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**TEXAS RIFLE CLUB TEACHES  
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OCTOBER 2004 VOL. 29 NO. 10

## AMERICA AT WAR

- TERRORISM SITREP** by Dr. Martin Brass 16  
Al Qaeda gives U.S. Congress a warning. \_\_\_\_\_
- TERROR HEAT FROM THE FROZEN NORTH** by Dr. Martin Brass 20  
The world's longest undefended border damn well needs to be! \_\_\_\_\_
- TEXAS RIFLE TEAM TEACHES ARMY'S MARKSMEN** by Robert Langham 36  
The real-world justification for precision marksmanship. \_\_\_\_\_
- TWO DAYS OF HELL** by Gunnery Sgt. Keith A. Milks, USMC 42  
Land-locked Leathernecks lock horns with Afghan Taliban. \_\_\_\_\_
- MIAMI'S MAD MAX MARINES PART III** by Lt. Col. Donald Schutt, USMC (Ret.) 64  
Drive-bys on The Highway of Death: TOWs useless, platoon leader bleeding, Iraqis shooting from everywhere. \_\_\_\_\_

## FEATURES

- THE HONORARY CHINESE PARATROOPER** by Jim Morris 26  
Seeing your buddies covered with glory first eats your lunch. \_\_\_\_\_
- TRASHING A PATRIOT FOR POLITICAL GAIN** by John Wiesman 32  
Kerry's "Values" called into question. \_\_\_\_\_
- KIMBER'S NEW USMC PISTOL** by Gary Paul Johnston 48  
A Few Good Men get a few good pistols — in .45ACP. \_\_\_\_\_
- THE DOGS OF WAR, Part II** by Samuel M. Katz 58  
Inside Israel Border Guards' Spearhead Counter-Terrorist Company. \_\_\_\_\_
- SOF's ENDURING FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM PHOTO CONTEST:** 70  
3rd through 6th place winners. \_\_\_\_\_
- VIETNAM VETERANS RALLY** 82  
Meet in Washington with SOF publisher Robert K. Brown and help kill the malicious myth of the "Vietnam Veteran". \_\_\_\_\_

## COLUMNS

- COMMAND GUIDANCE** by Robert K. Brown 6  
The truth about Kerry and hunting. \_\_\_\_\_
- FLAK** 8  
Open letter from 21 Medal of Honor winners, re: Bush Vs. Kerry. \_\_\_\_\_
- BULLETIN BOARD** 12  
Connecticut solons, Colt riled over Army's interest in XM8 over M4. \_\_\_\_\_
- COMBAT WEAPONCRAFT** *Farnam's Gunslinger Diary* by John Farnam 57  
Practical tactical gleanings from the National Tactical Invitational. \_\_\_\_\_



USMC Gunnery Sgt. Keith A. Milks

### On the Cover

A Marine from the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) knocks down a blocked door to search for weapons and anti-coalition militia near where ACM forces engaged the Marines in central Afghanistan. See story, page 42.



Robert Langham



Gary Paul Johnston



Sergeant Michael A. Lozano & the Marines of TOW/Scout Miami

### ADVERTISEMENTS

- Supply Depot 52  
Classifieds 54  
Advertisers' Index 56



# Running Recon

A Photo Journey with SOG Special Ops Along the Ho Chi Minh Trail

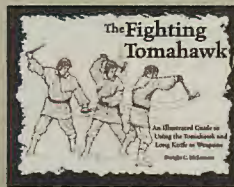
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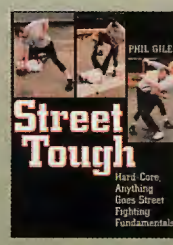


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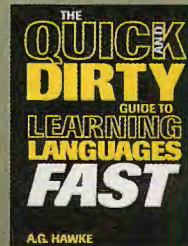


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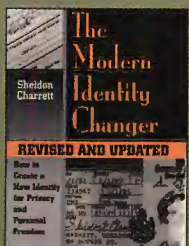
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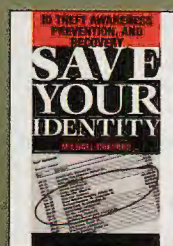
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# COMMAND GUIDANCE

BY ROBERT K. BROWN

## The Truth About Kerry And Hunting

John Kerry, has repeatedly been accused of flip-flopping on a large number of issues. One issue which to date he has successfully skated by is that of hunting and guns. The Democrats, who on occasion can be just as stupid as the Republicans, have finally figured out that the "anti-gun" issue is a loser, so, we are now seeing Kerry carrying a shotgun, in photographs, obviously trying to convey to the masses that he is "gun/hunting friendly."

So where does Kerry really stand on hunting?

John J. Jackson, Executive Director of Conservation Force, ([www.conservationforce.org](http://www.conservationforce.org)) and former President of Safari Club International, has this to say about Kerry: "Senator John Kerry is not a member of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus ([www.sportsmenlink.org](http://www.sportsmenlink.org)).

Why isn't he? The Humane Society of the United States, (HSUS) is a leading anti-hunting advocacy organization. Kerry frequently appears in their literature and on their web site. The HSUS and The Fund for Animals jointly produce "The Humane Scorecard" as a snapshot of their "work in progress" within Congress represents Kerry as one of their "heroes". It credits Senator John Kerry for circulating a letter for them to increase the funding for a record-breaking increase in Animal Welfare Act Enforcement. He did not just vote for it, he campaigned it for them. He voted for or sponsored eight of the nine animal issue bills scored by the HSUS and the Fund or Animals. In the "Scorecard" he is rated with a star and a plus sign meaning that he was a "prime sponsor of pro-animal legislation" and "spoke on behalf of pro-animal legislation during floor debate."

I would suggest that in this case, words speak louder than photographs. ✂



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### For Political Gain

On April 22, 1971, John F. Kerry testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. On that very day, I marked my fifth of seven years in captivity in the so-called "Hanoi Hilton."

While John F. Kerry recklessly accused U.S. soldiers of outright murder and other war crimes, many of us endured torture, solitary confinement, starvation, and other atrocities.

While John F. Kerry selfishly used his status as a Vietnam veteran to smear the war effort for his own political gain, we waited and prayed patiently for freedom and for our families.

That's why I have to stand up and do something now.

John F. Kerry accused American soldiers of committing war crimes "on a day-to-day basis." His bogus testimony that U.S. soldiers committed unspeakable atrocities stigmatized every veteran who returned from Vietnam — causing the American people to think of us as killers, torturers, and worse.

Now, Kerry is running for President. And he still works to weaken the morale of U.S. soldiers. Last year, after voting to send our troops to Iraq, he voted against providing them with the resources they need — like body armor, Humvees and ammunition.

I am fiercely committed to stopping John F. Kerry from holding the highest office in the land... in addition to my own re-election campaign this year, I am working to ensure the election of candidates all across the nation who support our troops, stand up for America and stand up against John F. Kerry.

Congressman Sam Johnson  
Plano, Texas  
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### G'day,

I am a soldier (reservist) for the Australian Army and am what you would call a new reader of your mag (owner of the last two mags, we are 15 days behind) Great mag with shithot articles.



I am not one for owning a gun and I am not one for support on a lot of gun laws but I can honestly say that I don't appose guns. Switzerland in a sense.

Your troops and our troops are doing a great job in Iraq and people know this but our biggest problem is Political Correctness in the Western world.

As I say to people, the so-called prisoner torture in Iraq, ABU prison is not on, but the politics of your country due to the political elections is bugging up the good work done by

the soldiers of the coalition. It sucks that the so called prisoner's of abuse are labeled as torture victims and that the world sees them as that, which is so hard to swallow as those poor people who were mutilated don't realise how hard they had it, you know having a leash on your throat and having some lady point at your wiener must have been so traumatic.

C'mon world wake up and smell the salt, the fact that the Iraqi people can go out and protest about the coalition is sign enough to me that democracy is working. After all Australia and America — the two best countries ever — weren't created in two years.

Iraq will prosper from the coalition cause.

Safe returns to all troops in the great cause which soldiers have paid the ultimate price for.

Thommo  
Via e-mail

### New Perspective

Thank you very much for your extremely fine and informative magazine. You project a new perspective on the world for us who live at these high latitudes. I am by profession a historian and history teacher and I find your approach to the world very refreshing.



As you may know, the USA is in the process of closing down the naval station in Keflavik, Iceland, which in my opinion is a grave error, plus a question of jobs for the people of Keflavik.

My best personal wishes,  
Sigurour E. Daviosson  
Akureyri, Iceland

### Ghost of Casspirs Past?

Are American and British civilian contract employees working in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia permitted to wear defensive side-arms? While presumably "security" workers are armed, there is no information about truck drivers, electricians, engineers, plumbers, etc., published by the conventional news media. Extended Internet search fails to produce an answer to this query.

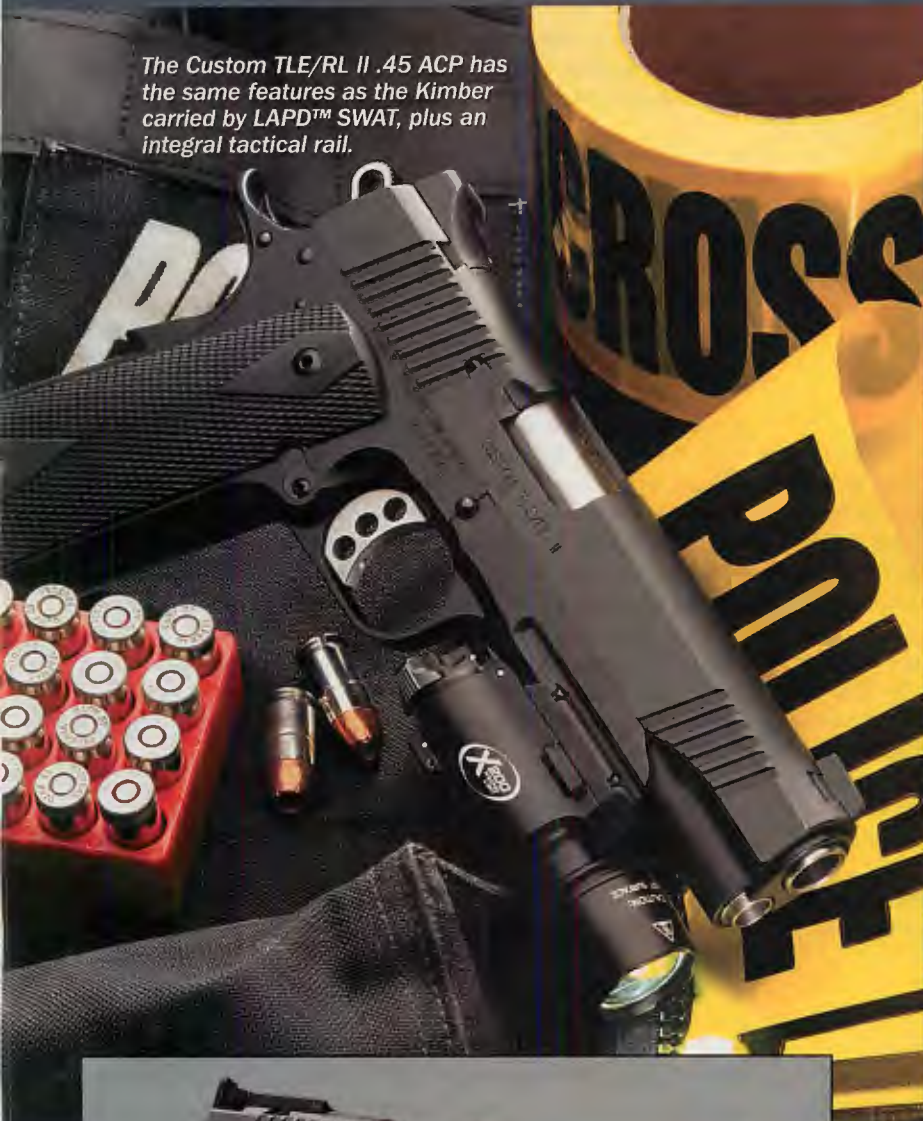
It's evident that the Humvee (armored or otherwise) is extremely vulnerable to attack with "roadside bombs." The South Africans had a similar problem twenty years ago and largely solved it with the Casspir and similar trucks. Why has not our DoD deployed similar vehicles in Iraq?

As you may recall, the construction of the Casspir was



# Kimber. Take a shot in the dark.

The Custom TLE/RL II .45 ACP has the same features as the Kimber carried by LAPD™ SWAT, plus an integral tactical rail.



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## Continuing The Legacy



extremely simple; a 4x4 truck chassis mounting a steel "hull," deep "V" in cross section. While mines would tear the tires, wheels, and suspension away from the chassis, the blast and fragments would be largely deflected by the "V" shape of the cabin, thus protecting the occupants.

Has a "Not Invented Here" philosophy within the Department of Defense precluded procurement of a Casspir type vehicle?

Norman Cobb  
Keizer, Oregon

*Who carries, and where and what, depends on where they are and for whom they are working. As a very broad answer, generally no one carries in Saudi without special dispensation, and most probably do carry personal defense weapons in Iraq.*

## Syrian MP44s? Why Not!

I just received the September issue of *SOF*, and as I was reading *FLAK*, I came across the picture of the MP44 in Iraq. Several years ago an English friend of mine, who dabbles in obsolete military vehicles, was in Syria trying to put together a vehicle deal and as part of the deal he was offered several hundred MP44's and Stg45's along with many thousands of rounds of ammunition.

The deal fell through, as the asking price for the items he was dealing for, was way out of line. Could it be that the Syrians found an untraceable type of weapon to help arm the radicals? The MP-44/Stg-45 is just as deadly in the hands of the Iraqi radicals as in the hands of the Germans during WWII. I can't say this is where these weapons came from, but with Syria close at hand and sympathetic to the radicals, I wouldn't rule it out.

I've been reading *SOF* for years and enjoy most all of the articles, especially on weapons and frontline reporting. Keep up the good work, and let's stop Kerry.

All the best,  
Roy Hamilton, Reno NV

*You may well be on to something. The biggest factor against there being a post-war market in them was the fact the bulk of them were captured on the Eastern Front — and although the Russians save everything, they were pretty busy giving away AKs to anybody who wanted that type of weapon. Wonder if they're slipping them into the marketplace now? They've been selling captured Mauser rifles, etc.*

## The Field Leads

Am I missing something or is everyone in the Army wearing the flag wrong on their BDU's? The new flag patch on the right sleeve of the BDU has the canton on the right of the observer. That's wrong. Even if the DCSPER or anyone else says there is "historical precedence" to wear the flag "as if it is blowing against a breeze" that is wrong. Check



out the sleeves of the Airborne brothers on page 22 of the Airborne 50th Anniversary book ... now they have it right. That is historical precedence.

Ernest Taylor

*The current protocol is that the blue field leads the way. Since the unit patch is on the left shoulder and the flag is on the right shoulder, the field is therefore on the observer's right.*

## Socialist Slogan?

Did you know that the slogan for John Kerry's campaign, "Let America be America Again," is a line from a poem by the Christian-hating communist of the 1930's Langston Hughes, one of the leading members of the very successful communist movement in America?

Hughes was speaking of an America that he hoped would be a communist paradise as promised by Marx and Lenin.

This is an appropriate choice for John Kerry's poet, seeing as how John Kerry is honored as a hero in the Vietnam War Museum in communist Vietnam alongside Hanoi Jane Fonda, his pal. It is also appropriate considering Kerry's extreme left voting record, the fact that he is banned from taking communion by the bishops of the Catholic Church, and the fact that he and John McCain sabotaged the '92 Senate Select Committee Hearings on POWs and MIAs to keep the truth about this immoral abandonment of our heroes to the Godless communists from ever seeing the "mainstream" light of day.

Jeff "Mario" Smith  
LEFTington, KY

## Limp-Wristed Lieutenant?

Having read the article on the M9, I agree that the "assault rifle" / "magazine ban" is bad news for everyone. I am a police officer from the Midwest and see no value in taking the ability (rights) of individuals to defend themselves. As stated in your article such a ban is hurting the citizens, police, and the military.

I must say that defective equipment will cause malfunctions in the M9. In looking at your cover picture of the two 10th Mountain Div troopers, I see a problem. The soldier holding the M9 is asking for a malfunction. Why is the web of his hand not up and into the tang of the pistol? Lack of training? Laziness?

His poor grip will cause misfeed of the pistol. By "limp" wristing, the pistol may not have enough back-pressure on the grip to allow proper functioning of the slide. Is this how the military is training the troops for combat?

Michael Harhold  
greyhounddog@sbcglobal.net

*SOF solicits your letters by e-mail: editor@sofmag.com ; snail-mail: 5735 E. Arapahoe, Unit 5A, Boulder, CO 80303; or Fax: 303-444-5617. Lashes, laurels, comments, helpful information, questions are welcome. We may edit for space or clarity, and if two letters cover the same subject, the most concise one has the edge for publication. Visit our web site: www.sofmag.com . ✉*





AP WORLDWIDE

# MEET THE BOYS FROM R&D

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# BULLETIN BOARD



Plucked from the Web is SOF's nomination for the People's Choice Award for Cinematic Review. Noted Cpl. W.M. Howard (left) "I had the unpleasant opportunity to view the new movie Fahrenheit 9/11 by Michael Moore last night. I have never been so offended in my life, he makes us Marines feel like we are over here fighting watching our friends and other troops die for no cause. Vote for Bush. Semper Fidelis."

## How YOU Can Help Crush the Clinton Gun Ban

You, in fact, can help. Contact your favorite manufacturers and gun magazines and ask them to put a link on their website home page that will link, when "clicked" directly to [CLINTONGUNBAN.COM](http://CLINTONGUNBAN.COM).

If they refuse to do so, ask them for an explanation why not.

Yours for the Second Amendment,  
Robert K. Brown, Editor/Publisher, SOF

## Connecticut Solons Ask: Why Not Colt

The Congressional delegation from Connecticut has queried Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee why Colt Defense LLC, of West Hartford, has not been included in various plans to develop a new rifle, specifically H&K's XM8 spin-off of leading-edge, futuristic ideas that were being pursued.

If the Army were to contract with H&K to produce the new XM8, without giving Colt (et al.) a chance to bid, nor making continued purchases of M4 rifles, the potential effect on Colt and its workforce could be devastating.

"The company's business is now predominantly government-based, and the termination of the M4 would most likely result in the end of Colt," their letter said, which would mean workers out of jobs.

Colt spokesman Carlton Chen said the company wants to make sure the Army considers the effect of its decisions on the shrinking small-arms industrial base in the United States. "We don't think we have been given a chance to improve upon the fielded carbine," Chen said. "Why scrap an entire small-arms system that has been installed in favor of something not known and not field-tested?"

The lawmakers also argue that giving the work to Heckler & Koch without competitive bidding would violate federal procurement regulations. The Army, they say, also has a legal obligation — as a result of a 1997 court ruling — to make efforts to award small-arms R&D contracts to Colt to help preserve that industrial base.

## "Booby" Traps?

A female suicide bomber who set off a blast that killed herself and four police officers in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo may have been wearing a "bra bomb," police Inspector Palitha Siriwardena said.

Two female constables who were searching the woman when the bomb was detonated, but who escaped with injuries, said the woman showed them her bare midriff to indicate she was not wearing the common explosives-filled jacket usually worn by suicide bombers. "This points to the possibility that she was wearing a bra that had explosives in it," said Siriwardena. He is chief inspector at the Kollupitiya police station, where the blast occurred.

It would be the first case of its kind encountered by Sri Lankan police.

Tamil Tiger rebels denied involvement in the suicide bombing, which the Government said was intended for Hindu Religious Affairs Minister Douglas Devananda, a hard-line opponent of the Tamil Tigers. Diplomats in Colombo noted that, despite their denials, the attack bore the hallmarks of the Tamil Tigers who, earlier this month, commemorated 241 suicide bombers who died since 1987.

TSA screeners, take note. And have fun.

## Viet-Vets: Share Your Homecoming Experiences

Researcher Ms. Tonja Cox would like to contact veterans who might wish to tell their stories for publication. Ms. Cox has just completed her Master's Thesis, concerning homecoming stories of Vietnam veterans, and it was well received, both professionally and by veterans who participated in earlier interviews. She is now continuing the work for a book. Anyone wanting to participate should email her at





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[tweety@webound.com](mailto:tweety@webound.com) .

Ms. Cox wants to know about your homecoming experiences: How you were treated when you came home, by the public, your family, your friends, the government, etc.

## **Heads-up: "American Veterans Coalition"**

(aka Tomorrow's Abundance, aka Children's Cancer Assistance Network, aka Disabled Firefighter's Foundation, aka Find America's Lost Kids, aka National Association of Disabled Police Officers, aka Vision for the Blind)

One thing more disgusting than a phony vet or a phony "war hero" might be a phony "veteran's help" organization, that siphons off well-intentioned donations that could go to help those in need. Genuine veteran's groups have sent out warnings on this outfit, American Veterans Coalition [et al.] headquartered in Gig Harbor, Washington and apparently run by one Robert Friend, Jr. American Legion newsletters report the group uses telephone solicitations, claiming to help homeless veterans.

More information may be found at: <http://www.give.org/reports/nondissql.asp?798> or if you are easily amused, go to this scam's website: <http://www.americanveterans.org/OnlineRequestAssistance.html>

Although they do appear to have a non-profit charter, this is not an official VA-recognized veterans service organization.

## **MIA Hunt in Vietnam to Use PRVN War Records**

After two years of delicate negotiations, the United States will start using Vietnam's war records for the first time, to pinpoint possible new locations for remains of servicemen missing in action (MIA). While the plan, similar to an agreement made with the CIF, had been announced a year ago, no date had been set.

Under the arrangement, U.S. investigators will have access to all archived Vietnamese military files in Hanoi and in all military regions, to glean for references to MIAs and POWs.

Hanoi is committed to permit the MIA searchers to look at other old government documents if references from the military records lead them elsewhere. Retired Vietnamese military officials will be among those employed to look through the documents.

Discussions are also underway regarding underwater recoveries with Hanoi. No such missions have taken place in the absence of a decision on whose vessels would be used.

"We believe we have the technology, and the question is how it could be utilized," U.S. officials have been quoted.

## **Plane Clothes?**

The Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, a professional group of some 20,000 members, has taken the Federal Air Marshal Service brass to task as seeking publicity and promulgating silly dress codes that exposed anti-terror methodology of marshals flying aboard passenger jets.

