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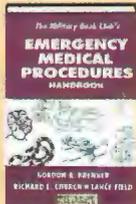
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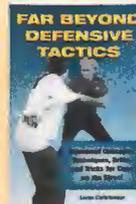
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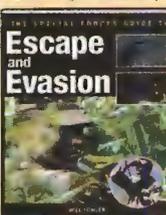
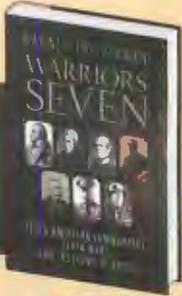


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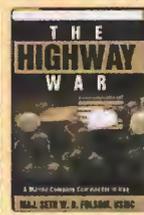


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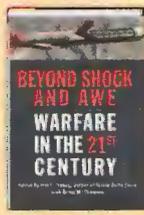
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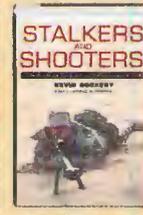
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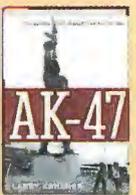
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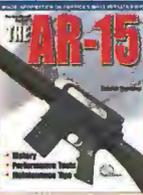
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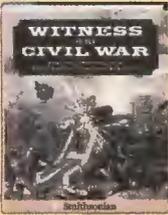
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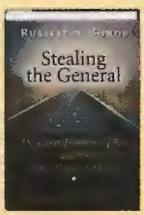
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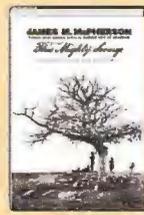
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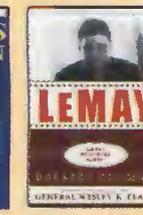
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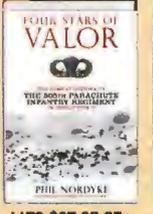
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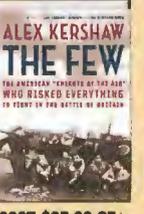
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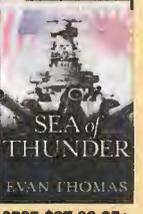
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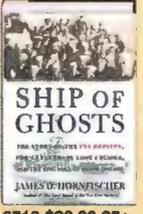
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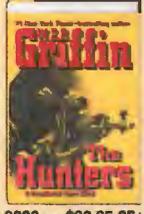
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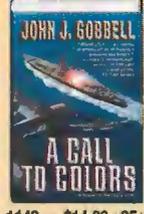
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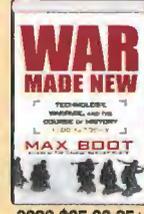
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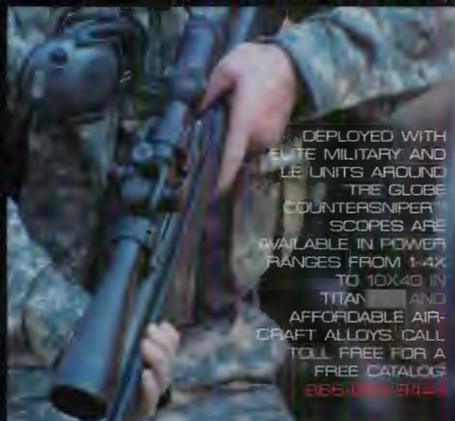
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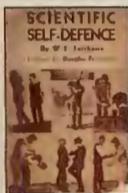
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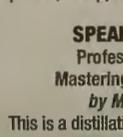
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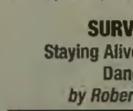


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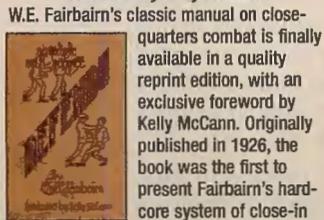
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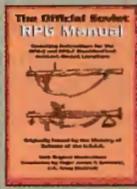
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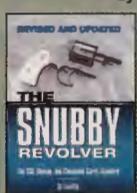
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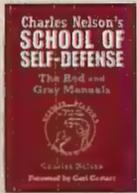
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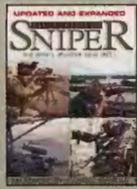


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By Kay Reibold

Remember Our Montagnard Allies

It continues to be an intense struggle for Montagnards attempting to escape or to legally emigrate from Vietnam. UNHCR has been compromised and now USCIS/DHS officials in both Phnom Penh and Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City) are rejecting Montagnard asylum seekers at an alarming rate. The Hanoi regime has worked hard to discredit recent Montagnard claims for refugee status and to undermine the legal emigration and refugee process for Montagnards both in Vietnam and Cambodia. It also reveals how destructive the trade and defense agreement that drives the U.S.-Vietnam relationship is, and will be, for the Montagnard people, unless the U.S. takes a decisive and firm stand on behalf of the Montagnards.

We believe that Hanoi's policy intentions are to:

a) Break up the Montagnard family unit by keeping Montagnard wives and children separated from their Montagnard husbands, who have already received asylum and are in North Carolina (or another state or, in some cases, resettled in Canada and Finland) This strategy also supports the Hanoi policy of ethnic assimilation.

b) Obstruct the emigration process because the more Montagnards who are resettled in the U.S. and other countries, the more opportunities there are for Montagnard higher education and a potential political voice in the future. Montagnard empowerment, a political voice, and self-determination are the last things Hanoi wants for the indigenous people. (The government is well aware that Ho Chi Minh promised autonomy to the Montagnards in exchange for loyalty to the Communist forces.)

c) Obstruction in Montagnard emigration allows local Vietnamese provincial security officials the opportu-

nity to obtain bribes, and to develop a cottage industry in falsifying existing documents or creating affidavits in which they make deliberate errors on the forms, so that the Montagnard beneficiary will confront problems with the USCIS/DHS official in their interviews at the U.S. Consulate.

d) The emigration process in Vietnam forces Montagnard women to endure humiliation, threats, intimidation and in some cases, rape and imprisonment of Montagnard women who apply for their exit documents.

The State Department's position seems to be supportive of Hanoi's assimilation policies and the strategic development of the Central Highlands. We may not see it in our lifetime, but its likely Hanoi will break its defense agreements with the U.S. and some of its trade agreements. The U.S. should be doing all it can for the Montagnards because it's the right thing, the honorable course of action, and because it's best for our country and the world. ✎

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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.

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Major Land in April 2007 Issue

I met Major Land at Kaneohe Bay in 1978. Sergeant Chuck Wine introduced me and got me a seat in Major Land's one-day sniper orientation course for company and battalion commanders. That course was part sales pitch, part training course in the capabilities and limitations of the Marine Corps sniper. At the time, the U.S. Army's unofficial sniper doctrine was DON'T! Snipers had an outlaw reputation and weren't considered "real soldiers."

Things have changed in 30 years. The Army now has an official sniper doctrine, as the Corps did for years. Originally, the emphasis was on rural operations. Now, somebody has finally woken up to the fact that a large segment of wars were fought in urban areas. Sniper doctrine needs to change, and perhaps the equipment as well. Officers no longer wear distinctive uniforms and carry only pistols – or a swagger stick. Most of that is due to the sniper, and this compromise of command and control is a significant achievement. In the Middle East, combatants wear soft clothes – no uniforms. They either depend upon cached weapons or disguise their weapons. This is another sniper success.

The next "logical" step is for U.S. Marine snipers to infiltrate into operations areas disguised as civilians, with their weaponry also hidden. I doubt that the Corps can make this transition for reasons ranging from the Law of Land Warfare to tradition, but urban operations require it because there are so many eyes (and quite a few video cameras) concentrated in built up areas.

Good to see that he's still alive and kicking!

Alan Cranford

No, Not All

Do you publish ALL letters from snipers (even if edited for security purposes)? In your hard-copy print edition, you have limited space available, but on-line you could print every letter.

Are our senior military and civilian officials aware of these PC limits on our military?

When, in his "library speech" from the White House, the President, while announcing the 20,000 increase in military deployments to Iraq, mentioned reducing the political restrictions on the troops there now. Is he aware of these letters from snipers?

Do you know if radio talk show hosts see these letters from snipers?

Could be a worthwhile resource for senior officials who may not be aware of the "politically correct" bureaucratic limitations, restrictions, and constraints. OR, if they are aware of the constant checking and micromanagement, may not be aware of the net negative effect of all the bureaucracy.

Thanks, and keep up the good work.

Best regards,
Al Masetti

We do not publish all letters we receive from snipers: Often two or more letters cover identical topics, and sometimes there are OpSec considerations. If the letter is very important and we do don't feel we can effectively edit out any OpSec considerations, we sanitize it and back-channel it to where we think it should go. Neither the Pentagon nor White House has contacted us for input; Congressional staffers have. SOF is widely read among movers and shakers in government and the media: We are not offended that they may keep SOF in a desk drawer instead of on their coffee table.

Thanks For Supporting Karens

I just wanted to drop you a quick note of thanks for your publishing Derek Melton's article on the Karen last year in your SOF magazine. As a result of that, God willing I will be going with Derek March 5th thru 15th this year to Burma as part of his team. Without your publishing his article and others on the plight and fight of the Karen people in



Burma, I would never have known about their needs. So again, thank you sir!

I had hoped to meet you personally at the SHOT Show in Orlando this year since I flew down to it with the NRA's Bob Viden and he said he would try to get us together; but unfortunately our paths never crossed there. Perhaps we can do so at the next SHOT or another similar venue.

Regards,
Dale A. Kopas.

Dale: Reason we didn't meet at SHOT was I had a world class case of the flu... Glad to see you are helping the Karens. Certainly a worthy project. Good luck and watch your six. -- RKB

Subject: Deployment Tip

Most servicemembers know they can get out of car and apartment leases on short notice under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) by giving the landlord or leaser a copy of their PCS or TDY orders. However, because of security concerns and other reasons (culpable inefficiency, for example) orders often arrive late. Fairly recently, Congress amended the definition of "military orders" under the SCRA as "official military orders, or any notification, certification, or verification from the servicemember's commanding officer with respect to the servicemember's current or future military duty status." In other words, if the CO will write his troop a letter, the troop may be able to save a month or two on his apartment or vehicle lease. Better yet, have a local JAG draft a letter for the CO's signature.

Great magazine!
V/R,
SETH L. RUNDLE, Capt, USAF
Asst. Staff Judge Advocate
49th Fighter Wing



From left, the Ultra CDP II™ .45 ACP, Aegis II™ 9mm and Ultra RCP II™ .45 ACP along with the new Kimber LifeAct™ Guardian Angel™ non-lethal self defense device.

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Continuing the Legacy

Hello From Brazil

First of all I would like to say that I don't miss any magazine of *Soldier Of Fortune*, and today I saw your article about The Military Police of Sao Paulo – CHOQUE – and I liked it so much, the article and the pictures, because for the first time we will see details about our Law Enforcement Force in this magazine for professionals, and as an SOF reader and collector, I was very proud.

Thank you and if you need anything, please just ask.

Say Hello to Col Brown.

Radio

Where's Your View Now?

It's been eight years, since NATO led by the U.S., bombed the Serbs for 78 days, for the Serbs fighting an Albanian terrorist group known as the KLA, who the U.S. even stated was a terrorist group. The U.S. said the Serbs raped 100,000 women and killed over 100,000 people and that they were in

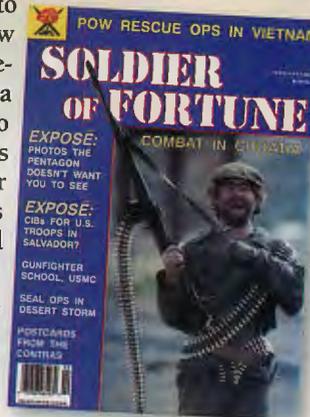


mass graves. I want to know where are all these kids now and how come the mass graves cannot be found? Why? It was all a farce by the Clinton white house. They started an illegal war [against a] country that was trying to protect itself from a terrorist group. And now the U.S. wants Kosovo to be taken from

Serbia. Kosovo was majority Serbian before WW2. After the war, Tito wanted to make Serbia weaker in the Yugo. So it [would] have special status, and encourage Albanians to become the majority. Now they [want] Kosovo to become independent. Russia and China are opposed to this. Because China wants Taiwan back. I remember your magazine that was all for the Albanians and everyone else that was fighting the Serbs. The same people that killed Danny Pearl about 3 yrs ago, were in Bosnia, fighting the Serbs and

being funded by American tax dollars. I hope the Muslim fanatics in Europe create more problems. The Serbs tried to stop it in Serbia and in the areas where Serbs were at, and they get punished? So, now I don't care about the war in Iraq! I don't care about American troops getting killed in Iraq! I find it hilarious that American troops are being blown apart, because they don't have the proper equipment to protect them. Serbs have never done anything to harm America. But, America has done everything it can to wipe Serbia off the planet. So F**k You!

Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile



Your letter is a wonderful compilation of demonstrably inaccurate history, misreading of accurate data, misstating of official positions and ignorance that pretty well demonstrates a root cause of the centuries of ill will in the Balkans. Thank you for reminding us of why we backed what we perceived to be the lesser of several evils in the last decade of war there. ☒



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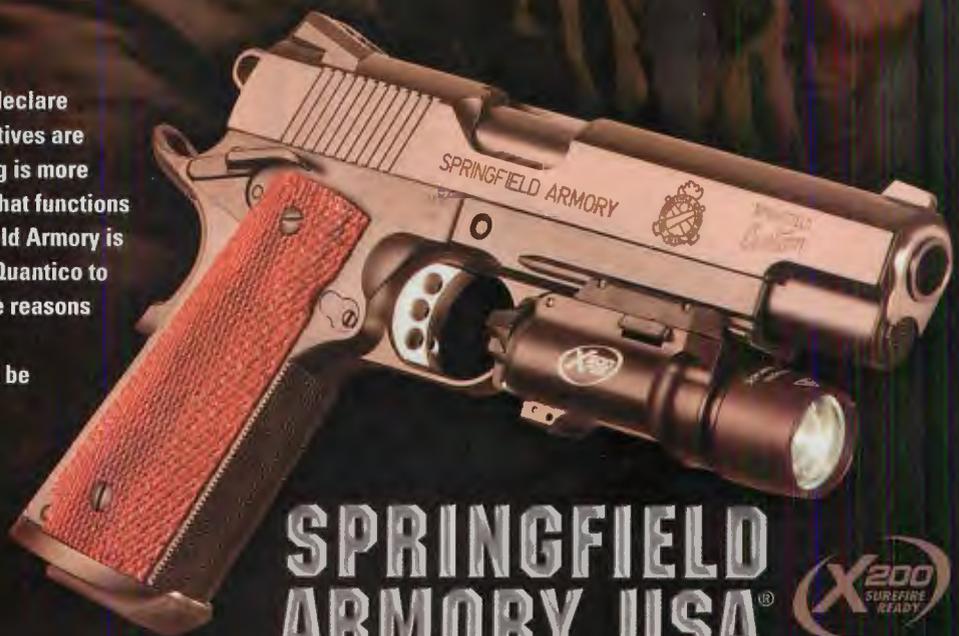
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◀ Marine Cpl. Dustin Crouthamel checks out a member of the Kenyan Army on his rifle as part of the bilateral exercise Edged Mallet '07 in Manda Bay, Kenya. Crouthamel is with 26th MEU. DoD Photo by PO2 Jeremy L. Grisham



▶ Senior Airman Jake Pudlick and SSG Dave Nelson of the 133rd Airlift Wing, St. Paul, Minn., smooth concrete foundation for a section of fence along the Mexican border near San Luis, Arizona, in support of Operation Jump Start in which about 6,000 National Guardsmen have deployed to help the Border Patrol secure the southern border.. USAF Photo by SSG John Wiggins

The SOF Papers

SOF's 30-year collection of papers, documents and photos needs a home – a proper repository/archive where this collection can be preserved for historical or academic study.

Anyone representing such a facility, or with information or suggestions regarding such an appropriate repository, is encouraged to call: 303-443-0300, FAX 303-444-5617, or email editorsof@aol.com.

SOF Seeks El Salvador Veterans

SOF is seeking contact with, or news about, the following Special Forces veterans who served in El Salvador: **Mike Kim, Tony Paniagua**. Anyone with information or a point of contact please call: 303-443-0300, FAX 303-444-5617, or email editorsof@aol.com.



▲ Specialist Timothy McClellan from Charlie Co., 12th Inf Regt., 1st Cav swings his bat at a rock during an impromptu baseball game at Army outpost in Kahn Bani Sahn, Iraq, before heading out on a mission. USAF Photo by SSG Stacy L. Pearsall

Timeless Quote:

“It appears we have appointed our worst generals to command forces, and our most gifted and brilliant to edit newspapers! In fact, I discovered by reading newspapers that these journalists/geniuses plainly saw all my strategic defects from the start, yet failed to inform me until it was too late. Accordingly, I'm readily willing to yield my command to these obviously superior intellects, and I'll, in turn, do my best for the cause by writing editorials – after the fact.” – Robert E. Lee, 1863

Good On Ya, Sears

By law, employers are required to hold a reservist's or guardsman's jobs open for him when he is called up, but nothing more. More often than not, troops take a pay cut and lose benefits as a result of a call-up. Sears – during a tough time for American retailers – is voluntarily paying the difference in salaries and maintaining all benefits, including medical insurance and bonus programs, for all activated reservist employees for up to two years. Now, that's good corporate citizenship – especially in a time when corporate giants who make a living off the war, leave Houston for Dubai to avoid American taxes on their warbucks. And Sears has a “why, doesn't everybody?” take on what they do. Queries to their corporate offices get a canned response, “The information is factual... Sears regards service to our country as one of greatest sacrifices our young men and women can make. We are happy to do our part to lessen the burden they bear at this time.”

Next time you're shopping for C.A.R.E.-package stuff for your favorite troop, Sears just might be a good place to buy it.

Continued on page 75



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Is Castro DEAD?

A Shroud of Mystery Continues to Surround the Cuban Dictator

By Dr. Martin Brass

"He's a Machiavellian genius, the greatest manipulator in the world," Hugo Lopez, Cuban refugee to the United States in 1960, and longtime friend of SOF publisher, Robert K. Brown, said.

"Anyone who goes to Cuba, even if they hate him, cannot help but stand in awe of him, in light of the way he has controlled the military and police for nearly half a century," Jose Bois, a Spanish sniper who conducts business in Cuba, who has also fallen under the spell of fascination with the Herculean Cuban president, told us.

Many shudder in rage at the mere thought of him, maligning him as the Latin Devil.

Opponents are either in a Cuban prison or have joined the hundreds of thousands that have fled the country.

Some idolize him and his late comrade, the notorious, dashing Che Guevara, crowning them as history's two greatest Latin Warriors, Latin gods.

Stunningly gorgeous, sultry Latin actresses swooned under his powerful Latin charms.

Others admire him for outfoxing the greatest superpower in history, dodging its obsessive, fumbling gangs of CIA operatives who tried to assassinate him countless times.

A former bodyguard of El Comandante claimed that there have been a total of 638 attempts on his life, the *Guardian* reports.

He once jested that he would win the

gold medal if surviving assassination were an Olympic event.

He lived through nine U.S. presidents' administrations, most of which feverishly plotted for the demise of this illusive fiend with a hundred lives.

He is the infamous Fidel Castro. Or is he?

Will the Real Castro Please Come Forward?

Was Castro really killed in December 1956, as UPI reported, when he, Che Guevara, his brother Raul, and 79 other rebels fought Fulgencio Batista's troops in Alegria del Pio, Provincia Granma?

Francis L. McCarthy, head of the UPI bureau in Cuba heard the unbelievable news—Castro was dead. McCarthy reported the shocking intelligence reports of the revolutionary's death.

The international media went wild.

U.S. journalist Herbert Matthews of the *NY Times*, who met with "Castro" and his rebels after the Alegria del Pio battle, brought the revolutionary back to life when his *NY Times*' interview with "Castro" hit the front pages of the *Times*.

"Last year, the Cuban government unveiled a marble plaque commemorating the interview Fidel and his rebel fighters in the Sierra Maestra gave to *New York Times* journalist Herbert Matthews 50 years ago," Georgie Anne Geyer, author of the Castro biography *Guerrilla Prince: The Untold Story of Fidel Castro* wrote. "It is situated in the wild moun-

tains exactly where the interview took place and was then published on Feb. 24, 1957, showing that Castro was not only alive but fighting," she said.

McCarthy stuck by his story of Fidel's death.

So who was this six-foot insurgent that Matthews brought back to life?

The revolutionaries, some speculated, created a series of Castro look-a-likes to take over the job of brutally ruling Cuba and becoming the thorn in the U.S.' side.

Indeed, the alleged greatest deception of all would explain Castro's invincibility and his marathon speeches. When one "Castro" was drained, the saga claims, he retired backstage. "Castro" II, well briefed, would continue on, and when he needed a break, "Castro III" unabashedly and passionately would conclude the speech.

"That's bull!!!," SOF publisher, Robert K. Brown barked gruffly. "I was in Havana and I saw Castro give a five-hour speech, and he did not leave the podium."

Castro: Shrouded in Mystery

"Everyone in Cuba knows that Castro has doubles," Bois recounted the tale he heard in Cuba. "Castro doubles threw the CIA operatives who were constantly trying to kill him off track.

"Castro was doing an opening for an official facility in Santiago de Cuba. At the same time, he appeared on a live radio show to show his support for a

province devastated by a hurricane.

"How could he be in Northern Cuba on a Wednesday midday and in the south at the same time?" Cubans asked," Bois continued, animated.

"Fidel Castro is like a god, he can be two places at the same time," Cubans joke.

"The photos of Castro personally attending the two functions looked a lot like Fidel, but not exactly," Bois said with less than full confidence.

Cuba Expert and Co-Author of *Merc: American Soldiers of Fortune* Speaks

"In the sixties, attack boats in the big port in the province of Matanzas were able to operate because there was a lot of boat traffic and no radar to detect the entries of boats," recalled Lopez, a Cuban who immigrated to the United States in 1960.

"Foreign ministers from Uzbekistan and Russia who went to Cuba to play on the beaches in the sun could have been taken out without knowing who the assassin was. So could Castro when he was meeting with dignitaries. Castro doubles would appear so that Castro was not assassinated," Lopez said.

"Castro did his snorkeling on Cayo Largo," said Jay Mallin, SOF long time friend who had fallen under Castro's spell and out again, and is the author of more than a dozen books, including *Fortress Cuba*, *Covering Castro* and the *History of the Cuban Military*.

Mallin co-authored with Robert K. Brown *Merc: American Soldiers of Fortune* published in 1978. (copies for sale on Amazon.com).

