



SHOOTING HEARTS, WINNING MINDS WITH ENGINEER SNIPERS

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

MORE PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

WWW.SOFMAG.COM

GEARING UP FOR BACK-TO-IRAQ

BRIT MERC'S MONSTROUS MUCK-UP

COKE, COMMIES & "CAPITALISM"

THE LIGHTEST, HANDIEST .223 CARBINE EVER

MARINES' FALLUJAH FIGHT

MARCH 2005 CC 02061

\$4.99US \$6.99CAN



0 09281 02061 5



STRYKER: A KILLER RIDE? PAGE 38

SOLDIER

OF FORTUNE

**SOF
PHOTO
CONTEST
WINNERS**

SOFMAG.COM

**TORTURE AT
SADDAM'S
HAND**

**Private
Contractors
In IRAQ**

**THE
QUICK CHANGE**

**THE RIGHT STUFF FOR BACK TO IRAQ
TRAGEDY THROUGH THE BORDER**



SOLDIER OF FORTUNE: On the front lines of World War III. Subscribe and don't miss an issue!

TACTICAL COMMAND INDUSTRIES

THE WORLD'S LEADING PROVIDER OF TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS HEADSETS!

• 2 and 3 Wire Covert Communication Earsets

• Military Helmet compatible, noise-attenuation headsets

• Hearing protection: Bone-Resonance Comm systems

• Integrated Ear/Throat Comm Systems



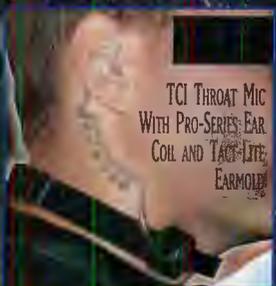
HEARING PROTECTION AND EARPLUGS FOR SHOOTING, TRAINING AND HUNTING



GAS MASK COMPATIBLE HEARING AND VOICE SYSTEMS



BONE CONDUCTION TACTICAL HEADSETS



TCI THROAT MIC WITH PRO-SERIES EAR COIL AND TACT-LIFE EARMOLD

In service today with DELTA, the SEALS, the FBI, and some of the best SWAT units on earth, TCI headsets are the world standard in lethal environment communications! TCI manufactures a line of superb quality headset solutions including range and training hearing protection, custom products, MIL-SPEC tactical headsets, covert communication systems, bone conduction headsets, headsets with active hearing protection and quality earpiece products. Built of the most rugged and durable materials available, these headsets are designed to accommodate various helmets, headgear and the rigors of SWAT. TCI is run by active duty tactical pros who design and use the equipment themselves! We have an extensive agency eval program which is also available through our worldwide network of dealers. See our website or call for a free catalog!

TCI's TACK-2 headset features the Soundwaves/FC receiver set, for superb clarity and a noise canceling boom mic

The TCI Liberator-X11 provides active-stereo hearing protection with TCI's super durable, high quality mic!

The rugged, waterproof TCI PTT switch with Mil-Spec cabling is the choice of the worlds best operators



WWW.TCISWAT.COM

Tactical Command Industries, Inc.

3711 Sunset Lane - Suite E

Antioch, CA 94509

(925) 756-7354 Ext. 10

(925) 756-7977 Fax

(888) 990-1600 Toll Free

NEW DEALERSHIPS AVAILABLE

NOW, CALL TODAY!

CALL NOW FOR A FREE CATALOG! 1-888-990-1600

© PYRAMONT NORTH AMERICA 2002

THE WORLD'S MOST ADVANCED AMMUNITION!

EXTREME SHOCK

YOU SHALL RISE
UP ON THE WINGS
OF EAGLES...AND
THE GATES OF HELL
SHALL NOT PREVAIL
AGAINST
YOU!

THE WORLD'S
PREMIER
ANTI-
TERRORIST
ROUNDS!

THE WORLD'S
MOST ADVANCED
AMMUNITION!

It's a new war, and our nations best warriors now have the world's most devastating ammunition! Over ten years in co-development with Special Operations Groups and Federal Law Enforcement, the new Extreme Shock™ Explosive Entry tactical defense rounds represent the ultimate refinement in lethal bullet technology. The Tungsten-Nytrilium™ Composite fragments upon impact, leaving a wound channel of catastrophic proportions.

EXTRAORDINARY CAPABILITY & A NEW LEVEL OF CONTROL

The reduced over-penetration and reduced ricochet characteristics of these rounds are nothing short of revolutionary. The ExtremeShock™ AFR round disintegrates when it hits hard targets such as many interior walls and airplane skins, but retains astonishing stopping power on organic targets. Its capability for inside-the-aircraft anti-terrorism operations is legendary within the special operations community.

THE WORLD'S PREMIER HOME DEFENSE ROUND

The ExtremeShock™ Explosive Entry Air Freedom Round Personal Defense ammunition is the best choice for home or urban carry. The rounds fragmentable and reduced ricochet characteristics provide a greater level of safety. A miss on a target won't penetrate multiple walls, and potentially injure a sleeping family member. An officer can shoot a rabid dog on a playground with less worry that the bullet will penetrate, ricochet and injure or kill a bystander.

R2LP-BATTLE PROVEN ACCURACY, ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY, RANGE FRIENDLINESS, "SHAPED CHARGE" PERFORMANCE, SUBSONIC PERFECTION

The precision casting and processing methods of the advanced Nytrilium™ composites offer incredible consistency and railgun accuracy. The lead-free construction eliminates hazardous waste and the frangible characteristics reduce wear and tear on steel targets in kill houses. Reduced ventilation issues can simplify range construction. ExtremeShock ammunition comes in pistol, rifle and shotgun calibers in both full power and subsonic rounds. The subsonic rounds will properly function the actions of most automatics.

WWW.EXTREMESHOCKUSA.COM



Explosive Entry "Fang Face" Enhanced Penetration



Explosive Entry "AFR" Controlled Penetration



THE WORLD'S FIRST "SMART" MUNITIONS

The Extreme Shock Explosive Entry round is the world's first "smart" small arms munition. It fragments in logarithmic proportion to the hardness of the target it strikes. It more than quadruples the rate of energy transfer of conventional ball rounds. If it is striking something brittle, it's Nytrilium-Tungsten core will disintegrate very rapidly, reducing shoot-through and ricochet. When it hits organic targets, it fragments at a slower rate, with larger fragments penetrating into the target creating literally hundreds of wound channels. At right you can see the shock cavity a full seven inches in diameter! The composite Explosive Defractor Core™ of the Extreme Shock Explosive Entry AFR Round acts as a perpendicular defractor plate that blows the fragments at virtual 90-degree angles to the wound channel! This is the reason that the effective E-Shock wound channel is up to (depending on caliber) an astonishing 80 times the size of the entry wound!!



EXPLOSIVE ENTRY EFFECTIVE, DANGEROUS GAME TESTED!



The AFR round's rapid energy is transfer effectively delivers the full energy at twice the rate of the best hollow points. Compare it to having a karate expert pushing you with both hands or give you a bone-shattering punch to the face. While both may exert the same

amount of total energy, the rapid transfer of the punch is far more devastating. Where a conventional round leaves a one-hole trauma cavity, The Extreme Shock Explosive Entry Round leaves a "shaped charge" trauma cavity with hundreds of individual wounds channels, causing Central Nervous System catastrophic overload. In video taped field tests with angry 300 lb Russian Boars, single .380 rounds will incapacitate and kill in a matter of seconds! The 450lb Boar in the picture was taken with a single 9mm round.



(877) 337 6772
EXTREME SHOCK USA

CALL TOLL FREE FOR OUR FREE CATALOG!

NEW DEALERSHIPS AVAILABLE!



Rt. 2 Box 304-N, Hillwood, VA 24225
voice: 210.929.6772 fax: 210.929.6092

Ammunition sales are governed by local, state & federal laws. All laws apply. All international sales are NATO/DAE only. © Pyramax, Inc. 2001

SOF

SOLOIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE

Support Our Troops!

MARCH 2005 ✂ VOL. 30 NO. 3



SFC Jahanchahar Van Boven, 55th Sig Co

On the Cover

GIs from 2nd Bn, 5th Cav Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team 1st Cav Div clear objective in Fallujah, during Operation Al Fajr (New Dawn), 9 Nov 04. Story on page 42.

AMERICA AT WAR

TERRORISM SITREP by Dr. Martin Brass A FARC chief, two Taliban chiefs captured. _____	36
MIAMI'S MAD MAX MARINES, Finale by Col. Donald Schutt USMCR (Ret.) Fighting all the way, Leathernecks roll into Baghdad. _____	38
FALLUJAH IS A FOUR-LETTER WORD, Part 2 by Dale B. Cooper A fighting retrograde is one thing, but when higher HQ pulls you back ... _____	42
DEATH WAITS IN THE DARK by J.S. Moseby Shooting hearts and winning minds with 391st Engineer's snipers. _____	48
THE PRIVATE SECTOR QUARTERMASTER by SFC Dillard J. Johnson 3/7 Cav heads back to Iraq – with battle-worthy gear procured "on the economy". _____	60



Marines of TOW/Scout Miami

FEATURES

BRIT MERCENARIES' MONSTROUS MUCK-UP by Dr. Martin Brass Big-names, big-money backers pull a mercenarious interuptus in Equatorial Guinea (Part II). _____	16
TOUGH AS A RHINO by John Higgs Kifaru tents shelter SOF's team, high in the Rockies. _____	20
PRINCIPLES OF DIRTBAG THOUGHT by Jim Morris When communist revolutionaries convert to capitalism of the worst possible kind. _____	28
THE SURPRISING SU-16 by Gary Paul Johnston Kel-Tec delivers the lightest, handiest .223 carbine ever! _____	64
SOF's ENDURING FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM PHOTO CONTEST by SOF Staff More good prizes to more good troops, for more good photos, 23-26. _____	70
JUST SCRAP IT AND START OVER by Col. Oliver North, USMC (Ret.) High time to DX the UN for something that works. _____	82



Jim Bartlett/SIPA

COLUMNS

COMMAND GUIDANCE by Mike Benge, Scott Johnson, and Jim Morris Communist government of Vietnam wages genocide on U.S. Allies. _____	6
FLAK A new rifle for SOCOM et al.? _____	8
BULLETIN BOARD Medal of Freedom for Gen. Singlaub. _____	12
ADVENTURE QUARTERMASTER Eyes, knives, and LBE. _____	26
COMBAT WEAPONCRAFT <i>Farnam's Gunslinger Diary</i> , by John Farnam Expert Mid-Eastern gun handling — NOT. _____	57



Dillard J. Johnson

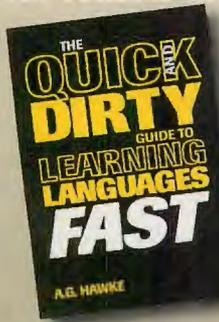
ADVERTISEMENTS

Supply Depot	53
Classifieds	54
Advertisers' Index	56



PALADIN PRESS

Learning a new language has never been easier!



THE QUICK AND DIRTY GUIDE TO LEARNING LANGUAGES FAST

by A.G. Hawke

This workbook was designed for people who need to learn a foreign language fast and who don't want to learn complicated grammar rules. The author, a Green Beret who is military-certified in seven languages, promises that his unique method can help anyone become functional in any language in seven days and proficient in 30! This book contains no fluff – it's all action. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2,

softcover, 176 pp. #QD

\$20.00

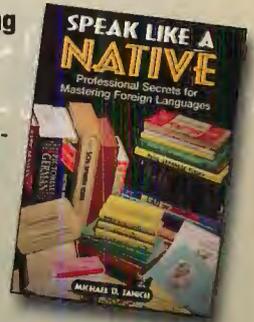
SPEAK LIKE A NATIVE

Professional Secrets for Mastering Foreign Languages

by Michael D. Janich

This is a distillation of the techniques and strategies used by the author and other professional linguists from the Defense Language Institute, State Department, CIA, NSA and other government agencies. It includes the 10 rules for establishing and achieving your goals, the author's unique 12-step process for accelerating your learning and 50 proven tips favored by the pros. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, 136 pp. #SLN

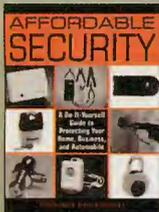
SPEAK LIKE A NATIVE



\$19.00

Добро пожаловать

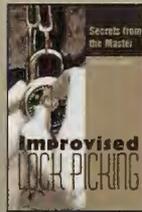
¿Tiene usted ...?



AFFORDABLE SECURITY

A Do-it-Yourself Guide to Protecting Your Home, Business, and Automobile by Steven Hampton Identify the holes in your security and get practical solutions, from simple but little-known

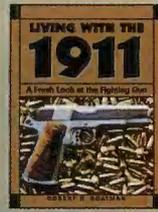
tricks of the trade for securing doors, windows, yards and more to effective lighting solutions to the ins and outs of alarm systems and motion detectors. You can't afford not to get this eye-opening book. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 312 pp. #AFFORD \$39.00



IMPROVED LOCK PICKING

Secrets from the Master by Steven Hampton

From the author of the classic *Secrets of Lock Picking* comes this new book on devising quick and easy lock-picking tools on the spot, using common household items found in the average home, office or garage. Using detailed photos and exploded drawings you'll learn how to open any lock in the world, including getting in a front door with a safety pin, opening magnetic card readers and much more. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 88 pp. #ILP \$25.00



LIVING WITH THE 1911

A Fresh Look at the Fighting Gun by Robert H. Boatman With his trademark wit and hard-hitting honesty, best-selling gun writer Robert Boatman covers the history, hardware, personalities and politics of the 1911. Get fresh insights on the greatest

handgun of all time from such 1911 masters as Jeff Cooper, Louis Awerbuck and Max Joseph, plus informed opinion on carry, training, the future of the fighting gun and more. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, 144 pp. #L1911 \$25.00



WARRIORS

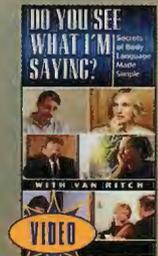
On Living with Courage, Discipline, and Honor edited by Loren W. Christensen This powerful collection of essays examines the true meaning of warriorhood through the eyes of those who live it. Veterans of the military, law enforcement, martial arts, firearms and personal security

fields speak candidly on duty, courage, sacrifice, fear, training, mind-set, motivation and more. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 376 pp. #WARR \$20.00



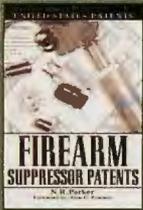
COMBAT RIFLECRAFT

The Ultimate Guide to Equipping, Handling, and Firing the Combat Rifle with Andy Stanford Firearms expert Andy Stanford shows you how to turn any combat rifle into a formidable fighting weapon in this Paladin video. He covers aiming, zeroing, trigger control, combat reloading, and more. Color, approx. 95 min. #RIFLEV \$39.95



DO YOU SEE WHAT I'M SAYING?

Secrets of Body Language Made Simple with Van Ritch Did you know that during conversation, 60 to 90 percent of all communication is done through body language? Counterintelligence operative Van Ritch shows you the unspoken truth behind many common gestures, movements and expressions to get to the real meaning of how people feel and think. Color, approx. 45 min. #SAVV \$29.95

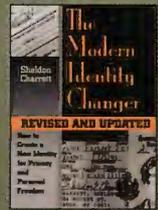


FIREARM SUPPRESSOR PATENTS

Vol. 1: United States Patents by N.R. Parker; foreword by Al Paulson Silencer industry insider N.R. Parker analyzes the most significant, historic and effective firearm silencer designs ever patented in the United States. Find out how suppressors from World War II to today's state-of-the-art cans are built, and learn about the many innovative techniques used to suppress the noise of gunshots from pistols, rifles and machine guns. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, illus., 384 pp. #FSP1 \$45.00

THE FIGHTING TOMAHAWK

An Illustrated Guide to Using the Tomahawk and Long Knife as Weapons • by Dwight C. McLemore The tomahawk has been carried in every American war, including Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq. Here the author traces the origins of the tomahawk and uses his dynamic drawings to show how it can be utilized singly or with the long knife in both offensive and defensive encounters. Includes fighting scenarios, throwing lessons and applications of the war club. 11 x 8 1/2, softcover, illus., 296 pp. #HAWK \$39.95



THE MODERN IDENTITY CHANGER

How to Create a New Identity for Privacy and Personal Freedom, Revised & Updated by Sheldon Charrett Get the latest scoop on acquiring a new identity, producing the necessary documents to support it and obtaining residence, credit, employment and banking privileges to enjoy it. Includes much new information on Social Security numbers, mail drops, segmented vs. total ID change, ID construction and much more. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, illus., 216 pp. #IDENTITY2 \$25.00

RESPONSE CODE: SF25

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

ORDER BY MAIL:

ORDER VIA INTERNET:

ORDER TOLL-FREE:



PALADIN PRESS
Gunbarrel Tech Center
7077 Winchester Circle-SF25
Boulder, CO 80301

please add \$7.00 postage & handling to each mail order

www.paladin-press.com

For detailed descriptions of more than 700 titles, visit our online store.

1-800-392-2400

U.S. orders, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
VISA, MasterCard or Discover only.

ORDER BY PHONE:

Phone: 303-443-7250
FAX: 303-442-8741

COMMAND GUIDANCE

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE
MAGAZINE



Robert K. Brown
EDITOR/PUBLISHER

SENIOR EDITOR **Don McLean**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR **John Higgs**
DESIGN **B. Bigler Digital Design**

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

Senior Contributing Foreign Correspondents
Dale B. Cooper • Peter Douglas
Dr. Tom Marks • Maj. Mike Williams
Mike Winchester

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Aviation **Dana Drenkowski**
Defensive Firearms **John Farnam**
Edged Weapons **Bill Bagwell**
Explosives/Demolitions **John Donovan**
Gun Rights **Paul Danish**
Latin America **Hugo Hartenstein**
Military History **William Brooks - William H. Northacker**
Outdoor Affairs **Galen Geer**
Paramedic Operations **Dr. John Peters**
Roving Contributing Editor **John Weisman**
Skydiving **Kitty Baran**
Sniping/Countersniping **Maj. Dick Culver, USMC (Ret.)**
UDT/SEAL **Larry Bailey**
Unconventional Operations
Brig. Gen. Heinie Aderholt, USAF (Ret.)

ADVERTISING

ADVERTISING CONSULTANT **Tom Chambers**
Call Toll-Free: 888-811-8009
E-mail: tchambers19@cox.net

CIRCULATION

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR **Richard Convertito**

SOF WEBSITE: www.sofmag.com
E-Mail: editorsof@aol.com

FOR EDITORIAL, CALL
303-449-3750, ext. 309

SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES CALL,
1-800-877-5207

FOR LIST RENTAL, CALL STATISTICS:
BARB STANLEY: 203-778-8700
E-Mail: b.stanley@statistix.com

IN MEMORIAM

Alexander McColl	Special Projects Director
Craig Nunn	Art Director
John Coleman	Former Managing Editor
Col. Chuck Allen (Ret.)	Contributing Editor
Lance Motley	Foreign Correspondent
Barry Sadler	Contributing Editor
Robert MacKenzie	Contributing Editor
George Bacon	Foreign Correspondent
Mike Echanis	Foreign Correspondent
Roddy Scott	Foreign Correspondent

LEGAL NOTICE: All technical data in the publication, especially for hand loading, arms and related products, reflect the limited experience of the individual readers and consumers, using specific products, equipment, tools, products and components under specific conditions and circumstances not necessarily reported in any article, FLAK, Bulletin Board or any printed text in this publication and over which *Soldier of Fortune Magazine, Inc.* (SOF) had no control. The data and products in this publication have not been tested or verified by SOF. Mention of a product in advertisement or text does not mean that it has been tested or approved by SOF. SOF, its agents, officers, and employees accept no responsibility for the use of any products, equipment, editorial content, or for any results for use thereof obtained by persons using such data and disclaim all liability for any consequential injuries or damages.

Viets Wage Genocide On U.S. Allies

Vietnamese Communists' Ruthless War of Attrition on the People We Left Behind

BY MIKE BENGE, SCOTT JOHNSON, AND JIM MORRIS



Throughout the long years of the Vietnam War, the staunchest allies of the Americans were the Montagnards, the tribal people of the Central Highlands. Most of their young men of military age were soldiers, fighting for the American Special Forces, saving hundreds of American lives.

The Montagnards have paid dearly for this loyalty. More than half of their male population had been killed by 1975, and 80% of their villages destroyed. In the 1960s there were around one-and-a-half million

Montagnards — and now there are roughly 750,000.

During the same period the Vietnamese population has tripled. The Vietnamese state has confiscated the Montagnards' ancestral lands, dozed off the jungle and turned their land into vast state-run coffee plantations. They have relegated them to a little more than 0.5 hectares of land per family, inadequate to feed their families.

Montagnard languages, culture, and

Continued on page 81

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE (USPS 525-810, ISSN 0145-6784), March 2005, Volume 30, Number 3, is published monthly by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Inc., 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Suite A-5, Boulder, CO 80303-1340. Periodicals Postage is paid at Boulder, CO and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, Subscription Department, POB 348, Mt Morris, IL 61054-0348 or call 1-800-877-5207. U.S. and APO-FPO subscription rate for twelve monthly issues \$34.95. Canada add \$20.00/yr. additional postage (includes GST tax registration business number: 12847 6249 RT). All other countries add \$65.00 U.S. FUNDS ONLY. Single Issue Price — U.S.: \$4.99; United Kingdom: £2.60; Canada: \$6.99. PRINTED IN THE USA.

CONTRIBUTORS: Manuscripts, photographs or drawings are submitted at the contributor's own risk. Material should be mailed to Articles Editor, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Suite A-5, Boulder, CO 80303-1340, and cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. Any material accepted is subject to such revision as is necessary to meet the editorial requirements of SOF. All digital manuscripts must be submitted in Microsoft Word. All photographs must be credited and be accurately identified. Payment will be made at rates current at time of publication. Editorial office phone number is 303-449-3750 ext. 309.

Copyright © 2004 by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine Inc. All Rights Reserved.

THE FINEST TACTICAL FIGHTING KNIVES IN HISTORY!

INTENDED FOR MILITARY & LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS ONLY

INTERCEPTOR 911™ E&E

INTERCEPTOR 911™
COMBAT FIXED-BLADE FIGHTER

The 911 designation isn't for the emergency call, it's to remind its user of the enemy we face, the war we fight, and the heroes who fight it! With the subdued 9/11 Tribute limited edition nomenclature on it's blade, the operator carries with him a visible reminder of the Americans lost and the heroic efforts of those who take arms in defense of liberty. Blade design offers a combination spear/tanto point with the best attributes of both. CTV2 steel, an intimidating blade length in excess of eight inches, hollow grind and a v-chisel sharpened edge make the Interceptor 911 an incredibly effective fighting tool. 100% made in America! Choice of military Hard Anodized (IR Invisible) finish or Carbon Black Titanium CarboNitrde (TiCN) vacuum deposited finish. Sheaths adaptable for belt, vest, thigh, calf and outpack carry!



PAUL BASAL SHADOW



BLACK RAVEN



CTV2™ A NEW CRYOGENIC, THROUGH HARDENED, COBALT-TUNGSTEN-VANADIUM STAINLESS STEEL. POSSIBLY THE BEST KNIFE STEEL EVER!

Dark Ops Knives are made from a proprietary hybrid alloy of Chromium, Cobalt, Tungsten, Vanadium, and Molybdenum with a surgical grade, high carbon steel. CTV2 offers both strength and edge holding ability that is unrivaled! Zone selective cryogenic hardening allows for medical grade edge sharpness while avoiding the brittleness of high Rockwell hardness!



INTERCEPTOR 911

PHOTOS © JIM BOWEN 2004

WE WILL NOT FORGET
9/11/01



CALL TODAY FOR A FREE CATALOG AND SPECIAL DISCOUNTS FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS!

MADE IN AMERICA!



DARK OPS FIGHTING KNIVES!

1.866.883.9444

New SCAR Rifle



What do you know about the U.S. Army's adoption of the new FN SCAR rifle? About the rifle itself and who is going to get it?

Bill Jongserad

According to usually reliable sources, some published and some back-channel, SOCOM has indeed given the nod to FN's submission for the SOF Combat Assault Rifle System. Although neither technical nor contractual details have been released, it would appear to be an eclectic rendering of the FNC rifle, also made by Bofors under license for Sweden as the AK-5. Informed speculation is, therefore, that SOCOM will use the FN SCARS in .5.56 "light" and 7.62 "heavy" versions; Marines will keep their version of the M16A4 with ACOG sight; the Army will transition to the XM8 which is now undergoing trials with a number of soldier-suggested improvements; and the Navy will drop the M14 in favor of M16A2 and M4s. But not today — this is all likely to be undertaken with deliberate speed.

History Repeats Itself

As a young subscriber to your magazine many moons ago, I was always amused by the frequency with which supposed "Vietnam combat veterans" were to be found popping up all around us. Well, I'm not amused anymore. As a member of the National Guard who has spent almost 28 months overseas since 2001 including tours in Bosnia and Baghdad, I'm finding our generation now faces the same problem. I'm running into more and more "Iraqi Veterans" of the most implausible sort. The last one was a 55-year-old transient, drunk as a skunk, who claimed he was a Marine veteran of Iraq who can't be seen at the VA because he "signed a paper with the CIA." Of course he avoided any questions requiring facts such as "Who were you with? What did you do? How long were you there? and Where exactly is Baghdad?" on the basis of...you

guessed it..."That's classified." It's becoming painfully obvious that each war breeds a new wave of wannabe's that span the socio-economic realm. I've met 19-year-old college kids that claim 12 months BOG, Goths, skaters, and businessmen with similar claims. Unfortunately, when you don't know what DCU, Hajji, I.N.C, leishmaniasis, or K.B.R mean, it kind of gives away your standing in life. If your magazine is recruiting for a new "Fake Iraqi Vets Examiner" consider me first in line. Until then, keep up the good work and stay low.

SSG Joseph Cornell
142 MI BN UTARNG

Tie a Yellow Phone Card!

Yellow ribbons tied around trees and red, white and blue stickers on the backs SUVs saying "Support our Troops" are things that make civilians feel good but do nothing for the men and women actually in uniform.

So please consider the following:

The number ONE request at Walter Reed hospital is phone cards. The government doesn't pay long distance phone charges and these wounded soldiers are rationing their calls home.

Many will be there throughout the holidays. Really support our troops — send phone cards of any amount to:

Medical Family Assistance Center
Walter Reed Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20307-5001

They say they need an "endless" supply of these — any amount, even \$5, is greatly appreciated.

Walmart has good prices on AT&T cards, Sam's Club is even better, if you are a member.

I am sure you would feel better about doing this, than to buy something for a third cousin, that would find itself on the closet shelf six months later, as he wondered where it came from.

Special Operations Association

Subject: Re: Vietnam Myths

I've said it before, and I'll probably say it again. Soldiers neither win nor lose wars. Nations do that. What soldiers do is either accomplish or fail to accomplish their missions. When you get 100% accomplishment of all missions assigned and still lose the war the place to look is not in the military: It is at the Congress, the press, the administration, and the people.

In the case of Vietnam, I challenge the notion that the U.S. was defeated. The only rational goal I ever saw lain out for our war in Vietnam was to demonstrate to our treaty allies

This is the Tip of America's Military Spear. You're on Point.



You are the **First to Fight** – a US Marine on the front lines of urban combat in Beirut. Lead a 4-man fire team that executes authentic Marine tactics. Move aggressively, knowing your team gives you 360-degree security, and devastate your enemies with precise air and mortar attacks. Experience a first-person shooter so realistic, the Marines use it as a training tool.



Play single-player, 4-man co-op, or go head-to-head in the Fire Team Arena.



CLOSECOMBAT FIRST TO FIGHT

THE REAL-LIFE COMBAT EXPERIENCES OF THE PROUD FEW.

BASED ON A TRAINING TOOL DEVELOPED FOR THE UNITED STATES MARINES

COMING SOON Visit www.FirstToFight.com



© 2004 by Destineer Studios, Inc. All rights reserved. PC version published by Destineer Publishing Corp. Distributed exclusively by Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc. Xbox version published by Global Star under license by Destineer Publishing Corp. and Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc. First to Fight and Ready-Team-Fire-Resist are trademarks of Destineer Publishing Corp. Close Combat is a registered trademark of Atomic Games, Inc. and is used by Destineer under license. Destineer is a registered trademark of Destineer, Inc. Global Star, the Global Star logo, Take-Two Interactive Software and the Take-Two Company logo are all trademarks and/or registered trademarks of Take-Two Interactive Software, Microsoft, Xbox, Xbox Live, the Live logo and the Xbox logos are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and other countries. The ratings icon is a trademark of the Entertainment Software Association. Mac and Macintosh are registered trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc. GameSpy and the "Powered by GameSpy" design are trademarks of GameSpy Industries, Inc. All rights reserved.

that the U.S. would stand beside them if they were threatened. We did that. Since those same allies were terrified that we would do any of the things that would have won the war, we did not do them. This was not a defeat. It was a strategic withdrawal in the Cold War, of which the Vietnam Conflict was a part. If you remember we won the Cold War. I maintain that the lessons learned in Vietnam allowed us to defeat the War of National Liberation strategy in the Third World. Winning that conflict throughout the Third World was the only chance the Soviets had to win the Cold War, because they were using the War of National Liberation to deprive Europe and the West of vital natural resources, which would have effectively shut us out of our technological advantage.

At this they failed.

The lessons of Vietnam allowed the U.S. to do in, say, El Salvador, with 55 guys what it could not do in Vietnam with half a million. So I don't count Vietnam as a defeat at all. But if you arbitrarily insist on designating a war in which we won all the battles, withdrew our combat units at a time of our choosing, and learned the lessons which allowed us to prevail in the larger conflict, the conflict in which our vital interests were at stake, then that defeat can be laid squarely at the feet of the press, which encouraged the North Vietnamese to continue when they were seriously considering suing for peace, after Tet, and the Congress, which denied the South Vietnamese the means to survive, in what must surely be one of history's most egregious fits of pique. Them's my sentiments, kids, like it or don't.

Jim Morris

A Message to the Media, From Fallujah Fightin' Words

You media pansies may squeal and may squirm,
But a fightin' man knows that the way to confirm,
A terrorist bastard truly is dead,
Is a brain-tappin' round fired into his head.
To hell with some wienie with journalist degree
Safe from the combat, tryin' to tell me,
I should check him for breathin' — examine his eyes.
Nope, I'm punchin' his ticket to Muj paradise.

To hell with you wimps from your Ivy League schools,
Sittin' safe from the war while makin' up rules
And preachin' to me your wrong-headed contention
That I should observe the Geneva Convention,
Which doesn't apply to terrorist scum
So evil and cruel their own people run from
These cold-blooded killers who love to behead.
So, hell with "Geneva": I'm leavin' 'em dead.

You slick talking heads may preach, preen and prattle,
But you're damn well not here in the thick of the battle.
It's chaotic, confusin' it all comes at you fast,
So it's *MUJ* checkin' out, 'cause I'm going to last.
Yeah, I'll last through this fight, and send him away
To his mythical virgins while I fight one more day.
If you journalist wienies think that's cold, cruel and crass,
Then pucker up sweeties, kiss your fightin' man's ass.

L/Cpl Rudyard Kipling, Jr.

Thank You

I would like to send a Big THANK YOU to the 3/24 WPNS Co. who have just rotated back from the big sandbox in Iraq. Thank you for kicking ass and taking the fight right in the faces of the enemy.

I would like to thank the Marines who took care of my brother-in-law, medic Henry "DOC" Keith and made sure he made it back home. I know he watched over a few of you while deployed.

My heart as well as the Nation's is behind you!

Semper Fi!
Brian Irwin
Andrews, TX

Every Loss Tragic

This isn't so much a letter to the editor as a request that you might print some info for us out here. It is sad that more than 1,000 of our finest have died in Iraq and others have perished in other parts of the world to preserve our freedom. However, as a matter of perspective, can you tell us how many young men and women, in the age group of those killed in Iraqi Freedom, have been murdered in the "safe" streets of America in the same time period?

I know it seems like the city I live in, Shreveport, La., is a regular shooting gallery. It seems that every day someone is shot, stabbed, strangled or otherwise murdered in this city. I am quite sure that if the numbers were put out, it would seem that those in Iraq were actually safer.

If you can provide that info, it would be appreciated. It might set a record straight.

Thanks,
Bob Smith

Without hard numbers at hand we hate to speculate, but one should bear in mind that roughly half the deaths in Iraq have been from enemy action, the rest from accidents and other incidents, a good proportion of which would have happened even had the units been in a U.S. garrison.

BFR: Hand Operated and Air Cooled

Every issue there is some armchair commando who has the answer to the best battle rifle/MG/pistol/AFV etc. The fact is no weapon system is perfect. They all require that you clean and maintain them, usually under adverse conditions. The only system that is 100% is the BFR (Big F### Rock). The M16 is not perfect, but has done a pretty good job over the years.

Guy ☒

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 .

SUREFIRE QUALITY, PICATINNY ENGINEERING. THE BEST RAIL FORENDS HAVE ARRIVED.



SureFire Picatinny rails are available in three lengths to fit AR15/M16/M4 variants. Models are also available for the HK MP5, Remington 870 and Mossberg 590 shotgun.

The historic Picatinny Arsenal dates back to 1880, serving the U.S. Army as a warfighting research and development center for weapons systems and munitions. Picatinny's Armament Technology Facility defined the dimensions for a standard mount for all weapons in the U.S. Army. Better known by its namesake as a "Picatinny rail," the mount's specifications are technically referred to as the Picatinny M1913 Military Standard Rail.

SureFire recognized a need for a better attachment interface for a Picatinny rail forend to fit on the AR15/M16 family of weapons, and designed the SureFire Picatinny rail forend accordingly. The new forends lock up with rigid tension, allowing the operator to mount an optic or other targeting device—without any zero shift.

Based on tests by the DEA, no other brand of Picatinny rail forend is solid enough to allow the mounting of optical sights on the rail. The DEA promptly ordered a large quantity of SureFire Picatinny forends for their new carbines.