FLEOA cited recent features in national magazines and on television as spilling the beans on how sky marshals



*1stLt Michael L. Aldrich, left, and 1stLt Timothy Dekryger are among a Marine contingent in Chad (who will be in Niger when you read this) whose mission is to train anti-terrorist "reaction" squads in basic infantry tactics for the governments of Chad and Niger. With al Qaeda seeking refuge — and recruits — in Chad and Niger, the United States has offered to train their forces to disrupt this al Qaeda activity and strengthen the noose around terrorists world wide. The Leathernecks on this mission, part of the Pan Sahel Initiative, are mostly from Camp Lejeune, with several from Marine Forces Europe (Germany).*

operate, and further slammed the brass for a policy that bans air marshals from wearing casual clothes to blend in with travelers, such as jeans, tattoos, long hair and beards, requiring instead that they "wear suits and ties, shiny shoes and short hair." "We're not saying the guys need to be Serpico, but we can't make it that easy for terrorists to identify air marshals," said Jon Adler, the association's first vice president. Agency spokesman Dave Adams rejoined that such claims are "inaccurate" and said the association is "releasing sensitive security information" by discussing the dress code. "By doing this, [the association] is putting the general public and our federal air marshals at risk every day," Adams said.

## **Needed: Hard Cars**

According to an unofficial study by a defense consultant that is now circulating through the Army, of the more than a thousand Coalition deaths, the bulk of them Americans, roughly a quarter were killed by land mines, IEDs or rocket-propelled grenades (mines and IEDs roughly three-to-one Vs. RPGs).

Almost all those soldiers were killed while in unprotected vehicles, which means that perhaps one in four of those killed in combat in Iraq might be alive if they had had stronger armor around them, the study suggests.

## **Check This Out:**

Next time on line, go to [Viet-Myths.net](http://Viet-Myths.net) and see what's going on. ☒





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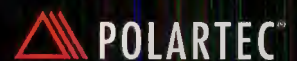


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BY DR. MARTIN BRASS

## AMERICA AT WAR

**1. UNITED STATES** ABU HAF'S MASRI BRIGADE, al Qaeda group, claims credit for Ricin in U.S. Senate in February, according to Homeland Security. "Message to American Senate: we were obliged to try the substance (Ricin) on some people, and we will return to you, but the next time it won't be for practice," the Brigade wrote. Message to Muslims: "Muslims in the West should depart to Muslim states if they can. Those who cannot should take precautions and live in Muslim areas, have enough food to last a month, find ways to protect themselves and their families, leave enough money in the house to last one month or longer and to pray a lot and put their fate in God's hands." FUTURE SKYJACKINGS to use more terrorists to subdue passengers. Al Qaeda plans to bring bomb components on board and assemble bombs in restrooms, according to military sources. OSAMA'S REVENGE: *The Next 9/11: What the Media and the Government Haven't Told You*, book by Paul L. Williams claims al Qaeda has nuclear devices in United States and will detonate them soon.

**2. PHILIPPINES** "NEVER NEGOTIATE WITH TERRORISTS" cardinal rule broken. Government gives in to terrorist demands to pull out of Iraq in exchange for not beheading Filipino hostage. U.S. TROOPS to train Filipino soldiers in plan to weed out 40 Jemaah Islamiyah operatives.

**3. COLOMBIA** FARC MASSACRES 35 farmers near Venezuelan border: 500 SOLDIERS, including 67 officers, discharged for incompetence, corruption, or human rights abuses. THREE MILLION refugees in country.

**4. INDONESIA** MARINES kill 16 suspected guerrillas in Aceh province in ongoing violence in separatist movement. CHRISTIAN MINISTER killed by unidentified gunmen in ongoing Islam-Christian clashes.

**5. AUSTRALIA** GOVERNMENT WARNS that terrorists will attack homeland and global war on terror will last a long time.



**6. SPAIN** JUDGE BALTASAR GARZON, Islamic terrorist expert who just concluded an eight-year investigation warns that Europe's biggest threat is 1000 al Qaeda operatives in Morocco: 100 al Qaeda linked cells there traffic drugs and people into Spain.

**7. GERMANY** MOSQUE RAIDED in Cologne. Islamic cultural center used for radical Islamic network.

**8. NETHERLANDS** INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE in the Hague declares parts of Israel's security wall built on Palestinian territory illegal. Police arrest suspected terrorist planning to attack one million hikers in annual event.

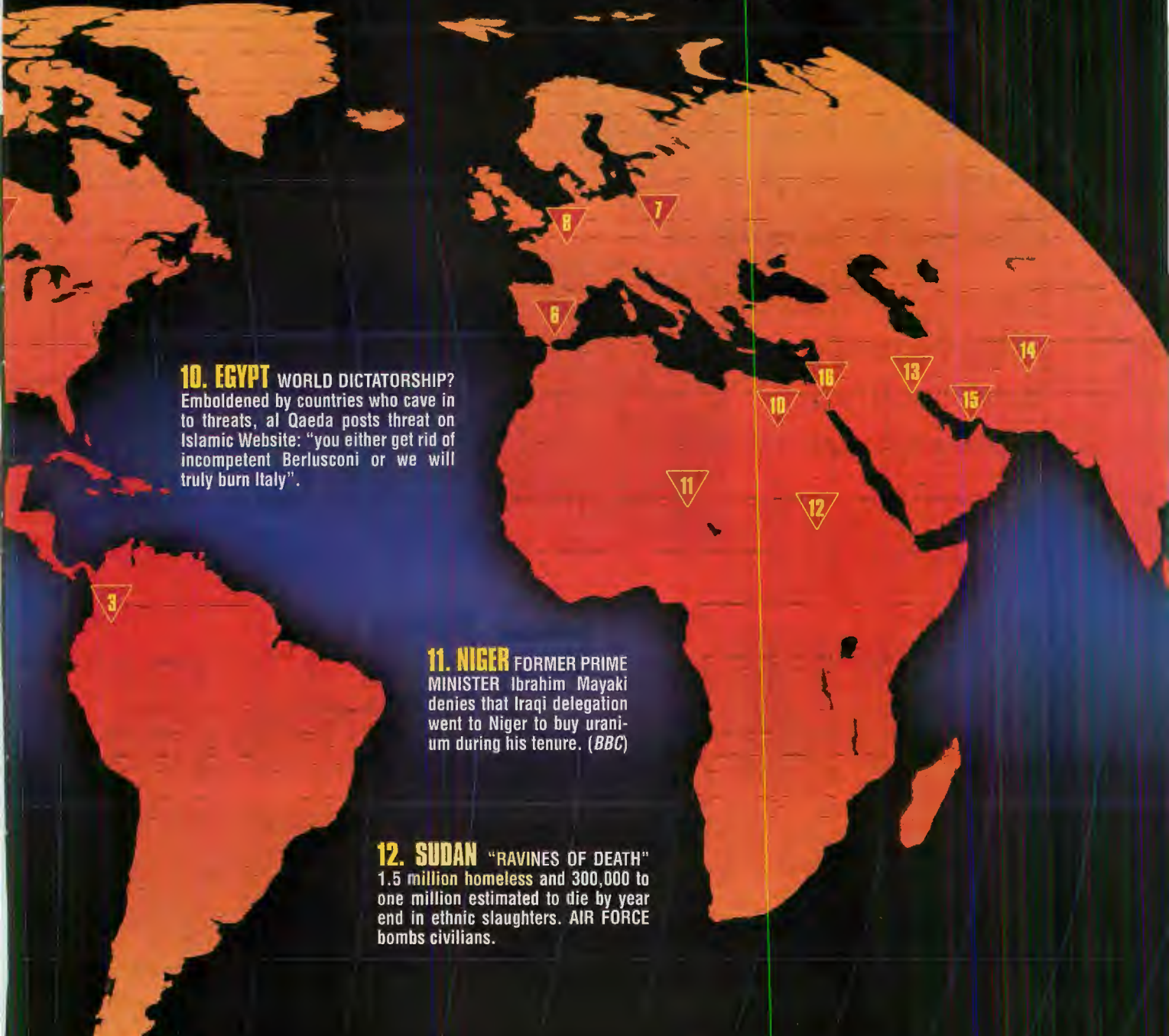
**9. CANADA** WANTED — TWO CANADIANS for suspected plot to hijack an airplane and crash into a building. Democratic convention in Boston and Republican Convention in New York possible targets. PRIME MINISTER Paul Martin believes Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction fell into terrorists hands and that terrorist threat greater now than before 9-11.

**13. IRAQ** RELIGIOUS LEADERS denouncing suicide bombings and citizens providing information on al Qaeda hideouts to U.S. troops.

**14. AFGHANISTAN** U.S. troops-Taliban clash in Zabul. Nine dead. Five aid workers die in ambush, Baghdis.

**15. IRAN** GOVERNMENT ADMITS Making Nuclear bomb components, by enriching uranium to 54 percent. International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors discover Iran seeking powerful magnets used to build centrifuges for enriching uranium from black marketers.

**16. ISRAEL** "ANONYMOUS NUKE" FEAR. Several F-16I fighter bombers a month to go to military until 110 total are received. Government threatens to bomb Iran nuclear facilities if apparent that Iran is going to build a nuclear weapon that may get into anti-Israel terrorists hands.



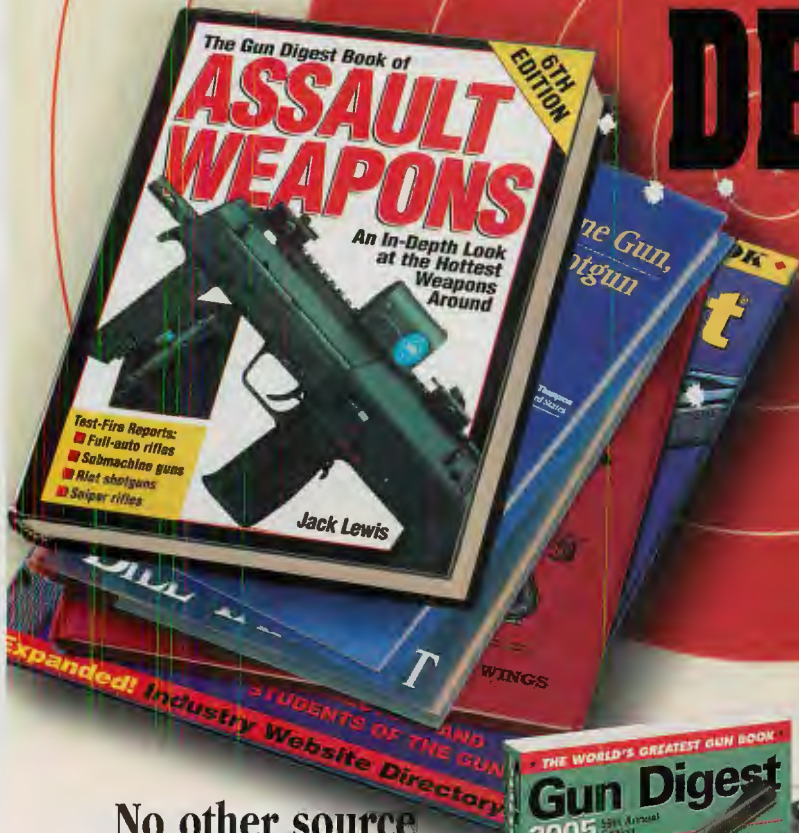
**10. EGYPT** WORLD DICTATORSHIP? Emboldened by countries who cave in to threats, al Qaeda posts threat on Islamic Website: "you either get rid of incompetent Berlusconi or we will truly burn Italy".

**11. NIGER** FORMER PRIME MINISTER Ibrahim Mayaki denies that Iraqi delegation went to Niger to buy uranium during his tenure. (BBC)

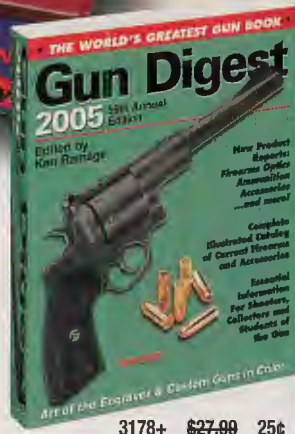
**12. SUDAN** "RAVINES OF DEATH" 1.5 million homeless and 300,000 to one million estimated to die by year end in ethnic slaughters. AIR FORCE bombs civilians.



# DEAD-ON TARGET



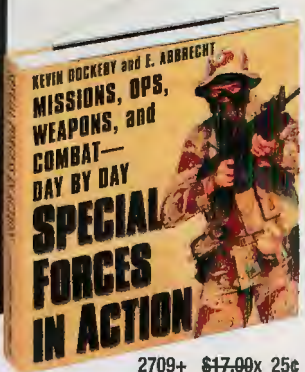
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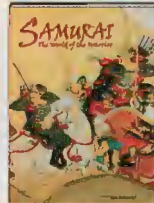
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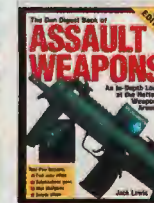
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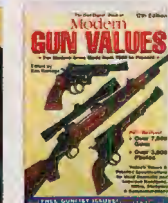
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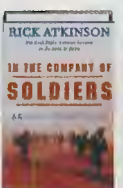
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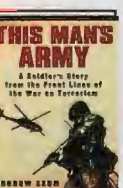
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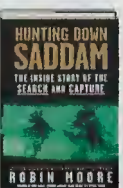
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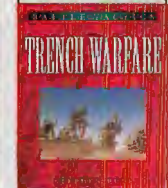
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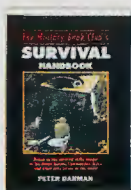


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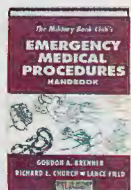




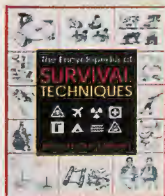
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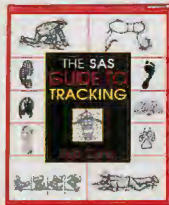
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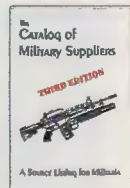
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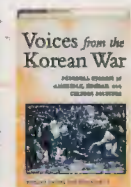
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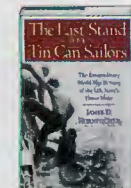
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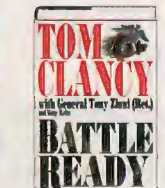
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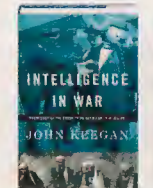
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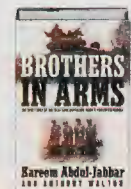
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This is the third part of a five part series that looks at the escalating impact and threat of illegal immigration into the United States. Part I was an overall overview of the threat posed by unguarded borders. Part II focused on the multitude of problems on the Southern Border. Part III looks at the threat to U.S. national security that a largely unguarded Northern Border poses.

While raucous attention was paid to massive illegal immigration, human, and drug smuggling along the chaotic U.S.-Mexico border, illegal activities along the seemingly more civilized U.S.-Canadian border were exploding without much notice. Illegal immigration is increasing, drug and human smuggling is on the rise and the threat of terrorists hidden in the traffic is a terrifying reality.

Some paid attention. A 1998 House Subcommittee warned that smuggling and trafficking on the northern border pose enormous threats:

"One of the most dangerous threats to our national security is the risk of a terrorist crossing over our northern border undetected. The crackdown on illegal drugs and immigration along our southern border has caused illegal aliens to enter from the north...Mexican nationals can enter Canada without visas, so it is cheaper for them to fly to Canada and walk across the northern border...the number of Asian nationals being smuggled

Maine, paints a grim scenario.

### Terrorists, WMD, Aliens, Drugs

"More than 45 million trucks and cars, will cross this year from Canada into the United States, any one of which could be carrying terrorists, concealing weapons of mass destruction, hiding illegal aliens or transporting illicit drugs. This flow...along with 80 million people, will be greeted by an unmanned force of customs and immigration inspectors at 150 ports of entry along the world's largest undefended boundary and a thinly stretched line of Border Patrol agents stationed in the often-remote regions between the ports."

I realized the enormity and almost hopelessness of ever controlling the northern border after several visits to Montreal, Canada, and Alaska over a three-year period. The overwhelming panic and grief that Canadians showed after 9-11 has been replaced with a nagging, unsettling dread.

A fear of the potential repercussions of the Iraqi invasion lay like a dark cloud, as Canadians wonder what will happen next to their southern neighbor, and whether the next strike will be orchestrated from Canada.

Thriving, magnificent, Vancouver



# TERROR HEAT

FROM THE

into the U.S. also is increasing."

U.S.-Canada drug enforcement officials report that drug smugglers in the United States are exchanging British Columbia marijuana pound-per-pound for cocaine, which "has begun fueling a fledgling crack cocaine trade north of the border". ONLY ONE OR TWO percent are getting caught, according to the committee report.

A fascinating yet grim two-month investigation by the *Washington Times* last December, including a month-long tour of ports of entry and Border Patrol stations from Washington state to

feels like an Asian settlement. Asian gangs are becoming more menacing, according to many residents. Smugglers charge enormous prices to smuggle illegal immigrants, including Korean and other Asian sex slaves, into the United States (AP).

French-speaking Montreal is a city with a large concentration of Middle Eastern and African immigrants, legal and illegal. Exotic Middle Eastern restaurants cater to Arabic speaking customers throughout the city. Middle Eastern-Canadians fear discrimination after 9-11.

via Newscom.com/Jane Woolldridge

Montreal residents speak of shadowy neighbors. One Canadian told me of a family that lived next door for several years. The men would disappear for weeks and months. The veiled women lived quietly, taking care of their children. Several months ago, officials raided the house and arrested two of the men. The Canadians could not provide detail other than that the men were suspected of terrorist-related





"Terrorists blend in with Montreal citizens in the French-speaking province. Many Middle Easterners and North Africans speak French as well as Arabic. Canada is very lenient, for example, with Algerian or Libyan asylum seekers. What is terrifying and not very well known, is that aliens, many illegal, have established schools for their children where they teach hatred of Western Infidels and indoctrinate them in Islamic Fundamentalism.

"That's the price we pay for freedom and democracy," he said.

The schools, he told me, are conducted in homes and basements, at night.

In 1998, Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) Counter Terrorism task groups targeted fifty organizations and 350 individuals operating in our friendly northern neighborhood.

The Canadian government, dreading potential disasters, warned in a 2002 CSIS (revised) Counter-Terrorism bulletin:

"With perhaps the single exception of the United States, there are more international terrorist groups active here than in any other country in the world."

Almost every notorious terrorist group, including al Qaeda, flocked to the country that is considered to have the most lax immigration and asylum policies. The CSIS watch list included members of Hizballah,

focused on Sunni Islamic extremism in Canada.

Some extremists and terrorist supporters operated visibly. Instigators and rioters, communicating with global webs, waited for or gave orders, preparing their offensives.

Hours after the Iranian Air Force bombed a base in Iraq on April 5, 1992, forty MEK supporters attacked the Iranian embassy in Ottawa with sticks, crowbars and mallets. In an orchestrated global plot, MEK operators simultaneously attacked Iranian embassies in thirteen other countries.

The day after the Kurdish PKK terrorist group ringleader, Abdullah Ocalan was arrested in Kenya in 1999, PKK supporters rioted in Montreal, and the next day a riot was staged in Ottawa. One policeman lost an eye and another was set on fire with a Molotov cocktail.

#### A Haven for Operators

Canada has become more than a staging ground for terrorists to launch loud and violent demonstrations, it has become a "haven" for operators to "move from significant support roles, such as fundraising and procurement, to actually planning and preparing terrorist acts from Canadian territory," according to CSIS. These terrorists use any methods available, from intimidation and violence to the circumvention of immigration, passport and welfare regulations.

Inderjit Singh Reyat, A British Columbian Sikh affiliated with the

# FROZEN NORTH

*The World's Longest undefended Border Damn Well Needs To Be!*

BY DR. MARTIN BRASS

activities, but the neighborhood was completely shaken.

I spoke with a former high-ranking military commander from the Middle East who found asylum in Canada decades ago, when his life was threatened after a failed coup.

Hamas, Sunni Islamic extremist organizations, the IRA, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) the PKK, the Iranian Mujahedin e-Khalq (MEK) and Sikh terrorist groups, among others.

For several years before 9-11, the CSIS's Counter Terrorism program

Babbar Khalsa (BK) built a suitcase bomb that killed two when it exploded at Narita Airport in Tokyo in 1985. That same day an Air India flight originating in Vancouver exploded in mid-air, killing all 329 aboard. Sikh extremists were suspected.



In 1989, two IRA members from Toronto, along with two of their US-based co-conspirators, tried to purchase a Stinger anti-aircraft missile and grenade launchers. The four offered undercover FBI agents \$20,000 for the munitions, and \$10,000 for delivery to Ireland. A joint CSIS-FBI sting arrested all four.

Hani al Sayegh, a Saudi Hizballah, suspect in the murder of nineteen US soldiers in the 1996 truck bombing of the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, fled to Canada and remained there undetected for more than six months before he was deported to the US in 1997, and then to Saudi Arabia in 1999.

The CSIS list goes on.

The New Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the Department of Homeland Security reports that illegal immigrants from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Algeria, Yemen, and from other terrorist sponsoring states, or states that harbor terrorists, are making their way into the United States from Canada.

Although none of the 9-11 terrorists came in through Canada, more than two-dozen known terrorists have been arrested attempting to infiltrate from Canada in the last decade, according to U.S. government sources.

### The Millennium Bomber

The outrageous, highly publicized tale of convicted terrorist Ahmed Ressay is emblematic of the chaos of the Canadian immigration and asylum system before 9-11.

On December 14, 1999, a few cars waited to board the M.V. Coho ferry from Victoria, British Columbia, to Port Angeles, Washington. Benni Antoine Noris from Montreal, driving a green Chrysler 300M sedan, flashed his Canadian passport and driver's license to U.S. Immigration inspector Gary Roberts.

Noris gave a questionable explanation as to why he was taking such a circular route. Roberts logged Noris's name into a computer but found no record of warrants or immigration notices. Suspicious, Roberts searched a suitcase in the trunk. Finding nothing, he waved the driver on.