"The CIA did consider an assassination plot there, but dropped the idea," Mallin said.

"Even though you see Castro in the news, it doesn't have to be Castro," Bois said.

The Cuban leader is shrouded in mystery.

Whoever this superman who has ruled Cuba for nearly half a century is, whether feared, adored, or detested, this Castro has changed the course of world history.

Formidable Latin Warriors

The United States withdrew its support for the brutal Batista dictatorship in 1958.

Robert K. Brown, always the rebel, having dedicated himself to help overthrow some tyrannical government

somewhere, had found the perfect opportunity—supporting Castro, who was thought by most Cubans to be a liberal social democrat.

"He won on his charisma," RKB said, remembering the Plaza de la Revolución when Castro was scheduled to speak.

"In those days Cubans were laid back, hedonistic, more interested in eating ice cream than paying attention to whoever was ranting at the podium. Then the crowd, chattering, as if a shock wave came over the masses, stood mesmerized when Castro appeared. You could feel the electricity."

"Fidel is coming! Fidel is coming! I still remember [the] Cubanos [how] he builds and he builds [them up] and everyone is ready to sign up, I'll go!"

"Like Hitler, Castro had tremendous charisma," Lopez said.

The Latin hero would save Cuba from the tyrant Batista, that decadent island paradise that boasted the most intriguing Casino and Mafia Playground in Latin America.

The Writing on the Wall

On 6 December, 1956, Fidel Castro, Che Guevara and 81 other revolutionaries, invaded Cuba to begin the revolutionary war against the U.S.-backed regime of Fulgencio Batista.

"It was the six month training in the basics of guerilla warfare Gen Alberto Bayo gave them in Mexico where Che and Fidel met that gave them an edge over most would-be revolutionaries," RKB said.

The urban guerrilla movement in Havana was instrumental in securing the ouster of Batista and in creating a political vacuum for Fidel to fill upon arriving in Havana from eastern Cuba," Lopez commented.

But by 1961, Castro had shown his true colors, clandestinely courting the Soviet empire and socialist thought.

"I was a teacher in Cuba until 1960," Lopez said. "I saw Che Guevara write the curriculum for the schools. We were singing the *Internationale* on Fridays along with the Cuban national anthem.

"In the early 60's my old Dartmouth classmate Luis Torroella was captured as a member of an assassination plot at the Sports Palace. I tried to exert public pressure to save him but to no avail," Lopez said.

"Toroella was involved in one of the assassinations plots," Mallin pointed

out.

"One fact that many people don't know is that there was never a unified anti-Castro group. There may have been over 100 splinter groups in exile, but nobody could agree on anything but to eliminate Castro," Lopez said.

"After Castro made his walk, no one could compete with his charisma," Lopez highlighted.

"Castro's charisma is unquestioned," said Mallin, a 60-year journalist and Cuba expert who wrote for *Time*, and co-directed a study of the Cuban military for the Pentagon, agreed.

"It is a great part of his success and his remaining in power for so long. I know: I was subjected to his charisma when I accompanied him to Havana on his victory march, and in conversations in the weeks following," Mallin, who has spent a lifetime recording the memories of Cuba's strongman, recollected.

"In Castro's first speech to the Cuban people he spoke for 45 minutes," Lopez reminisced. "Many Cubans said 'the simplicity and candor of this man, this is what we are looking for (in a national leader).'"

"The Effect of a Full Moon on a Werewolf"

The Cold War was at its height, and the post WWII Superpower decreed that the Communist Cuban oppressor had to go.

After months of scheming, conniving, and calculating, the CIA launched the ill conceived and poorly executed Bay of Pigs invasion, which was to be an easy attempt to overthrow Castro. A private army of Cuban exiles would invade the island and Castro would be history.

The CIA backed and trained Brigade 2506, a counter revolutionary force of 1,500 Cubans, assembled at Retalhuleu, on the west coast of Guatemala.

"Over 1,000 Cuban exiles were openly recruited in Miami and flown out of Opa Locka airport," Mallin said.

On 14 April, six ships sailed from Nicaragua's Puerto Cabezas. The invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs was launched.

The Cubans counter attacked and Castro controlled the air. The promised U.S. air cover for Brigade 2506 never came. President Kennedy, caving in to political pressure, had reneged on his pledge and the invasion force was overwhelmed.

A thousand of the abandoned U.S backed Cuban rebels were captured and 200 were killed.

The triumphant Castro had humiliated his big northern neighbor. David had punched Goliath right smack in the nose.

Goliath, humiliated, launched a decades long secret war against the dictator who ruled a tiny island to the south.

"Cuba had the effect on the U.S. that a full moon has on a werewolf," Wayne Smith, former head of the U.S. interests section in Havana, was quoted in the *Guardian*.

The Wildest Big Game Hunt in History

CIA conspirators came up with a series of ingenious, bizarre, plots to take out Fidel.

Probably, the most talked about is that of the exploding cigar. Someone would sneak a cigar to replace Castro's trademark one. It would detonate and blow his face off.

Another plot was to swap his wet suit for one dipped in lethal chemicals or a fungus that would leave him with a painful, incurable skin disease.

Better yet, they would give him a beard grooming powder that would make his beard fall out. Then he would be the joke of the town.

In one of the most ludicrous flopped schemes, the CIA purchased a huge volume of Caribbean mollusks, searching for a shell big enough that could be painted in bright colors that would certainly catch the avid scuba-diving Castro's eye. The shell, filled with a lethal charge of explosives, would blow up Castro's body, shattering it into thousands of particles of fish fodder.

The CIA recruited a former lover to give him poison pills. The plot pills melted when the genius spy hid them in her cold cream jar. The murderous lover claimed that Castro had already guessed that she was aiming to kill him, and had offered her his own pistol to carry out the plot.

"I can't do it, Fidel," she claimed she told him. *The Guardian* reports a series of failed assassination attempts.

Bacterial poisons were to be placed in Castro's handkerchief or in his beverages. A CIA poison pill had to be abandoned when it failed to disintegrate in water during tests.

One of Castro's security guards saved his life when he discovered 200 lbs of high explosives under a podium where Castro was about to give a speech.

The CIA offered mobster Sam Gian-

cana \$150,000 to assassinate Fidel Castro in the early 1960s. The generous Mafiosos offered to serve their country, fulfilling the murder for hire request for free.

"An old classmate, Rolando Cubela, who was given a poison pen by the CIA's Nestor Sanchez to try to change him to Castro, never used the poisonous weapon.

The wildest big game in history eluded his pursuers.

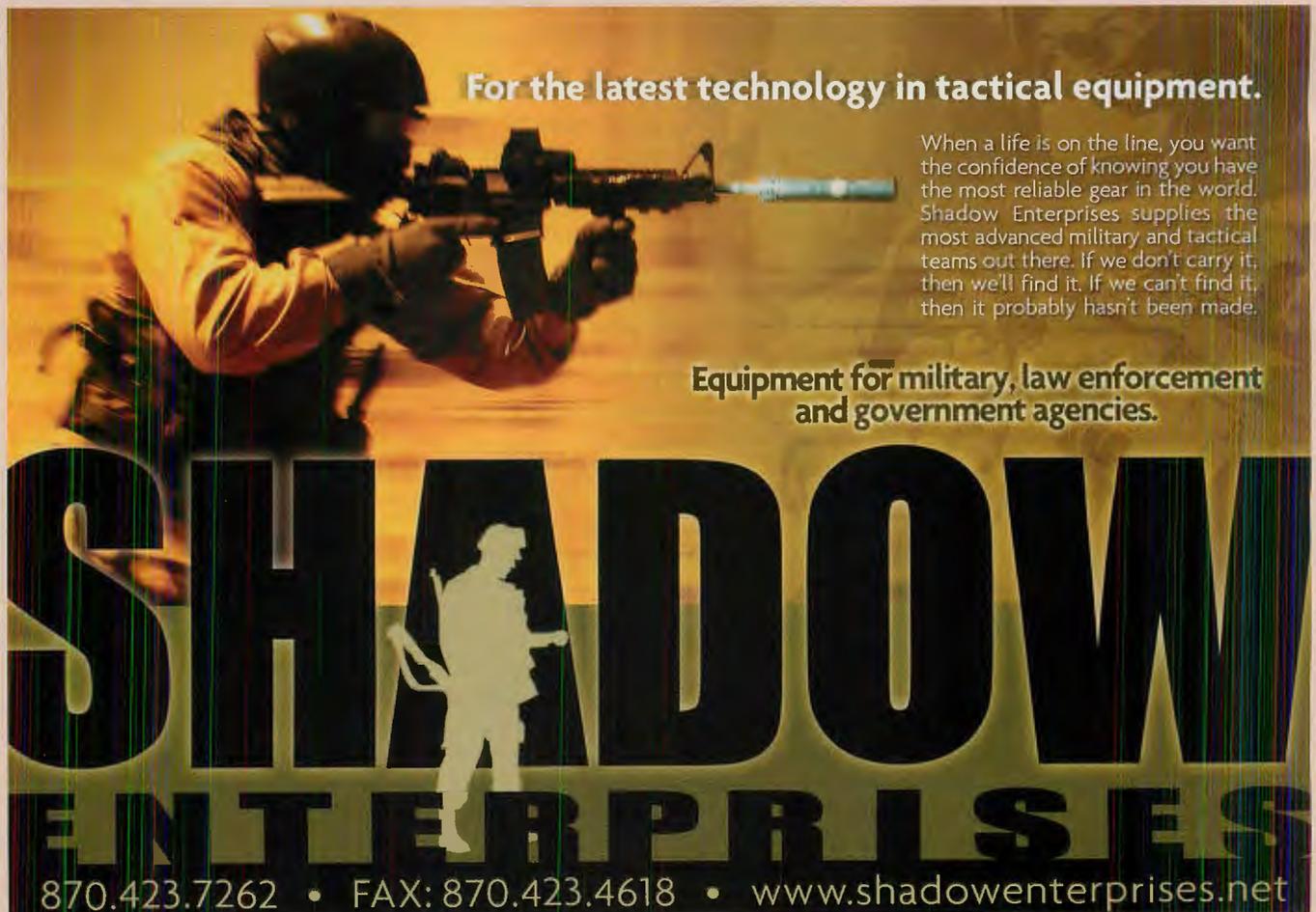
"Castro never sleeps in the same place," Lopez said. "He shifts from one place to another to stay a step ahead of his assassins."

A Former SOF Convention Keynote Guest Speaker Joins the Hunt

In 1997, a 46-foot cabin cruiser, *La Esperanza* was stopped by the Coast Guard as it headed toward Venezuela, the *NY Times* reports.

Seven boxes of ammunition, military fatigues, six portable radios, night vision goggles and two assault rifles were found stashed in a hidden compartment.

The boat was headed towards Margarita Island off Venezuela, to kill Castro who was meeting with other Latin



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replaceable to blend with woodland, desert or black camo schemes. Quartz impregnated inserts provide extreme circumstances grip enhancement and are replaceable should decontamination be required. The Basal Shadow utilizes the same CTV2 Blade Steel and CryoHardening techniques as the StratoFighter Folders! The hilts do not protrude forward effectively reducing the length of the blade. Hollow grinding lends to greater cutting and slashing effectiveness. Deep blood grooves keep the weight of the full .250 inch thick blade properly balanced in the hand. The black Titanium CarboNitride (TiCN) vacuum deposited finish is designed to shed the micro-fine airborne sand of Middle-Eastern deserts.

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American leaders.

The Cuban-American National Foundation founded in 1981 was implicated.

Its founder, Jorge Mas Canosa, masterminded the U.S. hard-line policies on Cuba.

One of two Barrett .50 caliber rifles seized was registered to Francisco (Pepe) Hernandez, president of the foundation.

Bois Antonio Llama, on the foundation's executive board, owned the boat that had set sail from a private dock in Coral Gables, Fla., owned by a foundation member.

Felix Rodriguez, who was one of two CIA agents who were with the Bolivian army ranger unit that captured Che Guevara before he was executed in Bolivia in 1967, was implicated.

Rodriguez had been the keynote banquet speaker at a rowdy SOF convention in the late 1980s.

Hernandez Rojo and Mr. Llama who took part in the C.I.A.'s Bay of Pigs operation in 1961 were also drawn in.

The assassination attempt apparently was to fulfill Mas Canosa's deathbed wish.

Some of the conspirators are dead, and those who survived have aged.

But so has their prey, Castro.

El Commandante Fades into the Distance

The speculation of whether Castro is dead lives on.

"We saw Castro on the news recently," Bois said. "He probably weighed 115 pounds. He was stumbling very badly. Now they say he's getting better. That's false," Bois speculated.

"A very famous oncologist in Spain was asked to go to Cuba and check Castro's condition, which was weird because the Cuban medical system is alleged to be among the best.

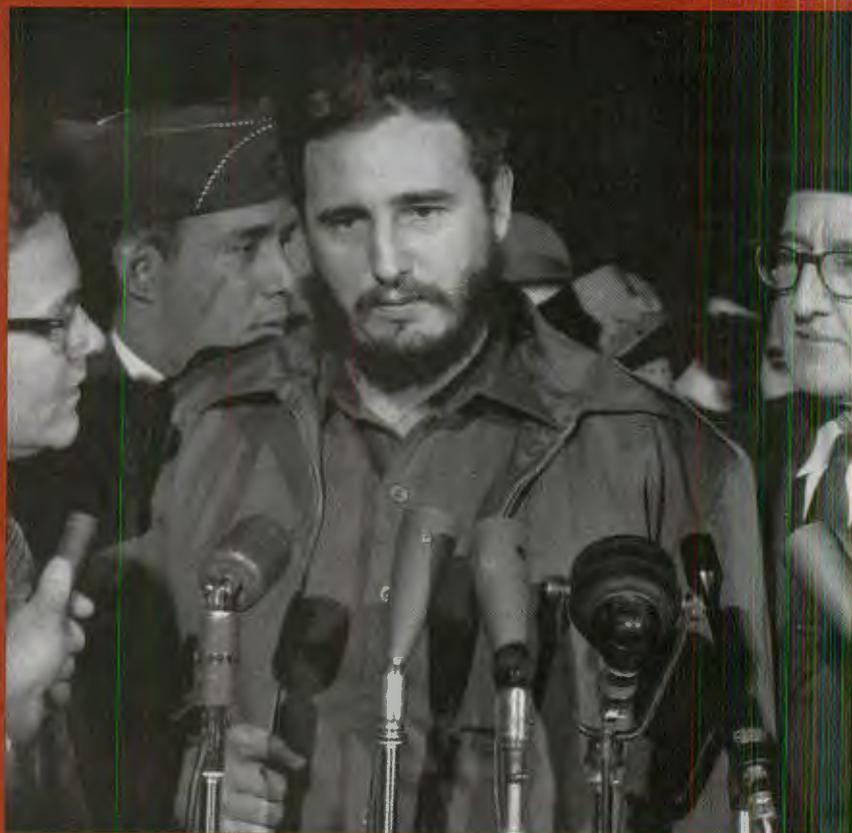
"The doctor said the man he had checked didn't have cancer," Bois said. "Yet, there's no way that he could have known who this guy was."

"Maybe he's a double of Castro," he conjectured. "I don't know if he's already dead or cannot appear politically."

"He's been turning over power for several years," Lopez said.

"Raul has long held unquestioned power," Mallin said.

"Castro could be in the hospital being kept alive with IVs or something. As soon as they realize he's dead, the freedom movement will start rolling," Bois speculated.



Castro arrives in Washington, D.C. Library of Congress photo Reproduction Number: LC-U9-2315-6

Life Without Hercules

"What will happen when they finally declare him dead?" we asked Lopez and Bois.

"Nothing. There will be no revolution. Raul has everything tied down. They have legal elections but there is no opposition. Artists, writers who have been punished for 50 years for writing against Castro will have their little tiny slot of power. They will consider themselves democratic citizens. They will vote, they will feel they have a choice, but they will not because they have gotten so used to being oppressed. They will not be about to jump," Lopez said.

"There is not going to be any blood bath when Castro dies. There will be a slow revolution. They will sell out the remaining beaches under Raul and go to Galitia in Spain," Lopez said.

Mallin agrees, "of course there won't be a revolution, nor will there be a mass exodus, for which the Bush Administration is theatrically planning.

"They have good relations with the Galitian culture and people in the northwest Spain," Bois, a Spaniard himself, said.

"Castro's father was from Lugo in Galicia in Spain. Franco was also from Galicia. They say that Castro was not an admirer of Franco, but that is very wrong," Bois said.

"There are many Cubans whose grandparents are still Spaniards, who call Spain the mother country.

"I don't know what will happen, but I am sure Fidel is dead or out for good, although they are trying to maintain the image that he may come back."

The Cuban conqueror continues to be surrounded by intrigue.

Brother Raul a Bore

"It's not about Raul and Fidel, Raul doesn't count," Bois said. "The only one that Cubans love is Castro."

"Raul is a bore with no charisma," he said.

"Castro was trying to see who could execute the most Che or Raul," the Cuban exile, Lopez said. "Three of my closest classmates were executed, one by Che, then another by Raul. Raul went to see my friend the day he disappeared.

"They are clearly preparing for change. Castro, if he is alive, is a very old man, very ill. They are waiting for the right moment to declare him dead," Bois said.

"Our father Fidel, they will weep, and then they will say they have democracy," Bois, speculated.

"Raul, who is filthy rich, will retire. He will go somewhere to spend his

Continued on page 74

The Escape of Charley Hormel

A Time Magazine Reporter Helps A Castro Gunrunner Escape

By Jay Mallin Sr.

Several guerrilla groups fought against dictator Fulgencio Batista in the civil war in Cuba during the late '50s. Best known, but probably not the largest, was the group led by Fidel Castro Ruz in the Sierra Maestra in the easternmost portion of the island. A young, charismatic, publicity-savvy leader, Castro created a Robin Hood image. He became a favorite of the Cuban people, as well as of the U.S. press and Americans in general. When Batista was defeated and fled on 1 January 1959, Castro took over the government and has run the country ever since (except for his current illness).

Castro's campaign in the hills is a matter of history. What is not generally known is the perhaps vital role an American played in the guerrilla victory. This is how I learned of that role:

I was "Time" magazine's correspondent in Cuba. One day in August 1958 I was on the U.S. naval base at Guantánamo Bay, where, in order to avoid Batista censorship, I had gone to file a story. On the base I saw the wreckage of an Aero Commander that had crashed in the bay and been retrieved by the Navy. Naval officials made little of the plane. They said the pilot, a civilian, had survived, been treated for minor injuries, and had gone on his way. The plane was of no further interest to me.

Back in Havana a few days later, I received a call from the U.S. embassy. I was asked to come down to the embassy, a large, modern building on Havana's famed Malecón waterfront. With apprehension, wondering what trouble I was in, I went to the embassy. At the reception desk a minor official took me to a salon on an upper floor.

To my surprise, I found the members of the ambassador's "country team" informally seated there. These included the Army attache, Col. Sam Kail, the naval attache, Cdr. Phillip Klepak, and CIA operative Paul Burns. I figured I was in big trouble.

Also in the room was a slim, average-height individual (he was 45) who had bruises on his face.

The officials explained to me that Charles Hormel was a U.S. citizen and that, as a pilot, he had been flying weapons to the guerrillas in the Sierra Maestra Mountains and other areas. He

had made, he would later reveal to me, 27 arms flights. On the next flight he had crashed at Gitmo. He was transporting M1 and M2 rifles, Thompson submachine guns, ammunition and parachutes (for drops). Hormel was questioned by the base's Naval Intelligence officer, Cmdr. Phin Newton. Newton probably arranged for him to leave the base and make his way to Havana. The anti-Batista underground helped. He went to the embassy, where he immediately became an embarrassment and a potential diplomatic bomb. American embassies, unlike their Latin American counterparts, do not grant political asylum to individuals on the run.

What to do with him? Complicating the situation was the fact that the ambassador, Earl E. T. Smith, was a by-the-book guy who had no sympathy for the rebels. He would almost certainly tell Hormel he must leave the embassy immediately.

The officials with whom I was meeting wanted to get Hormel out of the embassy and out of Cuba as quickly as possible. They could do nothing in their official capacities. Hormel was a gunrunner for rebels fighting a government that the United States recognized.

I was asked whether I could slip Hormel out of Cuba. Because of censorship, I had been flying to Miami to file some stories. I had obtained from Social Security a number of cards in different names, and I used these cards as ids in my travels. Those were pre-al Qaeda days; travelling was much simpler. I agreed to try to get Hormel back to the States — an exfiltration.

We would leave immediately. The longer Hormel remained in Havana the more likely the Batista police would find out about him. There were almost hourly flights to Miami. I phoned a close friend, a journalist like myself, Carlos Castañeda, and asked him urgently to come to the embassy. I explained nothing. Shortly he picked up Hormel and me at the embassy.

I told him what was happening and he turned pale. But he was willing. I wanted Carlos to watch us at the airport and if we ran into trouble, to sound an alarm — notify the embassy that the plan had gone awry.

We went by my apartment and I took clothes and Social Security cards in names other than mine. I would use one card; Hormel another. We then drove to José Martí International Airport outside Havana. I bought tickets for both Hormel and myself on the



Fidel Castro leads a group of guerrillas in the Sierra Maestra. U.S. Army photo

next Pan American flight to Miami. The ticket agent took but a cursory look at the SS cards to be assured we were U.S. citizens. Carlos stood apart, watching us.

We showed our tickets to the attendant at the door of the "glass bowl," where passengers waited to board their flights. So far so good. But my anxiety was far from over.

In a land wracked by a civil war, I was helping an arms provider for the anti-regime forces flee the country. The Batista police might burst through the door at any minute.

They didn't. We boarded. We flew. We arrived. We passed quickly through U.S. Immigration, again using the SS cards. We went to the hotel which was my home away from home, the McAllister, and I interviewed Hormel and then filed a story to "Time," omitting details of Hormel's escape from Cuba.

The Hormel story, however, did not end there. I returned to Havana. About a fortnight later I was startled to receive a letter from the U.S. Justice Department ordering me to return to Miami to provide information about Charles Hormel. How had they found out about the affair? Certainly not from

the embassy officials who had called me. Their role, if exposed, would get them into very hot water. Perhaps Justice read "Time".

Hormel was an American citizen; he had every right to re-enter his country. He had, however, entered under a false identity, and I had helped him. I was in real trouble. I phoned "Time" in New York and spoke with the fellow heading the Latin American desk, Harvey Rosenhouse, a good friend. He was sympathetic but said "Time" could not get involved. I was on my own.

