in the day Secretary Powell tours Israel's northern border. While his chopper does its fly-over, the Hizbullah shells us for the 16th straight day.

15 April: This evening is the start of Israeli Memorial Day. Our Unit is assigned to the VIP Close Protection detail at the official Opening Ceremony.

SCULPTURE BY

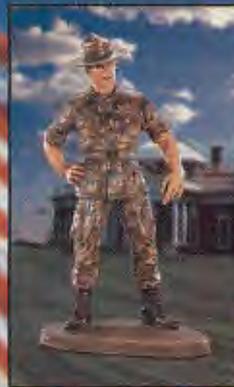
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I'm on the roof of a *Yeshiva*, an exclusively male, ultra-orthodox school partnered with two *Lochamot* (Border Policewomen).

An hour before the VIP motorcade is to drive up the street and enter the parking lot across from the building on which we are perched, our *Shabak* liaison appears. He is armed with a Trijicon-scoped M16 Commando which means I'm the shooter if we need one. I show him the range card I've prepared. Most cover for an opposing sniper is 300-400 yards away, not a problem for my AR10-(T) with 175-gr. Black Hills Match. Around 17:15 the *Shabak's* message pager rings. Seconds later a single loud "Yes!" is heard all over the area, even six stories up. "What?" I yell out. "We just caught Marwan Barghouti!" I can't think of a more appropriate and satisfying way to begin the holiday than with the IDF's capture of the Commander-in-Chief of the *Tanzim*.

16 April: Amos, a member of our Unit (of course, a sniper), was among the first called-up for Defensive Shield. After three weeks in Ramallah his company has redeployed at the Tomb of the Prophet Samuel on the outskirts of northern Jerusalem.

Amos shows me his sniper rifle, an M24 with fixed 10X scope in a BlackHawk Long Gun Pack Mat. I go back on duty downtown at 18:00.

Our Unit is providing security all over the city for tonight's Independence Day celebrations. I spend the next seven hours on a roof at Zion Square. From our vantage point we can see the fireworks displays in every neighborhood in Jerusalem. Otherwise our night passes quietly.

23 April: "Team USA," has arrived for our Police Civil Guard Sharp Shooters Association Annual Shooting Competition. Harry, Peter, Steve and Mac have come despite

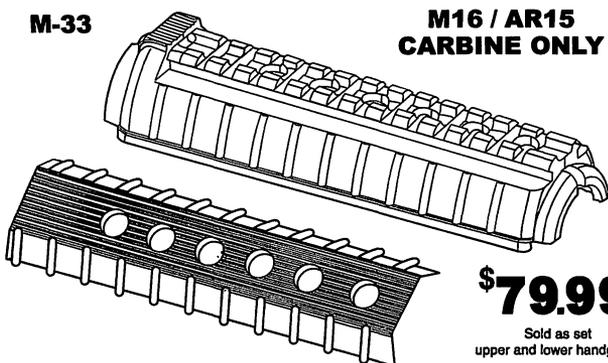
the War. These brave souls thought they were risking attack by suicide bombers and shooters. Fortunately, Operation Defensive Shield, which ended yesterday, achieved its objective of inflicting substantial damage on the terrorist infrastructures. This week Team USA's members only risk being tied-up in traffic jams caused by the endless flow of tank carriers transporting APCs, tanks and other armored vehicles back to their bases.

28 April: The Competition went off without a hitch. More important than "scores" was the opportunity for our sniper community's working members to gather and exchange information. Especially valuable was hearing the experiences of members fresh from the battlefields of Ramallah, Bethlehem and Jenin. In the mostly urban combat settings of Defensive Shield, the most effective and fearsome weapon was the terrorist sniper. Reputedly trained mostly in urban police sniper and counter-sniper tactics by CIA subcontractors in the U.S.A., they took a steady toll of our officers and NCOs. So, of course, the CIA is already proposing it rebuild the PLO security apparatus we just rendered inoperative. Prime Minister Sharon is inclined to agree. Hasn't anyone learned anything?

30 April: I agree with Mrs. Stone's analysis that we are in the eye of the hurricane. I support her decision, unprompted by me, to apply for a firearm permit. Having served in a combat unit in Gaza in '67 to '68 and now living in a northern Jerusalem neighborhood considered dangerous by the Ministry of Interior, she qualifies.

David Stone is an American citizen who several years ago emigrated to Israel. He is a member of the Israeli Police Reserve Sniper Unit. Contributions from his monthly journal appear monthly in Soldier Of Fortune. ✕

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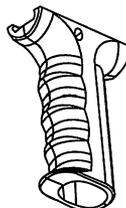
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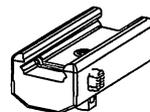


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4/02



Flak



Front Lines?

I just wanted to thank you for the outstanding job you guys are doing. I'm currently in the U.S. Navy and my squadron is about to deploy for the Persian Gulf in June. I think you are all doing an excellent job of getting behind the front lines over in the Middle East, and it's nice to have some good first-hand information of what's to be expected when we get there. Keep up the good work.

Ross Janson
Via e-mail

Well, yes, we were filing stories from on the ground in Afghanistan well over two decades ago when most people couldn't find it on a map, so in a sense we're old Afghanistan hands — but the outstanding job over there now is being performed by the U.S. and Allied service personnel, and it is to you folks in uniform that we say "keep up the good work."

Hide The Truth To Sell It?

I just got the May issue, and noted the articles on media critics not recognizing the reality of *Black Hawk Down*, not knowing truth from fantasy.



That same thing actually has created at least one career, a Vietnam veteran author named David Drake. Fresh out of the 11th Cavalry in 1971 he started trying to sell stories based on the real incidents in Vietnam he had seen or verified.

No one would publish this at the time, so he changed the locations to alien planets, gave the troops ray guns and hover tanks, and then told the same stories based around the same true incidents. None of the editors realized these were the stories they had rejected.

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So, no, it does not surprise me that *Black Hawk Down* has received the reviews it did from left-wing media types. Mr. Drake has built a career around their inability to recognize events that some of them were present to report on. That has always struck me as proving something, not sure what.

Shawn Dorca
Via e-mail

We took a poll among the editors here, and the consensus was that what this proves, is that editors may not be too smart.

Modernsurvival.net



In one of your *Soldier of Fortune* magazines you had an ad for a new magazine on survival: www.modernsurvival.net. I do not have access to a PC because mine is down. Does this

person have a mailing address I can order a subscription from? Any help would be greatly appreciated. The editor of the magazine is Jim Benson, for-

mer editor of *American Survival Guide* magazine.

Sincerely,
Michael C. Faiaz

If you want to send them a paper check, the mail address of *Modern Survival* is: Independence Publishing, Inc., Dept. SOF, 24338 El Toro Rd., Suite E246, Laguna Woods, CA 92653; phone: 949-587-5700; and subscriptions cost \$19.95 per year. But alas, you will eventually have to get your PC back on line, as *Modern Survival* is an online-only publication. Back issues are available on CD, but you will need to get your PC cranking to avail yourself of those, as well. It's a good publication, worth that small hassle.

Report From Anaconda



In response to "Report From Anaconda," God bless those young guys as they are the true Americans who put their butts on the line day in and day out.

Weeks after 9-11 Mullah Omar and bin Laden wanted the U.S. to put troops on the ground: Well, be very careful what you wish for, 'cause you very well may get it, and they did. We were nice enough to send them our very best. I think bin Laden and his bunch should be ashamed of themselves for not sticking around to greet those nice guys from the 10th Mountain Division, Navy SEALs, Delta, and the Marine Expeditionary forces. Oh, what a party that would have been.

Regards the idiots/liberals who say we should not invade or attack Iraq (to remove the Hitler of the Middle East, Saddam Hussein), let them not forget we are at war and our/their security and freedom are at risk. See you at the polls in November.

Robert Davies
Via e-mail

No Gold-Plated Tater Tossers

I have to agree with Col. Hackworth that the Pentagon needs to stop buying all those gold-plated Cold-War era toys that both weigh too

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much and cost too much: Those items being the Crusader 155mm self-propelled howitzer, which is nothing more than a space-age potato gun. It uses liquid propellant. Also what needs to go is the M270 MLRS. Despite being able to fire GPS guided missiles and other conventional unguided rockets, it stays broken down about half of the time. This happens no matter how much PMCS is done to the track. Yes, the 5.56mm NATO round needs to go also. A 6x45 or 6.5mm would do nicely.

The U.S. Government needs to invest in triple redundant, lighter, and simpler artillery.

Cranky Ole Gun Bunny,
SSG Jerry Davis

One Of Our Best?

The June 2002 issue is one of your best! Articles about air, land and sea. You covered wars from Vietnam to OEF. Good articles, good writers, keep up the great work.

Markham Dossett, LCDR, USNR

Disappointed At Response



I was disappointed and somewhat surprised to see that the April 2002 "Command Guidance" drew such a negative response from your readers. Our nation was indeed

founded on the presumption that Christianity is true, and patriotism cannot be separated from that fact.

The "laws of nature and nature's God" justified our rebellion against England, according to the Declaration of Independence. Our legitimacy as a nation, therefore, depends on the authority of these laws. The phrase "laws of nature and of God" came about at least 500 years before there was any such thing as deism. It was used by the Catholic canon lawyers as a shorthand way to refer to general revelation and special revelation, in the chronological order that they were revealed. General revelation is God speaking through nature. Special revelation is God speaking through the Bible. If Christianity is not true, then these laws are not authoritative, and we owe England a huge apology.

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Also, the Treaty of Tripoli quote attributed to George Washington by one of your readers was not actually written by George Washington. A fraudulent copy has been circulated with George Washington's signature on it. It is doubtful that Article 11 (from which that quote was taken) was even part of the treaty. Its origin is simply a mystery. In any case, George Washington had nothing to do with it. He neither wrote it nor signed it. He wasn't even President at the time the treaty was signed. President John Adams signed the treaty on June 10, 1797. An authentic, thoroughly documented example of Washington's thoughts on this subject comes from his Farewell Address, given on September 17, 1796:

Of all the dispositions and habits, which lead to political prosperity, Religion and Morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that men claim the tribute of Patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of Men and Citizens. The mere Politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them. A volume could not trace all the connections with private and public felicity. Let it simply be asked, Where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in Courts of Justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition, that morality can be maintained without religion. What-ever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect, that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle.

It is substantially true, that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government. The rule, indeed, extends with more or less force to every species of free government. Who, that is a sincere friend to it, can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of the fabric?

According to George Washington, patriotism and religion are inseparable. Those who are indifferent to religion and those who labor to subvert religion cannot claim the title of "patriot."

Jon D. Stratman, Attorney at Law
Caledonia, Michigan ✕

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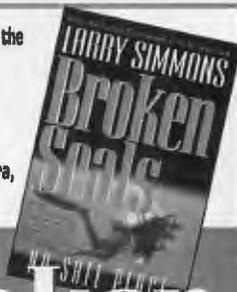
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Senator Carson, head of the Subcommittee on International Terrorism, has received COMINT that the Yassinists, a radical Palestinian terrorist organization, are planning an all-out assault on the United States. It will not be an isolated bombing or assassination but an overwhelming, devastating cataclysm somewhere in the state of Georgia. Who can deal with this menace?

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Afghanistan Notes

What Went Right — And Wrong — In Round One

COURTESY AL J. VENTER

For centuries, armies have reaped a bitter harvest when they prepared for their next war by training and equipping for the last one. The evolution of technology and tactics has always favored those forces with the good foresight — or good fortune — to anticipate the terrain, tactics, training and toys that would be germane in their next conflict. Global conflicts can sometimes be determined by who can best adapt tactics, training and production to quickly optimize their war effort.

Successfully to do this demands the real-time and accurate analysis of what is working and what is not, on what is needed and what is not. Timely innovation, in turn, is predicated on timely — and candid — input from war-fighters in the field, the air and at sea.

The following collection of notes came from various sources on both sides of the war in Afghanistan. These candid observations provide insight to the efficacy of the combatants, their equipment, and tactics: These seminal observations came from grunts, officers and commanders among the Allied forces, mostly ground-pounders. They do not comprise a formal critique, falling more in the genre of shop-talk over a cold one back at an R&R center — all the more valuable for their complete candor.

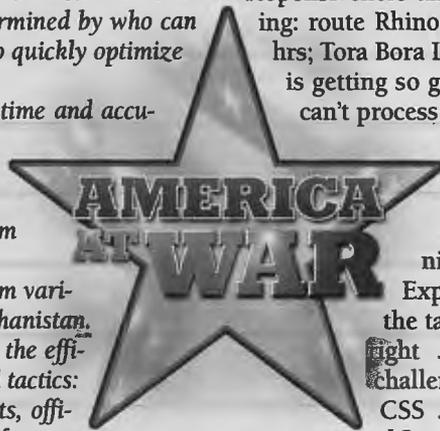
The observations are not in a strict order, are in three-dot format, and have been broken into paragraphs only for ease in reading.

KC130 is the aircraft that made it all happen ... Marine pilots landed where and when others wouldn't ... If we had V-22, they could have gone straight to Kandahar and toppled it 30 days earlier ... SeaBees are MAGNIFICENT! There are no better military engineers — they have unheralded initiative and innovation ... Dust was truly unbelievable ... Common bond w/SF was desire to engage enemy relentlessly; made for effective on-site partnership based on a handshake, even

if macro-organizational relationship remains complex ... Sea-Basing was key; also all landing was night ops only to reduce vulnerability (political as much as any) and ARG [amphibious ready group] withdrew OTH [over the horizon] each morning ... Marine Corps Intelligence Agency (MCIA) responsiveness and products via reachback were outstanding: route Rhino to Kandahar across hellish terrain in 12 hrs; Tora Bora LZ study right on target in 4 hours ... Intel is getting so good that risk of having so much info that can't process it ...

CSS [Combat Service Support] gave the operation legs ... Huge impact from a few CSS Marines (head-count tightly managed)... CSS was definitely his focus, as MEU [Marine Expeditionary Unit], etc. could take care of the tactics as long as the order and intent were right ... Despite distances and other myriad challenges, tactics were never constrained by CSS ... Time for non-aviators to call for CAS [Combat Air Support] ... Left arty on the boat: Air filled gap nicely ... Would have needed Expeditionary Fire Spt System (EFSS) if had a more capable enemy ... Relationship with JFACC [Joint Forward Air Combat Control] was key; needed to be face-to-face in order to build trust then get what you need ... Can't do that through ATOs [Air Target Officer] and VTCs (the latter the curse of today) ... NEED UAV [Unmanned Aerial Vehicle] AT ALL LEVELS ... IT WILL ALWAYS BE SO VALUABLE THAT YOUR HIGHER WANTS IT ... NEED FOR CO COMDR AND ALL THE WAY UP ... NEED TO BE SMALL AND CAPABLE, BUT SUFFICIENTLY EXPENDABLE THAT LOSING ONE OR TWO IS NO BIG DEAL ...

Lack of a sniper night scope created strategic impact ... JTF [Joint Task Force] Enabler Package (C2 — theater comms package for JTF) very Good ... Thinks USMC should go inside the tier I force — not to try





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to duplicate, but to establish liaison and get entry to a world that is relevant to tier II, MEU(SOC), etc. ... Question on whether getting rid of ANGLICO [Air and Naval Gunfire Liaison Company] a good idea — can't have enough liaison folks or enough teams that can employ broad spectrum of supporting arms ...

Don't enter caves: Seal them by blowing them up ... Need a way to find all outlets, so can blow all of them up ... Had only "inch by inch" mine-clearing capability until Norwegian flail arrived ... Need to fix that ... Dogs? The other countries were sending the best of the best ... Highly capable coalition forces (the 1st world imports)... Aussie got order from BGen Mattis then had permission to execute from Prime Minister in 2 1/2 hours ... Need to have that kind of responsiveness ... "Go after them until they fear us more than they hate us." Guidance to operators was that Taliban's first contacts with us should make them not want a second contact ... Advice to junior officers: Never say that



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#282 APRIL 2001

ELITE UNITS: continuing professionalism of SEALs; 42 Commando, Royal Marines train in U.S.; AFRICA: bloody Biafra; DESERT STORM: 10th anniversary; WEAPONS: Freedom Arms' .475 Linebaugh



#283 MAY 2001

VIETNAM: combat snipers; DOMESTIC AFFAIRS: update; WEAPONS: Barrett's .50-cal.; AFRICA: George Bacon's final journey



#284 JUNE 2001

EXCLUSIVE! Letter to SOF editor from Timothy McVeigh; Clinton's OKC coverup; WEAPONS: .45 from Springfield Armory; US BORDER PATROL: stemming the tide



#285 JULY 2001

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS: forbidden questions from OKC; CHINA: US plane shot down; COLOMBIA: American traitor? BURMA: Karen's bloody struggle; WEAPONS: Olympic Arms PCR-5



#286 AUGUST 2001

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS: explosion at FBI HQ; police and racism; WEAPONS: secret Soviet sniper ammo; AFRICA: madness in Zimbabwe; TERRORISM: Saudis cover-up terror attacks



#287 SEPTEMBER 2001

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS: uncovering OKC's "suspects unknown"; Second Amendment saves Samaritan; VIETNAM: carbine in combat; COLOMBIA: at the crossroads; AFRICA: SOF patrols Zululand



#288 OCTOBER 2001

TERRORISM: U.S. intel, the weakest link; DOMESTIC AFFAIRS: tracking OKC bombers; WEAPONS: H&K's G36; top-notch Combloc ammo; EASTERN EUROPE: Milosevic's New World Order



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you own a piece of Afghanistan ...

Some notes: The enemy is as tactical-proficient as we are ... They are professional soldiers, even if they don't wear helmets and patches ... They are superior marksmen, not only with rifle and machine guns but with mortars and RPGs as well ... They specifically targeted our mortar, but not necessarily our leaders (more on that later)... They adapt quickly, and change tactics as required ... They take notes and study us ... Yes, some of their caves were as complex as the schematics in the magazines, with vents for air and to mitigate overpressure effects of munitions, with carved corridors as wide and tall as your office, with escape routes, with twists and turns to slow enemy assaults, etc. ...

Our soldiers are GOOD: A Chechen commander was killed, [and] on his body was a diary that compared fighting the U.S. with fighting Russians ... He noted that when you take out the Russian leader, the units stops and mills about, not sure of what to do next... But he added that when you take out a U.S. leader, somebody always and quickly takes his place with no loss of momentum ... A squad leader goes down, it may be a private that steps up to the plate before they can iron out the new chain of command ... And the damn thing is that the private knows what the hell he is doing ... When units came under fire immediately after disembarking from a helicopter, it was not uncommon for two members of squad, without orders, suppress the enemy and do the buddy team IMT ... No need to fret about the quality of our troops from O-3 on down ...

Yes, there was close combat, although just reading news reports gives the impression that we were in holding positions enduring long-range mortar fire ... Our boys chased the al-



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Qaeda and ran them down even with all of the battle rattle we were carrying ... And we did it on their turf, in their environment. Gotta be in shape to do that ... The body armor saved lives ... At the end of the day folks were finding huge bruises on their bodies, but no holes ... Also note that a great percentage of wounds are in the lower extremities ...

A word on helicopters: The Black Hawk has a tail-rotor issue with thin air, probably why they aren't being used ... The Chinook doesn't have that issue ... The Apaches are there, and are in force, even though all the pictures we see are of USMC Cobras ... The Apaches are being hit, making it back, and being returned in 48 hours or less... They proudly display patchwork on the air-frame... One Apache ran for 30 minutes without oil, as advertised... In the hot LZ fight we all heard about, all but one Apache was hit but none went down ... FM Radio and Tactical Satellite are the primary means of tactical communications ... The only vehicles out there are the 4- and 6-wheeled little John Deere-type tractors, which the troops say are great ... (What does that say about our massive infrastructure of bureaucrats supporting Army R&D?) ... That means no vehicle radios ... Tactical Operation Centers are more like the poncho and red-lens flashlight affairs ...

USAF is great, but screwed up at the hot LZ ... The troops were within sight of the LZ when they were asked to orbit for 5 minutes until the USAF prep could get in (they were running late) ... Rather than circle (in Chinooks, not Black Hawks) in full view of the enemy and wait on the Air Force, the Battalion Commander went on in ... Can't fault him there ... ✖



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A Cold-Warrior Soldiers On

BY DAVID FORTIER
PHOTOS BY EMILY K. FORTIER

One of the hottest rifles on the surplus market today is the FAL. Adopted by more than 90 countries, the FN-FAL came to be known as “the right arm of the free world”: As the AK-47 came to symbolize Communist revolutionaries so the FAL came to symbolize the West’s stand for freedom. Today, though, the FAL has been replaced in front-line service in most of the countries it once protected.

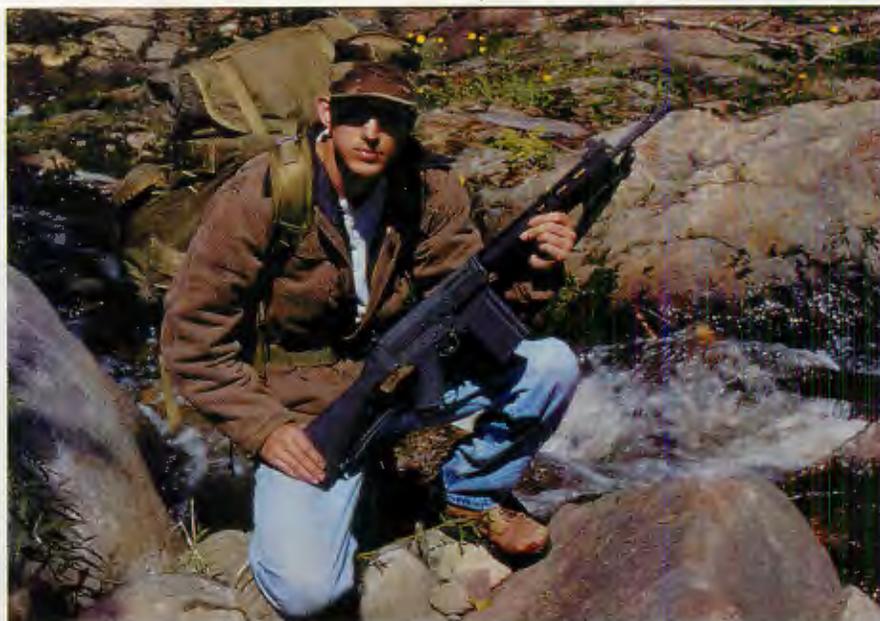
This, of course, has put thousands of them, and tons of spare parts, up for sale and they have been showing up at bargain-basement prices on the U.S. surplus market. Built up from parts kits, however, many of these bargain rifles are no bargain at all. Often these rebuilt rifles exhibit poor quality control, or functioning problems due to the unskilled hands that quickly threw them together. Since we like FALs as

much as the next guy, *SOF* decided to take a look at one of the better FAL rifles currently available. Offered by Enterprise Arms, the STG 58C is built from both American and Austrian parts. Austria was one of the many countries to adopt the FAL, where it served as the *Sturmgewehr 58*. From 1885 until after the First World War the Austrian Army had been equipped with domestically designed and manufactured Mannlicher

rifles. As part of Hitler's Germany they soldiered with the Mauser K98 rifles and rechambered Mannlichers. After the Second World War there was an interim period during which they were equipped with various American and English weapons, mostly M1 rifles and .30 carbines. The FAL was adopted as the standard infantry rifle to replace the hodgepodge of weapons then in service.