In Port Angeles WA, Customs inspector Diana Dean also became leery as the driver of the Chrysler 300M fidgeted, sweaty and flushed. He was acting "hinky", Dean said. Suspecting the Chrysler was a smuggler's "load vehicle", she sought help from colleagues.

Inspectors Mark Johnson and Mike Chapman searched the suitcase. Inspector Danny Clem unscrewed the fastener on the spare-tire compartment. Several green bags filled with white powder, four black boxes, two pill bottles and two jars of brown liquid were stashed in the cubicle.

### Fireworks for the Millennium

Noris was bringing fireworks to the millennium celebrations—130 pounds of explosives. He was planning what would have been the most spectacular attack in U.S. history—blowing up the "politically and economically sensitive" L.A. airport.

Noris fled. He headed for a car stopped at the light and grabbed the driver's door handle. The woman driver stepped on the gas and sent Noris spinning. He was captured. (www.canada.com)

At trial, his saga unfolded. For five years Noris, alias Ahmed Ressay, an Algerian follower of Osama bin Laden, had eluded Canadian authorities before that fateful December trip to the United States.

He had come to Canada in 1994 on a fake passport. He pled for asylum, claiming he would be tortured in Algeria. Canada's Immigration Minister, Elinor Caplan said it was not a serious offense to present a false passport (PBS). Ressay was released. More than half of asylum seekers are approved and are free to go without follow-up monitoring.

In Canada, he lived as a thief and on welfare. He trafficked in stolen driver's license numbers, bankcards, Social Security cards, and Canadian passports that he and his Algerian accomplices provided worldwide. Asylum seekers in Canada who are convicted of crime can still be granted asylum, unless they are sentenced to more than ten years in prison. (*Parapundit*)

Even after Ressay missed an asylum hearing, had his application denied, and had a warrant issued for his arrest, he eluded authorities and was never deported. He stole a baptismal certificate form and adopted the alias Benni Antoine Noris. With the forged certificate, he obtained a Canadian passport. (PBS)

### The Roubaix Group

A French judge, Jean-Louis Bruguiere, head of the French counter-espionage service, had been pursuing Ressay relentlessly since 1996. Ressay's name was found in Roubaix, France in the belongings of an Armed Islamic Group member who had been killed in a gun battle between police and terrorists suspected of plotting to bomb the G-7 minister's meeting in Lille, Belgium.

The terrorist cell, the "Roubaix Group" had assaulted a police station using AK-47 automatic rifles and RPG-7 rocket propelled grenades, according to *Insight*.

In 1998, Ressay left Canada for training in small arms, explosives, assassination techniques, sabotage and urban warfare in Afghanistan under Abu Zubaida, bin Laden's senior lieutenant.

## 9-11 WAKE UP CALL

The United States and Canada took immediate action after 9-11 to make steps to modernize and secure the border.

- The Smart Border Declaration and 30-point Action Plan were signed on December 12, 2001. These are a few changes made. Progress continues.

- The FAST program was created to expedite movement of low-risk goods to border crossings.

- The NEXUS program was designed to expedite movement of people to border crossings. Eleven highways operate currently, with more planned.

- Permanent Resident Cards were issued to all new and existing immigrants arriving in Canada. The card includes photo I.D.s. The previous card, the IMM 1000 card, had no photo identification and was easily forged, faked, and stolen.

- A Safe Third Country Agreement is planned to control and coordinate the refugee/asylum systems.

- Overseas Embassies of both countries will allow information and intelligence sharing. Canada implemented a Passenger Information system at airports to collect Advance Passenger information. The two countries agreed to share this information and Passenger Name Records on high-risk travelers from one country to another.

- Seismic meters, infrared devices, magnetic sensors, and sophisticated software programs, "smart cameras", a Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System, and radiation detectors on two dozen trucks at ports were added.

- Border Patrol agents tripled to 1000.

Illegal aliens and drug smugglers find alternative routes. They sneak in with permit holders at NEXUS highways. Tens of thousands yearly go undetected. There is a long road ahead.



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There he hatched the plot to bomb a U.S. target. He flew back to Montreal and on to Pakistan, to South Korea, and then to Los Angeles. He had found his target—LAX(PBS).

Judge Bruguiere filed a formal 40-page arrest warrant with the Canadian government in 1999, warning them that Ressay was highly dangerous. The endless extradition process gave him plenty of time to maneuver. CSIS, claiming to be unaware of Ressay's alias, gave the United States no warning as Ressay began his journey to Los Angeles.

"The Canadians have been less than forthcoming," Judge Brugulier told *Insight*. He had paid a high profile visit to Ottawa two months before Ressay got arrested, but the Canadians refused to act. "He was arrested totally by chance. The Canadians knew about him two months earlier, but they let him slip through their fingers. If your Customs people hadn't been lucky, there would have been a major attack in America, with many dead."

But U.S. Customs had not just been lucky. They had been thoroughly professional and competent.

A growing number of drug smugglers arrive in the United States from Canada in trucks and cars, snowmobiles, airplanes and on foot, carrying a "mountain of illegal drugs", Jerry Seper of the *Washington Times* reported in December 2003, after a two month trek across borders, interviewing border agents, police and U.S. and Canadian officials.

The sophisticated smugglers, which include Vietnamese gangs and outlaw motorcycle clubs, use night vision optics and global positioning systems to navigate. Smugglers on foot carry 60-80 pound backpacks loaded with their merchandise.

#### Hydroponic Homegrown

Hydroponically homegrown Canadian marijuana, "BC bud", is a new, popular import. This potent pot sells for up to \$6,000 a pound—ten times the price of the Mexican variety. A billion-dollar and growing industry in BC bud has sprung up for the Canadian smugglers. Seizures of pot along the Canadian border rose 300 percent from 2001 to 2003 according to the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

Other imported drugs include high-purity heroin and precursor chemicals used to produce methamphetamine and other synthetic drugs.

"Canada has increasingly become a source country for drugs to the United States; there's no question of that," Carl

A. Eklund, head of the Colville WA border patrol station told the *Times*.

Immigration lawyer Jose Latour in Seattle, former member of U.S. Diplomatic and Consular Offices in Mexico and Africa, told the *Times* that, "The production of high-potency marijuana (small amounts) in Canada has no criminal penalties." Latour equates Canadian marijuana growers with Peruvian coca producers and Asian poppy growers.

#### Enhanced Technology

When CBP added Border Patrol agents and enhanced technology, including seismic meters, infrared devices, magnetic sensors and remote cameras on the Washington State border, the smugglers moved eastward. Drugs are carried on foot in 60 to 80 pound backpack loads, on commercial and private planes, trucks and cars.

The drug smuggling routes along the western edge of Washington state through and near the Blaine port of entry are so busy they have been called the "Ho Chi Minh trails"

"While carrying out our top priority of stopping terrorists and the weapons of terror, we continue to make significant arrests for drug smuggling" Margaret R. Fearon, Canadian Border Patrol Port Director told the *Times*.

Drug smuggling has increased since the borders have been tightened for smuggling of illegal aliens. The number of illegal border crossings is down and drug seizures and arrests were up in six months October 2001 to April 2002

"One can make ten times the money in half the time. A hockey bag full of marijuana can't testify against you in court and you can't get charged with manslaughter for tossing it overboard," Dick Aslay Head U.S. Border Patrol in the Massenna, N.Y. sector said. [cannabisnews.com](http://cannabisnews.com)

#### Mohawk Smugglers

Over the past few years, upstate New York has seen a surge in illegal alien and drug smuggling traffic. Members of the St Regis Mohawk Indian Reservation have forged a highway for traffickers. Illegal aliens cross the St. Lawrence River through the reservation at Akwesasne NY.

The reservation, conservative columnist Michelle Malkin writes, has been a "hotspot for criminal alien smugglers assisted by tribal members. Immigration officials estimate that between 300 and

*Continued on page 81*



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# THE Honorary Chinese Paratrooper

## SEEING YOUR BUDDIES COVERED WITH GLORY FIRST EATS YOUR LUNCH

BY JIM MORRIS

**In** the early months of 1963, I received some odd assignments, as assistant adjutant of the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne). I supervised the carving of a large pair of parachute wings out of ice for a formal ball. I ordered the names of officers departing from the Group headquarters engraved on boxes of dessert bronzewear purchased cheaply in Thailand (field grade) and on sterling silver silent butlers purchased even more cheaply on Okinawa (company grade). I had my ass chewed into slivers of bloody fat for misspelling Lt. Col. Matola's ("Motola") name on his farewell gift, a brass usabata. I do not to this day know what a usabata is, or what purpose it may serve, other than as a platform for engraving.

I found all this deeply humiliating.

My selection as assistant adjutant had nothing to do with any administrative skills I might have, which were nil. I had become the assistant adjutant so that I might perform the additional duty of Public Information Officer. There was no slot for a PIO in the Table of Organization and Equipment of a Special Forces Group. But the Group Commander, Col. Robert W. "Woody" Garrett had determined that his best shot at even one star was good publicity for the Group.

This was so because the general who commanded the U.S. Army, Ryukyu Islands (USARYIS) Lt. Gen. Paul W. "Small Paul" Carraway hated, or was rumored to hate, combat troops. In 33 years of military service he had never, as Colonel Garrett put it "smelled smoke in combat."

Col. Garrett, on the other hand, had smelled a lot of it. In World War II he had at first commanded a company in the 6th Ranger Battalion, as did Bull Simons. Then, at age 27 Col. Garrett had been promoted to major and taken command of the battalion. This guy had been Bull Simons commanding officer. To me he was a god.

But a strange and whimsical god. Hence my being highjacked to Group Headquarters.

While I was cranking out press releases my buddies, my classmates from SFOC were going to Vietnam, on six-month temporary duty tours, and returning covered with glory.



Morris's Chinese Jump Wings Certificate.



Me, I was covered with a pair of novice parachutist wings and shame.

"I don't know what you're complaining about," Col. Garrett challenged me on one of those occasions on which I groveled and begged to be put on a team and sent in harms way. "You get more training than anybody."

### Good Training

This was true in a way. I got to do all the flashy stuff, so I could write it up for the 1st Group magazine, *The Liberator*, or for *Pacific Stars and Stripes*. I made night drops in Korea (frozen DZ, fractured coccyx) and water jumps into the East China Sea.

I sat in a rubber boat, with a full A-team, on the deck of the USS *Perch*, the Navy's troop carrier sub for the Pacific, at night under a quarter moon, and heard the horn blow and the command, "Dive! Dive! Dive! Dive! Dive!" followed by a frightful FRA-A-A-CK!!! as the gills or whatever the hell they're called opened, and the water gurgled, and the sub sank out from under us, and the froth rose around us.

We paddled hard, so the giant gloop of the sub going down wouldn't take us down with it. Then we rowed to Northern Okinawa for a simulated snatch of a nuclear scientist or some such. Phosphorescent plankton dripped off the paddles as we rowed for shore.

So, great! I was learning all the sneaky pete ways to infiltrate, but I was losing basic skills. My code speed was about eight words a minute and dropping fast. I hadn't fired a weapon of any sort since Bragg, much less learned how to repair foreign weapons.

It would have been some consolation if I believed that publicity would get Col. Garrett promoted, but I actually believed it would have the opposite effect.

Alas, Gen. Carraway, our rose-growing, administration-loving five-foot five and one-half foot general was never going to promote Col. Garrett or anyone like him to flag rank. Colonel Garrett's best shot would have been to keep a low profile and make sure his paperwork was perfect. This, as you know, is not the Special Forces way.

Consider, if you will, the event for which I had had the jump wings carved from ice, our formal ball. This event, so far as I could determine, had no function other than to convince Gen. Carraway that the officers of Special Forces were



All Morris's friends are going to Vietnam, and returning covered with glory. He is stuck writing press releases on Okinawa.



Young Captain Morris, newly returned from Vietnam and reinstated as Assistant Adjutant of the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne), chokes down an hors d'oeuvre at a Dining In ceremony. Captain George McKenzie reaches for another hors d'oeuvre.

not thugs and snake-eaters, but were in fact perfect little gentlemen, patiently serving their time, dotting their i's and crossing their t's.

We had the ice-wings and the cake. The officers wore mess whites and the ladies long gowns. We raised our glasses in formal toasts. We put on innocuous skits. We danced the night away. Indeed, it all went perfectly until the general, well pleased so far, left at ten-thirty, so as to be up early the next morning to cultivate his roses. He was most displeased, however, to discover an SF captain and an SF major, both drunk as lords, in their beautiful mess whites, duking it out in the parking lot.

Both were transferred to the 503d the next day, but the damage had been done.

Parenthetically, the 503d had not yet been redesignated the 173d Airborne Brigade. It was formally known by the cumbersome title The First Airborne Battle Group, 503d Infantry Combat Team, Reinforced (Separate). I once heard a Marine lieutenant ask an officer from the 503d, "Okay, SF has Airborne in parentheses after their designation, and they yell 'Airborne! Airborne!' on their runs. What do you guys yell, 'Separate! Separate!'"

### Jocks and Engineers

Col. Garrett had promised he would only keep me in the PIO slot for six months, then put me on a team bound for Vietnam. But to me six months was an eternity. Most of the junior officers in SF had a couple of years in a TO&E Airborne unit, either the 82d or the 101st. Most were OCS guys with enlisted time. Most were jocks, engineers, Rangers. And they were going to Vietnam and returning covered with bronze and silver stars, CIBs, Vietnam jump wings, Montagnard bracelets.

I was none of that. I was a ROTC kid with a degree in journalism who had come to SF from a basic training center. I was on fire to prove myself.

And they wanted me to go to Taipei to buy Christmas cards for the Group.

That's right, Taipei for Christmas cards. We'd been running a joint exercise with the Chinese Special Forces on Taiwan. Some of our best teams had been running around in the hills for three months. Col Garrett and selected members



of the Group staff were going over for the critique and I was to accompany them.

Printing was cheap on Taiwan. The combined Officers and NCOs Wives Clubs had put together a project to get knock-out Christmas cards for the Group, and as assistant adjutant I was to be the project officer. I was delighted with the opportunity to go to Taiwan, but Jesus! Christmas cards?

The wives had come up with four designs and I had to narrow their choice to one.

I can only remember two of them now. One was a gag card, a cartoon Santa Claus going down the chimney wearing a green beret and a bellicose expression, carrying an alicepack full of automatic weapons, old rifles with long bayonets, and grenade launchers. The other was midnight blue, with a four-pointed gold star and the words "PEACE...Our Profession" in Olde Englishe letters. I had to pick one, from a consensus of the senior NCOs.

The consensus of the senior NCOs was that they didn't need to be bothered with this shit. My favorite reaction was from the Charlie Company sergeant major. "What the fuck is this?" he snarled, waving the midnight blue card. "Peace...Our profession' my ass. You get a card that says, 'War...Our Profession', and I'll buy that son of a bitch."

"Not really in keeping with the spirit of Christmas, Smaj," I said.

He gave me a look that made the utterance of the sentence, "Who gives a shit?" completely unnecessary.

As far as I know nobody did, give a shit that is, except the wives clubs. I certainly didn't. And I don't think the matter weighed heavily on Col. Garrett's agenda.

#### Too Much Accident Area

These things were on my mind as I drove my rusted old Rambler to my home in beautiful Awase Meadows. My wife and I lived in a virtual cartoon of suburbia in the hills overlooking an expanse of paddy-diked rice fields, and beyond them the coastal strip of highway one, with its 35 mph island-wide speed limit and its signs. One said "FOLDING SCREEN" on one side, but "FLODING SCREEN" on the other. My personal favorite was "TOO MUCH ACCIDENT AREA—FUTENMA POLICE DEPARTMENT." Every bar on the island had a sign that said, "All under 21—No stay!"

Most of my classmates at SFOC had come to Okinawa together to staff the newly formed Delta Company of 1st Group. Those of us who were married had found housing together in newly and oddly constructed off-base housing. Across the street were Tom Kiernan and his wife, Grace. I hadn't known Tom well at Bragg, but we'd come to Oki on the same flight. Tom had come to SF from the 101st. He was a Ranger.

He was pulling into his driveway on a popping Kawasaki street bike as I pulled into mine in the Rambler. He swung off he bike, tall, angular, with narrow shoulders, an impressive schnoz, quite Roman in fact, and high cheekbones. I dismounted from the Rambler, being careful not to dislodge any big flakes of rust. My car was rotting from beneath in the salty air of Okinawa.

"Hey there, Mr. PIO," Tom called. "What's shakin'?"

"I'm going to Taiwan," I said.

"Neato!" he replied. "I'm going to Vietnam."

"Go fuck yourself," I responded cheerfully.

My contact on Taiwan was Bill Rován, another classmate who had been assigned first to Okinawa, then selected to be Executive Officer of the resident team on Taiwan.

It took all of two hours to transact my business in Taipei.

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# "Picture Two People, Locked In Mortal Combat, One Strangling The Other. Now, Imagine Yourself In This Scene And Tell Me... What Would You Do?"



(Hint: Whatever Your Answer, The Odds Are... It's Wrong!)

**K**ick him in the groin." "Strike the arms or punch the solar plexus." "Grab the hands." "Stomp on his instep"

The list is always the same.

Unfortunately... each answer puts your life at risk in the face of a life-or-death assault.

Why? Because invariably when Tim Larkin asks students this question at his *Target-Focus™ Training* (TFT) bootcamps...

## No One — Not Even Trained Martial Artists — Sees Themselves As The One Doing The Choking!!

They're always the one being choked.

But think about it... couldn't this have been the scenario?

*You are surprised by two attackers. You've completely disabled the first and now have control of the second and are about to put him totally out of commission...*

Possible? Of course. It's just that no one sees it this way. It's human nature. We shy from victory, from domination. It's the way most of us are built... unless you're a criminal...

**Here's the problem:** A thug comes up, places a knife to your throat and demands your wallet. Taking him at his word you give him the wallet. He then proceeds to stab you repeatedly leaving you in a pool of your own blood, astonished you've been stabbed.

**What went wrong?** Just this. You ASSUMED he only wanted the wallet. After all, why would anyone stab someone over a few measly bucks? **YOU** certainly wouldn't do that if you were robbing someone.

And that **IS** the problem. With thinking like that...

## You've Just Transferred Your Own Moral Code To A Sociopathic Killer... And With It, Quite Possibly, Your Life.

See, nothing bothers him. Certainly not your morals. With a total disregard for society and its rules, he has no regret whatsoever in cramming a blade into your gut... to get what he wants.

You stroll around thinking 15 years of martial arts training or that 6-week self-defense course or some reality fighting video gives you the edge you need against someone like this. Wake up!

**You are hopelessly training techniques** (then praying they work) against someone who isn't "training" for you. How many criminals in federal pens spent years sweating through JKD workouts before committing their crime? How many are Jujitsu experts?

**Not a one!** They excel at just one thing: doin' it. No training, no practice, no techniques. And certainly no "rules". So why squander years fooling yourself with something that only works "if everyone plays by the rules"?

**These are the facts:** 98% of us caught in an unavoidable violent attack (even those with years of training), would never consider doing "whatever it takes" to survive — like gouging our attacker's eyes — even if they were the only targets available, and... even if it was the only means of saving our own life!

Larkin trains you from the get-go how to kill, if necessary, to survive a life-or-death confrontation.

He doesn't advocate violence. TFT just demystifies it. He's often quoted...

## "Violence Is Rarely The Answer. But When It Is... It's The Only Answer."

Look... others in Soldier of Fortune try to impress



Tim Larkin, creator of *Target-Focus Training*

you with how bad they are; their accomplishments in the "secret world" you aren't privy to; their guru status.

TFT isn't about that. **It's not about an individual, a personality... or a guru.**

**It's about a system... one that's focused totally on you!**

**No bones about it:** Larkin's record is impressive. He trains units from all the top echelons of federal law enforcement and military special operations groups. It's

not surprising since he comes from that world and is well known there. But everyone in Soldier of Fortune tries to claim this so you'll rarely hear him talk about it.

He's an awesome communicator and trainer, and is amazingly approachable for someone with his abilities and credentials. And he's trained 1,000's of CEOs and others in high-risk positions around the world — all very real people.

But why is this so important? Why is TFT being sought out in all these other arenas?

**Because it works!** Because you "get it" immediately. Not after weeks or months or even years of training... but **right now...** as soon as you experience it. And...

## Not Only Is It Usable... Instantly... But Just Like Riding A Bicycle It Stays With You Forever... Even If You Never Practice It Again!

**Here's why:** the key lies in the fact this is the only system based totally on the PRINCIPLES (not techniques) that determine the outcome of any physical confrontation. Combine these with three supporting methodologies that form the foundation of every fighting system on the planet and you have a complete system usable by ANYone for handling ANY violent confrontation. With this information you can look at anything out there... including your own training... and know immediately if it's worth keeping.

*"It was the most effective days of training in hand-to-hand and hand-to-weapon that I or anyone else had ever experienced."* Brian (last name withheld), US Border Patrol, S Carolina

Last year Larkin trained over 600 CEO's in Europe. This year he'll spend 57 consecutive days training others in England, the Far East and Asia, and India. These folks are eating his stuff up because TFT principles and methodology are as effective in the 'combative' world of business as they are in a truly lethal fight, and for the exact same reason... **RESULTS.**

**Think about this:** If these people can get this much from his material, imagine how much more you can learn... a dedicated reader of Soldier of Fortune magazine who is really into finding and applying a system that is quickly learned and deadly effective. If all these folks are seeking him out, shouldn't you be too?

Look, Larkin is swamped and realizes he can't begin to reach everyone. While he'd love to have you as a member of his organization and to take part in his live training, he realistically understands few will be able to do this. Bootcamps run \$1,500.00, international events start at \$9,500.00, and personal training for small 2- to 4-person sessions is \$10,000.00 and more.

That's why, in a daring move with potentially serious ramifications, he's released a new WEAPONS-focused

version of his TFT system that shows you how to defeat a violent criminal in a **WORSE-than-worst-case scenario.** After seeing his program... a life-or-death confrontation in a dark alley is a piece of cake.

Not only does this new series take you inside the criminal mind, it goes way beyond... showing you how and why you must first learn to USE a weapon... if you ever hope to defeat a criminal using it against you! Highly unconventional and extremely controversial it teaches you how to get your focus off the weapon... and onto defeating the REAL threat.

Some foolishly feel this stuff is too violent, totally ignorant of the fact you don't always have to push it to the levels shown on these tapes.