SureFire quality, Picatinny engineering. No wonder the new SureFire rail forends are the best.

SUREFIRE PICATINNY RAIL FOREND

- Special attachment mechanism for no zero-shift
- CNC machined from aerospace-grade aluminum
- Matte black MilSpec Type III hard anodized finish
- Perfectly accurate dimensions to Picatinny specs
- Laser engraved rail slot numbers
- Ultra-thin rubber pads included for unused rails
- Three models for all AR15/M16 forend lengths
- Meets SureFire's demanding quality standards
- Unparalleled value, a remarkable price

SUREFIRE.

THE TACTICAL TECHNOLOGY COMPANY.™



SUREFIRE

866-210-4673

surefire.com

BULLETIN BOARD

RKB's Recommendation For The NRA Board Of Directors' Election

Every year, I recommend one or more individuals for election to the NRA Board of Directors. Though there are many qualified individuals running, I am supporting only the reelection of John Cushman as I strongly feel his presence on the Board is highly desirable, both because of his long and effective record of supporting the Second Amendment and the fact that he serves with me on the Military & Veterans' Affairs Committee. We should not hold it against him that he is a former Marine. By only voting for John, you will increase his chances of being elected. Some do not like the fact that I sometimes endorse the concept of "bullet balloting." Screw 'em. — Robert K. Brown



The Essence Of Militia

(Ashville, NC) Local police and sheriffs had scoured the North Carolina mountains for almost a week after three Florida convicts escaped from a nearby prison. Two were caught fairly quickly, but one continued to elude arrest, despite a massive manhunt. With the rugged terrain in the area, it was feared that he would slip away and disappear into the hills.

The manhunt had been ongoing for almost a week when a local resident near Montreat heard over his scanner that local sheriffs believed the escapee was down the ridge from his home and heading uphill. The homeowner called his neighbors with the information and they soon gathered along the roadway that snakes up the mountainside, bearing a wide range of firearms.

When they saw several police cars far down in the valley, they started to yell down the mountain for the convict to "Come on up, we got something for you." Seeing that his line of escape was completely cut off by the armed and un-intimidated band, the prisoner turned around and headed back down the hill where he surrendered peacefully to authorities. The escapee was remanded to prison.

Medal of Freedom To Singlaub

The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation has announced the winners of the 2004 annual Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom Awards. Included were the Honorable John M. Shimkus, Congressman from Illinois; Major General John Singlaub, U.S. Army (Ret.); and The Lockheed Martin Corporation. A reception was held at the Czech Embassy in Washington on 1 December.

The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, a non-profit organization, was established by Congress to build a memorial in Washington, D.C. to remember the more than 100 million victims of communism; to pay tribute to those who helped win the Cold War; and to educate current and



USMC Photo by LCpl Andrew D. Young

7 December 2004: Marines from 1st Marine Division man a 240 Gulf Machine Gun and a Gal-17 rail gun along the Ufraties River near the town of Ar Ramadi, Iraq, during a sweep of all of the islands along the river to search out weapons caches. 1st Marines Division, during Operation Al Fajr, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II, is engaged in Security And Stabilization Operations in the Al Anbar Province in Iraq.

future generations about communism and its crimes against humanity. For more information on the Foundation, go to: <http://www.victimsofcommunism.org>

Hate George Bush?

Don't spend money on counseling and psychiatrists. Tell Everyone Why You Hate George Bush. Let it all hang out on the I Hate George Bush Discussion Board. Speak your own psychobabble. Don't spare the venom. Check it out at <http://www.quicktopic.com/28/H/vAGmYRyWRC7h>

Remember A Hero

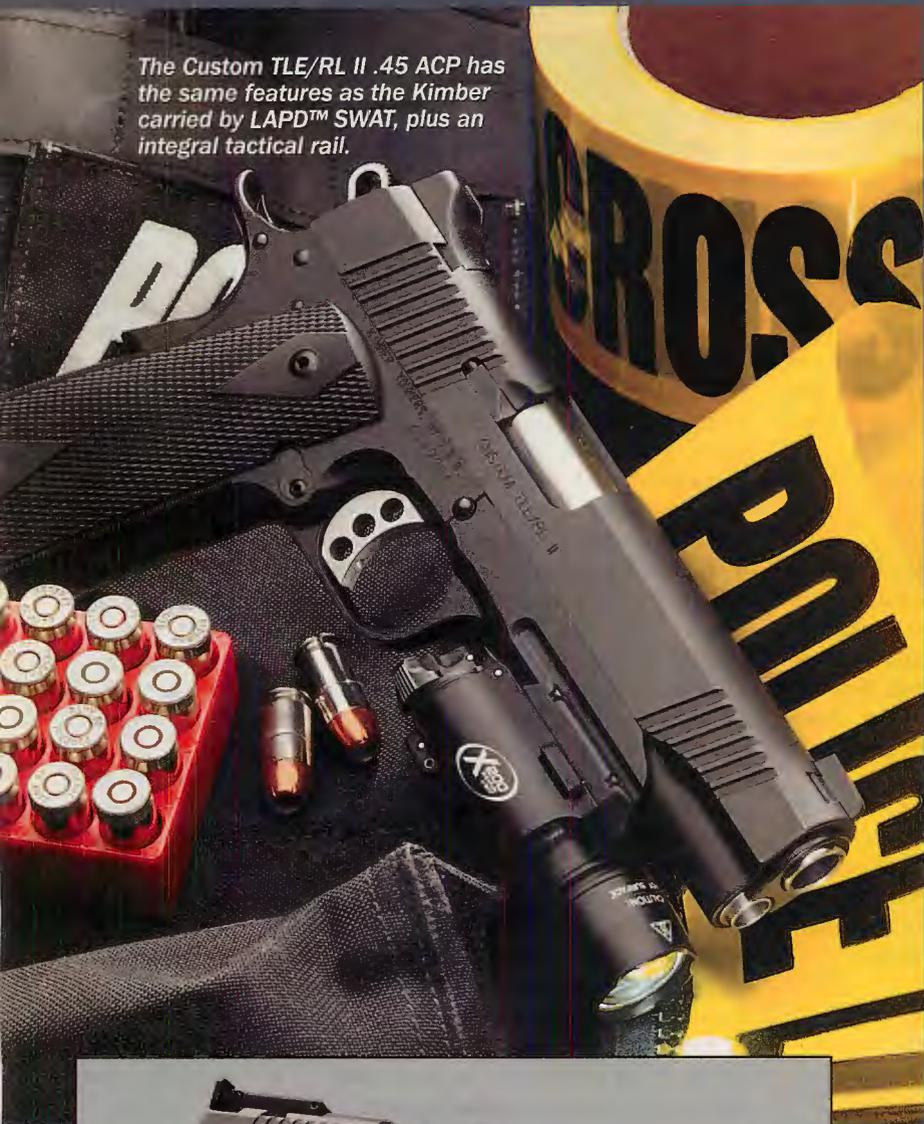
With our all-volunteer services, it is sometimes assumed that only those without much of a future decide to enlist. The arrogance of such an assumption might be tolerable if it weren't so blatantly wrong. A case in point is Lance Cpl. Dimitrios Gavriel, who enlisted in the Marines in October 2003, leaving behind a promising career on Wall Street as a financial analyst.

Working at Bank of America, Gavriel lost two friends on 9-11. In 2002, Mr. Gavriel lost his job and struggled for a time before deciding to enlist in the Marines. Just before he left for boot camp, another financial firm offered Gavriel a job. On Nov. 18, Lance Cpl. Gavriel was killed in Fallujah. He was posthumously awarded two Purple Hearts.

More Bulletin Board on page 14

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.



Five new Kimber pistols have tactical rails.

When LAPD™ SWAT needed duty pistols they insisted on a 1911. After testing five major brands they bought Kimber®. When the U.S.A. Shooting Pistol Team needed a 1911 for action competition they called Kimber. Tacoma PD and the Marine Corps Special Operations Command also picked Kimber. Why? Kimber 1911 pistols are the best.

The new Custom TLE/RL™ II is one of five new Kimber pistols with an integral tactical rail for light mounting. Additional features include Meprolight® night sights and 30 LPI front strap checkering from the Kimber Custom Shop. An identical pistol in stainless steel, two Pro Carry models with 4-inch barrels and a full Custom Shop version are now available with a rail. Match grade barrel, chamber and trigger group are standard on all Kimbers.

Like every Kimber pistol, the Custom TLE/RL II is proudly made in America. From LAPD™ SWAT to the toughest Marines in the world, America's best shooters keep choosing Kimber. Join them, and carry the best.



New .22 LR Conversion Kits are \$280 and easily install on most 1911s. They are available for purchase through dealers or direct from Kimber.

Information and specifications are for reference only and subject to change without notice. Firearm safety is every gun owner's responsibility. Use and store all firearms safely. Teach everyone in your home, especially children, proper firearm safety. Kimber firearms should only be purchased and used in complete compliance with all national, state and local laws. All suggestions for use in this ad or any Kimber literature must be taken within the context of these laws. Kimber firearms are shipped with a California-approved cable lock as a safety measure. Additionally, pistols are shipped in a lockable high impact case. Use of the cable lock at all times is encouraged when a firearm is in storage. Kimber owners may request a free cable lock by mail. Include \$10 for postage and handling. LAPD™ is a trade and service mark of the City of Los Angeles. All rights reserved. Copyright 2004, Kimber Mfg., Inc.



For complete information on Kimber firearms please send \$2 to Kimber, Dept 162, One Lawton Street, Yonkers, NY 10705, call (800) 880-2418 or visit www.kimberamerica.com

Continuing The Legacy

Three Americans Targeted For Death In Attempted Kabul Prison Breakout

The three Americans held in a Kabul prison were targeted for death in an attempted jailbreak by four terrorists that left nine people killed, according to John Tiffany, the lawyer for one of the Americans, Jonathan "Keith" Idema. "If it was not for protection from the Northern Alliance the three Americans would not have survived," Tiffany says he was told in a phone call from Idema.

Idema, cameraman-producer Ed Caraballo and former paratrooper Brent Bennett are in prison after being convicted and sentenced from eight to 10 years for illegally apprehending, detaining and torturing Afghans in their private war on terrorism. The three have been appealing the charges and had been moved to special quarters in the prison, described as lavish in comparison to their former cells.

S/Maj. James Jordan Extends

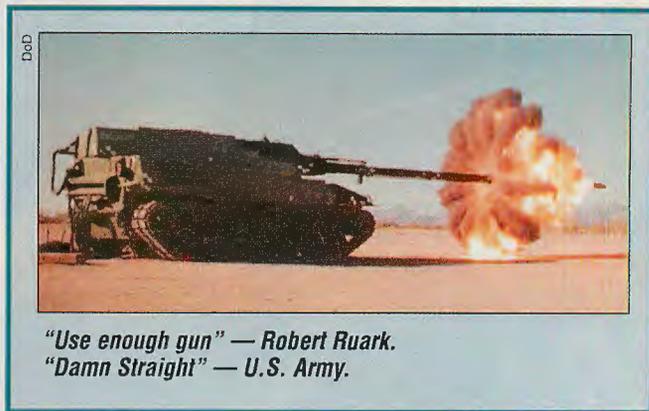
The best leaders have always led by example. A case in point is S/Maj James R. Jordan (yes, older brother of basketball star Michael), who took a burst of one — applied to extend a year past his mandatory retirement date — so he could finish a deployment with the 35th Signal Brigade. "We're currently at war," S/Maj Jordan said. "We are doing things, and it requires leaders to do certain things. That's what I am, a leader."

It appears leading from the front works: Despite the recent headlines of GIs sniveling about stop-loss, reenlistments overall are doing just fine, thank you very much. *The New York Post* reported that of the Army's 10 active-duty divisions, nine are exceeding re-enlistment goals by 5% or more. Sgt. Maj. Jordan's decision is not unusual at all — just exemplary.

Burying Gun Ownership By Bureaucratic Malfunction

According to www.news24.com, efforts to comply with the newest firearms laws in South Africa seem to be futile for anyone wishing to retain their firearms or the use of them.

Witness the following account from a South African:
"...You can apply for renewal of your gun licenses: If you have a competency certificate. To get a competency certificate you have to pass a written test on law, safety, firearm handling, safekeeping, transportation, firearm maintenance, etc. at an accredited instructor. Right now there are now more than a handful of instructors that have been accredited in a country covering 471,445 square miles. Let us say there are 20 accredited instructors. That means that there is one instructor per 23,572 square miles in this country, or one accredited instructor per 140,000 members of the population. If you want a new gun license you need to pass not only the written test, but a practical shooting test on an accredited range as well. We do not have 30 accredited ranges in this country due to administrative backlogs. All the ranges that have functioned without incident for decades are now illegal unless re-inspected, and approved at great cost. "Once you have passed your proficiency tests at an accredited instructor



"Use enough gun" — Robert Ruark.
"Damn Straight" — U.S. Army.

(which I have to redo despite having been a former Captain in the old SA Army with 20 years combat experience, 30 years of incident free hunting, being the widest published gun writer in Africa, a former lawyer specializing in firearms law, a reloader of 42 cartridges, executive official of every major gun/hunting association in Africa, a military instructor in infantry platoon weapons, and armored cars, a former advanced tactical instructor in rifle, handgun, shotgun and assault rifle and having passed the professional hunter exams) he has to send your papers to the Standards of Education Authority (SETA). The SETA can then take up to 10 weeks to issue your certificate. Once SETA recognizes your ability you can then apply to the Police for a Competency Certificate. The Police may or may not issue your certificate in 9-12 months. Once you have the competency certificate you can then apply for either renewal of your existing licenses (which we do not know how long it will take as it has not been done), or for a new license, which takes up to 12 months.

"If you have a pistol, shotgun and two rifles, you will regardless of your competency not be issued with more firearm licenses unless you are (1) a member of an accredited hunting, collecting or sport shooting body, (2) supply a letter of support from the body, and (3) can convince the police of your need for that firearm, (4) the police has interviewed your family and neighbors (!) none of whom opposed your application (5) you have the necessary safekeeping facilities more or less equal to bank card machine security.

"If your license application is refused you can appeal. Problem is the so-called appeal board is not functional and there is a backlog of tens of thousands of appeals still to be heard.

"Frankly it is a mess created by deliberate bureaucratic malfunction. In due course I predict that application costs will be raised to prevent even the diehards that conform to the virtual impossible from firearm ownership. In the mean time few of the guns used by the ANC forces during the struggle have been recovered. Suddenly the current government does not remember to whom it had given guns during struggle days.

"From the more than 700 gun shops in this country and 15,000 guns retailed per month we have dropped to zero..."

Beware the "reasonable" gun laws...

Continued on page 79

Want To BEND OTHERS TO YOUR WILL with ease?

YOU NEED **MARTIAL MASTERY** SECRETS

Master Yourself, Others & Circumstances: Learn the Art of Dominating Life Like A PitBull

NEVER BE FAT, BROKE OR DESPERATE AGAIN!

© 2005 Masters Group, Inc.

Dear Friend,

Do you believe you can get more out of life, or are you doomed to your current circumstances? If you're looking to get more out of life: More Love. More Sex. More Money. More Fulfillment. More of anything you can imagine, **this is going to be the most important thing you've ever read.**

As I rose to the top of the Martial Arts industry, I was SHOCKED to find out some of the most famous instructors in the world have their lives in a shambles! If I said their name, you'd recognize them instantly. Sure, they can kick anyone's butt, but life is kicking them!

You'd think that anyone who has "mastered" the martial arts and worked so hard to acquire such great skills would have strength of character, spirit, and personal power, and would be **Winning in every Area of Life** - but most are not!

Sure, I can show you how to instantly kill a man in self-defense. But what about your Daily Life? Why is it that most people, even Black Belts, are broke, lonely, unfulfilled, confused and defeated in the game of life?

The Samurai of long ago were virtual "Renaissance Men" - they could kill multiple attackers with blinding speed and precision, and the next moment write beautiful poetry, or serve tea with impeccable peace, order and detail. They lived by their word. These noble warriors were the very embodiment of honor and personal power. Where are men with these attributes today? What happened?

In a nutshell "CULTURALIZATION" happened. While technology and industry has taken away the need to hunt your own food, social engineering has created generations of confused, emasculated "poodle-men" without personal power or confidence. It doesn't matter how big and strong they are - they're ineffective and lack decision-making power, reacting to life with an impulsive temper-tantrum.

Sadly, the majority of the hypnotized populace **doesn't even know they've been stripped of their manhood. They think they're in control when they're not.** Does a fish know it's wet? **THIS MAY BE YOU,** and you may not even know it! It was me. . .

I grew up like an orphan. Not much home life to speak of and no hope of improving my circumstances. An outcast at school and a dropout with little or no future. I didn't have the courage to ask a girl out even if I *knew* she liked me.

Broke, disappointed and confused I missed opportunities left and right. I was naive, deceived and taken advantage of more than once. Most people spend their whole lives that way, but I found a way out!

The martial arts was the **beginning** of my success. It was not your typical modern dojo, it was "old school" all the way. Classes were 3 hours a night and it was HARD. This provoked in me an unquenchable thirst for the essence of the Masters, not just their fighting skills but their life skills.

I had an instinct for practicality: I didn't want to be a monk or join a temple, I didn't need an "authority" or "institution" to validate me, I SIMPLY WANTED TO KNOW AND BE THE BEST - A MASTER. I had to seek out the skills and knowledge I needed, and it was **not being offered to the masses.**

So I spent YEARS of intensely studying not only Martial Arts and Combat, but also art, philosophy, mind

control, persuasion, sales, seduction, negotiation and even firewalking (you can see me do it again at one of our seminars).

As Sun Tzu said, "Life Is War." I mastered my physical body, but then I had to master my Mind and Spirit - leading to *Massive Results in Every Area of Life!* I was now dominating circumstances that seemed impossible before. I became a millionaire not once, but twice! I've started dozens of successful businesses and now head a worldwide Martial Arts Organization that has active students in over 14 countries.

I went from being a total loner to countless hot dates, and at last a meaningful relationship with the most beautiful woman I've ever met.

Look, I'm not tooting my own horn here, but if I can do it, **YOU can do it!** And I'm going to show you HOW. Not with esoteric vagueness, theoretical hunches or "thus sayeth the guru" sermons. This is the Real World. I'm going to show you how to make it Your World.

I was asked to give a seminar at a corporate retreat on the content of one of my books *Martial Warfare Secrets*. They said "PUT IT ALL TOGETHER for us. Take what you know, and Show us how to TAKE CHARGE AND MASTER EVERY AREA OF LIFE!"

The feedback was phenomenal so I decided to make the Ultimate Training Course that downloads into your brain all the Workable Skills for Life Mastery. It's called:

MARTIAL MASTERY - The Complete Teachings

A 12 Video Course packed with Ancient Wisdom and Cutting-edge Knowledge. In just a few hours, you'll learn instantly:

- **How To Kill Fear Immediately & Permanently**
- **Warrior Verbal Skills: Negotiating Better Pay, Closing Big-Dollar Sales, Persuasion & Influence**
- **Pit-Bull Confidence: Body Language & Verbal Skills that Dominate!**
- **Ending Eating Problems & Digestive Discomfort Forever!**
- **Putting It All Together: Taking Charge and Mastering Every Area of Your Life!**
- **FINANCIAL PROSPERITY: The Master Keys to Fountains of Cash while you stay at Home! Includes 12 REAL Money-Making ideas you can Start NOW!**
- **Psychic Skills: Win Before it Begins**
- **Seduction Power, Relationships and family matters: what you need to know to make it work and keep it working**
- **Psych Profile: Know Everything About Anyone in Minutes & How To Know When Someone is Lying**
- **Hypnotic Control and Manipulation**
- **Change Your Past, Present & Future**

Just **Imagine what you can do** once you have these skills! This essential information gives you specific techniques in minute, step-by-step detail that you can do RIGHT NOW.

Get rid of unwanted habits and bad results and move in the direction you really want to go! What is your life worth? For only \$692.00 (plus \$12.00 S&H) you get the ENTIRE set!

This is your wake-up call. If you are one of the few who know a good thing when they see it, who know the truth when they hear it, then YOU will become the Master of your Life with MARTIAL MASTERY.

The bottom line here is this: what we're talking about here is being the **Best of the Best.** That's my mission in life, to help you finally get there! Life is a battleground, and you can be your own worst enemy. I will help you conquer yourself once and for all, and then conquer anyone else. Once you get this knowledge, you'll finally be the way you want to be, the way you know you really should be!

99% of the population is comfortable in ignorance and mediocrity. If you want to continue in apathy and living inside of a little box, don't bother to call, we won't miss you. But for those of you who simply **must win** at life - who need to know how - **this is for you.**

You have the courage to step up. That's why after you've absorbed these new videos that *no one has anywhere else*, you'll walk into a room and immediately grab attention - and radiate power! Watch how people notice you've been transformed! It'll be magnetizing, and it's all real. Period.

I've put it on the line here. This is the best damn course on the planet. 12 Videos chock full of **all of life's secrets** - that's HUGE! And the **secret knowledge will be yours.** But it's not so much that it's "secret" - it's that the "sheeple" and losers who would spend twice as much on a weekend of partying, NEVER seek out knowledge. They're only interested in "free" things - like public school (did that really set you up for success?)

I can guess the only thing possibly holding you back at this point is the price. Are you cheap? If you don't invest in your future, in your skills, what kind of life will you end up with? Is that all your life is worth? You *know* something like this doesn't come along every day. Most people don't have the balls to do anything, to try something different - even if they *know* it will work.

Martial Mastery is your own private tutor, your own private success coach - in your living room whenever you want! And to make sure you stay on track, you'll get a HUGE reference manual with the 12 videos, an audio CD for instant power when you need it - and, our **private** Masters Group newsletter where you can get all your direct questions answered.

Now listen: we have 42 sets of these videos left, and once they're gone, they're gone. So on a first-come, first-serve basis, the first 25 that order will get a FREE BONUS: "Recognizing the Enemy" video!

Usually given as a gift to my Black Belt graduates, this video will show you exactly how to recognize and prevent deceivers, manipulators, seducers and attackers, agitators and distractors. You'll never get taken advantage of or manipulated after watching this video!

You'll learn how to prevent "energy vampires" and those with hidden intentions and unconscious disquietude from disrupting your peace and confidence.

So now that you're ready to stand up and make a change that will last forever, call us at 1(208)666-4401 use Visa or Mastercard for fast service, or you can order online at www.martialmastery.com where we also accept PayPal. If you prefer to use a check or money order, send \$704.00 US funds to:

Andrew Scott
1005 Terminal Way, Suite 110
Reno, NV 89502 USA

Brit Mercenaries' Monstrous Muck-Up

*All That Is Necessary For the Triumph of Evil
Is For the Good Guys to Get Ratted Out*

BY DR. MARTIN BRASS

Last Month, we looked at the financiers, including Sir Mark Thatcher, son of the former Prime Minister of the U.K., and Lord Jeffrey Archer, disgraced member of the House of Lords and famous author, of the recent coup in Equatorial Guinea. The purpose, supposedly, was to overthrow the barbaric dictatorial regime and install the exiled Severo Moto.

The financial stakes were high and the paybacks included large money sums, as well as shares of oil in the third largest oil producer in Africa, after Nigeria and Angola.

This month we take a closer look at the masterminds and how they orchestrated the execution of what they believed should be an easy victory.

"Those glory days when a group of white mercs could overthrow a nasty dictator in Africa with a few arms faded with the end of the Cold War. Even if African leaders murder each other, they become friends when the white man threatens. They're all the same," the rugged British former Legionnaire laughed with nostalgia as we sat in the electronic jungle that has replaced the African jungles for his security business.

The legionnaire, who had provided armed protection for white African governments for nearly a decade, now guards the empty Kensington London mansion of "paranoid" nouveau riche multi-millionaire Americans.

"The Equatorial Guinea coup plotters are throwbacks from the last century," he said in a thick cockney accent. "Now they are in some hell of a solitary confinement in maximum security in a bloody African prison being tortured." The British ringleader Simon Mann was in the Chikurubi

prison in Zimbabwe and his co-conspirator South African Nick Du Toit was in the even grimmer Black Beach Equatorial Guinea prison as we spoke.

"If you've ever seen a person limp on both legs, you know you're in Equatorial Guinea," former US ambassador to Equatorial Guinea, John Bennett, said, according to the *Independent*.

"A former South African intelligence agent told me that most die in African prisons," I said.

"Without a doubt, most do, but some have survived. Thirteen mercenaries, ten of them British, and two Americans, one Portuguese, were tried for being involved in the Angola Civil War in 1976, against the communists. Three of the Brits and an American were sentenced to death and executed. The rest got 16 years to life. Two survived and got out after seven or eight years, I think.

"What was the name of that American — Gearhart — Daniel I think, according to rumor, was executed because he was convicted for being a merc. The evidence that nailed him was an ad he placed in *SOF* magazine, I heard. That rumor made the story more thrilling," he laughed.

"What Simon Mann appears not to have realized is that there is much greater co-ordination among African countries, including intelligence co-operation, to put a stop to coups," a source told the *Independent*. "Nigeria, the regional power, stepped in recently to reverse a coup in Sao Tomé, and was ready to do the same in Equatorial Guinea. The fact that the operation was penetrated by South African intelligence prevented a lot of bloodshed."

All hell is expected to break loose when the ailing "papa fiend", said to have prostate cancer, joins the Saddam Hussein boys in monster hell.

The Kuwait Of Africa

No one seemed to care much about Equatorial Guinea, a miniscule country on the Gulf of Guinea before oil was found. The impoverished country has been ruled by the murderous Obiang clan since the Spanish quit the colony.

Equatorial Guinea has recently been dubbed the "Kuwait of Africa" because it ranks as the third largest oil producer in Africa, after Nigeria and Angola. One who visits Kuwait would quickly conclude that the comparison stops with the discovery of oil. The Kuwaiti monarchy, although filthy rich and leading lives of decadent splendor, does not leave its populace in abject poverty. There, the infrastructure is developed, with roads, electricity, running water and sophisticated electronics.

However, the 500,000 population of Equatorial Guinea is one of the poorest in the world, living on a few dollars a day.

"There is no evidence that any of the oil wealth has gone to the people," said Sarah Wykes of the group Global Witness, which accuses the Equatorial Guinea President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo of large-scale corruption and drug trafficking.

"The oil has been for us like the manna that the Jews ate in the desert," Nguema told CBS. The difference is that he and his clan hoard the "manna" that was discovered half a decade ago.

Nguema, who murdered his uncle and took power in 1979, has amassed a fortune from the oil, owns estates in the United States and stashes half a billion a year in oil revenues.

Conditions were not improved until the western moguls needed roads and amenities for themselves.

"Western Vultures"

"The western vultures have moved in. Exxon-Mobil and other oil conglomerates have invested six billion dollars in operations. Three thousand US oil workers swarm the country. Business is so brisk that there are direct flights from Houston to the island's capital, Malabo"

An *Independent* journalist gives a colorful description of the African country. "Fifteen years ago Malabo had just one hotel with no electricity, food or running water. Two cars in the street was a traffic jam, and the phone directory had just two pages, listing subscribers by their first name. The airport



Executive Outcomes (EO) personnel unload ammo in Angola while carrying out military operations in Angola in the '90's. EO executive operators recruited the bulk of their personnel from the famous

32 "Buffalo" Battalion, composed of white officers and black enlisted personnel, that earned its bones fighting the communists in South West Africa and Angola.

terminal was a tin-roofed shack that received just one international flight. Today, however, the French have built a mobile phone network, sports utility vehicles whiz through the streets, and several international carriers service the smart new airport terminal. Prostitutes clamor around the gates of several new hotels.

The US re-opened its embassy in October last year, following an eight-year closure in protest of torture and other human rights abuses. At around the same time the Dutch carrier KLM renamed one of its planes after Mr. Obiang, to mark the opening of the new airport terminal.

"It was like calling a plane 'Pol Pot'," the *Independent* quotes an analyst.

Equatorial Guinea is involved in border disputes with Gabon and Cameroon over oil-rich areas; and most of the opposition is jailed or in exile. A US human rights lobby group put Mr Obiang at sixth place in its gallery of the world's ten worst dictators. Those who have not fled into exile in Spain have been detained at the notorious Black Beach prison,

Nepotism is rife in the malaria-infested country. Obiang's cousins and nephews are commanders in the military, one of his sons is the natural resources minister, and a brother-in-law is ambassador to Washington. His brother Armengol Ondo Nguema, is a top internal security official and controls through brutal torture. His favored son, Teodorin was the infrastructure minister.

The flashy rap musician anointed son bombs around in Lamborghinis and Bentleys with women hanging all over him in the hot spots of Rio de Janeiro, Hollywood and Paris. He invested several hundred thousand dollars in a failed rap company TNO Entertainment. He owns a six million dollar mansion in Bel Air.

Papa Fiend

All hell is expected to break loose when the ailing "papa fiend", said to have prostate cancer, joins the Saddam Hussein boys in monster hell.

Numerous African experts predicted that Armengol, the president's half brother and the most feared man in the country, and Teodorin, the anointed one and a notorious maniac, will probably become involved in a bloody battle for power. A predictable option, observers said, would be an externally financed putsch.

The coup masterminds and their godfathers decided they liked the last option, and the sooner the better.

The brutal regime in Equatorial Guinea needed to be overthrown, according to coup mastermind Mann. He felt emboldened by Western clout and being fortified by US, UK and Spanish intelligence, most accounts allege.

Mann's defense denied the charges, arguing that his private security firms "have been scrupulous about operating in concert with Western policy goals while maintaining a discreet distance".

Whatever, he became reckless in a country that was always equipped to fend off some sort of coup.

"Equatorial Guinea is the sort of place where if you don't hear that a coup attempt is being planned, then there's some-



Mugabe, who has empoverished Zimbabwe and is lusting after Equatorial Guinea oil, accused the U.S., U.K. and Spain of plotting to topple the Equatorial Guinea government.

thing wrong," one of the financiers, Mr. Wales, told the *Telegraph*.

So the Mercs were convinced that they had a good cause—to overthrow a homicidal, self-indulging regime and install the exiled opposition leader, Severo Moto. Moto, in exile in Spain, had been convicted of treason and given a death sentence after he staged a failed coup attempt in 1997.

"The people have the legitimacy to get rid of the tyrant," Moto told *Reuters*.

There was no better candidate for the mission than the dashing, poker-faced, SAS-trained father of the mercs, Simon Mann.

The highly educated, refined Mann had played the part of a British officer in a smashing hit movie about the

Bloody Sunday killings in Northern Ireland in 2002.

Mann is a "humane man, but an adventurer... very English, a romantic, tremendously good company", the movie director is widely quoted as saying.

Now he was rehearsing to become the star of one of the most convoluted plots in African history.

Mann and his co-conspirators met in London, Madrid, Zimbabwe, and South Africa to plot a coup with Mann and Nick du Toit, a South African who had been involved with Mann in the merc enterprise Executive Outcomes.

A Dearly Good And Honest Man

In Madrid, Mann was introduced by one of the financiers to the exiled Moto, who was waiting to return as leader of his Equatorial Guinea.

Moto is a "dearly good and honest man", Mann said.

"I was also struck by just how bad Nguema is," Mann later wrote in a 13-page handwritten confession. Moto had introduced Mann to an Equatorial Guinea general who claimed he had been forced to watch Nguema raping his wife.

"They asked me if I could help escort Severo Moto home ... when simultaneously there would be an uprising of the military and civilians against Nguema," Mann said.

"Given the above, this seemed a necessity and I agreed to try and help the cause." Mann was quoted in the *UK Times*.

The flamboyant merc and self proclaimed African Robin Hood was convinced that he was a coup organizer with a cause. Others told the *Times* that the wealthy merc, who owned the former Rothschild estate on the banks of the Beaulieu River in Hampshire, and a mansion in the upscale district of Cape Town, South Africa, needed one more 'pay-day to cover his lavish lifestyle.

Du Toit had no trouble recruiting over 70 mercs and entering a contract for weapons purchases with Zimbabwe Defense.

Armengol, Nguema's brother, and du Toit were already thick into other schemes in Equatorial Guinea, according to documents obtained by the *Independent*. They shared ownership in Triple Options, a joint venture company established shortly before the coup to provide "security services" to Nguema. Du Toit and Armengol entered into a contract with the government to train Equatorial Guinea's paramilitary and customs forces.

Continued on page 34

SPECIAL OPS

Worn by Special Ops and SWAT teams worldwide
Now available to the public

Solid Stainless Steel
Watch and Band
330ft Water Resistant
Screw Down Crown
Scratch Resistant Crystal
Carbon Fibre Dial
Super Luminous Numbers

STAINLESS STEEL
BLACK FINISH

STAINLESS STEEL
CHROME FINISH



SPECIAL OPS WATCH RETAIL VALUE - \$595
SPECIAL OFFER AT AMERICAN WATCH CO. \$395



CHARGER INCLUDED

INTERNAL LIGHT
MODE

EXTERNAL LIGHT
MODE

WATCH	
Quartz Frequency	32,768 Hz
Accuracy	Within 20 seconds per month under normal temperature (+5°C to +35°C). Depending on surrounding temperature, this range may be exceeded during charging.
Operating Temperature Range	-5°C to +55°C
Storage Temperature Range	-10°C to +60°C
Other	Overcharge protection, low battery alert
Battery Life	Approximately 1 month (on a full charge, one dial illumination and external illumination operation per day). Actual battery life depends on operating conditions.
Illumination (LED)	Dial illumination: Approx. 5 seconds External illumination: Approx. 20 seconds
Driving System	Stepping motor
Battery	Secondary LI-ION batteries
Watch Weight	7.0 oz
Dimensions	45 mm (W)

INTERNAL LIGHT MODE: LIGHTS UP THE DIAL
EXTERNAL LIGHT MODE: BRIGHTEST LIGHT EVER IN A WATCH
CAN BE SEEN UP TO ONE MILE IN THE DARK
USED BY TACTICAL TEAMS TO LIGHT UP MAPS
ALSO USED FOR SURVIVAL/DISTRESS SIGNAL AND
MANY OTHER PURPOSES AND FUNCTIONS
ELECTROMAGNETIC RECHARGEABLE BATTERY
(CHARGER INCLUDED)
WATCH CAN BE CHARGED JUST BY PLACING THE WATCH
ON THE CHARGER OVERNIGHT (SEE PICTURE)
10 YEAR RECHARGEABLE LITHIUM BATTERY
ADJUSTABLE BAND USING AN ALLEN KEY SUPPLIED
10 YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY
LIMITED EDITION INDIVIDUALLY NUMBERED

For Credit Card Orders Call 1-800-862-6772 Outside the USA 213-765-0765
WWW.SPECIALOPSWATCH.COM
AMERICAN WATCH COMPANY, 1225 SOUTH GRAND AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90015

TOUGH AS A RHINO

Kifaru Tents and Stoves

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY JOHN HIGGS

Oh-dark-thirty, one day before elk season. Game Unit 003, NW Colorado, +/- 7,000 feet elevation.