Designated the Sturmgewehr 58 (Assault Rifle 58) it was adopted in 1958 with only minor modifications differing it from the standard Belgian rifles. Chambered for 7.62x51 NATO round, it served until replaced by the Steyr AUG. Well-liked in Austrian service, it was considered an "honest to God rifle" which was just as capable of dealing out death and destruction at 600 meters as it was at 200 meters.

For someone interested in having an "honest to God rifle," Enterprise Arms has a number to choose from. I received one of their carbines with a 16-inch barrel, Zeroclimb muzzle brake, and a machined aluminum free-floating handguard for evaluation. I've always liked short black rifles so this warmed my heart. Its buttstock, pistol grip, charging handle knob, and carrying handle are synthetic. The free-floating aluminum handguard, which features six slots and five holes for cooling, is



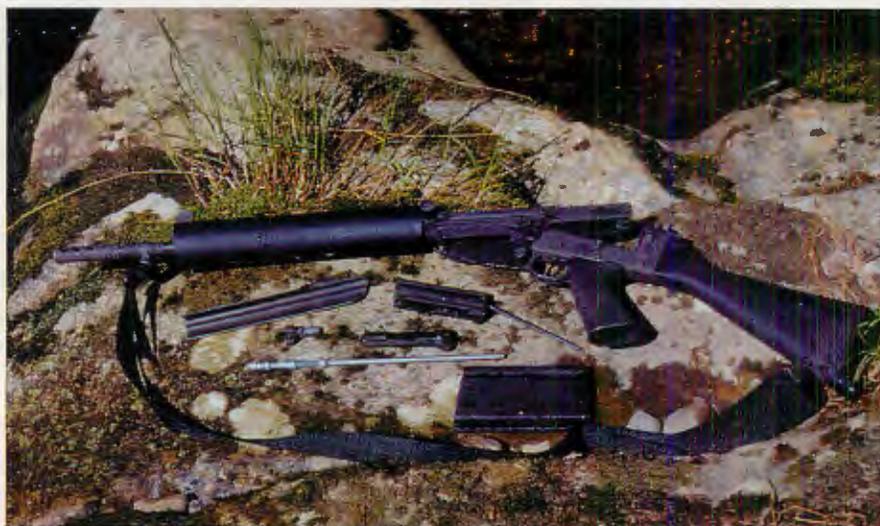
To fully "evaluate" the test rifle we did not simply shoot it off the bench on a KD range: We also spent a month's time carrying and abusing it in the Maine woods. While we never cleaned it, it performed without a hitch.

intended to enhance accuracy. Sights consist of a front post protected by sturdy ears and a rear aperture adjustable from 200-600 meters. When zeroing the weapon, the front sight is adjusted for elevation, like an M16, and the rear is adjusted via two screws for windage. With its steel parts finished in an attractive gray Parkerizing I was impressed by the carbine's sinister good looks as I unpacked it.

Controls are standard FAL, with the safety located on the weapon's left side, just above the pistol grip: Like most FALs, the operator has to reach a bit to

manipulate it. The charging handle is on the left side of the receiver and the knob is large and contoured to allow positive manipulation, even under stress. The magazine release is a lever forward of the trigger guard and may be manipulated via the trigger finger. This will automatically eject the magazine while you're going for your spare. The bolt release is located to the left of the magazine release and is easily activated with the thumb after inserting a fresh magazine. While different than the con-

Continued on page 78



(left) Slightly reminiscent of the Congo pattern FAL, Enterprise Arms offers two 16-inch barrel carbines. The version tested featured a machined aluminum, free-floating handguard. Short and handy with 20 rounds of 7.62 NATO on tap it's an excellent choice for use in heavy cover. (above) The STG 58C is a simple weapon to strip and maintain, even in adverse conditions. Unlike some other popular weapons, it has no small pins or parts to lose or misplace.



Jeff Hoffman, owner of Black Hills, shows off a new 250-grain .338 Lapua Match load. This cartridge continues to increase in popularity among professional marksmen, so to meet their needs Black Hills Ammunition now offers two loads for it. In addition, they introduced a new premium line of ammunition called Black Hills Gold, which is sure to be popular among serious riflemen. Telephone: 605-348-5150; P.O. Box 3090, Rapid City, SD 57709.



Taurus has built an enviable reputation for producing accurate and reliable handguns at an affordable price. One of their latest offerings is this Model 851 CIA "Protector" .38 Special. This compact wheelgun features a shrouded snag-free hammer, but can still be thumb-cocked if the operator desires. Telephone: 305-624-1115; 16175 N.W. 49th Ave., Miami, FL 33014-6314; www.taurususa.com.



DSA Inc. had an impressive assortment of FAL rifles on display. However, the one that caught my eye was this 16-in. carbine which had digested 10,000 rounds in nine hours. No mere boast, I was part of the test crew! We gave Melissa extra points for her taste in magazines. Telephone: 847-277-7259; P.O. Box 370, Barrington, IL 60011-0370; www.dsarms.com.

SOF Recons The 2002 SHOT Show

BY DAVID M. FORTIER

The 2002 SHOT Show, held 2-6 February in Las Vegas, proved to be the second best-attended SHOT Show ever. And, of course, *SOF* was there, keeping an eye on all the latest developments in the industry.

This was the first year that there was a separate section devoted solely to Law Enforcement and Class 3 weapons. Whereas in the past "Black Guns" have been frowned upon, such was not the case at this year's Show. Throughout the four days the LE section was packed.

There was much of interest throughout the Show in a variety of new handguns, combat shotguns, assault rifles, sniper rifles, CQB optics, and ammunition being unveiled. Plus, there was the latest in LBE gear, harnesses, vests, tactical slings, and ancillary gear.

The tone of the show was very upbeat as characterized by a statement made by CEO Robert T. Delfay at the State of the Industry presentation: "The state of our industry may be the strongest it has ever been."



When it comes to gear you can count on, Blackhawk is a name you can trust. Among their new products were tactical gloves, knee and elbow pads, and this Israeli LBE set-up. Telephone: 800-694-5263; 1133 Executive Blvd., Chesapeake, VA 23320; www.blackhawkindustries.com.



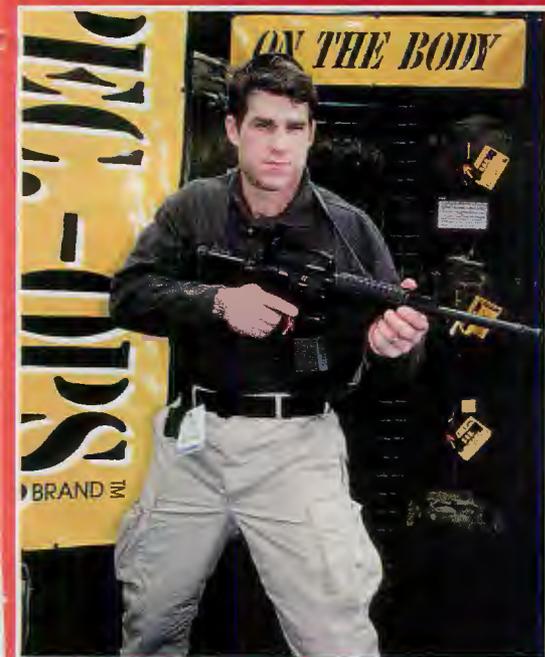
Our interest was piqued when we noticed that CZ-USA has added both synthetic and laminated stock varmint rifles to their line. Featuring heavy barrels mated to CZ's traditional action they look, and handled, well. We did deduct points, though, for their choice in magazines. Telephone: 800-955-4486; P.O. Box 171073, Kansas City, KS 66117-0073.



Trijicon had a number of new products geared towards the armed professional, including a 5.5x50 ACOG called the TA55, and this new tactical sight. Called the Tri-Power Tactical Sight, it features three lighting sources to illuminate its chevron reticle. Illumination is provided by a fiber optic, ~~illumination~~, and a battery back-up. Telephone: 800-338-0563; P.O. Box 930059, Wixom, MI 48393-0059; info@trijicon.com.

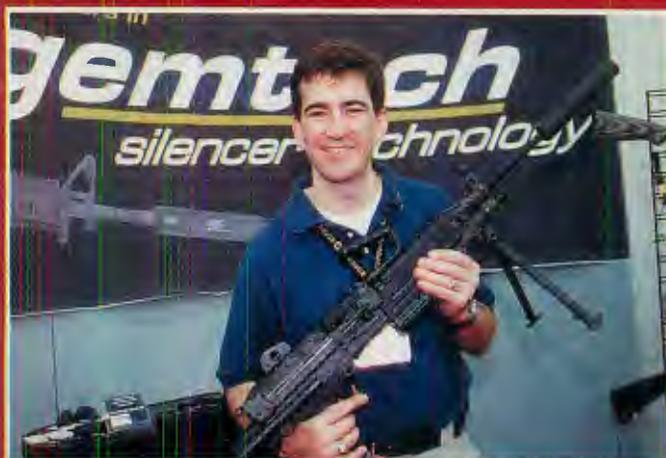
The 2002 SHOT Show

(below) Barrett's Model 99 .50 BMG rifle has earned an enviable reputation for accuracy. However, they drove the point home with this rifle on display. It was used to set a new World Record — when it punched five rounds into 4.09 in. at 1,000 yards. Barrett also created a stir by having IMI 5.56 Tavor 21 bullpups on display with an anticipated delivery of this summer! Telephone: 615-896-2938; P.O. Box 1077, Murfreesboro, TN 37133; www.barrettrifles.com.



(above) Jeff Wemmer, the owner of SPEC-OPS Brand, strikes a pose using his new Mamba Tactical sling. Unlike the current crop of three-point slings that everyone and their brother is copying, Jeff has come up with an interesting new design. Like the rest of his gear, it's extremely well made. Telephone: 866-SPEC-OPS; 1601 W. 15th St., Monahans, TX 79756; www.specopsbrand.com.





(above) A leader in suppressor design and fabrication, GEMTECH had a host of interesting goodies on display. These ranged from this suppressed M249 SAW to a petite unit for Walther's latest P-22. Telephone: 208-939-7222; P.O. Box 3538, Boise, ID 83703; www.gem-tech.com.

(below) There are few tools as important to the serious long-range rifleman as a quality spotting scope. Swarovski had a new compact unit, the ATS65, on display that seemed the perfect size for field use. Lightweight, yet rugged, it featured superb optics that have made this company famous. Telephone: 800-426-3089; 2 Slater Rd., Cranston, RI 02920; www.swarovskioptik.com.



(above) Leupold has finally entered the compact Tactical scope market with their new Mark 4 CQ/T sight. Featuring an illuminated circular reticle and 1-3x it has created quite a stir and seems to offer the best features of both Red Dots and low-magnification Tactical scopes. Telephone: 503-526-5195; P.O. Box 688, Beaverton, OR 97075-0688.

(below) Tactical lights have come a long way from the old Mini Mag lights we used to carry — and the company that has led the way is Surefire. Among their latest products was this new unit aptly called "The Beast." Capable of producing 1,800-2,000 lumens (EGAD!), you can see why he's smirking. Telephone: 800-828-8808; 18300 Mt. Baldy Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.



(above) Along with a host of AR-10 models, ArmaLite also had their new 5.56 AR-180 on display. Featuring a synthetic lower that takes standard AR magazines, this rifle is sure to appeal to those who distrust the standard AR's method of operation. Telephone: 309-944-6939; P.O. Box 299 Geneseo, IL 61254.



(above) I.O.R. has been making a name for itself with its quality Tactical scopes and Mil-Spec binoculars. They were displaying a number of new Tactical scopes including two new fixed-power models, a 10x42 and 16x42. I.O.R. seems to be constantly improving their product line and is someone to keep an eye on. Telephone: 970-879-2983; P.O. Box 773122, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477; www.valdada.com.

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Canadian Snipers in Afghanistan, Part I

BY ROB KROTT

The abilities of Canadian snipers are well known in the international sniping community. Four Canadian Army teams won top honors at the U.S. Army Sniper School's first international sniping competition at Fort Benning, Georgia. Canadian Army snipers have seen limited deployment on recent peacekeeping operations in the Balkans, but in Afghanistan they got the chance to go "live."

Two teams of Canadian snipers from the 3rd Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group deployed in support of U.S. infantrymen from two U.S. Army light infantry battalions (2nd Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division [Air Assault], and 1st Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division), during Operation Anaconda in March 2002. The snipers



are part of the 3rd PPCLI battalion reconnaissance platoon, stationed in Edmonton, Alberta.

Trained to engage targets out to at least 800 meters, Canada's snipers — there are only a few dozen — learn their trade in the Sniper Cell of the Combat Training Center's Infantry School at CFB Gagetown in New Brunswick.

The Canadian Department of National Defense (DND) officially confirmed that a team of six Canadian snipers killed several heavily armed Taliban or al-Qaeda members in Afghanistan in the first weeks of March, "taking out" machine-gun nests and mortar positions at long range — the first confirmed enemy killed in combat by Canadian troops since the Korean War. In a press briefing at the onset of Operation Harpoon, a mopping-up mission to find and eliminate pockets of resistance remaining after Operation Anaconda, Vice-Admiral Greg Maddison, the Deputy Chief of Defense Staff, said Canadian snipers from the 3 PPCLI Battle Group killed enemy fighters during Operation Anaconda and they could kill more in Operation Harpoon. "These sniper teams suppressed enemy mortar and heavy machine-gun positions with

deadly accuracy," he noted.

During Operation Anaconda, Canadian snipers killed enemy fighters while defending U.S. troops that were under fire. "As the American battalion was moving down the ridge and dealing with the Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters that they were encountering, the snipers were there to provide defensive capability. As they were moving forward, they would encounter various positions in which mortars were being fired at them and at the Americans and they were able to take out some of these positions and protect the Americans as they were continuing towards their final objective," he added. "Their skills are credited with likely having saved many Allied lives."

He would not say how many enemy fighters the snipers killed or provide any other details of the incident, stating, "First of all, we don't have the specific numbers from the folks on the ground. It's a very difficult thing to ascertain. The snipers were moving forward with the American battalion. Once the Taliban had been neutralized, if you will, they carried on forward to the objective and we're not in the business of actually counting how many folks they may or may not have indeed killed. So I can't tell you a specific number of how many were."

The Canadian Department of National Defense can't (or won't for reasons of political correctness) be specific or give numbers, but *Soldier Of Fortune* can.

"Without Warning, Sans Remorse"

The need for snipers became apparent to the Canadian Defence Department during the summer of 1990 when snipers from the then-Royal Canadian School of Infantry (RCSI), CFB Gagetown, NB were attached to 5e Groupe-Brigade Mecanise du Canada from BFC Valcartier, Quebec during Operation Salon for the Mohawk Indian uprising in Oka, Quebec.

In 1992, Canadian Army sniping underwent "rejuvenation" at the School of Infantry. The Infantry School conducts the master sniper course and also oversees the three Area Training Centers governing the basic sniper courses. The master snipers are capable of instructing basic snipers and facilitate their continual training, magnifying their impact many times over. The 3PPCLI snipers train at their Area Training Center's Basic Course at the Land Force Western Area Training Center, Wainwright, Alberta. The offi-



The Canadian Press by Stephen Thorne

Three-man Canadian sniper team in British desert camouflage keeps watch over Canadian troops during ANACONDA.

cial motto of the snipers is "Without Warning, Sans Remorse."

For ease of administration and training, snipers are organized as a section of the reconnaissance platoon. The section consists of a sergeant section commander, two master corporals, one of which is the second-in-command, and four corporal/private snipers. The section is organized into three detachments of two snipers each, and the section driver is also a spare sniper. When deployed, each team or detachment is organized as a sniper and an observer. Team members assist each other during long periods of observation and with

range estimations, adjustments of rounds and security.

The Section Commander is designated as the unit master sniper, and is responsible for advising the Commanding Officer, usually through the reconnaissance platoon commander, on all matters related to sniping including counter-sniping. He is also responsible for sniper training and testing.

According to WO Rick Hills, OIC of the Master Sniper Cell at CFB Gagetown, "The employment of snipers will vary by the scale and type of conflict and the selection of weapons and equipment will also remain flexible



The Canadian Press by Kevin Frayer

Canadian snipers pack a load of gear, and make good use of it all. Shown are (top) McMillan .50 sniper rifle, (right) Parker-Hale 7.62x51 sniper rifle, (front) C-7 infantry rifle with M203 grenade launcher, plus spotting scopes, binos, range-finding and commo gear.

and task-dependent. Canadian snipers will always operate, as a minimum, in pairs as a two-man detachment.”

Serious Body Counts

Canuck snipers supposedly had the highest number of confirmed kills in the Shah-i-Kot Valley fight. A source in Kandahar working with the Canadian sniper teams estimates “well over 20 confirmed kills at long ranges.” There is an unconfirmed, but widely circulated, report of a 2,400-meter kill (chest-shot) against the driver of an enemy resupply truck. If validated, it will be a new record for the longest shot made by a military sniper in combat (currently 2,500 yards or about 2,250 meters, held by GySgt Carlos Hathcock, USMC, near Duc Pho, South Vietnam, January 1967, with a Browning .50 HMG mounting an 8-power Unertl telescopic sight).

Two detachments of Canadian snipers entered the battle alongside U.S. units. One group of three went in with a company from the 101st Airborne’s 3rd Brigade “Rakkasans.” When the American grunts became pinned down, the three Canadians and three accompanying U.S. Army Special Forces shooters armed with M24 Remingtons went to work. Moving to a vantage point, they began picking-off al-Qaeda fighters engaging the 101st infantrymen. For more than an hour they fought it out with heavily dug-in al-Qaeda fighters. According to Master Corporal (MCPL) “Alex,” a 30-year old infantryman from Ottawa and Halifax, “As soon as we got rid of one guy, another would come up, and another one.”



author's files

Spotter “Warren” (left) and shooter “Alex” (right) on east side of Sherkankel, during Operation ANACONDA. Note Vector laser range-finding binos and C7 rifle, McMillan .50 rifle in background.

With the pressure off them, the company of 101st infantrymen quickly moved into their assigned blocking positions. The Canuck snipers were in their element. They continued their long-range shooting with their McMillan Brothers .50-cal. Tactical Anti-Materiel Sniper Rifle System. This is the new bolt-action, Long-Range Sniper Weapon (LRSW) that was only introduced to Canadian Infantry Battalions in April 2000. The LRSW is modified for Canadian Army use with a moveable cheek piece and shortened

bipods, and is fitted with a 16x Leupold optical sight. It has a five-round magazine, weighs 12 kg/26.4 lbs., and is 145cm/58 in. in length. The Canadians push AMAX Match .50-caliber ammunition through it.

The spotter (secondary) or team commander, uses a C3A1 7.62mm Sniper Rifle — a Parker-Hale M82 modified to Canadian specs with a six-round detachable magazine, extended bolt handle, strengthened receiver, new trigger safety and a new match-type barrel. The C3A1 is fitted with a Unertl 10x optic (same as USMC-issue), and its usual fodder is Norma Match 7.62mm ammunition loaded with the Sierra Match King 168-gr. HPBT(M) bullet. The LRSW is fitted with Gen III and the C3 Gen II Simrad image-intensification devices for low-light work. For back up they both have the Canadian-made Diemaco C-8 5.56mm Carbine (analogous to the U.S. M4) and 9mm Inglis GP (M1935) Hi-Power pistol using standard service ammo. The teams also have 20-power compact spotting scopes, a Leica Vector binocular with built-in rangefinder, compass and inclinometer functions and a GPS uplink, in addition to normal field gear, camouflage, and ghillie suits: The Canadians put it all to use.

The LRSW, however, is the primary weapon for the sniper team. When employing the LRSW, the usual two-man team of sniper and spotter will normally be increased to three and will then be



author's files

MCPL “Alex” poses with C7 battle rifle and McMillan .50 sniper rifle near Rakkasans’ blocking position, during Operation ANACONDA. Canadian snipers’ long-range, pinpoint-sniping provided crucial covering fire during operation. Camo paint job was custom by Alex.

designated as a sniper team. The team will consist of the No. 1, (primary sniper) employing the LRSW, the No. 2, (team commander) employing the C3A1, and the No. 3, (team security) employing the Canadian-made Diemaco C7 5.56mm M16A2 type rifle. With the weapon systems complementing each other, this allows for a maximum of flexibility of tasks within the team.

Into The Fray

The American infantrymen, flown in by CH-47 Chinook helicopter and forced to hump over bare ground from their two mountain LZs, were taking heavy fire from the enemy. They were easy targets for well-prepared heavy machine-gun and automatic-weapons positions on the 10,000-foot ridge known as the Whale's Back on the West side of the valley, and the commanding 10,000- to 12,000-foot heights of the Shah-i-Kot mountain ridge on the East side, and even the village, Sherkankel, in the valley. The American grunts came under immediate and intense enemy fire from these prepared defensive positions sited above and all around them. American infantrymen in the fight said the enemy fire consisted of everything from small arms to mortars and heaving machine guns, firing with interlocking arcs from both the top of the Shah-i-Kot mountain range, and across the valley from the Whale. Many were pinned down by the heavy fire and needed help taking out the enemy machine guns and mortars that were inflicting casualties. The Canadian snipers were on the job.

A recent Canadian newspaper arti-

cle by Canadian Press photojournalist Stephen Thorne interviewed some of the snipers. MCPL Alex recalled, "The six of us suppressed fire and neutralized the enemy. They were either dead or they ran away." Kitted-out in British desert DPM uniforms (the Canucks haven't issued desert brown uniforms yet) they were so well camouflaged they were nearly shot up by Apache attack helicopters. They heard the Apache firing and looked behind them to see great spouts of dirt in two rows. The rounds stopped only a meter from their position. MCPL Alex said, "I don't know how the .50 didn't get hit. We laughed after that. You got to."

The team had cached their 110-pound rucks. Under fire, they needed additional optics and, a testament to the amount of shooting they were doing, ran low on ammunition (the other Canadian team eventually resorted to using U.S. Army .50-caliber ammunition as they'd depleted their supply of AMAX Match ammo). Corporal "Ed," 25, of Manuels, Newfoundland, volunteered to run down into the valley and up the opposite ridge 100 meters away to get more ammo and equipment. With the air thin at 11,500 feet CPL Ed was ready to pass out after his sprint back and forth through enemy fire, but still managed to return fire with his M203 40mm grenade launcher. His rounds must have found their target, some al-Qaeda firing from a nearby streambed.

