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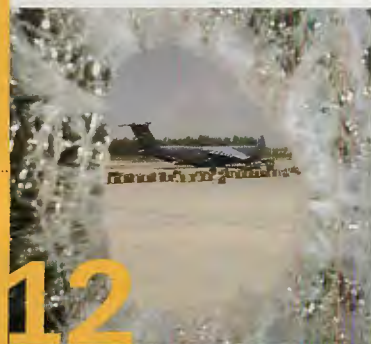
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On the cover: Army Captain Douglas Laxson of 3rd Bde Combat Team, 101st Airborne, leads his troops on a routine presence patrol on outskirts of Sadr City, Iraq. Photo: SSG Russell L. Klika, USA



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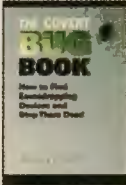
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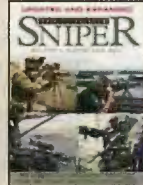
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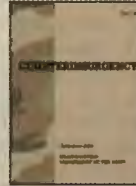
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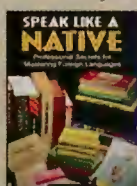


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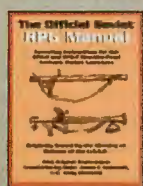


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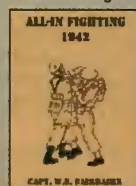
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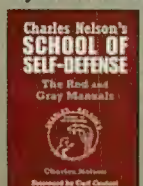
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COMMAND GUIDANCE

THE MONTAGNARDS: AMERICA'S FORMER ALLIES FACE A TROUBLED FUTURE

BY SCOTT JOHNSON, ADVISOR TO THE MONTAGNARD FOUNDATION

U.S. Special Forces considered the Montagnard hill tribes one of America's most loyal allies during the Vietnam War. Today, these indigenous people suffer brutal persecution in Vietnam, creating a difficult situation for U.S./Vietnam relations.

It is unanimous among Special Forces veterans that the Montagnards were not only loyal allies to the United States during the War, but they were also some of the best combat forces in Vietnam. Retired SF Major Jim Morris, with three tours in Vietnam, describes the Montagnards as "tigers" who were essential in staving off communist influence in the Central Highlands. He states, "They fought for America and wanted what we had." The Montagnards however, would not get "what we had" - freedom, democracy or the right to exist without fear of persecution. After taking over South Vietnam in 1975, the communists would launch a vendetta against these people that looks like nothing short of genocide.

Through deliberate acts of persecution, economic mismanagement and corruption, the communists in Hanoi have brutally repressed one of the world's oldest indigenous people for decades. The years of land confiscation, Christian religious persecution and brutality, including killings and torture, have today taken a deadly toll on the Montagnards. The war itself had been devastating enough and atrocities such as the mass murder of more than 500 Montagnards in 1967 at Dak Son should have been a warning to the world of what was to come. Unfortunately, the mass media took little notice of how hundreds of Montagnard women and children were butchered by the communists with flamethrowers.

The powers to be claim that "economic engagement" is the answer to modernizing Vietnam, yet Vietnam to date has fiercely resisted human rights reforms. Since gaining accession to the WTO last year and receiving normalized trade relations

with the U.S., Vietnam has reneged on its promises of reform and instead launched a brutal crackdown on dissidents and the Montagnard population.

In the Central Highlands, Montagnard house-church Christians are arrested, tortured, even killed by security forces while calls for the U.S. State Department to reinstate Vietnam on the "watch list" of nations that are the most egregious violators of religious freedom, have gone unheeded.

In May, several hundred Montagnard exiles, members of the Montagnard Foundation, converged outside the Vietnamese Embassy in Washington, D.C., calling on Hanoi to cease the persecution of their people. The demonstrators were also calling on the United States to remember them, their former allies, in their diplomatic dealings with Hanoi. It remains unclear how seriously their calls were taken.

Today more than 350 Montagnards remain in Vietnamese prisons and the Montagnard population faces a dubious future as "economic engagement" plays out in Washington and Hanoi. The future is uncertain for the Montagnard race and although economic change is occurring in Vietnam, political changes, namely human rights and religious reform, remain stagnated in communist authoritarian rule. Unfortunately for the Montagnards, the Vietnam War never ended.

U.S. military documents indicate that at any one time during the Vietnam War approximately 40,000 Montagnards were serving with the U.S. military, while during the decades-long war an estimated 100,000 Montagnards had served in various capacities with the U.S. By the end of war in 1975, it was estimated that more than 200,000 Montagnards, roughly one-quarter of their population, had perished.

For more information on the Montagnards, visit: <http://www.montagnard-foundation.org>

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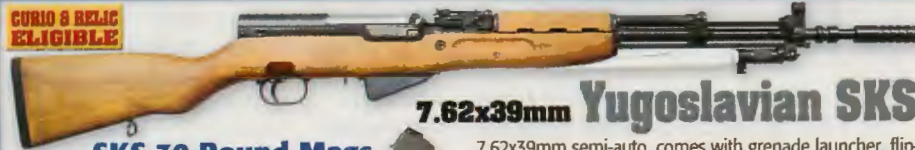


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Remembering/ Dismembering Che



ALBERTO KORDA

Another interesting tidbit from the Che project: To make positive identification of Che, his head was removed from the body and sent to Washington for the TSD techs to compare it to his photos.

When it got to the diplomatic pouch room in the State Department headquarters (all incoming pouches are opened there and scrutinized for contraband), a large matronly lady opened the box and there was Che, leering up at her with a deadly smile on his face! The dry ice was gone, and he had turned a ripe black color. She promptly fainted! And there followed pained exchanges on the propriety of shipping heads in the diplomatic pouch, between the tea sippers and the admin guys at headquarters.

Best regards,
(name withheld)

*"Killing Che" -- The
Washington Times*

I read [the John Weisman] review of the book on Che with pleasure and profit. Regarding Che, one of these days I will reread his Bolivian diary to find the page where he recounts an ambush he planned in which he shows himself to be a rank military amateur. What I remember of his own description is that it was a linear ambush on a trail. There were no security teams

on the flanks or at the objective rallying point.

The Bolivian patrol, with a scout dog and handler at the point, walked into the ambush. Che had ordered he would signal when to spring the ambush by firing his weapon first. Apparently unaware of what he was saying, Che describes how once the point man, the dog handler, walked into the killing zone, he fired at the dog; fired at a poor animal that had lead the patrol into his killing zone and could not shoot back.

Of course, the main element of the Bolivian patrol went into an immediate action drill, charging the flank of the guerrillas and forcing them to abandon their ambush position after taking casualties.

You and I know that if an NCO in the Army or Marines had conducted such an ambush, it would have been justifiable grounds for demotion. Che is one of those myths manufactured by clever totalitarian propagandists and parroted by the moronic left.

Keep safe,
Un abrazo,
Amado

Displaying the Flag

Why are our servicemen/women wearing a backwards U.S. flag on their uniforms? What does a backwards U.S. flag mean? (I consider it an insult). Maybe it's a coincidence, but I didn't see any of these backwards flags until after Slick Willie's administration forced our soldiers to move the flag to the opposite shoulder, replacing it with the UN flag. I smell something rotten. I hope I'm wrong. Please clarify. Thanks for everything.

Mark P.
New York

The current rule for displaying the American flag is, when it is displayed other than on a standard or flagpole, such

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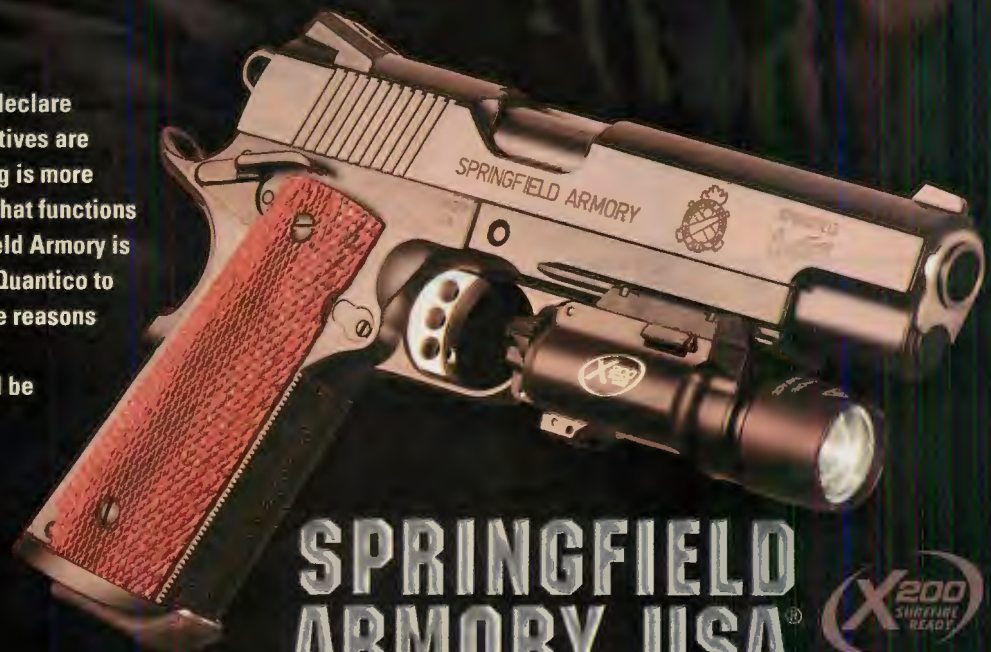
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BULLETIN BOARD

BULLETIN BOARD
CONTINUED ON PAGE 71



Coastie Dope

U.S. Coastguardsmen offload more than 2,400 pounds of cocaine and four bales of marijuana from the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Northland* (WMEC 904) at Naval Station Mayport, Fla. The dope was seized off the coast of Colombia. Photo: DoD by MCS2 Susan Cornell, USN

Hawkeye

Sailors of the Seahawks of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 126 secure an E-2C Hawkeye to the flight deck of the USS *Harry S. Truman*. Photo: U.S. Navy by MCS3 Kristopher Wilson



Engage

U.S. Army soldier with the Multi Iraqi Transitional Team, 4th Bn, 2nd Brigade, 5th Iraqi ID, tries to positively ID and engage a target during ops in Buhiz, Iraq. Photo: USAF by SGT. Stacy L. Pearsall



Swirly Bird

USAF C-17A Globemaster III of the 437th Airlift Wing rearranges the clouds on a training mission out of Charleston AFB. Photo: DoD by SSGT D. Myles Cullen, USAF

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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.

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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.