I called the press officer at the embassy, Paul Bethel, explained the situation and asked for help. He said he would call back. When he did he reported that he had talked with Ambassador Smith, who said he would help me – if I gave him the names of the embassy officials who were involved in the affair. I refused to do that; these were friends of mine. If I spilled names to the ambassador, the officials' positions at the embassy would be endangered. Smith would not be happy with them.

I had to make a decision. I could remain in Havana, but I did not want to become an exile. I was not aware that

Hormel had been arrested in Miami, not so much because of his questionable entry into the States but primarily for illegally transporting arms to a foreign country.

I flew to Miami and met with Justice Department officials. They threatened to institute legal proceedings against me if I didn't reveal the names of the people involved. I was now feeling abandoned. I gave the Justice Department the names. I had the satisfaction of seeing surprise on their faces. They clearly had no expectation that relatively high embassy officials were involved. The gunrunning charge suddenly had much deeper diplomatic implications. Clearly there had been a breakdown of communications between U.S. Government agencies.

I returned to Havana and heard nothing further. As far as I know none of the embassy aides suffered any consequences. Charges against Hormel were dropped.

To this day questions remain. Was one of the U.S.'s intelligence services more than a spectator to Hormel's activities? Was Hormel using Gitmo as a base, and did he crash upon landing or taking off? ✕

How Much Gun Could A Gun-Runner Run... ? Arming Castro's Revolution

Most of the better revolutions start with oppression, then an idea and/or agitator, then leadership emerges, and lastly – somebody comes up with some guns. Only recently has history recorded any "velvet" revolutions such as the collapse of communist power in the DDR and CSSR.

A classic revolution usually entails gunrunners, as tyrants never have been able to flourish as tyrants in a society where the populace is armed, and if conditions have gotten to the point of a revolution it is because an unarmed and defenseless population is being abused. So the arms of revolution must come from outside the country or what little can be wrest from the existing powers. That the revolution may ultimately spawn a worse tyrant is beside the point. The revolutionary - would-be tyrant or not -- must first arm himself. One of the first things taught in Tyrant 101 is to temporarily arm an unarmed populace that is being bullied, then very quickly disarm them and consolidate power once the old order has been thrown down.

This effort, of course, is predicated upon what sort of arms may be available. The last generation has been a great many "revolutions" that were fomented from, and sponsored by, Moscow, and the weapons were most often the usual ComBloc inventory. When Castro started his campaign against Batista, however, he did so under the banner of "liberty," not "socialist revolution." If there was any substantial outside assistance from Moscow at the onset, it certainly was not reflected in small-arms aid.

This was during the heyday of Winfield Arms, Golden State Arms, Hy Hunter and Interarmco – all the Bannerman's of the 20th Century. The

weapons aboard Charles Hormel's Aero Commander when it crashed at water's edge on Gitmo would seem to indicate that Castro's ordnance procurement was predicated on what was available, or in some cases, what was available cheap enough that his supporters could afford it. Such items on the inventory as "5784 rounds Italian 735" would indicate they were at least in part hitting the bargain-basement surplus market for the late-production Carcano rifles, which were available on the retail market at that time, new in the grease, with a fixed sight, for \$10-12 a copy. And worth every penny. A couple dozen Thompsons could be had at that time for less than a couple grand, with lead plugs in the bore and off paper as "dewats." Nearly all standard ammo was available for a few cents per round.

A fair load for an Aero Commander, Hormel was carrying: 25 Thompsons, one Star .45 auto, 73 SMG magazines, one pistol magazine, 1393 rounds .30-06, 5784 rounds Italian 7.35mm, 827 rounds mixed 12 and 15 gauge, and 8303 rounds .45 ACP. This was but one of myriad trips south carrying the tools of insurrection, and he was not Castro's only supplier. Early pictures after the revolution showed what appeared to be former hookers guarding banks with Cristobal carbines, which would have come from the Dominican Republic, next door. And lots of Reising model 50 and 60s. Hormel told others he had made some 28 trips to Cuba that year. On his last trip he carried 30,000 rounds of .30-06 ammo and 100 M1 Garands.

But almost never at the onset were any ComBloc arms in evidence in the hands of Castro's revolutionaries, any more than was his communist ideology. – D.M. ✕



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Sniper Mission



The Successes and Trials of an American Grunt, Part II

Text & Photos By Sergeant "John Smith"

Last month we followed an Army sniper from school to redeployment, watching his frustration grow with commands that hadn't a clue on how to use this valuable asset – and didn't care to learn. But at least they did get used and their efforts outside their MOS, building rapport with the locals, netted worthwhile missions accomplished and dozens of terrorists rounded up. We return to them just as they are about to learn a costly lesson on which can be more important -- results, or rules. It is presented essentially unedited.

Time goes by and the last mission my shooter and I did together was with Psyop. Our mission was to sit at an Iraqi COB and try and monitor a mosque. Psyop would record audio and we all would monitor who came and went. We couldn't see the Mosque and it didn't have an audio system, so we couldn't hear their messages or see what was going on. All day that day we took small arms fire. It wasn't for us, as for once no one new we were there. There was some dispute with the Iraqi Jundi, something about a car they seized. So my shooter and I

spent most of the time dressed as Iraqi Soldiers, hanging out in their fighting positions looking for the shooters. No luck that day.

We later got compromised and were picked up by 1st PLT, FOX TRP. They took us to Garry Owen and we racked out for the night. The section from 1st PLT had some mission the next day and we had to wait until they were done before they could take us back to the FOB. We spent the morning just hanging out when a car full of wounded Iraqi soldiers came through the gate at Garry Owen. They had just

on in



Tal Afar

(left) Blue 1's Brad. The armored Cav won its spurs in the assault on Baghdad, with the Bradley being an ideal IFV for what the Cav does – but the war has changed and all vehicles are now vulnerable to IEDs, and one of the best defenses against IEDs is to have skilled snipers taking out those who would emplace them.

additional wound to his ass. I got on the radio to 1st PLT and they were too busy to send the medic over. We had to work with what we had.

Talking to Higher and the Iraqi soldiers, we came up with a plan to get the wounded back to the FOB. They absolutely refused to go to the Tal Afar hospital. Psyop and my shooter got the bleeding stopped, gave the IVs to the Iraqi Soldier with the ass wound and got all three stable enough where they could be moved.

I arranged and got cooperation from the FOB to have the wounded taken to the front gate. Our medics would be there with an FLA and take them to our American doctors. Thanks to my shooter and the Psyop team all three lived. I put my shooter in for an award, but he never got it.

Instead, a month and a half after the Jolock mission we all were punished under the UCMJ: a Soldier who was on our security element told my platoon sergeant we got drunk on mission.

Friendly, But Not Familiar?

Going back to those six days with the Jolocks: During the friendship mission we were out for three days,

came back and went out that evening. I had to switch out one guy from 1st PLT for another. This replacement was a 35-year-old PFC who came into the Army to pay off college debt. Nothing wrong with that, but he should have picked another MOS, like CID or finance.

When we went back for the second part of our trip there were about 12-14 men staying in the house, including the men we spent the first three days with. That night they were drinking on the roof. Yes, Muslims drinking alcohol. They had whiskey, vodka and cans of beer. They wanted us to drink with them and I said no. They insisted, telling us they know Americans love beer. We couldn't. They got pretty pushy about it, getting pretty pissed. So I decided OK we'll have one beer with them. We had a rotation on the radio, two men on, four men down. We were down and so we went on the roof and had a beer with these friendly tribesman. The funny thing is, this could have been anywhere in America. A bunch of dudes hanging out and telling bullshit stories. It's screwed to say, but because we did an illegal act with them, they now fully trusted us. They accepted

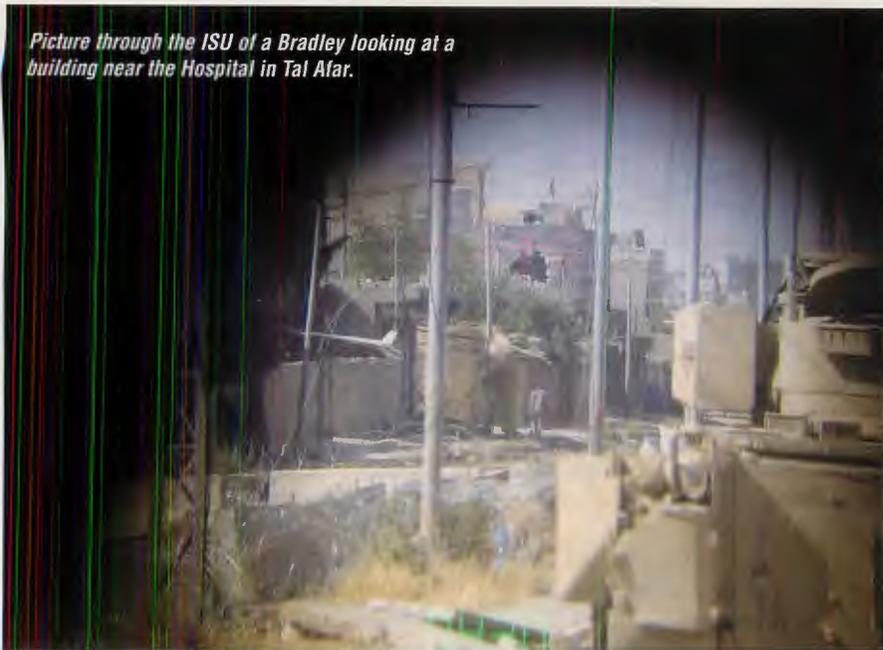
come off leave and were returning to duty. They were driving in a convoy of civilian cars and wearing civilian clothes. I believe they were all unarmed. They were ambushed somewhere inside the city on the main supply route.

All we had with us was our individual life saving kits and an old-fashioned combat lifesaver bag. We only had two IVs in the bag and these guys were bleeding. Psyop and my shooter went to work assessing and treating the wounds. All three had been shot through the legs with one who had an



A sniper fires the M107, again showing the problem with its considerable muzzle signature and the amount of dust the weapon kicks up, even when fired over a sheet of plywood.

Picture through the ISU of a Bradley looking at a building near the Hospital in Tal Afar.



us and that acceptance was the basis for building a productive rapport. We didn't get drunk, we sipped our beer and talked about shit men talk about. We had won them over and that's when we got more information and more idea sharing.

At the time I was a sergeant E5. I was in charge, I had no lieutenant or any senior ranking NCO with me.

I was in charge and the decisions I made were my sole responsibility. I disobeyed general order number one, no drinking in a combat zone. I drank and allowed my team to drink outside the wire, in a safe house full of drunk Iraqi civilians armed to the teeth. If I endangered my men and myself, it was my decision. I was told to build rapport and that is what I did. Was it

Excerpts From A Situation Brief

...Most of our information came from a man named Faisal Xxx Xxxxx Xxxxx. We received the following information as part of a sniper team set in Northern part of vic P9 in small clips between the 311800MAY05 and 030600JUN05. Faisal worked with the Americans previously stationed here. He worked under the alias Xxx. He was an interpreter for the Marines and worked inside FOB Sykes, he also mentioned he worked for Nomad. He speaks English well and has a college degree (he did not state what his degree is in). He plays a prominent role in the Cholok dealings with Americans and other tribes. We believe while he worked for the Americans he was a sponge and soaked up our military tactics, he did not mention any previous military service. He has a number of different roles in the Cholok tribe.

He has helped organize the Cholok tribe community into a defensible area, denying enemy movement in his sector. The defenses start in the west with the granary as the boundary. The northern border is RTE Chevella. The east boundary runs towards the sectors "X", "Y", "V" and "AM" area. The southern border begins in the black forest area. In the Cholok community he has helped to emplace observation points, roadblocks in key locations. In addition to the O.P.s and road blocks, the area is patrolled by Cholok men. He has also talked with and made agreements with other tribes in Tal Afar not to attack or war with each other and agreed not to help the terrorists (AIF) in Tal Afar. He said the Cholok tribe has 2000 men armed and ready to defend their neighborhoods, as well as launch offensive attacks on the Karabosh and Farhat tribes. He said his people are fed up with the insurgents who the Cholok refer to as terrorists. They want their children to grow up and learn computers not rifles. Faisal and the Cholok tribesmen use cell phones to communicate. This guy is motivated and passionate about ridding Tal Afar of the insurgents.

Below is all the info we gathered from Faisal and the men from the Cholok tribe. All information was either

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Want To DESTROY YOUR ENEMIES with ease? Want to Always KNOW WHEN SOMEONE IS LYING & Make Them Tell The Truth? MENTAL WARFARE SECRETS

Totally NEW Program Shows You "HOW" To Dominate Life & Easily Hypnotize Others Into Obedience

By Tom Parks

Dear Friend,

Listen. I don't care what you think you might know about Mind Control and Mental Warfare -

YOU NEED TO KNOW THIS

Maybe you think such a thing doesn't even exist. If so, you're wrong. Dead wrong! And, I can prove it to you. Here's why:

By now you've heard of Ninja Mind Control, Black Ops, Seduction, NLP (Neuro-Linguistic Programming), Kahuna, Remote Viewing, Hypnotism, etc. Andrew Scott has done it ALL and distilled it down to

Quick Kill Methods of Instant Hypnotic Domination over ANYONE!

You've probably heard of Andrew Scott, the creator and founder of Warrior Hypnosis.

He's also the Fighting Secrets and Total Life Mastery guy you read about in these magazines all the time, or you've heard his interviews on national talk radio. He's in big demand, and rightfully so.

You see, Andrew has done it all in the field of Martial Arts and Combatives - CQC, Ju Jitsu & Jeet Kune Do Instructor, multiple Black Belts and Certified Law Enforcement Trainer.

He's had unparalleled success and heads up a Worldwide organization! But get this -

The Night My Life Changed Forever

After a grueling night of sparring against multiple armed attackers under Andrew's expert instruction, he decided to take the "Fight Club" out for pizza.

It's AMAZING to me that a guy like this can be so down-to-earth and human, considering the superhuman things he can do!

Want to know what I'm talking about? Read on friend, read on...

We arrived at the new pizza joint across town. The place was packed! The hostess says "I'm sorry, but it's a 45 minute wait to get a table."

Andrew steps in front of her, looks into her eyes and slightly smiles. There is three seconds of silence and then she says "yknow what, I'll just go clear you a table right away."

As she walked away, she kept turning back and gazing at Andrew like she was in heat!

Now keep in mind, none of us had been to this place before and we didn't know any of the people there.

I noticed all the women seem to be staring at Andrew like deer caught in the headlights. The men are all giving him respectful nods and stepping back to clear a path for him.

Finally, I decided to check it out for myself. I stepped up to a guy at the bar and pointed at Andrew and asked "do you know who that is?" The guy said "No, but he's the man isn't he?" How did Andrew

Radiate Unstoppable Confidence and Magnetize Everyone In The Room

Before the end of the night, no less than three hot vixens (including the waitress) had stuffed their phone numbers into Andrew's hand, and he had barely said a word to them! He tossed the numbers to us - it was no big deal to him at all!

And, he had two attorneys, a broker and a realtor at our table buying us drinks and begging to invest bucks into one of his enterprises! Andrew said no thanks, be-

cause he likes to keep all the profits for himself.

Does this all sound unreal, like something out of a movie? Well guess what, it's not. I was there and I can tell you in no uncertain terms: *It's All Real.*

You see, after YEARS of studying just about everything, Andrew got fed up and decided to only teach the

QUICK and DIRTY Methods of Getting Anything You Want From Anybody!

I asked Andrew "how do you do it?" "Do what?" he said. "Yknow, magnetize people like that?"

Andrew said "I don't intend to do it. It just simply is. Water doesn't intend to go where it goes - it doesn't "try" to go where it goes - it just goes there! And, like water...

I Go Wherever I Want and I Get Whatever I Want

...and you can do the same thing, Tom" I was astounded! Me? Do the same thing? OH MY GOD!

So he began to train me in Warrior Hypnosis. He showed me how to buy a car (I was completely broke at the time) and how to get my boss to raise my salary, all within a week. I did what he said AND IT WORKED!

MAKE THEM BEG!

Ex-girlfriends who had dumped me for more successful guys were *begging* to have me back, even offering to pay all of my bills!

My nagging step-mother, who's been trying to thwart me for years, was all of a sudden very afraid of me. I was astounded!

And, I knew I had changed forever. This wasn't some emotional cheerleading going on, this was a permanent change.

It wasn't any esoteric mumbo-jumbo either. Forget the agony and frustration of learning difficult tactics.

If you're as "lazy" as I am, and simply want the bottom line "how-to" you're gonna LOVE this...

Have you ever noticed how some people seem to be "lucky"? They always have their way, and life never seems to be a struggle?

They constantly have beautiful women on their knees begging, and they laugh about it, while you're always struggling to get a date with a chick who's "ok."

In this totally new program you can't find anywhere else, Andrew will show you how to have beautiful women eating out of your hand and obeying your commands, and you don't need money or good looks. Yes, it's true. See it for yourself!

Listen. Have you ever wondered why some people seem to effortlessly conquer every situation they face? Notice how life can be a constant struggle, or very disappointing and boring?

Well, as of RIGHT NOW, it's doesn't ever have to be that way for you again! Am I serious?

I Am DEADLY Serious.

In this new program, Andrew is going to show you what he has learned about Mind Control & Mental Warfare, because after he learned it, life has NEVER been a struggle for him.

This is not an exaggeration, but a simple statement of fact. And it's so simple and so absolute, so rock-solid, that once you "have it" your life will never be the same!

Nothing will phase you at all! In fact, danger and challenges are now an absolute JOY to face, because

VICTORY IS AUTOMATIC

Yes, I really do mean that. And I can prove it to you. Do you "want" the same power in your life? The first thing Andrew will show YOU is how to

"Thrive In Chaos!"

I don't care what you're up against. If you're out to be the top dog at work. If you're competing for a promotion or sales, with Andrew's Warrior Hypnosis phrasing, you'll mesmerize and astound the competition - who won't know a damn thing until it's too late!

The best part is when they say "NO!" When you get Andrew Scott's Mental Warfare Secrets, you'll be amazed when you learn:

- ✓ How To Get Out Of A Traffic Ticket
- ✓ Have A Client Write You A Big Fat Check, Even After they say "no"!
- ✓ Hypnotic Trance: Make Them Desire To Please You, Without Saying A Word!
- ✓ Psych Profile: Know Anything About Anyone In Minutes!

All you have to do is listen to this program once, then try it a few times and you'll be shouting with joy that

"THIS STUFF WORKS!"

Let me ask you something. Where have things been difficult in your life? I'll bet it's when other people don't do what you want them to do, am I right? Well listen up, because **now is your chance** to end those difficulties once and for all.

Once you "order this program" you can sit back and relax, because you're about to become a Warrior King who gets his way - almost *all of the time!*

And it works everywhere - whether you're negotiating a price, making a reservation, in a courtroom or dealing with city hall! Even with operators on the phone!

Think she sounds cute on the phone? Have her meet you later - she'll think it was her idea! Want them to work for you, or buy your product or service? Have them do it and thank you for it!

And, no one will ever be able to escape your magnetic power when you always know

How To Tell If Someone Is Lying

Think about it right now: How many times will someone lie to you during the course of your life? And, what will it cost you?

Wouldn't it be better to KNOW when they are lying; to know HOW to detect, and correct, those who are lying or are about to lie to you?

Can you IMAGINE THE POWER YOU'LL HAVE knowing for sure, absolutely, whenever someone is lying to you? What would that be worth to you over the rest of your lifetime?

Of course, knowing this puts you at an Unfair Advantage Over Others, because

They Won't Be Able To Keep Any Secrets From You!

And, you could easily convince others of almost anything, true or untrue, when you lean the strategies, tactics and exact sciences of persuasion in this course.

But I know you won't do that, because your conscience won't permit it. That's the unique thing about a

true Warrior. You'll use your newly found strengths and secret knowledge for good, and to

Manifest An Overflow of Greatness

in your life and the lives of others.

There is a force inside you, a kind of "spiritual intuition" that discerns all things, good and bad. This intuition is very powerful, and magnetic. However, 99.9% of the population is programmed, BY DESIGN, to lose this intuition.

Here's what I mean: have you ever had someone lie to you or take advantage of you, and later you said to yourself "I KNEW that was gonna happen."

A little voice inside you told you that you were being lied to, but you rationalized it away and "allowed" it to happen, even though you knew better. I'm sure you know exactly what I'm talking about.

Have you ever been in a situation where you were told about something that was totally true and beneficial, but you rationalized it away, and later said

"I KNEW I should've done that!"

I think we all know what it feels like to miss out on something awesome that we didn't have to miss out on.

Don't let that happen again. Grab hold of this totally **new course that no one else has**, and you won't ever have to miss out on anything you want, ever again.

Normally, Andrew charges thousands of bucks for this info, to attend one of his seminars usually costs between \$1700 to \$2400 bucks!

But for good folks like you, SOF readers who know the real deal, you get the same info in the Mental Warfare Secrets Package for just \$147.00 bucks!

And there's no way to lose! Andrew has laid it out in such a simple and easy-to-understand manner that only a fool wouldn't get it!!!

The 3 Master Keys You MUST Know To Get Anything You Want

1. Human beings are made of energy, and your energy is ALWAYS radiating Magnetic Force - force that either "pushes away" what you want, or "attracts" what you want. And, there is NEVER a time when this Magnetic Force isn't working - even when you're sleeping!

2. Every Word You Say Has Power. If you don't understand Hypnotic Commands and Phrasing, everything you say "pushes away" what you want most of the time (this is the missing Key to Getting Everything You Want!) The same rule applies for your Body Language and Eye Contact!

3. Your Emotional Response Transfers Control To Your Opponent (or your Target). This is even true in a bloody streetfight. Knowing this is how the smaller guy Destroys the big, scary thugs. It's how the nerdy broke guy gets the pretty girl. It's how the disadvantaged and underprivileged GET RICH! This Key is so Powerful, and so TOTAL and TRUE, that when you hear Andrew explain it and show you exactly how to use it, you'll cry tears of joy as if you've just been handed a check for 10 million bucks!

EASILY DESTROY YOUR ENEMIES!

Let's not fool around here. What we're talking about is very Powerful and Dangerous. Knowing exactly how to control other people without them even knowing it is outright unfair.

That's why it's very important that this program only falls into trustworthy hands. If you are a psycho on a power-trip, or a criminal, you are forbidden to buy this, period. Nut jobs need not apply.

Also, if you are into taking unfair advantage of other people, you are forbidden to have this material. It's just too damn dangerous in the wrong hands

Of course you must be over 18 and by purchasing you agree to release Andrew Scott and Masters Group from all liability.