"We don't know what happened. All we know is their firing stopped," said MCPL Alex. The Canadian snipers also came under heavy mortar fire. MCPL

"Warren" said, "They were bracketing us. We'd move and they'd adjust fire. Eventually they either ran out of rounds or they just gave up. I don't know. You could hear the fins rotating as they came in. It's a sound I'll never forget."

There are undoubtedly some al-Qaeda who will never forget the sound of a Canadian sniping rifle echoing over the Shah-i-Kot valley, as well.

Interview With A Sniper

MCPL Alex, the "shooter" on his three-man team, is back at his unit's home base in Edmonton, Alberta. He recently talked for three hours with *Soldier Of Fortune* about his experiences in Afghanistan. For their personal security, SOF has used the *nom de guerre* as given to the Canadian media for the Canadian snipers.

Alex, a 10-year veteran, has been a sniper for two years. He went to Croatia in 1993, joined the Canadian Airborne Regiment in 1994, then returned to the Balkans for duty in Bosnia in 1997 and 2000. Trained at the Wainwright sniper course, he was a sniper in Bosnia in 2000. During that tour he and other Canadian snipers completed a British Army sniper course as well.

Alex and the five other 3 PPCLI snipers deployed to Afghanistan with their unit. After initial duty at Kandahar on observation posts and some work with Northern Alliance troops, both of the three-man 3 PPCLI sniper teams were attached to the 3rd Brigade (Rakkasans), 101st Airborne Division. Alex and his team were with C Co, 2d Bn, 3rd Bde of the 101st (he proudly showed me his Rakkasans challenge coin). Alex was the "shooter," or No. 1, armed with a McMillan Brothers .50 caliber. Three U.S. Special Forces shooters, known only by their first names, joined them for Operation Anaconda. The solitary shooter armed with a Remington 700 (M24) and backed up by two team members armed with M4 carbines, he also laid down effective fire on long-range targets.

As soon as the Canadians were attached to the 101st they received a bit of culture shock seeing the wealth of gear and support the U.S. Army receives, in contrast to Canadian Army. They also experienced the U.S. infantryman's unique *Hooah* attitude and *esprit*. From Bagram Airfield they staged with the Rakkasans for Operation Anaconda.

On 2 March they deployed at first

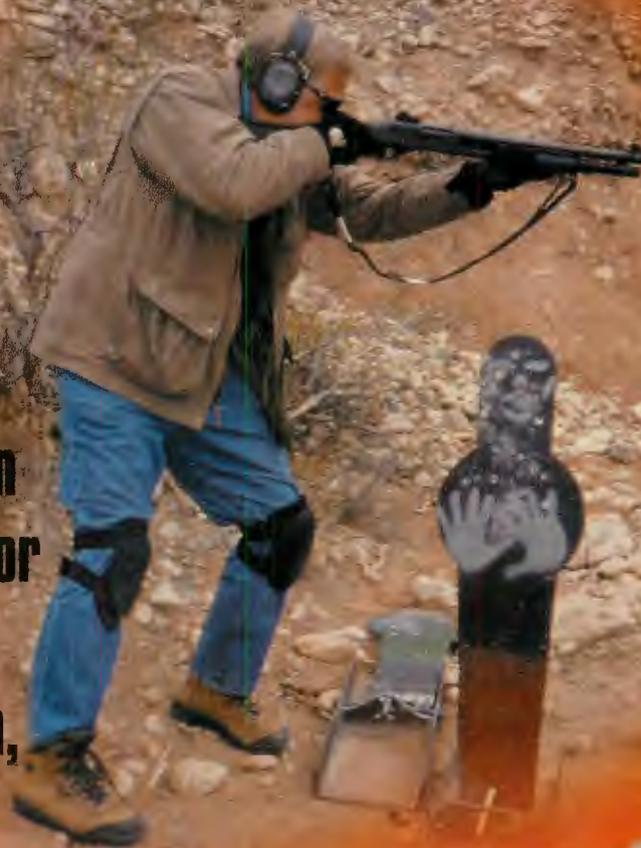


A B-52 strike plows up the "Whale's Back" while Canadian snipers watch. If a sniper is good at his work — and the Canucks were — such terrain allows .50-shots out to astounding ranges. Here they engaged enemy as they reappeared from caves after the airstrike: Surprise!

Continued on page 77

Gunsite's **TACTICAL** **SHOTGUN**

**Capable
of high
accuracy,
this
scattergun
is ready for
personal
protection,
duty or
competition.**



TEXT & PHOTOS BY
GARY PAUL JOHNSTON

Called *la escopeta* (the scattergun) in Spanish for centuries, the shotgun was designed to be just that. Propelling multiple projectiles of various numbers and sizes made this weapon extremely formidable at close range, a characteristic widely associated with the shotgun to this day.

However, thanks to modern technology, shotgun barrels and ammunition are now capable of providing surprising accuracy, firing either shot or slugs.

Beginning with a well-used Remington 12-gauge Model 870 slide-action shotgun with a 30" full-choke barrel, I decided to have the gun remodeled into a state-of-the-art defensive shotgun. To complete this before-and-after transition, I shipped the gun to Gunsite Training Academy and requested that its Gunsmith Shop turn the old scattergun into a modern tactical piece, using Gunsite's standard 870 conversion package.

Vang Comp

When my gun came back, it had been equipped with a brand new barrel made to Hans Vang's specifications. Renowned for his patented back-boring technique, Hans Vang produces some of the most accurate shotgun barrels in the world. Available with his famous Vang Compensator, these barrels can be ported to reduce recoil. Effective as this system is, it leaves a signature in low light, so I opted for the Vang Tactical Comp barrel on my gun. Devoid of ports, this barrel incorporates the same internal choking system (comp) and emits a lower flash signature at night.

In addition to the Vang Tactical Comp and a new set of synthetic stocks, my 870 had a Vang front sight silver-soldered to the barrel, and an MMC tactical rear sight installed on the receiver. Not glued on like some tactical shotgun front sights, Vang's ramped front sight is on for good. Capable of windage and elevation adjustments, the MMC rear sight incorporates a ghost-ring aperture for fast accurate shooting.

Besides the inclusion of front and rear sling studs, my 870 also came equipped with a SideSaddle ammunition carrier from Brownell's. Holding six rounds of spare 12-gauge ammunition, the SideSaddle is a handy way to carry more ammunition, and it holds it in an equally handy place on the left side of the receiver. After being given an action job that left it silky smooth in operation, my 870 was fine-bead-blasted with a matte blue finish so as not to reflect light.

Hornady 12-Gauge Buckshot

Shooting my Gunsite Tactical Shotgun proved it highly accurate with slugs out to 100 yards, and capable of producing outstanding patterns with buckshot out to 25 yards and effective well beyond this distance. This was especially true using Hornady's new 12-gauge buckshot loads.

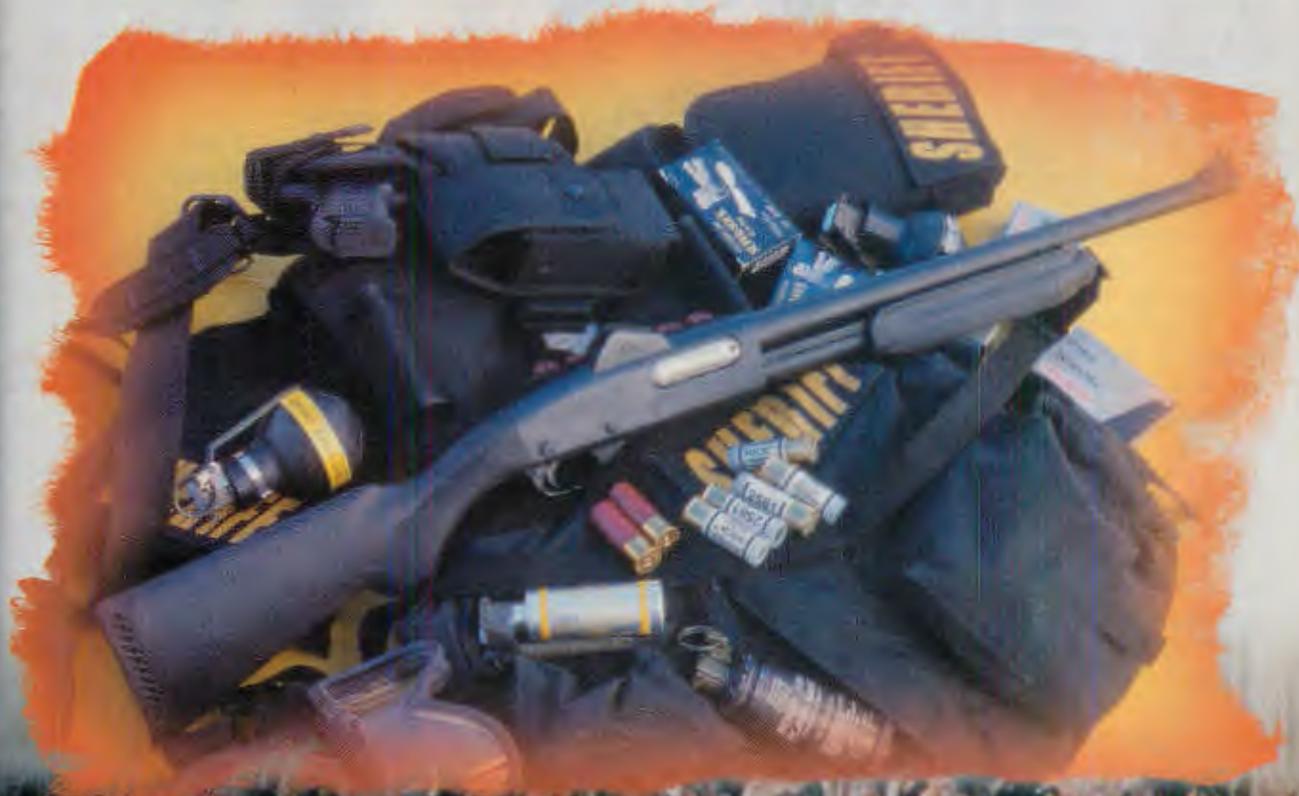
Designed markedly to improve the performance of a standard-cylinder or improved-cylinder 12-gauge barrel, Hornady's new 12-gauge ammunition can shrink patterns by 60% or better. So impressive was my Gunsite Remington 870 shotgun that I decided to take Gunsite's 260 Tactical Shotgun Course with it. I took my factory Remington 1187P shotgun as a backup.

Taught by none other than Louis Awerbuck, Gunsite's 260 Tactical Shotgun Course is one of the best in the world. Although I had met Louis a couple of years before, I had never taken his course, and was looking forward to it.

Sure Fire Tactical Light

While I was waiting to attend the 260 course, several interesting things happened in the shotgun world. The first was a new fore-end developed by SureFire. Consisting of three Picatinny-style rails, this alloy fore-end accepted SureFire's M900A Millennium Vertical-Foregrip Weapon-Light.

Gunsite's Tactical Remington 870 Shotgun package comes with a Vang Tactical Comp barrel, MMC Sights, a SideSaddle ammo carrier, new synthetic stocks, an action job and more. It's ready for duty, home-defense and competition.





During a running and shooting exercise, attorney Theresa McAteer goes to a California kneeling position as Chief Instructor Louis Awerbuck looks on.

Capable of putting out as much as 500 lumens of light, the M900A came standard with a 125-lumen lamp that I prefer for most indoor and outdoor use, especially with its 40+ minutes of light. With its A.R.M.S. Throw-Lever mount, this light is instantly mounted almost anywhere along the bottom Picatinny rail and is removed just as quickly. I added this accessory to my 870.

Knox Recoilless COPstock

Soon after, Knox Industries informed me that its new recoilless folding COPstock was ready for testing, and shipped me a pre-production sample. One of the most robust folding stocks I have ever used, this one is covered with synthetic for extra comfort and to prevent its freezing one's cheek. Simple to operate, this new stock significantly reduces recoil by absorbing it through a special spring/leverage system. Even firing 12-gauge slugs was a breeze with the stock. The only drawback was that it could not be folded with the SideSaddle installed. Not long afterward, Knox shipped me its even newer fixed recoilless COPstock that I quickly installed on my 870. Using the same spring/leverage device, this stock collapses from the rear with the butt section slightly telescoping over the forward portion during recoil. Even more comfortable than the Knox folder, this stock was preferred by all who test-fired both versions. The only complaint was that the thumb came in contact with the nose under the extra-heavy recoil from slugs, but I was not bothered by this, and there was literally no felt recoil against the shoulder. Although a pistol grip version of the fixed COPstock was being developed, it would not be ready in time for the class, so Knox's standard fixed stock would go to Gunsite with me.

Held in the fall, the Gunsite 260 Shotgun course I attended included shotgun guru Hans Vang, Irv Stone, Jr., of BAR-STO Barrels, well-known gun writer Wiley Clapp, custom pistolsmith Wayne Novak, and Jay Hard of

Precision Sights International, among others. It was filled to capacity as were the three other classes being held the same week, and I knew I was in for a great experience.

Upon arrival, I was pleasantly surprised to see the improvements to the facility made by Gunsite's new owner and President, Owen "Buzz" Mills. Having been to Gunsite a number of times during the past 20 years, I can honestly say that Mr. Mills has upgraded it to a first-class training facility, offering a wide range of instruction from basic to advanced tactical training, for law enforcement and military personnel.

Although I had been a certified police instructor in the shotgun years before, it soon became apparent that Louis Awerbuck and staff had a number of tricks up their sleeves that I had not seen before. These included both loading and downloading techniques, not to mention carry methods and ready positions. Along with a dozen other techniques, these were drilled from the beginning so that everyone was on the same page.

Freezing temperatures and wind took their toll early on, and heavy clothing made manipulation even more difficult. A decade earlier I would have boasted that this was perfect training weather. It still was, but I felt I would have preferred sweating under an Arizona sun in July.

Its somewhat radical appearance aside, the SureFire M900A vertical foregrip proved fast and comfortable. I quickly found that when I wanted to close the chamber after inserting a round through the ejection port, all I had to do was hit the foregrip with my left wrist to close it. What's more, while others were subjecting themselves to the constant recoil of 12-gauge shells, the Knox stock made my gun feel like shooting a .223-caliber carbine.

In addition to the standard exercises of loading, downloading, malfunction drills, and various ready positions, we learned turning to shoot from either side and about face, and shooting and loading on the move. On the third day, we began putting these skills to work shooting simulators. Consisting of realistic scenarios, the simulators are both indoors and outdoors. Although snow and mud didn't help these situations, especially loading on the

Johnston's sample Gunsite Tactical Shotgun came with MMC sights and a SideSaddle six-shot ammo carrier.

move, it was great training weather. All targets were steel, and those in both outdoor simulators went down when hit which made it even more realistic.

On Thursday, Hans Vang and Irv Stone demonstrated a prototype of the new stainless steel 12-gauge barrel BAR-STO is making exclusively for Vang Comp Systems. Using Hans' internal-choke system, this 18" barrel was demonstrated at 15 and 25 yards with a variety of buckshot with Winchester coming in first and Hornady coming in second. However, the Hornady performed even better in my Vang Comp barrel, and it shoots great patterns from my 11/87P, as it was designed to do. All new Vang Comp Conversions will feature LPA Tactical Sights from P.S.I. After shooting several guns in the course equipped with LPA sights, I believe them to be the best tactical shotgun sights I've seen yet.

In addition to running additional simulators on Thursday, we also ran Gunsite's famous Scrambler. Consisting of seven steel camouflaged silhouette targets placed at different distances from 25 yards to 50 yards, this course requires multi-position shooting with 12-gauge slug loads. We were told the record was 32 seconds (I want to meet the guy who did it). My record time was 76 seconds with one miss. Wiley Clapp and Andy Blumenthal in our squad both shot it clean.

Shooting in the dark provided a perfect opportunity to test the SureFire M900A Millennium Light. In addition to its fast manipulation via the light's vertical foregrip, it also provided as much light as anyone could want to instantly identify targets, as well as temporarily blind them, had they been real. An alternative to the SureFire M900A Vertical Foregrip Light is its lighted forend that replaces the factory model. Either way, each provides a vastly superior light source over holding a flashlight while using a shotgun. In addition to Remington 870 and 11/87P shotguns, SureFire's lighted forend is also offered for H&K, Mossberg and Winchester shotguns.

Friday was a day of standard school exercises and the shoot-off with shooter-against-shooter. Since each student was required to pass the school exercises to pass the course, the pressure was on to do our best. Everyone passed this segment, but not all with flying colors.



With the pressure really on in the shoot-off, each student had to knock down two steel Pepper popper targets behind a hostage target using buckshot, and then reload with a slug to knock down a 50-yard target. This was a lot easier said than done, but when the smoke cleared, Wayne Novak shot to the top using a Remington 870 18" barrel shotgun with LPA Ghost Ring sights.

What About Less Lethal?

After years of poor performance, less lethal 12-gauge ammunition has taken a quantum leap in the past several years with several reliable loads developed by Combined Tactical Systems (CTS), of Pennsylvania. Most notable among these rounds is the 12-gauge Super Sock. Consisting of a woven nylon carrier containing lead shot, this carrier has a trailing tail that provides optimum stability and accuracy. The result is a soft projectile traveling at some 350 fps that is highly accurate out to 25 yards or farther.

From my Gunsite Vang-Compensated Remington 870, the CTS Super Sock will group 3" at 25 yards, and it will produce 4" groups from my factory Remington 11/87P. However, while this no-recoil round cycles perfectly in the 870, it will not function the semi-automatic gas system of the 11/87P, or any semi-automatic shotgun. Equally impressive are CTS' 12-gauge Barricade-Penetrating rounds, and Hi-Velocity Sting Ball 12-gauge rounds. Although I didn't use any of these in the course, I took some to Gunsite for demonstration.

Having learned dozens of new techniques with the shotgun during Gunsite's 260 Course, I can't speak highly enough about it. Not only did I get the information, but I put it to use shooting more than 500 rounds during the five days. If you're in the market for a custom tactical shotgun, and a place to learn to use it, check-out Gunsite's 260. For information, contact Gunsite Academy, Inc., Dept. SOE, 2900 W. Gunsite Road, Paulden, AZ 86334; phone: 928-636-4565. ✕

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SureFire

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Fountain Valley, CA 92708
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Hunting

TEXT & PHOTOS BY SAMUEL M. KATZ

Suicide Bombers, Part 3

The Battle For Israel's Cities

The officers returning from their exhaustive 12-hour shift were exhausted — and troubled. All night, the officers in *Tzabar*, one of the Israeli Border Guard's five regional SWAT and tactical investigative units, had been poised to intercept the nameless and faceless men and women dispatched into Israel wearing suicide belts and carrying bags filled with TNT and RDX, wrapped by nails and ball bearings dipped in rat poison. Hunting suicide bombers was not an easy job. The officers had been deployed in a running series of ambush positions covering a 10-mile stretch of invisible frontier — from positions opposite the Palestinian Authority's West Bank town of Qilqilya, to the invisible lines separating Taibeh, an Arab town in Israel located adjacent to Tulkarem, one of the Palestinian Authority's most radical towns and home to a dozen terrorist factions. They had donned Ghillie suits and positioned snipers into the thick hilltop foliage to seek out suicide bombers attempting to cross the invisible boundaries into Israel. They had deployed in unmarked vehicles along frontier roadways looking for accomplices waiting at rendezvous points to drive the suicide bombers to their targets. And, in exhaustive patrols, the officers had worked in plain clothes in shopping areas and main thoroughfares saturating potential targets with a heavy police presence.

The nighttime operations, which had stretched far into the next day's



**AMERICA
AT WAR**

A Tel Aviv Yiftach SPU officer takes aim with his Magal carbine.

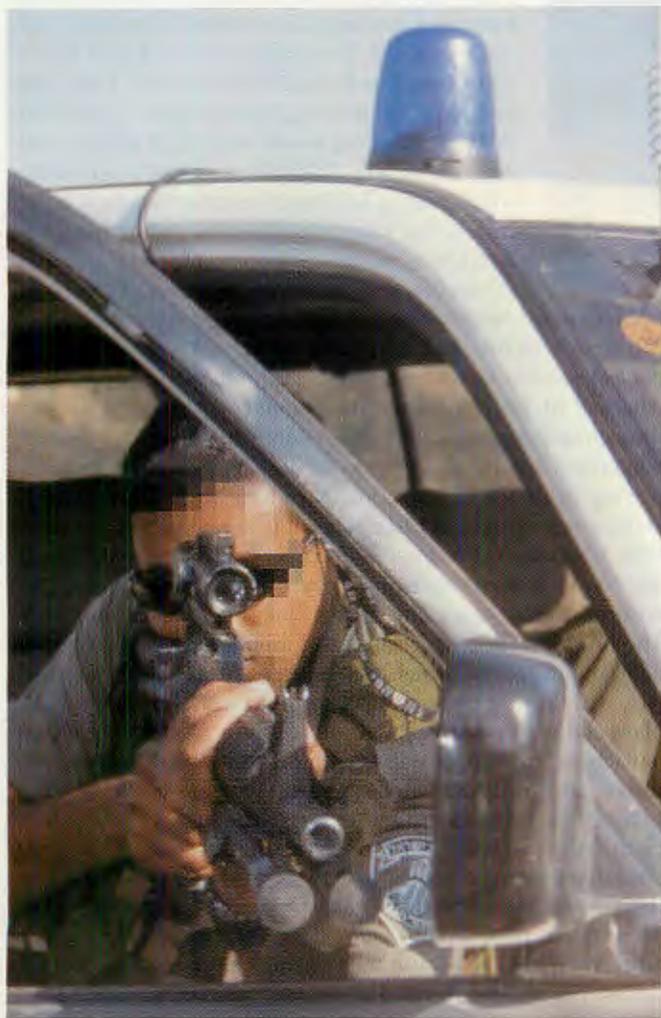
afternoon, had yielded nothing, however. And that was what was so troubling. It was 27 March 2002, the eve of the week-long Passover holiday. Israel's General Security Service, or *Shin Bet*, had credible information that terrorists would attempt to disrupt the holidays with a suicide attack, though the information was sketchy. Would it be in Jerusalem? Haifa? Or would it be in Tel Aviv? The Tzabar officers returning from the unsuccessful ambush had a sixth sense that somewhere out there, someone was right under their noses, planning to kill. That sort of pressure was an enormous burden for the officers to wear with their fatigues. A good day at the office was one with no carnage. Many of the officers returning from the ambush and checking-in their camouflage gear, long-range surveillance equipment and sniper rifles, wanted to stay out in the field longer. They knew something was going to happen.