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THE BATTLE OF

BIAP



DEATH-DEALING DOUBLE-CLUTCHERS DRIVE BACK INSURGENT ATTACK, PART I

BY RICHARD E. KILLBLANE PHOTOS COURTESY CAPT. JAMES MCCORMICK

A USAF C-5 Galaxy cargo aircraft from the 312th Airlift Squadron (Dover, Delaware), is framed in a holed windshield as it sits on the ramp at BIAP, during a redeployment mission. A disproportionate amount of materiel is sent to Iraq through BIAP, from where it is distributed by the master movers of outfits like the 518th and 1487th. Transportation troops deliver the goods, and, on occasion, step outside their PMOS to take up the defense of their comrades. DoD Photo by MSGT James M. Bowman, USAF



There is good reason that all Army troops first go through basic infantry training before they go on to

specialized schools, many of which are to prepare them for “support” missions. The reason is that in war, “support” troops such as signal, transportation, quartermaster and so on will often have to fight as infantry, either to accomplish their support mission or to aid infantry. With the war in Iraq, even blue-water Navy and Air Force troops are going through newly designed combat schools.

This infantry training and imbued fighting spirit has stood them in good stead. The action at hand involves mobilized National Guard transportation corps troops of the 1487th Medium Truck Company who took the fight to the enemy and prevailed in an action that would have made any infantry commander proud.

The best measure of heroism is to listen closely to the stories soldiers tell about other soldiers. The best of these stories tend to take on lives of their own and grow into legend. Probably the best flattery to any hero is when others claim credit for having participated in the same action. For truck drivers in Iraq, one of the greater stories of heroism occurred on 11 April 2004 when truck drivers beat back an insurgent attack on the south wall of Baghdad International Airport, more commonly known as BIAP.

2LT James McCormick II, of the 1487th Medium Truck Company, had already distinguished himself during a convoy ambush on 22 March 2004. When the ambush began, he immediately turned into the enemy and returned fire until the convoy had cleared the kill zone. At the cost of a leg wound, he had demonstrated how to repel an enemy attack.

After locals had slain four contract security guards in Fallujah on

31 March, the U.S. Marines withdrew from the city as command thought that this might appease the followers of Muqtada al Sadr. The withdrawal, instead, emboldened the insurgents. Revolt rapidly spread to the Baghdad area, resulting in increased attacks on convoys. Having listened to the escalation of enemy attacks on convoys up north, SSG Gruver, of the 1486th Medium Truck Company, had a bad feeling about his next convoy to BIAP. NCOs tend to survive more by common sense than policy and procedures. He approached 2LT McCormick in his sister company in the 812th Transportation Battalion and asked if he would accompany his convoy. He told the lieutenant, “I hear you kick ass.” How could the officer turn him down?

McCormick told his company commander that he wanted to ride with the convoy. CPT Patrick Hinton informed him that his leg wound had



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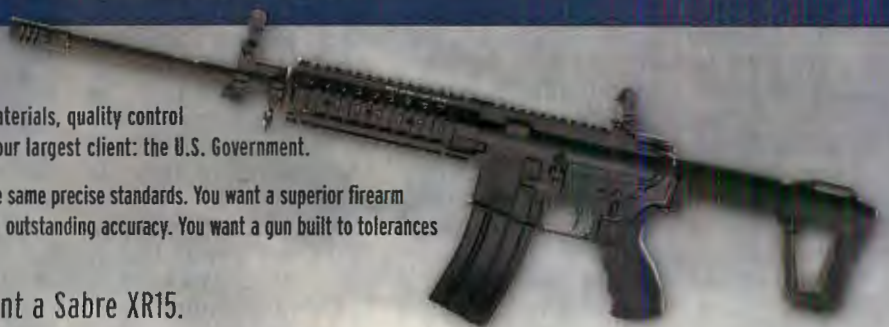
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not yet healed. McCormick insisted, explaining he felt that the convoy might need his help. The commander gave in and let McCormick pick volunteers to crew his HMMV gun truck.

For his volunteer crew, McCormick picked Bryan Noble as his driver. Noble was a ballsy individual who had fought with him in the previous ambush. SPC Brandon Lawson accompanied them as the radio operator. SPC Ralph Blue, from the 812th Battalion staff, also volunteered. He had an infantry background so McCormick took him along. That gave his HMMV a crew of four.

Prior to April 2004, any vehicle with a crew-served weapon was considered a gun truck, whether it was armored or not.

McCormick and his crew had recently acquired armored doors for his HMMV, then painted the vehicle with alternating black and tan stripes. The crew then set about to chose an appropriate name for their gun truck. McCormick liked the name, "Raptor," but his crew suggested the name, "Zebra." The lieutenant mentioned that Zebras ran from fights and asked if the men had ever seen a Zebra turn into a fight. They joked that it still looked like a Zebra and the name stuck.

Just hours prior to departing, McCormick made a deal with some mechanics to install a pedestal mount for an M2 .50 caliber machinegun in his HMMV. As a former infantry scout squad leader, he was the only one with experience on the weapon so he manned the .50 on his HMMV gun truck. He knew the M249 SAW would not intimidate the enemy.

On 7 April, SSG Gruver's convoy of the 1486th TC left for Scania and the next day it was en route to BIAP. Around 1900 hours, the lead elements of the convoy turned off MSR Tampa toward the gate. The crew of SGT K'ray D. Holloway's HMMV gun truck could see the gate. After the first few vehicles of the convoy had made the turn onto the service road, they heard two loud explosions in front of the convoy. An estimated 30 insurgents were waiting in ambush. Concealed by the reeds, the enemy fired from the ditches on both sides of the road. A

vehicle with insurgents waited further up on Tampa under the overpass, and the enemy had a mortar concealed behind it. SGT Holloway's gun truck pulled into the left hand lane and raced to the intersection to provide cover. One of the gunners, SGT Tracy Dyer, saw three armed Iraqis dressed in black running for cover to the left.

his crew.

The lieutenant then climbed back behind the .50 and saw tree branches, 300 yards way, move and light up every time the mortar fired. He started working the tree line with 100 rounds from his .50 and the mortar stopped firing. A bullet had grazed SPC Lawson's upper leg. The

Rather than mortar the valuable assets beyond the wall at BIAP, the attackers chose the medieval approach – mortar the wall in an attempt to breach it, then assault through the breach. Wrong. The Zebra and crew would not let that happen.



McCormick noticed three cars with Iraqis driving up and down the road, firing at the convoy. McCormick ordered his HMMV to turn into the fire and move to the intersection. He had to hop out of the hole cut in his HMMV top since there was not enough room to turn the .50 and fire at the cars. A

round came through the mount and hit him in the left hand and another hit his sappy plate knocking him down into the floor of the Zebra. He then looked out and saw two insurgents with grenades walking toward his HMMV. The belt of .50 caliber ammunition slipped out of his bloody hand so he grabbed the first thing he could, a flare, and fired it at the enemy. It started a fire in the brush and caused the enemy to flee. He then grabbed his M16 and exchanged fire with them, dropping them both. After the round had hit his sappy plate, McCormick explained it like a spiritual event that brought him closer to God, whom he gives the credit for the survival of himself and

Zebra drove off of the road on shot out tires and continued to return fire while they called for the Quick Reaction Force. It was during this fighting that McCormick told his crew "Keep up the fire, do not give up!" The Quick Reaction Force arrived as the fight was nearly over, just after the

It may look like an assortment of port-a-jons and conexes to the casual observer, but it is the stuff wars are run on – the stuff the transportation corps gets to where it is needed, and on occasion, the stuff it defends. Smoke from POL tankers, burning miles away after insurgent attack, blackens the sky.



crew of the Zebra shot up a blue car that sped by, shooting at them. The fight had lasted 45 minutes and the convoy had five wounded soldiers, but the insurgents lost 18 confirmed KIA. McCormick earned his second Purple Heart medal for that scrap.





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Lt. McCormick gives a thumbs-up from the back of the "Zebra" gun truck: Can Do, damn straight. Can deliver, can defend, can take the fight to the enemy.

This would lead to his reputation for being a bullet magnet.

While the convoy waited at BIAP the next day, 9 April or Good Friday, all hell broke loose around them. Sadr's al Mahdi militia had dropped several bridges in the Baghdad area, engaged in fights with the 1st Cavalry Division and ambushed several convoys in the Suni Triangle. The drivers stood on the cabs of their trucks to observe the columns of smoke rise up from where the 724th POL convoy had lost seven out of 19 fuel tankers running through a 4- to 5-mile kill zone on MSR Tampa. This was the worst of many ambushes that took place that day. SGT Elmer C. Krause and SPC Keith "Matt" Maupin, were captured. SGT Krause's body was later found on 23 April and Maupin still remains missing.

The KBR driver, Thomas Hamill, was also captured but escaped after 27 days of captivity. PFC Jeremy Church earned the Silver Star for his heroic actions that day. Muslim insurgents who react violently to the smallest slight to their religion had no qualms about attacking on the sanctity of Christian holidays. Easter Sunday was just two days away.

While waiting, SGT Anthony Richardson, a 1487th Medium Truck supply sergeant, talked to the crew of the Zebra about their ambush. McCormick then asked SGT Richardson if he wanted to ride with them when they escorted a convoy to the Green Zone on Sunday. Richardson, a former Marine, made the fifth crewmember of the Zebra.

The crew of the Zebra waited that Sunday morning when they heard on the Sheriff net of their SINCGARS radio that an Apache helicopter had been shot down within 5 miles of BIAP. Never to back down from a fight or someone in need of help, the crew drove to Entry Control Point 7 at the south gate to go to the assistance of the downed helicopter. The gate guards would not let the Zebra exit without the proper authorization so they turned back to the convoy-staging yard.

Earlier that day, a local Iraqi civilian had walked up to the gate at BIAP to inform the guards that insurgents planned to attack and breach the south wall. Charlie Battery, 4-5 ADA, 1st Cavalry Division had responsibility for the perimeter security. A platoon of the battery normally manned seven to eight guard towers with two people per tower and an Avenger HMMV on the adjacent dirt ramp. 1LT Tom Obaseki's 1st Platoon had just relieved 1LT Jason Coad's 3rd Platoon. As soon as Coad's platoon returned to Camp Victory where they lived, Coad dismissed them and reported to the TOC. There, 1LT Trey Elrod, the XO, warned him that insurgents were about to breach the wall. As quickly as he could, Coad rounded up six to eight of his soldiers in the LMTV to go reinforce the south wall.

Meanwhile, the M6 Linebacker (ADA Bradley), a hundred meters behind the south gate, recognized a vehicle up the street that was on the red list of suspected insurgents. The crew fired upon it with their 25mm chain gun just as the Zebra was returning. At 1220 hours, the nearest guard tower reported that it came under fire from small arms and rockets. It was lunchtime and neither of the two Avengers was on its ramp along the south wall. The Battle of BIAP had begun.