I stuck my head out of my Wiggy's sleeping bag into the chill air inside the Kifaru Tipi and pried open one eye. The Tipi rippled in the strong breeze, and I could see my own breath in the diffused light that came through the white paraglider fabric. On the other side of the tipi-like 12-man tent, a low rumble emanated from SOF Publisher Robert K. Brown's Wiggy's bag, which I hoped was snoring.

We had arrived the previous afternoon, bringing two tents and two stoves with us, on loan from the manufacturer, Kifaru, of Golden, Colorado. Kifaru ("key-far-oo") is Swahili for rhinoceros. There hadn't been time to assemble the stainless-steel stove, so while Col. Brown made a supply run, I put up both the eight-man, and 12-man tents. It wasn't until later in our trip that I learned the assembly instructions were sewn into the stuff sack in which the tent was packed. Oh well. If all else fails, read the instructions. I was able to put up the 12-man tent by myself in 25 minutes — it can be done much quicker with practice. That's testimony to the ingenuity of the design, which is modeled after the Native American tipi. Supported by a single aluminum pole in the center, it sheds snow easily, and they are capable of withstanding incredible winds. Kifaru tents use a sectioned aluminum pole and the same U.S.-made space-age fabric used in paragliders.

During the course of our hunting trip we were joined by Rich Lucibella, Publisher of SWAT magazine, Mark Westrom, owner of ArmaLite, and Patrick Smith, President of Kifaru and designer of the tent, stove, and backpacks. We asked Patrick why there is no ground cloth provided with the tent. He explained that the early tents did have a ground cloth, but all it did was accumulate mud. Once the stove is installed, the floor stays dry anyway. Speaking of the stove, it's also a mini-engineering marvel. Kifaru wood-burning stoves come in three sizes, depending on the size of the Kifaru tent they are intended to heat. The stove is packed into a Cordura nylon case, small enough to fit in the average backpack with plenty of room left over.

This time I read the instructions. The stove comprises six stainless-steel pieces: four sides, top and bottom, which are simply pressed together. The four legs screw into the stove and hold the unit together. The lack of a ground cloth in the tent allows the legs to be pressed into the ground to keep the stove level, even on uneven ground. For camping in heavy snow, a metal Snow Platform is also available to keep the stove level and the pole from sinking. But here's the really neat part: The stovepipe is a one-piece design about 10 feet long. So how does it fit into the bag along with the rest of the stove? Well, comprising a single strip of ultra thin stainless

(left) Kifaru pack with CargoChair. The chair weighs 13 oz. and has a panel that is camo on one side, blaze orange on the other. Pack does not impede carrying or presentation of the rifle. Note Kifaru 12- and 8-man tents in background.



(above) Weapons check: Author (left) sports a .308 Win DSA FAL carbine with five-round magazine for hunting. SWAT Magazine publisher Rich Lucibella carries a Sigarms Blaser R-93 in .338 WinMag. During pre-season sight-in, Lucibella shot a 1-inch three-round group off a backpack at 200 yards. Rich's Pistol is a .45ACP Colt Delta Elite in a Kramer Horsehide Crossdraw Holster.





POWER & PRECISION.

Our most precise mid-caliber rifle!

The AR-30M™ is similar in design to the innovative ArmaLite® AR-50™. With its fixed machine rest-like stock and unique octagonal receiver, the AR-30M is ArmaLite's most precise mid-caliber rifle.

Available in three calibers – the .300 Win Mag, .308/7.62mm and the .338 Lapua – the AR-30M is equipped with a triple lapped match grade barrel and 5 round magazine for fast changes during matches.

**Experience the accuracy and technical excellence,
another sophisticated success.**



ARMALITE, INC.® • P.O. Box 299 • GENESEO, IL 61254 • Ph. 309.944.6939 • Fax 309.944.6949

EMAIL: INFO@ARMALITE.COM • WWW.ARMALITE.COM



Kifaru owner Patrick Smith sits comfortably in the Kifaru Field Chair, which weighs 9 oz. and doubles as a field-expedient bipod.

steel, the stove pipe is simply rolled up along its short side for storage, and then rolled up along its long side to make a tube. Steel wire loops are slipped over the pipe along its entire length to stop it from unrolling once it's fitted onto the stove.

Kifaru tents and stoves are designed to be light, compact, and very portable. In addition to our trip into the wilds of Colorado, Kifaru equipment has sheltered expeditions in some of the harshest places in the world — Mount Everest, Denali, The Northwest Territories, for example — and their backpacks are currently being put to good use in Iraq and Afghanistan by some of our troops.

The 12-man tent with its stove can easily fit into one backpack, or it can be split up into separate components among the members of an expedition. We found that the 12-man tent was large enough to use as a clubhouse. Five of us with folding camp chairs were able to sit comfortably around the stove and cook breakfast. The particular tent that we used had been on loan to the Marines at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in California for a year. In that year it had been put up and taken down many times and used in all kinds of weather. The only evidence we saw of that heavy use were some smudged black marks on the inside of the tent caused, so Patrick Smith told us, when somebody burned some kind of oil-based fuel in the stove. The tent is still in such good shape that Robert



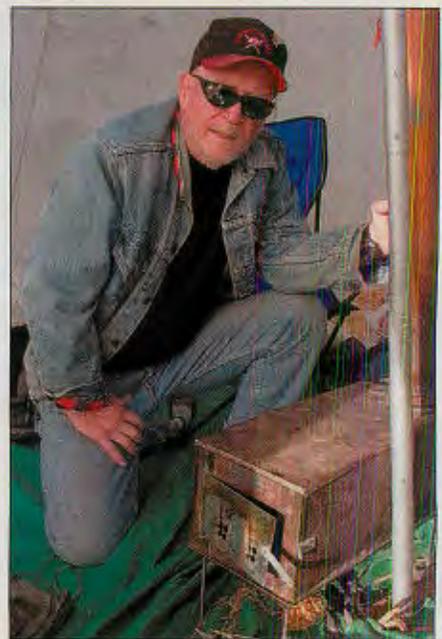
K. Brown offered to buy it from Kifaru to be used on future SOF trips.

Kifaru Backpacks

Kifaru makes some of the best packs we've ever seen. As we've come to expect from this company, the packs are very well designed. MOLLE and PALS compatible, they allow for the addition of extra pouches to accommodate specific needs.

Like most Americans, Patrick Smith was incensed by the events of 9/11, and he decided to do something about it. In June 2002, he launched Kifaru's Military Division to produce the best backpacks possible for our troops going in harms' way. Kifaru's facility in Golden, Colorado, regularly gets visits from military customers dropping by to pick up their new packs, which, like all Kifaru's products, can be ordered by phone or over the internet, and then shipped.

Kifaru builds much more than just a backpack. They have created a whole backpack system in keeping with their slogan "Modular and Multifunctional."



SOF publisher Robert K. Brown examines the stainless-steel stove. Although quite small, the stove put out a lot of heat. Note double spark-arrestor mesh at the base of the one-piece stovepipe. Aluminum tent pole is adjustable. (left) Kifaru owner Patrick Smith demonstrates how the one-piece stainless-steel stove pipe rolls up small and stows in the black nylon bag.

The Kifaru Military Pack System incorporates a sophisticated load-bearing design with no weight limit. If the operator can physically carry the load, the pack will support it. In order to achieve this, Kifaru packs have a frame and suspension system that are designed to fit to the individual user's body shape, and to spread the load over much of the body, not just on the shoulders. At first glance, the straps and waist belts look less comfortable than the more heavily padded support systems of other manufacturers' packs. In reality, instead of forcing the body to conform to heavy padding, thereby eventually creating uncomfortable hotspots, the Kifaru system drapes itself around the body, thereby stabilizing the load and transferring it to the areas of the body that can handle it. This reduces fatigue and makes it possible to carry a heavier load more comfortably.

As the name implies, the Military Pack System is also designed so that every pack, every pouch, and accessory is fully compatible with everything else in the system. This modular approach allows operators to easily and quickly customize their packs to the specific mission requirements. The various

Continued on page 76

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

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

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

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

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

There will never be another DELTA/SEAL Training Camp at any price!

The "Powers That Be" simply made it *impossible!*

However, they didn't stop us from videotaping the entire Camp. Now those tapes are available for a very limited time.

TAKE NOTE! Once the "Powers That Be" hears about this, it could be ending soon...

(Dateline: Visalia, CA) -- Please don't set this article aside. Seriously. Tomorrow may be too late to respond!

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

Then this will be the Most Important Message You Ever Get!

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

These training camps will never be held again! They cost **\$3750** just to attend... and everyone who came *raved* about what they learned and came away with. The camps were the *most complete training* in "elite level: military hand to hand and firearm expertise ever offered to **anyone** outside the Special

Forces. It was a **dream** come true for anyone who ever wanted to learn (*and master*) the **inside secrets of brutally- efficient hand to hand combat and expert-level handgun training...**the kind of knowledge that will make even the *craziest* street fighter think three times before trying to take you on... and, if he *does* come after you, he will suddenly (and painfully) realize...

He's Made A Very Serious Mistake!

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

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

Slammed Shut by Outside Forces We Simply Cannot Fight Anymore!

That means you can *never* attend a DELTA/SEAL training camp life this yourself- even if you have the **\$3750** each attendee paid just to get in... plus the *hundreds of dollars* in airfare... plus hotel costs... vacation time off... food... and equipment By even conservative measures, *most* attendees shelled out over **\$5000** to come. Yet, even at that outrageous price, they considered it the *bargain of a lifetime*. **Four days of intense, personal training** in combat-tested hand-to-hand fighting tactics... plus the *complete mastery* of "elite military level" handgun



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

shooting skills. Taught by the *most respected trainers* on the planet actual combat veterans from the ranks of the Navy SEALs and the U.S. Army DELTA Special Forces!

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

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

The Most Important Fighting Skills Of Your Life!

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

⇒ **Incredibly effective fighting techniques you can master overnight...** skills that give you the *devastating ability* to instantly take down even a steroid enraged

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

- ⇒ **Simply defense strategies** for arming your family and loves ones with the skills, know how and awareness to *avoid 90% of the crime that ruin other people's lives* (carjacking, rape, assault) ... and to reverse any attack so you come out the **winner and never the victim!**
- ⇒ Expert "elite military level" handgun shooting skills that will instantly put you among the most respected "weapons savvy" people on the planet!
- ⇒ And what's so great about this training you'll see is, it's all "packaged" to be learned fast (overnight, really)... even if you've never trained in anything before! In fact...
- ⇒ **You don't need any previous training or skills at all** most the attendees had no military experience no gun handling and no self defense training before coming to these camps!
- ⇒ **You don't need to be in good shape** (or any kind of shape at all) this was *not* a boot camp based on survival skills! In fact, many of the attendees were "desk jockey" types, including executives from **Fortune 500 corporations** (aged 50 and over) ... and others were young students *from every walk of life* and occupation imaginable!

In fact, all you really need to get the most from these training tapes is the simple desire to change your life, quickly... to stop walking in fear, and instead, give yourself (and your loved ones) the **immediate, totally devastating skills** necessary to control every *potentially violent situation* you could ever encounter in this increasingly dangerous world!

And the best part is, **you'll learn it all very fast** because you have the *very best trainers in the world* right there, teaching you in the hottest training available anywhere! This high level of training is most *impossible to comprehend* with out witnessing it for yourself. Its all given and overseen by **Tom Carter and Frank Cucci...**

Without Doubt, The Most Respected "One-Two" Team in THE Country FOR THIS "Real Combat" Training!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

make that get them seriously hurt or killed! (Some of the most "normal tendencies" you have are 100% wrong!)

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

Plus, how to fight (and win) *barehanded* against clubs and knives, how to choose the **right gun for you...** how to teach you wife and kids the **basics of self defense** (So they will never be surprised by and attacker) and *more.*

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

What you getting this package is **7 complete videotapes** over 9 *solid hours of intense training and insight into real combat skill you can learn quickly!* These tapes were painstakingly edited down from **over 245 hours of raw foot-**

age... so what you get is **ONLY** "down and dirty" important stuff. All the meat, all the secrets, and all the "hot" info is there for you in a, easy to watch (and master) format.

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

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

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

So here's what you need to do now: Call my office right away at **1-800-899-8153**. Tell whomever answers you want to get your copy of the "**Boot Camp Video Package**" sent to you immediately. You can use your credit card. The cost for this amazing package is **just \$377**, plus \$12 shipping and handling (it's a huge package!). Once we get your order, your package will be rushed out to you by return mail- all 7 videos (or 5 DVD's), plus the Tactics manual, *everything*.

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

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

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

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

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

The DELTA/SEAL Training Camps are now history. I don't want to go into the details, but the end was a messy affair. Even though *every single police officer* who visited the camps (and there were many) *liked* what they saw... even

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

We Still Were Stopped Cold!

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

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

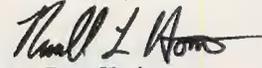
You Must Act Right Now...Today

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

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

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

Sincerely,



Russ Horine

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

"The best money I ever spent. The training and skills I learned are invaluable!"

-- **John Heltsley**.

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

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

-- **Mark Johnson-**

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

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

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

-- **Richard Sands**

"I was skeptical at first. Every expectation I has was by far exceeded. Thanks!"

-- **Brady Patrick-**

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

PRIORITY ORDER FORM

Call 1-800-899-8153 (Ask for Dept. DS-87)

For fastest service use your credit card and call Toll-FREE

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

Please send everything to me on: DVD or VHS

- I prefer to pay with my credit card; Enclosed is my Check or Money Order (payable to TRS) for \$177.
Please charge my:
 MC Visa AmEx Discover

Card #: _____ Name: _____

Expires: _____ Address: _____

Signature _____ City _____ ST _____ Zip _____



TRS Direct Inc. • 606 E. Acequia Ave. Dept. DS-87 • Visalia, CA 93292

CA residents add appropriate sales tax. Rush shipping available for additional charges of \$10 for "2-day" shipping and \$15 for "Overnight" shipping. Foreign orders (except Canada) may require additional shipping. Call (559) 732-5317 for more information.

ADVENTURE QUARTERMASTER

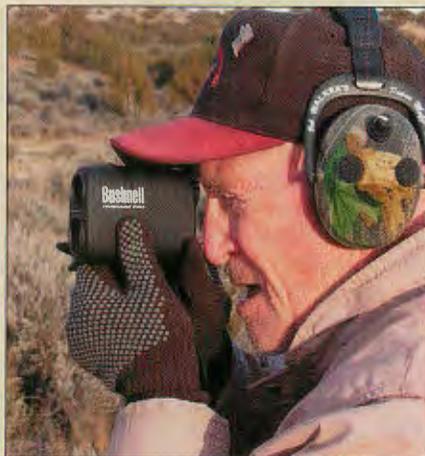
TEXT & PHOTOS BY JOHN HIGGS

BUSHNELL YARDAGE PRO LASER RANGE FINDER

One requirement for making accurate long-range shots with a rifle is to be able to know the distance to the target. Over the years, there have been various methods devised for estimating distance, some better than others, but nothing beats a laser beam for accurate measurement. The laser rangefinder shines a laser beam at a distant object and measures the amount of time it takes the light to travel to the object and bounce back to the rangefinder. It can then calculate to within one yard, the distance to the object. The distance is displayed immediately through the viewfinder, so the user can see the object and at the same time know the precise distance.

We tested the Bushnell Yardage Pro (800-yard model) while hunting in the wide-open spaces of northern Colorado, an environment where distances can be deceptive because there are so few trees or other objects to give perspective. The Yardage Pro operates in different modes: Scan provides a continuous update of distance as the user pans across the landscape. Zip ignores clutter such as bushes or trees in the foreground and gives readings on objects more than 150 yards away. The laser beam may bounce off objects such as rain or snow, giving a false reading, so the Rain mode can be set when inclement weather might affect the accuracy of the range finder.

"Hard" objects like rocks reflect more light than "soft" objects



SOF Publisher Robert K. Brown checks the distance to a small herd of cow elk while hunting in Northern Colorado. Bushnell Yardage Pro is easy to use and provides accurate distance readouts to 800 yards.

like animals that absorb some of the laser light. Reflector mode increases the maximum range that "hard" objects may be measured. We compared the Bushnell Yardage Pro with a Leica LRF800 range finder. Both units gave identical distance readings to the same objects. The Bushnell has one button mounted on top of the unit, making it easy to use with one hand. It also proved to be an effective mid-range monocular with its 6X lens. Other good things about this unit were that it came with a lanyard and a soft nylon case that can be attached to a belt or pack. The instructions are also well written and include an Operational Summary. The first time I used the rangefinder, all I read was the Summary, and it was enough to get me operational with the unit in about a minute. The Bushnell Yardage Pro does exactly what it

is expected to do, and at a cheaper price than other rangefinders. It definitely goes — and measures — the distance.

Bushnell Corporation, Dept. SOF

9200 Cody, Overland Park, KS 66214-1734

Phone: 800-423-3537 or 913-752-3400; fax: 913-752-3550

www.bushnell.com

SPYDERCO BILL MORAN DROP POINT

Designed by the founder of the American Bladesmith Society, this lightweight general-purpose knife is flat ground from VG-10 steel. The synthetic FRN handles with Kraton panels provide plenty of grip for those activities around hunting camp. With a 3-7/8 inch blade, and weighing just over 3 oz., the knife, which is also available in a Bowie-style upswept blade, comes with a Kydex sheath with multi position Tek-Lok fastener that allows the wearer to position the knife vertically, diagonally, or horizontally on the belt. Our test sample shaved hair right out of the box, and with the well-proportioned handles provided plenty of power for such diverse jobs as boning meat to shaving wood for fire starting.

Bill Moran Drop Point FB02
Overall length: 8-1/16 inch
Blade: 3-7/8 inch
Weight: 3 oz.



Spyderco Inc., Dept. SOF

P.O. Box 800 Golden, Colorado, USA 80402-0800

Phone: 800-525-7770 or 303-279-8383;

fax: 303-278-2229

www.spyderco.com

SPECTER

Formerly CQB Solutions, Specter produces top-quality pouches, holsters, slings and other similar gear. We recently evaluated three of their products:

THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS PATROL SLING

I was first introduced to the concept of tactical slings for long arms back in the mid-nineties. Since then I have struggled to find a three-point sling that is both simple and functional. I think this SOP sling is the answer. Built from 1.5 inch webbing, with hook and loop and synthetic fasteners, the sling is easy and quiet to use. The sample I used was configured for an FAL and distributed the weight of the rifle comfortably across my shoulders and back. The sling took about two minutes to attach to the rifle. The Specter website (www.spectergear.com) provides instructions on how to configure and use this sling in the various modes of carry including: Off Side Drop (to enable the wearer to simply let go of the rifle and transition to a sidearm), Military Patrol Ready (hands free carry, but quick to get the rifle into the shoulder for aimed fire – also good for hunting), Rear Sweep (I can see this being useful for police officers who would push the rifle behind them, leaving both hands free to handcuff a suspect), and Hasty Carry (The rifle is simply slung over one shoulder, either with the muzzle pointing down or up). I particularly like the sling's Emergency Release Buckle that allowed me to instantly separate myself from the sling and rifle without having to "shrug" out of it. Specter slings are well thought out and stitched on heavy duty industrial machines using mil-spec #69 nylon thread. They are available for most tactical rifles and shotguns.

MK-1 MK-2 CHEST CARRIER

Smaller than a full-load-bearing vest, a chest carrier provides the wearer with three magazine pouches and a panel on each side with 3 row/3 channel PALS/MOLLE compatible modular webbing strips to attach additional PALS/MOLLE pouches. The PALS/MOLLE webbing is attached with heavy-duty 56-stitch bartacks, and is lined with multiple layers of ballistic nylon to prevent stitch pull-through. All the stitching is done by programmable industrial sewing machines. I showed the carrier to Patrick Smith, President of Kifaru International, which manufactures very high quality tents and backpacks here in the USA, and asked him to comment on the quality. Patrick told me that both the stitching and quality of ballistic nylon cloth are extremely high, and that the carrier will probably last for a very long time, given normal use. Like many of Specter's products, the carrier is available in black, olive drab, or coyote tan.

LAST RESORT BELT (LRB)

The LRB is constructed from 1.75", 7000-lb. test, Mil-Spec Type 13 Mil-W-4088 parachute webbing with a 2500-lb. test Mil-Spec webbing buckle. It is available in two versions; single thickness and reinforced double thickness, and in black, olive drab and tan. Our sample was in double thickness, olive drab. I've worn several double thickness belts of this type as pistol belts, because the extra thickness provides enough stiffness to support the weight of a pistol, spare ammo, etc. But this belt, although not as stiff as some, is certainly the most comfortable belt of its type that I have worn.

I was impressed with the quality of all the Specter products we evaluated. Not only is it great gear, it's all manufactured in the USA and backed by a lifetime warranty.

Specter (Formerly CQB Solutions) Dept. SOF

1107 East Douglas Avenue Visalia, CA 93292

Phone: 559-635-1172; fax 559-553-8835

Email: info@spectergear.com

www.spectergear.com



SOP Sling in Rear Sweep Configuration can be carried hands-free, but swept behind the operator, away from bad guys, when transitioning to a sidearm, handcuffs, or open hand. (inset) The Emergency Release Buckle is a great idea when wearing additional items such as body armor, which may be difficult to get out of when wearing a more conventional sling.

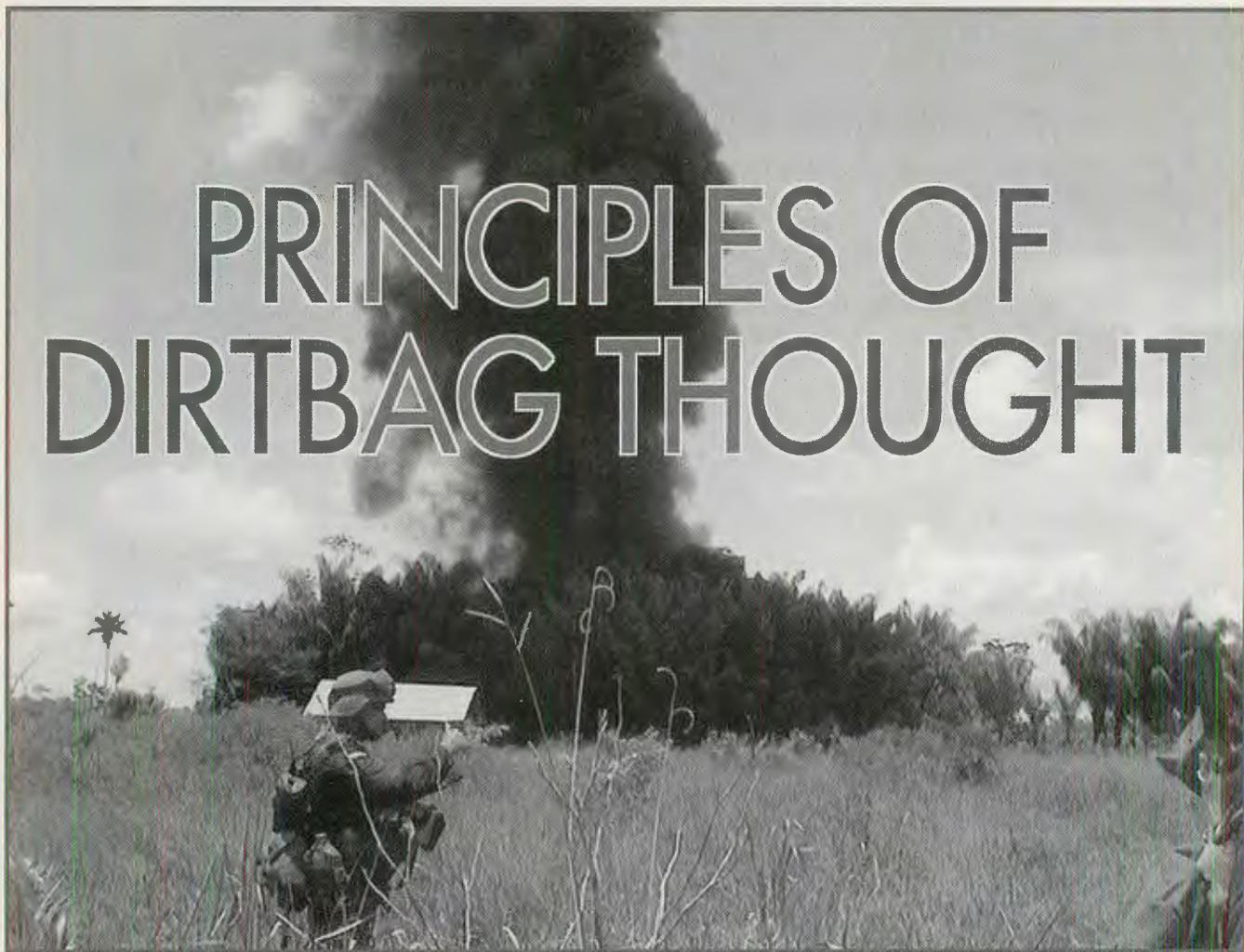


Specter Chest Carrier Mk-2 carries the typical law enforcement load of three spare magazines. Molle-compatible attachment panels allow operator to customize.



As the name implies, Specter's Last Resort Belt has a buckle that provides a loop for emergency attachment to a carabiner.

PRINCIPLES OF DIRTBAG THOUGHT



When the FARC Became Narcoterrorists They Lost All Credibility as Revolutionaries

BY JIM MORRIS

Photos courtesy Colombian National Police

It was about one p.m. when I arrived at the Bogota airport. I walked down the jetway into a corridor which led to a huge white room. Immediately I was standing in one of multiple parallel lines, waiting for a young uniformed woman sitting in a kind of kiosk to check my passport against a computerized list of bad guys.

That gave me a chance to look over the *Colombianos*, and compare them with the Peruvians and Bolivians I'd been dealing with for a couple of weeks. They seemed much more cosmopolitan, better dressed, more stylish.

There were more than a few women in those lines who were just plain *hot*, in heels, very tight jeans, bustiers, bare midriff, the occasional tat, newsboy caps, scarves. I had thought Shakira's costumes elaborate. Now I think she just goes onstage in her street clothes.

This examination made the time in line pass faster, and soon I was in front of the airport, admiring the trees across

the road, with still no sign of my anonymous friend from the Colombian National Police. He prefers to remain anonymous because his survival, both physical and bureaucratic, depends on it.

There were, however, a good many other cops, in a variety of uniforms. Inside the main terminal they wore mostly olive drab dress uniforms. Outside were what seemed to be a couple of SWAT teams. But there was no urgency about them. The guys in SWAT gear stood around, relaxed, chatting. But no one was smoking, and no one was sitting down. They were alert and scanning the area.

I carried three heavy bags, and had no Colombian money. My host wasn't there. I was about to go back inside, to change money and try the phone, when a cabbie convinced me to just go to his apartment. There were dozens of these guys. But I liked this one's looks. He was intelligent, polite, but not deferential, and there was nothing feral about him. He said

(opposite) The Jungla commander directs his men back to the Blackhawks as a drug lab explodes in the background.

he would take Gringo money, so, no problem.

The drive was instructive. Bogota is huge, sprawling over a large valley, with mountains on all sides. It gives the impression of a much smaller city, because there are few tall buildings, but there are seven million people there, and they are all hustling hard.

In the following days, walking around the city, I saw police patrols everywhere. Normally I like to stay away from countries where the street corners are crowded with bunchy little dudes in mirrorshades, carrying submachineguns. But these guys weren't like that; they were pleasant and professional.

There are no city cops as such. Columbia has one National Police Force, but there were CNP cops, and patrols of police cadets, armed only with billyclubs, and there were also patrols of army Military policemen, wearing PM (Policia Militar) armbands. Later, when I asked my host, whom I'll call Carlos, about that, he said that until six months ago there were neighborhoods totally controlled by the FARC.

Formidable And Cruel

FARC is an acronym for Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia, the main rebel group. They control thirty percent of the countryside. They are a formidable force, and cruel. Six months ago, the government got tired of sharing their capitol with them, and went block by block, rooting them out in a series of raids that made the citizens kind of ... edgy.

Just before that the FARC bombed two Gringo hangouts, bars in the Zona Rosa, which wounded two Gringos, killed one Colombian girl, and wounded 72 other *Colombianos*. The CNP foiled an attempted hit on a whorehouse. They were going to break in on a Gringo in a room with a girl, and do the old *thwup thwup* thing with the silenced pistol. Presumably the girl too, patriots that they are.

My friend Carlos took me on a couple of prowls of these areas. Sometimes just him and me, and sometimes with his friend Geraldo. Those bars would look right at home in, say, Boulder, Colorado. The differences are the hordes of young men, longing desperately to sell fake Rolexes, and, of course, the bombs, hopefully now eliminated. They're crowded, and nobody seems worried about an attack.

The men mostly seem concerned about acquiring one of the stylish *chicas* who hang out there in clusters. Bogota, I am told, is a world center of plastic surgery. Some of these girls have imagined fantastic bodies for themselves, and then actually had them made.

Carlos, as it turned out, lived in a luxury apartment in the Nogal area, pushed right up against the mountains, with mists hanging in them. At the sound of his magic name the doorman let me in

without question, and the maid let me up. Soon I was luxuriating with a glass of red wine, looking out at a spectacular view of Bogota and the mountains on the other side of the basin.

Carlos called home, flustered, apologetic. They had switched gates on him and never told him.

Later he and I went to the airport to pick up a colleague of his. That time they actually switched terminals on him, and didn't announce it. Fortunately his pal had a cell phone that was good locally and we were able to talk ourselves to the same location.

He was still at the airport, and would be home soon. He arrived about an hour later, affable and still apologetic, with a Sig Sauer 9mm on his hip and an M4 shorty assault rifle in a gym bag. Normal life for the police in Columbia.

Scarface

We talked late; he briefed me on every aspect of the drug war that came to mind. Most of what I knew about the cocaine trade came from the Brian DePalma film *Scarface*, a movie I have seen about six times.

But it's obsolete. The end of the Cold War changed all that. During the Cold War the FARC was funded by the Soviet Union, and by Cuba. When the Berlin Wall came down they were left on their own. They had only one way to fund themselves, the drug trade. This was an inevitable decision; it was a choice between that or folding. But it was also their undoing.

You can't fund a Communist revolution with a Capitalist enterprise, particularly a criminal one. It is inherent in the nature of the drug trade that it be run by thugs, and the FARC became thugs.

They abandoned Marxist ideology for the principles of dirtbag thought, which are two:

Hurrah for me!

Screw you.



Jungla Comandos gather evidence at a FARC drug lab.



They still go into villages and make ringing speeches about Marx and the universal brotherhood of man, and from each according to his ability, and all that. But it's kind of hard to carry off when you're wearing a gold Rolex. Even when your audience doesn't know what a Rolex is they know what gold is, and they don't have any.

Sixty percent of FARC soldiers are under the age of 16. By the time they're 26 almost all of them are on to their crooked leaders. But to leave they have to get their families out too. The FARC maintain control by a system of mutual interlocking hostages.

So, as the FARC became less Communist and more criminal, especially in the vast areas of the Colombian outback where there is no, or very little, government presence, a counterforce grew up, the Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia.

Ostensibly the AUC is a right-wing paramilitary defense force, created to defend primarily well-to-do landowners, backers of the government, from raids by the FARC. In addition to the thirty percent of Colombia controlled by the

FARC, the AUC controls another twenty-five percent.

Since the Colombian government also controls only twenty-five percent — even though they control about sixty percent of the population — that leaves twenty percent of Columbia controlled by no one at all. Presumably the outcomes of all human interactions in these areas are decided by the strongest, or perhaps most heavily armed, individual present.

For the sake of argument, let us presume that the AUC began with only the most idealistic of motives. Weapons and ammo, communications gear and vehicles, training and operations, are all expensive. So, again, a funding source had to be found, and, again, that funding source was the drug trade.

Hidden Drug Labs

Farmers in the Colombian mountains grow coca, clearcutting enough rain forest to fuel the oxygen needs of, say, England. They sell their coca to the FARC and the AUC in the huge swaths of countryside controlled by those groups. The FARC and AUC operate hidden drug labs, making cocaine,

THREE MINUTES AND COUNTING

Operational experience teaches that it take three minutes from the time a UH60 is audible at the target area for friendly forces to arrive on station. On 21 November, at 0525 hrs, a Joint Task Force of DIRAN (Direccion Anti-Narcoticos, the Colombian National Police Anti-narcotics division) and the Colombian Air Force (FAC) conducted an Airmobile Raid against Comandante Efrain Mendez aka Guillermo Cochornea. Cochornea is commander of the Hermidez Molina Mobile Column of the FARC 16th Front, and is also Finance and Narcotrafficking Control Officer for the 16th Front.

As a result of this raid six FARC fighters were killed, and a cocaine base lab destroyed.

During the past two months, DAS (Departamento Administrativo de Seguridad, the Colombian CIA, FBI, Customs, and Immigration combined), DIRAN and FAC intelligence learned that Cochornea was spending his nights at a farmhouse two kilometers from his main FARC base camp of 200 combatants. This farmhouse was located in the remote eastern plains.