## It's Very Easy To Ramp This Down To Fit A Lesser Situation But It's Impossible To Ramp Up And Kill Someone If You've Never Trained For It!

Some will be shocked, dismayed, offended and outraged that anyone would dare show this stuff. They'll raise a stink... and do everything possible to get this yanked. But better you see this on video than experience it first-hand on the street!

Everything you'll see here is vintage TFT. You learn to hurt someone very quickly (every sequence shows killing movements right from the start). There's no size, speed or quickness required. Anyone can learn this because it's based on principles not some guru's skills.

Guys that have been in the trenches for years are blown away by the simple brutality and effectiveness of this system and the competence of Larkin's instructors, including their knowledge of anatomy and how to inflict trauma on the human body.

Each averages 10 years of training and surprisingly most aren't 'jocks'. Many have advanced degrees; five hold PhD's! His advisory board includes two medical doctors who assure everything you see about inflicting trauma on the human body is totally accurate.

*"With this system: 1) You will learn what Larkin says you will learn, and 2) The course is exactly as advertised — intense, targeted, focused training designed to produce immediate results."* Mark D. Fabiani, Crisis Mgt Consultant, La Jolla, CA

**Let's cut to the chase:** this program is extremely controversial and NOT for everyone. If you'd never consider killing someone threatening your life or if you're hoping to see lots of useless predetermined techniques or cool setup moves — you can stop reading here. This is only for those who want to learn to defeat a criminal in a life-or-death situation.

Listen. I understand you may find this hard to believe. That's how I felt too until I saw the videos. Unfortunately there's not room here to adequately describe the shocking reality of what Larkin has created for you. That's why he's not asking for a penny of your money now. Instead he'll spend his own cash to put a 17-page Special Report into your hands that will prove everything you've just read and explain why this program is so DIFFERENT from anything you've seen before.

All you need to do to get his **FREE** report is pick up the phone and call **888-811-9347.** There's a short message and then you can leave your name and address so the report can be mailed to you. It's voicemail so you can call **24-hours a day, 7 days a week** and no one will hassle you.

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I would monitor the critique, but basically I was through.

The debrief, at least what I saw of it, was nothing like what I expected. I never saw a map, chart, or graph. I have to assume that the teams and staff sections held their own, where those things were in evidence. But I was in bloused khakis with Col. Garrett, and his contact was Gen. Chao, who, as they used to say back in Oklahoma, "put on the dog."

With us it was all Chinese modern décor, padded chairs at coffee tables, with chilled rolled wash clothes on a platter, to cut the heat of the day. "Tea or coffee? Hors d'oeuvre?"

### An L or T Configuration

I learned that all things had not gone as planned throughout the exercise and many valuable lessons were learned thereby. For instance, at that time the standard SF way of lighting a drop zone for a night drop was to fill number ten cans, the kind that are used to pack large quantities of vegetables, stewed tomatoes and the like, for mess halls, half full of sand and gasoline and laid out in an L or T configuration with another offset to show the direction of the wind.

What the Americans did not know was that Taiwan had a large number of brick factories and these brick factories had their chimneys laid out in L and T configurations, resulting in the American teams being dropped more or less at random all over the island. The methods they used to get from where they landed to their assigned areas were many and varied, but often involved the use of taxicabs.

The conversation of the higher commanders at that coffee meeting was earnest and serious, but I couldn't understand



*Lt. (Later Colonel) Tom Kiernan points out a Japanese war memorial, on the southern tip of Okinawa. The inscription reads, "At this spot on 14 June 1945, Lt. Gen. Insert First Name Hizagawa committed Hari Kiri. He was accompanied by his Chief of Staff, Col First Name Cho." Presumably some Civil Affairs type at USARYIS Headquarters thought his secretary would fix it. But she didn't.*

any of it. There was an exchange of really fancy plaques.

One thing I did learn though, was that there was going to be a friendship jump the following morning. Then we adjourned for a twenty-five course Chinese dinner for about five hundred, everybody who had participated in the exercise and everyone who had bought Christmas cards. This was followed by truly amazing acrobats.

"Hey, Bill," I said after the acrobats. "I'm hurtin' for a pay jump. How about getting me on that manifest?"

"Sure," said Bill. "Got any fatigues?"

I shook my head.

"I'll loan you a pair of cammies."

### Quasimodo With a Hernia

This was before the Agency ordered fatigues for us in the tiger-striped pattern, so the cammies Bill loaned me were in the Sears Roebuck woodland pattern. That afternoon we went by his team house and he got them out of his locker. I was four or five inches taller than Bill. They were tight and I couldn't blouse the trouser legs, but they would serve. There was a similar problem with the chute.

These were standard U.S. Army T-10s, but the straps had been cut down and sewed down for the smaller Chinese jumpers. I couldn't let the straps out far enough for a comfortable fit. In the whole rig I looked like Quasimodo with a hernia.

That afternoon Rowan delivered me to the flight line, squeezed into his cammies, the legs hanging even with my boot tops. All the Americans who had participated in the exercise were drawn up in ranks and I fell in on the back end. A couple of ROC C46s were parked beside the strip. So was a big pile of T-10 assemblies; chutes, reserves, and kit bags. One rank at a time we drew our rigs, chuted up and were organized into sticks. It was the very definition of a Hollywood jump, no rucks, no weapons, no wind.

Nonetheless the old adrenalin surged. I was thrilled at the prospect of jumping a C46. This was the aircraft that had flown paratroopers to Sicily, to Normandy, and which had flown the Hump to drop supplies to teams fighting the Japanese in China and Burma. No matter how goofy I looked or felt this was a thrill I would remember and savor.

I didn't know anybody on the airplane, but they were fun to watch. For one thing, even though I didn't know them, they all knew each other. They had been running around in the woods for three months, and for the most part hadn't seen anyone but their own team and the Chinese acting as their guerrillas. They were choked with war lies, and could hardly wait to compare notes about the exercise. Most jumps are pretty intense, but there was a party atmosphere. The aircraft was filled with chatter and raucous laughter.

Then someone yelled, "Hey! Who's the jumpmaster?" We all looked around, but nobody pled guilty. It wasn't a problem.

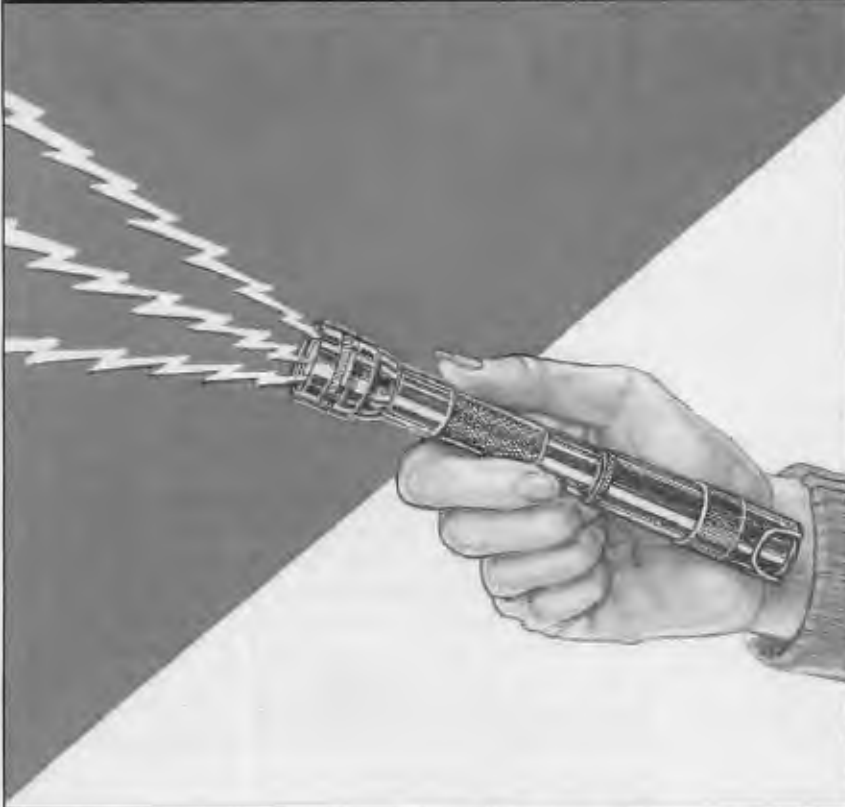


*Morris got to do the flashy stuff, like rappelling, but he was losing basic skills. His code speed was down to eight words a minute, and he hadn't fired a weapon since Bragg.*

*Continued on page 63*



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# Trashing A Patriot For Political Gain

BY JOHN WEISMAN

Let me be blunt. I am doing everything I can do this year to make sure that John Kerry will *not* become our next president. I'm not doing this because of what I believe are legitimate questions surrounding his anti-war activities during the 1970s. Kerry's virulent public attacks on Americans serving in Vietnam are a matter for Kerry's fellow veterans.

I'm working against Kerry because I believe he is one of those dangerous ideologues who readily sacrifices truth when politics and his own ambitions get in the way.

For example, Kerry's latest campaign ploy is to preach "values." Early in June, his campaign faltering, Kerry shifted his attack. He moved to the right. "Adopting," said the liberal *New York Times*, "a traditionally Republican refrain to give his campaign — and himself — grounding and context in broad moral terms."

Here's my take on Kerry's "moral context:" John Kerry has no moral context. He is a left-of-Kennedy liberal and a devious, self-serving snake-oil salesman.

I write, you should understand, from personal experience. Back in the late 1980s, I saw first-hand how unfair, prejudicial, deceitful, and dishonorable Kerry can be when it comes to playing politics. Back then, I was working on a book I am still hugely proud of. It is called *Shadow Warrior*. It is the life

story of a man I consider a brother, the Cuban-American patriot named Felix Rodriguez.

As a 25-year-old CIA contract agent in 1967, Felix was instrumental in the capture of Ernesto "Che" Guevara in Bolivia. In the early 1970s, he went on to fight against totalitarianism in Vietnam, where he worked as a clandestine CIA adviser to the indigenous Provincial Reconnaissance Units — PRUs they were called. It was in Vietnam that Felix pioneered, developed, and refined a revolutionary counterinsurgency technique that employed small, highly maneuverable helicopters to identify, target, and destroy guerrilla and terrorist units. After Vietnam and after he retired from CIA, Felix took his cutting-edge counterinsurgency skills to El Salvador. There, he taught the Salvadoran Air Force new and effective tactics to use against the FMLN terrorists who were holding that Central American country hostage. In the 1980s, because of Felix's good contacts in the Salvadoran military, he became

*Photo taken in Bolivia an hour or so before Che was executed by the Bolivians. It is the only photo of Che alive after his capture by Bolivian Rangers and before he was executed. The CIA wanted to get him to Panama for interrogation, but the Bolivians wanted him dead. Felix Rodriguez is on the left.*



photo copyright by Felix Rodriguez



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by Frank Sherrill

I was the total skeptic. Not only had I lifted weights for years, but after 21 years in the martial arts and several more in the military, I thought I'd seen it all. So I just didn't believe **Matt Furey** when he said you can get kick-butt fit with body-weight calisthenics, that I figured I went through in bootcamp. Besides, I could bench 400 and squat 625. So there's no way I was going to fall for a routine that I figured I already knew. Been there, done that!

But I couldn't shake this feeling that Furey might be right. I had read about the **Great Gama** of India, a wrestler who followed this program and was unbeaten in 5,000 matches. In terms of size and strength, he was amazing. He was 5'7" and 260 pounds of streaming steel. And that was in the early 1900's - long before steroids.

I had heard that **Bruce Lee** did the exercises Furey teaches, too. And we all know about Lee's incredible ripped, lean, muscular look. Not to mention how lightning fast and fluid he was.

I had heard that **Herschel Walker**, a Heisman Trophy winner and All-Pro Running back did 500 pushups and situps each day. So that made me think even more.

And then the final straw was when I started to read all the testimonials that Furey had collected from fellow military (I have included several of them in this article).

And then, of course, there is Furey, the author of **Combat Conditioning** and the man **GRAPPLING** magazine dubbed "The King of Catch Wrestling." Furey has been featured in major martial arts magazines around the world, has been on the cover of several - and is certainly no slouch when it comes to having and using functional strength. He was a world champion in Shuai-chiao kung fu and a national collegiate champion wrestler. Something told me he had to be telling the truth.

I figured the only way I would ever know for sure would be to get the program and use it. I told myself that if what I was reading was nothing but marketing hype - I would not only be angry - but I would let everyone in the world know about it.

So I bought Furey's **Combat Conditioning** book and read it. In the book he challenges the readers with a test. 100 Hindu squats, followed by 50 Hindu pushups, then a one-minute back bridge.

Figuring this would be easy, I got started. At 40 Hindu squats my thighs were blitzed. It took about 90 seconds; not long compared to my squat routine at the gym.

Next, I tried the Hindu pushups. Funny thing is my legs were still shaking. I dipped down and pushed back. At 15 my arms were throbbing. This couldn't be. No way. I could bench like there's no tomorrow and this exercise was **knocking me**. I gave up at 27 reps. This took about 1.5 minutes, so my workout had only been 2.5 minutes long.

Then the bridge. After three unsuccessful attempts of ten seconds, I gave up. The next day my legs, chest and arms were sore, but in a good way. I thought my legs got 10 times more work with weights, but I was wrong.

Over the course of three months my body changed big time. In fact, I've made a list of 12 of the most amazing benefits that I and thousands of others all over the world have gotten from the **Combat Conditioning** program. I'm betting these are important to you, too:

1. I blow-torched off my excess body fat so quickly that I could eat more than I normally did and still look better than ever.
2. I packed and chiseled functional muscle onto my legs, chest and back that I've never had before, even from weights.
3. I simultaneously doubled my strength and flexibility - and did so without needing separate workouts for each.
4. I quadrupled my endurance inside of 30 days. Just think how much this helped my sparring. No matter what, I NEVER get tired.
5. The chronic back and shoulder pain I had from years of heavy squats, deadlifts and bench pressing went away within a couple weeks. And much of that pain had been with me for nearly 10 years. It's GONE now.

6. I sleep like a log. Eight hours of deep sleep is no longer a goal. It's automatic. As soon as I hit the rack I'm out like a light.
7. My self-confidence knows no bounds. Especially when I got compliments from people who hardly paid attention to me before. I honestly believe there is nothing I cannot do. I'm on top of the world.
8. I can train anywhere. I don't need more than a few square feet of carpet or pavement and I'm all set. I have absolutely no excuses and my body is loving me for it. I don't need any equipment. Just my own bodyweight.
9. I get a kick-butt workout done in 15 minutes or less. Sure, I could do more - but I've gotten incredible results with this amount - so why ruin a good thing?
10. I've turned back the clock. My friends tell me I look 5 - 10 years younger. Awesome!!
11. I have an explosive type of strength that weights couldn't give me. My movements are super fast even when I'm just screwing around.
12. My muscles are like a pliable and powerful tiger - ready to pounce on prey in a heartbeat.

So there you have it. The 12 reasons why **Combat Conditioning** is the best fitness program on the planet. But forget about me.

Take a look at what some others in the military have to say about this program:

*Matt, I am a US Marine stationed overseas. I am also a wrestler/judoka and the Marine who developed the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program. I use your courses regularly. I like your no-nonsense approach. Particularly as I get older, bodyweight exercises are quick, flexible, all-encompassing and convenient. Keep up the good work!*  
**Lt Colonel George Bristol - USMC**

*Mr. Furey, We have been applying the principle of 'mastering your own body weight' to our football program and have been pleased. A 12-1 championship season last year was our reward. Thank you sir.*  
**Bonner Cummings  
Yosemite, CA**

*Dear Matt, When I got your book, I changed my whole way of thinking about how one should train for Combatives. I am now totally off the weights, and, to tell you the truth, I have never felt better or been more flexible in my life. I feel great and have lost no size, strength, or muscle mass... as a result I scored the maximum number of points on the Army Physical Fitness test. HOOAH! You are doing great things, and I and the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School owe you a lot.*  
**TREATEM ROUGH!**

**CPT Judd D. Mahfouz - Infantry**

*Dear Mr. Furey, Let me say I have benefited a lot from both your **Combat Conditioning** and **Combat Abs** book. I am a Marine stationed on Okinawa, Japan and I do a lot of kickboxing and NHB fighting on the side. Your exercises have given me a tremendous advantage and combined with my other routines (shadowboxing, sparring, bagwork, wind sprints, and grappling drills) have gotten me into the best shape of my life.*

**LCpl Sandor Devenyi - United States Marine Corps**



Matt Furey, author of the best-selling **Combat Conditioning**.

Dear Matt,

*Being a U.S. Marine in a field unit, I spend much of my time in Physical Training, and I'll admit, I thought that I was in peak physical condition. 2 months ago I began your **Combat Conditioning** program and quickly realized that I had been missing something. While platoon PT consists of mostly running and incorporates some bodyweight exercises (i.e. pushups, pull-ups, crunches) I had been spending the bulk of my personal training time in the weight room, lifting heavy. It embarrassed me the first time I tried to do a reverse pushup and couldn't. I haven't set foot in the weight room in the last 2 months. My 3 mile run time has dropped to below 18 minutes, I've lost a good 10 lbs and my body fat has dropped 4%. You can see the difference and God knows, I can feel the difference. I've introduced the rest of my squad to your program. Thanks for helping us kick ass and take names in a hellish and unforgiving manner.*

**D "Bubba" Byng - LCPL, USMC  
"Golf" Co, MCS Battalion**

Matt Furey's **Combat Conditioning: Functional Exercises for Fitness & Combat Sports** has 48 super effective body-weight exercises along with seven different programs that will get you into kick-butt shape fast. Be one of the first 25 people to order and you'll receive 3 free **Special Reports** on how to eliminate knee, back and shoulder pain.

Your total investment in this no nonsense book is only \$29.95 plus \$6 S&H U.S. (foreign orders add \$12). Order online at [www.mattfurey.com](http://www.mattfurey.com). Or pick up the phone right now and call 1 813 994 8267 to order.

You can also send a money order to Matt Furey Enterprises, Inc., 10339 Birdwatch Drive, Tampa, FL, 33647.

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SOF 6/9/03



involved with what turned into the Iran/Contra affair.

And that's where John Kerry enters the picture. In 1987, Kerry was chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Narcotics, Terrorism and International Operations. Kerry used the subcommittee as a personal springboard to raise his political profile, which he often accomplished by battering the Reagan administration for its support of anticommunist movements. He also tried to weaken the upcoming candidacy for the then vice president, George H.W. Bush by trying to tie Bush to rumors that the pro-democracy insurgents fighting to overthrow the communist regime in Nicaragua raised their operational funds by dealing in drugs.

According to a Kerry subcommittee document, on June 25, 1987 a convicted cocaine cartel money launderer named Ramon Milian Rodriguez accused my friend Felix Rodriguez of soliciting \$10 million to support anti-Sandinista operations. The charges were made in a closed hearing.

But as anyone from CIA can tell you, secrets don't remain secrets for long on Capitol Hill. And Kerry and the people around him knew that Felix Rodriguez had had two photo ops with Vice President Bush, because he'd testified to having them during the Iran Contra hearings.

The honorable thing for Kerry would have been to summon Felix and allow him to rebut the money-launderer's charges immediately. But the words "honorable" and "Kerry" don't really deserve to be into the same sentence so far as I'm concerned.

So instead, the senator's subcommittee suddenly started leaking like a sieve. On June 30, 1987, Felix's hometown paper, the *Miami Herald*, citing "congressional sources," ran a story accusing Felix of soliciting \$10 million from the Colombian cocaine cartel. And just by coincidence, Kerry happened at the time, to be one of Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis's prime foreign-policy advisors. And Gov. Dukakis was running for the Democratic presidential nomination. Because he is an astute political operative, Kerry had to understand that accusing Felix of taking \$10 mil in drug money was a great way of tarring the vice president while appearing to be above the fray.

The only problem was that the story was false. It was based on a lie. And if Felix had been allowed to testify in open session he would have told the world it was a lie, and his denials would have found their way into print.

But that didn't happen. Instead, Kerry and his staff insisted on having a closed hearing. Felix objected. He knew Milian Rodriguez was lying, and he wanted to tell his side of the story in public. But transparency would have been bad politics. And so Felix's request was denied. It didn't take long for Felix to realize what was going on, which was the prelude to a political lynching.

Kerry, as we wrote in *Shadow Warrior*, "spent a lot of time asking about unsubstantiated rumors about me, some of which had been reported in the press — things like my 'long-time friendship with Vice President Bush,' or the 'fact' that I had gone to El Salvador at the behest of the CIA." [N.B.: both those allegations were completely untrue.] "He also asked ridiculous questions about the international drug trade — matters I had absolutely no knowledge of. Obviously, what he



**Felix Rodriguez (right) and SOF Roving Contributing Editor John Wiseman, who is finishing his 2005 novel, *Special Action*, which is about out-sourcing the war on terror.**

wanted was to connect the Vice President and the top Contra leadership to drugs.

"And he seemed upset that I was of no use in helping him achieve his goals.

"At one point, Kerry said to me by way of explanation, 'Mr. Rodriguez, you have to understand that there are many allegations about the Contras that we have to probe.'

"I answered, 'Senator, you should know there is a disinformation apparatus within the Soviet and Cuban intelligence services; it is in the best interests of the Soviets and the Cubans that the Nicaraguan Freedom Fighters do not prevail.'

"After a while it became apparent that he was speaking simply to hear himself talk — creating a record for his own benefit. I spoke up: 'Senator, I think you have called me here to talk about drugs, but we

are going on to things that have nothing to do with drugs.'

"We sparred verbally a few minutes longer. Finally I lost my temper. I told him, 'Senator, this has been the hardest testimony I ever gave in my life.'

"He looked up, glasses perched on his nose. 'Why?'

"Because, sir, it is extremely difficult to have to answer questions from someone you do not respect.'

"Things got even more bitter after that. He exploded at me, and I came right back at him. There was a lot of shouting that morning.

"I told him outright: 'Senator, my name was leaked by your committee as being involved with drugs. I take that very seriously because it affects my family, my reputation and my friends.'

"Kerry looked at me sternly and said, 'You're making a very serious accusation, because this committee doesn't leak.'

"Senator, leaked or not it was in every goddammed newspaper that, at one of your closed committee hearings Ramon Milian Rodriguez said I solicited money. That is a damned lie. And if you're sincere, then you will put out a statement about what I told you here today. I don't want to influence what you say, but I want the American people to know about my testimony. And as far as I am concerned, you can make my whole testimony available to the American people.'"