Just Imagine What You Can Do Once You Get These Skills!

There are really only two types of people - Warriors and Peasants. The Peasantry walk around in a Hypnotic Fog of Programming, kind of like computer programs.

When you understand this programming, then just like a computer programmer you can "push people's buttons" and have them obey you, just like the computer obeys the programmer!

Does that make sense? It really is that simple, but it isn't easy unless you "know" the programming language.

Now, with Mental Warfare Secrets, you "get" the programming language, the buttons, everything you need to

Get Anyone To Do Anything You Want Anytime, Anywhere

This essential information gives you specific techniques and phrases in minute, step-by-step detail that you can do RIGHT NOW.

You can literally memorize these Secrets, go out and repeat them, and watch what happens! The hard part's already done.

But more importantly, it isn't just about controlling others. It's also about YOU. Here's exactly what I mean:

1. Mental Warfare Secrets is about YOU, EFFORTLESSLY GETTING WHATEVER YOU WANT!

2. This program shows you that you have only been using a tiny amount of your real ability. Andrew shows you how to access that part of you, a kind of Genie inside you, that is capable of discovering the life you've always dreamed of, INSTANTLY!

3. The techniques in this program will help you to make your dreams come true - not in some far off distant future - but "RIGHT NOW"

4. This DVD and 3-CD set, and the secrets in them are not available anywhere else! In fact, they are so potent, so effective, so INSTANTLY POWERFUL that in order to purchase them you must promise to NEVER share these secret tactics with anyone and to only use them for lawful purposes!

I WANT YOU TO HAVE THESE SECRETS - YOU KNOW YOU NEED THEM if you're going to WIN every battle in life.

Do you think that winning at life, making more money than your friends, slaughtering the competition and easily attracting everything you want like a giant magnet is easy?

I do! And I've seen Andrew prove it dozens of times! Now, you can do the same.

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 Yourself and Those Around You with Mental Warfare Secrets.

The Mental Warfare Secrets program will show you how to conquer yourself once and for all, and then con-



Andrew Scott

quer 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 this new DVD & CD Set 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. A DVD & CD set chock full of all of life's Mind Control & Mental Warfare Secrets - that's HUGE!

I can guess the only thing possibly holding you back at this point is the price of \$147.00 Are you cheap? If you don't invest in your future, in your skills, what kind of life will you end up with?

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.

That's why the moment you "order now" you'll immediately be at a HUGE advantage over the rest of the population! All I'm asking is that you give it a try. Is that fair?

And, for the First 45 people to order, we're throwing in a Free Bonus worth thousands in it's own right, a CD called **Mastery Keys To Unstoppable Confidence**.

Worldwide Shipping is FREE. So Call Now toll-free at 1-800-717-2675 and get it done. You can also order online at www.mentalwarfaresecrets.com

Sincerely,

Tom Parks

Yes, Sir! I want the Confidential "Mental Warfare Secrets" DVD & CD Set. I'm one of the first 45 to order, so include the Free Bonus CD "Mastery Keys To Unstoppable Confidence" I'm over 18 and I Promise to keep this information confidential.

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called in on a cell phone or given to us by mouth, in person.

Sxxx Mxxxx Kxxxxx and Fxxx Mxxxxx Kxxxxx, Cholak tribe members say these two men belong to the Karbash tribe and the ones who coordinate attacks on Americans and the Cholak tribe. Sxxx and Fxxxx live and operate in the Zulu/AJ area, vicinity AJ53. They move from the Zulu area to a small village between Telefar and Sinjar. Numerous Cholak tribesmen said these two dress like woman when moving in and around the city of Tal Afar to avoid detection, because they know we don't search woman. Both of these men are Amirs.

In the Zulu and the Western AJ area vicinity AJ53 numerous Cholak tribesmen said this is where they fire mortars from, a majority of the time.

Cholak tribesmen say that Kxxxx Hxxxx Uxxxx, who belongs to the Chabben tribe, is a major player in attacks on Americans. Lives and operates in Al Suriyah neighborhood. Fox Xray informed us this guy is a plans-and-operations guy for AIF.

Cholak offered to help us by taking pictures of the insurgents so we can put a face to a name; they just need some more cameras. They also request support from

us in the way of ammunition and night vision devices.

There was a report of lots of Farhat tribesmen in busses moving towards the castle. Later that day an informant called Faisal and reported 150 insurgents in three busses (no description of busses) were seen south of the castle, in the Alpha Quebec area, vicinity AQ1 - AQ12. These men were armed and seen unloading boxes from the busses. The neighborhood was reported to us as having little to no woman and children, just men. The area belongs to the Farhat tribe. Sxxxx Mxxxxx Kxxxxx is supposedly the one who recruited and is in charge of these men. Approximately 20 of these men are Syrian; the source said they had long shoulder-length hair.

The Karbash and the Farhat are working together and with the insurgents. The Farhat are linked with Zaquari and Al Queda. In the discussion we had with the Cholak, they mentioned the names Sxxx Mxxxxx Kxxxxx and Mohamed Rasheed many times.

Faisal called us via cellphone, his sources got word that the insurgents had manufactured 12 more VBIEDs. No descriptions of the vehicles. He had the streets shutdown around the Cholak area, denying contact of VBIEDs.

We were informed by Faisal that even though the hospital is secure, the routes to it are not. His people (the Cholaks) are afraid of being stopped by insurgents on the way to the hospital and being killed. His people also say that the doctors at the hospital do not treat certain people with the proper care, i.e. people against insurgency do not receive the appropriate care.

The enemy snipers are using all terrain to their advantage, as well as the other small arms attacks. We believe the AIF are using high-speed avenues of approach to fire on Coalition and Iraqi Forces. I believe they actually use buildings a small percentage of the time, mostly firing from the street and scurrying away to a waiting vehicle, then driving away. There are no TCPs that I have seen inside of Tal Afar and they move weapons and explosives freely inside the city. I'm also beginning to think that the IA checkpoints around the city are letting these guys through, or they are just bypassing as well.

Final thought on the Cholak, let's give them a suitcase full of money and let them go to work. (This information was collected by SPC Babbit and SGT Buskell.) ☒

wrong? It was at least illegal. If we had been a team of Psyop or Civil Affairs or HumInt Gatherers or SF this would not have been an issue, but we were scouts in 3rd ACR and what we did was definitely not according to regulation.

The 1st platoon sergeant went right to the 1SG without even giving a heads up to the 3rd Platoon Sergeant. 1SG went to the commander, commander went to the SCO and up it went. They reported that a Sniper team was shit-face drunk, set in an OP, outside the wire. It wasn't a Sniper mission.

I pleaded with the squadron SMG and the SCO. I told them the soldiers drank, because I said it was OK and they only did it because I said to do it. I tried to explain that they wouldn't have done it unless I said to. I told the SMG and SCO that I convinced the soldiers to drink, the whole thing was my responsibility. They didn't want to hear it, the paperwork was already filled out and we already had our punishment laid out. They had made up their minds before anyone was read their Article 15. I even spoke to Rover the "civilian contractor." Rover said he would talk to the Regimental SMG. Rover said we did an outstanding job, a job outside of our MOS, we should be proud. He said he would see what he could do.

My team all received field grade Article 15's, all with reduction in rank one grade, forfeiture of pay and extra duty for 45 days. I received a summary court-martial with the charges of Article 92 failure to obey order or regulation, Article 99 misbehavior before the enemy, Article 134 and reduction in rank one grade, forfeiture of 2/3 pay, an extremely bad NCOER. I was kicked out of Fox and kicked out of 2/3 ACR. If it weren't for my pay grade I would have had to spend 30 days in jail - and come to find out we have a jail in Kuwait. From what I heard it is full of some soldiers who committed some crime, and terrorists on their way to Cuba.

The Jolocks continued to work with Coalition forces. I went to a unit called Quickstrike. The rest of the guys stayed in Fox and made it home to Fort Carson. The private who said we were drunk apologized, saying he had no idea that this would happen and he was so sorry. ☒

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tensively in both *Gun Week* by Editor Dave Workman (most recently, September 2006 Archives) and *Soldier of Fortune*, I first became aware of the USFS jihad when the range I shot on above the little mountain town I live in was shut down for “being within 150 yards of an occupied area,” in this case a gravel road. However, the USFS and the Department of Agriculture acknowledge that a “road” is not an “occupied area” as stated in Federal law.

The range I shot on, however, is still posted for that reason. At a public meeting, Ms. Walsh stated again that no shooting could be done within 150 yards of any road, street or highway. I challenged her on her interpretation of the law. First, she told me that, “this is not the forum to address that issue.” I responded if not here and now, when? This was, after all, a public meeting to address these “critical issues.” She then told me that she and her executive staff had “no choice” but to post the shooting ranges, as the USFS Law Enforcement section had told her that was their interpretation of the law.

Hmmmm, me thinks....so I went to the USFS Law Enforcement people and asked them why they interpreted the law in direct violation of their bosses in Washington. LE told me they did no such thing; that, in fact, the USFS administration had chosen to close the range over the recommendations of their own enforcement officers and the objections of local law enforcement officers, some of whom actively used the shooting area for training and qualifying.

Here’s what the Feds say about Ms. Walsh’s personal interpretation of the law, from Dave Workman in *Gun Week*: “Some critical issues were revealed during *Gun Week*’s investigation of this latest [USFS] incident. [Veteran USFS Public Affairs Officer in Washington D.C. Alan] Gibbs acknowledged that it is still the belief among USFS law enforcement officers and other staffers that a forest road is an ‘occupied area’ as defined under a forest regulation first discussed more than a year ago as part of an earlier *Gun Week* investigation into shooting on national forest lands.

“He confirmed that law enforcement bases its position on an unwritten, verbal ‘ruling’ by an unidentified federal magistrate that a road is an

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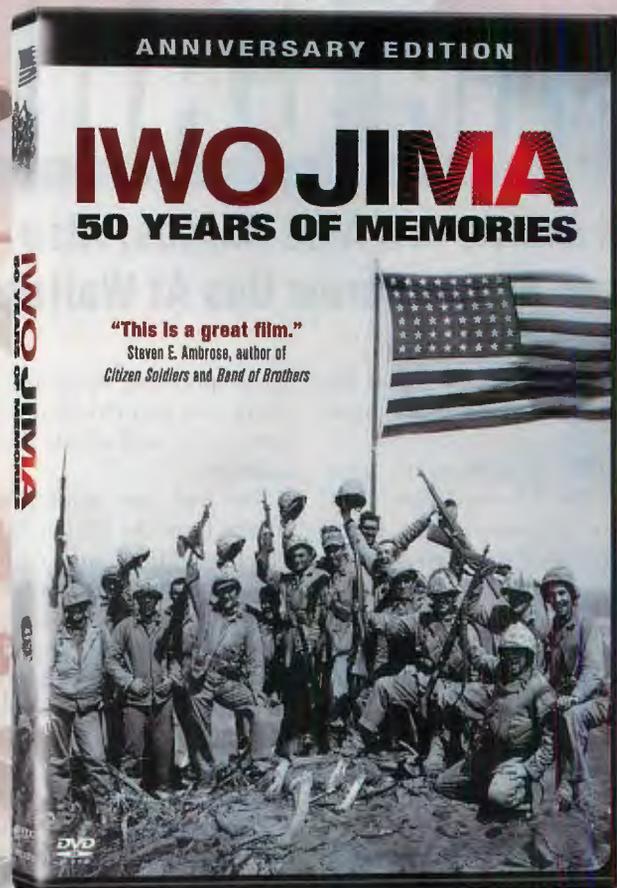
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Wounded heroes are routinely carried to safety by our medical heroes, like this medevac south of Camp Blessing, Afghanistan in June 2004. Author notes that medical heroism continues through the WIA's treatment at Walter Reed: Don't condemn the care-givers for administrative shortcomings. Photo: DoD by Lance Cpl. Justin M. Mason, USMC



Don't Shoot The CAREGIVERS

Medical Grunts are Also Heroes, Also Victims of Admin Screw Ups At Walter Reed

By Tommie Willard

"If there must be trouble, let it be in my day. That my child may have peace."

Golden words written nearly two centuries ago by Thomas Paine, an American Revolutionary War hero, patriot, and a "cauldron stirrer" from youth to death.

Were he alive today, I think Mr. Paine would take strong resentment to the unfair barrage being laid upon Walter Reed Army Hospital, especially the amputee ward.

I take umbrage. I have the right.

I arrived at Walter Reed 12 November 1965, left arm paralyzed and partially amputated from multiple gunshot wounds. The hallways were filled with stretchers of wounded soldiers; the air pulsated amid the shouts of pain, fear, anguish, and desperation.

The staff was incredible. Patient. Wonderful caregivers to the wave of new arrivals.

That was 42 years ago. I was 18, a wounded combat medic from the 101st Airborne Division, via Vietnam. Like so many others, I wound up on Ward

33, a sprawling open bay of 36 beds. There was no privacy, nor cable television, and a staff of one nurse, and two orderlies.

We had one medical doctor. – a far cry from the Walter Reed of today, which is taking a lot of national and political flak due to the failure to provide the basic essentials, such as private rooms, larger staff, ongoing and then aftercare. I watched young men die in the beds beside me, across the aisle, and from one end to the other. I saw parents reunited with their wounded children, not having been briefed to try and understand the trauma that tears the youth from the young; hardens the young into something appearing ancient beyond their mere decades of life. There was no public information officer to explain Veterans benefits, transferring the SGLI (Serviceman's Group Life Insurance) to civilian coverage. It was \$10,000.00 in 1965. It's \$250,000.00 today. There was no physical therapy beyond learning how to dress, eat, sleep, and move out in a military fashion with one or more limbs missing. There was

no PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) evaluation nor counseling to help the soldier understand why he felt lost, deserted by his country, an alien in his hard fight for homeland.

On 22 March 1966 – five weeks before my 19th birthday – I was medically discharged, had a plane ticket home that was purchased by my parents. Then, wearing a chest full of medals and parts of my body and soul missing, with no money for cab fare, I started hitch-hiking from the main gate to Dulles airport.

As a new member of the "Wounded Warrior Project," I'm more than aware of the "Above and Beyond" efforts currently in place to assist amputees in getting settled, and marching forward with a positive attitude regarding their new challenges in life. Our servicemen and women are treated with the highest degree of respect; they are made aware of all their benefits, responsibilities, and they return home to an incredible support system of family, friends, and government.

On the eve of my being wounded, I spent a few minutes with one of my commanders, then Major, David H. Hackworth. He asked if I would be serious about going to OCS (Officers

Continued on page 46

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ROLLING



An Airbrush Artist's Kinetic Memorials to Fallen Heroes

By Victoria Powell, Photos Courtesy AirbrushGuy & Company

A unique memorial for U.S. Marine Lance Corporal John Martin Holmason, killed in action in Iraq, was commissioned by his mother Karla Comfort. The nine other U.S. Marines who died with Holmason are included in the memorial painted on a 2006 H3 Hummer by R. Powell of AirbrushGuy & Company. This memorial contains the names and photographs of all ten Marines killed by an explosive during a combat operation on 1 December 2005, in Fallujah. A Hummer was chosen for this project because of its military appearance, befitting the theme of the memorial.

About six months before Holmason's death, his mother noticed a vehicle in the parking lot of the clinic where she worked: It was a memorial to Vietnam veterans. She was pleased to see that even after all these years others were working to keep the memory of these soldiers alive. Little did she know at the time, that seeing this vehicle would impact her life so soon. In dealing with the loss of her son, she put her energy into creating a similar memorial for him and his fallen comrades. She stated, "I just want people to look at this Hummer five years down the road and re-

member what these guys have done for our country."

Searching the Internet, Ms. Comfort came upon the website of AirbrushGuy & Company (<http://www.AirbrushGuy.com>) where she saw many of the unique designs created by Robert Powell and his team. She was impressed with his work, noting a World War II memorial motorcycle created for the son of a veteran of that war.

Upon contacting Powell about the project, both were encouraged and excited about this challenge. Powell immediately began collecting ideas. Comfort, her father and youngest son all traveled to Arkansas to deliver the vehicle and share ideas. Comfort tearfully shared stories of her son's life and provided them with pictures of her son and his comrades. The only specific requests Comfort made about the project were to include her son's portrait, depicting him in his dress blues and that the names of the other nine fallen soldiers would be on the vehicle.

While Powell began working on the Hummer, the surviving soldiers from Holmason's unit returned home from Iraq in late January. Holmason's mother

and family were there to greet them, wearing sweatshirts created by AirbrushGuy & Company with portraits of John in uniform. She collected information about her son, John, and the other fallen soldiers and requested photographs that would help Powell with his design work.

When Powell first received the Hummer, he began by creating an American flag draped over the hood and both fenders, similar to how his casket might have arrived home. The passenger side of the vehicle depicts the military in action in the desert and includes helicopters and a tank. As the scene moves toward the back of the Hummer, there is a memorial for the lost Marines. On each side of the cargo area is a ghosted image of the U.S. Marine seal and portraits of five of the fallen men.

The driver's side of the vehicle depicts some of the Marine unit individuals in front of a building in Iraq. Beside this scene are other renderings depicting the reality of the fallen soldiers being delivered home.

As word of this memorial was made public, others have stepped up to be a part. Acey's upholstery of Little



TRIBUTES



Rock donated a hand-made tire cover, which allowed Powell more area to paint and he was able to incorporate Holmason's tattoo onto the cover. Wheel World in Jacksonville also helped by arranging for Akuza Wheels to donate the chrome star-like wheels for the Hummer. Each person who has gotten behind this project has been grateful to be able to give back to those who gave all for us.

Holmason was born 18 January 1985 in Scappoose, Oregon. He was scheduled to return home with his unit on 24 January 2006. He and the other fallen soldiers were with the 2nd Battalion 7th Marines, based in Twenty-Nine Palms, California. His mother plans to visit some of the families of the other nine fallen men in the Hummer in the near future. There was also a memorial for these fallen men at Twenty-Nine Palms last March, at which time she shared this rolling memorial with the other families.

And One For the Army

Powell was also contacted by the family of deceased Army soldier, Brian J. "BJ" Schoff, and asked to create a symbol of what this young soldier meant to his family and friends. Mr.

Schoff learned of Powell's custom painting shop after seeing one of his similar projects online, and was compelled to contact Powell for a memorial project of his own. When asked why he chose this project, he stated he was very proud of his son and his service to our country; he wanted others to know just how proud he was.



Pictured here are Victoria Powell (artist's wife), Karla Comfort (Gold Star Mother of LCpl Holmason, who commissioned the work), Kelli Hunt (Gold Star Mother of LCpl Robert A. Martinez, Holmason's friend), and airbrush artist Robert Powell.

Hailing from the small town of Manchester, Tennessee, Cpl Brian James "BJ" Schoff was killed in action in Baghdad, Iraq on 28 January 2006. He was stationed in Ft. Campbell, KY with the Screaming Eagles 101st Airborne Air Assault. His father, Brian Schoff, Sr., a veteran of the National Guard, was left

with the soldier's Jeep Wrangler. He felt it was only fitting that BJ's Jeep become a memorial to his service to the country.

The Jeep features a portrait of BJ as well as helicopters and Humvees of the 101st Airborne. Schoff's Screaming Eagles unit logos were included in the project as well. The Jeep was topped off with an American Flag carried by an eagle. Army logos and stars were painted on the bumper and applied to the windshield.

Artist Robert Powell has created many unique projects but states, "[These were some] of the most moving projects I have ever worked on. I hope the work I have created will invoke emotion in others and will truly show how much we appreciate these men and what they have been doing for our country." Powell's daughter and son-in-law are currently serving in the United States Air Force and he himself is a veteran. ✕

For more information, contact AirbrushGuy & Company, 815 South Market, Benton, Arkansas 72015 or call 501/778-7999. You can also contact them via their website at <http://www.AirbrushGuy.com>

Farnam's Gunslinger Diary

By John Farnam



Lessons on Hunting Dangerous Game

I'm not sure I qualify as an expert on hunting dangerous game after only seven trips to Africa and a single experience hunting a member of the Big Five, but I'd like to share my conclusions while they are still fresh in my mind:

No loose rounds in your pocket! Any metallic sound, such as rounds of ammunition rattling around, will spook African game. Ammunition must be kept handy, but silent. Best method is a leather belt carrier, designed for just this purpose. The .458WM cartridges are big, and the carrier must hold them far enough apart so that one may withdraw one or two, quickly, surely, and silently.

You need to keep a round chambered and the magazine filled. Even

the sound associated with chambering a round will straightaway send game running. In this business, windows are short and unannounced. If you're not ready when the window opens, you'll miss your chance. Worse, you may be injured or killed!

Large cartridges, like the .458WM, .375H&H, et al., come in rifles with long bolt-throws, longer than most of us are used to. Accordingly, you must practice extensively operating the bolt quickly, rendering the rifle ready to fire a second or third shot without delay. This was my mistake! I practiced, but not enough. At the critical moment, I short-stroked the bolt and caused a failure to eject. Lucky for me, my first shot sufficed to stop the charge of the Cape Buffalo.

By the same token, practice topping off the magazine after the second shot. Cape Buffalo come in herds and lions are usually nearby, and, when in Buff country, I always have at least 15 cartridges on me and the magazine constantly topped off.

I shoot with my strong-side thumb up. When I curl it down, the rifle's recoil will cause my knuckle to hit me in the nose! This would disorient me and delays my next shot.

First round is always a solid! No telling what orientation will be presented. A solid covers all the bases.

Don't go looking for things, not expecting to find them! When in Buff country, never leave your vehicle without your rifle. This is serious business! You must be ready to go. By the same token, Buff rifles should not have slings, as they encourage you to relax and sling the weapon instead of in hand. For those of us accustomed to handling and living with loaded guns, all this will be perfectly natural.

With regard to calibers, I am persuaded the .458WM is ideal for buffalo, more than enough in nearly all cases. .375H&H is considered minimum, but it would not be my choice! Heavier calibers, like the .460 Weatherby, are surely effective, but recoil is "over the top" for all but the biggest among us, and therefore most people will never practice enough with them. I can shoot a dozen .458WM rounds at a sitting. Not so with heavier calibers. All that power means little when you pitch your first round, because you're anticipating punishing recoil instead of focusing on your front sight.