Something did happen later that night. Just past sunset, when families throughout Israel were gathering to celebrate Jewish salvation from slavery, Abdel Basset Odeh — a 24-year-old petty criminal from Tulkarem, with *Hamas* ties, who the Israelis had requested the Palestinians arrest — walked into the crowded dining hall of the Park Hotel in Netanya strapped with a special belt made of RDX and screws. The flash of Odeh's explosion was blinding, its roar was heard miles away. By the time the EOD teams had combed through the area in search of other devices, the damage had been done — 30 people; men, women and children, had been killed in what would become known as the "Passover Massacre"; over 150 had been critically wounded.

Since the onset of the *al-Aqsa Intifadah*, Palestinian ter-



(above) Tzabar officers take aim with their Jericho 941s during a road stop near Qilqilya. (left) A Tzabar officer takes aim on a suspect during a traffic stop near Netanya.



rorists had focused much of their attention of the Israeli capital — Jerusalem. Jerusalem, a mixed city sacred to three religions was an obvious target — sandwiched between Ramallah and Bethlehem, terrorists found few natural boundaries or obstacles preventing them from infiltrating straight into the Jewish heart of downtown Jerusalem and blowing themselves up on Jaffa Street or inside the Mahane Yehuda produce market. But in order to make Israel's five million citizens feel truly vulnerable to the wrath of the terrorist attacks, from suicide bombings to random shootings, groups like *Hamas*, the Islamic Jihad, the PFLP, Fatah Tanzim and the *al-Aqsa Martyr's Brigade*, have placed great effort and emphasis on targeting Israel's major population centers along the coastal plain — from Ashdod in the south near Gaza to Haifa in the north. The most vulnerable areas have been in the center of the country, in and around Tel Aviv, where much of the Israeli population lives, and its neighboring suburbs and towns. Keeping the true heart-and-soul of modern Israel safe from terrorist attack has been the job of Border Guards and Israel National Police special operations teams.

The Tzabar: Perhaps The Busiest In Central Israel

Tzabar, the first of the Border Guard district special operations units formed in 1997, competes with its counterpart

in Jerusalem (*Lavi*) as being the busiest of the regional teams. Its area of responsibility includes all of central Israel, with the exception of the fist-like slice of territory in and around the Tel Aviv metropolitan area. Its precinct ranges from Netanya, one of Israel's larger cities north of Tel Aviv to Rehovot, a suburb of Tel Aviv in the southern stretches of the central region. Tzabar's areas include the exclusive suburbs of Kfar Saba and Savion, as well as the slums of Lod and Ramle. The majority of its work revolves around the invisible Green Line frontier that separates the State of Israel proper from the West Bank and those under the command and control of the Yasir Arafat's Palestinian Authority.

"The 'PA' is a criminal and terrorist paradise," claims Inspector D., a team leader while on a surveillance operation near Kfar Saba, only 100 meters from the boundaries of Qilqilya, one of the West Bank's largest towns, "and now it is the front lines for what has become the war for this country's existence."



A plain-clothed female Barak officer brings in a suspect near Tel Aviv's Jaffa neighborhood.

From 1997 to October 2000, Tzabar proved to be a criminal's worst nightmare in central Israel. In their first year of operation crime in the regional command dropped by over 20-percent, and arrests were up by over 50-percent. Tzabar was making incredible inroads in battling criminal activity inside central Israel until the eruption of the al-Aqsa Intifadah. They have been at war ever since.

Because their zone of responsibility straddles borders separating Israel proper from the Palestinian Authority, most of the unit's anticrime initiatives were cancelled, replaced by intensive counterterrorism duty. On 1 January 2001, a powerful car bomb exploded near a bus stop in the central shopping district of Netanya, injuring some 60 people. On 28 March 2001, a suicide bomber blew himself up near a gas station east of Kfar Saba near the entrance to Qilqilya, killing two teenagers and wounding four. On 22 April 2001, a suicide bomber once again struck Kfar Saba, killing one elderly woman and injuring 60. On 18 May 2001, a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up at the entrance to the Hasharon Shopping Mall in Netanya, killing five and wounding more

than 100. And, of course, on 27 March 2002, Hamas perpetrated the Passover Massacre — the worst suicide-bombing in Israel's bloody history.

There were other attacks in Tzabar's area of operation. In January 2002, a gunman, wearing an explosive belt, charged into a catering hall in the central Israeli town of Hadera, and shot up a party celebrating the 12th birthday, the *bat-mitzvah*, of a young girl.

Following each bombing and shooting attack, Tzabar officers deploy to establish a far-reaching perimeter around the bomb scene looking for additional bombers as well as terrorist intelligence-gathering operatives who might be photographing or videotaping the security and emergency medical response. The natural instinct for any police officer is to always rush toward danger, but in the case of Tzabar, their job is to prevent further bloodshed. Immediately following a suicide attack, Tzabar teams establish roadblocks around the bomb site to cut off fleeing terrorists and their routes of escape.

Most officers in Tzabar are veterans from the *Ya'ma'm* (the Border Guard's elite counterterrorist and hostage-rescue unit) or the *Ya'mas* (the Border Guard undercover force). Though the unit places a tremendous emphasis on investigative and undercover work — the Tzabar prides itself as being a tactical detective unit.

The Barak Special Operations Unit

Inside the greater metropolitan Tel Aviv area, the Border Guard's Barak special operations unit that is the primary unit tasked with hunting down suicide bombers before they can strike. Of the five district units, Barak is the youngest. It was created in January 1999 and tasked with serving Israel's most populated district, covering nearly one-third of the total national census. With their area of responsibility including Tel Aviv, the mixed town of Jaffa, Holon, Bat Yam, and the surrounding suburbs, Barak was in the epicenter of Israel's economic, residential and criminal soul. When the Border Guard hierarchy created its tactical anti-crime teams, it did so realizing that the force possessed a unique talent pool of veteran counter-terrorists and undercover operatives who had literally rewritten the manual when it came to battling an unforgiving and violent enemy. Barak is composed of 80 veteran and career cops, as well as 18-year-old conscripts serving in the Border Guards as part of their three years of mandatory military service. The unit is tasked with being a little bit of everything — undercover force, detective squad and SWAT team — that can operate in problematic areas, or on problematic cases and trends, for the district command. The unit is tasked with saturating high-crime areas, or residential and tourist areas that have been targeted by terrorists, with both a plain-clothes and uniformed presence. The plain-clothed operatives will often conduct surveillance of a particular street or building with officers dressed in a wide-variety of disguises. Once the crime goes down, or once a suspect has been identified, the unit operatives put on their identifying blue and white Israeli Police baseball caps (Israeli police do not wear badges as do their counterparts in the United States or parts of Europe) and race into action. Their talent pool of cops can easily blend into any role, any ethnic neighborhood and any setting. Barak boasts officers who speak several dozen dialects of Russian languages, cops

who can speak Arabic like a West Bank or Gaza native, as well as officers who can talk with authentic American accents and play the role of tourists.

As a mobile tactical force, the Border Guard anti-crime units are full-fledged SWAT teams capable of executing high-risk search and arrest warrants, as well as providing chase to heavily armed felons pursued by the police. Barak, whose officers are equipped with Jericho 941s and Mini-Uzis, as well as M16 assault rifles, are proficient in both covert- and dynamic-entries.

One of Barak's hostage-rescue specialties is bus assaults. The Tel Aviv area is the Israeli metropolis and without trams or rail service, buses are the lifeblood of the city. It is because of their importance that terrorists have routinely targeted buses so many times in the past. Yet buses are difficult targets to assault. Windows and doors make it difficult for the surrounding police forces to make any surprise assaults without the terrorists possibly having the time to begin executing the hostages.

Special Police Units (SPUs): The Final Lines And First-Responders

The final lines of defense inside Israel's major cities are the regular "blue" police's special patrol units, or SPUs.

It was 11:16 on 25 January 2002, when the emergency call came over the police radio in South Tel Aviv's "Yiftach" Police sub-district. It was a call over the radio that everyone in the unit grudgingly expected to hear, though few were willing to accept it — even a year-and-a-half into the al-Aqsa Intifadah.

"All units respond to the old central bus station. Confirmed reports of a suicide bombing ... numerous casualties and heavy damage reported."

Patrol officers responded to the emergency call in force, led by the district elite tactical force known as the *Ya'sam*, the Hebrew-acronym for *Yechidat Siyur Meyuchedet* ("Special Patrol Unit"). The officers in the Special Patrol Unit, or "SPU," had been through it so many times before: the radio call of a bombing, a mad rush to the targeted area, followed by walking through a crime scene of unfathomable carnage looking for additional devices and bracing for additional attacks. They knew what to expect and what they had to do. Elements of the SPU rushed to the area in their Ford vans, while advanced patrol sections, riding on Kawasaki high-performance motorcycles in tandems, were coincidentally in the area conducting counter-narcotics operations. A Palestinian bomber, riding a motor scooter, had blown himself up at a bustling street corner in the densely populated mixed residential and commercial neighborhood surrounding the old central bus station. The area, Tel Aviv's version of a red light district, crowded with dozens of massage parlors and brothels, packed inside rows of tenements crammed with foreign workers — Africans, Turks, Eastern European, and Thais — who flocked to Israel to fill the menial labor crunch when Palestinian laborers were no longer permitted to cross checkpoints into Israel for work. The area was *always* packed with people.

The "Double-Tap"

Police and rescue personnel raced through the gridlocked alleys and streets of the city to reach the blast site, as did elements from the Tel Aviv bomb squad — the smoldering remains of the bombers had to be checked for additional

explosives. A police helicopter was also sent to assist in securing the area, because a favorite Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad tactic was known as the bombing double-tap — the use of two suicide bombers on a single target. The tactic is diabolical. The first bomber blows himself up amid a crowd of unsuspecting victims hoping to kill dozens. A second bomber, one equipped with a much larger device, moves into the kill zone just as the police, fire and medical personnel reach the blast area. The secondary blast is designed to kill those wounded by the first explosion, as well as to take out as many of the emergency first-responders as possible; in 1995 a Palestinian double-tap bombing north of Tel Aviv killed 22 and wounded more than 200.

An Evolved Role

The notion of small, tactically proficient, special patrol units grew not out of a need to battle terrorists, or even go after heavily armed drug gangs, but rather as a force to assist



Barak officers pose for the camera.

the local patrol cops to maintain order — especially during political demonstrations. The first SPU was established in the early 1990s, in Jerusalem, as a mobile-response force to deal with handling large-scale political gatherings and keep them from escalating out of control into full-scale riots — something that Israeli politics was known to produce when parties of differing opinion expressed their viewpoints. The Israeli capital was the scene of countless rallies and protests, and the SPU was tasked with ensuring that such gatherings remained peaceful, as well as safe from possible terrorist attack — 10,000 people marching on the *Knesset* promoting one cause or another would be a tempting target for a terrorist eager to launch a grenade or gun attack, as well as someone determined to blow himself up. The SPU officers, trained in tactical operations and equipped with assault rifles and other special-operations equipment, would also patrol high-crime and sensitive areas in very visible foot patrols and initiate anti-crime and anti-narcotic operations. The notion of the Special Patrol Units soon caught on to other police districts and each began to field elite units of their own.

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THE DEATH OF THE WEST

SOF Interviews Patrick J. Buchanan

BY COL. MIKE PECK, USA (RET.)

Col. Mike Peck, USA (Ret.) interviewed Patrick Buchanan for *SOF* concerning the disturbing themes covered in his best-selling book *The Death of the West*, published by St. Martin's Press; \$25.95.

SOF: Mr. Buchanan, in The Death of the West you point out that unchecked immigration and the low birth rate of non-recent-immigrants may turn the United States into a Third-World nation by mid-century. However, if the neo-Marxist forces that you describe continue to infiltrate American institutions, it seems that an even greater danger is that the American people will eventually be stripped of their Constitutional freedoms and wake up living in a socialist police state. At that point maybe the question of majorities will be a moot point.

*PJB: Clearly the United States is about halfway down the road to socialism right now, especially when you have the government controlling spending at all levels, which amounts to about a third of the gross national product, and with its regulatory powers, it probably controls a great deal more. But, as I said in my book, *The Death of the West*, I identified four great threats to America, but the greatest, of course, is that the Western populations are dying. There is not a single Western nation with a birth rate that will enable it to survive in its present form, and, at the same time these nations are dying, they are being confronted by great migrations from Third-World countries, that are non-Western and in some cases anti-Western, which are pouring into Europe and Russia, as well as into the United States. My own view is that the American people will resist any sudden massive encroachment on their country and freedoms; however, there is no question that this drop-by-drop, if you will, this*

sort of Chinese torture, or step-by-step encroachment on our freedoms, will continue.

SOF: Like boiling a frog ...

PJB: Exactly. It goes up one degree at a time until the frog is boiled, but he's feeling comfortable all the way until the water starts bubbling around him. Then it's over. [Laughter]

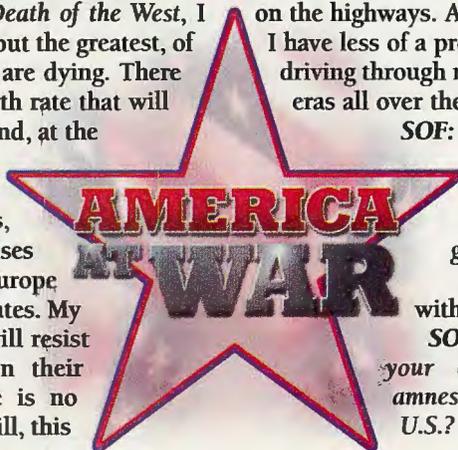
SOF: On the subject of police states, what do you think of the cameras at stop lights, radar cameras, and the surveillance cameras that are being installed all over Washington? Do you think these will lead to abuse of traditional freedoms and privacy?

PJB: If you are talking about speeding through red lights, which is a threat to public safety, as I've said, I don't have that much of a problem with those cameras, but with the cameras that they're putting all over town simply to conduct surveillance on citizens, I do have trouble with that. I think driving is certainly a privilege, and folks who are drinking and driving, and especially repeat offenders, ought to lose their licenses, simply because they kill about 40,000 people a year on the highways. Also, a lot of pedestrians are run down, so I have less of a problem with catching speeders and people driving through red lights than I do with surveillance cameras all over the city.

SOF: Yes, but it might be a short step from that to installing surveillance cameras in everybody's house to ensure they are not doing anything illegal — for the public good, of course.

PJB: Then we're in George Orwell's 1984, with Big Brother in the bedroom with us.

SOF: On the subject of illegal aliens, what are your opinions concerning the Bush-backed amnesty for illegal aliens currently living in the U.S.?



PJB: I think this amnesty is going to be a social, political, and cultural disaster for the United States. First, it is going to completely demoralize the Border Patrol, who apprehend a million-and-a-half illegals every year and turn them back. To give amnesty to criminals who evaded the Border Patrol and immediately put them on the road to citizenship is going to thoroughly demoralize the Border Patrol. I also think it is a gross injustice to folks who have waited in line perhaps for 10 years to become Americans, who came here legally and who were willing to go through the established process because they wanted their children to become Americans. I think it will set a precedent as a reward for criminality, the same way the massive amnesty did for draft dodgers, and I think as a consequence of it we are going to get another, even larger, invasion of illegal aliens in anticipation of yet another amnesty. From a political standpoint, I think the President is going to be importing a vast army of illegal aliens into this country, who, when they become citizens, are going to vote the Republican Party into permanent minority status.

SOF: Do you feel that the politicians and elitists who are pushing mass-immigration while, at the same time, encouraging the newcomers to maintain their ethnicity are consciously pursuing a divide and conquer policy? Is it that they think they can better control and exploit a fractionalized and balkanized population?

PJB: I think that is exactly what they intend to do, to basically dilute American patriotism, to dilute the National unity, and to deconstruct America as we knew it. And I think it is not even a hidden agenda, it's almost an open agenda. Folks who apparently do not like the country they grew up in and want to alter it forever are overwhelming it with massive immigration of peoples from cultures and civilizations that have never been assimilated by the West before. And I think they want to create what they call the first universal nation, which is a contradiction in terms.

SOF: You used the term, "America as we knew it." I think a lot of SOF readers grew up in that same America, and a lot of them probably didn't see anything wrong with that country that couldn't be fixed.

PJB: There were some things wrong with it, but it was the best country on earth, with the most marvelous history of any country on earth. It was a great Nation.

SOF: Do you feel that most of the problems were fixable — and not what have been described as the over-reaction fixes — but gradual, sensible changes?

PJB: Yes, of course.

SOF: Your book also states that the subversion of traditional American values is an organized effort by the followers of a small group of Communist theorists of the '20s and '30s, whose goal was to destroy the underpinnings of Capitalism, namely —

Christianity and Western culture. And, from the evidence that you provide, they seem to be succeeding. A devil's advocate might thereby conclude that if Western and American culture can be swept away so easily, then maybe it is flawed. Otherwise, how could a free and prosperous people accept what might be termed the politically correct *reductio ad absurdum* or allow themselves to be shamed by their greatest successes?

PJB: The chapter in my book, "Four Who Made a Revolution," is about the Cultural Marxists who set about destroying the immune system of Western Civilization, which, I believe, is Christianity, they did so to enable the opportunistic infections of the Revolution to invade the body.



Patrick J. Buchanan, a senior adviser to three American presidents, ran twice for the Republican nomination for president, in 1992 and 1996, and was the Reform Party's presidential candidate in 2000.

They've been successful, but that is only one of the tributaries to what has grown to be almost an Amazon River of hostility to Western culture and Western Civilization, and other tributaries go back further, all the way to the Enlightenment, to the anti-Christian, anti-patriotic, nihilistic sentiments of a number of writers and philosophers in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Somewhat later, their American counterparts turned against Capitalism and the West and became basically traitors to their own societies and countries in the 1930s. Some of them went as far as actually performing treasonous acts against the United States in the 1940s and '50s. I think all these tributaries reached the main river, if you will, the main channel, in the 1960s. At that same time their influence began to crest among the faculties on many of the college campuses, and the more traditional educators simply crumbled under the pressure. I think it all reached critical mass in the 1960s, and that's when

the dissident culture took root — in that generation — and it has become the dominant culture today.

SOF: What sort of Marxist or socialist utopia do you think the leftists have in mind for America if they do succeed in instituting their "1984-style" Orwellian society?

PJB: Well, I think the Cultural Marxists are different. Once you get rid of Christianity, which I believe is the heat shield and the cultural immune system of the West, all the opportunistic infections have a chance to go septic. Quite simply, the West is dying out right now — physically — since not a single Western country has a birth rate that will enable it to survive through the middle of this century in its present form. And, then, as Western peoples basically accept the fact that we are all one world, and open their borders to immigration, the West, as it is now known, will gradually disappear. At the same time, they are creating these atomized individuals, who revile their history and their past, and who then sort of look to the future and to the elites who will construct that future, which is one of world government, the purpose of which will be to basically fulfill the sensual and material needs of mankind, and these self-indulgent pleasures will be

the rewards that are paid for obedience to the state and facilitating the transfer of power to the new elite. Many naively believe there will be peace on earth with this new elite ruling the world. The good news is, I don't think any such thing is going to happen. I believe the forces of nationalism and patriotism are going to defeat the New World Order. That's the great threat to their plans that I point out in my book, because I don't think there's any love for these people, nor any great respect for them, and there's no reason why the masses won't turn on them, just as they've been trained to turn on everything else, and schooled to reject every other type of rule. Eventually, their nihilistic masses will turn on them as well. Right now, I think the Europeans are clearly the furthest down the road toward globalization and a transnational government, but I don't know that the Americans will go along — and that's sort of the project to which I have directed the rest of my life: that we do not.

SOF: *Prior to WWII it was said that in the world of diplomacy "gentlemen did not read other gentlemen's mail", but because of that conflict, secrecy and censorship became firmly entrenched in U.S. Government affairs. As a result, many elected officials, including presidents, now seem to feel that they are justified in either withholding facts or downright lying to their constituents whenever they feel the urge. Do you think elected officials have the right to lie to the people whenever they determine it is "in the country's best interests"?*

PJB: No, they do not. Clearly in wartime you can use deception against your enemies, such as we did when we tried to persuade the Germans that Patton was going to attack across the *Pas de Calais* and we went into Normandy instead, but I think, especially in a democratic republic, you have no right to lie to the people; moreover, a pattern of lies will soon destroy the very foundation of a democratic republic. That's why I believe character is so important, almost central, in choosing public officials. I believe we were pretty much lied into World War II by Franklin Roosevelt. The American people did not want to get into that war, and he lied incessantly, in addition to all his scheming. His allegations about what German submarines were doing to American ships, for example, were 180 degrees from the truth, and so I just don't believe democratic governments have the right to lie.

SOF: *Continuing in a similar vein, in recent times various historians have noted that whenever America has a war the Constitutional rights of the people are quietly eroded. For instance Roosevelt was good at suspending habeus corpus ...*

PJB: Lincoln suspended *habeus corpus* as one of the earliest acts of the Civil War. There's no doubt, as Randolph Bourne wrote during World War I, "war is the health of the state." We can see, especially in America during the Civil War and in WWI and WWII, the freedoms of the citizenry are under constant assault by a government which wants to control everything in the interest of the war, and people are much more willing, I think, to temporarily surrender their freedoms for what they see as necessary for their national security. Now clearly wartime, in any war to the death that a country is fighting, is not the same as peacetime, and in some cases I feel the country has a right to conscript soldiers to defend the nation or guarantee survival of the society, but there is no question that it is at such times that the threats to freedom are greatest, and there's no question but that after each war, invariably, not all the freedoms that have been taken from them are restored to the people, and so war is the health of the state, and after each war there is not only that, but the habit of conscripting the populace for

the government's own objectives. People tend to enjoy the power they have amassed during wartime, and, usually, even after the war is over, we see that the politicians, when they want to achieve some objective, declare "war," such as the war on crime, the war on poverty, and all these others ... [laughing] ... what they're saying is, you must enlist. Patriotism requires you ...

SOF: *That was the next question. It is easy to understand WWII and the Cold War, but now the government has the war on drugs, the war on crime, and, most recently, the war on terrorism. It would appear that part of the cost of these so-called wars has been the dilution or abrogation of the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments: the Fourth being search and seizure; the Fifth, self-incrimination, double-jeopardy, criminal and civil trials ...*

PJB: That is a violation. That's exactly right. That's what they did with the cops in Simi Valley. They were exonerated, and then they put them on trial again ...