Of course Kerry never released Felix's testimony. Nor did he ever put out a statement that Felix had strenuously denied the convicted money-launderer's lies. Only in July of 1988, after more than a year, did Kerry finally admit Milian-Rodriguez's accusations were untrue. He had to, because the money launderer flunked a lie detector test. But ever political and manipulative, Kerry made his apology late on a July Friday afternoon, in a virtually deserted hearing room on Capitol Hill. The accusation had made headlines. The apology never made a ripple.

But it still wasn't over. Not until Vice President Bush soundly defeated Michael Dukakis did those same "congressional sources" that leaked the original lie to the *Miami Herald* stop feeding the media fabricated stories about Felix. And when all those stories, just like the Milian fabrication, turned out to be lies, there were no apologies.

Which is why, when I read stories these days about Kerry invoking "values," I'd laugh — if the stakes weren't so high. John Kerry and his subcommittee spent a year screwing American patriot Felix Rodriguez. Now Kerry wants to do to the country what he did to my friend Felix.

Oh, yeah? Not if I have anything to do with it. ✖



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Images: Dept. Of Defense



# TSRA Rifle Team Teaches Army Squad Designated Marksmen at Camp Bullis

TEXT & PHOTOS  
BY ROBERT LANGHAM

COURTESY  
TEXAS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

In early March this year, a group of Texans gathered at a hotel in San Antonio. They included a John Deere employee, a Dallas Motorcycle Policeman, a TXU chemist, a retired Chief Warrant Officer, a photographer, the owner of an insurance company, and others. At the request of the US Army, these men had taken two weeks of unpaid vacation away from their jobs and families to teach the first-ever class of what would become known as Squad Designated Marksmen (SDM) in the US Army.

Since the terrorist attack of 9/11 it had become apparent to the US armed forces that there was a need for additional marksmanship training for US troops. In operations in Afghanistan and in Iraq, the need for higher skill levels and a larger caliber combat weapon became obvious. A Squad Designated Marksman would be a soldier who had received enhanced marksmanship training.

The men who gathered were an ordinary group in many ways. They looked like the guy down the street, or your neighbor, or the fellow at church. The Army sought them and selected them for a precise reason: they were all highly skilled and accomplished NRA Highpower Rifle shooters. Most of the faculty for SDM were rated High Master or Master by the NRA. Most wore the Distinguished Rifleman's badge, an award issued to less than 1700 civilian shooters in the last 100 years. Some owned a Presidents 100 pin, being one of the 100 best shooters at the annual NRA National Matches. Many of them had won state championships, regional, or national awards. Almost all of them were on the



## TSRA Sportsman

May/June 2004

Journal of the Texas State Rifle Association Founded 1919

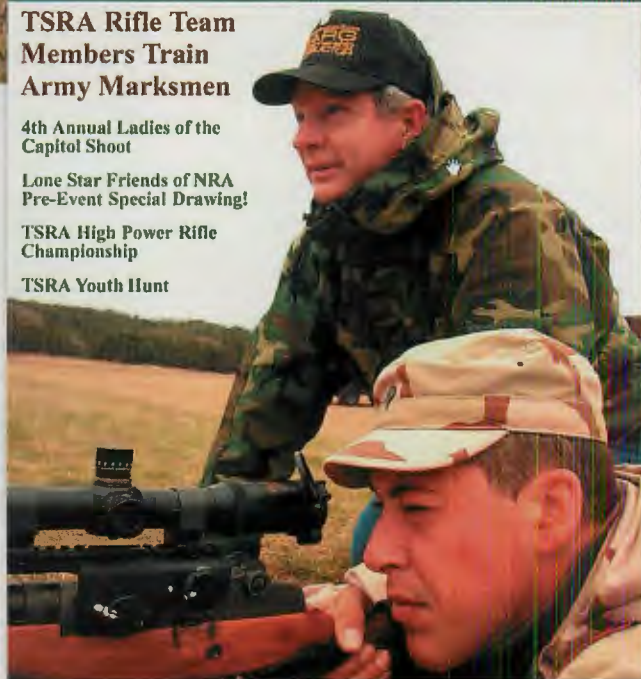
### TSRA Rifle Team Members Train Army Marksmen

4th Annual Ladies of the Capitol Shoot

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TSRA High Power Rifle Championship

TSRA Youth Hunt







*Group photo of the designated marksmen students and faculty from the TSRA High Power Rifle Team.*

TSRA National Match Service Rifle team that represents Texas and our organization at Camp Perry every year. In short, these ordinary guys from ordinary Texas towns were some of the best service rifle shooters in the country.

They came for all the reasons that Texans always come when duty calls. Rick Crawford, TSRA Secretary and Highpower Rifle director from Kilgore simply said, "I've got something they need." John Dunaway from Kilgore replied, "I don't know how I am going to swing this, but count me in." Richard Schultz from White Oak considered this his "contribution to the war on terrorism." CWO Roy Plumlee commented, "I was looking for a faculty of the best shooters, the best teachers and folks who could work as a team and I considered these men to be that faculty."

In the weeks before they gathered, these men absorbed the US Army Field Manual curriculum for SDM. M14 rifles were pulled from the storage depot in Anniston, Alabama and shipped to Texas. Orders were issued designating the group Volunteer Military Instructors (VMI). Army personnel sched-

uled classroom space and range time, and located ammo. 80 troops from the First Cavalry at Ft Hood were split into two one-week schools. In February at Camp Bullis in San Antonio, for the first time since World War II a civilian teacher stood in front of Army troops and said, "Gentlemen, good morning and let me welcome you to the first class of Squad Designated Marksman School."

The troops were from the First Cavalry Division, based at Fort Hood. Though most of them were from artillery units, they were going to Iraq to deploy as foot soldiers for patrol and security duty. Among them were mortarmen, cooks, scouts, and tankers. A tank driver, who turned out to love rifle shooting, was the high man the first week. An innocent-looking, but lethal, cook was second place overall. The TSRA team turned 'cannon cockers' of the First Cavalry into marksmen.

The faculty had to teach maintenance and operation of a





*(above) A soldier sights in on his target with his M14 rifle. (below) Instruction began in the classroom, with information not taught in Army Basic Marksmanship.*

rifle that was older than the soldiers. Since the M16 replaced the .308 M14 in the mid-sixties there were no tools or parts available from the Army. There were Army staff and competitive shooters with a high level of expertise with the M14 but most soldiers had never seen one. The civilian version of the M14, the M1A, was a beloved and revered rifle on NRA firing lines until the AR15 generally replaced it in the early 90s, so many of the VMI had an intimate knowledge of a rifle the army hadn't shot in 30 years. Rick Crawford ran a M14 gunsmith shop off the back gate of his truck. Most of the soldiers were Expert Rifleman, but few of them had experience beyond the standard Army 25 meter course or popup targets out to 300 meters. After a day of classroom the school went to the rifle range at distances from 100 to 500 yards.

To qualify, the soldiers had to shoot 14 hits out of 20 shots with iron sights and scopes from the 100 yard line back to 500 on the army "E" silhouette. Most of them had never shot from position. None of them knew how to use a sling. Few of them had any concept of how a firearm works or basic principles of marksmanship. None of them could read environmental conditions and adjust. The teaching team, while rigorously enforcing basic NRA safety rules, took the group from novice to more expertise than the soldiers had ever imagined. Then the

next week, they did it again.

On the line, the faculty drilled and explained and cajoled and taught and instructed and drilled some more. They taught sight alignment and trigger control. They stressed breathing and natural point of aim. They taught the use of a sling and how to shoot from position. They explained how to read the wind.

They demonstrated how the M14 weapons system worked and was maintained, and how to use a rifle scope. They talked shooting. They talked tactics. They talked firearm maintenance and safety. They showed how to find a target.

The soldiers loved it. "This is more shooting than I have ever done in my whole Army career," said one First Cavalry trooper. "I want to learn more about shooting," said another. "I went through a sniper course and they didn't teach half of this stuff," one of the Cpls said. Several of the soldiers want to shoot highpower matches when they return.

By the end of the week most of the troops had qualified. A few failed and even those few said that they had learned more about shooting than they had ever imagined.





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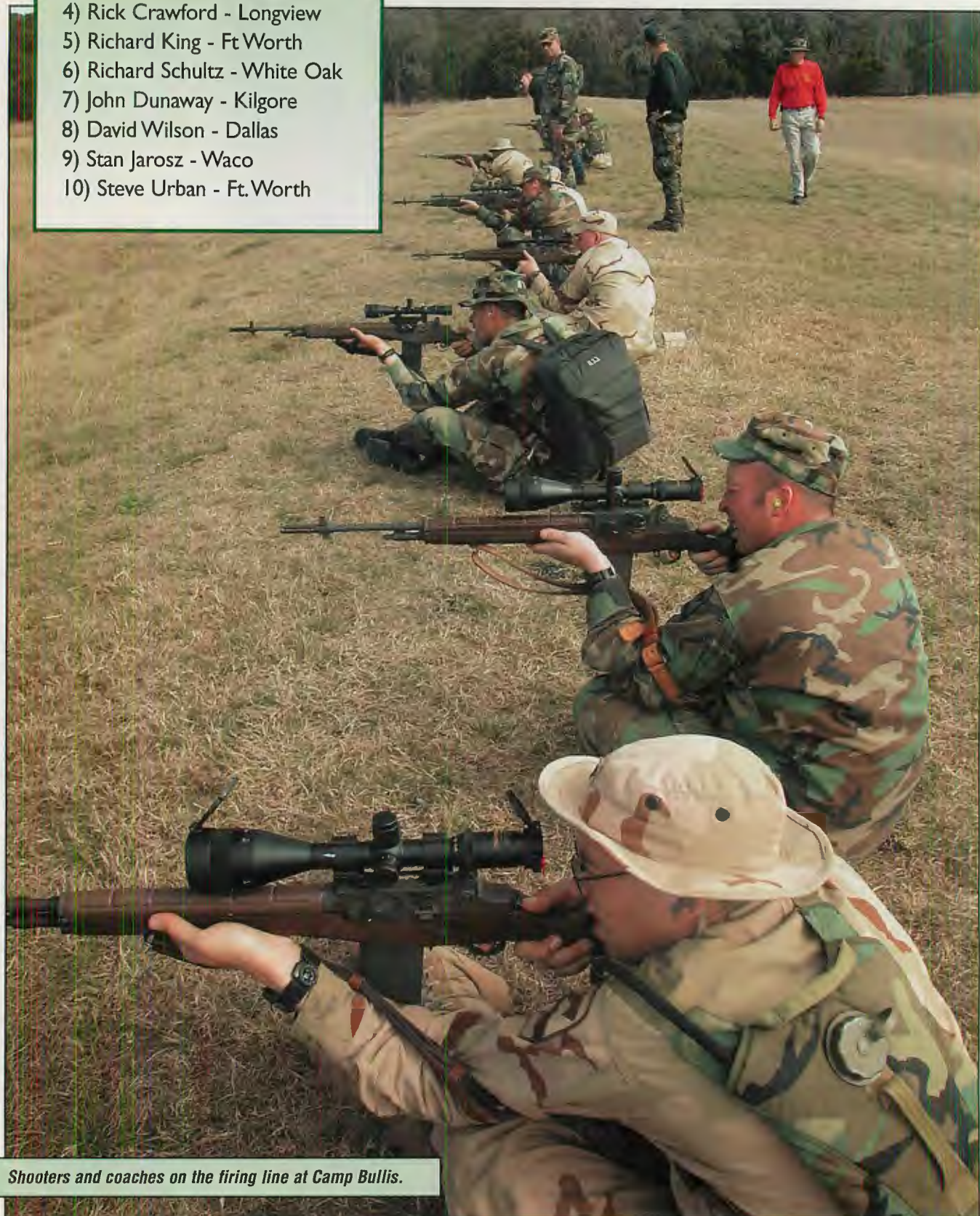


## TSRA High Power Rifle Team Instructors

- 1) Roy Plumlee - Mesquite
- 2) Robert Langham - Tyler
- 3) Robert Quinn - Dallas
- 4) Rick Crawford - Longview
- 5) Richard King - Ft Worth
- 6) Richard Schultz - White Oak
- 7) John Dunaway - Kilgore
- 8) David Wilson - Dallas
- 9) Stan Jarosz - Waco
- 10) Steve Urban - Ft. Worth

The salvation of our culture and our country depends on the skill of our armed forces. It depends no less on the will and character of the ordinary citizens who belong to organizations like the TSRA and the NRA.

This faculty was proud and privileged to be asked to assist the Army. They are proud and privileged to represent the Texas State Rifle Association and be a small part of the liberation of the Iraqi people and the War on Terror. The job they did may be added to the list of all the things we support with our TSRA dues and membership. ✖



Shooters and coaches on the firing line at Camp Bullis.



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# TWO DAYS OF



*Marines from the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) race toward their Humvees to move on anti-coalition militia on the mountain in the background who opened fire them.*



# HELL



## *Land-locked Leathernecks Lock Horns With Afghan Taliban*

TEXT & PHOTOS BY  
USMC GUNNERY SGT. KEITH A. MILKS





### **FORWARD OPERATING BASE RIPLEY, AFGHANISTAN**

(5 June 2004) — In what officials have described as the bloodiest fighting in Afghanistan since last fall, elements of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) participated in two days of pitched firefights with anti-Coalition militia forces in south-central Afghanistan June 2-3.

The two days of fighting began when Marine attack helicopters were fired upon with rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns as they scouted ahead of a heavily-armed convoy from Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 6th Marines, the MEU's ground combat element.

Moving forward to the attack's point of origin, the Marines found and engaged Taliban insurgents hidden in the rocks of a nearby mountain. The Marines used fire and maneuver to fix the enemy and then called in air support to augment their attack.

During the ensuing four-hour firefight, troops on the ground were supported by Marine AH-1W Super Cobra and UH-1N Huey attack helicopters, AV-8B Harrier attack jets, and Army AH-64 Apache attack helicopters and Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt II ground attack aircraft.

Eight enemy fighters were confirmed killed in the battle, with an unknown number wounded.

"Our junior [non-commissioned officers] really were the heroes of the day," said Marine Staff Sgt. Christian Boles, a platoon sergeant in BLT 1/6's Charlie Company, whose unit saw much of the heavy fighting. "They did everything they were supposed to, were aggressive, and carried the fight to the enemy."

*An Army AH-64 attack helicopter scans a mountain ridge in central Afghanistan for anti-coalition militia as a Marine takes a closer look.*





*(above) A Marine from the 22nd MEU (Special Operations Capable) uses his buddy to steady his rifle as he draws a bead on anti-coalition forces on mountain in central Afghanistan.*

*(below) Marines look toward the sounds of fresh firing during a firefight with anti-coalition militia who have taken refuge on a mountain redoubt in central Afghanistan.*





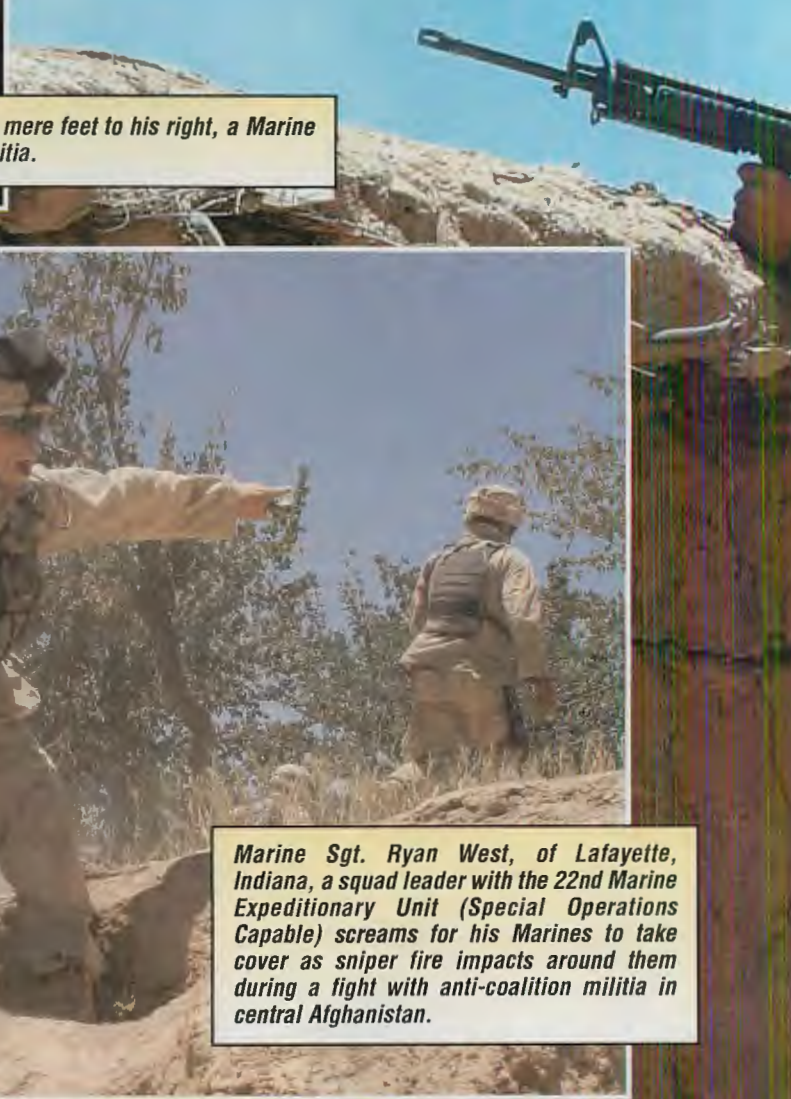


*Ignoring rounds impacting mere feet to his right, a Marine engages anti-Coalition militia.*

The next day, Army Apache helicopters observed a group of approximately 20 ACM fighters attempting to flee a village as the Marine convoy approached. The helicopters fired on the group as Marines on the ground closed in and engaged the enemy in a series of sharp firefights.

Once again, Marine, Army, and Air Force warplanes participated in the attack, and were joined by an Air Force B-1B Lancer bomber.

Three Marines were lightly wounded by enemy fire as they pursued the ACM fighters up a valley's draw. Two have



*Marine Sgt. Ryan West, of Lafayette, Indiana, a squad leader with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) screams for his Marines to take cover as sniper fire impacts around them during a fight with anti-coalition militia in central Afghanistan.*



*Marines take aim at anti-coalition militia who have taken refuge on a mountain in central Afghanistan during two days of fighting that left three Marines lightly wounded and at least 25 ACM fighters killed.*



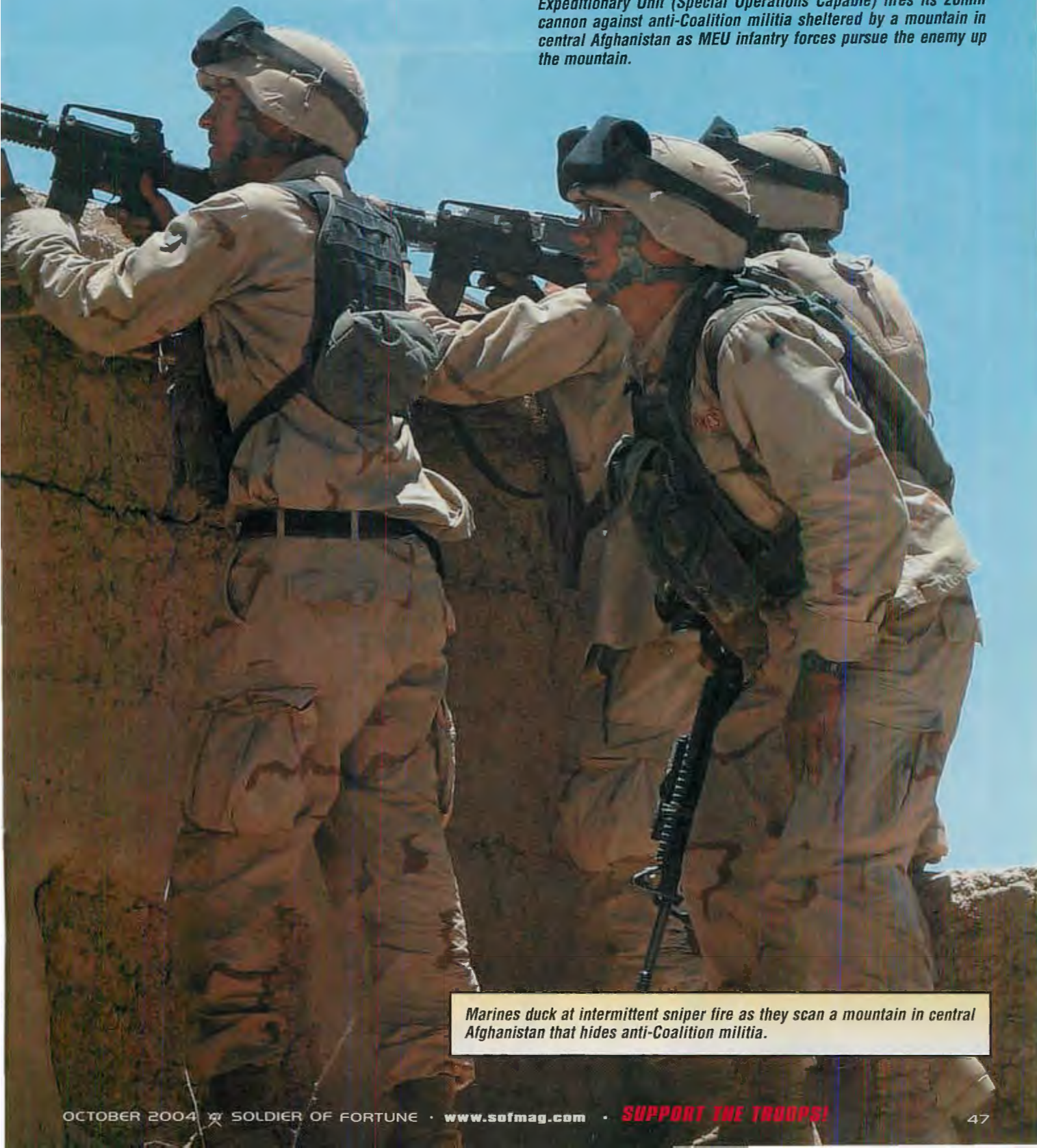
returned to duty and the third was transported to Forward Operating Base Ripley where he was declared in stable condition with prognosis for a full recovery.