The Joint Task Force included two OV-10 observation craft, one AC47 (Spooky) gunship, one Schweitzer Intelligence Aircraft, one ARPIA, one UH60 transport helicopter and a four-man Combat Search and Rescue team from the Colombian Air Force. The Colombian National Police contributed 75 Jungla Comandos, two UH60 helicopters, one C26B Intelligence Platform aircraft, one Hughes 500, and one UH2.

The Junglas, helicopters, and the Schweitzer deployed to Carimagua airfield, 68 miles from target area, and the OV-10s, AC-47, and C-26B operated from FACs Apiay Airbase.

The Task Force prepared to launch three mornings in a row, but weather and maintenance problems prevented departure. Daily intelligence reports continued to show



A Jungla Comando plays the role as a drug lab goes up in the background.

that Cochornea and his security element were still sleeping at the farmhouse, encouraging the Task Force to patiently stand fast in Carimagua until weather conditions improved.

On Nov. 22, at 0400 hrs, the Schweitzer flew over the target area and confirmed that Cochornea's security was there, and that weather was acceptable. The Task Force launched at 0442 hrs, flying at 250 feet along a dogleg route, purposely avoiding villages and suspected enemy locations.

On the way to the target a solid cloud cover, at treetop level formed all the way to the horizon. The task force continued towards the objective, hoping conditions would improve. Four miles out from the objective LTC Gonzalez, the Task Force Air Mission Commander, canceled the mission and directed the force to return to Carimagua.

As they did a 180, back to Carimagua, the Schweitzer reported a hole in the cloud cover directly over the objective. The Airmobile Task Force turned around again and headed toward the target. As the helicopters approached the target area, the Schweitzer detected ten to twelve men in shorts fleeing the house, one man firing up at the helos.

The UH60 flared and landed. The Junglas swept the farmhouse area, finding personal photos of Cochornea in FARC uniform, stashes of food supplies, and a satellite phone antenna. They destroyed a cocaine base lab, located near the farmhouse.

The Arpia fired 24 2.75 rockets and the AC-47 fired 1,600 rounds of .50 cal.

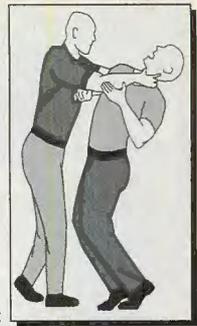
The Junglas did not make any captures. The fleeing FARC escaped into the dense jungle behind the farmhouse. Intelligence reports indicate six FARC KIA on this operation.

Cochornea, however, escaped into the brush.

— JM

"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!)"



Kick 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 it's 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 everyone 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.

Don't fool around and miss this opportunity. It doesn't cost you a thing. Call now or go on-line at www.targetfocusweapons.com.



Junglas hold a FARC guerrilla to be taken to Bogota for trial.



The air commander's C & C ship circles as a FARC drug lab burns.

which they then sell to criminal narcos, the heirs of Pablo Escobar, men with no pretensions of ideology whatever, who smuggle it to the U.S. and sell it to whoever uses that crap these days.

The Colombian National Police, and also the Colombian Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines are all arrayed against these people, but the criminals have a lock on the biggest source of funding in Colombia, and they aren't shy about spending it on weapons, ammo and explosives.

The only real advantage that the Colombian government has is that it's an ally of the U.S. The entire counter-narcotics effort of the Colombian government is funded by the U.S. taxpayer. The Colombians are grateful, but they're also cognizant of the fact that we're spending the money, but they're the ones who are dying, so they don't feel exactly like junior partners in this enterprise.

I went to bed late, my mind churning. The next morning I got up early and made coffee. Carlos joined me a few minutes later. He started making breakfast and piling up VCR tapes of combat operations, CDs of photos of thugs, FARC propaganda magazines, anything that he thought would help my article. It was important to him that people in the U.S. understood what the CNP was doing.

Three cups of mind-jolting Colombian coffee later I actually focused on this stuff. Truth is, at that point I was more interested in a papaya and a couple of those stubby little jungle bananas.

He clipped his Sig to his hip and put the M4 in the gym bag. We headed out for the headquarters of the CNP Antinarcoticos. It was another half-hour drive across Bogota, at the airport, where they also had some of their air assets, an old C47, modified with more modern inline engines, and some executive jets. There are three major CNP bases scattered around the country. Their Blackhawks and Hueys were there.

The headquarters was in a four-story office building beside the flightline, inside a chain-linked fence, with armed guards. It's tall enough for a glass elevator inside, by a fairly large courtyard, where I later saw a formation of new recruits getting their initial briefing. We took the broad open stairway to the second floor.

Jungla Comandos

At the top of the stairs Carlos introduced me to an almost criminally handsome young major in a flight suit, Fernando Lopez. Later I was told that Major Lopez was one of the first ten officers to join the CNP Jungla (*Hoon-gla*) Comandos, ten years ago. Anyone who doubts the resolve of the CNP should

know that only four of these young men are alive today.

Lopez graduated high school in Mississippi, where his father was getting an advanced degree. So his English is perfect. He flies missions, but he also runs the foreign liaison office, where he briefs visiting dignitaries on CNP Ops. He was, for instance, expecting a delegation from Ft. Benning GA the next day. There were plans to send the Junglas to the U.S. Army Ranger School, the best patrol course in the world.

There would be discussions on whether to send everybody or just the officers, whether to take them through the regular course or a modified one. That sort of thing.

Major Lopez took me into his office and hooked me up with his principle assistant, *Agente de Policia* Fredy Rueda. Fredy's a tall, skinny intellectual, and I can't imagine him being a cop anywhere but Colombia. He was the other guy with perfect English in the CNP Antinarcoticos, and he was to be my guide and minder.

Carlos and Fredy took me to the CNP public affairs office where I was introduced, and then taken to Operations. There Fredy introduced a Lieutenant Lopero, a tough-looking young man of about thirty, attired, for the moment, in the OD dress uniform, with many more decorations than you ever see on a cop on the street. Lopero gave me a lengthy and thorough briefing. It was a sort of mixed powerpoint briefing, intercut with videos of training and combat operations.

Lieutenant Lopero spoke very little English, but even with limited Spanish I could read most of the items in his powerpoint demonstration. In the VCR presentations of raids on drug labs there were several shots of Lt. Lopero in fatigues and jungle hat, geared out and directing operations. He hadn't been in the headquarters all his time in the CNP. He didn't look it either.

Armies of Criminals

The CNP antinarcoticos don't operate much like cops in the U.S. For one thing, armies of criminal require armies of cops. The CNP doesn't have an army, but it does have the 400-man Jungla Comandos, and they are very good. Basic police training in Columbia is one year, and the Junglas get another six months after that.

Their original training was set up by the British 22d Special Air Service Regiment, and the U.S. Army's 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), two of the premier special operations units in the world.

And the Junglas have not hesitated to modify that training to suit their needs. They're in great shape, know what they're doing, and they live to blow up drug labs.

But there are other forces at work. As policemen they are not allowed to shoot first. In theory they are out there to make arrests, and make cases. They are accompanied by representatives, usually young women, from their federal prosecutors office, to insure that they do not break the law in the act of enforcing it. Nobody shoots, and nobody blows anything up without an okay from the "Fiscal." When time is precious this tends to slow things down just enough to give the bad guys a bit of advantage.

Balanced against that, when the Junglas became effective the narcos went after their families. And, oh baby, did that make it personal.

They do other things, hostage rescue, prisoner snatches of FARC commanders and the like, but the drug lab is their basic op, and in the past four years they've blown up 271 of them.

The net result of that is that drug prices in the U.S. have remained stable. But if it weren't for the Junglas the price of cocaine in the States would probably be less than half of what it is.

The other operations are harder. It takes three minutes from the time a Blackhawk becomes audible at the target until the Junglas are on the ground. In three minutes a FARC commander

has a good shot to get in the bush and escape and evade. Hostages can be hidden or killed in three minutes. But a drug lab cannot be broken down and carted away in three minutes. There is time to land, assault the place if there is resistance, videotape everything there for evidence and blow it up with a truly satisfying WHOOOM!!!, and a nice napalm-like explosion, and cart the captured bad guys off to jail.

Coca Eradication

Another chore, though not a favorite, is to fly security for the coca eradication program.

In this program hired civilian pilots from all over the world fly modified OV-10 observation aircraft in a kind of crop dusting in reverse. The object is not to kill the bugs that eat the plants. It's to kill the plants. Usually they fly three aircraft at a time, in echelon formation, with paraquat streaming out from under their wings. They fly low and slow.

And they get shot at ... a lot. So, in addition to the aircraft there are Blackhawks above, loaded with Junglas and medics, ready to go down to rescue the pilot if the plane goes down. And above that is a huey command and control ship, directing the entire operation.

The American ambassador is a great believer in this program, but I got the impression that he is almost alone in this belief.

The next day I was out there at Oh-Dark-thirty, ready to hop on an aircraft and go out with the Junglas. Instead I got to meet the general, General Luis Gomez-Heredia, a most impressive man, whom I am told consistently works sixteen hour days, listens to his men, and likes to go on operations. I also had lunch with Colonel Alvaro Velandia-Nino, who runs the *Antinarcoticos* day to day operations, and with Lt. Col. Luis Mendoza, CO of the Junglas.

I tell you, folks, it was a nice lunch, and if I hadn't been gnashing my teeth in frustration I would have enjoyed it.

Next month Morris goes with the Junglas into FARC country, and visits an isolated police outpost.

Jim Morris is a former Special Forces officer, and longtime SOF contributor. His non-fiction books, War Story, Fighting Men, and The Devil's Secret Name are in print from St. Martin's. His novel Above and Beyond is in print from real-warstories.com. ✕

MAX1911

BUY DIRECT FROM THE DISTRIBUTOR
We Deliver What Others Promise

No License Required

FIREARMS TRAINING

MOVIE MAKERS

STAGE PLAYS

REENACTMENTS

COLLECTORS



Fires single or double action. Full size, metal, fully operational semi-auto. Sounds, recoils, flames & smokes just like the original. Load the clip, pull the slide back & fire away. Available only from Maxsell Corp. See our guns in action in the movie Shaft.

EXPANDABLE BATOM SALE

INCLUDES CARRY CASE

16" Baton.....\$25.00

21" Baton.....\$29.00

26" Baton.... \$32.00

BATONS SHIPPED FREE

FIRES

9mmPA

BLANKS



ORDER INDIVIDUALLY

Max1911.....\$79.00

Nylon Holster.....\$15.00

50rds of Ammo.... \$29.00

Total.....\$123.00

SALE

ORDER \$99

ALL 3 PCS. Add \$9 insured S/H

ORDER TOLL-FREE

1-877-332-2343

Credit Cards or Money Orders Accepted



www.maxsell.com

MAXSELL CORPORATION

4400 W. HILLSBORO BLVD, #2 • COCONUT CREEK, FL 33073

Rumors of the lethal union are bewildering. Du Toit, some say, played a deadly game clumsily, trying to penetrate Equatorial Guinea's inner leadership as part of the coup plot, and lost. The wily Mr. Armengol, according to others, may not have known what du Toit had up his sleeve. Some claim that he was stringing du Toit along.

Nguema told the media that he knew "for sure" that his brother was not involved in any way with any venture involving Mr. du Toit. "I think it's not true," he said. "Because if it was like this, I would have known." Other accounts have Nguema accusing his brother of conniving with du Toit to overthrow him.

In neighboring Zimbabwe, Du Toit and Mann were playing with fire with the Zimbabwe Defense Industry. ZDI is as notoriously corrupt as Mugabe, the Zimbabwean president.

In one incident in 1997, a ship carrying a ZDI consignment of 32,398 81mm mortar rounds disappeared on the way to Sri Lanka with arms for that country's army under a six US million dollar government-to-government deal, according to *Znews*.

Investigations into the fate of the vessel *Stillius Limasol*,

Minnaar, who worked for the CIA in the 1970s, maintained contact with the agency until his mysterious death, allegedly due to poisoning - in September 2001.

MTS's role in this operation, according to the *Mail and Guardian*, was to supply "trained professionals".

Mann also signed a contract with Crause Steyl's air ambulance service, Triple A Aviation in January. Triple A Aviation Services, which also operates as Air Ambulance Africa, was to provide "aviation services" to Mann's company Logo Logistics.

Everyone Knows

Steyl said that Mann had approached him last year with a proposal. "He said it would be like Angola again." But Steyl denies he accepted the offer. "I live in a small community. Everyone knows me and I do very good work."

Sir Mark Thatcher, the son of Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was to provide the helicopters, Steyl said.

"I met Mark three or four times. He was a partner in the venture. He put in about \$250,000. The money was wired to my company (Triple A Aviation) account in various installments. The helicopters cost about \$600 an hour, plus \$5,000 each for the pilots and \$10,000 a month for special insurance. He knew what was going on. I only knew him in the context of the Equatorial Guinea business." Steyl told the *Evening Standard*.

"One of their big mistakes was recruiting black, out of shape, ragtag guys left over from the apartheid army, and training them under the noses of a Black African government."

which was said to be hauling mortars and other military hardware, failed to reveal a ship registered by that name. No one believed the claims that the Tamil Tigers, who are fighting for a separate homeland, intercepted the weapons. Officials in Colombo accused senior officers in the Sri Lankan army and ZDI of arranging the disappearance in order to defraud the Sri Lankan government.

Reckless Mercs

In a bizarre twist, Mann left a paper trail all over Africa. He apparently was going to make sure that the co-conspirators were going to stick to their parts of the bargain.

His offshore company Logo Logistics had signed an investors agreement with the Lebanon-based Asian Trade and Investment Group, Sal, which allegedly commissioned the overthrow of President Obiang, according to South African military sources, *Africa Confidential* reports. That company was allegedly tied to Calil, Lebanese multi-millionaire Mogul based in London.

Logo Logistics had signed contracts with Du Toit's Military Technical Services (MTS). MTS was set up in 1989 for retired Major-General Tai Minnaar to procure Soviet-issue helicopters and provide private military support services. His attempt to export a stockpile of biological warfare agents, developed under apartheid South Africa's chemical-biological warfare program, to the United States, was revealed by the *Mail & Guardian* in 2002. That attempt was made in conjunction with two former CIA operators, and with the knowledge of the FBI — which apparently blew the plan and stopped Minnaar before it could be carried out.

The money was forwarded to Mann's Logo Logistics.

"One of their big mistakes was recruiting black, out of shape, ragtag guys left over from the apartheid army, and training them under the noses of a Black African government," the British merc told me.

"All that we know is that the Angolans among the alleged mercenaries belonged to the former 32 Buffalo Battalion," Angolan Foreign Affairs Minister told BBC.

Du Toit, confident of his shady, high echelon connections, operated openly and with ease.

He and his operators went deep into the Kalahari desert, close to the Botswana border in the South African bush to recruit the mercs in the old asbestos mining town of Pomfremoto, the dumping ground for hundreds of black Angolan soldiers who fought for the apartheid army in the notorious 32 Battalion.

The able bodied, former military men wait in the lifeless town for security companies to come recruit for their projects. Others wait there to die.

"I am very, very sad. I am getting old in a wheelchair for nothing. I was used by the South African defense force and I am very angry with them," a crippled survivor, Joao dos Santos told BBC.

Twenty of the 23 Angolans, 20 South Africans and 18 Namibians were recruited in the grim town for the Equatorial Guinea Coup.

Next Month: The coup never gets off the ground, literally.

Dr. Martin Brass is a longtime SOF contributor. ✕

TIME TO SUBSCRIBE

NEW

DIGITAL ONLINE EDITION!
SUBSCRIBE AND READ ONLINE!

WWW.SOFMAG.COM

The Rules Have Changed.



Keep Informed With SOF.

**Don't delay.
Subscribe today —
and SAVE 40%!**

Your best source for firsthand, in-depth
combat reports and war commentary you
won't read in the mainstream media.

SUBSCRIBE ONLINE: www.sofmag.com

Join SOF and American troops for front-line **Iraqi War** coverage and analysis, plus our dedicated coverage of the **war on terrorism** — in the manner that only **Soldier Of Fortune** can deliver. Plus, we'll continue all the action, adventure and investigative reports that have made SOF famous. Don't wait any longer — get **SO**F today!

Please note, there will be no refunds on subscriptions as you will be subscribing through an agency.



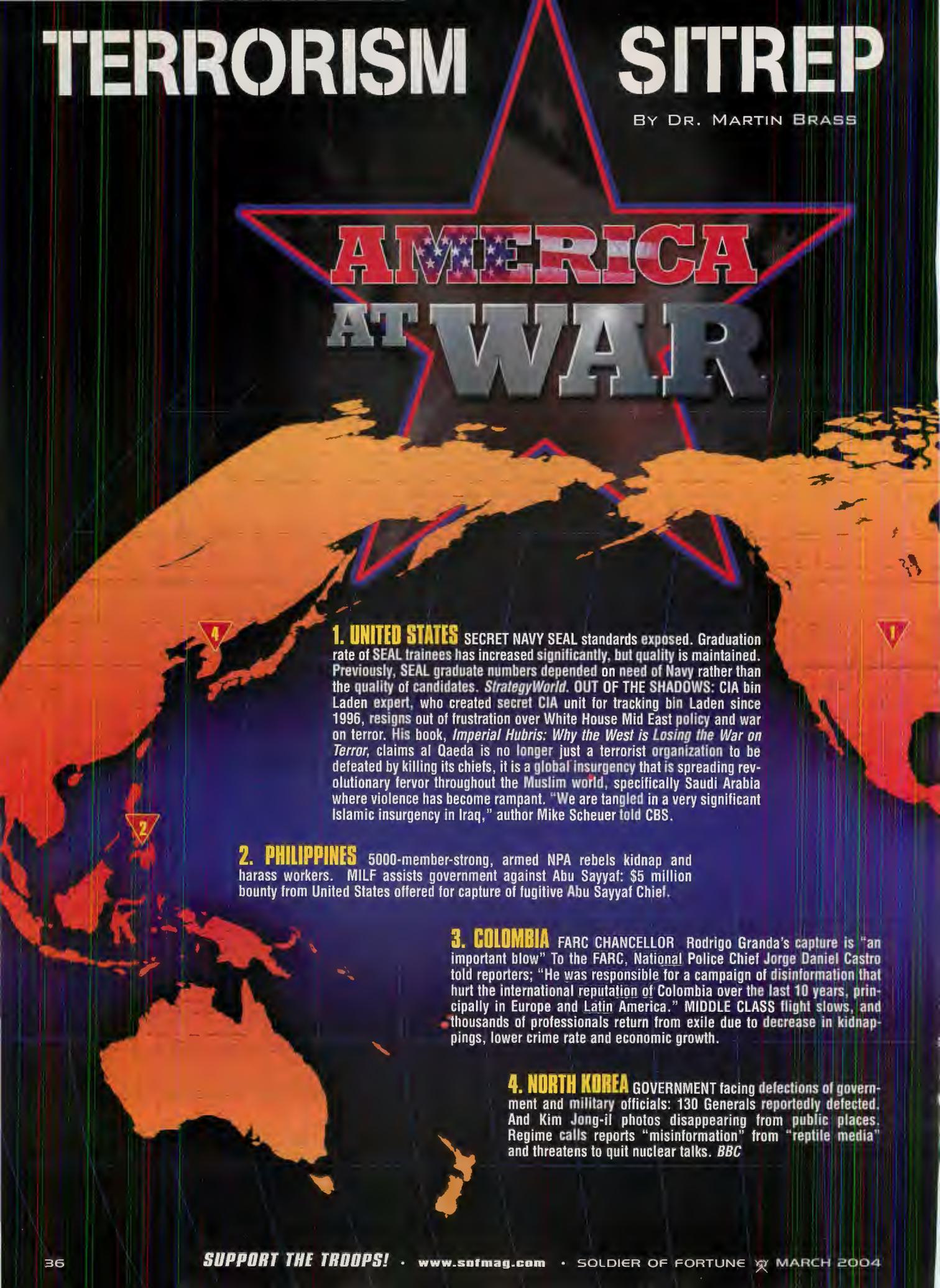
**TO USE MC/VISA
CALL 1-800-877-5207**

**Soldier Of Fortune.
Now, more than ever.**

Images: U.S. Army

BY DR. MARTIN BRASS

AMERICA AT WAR



1. UNITED STATES SECRET NAVY SEAL standards exposed. Graduation rate of SEAL trainees has increased significantly, but quality is maintained. Previously, SEAL graduate numbers depended on need of Navy rather than the quality of candidates. *StrategyWorld*. **OUT OF THE SHADOWS:** CIA bin Laden expert, who created secret CIA unit for tracking bin Laden since 1996, resigns out of frustration over White House Mid East policy and war on terror. His book, *Imperial Hubris: Why the West is Losing the War on Terror*, claims al Qaeda is no longer just a terrorist organization to be defeated by killing its chiefs, it is a global insurgency that is spreading revolutionary fervor throughout the Muslim world, specifically Saudi Arabia where violence has become rampant. "We are tangled in a very significant Islamic insurgency in Iraq," author Mike Scheuer told CBS.

2. PHILIPPINES 5000-member-strong, armed NPA rebels kidnap and harass workers. MILF assists government against Abu Sayyaf: \$5 million bounty from United States offered for capture of fugitive Abu Sayyaf Chief.

3. COLOMBIA FARC CHANCELLOR Rodrigo Granda's capture is "an important blow" To the FARC, National Police Chief Jorge Daniel Castro told reporters; "He was responsible for a campaign of disinformation that hurt the international reputation of Colombia over the last 10 years, principally in Europe and Latin America." **MIDDLE CLASS** flight slows, and thousands of professionals return from exile due to decrease in kidnappings, lower crime rate and economic growth.

4. NORTH KOREA GOVERNMENT facing defections of government and military officials: 130 Generals reportedly defected. And Kim Jong-il photos disappearing from public places. Regime calls reports "misinformation" from "reptile media" and threatens to quit nuclear talks. *BBC*

5. FRANCE ATM TERROR Radical Islamists withdraw hundreds of thousands of dollars a month from ATMs with fake credit cards and leave no traces. CAUCASUS ARE KEY militant training ground according to France's top anti-terrorism judge. AP

6. ISRAEL PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS detonate 1.5 tons of explosives in tunnel in Gaza, killing five Israeli soldiers.

7. EGYPT CRACKDOWN on weapons smuggling into Palestinian territories.

8. SYRIA ARMY has deteriorating equipment and training because Russia refuses to sell up-to-date equipment, due to large Syrian debt.

9. PALESTINE ARAFAT DEAD, amid rumors of AIDS and poisoning. ABBAS, new chief, calls for end of attacks on Israel. SEVEN HOMES destroyed in GAZA by Israeli troops.

13. IRAQ DEATHS OF NATIONAL GUARD and reserve troops nearly equals that of active-duty troops, due to inadequate training of reservists and attacks on convoys. FALLUJAH SNIPERS lacked training and were armed with rusting AKs with no scope while Marine snipers had high kill rates; 1000 tons of weapons and munitions found in Fallujah. SUNNI al Qaeda snipers itching for ethnic-based civil war by attacking Kurds and Shia in major battlegrounds of Mosul and Kirkuk. ELEVEN IED factories, packed with explosives, found in Fallujah.

14. IRAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS instructors forbidden from military installations after government reneges on promise to halt nuclear weapons development.

15. AFGHANISTAN WINTER OFFENSIVE by allies planned due to advanced intel on al Qaeda locations near Paki border. TALIBAN CHIEFS, Mullahs Nagve and Qayum, suspected of ordering ongoing attacks, arrested. Attacks decreasing with continuing capture of kingpins: 80% of opium grown in drug haven, production up to 4,200 tons vs. 3,600 tons last year. Drug Lords have replaced Taliban power vacuum. StrategyWorld. AID AGENCIES siphon money from war victim funds.

10. PAKISTAN TALIBAN CHIEF Syed Mohammad Akbar Agha arrested in Karachi. Agha founded Taliban faction *laishul Muslimeen*. MADRASSES (schools), where sexual molestation of students by conservative Islamic religious leaders rampant, under heat from Government.

11. ALGERIA ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISTS in turf wars with crime gangs, with rebel fundamentalist GSPC group crushed.

12. INDIA 580 KILOMETERS OF ELECTRIFIED fence along Line of Control border between Indian and Pakistani Kashmir so effective that Islamic radicals training in Pakistani camps have built facsimiles of the fence in order to train their people how best to get across.

16. NEPAL MAOIST terrorists stage series of bombings, targeting government buildings and supporters. COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP is goal of Maoists.

MIAMI'S MAD MAX

Marines

FINALE



BUSY KILLING THE ENEMY

*"Hey! We Just Fought Through An Ambush!"
"Great! Let's Turn Around and Do It Again!"*

BY DONALD SCHUTT

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

Victorious Marines pose with their captured Iraqi assault rifles. Due to various supply snafus insufficient small arms ammo was available to the Marines during their drive on Baghdad. The Marines in combat put captured Iraqi weapons to good use to compensate.

Last month the Miami Marines were attacked by RPGs from the left. SGT Moreno traversed his .50 cal. in that direction, and cleaned house. Then the Marine tanks stopped to help a fallen comrade. They were protected by their armor, but the Miami Marines, in HUMMVs were fully exposed to enemy fire.

THE Gold Section TOWs, along with Alpha Company Tanks, came up from behind and passed through. Staff Sergeant Torres knew that they had a corpsman traveling with them. He had Gold Section drop off their corpsmen to assist with his three wounded Marines. The corpsman ran to Sergeant Pavon's HUMMV and started to assist the badly wounded warrior.

With the section halted, while Sergeant Pavon's head wound was being treated, Staff Sergeant Torres used an odd — but effective — way to calm down his men after what they had just been through. Up in the front of the column, where he could be seen by his subordinates, he put on a demonstration that everything was okay, that there was no need to get stressed out.

Sergeant Moreno Explains: "Staff Sergeant had a habit of every once in a while, in the middle of a firefight, he'd open up the door, tell his driver to stop, he'd get out of the vehicle, urinate in the middle of the street as we were going through combat. We are on this narrow highway with buildings three stories high, not ten feet from the road.

There're people running all over the place. And here is this man that is about 6-feet-6-inches-tall, who stands as tall as the barrel that I'm shooting from, urinating in the middle of the highway.

Now I can see the tracks from Fox 2/5 moving up and they're shooting everything in sight. They are shooting like this is a turkey shoot. They are shooting everywhere.

"I said, 'He's going to get shot by friendly fire, or they're going to shoot him.' Then I think that I see someone breaking the glass in the window of an auto-repair shop across the street."

Sergeant Moreno saw a Jihadist trying to take up a position to shoot his staff sergeant, who was still busy relieving himself, unawares. The barrel of Moreno's .50-cal. was about a foot-and-a-half from the staff sergeant's helmeted head. Moreno fired. The loud noise caused his staff sergeant to jump with the beat of each round. The Jihadist disappeared, obliterated.

Torres, obviously annoyed, looked at his gunner and yelled: "What are you shooting at?"

Moreno looked back and said: "The guy who is trying to kill you."

Wrong Route

A good part of the Battalion had followed each other up the road past the intersection. Very quickly the Command realized that the column had missed its turn. Although the road the Marines had taken did lead to the southern part of Baghdad, it was not the route they had intended to take. In all likelihood this direct route to Baghdad was heavily defended.

The right turn they were supposed to take was to allow the battalion to circuit around to the east side of the capitol city. It was thought that the Iraqis were not as prepared to defend there. Second Tank Battalion had to correct its mistake.

The order came down that the column had to turn around.



Weary Marines deservedly rest after capturing Baghdad and Tikrit. The Marines from Miami had just completed the longest distance land campaign in the history of the United States Marine Corps.

The units that had pushed through the ambush into the shopping district now had to turn around and drive right back through the main ambush site. This did not sit well with many of the Marines who really had no idea of what had happened.

Sergeant Moreno thought that the column had been stopped and was now retreating. It didn't sit well with him. He thought a retreat was a bad idea, "God, they've killed our impulse, our ability to fight. They have pressed their will upon us and they have taken us for a ride. Now they were forcing us back to where we started."

The hard-as-nails Sergeant did not know that the column had missed the intersection. He had been too busy killing the enemy to notice.

Bronze Section, still halted in the middle of the shopping district, again mounted up and started moving back toward the intersection in order to get back on track. They also hoped to find an ambulance for Sergeants Pavon, and Dale. They moved back south through the Grunts of Fox 2/5, who combined with Copper Section TOWs, were really pouring it on the enemy.

Scores of the Grunts were sticking their heads out of the top of the Amtracks firing on the enemy with everything they had: Their M16s, SAWs, M240G 7.62-mm machine guns, and the .50-caliber/Mk-19 combos on the Amtracks' turrets all firing at the same time in all directions. By this point the Islamic Jihad fighters were probably wondering just who was ambushing whom.

Bronze Section stopped an ambulance near the intersection. After a short discussion they loaded both Dale and Pavon into the medevac vehicle. The ambulance then moved out up the road toward the center of town that Bronze Section had just left.

The ambulance pulled up behind a burning M1A1 tank. Charlie Company's Commanding Officer, Captain Houston, was lying on the ground behind the tank. His tank was still burning from where gunfire had spilled a fuel bladder into the engine. He had been seriously wounded in the head by a sniper. He was in bad shape.

The medical people asked the walking wounded to exit the ambulance so they could load the badly wounded officer on board. Sergeant Dale was able to stand and exit. He was



making room for Captain Houston who was more seriously hurt. The location was under heavy fire. The ambulance driver, Corporal Luke Holden, of Albany, NY, was shot in the hand. HM3 Smith, the Corpsman, took over the driving.

Left Behind

In the excitement Sergeant Dale had been left behind. He was left lying unarmed and wounded in the middle of a fierce firefight. As Dale crouched on the ground behind the tank, one of the tank crewmen beside him was busily engaged in firing on the enemy.

As Copper Section approached the ambush site they began taking fire.

Copper Section had been broken into two squads. One squad was leading the twelve amtracks containing the Grunts of Fox Company 2/5. The other squad trailed the formation.

The Grunts, standing up behind the aluminum armor of their amtracks, poured fire upon any Jihadist foolhardy enough to stick his head up.

Some of the Jihadists were in especially well-concealed and covered positions. They continued to fire on the Americans. One sniper fired, hitting a sergeant who was firing his M16 from the top of an amtrack turret. Sergeant Dwayne Rios, 25, of Hammond, IN, fell dead. The bullet had hit him just behind the ear.

At the rear of the column was Corporal Joseph McMahon III, of Lake Worth, FL. He manned the last vehicle in the rearguard squad of Copper Section. He had been acting as the rearguard for his section, and indeed that part of the column, for some time.

Corporal McMahon had been firing at groups of the enemy all day. As his vehicle approached the ambush site Jihadists were

If Saddam's forces had been successful at blowing strategically located bridges the American drive on Baghdad would have been longer and more costly. Second Tank Battalions aggressive drive caught Saddam's forces unprepared.

still taking rifle shots at the column. First from one side, then the other. He saw a Jihadist run to a new position along the road. He shot, hitting the man in the leg.

Corporal McMahon shifted and engaged a new target behind and to the left of his vehicle. Then he heard someone call out a target forward and right. He swung around and shot. That is when the Arabs that he had been shooting at behind the column got up and fired. He was hit.

Through the Lung

The bullet entered his back and traveled at an upward angle since he had been leaning forward to take a shot. It passed through part of his lung and exited his body near his stomach. He slumped into the HUMMV.

His section leader knew that there was a corpsman on the amtrack ahead. He had McMahon's vehicle drop him off with the rearmost amtrack where he was treated.

As Copper Section and Fox 2/5 continued through the ambush site they spotted an ambulance parked near the intersection. The amtrack carrying McMahon halted to drop him off. The corpsman, HM3 Smith, exited the ambulance driver's seat, firing his pistol at the enemy. The enemy fired back, hitting HM3 Thomas Smith, of Brooklyn, NY, directly in the chest.

Fortunately he was wearing an armor plate in his flack vest. He was only knocked back a bit. He continued to do his job.

A corpsman picked up



Saddam's cronies made millions in commissions on weapons purchases and hence kept buying anything on the market. Result was to make Iraq one huge ammo dump. Artillery shells like these are used by the insurgents to create IED's.

Corporal McMahon and attempted to carry him to the ambulance. He dropped the heavy Marine. Corporal McMahon got up under his own power, and jumped into the waiting ambulance, under fire.

Inside he saw Sergeant Pavon lying on a stretcher. He didn't look good. He could hear the enemy's incoming rounds impacting the ambulance as it drove away.

Captain Bardorf, the battalion logistics officer, was up forward near Captain Houston's dead tank. He had helped guide the ambulance through the hail of gunfire in order to evacuate Captain Houston.

Sergeant Dale, who still lay bleeding behind Captain Houston's burning tank, saw the officer and decided to ask him for help. Dale, feeling pretty weak, got up the strength to get up and ask Captain Bardorf for a lift.

The captain motioned for the wounded Marine to get into his vehicle. The logistics officer had a "soft-back" HUMMV. The "soft-back" is basically like a convertible with a canvas roof. It has no protection.

Dale lay in the back as Captain Bardorf and his driver bravely transported him back toward the intersection where an ambulance might be found. At one point Sergeant Dale remembers both the captain and his driver having to exit the vehicle and take cover on the left side in order to engage a target to the right side of the vehicle.

Being in the middle of a fierce battle in a "soft-back" did not make Sergeant Dale feel too secure, especially with the blood slowly spilling out of his body and down his back.

French Cannon

Bronze Section made the left turn at the intersection. They were now proceeding in the correct direction. Only a hundred meters or so down the now narrow two-lane road they saw a brand-new French-made artillery piece sitting on the left side. The big cannon appeared to be the result of a recent sale to the Iraqis.

Staff Sergeant Torres immediately recognized what the gun was and where it had come from. He yelled to Moreno: "Hit that thing!"

Sergeant Moreno readily complied. "It was brand new. It was brand spanking new. So I fired into it with the .50-caliber and I could see the fluid leaking out." Hydraulic fluid leaked from the cannon as if it were a second-hand Peugeot.

Bronze Section moved further down the road and halted. A white Toyota sedan approached the column. Sergeant Moreno shot some warning shots in front of the vehicle. It kept coming. He raised his point of aim and fired a burst through the front of the car. The Toyota screeched to a halt.