SOF: *Right, and what about seizing property without due process, as well as the use of anonymous confidential witnesses and indefinite detainment, in violation of the Sixth Amendment? Is it worth the price?*

PJB: Well my view is, look, most of my life in both journalism and politics was devoted to the cause of winning the Cold War, and there were points at which I thought we were going to lose it. I was completely dedicated to that cause, but this is where I have broken with a lot of conservatives. When the Cold War was over, it seemed to me that, as Jeanne Kirkpatrick said, "we should have become a normal country in a normal time", but instead we saw that some of our group, those so-called Neo-Conservatives, immediately set about trying to make America a virtual empire, to foster American imperialism. Instead of getting rid of all the Cold War alliances and pulling up all those trip-wires that would have automatically gotten us into a war, which were necessary at the time, and returning America again to a nation with a Monroe Doctrine, defense of the high seas, protection of American territory, and guarding the fundamental rights and freedoms which the government is there to protect, we have become an empire. We're all over the world. We invade Grenada, we take over Panama, we occupy Haiti, we go into Somalia, we send troops to Bosnia, we smash Kosovo, we bomb Yugoslavia, we throw Iraq out of Kuwait. We're all over the place, and we've become a global empire.

SOF: *Well, how about the current war on terrorism, do you think it is too grandiose, imprecise, and open-ended? Also, playing the Devil's advocate, isn't it a little like being the mayor of a large city, looking for a murder suspect who has taken refuge with his gang in a smaller town, then, when the smaller town's officials do not immediately accede to your very vocal demands, you pay a rival gang to take over the town and invade the suspect's turf, while your police force fires tear gas and burns down the town — and still doesn't find their man?*

PJB: My view of the war on terrorism — and I'm assuming that the government speaks the truth when it tells us that these al-Qaeda networks were responsible for the acts of barbaric terrorism on American soil, the attack on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center — is that the President was justified in doing what he did when the Taliban refused to turn these people over and we found out they were there in great numbers. Congress specifically authorized him to run down al-Qaeda and to deal with governments that deliberately gave them sanctuary, but, again, I think what we're seeing now is an effort to expand the war on terror into a crusade against all rogue leaders and radical nations which are hostile to the

United States. I don't think the President has that authority, and I also question the wisdom of such an undertaking, since I question whether we could ever succeed. It seems that we would be taking on half a dozen Islamic or Moslem states, Arab countries, and involve ourselves in a clash of civilizations that I'm not sure we could win, but which would definitely, because it would be such an enduring war, result in encroachments on the freedoms and liberties which it is the first duty of the Government of the United States to protect.

SOF: *Your views are well known on using American troops to defend the turf, interests, or egos of foreigners (who are often unappreciative), so could you comment on the necessity of creating a whole new command structure and bureaucracy to defend the Continental United States?*

PJB: I was one of those who was under the illusion that the 300 billion dollars we gave to the Defense Department was for the defense of the United States. I now find out that it was for the defense of the Empire, and now we need a separate budget for the defense of the homeland. [Laughing] I do think that one thing September 11th should have done is wake-up Americans to the reality that their borders are wide-open, and that among those coming across those borders at will are the agents, saboteurs, assassins, and murderers who are in the hire of foreign regimes and terrorist organizations, and they're probably in this country by the hundreds because we have had troops overseas defending the borders of Kosovo, Korea, and Kuwait rather than the borders of Arizona, California, and Texas.

SOF: *Also, do you think the secret military tribunals, the attempt to redefine prisoners of war, and the coercion and indefinite detention of detainees will prove to be a long-term threat to America's freedoms. I mean, what is a terrorist? A demonstrator who throws a rotten egg?*

PJB: Well, no. Clearly, I think the prosecution of "Taliban John" in a criminal court in the United States, with full the protection of his constitutional freedoms, is correct, although my view would have been that once he went into the service of a foreign country he should have automatically lost his citizenship. And then, if he were Taliban, he simply should have been declared a prisoner of war, and, when the war was over, you release him along with all the other prisoners. However, al-Qaeda is different. If it is indeed a terrorist organization, and if these folks are, in fact, potential assassins and murders preparing to attack American civilians, and that's their ultimate objective, I think they should be treated differently than the soldiers of a foreign country who have been captured, and who should be treated humanely — for two reasons: First, that we're a Christian country and that is the way to treat prisoners who have been defeated in battle, and, secondly, we want American soldiers treated that way. However, if you're talking about people

whose organizations and objectives do not fall under the rules of war, who are training to assault and murder civilian non-combatants simply to terrorize the population, that's a different breed of cat. I mean some of those characters down at Guantanamo, I think I'd be concerned about locking-up Hannibal Lecter with those guys. [laughing] I'd be concerned for Hannibal Lecter.

SOF: *Moving to a subject of interest to a number of SOF readers, do you think the same leftist forces that are attacking Christianity and American values are also behind the relentless assault on the Second Amendment?*

PJB: Oh, I think, look, the old idea of an American patriot — who's a Christian, who is armed, who defends his family, and who himself provides the first defense for his family, and, together with his neighbors, is part of the militia, defends the community, who raises his children in the way he sees fit, who loves his country and his God — this whole idea is what is so offensive and considered to be neo-fascist behavior by the Cultural Marxists. They despise that idea. Instead, they believe in masses, herds, and atomized peoples who have no roots, because this is what they want to work with. So, yes, I think that the Second Amendment folks and the devout conservative and traditionalist Christians are seen by the Cultural Marxists as their enemies in the cultural war.

SOF: *Well, could their stand on the Second Amendment be used as a litmus test to identify individual politicians and bureaucrats who are actually Cultural Marxists or fellow travelers?*

PJB: I think, clearly, that there is no doubt that the Cultural Revolution has triumphed in the American media and it has triumphed in American higher education and it certainly has triumphed in Hollywood. There is a revulsion among these people for those who believe in the right to life, against those who believe in a citizen's right to keep and bear arms to protect his own family, and against those who are devout and owe a higher allegiance to God than they do to the state. There's no doubt about it, and all across the spectrum, from the shrewd and aware Cultural Marxists, who know exactly what objective they have in mind, to their political fellow-travelers, who are just being trendy and politically correct. They all have the same reaction. My friends Joe Sobran and Tom Bethell call it the "hive." It's not a conspiracy; all the bees simply react the same way to similar stimuli, and that's what it is. I mean they don't all sit there and collude or conspire, but they know how to react to what they see as an approaching adversary. Conservatives are much the same. I pick up the paper and say, "Can you believe this?" I'm certain other conservatives around the country are saying the same thing, but we're not

By the bestselling author of *Right from the Beginning*

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

The DEATH of the WEST

How Dying Populations and Immigrant Invasions Imperil Our Country and Civilization

Continued on page 79

UNDER REVIEW

PART II

America's Darkest Counter-Terrorism Disaster?

BY J.D. CASH

Photos courtesy Premier Broadcasting & Publishing Company, Ltd.

Looking over my shoulder, the scenes are still vivid: Terrorist camps, whacked-out skinheads with machineguns, bloody bodies, broken lives, and the lies — the unceasing lies. That's this reporter's notebook on the Oklahoma City bombing and the events that followed.

Years of digging have brought forward a dimension that few realize exists. Where undulating whirlpools of intrigue flow through massive intelligence agencies assigned to monitor and carry out covert domestic and foreign operations against targets the "other world" will never know about. A place where collateral damage has consequences far beyond the body count. Where political and military careers hang in the balance. A spectrum where discovery of a failed operation can change the course of history. And cost you your life.

For most Americans the idea that Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols pulled together the bloodiest murder in America's 20th-century is ludicrous. Polls suggest 75% of American's dismiss the government's theory of the case.

Articles I've co-written for *SOF* on this subject, like those of fellow contributor, Roger Charles, provide support for a theory of the crime that continues to refine itself as additional evidence becomes available. (See: "Exposed: Clinton's OKC Cover-up," by Roger Charles, June 2001; "OKC's Unanswered Questions," by Roger Charles, July 2001; "Company Boy," by J.D. Cash and Roger Charles, September 2001; "OKC: From Bank Robbers to Bombers," by J.D. Cash and Roger Charles, October 2001.)

That theory is: The springboard for the operation was a Christian Identity compound in eastern Oklahoma called Elohim City. The date and target were chosen as payback for the execution in Arkansas of patriot martyr, Richard "Wayne" Snell. The men who pulled it off were members of a gang of bandits, calling itself the Aryan Republican Army (ARA). And the government tried to stop them, but failed. Enter the cover-up team.

This article continues that research and presents startling new evidence of a failed counter-terrorist operation. An oper-

ation that very likely contributed to the deaths of 168 persons. And the blood-trail leads directly to Janet Reno.

A Trip Down Memory Lane

Since the bombing, a number of neo-Nazis connected to the ARA and Elohim City, have gone to prison for crimes such as murder, bank robbery and conspiracy to overthrow the government. Most pled guilty. At the center of the drama: Andreas Carl Strassmeir — a man never charged, nor seriously questioned, by authorities, either for the bank robberies or the bombing.

Strassmeir remains the great enigma. His story is found in such excellent books as: *The Secret Life of Bill Clinton*, by Ambrose Evans-Pritchard; *Others Unknown*, by Stephen Jones; and *In Bad Company*, by Mark Hamm.

The "Forrest Gump" of the White Power Movement, Andreas is the son of Günter Strassmeir, once a potent political confidante of former-Chancellor Helmut Kohl. The elder-Strassmeir's resume includes State Secretary to Berlin at the time of the reunification of Germany.

In the Fatherland, Lieutenant Strassmeir of the Panzer Grenadiers was a hardened officer who received advanced training at a military academy in Hamburg. In the States, he was *Andy the German*, a bitter young man who provided paramilitary instruction to American neo-Nazis who made regular pilgrimages to Elohim City. That is, until a telephone call from Timothy McVeigh to Elohim City was leaked to the media. And, when that connection was alleged, suddenly Andy was "hot." Fellow travelers in the movement shunned him. Inexplicably, so did federal investigators.

In spite of this, or maybe *because* of the FBI's "see no evil attitude," Strassmeir became a national story. What took two additional years to become a national story was the existence of an ATF file alleging Strassmeir's deep involvement in a violent plot against the United States; allegations that triggered plans by the Tulsa ATF to arrest Strassmeir on the eve of the OKC bombing — a plan the FBI used its considerable muscle to block.



A year after the bombing, three of Strassmeir's roommates — all admitted members of the Aryan Republican Army — were under lock and key on bank robbery, conspiracy and explosives charges. But Strassmeir had been safely extracted — smuggled across the Mexican border and returned to Berlin. His lawyer, Kirk Lyons, of Black Mountain, North Carolina, wrote that Strassmeir managed this with the help of Special Forces alum David Hollaway and a team from Germany's GSG-9.

Enjoying the protection of his politically powerful father, Andy the German only consented to brief interviews with the United States government. Negotiated by lawyer Lyons, two five-minute phone calls from a federal prosecutor took place. The obvious question was dutifully asked: "Andreas, did you bomb the federal building?"

"Nein!"

"Thanks for your cooperation. Goodbye ... Oh, by the way, are you sure?"

"Ja."

"Have a nice day."

And then there was Dennis Mahon — Tom Metzger's man in Oklahoma for the White Aryan Resistance (W.A.R.). Mahon's ties to Elohim City and inmate Wayne Snell — the patriot martyr executed the same day as the bombing in OKC — made the W.A.R. leader an obvious target for investigators. After all, Mahon was barred from the UK, Germany and Canada. But local FBI agents couldn't get an interview. And when hundreds of other phone records were subpoenaed in the OKBOMB case, Mahon's were ignored.

Even the Oklahoma grand jury was stymied when Mahon became the only witness to plead the 5th — and walk away.

Perplexed, in February of 1996, McVeigh's attorney made clear his suspicions that the FBI had files on Strassmeir and

Minutes after the blast, OKC SAC, Bob Ricks, (circled, in blue crime scene jacket) is at the Murrah Federal Building. Later, he told the media he was with several other FBI agents playing golf in a charity golf tournament in Shawnee, Oklahoma — almost an hour's drive away, when he received news of the bombing. The FBI now says it can't find a record of any OKC FBI agents playing in a golf tournament that day.

Mahon which were not being shared with defense investigators. Stephen Jones told Judge Matsch there were too many "neat little coincidences" for the FBI to ignore them as suspects in the bombing. "The government must be hiding something," Jones insisted.

Prosecutors chided Mr. Jones, "Conspiracy mongering," they assured Matsch and reporters, present. Special Prosecutor Beth Wilkinson said the government was not withholding any evidence of Mahon's or Strassmeir's links to the crime. "Mere wisps in the wind," she described the subjects.

Matsch agreed with prosecutors and held Jones at bay.

It would be another year before McVeigh's attorney would hear the name Carol Howe. Afterward, he would be back in chambers with Matsch and Wilkinson, this time with proof the government had been lying about what the FBI really knew of a conspiracy at Elohim City.

The facts were: In September 1994, the Tulsa ATF opened a full-blown investigation into Mahon and his group, W.A.R. A complete range of tools was authorized, including consensual wiretaps for their confidential informant (CI) and body wires. Also, an apartment was rigged for video and audio recording, transmitters for vehicles were approved by the U.S. Attorney, and components for the manufacture of explosive devices were authorized for purchase.

In report after report, CI-183 (Carol Howe) provided evidence of an unfolding plot at Elohim City to launch terrorist actions against the government. Her file was a smoldering-hot tool for prosecutors to use for indictments. But just six weeks before the bombing, they were stopped dead in their tracks. The ATF had stepped on something big.

Damage Control

When the bomb went off, Carol was immediately taken to the FBI command center. The CI's initial FBI 302 reflects she gave the feds an "I told you so" speech. For three days Carol was debriefed about the plot at Elohim City. The Department of Justice had motive, opportunity, and means for the crime — the "mother's milk" of any successful investigation. Ms. Howe was ordered by the ATF to return to Elohim City for more. After doubling her rates, she reluctantly agreed.

In the meantime, Carol's FBI file was doctored. All the proper names, including Elohim City, were misspelled. No computer name search would be able to find any record of that debriefing. Only some nosy reporters and a dedicated lawyer would uncover it. And the shenanigans didn't stop there.

Shortly after Howe was returned to the Elohim City investigation, she was quickly removed. Notes in her file reveal the FBI wanted the ATF completely out of Elohim City, and the Treasury's investigation into W.A.R. dissolved.

CI-183's handlers told the 24-year-old her cover had been blown. Howe was ordered to blend and keep quiet. Her life was on the line. A memo from the Tulsa ATF to the Dallas SAC is revealing: "This informant is involved with the OKC bomb case which is pending prosecution in Denver and was the key in identifying individuals at Elohim City, which is tied to the OKC bomb case ... Individuals who pose immediate danger to CI 183 are: Dennis Mahon, members of Elohim City, any sympathizer to McVeigh, i.e., militias."

It would take nearly two years to unearth the 5' tall, 99-pound former debutante with the Nazi tattoo on her arm. Before I could, other bits of evidence formed a disturbing pattern.

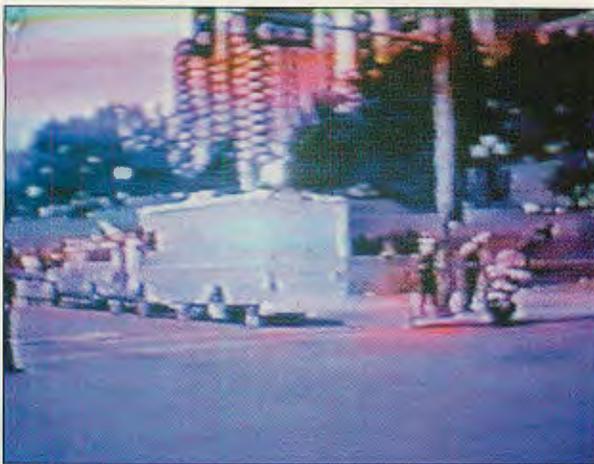
On my first trip to OKC after the bombing, I was stunned to discover the remarkable difference between what the natives were saying and what was in print.

At an elevator repair facility, men told me they were across the street in the federal courthouse when the truck-bomb detonated. A fourth was sitting in his pickup truck a mere 200 feet due east of the Murrah Building.

The three men from the courthouse decided to clear the Murrah elevators first. That was their training. Cops and paramedics arriving could tend to those trapped in the rubble.

But after running a thorough check, the repairmen were surprised to find no one was trapped on the elevators.

An interesting story, but so what?



This unmarked crime scene vehicle is identical to those the ATF uses at bombing investigations. Question is: Why is it parked outside the Murrah Federal Building only an hour after the blast? No agency seems to know its origin. The closest ATF and FBI response vehicles of this kind were supposedly stationed in cities several hours away. The ATF now says it cannot locate any of the travel records concerning three National Response Team vehicles of this type, which they admit were used in the Oklahoma City bombing investigation. Oklahoma Highway Patrol dispatch records reflect that they escorted the first known NRT vehicle to OKC from Texas, late in the afternoon of 19 April 1995.

By the time I arrived for the interview, the \$64,000 question in Oklahoma City was: "Where the hell was the ATF that day?"

An unusual statistic piqued the public's interest. No one from the ATF had been killed. None of their field agents had been reported hospitalized. Yet the ATF offices were totaled and two men involved in clerical work for the ATF were badly injured. So, where were the eight or so field agents and their manager that morning? The speculation was turning mean.

The *Daily Oklahoman* and the AP came to the rescue. They reported that one of the ATF agents had been trapped on the ninth floor, knocked unconscious by collapsing materials. Then (so the story went), after coming to, the agent said he made his escape along a concrete windowsill with a 45-degree angle, 100-

feet above the ground.

And the Resident Agent in Charge of the local office?

From the AP and *Daily Oklahoman*, we learn he was in an elevator that dropped from the 8th to the 3rd floor.

And the rest of the ATF's field agents?

Well, they were still home in bed, or on assignment elsewhere when the bomb erupted.

It was all crap!

Hordes of photographers surrounding the building somehow missed the remarkable feat of the window-walking ATF agent. Instead, photos show him in a spotless, bright-blue raid jacket — holding a fireproof box out the window of his ninth-floor office. Subsequent court testimony left many with the impression this agent raced to the building *after* the blast, to recover the mysterious box from the ATF's evidence locker.

And Super-Agent, the guy who claimed to have survived



Author's investigation led in many directions. From left: Timothy McVeigh's lead investigator, Richard Reyna, author J.D. Cash, Terry Reed of Mena/Iran-Contra fame and Randy Weaver.

a 50-foot freefall ... and walked away? His boss issued a press release claiming that: After surviving the harrowing freefall, the ATF office manager was able to tear the doors off the elevator and lead a number of the wounded to safety.

Of course, none of that happened.

The elevator repairmen assured me they later checked the entire system and photographed every cable. They even checked for telltale signs of over-speeding. The experts' prognosis: No elevators free-fell. The scenario was so ludicrous, eventually the ATF and the FBI admitted it never happened.

And the mass-exodus of the building by the remainder of the field agents?

Photographs from the crime scene show ATF agents swarming the area only moments after the blast. In fact, before the smoke cleared, one of the field agents was on the phone to the Dallas regional office, reporting that an ANFO bomb had just blown-up the federal building.

Damned good police work for a guy calling-in from home. All of which supported the next important clue.



Pat Center, introduced at McVeigh Trial

This ATF agent testified that he was knocked-out by the blast when the ceiling and walls collapsed on him. See if you can find any dust on this guy's clothing. He later told the court in the McVeigh trial that he escaped from the building by scaling this ledge for some 30-feet. Uh huh Later, "Luke Skywalker" told the media that the fireproof safe he's showing to agents at ground-level here, had \$250 of his kid's savings bonds inside. With 168 dead bodies around, that was setting priorities.

It came from the elevator employee who experienced the blast while sitting in his pickup — parked less than a football field from the epicenter of the explosion.

The witness recalled that when the dust settled, he saw the streets spilling over with federal agents

and cops. Some in SWAT gear. "I was in the service in Vietnam, Mr. Cash. I know how things happen," the witness explained. "These men were too well prepared. They had to have been there on a stakeout."

That led to more.

Lots of folks said they saw men in bomb squad outfits near the Murrah that morning, before 0902. Many also reported seeing the Oklahoma County Bomb Squad truck parked nearby — 90 minutes before the blast.

And then there was the matter of security for the building. There was none that day. At least the men regularly assigned were not present. The story was: The head of the Federal Protective Service had taken the day off to help his mother-in-law move some furniture. The only other security officer assigned to the structure told me he stayed across the street all morning at the federal courthouse.

And the federal judges? Nearly all have since been quoted as saying they were at home — or running errands. One even gave an interview to a reporter from his hometown newspaper and said he'd received a security tip and decided to work at home the morning of the attack.

Then there were the fire department dispatchers. Turns out they, too, received a tip. The call came from law-enforcement on the Friday before the bombing, warning them to be on alert for terrorists.

The totality of this tremendous amount of evidence suspiciously pointed to a busted counter-terrorist operation. Somehow the bad guys had pulled this off — in spite of advance warning. I decided to ask McVeigh about the possibility his gang had been infiltrated.

During a 90-minute interview with the "boy next door," I explained what I'd been running into. As I did, his eyes grew round. After it was all laid out, I leaned to within inches of his face: "Timmy, do me a favor. Before they pull the plug on you, tell me ... write me ... call me ... whatever. Just tell me how you outfoxed the foxes."

Tim smiled, but never called.

In next month's conclusion, we take a probing look at stunning new evidence of the government's failed sting operation in Oklahoma City.

J. D. Cash continues his search for McVeigh's accomplices, i.e. "others unknown." ✕



courtesy U.S. Government

This might be the first time this photo has been published. McVeigh at Tinker AFB after being choppered in by FBI agents on 21 April. He told author: "I was waiting for the bullet. I knew how Oswald felt." It takes a patsy to know one.

HOPELESS to HARDCORE Snipers

PART II

An Excerpt from *Steel My Soldiers' Hearts*

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Last month we recounted how Col. Hackworth began transforming the 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry from a outfit of sad sacks doing their time, into a war-worthy force doing their job. He did it by leading from the front, drawing on his own warfighting experience in WWII and Korea, and by taking the battle to the enemy. At the leading edge of Hack's battle initiative was a select group of snipers who denied the enemy their customary control over "Indian Country," and whose impressive kill statistics belied their own small numbers.

15 March 1969: Snipers could never be sure what was coming at them. "One night while with a rifle company I was asked to go outside the perimeter and set up," Ed Eaton recalls. "The area was a large paddy with several nearby hooches. I was outside no more than 150 yards, when I stopped to scan the area with my Starlight Scope. And not more than 50 feet from me was a VC with an AK, squatting down with ears cupped, looking straight at me. While startled, I quickly realized he couldn't see me — his visibility was no more than 10 to 20

feet — but it was obvious he'd heard something. I watched him for some time, scanning the area before taking him out with a round in the chest that knocked him back on his butt.