Seventeen ACM fighters were killed in this second day of fighting, and four individuals were detained near the fighting.

These firefights were the heaviest since the 22nd MEU (SOC)'s arrival in Afghanistan in late March. Since then, the MEU has supported U.N. voter registration efforts in the country and pursued an aggressive campaign of combat and civil military operations. ✖



*An AH-1W Super Cobra attack helicopter from the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) fires its 20mm cannon against anti-Coalition militia sheltered by a mountain in central Afghanistan as MEU infantry forces pursue the enemy up the mountain.*



*Marines duck at intermittent sniper fire as they scan a mountain in central Afghanistan that hides anti-Coalition militia.*



# KIMBER'S





# USMC PISTOL

## *A Few Good Men Get A Few Good Pistols*

TEXT & PHOTOS BY  
GARY PAUL JOHNSTON

**I**t was in 1917 that the United States Marine Corps adopted the .45 ACP Model of 1911 pistol, and the Marines used the gun continuously from World War I through the Vietnam War. However, the leathernecks turned in these magnificent pistols with the adoption of the 9mm Beretta M9 in 1985 — or did they? Virtually unknown is the fact that the Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) (MEU [SOC]) has continued to issue 1911 pistols to Marine Force Reconnaissance Companies since 1986. Not standard issue guns, these pistols have been rebuilt to include a number of features now standard on many commercial and custom 1911s.

Some 20 years ago, special requirements for the MEU (SOC) 1911 pistols were submitted by USMC Colonel Robert Young. Now retired, Colonel Young is Vice President of Gunsite Academy, in Paulden, Arizona, but while still in the Corps he submitted a sample 1911 pistol built to his specifications to the USMC's Precision Weapons Section (PWS) at Quantico, Virginia. Included features were:

- Standard 5" barrel throated for optimum reliability.
- Standard recoil spring guide and plug.
- Standard extractor.
- Novak LoMount Tritium Sights.
- Standard Trigger of 4 to 4.5 pounds.
- Beavertail-style grip safety with pad.
- Commander (spur) style hammer.
- Extended thumb safety.
- No firing pin safety.
- Lanyard loop on butt.
- Grooved front strap.
- Exterior edges dehorned.
- Beveled magazine well.
- Matte black finish.
- Wilson 7-shot magazine.

Col. Young recalled that the boys at Quantico must have liked the Novak LoMount Sight, as his pistol came back with

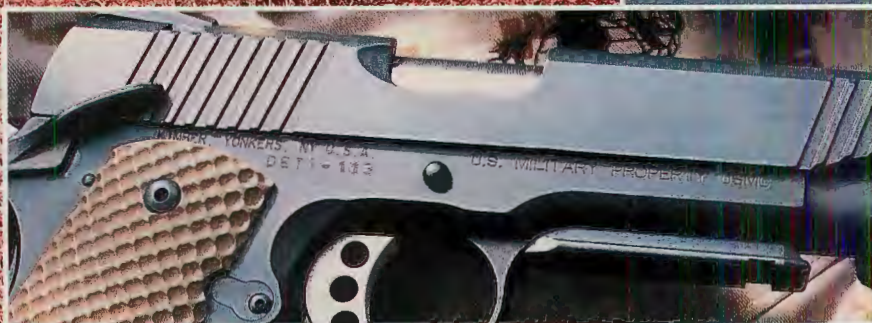




Using a unique SureFire Military Tactical Weapon Light, the ICQB pistol is also equipped with superb "Gunner" grips designed by the late Rob Simonich. The Kimber logo appears on the left side of the slide.



As received from Kimber, the ICQB Pistol was not yet equipped with Novak Sights, an Ed Brown Grip Safety, the Dawson Rail, or Gunner Grips. (inset) The ICQB Pistol is seen with its Dawson Rail and Novak Sights. On the right side of the ICQB pistol's frame is the serial number preceded by DET-1, and following it are the words, "US MILITARY PROPERTY USMC."





a simple fixed sight in its place. The Marine Corps MEU (SOC) incorporated nearly all of Colonel Young's recommendations and added other specifications in the years that followed. Recently MEU (SOC) began looking to commercial sources for a new, improved Model 1911-style pistol. Involved in this decision was the newly created Marine Corps Special Operations Command (SOCOM) Detachment 1 (Det 1).

This was the first time the USMC had become part of the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), and Det-1 was assembled by Colonel Robert Coates, formerly of 1st Force. With some 87 magnificent U.S. Marine warriors hand picked from the USMC's Force Recon Companies, Marine Corps SOCOM (MCSOCOM, as the unit is called), is taking an active role with the SOCOM community in the Global War On Terrorism (GWOT) as you read this.

As the vanguard for a new Close Quarter Battle (CQB) 1911 pistol, the MCSOCOM pistol is known as the Interim Close Quarter Battle (ICQB) Pistol. It will be a proving ground for the final general-issue gun to MEU (SOC), a fighting force of larger than battalion strength. In addition to the above features, the ICQB Pistol will incorporate a number of others as follows:

- Front and rear slide cocking grooves.
- Slide-dovetailed front sight.
- Frame equipped with a mount for a tactical light.
- Sighted for 25 yards with .45 ACP 230 grain GI ball.
- Capable of achieving a 7-shot 25-yard group of 4 inches or less.
- Flat mainspring housing.
- Ed Brown Memory Grip Safety.
- Ambidextrous extended thumb safety.
- Pachmayr GM-45CS checkered black rubber grips (replaced with Simonich/Strider "Gunner Grips" in coyote brown).
- Trigger set at 5 +/- pounds with no creep.
- Capable of firing 50,000 rounds without overhaul.
- Markings to include "US Property" as per MIL-STD 130.
- Serial number specificity to Det 1.
- Finished in matte black manganese phosphate.

#### The DET Selects Kimber

While the above requirements may seem great compared with those on a 1911A1 military pistol, most are standard on many factory 1911 pistols today, including the Kimber.

Well aware that a special version of the Kimber 1911 pistol had been selected by the Los Angeles Police Department's SWAT team in 2002, and of the high regard the LAPD had for



*A few good men now carry one of the best fighting pistols of all time and we hope that more than a few bad men will come to regret it.*

the guns, the Marines assigned to Det 1 decided to take a close look at what Kimber had to offer. After careful consideration, clearance was granted to select Kimber as the sole source to produce a limited number of 1911 pistols to Det 1's ICQB specifications.

Although Kimber was about to introduce its TLE/RLII 1911 with an integrated M1913 "Picatinny" frame rail, the Marines did not want to wait, but they also did not want the semi-dedicated tactical pistol light such as the Model 610 Classic used by the LAPD. Still, a pistol weapon-light mount was a requirement and, since MEU (SOC) had experienced excellent results with the Dawson Precision Rail that had been added to many of its 1911 pistols, this mount was selected for the new Kimber ICQB Pistol.

Kimber's Chris Corino expedited the ICQB pistol for Det-1. As received from Kimber, the gun came with Novak

*Continued on page 74*



*Seen here is the sample 1911 pistol originally submitted to Quantico in 1985 by Colonel Robert Young. It was returned to him without its Novak Sight.*



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## ADVERTISERS INDEX

African Hunter	54
Aimpoint	72
American Watch	23
Best Made Designs	61
Bushmaster	76
Bushrag	81
Camelbak	7
Carroll Media	78
Chase Durr	04
Craig Roberts	75
EO Tech	63
Global School Inv.	52
H&K	39
Hydrastorm	03
Hurley & Withington	29
Inter-American Security	52
Iron Wolf Ent.	41
Jonathan Ciener	53
Jungle Toy	80
Kestrel	73
Kifaru Int.	13
Kimber	9
Laser Devices	76
Matt Fury	33
Marc Wolfe Art	74
Maxsell	28
Muscle Products	77
NIC Law Enforcement	56
Omega Tactical	80
One Stop Knife Shop	78
Paladin Press	5
Polartech	15
Ratchet Belt Co.	56
R.M. Equipment	77
Sammy Franco	52
Silver Creek Industries	53
Silverman's	53
Southern Ordnance	81
Steve Arnold's Gunroom	79
Sure-Fire	11
Tactical Assault Gear	25
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7.62 Design	24

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## *Lessons from the National Tactical Invitational*

*There are some things that cannot be imagined, but there is nothing that may not happen!*

Vicki and I just finished the 2004 NTI (National Tactical Invitational) in Harrisburg, Pa. This time, I used my SIG M229/DAK in .357SIG in my Comp-Tec IWB, held in by a George Wells gunbelt. I shot all live-fire events with Cor-Bon PowerBall ammunition. My backup guns were a G36 and an S&W 340PD (.38Spl). In addition, I was armed with a Cold Steel Ti-Lite, Vaquero Grande, and Culloden, Fox OC, and a 6P Surefire. In one scenario, out of ammunition and backup guns, I quickly deployed my Ti-Lite and used it to stab the last attacker in the neck. That Ti-Lite is quick and deadly!

Concealing it all was a Concealed Carry Clothiers vest, which I wear all the time anyway. All pistols and knives worked without a hitch.

As in past years, there were five live-fire exercises on various ranges and five Simmunitions exercises in ASTA Village. In the village, each participant is confronted by actors who simulate varied personal security scenarios.

Events are free flowing. Posturing, positioning, and verbal skills are all tested, as well as shooting skills.

Each live-fire drill was, of course, a come-as-you-are affair, except for one, where we were required to use an "unfamiliar" weapon (this year, a side-by-side, double-barreled, break-open, 12ga shotgun, with two triggers and external hammers which had to be cocked manually). Most challenges are in building mockups. Some are in low light. Targets and "non-targets" alike are rubber mannequins or three-dimensional shells. All are dressed. All are responsive, and some are animated. Not all hostiles are in the open. In some cases, only a knee or foot is exposed.

There were, in addition, excellent talks and seminars presented by Tom Givens, Jeff Gonzales, George Demetriou from Modern Warrior, Vicki Farnam, Peter Pi, and me. It is an annual learning opportunity not to be missed!

### **Lessons From This Year's Event**

When the fight for your life has commenced, be:

- (1) Make the Dr.-Jeckel-to-Mr.-Hide transformation decisively and at once.
- (2) Ready to instantly move off the line of force when a threat is detected. Don't dither!
- (3) Prepared to forcibly disarm threatening individuals when they get within an arm's reach with pistols. I disarmed robbery suspects on two separate occasions when they stuck guns in my face. Both were so surprised and startled they just gawked at me in disbelief!
- (4) Scanning constantly, in all directions
- (5) In constant motion
- (6) Constantly behind, or moving to, cover
- (7) Constantly aware of, and moving to, an exit whenever possible. Be prepared to instantly transition to a backup gun or blade, when necessary

### **When Confronting Potentially Dangerous People:**

- (1) Attempt to be invisible and/or deselected. Exit at the first sign of trouble/danger.
- (2) Aggressively disengage! Use posturing, movement, distraction, OC spray, and verbiage to separate yourself from threatening individual(s). Don't get boxed in. Stay in the open where you can move in any direction. Continue to separate from them, even when they chase after you or try to get in front of you. After a while, they will give it up.
- (3) Use OC spray at the first sign of physical or verbal aggression on the part of suspect(s). After spraying the individual(s), disengage and separate quickly.
- (5) Don't allow suspects to engage you in conversation. If you answer their questions, you are allowing them to set the agenda. Instead, politely, but firmly, dismiss them and separate.

*Continued on page 79*

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Last month we examined the requirement for, and formation of, an elite unit whose primary mission is to interdict terrorists infiltrating into the interior of Israel — and if the bombers do successfully infiltrate, stopping them before they can strike. This month the fight against suicide bombers continues with machines, minutemen and munitions in a Mosque.

**T**O enhance their tactical effectiveness, the reconnaissance force deployed two secret weapons that routinely stymied Palestinian efforts in crossing into Israel proper. The first secret weapon was of the four-legged variety: Dogs are used on most ambushes for both operational and psychological reasons, as well as for pursuits. Operationally, the dogs are most effective terrorist catchers—the canines can run at speeds of up to 40 miles per hour in some cases and they can pursue, track, and lock onto a terrorist suspect with unforgiving force and agility. Adding to this equation is the fact that Palestinians—like many Muslims—view dogs as unclean animals; dogs are not kept as pets in many Arab homes.

Many hardcore Hamas terrorists have been known to fight to the death when confronted by Israeli troops or counterterrorist cops, but will surrender meekly when challenged by a saliva-spewing Belgian shepherd named Duke who is just dying to break through his muzzle and lock onto the bad guy's testicles with his teeth (the dogs remain muzzled throughout all operational deployments).

The Israelis have always been reticent about deploying dogs operationally—the use of German Shepherds and Belgian Malinois — because of the uncomfortable images it brought back to the Jewish collective memory of Nazi troops in World War Two rounding up Jews with dogs. And, for a while, the Israeli police stopped using dogs for that very reason. But in a climate of gut-wrenching alerts that are often punctuated by suicide bombing attacks that succeed, measures needed to be taken. “I think we make the correct use of dogs, more use even,” Border Guard commander Major-General David Tzur told the *Jerusalem Post*, “because at the end of the day they are there to stop attackers carrying out a massacre against innocent people.”



# DOGS OF WAR

**PART 2**

*Inside the Israel National Police Border Guards' Spearhead Counter-Terrorist Company*

TEXT & PHOTOS BY SAMUEL M. KATZ





The dogs are trained not to be bothered by the sounds of gunfire, and they are trained not to bark; the handlers don't want the animals to compromise ambush positions by making noise and then allowing a bomber, or his transport facilitator, to slink back into Palestinian-controlled territory.

The dogs, though, are incredibly loyal to their trainers and to the mission. One dog, in fact, hunting down an infiltrator, exerted himself to death in crossing miles of rough terrain to catch his man.

For downtime, when terrorist alerts don't have the company at fever's pitch for 18-hour shifts, the dogs are used to assist the unit in apprehending thieves and drug dealers operating inside the Arab towns and villages adjacent to Tulkarem and Qilqilya. Narcotics, it should be noted, along with auto theft, fund much of the Palestinian Authority's terrorist apparatus.

#### **Not Afraid of Death — Just Dogs**

The canines have added a unique envelope to the Spearhead Company's capabilities and even mystique—the Palestinians in and around Tulkarem and Qilqilya who call the men of the Spearhead Company "The Dogs of War"

*Long-range reconnaissance operators from the Spearhead Company's observation group deploy in ambush position near Tulkarem, their M4s at the ready.*

attempt to avoid the canines at all costs. "The fact that these four-legged [soldiers] can instill fear into the hearts and minds of an enemy that is not scared of death is an accomplishment," claims a unit operator as he suited up prior to a mission, "I think it says that there are ways to defeat and deter terror!"

Augmenting the all-terrain capabilities of the Spearhead Company's dogs is a small armada of ATVs (all-terrain vehicles) that can traverse stretches of hills, fields, and thick foliage faster than any sport utility vehicle. The ATVs, buggies that can hold up to four fully-equipped operators and a dog, can cover ground that an Olympic-class triathlete would have trouble negotiating, and are instrumental in affording Spearhead Company teams the means to catch terrorists who attempt to flee from a Border Guard ambush. The Spearhead Company uses a variety of ATVs—including those produced by Honda, Suzuki and Polaris.





*(above) Spearhead Company operators hone their shooting skills from moving unmarked vehicles. (right) An operator unleashes quick shots to the heads of targets on a range at Beit Horon, the Border Guard training facility, near Jerusalem. (below) Dust kicks up as Border Guard Spearhead Company operators take aim on a series of targets at the live-fire outdoor counterterrorist range.*



police academy's textbook. He also sought out Arabic-speaking officers — especially Druze, Circassians and Bedouins.

The patrol force crisscrossed the company's sector in armored jeeps, armored to withstand small arms fire. Three or four officers usually traveled in one jeep to provide as much firepower as possible to each radio car. One of the officers always rides in the back, facing traffic, with counter-strike weapon at the ready. A favorite Islamic Jihad tactic is to crash a vehicle laden with explosives into the back of a bus, and Border Guard units patrolling the Seam Line are sensitive to the same tactic being used on them. Patrol officers in the Spearhead Company are armed with M16A2 and M4 5.56mm assault rifles, as well as tear gas and other crowd-control weaponry.

### **The Cadre of Minutemen**

In emergencies, the patrol force is supported by a unique squad of volunteers — all regular Israeli civilians who lived in the Spearhead Company's area of responsibility. They will respond, often at a moment's notice, to any tactical assignment or terrorist incident. The volunteers are farmers, merchants, lawyers, doctors, teachers, and software engineers who work regular nine-to-five jobs, but have undergone intensive tactical and police training. Whenever the company's strength requires reinforcement, the volunteers are









(above) The Palestinian Authority village of Hable, home to several suicide bombers, as seen from a Spearhead Company observation post. (right) On the invisible border separating Israel from the Palestinian Authority along the seam line, it is often difficult to cordon off friendly territory from enemy lines. Sergeant S. scans a map of the area between Taibeh and Tulkarem where a dusty road is all that separates the two warring boundaries.



equipped and armed to handle virtually any task imaginable. "The volunteers are amazing," Kilo boasts, wondering what he'd do without them, "they don't have to help out, but they feel they are protecting their homes, their wives and their children. They keep their gear in their vehicles and are always connected to their two-way pagers and cell phones. If there is an attack or a bombing in our area, and our forces will be stretched thinly, the volunteers help us plug holes and maintain a level of patrol and response." When the unit has received word from the Shin Bet that terrorists are attempting to smuggle a bomber into Israel and the unit goes on full alert, the volunteers can assist at roadblocks.

The Spearhead Company's geographic responsibility is huge. Their stretch of the Seam Line is 27 kilometers long and covers 13 Israeli cities and towns, as well as six Arab population centers inside Israel. Operationally, the unit's targets include the terrorists themselves, the people that transport them across the West Bank and then toward their targets in Israel, and Arabs inside the Triangle who provide them



At the end of a successful operation, a suspect who has been detained for questioning is offloaded from a Spearhead Company vehicle.

with jobs, and places to stay. In the brief period that the unit has been up and running, they have scored remarkable results: They have captured 20 terrorist squads attempting to infiltrate into Israel; they have arrested 90 men wanted by the Shin Bet for questioning; and, they have interviewed nearly 9,000 suspects at impromptu roadblocks. Not surprisingly, crime in the area has plummeted by more than 70%.

#### Terrorists Need Be Successful Only Once

The Spearhead Company does not rest on its laurels, nor does it consider their mission a success—not yet and not when Palestinian terrorists continue their attempts to get through the human shield that has gone up along the Seam Line. The area that the Spearhead Company polices has been bloodied during the two years of the al-Aqsa Intifadah. "However successful we have been and however more successful we would like to be two weeks from now," adds Bravo, the unit's intelligence officer, "we can't let our guard down. We have to be the best that we can be 100% of the time in order to hope that we are lucky, as well, and have the chance to keep a suicide bomber from setting off his charge next to a group of women and children. The terrorists only have to be good at what he does once in order to be considered a success."

An example of just how hard it is to thwart every attempted infiltration and attack was hammered home to the men of the Spearhead Company on 2 November 2002, when the Palestinian Islamic Jihad successfully managed to secrete a teenager across the 700-yards of no-man's land separating Qilqilya from Kfar Saba. Equipped with 15-kilograms of TATP wrapped up in a cocoon of shrapnel, mainly nails and screws, the teenager was driven to an open-air mall, where he tried to get into an electronic store crammed with shoppers.

A security guard stopped the boy, who looked suspicious, from entering the location; the teenager then decided to blow himself up. When Spearhead Company commanders and NCOs reached the crime scene, and saw the bodies of the two Israelis killed, and watched the agony of the 100 who were

Continued on page 72



## Honorary Paratrooper

Continued from page 30

I was one of perhaps three guys on the plane who wasn't jumpmaster qualified. Finally somebody else yelled, "Let Major Peters do it. He's the tallest man on the aircraft."

A tall major, about 6'6" stumbled to the front of the plane and made the stand up motion. He didn't say anything. We stood up and he crooked his finger and tugged at an imaginary static line. We hooked up and checked our static lines without command. He patted his reserve and we checked our gear and the pack of the man ahead.

Finally he cupped a hand to his ear and called "Sound off for equipment check!" The guy at the end of the stick called out "OKAY!" and slapped the guy in front of him on the ass. The call rippled forward without numbers, because no one had the slightest idea of his number in the stick. Major Peters moved into the door. There was no grabass now. It was showtime.

### Blue Above, Green Below

The light winked green. Major Peters disappeared. The stick began its slow

shuffle toward the door, left foot leading, stomping, gathering speed like a train leaving the station. The guy in front of me disappeared and I wheeled into the door. Blue above, green below. Lung Tan Drop Zone was like a pool table the size of Rhode Island, a huge flat manicured lawn.

I vaulted up and out and felt the four little pops on my back that told me the rig was open. I looked up into a perfect green canopy with the sun shining through it. It seemed only a moment later that the ground rose and I hit and rolled, one of my few perfect parachute landing falls.

I got out of the rig and stood up straight for the first time in about an hour. It felt good. My jump pay for the next three months was assured, and that felt good too. I rigger-rolled my chute and put the assembly in the kit bag, shouldered it and walked to the turn-in point, feeling loose.

I expected to hook up with Rován and get ready to go back to Oki. But we were assembled in ranks again, and a small Chinese general who bore a marked resemblance to Porky Pig came out, and made a ringing speech about how we were all going to the Mainland together. "After you, my dear

Alphonse," was the thought that went through my mind.

Then the general went down the line and put Chinese wings on us all. I could think of nothing as the general approached but the utter glee I felt that for a brief time at least my shirt was going to be more gaudy than Kiernan's. The fact that it meant not a goddam thing only added to my pleasure.

Tom stepped out of his house to greet me when I drove the rusty Rambler into my gravel drive. Apparently he was just in from the field. He wore filthy fatigue pants, flip-flops, and a home-died green t-shirt. His face and hands were still covered with green greasepaint. He held a beer in one hand. His team was just about ready for deployment. I approached him, smiling, chest out, Chinese wings gleaming. He looked at me and said, "You son of a bitch!"

I was happy.