Suddenly, the crew of the Zebra heard intense fire pounding on the south wall. McCormick spotted the vacant dirt ramp adjacent a guard tower that had been constructed for an ADA Avenger. McCormick told Noble to drive to the ramp. McCormick yelled up at a soldier in the tower, "We are ready to go, we'll get up on the berm and fire." The Soldier yelled down, "Wait a minute, wait a minute." By then the guard tower came under heavy enemy fire, splintering the wood. McCormick told his driver to drive up on the ramp anyway.

Once on the ramp, the crew of the Zebra came under fire from a house approximately 75 meters on the left and from half a dozen insurgents on the berm built up by an irrigation ditch about 50 meters to their front. Cattle were grazing in the field between them. The crew of the Zebra saw teams of four to six insurgents dressed in black, bounding toward the berm across the open field

behind it, as other teams provided covering fire. McCormick estimated approximately 40 insurgents. The puffs of smoke in the tree line behind the berm betrayed the location of a mortar. He did not know where the others were. Although the hundreds of parked trucks in the marshalling yard behind the south wall provided a more lucrative target, the enemy concentrated their mortar and RPG fire on the wall. The insurgents waited behind the berm until the mortar rounds would blow an opening in the wall for them to assault through. The 8-foot high cinder-block wall buckled with each explosion, but held firm.

McCormick immediately opened fire with his .50 and ordered his crew to get out, take up positions and return fire. Noble, Richardson, Lawson and Blue quickly dismounted on both sides of the HMMV and returned fire. McCormick fired off 100 rounds of his .50 in less than a minute, thinking that if he could lay



"Zebra" was painted in black and tan striped camouflage so insurgents would know who was coming and be forewarned. One insurgent gunner fired his best shot at the driver - to no avail.

down enough suppressive fire, the attack might slacken. In response, he received a hailstorm of enemy fire. The rounds zipped overhead sounding like a storm of horns. The situation looked bad.

McCormick asked the men in the tower to call for air support since BIAP was an airfield. The soldiers told him that air support was not needed. The lieutenant then instructed Noble to call 3rd Platoon, 1487th for their 5-ton gun truck because it had an Mk19. Noble relayed the message that the platoon sergeant said he did not want to risk the lives of his soldiers since it was the responsibility of the QRF to defend the wall. McCormick responded, "I guess we're on our own."

Next month, McCormick and his men prove it's the mindset, not the MOS, that wins battles, as they engage the enemy head-on and hot-and-heavy. ✖



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TRAINING

For the past few months, French and German military units, making up the largest part of EUFOR, have worked together in coordinated training activities. Here: two French officers work out map coordinates with two German paratroopers from the 262nd Battalion, 2e Luftlande Unterstutzungs.





TEXT AND PHOTOS RICHARD LUCAS

THE CONGO

EUROFOR RDC TROOPS KEEP THE LID ON A CENTER OF COPPER, GOLD, AND DIAMONDS.

ON 5 DECEMBER 2006, the inauguration of Joseph Kabila as President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo confirmed the results of the first free elections held in the country since independence. One of Africa's largest countries, the RDC has a population of more than 62 million and is equal in size to roughly one third of the United States. In 1960, Belgium granted independence to its former colony, but since then the Congo has moved from one crisis to another through a sea of political troubles. With one political faction or ethnic group pitted against another, differences often erupted in violent confrontation. During the Second Congo Civil War (1998-2002), in which several neighboring countries became involved, an estimated 4.5

million people perished, many from famine and sickness when a fragile infrastructure was the first casualty of conflict.

Faced with the ever-present danger of civil strife and to avoid any attempt by the opposition parties to take over the government by force, the European Community created EUFOR RDC (European Force Republic Democratic Congo) -- a uniquely European peacekeeping force under United Nations mandate. The deployment of EUFOR in the Congo marks the first time that a combined European force comprised of personnel coming from all the EC (European Community) countries has of its own borders. The operational commander of EUFOR in the Congolese capital of Kinshasa, the

French General Christian Damay, views the EUFOR mission here as "an important first step toward the creation of an European Army."

CONGOLESE INDEPENDENCE AND THE MOBUTU REGIME

In 1960 the Belgian Congo became an independent entity under the name "Republic of the Congo," paradoxically the same name as its neighbor, the former French colony French Equatorial Africa. The name "Democratic Republic" was adopted in 1966, but the two countries are generally referred to by the names of their respective capitals: Congo -- Kinshasa (formerly Leopoldville) and Congo -- Brazzaville. The two

cities, Kinshasa and Brazzaville, are on opposite sides of the Congo River directly across from each other, making them the two national capitals in the closest proximity anywhere in the world.

Congolese independence was marked by the assassination of the nationalist leader Patrice Lumumba, an advocate of pan-African socialism, who wanted the reintegration of the mineral-rich provinces of Katanga and Sud-Kasai back into the Republic. These two provinces had sought independence and had seceded from the Congo the day after Belgium had relinquished its hold on the country. Concurrent with these events was the rise in power of Mobutu Sese Seko, an obscure journalist with some military experience who went on to become absolute ruler of the country. Under Mobutu, the country began a program of "zairianisation." The name was changed to Republic of "Zaire," the word for "river" in the local dialect. All citizens were required to "Africanize" their names by eliminating given names having a European connotation and by the addition of an African "post name." The franc was replaced by a new currency, the "Zaire," and a number of cities had their colonial names changed back to the original African ones.

Mobutu remained in power until 1997. His 37-year reign, one of the longest in African history, was characterized by a megalomania that was at times generous and at times violent.

A CLASSIC TYRANT

In 1969, he suppressed a student rebellion with extreme measures. More than a hundred protesters were killed and their corpses piled in mass graves. A dozen were sentenced to death and executed and the university was closed for more than a year, and its two thousand

students impressed into the army where, according to the government-run television, they would "learn to keep their mouths shut and to obey."

In 1974, Mobutu was responsible for the organization of one of the greatest sports events ever seen on the African continent, the "Rumble in the Jungle" the epic boxing match that pitted the former champion Mohammed Ali against one of boxing's greatest heavyweights, George Foreman. Ali dominated the match and regained his title, but Mobutu dominated the event, with his image on giant billboards all around the 20th of May Stadium and throughout the city center. In 1984 his personal fortune was estimated at four billion dollars, an amount that was more than the entire foreign debt of the country.

A MESSY CIVIL WAR

Mobutu was overthrown in 1997 by Laurent Desire Kabila during the first Congo Civil War, and the country was renamed "Democratic Republic of the Congo." Kabila's seizure of power set off further hostilities with neighboring states. Finally in July 1999, a ceasefire treaty was signed (the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement) by the RDC and five neighboring nations involved in the conflict. To ensure that the treaty

was upheld and to maintain communication between the belligerents, the United Nations created the MONUC (*Mission d'Organisation des Nations Unis au Congo*). The mission began with the UN units already deployed in the region and in the year 2000 was substantially enlarged and the duration of the mission prolonged.

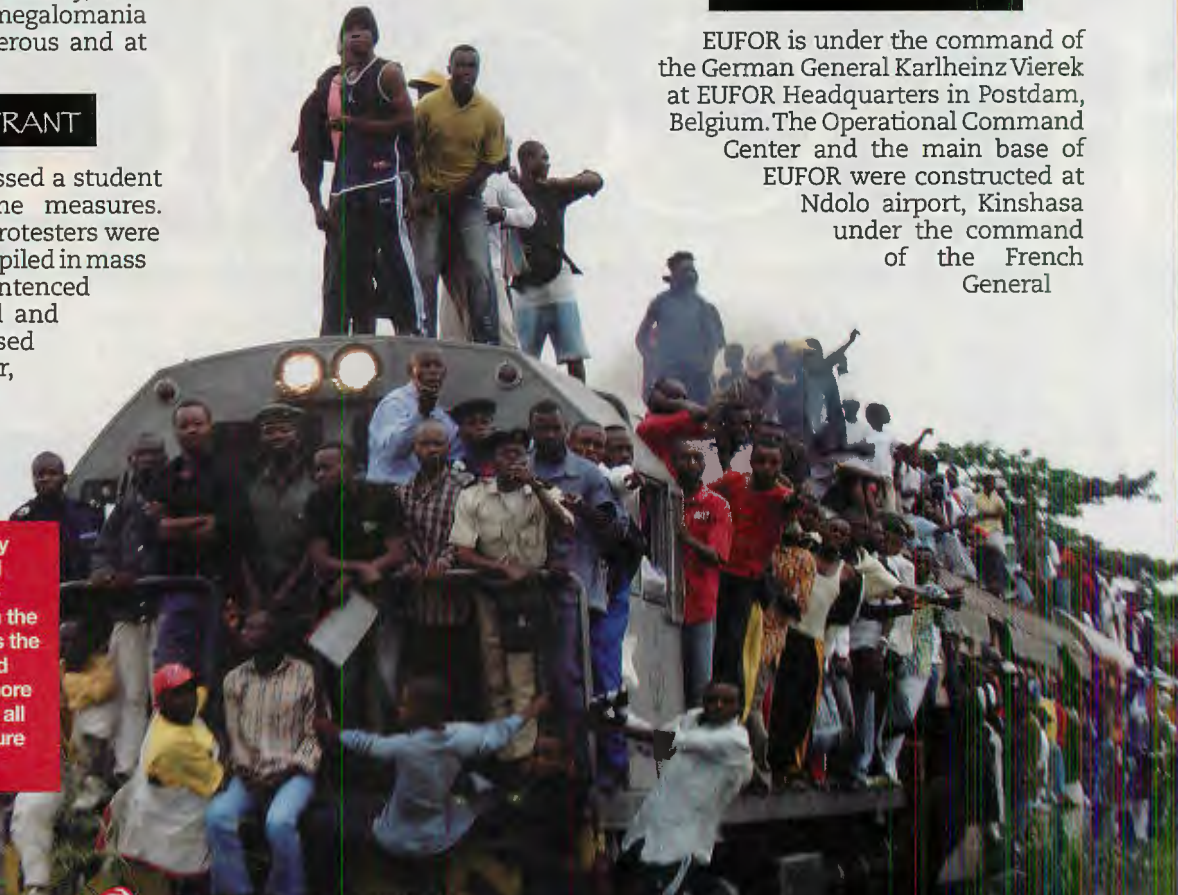
Since its creation, MONUC has maintained a presence in the Congo and at this time it has more than 15,000 soldiers and military observers coming from more than 30 different countries in its ranks. There are also 300 civilian police officers attached to the mission. With troops stationed throughout the Congo, MONUC is the largest peacekeeping force presently deployed in the world.

In view of the upcoming elections in 2006 the United Nations ratified UN Mandate No. 1671 in April of that year, which authorized the creation of a special European intervention force EUFOR RDC (*European Force Republique Democratique du Congo*). The role of EUFOR as defined by the mandate was to give support to the Congolese forces and MONUC units in case of need, protect civilians threatened by violence, provide security for the airports of Kinshasa, insure the safety of foreigners present in the country and to facilitate their extrication if necessary.