A CH-46 helicopter, similar to the one used in the daring medevac of the wounded Marines. The chopper was escorted in by Cobra gunships, providing cover on both sides.

The driver got out and ran out where he was cut-down by fire from the Marines. The passenger sat in the back dead from Moreno's first burst of fire.

Intelligence personnel later went through the vehicle. The passenger was the "Jack of Spades" on the wanted list. He was dead. His suitcase contained papers and a cell phone with Saddam's phone number in it. The 2nd Tank Battalion was only five or ten minutes normal drive time outside of Baghdad. The high-ranking Iraqi General had probably been out inspecting the defenses. He had not counted on a face-to-face with Sergeant Moreno.

As Panther Section came up protecting the rear they could see the oil fires spilling smoke into the sky. A heavy blanket of dark smoke was darkening the sky ahead.

Sergeant Michael, with Panther Section, approaching the ambush site, recalls grisly evidence of the severity of the fight taking place forward with the tanks, Tiger Section, and the TOW Marines.

Sergeant Michael: "We heard on the net. Staff Sergeant Green announced that there was fighting up ahead, that they were taking RPG rounds. He let us know, so when we rolled into it, we knew what to expect.

"We also knew that someone had been killed, a KIA, but we didn't know who it was until the end of the day. But we would see stuff. In one case I remember an MRE box (American field rations) sitting on the side of the road. It was covered in blood.

Bloody Objects

"So what I guess was happening was they were trying to get rid of the bloody objects out of their vehicles from all the fighting. So, we passed by that kind of stuff. There was a lot of stuff on fire, like flame trenches, I remember electrical wires that were cut and sparking; they were snaking their way back and forth across the road, sending sparks flying about".

As the Panther Scouts came forward near the "wrong-turn" they encountered a traffic-jam of military vehicles lined-up one behind the other staggered along the road. An M1A1 tank, the one in which Gooden had been killed, still lay a short distance from the intersection on the left side of the road.

It had a black scorch-mark on it where the RPG fire from the professional terrorists had disabled it. An M-88 recovery vehicle was being hooked-up in order to move the massive tank with the battalion. A field ambulance was adjacent to the tank. Fire was still coming from buildings to the right side of the road.

Sergeant Dwight Gray, of Royal Palm Beach, FL, was with the Panther Scouts: "We saw vehicles coming back our way, and turning down the road to our right. We knew that there was something wrong. We just went through a major firefight and now it was like we were stopped."

Cobra Helicopter gunships worked over the buildings around the intersection. Many of the warehouses and other buildings were burning. The Cobras were taking-out buildings one by one. The incoming fire was being reduced somewhat, but there were still plenty of the enemy shooting.

Around the corner at the intersection and 800 meters down the road a Medevac-Landing Zone had been marked-off. It was going to be a "hot LZ." Incoming fire at the site was intense.

So was fire on the route into the landing zone. Snipers still fired on the road from all directions. When the medevac CH-46 arrived it was forced to hug the road low, attempting to get some cover by hiding below the level of the buildings.

Continued on page 72

FALLUJAH

IS A FOUR-LETTER WORD



USMC / 1Lt. John T. McGaughey

Survivors of 2nd Squad pose in gutted amphibian assault vehicle that carried them into battle in Fallujah. L to R: LCpl Jeff B. Starr, PFC Ricardo Nava, LCpl William D. Morrow

[low], LCpl Abraham McCarver, LCpl Daniel C. Gearinger, LCpl Cesar O. Hernandez-Lopez, LCpl Artem Vasitenko, Cpl Jason Palafox, SSgt Ismael Sagredo.

Photo of 2nd Squad's burning amphibian assault vehicle on street in Fallujah, taken from a Humvee in Weapons Company, part of the Quick Reaction Force.

THE 13th of April 2004 is the day the "Deadly Deuces" cheated the Grim Reaper in Fallujah. It's a day 2nd Squad, 2nd Platoon, Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Regiment, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force will never forget.

First Lieutenant Christopher D. Ayres, the platoon commander, his platoon sergeant and 12 members of 2nd Squad along with the driver and crew chief of their Amphibian

PART 2

BY DALE B. COOPER

Assault Vehicle found themselves cut off from friendly forces in this former stronghold of Saddam Hussein in the Sunni Muslim Triangle of Iraq, about 40 miles west of Baghdad.

Second Squad's necks were on the chopping block that day. They were being attacked by hundreds of militants who were bent on butchering them and dragging their bodies through the streets like they had done a couple of weeks earlier to four civilian contractors from Blackwater, a security firm from Virginia.

Judgment Day

"The Deadly Deuces" were trying to link up with 3rd Squad on April 13 when insurgents came running out of alleys and launched volleys of rocket-propelled grenades at their AAVs. One RPG hit the left side of the vehicle where Lt. Ayres was sitting in the track commander's hatch. The RPG punched a hole about the size of a .50 caliber bullet in the Israeli armor applique that covers that portion of the track, and penetrated the aluminum hull of the AAV.

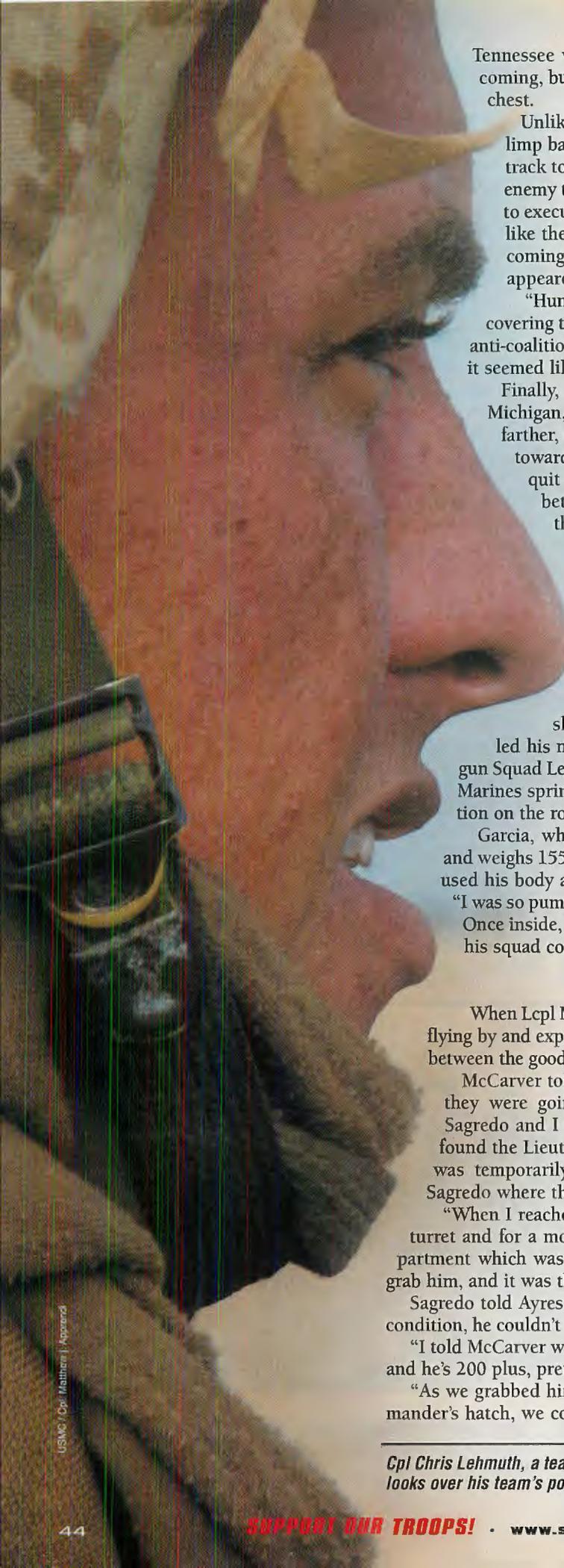
A stream of molten metal, or "spalling," from the high-explosive anti-tank [HEAT] round, sliced the hamstring off the Lieutenant's right leg like a laser scalpel in the hands of a skilled surgeon. Fortunately for Ayres, it missed the femoral artery, but the explosion knocked the driver unconscious and set fire to the engine compartment.

First Lieutenant John T. McGaughey, Bravo's Executive Officer, heard Ayres scream over the Inter Squad Radio at PFC Mathew D. Puckett from Mason, Texas to get them out of there. "I also heard about an urgent casualty [Ayres]," said McGaughey, who immediately dispatched a medical evacuation team to 2nd Squad's last known position. But the team never found the track and had to turn back in the face of heavy enemy fire.

When he regained consciousness, Puckett put the pedal to the medal and began speeding west at about 40 miles per hour. Approaching a second intersection, an RPG round impacted the upgun station, knocked out the .50 caliber machine gun and 40mm grenade launcher, and killed the gunner instantly: Lance Corporal Abraham McCarver, a SAW [Squad Automatic Weapon] gunner from Memphis,



What's left of 2nd Squad's amphibian assault vehicle is loaded aboard a trailer for shipment out of the war zone. No trophy for the enemy.



Tennessee was standing right behind the gun turret. He saw the round coming, but couldn't stop it from hitting Corporal Kevin D. Kohlm in the chest.

Unlike 3rd Squad, which was able to turn its Amtrack around and limp back to friendly lines, the street was too narrow for 2nd Squad's track to do even a 13-point turn. Puckett could only drive deeper into enemy territory in hopes of finding an intersection big enough for him to execute an about face. As they sped west, Marines in 2nd Squad felt like they were ducks in a shooting gallery. McCarver saw insurgents coming from everywhere. As fast as he mowed them down, more appeared.

"Hundreds of them," said Staff Sergeant Ismael Sagredo, who was covering the left side and the rear of the track. "There were probably 300 anti-coalition forces in the streets that day," said the platoon sergeant, "but it seemed like there were 900."

Finally, Puckett was able to turn left onto a street leading off Route Michigan, the main east-west artery through Fallujah. A couple of blocks farther, he was able to hang another left and turn his burning vehicle toward friendly lines, but he didn't get very far. The diesel engine quit about 75 to 100 meters after making that last turn. "It gave out between two intersections, leaving us stuck out there like a sore thumb," said McCarver.

Some Marines wanted Corporal Ronnie Garcia to lower the ramp on the back of the AAV, so they could escape the smoke and flames, but the squad leader didn't want a repeat of the opening scenes of "Saving Private Ryan" where German machine guns mowed down U.S. soldiers when the ramps came down on landing craft at Normandy during World War Two.

"Most Iraqis can't shoot very well," said Garcia, "but I didn't want to give them a big target to shoot at." So Garcia slipped out of the small hatch on the left side of the ramp and

led his men to a nearby house. Corporal Bruno J. Romero, a machine-gun Squad Leader in 2nd Platoon, provided suppressive fire as the rest of the Marines sprinted to safety. Once inside the house, Romero occupied a position on the roof until an enemy grenade wounded him.

Garcia, who hails from Lubbock, Texas stands only 5-foot 8-inches tall and weighs 155 pounds soaking wet, but he became the "Incredible Hulk" and used his body as a battering ram to break through locked gates at the house. "I was so pumped," said Garcia, "I could have punched through a brick wall." Once inside, Garcia went room-to-room making sure the house was clear so his squad could set up defensive positions there.

Saving The Lieutenant

When Lcpl McCarver jumped out of the burning vehicle, an RPG round went flying by and exploded against the wall of the house. It was becoming a foot race between the good guys and the bad guys, and they were closing the distance.

McCarver told Garcia that Lt. Ayres was alive, but still in the track, and if they were going to save him, something had to be done quickly. "SSgt Sagredo and I ran back to the burning track and climbed up top where we found the Lieutenant crawling around," said McCarver. Sagredo thinks Ayres was temporarily blinded, because he just stared at him and kept asking Sagredo where they were.

"When I reached for him, he started crawling around the track commander's turret and for a moment, it looked like he was going to fall into the troop compartment which was fully engulfed in flames," said Sagredo. Sagredo was able to grab him, and it was then he saw what was left of the lieutenant's leg.

Sagredo told Ayres he would have to roll off the top of the track, because in his condition, he couldn't climb down. Sagredo said Ayres understood, and said, "Okay."

"I told McCarver we'd have to catch him," said Sagredo, "but we're about 150 wet and he's 200 plus, pretty much dead weight."

"As we grabbed him and prepared to lower him over the side of the track commander's hatch, we could hear the pings of rounds hitting the track and the crack

Cpl Chris Lehmutz, a team leader with 3rd Platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Regiment, looks over his team's position from a berm in Fallujah.

of rounds going over and around us," said Sagredo.

When Ayres rolled over the side, his web gear got caught on a small bolt sticking out of a steel cage where trackers put their food, ammo and fuel. For a few anxious moments, Ayres was exposed to enemy fire from the waist up.

By the time Sagredo tried to lift up his lieutenant, his LBE ripped, and his body fell into Sagredo's arms. As he was setting up defensive positions inside the house, Garcia was informed that Cpl Kolm was still trapped inside the burning vehicle. Forced off the roof by a heavy volume of enemy fire, Cpl Romero volunteered to provide suppressive fire for Garcia to run back to the Amtrack to retrieve the remains of their fallen comrade.

Again, with complete disregard for his own safety, Cpl Garcia ran through a hail of enemy bullets while Cpl Romero laid down suppressive fire. When asked why he risked his life to retrieve a dead man, Garcia said, "I thought of his mother and how horrible it would be if her son's body burned." As it turned out, the trip was futile. Garcia found that the intense heat from the fire that had engulfed the AAV had welded the engine cover to the narrow passageway leading to the upgun station on the right side of the vehicle.

Despite intense heat and flames, Garcia tried to clear the passageway, but there was no way to get to the gunner's body. With .50 cal rounds cooking off, AT-4 rockets on fire, and flames beginning to burn through his gloves, Garcia reluctantly gave up. "If I had stayed, there would have been two dead Marines in the track," Garcia said.

Garcia's Bronze Star citation reads, "Only after it was impossible to remain aboard the burning vehicle did Corporal Garcia return to the house."

Corporal Romero also returned to the house, where he refused medical attention and engaged enemy forces until he ran out of ammunition for his M16A2 rifle. Romero's Bronze Star citation reads, "He then grabbed a pistol from a wounded corpsman and helped repel an enemy assault against the house."

SSgt Sagredo is still haunted by his decision to call off the recovery effort. "I left him to burn," said Sagredo, who says he is still haunted by nightmares of what happened.

HM3 Sergio Villegas, the Navy corpsman assigned to 2nd Platoon, had second-degree burns to his body and shrapnel in one of his legs, but he too refused medical attention until he had done all he could do for Lt. Ayres.

While Villegas tended to other Marines who had been wounded, Garcia changed pressure dressings on Ayres' right leg and then dragged him into an interior room where he wouldn't be hit again by the RPGs that were penetrating the walls of the house. "I was pretty much out of it,"



A rocket-propelled grenade that hit the left side of an amphibian assault vehicle, where 1Lt. Christopher D. Ayres was sitting in the track commander's hatch, put a neat hole through the Israeli applique armor on the outside of the aluminum hull of the AAV, but wreaked havoc inside the vehicle.

said Ayres, "but I remember them dragging me from room to room. I felt like they were trying to mop the floor with me," laughed the Lieutenant.

The fight began about two o'clock in the afternoon. As the hours passed, insurgents pressed the fight. Lance Corporal Cesar O. Hernandez-lopez killed one of them and wounded another coming through the courtyard. Cpl Romero shot another insurgent as he ran past the kitchen window. "Thank goodness this house had bars on the windows, or we might have had some unwanted guests," laughed Romero.

Sagredo thinks one of the ricocheting rounds pierced a propane gas line in the kitchen, causing gas to spew all over

the floor. Fearing an explosion, Garcia dragged Ayres into a bathroom, and laid him on prayer rugs.

When Garcia emerged from the bathroom he heard Marines yelling, "I'm out of ammo." Garcia distributed what ammo he had left and gave his rifle to a Marine whose weapon was no longer working. He also handed out the five mags Lt. Ayres had, and handed his Kevlar helmet to PFC Puckett, who got out of the burning track with only a cranial on his head.

With no weapon in his hands and no helmet on his head, Corporal Garcia held up his clenched fists for all to see. That simple act of defiance brought the house down. Marines started hooting and hollering. Their spirits suddenly soared.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place

If SSgt Sagredo was gonna die, he had determined he and his Marines weren't gonna die in that house. They were going

courtesy of 1Lt. John T. McGaughey



Bravo Co. commander, Capt. Jason E. Smith and his executive officer, 1Lt. John T. McGaughey, take a break after successful rescue of 2nd Squad, 2nd Platoon, Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Regiment in Fallujah.

to die running toward Alpha Company to the east.

Only one problem: Lt. Ayres was badly wounded, and would have to be carried, but he was too heavy to carry to friendly lines on the run. So Sagredo gave up his plan to break-out and concentrated on getting a relief force.

"Once when I was on the roof, insurgents on the roof of the house next door hurled grenades at me," said Sagredo, who wound up taking his radio operator, Lance Corporal Anthony F. Ewers, into the courtyard in front of the house. They stayed there until three RPG rounds exploded above their heads. But Sagredo was able to tell the XO that his squad was trapped in a house and in danger of being overrun.

"I told him our track was on fire and that we were hunkered down in a house about 150 meters south of the burning vehicle. I informed him I had one KIA, one urgent and two routine wounded. I also said all 203's [40mm rounds] had been expended. All SAWs were dry. And we were down to our last two magazines," said Sagredo who also gave McGaughey a general idea of where they were based on terrain features. The platoon sergeant could not provide grid coordinates, because the lieutenant's tracking device and maps had been destroyed in the fire.

Conserve Ammo

SSgt Sagredo passed around word that his Marines were to fire only two rounds at a time and he told them they better have a target in sight when they pull the trigger.

Sagredo didn't give McGaughey any timeframe for how long he could hold out, but he informed the XO that insurgents had already penetrated the perimeter and were lobbing



Red Cloud squad leaders and vehicle commanders in the Quick Reaction Force. Front row, L to R; Sgt. David Gettemier, Sgt. Timothy Cyparski, Cpl. Francisco Martinez Jr., LCpl Gabriel Billie. Back row, L to R; Sgt. Shawn Smith, Sgt. Latu Puloka, Sgt. Joseph Sharpe, 1Lt. Joshua L. Glover, Ssgt Daniel Santiago, Cpl. Christopher Moss-Warrington, Sgt. Lamar Dolby.

grenades onto the roof of the house. Just when it looked like they were about to be overrun, one of the Marines in the house, Corporal Jason Palafox, screamed, "I hear tanks!"

SSgt Sagredo and Cpl Romero couldn't hear them. In fact, they couldn't hear it thunder. RPG rounds exploding over their heads had blown their eardrums. They could only read lips at this point. "But I remember Garcia telling Palafox to shut up," laughed Sagredo. However, Palafox had the last laugh. Sagredo looked out a window in the front of the house and saw a big, beautiful M1A1 tank go clanking by. Behind it came three more Abrams tanks blowing gaping holes in enemy ranks with their 120mm main guns and .50 caliber heavy machineguns.

"I only saw one tank go by my positions," said Sagredo, "I didn't know there were three more out there." Sagredo also didn't know that his company commander, who led the relief column, was about to come charging through the courtyard.

Red Cloud to the Rescue

The Quick Reaction Force [QRF] that got the 911 call was in no mood to mess around.

"We had been beaten up pretty badly earlier that morning," said First Lieutenant Joshua L. Glover, who commanded the battalion's mobile company made of up Marines from Weapons Company. His force had responded at 0100 to a USAF MH-53 Pave Low helicopter that had been shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade about 15 klicks south of Fallujah. Glover's force finished stripping sensitive equipment out of the Pave Low and stood by until 0800 when they received some indirect fire.

"The rounds were walking up on us and one of them impacted near one of my vehicles, wounding three Marines. At that point, battalion told me to pull off the crash site and bring the wounded back to the casualty collection point," said Glover. On the way back, "Red Cloud," as the QRF was referred to on the battalion radio net, was ambushed about a half klick down the road.

"We were engaged by 40 or more insurgents for about fifteen-hundred meters along that road," said Glover. Lance Corporal Noah L. Boye, a gunner in the 81mm mortar platoon this reporter got to know while embedded with Weapons Company,

Continued on page 74



Medals awarded to Marines from 1st Battalion, 5th Regiment at Camp Pendleton after their second deployment to Iraq included, L To R: Battalion Sgt Major Kenneth Jones, Battalion commander, Lt. Col. Brennan Byrne, in the far rear of the line, 1Lt. David R. Denial, 1Lt. Stephen F. Shaw, Cpl. Brandon J. Berhowgoll, Cpl. Bruno J. Romero and far right, Sgt. Ronnie Garcia.

WHEN SECONDS MATTER EXPERIENCE COUNTS.

Executed with the quality that BlackHawk® is famous for, the CQC™ line offers professionals a line of technologically advanced carbon-fiber and leather holsters. The CQC™ line of holsters represents a commitment by BlackHawk® Products Group™ to provide the best available designs, using new technology and proven materials, for those who must go in harm's way.

Carbon-Fiber Holsters

- Available with patented SERPA Technology™ Active Retention System (Shown) or Standard Tension Adjustable Model
- Rapid Draw with Full Grip Using Natural Drawing Motion
- Advanced Carbon-Fiber Composite Blend
- Each Holster Comes with both Paddle and Belt Loop Platforms



Leather Holsters

- Premium Leather from the Tuscany Region of Italy
- Classic Designs Updated by Professionals for Professionals
- Holsters are Drum-Dyed, Contour Stitched, Molded and Hand Finished
- All Leather Holsters Have Either Thumb Break or Adjustable Tension Device
- Designs Include Compact Askins, Detachable Slide Holster, and our Check Six (Shown)

1.800.694.5263 • www.cqcholsters.com



CLOSE QUARTERS CONCEALMENT™



BlackHawk® Products Group™ • 4850 Brookside Court, Norfolk, VA 23502 U.S.A. • www.blackhawk.com

DEATH WAITS IN THE DARK

The Night Was
Lit by A Mighty
Blast, And The
Insurgent Was
No More

BY J.S. MOSBY
Photos by Jim Bartlett/SIPA



THE

small white vehicle pulled up along a poorly lit stretch of Route Cardinal, west of Baghdad. A shadowy figure stepped out, looked around and started

scraping around on the side of the road. He didn't know he was being watched, very carefully, by a sniper team from the 1st Cavalry's 91st Engineer Battalion.

No one was quite sure what he was doing until a bundle came out of the trunk of the car. While Iraqis are known to randomly dump their trash on the roadside. They aren't noted for trying to conceal it.

As the insurgent busied himself, the team spoke in hushed tones over the radio net. "Beast Six this is Beast Two, we've got a subject laying an IED 200 west our position." The TOC called back, requesting confirmation and assessing more details fed to them by the snipers.

An Abrams chimed in. They'd been posted to over-watch and confirmed what the snipers were seeing. "Permission to engage with main gun?" they asked. "Roger, engage," came the reply. The whole radio net tensed with anticipation. A moment later the entire area shook with a huge Ga-boom.

Everyone's NODs blinked off for a moment as the flash lit the night sky. Before they could switch back on, a big secondary explosion capped off as well. When everything died down and the snipers reacquired, there was no figure to be seen, and flames shot from the vehicle.

The back-up squad rushed onto the scene to secure it as daylight approached. The insurgent was no more, blown to the other side of the road, torn asunder by his own IED and the round from the M-1's main gun. The sniper team melted away as other units moved into the area. Another night on the deadly roads in and out of Baghdad.

One of the first things I noticed about the engineers was the proliferation of optics on their weapons, usually Aimpoint's M68 CCO (Close Combat Optic). Having made the dash to Baghdad with the light infantry guys of the 101st Airborne's "Rakkasans," it was simple logic in my world that if you had a rifle, it had a scope on it, especially if the terrain was urban and the mission was stabilization.

When 1st Cavalry arrived, they brought lots of Bradleys and tanks, their primary fighting platform. Rifle optics weren't in great evidence as these vehicles mount sophisticated optical sights and thermal sensors. Next

to one of them a 4x power scope seems almost comical. The engineers, however, arrived with only M113 Gavins, Humvees and their wits.

"It was kind of a pain to get the guys to swap over to optics on their M-4s," Lt. Col. Martin, the 91st CO, said. "They require more care than the regular carrying handle sight, you can't bash them around and it's another piece of fairly sensitive equipment you have to care for.

"There was a lot of moaning initially. But then they went to the range with them; they did urban lanes; they did a Polk rotation. Now I can't get them to take them off at all. Guys bicker when there's not enough to go around for everyone."

Lean And Wolfish

Indeed, that's how I met the guys from the 91st. For a week or so, I had been running with the regular Cavalry guys from 2nd Brigade, strictly iron sight A2s with them. Walking to the chow hall, one day, however, I saw a pack of lean-looking troopers who'd just got back from outside the wire. They had M-4s with rail-mounted optics. My first thought was that a battalion from the 101st had rotated in without me knowing it.

"Hey, excuse me, but who are you guys?" I asked. They looked suspiciously at the Gringo with the camera, but said that they were Engineers.

"Where'd you get the optics? Nobody around here has optics," I said. "We do," they replied with wolfish grins. We got to talking and I mentioned that I had been an old school 12 Bravo (light engineer MOS) in the army of George the 1st



(above) An M240 gunner keeps an eye on the street as local Iraqis gather round a bonfire during one of Baghdad's frequent power outages. Constant night ops kept insurgents on their toes and Americans keep the pressure on 24-7.

(opposite) A gunner atop an M113 keeps watch over an apartment block in the Abu Greyeb suburb as American forces sweep for militants loyal to Moqtada Al Sadr.

(left) Topside on an M113, an engineer gunner scopes out side streets as they patrol the guerilla infested streets of Gazalea in Western Baghdad. The ability to dominate the nighttime environment made it rough going for insurgents who lack sophisticated night vision.



DEATH WAITS IN THE DARK

and suddenly it was old home week. More talk about guns and why would anyone not have a scope in an urban setting. It was pretty obvious that I wasn't a member of "The liberal media." I had found my new home and started running patrols with the 91st for several weeks.

I hadn't been there long before I met a prime candidate for a piece of kit that had arrived from SOF HQ in Boulder before I left. It was a Bushnell Yardage Pro, donated by SOF for me to take over and give to the troops.

I gave it to Sgt. Joseph Olsen, a sniper with A Co. In conjunction with his M-14 sniper system with its 10X Leupold Mark 4, he had abundant opportunity to put it to use on the insurgent prone streets of Baghdad.

Charged with route surveillance where enemy personnel routinely place IEDs, Olsen came to rely on the Bushnell to provide precise range readings. He later reported, "It's been very useful in here because range estimation is difficult. There's been a few times when I've thought a building was at 200 yards or so, but when I put the rangefinder on it, it was only 140. The unit takes the guesswork out of things."

He also reported that the unit's compact size and robust construction was ideal. "I hang it on my IBE (Interceptor Body Armor) and whenever I need it, I just bring it up and take a sighting. Between the banging around and the dust, it hasn't been affected at all. It's a very cool little device."

That was another thing I had noticed about the 91st, a proliferation of snipers and designated marksmen. Unlike other units I had been around, the snipers were organic to the line companies, not doled out by battalion or higher. As a counter IED weapon, they were very useful. "We're engaged in civil stability operations, not general warfare," a senior officer at brigade explained.

"We simply can't destroy an entire apartment building to get one guy, no matter what he's doing to us. That's where the accuracy factor comes in. Our snipers can surgically remove a threat without the collateral damage associated with heav-

ier weapons systems."

The snipers themselves were also quite aware of their special role and the inherent hazards of carrying it out in an environment where the insurgents blended so easily with local civilians. All of the snipers I spoke to had a thorough understanding of their abilities and how useful they could be in the situation.

Hitting The Right Guys

Not once did any of them speak of how "cool" it was to shoot people, regaling the listener with gory tales of shots taken and targets dropped. For soldiers, it was surprising how they sounded more like police marksmen when discussing their activities. It was all about hitting the right guys and protecting the innocents.

Their only complaint seemed to come from a general feeling that they weren't being allowed to pursue the bad guys more aggressively. There was lots of talk about quiet insertions with three men, out on a limb, banging bad guys when they least expected it, when back-up was nowhere to be seen.

One marksman lamented, "Ya know, the Colonel really likes us and he doesn't want to see us get hurt, so we're not used as aggressively as we'd like. We love him for that, but we're trained for this kind of thing, we know the risks, let us get out there and do it."

After a few tales of nighttime hatchet jobs on roadside bombers, I couldn't think of how much more aggressively they could go about this.

I also had a chance to swap knowledge about the other pieces of gear hanging on the Sapper's rifles, especially the infrared, laser designators they had rail mounted forward. The AN/PAC4A, when used with NODs, paints a lovely red targeting dot at great ranges.

They have been used for everything from painting an actual enemy to pointing out specific buildings and terrain features to the guys in a Bradley. It's the ultimate "laser pointer," allowing the troops to effectively shoot from a wide range of positions on the go.

Another good feature was the unit's ability to act as an infrared flashlight as it has a lens that casts a wide light arc. As one trooper said, "I can scope out the inside of someone's car at a traffic control point and they don't even know I'm doing it. It makes things less intrusive and that helps keep people from getting more bitter about things than they already are." This might seem like an odd concern for a combat trooper fighting an insurgency, but it showed that down on the grunt level the engineers had a good grasp of what it was all about.

There were few true engineer missions around Baghdad, such as throwing up a scissors bridge so the armor guys could roll. Instead, the battalion was assigned a sector of town, and it was their job to patrol it, day in, day out on 18 hour patrol cycles. That, more than anything, was the most grueling aspect of running with the engineers.

Sgt. Denver Smith, a team leader with



Exhausted by back to back operations over the last two weeks, a squad of US troops takes a breather in the stairwell of an Iraqi apartment building in Baghdad's western suburbs.

Bravo company, explained the routine. "We work on an 18 hour cycle. During the prep phase, we pull vehicle and weapons maintenance and get everything loaded up. Then we jump into the execution phase by doing our final weapons checks, get our intel brief and our mission orders.

"When we hit the execution phase we're going outside the wire. Sometimes we'll search houses, cordon off suspected IEDs, check up on the schools, the electric company and other civil infrastructure sites to ensure things are running smoothly. But most times it's just presence patrols"

We did a lot of presence patrolling over the weeks I was there. The idea was to interfere with the insurgent's ability to congregate, set up mortars, rockets or IEDs and try to provide some sense of a security presence in their sector. What it boiled down to was drive around in a random pattern hoping to draw the insurgents out or keep them indoors. It was referred to in the TOC as "Movement to contact."

Trolling for trouble is what I called it. Drive around until someone shoots at you. It is a mind numbing experience, especially at night. Hours and hours of driving in seemingly endless circles, the grinding of the heavy diesel and tracks slowly gnawing into your head. It gets old, fast, but it's necessary.

The vehicles they have are not specially fitted for urban stability operations, but they get the job done.

It's mostly off the shelf hard-shell Humvees and M113 APCs, each with a four-man team, a crew served weapon and M-4s all around. It is rare that there is not a group of one or the other on the streets at any given time, seven days a week.

The M113 is by far my personal favorite, as I never could get used to being cooped up inside a Bradley. Despite being loud, the 113s have a good speed and their top hatch opens wide, offering generous fields of fire for the riflemen.

You're somewhat exposed and hence there is a higher risk factor, but with snap shooting troops like the guys in the 91st, that deficiency can be made up for by being able to engage targets almost instantly, 360 degrees all around. Being taller than a Humvee and with 1.5 inches of armor, they are also resistant to anything but the largest IEDs or rockets.

The height afforded by them also makes a useful platform for jumping over walls. Just about every home in Iraq has a walled courtyard and this feature eliminates the need to always go through the front gate.

Their biggest drawback, as far as I was concerned, is the jaw rattling rumble and racket they create. This isn't an issue in the field, but in urban, residential neighborhoods it could drive the homeowners subject to it day in and out insane. After a couple of all-nighters out on the street in one, it was easy to see how Iraqis could get a little fed up with it all. I had to remark to the colonel that if someone had driven past my house all night with those things, I'd be shooting rockets at them as well.

The other primary patrol vehicle is the venerable "Turtleback" Humvee. The hard-shell Humvees possess the advantage of speed and quiet, but their layout offers little in the way of maximum employment of firepower. Despite the



Troops from the 91st Engineer Battalion inspect damage to their humvee following an IED attack in Western Baghdad. An upsurge of IED activity and a successful attack against a U.S. convoy in the sector was met with a saturation of US patrols.

presence of ballistic windows, it is foolhardy to put them down with IEDs being such a threat. Being lower to the ground than in the 113, you're well in the fragmentation cone if one goes off nearby. That leaves only the gunner topside available to engage, and he has to wrangle with a hatch mount to bring the weapon to bear if someone pops up where the gun isn't pointing at the moment.

Claustrophobic Humvees

While they certainly give decent protection against most fragmentation and blast threats, their tires are very vulnerable, and many a patrol has been cut short by blowouts caused by IEDs. I always found them claustrophobic, like being in a fishbowl. That said, they do save lives on a daily basis and the guys wouldn't think about going out without them. They're also much more comfortable than the M113

In addition to patrolling and generally trying to run interference against the insurgents, the engineers are also responsible for getting out and trying to carry the coalition message to the local Iraqis. They call these meet and greet runs "recruiter missions", with the objective of distributing the coalition newspaper and talking to Iraqis about the issues confronting them. This can be anything from reconstruction issues to problems with criminal gangs or insurgents coming into a neighborhood.

It's a tactic that allows the Americans a chance to put a human face on their operations as Iraqis see a real person with a name and a family as opposed to just a uniform in a vehicle.

Most insurgent activity in the 91st's sector is a mix of groups staged outside the area and local supporters. The shooters for the most part come to town when it's time to attack coalition forces or local police. They have their support elements there, but by and large this has the effect of getting workaday locals caught in the crossfire.