"Within only a matter of minutes after I shot him, people in the hooch

behind him began blasting in my direction with automatic fire," Eaton said. "As I got down, I realized that the fire was 20 degrees to my right into another hooch. Then the other hooch opened fire. After the firing stopped I returned to the perimeter, where we could then



There was very little about combat in the Mekong Delta that endeared it to GIs serving there. Most just wanted to get home. The proportion of those who would get home was enhanced by Col. Hackworth's pounding them into a fighting team, and leading them from the front.

hear an excited group of Vietnamese doing what sounded like arguing. The Vietnamese then started yelling at us requesting permission to come into our perimeter. Our Tiger Scout ordered them to quiet down and wait until dawn. Throughout the night, we could then hear movement of chains. It was all very strange. At dawn, we discovered a group of chained VC prisoners. They had taken advantage of me killing one of their guards and overwhelmed the remaining guards and took their weapons. We found out later, these were VC soldiers who were prisoners, one of whom was shackled because he'd been caught having sex with his VC CO's wife."

Bugs And Glass

The snipers endured eye fatigue caused by long periods of peering through their scopes and great physical pain from being frozen in one position under clouds of mosquitoes. "The place stunk," Eaton recalls. "It was like swimming in a sewer and the scary night noises made you think a VC was



courtesy, Tom Smith, via Rugged Land

In this perfect terrain for such infernal devices, enemy booby traps accounted for a disproportionate number of GI casualties.

"We couldn't wear mosquito repellent because the VC would smell it, so you just got used to being bitten and put up with it." After one night mission, he counted the bumps on one leg and reckoned he had 2,500 mosquito

wrote home. "The idiot was up in a tree looking at me, so I shot him. He could have been fixing to shoot me! I saw him just before he saw me, and he shrunk down trying to get out of sight. It didn't help much. I aimed my rifle

Tahler's snipers accounted for 456 kills — roughly equivalent to an enemy battalion, or nearly 20% of all our kills. Not a bad score for a force of fewer than 20 men.

behind every bush. As the water level lowered when the tide went out, it made a popping sound that sounded just like footsteps coming toward you. Then you had the fucking lizards that went 'Fuck you, fuck you, fuck you.'

bites on his body. His eyelids and lips were puffed up and his index finger was "so swollen that I actually worried about having enough sensitivity in it to squeeze my trigger."

"I shot a gook out of a tree!" Jones

and he got down some more — I let him have it — BAM! No more VC. He was one dumb VC. The first thing they taught us at Sniper School was not to crawl up any trees."

There was also a sensitive side to Jones. He wrote to his mother a few days after this incident and said, "They played Haydn's Mass in B this

courtesy Edward Clark and Col. Bob Johnson



Lush and peaceful from the air (inset), the Mekong Delta presented a different face to grunts on the ground. The enemy felt safe here and operated freely — until Hack's sniper teams took the war to them.

morning over Armed Forces Radio and it was beautiful — an outstanding performance."

Catching Charley's Attention

Very quickly our snipers inflicted so much pain on the VC that Charley struck back with his own sniper-killer



courtesy Larry E. Tahler



teams. Lieutenant Larry Tahler responded to the VC countersniper effort by beefing up his two-man teams with three or four volunteers augmented with an M60 machine gun. The technique gave Headquarters-types at Danger the opportunity to get out and really earn their CIBs.

Even though the teams always maintained dual comms with the Battalion TOC and Tahler's sniper Control Center, so that any team in trouble could contact Tahler and the TOC simultaneously and be reinforced in a flash, "it was some scary duty," says Rich Miller, a TOC Operations sergeant who frequently found himself with the detail that beefed up the snipers. "When I went out with them, I'd practically be on the shithole the whole night before. You'd find out a day or two before a mission and it would be, 'Oh God, I've got to go out with those guys in the middle of no-man's land.' Once we got on the ground, I got radio watch. I'd report to the TOC, 'There goes one,' and they'd pop 'em off."

"They were just like astronauts or fighterpilots — very calm, cool and collected. And they never missed. They always aimed for the head. They called their shots 'watermelon poppers,' because when they'd hit a target, it was just like when they'd popped a watermelon. Truth to tell, I much preferred TOC duty."

On one typical morning, for example, at 1015 hours, a sniper team a few clicks north of Danger killed four VC at a range of between 250 and 300 yards. At 1715 hours, the team saw a VC force moving toward them, took them under fire and called for help. Within minutes, Air Cav gunships, supporting nearby



courtesy Larry E. Tahler

Sniper team leader Lt. Larry Tahler took his men through Indian Country day or night, on foot or heliborne, to account for nearly 20% of the Hardcore's kills. His callsign "Night Hunter 6" (below) was on helmet he wore when directing sniper ops from a Huey.



courtesy Larry E. Tahler

(above, left) One of Hackworth's early initiatives in taking the battle to the enemy was with his snipers. Lt. Larry Tahler (with rifle) lead the 20-man team. Captured RPD in foreground. Lt. Tahler (above) draws imaginary bead with XM21 sniper rifle, a modified, accurized M14 with which they engaged targets to nearly a thousand yards, usually using an attached suppressor, smokeless ammo.

Hardcore units, responded. The sniper killed three more VC, the Air Cav Crusader zeroed out five more. Then a Dagger rifle platoon choppered in. In less than an hour, the VC were all dead or all gone and the sniper and relief platoon arrived safely back at Danger.

"It was executed with the finesse of the World Series," Rich Miller, who was with the snipers on this ballgame, recalls. "The VC force never knew what hit them."

Internal Support

I'd inherited a Swedish K submachine gun from Dennis Foley when he was hit, and during a sniper award ceremony I presented the little 9mm beauty to Larry Tahler. In Vietnam, the thinking went, "If you have a Swedish K, Rolex watch and opal ring on your pinky, you're bad, real bad." This particular gun was considered the best in the west, the right stuff for the maximum stud, which Tahler and all his snipers in fact were.

"This weapon is to thank you guys for doing such a great job," I told them. "Businesses give gold watches, but since you're in the killing business, I thought your leader Night Hunter 6 oughta have the finest submachine gun going, for you guys knocking off more

VC this month than most U.S. Army battalions. We've got our scroungers out trying to police up more of these beauties as backup weapons for each one of you. You deserve them."

Despite their victories, the Long Rifles were not the most popular guys in the 4/39th. "The Snipers had an attitude and they didn't mix well with my guys," says Lt. Carl Ohlson, a Battle Company rifle platoon leader. "The ones who worked with my platoon had notches carved into their stocks for each kill. They came on kind of like Paladin. None of my guys would talk to them or even chow down with them. On one operation when Battle White had infiltrated deep into VC territory, one of our attached Snipers had forgotten his rations. I offered him one of mine."

"You don't give them food," snapped my Platoon Sergeant. "They're cold-blooded killers!"

Sniper Jones didn't let it get to him. "We do have to put up with a few ignorant GIs calling us murderers," he wrote home. "But they're stupid anyway."

While I commanded the Hardcore, Tahler's snipers accounted for 456 kills — roughly equivalent to an enemy battalion, or nearly 20% of all our kills. Not a bad score for a force of less than 20 men including Tahler and his Platoon Sergeant John Morales.

The Battalion's top sniper, Sergeant Terry Mathis, had 48 kills. He also had the division record for the longest kill, made at 900 meters. One evening when I was walking the firebase perimeter, I stopped and talked to Mathis.

"Why do you look so sad, Sir?" he asked me. "Have we had a low body count today?"

"Yeah," I replied. "Six dichs. That's it all day."

"Well, how 'bout I give you three more, Sir?" he asked, and, leaning against the sandbagged top of the berm, he aimed his sniper rifle at three South Vietnamese soldiers guarding a bridge about 400 meters away.

I knocked the barrel of the weapon up in the air. "Hold it, man! They're South Vietnamese."

"A gook's a gook," Mathis said, smiling.

Whoa, I thought. Let's not go there. "Look," I said, "we'll get some dichs tonight, OK? Tahler will bring 'em in, so just cool it."

Wounds That Neither Bleed Nor Heal

Even today most of these brave men don't want to open the mental compartments they nailed shut three decades ago. "I can see still the faces and still



courtesy Larry E. Tahler

Col. Hackworth rebuilt the "hopeless" into the "Hardcore" with a leadership structure of serious soldiers. This is CSM Dwight Overstreet, Hardcore sergeant major.

smell the fear," Jones says. "If I'd talked about this 15 years ago, I'd have been a basket case."

There is no way to overstate the personal price the snipers had to pay for their success. One day at Danger, Jim Robertson bumped into an old Claymore Company buddy who'd become one of Tahler's snipers. Sitting on a bunker top watching the beautiful Vietnam sunset, the two pals did some catching up.

"Wow, you have only two weeks to go before you climb on that big silver Dust-Off and head back to the land of flushing toilets," Robertson said.

"I've killed too many people to go home," the Sniper replied. "I don't deserve to go home."

"Where do you get that shit from?" Robertson asked, but didn't really want to know. This wasn't the easygoing Californian he knew. The change frightened him down to his toenails.

"I've got more confirmed kills than I want to remember, Robby," the Sniper said. "You know what that means?"

"Means you're good at your job," Robby said. "So what? They're the enemy. They've killed plenty of us, a lot of our friends. Hell, we all shot them up when we got the chance."

"How many confirmed kills you got?" the sniper asked.

"That hurt," Robby recalls. "I'd been in firefights and done my job, but I'd never seen one go down and known for sure that I'd hit him. I'd been in a lot of shit. I'd spray the trees like everybody else and hope for the best. You know how it is. You almost never got to see the little bastards."

"As a sniper, through my scope," the sniper said, "I saw every one of their faces, usually at the moment of impact. You don't know what it's like to see the shock on their faces or the agony when the bullet strikes. One minute the guy's happy as a Surfee with great waves, not even aware I'm around. The next, he's dead. And I see every one of them now whenever I close my eyes. I'm a killer, Robby, and there's no place for me in the world."

"I sat in silence," Robby remembers.

No power on earth could heal the sniper.

Col. David H. Hackworth, U.S. Army (Ret.), is our most decorated living soldier. His column "Sound Off" appears regularly in SOF. Find him on the web at: www.sftt.org.



courtesy Larry E. Tahler

On occasion, Tahler's snipers were deployed around the perimeter at Firebase Danger, to prevent repeat of close-in bombardments that caused damage such as this.

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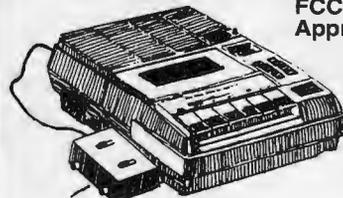
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Save the Montagnards!

BY MAJOR JIM MORRIS, U.S. ARMY (RET.)

We have won a great victory, and I am filled with dread.

This June, 905 Montagnards from Vietnam will enter the United States. Their arrival marks a big win in the efforts of the Americans who worked and fought and worked with those people during the Vietnam War. Another thousand saved.

But what of the hundreds of thousands left behind? Cambodia has already closed the door on more refugees, and in Vietnam the cadres are exacting revenge.

From 1962 until 1973 the Montagnards fought for the Americans. The Americans sent 2.5 million men to Vietnam, and lost 58,000 of them. The Montagnards fought for the U.S. for two years longer than the Americans fought for themselves, with no end of tour and no R&R. They lost half their men of military age. When the Americans left Vietnam in 1975, the combined population of North and South Vietnam was 30,000,000. The Montagnard population was three million.

Today the population of Vietnam is 79,000,000, and the Montagnard population is 650,000. The Vietnamese

government claims that its policies towards its minorities are humane and generous. But the numbers speak genocide.

The American Special Forces, however, who fought with the Montagnards have not abandoned them. SF and many others who worked and battled with them, civilian and military, have devoted years of their lives to saving as many Montagnards as they could, getting them out of Vietnam and into friendly countries, principally the U.S., but also France and Denmark. So far, out of those three million we have saved about eight thousand.

The original Montagnard religion was Animist, but Christian Missionaries beat SF to Indo-China by 20 years, and most Montagnards are Protestant Christians; not a popular thing to be in Vietnam today.

The Vietnamese have had no compunction about seizing their lands, moving lowland Vietnamese into the mountains and dozing off the jungle to plant coffee. The slash-and-burn rice-farming Montagnards are standing in the way of "progress."

When the Montagnards protested land seizures, religious

persecution, and outright brutality in February 2001, the Vietnamese sent in tanks to put them down.

Many escaped to Mondul Kiri, Cambodia, just over the border from Daklak Province.

They sat in the camps for months; the Cambodians didn't know what to do with them. The Vietnamese wanted them back, for more "kindness" and "generosity," but the UN recognized them as political refugees. The Cambodians, not eager for another Vietnamese invasion, allowed Vietnamese agents into the camps to try to talk them into going home. None would go. More than a hundred were simply kidnapped and dragged back.

Fortunately, the Bush Administration knows the score. Those left in the camps have been accepted here. They will be arriving about the time this issue hits the stands.

Senate Bill HR2833

But what of those left behind? We have one weapon left to defend them: Senate Bill HR2833, which ties trade to human rights. It passed in the House 411 to one. In the Senate it is blocked in committee. One senator is responsible, John

Kerry of Massachusetts, who is a Vietnam veteran. Through this man's sole efforts, the bill is stymied.

Okay, he was in the brown-water Navy in the Delta. But he didn't work with Montagnards. It is said he had business dealings with the Vietnamese. It's also said he's wracked with Liberal guilt for the people he killed or for the war itself. But we don't care what he did then.

Today, however, he is complicit in genocide.

Write your congressmen, write your senator. Write Kerry. Write the *Boston Globe*. If you are a committed Christian, mobilize your church. If you want guidance contact the Green Berets for Human Rights website <http://www.GB4HR.net/>. We must get that bill passed.

It is the only hold we have over the Vietnamese to protect our former allies, and we need it now!

Jim Morris served three tours with Special Forces in Vietnam and covered eight wars for SOF. His Vietnam memoir, War Story, is available in hardcover from Paladin Press, and in paperback from St. Martin's Press. His story collection, Fighting Men, will be reprinted by St. Martin's Press this year. ✕



Montagnards, natives of the Central Highlands area of Vietnam, protest near the United Nations in New York on May 4, 2001. The Montagnards were allied with the United States military during the Vietnam War.

REUTERS/Peter Morgan

Sometimes You've Just Gotta Do It Yourself!

BY WAYNE ANTHONY ROSS

AS a kid growing up in a suburb of Milwaukee, I didn't have much contact with firearms. No one in our family hunted and the only guns in my then-limited arsenal were toys. I grew up during the final days of the TV westerns, and after Dad bought our first TV set, we kids would hurry home from school, strap on our cap guns, and hunker down to watch Hoppy, Roy, or Gene ride the range on the black-and-white screen.

Things were a lot simpler then. We knew whom the bad guy was when he first appeared on the screen because bad guys invariably owned the saloon, always wore a black hat, and had a black mustache. In those days, no one asked, and we didn't care, if the villain had not been loved as a kid. He was, simply, "the bad guy" and we didn't question the reasons behind his behavior. We wondered, from time to time, of course, why the bad guy wasn't smart enough to shave his mustache off or wear a different colored hat, so that it wouldn't be so obvious that he was a crook, but mostly we just enjoyed the story without such in-depth analysis.

My Dad, unfortunately, had a black mustache and wore a black homburg hat. Consequently, most of my friends were afraid of him, thinking Dad must have had criminal tendencies because of his appearance. I wasn't too sure of Dad myself, especially when one day I happened to climb on a chair to look in his top dresser drawer. Under some handkerchiefs, I found a small black pistol; a Spanish .25 caliber "Bufalo" [sic]. In my youthful ignorance nobody had small black pistols except

the police and criminals, and I knew my Dad wasn't a policeman. I also knew that Dad had lived in Chicago during Prohibition while Al Capone lived there, and for a long time I wondered what Dad had done in Chicago before I was born.

I suppose my interest in firearms and the outdoors can be traced to those

early years and especially to a traumatic incident that occurred when I was in 7th grade, when, finally getting off the bench of Father Nuedling's basketball team, I skillfully made a picture-perfect basket — at the wrong end of the court, for the opposing team.

That embarrassing incident put an end to my attempts at organized ath-



Handgun hunting for big game may not be for the novice, but in skilled hands a .45 Win Mag can get the job done. These same hands would do well holding the reins of Alaska governorship, as well.

letics, and I turned to outdoor sports. I became quite a fisherman and later I took up hunting, becoming first an accumulator of guns and later a gun collector.

North To Alaska

When hunting got too crowded in Wisconsin, I looked into Alaska's outdoor opportunities, spending the summer of 1967 here, and moving to Alaska permanently after law school in 1968. Thus, thanks indirectly to my "Wrong Way Corrigan" tendencies on a basketball court in 7th grade, I am able to enjoy a lifestyle that involves hunting and fishing in Alaska rather than ending up a couch-potato Packerbacker in Wisconsin.

I joined the NRA in 1964, became a life member in 1975, and a benefactor member in 1984. I was elected an NRA Director in 1980 and, other than one year, I have served as an NRA Director ever since, and I even held the position of NRA Vice President. I'm now Chairman of NRA Gun Collectors Committee.

When I began practicing law, I started getting firearms cases. One of the first involved an apartment tenant whose landlord announced that, henceforth, tenants would no longer be able to have firearms on the premises. When I wrote the landlord and asked him for the name of his insurance carrier so I could notify the carrier that the landlord had now undertaken to be solely responsible for the personal safety of his tenants, the landlord quickly changed his mind about prohibiting tenants' firearms.

Later, in an assault case, I had gotten a good deal for my client but the State wanted his firearm forfeited. I had been concerned that the State would do this so I previously had my client assign the firearm to me as part of my fee, and so I protested the attempted forfeiture to the judge and filed a pleading entitled *A Motion For Writ Of Habeas Pistola*. The good-humored judge granted my motion and issued an *Order Granting Writ Of Habeas Pistola*, finding that it would be cruel and unusual punishment for the pistol to be forfeited to the State.

This Part Needs Replacing

In 1995, our current Governor, Tony Knowles, ended the State's practice of selling forfeited and surplus handguns to the public, deciding that such handguns would be destroyed instead. In a letter to the NRA, Governor Knowles wrote that Alaskans



Moose hunting with a .45 Long Colt? Yes — if your shot placement is spot on.

"... are concerned about violence. I believe they trust in me to try to reduce crime and make it harder for criminals to get their hand on weapons. Destroying surplus handguns is one way to do that. As for the money we'll lose by disposing of guns instead of selling them, I have no second thoughts."

**... it would be
cruel and
unusual
punishment
for the pistol
to be forfeited
to the State.**

I quickly filed suit, seeking a temporary restraining order against the destruction of those firearms. The State's attorney told the court, however, that the State was only going to destroy "sawed-off shotguns, assault rifles, and Saturday Night Specials." As a result, the judge declined to grant the restraining order and the next day some 50 guns were destroyed by burning with a welding torch. When I got to view the destroyed guns, I saw that a lovely little Colt Woodsman, an Air Force survival rifle in .22 Hornet, and a large number of like-new S&W .357 Magnum stain-

less steel revolvers had been cut up! The State's attorney had lied!

I immediately amended my court complaint to seek personal damages against the Governor "on behalf of the people of the State of Alaska for the willful destruction of State property." Shortly thereafter, the Governor put the destruction of firearms "on hold," later agreed that no more guns would be destroyed (instead they would be sold to licensed dealers), and paid my attorneys fees.

Shortly thereafter, I noticed the Governor's picture in the newspaper. He was shown shooting one of the brand new S&W pistols he had gotten for the Alaska State Troopers by trading in the State's surplus guns to a local dealer. The Governor was taking credit for saving the taxpayers money by utilizing the surplus guns to rearm the Troopers with newer arms! What a guy!

Planned Lobohood?

Governor Knowles is very anti-gun and anti-hunting. He vetoed a bill to improve Alaska's concealed-carry law. (Our Republican-controlled Legislature overrode the veto.) He approved putting anti-hunting initiatives on the ballot, closed certain areas of the State to bear hunting, and sent hundreds of thousand of dollars of State funds to extremist environmental groups who oppose hunting and development of Alaska's resources.

Rather than following biologists' recommendations to kill some wolves to allow a natural increase in moose and caribou numbers, our Governor spent State funds to sterilize wolves while, simultaneously, vetoing a ban on par-

tial-birth abortions. Mr. Knowles apparently believes that wolves are more important than babies!

The Alaska Constitution provides that fish and game resources are held in public trust for *all* Alaskans. Several years ago, the Alaska Legislature enacted a law giving a preference in the taking of fish and game to rural residents. My law firm filed suit challenging that preference. The Alaska Supreme Court agreed with us, holding such a preference unconstitutional.

Under current Federal law (the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Section VIII), the Federal Government has now taken over management of our fish, game and waterways because we refuse to provide a preference for rural residents in the taking of fish and game. No other State in the Union has such Federal management of its own resources, and yet our current Governor refuses to challenge that federal law, claiming we should bow to Federal pressure and amend our State Constitution to give special hunting and fishing preferences to one group of Alaskans over another, based on place of residence!

Governor Knowles is limited to two terms and he cannot run for the position of Governor again. Now, however, Lieutenant Governor Fran Ulmer, is running for that position. Often referred to as "Miss Tony," Fran Ulmer holds the same philosophy as Tony Knowles: Outdoorsmen and firearms owners will continue to have problems if Fran Ulmer is elected Governor of Alaska.

I'm a guy from Wisconsin who came

Outdoorsmen and firearms owners will continue to have problems if Fran Ulmer is elected Governor of Alaska.

to Alaska 33 years ago to raise a family, hunt, fish, and enjoy gun-collecting and the shooting sports. In those 30 years I've had some great experiences.

Outdoors Alaskan

I've killed a charging brown bear at 11 steps. I've taken a musk ox, and a number of Sitka deer, with an LAR Grizzly .45 Win Mag. I've taken two moose and three caribou with .45 Long Colt revolvers. I've seen our oldest son, Greg, get his first caribou when he was 13 years of age; our second son, Brian, get his first moose when he was nine; and our third son, Tim, get his first moose when he was eight. I've guided my wife, Barb, when she took her first moose, and our daughter, Amy, when she took hers, one week before Amy left for college.

I hold an Alaska Assistant Guide's

license. I've chaired the Alaskan Land Use Council Advisors Committee, making recommendations on Alaska's land issues. I've served as an Assistant Attorney General, a Court Trustee, and a Family Court Master, for the State of Alaska. And I was Republican National Committeeman for Alaska for six years.

I've had some good legal and political fights in those 33 years, and won a lot of them.

But now Alaskans are facing a battle that will determine the hunting and fishing rights of future generations of both Alaskans, and of nonresidents who might want to hunt and fish here. That battle is against the Federal Government's wrongful attempt to control management of Alaskan resources. Fran Ulmer has stated that she will not challenge the Federal ANILCA law. I will!

We Alaskans face the same battles that other states are facing against those who would ignore our constitutional right to keep and bear arms. And that battle has often been against our own State Administration. That battle will continue if Fran Ulmer is elected Governor of Alaska.

So what's a guy to do?