REMOTE CONTROL

EUFOR is under the command of the German General Karlheinz Vierek at EUFOR Headquarters in Postdam, Belgium. The Operational Command Center and the main base of EUFOR were constructed at Ndolo airport, Kinshasa under the command of the French General

Kinshasa is the largest city in sub-Saharan Africa and one of the largest French-speaking urban centers in the world. In the past 10 years the population, now estimated at nearly 10 million, has more than doubled, over-taxing all aspects of the infrastructure such as public transport.



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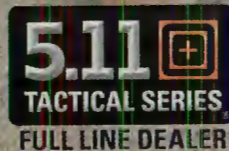


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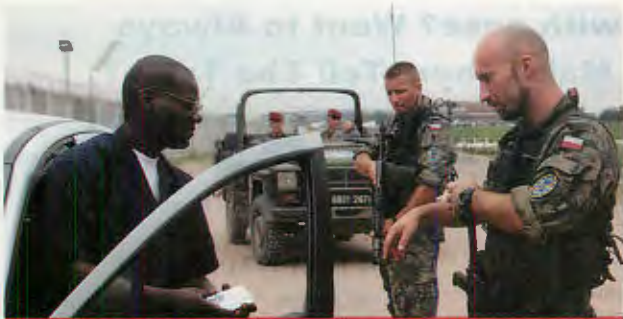
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Soldiers from a special unit of Polish Military Police in charge of security of EUFOR's main base at Ndolo Airport, Kinshsa check ID of a Congolese civilian entering the base.

Christian Damay, Chief of Operations. EUFOR has 1,400 soldiers deployed at Ndolo. Units include a German field hospital, logistics and support personnel, a "Psy-Ops" group, a "drone" unit with pilot-less observation aircraft of the Belgian Army, and several Special Forces Intervention groups -- Swedish, French or Portuguese in rotation. A company of French paratroopers from the 8th Paratroop Regiment and a company of motorized infantry of the Spanish Foreign Legion make frequent patrols day and night in the city and the surrounding areas. Security of the base is provided by units of the Polish Military Police.

In all, more than 20 European countries are represented in EUFOR,

one third coming from France, one third from Germany and the rest from the other EC countries.

A reserve force of more than a thousand EUFOR soldiers is stationed at Libreville, in the neighboring country of Gabon and is comprised of two companies of paratroops from the French 8th Regiment and two companies of German paratroops from the 262 Batallion, 2nd Luftlande Unterstutzungs, commanded by Lt.Col. Brucker. Other Special Forces Intervention groups are there as well.

Colonel Vincent Guionie, commanding officer of the French 8th RPIMa (*Regiment Parachutiste de l'Infanterie de Marine*) has been in the EUFOR West African theater of operations for more than four months. His Regiment is based in Libreville with some units deployed in Kinshsa. In Gabon the paratroopers of the 8th RPIMa, in collaboration with the German para units, are training for any eventual intervention in the Congo.

"Our role here with EUFOR is that of light infantry. We are mainly concerned with securing and defending a zone of operations either to protect non-combatants or to facilitate the mission of Special Forces Intervention Groups. Also, we would intervene as combat troops if the Congolese Forces or the MUNOC were in difficulty.

"Nearly every year, units of the 8th Paratroop Regiment are deployed here in Gabon as part of the French military presence in the country. This area is ideal for jungle combat and survival training. Here at the 6th BIMA (the main base of French military deployment in Gabon) we have all the material and installations necessary for advanced jungle warfare training, which is one of our normal preoccupations when our units are stationed here."

"But right now our priorities have changed and the paratroops under my command, along with several German units, are preparing for the type of situation they would eventually encounter during an intervention in the Congo. So, the training is aimed toward the most likely scenario we would find: crowd control, taking and securing an airfield, security of a zone of evacuation, controlling transport routes, and above all urban combat."



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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 learn 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

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CASTRO'S SPIES IN THE U.S.

**RED CUBA, RED BEARD
AND WASPS: BEWARE,
THAT CUBAN NEXT TO
YOU MAY BE A SPY**

TEXT BY JAY MALLIN SR



What did a university professor, TV producer, rescue pilot and Pentagon official have in common?

They were all espionage agents in the United States for Fidel Castro.

"In November, 1962, F.B.I. agents arrested three Cubans living in the United States and charged them with conspiring to commit espionage and sabotage. An arms cache, including pistols, hand grenades, and incendiary bombs, was seized in New York. The Castroites had been planning to launch a terror campaign

in that city. More than 250,000 Cuban refugees have fled to America from Communist Cuba, and as a result it has not been difficult for Castro's agents to infiltrate. I vividly recall one exchange I had with Castro's men in April, 1961, when I was arrested in Havana and taken to a police station. My interrogation went as follows: "Interrogator: 'You say you are a correspondent, but you may be a spy.'

"I: No. Anyone can go down to the cable office and read the messages I've sent."

"Interrogator: 'That doesn't mean anything. I have an uncle in Miami who sends us cables. They contain coded messages.'"

A MOLE IN EVERY EXILE GROUP

I wrote the above more than 40 years ago for my first book, *Fortress Cuba*. Fidel Castro's intelligence

services have been in action in the United States from the first years he was in power.

Coming from a bloody civil war in Cuba, Castro's early spies were a rambunctious but often clumsy bunch. They planned to bomb the New York subways, maybe the Statue of Liberty. They tried to obtain floor plans of then-President Richard Nixon's home on Key Biscayne in Miami. They had some vague idea of bugging the place, heavily guarded as it was. The Cubans supported black and white extremist groups in the U.S. -- groups that represented no one but themselves.

During one of the sea-borne refugee exoduses from Cuba, recruiters for the intel agencies went among people about to flee and recruited some to be agents in the States. But they failed to tell the refugees how to identify themselves when they sent messages to Cuba.

In time the Cuban spies



"Cuban comandante en jefe del ejercito Fidel Castro, left, speaks with journalist Jay Mallin, right, in early 1959 at the Habana Hilton in Havana, Cuba. Between the two is Castro aide and former Havana underground leader Ira Wolfer. Photo: Osvaldo Salas / Habana Hilton Studio"



became more sophisticated. They concentrated on their primary mission: To maintain an eye on anti-Castro activities; to infiltrate and keep tabs on all exile organizations.

Paul Burns, who headed a Central Intelligence Agency unit responsible for countering Cuban intel operations, told me, "There isn't an exile group that hasn't been penetrated."

The exile situation was chaotic in Miami in the Sixties. Hundreds of groups vied for funds and publicity. Virtually all were funded by the C.I.A., whose director admitted that

10,000 people in the Miami

letterhead.

In the period 1959-83 there were some 270 attempted landings in Cuba, according to the Cuban government. These were efforts to infiltrate spies and would-be guerrillas. Virtually all the attempts failed due to advance info provided by Castro's operatives in Miami.

THE TAMALE SQUAD

One must admire the work of Cuban intel in keeping track of the many exile organizations. And to keep track of the Cuban agents, the

members was Ed Sweet, who previously had been attached to the former U.S. embassy in Havana. (Sweet had been detained by Castro's police. When they tried to search him, the big Texan warned them, I'll wipe up the floor with the first person who touches me." They didn't.)

Cuba's intelligence services had their genesis in the eastern mountains of the country where Castro's guerrillas fought the troops of dictator Fulgencio Batista. Campesinos --peasants -- moved back and forth between the rebel and government zones, and some of these rural folk kept the guerrillas posted on the movement of government forces.

In the nearby city of Santiago de Cuba and extending across the long island there functioned a clandestine revolutionary apparatus that supported the guerrillas, funneling funds, recruits and supplies into the hills. The underground also waged urban warfare -- terrorism, sabotage and propaganda. This attrition eventually so weakened the regime that the guerrilla forces were able to descend from the hills, campaign in the cities and destroy Batista's government.

Initially Cuban intel functions

COMING FROM A BLOODY CIVIL WAR IN CUBA, CASTRO'S EARLY SPIES WERE A RAMBUNCTIOUS BUT OFTEN CLUMSY BUNCH.

area were on the C.I.A. payroll. Businessmen, writers, athletes -- you name it -- had their own groups, sometimes hardly more than a

F.B.I. bureau in Miami established what became known as the "Tamale Squad."

One of its highly knowledgeable

were the responsibility of G-2, a department of the Ministry of Interior, housed in a building on swank Fifth Avenue in the Havana suburb of

TO A LARGE EXTENT CUBAN FOREIGN POLICY WAS BASED ON THE MYSTIQUE OF THE GUERRILLA

Miramar. Subsequently this section was renamed the Departamento de Seguridad del Estado; it was one of three major intel services the Castro regime would develop.

COMANDANTE MASTER SPY

Late in 1961, due to Cuba's growing interest in foreign affairs, the *Dirección General de Inteligencia* was created as a separate entity within the Interior Ministry. Chief of the D.G.I. was the man who would become Cuba's legendary spy master, *comandante* Manuel Piñeiro Losada, who had been one of Raúl Castro's chief aides during the mountain war and was now vice minister of the Interior Ministry. Piñeiro had been Raúl's man and

would remain so the rest of his life. Piñeiro was familiarly known as *Barba Roja* (Red Beard), for obvious reasons. (In the late Eighties, in a shakeup, the D.G.I. became the *Dirección de Inteligencia* (D.I).)

The son of a bar owner in Matanzas Province, Piñeiro was born in 1933. Involved in student protests against dictator Batista, he was sent by his family to the U.S. in 1953 and enrolled at Columbia University in 1955. He returned to Cuba in 1955, joined Castro's July 26 Movement and made his way into the hills. It was probably at Columbia that he met an American woman, Lorna Nell Burdsall, whom he married. Burdsall was a ballet dancer, and years later, as spy chief, he showed films of his wife dancing to members of his staff. (Even spies have home movies.) Piñeiro divorced Burdsall and may have married a Chilean girl friend.

Ironically, he died violently, not in a gunfight with enemy agents in a dark alley but in an auto accident in 1998.

THE MYSTIQUE OF THE GUERRILLA.

To a large extent Cuban foreign policy was based on the mystique of the guerrilla.

According to the myth, Castro led his guerrillas to victory. This ignored the substantial, probably decisive, role played by the island-wide clandestine movement in the civil war. Castro dispatched expeditions against Haiti, Panama and the Dominican Republic in an effort to start guerrilla conflicts in those countries. The Haiti and Dominican Republic expeditions were destroyed by defending troops. The Panamanian expedition ended in buffoonery: the expedition went aground at the wrong place and had to be rescued by the Panamanian National Guard.