The insurgents do this deliberately, as any collateral damage resulting from return fire can be laid politically at the feet of the Americans. It's a page right out of the Viet Cong handbook.

Following the Al Sadr uprising in April, it became painfully obvious the effectiveness of this tactic on the part of the insurgents. Immediately following the closing of radical Shiite cleric Moqtada Al Sadr's newspaper and the arrest of a

top aid, the young firebrand from Baghdad's Sadr City slum called his followers to war. Fierce fighting broke out across all of Baghdad.

In the Abu Graib sector, adjacent to the engineer's, an Army fuel convoy was attacked and insurgents occupied the center of the town. The unit responsible for the area, 2/12th Cavalry, responded with their Bradleys and M1 Abrams tanks. Direct fighting raged fiercely for almost a week.

In the face of the cavalry's overwhelming firepower, the insurgents stood as long as they could and then melted back into the fields and slums from which they had come, resorting to numerous IED and mortar attacks.

While the main body of guerillas was technically driven from the field, the damage was done. In addition to causing a great deal of fear amongst local residents, the response they brought down on themselves also destroyed key areas such as the marketplace.

It also caused the roads into and out of the town to be closed, preventing residents from going to other markets, getting out to shelter with relatives or seek medical attention. Judging by the number of people still in the area, it didn't look like the insurgents gave local people much warning of what was about to happen.

Mending Fences

All and all, it caused a great deal of disruption in their lives....just as the insurgents hoped it would. It would make it very easy for Sadr to go to his constituency and speak about how heavy-handed the Americans were, and how they really didn't care about the everyday Iraqis. He of course wouldn't mention that a main MSR runs through Abu Graib and with guerillas occupying it, the Cav had no choice but to go in and root them out.

Mending fences between the locals and their American neighbors would take top priority in the week following the fighting.

Because the 2/12 had taken a few knocks during the battle and some of their vehicles were deadlined, the 91st was called over from their area to assist in the final security sweep, and to check up on people in the neighborhood. A central area of five-story apartment buildings was the objective, and they would have to be entered and cleared, all 400 something units of them.

But this had to be more than just a



A trooper from the 91st Engineers (2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Div.) keeps watch for insurgents in the Baghdad suburb of Abu Grayeb as American forces conducted follow up operations after a surprise offensive by militants loyal to Moqtada Al Sadr.

search and clear operation, there were a lot of apprehensive and angry people whose lives had been disrupted if not outright threatened. There were fences to mend and that takes more than what they teach you at basic or AIT, that takes the common touch and that's something the 91st has an abundance of.

As the engineers didn't know for sure if there were any insurgents left in the area, they approached the objective with caution. Everyone scanned the rooftops and windows and the gunners in the M113s panned their fifty cal from side to side. A couple of M1 tanks from the Cav provided the heavy stuff and the unit reached the area without incident.

Fanning out by companies, the battalion moved towards the highrises. Children were about and groups of young men milled around, watching the Americans approach. This was a good sign. Deserted streets would have meant a fight brewing.

As it was, however, they kept a tight lid on security even when it proved that the residents were friendly and eager to talk about the recent fighting. They did this by means of judicious over-watch by the heavy guns on the Humvees and the M113s and sending sniper teams to every rooftop as they progressed through the area. Orange panels kept the guys on the ground from confusing their own snipers with those of the enemy.

With that done, the individual squads entered each apartment flat and conduct their searches, asking permission from each owner before entering. As that was going on, the platoon leaders called residents into the hallways to discuss the fighting that had taken place, hear from them what had happened and what needed to be done to

fix the problem and assess what their short term humanitarian needs were. As it happened, the engineers got along well with the people, particularly the kids who they played and joked with.

Tireless Energy

Lt Issac Maese led our element through one apartment quad after another, showing tireless energy despite the heat and about 10,000 flights of stairs. In each landing, he had his translator call everyone around and spoke to them about what had happened and listened to their concerns. The Iraqis were very responsive to this sort of impromptu "town meeting" style.

Floor after floor, Maese patiently explained how the events of the last week had happened and appealed for any information in the future that would help prevent a repeat. Now and again, someone would quietly ask him to step into their apartment. The personal approach was already paying off.

He also did spot damage assessments and forwarded the claims to Army Civil Affairs, who have been very speedy with payment. This has helped smooth things over quickly. "You know, this neighborhood is full of working class people, just like us. I like it best when we can get out and talk to people one on one like this.

"It lets them know that we're as human as they are and that we actually care about them," he said as some of the troopers joked with the kids, doing push-ups with them on the floor.

It was surprising how well the Iraqi and American sense of humor bubbled right up when it became clear that we weren't going to get shot at and they weren't going to get their doors kicked in. The antics of some of the guys had people rolling in the aisles. It might sound odd that a combat unit would be doing this kind of thing, but in an insurgency, humor and face-to-face humanity many times will get you farther than gunfire. As the weeks passed, this proved to be true as new sources of intel percolated up from the areas we had visited.

All in all, it proved to be a long day, but a very rewarding one. We had spoken to hundreds of people first hand, had cleared over 400 flats for weapons and not one shot was fired. In Baghdad, that's a good day indeed.

JS Mosby is a freelance correspondent and security professional. He has been active in numerous conflicts from Baghdad to the Balkans. ☒

#1 WORLD SUPPLIER P.A.I. BODY ARMOR

New Mfg.
NIJ Certified
U.S. Gov.
Approved



MADE
IN
THE
U.S.A.

COMPLETE LINE OF CONCEALABLE VESTS

STARTING AT
\$249.95 & UP
W/ FREE TRAUMA
PLATE
AND TACTICAL VESTS

STARTING AT
\$375.00 & UP
Also Available Level III & IV
Steel & Ceramic Plates

*Inter-American
Security Products, Inc.*

E-Mail: interam@gate.net
Shop online: www.interamer.com

TOLL FREE / FREE CATALOG
1-888-299-9750

SPY EQUIPMENT

Microphones, X-Ray vision Equipment,
Cameras, Bug Detectors, Voice Changers,
Gadgets, the list is almost endless!!!

We can supply you with whatever you need.
All items shipped in discrete packaging.

M INTELLIGENCE SUPPLY
P.O. Box 941, Mahwah, N.J. 07430
PHONE/FAX 1-(201) 327-0716

MASTERCARD

VISA

SOF

BACK ISSUES

Many Classic Issues Still Available!
www.sofmag.com

BE A DETECTIVE

AND EARN
YOUR BADGE

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

BADGE
INCLUDED WITH
COURSE

MEN & WOMEN!
Train at home for an exciting part
or full-time career as a Private
Detective. Start your own agency
or work for others. Learn all the
latest techniques from the
experts. Taught by former military
intelligence specialists, police
and private detectives. *The only course of its kind, the
unique Global School of
Investigation program will make
you a PRIVATE DETECTIVE.*

**LEARN THE SECRETS
to making money
WITHOUT a license
or experience.**
**The biggest, most
amazing home
study course ever
offered. Learn how
to make money and
become a Private
Investigator.
GUARANTEED!**

CALL NOW **1-888-33 PVT EYE** FREE INFO-PACK
FAX **413-584-2140**

GLOBAL

SCHOOL OF INVESTIGATION

535 No. Farms Rd, Northampton, MA 01062

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

www.pvteye.com

.22LR CONVERSIONS

Shoot More For Less Money!

Kits Pay For Themselves And They're Fun!



1911A1
Beretta
Taurus
Glock
AR15/M16
Mini-14
AK47
TSMG
Hi-Power

JONATHAN ARTHUR CIENER, Inc.
8700 Commerce St., Dept SOF, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920
321 868 2200, FAX 2201

Send \$3.00 for Conversion Info, \$5.00 for Full Line Catalog

www.22lrconversions.com

Greene Military & Police FREE CATALOG

- BDUs
- Tactical Gear
- Military Boots
- Police Gear
- Knives
- Holsters
- Kid's Military Clothing
- Military Tee-Shirts

www.greenemilitary.com

Toll Free: 800-521-7977
7215 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919

SILVERMANS

Britain's Leading Suppliers of Military Kit

CWC Genuine Military Watches

Swiss Made • M.O.D Approved - 3 Year Warranty

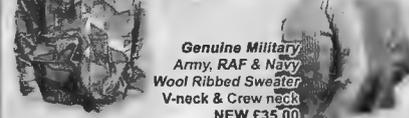


Quartz R.N. Divers
NEW from £250.00
Automatic RN
from £350.00

R.M. Special
Boat Service
Divers 300mtr
NEW £299.00

Quartz British
GS 2000
with Date
NEW £89.99

SAS 1940' Pattern Cammo Smock
Excellent remake. Made to exacting
style and detail of the original smock.
NEW £69.99



Genuine Military
Army, RAF & Navy
Wool Ribbed Sweater
V-neck & Crew neck
NEW £35.00

Genuine Issue SAS Windproof Smock
windproof material NEW £90.00
Desert also Avail NEW £95.00



Over 50
Years of
Service

Genuine Issue
Soldier '95 PLCE Assault vest!
Desert, DPM, Green or Black £125.00

VISIT OUR SECURE ONLINE STORE @
WWW.MILITARY.CO.UK

Tel: +44 207 7 900 900 - Fax: +44 207 7 910 008
e-mail: sof@millitary.co.uk

2 Harford St, Mile End London E1 4PS England
Prices subject to current cat. - check Air Mail p&p £20.00
Phone or E-Mail for free catalogue quoting SOF

POLICE/MILITARY EQUIPMENT

- BATONS
- BODY ARMOR
- HANDCUFFS
- METAL DETECTORS
- MINE DETECTORS
- OPTICS
- NIGHT VISION
- SPY EQUIPMENT
- BOMB BLANKETS
- BOMB SUITS
- FIRE GEAR
- HELMETS
- TEAR GAS
- STUN GUNS

And much,
much more...

**TAMIAMI INTERNATIONAL
EQUIPMENT, INC.**

13615 S. Dixie Hwy. Suite 456
Miami, FL 33176-7254

Ph.: 305-235-8777 • Fax: 305-235-0603

E-Mail: tamiami@gate.net

Shop online: www.tamiamiamarmor.com

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS! Start getting your results at only \$3 per word per insertion, \$60 minimum. Prepay two months for 10% discount; six months for 20% discount; or 12 months for 30% off. Repeat your same ad in another section for half price. "Dingbats" (✓, ●, ■), bold words (other than first 3-4): \$5.00/each extra. Computer word count of grammatically correct copy. EXAMPLE: PO Box 693 = 3 words; 80306 and 303-449-3750, etc. each = 1 word; abbreviations such as DI, SGT, 20mm = 1 word. No ads accepted by telephone. Ad copy must be typed. Include authorizing signature, mailing address, telephone or fax number (for our files). Mail classified ads with payment (check, wire transfer, money order or Visa/MC) to SOF, Attn: Classified Dept., 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Suite A-5, Boulder, CO 80303. Fax: 303-444-5617. **NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:** We reserve the right to refuse any ad for any reason and to delete or change any copy that we consider objectionable, false or in poor taste. It is our policy not to accept advertisements for personal services, including 'will do anything' or 'go anywhere' type ads. Advertisers offering information packets for a fee must send sample (non-returnable).

BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

WHO KILLED KENNEDY? Government assassination conspiracy exposed. Videocassettes, manuscripts, photographs, books. Catalog \$3.00. Collector's Archives, Box 2, Beaconfield, Quebec, Canada, H9W 5T5

EQUIPMENT

ARKANSAS QUARTERMASTER: Quality military and government surplus <http://stores.ebay.com/arkansasquartermaster>

STUFF FOR GUYS: Knives, swords, patriotic, birdhouses, tools, etc. Over 4,000 items and hundred more added every month www.treasuresopulentoffering.com Special of the month: Buy any 2 items and the 3rd free.

INTERNET RADIO

WWW.MARKSCOTTSHOW.US Mark Scott Show — Excelsior! Internet Talk Radio. U.S.M.C. — SEMPER FI. show time: 9am to 12 noon EST. Rebroadcast starting at 12 noon EST.

KNIVES

DEAD METAL KNIFE WORKS: Hand made custom knives at affordable prices. Choose one of our designs or design a custom knife to your specifications. Go to deadmetalknifeworks.com

REAL ESTATE

SECLUDED BILLINGS, MONTANA AREA GET AWAYS, 20 acres. Big 3 bedroom \$169,000 ID#2039. 320 acre ranch. 4 bedroom brick home. Outbuildings. \$399,000 ID#2009. Pictures at www.frostyerben.com. Or call 1-800-240-4766 and enter ID# for faxed feature sheet. ⁰³⁵

■ **Did this get your attention?** How about ● and ✓? These are dingbats — add them to your classified ad for only \$5 each!

TRAINING

FUGITIVE RECOVERY AGENT TRAINING: Three day course in bail contracts, fees and national operations. National certification upon completion. 815-675-0260, N.I.B.E., PMB 268, Chicago, IL 60657, www.bounty-hunter.net ¹²⁵

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES & MILITARY MANUALS. Combat Skills. Weapons. Tactics. NBC. More. Catalog \$5.00, IIPD/ACCP, Box 1237, Alpine, TX 79830.

WORKOUT PROGRAM

3 MILITARY STYLE WORKOUT PROGRAMS. No equipment needed. Novice to Elite. Guaranteed to make you sweat. Send \$10.00 to PT Cards, PO Box 499, Perry, MI 48872 or visit www.globalindependent.us ⁰⁴⁵

WEBSITES

FOR ONLY \$25/month you can list your Website or Internet URL + 10 words right here. (No additional discounts apply.) This is a great way to get out the word on your site!

WWW.SEETHROUGHMIRRORS.COM — High quality two-way spy mirrors, only \$12.99 ⁰³⁵

SGT. BARRY SADLER'S "CASCA" Eternal Mercenary Series, 22 unabridged audiobooks. www.booksinmotion.com ¹²⁵

WWW.JUNGLEWAREHOUSE.COM Discount Survival and Expedition Gear for any destination. 5000+ products.

"BALLADS OF THE GREEN BERETS" available on CD or cassette www.greenberetCD.com ⁰⁷⁵

CAST OUT THE JIHADIST TERRORISTS from Paradise forever. www.crusaderammunition.com ⁰⁴⁵

WORLD-WIDE TERRORIST HUNTING CLUB and 100+ original military designs. www.idsardar.com 1-800-810-8122 ⁰⁵⁴

TRAINING: EXECUTIVE PROTECTION, SELF DEFENSE, Tactical Driving, Tactical Weapons, more. WWW.TRAINFORSUCCESS.NET

THE PROFESSIONAL MILITARY, law enforcement, and emergency responder's source. www.tacticalsolutionsusa.com

HOME AND HOMELAND DEFENSE for responsible citizens. Training, Publications, more. www.live-free.org

WWW.SURPLUSARMYGEAR.COM Tactical and assault gear, boots, military gear, equipment, Army surplus.

CHECK OUT THE EXOTIC FOREIGN MILITARY camouflage uniforms at: WWW.WEST-ERNSURVIVAL.com

WWW.TROOPFANMAIL.NET <http://www.troopfanmail.net> Have fan mail sent to someone in the military. FREE!

SURVEILLANCE AND COUNTER SPY EQUIPMENT. Free online catalog www.mjelectronics.com (914) 699-2294

BODYARMOR, custom made, all levels, 5 day delivery. 1-954-568-1480 www.maxsell.com

WWW.BRAVOCOMPANYUSA.COM: Professional Grade Tactical Equipment, AR15/M4 Accessories, Hi-Cap Magazines.

REALISTIC MILITARY TRAINING YOU CAN AFFORD. Check us out at www.praetorian-international.com

GUNS: Colt 1911, CZ75, Python, .44 magnum, no license required. www.maxarmory.com

✓ **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE BACK ISSUES** are going fast! \$10.00 each. Use the easy-order shopping cart at www.sofmag.com.

FOR ONLY \$25/month you can list your Website or Internet URL + 10 words right here. (No additional discounts apply.) This is a great way to get out the word on your site!

FUGITIVE RECOVERY

★ **\$\$ Make BIG Money \$\$** ★
★ **Complete CD Home Course** ★



★ **Getting Started** ★
★ **Surveillance** ★
★ **Right to Arrest** ★
★ **Badges & ID** ★
★ **Deadly Force** ★
★ **Taylor vs. Taintor** ★

\$35.00

★ **FREE Shipping in USA** ★
★ **MAXSELL CORP.** ★
★ **www.maxsell.com** ★
★ **Toll Free 1-877-332-2343** ★



www.koliga.com

REPLICA WEAPONS

800.328.0701



\$4.95 EA PHOTO ID CARD KITS

Our Professional quality laminated photo cards will amaze your associates! We provide the cards, plastic laminate and easy instructions! You provide only a photo. Your photo card can be finished in the privacy of your home. The result is a distinctive, professional system! The highest quality cards in the US! Lost your original card? Replace it NOW!



3 FOR \$12.95 **6 FOR \$19.95** **MENTION YOU SAW OUR AD IN SOF AND GET FREE SHIPPING**

- C01 Press ID
- C04 Bounty Hunter
- C10 Concealed Weapons
- C11 Private Investigator
- C13 Special Investigator
- C17 Int'l Drivers Permit
- C31 Travel Agent
- C34 Personal ID
- C51 Special Operations
- C60 MAC-V (CIA)
- C68 Fugitive Recovery
- C72 Special Agent
- C131 Int'l Drivers Lic.
- C133 Federal Security
- C140 Network Admin.
- C142 Terrorism Specialist
- C143 Webmaster
- C201 Bail Bondsman
- C203 Bail Ent. Agent
- C211 Security Enf.

NIC LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPLY - SOF
500 Flournoy Lucas Rd. Bld #3 • Shreveport, LA 71106
Orders (888) 642-0007 • Cust Serv. (318) 688-1805
Fax (318) 688-1367 www.nles.com

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Credit Card: _____ CVV# _____
Exp. Date: _____
80 PAGE COLOR CATALOG \$3.00 OR FREE WITH FIRST ORDER.

FS COMMANDO KNIVES



ESA, Marysville OH 43040
+1-937-644-2170 www.esa-swords.com

Ratchet Belt™

"The Fit That Clicks"



Infantry Cavalry Airborne

Unique style belt that has no holes. Fits all in-between sizes. Perfect fit every time. **One size fits all.**

Size 41 (Black or Brown Belt) \$27.95
Size 48 (Black or Brown Belt) \$29.95
Plus \$4.95 S & H

Other Military and Non-Military Buckle Styles Available

1-888-729-8222
www.ratchetbelt.com
A-1 Ratchet Belt Enterprise
P.O. Box 39362 • Tacoma, WA 98439



1-877-SPY-CONN
(1-877-779-2666)

- Complete Covert Equipment Headquarters
 - Hidden Video & Audio
 - Infidelity Lab Testing
 - Self-Defense Products
- www.spycountry.com

U.S. MILITARY CAMO & PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

Alice Gear, Flight Gear, Police, Survival, Black Ops, US Mil. Knives, Camping, Night Camo, Helmets & Boonie Hats!
Online Catalog, www.olcnet.com
2 Bucks for Print Catalog to OLCSF, POB 1618, Alamogordo, NM 88311

Welcome to the World's Premier Hunting Website



www.african-hunter.com

Now you can read your favourite hunting magazine on the web!

SATELLITE PHONES

RENTALS - SALES
IRAQ-AFGHANISTAN-WORLDWIDE...
NEW OR USED PHONES AVAILABLE
OVER 50,000 PHONES IN SERVICE

VOICEMAIL-EMAIL-DATA READY!!!
CALL THE KIDS WHILE YOUR AWAY...
(888) 456-2334 - SATPHONE-SALES.COM

TRULY GLOBAL TRULY MOBILE.



BAGWELL

Combat Knives Without Compromise



903-938-0905
P.O. Box 144, Woodlawn, TX 75694

Be A... PRIVATE EYE



Have a life of intrigue, excitement, adventure! Learn from the **REAL** experts:

Investigation • Surveillance • Skiptracing
Start Your Own Business
State Approved • Diploma Awarded

Free Brochure! Call Or Write
(310) 657-6333

United States Academy of Private Investigation
P.O. Box 2133 (SF)
Beverly Hills, CA 90213

VISIT OUR SPY SHOP

"On The World Wide Web"
www.spytechagency.com
"On The Sunset Strip"
8519-8521 W. Sunset Blvd.
West Hollywood, CA 90069
- Web Site Features -
PI Agency • PI Academy • Spy Shop
Online over 2500 investigation - surveillance countermeasure products, books & videos!!

MILITARY BOOKS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

Visit our website at:
www.galago.co.za
For regular updates e-mail:
lemur@mweb.co.za

NUDISM LIFESTYLE: FAMILY RECREATION

Sample Video \$24, Mag. \$10
Catalog \$3
LIFESTYLES-SF
Box 661268, Los Angeles, CA 90066

Get Your Guard Up.

When You Subscribe To **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE**, You'll Get In-Depth Coverage Of The War On Terrorism, Combat Reports, Stinging War Commentary, New Weapon Showcases & Reviews, Investigative Reports and much more!



SUBSCRIBE TODAY ... & SAVE 40%

\$34.95 FOR 12 ISSUES

\$69.95 FOR 24 ISSUES

Three Easy Ways To Order!

1. CALL TOLL-FREE: 800-877-5207

2. ORDER ONLINE: www.sofmag.com

3. USE THE REPLY CARD IN THIS ISSUE

For refunds on subscriptions as you will be subscribing through an agency.

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED?

GET LEGAL FAST! **TWO SIMPLE STEPS!**

LEARN HOW YOU CAN GET A LEGAL DRIVER'S LICENSE FAST AND EASY. NEW AND UNIQUE METHOD WORKS EVERYTIME REGARDLESS OF YOUR PAST RECORD. 100% GUARANTEED. FOR SOME VERY REVEALING INFORMATION! QUALITY RESEARCH, DEPT. S1 P.O. BOX 192, LINCOLN PARK, MICHIGAN 48146

SEND \$3.00

Be a DETECTIVE

Explore a secret world! Fascinating new career. Experience a new adventure everyday. Dynamic home study course. Diploma, Badge, State approved. FREE DETECTIVE CAREER INFO



www.detectivetraining.com

WAR COVERAGE

-SOF STYLE!

30 YEARS OF ACTION-PACKED BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE!

Many issues from our 30-year archive still available. For complete listing, or to order online, visit our website: www.sofmag.com

BACK ISSUES: \$10 each CREDIT CARDS/MONEY ORDERS ONLY
Shipping U.S.: \$3 for 1st issue; .50 ea. add'l issue • International: \$15 for 1st issue; \$1.50 ea. add'l issue

Order from **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE**: 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Ste A-5, Boulder, CO 80303
MC/VISA ORDERS CALL TOLL-FREE: 800-800-7630

Supplies Are Limited

MARCH ADVERTISERS INDEX

Aimpoint	74	Masters Group	15
American Watch	19	Maxsell	33
Armalite	21	Military.com	81
Best Made Designs	59	Mil-Comm	78
Blackhawk	47	NIC Law Enforcement	55
Bushmaster	79	One Stop Knife Shop	58
Bushrag	68	Optimum Training Systems	23-25
Carroll Media	80	Paladin Press	5
Chase-Durer	Cov4	R.M. Equipment	68
CRI Training School	77	Real War Stories	81
Dark Ops Knives	7	Rockstar	9
EO Tech	73	Silverman's	53
Global School Inv.	53	Soldier Of Fortune Magazine	35,56,69
Hellstorm	cov3	Southern Ordnance	78
Hurley & Withington	31	Specter Gear	75
Inter-American Security	53	Steve Arnold's Gunroom	78
Jonathan Ciener	53	SureFire	11
Kimber	13	Tactical Assault Gear	cov2,3
Kifaru	76	Tamiami Int.	53
Lightfighter Tactical	72	Wiggy's	79
Marc Wolfe	80	7.62 Design	63

COMBAT WEAPONCRAFT

FARNAM'S GUNSLINGER DIARY
BY JOHN FARNAM



Expert Gun Handling — *NOT*

Weapons Handling in the Mid East, From a Friend In-Country:

"Gun handling, safety, and storage, as practiced by locals, is horrifying. Armed Iraqi nationals, Iraqi National Guard, and Iraqi police are all incompetent an utterly unsafe. We never go anywhere near them. Muzzle discipline does not exist. Fingers are always inside trigger guards and in contact with triggers. Manual safeties on AKs are always 'off.' Collapsible stocks are never extended, and fixed stocks are often cut off ('style points,' apparently). NDs are more or less continuous. People here are shot by accident all the time. No one cares.

"All deliberate firing is full-auto, of course. I've never seen anyone actually aim a shot. Thus, many more people here are shot by accident than are ever shot on purpose.

"Marksmanship is a lost art. Sights are never used. In most cases, locals really don't want to hit the other combatant. Therefore, they shoot over the adversary, hoping he will return the favor. In a gunfight (over a parking place) just outside my hotel two weeks ago, I saw and heard over a hundred AK rounds fired between two angry drivers at a distance of 10 meters. Neither antagonist was hit, but both cars were totaled!

"Carrying of handguns is also scary. Casually stuffed in waistbands, belts, pockets, they fall out constantly. What holsters there are, are crap. G19s, Browning HPs, CZs, and Makarovs. Some are loaded. Some aren't. No one ever seems to be sure. Ammo is shot up as fast as we give it to them in 'happy fire.' Consequently, most local cops are only given five rounds at any one time."

Comment: Fox News coverage of Arafat's funeral showed many "mourners" firing their AKs into the air. Malfunctions, born of poor maintenance, were legion. What AKs that didn't experience stoppages were shot dry, all full-auto. In every case, the puzzled shooter just stands there and looks at his nonfunctioning rifle in disbelief. At some point, he starts dithering hesitantly, paying no attention to what is going on around him. Some finally remove the magazine, insert another, and resume firing. They get a handful of rounds off, and then the whole confused process is repeated.

These people are no match for professional gunmen. We

must therefore continue to widen the gap between them and us. We can hardly make them more incompetent, but we can surely strive to assure that none of us fall into the same category!

EOTech, Revisited

In a conversation earlier this year with friend Jeff Chudwin, I had the opportunity to use an EOTech sight, mounted on an AR-15. I've expressed my concerns in the past about this kind of high-tech sighting system and its need for batteries, its excess bulk, and fragility. I also am concerned with the fact that rain droplets on the screen make the sight difficult to use, but Jeff indicated that the sighting system was popular among many who go in harm's way regularly. In any event, I borrowed a copy from Jeff and installed it on my DSA/FAL. My FAL has a single rail on top, and I mounted the EOTech as far forward as I could.

Last weekend, I used the unit in my demonstrations at an Urban Rifle/Shotgun Course in Pennsylvania. What I like most of all is the ability to see so much AROUND the aiming point. I also like the fact that it uses plain-vanilla AA batteries, not exotic hearing-aid batteries that are difficult to find. It is rugged and can sustain rough use and continue to function.

Brightness of the reticle must be adjusted according to ambient light: Too bright in low light, and details in the downrange area are overpowered. Too subdued on a bright day, and one can hardly see it. Adjustment buttons are convenient, but brightness needs to be self-adjusting— one less thing to mess with in an emergency. The reticle turns itself off after four hours. A good feature, but it needs to automatically turn itself back on when the weapon is moved: Nothing worse than throwing the rifle to one's shoulder only to realize the reticle is turned off.

This morning, I used the unit to hunt mountain sheep at a hunting preserve in Ohio. I must say, in a forward mount, the EOTech is easy to use. One does not get "lost" in it as is common with optics that magnify. I killed a ram with a single shot. Range was 100m, level. When the shot broke, I could see the bullet hit and the ram fall, all while I was still in the sight. I didn't become momentarily disoriented as is



ORDER TOLL FREE
1.866.BUY.1SKS
(1.866.289.1757)
INFO LINE: 1.502.671.5510
MONDAY - FRIDAY 10AM EST - 6PM EST
VISA - MASTERCARD - DISCOVER - MONEY ORDER
NO PERSONAL CHECKS!
MAILING ADDRESS: **ONESTOPKNIFESHOP.COM**
340 PRODUCTION COURT
LOUISVILLE KY 40299
(INCLUDE \$8 FOR UPS GROUND SHIPPING)
ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

common with scopes. When I reset the trigger, I was still in the sight.

In any event, some of my concerns about the EOTech have now been laid to rest. It is rugged and reliable. It is fast and eminently useable for serious shooting. Improvements mentioned above will be welcome when they make their appearance, but I have grown to truly appreciate this technology. I'm leaving it on my FAL!

**More From The Front,
From One Of Our Students:**

"There is a learning curve over here, just as in all wars. Fortunately, this time commanders are actually listening to what (USMC) Corporals and Sergeants are telling them. The result is that we're doing better now than several months ago. We are regularly inflicting crippling casualties on the enemy while drastically reducing our own. Things are looking up here!

"I can't say it too often: REALISTIC RIFLE AND PISTOL TRAINING IS A MUST. The 'Hot range,' to which we were introduced by the Farnams', needs to go system wide, and the sooner, the better. The more 'serious' the training, the more serious the Marine. We need to get away from the 'game/match' attitude that so typifies what often passes for small-arms training now. Politics, lectures, good intentions, and 'rules' don't make Marines victorious. Serious training and correct attitude does!

"Lastly, we must instill in each Marine an aggressive warrior attitude. Each needs to have supreme confidence in himself and in his personal ability. Each must be instilled with a superiority of purpose and an iron will. Each needs to think of himself as an 'operator,' not just a cog in a gear.

"I am rotating back to CONUS soon. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to pass on what I have learned. See you early next year."

Comment: With warriors like this, there is no possibility of failure!

Happily, the foregoing is typical of what we have come to expect from all our Marine students. It is indeed a privilege and an honor to be able to work with them. They are magnificent, and, for their sake (and for the sake of all those who have gone before), we will make "Hot Ranges" standard!

**On Concealment: Sage Comments
From Friend In DEA**

"As to your friend's comments about concealed pistols in his deployed unit, I will relate the following:

"On my third tour with a jungle operations team in South America, the aircraft I was on crashed while attempting to land on a clandestine airstrip in an area controlled by drug traffickers. A host national and I were taken into custody by a heavily armed, local 'militia group.' We were quickly stripped of all weapons and explosives, or so they thought. A poor search failed to disclose that I was carrying concealed a Glock 17 under my fatigues.

"At gunpoint, we were loaded on another aircraft and removed from the crash site. Assuming that I would be strip-searched shortly after landing (wherever they were taking us), I began to formulate a plan based around the 18 rounds of 9mm. Fortunately, friendlies had made radio contact with our 'hosts.' Upon landing, everything was resolved without incident.

"Having a pistol available opened a host of options that would have been unavailable to me, had it not been there. My true peace of mind was that, if it was my time to meet my maker, I could make the opportunity to bring many with me. They're not getting me without a fight!"

Comment: Me neither!

Author of The Farnam Method of Defensive Handgunning and one of the country's preeminent independent firearms instructors. ✕

WARNING AND DISCLAIMER: Any content in this publication, including technical data, reports of any activities, information, events and circumstances under controlled situations and under supervised control have not been tested nor approved nor were under the control of Soldier of Fortune Magazine. Reports are transmitted from independent sources to which SOF has no obligation nor control. The data is transmitted for reporting events by the author. Soldier of Fortune Magazine, its agents, officers, consultants nor any other individual or entity reject any and all responsibility for any reporting in this publication. Any reports in this publication do not provide detail for comprehensive safety techniques, training techniques, training precautions that are absolutely essential for any covered or similar activity. The reader MUST not attempt any reported activity, technique or use of equipment based upon any reports in this publication. Comprehensive training, guidance and supervision is always necessary when engaging in any activity of which any report in this publication mentions or gives any reference to.



THE PRIVATE SECTOR

QUARTERMASTER

Gear That's Good to Go Back to Iraq

TEXT & PHOTOS BY SFC. DILLARD J. JOHNSON

No one hates war as much as the soldier. The soldier will be left with the memories that he cannot forget. The soldier will be the one who will have to bleed, and if someone must die for freedom it will be the soldier. The soldier will do this for all the "pacifists" who say "stop the war," and for those "protestors" who burn the flag. And yes, even for the reporters and talking heads who consider news only to be that which is not going well. The soldier does this not for the money, believe me, but for the sincere love of his country, its freedoms, and the liberty of his fellow man.

Resting in the comfort of my easy chair, I can't help but think about my brothers-in-arms fighting in a foreign land for someone else to have freedom. As I watch the news, yet again bad-mouthing everything that we have done in Iraq, and ignoring the good, I am thankful our military planners are not

dependent this "fourth estate" for information. For instance, there are more schools now than ever before for the boys and girls of Iraq, cleaner water and more power than ever before, and the country is close to holding an election where citizens will vote for whom they choose — a democracy taking root.

Why is this not in the news? Just once I would like to see the news paint an accurate picture. As a soldier, I can tell you that the American fighting man is the best trained and has the best equipment in the world. What you see on TV is not the whole story. You might have seen one truck on fire in a 15-truck convoy around Thanksgiving — but what the "news" didn't show you was the convoy escorts of the 1st Cav Division take out the insurgents that placed the IED, or the other 14 trucks that made it back to base camp. And the "news" didn't show you 1LT Rob McChrystal from 5th Battalion, 20th

Infantry Regiment, and how he moved his scout platoon through a gauntlet of small-arms and RPG fire to rescue the two pilots from 3/17th CAV although he was sorely outnumbered. Or how about how the Infantry Regiment killed and wounded more than 140 insurgents and only had five of their own wounded. Why aren't McChrystal and SGT Charles Foster on CNN news telling the story about the heroes of Fallujah?

Up-Armoring A Workhorse

A hot topic on the news today is the fuel convoy with no armor escort, and there is a valid point there: Everyone in

(above) A particular instance where American industry has responded to a specific need for the troops, is the RhinoPAK, a line of add-on up-armor kits by Labock Technologies: Dozens of American troops have been saved thus far, by their add-on kits and dedicated armored vehicles.



Sgt. Mario Rodriguez

combat needs to have an armored vehicle. But this is a war, and what about the young men who needed that fuel for their vehicle that day? What good is armor if you can't move it out of danger?