Bolt-gun or double? Both have been used successfully, and the best answer to the question is probably "use what you're most comfortable with." The advantage with a double-rifle is the quick, second shot. Disadvantages are weight and weak extraction, compared with that of a bolt gun. Doubles are heavy, and hunters thus tend to let someone



(clockwise from top left) The hunter, the prey, the reward. Photos: Courtesy John Farnam



else carry them. Bad plan! You need to have your rifle with you, as noted above. And, when a double fails to extract, the rifle is suddenly out of action. Bolt-guns hold more rounds, but each one must be bolted in, and there is always the danger of short-stroking, as I discovered.

Most hunters who are killed by Cape Buffalo die during a charge by one that has been wounded, but not decisively so. Wounded buffalo are extremely dangerous! That is why, when hunting Cape Buffalo, the first shot must be a killer. The first shot is, by far, the most important.

The buffalo that charged me had not been wounded, but we blundered into the herd, and they became frightened. Even so, such charges are not common. When they charge past you, Cape Buffalo will predictably turn around and come back. They will not relent until their prey is, in the words of the Mayor of Munchkinville, "...not merely dead, but most sincerely dead!"

Black Rhino are similar and probably the most dangerous animal on the African Continent. Were they not so rare, they would be responsible for many more deaths than they presently are. Black Rhino will predictably charge, wounded or not, the moment they see you. By contrast, the larger but more docile White Rhino rarely charge. We saw several while hunting buffalo, and they paid scant attention to us.

Lions, when they charge, can often be successfully sidestepped by moving off the line of force. Lions rarely turn around and come back at you after you manage to dodge their charge. They usually just keep running. Nearly everyone who spends any amount of time in the bush has been charged by a lion at one time or another. People are often mauled by lions (and leopards), but the fatality percentage is relatively low, as such attacks are usually short in duration. By contrast, attacks by Cape Buffalo are almost always fatal! ☒

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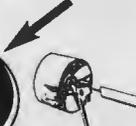
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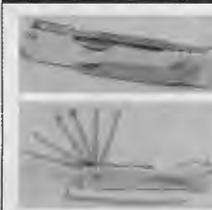
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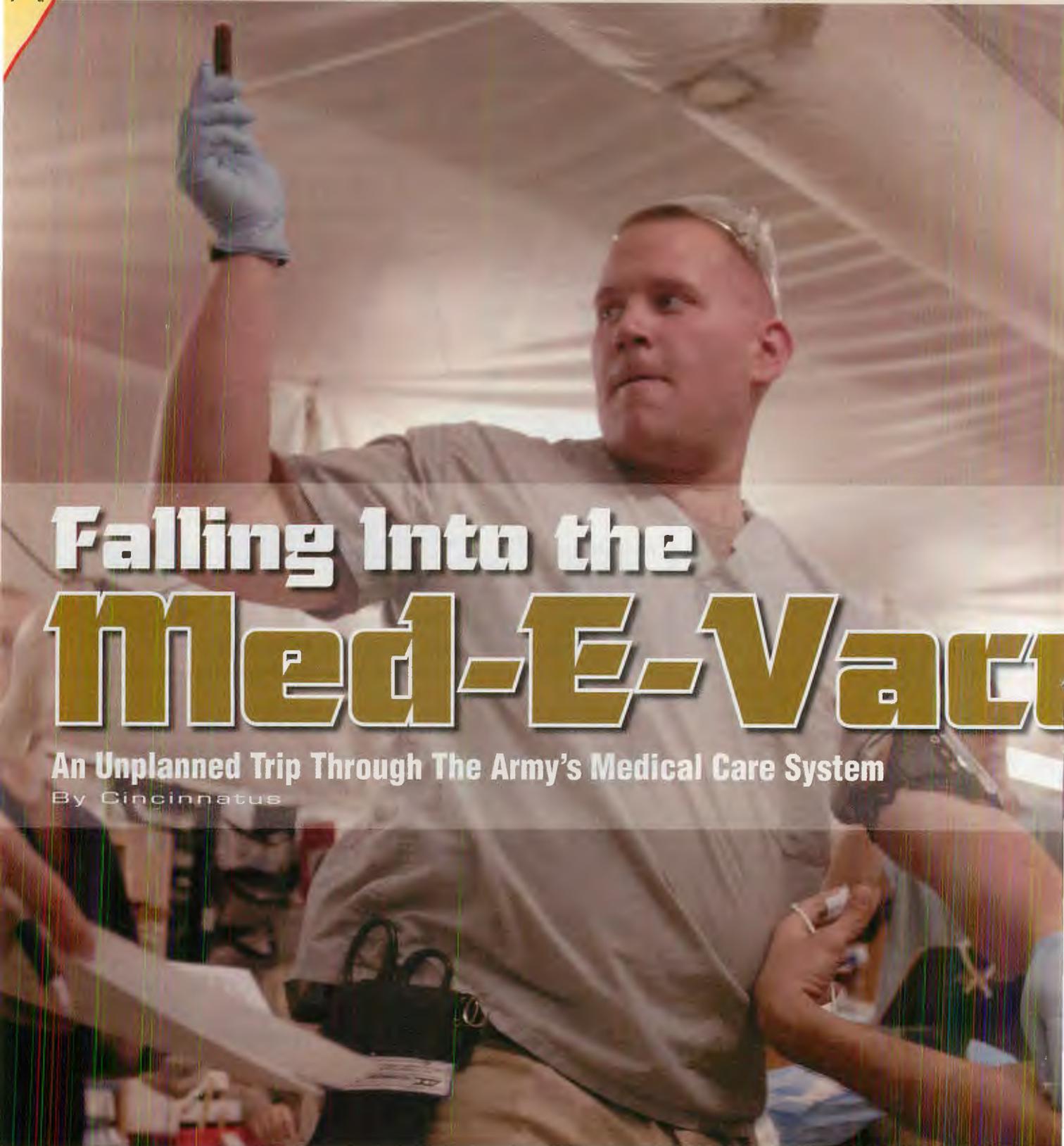
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Falling Into the Med-E-Vac

An Unplanned Trip Through The Army's Medical Care System

By Cincinnatus

Military medical treatment in Iraq is good to excellent. However, there are areas of care for soldiers and Marines that need remedial work. In fact, after more than three years of warfare in that country, certain deficiencies are unconscionable. What follows is the account of one soldier who went through the medical system.

I became a medical casualty in

Iraq in 2005. Medevac was called for. Before I could be placed on the helicopter, I was stripped of my combat gear: my M4, ammo pouches, M9 and anything explosive, "per Geneva Conventions," as the medics told me. Like nearly every combat casualty or other health problem, I left my unit with nothing but the clothes on my back: thin desert cotton fatigues, although

it was cold where I was at the time. My cold weather gear was stripped off during treatment and left behind, as is usually the case with all medical casualties. But, no problem so far.

I arrived at the Combat Support Hospital (CSH— today's acronym for what used to be called MASH) in the International Zone in Baghdad where I was immediately transported via a

Author never experienced nor even saw substandard medical care on his tour, it was world-class, like the care given here at the USAF theater hospital on Balad Air Base, Iraq. In photo, SSGT Donovan O'Linc of the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group draws blood from a patient. Photo: DoD by TSGT Cecilio M. Ricardo, Jr. USAF

WUM



miniature golf-cart-sized vehicle to the Emergency Room. The care in the emergency room was outstanding as professionals triaged and stabilized, based on urgency of need. Iraqis and Coalition troops were treated fairly, though it was clear that fighting troops got priority, whether Multinational Coalition forces or Iraqi, while civilians sometimes had to wait.

Good Medicine, Bad Living Conditions

The "issues" began when I was transferred to a ward for more stabilization and treatment. Once truly stabilized, I was to be sent to specialists in Kuwait to determine future status, whether shipment to the U.S. or recovery and return to my unit.

The four-and five-man wards were a bit crowded, as is to be expected in a combat hospital. Sheets, but no blankets, were available for patients. Although the hospital room climate is controlled, the fact that some individuals had fevers, others had chills and all had weakened core temperatures due to injuries or illness meant that some needed blankets or another way to keep warm when "normal" temperatures for the rest of humanity are not sufficient.

In addition, no pillows were available whatsoever. Towels were available for cleaning oneself, but – significantly – not through the military.

These are small things to men and women fighting life-threatening medical problems, but those little things add up to morale issues which affect recovery and feelings about oneself, the military and the U.S. Government.

Scrounging Often Works

When I was more aware and able to move about, I began searching the hospital myself for items that I was told were not available. Though I never found a blanket, I was directed to a room where I was told some items sent as care packages by American church groups could be found. Sure enough, I found clean or even new underwear to replace the dirty, worn things I came in with and had been wearing for some time, as well as small hand towels, plastic disposable razors, combs, shampoo, and other toiletries that patients can use to clean the blood, sweat, grime, pus and puke off one's body. And, joy of joys: I found a hand-made, miniature

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Flag-emblazoned canopy at USAF theater hospital on Balad Air Base, Iraq is known as "Hero's Highway," and in author's experienced those receiving medical attention in the system were treated as heroes, as far as the quality of medical care goes. But wouldn't you think the admin weenies could come up with a blanket or two for shivering heroes? Photo: DoD by TSGT Cecilio M. Ricardo, Jr. USAF



pillow, with a tie-dyed cover – the gift of a church in Florida. That pillow made all the difference in the world to my morale. It is still in my possession, with the name of the church on it – as I write these words, I am on my way to Florida to visit that church and personally thank them for their

support and thoughtful donations that made such a change in my small world.

However, as noted earlier, were it not for those church group donations, there would have been no pillows, no towels, and no toiletries for the wounded and sick soldiers.

Later, I was considered stable enough to fly from Baghdad via medevac helicopter to Balad, for USAF C-130 transport to Kuwait for more treatment and evaluation. This time, medics went over my person carefully to ensure I was carrying nothing lethal – they found two extra magazines for the Beretta M9 pistol in one cargo pocket (whoops! When one is in urgent need of medical care, one sometimes forgets little details). I was carefully advised that this was indeed a serious violation of the Geneva Convention regarding care and transport of those wounded, giving the insurgents the right to fire upon our medevacs.

Let me see now: These are the guys who torture and shoot both civilian and military helicopter pilots, videotaping the exciting scenes for posterity, and who saw off all captives' heads with a dull knife, recording the screaming and gurgling for future beer and chips parties later. For the first time in my incarceration in the medical system, I felt fear. I was now going to fly at night over enemy territory in a helicopter with absolutely no weapons on board. As far as I knew, the pilots may have been unarmed. I wouldn't have minded a rack of M4s or even a couple of pistols on board in case we did have to go down; there is no question that we'd be hunted down and tortured/murdered one by one if any of the medevacs went down with patients on board. We were supposed to rely on the kindness of strangers – in this case, al-Qaeda killers who love to kill as many innocents as possible to further their cause – in a helicopter flying at night whose Red Cross was not visible anyway.

So why do we refuse to allow any "defensive" weapons – which even international law agrees is appropriate for non-combatants in similar circumstances?

All rounds had to be counted and a receipt given – later, an investigation similar to a report of survey was conducted by a senior officer to find those 30 rounds of ammo and two magazines which did not reappear in my gear when I returned to my unit. I was appalled that in the middle of combat, someone's time had to be wasted trying to find where two magazines of ammo went, when hundred of thousands of rounds went down range or were lost over the side every time a machine gun was re-cocked/charged.

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UH-60A BlackHawk medical helicopter stops for fuel from troops of Charlie Company, 1st Bn, 111th Aviation Regiment near Baghdad. Flying in unarmed medical choppers, low over hostile territory and "protected" only by the "Geneva Convention" gave author pause. Photo: U.S. Army by Sgt. Rob Summitt



to enter the medical system – though again I emphasize the actual medical treatment was great.

Arrival in Kuwait was uneventful, which is a plus for those in medical need, and I was soon quickly and efficiently cared for and released for duty with my unit. Now the fun began...

More Good Medicine and Bad Living Conditions

I found out, along with the other medical returnees, that we were on our own. We were delivered to USAF flight facilities on a Kuwait Air Base, where we were advised that we were quite low on any waiting lists for flights back to our units. Most flights to Baghdad were booked with groups of soldiers already "in the system," going over with their units, on special orders, or returning from R&R. We were the unplanned and uncared for. There was and is no procedure for expediting the return of war casualties nor for inserting them with any kind of priority on the stand-by lists. We each had a simple letter signed by a doctor returning us to duty – no orders, without which the military does not move. After three years of war, there "should be" a thought-out procedure – if someone responsible was thinking coherently about anything other than his next Commendation medal.

Without going into detail, it took my group four or five days to get back to our units. What that meant was that we had to wait in climate-controlled terminals during the day for standby flights, then had to go to transient tents for the night. Those transient tents had nothing but standard Army cots and were "heated" by a blower system that never got the temperatures above 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Since outside temperatures

Continued on page 78

Undressed In The Desert Winter

I received my first taste of what was going to be my future in the medical system for the next week or so: It had turned very cold. I shivered in my thin cotton fatigues during the entire trip, partially from the cold and partially from the fear as I looked

out over enemy territory from about 200 feet up. It was a long flight in my mind, but probably only 40 minutes or so. For the first time in Iraq, I was unarmed and at the mercy, such as it is, of any enemies I might encounter.

At Balad, we asked for warm clothing and were told there was nothing available. However, we were again directed to a storeroom where care package contents were left available. I obtained a long sleeved t-shirt – one that saved my life, providing an additional layer of warmth during the next weeks' below-freezing temperatures.

The C-130 flight was comfortable and high enough that we did not fear being hit and going down, unlike our helicopter trip. And I watched a huge firefight for about 10 minutes from the air, with what appeared to be heavy-caliber machine guns (DshK's, .50 Brownings and 25mm cannons) trading fire during the entire time we passed over a certain town. We felt pity for those we knew were about

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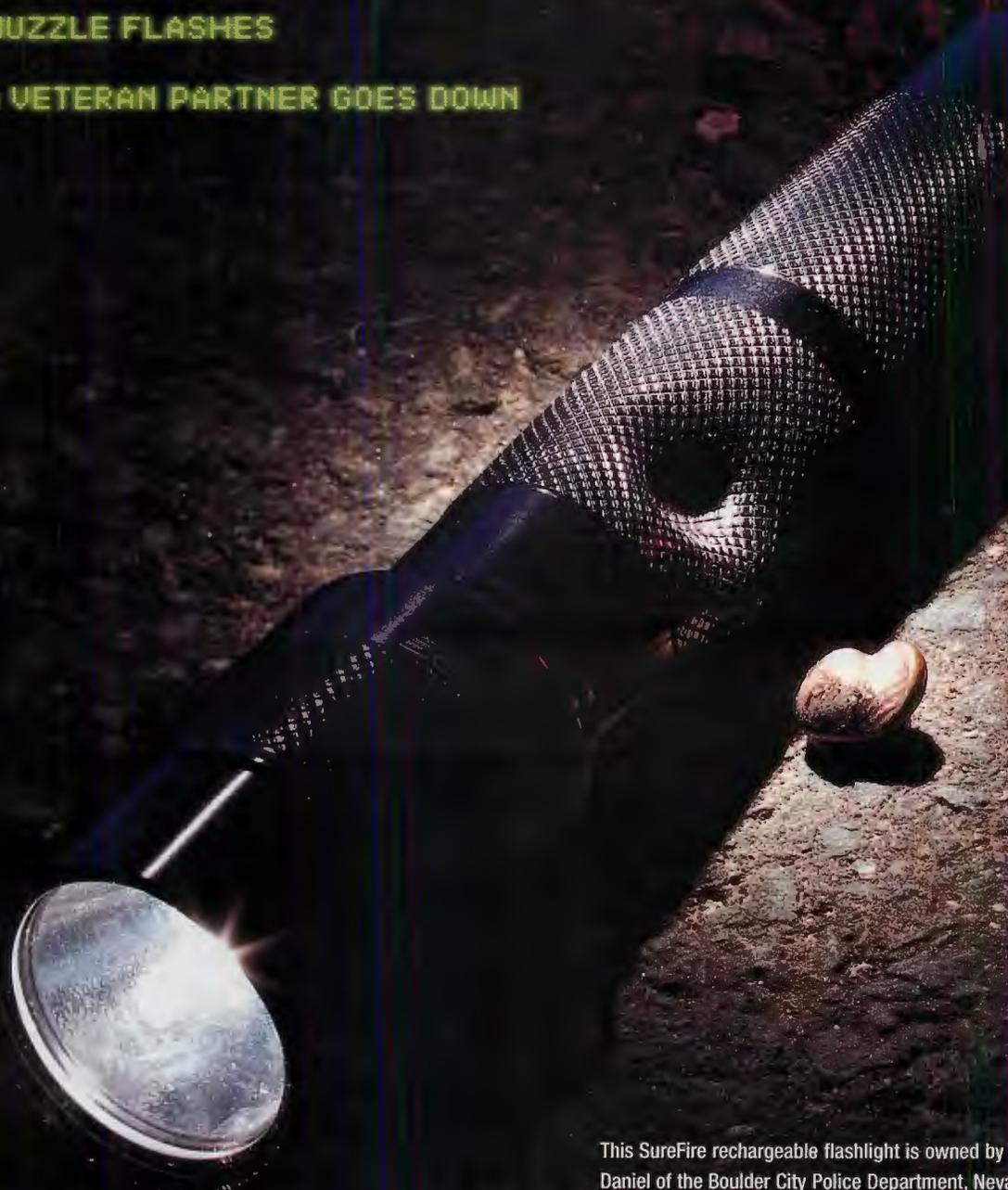
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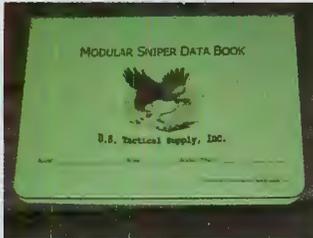
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occupied area. Yet last year, Mark Rey, Undersecretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment – essentially the man who oversees national forest operations – told *Gun Week* in an interview that this ruling is ‘an urban legend.’

“And as this issue was going to press, *Gun Week* learned the truth about that ‘ruling’ from the enforcement officer who had brought a case before a federal magistrate in Seattle more than 10 years ago.

“USFS Officer Shane Wyrsh told *Gun Week* that the magistrate, whose name he could not recall, never issued a ‘ruling’ that declared a road to be an occupied area. The magistrate, as Wyrsh recalled, was deciding a citation that Wyrsh, then new on the job, had written to a man who had been shooting, apparently right along a national forest road. During the course of his discussion, the magistrate apparently suggested that if there were people on a road, it might be considered an ‘occupied area.’

“‘But that’s all it was,’ Wyrsh



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stressed to *Gun Week* in frustration, 'just his opinion. Who's to say that another magistrate on the same day on another case might not have said something else?'

"Wyrsch agreed that this chance remark has 'grown legs' and taken on a life of its own 'in the retelling.' He concurred that it was not a formal ruling that has the same effect as law, and he promised that when he returned from an assignment in another state, he would 'once again' try to explain this to USFS staff in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest either in a meeting or via e-mail, and try to put the misunderstanding to rest."

After Saturday's meeting, I spoke with RKBA people in Arizona who are fighting USFS incursions there. They reported to me that USFS attempts to shut down shooting areas within 10 yards of roads had been stopped dead because the law does not support such shutdowns!

More than spitting in the face of their superiors, I am concerned that the Boulder Ranger District assumes that inconsistencies are an acceptable response to any public criticism. The Greenies have told different stories about the closing of the shooting area closest to me to everyone who has called to ask about it. Senators and Congressmen's office staffs have been told various that the area was closed because:

- "There's a subdivision across the street." I drove up there yesterday; apparently the subdivision has been deflated, and stored for the winter. It looks to me like the only thing across the street is...more forest.
- "The shooting represents a danger to a nearby natural gas pipeline." There is a pipeline connection near the range...on the side of the road, where it is indeed at risk, from drunk drivers speeding down the gravel road!
- "We have complaints about the shooting on that range." I and long-time NRA Board of Directors member Col. Bob Brown directly asked to see all documentation on those "com-



Ms. Christine Walsh Photo: Scott Weiser

plaints" — in fact ANY complaints regarding recreational shooting anywhere on USFS Boulder District land. Ms. Walsh told us that 1) there was NO documentation of any kind; 2) that the USFS did not have the funds to record or even

keep a log of incoming complaints; 3) that the USFS had issued no citations for littering or illegal dumping on range sites, because they "lacked the funding;" 4) That USFS had investigated NO complaints of illegal shooting activities, because they "lacked the funding."

The entire jihad against recreational shooting is allegedly based on Ms. Walsh's "gut feelings."

I spoke with USFS enforcement and asked whether they could remember any complaints on the closed range... the answer was no. Oh, and despite the fact that USFS doesn't have the funding to actually do much of anything, they did find the \$10,000 necessary to host the series of public meetings cited by *Gun Week* to discuss the "recreational shooting crisis," bring in USFS employees from around the state to act as "facilitators" and even hire local police to be on hand in case Col. Brown and I went postal(!).

In fact, two USFS officials were heard after the last public meeting discussing the lack of documentation on any actual complaints... one of the officials, thinking no one was within hearing range, said, "Well, the thing is we probably only get one a month... maybe less..." In short, even USFS officials are having trouble keeping tabs on their lies.

• "We get complaints about the noise from shooting areas." Welcome to the rural mountain West! In our little town, we have a pamphlet for urban newcomers, which says, "WELCOME! Now Behave!" When you move to the rural mountains, it is not the same as living in the city. Cow dookey smells bad! The roads sometimes don't get plowed! Coyotes and mountain lions will indeed eat little Fluffy as a snack,

Continued on page 76

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Candidate School). I told him I was a high school drop out. He replied that, with his "order," I had a GED. He went further by stating that the war would go on for years; that the Army would need combat-experienced officers. I asked him, "What makes a leader?" He replied, simply, "Three things: You take care of your people. And, always lead from the front. And always do the right thing, not the easy thing."

In the last years of his life, I became telephone-close to General William C. Westmoreland. He pretty much summed up leadership in the same way when he endorsed my novel Buffalo Soldiers, which was one of 40 selections by then U.S. Army Chief of Staff General Eric Shinseki, for his Recommended Professional Reading List.

I saw all of that bear fruit two days ago. Standing before a world television audience, four-star General Richard Cody, Vice Chief of Staff of the US Army, took the brunt of the blame for the recent mistakes regarding Building 18 at Walter Reed. That did not surprise me. Dick Cody is my friend, the man who fired the first shot in Opera-

tion Desert Storm from his Apache attack helicopter, taking out the Iraqi radar fence on the Saudi Arabian border. General Cody was the commanding general of the 101st Airborne when I was inducted as Distinguished Member Of the Regiment (DMOR), the highest accolade that can be bestowed on a soldier by his division.