Castro was forced to change tactics. No longer would he launch filibusterers to start guerrilla campaigns in other countries. Now he would bring in potential guerrillas, train them and send them back to their homelands. Training camps were set up, and approximately 1,500 *fidelistas* sympathizers were instructed each year in guerrilla warfare, sabotage and other methods of subversion. By early 1964 more than 3,500 men had gone through the "escuelas especiales" (special schools).

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The unvarnished truth about Bodyweight Exercises...

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

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



by Mike Storms

"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 **Helsman 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 flat-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 ten 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 lost 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 Cunnings
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

"Golf" 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.

Your total investment in this nonsense book is only \$29.95 plus \$6 S&H U.S. (foreign orders add \$12). Order online at www.mattfurey.com. Or pick up the phone right now and call 1 813 994 8267 or order.

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U.S. Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara warned: "The continued existence of a communist regime poses an increasing threat to many Latin American nations, since it serves as a base for Castro-promoted, communist-led subversive activities. These activities include the indoctrination and training ... of Latin Americans."

**THE ASSASSINATION OF A LEGEND
ERNESTO "CHE" GUEVARA**

Ernesto "Che" Guevara was an Argentine doctor who had been in Castro's filibustering expedition from Mexico. He rose to become a top guerrilla commander and then, with the Castro brothers, a leader of postwar Cuba. But "Che" was restless, and after a few years he set off with a handful of Cuban military to start a guerrilla campaign in Africa.

It failed totally. Guevara returned to Cuba to plot a new exploit. Start a guerrilla war in landlocked Bolivia in the South American heartland. This, too, failed and Guevara was captured and executed in 1967.

The death of the warrior who had come to personify guerrilla warfare was not only symbolic, it was also reality. After years of major effort, the plans of the Castro brothers had achieved little, other than sparking U.S. counter-insurgency training for Latin American

armies and getting Cuba banned from the Organization of American States. Fidel Castro admitted: "Who could deny the significance to the revolutionary movement of the blow of 'Che's' death?... It is a fierce blow, a very hard one..." (Cuba-trained insurgents did have a hand -- possibly decisive - - in one success: the overthrow of the government of Zanzibar in Africa in 1963. The leader, John Okello, had also received Cuban training.)

**A SOPHISTICATED ESPIONAGE
WEB SPANS OUT**

It was time for a change of tactics again. A new strategy came slowly. In 1974 the *Departamento América* was established, the smallest of the intelligence services. Technically it was part of another section of the government but actually it was autonomous. The personnel were an elite group; as far as is known, no agent ever defected during America Department's heyday. And it was headed by *comandante* Piñeiro, reporting directly to the Castro brothers.

The D.A. was tasked specifically with subverting other Latin American nations, with its focus on the Caribbean region. It set about doing this by supporting groups friendly to Cuba (the Sandinistas of Nicaragua) and by uniting separate leftist groups into one organization (the *Farabundo Martí Liberación Nacional* in El

Salvador).

The results of D.A.'s efforts were mixed. In Nicaragua the Sandinistas were victorious in a civil war and threw out dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979. But in 1990 the Sandinistas made the mistake of holding free elections -- and lost.

On the island of Grenada Cuban influence was a factor in causing U.S. military intervention in 1983. (The failure of Cuban soldiers to resist the Americans effectively resulted in the Cuban commander being sent to Angola to fight as a private, and dying there. One can imagine what Castro had to say about this.)

In Suriname, the Cuban presence annoyed giant, nearby Brazil, which told Surinamese dictator Desi Bouterse to get rid of his Cuban pals. He did in 1983. In El Salvador the F.M.N.L. fought a 12-year civil war, but with the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union it reached a peace accord with the government in 1991 and its fighters were absorbed into Salvador's politics and military.

**THE CUBAN EXILE
COMMUNITY PENETRATED**

In the United States Cuban intel was concerned mainly -- but not entirely -- in the activities of the large Cuban exile community in Miami.

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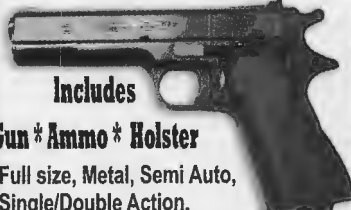
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Of primary importance was finding any exile efforts to launch raids or infiltration attempts against the Cuban "mainland." A defector from the D.G.I., Orlando Castro Hidalgo (no relation to Fidel), related in his memoir (ghost-written by this scribbler) how he went about preparing, from afar, the penetration of an exile organization "... I was given the expedientes (dossiers) of a number of key exile figures, and my task was to build up information about these persons with the view of finding a way to place a D.G.I. informer close to them. As a case officer, I had to delve into the background and relationships of not only the target individual, but also his relatives, friends, co-workers, and acquaintances. As this detailed information was gathered, I watched for possible opportunities which D.G.I. could exploit (a friend of the target individual known to be in need of funds and perhaps susceptible to bribery, a co-worker with a relative still in Cuba and therefore subject to coercion, and so on).

"A THOUSAND SPIES AMONG US

In almost half a century of espionage, it is logical to believe that

hundreds, and quite possibly over 1,000 spies have been infiltrated into the United States by Cuba. Also, in all probability, the F.B.I. knows the identities of most of these. Ed Sweet would tell me about some of these (a worker at a factory, an employee at Burdine's department store). But since the activities of the Cuban agents are not directed - - with glaring exceptions - - against U.S. security interests, no action is taken against them. Only a handful has been formally charged. The F.B.I. prefers to "turn" them, making them informants.

BEWARE OF THE CUBAN REFUGES SEDUCTRESS

Here are some of the spies who have been revealed:

Castro Hidalgo identified one of the early spies in his book: "... I had occasion to talk with a Cuban woman who had worked as a spy in Miami for the Cuban government. Marta A. González, a divorcée with a fair face and figure, in her thirties, had been trained ... [and] sent to the States. She had entered the country as a refugee in April of 1962.

"Becoming part of the exile milieu, she presumably dispatched

such information as she could gather about the activities of anti-Castro organizations. About a year and a half after her arrival, she returned to Cuba. There she published a book, *Bajo Palabra* (Under Oath), a caustic account of the life of Cuban exiles ... The book said nothing about the authoress being an intelligence agent."

An exile, Pedro Sergio Cuellar Alonso, was recruited by the C.I.A. and trained as a radio operator. He was then infiltrated back into Cuba to work with anti-Castro clandestine groups. In April 1961 he led the police to the Havana apartment where a key underground member was hiding. The man and his wife resisted arrest and both were killed.

INFILTRATORS DEPLOYED TO THE U.N.

In 1969 Alberto Boza-Hidalgo, first secretary of the Cuban mission to the United Nations, was barred from returning to the U.S. from a trip to Cuba. He was charged with attempting to recruit exiles for the purpose of gathering "material of an intelligence value" about an American military installation, not identified.

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GUN FIGHTER

B-52 TAILGUNNERS BLOW AWAY MIGS BY NAT HELMS

It was five or six hours and 3,000 miles from Guam to Point Juliet. Juliet was an arbitrary spot in the South China Sea, where the tail gunners on the six-man B-52 crews entering Vietnamese airspace cocked and locked their .50 Browning M3 heavy machine guns. On 18 December 1972 they were part of Operation Linebacker II on the way north to bomb Hanoi and Haiphong proper for the first time since the B-52s joined the war in 1965. An hour or two ahead of them waited Soviet-made SA-2 surface to air anti-aircraft missiles (SAMs) and fast, lethal MiG-21 delta-winged interceptors ready to shoot them down.

The tail gunners on board the Boeing behemoths called the graceful Migs "Blue Bandits" to designate them from the slower, less capable MiG-17s darting about as well. They were the gunner's worst nightmare. Hearing somebody call out "Blue Bandit" got a tail gunner's complete attention because he knew it was the only North Vietnamese fighter capable of chasing down a speeding B-52 at altitude, making it his personal

responsibility to shoot it down. Their swirling duels would last for 10 nights.

"They got one pass coming at you and then it was a tail chase. In a tail chase the gunner always wins," explained former tail gunner and Distinguished Flying Cross recipient John Beier. He flew more than 90 missions over Vietnam including four on Linebacker II, before his twenty-first birthday. Two MiG encounters at 35,000 feet didn't shake his resolve.

Another tail gunner who would soon hear "Blue Bandit" in the maelstrom of rushing air was Staff Sergeant Samuel O. Turner, an 11-year Air Force veteran with two years bombing Southeast Asia to his credit. A third was youthful-looking Albert Moore, a relatively new arrival to aerial warfare. They were just a few of the men on 150 B-52s universally known as BUFFs - for some derivative of Big Ugly Fat Fellows - steadily boring into North Vietnam at 600 knots.

Those battles soon to develop high in the nighttime skies over North Vietnam happened more than 25 years ago. The cynical press

had already dubbed the massive seven-year B-52 bombing campaign the "Elephant Walk," at a time when ponderous caravans of 200-ton U.S. Air Force Boeing B-52D and G model Stratofortresses poured steel rain on the jungles and mountains of Southeast Asia, with questionable results. But now they would be filling the radar screens of the most experienced air defense force in the world. Somebody in Hanoi called the deadly parade the end of the world. For too many people it soon would be.

WATCHING SIX

Guarding every Buff on the long journey from Guam or the four-hour run from Thailand was a tail gunner. The tail gunner was the only enlisted man on board the bomber. He needed clear eyes and uncanny coordination more than rank, to man the final defensive weapon system aboard the massive aircraft. Only 700 men were selected at any one time for the crucial job.

Most of the gunners were experienced sergeants with time in grade to grow used to the



A B-52H from the 2nd Bomb Wing – the oldest Bomb Wing in the Air Force, now based at Barksdale AFB – is still an imposing sight in the air, and a formidable strategic weapon for its influence on ground combat. This much-modified warhorse is often older than the crews who fly it. Photo: U.S. Air Force



OVER HANOI

GUNFIGHTER OVER HANOI CONTINUED ON PAGE 40

subtleties of aerial combat, but not all were. As the war stretched on it became harder to fill the ranks with experienced men and the Air Force introduced a program for “baby gunners,” young men just out of Basic with a yen for sky-high adventure. Six months after joining the Air Force some of them were now going to get all they could handle. Beier was one of them.

“I enlisted in ’71 just out of high school,” remembered Beier, now 56. “I didn’t know what I was going to do. I wanted to fly. In the Air Force we filled out a dream sheet. We got three choices. I didn’t know I wanted to be a tail gunner; I knew I didn’t want to go in the army.”

Airplanes and jungles were in his family DNA. Beier’s father had been a U.S. Army Air Corps mechanic in the Pacific during World War II. With a week of basic training under his belt he found himself working on 5th Air Force B-25 “Mitchell” bombers in Australia under the command of Col. Paul Irvin “Pappy” Gunn, the legendary innovator whose wife and children were in the hands of the Japanese. The elder Beier was still learning how to keep

Mitchells in the air when Gunn mounted a 75mm howitzer in the nose of a Mitchell and turned the bomber into the bane of Japanese merchant shipping around New Guinea and the jungle islands the 5th AF eventually occupied. Luckily, his son got a bit more time to prepare for war.