*Jim Morris is a former Special Forces officer who covered eight wars for SOF in the '80s. His books, "War Story" and "Fighting Men" are in print from St. Martin's. His novel, "Above and Beyond" is newly published by realwarstories.com. St. Martin's will re-issue the memoir of his SOF days, "The Devil's Secret Name" in December 2004. ✕*

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# Marines

PART 3



## Drive-Bys On The Highway of Death

*TOWs Useless, Platoon Leader Bleeding,  
Iraqis Shooting from Everywhere*



BY DONALD SCHUTT

PHOTOS BY SERGEANT MICHAEL A. LOZANO  
& THE MARINES OF TOW/SCOUT MIAMI



*Last month the Miami Marines fired up the baddies in an all-day running gunfight that brought them that much closer to Baghdad.*

Once the Scout Marines passed to the North side of the bridge they came upon a scene of destruction. Republican Guard units had been laagered at numerous locations on the north side of the bridge. The Iraqis had not anticipated their early arrival. The lead tanks had caught the Republican Guards literally running about their campsites trying to get organized to meet the Americans. The Marines had arrived ahead of schedule.

Soviet designed tanks and BMPs were on fire, exploding with secondary explosions. Ammo dumps burned fiercely. There was evidence that Iraqi military supply trucks had been hastily engaged in evacuating munitions from depots. They, too, were burning and knocked about intermixed with burning technical pickup trucks. The M1A1 tanks, supported by Cobra helicopter gunships, had done their job well.

Although 2nd Tanks did not take any casualties during the fight to seize the bridge, return fire had been intense. Lieutenant Colonel Oehl, the battalion commander, for instance, had an Iraqi missile hit his tank. The powerful explosion rocked his massive 68-ton tank knocking the 150-pound "bitch plate" off.

The battle for the bridge had taught the Miami Marines that their TOW weapons system was going to be of marginal use in the battles to come. The TOW system is designed to fire from long range to destroy armored vehicles. It can kill anything the Iraqis had at ranges up to 2.3 miles. The problem was that the TOW is very hard to use at ranges of less than 400 meters. That Sergeant Martinez had killed a BMP at 150 meters was a testament to his personal skill with the weapon.

At short range the gunner has no time to make corrections to the guidance. He has to keep the crosshairs on the target exactly. When the missile comes off the launcher, noise and weight transfer will cause a poorly trained gunner to flinch and miss. Even the smallest twitch from the gunner when the missile comes exploding off the launcher will lead to a miss at close range. The missile does not even arm for sixty-five meters.

Also any operation of the system demands finesse. Calm and cool assurance is difficult to maintain when one is being fired on from close range. Any guidance input from the gunner that is not delivered with smooth refinement will cause the projectile to lose constraints and fly out of the view of the missile tracker. The missile will then either slam into the ground or fly wildly into the air.

Corporal Eric Goeller, of Fort Myers, Florida, was a TOW gunner with Bronze Section. A few years earlier during a TOW gunnery competition he had earned a medal for being part of the best TOW gun team in the Marine Corps. He was in fact one of the best TOW gunners in the world. At the maximum range of 2.3





*Soviet designed Iraqi tanks would often lose their turrets when hit.*

miles a tank-size target was about the size of a pinpoint; even the crosshairs in the magnified optics would cover the entire target. Corporal Goeller could hit consistently at this range.

He was as expert as a sharpshooter as any sniper. Only his pinpoint accuracy extended to 2.3 miles and his weapon carried an anti-tank warhead. As one who knew the system well he quickly realized its limitations in this type of fighting.

### **Mounted Infantry**

Corporal Goeller: "After the first battle at the Tigris, I quit as a TOW gunner. I became mounted infantry. Because I looked at the map and I saw where we were going, and you know it was just all these drive-bys. It was urban terrain along the road. That's what it was."

The Marines were fighting close-range infantry battles from their barely protected HUMMVs. When the Marine Corps had organized TOW units it was never intended to subject them to this kind of close-up action. Now they were in the fight with what they had brought with them. They were very poorly armed for the fight to come.

They were, however, adjusting to do the best they could with what they had.

Corporal Goeller quit using the TOW for other than an ineffective \$113,000.00 piece of concealment that would at least deflect some of the incoming fire. He swung the weapon about his turret to provide cover when needed. He adjusted his tactics to work, in his limited firepower, to cover the main firepower in the section. That was Sergeant Moreno on the .50-caliber machinegun. Goeller's vehicle traveled just behind Moreno's. So if Moreno would fire left, Goeller would cover right. The Marines were adjusting.

### **3 April: Scout CO WIA**

As the Marines moved out the next day things were start-

ing to pick up. The 2nd Tank Battalion's mission was to punch through what lay along Route 6 for sixty-seven kilometers. The tanks would punch through and leave the clean-up work for Grunt Battalions coming up behind them.

The Battalion moved out with Tiger Scouts in the lead followed by all three Tank Companies. Next came the Grunts of Fox 2/5 mounted in their armored amtracks and escorted by Copper Section TOWs. The majority of the TOWs, about thirty HUMMVs (Silver, Gold, and Bronze Sections), came next followed by the Combat Trains with their Steel Section escort. Panther Scouts worked the back of the column as the rearguard. The column stretched for miles.

With 2nd Tanks punching-up Route 6, somewhat by themselves, the rear of the column was often the most dangerous part. By the time the rearguard was rolling by, an element of surprise that had existed was long gone. When the tanks were passing by only the bravest or most foolhardy of the enemy fired. Most of the Iraqis waited for the tanks to pass before taking action.

Also, any Iraqis wanting to fight found it much easier to engage the rear, with its diminished combat power, as the column moved away, rather than the front, where combat power just kept coming. Anyone engaging the front of the column was subjected to M1A1 tank after M1A1 tank rolling by, smashing them with their impressive array of firepower. Since the column was miles long this pounding could last a long time.

### **Al Aziziyan**

Tiger Scouts led the column. As they journeyed along Route 6 into the city of Al Aziziyan they started taking fire from everywhere. The area along the four-lane divided highway that was Route 6 was mixed urban and suburban terrain, with some vacant lots. Some areas contained buildings sev-





eral stories high. In some places the building literally touched the edges of the highway.

Other parts of the city consisted of low one-story dwellings. Intermixed with the building were open areas. Some areas were marshy and covered with tall saw grass excellent for concealing RPG gunners. This was especially true in the drainage canals adjacent to the highway. Incoming fire was wildly inaccurate but there was plenty of it.

Sergeant Michael: "What they were doing ... it was a town, but there was a lot of high grass, and the RPG gunners would pop-up in the high grass, which was four or five feet deep, high enough that it could conceal a man."

The Tiger Scouts mission was to move down the road until they hit something they couldn't bypass. They were not to become bogged down in a pointless gun battle that some unit behind them could handle. They would return fire in order to suppress the enemy and continue to roll. The tanks were not far behind, so when they ran into problems heavy firepower was available after a short delay.

Knowing the M1A1 tanks were near buoyed the confidence of the Americans while having the opposite effect on the enemy.

As they moved through an urban area in Al Aziziyah the Scouts began taking heavy fire from the top level of two-story buildings lining the highway. Fire poured down onto the Marines in their HUMMVs. They returned the fire. First Lieutenant Zummo, the Scout Platoon Commander, poured ammo from his .50-caliber machine gun into the enemy.

Sergeant Michael: "He was up on the gun, engaging targets, and talking to the Battalion Commander on the radio. We were all firing out the windows."

All the Marines were firing, to suppress the enemy while they continued to roll down the highway. Marines fired out of the windows of their HUMMVs. With the incoming fire inten-

sifying Sergeant Michael's M16 double-fed and jammed.

He borrowed the Corpsman's 9mm pistol and continued his fusillade out of the passenger window. HM3 Blake, the Corpsman, was busily engaging the Iraqis out the left side of the vehicle with an M16 he had borrowed from First Lieutenant Zummo.

### Fully Exposed

The Lieutenant in turn was manning the .50-caliber Machinegun mounted atop the HUMMV fully exposed as the incoming fire whizzed by him. Sergeant Michael, in the passenger seat, saw an Iraqi RPG gunner pop up out of the grass about twenty feet away. He fired his borrowed pistol, and the RPG gunner disappeared, back down into the grass.

The Republican Guard Soldiers were everywhere firing from drainage ditches on the sides of the road, from windows in the high buildings, and any other place they could find cover or concealment. Their marksmanship, however, continued to be appalling.

As Tiger Scouts punched through the Iraqi defenses the Scout Commander's vehicle, took two RPG hits. The RPG, or Rocket-Propelled Grenade is a powerful weapon. It carries a large shaped charge warhead that can tear a hole through a foot-and-a-half of solid steel. It is difficult to aim accurately, and in many cases the Iraqis were firing without aiming at all, but with so many flying through the air a few were bound to hit something. The first round went through the right rear antenna. The second, moments later, went through the exhaust stack. Shrapnel from the first RPG explosion injured Lieutenant Zummo.

Sergeant Michael was in the front passenger seat of the Scout Platoon Commander's Vehicle. "As we were going, we got hit by an RPG from the rear. What happened was that the Republican Guard soldier rose up from the grass behind us.





*The Miami Marines were halted by this huge burning Iraqi ammo dump right after they negotiated the ambush of the Islamic Jihad. The HUMMV mounted Marines had to move up alongside the large Armored vehicles in the column for cover from the continuous shrapnel and incoming fire. Fox company's First Sergeant was killed by shrapnel as this huge Iraqi Ammo dump burned and exploded.*

I know this because the gunner in the vehicle behind us saw him. The RPG gunner waited for us to pass, and then he shot from behind, hitting the passenger-side antenna. The RPG warhead detonated taking the antenna off. It detonated and the shrapnel cone was projected forward.

"Some of the shrapnel went up into Zummo, who was manning the .50-cal. It hit him in the triceps and the lower back. The lower part of the explosion sent shrapnel through the rear hatch of the HUMMV. The shrapnel was stopped by an AN-GVS-5 laser-range-finder stowed over the right wheel well directly in the path of the explosion. The laser rangefinder never worked and the shrapnel hit its case and was absorbed. If it had not been for the hard case the shrapnel would have flown throughout the vehicle's interior.

#### **A Great Piece of Gear**

"Although that laser rangefinder never worked as intended, it worked great as extra armor and probably saved our lives. It was a great piece of gear!"

The explosion initially shocked the occupants of the HUMMV. Sergeant Michael looked about the vehicle to assess the damage. "After the explosion I asked Lance Corporal Rowland, the driver, whether he was okay.

"He said, 'Yeah'.

"I asked Doc if he was okay, and he said 'Yeah.'"

Lieutenant Zummo then ducked down into the vehicle from the gun and said, "I'm hit," in a calm voice.

Doc Blake, sitting in the left rear seat beside the Lieutenant in the gun position said, "Sir, get down, so I can look at you!"

First Lieutenant Zummo pondered the situation for a fraction of a second and then replied "No!" In spite of his

wounds he stood back up in the exposed gun position as incoming rounds snapped by his head. As the Lieutenant's blood dripped down into the vehicle from multiple wounds he continued to engage the enemy.

Lieutenant Zummo, as the Scout Platoon Commander, led the Battalion. The Battalion Commander relied heavily on information that he transmitted, on just what was in front of 2nd Tank Battalion. His constant feed of information allowed the Battalion Staff to adjust tactics, and maneuver their subunits.

In the wake of the explosion in his vehicle the Lieutenant was having problems performing this mission. The RPG blast had deafened him. He had trouble monitoring the Battalion radio net. He handed his radio mike down to Sergeant Michael, the artillery Forward Observer, and told him to monitor the net.

A short time after the first RPG hit, a second round exploded. This one was launched from the left side. It exploded when it hit the exhaust stack. Shrapnel was thrown over the back of the HUMMV shredding some of the packs that were attached to the rear hatch. HM3 Blake was firing out the rear window on the left side with his borrowed M16 rifle. A small but painful piece of shrapnel cut into the finger of his left hand. He yelled an expletive, from the stinging, and went right back to engaging the enemy. The Tiger Scouts continued to roll.

#### **An American Fighting With The Iraqis?**

Toward the center-rear of the column the situation was calmer and much stranger. TOW's Bronze section had a bizarre encounter. The column had made a temporary halt. Staff Sergeant Torres was sitting in the passenger seat of his



HUMMV with his M16 pointed out the window.

Suddenly a fat Iraqi soldier popped-up, wearing only his long underwear. With his head not more than a foot from the muzzle of the Staff Sergeant's weapon the pudgy soldier raised his hands and indicated that he wanted to surrender.

Sergeant Moreno, standing in the gun position manning the .50-caliber gun on top of Staff Sergeant Torres's vehicle, pointed his weapon toward the fat Iraqi.

Sergeant Moreno: "The soldier is looking at me, and I'm looking at him in disbelief that this is happening at this time. And, immediately I see another person jump up out of the saw grass. This fellow is wearing the chocolate-chip issue from 1991 (the older-style desert camouflage from Desert Storm). His nametag read 'Taylor', and it said 'U.S. Marines' on his blouse. This is a fellow who is about six feet tall, red-headed, with blue eyes, and he spoke perfect English. And it made me wonder if this guy was a mercenary who went out there to collect a hard check from Saddam."

Sergeant Moreno asked the mystery-man: "Is anybody else down in the trench with you?"

The man, tall, blue-eyed, redheaded, and in his early thirties replied with a perfect American accent: "No ... no, man."

Sergeant Moreno continues: "We let him go. He was fighting with the Iraqis. He had the whole issue: the combat boots, the green skivvy-shirt, and I bet if you lift up the blouse you will find a web-belt (USMC issue). He had the whole set-up, standard nametape saying "Taylor", he even had an eagle globe and anchor (the USMC emblem) printed on his left shirt pocket. I said to myself, my God, this guy is squared-away!"

"Taylor" had dropped his weapon on the deck and was surrendering to the real Marines unarmed.

Sergeant Moreno glared down at "Taylor." The man in the 1991-style uniform was shaking with fright.

Sergeant Moreno: "He was scared out of his mind. I was able to look in his eyes. He was not having a good day. I never thought in my wildest dreams would I see someone wearing that uniform on the other side. Especially with U.S. Marines markings on it."

Sergeant Goeller further back in the column collected-up "Taylor", the fat Iraqi, and a couple other newly taken prisoners. He made them lie down on a dirt trail that intersected the main road. They were laying facedown, as if on an

episode of *Cops*.

The Bronze Section Marines left them there as they moved out again. They had no room for prisoners and left them for others further back to police-up.

Just what "Taylor" was up to is anybody's guess. The Marines go to war wearing chemical protective suits. If "Taylor" had been set to infiltrate the Americans he would have stuck out like a sore thumb. Besides wearing the out-of-date uniform, the goatee he was sporting was a dead giveaway that he was not a Marine. Who or what "Taylor" was remains unknown.

### Fake Surrenders

Further forward in the Column, Copper Section, who were escorting the Amtracks of Fox 2/5, ran into prisoner problems of their own. The column had again halted momentarily. Three unarmed, but battle-dressed, Republican Guard Soldiers got up out of the reeds on the side of the road and started jogging toward Staff Sergeant Zamora's HUMMV with their hands in the air. The Iraqi soldiers were yelling, "I give up! I give up! I give up!"

Lance Corporal Trevor Watson, of Coral Springs, Florida, was manning the .50-caliber machine gun on top of Zamora's vehicle. He pointed the big gun at the Iraqis and yelled "Get back! Get back!" When the supposedly surrendering soldiers did not stop, Watson fired a burst into the ground in front of them.

The Iraqis changed direction to the rear of the column and jumped into a foxhole that was concealed in the reeds about fifteen feet off the road. Every Marine in that part of the column had their weapons trained on the Iraqis in the foxhole.

Corporal Demetruis Johnson, of Miami, Florida, was covering these Iraqis along with his comrades. "They ran and jumped in this ditch. They came up. I watched them the whole time, because I didn't know what was going on. When they came up all three of them had AK's in their hands. That's when we unloaded on them."

*Next month the Marines learn not to trust any surrendering Iraqis.*

*Donald Schutt is a Lt. Col. USMCR. He is a Desert Storm veteran, and former OIC of TOW/Scout Miami. He is an airline pilot. ✕*



*The section leader's vehicle for a TOW section was equipped with a 50-caliber machinegun. Note the Marines individual ALICE packs attached to the back hatch and the jerry cans of additional water and fuel on the outside of the vehicle. The armor on the hummers was only effective against light shrapnel. Bullets could basically penetrate any part of the vehicle. (right) View of rear of command variant of "hardback" HUMMV like the one commanded by Lieutenant Zumo. The RPG that wounded him hit the right rear antenna and exploded. The shrapnel was projected into his back and through the rear hatch of the vehicle.*



# THE WINNERS ARE IN!

## THIRD PRIZE OVERALL



**"Designated Swimmer"**  
by PH1 Brien Aho



Brien wins these Bushnell 10x42mm Binos

## FOURTH PRIZE OVERALL

**"No Connection,  
Of Course"**  
by Sgt. Cyril F. Linda



Cyril wins this Bushnell  
20-60x65mm Trophy Spotting Scope



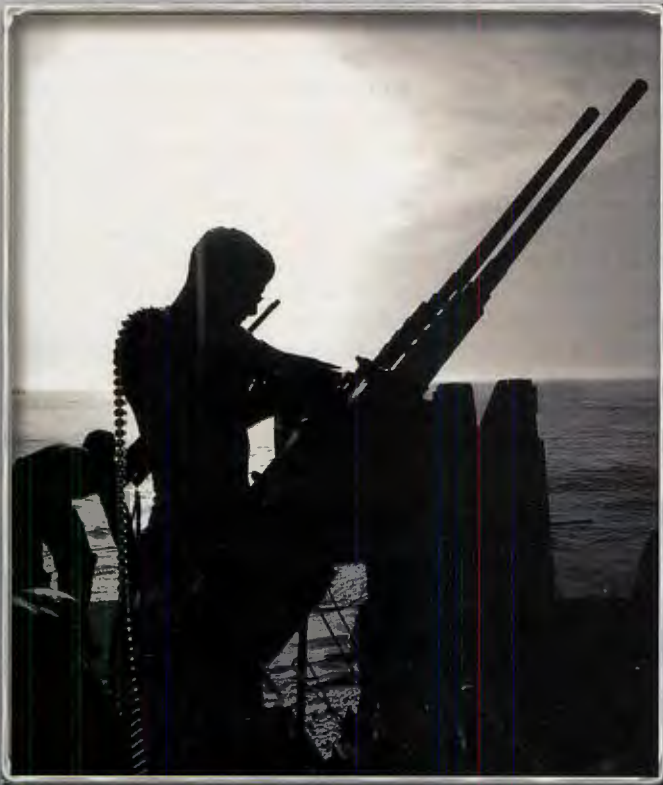


# FREEDOM PHOTO CONTEST

For the next few issues, *SOF* will take pride in publishing the winning entries of the Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom Photo Contest. We would like sincerely to thank the sponsors of this contest, who have demonstrated their generous and patriotic support for our men and women in uniform and in

harm's way, by donating prizes of "the right stuff" as a tangible example of our national appreciation. This good-as-it-gets gear is a suitable "Thank You" to our troops who have given the very best of themselves. Prizes awarded will be showcased with winning entries, as a "thank you" to our generous sponsors.

## FIFTH PRIZE OVERALL



**"Gulf War Reload"**  
by PH1 Arlo Abrahamson



Arlo wins this Chase-Durer  
Special Forces Air Combat Team Watch

## SIXTH PRIZE OVERALL

**"Meat, Reptile, Everyday"**  
by Cpl. Brian Bishop



Brian wins 5,000 rounds of Black Hills  
.223 in his choice of bullet.





wounded, they felt that they had failed. "Our guys take each attack personally," confessed Kilo, "this is their beat and their mission, no matter how impossible it is at times, to stop this kind of murder from happening. That's why, when forming this unit, I wanted only professional cops and those with a lot of experience in this sort of warfare. Counterterrorism is frustration and exhaustion all rolled into one. Not everyone can live under this pressure and continue to function."

It was just after dark along the Seam Line on 9 February 2003, when the Spearhead Company was summoned for what promised to be a long night of frayed nerves. Earlier in the day, two Islamic Jihad terrorists were arrested by Border Guard undercover units at a roadblock between Nablus and Tulkarem on the West Bank. The terrorists, a suicide bomber and his cell commander, were to have walked across the no-man's land separating Tulkarem and Taibeh and spent the night inside a mosque where an explosive belt, weighing in at some 11 kilo-

grams, had been assembled and prepared. The next morning, the suicide bomber was to have been driven toward Tel Aviv and with his commander watching from a safe distance, blow himself up inside a crowd of civilians.