Knowing General Cody, I know that he dearly cares more for his men, than his own life. What happened? I'm still not certain. Somebody dropped the ball. The money was there. I assume the government contractors were there to do the job. That's where I would begin my inquiry. Not blaming the men and women of the medical corps and Army command, who work tirelessly to make certain that our wounded warriors are treated with respect, dignity, education ... and don't have to worry about hitchhiking in the dark to get home.

An apology is owed to the staff, personnel, and the United States Army for their continuing progressive care for the wounded at Walter Reed Army Hospital. After the painful experience of Vietnam, we swore that our children,

as Thomas Paine prayed, would not suffer trouble; that they would know peace. That prayer has gone unfulfilled. However, if any are wounded traumatically, they have the Walter Reed Hospital waiting.

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Tommie Willard, Author

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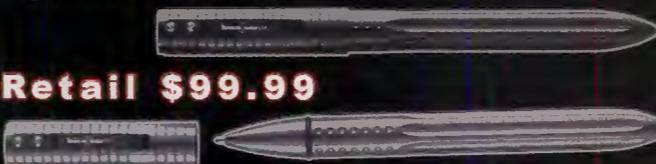
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Reviews by **Harold C. Hutchison** haroldc.huchison@gmail.com

My Men Are My Heroes: The Brad Kasal Story

by Brad Kasal as told
to Nathaniel R. Helms

Des Moines, IA: Mer-
edith Books. 286 pp.,
ISBN 0-696-23236-7
\$24.95



Lucas during World War II. The Marine in that photo was First Sergeant Brad Kasal (since promoted to Sergeant Major), who received the Navy Cross for his actions.

My Men Are My Heroes tells the story behind the photo, and starts at the beginning, — including growing up in Afton,

Iowa. Kasal doesn't go into many details about boot camp. When it comes to his career in the Marine Corps, the book tells much more, and

even provides details of how Kasal started out as a Dragon gunner, his experience in Desert Storm (during which he earned two medals), and the details of his stint as a recruiter in the 1990s.

Kasal's book detours slightly to discuss an incident involving a terrorist attack on Marines training in Kuwait. Then, it turns to discussing his participation in Operation Iraqi Freedom, including the fighting in An Nasariyah. Kasal's return to Iraq in 2004 is then discussed, and he sets the stage for the Battle of Fallujah.

The Battle of Fallujah, including Kasal's heroic actions, is described in detail over several chapters. One gets the sense of just what the street fighting in Fallujah was like. One of the more notable details in this account

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"6th Degree Okinawan Karate Black Belt and Former Marine Sounds Off About Matt Furey and all the Hype Surrounding his Combat Conditioning Program"



by Mike Storms

Every time I heard about Hindu Pushups and Hindu Squats I wanted to spit right in his face!

"What a liar this guy Matt Furey is." That's what I thought when I read this guy's hype-dense ads about his bodyweight exercise program called *Combat Conditioning*. Look, I'm no sucker for junk exercise programs. Not only have I lifted weights for years, but after 26 years in martial arts where I've earned a 6th-degree Black Belt in Okinawan Karate — and six years in the U.S. Marine Corps, I've seen it all. So to say I didn't believe **Matt Furey** when he said you can get kick-butt fit with his bodyweight calisthenics would be an understatement. Not only have I been in the USMC and been in martial arts for a long time, but I played football for most of my life and have served as the martial arts instructor for the **New Orleans Saints**. So there's no way I was going to fall for a rinky dink routine like Furey's.

Not only that but I trained with **Jesse Kellum**, who is pound-for-pound one of the strongest men in the world. At 220 lbs. he benched over 800 pounds and squatted 1000 pounds. I, myself, could bench over 400 pounds and dead lift over 600.

Pain, Pain, Go Away

Even so, despite my immense knowledge and background, I couldn't shake this nagging feeling that Furey might be right about what he was claiming, mostly because my shoulders, knees and back were in constant pain from my weight training routine. Yes, I was strong, but I was paying a heavy price. No one likes pain — I don't care how much you think you "can take it" — after awhile it's not worth it. And Furey's program promised to get me stronger and more flexible without all the joint pain I had. Not possible, I thought.

My main fear, other than being in MORE pain, was that I'd lose the strength and size I had gained from weights. Then I read about the **Great Gama** of India, a wrestler who followed Furey-style training — and he was unbeaten in 5,000 matches. In terms of size and strength, Gama was amazing. He was 5'7" and 260 pounds of streaming steel. And that was in the early 1900's — long before steroids.

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

I also recalled how **Herschel Walker**, a *Heisman Trophy* winner and *All-Pro* Running back did 500 pushups and situps each day. So that made me think even more, especially because Furey's exercises were supposed to be far better versions of these pushups and situps.

A Swift Slap in the Nuts!

But the final straw for me was when I met Furey IN PERSON in November of 2001. Both of us happened to be in the same hotel in Phoenix, Arizona. I introduced myself to him and he politely shook my hand and nodded. I could tell he was in great shape, but I had no idea HOW good until I playfully flicked a punch at him later that day when he was walking down the corridor. Without missing a beat Furey reacted faster than a cobra. He slapped me in the nuts and kept right on walking. He never even broke stride. I stood in awe. I had never had anything like that happen to me. An hour later I met Furey in a restaurant, took out my Platinum American Express card and gave him carte blanche. "Send me whatever you have that will help me," I said. A few days later I received my first package from Furey in the mail and I've been hooked ever since.

If you think what you are reading is nothing but marketing hype — then let me ask you why do you think I now train the 350+ students in my dojo in Mandeville, Louisiana (Mike Storms Karate) in *Combat Conditioning*? I train young kids as well as adults in these exercises. WHY? Because they fiat—out work. They boggle the mind while getting your body into ready-for-battle condition.

In Furey's *Combat Conditioning* he challenges YOU with a test. 100 Hindu squats, followed by 50 Hindu pushups, then a one-minute back bridge.

Let me tell you, when I first got the book I figured this test would be easy, I got started. At 40 Hindu squats my thighs were blitzed. It took about 90 seconds; not long compared to my barbell squat routine at the gym.

Next, I tried the Hindu pushups. Funny thing is my legs

were still shaking. I dipped down and pushed back. At 15 my arms were throbbing. This couldn't be. No way. I could bench like there's no tomorrow and this exercise was niking me. I stopped at 27 reps. This took about 1.5 minutes, so my workout had only been 2.5 minutes long.

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

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

1. I blow-torched off my excess body fat so quickly that I could eat more than I normally did and still look better than ever.
2. I packed and chiseled functional muscle onto my legs, chest and back that I've never had before, even from weights.
3. I simultaneously doubled my strength and flexibility — and did so without needing separate workouts for each.
4. I quadrupled my endurance inside of 30 days. Just think how much this helped my sparring. No matter what, I NEVER get tired.
5. The chronic back and shoulder pain I had from years of heavy squats, deadlifts and bench pressing went away within a couple weeks. And much of that pain had been with me for nearly 10 years. It's GONE now.
6. I sleep like a log. Eight hours of deep sleep is no longer a goal. It's automatic. As soon as I hit the rack I'm out like a light.
7. My self-confidence knows no bounds. Especially when I got compliments from people who hardly paid attention to me before. I honestly believe there is nothing I cannot do. I'm on top of the world.
8. I can train anywhere. I don't need more than a few square feet of carpet or pavement and I'm all set. I have absolutely no excuses and my body is loving me for it. I don't need any equipment. Just my own bodyweight.
9. I get a kick-butt workout done in 15 minutes or less. Sure, I could do more — but I've gotten incredible results with this amount — so why ruin a good thing?
10. I've turned back the clock. My friends tell me I look 5 — 10 years younger. Awesome!!
11. I have an explosive type of strength that weights couldn't give me. My movements are super fast even when I'm just screwing around.
12. My muscles are like a pliable and powerful tiger — ready to pounce on prey in a heartbeat.

So there you have it. The 12 reasons why *Combat Conditioning* is the best fitness program on the planet. I now do these exercises everyday and they are FAR easier than when I started. I won't go a day without them. But forget about me.

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

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

Lt Colonel George Bristol — USMC

Mr. Furey, We have been applying the principle of "mastering your own body weight" to our football program and have been pleased. A 12 — 1 championship season last year was our reward. Thank you sir.

**Bonner Cummings
Yosemite, CA**

Dear Matt, When I got your book, I changed my whole way of thinking about how one should train for Combatives. I am now totally off the weights, and, to tell you the truth, I have never felt

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better or been more flexible in my life. I feel great and have lost no size, strength, or muscle mass... as a result I scored the maximum number of points on the Army Physical Fitness test. HOOAH! You are doing great things, and I and the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School owe you a lot. TREAT'EM ROUGH!

CPT Judd D. Mahfouz — Infantry

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

LCpl Sandor Devenyi — United States Marine Corps

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

**D "Bubba" Byng — LCPL, USMC
"Goli" Co, MCS Battalion**

Matt Furey's *Combat Conditioning: Functional Exercises for Fitness & Combat Sports* has 48 super effective bodyweight exercises along with seven different programs that will get you into kick-butt shape fast. Order now and you'll receive 3 free Special Reports on how to eliminate knee, back and shoulder pain.

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is the discovery of items that Chechens were known to wear. Finally, the events of 13 November 2004, are discussed. Kasal's account of what he did that day is modest – almost in keeping with the title of this book.

That said, the reviewer must, with all due respect, disagree with Sergeant Major Kasal. Yes, the Marines who ultimately helped evacuate him and the other wounded Marines were heroes, but Sergeant Major Kasal is a quintessential hero, too. As modestly revealed in this book, his conduct was in line with countless acts of heroism in the annals of the Marine Corps. Sergeant Major Kasal deserves every accolade he receives and more.

Kasal mentions the media coverage of the war. The reviewer cannot echo his sentiments more strongly. What is most appalling is that this is a story that many outlets of the mainstream media could have run, but didn't – often preferring to focus on flimsy allegations of torture at Guantanamo Bay, the misbehavior of a small number of MPs at Abu Ghraib, or other negative aspects, including "milestone" casualties (the media held a watch for the 3,000th casualty). It is even worse

when reports that an embedded reporter's account was heavily re-written by editors because it made American troops appear too heroic. There seems to be a pattern of ignoring the heroes that pervades the mainstream media in favor of death and disaster – and reports of the latter may be greatly exaggerated.

Ultimately, *My Men Are My Heroes* is a volume of compelling reading. It shows that the American military still has heroes – ones that are as worthy as those who fought in the wars of the past. It is also a fine read, and should be in the library of anyone who wants to see a view of Fallujah from one of those who fought there.

Embrace the Suck: A Pocket Guide to Milspeak

by Austin Bay

New York: Pamphleteer Press. ISBN 0978-90285-072 pp., intro., app., links \$4.00 Available at: <http://store.pamphleteerpress.com/06.html>

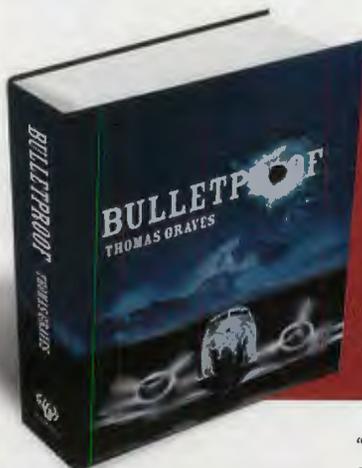


Milspeak is one of those things that sets the military apart from civilian life. Every profession has not only its official argot, but its own slang as well, be they doctors, lawyers (the reviewer has one in his extended family), firemen, or cops. The military also has its slang. The military's slang, though, is one of the most unique, as it springs from a culture that bonds on shared sacrifice, dedication, and commitment to the country – and it is exclusive.

In *Embrace the Suck*, Austin Bay provides an informative and very entertaining guide to how the military talks, and thus, a window into this honorable culture. One can quickly learn what "dynamic truth" is, or what is meant when gear (usually something very expensive) goes "back to the taxpayers"

BULLETPROOF

By THOMAS GRAVES



American expatriate executive Richard Blackstone accepts a new assignment to head up the Latin American operations of a powerful U.S. multinational headquartered in La Paz, Bolivia. He quickly finds himself at the center of a massive scheme of corruption and deception involving drugs and terror networks that threatens his career and his family, and requires him to make decisions that will test his principles.

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Author of *ON INTELLIGENCE: Spies And Secrecy In An Open World*

- hopefully not resulting in a Big *Chicken Dinner*. This slang covers everything from gear to people.

The glossary is arranged alphabetically, and even provides examples of how the terms are used. Some of the terms do involve strong language, and the reviewer must recommend that it be kept away from young children. There is even some slang from American allies like the UK and Australia. That said, it is appropriate for those of high-school age who are considering a military career (it helps to learn the vocabulary), or for those who seek to better understand those who are in the military. Reporters and policymakers are two sets of people who particularly should have a copy.

To say that Austin Bay has hit a home run is a gross understatement. *Embrace the Suck* is a potentially valuable resource for those going into the military, those covering the military, those who seek to understand the military, and even those in the military. It is worth several times its price. ✕

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Shot Show 2007

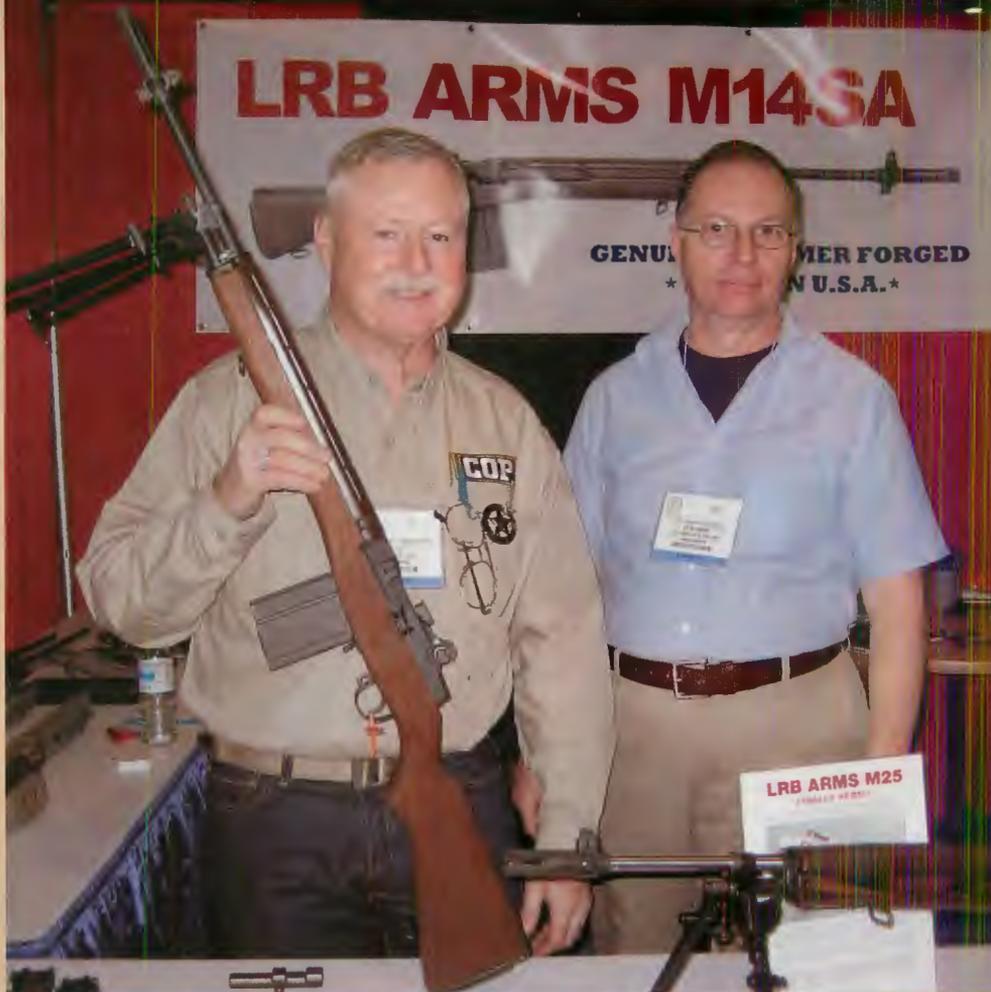
Part II

More Great Guns and Gear for Military and Cops Than Ever Before!

Text & Photos by Gary Paul Johnston

Held in Orlando, this year's SHOT was reportedly bigger than ever, and so was the Military/Law Enforcement section. Covering everything of interest would take every issue of SOF until the next SHOT show, but we'll cram what we can here, and for those of you who don't like to read, these pix are surely worth a thousand words each.

(below) The great looking Lauer family came to Orlando with plenty of great-looking Duracoat finished firearms. Duracoat is tough too. For info, call (800) 830-6677 (lauerweaponry.com).



(above) If you long for the real deal, LRB produces a true hammer-forged semi-auto M14 receiver and other parts built to MilStd, along with complete rifles in several models. For info, call (516) 327-9061 (lrbarms.com).



(above) If you don't like recoil, Knox Stocks have all but eliminated it from a number of popular shotguns and high-powered rifles. Really! For info, call (877) 465-6699 (knox.com).



(right) Revolutionizing the tactical light is the Liberator, from First-Light USA, Inc. Totally eliminating the hazard of "pointing a loaded light," the Liberator allows the operator to keep the weapon pointed away from where the light is searching, yet it is instantly there to be used as a weapon light. If this isn't enough, the Liberator also allows virtually hands-free operation, all at the same time. For info, call (877) 454-4450 (first-light-usa.com).



(above) America's AK Gunsmith, Mark Krebs, has developed the most advanced, fully adjustable AK M1913 rail mount ever. Totally independent of the receiver cover, this mount runs from the original rear sight base to a quick-detachable, yet rigid base on the rifle's tang. For info on this and the new Krebs KTR-07 AK, call (847) 487-7776 (krebscustom.com).



(below) The Latin word for force is VIS, and VLTOR Weapon Systems brought plenty of it with its new VIS System, as well as its total rail system for the M14/M1A. Amounting to the next generation of the monolithic rail, the VIS is offered for all versions of the M16/AR-15. Look for my in-depth report soon. In the meantime, for info, call (866) 468-5867 (vltor.com).



(above) Leupold & Stevens brought even more new tactical optics to this year's SHOT Show and they got together with COBB Mfg. to auction off a Leupold equipped sniper rifle to benefit AmericanSnipers.org, with all proceeds going directly to buy needed equipment for U.S. Military Snipers in Iraq and Afghanistan. For info call (800) LEU-POLD (leupold.com).

(below) Precision Reflex's Dave Dunlap proudly displayed a number of his company's superb Special Purpose Rifles. PRI developed the original SPR used by SOCOM. For info, call (419) 629-2603 (pri-mounts.com).



Continued on page 58

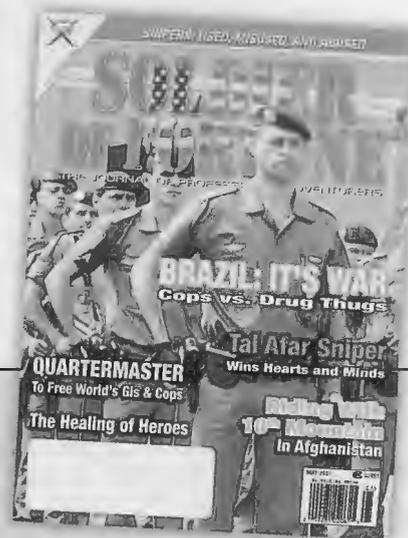
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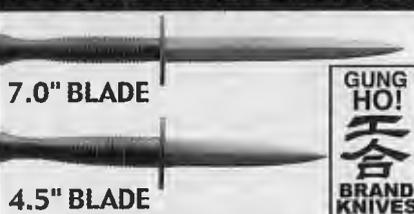
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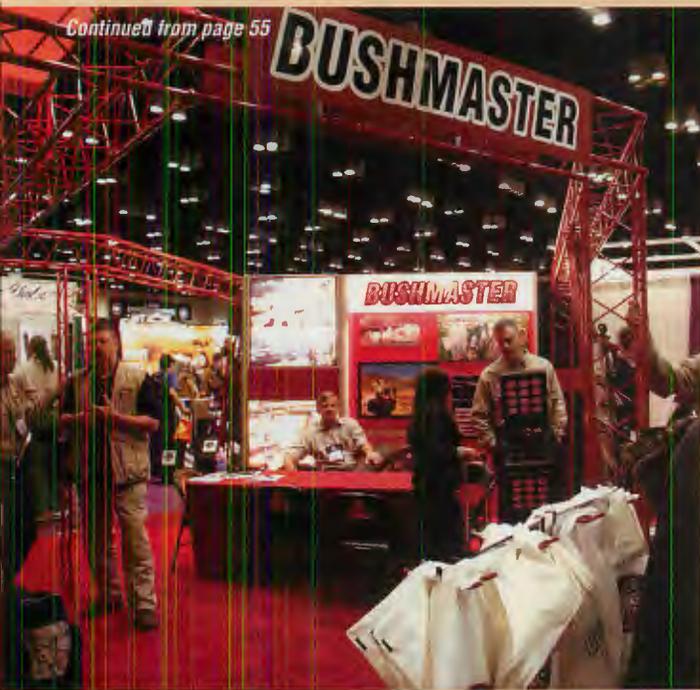
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(left) Bushmaster displayed all of its AR-15 style rifles from its Superlight to its new .458 Bushmaster Rifle. For info on them all, call (800) 883-6229 (bushmaster.com).

(below) Mil-Tac displayed its fine tactical knives along with its superb G-10 1911 grips, and introduced its brand new checkered G-10 Browning Hi Power grips. For info, call (214) 455-3137 (mil-tac.com).



(right) Mr. C. Reed Knight, Jr., proudly poses with some of his staff holding the KAC 6x35mm PDW, new SR-15 rifle and the Army's new M110 Sniper Rifle. Re-introduced at SHOT, the SR-15 is arguably the finest AR-15 type system on the planet. It has been upgraded with all KAC's latest innovations, and is now fully ambidextrous. Look for a report soon in SDF. For info call (321) 607-9900 (knightarmco.com).



(left) Mr. Scott Samson, of Samson Mfg., has reason to smile. In addition to being married to Mrs. Samson, Scott designs and produces one of the best AR-15 M1913 rail systems available, along with BUIS and other accessories. For info, call (888) 665-4370 (samson-mfg.com).