Seizing The Initiative

I've fought for years to protect constitutional rights and I've supported others running for election, expecting them to take over the reins of government and straighten things out, only to be disappointed when they didn't get elected, or if elected, failed to keep their campaign promises.

I've finally come to realize, however, what Mom meant when she said: "Sometimes you've just gotta do it yourself if you want it done right!"

So I've thrown my hat in the ring and am running for Governor of Alaska. At least I know that when I'm Governor, the hunting and fishing rights of *all* Alaskans will be protected, and the right to keep and bear arms will *not* be infringed. It's a formidable task, running for Governor of a State that crosses four time zones and is twice the size of Texas. But with the help of like-minded outdoor and firearms enthusiasts, I will be elected in November 2002.

Please visit my web site at www.rossforgovernor.com to see what I'm all about, and to see what you can do to help.

And to think this all started with Hoppy, Roy, and Gene; a "Bufalo"; and a basket made on the wrong end of the court! ☒



Wayne Anthony Ross with Vice President Dick Cheney.

THE MODERN SCOURGE OF SEX SLAVERY

PART II

Western Decadence Fuels Eastern Brutality, As The Desperate Fall Victim To The Despicable

BY DR. MARTIN BRASS

And The Wall Came Down

8 November 1989: My old buddy from Guyana was highly agitated. "Rumors have it that the Wall is coming down." He had just spoken to his brother in England. My studies could wait. Destiny never did. I rang the airlines, found a flight to Berlin that day, grabbed the bag that was always packed with bare essentials, and took-off to have a rendezvous with history. I arrived shortly before 2300 hours, when the airport was to close. I met two Eastern Bloc guys and followed them into the unfamiliar town where we parted paths. I pounded the abandoned streets, numb from the penetrating, humid cold, until I stumbled across a most welcome shelter — a tiny room in a little dive in the heart of town that accommodated construction workers.

West Berlin. Magnificent. Mysterious. Restless. Glimpses of shadowy men in long black trench coats in the most gray, harsh winter in Germany's recent history conjured up images of KGB agents, CIA operatives, double agents, willowy betraying seductresses. Berlin epitomized all of the intrigue of the Cold War that transformed that era into the most unparalleled, spine-tingling, unsettling, dramatic period in history.

Thousands gathered at the Wall that symbolized the division of humanity into two distinctive camps. As some of the obscenely colorful, graffitied wall panels were carefully and methodically hoisted on cranes, with hands nearly frozen from the bitter cold, my nameless new-found friends and I brutally pounded the standing wall, competing as to who could tear down the biggest pieces of history to stuff in our camera bags and pockets. For days, pilgrims and adventurers flocked in from all over the globe. Nationalism was dead.

Ethnicity belonged to another moment. Political jealousies did not exist. All was love and forever would be peace. Gratuitous kegs of hot spicy "Gutwine" warmed all. Organ players and their monkeys livened the air with their nostalgic tunes. Most were in tears. Hour after hour, Western Germans were welcoming the streams of brothers and sisters who had been torn away from them decades before. Prayers were said in remembrance of the brave who had been shot down by their brothers as they attempted to scale the wall, who would rather die than face one more moment of their bleak existence.

Berlin swarmed in the coming days and nights. Awestruck, wide-eyed, shabbily-dressed East Germans marveled at the abundance of food, the markets, the fashionable shops. They gazed with astonishment, with revulsion or with delight at the pornography that lined the streets, the bookstands and the billboards. They had entered a dazzling, flashy world of topless bars, intoxicated vulgar dancing, smoky prostitution dens, flagrant nudity and unbridled lust.

The Grass Is Seedier On The Other Side

Berlin. Six months later. The streets were cluttered, garbage had piled up, there were not enough homes for the newcomers. Jobs were scarce, forcing homeless to gather in the streets. Disgruntled West Germans wanted their neighbors to go back home. Easterners longed for the shabby existence they had become accustomed to, where at least they had some semblance of security — homes, schools, jobs, and other social programs. But they had tasted free-



dom and there was no going back.

The transitions in the rest of the former Eastern bloc were far more rugged. The prolonged, violent dissolution of the former Yugoslavia threatened to destabilize Europe. Economic turmoil in these transitioning and emerging states left hundreds of thousands homeless, jobless, and hopeless. Shattered, corrupt political systems that could not support security and law enforcement had no control over the burgeoning underground, crime syndicates and gangsters. A perfect breeding ground had been cultivated for ruthless blood-suckers to take advantage of the desperate.

Come With Me To The Land Of Promise

The young were drawn to this new seductive world that offered them glamour, exotic places, fashion, and extravagant lifestyles, never imagining how savagely their hopes and dreams would be shattered. The dictatorial oppressors to which they were accustomed were soon replaced by an unimaginable form of greedy, lecherous, murderous and inhumane tyrants.

"These girls are young, naïve, poor. They see the glamorous stars of television — *Baywatch*, *Dallas*, and the exotic models in the journals. They want to escape the villages and the drudgery. They want handsome husbands, homes and cars. The recruiters gain their confidence and trust. They lure them off, having tricked them. Many are never seen again," a former Eastern-Bloc woman told me.

Some desperate fathers from Eastern Europe, no longer able to support their starving families, brought their daughters to Western European brothels. Third World Movement

Russian militiaman looks at three suspected prostitutes detained during a raid in central Moscow. The raid, according to police, was part of a campaign to clean up the streets before Moscow's 850th anniversary celebrations in 1997.

Against Exploitation of Women recounts a *New York Times* report: "One father came with his 12-year-old daughter. She was terrorized and in terrible pain. I asked him why he did it. 'First of all we are very poor ... she is still too young to get pregnant ... she is very young ... she will forget.'"

"Papa" Lures The Orphans

"Girls in orphanages throughout the former Soviet Union have lived in dread of their 17th birthday," reports the Seattle, Washington-based MiraMed Institute, organized to fight sex-trafficking in the former Eastern Bloc. At 17, the girls are turned out on the streets, penniless, uneducated, with only the clothes they wear. Six out of 10 fall into the hands of sex traffickers.

The orphans were given hope when two job recruiters made the orphanage rounds offering 14-to-17-year-olds training in a cooking school in China. The expenses were to be paid by the recruiters, but the girls had to agree to work two years each as waitresses to pay back their benefactors. Thirty girls from 10 orphanages hopped on a scheduled bus, embarking on their new life.

Instead of sending the girls to China, they drove to Germany, where they took their passports and locked them in an apartment.

The girls were starved and dehydrated for five days. "Then a man with a bodyguard showed up and began buying us. He took me and four others to a small house that we were never allowed to leave. We got food only if we had sex with 10 men a day." The sex slave said. The girls were told they had to pay back their expenses, an impossible task, since they were never paid. "... in a year, I was sold 10 times." The girl said.

World Powers Free The Enslavers

At considerable cost and effort, the Great Superpowers freed the thugs who claimed oppression, and inadvertently empowered them to brutalize their own new victims.

"Ethnic Albanian rebels in Kosovo, Macedonia and south Serbia — long the masters of drug-running in the Balkans — are deeply involved in the human-smuggling business, using the flesh trade to fund their separatist movements." MSNBC says.

David Binder and Preston Mendenhall, of MSNBC, assert that the sex-slave trade has made crime syndicates rich since, of 1 million women trafficked globally each year, probably 200,000 pass through the Balkans. The trafficking, Binder says, has allowed the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) and the National Liberation Army in Macedonia "to be outfitted with the latest in rocket-propelled grenades, machine guns, mortars, sniper rifles and night-vision goggles."

And certain elements of the 40,000 international NATO peacekeepers in Kosovo, the 20,000 in Bosnia, and 700 in Macedonia help flame the fiery demand for the sex slaves.

The brutality of the KLA tactics came as no surprise. The British paratroopers, the first of the NATO forces to be deployed to Pristina, Kosovo, after the NATO offensive, informed me on a daily basis during my visit there of the brutality of the KLA. One medic graphically described the bloody scenes left behind after KLA rebels ruthlessly sledgehammered aged ethnic Albanians when they refused to give

them their possessions; or Serbs who got in their way.

Canadian Gordon Moon, a "tall, strapping 40-year-old detective" as Olivia Ward of *The Star* describes him, lead an operation to rescue sex slaves in Kosovo, where UN-mandated NATO peacekeepers are maintaining at least enough peace to allow the Albanian rebels to run drugs, arms, women and children. Moon headed the Trafficking and Prostitution Investigation Unit of the U.N. international police force CIVPOL.

The girls are "lured into the racket by promises that they can make hundreds a week as waitresses, dancers or even children's nannies." Moon told *The Star*. "But the reality is very different ... most pimps treat their victims worse than farm animals ... there are such disgustingly filthy conditions that it's difficult to imagine how they live ... They get only scraps to eat, and they wear the same clothes every day. There's no running water, and they can't wash. They have no medical treatment and they're suffering from all kinds of diseases. Most live way below starvation level."

Moon's team rescued one girl who had been locked in a room for 15 days, serving 10 clients a night. Others they found chained. One, denied medical help, had to inject herself with penicillin to treat her sexually transmitted disease.

Moon was repulsed to find that peacekeepers and aid workers are some of the abusers. When he demanded that peacekeeping and aid officials make trafficking sites off-limits to their teams, some agreed, but others refused. "It's really amazing to me that people from countries that are supposed to be setting an example here, should engage in such behavior," said Moon.

The Balkans: Divided In Power plays, United In Greed

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is a land rife with ethnic strife, centuries-old hatreds between the Albanians and the Serbs, but when it comes to profits, ethnic hatreds are put

LET ME TAKE YOU ON AN ASIAN TOUR — To Find Some Little Girls And Boys

"I want to go to Thailand, but I don't know how to set it up." The man confided after a North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) meeting. David Heckler in "Modern Scourge of Child Sex Tourism" reveals the sordid lives of several pedophiles.

"No problem," the man was told. "I'll give you a contact who can arrange everything." Shortly the man was in bed with a boy "there ... for the picking." Eventually, he was sentenced to 30 years in the United States for molesting U.S. children, but has never been prosecuted for his repeated offenses in Asia.

Another convicted child molester, just before he disappeared after his release from prison, bragged to neighbor children that the boys he had "hired" in Thailand, with its "more mature cultural attitudes" charged only \$8 or \$9.

In England, a travel brochure promoted a trip to Pattaya, Thailand, pedophilia and boy-prostitute heaven, "If you can suck it, use it, eat it, feel it, taste it, abuse it or see it, then it's available in this resort that truly never sleeps. Pattaya is not for prudes."

An anonymous NAMBLA article "rhapsodized" about a 12-year-old Asian boy who, they said, "truly loved his work." "Weigh the pros and cons of becoming involved

yourself in sex tourism overseas. Seek and find love from American boys on a platonic, purely emotional level. For sexual satisfaction, travel once or twice yearly overseas. You might get arrested overseas for patronizing a boy prostitute. But the legal consequences of being caught patronizing a boy prostitute in a friendly place overseas will be less severe ..."

Frances Bulathsinghala, in an article "Sex Trade Grabs 15,000 Boys," reports that 74% of sexually exploited children in Sri Lanka, are aged between nine and 15 and that 85% of the abuse from foreign pedophiles is directed mostly at boys. Still, local pedophiles outnumber tourists by far.

"The white skinned population has hitherto got all the attention so much so that people tend to forget the local sex abusers of children. For every foreign pedophile there would be many local collaborators who should be considered equally guilty," researchers found.

A "postcard" Hechler found in an Austrian airline's in-flight magazine titled "From Thailand with Love," showed a prepubescent girl naked from the waist up. The card was signed-off by those who had indulged. "Got to close now, the tarts in the Bangkok Baby Club are waiting for us."

ECPAT (End Child Prostitution in Asia) Chair Ron O'Grady asserts that the chances of full rehabilitation for

aside. "We're aware of the history of this region, and how much hatred there is between Serbs and Albanians," Moon told *The Star*. "But in organized crime they co-operate without any problems. It's big business, and it's completely unaffected by the political situation."

The Yugoslav capital of Belgrade is the major transit point. "Serbs buy women from East European traffickers, paying an average of \$2,200 each: 65% of the women are Moldovan, 15% are Romanian, the rest are Ukrainian, Bulgarian and Hungarian. They're all young and vulnerable, and most weren't prostitutes to start with." In Serbia, the women are raped and beaten, then sold to Albanian or other traffickers. There was no estimate given of those that do not survive.

Dogged thugs who pocket the profits — \$110 an hour, or about \$735 a night — become millionaires. Kosovo's 75 bars, dance halls and brothels, *The Star* was told, take in more than \$1.5 million a week. "Little of the money, if any, trickles down to the women who are forced to take on as many as 10 clients a night." Ward writes.

Although Moon launched raids that rescued 270 women in nine months, he expressed to Ward his frustration: "If a couple of women manage to escape, a bar owner can get more within a day or two. Supply is not a big deal for them."

Numerous efforts have been made to at least make awareness of the problem, or at least limit it. As long as the profits keep rolling, the kingpins, with or without the aid of law enforcement and customs officials, will find a way to keep operating.

"Bernard Kouchner," Ward reports, "a physician and former head of the U.N. administration in Kosovo, introduced new trafficking regulations that have turned sentences of days into years." The legislation allowed law enforcement to close brothels. Within one month more than 10 men were arrested and some notorious hotspots were boarded up.

"All Of Macedonia Is Filled With Girls Like Me, And We're All Crying."

An MSNBC photo shows the profile of a slumped unidentified sex slave, dejected, silently weeping. The bent-over fragile figure, with her hands covering and supporting her head, belie the tender age of the victim. Another teenage slave exposes her sore, infected right breast, the result of a bite from a man in a fit of sexual rage. The girls told Mendenhall their stories, despite fearing for their lives, regardless of the promise of anonymity and the clandestine circumstances in which they were interviewed by MSNBC as part of a four-month investigation into the sex trade in Europe.

One made it clear that "her 'owner' would kill her" for exposing her state of captivity. "The cruel conditions under which she is held, and her deteriorating mental and physical health" Mendenhall writes "compelled her to speak out." Others before her had been savagely beaten, sometimes killed.

"There is only one word for this," the girl told Mendenhall. "Slavery."

Velesta, in the neighboring Macedonia, where girls are held in bondage, is considered one of the most dangerous places in Europe. The 120 Moldovan sex slaves are locked-up during the day in *kafanes* or café-brothels. The girls are paraded in sexy lingerie for their clients, which include NATO peacekeepers from the U.S., Germany, France and Britain, who take their pick. "They (the peacekeepers) were as bad as the rest," one said. "They did anything they wanted to us. And besides, if Meti (her owner) heard me asking them for help, he would have killed me."

The girl with the breast wound was "virtually kidnapped" when she played hooky from school. Wanting to escape her abusive family, she headed for a job in Italy. Instead, a Serb

Continued on page 80

children who have been sexually abused repeatedly are slim. "We know that those children who are kept in brothels die quite young. They die in many cases before they have had a chance to live. We know they die from AIDS, from drugs and from committing suicide."

Others are rendered helpless by their captors. "In 1984," writes Hechler, "five young girls who had been imprisoned in a Thai brothel were burned to death in a fire. Later it was revealed why they never had a chance. They had been chained in their beds."

As if the physical and psychological damage is not bad enough, children suffer risk from the deadly killer AIDS. "... AIDS is now sweeping across Asia at a pace at least as rapid as the virus took in its 1980-85 race across Africa ...," Hechler cites a World Health Organization report.

Children are more easily passed on as virgins, no matter how many times they have been abused. Pimps reassure maniacal pedophiles that children cannot spread aids. A vicious cycle has been perpetuated by the shortage of children due to AIDS. Pimps frequent neighboring states in search of fresh supplies.

"Whether it is myths about the curative powers of sex with young girls, or macho attitudes that sanction violent sexual behavior toward women and girls, the links between sexual abuse of children and the spread of HIV/AIDS are clear," said UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy.

Bellamy said that children are the most vulnerable to contracting and then spreading HIV/AIDS. Their vaginas and anus-

es are easily torn, creating sores and bleeding that permit the AIDS virus to spread quickly. And they are unable to practice safe sex or fend off violent behavior. Girls are infected at five-to-six times the rate of teenage boys. It is estimated that more than 12 million between 15-24 years of age have HIV/AIDS.

Myanmar — where condoms were banned until 1992 — has some 400,000 infected people.

An estimate of up to 80% of prostitutes in Thailand are infected. Kalaya Chareonying writes that the Population and Community Development Association of Thailand estimates that AIDS could infect as many as 5.3 million by 2000, with as many as a million dead from AIDS.

Thai police, bodyguards and immigration agents, Chareonying reports, aid in the passage of women across borders and maintain the traffickers after they are in country.

The Government of Thailand, dismissing AIDS and distorting all figures, claiming that only 10,000 are infected, boasted: "The one fruit of Thailand more delicious than durian [a native fruit] — its young women." Hechler writes

A U.S. acquaintance living in Hong Kong, who had witnessed local children being purchased and abused by Triad gangs, said "When I wanted to go get the children and take them to the authorities, I was told. "There is nothing you can do for them. They feel no pain. They are numb. Emotionally dead." "The children are stolen or purchased from orphanages," she said. "Americans don't believe it when I tell them what's going on." — M.B.

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Suicide Bombers, Part 3

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The Tel Aviv District, located in the very center of the country, is almost entirely urban, covering Israel's largest and densest metropolis. Tel Aviv likes to boast that it is a city that never sleeps — it is Israel's largest city and unquestionably its economic and cultural capital. The police district encompasses some 18 local government authorities, covering some 25 kilometers along the Mediterranean coast all the way toward the town of Petach Tikva, which before 1967 was considered a frontier town. The majority of Israel's major corporations, political party headquarters, military command centers and security services are headquartered in Tel Aviv; virtually all foreign embassies with missions in Israel are located inside Tel Aviv, as well.

There are 3,100 police officers stationed in the district protecting a resident population of 1.5 million, and a daily influx of nearly one million commuters, students and shoppers. Tel Aviv District is organized into four Sub-Districts (Ayalon, Yarkon, Dan, and Yiftach). And, in order to support the

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Ready to repel any demonstrations, a Tel Aviv Yiftach SPU officer displays a tear-gas grenade launcher.

patrol units with a tactical edge, each sub-district deploys its own SPU. Yiftach, the busiest sub-district in Tel Aviv — if not all of Israel—with one of the highest crime rates in the country. The sub-district encompasses what is known as South Tel Aviv, a mosaic of neighborhoods, industrial zones, beachfront properties and slums, including: the old and new central bus stations (prime terrorist targets), as well as a ghetto of dilapidated housing, illegal rooming houses for foreign workers and many of the city's lower-end brothels; and, Jaffa, a mixed Arab-Jewish area of the city known for its high-crime and narcotics.

The Yiftach sub-district is one of the most difficult beats in Tel Aviv — and Israel, for that matter — to police. The area covers some of Israel's poorest and most crime-ridden neighborhoods, Arab slums that are often used as conduits for narcotics-trafficking and terrorist operations, and the city's central bus station — considered by many to be the busiest transportation hub in the entire Middle East. Working lengthy shifts, the 25 officers in the Yiftach sub-district SPU are tasked with patrolling the streets and neighborhoods of the area, mounting intensive tactical anti-crime patrols, and serving as first-responders to any terrorist acts committed in the district and the city. SPU officers are the first special-weapons-and-tactics element capable of dealing with a suicide bombing or a drive-by shooting attack in the city. They are equipped with automatic rifles and sub-machine guns as well as heavy protective ballistic gear. In the event of a bus hijacking or a hostage-taking incident, the SPU is tasked with, alongside Border Guard district tactical units, securing a perimeter until the Ya'ma'm, the national police counterterrorist team, can resolve the ordeal.

In terms of tactical responsibilities, the SPU's jurisdiction is not restricted solely to Tel Aviv. Because the Israel National Police is a nationwide force of some 25,000 officers, units are routinely sent to hotspots around the country as reinforcements and backup. The Tel Aviv Yiftach SPU has, on numerous occasions, been deployed to Jerusalem to help police and Border Guard units secure Friday prayers at the al-Aqsa mosque in the Old City — a volatile weekly event that has often resulted in bloodshed.

A watershed in the Yiftach SPU's history — as well as its outlook on its counterterrorist operations — hap-

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pened on the night of 1 June 2001 only blocks away from the SPU headquarters. At just before midnight, Sa'id Hutari, a young Palestinian with a cherubic face, mingled with a large group of Israeli teenagers outside a discothèque on Tel Aviv's Dolphinarium Beach. While still in line to enter the dance hall, he detonated the explosives strapped to his body. The explosive charge contained a large number of metal objects, including balls and screws that were dipped in rat poison. The bombing killed 20 teenagers — mostly new immigrants from the former Soviet Union — and wounded more than 150.

Yiftach SPU was the first on the scene, rushing to the carnage not knowing what to expect. What they found shocked and horrified even the most hardened battle veterans. Body parts were littered for hundreds of feet around the blast site. Many of the dead were young teenagers and the faces of the younger girls and boys were embedded into the minds of the officers. The dead and dying were strewn about a parking lot awash in blood and the officers feared that a second bomber might be out there waiting for the first-responders and emergency medical

technicians to arrive. After the Disco bombing, the officers in the SPU vowed to never let down their guard. They also made a point to pass by the disco on each and every shift as a reminder of exactly why they are out there and what they have to do.

Life in the Yiftach SPU, like similar units throughout Israel, is defined by patrol. During any given shift, seven-days-a-week, officers from the SPU are out and about in their patrol vans providing a high-visibility anticrime deterrent to areas where criminal activity is high and in areas where terrorists have been known to strike. Officers volunteer into an SPU because they are proactive and innovative. "We used to patrol popular night spots determined to make narcotics arrests," offered Sergeant Y., a patrol deputy commander, "but now are focus is to safeguard these young men and women from that faceless soul walking toward them with sticks of dynamite strapped to his chest."

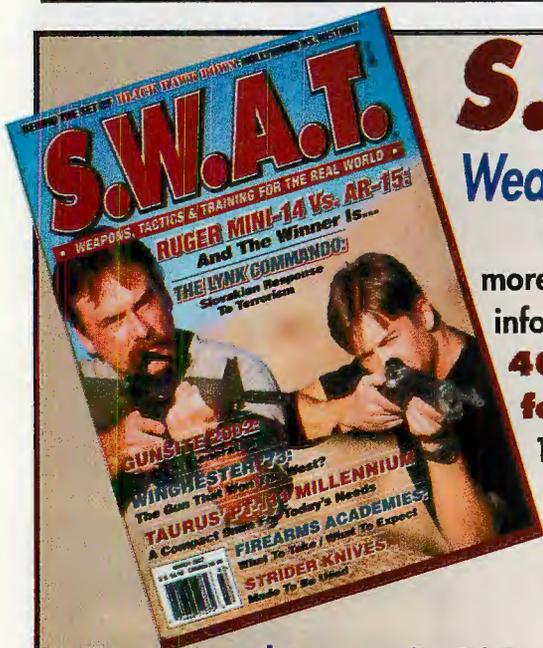
During the course of an evening's patrol, the officers in the SPUs will also conduct numerous tactical vehicle stops. The car stops serve both an anticrime and counterterrorist objective. All Israelis are required to carry identity cards, and background checks,

radioed in by the officers from their road-stop locations to headquarters. These often reveal if an individual is wanted by police for an outstanding warrant, or if the ID is a fraud and perhaps he is an operative from a terrorist organization.