VERY YOUNG BLOOD

“I joined the air force on the 23 of March 1971. I was a baby gunner. I had just turned 20. I went to Lackland, Texas for Basic, then Fairchild AFB, Washington for survival school. We learned resistance training, field survival skills and then to Castle AFB for gunner’s training. I got to Mather AFB on 2 January 1972; I became crew combat certified in February 1972. That is when the crew passed all of its operational training and certification requirements. Then we deployed as a crew to Guam on 1 June 1972, and our first combat mission as a crew over South Vietnam was on the 4th of June 1972.

“Most of the gunners were old. We had Master Sergeants flying in our squadron and I was a 19-year old

Airman 1st Class. Our Wing Gunner was a World War II veteran,” Beier recalls.

Young or old, the Buff gunners faced the same challenges in the air. In camouflaged green and black Dog models as old as some of the baby gunners, their private office was 160-feet in back of the nose – behind a stinger at the end of the line. The newer G models like Beier’s Buff were much prettier than the Dogs in their distinctive SAC war paint. The gunners assigned to them got to hang out with the rest of the crew in relative comfort up front. This relocation saved the gunner from undergoing tremendous physical stress during low altitude flight. The tail of the Buff moves 5 feet for every foot the nose moves. In a low altitude environment thermal wind currents can bounce the bomber around “like a trash can rolling down a flight of stairs,” one veteran reported.

Beier’s crew included several senior captains and a lieutenant colonel for a radar navigator, the modern name for a bombardier. Rank still had its privileges but in the air they were a finely tuned team. Beier sat next to the electronic warfare



Col. Chipper Lewis (left) awards Maj. Jim Gant the Silver Star Medal during a ceremony on 3 May, at Iraqi Police Headquarters. Photo: Sgt. Nicole Kojetin, U.S. Army



FIREFIGHT: WITH A TEAM OF HEROES

GI RECEIVES SILVER STAR, SHARES LAURELS WITH HEROES OF TOMORROW

BY SGT. NICOLE KOJETIN

Baghdad, Iraq: *“Men, you have one second in your life where you can decide if you are going to be a coward or if you are going to fight. The time to decide is now.”*

That reminder is something that Major James “Jim” Gant, who serves as the chief of the Iraqi National Police, Quick Reaction Force Battalion Transition Team, tells his policemen all the time, encouraging them to fight for what they believe in.

For six weeks, his patrol of three armored humvees and 23 “soft-shelled” national police pick-up trucks had been getting in firefights with an organized insurgent force in an area between Balad and Baghdad. On 11 December, his patrol was finally on their way back to their home base. Gant suspected there would be a grand finale.

“We made frequent trips back and forth in the area and the firefights kept getting bigger,” the Las Cruces, N.M., native said. “They

knew that we were going to leave. They are a determined enemy force. They wanted to give us a going-away present -- and we definitely wanted to receive it.”

His actions, during that “gift,” resulted in him earning the Silver Star, which was awarded on 3 May at an Iraqi National Police station near Forward Operating Base Prosperity.

“On 24 Nov. [insurgents] hit my vehicle [with an improvised explosive device] and it flipped three times,” said Gant. “One of my Iraqis got me out of that vehicle.”

As the patrol headed south, machinegun fire started from the west.

Gant ordered his gunner to return fire, eventually breaking contact and moving towards Baghdad. In the initial fight, one of his Iraqi Police “Commandos” was injured with a gunshot wound to the face. “It wasn’t a wound that we could continue without treatment right then and there,” he said.

Using advanced medical skills that he gained during his time in Special Forces, Gant dismounted and rushed to stabilize the Iraqi and

called in a medevac chopper.

In order for a helicopter to land, an area had to be cleared. The patrol team assaulted into nearby palm groves on foot, pushing the enemy back in a close-range firefight.

“At this point, it became very apparent to me that the [insurgent’s] intent was to destroy our patrol,” he said. “We had over 20 vehicles with us that were spread out across a large area. It is a large enemy force to have our entire patrol engaged at once.”

They moved back to their landing zone, but the fire intensity increased on both sides: If they could not clear the landing zone the helicopter would not be able to land.

“The fire was so heavy you could feel it inside; you could see and feel the shake of the gunfire, with the Commandos fighting just as heroically as the Americans” Gant said.

After pushing the enemy back, the bird was able to land, but before the fight might take a turn for the worse, Gant wanted that helicopter out of the danger zone. “I told the flight medic, ‘I believe you have about two minutes before we start



receiving mortar fire. They know we are here and we are going to start receiving mortar fire within the next 60 seconds to two minutes," he said.

DUSTOFF

They swiftly loaded up the casualties and within 15 seconds of the helicopter taking off, the landing zone did start receiving mortar fire, he recalls.

He considered the fact that they were still in contact to be a good thing, though. "We try to maintain contact with the enemy as long as possible and kill as many as we can," Gant said. "We were going to do some serious damage that day.

"It is easy to sit in a room in safety and talk about it," he said. "I came here to fight. I came here to kill the enemy. I knew at the time what a huge engagement it was... I also had a huge concern for my teams. Gant decided that he needed to root the insurgents out of their well-built positions. It was obvious to him that this complex attack had been well planned. The patrol mounted up and started to move again toward Baghdad, still taking fire from both sides.

"We were receiving some sporadic machinegun fire [as they moved], and I got word that the rear was being pinned down with intense small-

arms fire," he said.

He peeled off his vehicle to the rear, putting himself between the patrol and the incoming fire. Laying down suppressive fire, his gunner went through 18,000 rounds that day. The rear of the convoy was moving up out of the hot zone, and Gant's humvee pushed back to the lead of the convoy.

They were moving toward an urbanized area, with the threat of improvised explosive devices and rocket-propelled-grenade teams increasing. This initiated the heaviest fire of the day, and in the middle of the median, lie an obvious IED.

He wasn't going to put his team in a situation where they are forced to pull security in the area, especially since they were still under small-arms fire. His logic was that if the IED struck one of the police vehicles that did not have any protective armor, the results will be catastrophic and they would be pinned down right there.

LIKE CLEARING MINES WITH YOUR FEET

"We couldn't get off the road. There were markets and such on the sides of the road," Gant said. "The IED had to go off and I wanted it to be on an up-armored vehicle: I wanted it to be mine."

He told the rest of his patrol to push left, and pulled his gunner inside of the vehicle. Gant told his driver to have the IED detonate on the right side.

"We moved up. Nothing. [We] got closer. Nothing," he said. "We were within about 20 feet, when [the IED] went off."

Nobody was hurt and the vehicle was still operational. They continued on, discovering a second IED about 50 feet from the first.

"My driver was fearless that day. He didn't even hesitate," he said.

They started the same drill, but at this point a civilian vehicle had linked up with the convoy. Gant knew it was there, but he still needed the second IED to go off on an armored vehicle. The passengers braced themselves for the second blast. Everyone was all right, once again.

"There was a bend in the road. We were receiving machine-gun fire from the front and both flanks," Gant said.

There was a third IED; a ploy to get them to stop and be sitting ducks for another ambush. It was a hoax. This is when Gant received word that a woman in the civilian vehicle had been severely injured in the first blast. Still under heavy small arms fire in a hasty perimeter, he got out and tried to perform first aid on her.

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captain with nothing to see but his equipment and a bulkhead to look at. The Dog gunners could at least see the infernal devices whizzing about trying to kill them.

THE BROWNING GUNS

Both models were armed with four .50 cal. M3 Browning heavy machine guns in a rear-facing turret, a highly modified version of the flexible weapons their fathers used to hose down Messerschmitts and Zeros in WWII. Evolution had brought into play radar that gave them the early warning and target tracking capability they needed in the split-second world of jet-speed aerial combat. The G model also had a television camera system to aim with, but its performance was never better than marginal. It was useless and turned off in every airplane flying out of Guam. The tracking radar automatically locked on an attacker four miles out and coming in between 3 and 9 o'clock. At a mile out the tail guns could shred an attacking fighter with a two or four-second burst. At least two North Vietnamese MiG-21s that got too close to BUFFs found out just how deadly the guns could be. They would prove to be the last aircraft shot down by aerial gunners

in modern aviation history.

The gunner's job was far more complicated than just manning a gun mount, Beier recounted.

"The gunner has to initiate the radar lock-on with the track radar. It's a three-switch operation. The system has two different radars, a search radar that is on the fuselage of the aircraft, and a track radar on the turret in between the guns.

"On a D model the optic is the clear bulb/bubble seen on the top [of the gun mount] with the search radar cover directly below it. Then

the track radar is on the turret. In the G model the search radar was on the top and the camera was directly below it." They had relocated the drag chute between the D model and the G model after the gunner was moved forward. And this accounted for the changing position of the search radar between the two models, Beier explained.

The aiming sequence involved far more than just pointing and pressing a trigger. To lock on to a target with the track radar the following steps had to happen:

During the Vietnam War, MiG-21s were often used against U.S. aircraft. Between 21 April 1965, and 8 January 1973, USAF F-4s and B-52s downed 68 MiG-21s. The MiG-21F on display appears to have been built in Czechoslovakia and to have flown in the air force of that nation. It is painted and marked as a MiG-21PF of the North Vietnamese Air Force during the Vietnam War. It was obtained by the museum through an exchange with a private individual. Photo: USAF Museum



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Two snipers from Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 2nd Bn, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne, provide over-watch security for a town meeting in Dey Yak, Afghanistan. A sniper team can be invaluable in watching the backs of a town meeting, a foot patrol, an armored force in urban ops, or routes armor must patrol that have been subject to IED attacks and ambushes.

Trooper on right scopes through an M14 EBR (Enhanced Battle Rifle) that Sage International originally developed for the U.S. Navy Special Warfare Center, Crane, Indiana. Although originally a SOCOM initiative, this weapon has been adopted by conventional forces, type classified as the Mk14 Mod 0, and is in use by many SF snipers. The stock is all aluminum. The scope appears to be a Leupold Mark IV; the bipod is the ubiquitous Harris.

For information on the M14EBR stock, contact: sales@sageinternational.com or the Sage International, Ltd. sales department.
3391 East Eberhardt Street, Dept. SOF
Oscoda, Michigan 48750
Telephone: 989-739-7000
Fax: 989-739-7098

Photo: PFC Micah Clare, 82nd Airborne Public Affairs.



SNIPERS IN THE CAV?