Back in Vietnam the 11th ACR had the new M113 Armor Personnel Carrier (APC). It was a good troop transporter. Lightly armored and mounting a .50 machine gun, it packed a punch, but the war in Vietnam was at close quarters. Most battles were fought within hand-grenade range, so the APC needed more firepower and armor.

Some old Sergeant got tired of getting his ass shot at every time he got too close to the bush and the enemy fired an AK-47 or RPG at his track. So he came up with the idea to put more armor and guns on board. If it can be done, the American GI can do it. What this guy did was put armor plates around his hatch so he could fire his .50 cal without getting shot in the side of the head. Add that and two M60 machine guns on the back with gun shields, and there you have it — the ACAV was born. Add sand bags to the floor and the top, and they made a good vehicle even better. Fast forward to

1991 and the ACAV is back. I know because I had one in Desert Storm. We took old steel and welded it up on the hatch and it worked great.

For those who might wonder where the old workhorse is now, well, it's still here and at long last the Army is putting this kind of armor on all the M113A2s in active units, with retrofit kits. Not just with steel plate, but with hardened armor and mounts for at least one M240B, the replacement for the M60 machine (this GI's favorite I might add).

Bolt-On, Old Soldiers, and New Optics

There is always a better idea out there, and with all the bolt-on armor kits it was only a matter of time before someone came up with a way to up-armor the Humvee. Labock Technologies came up with the Rhino-Pak. It covers the whole vehicle: sides, top, front, back and yes — the bottom. The Rhino-Pak is just one more way that the Army is trying to take care of your loved ones in Iraq. Just about all the Humvees that are going to Iraq will have Rhino PAKs or similar up-armor

For reaching out to touch a terrorist at a thousand yards, a Remington 700 match rifle in 300 WinMag is a good choice, and an excellent optic is Bushnell's 4200 Elite Mil-dot 6-24x40 scope, which 3/7 Cav is taking to Iraq courtesy of Ms. Linda Olinger of Bushnell. (inset) Blackhawk's Long-gun Sniper Drag Bag keeps the M700 Remington and Bushnell scope safe, secure and with all its appurtenances.



The ACOG sight brings a dramatic increase in marksmanship — and only hits count.

kits installed before they get there. So tell me again how the Army is not working to take care of its troops?

The ACAV is not the only thing the Army has brought back from Vietnam. The M14 is also back. They call it an M21, but it's an M14 alright, a 7.62mm semi-auto rifle with the range and accuracy to take out the enemy before he gets in range to kill you. This same rifle that saved many a good man in Vietnam now comes with a Harris bi-pod, a high-speed, low-drag Bushnell scope and some cool stuff from Blackhawk like the Hawktext Tactical Cheek Pad that puts your eye in line with your scope, Mini Tactical Scope Protector, and Blackhawk's Long Gun Sniper drag bag with built-in, padded carrying straps. The Bushnell Elite 4200 Mil-dot 6-24x40 scope makes this a weapon that can take a man down at well over 1,000



A proven idea on a proven vehicle is the ACAV-type armor being added to the M113-series vehicles.

Sgt. Mario Rodriguez



Bushnell's laser range finders are a pocket-size lifesaver for dialing in those loong, precise shots.

yards. That's just the start. The new M16A4 can fire a 4-inch shot group at 600 meters with its 4-power scope.

Uncle Sam has finely caught up with the rest of the world and has started to issue optics like the M68 Close Combat

Optic (CCO), which is basically a red-dot sight. This sight is great. The CCO makes a good shooter better. Last week at my unit's train-up for Iraq, we qualified more than 500 soldiers using the CCO or ACOG optics on every weapon. I was amazed at the paltry amount of ammo it took to zero and qualify — next to none, compared to the range I had ran six months ago. We had enough ammo left over to run another range later on down the road. More than 50% of the soldiers hit a perfect 40 out of 40 when they qualified. That is the first time I have ever seen that.

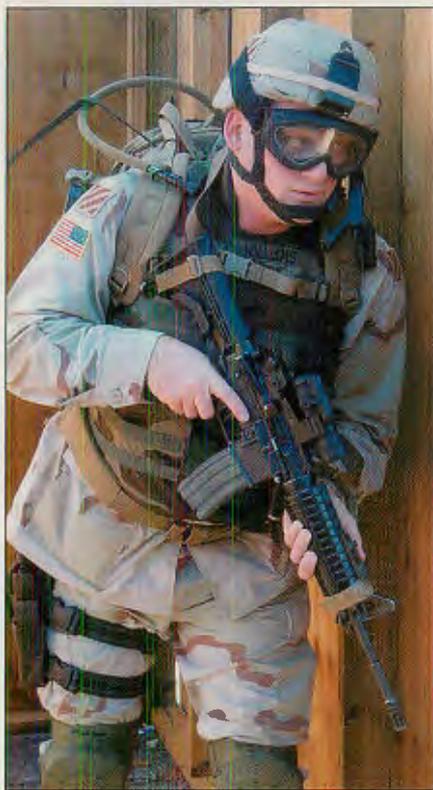
The ACOG is a 4-power scope that, when zeroed correctly, lets the regular Joe hit targets out to 450 meters and if Joe can shoot at all, he can hit targets out to 550 meters with no problem. Now that we have our soldiers hitting targets at great distances, we needed a way to tell how far the targets were. Bushnell came through with not one, but three small, hand-held laser range finders: the Scout, the Legend and the Yardage Pro. Let me stay this, you don't have to be in combat to love these range finders. They are small: The biggest one is the Yardage Pro, and it will fit inside a tissue box, so they are great for bow or gun hunting, or even a quick check on job sites as well. SSG Williams will be using the Bushnell laser range finder in Iraq to hunt down insurgents.



When you need your pistol, you will probably need it fast, and Blackhawk's Omega VI Assault holster keeps it secure, but with instant access.

Soft Goods For A Hard Fight

With almost a year of planning and training to go back to Iraq, we have searched for the highest-quality gear to take back with us this time. With the help of 1SG Tony Broadhead, my wing man in OIF 1, and SSG John Williams, we have identified which combat gear you really need for your first or second



The Army is issuing, and units are procuring, the right gear for the job, based on the experience thus far. American suppliers have quickly stepped up to the plate with innovative, mission-specific products.



Blackhawk's X-1 Raptor pack suits SFC Johnson just fine: all the room you need for a day pack, plus readily accessible magazine pouches.



There are many new slings available, but Blackhawk's SWIFT tactical sling is author's favorite. And in any sandbox where the steel is flying, good goggles area must.



Aside from top-quality knives and tools, Gerber also supplies excellent cleaning kits and mine probes. Every man in Johnson's unit is taking a Gerber 600 Multiplier back to Iraq, to keep everything else working. (inset) The new D.E.T. multi-tool is specifically designed for EOD technicians and engineers — more good gear from Gerber.

trip to Iraq.

Your hands will come into contact with almost every germ known to man, and most of them can make you sick just from touching everyday items. So, needless to say, gloves can be almost as important as your weapon or vest. My troop XO and I are going back to Iraq with Blackhawk's Kevlar gloves. Broadhead is going with the light assault glove, and Williams is going with the Fury. My Kevlar gloves have been used in the field and the motor pool for the past year and are still in great shape. I know that Blackhawk's Hellstorm gloves will be able to support me and go the distance in Iraq.

The Army is now issuing Blackhawk's Omega VI assault holster. Unlike many of the wannabe's, the Omega has a thumb break, extra security strap and a mag pouch. I used this holster in OIF 1, but this time I am going to take back Blackhawk's special operations holster — if you like the Omega, then you will love the Special Operations holster. The special ops holster has a flap that folds down over your weapon, or will stay in the up

Continued on page 77

7.62 DESIGN
DISTINCTIVE MILITARY APPAREL

PEACE
THROUGH SUPERIOR FIREPOWER
T220

The World's Finest Line of Thematic Military T's.

Hunters of Gunn T218
USMC 8541
SCOUT SNIPER

AIRBORNE T163
AIRBORNE
AA
"ALL AMERICANS" T155

U.S. NAVY T165
WORLDWIDE
Service
HAZE GREY & UNDERWAY
Overseas Work is Our Specialty! T172

Leading the Ragging T194
United States Navy

NAVY T166
DON'T TREAD ON ME!

Visit Our Online Catalog Now!
7POINT62DESIGN.COM
Ph. 858.693.4130

VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS



THE SURPRISING

KEL-TEC Offers The Lightest, Handiest .223 Caliber Carbine Ever!

TEXT & PHOTOS BY GARY PAUL JOHNSTON

“WHERE do we go from here,” might be the question asked after having a look at KEL-TEC CNC Engineering’s new .223 caliber SU-16 Carbine, and it’s a good question. The brainchild of small arms genius George Kellgren (make no mistake, he is a genius), the SU-16 is the latest (almost) in a highly successful line of handguns and shoulder arms designed to answer the needs of personal protection and law enforcement.

Billed as a Sport Utility Rifle able to use M16 magazines, the SU-16 has features in common with the AR-15, AR-180 and AK, as well as plenty of features that are unique to it. Not the least of these is a combination butt stock and lower

receiver that folds underneath to prevent any operation of the carbine.

Made of matte black, fiberglass-reinforced nylon, the upper and lower receivers house the bolt group and trigger mechanisms respectively, with the magazine-well being part of the upper receiver. Hinged at the rear of the magazine-well, the lower receiver, when folded, has most of the trigger guard inserted into the mouth of the magazine-well, requiring that the well be empty before the gun is folded for storage. Similar to KEL-TEC’s pistol-caliber SUB-2000 carbine, the buttstock of the SU-16 snaps onto the 18-inch barrel in the folded position, but the SU-16 folds under from the rear while the barrel



of the SUB-2000 folds up and over to the rear.

Housed in the traditional-style buttstock of the SU-16 are receptacles for two AR-15 style 10-round magazines, but the SU-16 will use any AR-15/M16 magazine. It uses an AR-15 style magazine release, but the safety is a cross-bolt type as found behind the trigger guard, as on many slide action and semi-automatic shotguns. Also of a cross-bolt type is the push-pin system that locks the two halves of the SU-16 together when unfolded for firing. A detent spring holds the pin in place during both storage and when assembled for use.

Using a bolt group and cocking handle reminiscent of the AR-180, the SU-16 has a long-stroke gas piston similar to the AK-47, or more correctly, the SIG 550 rifle. Affixed to the rear of the 18" barrel is an extension into which the multi-lug bolt locks, exactly like the AR-15 and AR-180.

On top of the polymer upper receiver is an integral Weaver-style rail that, while not M1913 spec, is close. At the rear of the rail is mounted a ghost-ring rear sight, also made of polymer, and at the muzzle a polymer AK-style front sight base with a bright-orange fiber-optic sight.

The SSU-16's fore-end consists of two sides that lock together, but by depressing a retainer on each side at the rear, the fore-end halves separate and swing down to serve as a bipod, if desired.

After firing the last shot, the SU-16's bolt locks back via the follower raising the bolt hold-open.

To close the bolt on an empty rifle, insert a finger up into the empty magazine well and push up the bolt hold open while pulling back the charging handle, and then letting the bolt go forward on it while continuing to push up.

Disassembly

Field stripping the SU-16 is accomplished by first removing the magazine and unloading any round in the chamber. The carbine is then hinged open by first pushing out the retaining pin, in the stock above the trigger guard.

After unfolding the bipod, turn the exposed gas piston tube a quarter turn to allow it and the bolt group to be pulled to the rear enough to remove the charging handle from the right side. Then pivot the piston tube up and the bolt group down, and remove down and out the rear of the receiver.

The bolt group can now be disassembled in a similar fashion to that of the AR-15/AR-180. That is, by pushing out the firing-pin retaining pin from right to left, removing the

Johnston found the SU-16 easy to use and comfortable to fire. No malfunctions were experienced. (right) The Eotech Reflex Sight also worked perfectly on the SU-16. The carbine comes with two 10-round magazines housed in the butt stock. (below) The bolt group and piston assembly must be tipped as shown for removal from the receiver. No tools are necessary to accomplish this.



firing pin from the rear of the carrier, rotating and removing the bolt cam, and then pulling the bolt forward out of the carrier.

Using the firing pin, the piston-retaining pin can now be lined up with the holes in the piston tube and be pushed out to free the piston from the piston rod, taking care as the piston is under spring pressure. Once the piston has been allowed to leave the front of the tube, the piston rod and spring can be withdrawn from the rear of the tube, leaving the rod connected to the bolt carrier. Reassembly is in reverse order.

Since the SU-16's stop rail is not true M1913 spec, it will not accept some mounts, such as A.R.M.S. ThrowLever Rings. In order to mount an Aimpoint Comp ML2, or other reflex sight, mounts with rail grabber style locking systems must be used, such as that standard on the Eotech Sight and the new Aimpoint mount from World Wide



Having a unique storage system, the SU-16 folds in half, as shown. To do this, the magazine must first be removed and when folded, the gun cannot fire.

Ordnance. I use the latter to mount an Aimpoint and found it perfectly satisfactory. (World Wide Ordnance also makes its Cambi Loader for M16 magazines.) The standard Aimpoint ratchet-

type mount also works on this rail, as will most other scope mounts that tighten by screwing in from the side. Any number of telescopic sights can also be mounted on the SU-16's rail by these means.

ACCURACY CHART/.223 CARTRIDGE

Cartridge	Muzzle Velocity	Small Group	Large Group	Average
Black Hills 55 gr. FMJ	3012 fps	2.28"	2.52"	2.39"
Hornady 75 gr. TAP	2884 fps	2.19"	2.37"	2.26"
Winchester 50 gr. BST	3073 fps	2.33"	2.41"	2.32"
Wolff 55 gr. FMJ	2998 fps	2.44"	2.66"	2.53"

Five 5-Shot 100-Yard Bench Rest Groups Using Pro Chrony LE, Elev: 7000', Temp: 78°, Humid: 34%

Shots Fired

While the SU-16's trigger is not match grade, it isn't bad. In fact, our sample came with a trigger pull that was better than that of a standard AR-15. Accuracy, too, was acceptable at least when using optics, with five-shot groups of under 3 inches being the



Here the SU-16 (top) is seen with the SU-16B, the SU-16C and the selective fire SU-16D.



The Aimpoint Comp ML2 Sight was mounted on the SU-16 using the new mount from World Wide Ordnance. WWO's extended-eye-relief mount is also shown. (below) As a compact weapon, the SU-16D compares favorably with an M4 in the collapsed mode.

If desired, the SU-16's fore-end quickly unlocks to become a bipod. (below) Kel-Tec's SU-16 is shown in OD green and desert tan, and the new SU-16B is seen with a black stock.

courtesy Kel-Tec



courtesy Kel-Tec

KEL-TEC SU-16 (tested) & SU-16B SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber:	.223 Remington.
Muzzle Velocity:	3000 fps.
Operation:	Long stroke gas piston.
Type of Fire:	Semi-automatic.
Barrel Length:	(SU-16) 18.5 inches. (SU-16B) 16 inches.
Overall Length:	(SU-16 extended) 38 inches. (SU-16 folded) 26.25 inches. (SU-16B extended) 36 inches. (SU-16B folded) 24.25 inches
Weight:	(SU-16) 5.5 pounds. (SU-16B) 5.4 pounds.
Safety:	Cross-bolt safety.
Feed Device:	Two 10-round box magazines in stock, or any M16 magazine.
Sights:	(front) Protected post, adjustable for elevation. (rear) Ghost ring adjustable for windage. (optics) Integral M1913 style rail on flattop upper receiver.
Stock Furniture:	Matte black, OD green, or desert tan synthetic.
Finish:	Blue.
Price:	(SU-16) \$640.00 (sugg. ret.). (SU-16B) \$690.00 (sugg. ret.).

norm at 100 yards, this using an Aimpoint Comp ML2 Reflex Sight. That is as good as the accuracy the M4 Carbine will produce with this sight, not to mention many hunting rifles equipped with scopes. Speaking of scopes, I also tested the SU-16 with the Leupold Mid-Range Tactical (MRT) scope and 100-yard groups were closer to the 2-inch mark, as shown in the accompanying chart. What's more, the SU-16 weighs in at only 5.5 pounds. I have yet to experience a malfunction with the SU-16, firing a variety of factory ammunition.

The SU-16B

If the SU-16 seems like the last word, it's not. Not quite. Not only is the stock available in black, but now also in OD green and desert tan. I suggested urban gray and this is being considered as well, but that's not all. As you read this, a new version of the SU-16 is also available. Called the SU-16B, the new version has a 16-inch barrel that reduces overall length (OAL) by two inches. This barrel is thinner than that of the SU-16, except at location where the stock clips onto it. The SU-16B also uses a hard-anodized alloy front sight base that accepts AR-15 front sight posts. The ghost ring sight on this model is also of hard-anodized aluminum alloy. The SU-16B can be had in the same colors as the SU-16 and the SU-16 can be retrofitted with the alloy sights, but law enforcement agencies listen up, as it isn't over yet.

The SU-16C

In the wake of the "sunset," a new version of the SU-16 has just been announced. Called the SU-16C, this .223 caliber carbine has a 16-inch barrel, but has a true folding stock that allows the gun to be fired with the stock folded. The SU-

Continued on page 68

BUSHRAG.COM

"Be The Bush"

ULTRA-LIGHT GHILLIE SUIT

Our new line of ULTRA-LIGHT camouflage is substantially more comfortable and just as effective as a traditional ghillie suit. We designed a light-weight, synthetic string material that cuts the weight of our suits to 3.5 pounds. This new product is scentless, hand-washable, non-allergenic, fire, water, and mildew resistant. These new suits are available in either a long jacket style or a separate jacket and pants combination.

Ghillie suits also available in burlap/jute string.

Some Ghillie Suits shown are made of burlap/jute string.

Camouflage Systems
 1820 W 220th St Ste 215
 Torrance, CA 90501
 E-mail: Info@bushrag.com
877-810-9614
 (Call For Our Complete Catalog)

The Surprising SU-16

Continued from page 67

16C also has a cocking handle that also serves as a case deflector. The SU-16C stock can be purchased to retrofit the standard SU-16 and SU-16B models.

The SU-16D

Shortest of all is the brand-new SU-16D, a selective-fire assault carbine with a barrel approximately 10 inches long. This gun also has a M1913 rail fore-end and uses an M16 flash hider. Like the SU-16C, it can be fired with the stock folded, but will be available only to law enforcement agencies. Both the SU-16C and D models are *first look* in SOF.

If you want a lot of gun in a little, lightweight package for camping, home defense, boat defense, as a ranch truck carbine, or as a patrol carbine, check out the SU-16. For information, contact KEL-TEC CNC Ind., Inc., Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 236009, Cocoa, FL 32923; phone: 800-515-9983 or on the web at www.kel-tec.com.

WARNING AND DISCLAIMER: Any content in this publication, including technical data, reports of any activities, information, events and circumstances under controlled situations and under supervised control have not been tested nor approved nor were under the control of Soldier of Fortune Magazine. Reports are transmitted from independent sources to which SOF has no obligation nor control. The data is transmitted for reporting events by the author. Soldier of Fortune Magazine, its agents, officers, consultants nor any other individual or entity reject any and all responsibility for any reporting in this publication. Any reports in this publication do not provide detail for comprehensive safety techniques, training techniques, training precautions that are absolutely essential for any covered or similar activity. The reader MUST not attempt any reported activity, technique or use of equipment based upon any reports in this publication. Comprehensive training, guidance and supervision is always necessary when engaging in any activity of which any report in this publication mentions or gives any reference to.

GET A GRIP WITH THE

NSN: 5340-01-425-7053

M203GRIP

THE FORWARD HANDGRIP FOR THE M203 IS NOW AVAILABLE!



40mm operators now have all the advantages of the Forward HandGrip so popular on the M16, and M4 rifles.

Instantly attaches to any M203. No tools or modifications required.

Fits the M203, M203PI and M203A1 launchers with long or short barrels.

Provides a rock-solid grip and detaches instantly. Optional flashlight accessory available.

Lightweight and rugged with a waterproof battery storage compartment that holds (2) AA or (3) N or (2) TYPE-123 3-volt batteries.

This product is protected by one or more patents, issued and/or pending, in the U.S. and worldwide.

MANUFACTURED BY:



RM
EQUIPMENT
Tel: 305-470-2000
Fax: 305-470-2008
info@m203grip.com
www.m203grip.com

CONTACT SHEET

Aimpoint, Inc., Dept. SOF
3989 Hwy. 62 West, Ste. 1
Berryville, AR 72616
877-246-7646
aimpoint.com

Eotech, Inc., Dept. SOF
3600 Green Court, Ste 400
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
734-0741-8868
eotech-inc.com

Leupold & Stevens, Inc., Dept. SOF
14400 Northwest Greenbriar Pkwy.
Beaverton, OR 97006
503-646-9171
leupold.com

World Wide Ordnance, Dept. SOF
6585 East Rogers Cir.
Boca Raton, FL 33487
888-488-9793
worldwideordnance.com

SOF LOGOWEAR

INVENTORY CLOSEOUT

SALE

NOW \$10



#T013
SOF 2001 3-GUN MATCH
Heavy 100% cotton tee
sizes M-L-XL-XXL only

\$15



#T014 "Let's Roll"
White 100% cotton tee
L-XL \$15 ea.
XXL-XXXL \$17 ea.

\$15



#T008 (green)

\$15



#T009 (blue)

SOF, The Journal Of Professional Adventurers.
Heavyweight 100% cotton with subtle left chest logo.
L-XL \$15 ea. XXL-XXXL \$17 ea.



NOW \$20

NOW \$22



NOW \$20

These stylish vests are 100% Polyester with embroidered SOF logo, zipper front, 2 front zipper pockets, black only. Great for him or her.
M-L-XL-XXL-XXXL \$20

Sweatshirts & Pants!
Mid-weight cotton in black with SOF logo printed in yellow. • Draw-string pants.
shirts: M-L-XL-XXL-XXXL \$20.00
pants: M-L-XL-XXL-XXXL \$22.00

Sizes and Quantity are Limited. Prices Do Not Include Shipping. Discontinued Stock. No Refunds.



\$34.95



#PS01
The Soldier Of Fortune Polo Shirt
Red and white embroidery on black
100% preshrunk cotton polo shirt.
M-L-XL \$34.95 ea.

USMC photo by Cpl. Mike Vrabel

SEND MO/MC/Visa
(NO PERSONAL CHECKS) to:
SOLDIER OF FORTUNE
5735 Arapahoe Ave., Ste. A5
Boulder, CO 80303
or ORDER ONLINE AT www.sofmag.com

**ORDER TOLL FREE:
1-800-800-7630**

ORDERING INFO	Circle Size	Quantity	Price	Total
#T008 SOF Covert Ops (green)	M L XL	@	\$15.00	
#T008 SOF Covert Ops (green)	XXL-XXXL	@	\$17.00	
#T009 SOF Covert Ops (blue)	M L XL	@	\$15.00	
#T009 SOF Covert Ops (blue)	XXL XXXL	@	\$17.00	
#T013 2001 SOF 3-Gun Match	M L XL XXL	@	\$10.00	
#T014 "Let's Roll"	M L XL	@	\$15.00	
#T014 "Let's Roll"	XXL XXXL	@	\$17.00	
#PS001 SOF Black Polo Shirt	M L XL	@	\$34.95	
#SS001 SOF Sweatshirt	M L XL XXL XXXL	@	\$20.00	
#SP001 SOF Sweatpants	M L XL XXL XXXL	@	\$22.00	
#FV001 SOF Fleece Vests	M L XL XXL XXXL	@	\$20.00	

Shipping & Handling: \$7 /1st item; \$1.50 each add'l item. Sales tax may apply.

NAME:	TOTAL		
ADDRESS:			
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:	
PHONE:	EMAIL:		

ALLOW 2-3 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

©2004 Soldier Of Fortune is a registered trademark. All rights reserved.

THE WINNERS ARE IN!

23RD PRIZE OVERALL



"Afghan Ally" by Sgt. John Bragiel

(Asadabad, Afghanistan, November 2002)

John wins a Spyderco Operation Iraqi Freedom commemorative folder



24TH PRIZE OVERALL



"Scout Sniper - Saddam Canal" by Thomas Pazienza

(Cpl. Livermore 1st Bn 5th Marines)

Thomas wins a Spyderco Operation
Iraqi Freedom commemorative folder



FREEDOM PHOTO CONTEST

For the past several issues, *SOF* has taken 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.

25TH PRIZE OVERALL



"Afghanistan Taxi: Russian HET" by **Dean J. Dominique**

(Camp Phoenix, Afghanistan)

Dean wins a Spyderco Operation Iraqi Freedom commemorative folder



26TH PRIZE OVERALL



"Dead Man's View" by **SPC Sierra Jesus**

(Elements of 2-505 PIR on move along
Pak Border, Afghanistan)

Sierra wins a Spyderco Operation Iraqi Freedom commemorative folder



rose up, turned around, and went right back the way he came.”

The Battalion, now more or less on course, continued its trek to the east. The fire was now less intense, and certainly less accurate, as they again began to brush up against areas defended by the Republican Guard. The 2nd Tank battalion was not supposed to clear out all opposition. Much of the fight with the Islamic Jihad had resulted from the delay caused by the wrong turn.

Arab Disaster

A battalion of grunts was following in trace of the tank battalion. They worked through the area in which 2nd Tanks, and the attached Marines from Miami had engaged the Islamist fanatics. One hundred and fifty dead Jihadists were discovered laying about the battlefield. Second Tanks had three killed and five seriously wounded in the action. The ambush was a scary 35 minutes or so for the Marines, but it was a disaster for the Arab volunteers.

Four of the seriously wounded, and two of the less seriously wounded were among the hundred-odd Marine Reservists from Miami. They had gone into the fight poorly equipped and armed. Equipment-wise they had been

outgunned in the fight. They had been out in the open along the road, mounted in HUMMVs equipped with faux armor.

The four wounded who had been evacuated all received their injuries while fighting from the unprotected turret of the HUMMV. The turret provides no armor protection at all. The situation was analogous to someone standing up in the sunroof of a car while driving at five mph past scores of professional killers armed with RPGs and automatic weapons.

Some of the Marines did not even have M16 rifles. There were some vehicles in the formation where both occupants were armed only with pistols. However, by using the firepower they did possess effectively, and certainly with the help of the tanks and Cobras at times, they had persevered against the odds.

There was no doubt about who had won the day.

In Somalia a similar situation had resulted in much higher losses. A large part of the cause of that disaster was also the use of the HUMMV as a weapons platform. It had proved woefully inadequate. Yet now a decade later our fighting men were doing the same thing. Nothing had been done to replace a totally ridiculous fighting

vehicle. Our Marines were fighting in urban areas with a basically unarmored wheeled vehicle.

The Marines had the M1A1 tank. Its utter indestructibility and accurate instantaneous firepower was the key to the success of the drive on Baghdad. Its mere presence caused the enemy to cower, and saved American lives. It completely discouraged the many Iraqis who hit them numerous times with RPG's to no effect.

Iraqi tankers for the most part deserted their tanks and hid when an M1A1 approached. Before the Pentagon remakes our military into a smaller and lighter force consideration needs to be directed to what really happens in a stand-up fight. Armor is extremely useful and we need to keep it in our arsenal.

The 2nd Tank Battalion continued to drive toward Baghdad that day. The enemy continued to resist. Before the end of the day more Marines were wounded and one was killed as the Battalion punched the rest of the way through to their objective.

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

Firefights in close quarter environments are won by fast accurate target acquisition. Locking onto the target fast means you win. The alternative is not an option. The **HOL**ographic Weapon sight (HWS) delivers unmatched speed gains... and **is** the solution.

Standardized by USSOCOM, the HWS is deployed with elite special forces and SWAT teams the world over. It features passive operation with no muzzle side signature and compatibility with all night vision systems. Battle proven in Iraq and Afghanistan the HWS is waterproof, shockproof, fogproof and adapts easily to virtually any tactical weapon platform.

HOLOGRAPHIC WEAPON SIGHT

SPEED MEANS SURVIVAL

EOTech
HOLographic Weapon Sights

3600 GREEN COURT SUITE 400
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Tel (734)741-8868
Fax(734)741-8221

MADE
IN USA

www.eotech-inc.com

Continued from page 46

was killed and two Marines were wounded when an RPG round struck Boye's Humvee. The QRF took a total of 10 casualties, including Boye, as Marines sped through the gauntlet of fire.

"By 1600 we had taken care of our casualties, repaired the vehicles, rearmed and were ready to go again," said Glover.

Lt. McGaughey, who had been talking to SSgt Sagredo, gave Glover a grid of the friendly lines and where he thought 2nd Squad was located. But it was only a guess. With a couple of Amtracks, four tanks, six Humvees from Weapons Co., and three medical vehicles, Glover set out to find the missing Marines. Capt. Smith rode in one of the medical Humvees at the back of the column along with First Sergeant Scott A. Vandeven.

"Once we got to the grid, it was obvious we weren't in the right place," said Glover. There were apparently two columns of black smoke rising from Fallujah. One was from the Bravo track that was burning, the other from trash. When Glover realized the second col-

umn of smoke on the horizon was where the "Dirty Deuces" were hunkered down, he started heading that way.

When Capt. Smith noticed the column was not moving as fast as it should, he grabbed his RTO's rifle and ran to the head of the column where he took personal control of the situation.

With total disregard for his personal safety, Smith sprinted down the street ahead of the tanks, firing at insurgents as he went. At one point he ran out of ammunition. "Officers don't carry M16s as a rule," laughed Smith, "and I forgot to grab extra magazines, but another Marine tossed me a mag."

PFC MATHEW C. PUCKETT

A day after LtGen Conway blasted higher ups for what happened in April 2004, PFC Puckett, the young man who drove his AAV through a gauntlet of fire in Fallujah, was killed in Anbar Province on September 13th.

Puckett was assigned to the 3d Assault Amphibian Battalion, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. Both he and Corporal Kolm have a place on honor at the amphibious school at Camp Pendleton.

Pulling Chesty's Out Of The Fire

"We fought hard to get down there," said Glover. As one might imagine, the QRF was a sight for sore eyes when they came charging through the courtyard. Capt. Smith was the first Marine reach the house, only to find himself staring down the guns of Ssgt Sagredo and Cpl Palafox.

"We distributed fresh mags to the Marines in the house, helped load their wounded, hooked an Amtrack to the burning vehicle and dragged it back to friendly lines," said Glover.

Normally, a vehicle that was literally melting would have been blown in place, but the gunner's body was still inside it, and Smith told battalion he was prepared to stay in Fallujah until recovery assets could be pushed to him. As it turned out, some industrious Marines were able to jury-rig a track that pulled the burning vehicle back to friendly lines, where they counted at least nine RPG holes in the vehicle.

After six hours of fierce, in-your-face combat, the tables had turned on the enemy in Fallujah. The hunted became the hunters, but the enemy didn't immediately retreat in the face of superior firepower. They stood their ground

M00361

- Official Reflex Collimator Sight of the U.S. Army
- Extremely long battery life, typical 10,000 hours

For information, dealer location or to become a dealer call TOLL FREE 877-Aimpoint

Aimpoint Inc., 3989 HWY 62 West Berryville AR 72616
Phone 870-423-3398 • Fax 870-423-2960

Aimpoint

E-mail: info@aimpoint.com • www.aimpoint.com

THE FUTURE IN SIGHT.



Sgt. David J. Culhane, mortar section leader, Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, holds an Iraqi rocket launcher he and his Marines found in an abandoned building in their sector of Fallujah.

and died by the dozens. Intel estimates more than 100 bodies were found close to the house. More lay sprawled in the street and two alleys that led off the street near the house. SSgt Sagredo says he personally accounted for at least two of them.

When the battle ended, Sagredo had one round in the chamber of his rifle and three left in the magazine. Romero had a couple of rounds left. Ditto for Garcia and McCarver.

Eight of the Marines in 2nd Squad, 2nd Platoon were wounded. But Sagredo wasn't one of them. He had cheated the Grim Reaper three times, once atop the burning track when bullets were bouncing off the track commander's turret, again on top of the roof when an enemy grenade exploded 10 feet away, and a third time in the hallway leading to the kitchen when Corporal K.D. Calloway stepped in front of him and took a bullet fragment in the forearm.

Going Back To Iraq Again

When 1/5, the most decorated battalion in the Marine Corps, returns to Iraq in early 2005 for an unprecedented third deployment, SSgt Sagredo will return with 2d Platoon, but he's been reassigned to Alpha Company. Sagredo has no regrets about going back to Fallujah. The only regret he has is leaving his wife and child again.

"We knew we'd be going back," said Sagredo, "because we have some unfinished business there." Sagredo confessed the fighting has become personal to him. The "Fighting Fifth" lost 11 Marines killed in combat and scores wounded, some scarred for life. Despite his severe injury, Lt. Ayres is

going to remain in the Marine Corps. He has been accepted into the Degree Completion Program and will continue to rehabilitate his right leg while attending college for the next couple of years.

"I lost a good friend over there and a lot of my Marines got hurt. The Lieutenant and I deployed to Iraq with 38 Marines, including ourselves, but when we finished the deployment, only 26 of us were combat effective," said Sagredo whose best friend, Staff Sergeant William M. Harrell, was fatally wounded by a sniper on April 8 in Fallujah. Harrell was also a platoon sergeant.

Sagredo doesn't have a personal vendetta. He's not out to revenge his friend's death, but he definitely feels it's "us against them over there."

Bad Taste

After fighting hard in Fallujah for 21 days, the Marines were ordered to pull back. SSgt Sagredo wanted to walk out of Fallujah with his head held high. Instead, he and his Marines were hustled out of town in tracks. Sagredo didn't argue with 1st Sgt. Vandeven, but somehow it just didn't seem right to him. "It wasn't like it is in the movies," lamented Sagredo, who wasn't the only Marine who left Fallujah with a bad taste in his mouth.

Shortly after relinquishing command of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force on September 12, Lieutenant General James T. Conway unleashed what amounted to a stinging broadside against top U.S. military and civilian leaders who ordered his men into Fallujah. When Marines finally had the insurgents surrounded and cut off, they were ordered to withdraw and turn over control of the city to a security force of former Iraqi soldiers, some of whom surrendered their weapons, vehicles and radios to the insurgents, according to senior Marine officers.