The officers in Tel Aviv's Yiftach SPU know that there will be no respite in the violence that will grip Israel — and its cities — until the low-intensity bloodletting by the Palestinians comes to an end. Any moment of any day can turn a routine patrol into a battle

Israel is a nation reeling from nearly two years of endless violence and a peace process that has evaporated in a black cloud of acrid smoke. Until the military victory can be won against Palestinian terrorism, and until the political powers can hammer out the foundations of a peace process, the men — and women — of the Israel National Police Border Guards and the regular patrol force will remain at their posts as front-line combatants, protecting the citizens of an Israel under siege.

Photojournalist Samuel M. Katz is the author of many books and articles on the Middle East, and frequent contributor to SOF. ✕



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Bolt Actions

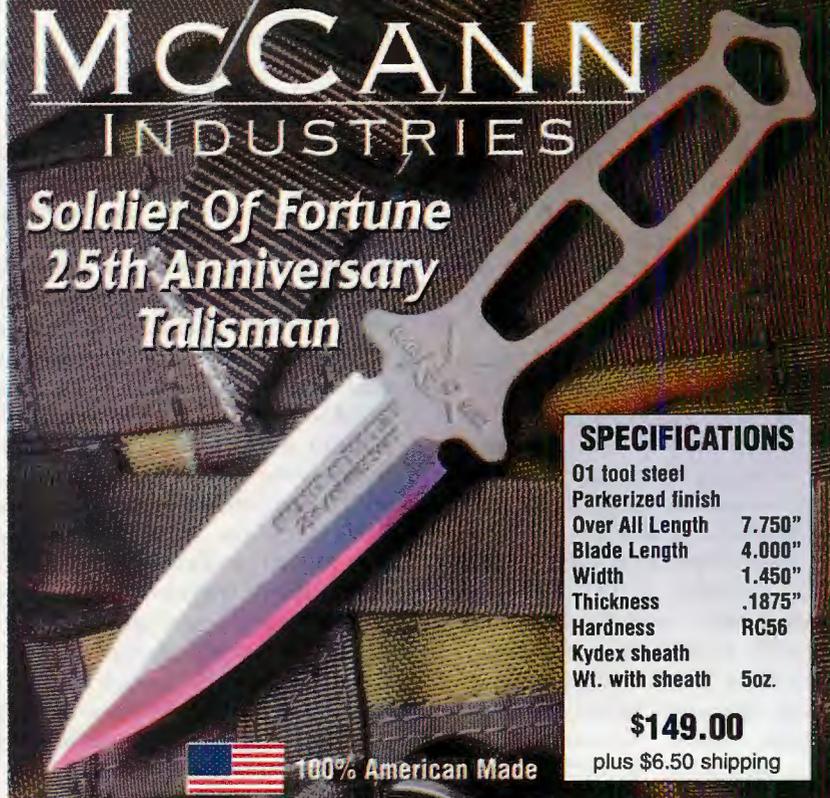
Continued from page 39

light via CH-47 Chinook. Unlike some other units, they took no ground-fire on the way in. However, 15 minutes after landing on the cold LZ they were in contact, receiving small-arms fire from enemy forces. They moved to a position looking toward the Whale, east of the village of Sherkankel. Alex told SOF, "I said to Joe, one of the SF snipers, 'shouldn't we put a gun up here?' He told us 'Let these guys, they're regular infantry, just let them do their thing, if the shit hits the fan, we'll sort it out.' Next thing you know it happened, and we started moving to high ground. We were carrying C-8s, Brownings — the Americans had M4s — and I had the .50 on my back in a drag bag. My spotter had a C-7 with M203 grenade launcher and the radio." Alex and his team set up a firing position and began supporting C Company.

"We helped them by taking out certain positions so they could carry on with the primary task. Our engagement distances that day were from 777 meters to 1,500 meters." The U.S. and Canadian teams' spotters engaged al-Qaeda much closer than that, though. "We took fire from the rear, maybe 10 meters away from us; we looked at each other like 'What the hell is that!' and one of the spotters turned around and covered us." Alex's team also came under fire from an RPG from the rear. This definitely got their attention. Spotters (both Canadian and American) used their M203 40mm grenade launchers (the Canadian spotters carried 5.56mm C-7A1s with Elcan low-mount optical sights and M203 grenade launchers) to suppress enemy fire from a nearby wood-line. "We had debated taking the M203 with us. We were taking fire from a treeline (to our front) and we couldn't see where he was and I wasn't going to waste a shot there. So he (the Canadian team's No.3) came up and just started pumping-out rounds along with one of the SF guys with a grenade launcher. So I used it to mask the sound of my firing."

Next month: "Bolt-Actions Speak Louder Than Words," Part II, with confirmed kills at 2,310 and 2,400 meters from a .50 BMG McMillan LRSW.

Chief Foreign Correspondent Rob Krott is a former infantry officer, with time on the ground in Afghanistan. ✉



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SOF Proving Ground

Continued from page 31

trols of an M16, they are well-thought-out and conveniently placed. The weapon strips easily without fuss, for routine maintenance.

However, no matter how ergonomic, handsome, well-made, or simple a rifle is, all is for naught if it doesn't shoot well and go *bang* every time you pull the trigger. To give the STG 58C a workout, I trundled it to the range with an assortment of .308 loads. I was interested in both its true and practical accuracy, reliability, and controllability, as well as looking to see if any odd bits or pieces would fall off in the field. For accuracy work I slid on an A.R.M.S. top-cover mount then affixed one of I.O.R. Valdada's 2.5x10x42 Tactical scopes in their own 30mm machined steel H.D. Tactical rings. For ammunition I used South African PMP ball, Federal 168-grain Match, Winchester 168-grain Match, Hornady 168-grain Match, and Sellier & Bellot 168-grain Match. I felt that this would give a good idea of just what it was capable of.

To test for accuracy, I fired five-shot groups off sandbags at 100 yards.

While the FAL has never been confused with a match rifle, they do offer fine practical accuracy and in this regard the Enterprise carbine acquitted itself well. Best accuracy came from Sellier & Bellot Match, which averaged 2-5/8 inch groups. The rest of the loads stayed in the 3-4 inch range. Leaving the bench I removed the optics and shot prone with a sling at IPSC silhouettes placed at 300 yards, using ball. All rounds were easily kept on the chest of the silhouettes at this distance. Moving to 25 yards we did some CQB drills and heated the li'l FAL up. Here it quickly became apparent that Enterprise Arms Zeroclimb muzzle brake works very well. Recoil was light and controllability quite good for a 7.62x51 carbine. Reliability was excellent. My only real complaint concerned the weapon's trigger, which is a one-stage military trigger, and while crisp, is quite heavy. Although normal on all FALs, it made the groups larger than they probably should have been. My only other negative comment is that the weapon's protective finish is a little on the light side.

While not the cheapest FAL on the market, Enterprise Arms STG 58C proved to be tough, fairly accurate and

reliable. For someone looking for a short and handy .308 carbine that they could count on I would consider what Enterprise Arms has to offer. ✕

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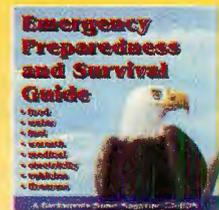
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The Death Of The West

Continued from page 51

calling each other and telling each other how to react.

SOF: In your book, you outlined a number of initiatives to turn around both the drift to the left and the decrease in population. Could you share some of these with SOF readers who may want to get involved at their levels? What can they do?

PJB: With regard to the population declines, I think it will clearly take a massive conversion on the part of Western women to want the kind of lives their mothers and grandmothers had, and if they don't make these free choices then Western peoples are simply going to die out. Right now, no Western country has a birth rate that will enable it to survive. In my book I discuss various ideas, such as providing tax benefits to women who stay home and have children, and laws and incentives that permit people with children to be paid higher wages and higher salaries than singles who are working at the same job. The government could easily increase the deductions or allowances for children, and the entire culture could put more emphasis on children and the future than on consumption and instant gratification. To raise money for these tax cuts, I would put tariffs on manufactured goods coming in from abroad that compete with American products, and I would completely re-do the tax codes and tariff structure.

SOF: I think it was Patton who said that a bad plan is better than no plan at all. At this point it appears that the leftists, neo-Marxists, whatever they are, have a plan, but no one else seems to have one, not even a bad one.

PJB: They're prevailing because they're on the offensive. They're constantly on the offensive. Their objective is to bring-down, as much as it is to build-up. I have a whole chapter in *The Death of the West* devoted to that, in which I point out how an intimidated majority of conservatives and traditionalists have basically been dispossessed of their country and their inheritance through their own folly, simply because the other side, which is very aggressive in moving forward its leftist agenda, has generally established its own church of political correctness, against which the majority will not stand-up. The conservative movement did a tremendous job in politics in seizing power, but it's constantly been on the defensive in the cultural war, and it's never learned how to successfully do battle in that arena. As a result, all the commanding heights are held by the opposition: in the media, in the universities, in the entertainment field, in the arts. All the critical terrain is held by the left, by the Revolution, if you will, and the other side has basically lost the high ground, including the moral high ground. It hasn't learned how to fight down-and-dirty, how to prevail and win.

SOF: A little bit like negotiating with the Communists at the Paris Peace Talks. Their position is not negotiable, only yours is ...

PJB: Exactly. Their attitude is, what's mine is mine, and what's yours is negotiable. Their idea of negotiating is to reach out, to keep their opponents on the defensive, then take their gains, which they then use as the base-line from which to make the next advance. They're basically out to de-Christianize and de-Westernize America — and they're making steady headway — their lives are dedicated to it. In a way, the Cultural-Marxists have the same kind of dedication and resolve that some early Christians had; to change the culture and the society, to bring down the Roman gods. They don't have the same desire for martyrdom [laughing], but they do

have the same resolve.

SOF: These people appear to be a real threat to America. It is interesting that members of the Armed Forces, as well as the President and other federal functionaries, are sworn to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Do you consider the cultural-Marxists, both in and out of government, who many believe are quietly dismantling the Bill of Rights, to be domestic enemies of the Constitution?

PJB: Well, they work within the law. They work within the legal structure of the United States. But today it is difficult to see how many of the laws and policies of the Government of the United States are consistent with the Constitution. Where does the U.S. Government get the right to take money from the American taxpayers and hand it out all over the world in foreign aid or give it to the International Monetary Fund to prop-up foreign governments? Right now everybody is saying what a terrible thing Mr. Bush did in trying to save the American steel industry, but nobody objects to saving the government of Argentina from its blunders, or governments all over the world from their stupidity, by shoveling out hundreds of billions of American tax dollars through the IMF and the World Bank. Our money!

SOF: Would you categorize the people doing all this as enemies of the Constitution?

PJB: I think they believe the Constitution is a thing of wax, a malleable instrument. As Al Gore said, it is a living document, and must be re-interpreted in light of the country's new realities and new situations. These people are Constitutional relativists — as well as moral relativists.

SOF: You mentioned this in your book, but isn't it really difficult to explain to someone that he is losing his Constitutional rights when he really doesn't know what they are?

PJB: Right on. [laughing]

SOF: In closing, assuming that nothing changes and the upheavals you predict come to pass, what are you, personally, planning to do to escape living in a "Brave New World" or a "1984"? Do you have a personal survival strategy?

PJB: I think they've given up on me. [laughing] I really think the Cultural Marxists feel that the older generation is going to die out. Their attitude is that there is no way we can change them. As Hitler and all the others said, don't worry about them, we've got their children. They know that the older folks are eventually going to die out and fade away, so they're irrelevant. We can let them pass on, and, as long as we can capture their children and convert their children to the Cultural Revolution, after one or two generations, it's all over. I think that is what is really afoot, and I have no doubt that the people in the media, as well as publishing, are making a conscious effort to sort of marginalize conservatives and move traditionalists out of the mainstream so that they're not heard nor read any more. There's no doubt about that, and right now I can name an awful lot of writers who are no longer in mainstream publications — major publications — because they took a stand, too hard a stand for the Constitution, or for America-first, or spoke out strongly against immigration or open borders. Today the other side is simply dominant. Even in the Conservative Movement, just like the Catholic and the Protestant Churches, political correctness has taken root, and with it a certain corruption has taken place throughout the entire country.

SOF: Well, many thanks, Mr. Buchanan, for your insightful and thought-provoking comments.

Col. Mike Peck, USA (Ret.), was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in Vietnam and is a frequent SOF contributor. ✕

The Modern Scourge Of Sex Slavery

Continued from page 73

smuggler "Dragan" took her in a car trunk to Romania, and with 10 other girls crossed the Danube to Yugoslavia by boat. She was sold to an Albanian owner.

"There were clients on the very first night" the girl told MSNBC. Her owner repeatedly raped, beat, and shamed her until she was broken.

"Meti made me clean the toilet with my tongue. It was horrible and dirty." The Albanian "made me lick another girl's ... you know, down there. And then he laughed." She had been in captivity for a year.

An Albanian kingpin Bojku Dilaver, on the "Most Wanted" list of sex traffickers, purchased a 32-year-old Moldovan for \$700, after which he repeatedly raped her and sold her to others. The elusive Dilaver, in cahoots with local officials, has escaped the law by being forewarned of impending raids. Ljube Boskovski, Macedonian interior minister, admits his officers are on the smuggler's payroll.

Each brothel takes on a warped life of its own. The slaves told how "owners" favor one slave better than the others. To survive, a favored, which the girls call "Mama" becomes the pimp's lover. "Mama" becomes "Papa's" spy, warning of any intended escape plots. One girl spoke of the "good clients" among the thousands of men she was forced to service. When Mendenhall pressured her into explaining what could be "good" about men who were raping her, she replied. "They are good if they don't beat you. They are good if they just have sex. Sometimes they bring me a present."

One Moldovan woman was rescued by an Albanian client

who took pity on the weeping girl. He paid 5,000 Deutsch Marks (\$2,500) to her owner, but only after he (the owner) had raped her three times. With the aid of international agencies and officials, the girl, back home in Moldova, speaks of her difficulty. "We do not have money to buy bread. We do not have money to pay for electricity ... I am very weak and have no strength. I have awful headaches, and I tremble all the time. If I ever saw him [the owner] again," she told Mendenhall, "I wouldn't use words [to speak to him]. I would use a gun."

From Chains Of Caushescou To Nets Of Barbaric Slave Traders

A middleman for several prostitution ringleaders described activities in the Bucharest headquarter, of prostitution rings which have branches in Moldova, Ukraine and Russia to Binder of MSNBC:

"There are 'agencies' that sell 'dancers' to Albania, Japan, Israel, Greece, Turkey," "Women sign a 'contract' with a so-called impresario, who has them photographed for an album — 1,000 of them per album. But it is only for prostitution. Then they disappear. They are sold for 2,500 Deutsche Marks."

The methods of the crude, primitive selling of one human being by another into the bondage of a third have not changed, but the means by which they are sold have become more sophisticated. Rather than displaying their merchandise like cattle on a block in a market place as is done in many parts of Africa, one branch of the Bucharest ring that keeps 4,200 girls on reserve sells them by numbered video-cassettes. Pimps, individuals, or private owners choose the video or videos that satisfies their sordid, perverted desires. The rejected girls are sent to Oradea on the Hungarian border, to a Turk. "He works with a Hungarian on other side."



STEEL MY SOLDIERS' HEARTS
BY COLONEL DAVID H. HACKWORTH AND EILHYS ENGLAND
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY
COL DAVID H. HACKWORTH
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He explained to Binder, "They travel in big trucks. They use ex-soccer stars to smuggle women. Then the traffickers pay \$500 per fake Hungarian passport."

The players along the way pave the road for the traffickers. As Binder points out, The U.S. State Department report on human rights for 2001 noted that "instances of corruption and involvement of police in trafficking in persons occurred on the local level," referring to the Balkans.

The cover-ups are well thought out, and as devious as the methods used to lure and entrap the victims. The tables are turned, and the blame is put on the abused rather than their abusers. In an interview with MSNBC, Vitalie Curari, the head of Moldova's anti-trafficking police, lashed out at the media for "sensationalizing" sex slavery and placed much of the blame for trafficking on the women themselves. "Fifty percent of our women just go abroad to find another man and then come back to divorce their husbands."

"Mothers ask the cops to locate their daughters," the middleman tells Binder. "But permission has already been given for their export by the state police."

An impressively documented article by the organization. "Safe4kids," confirms that it is prostituted women and children who are being prosecuted and harassed by the police, and not the customers.

Those attempting to escape not only risk personal brutality, but the thugs use the age-old psychological terror tactic of threatening parents, siblings and other loved ones.

Some are chained. Others are locked in. One brothel from which prostitutes were freed was surrounded by barbed wired and an electrified fence.

Dr. Engel, Head of MiraMed institute, told of one who escaped from Russian traffickers and made it home. But the mafia tracked her down and killed her. "Her head was found rolling in the gutter."

In 1998, in Istanbul, Turkey, as reported by Ukrainian police investigators, two women were thrown to their deaths from a balcony while six of their Russian friends watched. In Serbia, in 1998, one who had escaped testified that a fellow enslaved girl who refused to work as a prostitute was beheaded in public.

Next month, a disturbing visit to the Middle East.

An international lawyer, Dr. Martin Brass is a frequent contributor to SOF. ✕

Command Guidance

Continued from page 6

about the planning for the attack before it occurred. The CIA's Aug. 6, 2001, briefing to the president that Osama bin Laden might try to hijack U.S. airliners was based on fragmentary, unsubstantiated, and dated information. It was thinner than my kidnapping report.

As for the FBI, the reports from its agents in Phoenix and Minneapolis possibly connecting bin Laden to flight schools were passed-on speculation and hunches. (In any case, neither the CIA nor the White House saw them.) It looks to me that with the information he had, the president did exactly the right thing — instruct that the threat be passed on to the Federal Aviation Administration, the airlines, and the airports. Issuing a public alert would have been foolish. What would it have said? Keep an eye out for hijackers who appear sympathetic to Osama bin Laden?

There is no doubt our intelligence agencies could have done better — they should have given the president more precise information on which he could have acted. The CIA and the FBI should have been more aggressive running down terrorist leads. They should have pooled their intelligence. The Immigration and Naturalization Service should have been checking student visas at the flight schools. The State Department should have been interviewing Saudi applicants. At the end of the day we will probably conclude it was a systemic failure, and no one agency's fault. The joint congressional investigation will have the last word.

But in any case, we shouldn't be blaming President Bush for the intelligence failure. Even if all the CIA reporting and the two FBI reports had landed on his desks at the same time, it is not the president's job to connect the dots. He can only act based on good, solid, finished intelligence. In this case, that wasn't forthcoming.

Mr. Baer, a former CIA officer, is the author of a memoir, *See No Evil, The True Story of a Ground Soldier in the CIA's War on Terrorism*. (Crown, 2002).

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Sound Off

BY COL. DAVID H. HACKWORTH (RET.)

Real Welfare Of Troops Is Keeping 'Em Alive

[At press time] elements of the storied 82nd Airborne Division are deploying to Afghanistan. But air power will be the only big stick our paratroopers will have when they find trouble — because they'll be flying off to battle without their cannons. Since close-in artillery support is as important to infantry grunts as glue is to a cobbler, this doesn't make a lick of sense.

Take Napoleon at Waterloo. When a muddy field prevented him from moving his cannons, he postponed his attack against Wellington. The consequences of that few-hour delay changed history — Napoleon's army was crushed, and he was exiled.

Waterloo apparently was a tutorial lost on Lt. Col. W.K. Smith, the 2/502nd Airborne Infantry's commander, during the first big U.S. Army fight of the Vietnam War. "I don't need artillery ... I've got my Tac Air," Smith told the 2/320th Artillery Battalion CO, Lt. Col. William Braun.

But thanks to Murphy's Law — anything that can go wrong will — the fighter aircrafts' fuel was contaminated, and Smith's air support evaporated. Only the 2/502nd's brave paratroopers saved the day.

The U.S. Army spends millions of dollars a year examining all its ops. There's even a Center for Army Lessons Learned, where lessons are recorded and evaluated, after which pamphlets are printed and distributed by the truckload. Which is all peachy keen except that too many of today's top brass don't seem to read 'em.

In Afghanistan during Operation Anaconda, where few things were done right, there were no cannons to support our grunts when they found themselves in the same sort of pickle as Smith's paratroopers in 1965. The difference is that Braun wisely had his guns nearby and soon had them barking, while our senior commanders in Afghanistan left their cannons back in the States. Once again, there was no artillery fire available that could be brought in close to protect our infantry, and once again our grunts paid dearly for that mistake — and once again brave infantrymen saved the day.

The decisions that both the early units in Afghanistan, and now the 82nd, would deploy without cannons were made at the four-star level. And now the 82nd infantry skip-pers — soon to lead their warriors in another campaign — have to send our soldiers out to fight without the proper



force protection.

You'd think that the overall Afghan theater boss man, Gen. Tommy Franks — who got his baptism-to-fire in Vietnam as a young artillery officer — would understand the importance of cannon fire, would know that tactical air support is not something you bet young lives on, and would order the 82nd to take their tubes when they deploy this month, especially after Anaconda.

In the first campaign we've fought since World War II in which every bean and bullet comes by air, I suspect the "no cannons"

call is because artillery and its ammo are heavy and would tie up a lot of aircraft. The word also is that a Pentagon number cruncher has said to keep the U.S. footprint there small — which smacks of what we did in Somalia, where, to our everlasting regret, we also didn't have the requisite firepower to look after our fighters.

If these are the reasons, we're talking total dereliction of duty, and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld should lop-off the heads of those who've allowed complete gyms, air-conditioned billets and comfy beds to be flown in to that troubled region, supposedly for the welfare of the troops. Troop welfare begins with keeping those up front *alive* — giving them the right numbers, the right combat gear and the right kind of reliable, all-weather fire-support to do the job over creature comforts for the REMFs bringing up the rear.

"In the whole 40 years I've been around the Army, the Army has been outgunned artillerywise," Army Secretary Thomas White stated recently while defending the \$11 billion Crusader cannons high up on Rumsfeld's budget hit list.

White should talk to his generals. Why buy cannons if you're not going to use them — unless they're just one more big, wet kiss for the military-industrial-congressional complex? And by the way, our very competent British allies took their cannons with them to Afghanistan. You remember the Brits — they were the victors at Waterloo.

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