ONE NCO BEGS TO DISAGREE


I am an NCO in the CAV. I returned in December of 2006 from my second deployment to Iraq where I conducted Zone and Route reconnaissance in Baghdad. As 19D Cavalry Scouts we also conducted many SKT (Small Killing Team) missions where a squad of troopers would emplace and monitor different areas of our sector for insurgent activity.

The unit received a few M14 rifles about a week prior to deployment and was able to equip them with scopes after about seven months into the deployment. We signed for an M24 and M107 sniper rifle while we were in country, but nobody knew what to do with them due to lack of training, although I was seldom in a situation where an M107 was called for.

In the lead up to our deployment in 2005, we received no sniper training nor did we send any soldiers to Designated Marksmen Training. Well, it's a new year and we are facing a possible deployment sometime in the future and I would expect that things would change -- but recently we were told that no soldier in our troop will be sent to Sniper School because our Commander thinks that "All you do is walk around for eight weeks." It is very discouraging to me that a captain in an armored reconnaissance troop would have that opinion about Sniper School. I am not writing this because I am bitter about not getting selected for the school nor am I on a vendetta out against him, I'm writing this email in hopes that it will help lead to an awakening in the combat arms leadership.

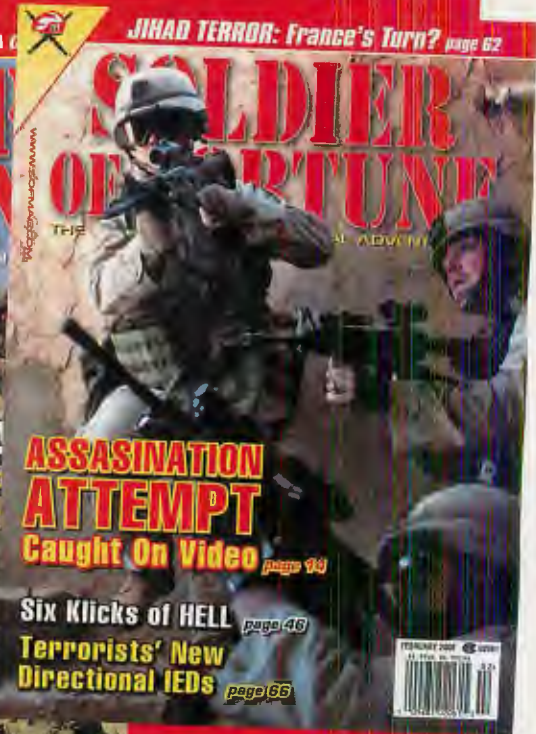
No soldier, especially a combat arms soldier, should have to go outside the wire to roll around as a target. Having Snipers and SDM's is a combat multiplier that is essential in our roll in the War on Terror. A sniper team in over-watch, particularly of dismounted patrols, can be a lifesaver. A sniper team with an M107 in over-watch of an armored column has the potential to thwart a lot of RPG attacks.

Sincerely

Frustrated NCO in the U.S. Cavalry 



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1) Cursor is centered over the target.

2) Track radar is energized.

3) Lock-on is established and the tracking radar computer maintains the lock-on (this was a two-second process for the fire control computer to perform the initial calculations and transmit this information back to the gunnery system). The computer was a 1940-era designed analog computer with Vacuum tubes. It was very slow but reliable, Beier says.

"The gunnery system, MD-9 in the D model and ASG-15 in the G model, have 32 different modes of operation. This one was called the radar range radar track mode, and was the one you used if everything with the system was working correctly. It was basically the same radar/gunnery system in the D and G, with only a few differences.

"The D model also had an optical sight. The G did not, that was what the camera system in the G model was designed to emulate. But it never worked as advertised. It was an idea that was before its time. It was a first-generation camera, and you were never able to get a clear picture at altitude. There were always issues with vibration interference, poor camera resolution, etc. [With a] very small display screen, about 6" square, it was impossible to determine any depth or distance using the TV," Beier explained.

The Dog's gunner got a bruising ride as well when the pilots jinked around, evading Migs and the missiles he called out. That made escaping in the event of a catastrophic emergency problematic at best. In the D models the gunner simply jettisoned his guns and jumped through the hole he made

in the tail.

TSgt. Peter E. Whalen, the gunner on a Dog model called "Ash 02," survived a jump out of the rear into Laos on December 27, the ninth day of the operation. His plane was struck by a SA-2 after attacking a SAM site identified as VN-243, near Hanoi. After they made their bomb release, the SAM exploded near the left wing, disabling all four engines on that side. The pilot somehow kept the battered Buff on course to Laos before the crew bailed out. Luckily all six crew members were picked up by rescue helicopters.

Whalen's son-in-law Erwin Schultze, a tail gunner himself, said Whalen jettisoned his guns and dove out the hole just like he was trained, when pilot Capt. John Mize gave the order to abandon the aircraft.

"The aircraft had just made it to Laos and was breaking apart. It was barely flying," Schultze recalled.

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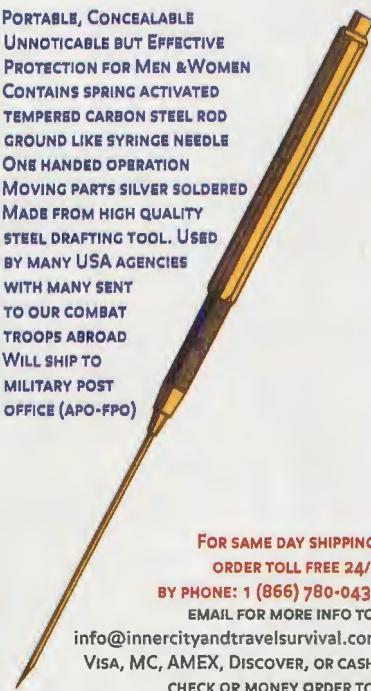


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The Dogs like Whalen flew in were aerial dump trucks modified with big bellies and hard points on the wings to carry more bombs. A single plane could drop 108 bombs along a two-mile swath. They were

filled with chaff dispensers, flare dispensers and electronic gizmos designed to confuse and defeat the North Vietnamese missileers that despised them above all things. Usually they flew in three-plane cells out of U Tapao Royal Thai Airfield, Thailand or Anderson

Air Force Base on Guam. Some of the gunners had racked up 400 missions dumping iron bombs on suspected North Vietnamese positions in South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos without seeing a threat. That was all about to change.

GUNFIGHTER OVER HAND! CONTINUED ON PAGE 50

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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The newer G models were pimped for nuclear war. Their crews were on temporary duty away from stateside alert shacks and the certainty of mutually assured destruction if the Cold War suddenly went hot. Almost half the Gs deployed in Linebacker II lacked essential ECM gear the older Dogs were blessed with. That left them dangerously exposed to enemy missile fire. Without the electronic counter measures the Dogs had, they lost "cell integrity," which made them vulnerable. Tail gunners and other crew dogs that flew both models generally agreed that moving the gunner forward was a bad idea because it deprived the aircraft eyes in the back of its head. When the North Vietnamese SAMs started flying at the Gs there was nobody in back to call them out. This tardy awareness contributed to the unnecessary loss of bomber crews.

DECOY MISSILES

"They would fire five or six forward or off the beam and when everybody's eyes were paying attention to them they would fire a single missile from behind and that was the one that would usually get you," Beier recalled.

One night, swarms of SAMs took out a Dog model in front of Beier's ship and a G model astern, he said. "When the D model got hit, it lit up the front of our airplane. I could see the glow and then our pilot said he was hit. The one behind us just went down. We didn't know about it right away, we were too busy trying to live."

Getting out of the G in a catastrophic emergency was also a bit more sophisticated than jumping out of a hole in the back of the Dog. Instead of empty space the gunner got an ejection seat that shot him out the roof with a blank artillery shell. It was an improvement perhaps, but still no great shakes for those unfortunate warriors who took the ride. If the unlucky gunner from either ship survived the 30,000-foot fall through the 600-knot slipstream, survived the hostile climate and vengeful hunters, and evaded capture, he somehow got home. At best the ones who didn't will never

be forgotten. It was certainly a tough way to make a living.

When President Richard M. Nixon unleashed his aluminum clouds over North Vietnam just before Christmas, the Vietnam War had been staggering forward for more than a decade. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was dueling in Paris with his North Vietnamese counterparts for an honorable end to the conflict. In the meantime American prisoners-of-war, most of them airmen shot down over North Vietnam, languished in filthy holes with colorful names like Hanoi Hilton. Exasperated, impatient, and knowing his time to gracefully exit the war was drawing to a close, Nixon ordered the unlimited bombing



On 18 December 1972 near Hanoi, SSgt. Samuel O. Turner, a B-52 Fire Control Operator (Gunner), shot down a MIG-21. For his action the 30-year-old Atlanta, Ga. native was awarded the Silver Star. Photo: U.S. Air Force

of the North by the belligerent BUFFs, something the air war generals had been advocating since the war got serious in 1965.

GATHERING OF EAGLES

From bases in Thailand, Guam, and bases much farther away, the Air Force called together its giant birds of prey for one final Yuletide push to bring the implacable North Vietnamese Communists to the peace table. The aircraft belonged to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), the conduct of the war belonged to the Chiefs of Staff, but the task of implementing policy went to the six-man crews bundled together in a tightly knit team that depended on each other as much as technology to bring them home. As they soon found out, Christmas 1972 was going to be a memorable one indeed.



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U.S. Army Pfc. Kieth Collins, a gunner from 3rd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Teddy Wade)

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BY JOHN FARNAM



THE FELON BEHIND THE CAR DOOR

In Dallas recently, one of their patrol officers was murdered. The suspect fired at him from within a stopped vehicle. Other nearby officers responded by firing at the suspect, who remained inside his vehicle (Chevy Caprice) the entire time. The suspect eventually surrendered after being wounded, and is currently hospitalized.

At least one responding officer was armed with an EO Tech-equipped AR-15. Both rifle and optic ran just fine. The ammunition did not! The police rifle was loaded with WW 55gr ballistic silvertip. Range was less than 50 feet. With more than 15 rounds fired at the suspect, penetration of the vehicle door and glass was poor, with every bullet fired breaking up upon impact and failing to penetrate intact. Only fragments came through and did merely superficial damage to the suspect. In fact, it was police handgun rounds fired at the suspect, particularly .357SIG, that did penetrate and subsequently wounded him severely enough to persuade him to stop fighting. Even 55gr hardball would have performed better.

For more than 40 years, the unsatisfactory penetration ability of the .223 round, at all ranges, has been well known within both the military and the law-enforcement communities. In fact, it is "poor penetration" that we have actually used as a selling point while persuading politicians to allow us to equip beat cars with rifles, rather than shotguns.