LtGen Conway was never a fan of going into Fallujah in the first place, but once the order came, he saluted, and attacked.

As this article goes to press, Marines from 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines who accompanied 1/5 to Baghdad in the war, are mopping up the remaining insurgents in Fallujah. This time, there was no deal — only death for the insurgents.

A long-time and frequent contributor to SOF, Dale B. Cooper rode with the 5th Marines in their sweep to Baghdad during Operation Iraqi Freedom. ✕

Every day.

Firefights in the
pre-dawn obscurity.

Securing and defending
the homeland.

Operations that never
make the evening news.

On the ground...
all over the world.

UNTIL THERE IS NO ENEMY.



You have plenty of options, except when all hell breaks loose. At that moment, your equipment selection becomes critical. Specter—**formerly CQB Solutions**—builds superior gear which should make your equipment selection easier.



Specter was founded by CQB practitioners to provide you with tough gear that performs beyond expectations... Specter is **GOOD-TO-GO**.



MADE IN  **Every Specter product is backed by a Lifetime Warranty, because we know what is at stake.**

GSA Schedule



SpecterGear.com
559.635.1172

Tough As A Rhino

Continued from page 22

pouches and pockets exceed MilSpec and are constructed of 1000-denier Cordura and lined with 420d pack cloth. The patented Dock & Lock System provides an effective way of attaching pouches quickly and very securely, while also making it easy to detach them when required. And there are certainly a plethora of accessories: The Kifaru Cargo Hauler, for example, comprises a frame and the CargoChair, a platform that can carry large loads ranging from crates and five-gallon water cans, to an injured man. The CargoChair can either be secured to any Kifaru backpack, or just to the dedicated Hauler frame.

The new Kifaru Pods system allows bulky or wet items such as sleeping bags, Ghillie suits or muddy boots to be carried on the outside of the backpack. Pods has a large opening with a drawstring closure system that makes it easy to hold large items of gear. A similar item is the Boot Bag. Made large enough for combat boots, this drawstring pouch is made from 420d pack cloth coated with urethane and can be attached to the inside of any of the packs. Other pouch-

es include The Long Pocket, which can accept a 100-oz. water bladder, and the Back Pouch. Almost twice the volume of The Long Pocket, this pouch features a zippered opening on the top and two strap/buckle retainers to Dock and Lock to any Kifaru pack or any MOLLE-compatible pack from another manufacturer. Kifaru is serious about military gear. So serious, they even make a Claymore Pouch for, yep, you guessed it.

All Kifaru products are assembled from the highest quality American materials: Drilex, and 1000d Cordura, and are available in standard colors of Olive Drab and Coyote Brown, while Black, Woodland Camo, Multi-cam, and Desert Tiger Stripe may be special ordered with a 10% surcharge per item. The tents and shelters come in white or Coyote Brown. Patrick Smith explained to us that all manufacturing is done in the USA — mainly by people working at home on industrial sewing machines. Forget outsourcing: Kifaru products are made by Americans.

John Higgs is an NRA and Colorado POST certified Firearms Instructor and a graduate of Yavapai, Gunsite, and DTI firearms training schools. He is a frequent contributor to Soldier of Fortune. ⚔

CONTACT SHEET

Kifaru, Dept. SOF
15794 W. 6th Ave, Golden, Colorado 80401
Phone: 800-222-6139 or 303-278-9155;
Fax: 303-278-9248
kifarupack@yahoo.com
www.kifaru.net

DSA Inc., Dept. SOF
P.O. Box 370, Barrington IL 60011
Phone: 847-277-7258
Fax: 847-277-7259
Email: dsarms@earthlink.net
www.dsarms.com

Kramer Handgun Leather, Dept. SOF
P.O. Box 112154, Tacoma, WA 98411
Phone: 888 KRAMER-1, 253-564-6652
Fax: 253-564-1214
Email: questions@kramerleather.com
www.kramerleather.com

Sigarms Inc., Dept. SOF
18 Industrial Dr., Exeter, NH 03833
Phone: 603-772-2302
Fax: 603-772-9082
www.sigarms.com

SWAT Magazine, Dept. SOF
3025 N. Valley Dr.
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314
Email: editor@swatmag.com
www.swatmag.com

Wiggy's Inc., Dept. SOF
P.O. Box 2124, Grand Junction, CO 81502
800-748-1827
www.wiggys.com



KIFARU[®]
crafting rugged packs since 1979[®]

Like a well designed toolbox, Kifaru Tailgunners[™] are loaded with pockets, PALS & slots for exceptional organization.

Employ our new Lock n' Load Internal Pockets for even more organization (not shown).

Rides solidly in your lumbar area, but swings to front for easy access - great for vehicle ops.



Completely modular & MOLLE compatible

Available Black, O.D., Coyote Brown, Woodland Camo and now Multicam[™].

TAILGUNNER SERIES

HIGH PERFORMANCE LUMBAR PACKS



TAILGUNNER II • 1,000 c.i.
shown with optional waistbelt & shoulder straps

Kifaru Hunting Gear & MountainSmith Backpacks

See our complete line of military gear at www.kifaru.net



Kifaru, Int'l • 15794 W. 6th Ave.
Golden, CO 80401 • 1-866-308-1911

Private Quartermaster

Continued from page 63

position by Velcro tab. If you have long legs, don't worry: Blackhawk also makes a leg extender for your holster. You will also want a good Lanyard for your pistol.

Sgt. Mario Rodriguez



SSG John Williams, fine-looking NCO that he is, holds scoped and accurized M16A4, equipped with Harris bipod and Hawktx Tactical Cheek Pad, which routinely shoots sub-minute-of-angle groups.

The best ruck on the market right now is the X-1 Raptor. It was made for the team leader; Multiple pockets let you carry up to six M16 mags on the outside, where you can get to them. If you are carrying a radio, then this ruck was made for you. The main compartment has straps to hold your radio in place, and with Velcro tabs that open up on top for your radio antenna and hand mic. If you have one of the two or three types of handheld radios, there is a pocket for that also.

With a built-in Hydrastorm hydration system and vented padded back that lets the heat move away from your body, I find it to be the coolest ruck on the market. The X-1 Raptor's padded carry straps are longer than most on the market today. This, with chest straps that are adjustable, lets the Raptor fit over the armor plates in the Interceptor vest: This makes the X-1 Raptor a must have. Blackhawk also has made slings for long guns in the U.S. Army. I like the SWIFT sling the best.

With the all the first-rate new gear that the Army is giving us, I still don't know what all the crying and complaining is about. Maybe Newsies just have to make a living, too.



The robust Gerber Silver Trident knife, originally designed for the SEALs, is finding favor among ground-pounders as well. This is one knife you will not break.

THE TOOL For Maintenance And Repair

The best multi-plier on the market is the Gerber 600, and it is complemented by their weapon-cleaning kit, and D.E.T. mine-probe kits. These are issued items and everyone in my unit is taking a Gerber back to Iraq. I will be taking four and SSG Williams is taking three, my gunner SGT Sean Cochran is



PROFESSIONAL BODYGUARD

COURSE

MAY 9-20, 2005 IN LAS VEGAS, NV

Evasive, Offensive & Defensive Driving
Ramming, Pit Maneuver & Counter Pit Maneuver
F-180, R-180, R-270, F-90, Slalom,
Braking Techniques & Much More.

Tactical Israeli Shooting:
Handguns, AR-15, MP-5, AK-47

Countering: Surveillance, Kidnapping,
Car Bomb, Suicide Bomber, IED's, Ambushes,
Assassination & Snipers

Marine Operation, Tactical Speedboat Driving
Tactical Repelling
Basic & Advanced CQB
Defensive Tactics

Close Protection Drills, Hostage/Client Rescue
and much, much more.

See website for full course curriculum.

This course is 90% Practical

800-631-8191 or 702-408-2599

www.criTraining.com

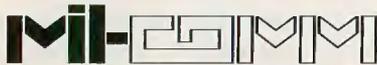
CRI COUNTER TERRORISM TRAINING SCHOOL

Lube & Protect Better



Mil-Comm Products Co.'s extreme performance, military-grade lubricants prevent failures and treat your weapons into fire-ready condition like no other — in heat or cold, sand or dust, or in corrosive saltwater — reduce maintenance and buildup and get more rounds through that barrel before re-lubing. And it's non-toxic.

TW-25B® grease is the choice of more firearms makers and U.S. Special Forces operators than any other lube on the planet because it works. Plus, try **MC-2500**® oil and **MC-25**® cleaner/degreaser (no fumes, no skin damage).



Mil-Comm Products Company, Inc.

**Call toll-free:
1 (888) 947-3273**

Website: www.mil-comm.com
E-mail: info@mil-comm.com

SOUTHORD



Precision, professional locksmith tools. Fully hardened spring stainless steel picks. Closes into to a fully self-contained tool that can be carried in the pocket or on a key ring!

JPXS-6 Alloy Handle \$37.95
JPXS-6F Fiberglass Handle \$21.95
Shipping additional (per order) \$5.85

CHECK, MONEY ORDER, VISA, MASTERCARD, AMERICAN EXPRESS, OPTIMA

Call, email, or write for our free catalog

Southern Ordnance
PMB 280
380 South SR 434 #1004
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

Phone Toll Free: 877-667-7292 Phone: 407-774-7078
Fax Toll Free: 800-854-1930 Fax: 810-821-8263
Email: sales@southord.com

www.southord.com

By placing an order, the buyer asserts, without fraud or deception to be a bona fide member of the locksmithing industry, or other qualified person

taking two Gerbers and their Back Paxé axe with him (no one said he was right in the head anyway). Gerber's new D.E.T. multi-tool is the only tool certified for EOD units.

Considering the new gear on the street and the new stuff from the Army, you will understand why I am very confident in my chain of command, and that the U.S. Army is doing everything it can to prepare our troops for war. Sure, we'll get shot at again, and you can't make everyone happy — but if someone joined the Army for a paycheck what did they think they were getting paid for? I came in the Army to hopefully make a difference for good. If we have to do it one country at a time, so be it. I know that as long as I am an American fighting man, there will be great companies like Blackhawk and Gerber out there working hard on new products to help me stay safe and get the job done.

Remember that SPC Maupin is still missing in Iraq, and that the mission is not over, and will not be, until we bring him home.

A frequent contributor to SOF, SFC Dillard Johnson is a veteran of Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom I, and when you read this will be headed back to Iraq with 3/7 Cav. ✕

PROFESSIONAL LOCKSMITHING TOOLS

MONTHLY SPECIAL

**RECEIVE A COMBINATION SET
(INCLUDES 5 ITEMS)**

- 1-MD-16 DELUXE SET \$59.95
- 1- SCHALGE WAFER SET \$29.95
- 1-SESAMEE DECODER \$17.95
- 1- WKS PICKS \$9.95
- 1- DOUBLE SIDED TUMBLER PICKS \$19.95

A VALUE OF \$137.75



MD-16 DELUXE SET

**NOW AT A
LOW PRICE OF
\$89.95**



SCHALGE WAFER SET



DOUBLE SIDED
TUMBLER PICKS



WKS PICKS



SESAMEE DECODER

**ALL OUT-OF-PRINT BOOKS
IN STOCK!**

Catalog \$3.00 — FREE with order. Allow three weeks delivery on personal check orders. Money Orders ship same day received.

NEW! All major credit cards accepted.



The law requires all purchases be made in good faith, without make believe or fraud by genuine persons within the industry.

SUPER SPECIAL

INCLUDES 4 ITEMS

- 1-LOCKGUN
- 1-ESP 13 LOCKSMITHING KIT
- 1-SET OF Warded KEYS
- 1-COPY OF THE BOOK
'LOCKPICKING SIMPLIFIED'



LOCKGUN



ESP 13 LOCKSMITHING KIT

**A VALUE OF
\$124.40
NOW**

**SUPER SPECIAL
\$79.95**



Send Payment To:
STEVE ARNOLD'S GUN ROOM
P.O. Box 68, Dept. SF08
Dexter, OR 97431
(541) 726-6360
www.gun-room.com

Postage & handling \$8.00. Overseas postage add 30% of total. Must be 18 years of age.

CONTACT SHEET

Brigade Quartermasters, Ltd., Dept. SOF
P.O. Box 100001
1025 Cobb Intl Drive NW, Ste 100
Kennesaw, GA 30156-9217
Phone: 800-338-4327
FAX: 800-892-2999
www.actiongear.com

Blackhawk Products Group, Dept. SOF
4850 Brookside Ct.
Norfolk, VA 23502
Phone: 757-436-3101
FAX: 757-436-3088
www.blackhawkindustries.com

Bushnell Performance Optics, Dept. SOF
9200 Cody
Overland Park, KS 66214
Phone: 913-752-3400
FAX: 913-752-3550
www.bushnell.com

Gerber Legendary Blades, Dept. SOF
14200 SW 72nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97281
Phone: 503-638-6161
FAX: 503-403-1102
www.gerberblades.com

Labock Technologies, Inc., Dept. SOF
1600 North Park Dr.
Weston, FL 33326
Phone: 954-335-3535
FAX: 954-335-3525
www.labock.com

Bulletin Board

Continued from page 14

Oh, Get Over It!

Self-pitying Kerry voters have a site, www.SorryEverybody.com, where thousands of Kerry cadre apologize to the world at large for letting Geo. Bush get re-elected, and post their pictures. In response to that, www.ApologiesAccepted.com does the same. And in response to that, www.YourWelcome.com [sic] sprang up, with a so-far unsubstantiated entry from "Osama bin Laden," to quote: "I am so sorry, world! Freedom will spread now! And there's nothing I can do! Damn the evil of democracy!" Ain't freedom of speech wonderful? (You know, like they have in Iraq now, thanks to Dubya and a lot of wonderful troops, and our Allies ...)

The Late Mr. Ghaffar

The late Mr. Ghaffar was a "detainee" at Gitmo, having been bagged in Afghanistan some two months into that conflict. Recently released, he returned to Afghanistan and promptly took command of a Taliban unit. When word got out that he was plotting attacks on the government and the president, an Afghan Army unit attacked his HQ and killed him and several associates.

One anonymous observer proposes all detainees/releases be "chipped" before their release from Gitmo, in such a way as to keep track of their whereabouts. Maybe even with a guidance device, say for a JDAM.

ACLU, DOD, BSA and the VFW

Despite a recent ruling by an Illinois judge that mandates DoD distance itself from Boy Scout sponsorship, the Veterans of Foreign Wars remains a staunch supporter of scouting.

The ruling, stemming from a 1999 case involving the ACLU and the BSA, prohibits DoD sponsorship of scouting units because the ACLU believes Scouts engage in religious discrimination. As part of the settlement, DoD was forced to issue a memorandum to all military bases not to directly sponsor Boy Scout troops. However, Boy Scout units may continue using military bases just like other civilian organizations.

John Senk, VFW adjutant general, said he believes the decision will have

Bushmaster Firearms

Carbon 15 Model 4 16" Carbine



- Carbon 15 Lower & Upper Receivers are Impervious to Moisture, Rust & Corrosion
- No Surface Finish to Wear Off
- 40% Increase in Strength Over Aluminum
- .75 lbs. Lighter Than Aluminum



- Six Position TeleStock
- Threaded Muzzle With Izzy Flash Suppressor
- 30 Round Magazine, Owners Manual, and Locking Gun Case

The Bushmaster Carbon 15 Model 4 Carbine is a unique hybrid of traditional AR 15 design and space-age Carbon 15 materials. The Upper and Lower Receivers are molded of Carbon 15 composite material which is the same through-out, so there is no surface finish to wear off or require maintenance. The final result of this hybridization is a firearm of ultra-light weight, durability, and rugged firepower. All functional controls operate like the AR15 type rifle and the Carbon 15 Model 4 Carbine Type will accept standard AR15 parts. A dual aperture rear sight offers windage adjustment, and the AR15 type standard front sight is elevation adjustable. A wide variety of scopes, red dot or holographic sights, or night vision equipment may be mounted on the Upper Receiver's Picatinny rail.

BUSHMASTER FIREARMS, INC.

999 Roosevelt Trail • Windham, Maine 04062
www.bushmaster.com • info@bushmaster.com



"Wiggy's saved my life!"

-John C. Dieffenderfer

When John Dieffenderfer and his son flipped their float plane on a remote Alaskan lake, their situation was dire. With their gear soaked and no way to start a fire, their only protection against deadly hypothermia was their Wiggy's sleeping bags.

"We are alive today because the Wiggy's sleeping bag insulates, even when wet. If I had brought my down bag instead, we never would have made it. Thanks, Wiggy's! You make an incredible sleeping bag."

To order your Wiggy's sleeping bag, call toll-free today or see us on the web.

Wiggy's

1-800-748-1827 • www.wiggys.com



MILITARY ART

MILITARY FINE ART PRINTS
by Artist Marc Wolfe



Some Gave All

SOME GAVE ALL is a tribute to all who gave their life in the name of freedom. This print measures 13x19 inches on a beautiful watercolor paper and comes signed. Limited Edition artist proofs and a USMC version also available. Limited Edition prints come with free personalization, call for details.

Prints are \$30 ea. plus shipping

L. E. prints are \$100 plus shipping (only 100 available)



"Lord, grant me the strength..."

"Lord, grant me the strength..."

"Lord, grant me the strength" depicts a U.S. serviceman in a moment of solitude before he has to step into battle, praying for his family, his fellow servicemen, and himself. This print measures 18x24 inches on heavy art paper and comes signed. Limited Edition artist proofs are also available.

Prints are \$35 ea. plus shipping

L.E. prints are \$100 plus shipping

(Please call for availability of artist proofs)

Visit us online or call

WWW.MARCWOLFEART.COM

PHONE 1-866-363-1839

little impact on the scouting community, including scouts who are military dependents: Both the Boy Scouts and the Pentagon have assured the VFW that this will not affect military personnel who want to continue their involvement with Scouting and Scouts," Senk said. "Military scout leaders will still be allowed to use military facilities, and service members may still continue leading scout troops in their free time."

Senk said the VFW, which has been a partner with the BSA for more than 70 years, had anticipated the ruling and has been active helping community scout leaders find VFW Posts to sponsor scouting units.

Coasties to get SIGs

SIGARMS has been awarded a \$4.2 million pistol contract from the U.S. Coast Guard, the second contract from a major federal law-enforcement agency, and comes hot on the heels of a \$23.7 million pistol contract awarded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in August. The Coast Guard will be replacing their Beretta 9mm pistols with the SIG P229 Rail that features the DAK™ trigger system and is chambered in .40 S&W.

SIGARMS has expanded operations at its Exeter, New Hampshire, facility with the addition of several new state-of-the-art CNC machines, increasing production capacity by more than 25%.

A Nation's Defense

Pop Quiz — What nation has:
709,000 regular (active duty) personnel
293,000 reserve troops
Eight standing Army divisions
20 Air Force and Navy wings with 2,000 combat aircraft
232 strategic bombers
19 strategic ballistic missile subs with 3,114 nukes on 232 missiles
500 ICBMs with 1,950 warheads
Four aircraft carriers and 121 surface combat ships and subs, plus support bases, yards and logistics to support such a naval force

Want it multiple choice? OK:

- Russia China,
 Great Britain France?

All wrong. These are the American military forces eliminated during the Clinton-Gore administration. You know, the ones not available to relieve our over-deployed Guard and Reserve units. ✕

The Finest U.S. Eagle Rings Out There Period.

Here are a few examples



Aviator



Centurion



Sentry



Marine



Republic



Independence



Colonel/Captain



1st Naval



Liberty



Senator



Laureate



Phoenix

Hand made, deeply sculpted and extreme in detail, there are no other rings like them in the world. The exclusive designs and fine quality craftsmanship set this collection apart from all other rings. Each one is custom made, one-at-a-time, to your exact size & fit.

Starting at \$139 in heavy sterling silver, they're also available in 10, 14 or 18 karat solid gold. Unconditionally guaranteed. Made in recognition of our great country and proudly made in the USA - by me, Mike Carroll.

To view my full collection of 25 rings, along with their historic significance, visit my website:

www.EagleRings.com -or-
Call or write for a free brochure
847-821-1333

The Carroll Collection
16144 Port Clinton Road
Prairie View, IL 60069



www.EagleRings.com

Command Guidance

Continued from page 6

religion have been suppressed. Montagnards are routinely killed and their women raped by the police. Pastors are imprisoned. Their Christian faith has been suppressed, yet has only grown as a result.

Now the Vietnamese communists have passed a law, specifically aimed at the Montagnards, making house-churches illegal. This means Montagnards caught praying in their own homes will be arrested.

Twice the Montagnards have peacefully demonstrated, by the thousands,



A Montagnard in Phnom Penh demonstrates how he was tortured by the Vietnamese police. (right) A Montagnard woman smokes a pipe in the door of her longhouse.



against these policies, in January of 2001, and during Easter in 2004. These demonstrations were ruthlessly put down, with thousands killed, tortured or jailed.

There is no objective reportage, since the Central Highlands are off limits to outsiders unless they are taken on a "guided tour" to a "Potempkin village." What little international political support that exists for them comes mainly from Special Forces veterans, from missionaries and NGOs, and from a few others who worked with them in the past.

Sanctions

There is also some support from within the overseas Vietnamese communities. One unexpected source is the Italy-based Transnational Radical Party, an NGO that has defended them in the EU and at the UN.

There is a current struggle to sanction Vietnam, albeit only a token, through the Vietnam Human Rights Act that passed by a huge majority in the House. The principle obstacle to its passage in the U.S. Senate, has been John Kerry — with active support from Senator John McCain.

Since Kerry became the Democratic

candidate for President, his place been taken by Senator Richard Lugar, R-Indiana, head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Senators Kerry and Lugar's objections would ring more true if they or some other member of the Senate proposed another plan to guarantee human rights for minorities in Vietnam. As it is, they object to the only plan that has been proposed, but have proposed none of their own.

Kerry's official position, and now Lugar's, is to advocate "constructive engagement." They say they don't think that economic sanctions will help address the human rights situation in Vietnam, and might shut down our dia-

logues on human rights with them. They miss the point that economic aids have been increasingly provided to Vietnam all these years, while the human rights situation continues to worsen.

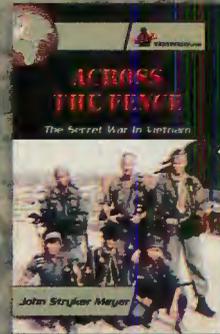
Perhaps, it's best for one to view the Vietnam Human Rights Act not as economic sanction policy but as an incentive, linking further increases in economic assistance to "substantial human-rights progress."

Mike Benge spent 11 years in Vietnam as a Foreign Service Officer, working closely with the Montagnards. Of those 11 years, five were as a POW. Upon release in 1973, the author returned to Vietnam as a volunteer and continued working with the Montagnards until the communist takeover in 1975. He continues to work with Montagnards in the U.S. — and on behalf of those remaining in Vietnam, as senior advisor to the Montagnard Human Rights Organization based in North Carolina.

Scott Johnson is an American attorney, living and working in Australia.

Jim Morris is a former Special Forces officer and longtime SOF correspondent. ✕

SOG



Across The Fence
By
John Stryker Meyer

Black Ops told with the terrifying clarity that only one who was there can tell it.

W.E.B. Griffin

\$24.95
www.realwarstories.com

Military.com



Buddy Finder
Intel Updates
Discounted Gear
Equipment Guides
Scholarships
Veterans Benefits

www.military.com

Just Scrap It And Start Over

BY OLIVER NORTH

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In wine, the experts say, vintage is everything. If that's the case, 2004 has turned out to be a very bad year for the United Nations. But the United Nations' vinegar may yet prove to be a very good thing for the rest of us — particularly if the decision is made to break open the casks, pour out the putrid contents and start over.

For adherents of "internationalism" and "collective security" at the United Nations, 2004 has been a tough year. The "Oil-for-Food" scandal, a story that first broke on Fox News, now has "legs" of its own — and investigators are homing in on those closest to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

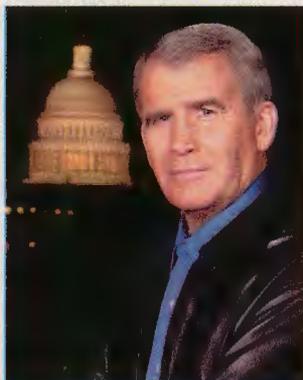
To make matters worse for the egocentric Annan, George W. Bush, the man who challenged the United Nations to live up to its own stated resolutions and responsibilities — and was castigated for doing so — got himself re-elected. And now, just as Annan is planning to put the arm on American citizens for a multibillion-dollar makeover for his palace in Turtle Bay, along comes his handpicked "High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Changes" with a report that indicts the United Nations for its ineffectiveness.

It all points to a remarkable opportunity for the world's democracies to clean up the festering mess that the United Nations has become — and create something more suited to the 21st century's new world disorder.

Though the multibillion-dollar Oil-for-Food scam has yet to rise to the level of importance in the U.S. media as the Scott Peterson trial, the international press corps — usually sympathetic to the United Nations — has started snooping around in France, Germany, Russia, China and the half-dozen other countries where officials may be implicated.

In the U.S. Congress, there are calls for Annan's resignation and measures to hold corrupt U.N. officials — now immune from prosecution — accountable for crimes they commit "while on duty." In Baghdad, FBI investigators, working with Iraqi and U.S. Justice Department prosecutors preparing the case against Saddam Hussein and other high-level officials of his regime, are weighing how they can learn more about how U.N.-administered funds were siphoned off to buy weapons, enrich Saddam and line the pockets of mendacious foreign officials and U.N. bureaucrats. And at the U.N. headquarters, Paul Volker, perhaps prodded by tenacious investigative journalism by Fox News correspondents Eric Shawn and Jonathan Hunt, is promising a "full and fair" report that will expose who got what, even if it goes "to the top" of the U.N. pyramid.

None of this is good news for the long-tenured Annan, who is scheduled to remain in office until 2006. But Kofi is fighting back, collecting billions of dollars to refurbish the 58-year-old U.N. headquarters building in New York — and build a new 35-story complex next door for an even bigger world-governing bureaucracy. He dismisses his troubles as



the consequence of a "conservative, anti-U.N. rabble" — just trying to make trouble for an international institution that they never liked anyway.

But what no one should ignore is the scathing internal critique proffered by the United Nations' own "high level" panel on U.N. reform. Though the committee's findings fall short — ignoring for example, the Security Council's anti-Israeli bias, the Human Rights Commission's embrace of dictators or the Refugee Organization's unwillingness to keep terrorists from overtly using U.N.-administered camps in the Middle East

as recruiting centers — they are telling nonetheless. The United Nations' failures in Yugoslavia, Rwanda and Congo are as inescapable as the well-documented collapse of the Iraqi disarmament program in the 1990s that led to the current U.S.-led war in Iraq.

Unfortunately, because the authors of the report are U.N. bureaucrats and the United Nations is their sinecure, the committee is unwilling to suggest the unthinkable: doing away with the Security Council as irrelevant to the realities of the 21st century. Yet that is the inescapable conclusion for the democracies bearing the burden of an increasingly expensive, moribund bureaucracy that has proven itself inadequate to the task for which it was founded.

The anemic prescription for improvement — a recognition that pre-emptive military action is legitimate — as long as it passes a U.N.-test for approval — is ludicrous. So, too, is its proposal to expand the Security Council from 15 to 24 members. Courage, once Dan Rather's favorite word, demanded a more realistic proposal: keep the General Assembly open as a place to debate how many blankets are needed to help assuage a humanitarian disaster like an earthquake — and replace the Security Council with a new Democratic Alliance.

Such a proposal will, of course, create great angst from those who believe that the United Nations — an entity that has up till now found itself unable or unwilling to even define "terrorism" or "democracy" — can somehow resurrect itself. That should not deter those democracies — who know well who they are — from creating an organization that is capable of bringing multilateral action to bear against adversaries like Al Qaeda, or its ilk.

To do less in this window of opportunity invites anarchists like Osama bin Laden and Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, and rogue leaders like those in Pyongyang and Tehran, to further adventures. This is the time to scrap the United Nations as we know it today — and start over so that our children have a better tomorrow.

To find out more about Oliver North, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

Copyright 2004 Creators Syndicate, Inc.

HELLSTORM

TACTICAL ASSAULT GLOVES

www.hellstormusa.com



Driving Gloves • Shooting Gloves • HazMat Gloves
Viral Barrier Gloves • Rappelling Gloves • Water Operations
Aviation Gloves • Assault Gloves • Rescue Gloves



The patented Quad Stitching Rings on the index finger increases grip and allows the user to custom fit, cut and modify the index finger portion of the glove. Cutting in between any one of the four stitch lines allows the user to remove a portion of the glove to expose the trigger or index finger for more dexterity, better trigger control; better use of the finger for buttons on radios, keypads on GPS units, the list goes on and on.

In use globally by the best military, law enforcement and public safety professionals, the HellStorm® line features gloves for virtually every tactical mission.

HellStorm® accessories provide the best possible protection and comfort available to operators in hostile environments. You've trained to be the best. You deserve the best in protective gear.

HellStorm®

4850 Brookside Court

Norfolk, Virginia 23502-2052 U.S.A.

757.436.3101 (fax)757.436.3088

1.800.694.5263

Equipping the hands of professionals.
Fighting for freedom and justice.

See your
HellStorm®
dealer or call
for a FREE
catalog!

BLACKHAWK!
PRODUCTS GROUP

©BlackHawk® Products Group™



CRAZY HORSE PUNCHES INTO BAHNDAU

SO ANDER OF FORTUNE

SOI.MAG.COM

WHAT'S
NEXT IN
IRAQ?

SOI BLASTS AWAY
WITH THE NEW XM8

SOI ON THE
BATTLE OF MIDWAY

SOI WIDE
LOOK AT THE IRAC WAR

SOI VIETNAM VET
EXPIRES



Page 24

**HAVEN'T SUBSCRIBED YET? NOW IS THE TIME.
USE THE EASY REPLY CARD IN THIS ISSUE.**

CHASE-DURER
BUILT FOR COMBAT
PROVEN IN BATTLE
AWESOME ON YOUR WRIST



SPECIAL FORCES 1000 UDT
UNDERWATER DEMOLITION TEAM CHRONOGRAPH

SWISS MADE, 27-jewel precision quartz movement with black steel case and bracelet, scratch free SAPPHIRE CRYSTAL, Superluminova advanced illumination on hands and indexes, full chronograph functions; split second timing, revolving ratcheted bezel, screw lock crown and pushers, deployment buckle with double lock security clasp. Water resistant to 1,000 feet, black wood display case. Price: \$595

CHASE-DURER
BEVERLY HILLS • GENEVE
For those who know watches.

www.chase-durer.com

369 S. Doheny Drive #514, Beverly Hills, CA 90211 USA Tel: 800.544.4365 / 310.550.7280 Fax: 310.550.0830 info@chase-durer.com

Call for Free 60-Page Color Catalog And A Store Near You: 800.544.4365

ARIZONA PHOENIX MODA FINA (602) 325-1880 CALIFORNIA BURBANK TIMEPIECE NETWORK (818) 559-9557 FRESNO EDMOND J. (559) 244-6900 HUNTINGTON BEACH DIAMOND OBSESSIONS (714) 841-5859 LOS ANGELES ARVA UNIQUE CENTURY CITY MALL (310) 556-0640 BELGRAVIA COLLECTION THE BEVERLY CENTER (310) 652-5868 FELDMAR (310) 274-8016 MISSION VIEJO GEM (949) 364-3711 ONTARIO JEWELERS DEPOT (909) 481-9559 PASADENA PASADENA WATCH CO. (626) 440-7002 ROLLING HILLS ESTATE JEWELS BY HOWARD (310) 541-1414 SAN DIEGO ED BENJAMIN & SONS (619) 298-3000 FLORIDA ORLANDO ROCKS (407) 226-3100 SEASIDE BIJOU ELEGANT JEWELRY (850) 231-2006 SUNRISE THE DIAMOND CENTER (954) 846-7181 GEORGIA ALBANY JOHN ROSS J. (912) 435-2004 HAWAII HONOLULU HAIMOFF & HAIMOFF (808) 596-0090 IDAHO COEUR D'ALENE WATCHES BY GOSH (208) 667-3305 ILLINOIS GLEN ELLYN AJ GALLERY (630) 858-5020 HINSDALE CAFFRAY JEWELERS (630) 655-0505 KANSAS GARDEN CITY GIPSON J. (620) 275-8616 MARYLAND GLYNDON GLYNDON J. (410) 526-4112 MICHIGAN WEST BLOOMFIELD DION'S WORLD OF WATCHES (248) 539-1181 MISSOURI LIBERTY THE POLISHED EDGE (816) 781-6360 NORTH CAROLINA FAYETTEVILLE RHUDY'S (910) 488-2971 NEW JERSEY LINWOOD SANDRA & ROY (609) 926-7697 MERCERVILLE TRENT JEWELERS (609) 584-8800 NEW YORK MASSAPEQUA LINDA SHOP (516) 541-2888 NEW YORK FINESSE (212) 967-6853 LAS AMERICAS (212) 966-4556 SEAPORT WATCH CO. (212) 571-6400 YONKERS TWIN J. (914) 375-4653 OKLAHOMA OKLAHOMA CITY THE TRUST HOUSE (405) 842-0554 PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA TWIN PHOENIX INC. (215) 727-9542 WATCHES ETC. INT. (215) 922-4088 PITTSBURGH CHAPEL HILLS JEWELRY (412) 782-1757 WEST MIFFLIN KING'S JEWELRY (412) 650-4650 TEXAS HOUSTON ACE WATCH & JEWELRY (713) 521-4444 JUST ABOUT TIME (281) 894-6870 UTAH WOODS CROSS FLAWLESS TIMING (801) 390-5165 VIRGINIA MCLEAN DIAMOND CREATIONS (703) 883-1818 WASHINGTON SEATTLE SWISSA J. (206) 625-9202...AND AT A DEALER NEAR YOU!