Continued on page 62

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By Dr. Martin Brass

1. RUSSIA KGB SUSPECTED IN MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF SPY Alexander Litvinenko as plot thickens. TWO MORE REPORTERS exposing plot die. *Dateline NBC* U.S. guest and Russian expert Paul Joyal shot in Maryland, after accusing KGB of sending "A message has been communicated to anyone who wants to speak out against the Kremlin; 'If you do, no matter who you are, where you are, we will find you and we will silence you.'" LONDON REPORTER Daniel McGrory, 54, also guest on *Dateline NBC* died mysteriously of sudden "heart attack."

AMERICA AT WAR

1

2. CHINA ARMS-RACE SPENDING increased by 18%, to nearly \$45 billion. ECONOMIC GIANT took in \$1.7 trillion from sale of goods, with \$140 billion trade surplus (*Industry Week*). U.S., WESTERN consumers thus enable purchase of sophisticated anti-satellite missiles, J-10 jet fighter, expanded blue-water navy and other high-ticket, leading-edge weapons systems.

4

3. NORTH KOREA COUNTERFEIT GREENBACKS, authorized by government, estimated up to \$250 million YEARLY. COUNTERFEITING NETWORK spans 60 countries.

5

4. CANADA ANTI-TERRORISM ACT killed by Prime Minister Stephen Harper's opposition, in bed with Canadian chapter of Tamil Tiger terrorist group based in Sri Lanka. Act would allow police to hold terror suspects up to 72 hours without charge and hold investigative hearings before a judge, with mandatory appearance by witnesses.

6

5. UNITED STATES BOSNIAN REFUGEE IMMIGRANT kills five, wounds four in Salt Lake City killing spree. CUBAN SPIES, professors who had infiltrated for 30 years, copped pleas in Miami. Couple imprisoned for three year and five-year terms for funneling info about Miami's Cuban exiles to Castro.

6. MEXICO ASSASSINATED: Chief of Police of Agua Prieta outside of police station. Five of 40 bullets hit their target. Texan-owned tractor-trailer jammed with weapons, ammunition and a Nissan pickup truck fitted with armor and bulletproof glass intercepted by the Mexican army in Matamoros, bordering Brownsville, Texas.

7. GUATEMALA CORRUPT POLICE, in bed with Mexican Mafiosos, assassinate and burn bodies of three Salvadorian lawmakers.

8. NICARAGUA DRUG PIPELINE filters billions of dollars of cocaine from Columbia to Mexico, to United States.

9. COLOMBIA FARC TERROR-THUGS IN SUITS lobby U.S. Congress, claiming right-wing atrocities.

10. BRAZIL WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE: Cop Killers who slaughtered 12 in one week in Rio, *SOF* source reports daily violence on the rise in the slums.

11. NETHERLANDS "GOVERNMENT MAKES ISLAMIC IMMIGRANTS FEEL AT HOME" by including Turkish and Moroccan Muslims as undersecretaries of the departments of Justice and Social affairs and Employment: Dual-nationality officials' loyalties questioned. Dutch troops may pull out of Afghanistan. HELL'S ANGELS members, soldiers and marines, ordered to quit outlaw biker club.

12. "KURDISTAN" PKK TERRORISTS launch 72 attacks on Turkish security forces on Turkey-Iraq border.

13. IRAQ PHONY "U.S." INSURGENTS wearing U.S. military uniforms and driving black SUVs as used by U.S. convoys, kill five U.S. soldiers. SOME 2.3 MILLION REFUGEES expected this year. UNDERNOURISHED: 4.5 MILLION CHILDREN, without medical care, many forced into gangs and child prostitution. SUNNIS BEING DRIVEN OUT or annihilated as Iran-backed Shia take charge. BLACKWATER DOWN: Private contracting firm loses helicopter.

14. IRAN ANTI-AMERICAN SHI'ITES trained in use of armor-piercing munitions, used in deaths of hundreds of U.S. troops in Iraq.

15. AFGHANISTAN ATTACK ON U.S. MILITARY BASE during Vice President Dick Cheney's visit kills 23 people, including a U.S. soldier and contractor.

16. PAKISTAN SUICIDE MISSION kills 26. TALIBAN INVASION into Afghanistan from inside Paki border spurs police to arrest criminal Taliban operators, including number-three chief, Mullah Obaidullah Akhund.

17. CHAD SUDANESE RAIDERS raid refugee camps housing 300,000 exiles. Government rejects U.N. peacekeepers.

18. NIGERIA OIL PIRACY thieves pilfer oil by breaking into pipelines to net less than a penny a day: 200,000 barrels a day are lost, flowing from broken pipes. Some 40,000 AK-47s and 20 million rounds of ammunition imported to arm police and militaries fighting piracy.

19. ZIMBABWE MASS MURDER against Mugabe's opponents continues. MOUSE HUNTING feeds starving population: Locals reduced to starting brush fires to hunt rodents for food, since Mugabe's policy of confiscating productive white-owned farms in 2000. OPPOSITION SUPPORTERS denied food from USAID and UNICEF. (TNR)

20. SRI LANKA TAMIL-TIGER ATTACK injures U.S. and Italian ambassadors, as the Tigers violate 2002 ceasefire, supposed to end 20-year civil war.

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(above) SWAT cop Mark Hanten holds Kimber's brand new M84 .308 Tactical Rifle. This rifle comes with all the right stuff including a McMillan Fiberglass Stock and a Leupold MR/T 3.5-10X40mm Sniper Scope. For info, call (800) 880-2418 (kimberamerica.com).



(right) The A.R.M.S. staff poses with some of the company's newest MilStd 1913 M16 rail systems. For info on all their rails, mounts and sights call (508) 584-7816 (armsmounts.com).

(below) Author poses with Wayne Novak and the staff of Novak Design, home of Novak Lo-Mount Sights, Novak parts, 1911 magazines and custom gunsmith services. For info, call (304) 485-9295 (novaksights.com).



Well, there you have it, or a good bit of it anyway. We'll be covering some of these and other products from this year's SHOT Show in *SOF* feature stories, so stay tuned. ✂

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Mark Cheng, L.Ac.

Columnist & Contributing Editor, Black Belt Magazine

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The Return of the

1918A3 SLR

Temporarily Discontinued After Nine-Eleven, Ohio Ordnance Works' Classic Is Back!

Text & Photos by Gary Paul Johnston

(above) Using many original Model 1918A2 BAR parts, Ohio Ordnance Works' Model 1918A3 Self-Loading Rifle is identical to the original, except for its semi-automatic only components. (left) Wearing original WW II USMC camouflage, Jay Jackson puts the OOW Model 1918A3 SLR through its paces. The rifle is a ball to fire and is also match-accurate.

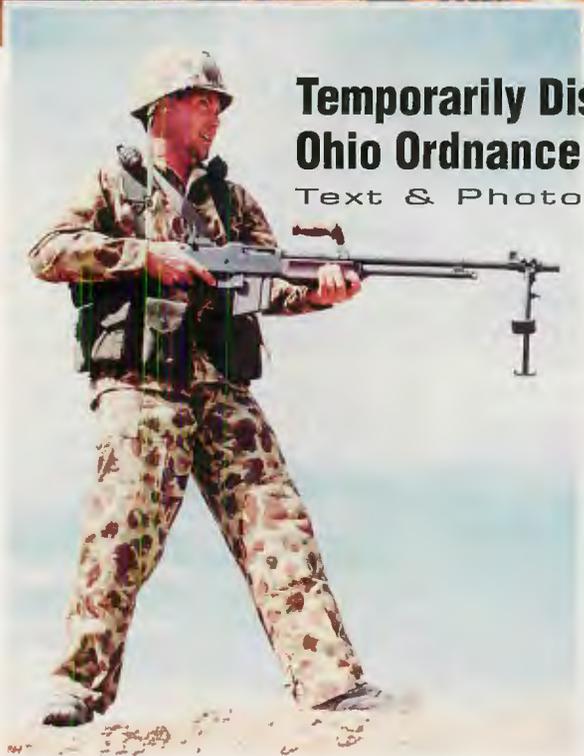
However, as effective as the Model of 1917 was, America was faced with a new ballgame called trench warfare. Another of Browning's inventions, the Winchester Model 1897 shotgun, had been altered to create the famous Model 97 "Trench Gun," but the Army wanted something even more versatile, so they turned to Browning once more. He responded with a design he had been working on.

Firing the same .30-06 cartridge as the Springfield and Enfield rifles and the Model 1917 machine gun, the weapon Browning designed was called the Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR) and was given the designation of Model 1918. It would prove to be one of John Browning's finest designs.

Weighing 16 pounds, the Model 1918 BAR had a barrel 24 inches long and an overall length of 47 inches. A tube extension was added to the barrel as a flash hider. The adjustable rear sight of the Model 1918 BAR was quite similar to that used on the WW I M1917 Enfield rifle that was standard issue to U.S. Forces at the time. The butt plate was also like that of the M1917.

Firing from the open-bolt position, the BAR operated by long-stroke gas piston, the action traveling for a distance slightly longer than the cartridge it fired. Controlled by a selector, the BAR could be fired either semi-automatic or full automatic, and used a 20-round box magazine. With the selector set on the full-automatic position, the gun fired at the slow rate of 550 rounds per minute

After beginning his career by designing single shot rifles, John Moses Browning advanced to repeating lever-and slide-action rifles, before venturing into the realm of machine guns for the military near the end of the 19th Century. Seventeen years later, with America about to become involved in The Great War, John M. Browning had perfected his water-cooled machine gun, the Model of 1917 in the still-new .30-06 cartridge.





The late Gene Pretzeus fires an original full-auto Model 1918A2 BAR off the bipod.

(RPM). The Model 1918 BAR had no bipod or hinged shoulder support on the butt like later models, and had a blue finish with a heavily crosshatch-checked forend.

From a mechanical perspective, most interesting about the Bar was its locking mechanism, which was unique at the time. Instead of a rotating bolt, the BAR used a toggle-type mechanism to lock the breech. Controlled by the operating slide, this toggle raised the locking arm into engagement with a shoulder in the top of the receiver to lock it, or lowered the arm out of engagement to allow the bolt to move to the rear. One segment of the link acted as the hammer to strike the firing pin as it went into lock.

The operating slide connected to the piston, which moved back and forth inside a gas cylinder. At the front

of the cylinder was a gas port into the barrel where gas was bled from the barrel after the bullet passed the port. Being connected to the bolt, the operating slide traveled all the way back and forth with it, but the left-side cocking handle is non-reciprocating, operating semi-independently from the bolt group. Pulling the cocking handle to the rear cocks the bolt, but the cocking handle must then be manually pushed back forward where a détente holds it there.

Conceived as a portable self-loading and automatic rifle, the Model 1918 BAR was America's first entry into the world of assault rifles. Armed with one, a soldier or Marine carrying ten 20-round magazines could be quite effective in assaulting enemy trenches or positions, with the BARs slow rate of fire and relatively heavy weight allowing it to be easily con-

Class III dealer, Neal Smith, holds a rare original Model 1918 BAR. OOW now offers brand new walnut stocks made to 100% original Model 1918 specifications.



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(left) The Model 1918A2 BAR was used extensively by US Marines during both WW II and Korea. (below) A much younger Johnston fires an original Model 1918A2 BAR prone off the bipod.



trolled at close range.

Colt, Winchester and Marlin Rockwell made 85,000 Model 1918 BARs before World War I ended, but although the armistice came before the BAR could make a difference, it was officially adopted by the U.S. military, where it remained in service in its original form for almost a decade.

fire. The slow rate produced 300-450 RPM and the fast rate 500-650 RPM. These changes transformed the BAR into a highly portable light machine gun, a true squad automatic weapon (SAW). Shortly before the outbreak of World War II the new BAR was adopted as the Model 1918A2. As with the Model 1918A1, all Model 1918A2 BARs were initially made from the original 85,000 Model 1918 guns, and

Specifications:

OWW Model 1918A3 SLR

Caliber: .30-06

Muzzle Velocity: 2800 fps

Operation:

Long-stroke gas piston.
Closed-bolt firing.

Type of Fire:

Semi-automatic only

Barrel Length: 24 inches

Overall Length: 47.8 inches

Weight: 19.4 pounds

Feed Device:

20-round box magazine

Safety:

Thumb safety/selector & firing pin disconnect

Sights:

(front) Unprotected blade

(rear) Folding aperture adjustable for windage and elevation

Stock Furniture:

Black plastic buttstock and walnut forend

Finish: MilSpec Parkerized

Sling: MilSpec leather

Price: \$3,500.00 (sugg. ret.)

However, with use came improvements, and the Model 1918 BARs butt plate was later fitted with a hinged shoulder support and a bipod was mounted on the gas tube in front of the forend. With these changes, the BAR could also be used as a ground gun, and modified 1918 BARs resulted in the Model 1918A1, which was adopted in 1937. Unlike the Model 1918, the Model 1918A1 had a Parkerized finish rather than blue. The Model 1918A1 BAR weighed 18.5 pounds.

In spite of the product improved Model 1918A1, additional improvements to the BAR continued. These included a shorter flash hider, an improved bipod mounted at the muzzle and an abbreviated handguard with a heat shield to protect the recoil spring guide. Magazine guide "ears" were added to the magazine well, a finely adjustable rear sight similar to that of the M1918A4 machine gun, a new buttstock that accepted an adjustable rest, and a butt plate with a shorter shoulder rest.

Perhaps the most interesting change to the Model 1918A1 BAR was the elimination of the selective fire option, which was replaced by a rate-reducing mechanism and a switch giving the gun two rates of automatic

were Parkerized.

During WW II the Model 1918A2 BAR underwent a number of additional modifications including a simplified shortened "beavertail" forend, removal of the butt stock rest, the addition of a carrying handle and the development of a new plastic butt stock. I.B.M. and New England Small Arms Corporation made the Model 1918A2 BAR during WW II. At 19.4 pounds, the 1918A2 was the heaviest of the BARs.

After the Korean War broke out, Royal McBee Typewriter manufactured 61,000 Model 1918A2 BARs with plastic butt stocks and a new prong type flash suppressor. A new simplified gas cylinder regulator was also developed during the Korean War.

As an aside, a version of the BAR called the Browning Machine Rifle Model 1922 was developed to provide the horse cavalry a lightweight, sustained-fire capability. This weapon had a heavy barrel with radial cooling fins, its own bipod and other differences, but was made in very limited quantities and was phased out prior to WW II.

Colt's Patent Firearms Mfg. Company also made versions of the BAR for



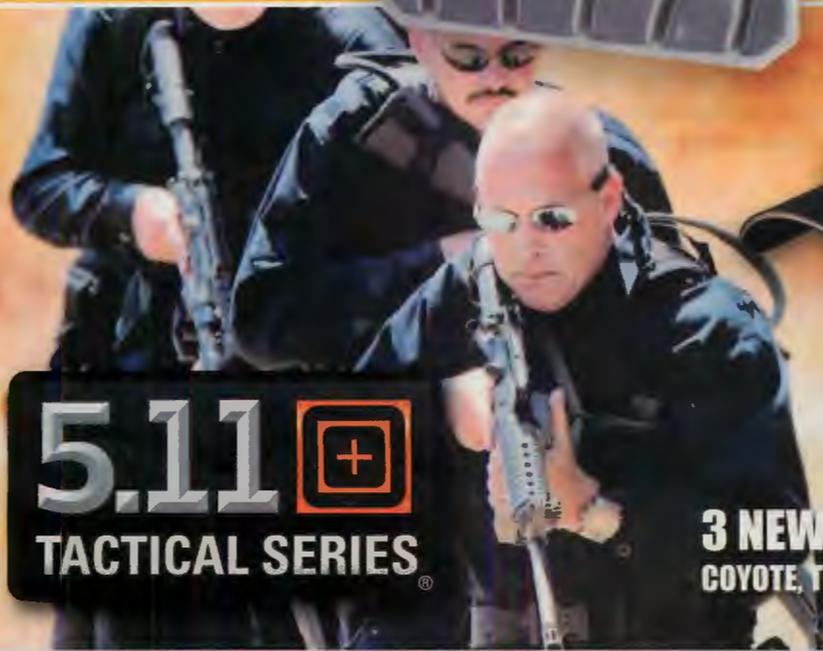
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An original Model 1918A2 BAR (top) is compared with an OOW Model 1918A3 SLR (without rear sight or receiver plate). Note the difference in the trigger group and pin locations on the semi-auto only SLR.

sale to law enforcement and foreign governments. One of these was the Colt Monitor, a short-barreled BAR, and another was the R75A, which had a quick-change barrel similar to that of the Swedish Model 37 BAR.

Another BAR variation made in limited quantities was the T34 Automatic Rifle. This was a Model 1918A2 BAR designed to use the T65E3 cartridge case, which was the basis for the 7.62x51mm NATO cartridge. The T34 was the last of the U.S. Military's BARs.

Although it is not widely known, the Model 1918A2 BAR remained in service with the U.S. Military through the early stages of the Vietnam War. My longtime friend, Mr. Robert I. Lan-

dies, founder and President of Ohio Ordnance Works, long an enthusiast of the BAR, reports that the U.S. Navy used BARs as door guns on rescue helicopters on aircraft carriers during the early stages of the Vietnam War. He also recounts an interesting story connected with that duty.

After leaving their ship for a rescue mission, one Navy helicopter landed in Vietnam to find that the enemy was putting out heavy machine-gun fire from fortified "pill box," against which M16 fire had no effect. Removing their two BARs from their helicopter door mounts, the sailors attacked the fortification with .30 caliber armor piercing rounds, which not only penetrated the walls, but killed

In this cutaway Model 1918A3 SLR, details of the bolt group can be seen with the hammer cocked and in the firing position. The SLR fires semi-automatic only, and from the closed bolt position.



all enemy combatants inside and also destroyed the machine gun they were using. After telling the story on their return to their ship, a chant of "JOHN BROWNING, JOHN BROWNING, JOHN BROWNING!" broke out among the men.

The Model 1918A3 SLR

If the BAR is gone, it certainly is not forgotten. In what can only be called a labor of love, Robert I. Landies began the development of a semi-automatic only version of the BAR in the early 1990's. Using parts in excellent to near-new condition from destroyed 1918A2 BARs, Landies designed a receiver that looked nearly identical to a real 1918A2 receiver, except for the manner in which the special semi-automatic only trigger housing was attached. In addition, the interior of the receiver was dimensionally different to prevent an original bolt group from fitting. A unique modification was an interim firing pin in what was the original hammer to act as a safety between the new hammer and the standard firing pin, as the gun fired from the closed bolt position, and required a full blow from the hammer. What was formerly the two-position rate of fire selector became a safety selector, but in the FIRE position, it allowed only one shot at a time.

Bob Landies' gun was called the Model 1918A3 Self-Loading Rifle (SLR), and with BATF approval, he undertook limited serial production, but this production was like nothing the BAR had ever known.

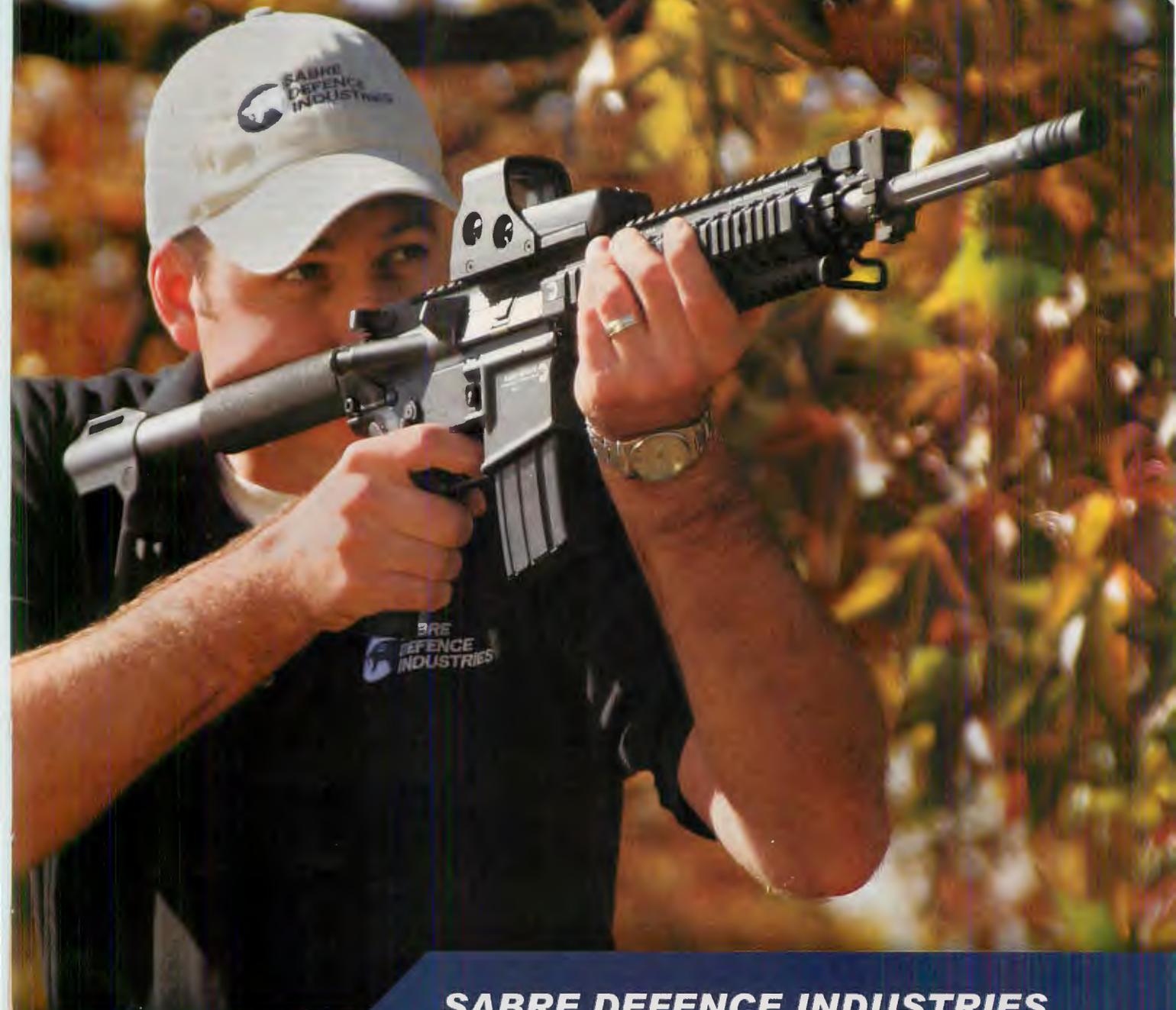
Although the receiver of the Model 1918 BAR was machined using turn-of-the-century technology, subsequent production used receivers of cast steel, and there was extensive experimentation with various other materials and methods of manufacture. This is because the BARs receiver is relatively difficult to make, requiring much material and machine time. The original gun was designed to last a lifetime and this is something it has in common with the Model 1918A3 SLR.