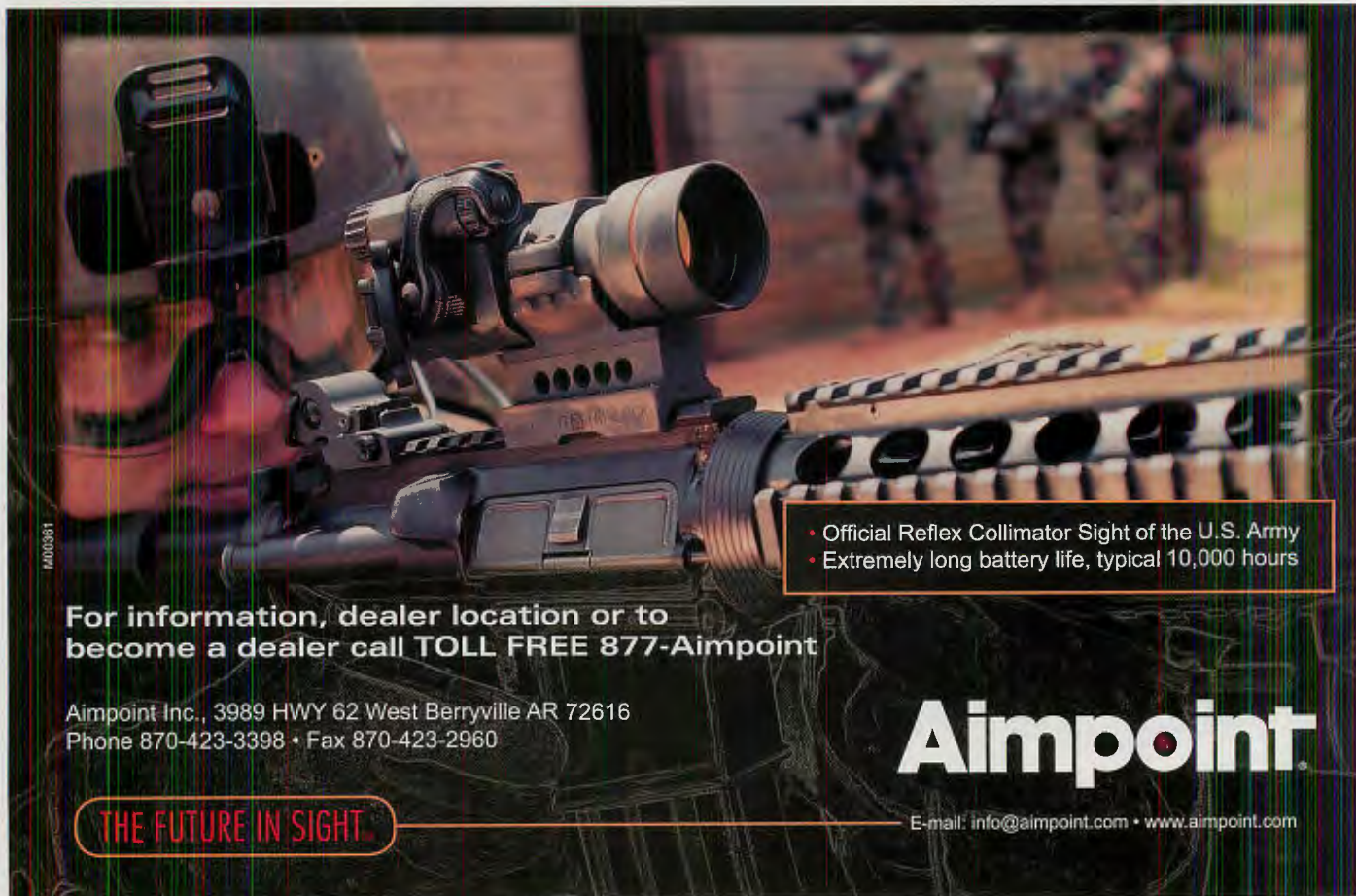
### A Holy Bomb

For the Spearhead Company, the objective of the night's callout was clear—they would have to locate the bomb inside Taibeh before local sympathizers could either hide it or deploy it against Israeli security personnel. Superintendent Kilo knew that operating in Taibeh with his large contingent of operators would be difficult under the best of circumstances — but inside a mosque, with cultural sensitivities at risk, the unit would have to act with unprecedented caution and respect. But even though respecting the holiness of the mosque and the sensitivities of the town's residents was important, getting the device safely neutralized was of the utmost importance. "The fact that there was a device, probably built in town and prepared for an operation, signaled that there were terrorists in the city," one of the team leaders stated, "and the fact that they would stash the device inside a mosque, especially so close to

the Id al-Adha (the Muslim Feast of the Sacrifice), where 1,500 worshippers could have been endangered if the device went off inside the mosque, proves that these are cold-hearted SOBs who couldn't care less who they kill—even if they kill fellow Muslims."

The Shin Bet interrogation of the two Islamic Jihad terrorists was able to reveal that the device, a hefty explosive belt complete with tubes crammed with TATP and shrapnel, was hidden inside a bathroom in the Khaleed Ibn al-Walid mosque in the center of town. The easiest way to determine if the devices were actually inside the mosque was to send in a squad of undercover, in local attire, to enter the location during prayers and search for the explosives; a tactical back-up force, held in reserve, would sit inside a convoy of unmarked vans parked outside not only laying in wait in case their plain-clothes counterparts ran into trouble, but also to reconnoiter the surrounding streets and respond tactically if any Islamic Jihad operatives were sighted. The streets of Taibeh were crowded that night, holiday shoppers milling about the streets and clogging up traffic.

When the undercover operatives entered the mosque and found the



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THE FUTURE IN SIGHT.



device, they immediately summoned for backup and ordered the mosque evacuated; the imam was enlisted to help appease the locals when Border Guards in full tactical gear ordered crowds away from the area. The crowd grew angry and Border Guard commanders realized that they might face a repeat of the incident three years earlier when the Ya'ma'm battled Hamas in the town—as well as local crowds—during a barricaded siege. But the sight of EOD units, suiting up and entering the mosque quieted the crowd.

According to standard operation procedure, the police bomb disposal experts would have neutralized the device inside the mosque, using a robot or disrupters, to render the device harmless—but there is never anything standard about counterterrorist operations inside the volatile gray area of Israel's indigenous Arab population. Fearing that the belt's detonation would harm the mosque, the EOD technicians put their own lives in harm's way by physically moving the device to a nearby quarry where it was successfully neutralized. By 0400 hrs, as many of the town's elders were venturing toward the mosque for holiday prayers, the Spearhead Company was wrapping

up operations in the town. Elements of the reconnaissance unit, however, eager to arrest the Islamic Jihad facilitators, returned to the town and its surrounding confines.

### The Final Line of Defense

The incident in the Taibeh mosque gave a clear indication to the operators serving in the Spearhead Company that Palestinian terrorists were determined, at all costs, to infiltrate Israel and execute suicide-bombing attacks designed to kill and maim hundreds of innocents. To the men who serve in the Spearhead Company, this latest incident in Taibeh underscored the importance of their day-to-day mission along the seam line and a sobering reality that, in many cases, they are the final line of defense separating the citizens of Israel's major population centers from the insanely murderous desires of men—and women—determined to martyr themselves by killing innocents.

In the 10 years of Palestinian suicide bombings against Israel, an onslaught that commenced in April 1994, there have been 25 suicide-bombing attacks, resulting in the deaths of 177 Israelis and the wounding of some 500 more, along or through the porous frontier of

the seam line. The controversial "security fence" that the Israeli government is currently building in a mad dash against time has been greeted by many in Israel as too little too late, and by many Palestinians as nothing more than the hijacking of the issue of borders in the guise of security.

To the men and women who police the seam line, especially Border Guard officers in elite units such as the Spearhead Company, the fence cannot be put up fast enough, but these seasoned veterans of the hunt for the suicide bombers know that the fence is a barrier—nothing more. Because it will be harder to infiltrate bombers into Israel, the terrorists will economize their efforts and invest the maximum effort in order to achieve the maximum destructive result. The operators inside the Spearhead Company realize that the terrorists will try harder and harder to push the suicide bombers into Israel as a matter of principle — to prove that fence or no fence, the terror attacks will continue unabated.

*Author of numerous books and magazine articles on the Middle East, Samuel M. Katz is a frequent contributor to SOF. ✕*

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Continued from page 51

LoMount Night Sights, a flat, checkered main-spring housing with lanyard ring, a standard recoil spring system, no firing pin safety, a conventional extractor, Kimber's black, checkered rubber grips and magazine. The Marine Corps then installed an Ed Brown Memory Grip Safety, replaced the magazine with a Wilson 7-shot magazine, and replaced the Kimber grips with the excellent Simonich "Gunner" Grips in coyote brown. The pistol was then shipped to Dawson Precision for installation of the Dawson Rail.

### SureFire IMPL

Semi-permanently mounted to the frame's dust cover by three hardened Allen screws, the steel Dawson Rail is both narrower and thinner than M1913 frame rails, and is far less obtrusive, but requires a light with a matching bracket. Det-1 selected SureFire's Integrated Military Pistol Light (IMPL). Used on previous MEU (SOC) 1911's, this MIL-SPEC tactical light is waterproof, hard-anodized OD green, and is powered by 6 volts, giving it 40 minutes of 60-lumen blinding white light well suited for dark cave duty.

Like the SureFire Tactical Weapon Light adopted by the U.S. Navy Seals, the IMPL uses a single button-line tape pressure switch extending back along the bottom of the trigger guard and down against the upper end of the front strap. Operation is thus easy and ambidextrous. A push-through ON/OFF switch is located on the side of the light. After manufacture, the IMPL is shipped to Dawson Precision where the special mounting bracket is installed. Currently the IMPL is

available only to the U.S. Military.

### Safariland ICQB Holster

Because of its small size, the Dawson Rail is compatible with most standard holsters with the light removed, but this doesn't apply to normal use by Det 1, as the gun is carried with the IMPL mounted. To accommodate this combination, Safariland built a new version of its 6004 Tactical Holster. Rendered in the current U.S. Military Desert Camouflage pattern, this synthetic rig uses Safariland's patented security system, and can carry a spare magazine pouch on its leg backing. The holster issued to right-handed operators is cataloged as the 6004-538-521 and to left-handed shooters as 522.

With the holster, Gemtech's Tactical Retention Lanyard

### Kimber MCSOCOM ICQB

#### SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber:	.45 ACP.
Muzzle Velocity:	850 fps.
Operation:	Browning short recoil.
Type of Fire:	Single action, semi-automatic.
Barrel Length:	5 inches.
Overall Length:	8.75 inches.
Weight:	(pistol) 40 oz. (tactical light) 8.5 oz.
Safety:	Positive ambidextrous thumb safety and grip safety.
Feed Device:	7-round box magazine (Wilson Combat specified).
Sights:	Novak LoMount Night Sights.
Grips:	Simonich G-10 "Gunner" grips.
Finish:	Matte black MIL-STD Parkerized.
Markings:	US MILITARY PROPERTY USMC, with DET 1 serial number prefix.



"Lord, grant me the strength..."

### "Lord, grant me the strength..."

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## ACCURACY CHART

Five Bench Rest 7-Shot 25 Yard Groups Using Oehler Chronograph. Temp: 38°, Elev: 7000', Hum: 67%

.45 ACP Cartridge	Muzzle Vel.	Small Group	Large Group	Average
Black Hills 230 gr. FMJ	848 fps	3.42"	3.64"	3.51"
Federal 230 gr. FMJ	844 fps	3.56"	3.72"	3.69"
Winchester 230 gr. GI ball	857 fps	3.65"	3.87"	3.78"

**Look Ma, no tools! Field stripping the Kimber ICQB pistol as shown required only hands to complete and it went back together in seconds, thanks to its standard recoil spring system.**

(TRL) was also adopted by Det-1 in Coyote Brown. Attached to the gun's lanyard ring, the GTRL has a coiled line leading to a quick release attached to a nylon belt-loop. Carrying NATO Stock Number 8465-99-856-8406, the GTRL is standard issue to a dozen other U.S. Military entities as well as local and federal law enforcement agencies. It fits all pistols that have lanyard mounts and has a breaking strength of 100 pounds.

Also adopted by Det-1 was a special MCSOCOM Knife designed by Strider Knives, of San Marcos, California. Made of the finest steel, the MCSOCOM Knife uses G-10



scales and a Liner lock. It is also camouflaged and comes in a special zippered case. Each MCSOCOM knife is numbered to match each pistol and is only available to the Det-1. A special civilian version is also available from Strider in a limited edition.

Being fortunate to receive one of only 200 Kimber MCSOCOM ICQB Pistols made, I shipped it to Novak Design for installation of Novak LoMount Night Sights, and then to Dawson Precision for a rail. SureFire's Travis Mitchell shipped an IMPL to Dawson for installation of its mount, Safariland's Scott Carnahan sent me an MCSOCOM ICQB camouflage holster and belt, and Gemtech's Kel Whelan shipped me a GTRL in coyote brown.

### "Gunner" Grips

Having most all the ICQB accessories in hand, I was still missing was a set of coyote brown "Gunner Grips." Made of nearly indestructible G-10 synthetic, "Gunner Grips" are both visually striking and totally utilitarian. Intended for serious use by professional operators, these grips were designed and manufactured by Rob Simonich, of Simonich Knives, LLC, of Clancy, Montana. Coyote brown is a brownish pastel that seems to change color in different light, and is difficult to see in the outdoors. When I contacted Rob Simonich, he informed me that his "Gunner Grips" would be marketed by

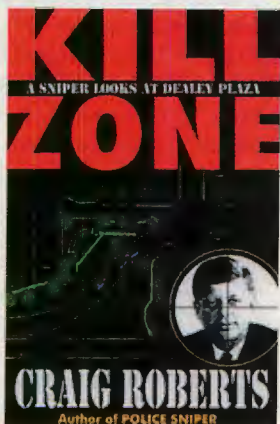
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Strider Knives, but at the time, he had been unable to obtain G-10 in coyote brown, so had painted the grips that were purchased by Det 1. The grips on the test gun were also painted.

Rob Simonich was tragically killed in a traffic accident on 28 November 2003. However, "Gunner Grips" will continue to be made by Rob's wife and business partner, Christine Simonich, as well as by Strider Knives under special license, and are now available in Coyote Brown from either source.

### The First Time Ever

Having the prefix, DET-1, my sample ICQB pistol bears serial number 113, and the forward right side of the frame is stamped "US MILITARY PROPERTY USMC." Although NAVY marked 1911 pistols have been issued to the United States Marine Corps over the years, the Kimber ICQB Pistol is the first 1911 service pistol to ever carry the USMC designation. On the left side of the slide is the standard Kimber logo and on the chamber is stamped cal. 45 NDT, and below that a letter "P" proof mark. The letters, NDT, indicate that the pistol has undergone additional non-destructive testing, a military requirement consisting of X-raying and other metallurgical tests.



Left in natural stainless steel, the barrel is not fitted to tight match specifications, but its diameter is increased by about 0.4000" at the muzzle. The chamber is throated and polished with a match grade bore and, while it was not specified, the ejection port of the ICQB is both lowered and flared. Only a tiny amount of play could be detected in barrel/slide/frame play in battery, and appeared that the pistol was designed as specified to function reliably and still produce accuracy that was better than average.

Except for the barrel, the ICQB Pistol is Parkerized with all edges "melted," and the fit of all components is excellent, but operators won't need any tools to field strip this Kimber. I was able to remove and disassemble the slide group in seconds using only my fingers, and the pistol was reassembled exactly like any other GI 1911. Disassembling the pistol's frame group is another matter, due to the unique method by which the ambidextrous thumb safety is held in place. This can also be accomplished fairly easily, but will require some instruction.

#### Shots Fired

With a crisp letoff slightly less than 5 pounds, my sample ICQB pistol begged to be fired, but first I replaced the Kimber magazine with one Wilson 7-round magazines as the Marines had. I then headed to the range with not only Winchester .45 ACP 230 grain GI ball, but also a few other brands and bullet styles that were fired for function. Accuracy from ICQB Pistol #113 was well within specification firing the required 7-shot groups, and I experienced no malfunctions. Although a light coating of lubricant was left on the moving parts as received, no additional lube was provided and the pistol was never cleaned during the test.

Accuracy of the 230-grain ball loads tested is listed in the accompanying performance chart.

Det-1 has gotten its hands on a high-quality new 1911 pistol. Word is that the ICQB Pistols have fired well over 15,000 rounds and are doing just fine, but it's not over.

In the near future will begin a series of bids for the new MEU (SOC) 1911 CQB pistol. These acquisitions will amount to some 2,800 pistols and spare parts, and while Kimber may appear to have an inside track, you'll see many other companies enter this fierce competition. There is also word that Quantico has expressed interest in

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building the MEU (SOC) CQB pistol in-house. Whatever happens, there's no doubt that a "few good men" will once again carry the finest combat pistol in the world and we can only pray that a lot of bad men will regret it.

**A Civilian Version**

What about a Marine Corps style Kimber for the rest of us? Cataloged as the MCP-1 by Kimber, none of the 200 ICQB Pistols will be offered for sale to the public, but just in from Kimber is that the company plans to offer a civilian counterpart. Fittingly called the "Warrior," the new Kimber will have a number of as yet unspecified features found on the ICQB Pistol, and while it's only a guess, I would expect to see it built on Kimber's new rail gun. In the meantime, for information on all its fine firearms, contact Kimber Mfg., Dept. SOF, 1 Lawton St., Yonkers, NY 10705, phone; 888-243-4522 or on the web at: www.kimberamerica.com.

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## Combat Weaponcraft

Continued from page 57

rate. Be in constant motion. Don't stand in one place and answer their questions.

(6) When talking with police, be polite but not talkative. Don't answer questions that weren't asked. If you're involved in a violent incident in any capacity, request that no questions be asked before your attorney is personally present. If questions are asked anyway, politely respond that you want to consult with your lawyer before answering.

(7) Don't be restrained by other peoples' lack of action. If danger signs are clearly present, get out! Don't worry about what others are doing or not doing.

### Interesting Facts From Presenters:

Most defensive shootings take place in parking lots, driveways.

- The way we are living in the USA in the wake of 9/11 is the way we're going to live from now on. The world situation is not improving, nor is it likely to any time soon.

- .357SIG caliber is taking off. It has now become a major part of Cor-Bon's business.

- 9mm +P ammunition actually creates less chamber pressure than does "NATO" 9mm ammunition. In light of this fact, it is interesting that most pistol manufacturers advise their customers not to shoot +P, but, in the same breath, insist that NATO ammunition is just fine.

- In Iraq, a Leatherman-type tool is essential. Many soldiers are now also carrying tomahawks. Cold Steel makes a wonderful one. They report excellent results!

- Benelli shotguns with 00 buckshot have been used to great effect in Iraq. Popular weapon. Effective range is 25m.

- Many "tactical" sling systems don't allow a quick transition. They are not recommended.

- A 10-round, .40S&W XP magazine makes an excellent and reliable 15-round 9mm magazine that works just fine in the 9mm XP.

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win a stunning victory over the British during the Battle of New Orleans and go on to become President of the United States. But, at this time, Jackson was barely more than a teenager, and he made the mistake of picking a fight with Simon Kenton. Kenton, then in his forties, was a rugged, hardened frontiersman, a contemporary of Daniel Boone. Kenton had already been captured twice by Indians and had twice escaped. He was as tough as they come!

When Jackson finally pushed the right buttons, Kenton exploded into action. He was all over Jackson and would surely have decapitated him with his knife if other patrons had not pulled him away. In his first display of intelligence that evening, Jackson took advantage of the opportunity and ran out of the building.

Jackson would later make the understatement of the day, "Kenton doesn't fight for fun!"

Yes, and neither should we.

An "adventure" is the inevitable result when opportunity and unpreparedness collide!

John Farnam is an independent firearms instructor and a frequent contributor to SOF. ✉

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## Terror Heat

Continued from page 24

500 illegal aliens a month have entered the United States through the reservation in recent years." One Mohawk, Charlie Little Tree, estimated that 1000 and 8,000 tribal members are involved in the alien smuggling trade.

From the reservation, the illegal aliens are driven through the Adirondack Mountains to Manhattan

There is no comprehensive or accurate information or estimate by U.S. officials as to how many illegal aliens enter the United States from Canada, but the numbers are growing, the *Washington Times* concluded.

The 300,000 immigrants a year that enter Canada still include terrorists looking for refuge. Canada still does not detain refugee claimants, even those with questionable backgrounds, according to the *Washington Times*. Ten thousand of these refugees a year disappear into Canada's ethnic communities.

Terrorists continue to come in from Canada and hide among the millions of illegal aliens already here from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Algeria and sixty other countries that annually sneak across the Canadian border. From 2,000 to 5,000 terrorists are said to be in the United States although a true figure is impossible to assess, according to the *Washington Times*.

Not all the blame lies with Canada, according to former Republican Congressman Jack Metcalf. "A country with no borders is no country at all... The Clinton administration didn't do its job in protecting our borders, particularly here in the north." The Bush administration has been lax on its stewardship of the southern border because of its close relationship with Mexican President Vicente Fox.

The challenge in the North is to protect daily shipment of \$1.4 billion in trade.

"Our top priority is to stop terrorists and weapons of mass destruction from entering the country, but we can't choke off trade in doing so," Kevin Weeks, CBP director of field operations in Detroit told the *Washington Times*.

Whatever the political and economic agenda, most sources conclude that terrorists, illegal aliens and drug smugglers continue to pour into the United States over the mostly unguarded Canadian border.

Dr. Martin Brass is a longtime frequent contributor to SOF. ✕

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**John Kerry told the world we were war criminals who raped, tortured and murdered in Vietnam. Now, thirty-three years later, we will tell America the truth. Join us at the rally we call:**

## “Kerry Lied . . . While Good Men Died”



**What:** A peaceful remembrance of those with whom we served in Vietnam — those who lived and those who died. We will tell the story of their virtues and how that contrasts with the lies told by John Kerry.

**When:** Sunday, Sept. 12, 2004 @ 2:00 PM — 4:00 PM EDT

**Where:** The West Front of the U.S. Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. All Vietnam veterans and their families and supporters are asked to attend.

All Vietnam veterans and their families and supporters are asked to attend. Other veterans are invited as honored guests.

This will be a peaceful event — no shouting or contact with others with different opinions. We fought for their rights then, and we respect their rights now. This is NOT a Republican or a pro-Bush rally. Democrats, Republicans and independents alike are warmly invited. Our gathering is to remember those with whom we served, thereby giving the lie to John Kerry's smear against a generation of fine young men.

B.G. “Jug” Burkett, author of “Stolen Valor,” will be one of our speakers. Jug has debunked countless impostors who falsely claimed to be Vietnam veterans or who falsely claimed awards for heroism. Jug recommends that we refrain from dragging fatigues out of mothballs. Dress like America, like you do every day. Dress code: business casual, nice slacks, and shirt and shoes. No uniform remnants, please. Unit hats OK.

Selected members will wear badges identifying them as authorized to speak to the media about our event. Others who speak to the media will speak only for themselves.

The program will be controlled in an attempt to stay on-message. Speakers are encouraged not to engage in speculative criticism of John Kerry but (1) to stick to known and undisputed facts about John Kerry's lies while (2) reminding America of the true honor and courage of our brothers in battle in Vietnam.

Send this announcement to 10 or more of your brothers! Bring them by car, bus, train or plane! Make this event one of pride in America, an event you would be proud to have your mother or your children attend.

**Note:** This has been reprinted with permission from [www.KerryLied.com](http://www.KerryLied.com) and Vietnam Vets for the Truth, L.L.C. *Soldier Of Fortune Magazine, Inc.*, is not responsible for the content of this add, nor is it sponsoring this rally. The space is provided as a public service by *Soldier Of Fortune Magazine*.



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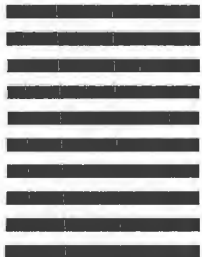
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