Sparing no cost in materials, Bob Landies selected 1051 high-carbon steel for the SLR's receiver, and programmed all machine operations into one of Ohio Ordnance's computer numerical control (CNC) machines. This guaranteed that the SLR receiver would be machined to the most spe-

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cific tolerances, as would the new semi-automatic only internal parts. Once finished, the parts were heat-treated and MilSpec Parkerized just like the original. The dream became a reality.

Being fortunate to be able to test one of the first Ohio Ordnance Works Model 1918A3 SLR's in 1995, I found the gun unbelievably accurate, producing 5-shot groups hovering about 1-inch at 100 yards from the bench using Federal .30-06 Match ammunition. In firing several hundred rounds of various surplus .30 M2 ammunition, no malfunctions whatever were experienced.

Having fired many BARs during the past 30 years, I, like most, have found it easy to fall in love with this classic gun, but with originals selling for thousands of times their original cost, they have always been beyond the reach of most collectors. With the arrival of OOW's Model 1918A3 SLR, that changed.

In addition to the 1918A2 configuration, OOW manufactured a number of SLR's using original 1918 and 1918A1 parts. However, because

original new wood furniture for these models was impossible to find, Bob Landies set out to reproduce it, and now offers brand-new walnut buttstocks and forends made to 100% original 1918 specifications, for owners of legal Model 1918 BARs to upgrade their guns.

Although original 1918 and 1918A1 parts sets essentially dried up years ago, OOW can still reproduce these guns in the SLR format, and can do the same with super rare BMR Model 1922, Monitor and other parts, recreating these classics as semi-automatic only guns. OOW even made a 1918A3 NM SLR that was used in competition at Camp Perry, Ohio. I tested this gun along with one of OOW's Model 1918 SLR's a decade ago.

In the wake of Nine-Eleven, OOW suspended production of the 1918A3 SLR, due to increased military contracts in the Global War On Terrorism (G-WOT). However, after enlarging OOW's production facility, Bob Landies has resumed production of this great classic, which is manufactured to the same precise methods before the G-WOT, using like-new original

GI parts where possible. Incidentally, OWO's VZ2000 rifle is also back in production.

It is now 89 years since the Brown- ing Automatic Rifle was adopted and it remained in service for half a century. If you want to own a piece of history, you can't do much better than the classic Model 1918A3 SLR. For information on this and all their weapons and accessories, contact Ohio Ordnance Works, Inc., P.O. Box 687, Dept. SOF, Chardon, OH 44024; phone: 440-285-3481, on the web at www.ohioordnanceworks.com. ☒

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TP9 shown with 15 round magazine and optional scope and tactical light. 30 round magazine shown at right.



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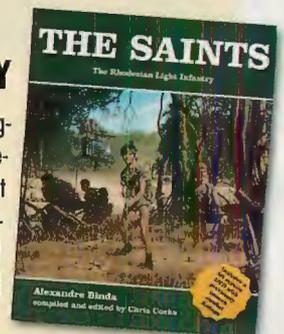
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30° South Publishers, a Johannesburg-based publishing house is releasing a coffee-table, pictorial history of the Rhodesian Light Infantry this month. The history has been written by Alexandre Binda and the text compiled by Chris Cocks. The RLI, a truly international airborne battalion fought the Zimbabwean "bush" war for more than 15 years against an overwhelming force of communist-trained guerillas. RLI soldiers received four Silver Crosses and 42 Bronze Crosses of Rhodesia. The focus of this book is to pay tribute to the soldiers of the RLI. More than 5,000 photographs were received from members of the RLI along with incredible personal accounts of the events that took place. To book your order and for further information, contact:

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money, which he has never done. He never had a gold Rolex, a Jaguar, and three or four blonde models. Maybe he wants that," Lopez said.

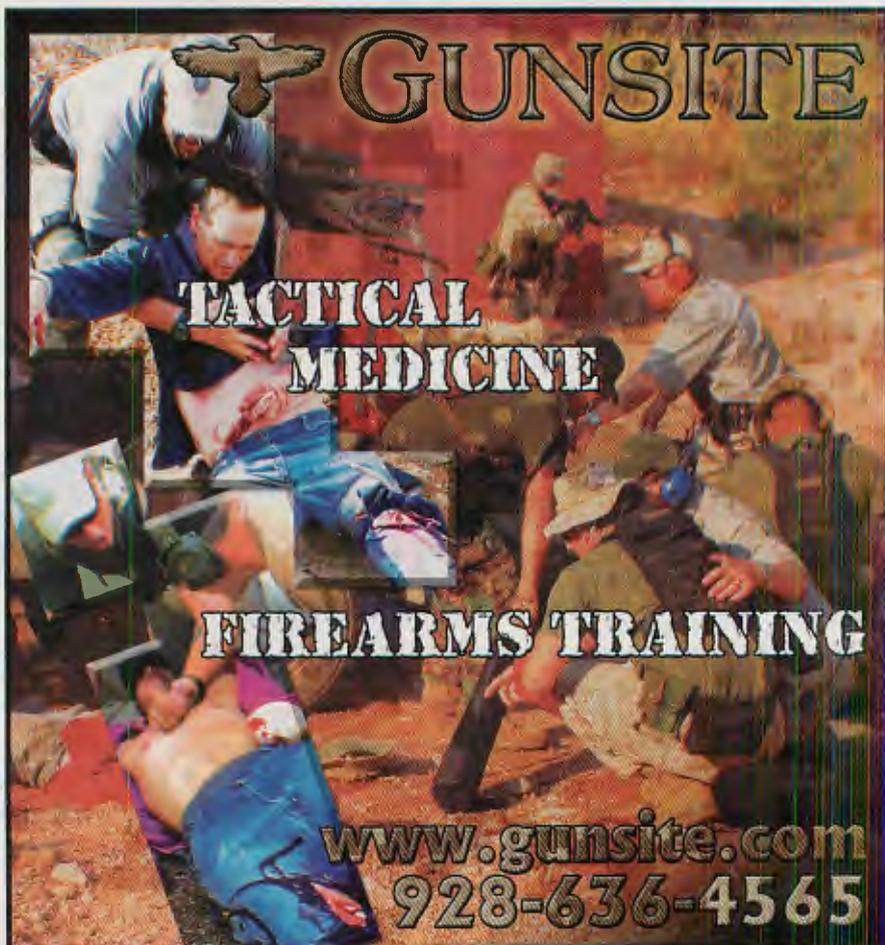
"What do you envision from the Cuban exiles in Miami, I imagine many of whom are hot heads?" RKB asked.

"Some of them were in the 2506 Brigade. I travel with many of them. They are my friends, the best Cuba had to offer. They are well educated, and have contributed heavily to the United States. Most are bitter, but have gone on with their lives. I get excited, but my life is here," the Cuban American said.

"Who is going to risk that now with an automatic weapon? That was 50 years ago."

"I'm not young. I'm a former member of the 82nd airborne. I wouldn't jump out of an airplane today," Lopez said mischievously. Lopez is lithe, runs marathons and is in great shape.

"I'm not going to pick up an assault rifle and attack Cubans," he said. ✕

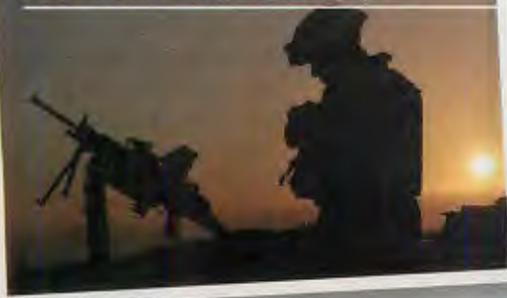


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Veterans' and Dependents' Bennies Online

The 2007 edition of the Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents is now online. This annually updated desk reference covering federal benefits programs for veterans and their families is available at http://www1.va.gov/OPA/vadocs/current_benefits.asp and <http://www1.va.gov/opa/feature/index.asp>.

Hire A Hero Program

The Armed Forces Support Foundation – Hire A Hero Program was established in 1998 and is organized as a non-profit entity. Through the foundation's Hire A Hero™ program,

▲ Senior Airman Chris Cabibi of the 506th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron checks his gear before going out on patrol at Kirkuk Regional Air Base. USAF Photo by Senior Airman

Veterans, Guard members, Reservists and their families are provided with job assistance services (for more information visit www.hireahero.com). Southern California entrepreneurs recently visited Camp Pendleton to show their support for the Hire A Hero program, and guess what: look for some leadership trainees.

“The unemployment rate among young veterans, many of whom have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, is twice the national average. With the current environment of the Global War on Terror, it is essential that we connect with our community's employment base to provide a stable financial environment for those who have served our country. One of the best ways to give back to the men and women of our Armed Forces is to employ them with a rewarding career after their transition,” notes Hire A Hero Executive Director, Dan Caulfield. ✕



▲ “You mens probably wonder why I called ‘dis meetin’...” SSG Christopher Pearce sits next to an Iraqi boy during a visit to Sheik Burhan Al Asee's house during a patrol through Riyahd village, Iraq. Pearce is with D Co., 2nd Bn, 27th Inf Regt, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Inf Div. DoD Photo by MSGT Andy Dunaway, USAF

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We have a problem, boys and girls! ☒

Michael Bane is producer of Shooting Gallery on the Outdoor Channel, and editor of michaelbane.blogspot.com. He lives near, and shoots on, public land administered by the USFS.

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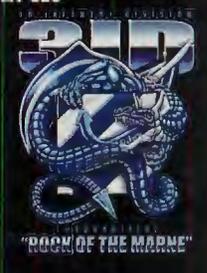
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were dropping below freezing every night I was there, it was some improvement upon laying down in the dirt outside – but not much.

Again, recall that we were in light cotton fatigues – all our cold weather gear was taken away when each of us became medical evacuees. I had no hat, no gloves, no scarf and no jacket. There were again no sheets, blankets, towels, pillows – I was glad I carried that stupid looking tie-dyed church pillow with me! I initially felt like a klutz carrying that very visible thing around as I went through my medical odyssey. But after a while, it was beautiful to me and I stared down everyone who gave me odd looks about my little pillow. But it did not do anything about warmth. Each night, I – and my fellow evacuees trying to return to duty – shivered, unable to sleep on those cots. I wore my extra T-shirt, but that was it.

Depending on Mercy, Not The System

Recall, that we were returning medical casualties, for whom many

had weak systems, unable to maintain body core temperatures. Each morning, we staggered to the dining hall to get warm and wait until the sun rose to heat up the area before we could walk around. If we could have stayed overnight in the dining halls (which were heated, and of course had hot drinks) we would have, but that was not allowed. On the third day, a group of private security detail folks on their way to Iraq were assigned to our tent. One of them took pity on me and gave me his un-insulated Gore-Tex parka to use when I slept. I could cover my head and hands and my warm breath would gradually raise the temperatures enough so that I could slip into a semi-aware state (I can not call it “sleep” as one stays partially awake when that cold). I was not warm, but was warmer.

There is no doubt the situation led to further medical problems or delayed recovery for some soldiers.

As one of the senior people in our group, I made every effort to obtain warm clothes, blankets or heated quarters, but was denied. When I

Continued on page 81



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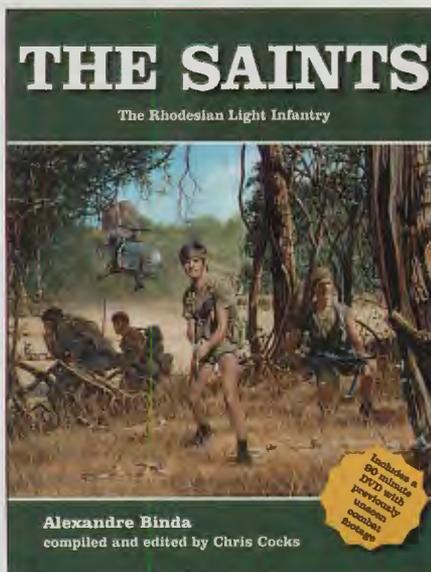
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JUNE 2007 RELEASE

The RLI, a truly international airborne battalion, comprised of over 20 nationalities, fought the bitter Zimbabwean 'bush war' for 15 years, against the overwhelming tide of communist-trained guerrillas. Kill rates don't win wars, but during its brief 19-year history, it is estimated that the RLI accounted for between 12,000 and 15,000 enemy guerrillas, for the loss of 135 men. RLI soldiers were recipients of four Silver Crosses and 42 Bronze Crosses of Rhodesia. An RLI trooper holds the world record for operational parachute descents – a staggering 73 op jumps – most under 500 feet!

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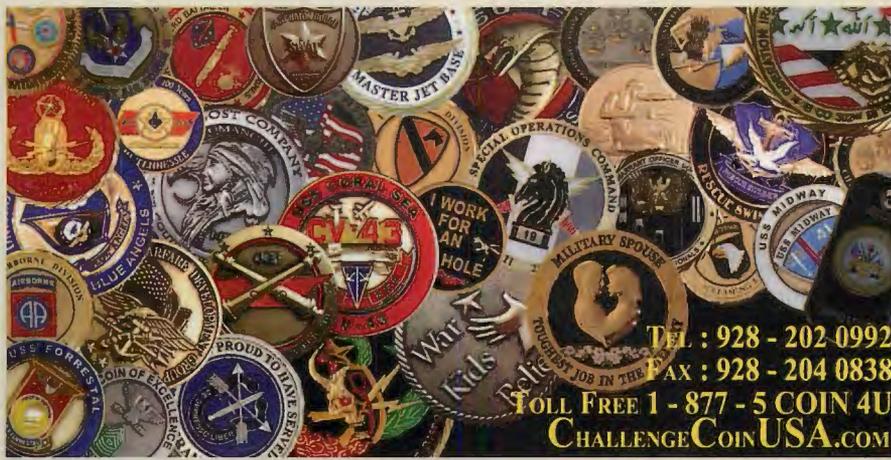
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We had by then some access to a small BX, where I found one (just one!) wool watch cap, which provided much relief to me – but the BX's were set up for 7/11 style sales of snacks and toiletries, not for re-fitting cold soldiers.

Eventually, I made my way back to my unit, where I enjoyed warmth and comfort, for the first time since my medevac.

But the questions remained with me, unanswered. Why were no provisions made for providing even the most basic of survival gear to medevac'd soldiers returning to war? Most of us were offered the opportunity to use our medical conditions to return to the U.S., but volunteered to return to the war, to finish what we all believed in. Why did we then have to rely on the kindness of church people and other altruistic groups to take care of our basic needs during our medical care and during the return to war? But for food in the dining halls, the only provision for our survival needs came from civilian donations, not from our Defense Department/ U.S. Government.

Shame! ☒

asked why there was no system for clothing us or providing us with the basics, I was told that the general attitude was that 95% of those passing through Kuwait on their way to Iraq were carrying their own gear – those Army and Marine backpacks you see us hauling around everywhere do have sleeping bags, towels, etc. - - everything necessary to survive or provide comfort while in transit. But why, I asked, after nearly three years of war, was there still no procedure for temporarily re-equipping returning combat casualties with the basics,

when it was a given that each of us would be deprived of our survival gear – including portions of our uniforms – and then sent back, virtually naked by military standards, through this system? If my fatigues had been cut away or stripped off, I'd have arrived at the terminal in a hospital gown – and returned to Iraq in it, after four days of waiting for flights. Frankly, I would have succumbed to hypothermia.

Surely, there were thousands of soldiers who went through what we went through.

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Oliver North is host of "War Stories" on the Fox News Channel. The opinions expressed below are his own and do not represent the views of Fox News and/or Soldier Of Fortune.

Latin Library

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Oil-rich Venezuelan strongman Hugo Chavez has pulled out all the stops to protest the man he calls "the devil." Well-organized anti-American crowds are dogging President Bush at every stop during his weeklong swing through Latin America. What Chavez and his Latin-leftist allies don't realize is that rioting radicals clashing with security forces are nothing compared to what Bush left behind. He picked a good time to get out of town.

Here in Washington the weather is cold and the politics are even colder. The administration is being beaten like a rented mule over the deplorable conditions in which wounded warriors were warehoused at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Democrat detractors and their pliant pals in the press, outraged over the "surge" in Iraq, have been pelting the president like a pinata. Condoleezza Rice's most recent effort to launch an Israeli-Palestinian peace conference has crashed, and only 32 percent approve of the job Bush is doing, according to the latest Gallup numbers. Masters of the media are crowing that I. Lewis Libby, Vice President Dick Cheney's former chief of staff, has been convicted and the veep has a blood clot in his leg.

Sure sounds like a good time for Bush to head south. Officially, the White House says that the purpose of the president's trip to Brazil, Colombia, Uruguay, Guatemala and Mexico — his longest to the region — is to "underscore the commitment of the United States to the Western Hemisphere and ... highlight our common agenda to advance freedom, prosperity, and social justice and deliver the benefits of democracy in the areas of health, education, and economic opportunity." Those are certainly good reasons for our head of state to visit our southern neighbors. The only question: Is it too little, too late?

Last month Bush proclaimed 2007 the "year of engagement" with Latin America. And last week, before departing for the region he told the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, "the fact is that tens of millions of our brothers and sisters to the south have seen little improvement in their daily lives...and this has led some to question the value

of democracy." All true — but there's more to it than that.

The president's critics — like the Los Angeles Times — claim that the administration's "fixation on Iraq and the Middle East has left Latin America, once the focus of Cold War conflicts, largely ignored, except for U.S. insistence on aggressive drug-interdiction and free-trade policies." Yet, to a large extent Latin America's economic stagnation and disaffection with democracy began more than a decade ago.

From 1981-1989, President Ronald Reagan waged an unrelenting, eight-year campaign of democratic transition in our Southern hemisphere. Despite hostility in Congress and the press, he engaged every department and agency of our government in the effort, and his determination paid off. Democratic elections swept aside despots of the right and left from Central America to Tierra del Fuego, and by 1991 Cuba was the only dictatorship remaining on our side of the world. The flood of humanity seeking political freedom and economic opportunity across our southern borders slowed to a trickle. And then, so did American attention.

By 1994 — the year Hugo Chavez got out of jail for his role in a failed coup attempt — U.S. focus on Latin America was practically non-existent. Diminished international aid, decreased U.S. military presence, reduced attention on building democratic institutions and cuts in economic re-vitalization projects had become commonplace throughout the region. When Chavez won election in 1998, with fewer than 36 percent of the electorate bothering to cast a ballot, there were no alarms sounded in Washington's corridors of power, nor have there been many since.

Regrettably, Clinton-era policies toward the region have been altered little in the last six years, despite growing anti-American sentiment, increasing economic disruption and clear evidence that China, Russia and Iran have been moving to fill the void left by U.S. inattention. "The rise of leaders like Hugo Chavez in Caracas, Evo Morales in La

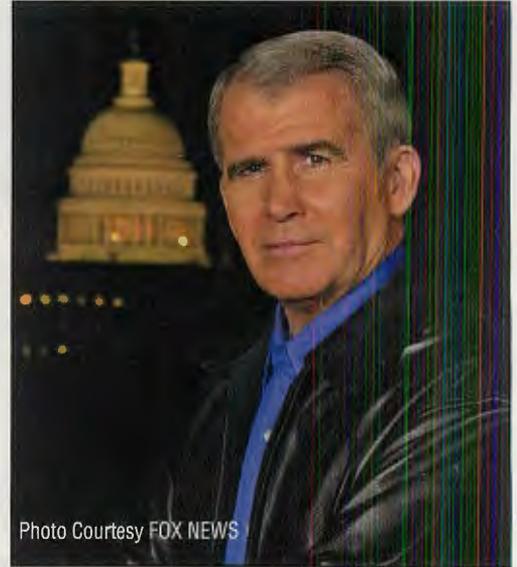


Photo Courtesy FOX NEWS

Paz and the return of Daniel Ortega to Managua are the consequence of a belief in Washington that you can wash your hands of us once we hold an election. That's either arrogance, ignorance or both," an embittered Nicaraguan told me last week.

He has a point. Chavez and Morales were both elected, and both now rule by decree. Ortega's return to power was the consequence of our State Department's fatally flawed attempt to create a new political party in Nicaragua — a trick the U.S. government has never been able to pull off in any country.

Whether Bush can reverse the anti-democracy, anti-free enterprise trend in Latin America remains to be seen, but it's worth the effort. Even his opponents in Congress should hope that he succeeds in convincing the leaders he visits that we want individual liberty and economic opportunity to succeed in their countries. If it doesn't, we won't be able to build a fence high enough or long enough to keep out those who will walk here seeking what they cannot find at home. ☒

Oliver North is the host of "War Stories" on the FOX News Channel. 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.

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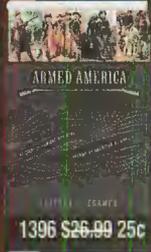
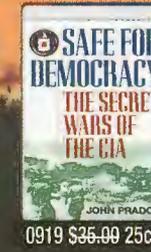
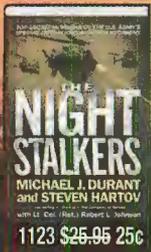
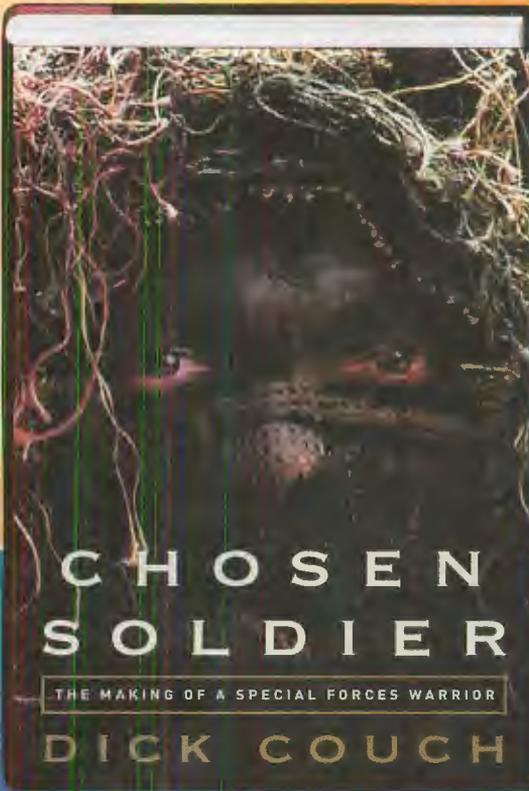
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