Unfortunately, in American law enforcement, we get into a lot of our gunfights in and around cars. Most pistol rounds do a poor job of penetrating car doors. Buckshot from a shotgun does not penetrate car doors either. Slugs from a shotgun do penetrate, but most police shotguns are not routinely equipped with them. Rifles were supposed to address this issue, but, as we see, light, frail, crumbly bullets, at any speed, fail to

penetrate car doors, even car glass.

Departments that equip their officers with .223 rifles need to look at Cor-Bon 62gr DPX and Federal .223 Tactical. Both these rounds will reliably penetrate car doors without breaking up. In fact, DPX not only penetrates but it expands fully after penetrating the car door and subsequently striking soft tissue. I routinely carry DPX in my RA/XCR, which is one of my cars. It is high time we stop playing games with friable bullets and start equipping our officers with up-to-date, fight-stopping technology!

ARMED BUT NOT READY

The home of an LAPD officer was invaded by three armed-robbery suspects. The officer was roughed up, and his car, a television set, and at least one of his guns was stolen.

The officer, alone in his home at the time, answered a knock at his front door at 11:00 p.m. One of three suspects sprayed him with OC, and then all three pushed their way into the house. The selection of the house was random, so far as anyone knows.

It is fortunate indeed that the officer's wife and family were not home at the time.

The newspaper headline read: "LAPD Officer is victim of robbery at home."

Comment: The headline should have read: "Three home-invasion suspects shot to death as they attempted break-in at LAPD officer's house."

It should be a standard rule: Don't open your door to people you don't know, particularly at night. When people come to your house claiming to need help, keep the door closed and locked as you tell them you are calling the police, who will provide them with all the help they need.

Many of us who routinely carry guns concealed naively think we only need to carry when we're

out and about. Upon arriving home, many, like the officer in this incident, immediately take their gun(s) off and promptly render them impotent and/or inaccessible the moment they cross the threshold, somehow believing that no personal danger could possibly exist within their own dwelling.

This officer found out, the hard way, that such habits represent delusional, foolish, and self-deceptive thinking.

For one, I don't see our world, not just LA, moving toward Nirvana very quickly! VCAs, with the enthusiastic assistance of sleazy politicians who lust after their votes and support, can show up unexpectedly any place you can name, even places where you would never expect!

EYE PROTECTION

Persuading our officers to wear eye protection during the day is an easy sell. What self-respecting patrolman doesn't routinely appear in sexy Gargoyles or Oakley's latest, trendy offering?

Yet, how many of us regularly wear eye protection while on patrol at night? Between suspects trying to stick fingers in your eyes (when they're not spitting in your face) not to mention OC spray gone astray, there are all kinds of good reasons to wear eye protection any time we're working, but few of us do.

It is, I'm sure you agree, completely illogical to religiously wear soft body armor while failing to wear safety glasses! ☹

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Well, they're not laughing at me anymore, I promise you. Today, as you read this, I have been traveling (first class!) all across the Good ol' US of A for the last 17 months and enjoying every second of the way.

I have found a way to do the things that everybody else told me would be impossible for me to achieve.

Life is Good

I must admit that I did not think that life could ever be this good. But, as I travel all across the country, I run across folks who have that certain "thing" in their eyes that makes me do what I'm about to do. I want to share this with you today. And, believe me, when I tell you what it is, you will quickly realize how you too can buy millions of dollars of Real Estate from home too.

You see, I have created this system that has allowed me to do deals from anywhere in the world. So, after countless hours on my part of putting this all together in an easy to follow format, I have now broken it down into 7 steps for you. Anybody that is reading this could implement these simple steps and buy millions of dollars worth of Real Estate too!

You see, I think that we all deserve a "fair shot at the title". This is what I told my fiancé, and that is why I want you to get your Free copy of the CD entitled, "7 Secrets To Buying & Selling Real Estate From Home" in your hands today.

Imagine being able to buy that amazing home that you have been dreaming of for years now. And what about that sports car that purred down the road with each shift? It's as if you have arrived and the world is your oyster...

Or, what if you just wanted to lay around all day knowing that all your bills are already covered, and you can get out of bed at what ever time of day you want...and NOT because you have to.

My friend, you have arrived!

I don't think you're reading this by accident because the scene that I just described is how myself and my students live our lives...and you can too.

Before I get ahead of myself, I want to zap the 4 biggest myths that surround Real Estate Investing.

Myth #1: You have to have cash to be a Real

Estate investor

Myth Busted: Those that I have taught have controlled millions of dollars worth of Real Estate without ever putting a dime of their own cash into it. I explain how you can do the same thing on track #4

Myth #2: You have to have perfect credit to be a Real Estate investor

Myth Busted: My students never use their own credit -- and neither will you, if you're smart! Actually, on track #5, I explain to you, in full detail, how you can be standing on the courthouse steps filing for bankruptcy and still be able to track down millions of dollars worth of Real Estate deals

Myth #3: I need to have a license to be a Real Estate investor

Myth Busted: After listening to track #6 where I expose the truth to you about this myth, you will quickly realize that only people who are not "in the know" still think this way

Myth #4: I need to have a lot of experience to be a Real Estate investor

Myth Busted: What you need to have is specialized knowledge... which I will give to you on this Free CD...THIS is what will allow you to make big money in Real Estate -- on demand!

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3. Let me tell you how you will never talk to anybody unless you're giving them wiring instructions to send you money (My Favorite!)
4. The exact site that asks sellers all of the questions you need to know so you know how much cash you're going to make -- because, while you're sleeping, it's working for you

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Leron King, Huntington, WV

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Mark makes sense of using all of your resources to create many income streams. His hard-hitting and cutting-edge approach always makes the "light bulb come on" when you listen to him speak. He has personally helped me overcome many challenges in my Real Estate career.

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In 1971 the U.S. government gave another first secretary of the Cuban U.N. mission and a mission counselor 48 hours to leave the country. They had been using the services of a young secretary at the South African embassy in Washington. The secretary's access to other embassies and to cocktail parties had been useful to the Cubans, confined as they were (by U.S. edict) to the New York area.

In the period 1981-98 20 Cubans attached to the U.N. mission were expelled because of intel and other activities.

(Rolando Solup Cantó, third secretary at the U.N., was expelled in 1983 because of "hostile intelligence activities." During two recent trips to Cuba this writer was "invited" to the Foreign Ministry a number of times. Despite my decades-long record of anti-Castro writings, the meetings were entirely friendly. Each time the same official chatted with me, the talk centering on U.S. domestic politics and foreign policy, especially regarding Cuba. The official with whom I met was Rolando Solup. The discussions were an indication of the sophisticated interests of Cuban agents today.)

"I'M A CUBAN INTELLIGENCE MAN"

José Rafael Fernández Brenes, a TV producer, leaves Cuba in 1988. He goes to work for TV Martí, the U.S. government station that telecasts to Cuba, originally from Washington and now from Miami. In July 1991

"THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF A COMMUNIST REGIME POSES AN INCREASING THREAT TO MANY LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS, SINCE IT SERVES AS A BASE FOR CASTRO-PROMOTED, COMMUNIST-LED SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES"

Fernández Brenes is interviewed in Cuba on Cuban television.

He talks about TV Martí and announces, "I am a Cuban intelligence man." Technical information that he had provided helped Cuba jam TV Martí telecasts.

A ROMANTIC FLYBOY

Juan Pablo Roque might well have been a flyboy created by a romantic novelist.

While training in the Soviet Union to be a MiG pilot, he married the daughter of a Soviet Air Force officer. When he left Russia, he dumped her. At some point later he dumped a Cuban wife with whom he had had two children. And still later he would abandon an American wife.

Roque "defected" from Cuba by swimming to the Guantánamo Naval Base in 1992 and asking for asylum. Transferred to Miami, he immersed himself in the Cuban community, married a local girl and became an F.B.I. informant.

Roque joined the *Hermanos al Rescate* (Brothers to the Rescue), a private group of flyers who patrolled the waters between Cuba and the U.S. watching for Cubans escaping on rafts and in small boats. When they spotted any, the fliers would notify the U.S. Coast Guard so the refugees would be rescued. The Brothers expanded their activities to include dropping leaflets on Cuba. In February 1996 two planes were shot down; four flyers were killed. Roque had just disappeared. The shoot-down ended a quiet effort by then-President Clinton to ease relations with Cuba -- which may well have been the aim of elements in the Cuban government opposed to detente with the U.S. Roque surfaced in Cuba; he had been an intel agent all along, spying on the Brothers and quite possibly having helped set a trap for the downed planes.

THE WASP NETWORK DISMANTLED

In 1998 the F.B.I. broke up a spy ring known as the *Red Avispa* (Wasp Network) and 14 exiles in Florida were indicted. The spies had surveilled the naval station at Key West and attempted to infiltrate the Southern

Command, based in Miami. Five of the spies were tried and convicted, five copped plea agreements and four fled back to Cuba. One of the spies, Gerardo Hernández, was also convicted of contributing to the Brothers shoot down. The spies had hardly lived James Bond existences. They met not in glitzy casinos but at Burger Kings; some had to hold two regular jobs to get by.

In 2000 Mariano Faget, a senior Immigration and Naturalization



- Cuba to Bahamas to US (Dade/Broward Counties)
- Cuba to Florida Keys
- Haiti to Bahamas to US

Service officer, was convicted of passing classified information to Cuban agents. He received a five-year prison sentence.

DR. AND MRS. SPY GO TO UNIVERSITY

Carlos (associate professor) and Elsa (administrator) Alvarez of Florida International University, outside Miami, were indicted in 2005 as unregistered agents of a foreign government. The indictment charged that "for nearly thirty years ... [they] served as agents of the Republic of Cuba's Directorate of Intelligence and its predecessor agencies, gathering information within the United States on matters of interest to the Cuban government, informing on anti-Castro individuals and groups and other elements of the Cuban exile community ... and carrying out other operational directives." The couple confessed and was sentenced to five- (Carlos) and three-year prison terms.

Praise from an enemy is praise indeed. "They [the Cubans] are one of the most aggressive intelligence services there is," said Hector M. Pesquera, head of the Miami F.B.I. office who handled the Red Wasp case. "They made some mistakes and we were able to capitalize on them, but they are still very good. They are very determined..." Carmichael told the *Miami Herald*: "The government of Cuba has agents working in front of our own noses without detecting them. That's what makes them good."



The Queen

OF CUBAN SPIES



One of the major spies of the Cold War was a Cuban female operative. Ana Belen Montes was born 28 February 1957 at a U.S. Army base in West Germany where her father was an Army psychiatrist. She grew up in the Midwest and Maryland and graduated from the University of Virginia in 1979. After being employed in the private sector and by the government, Montes went to work in 1985 for the Defense Intelligence Agency. She was already an agent of Cuban intelligence, having been recruited while she was employed at the Department of Justice.

For almost 16 years Montes maintained a flow of sensitive military information to Cuba, transmitting encrypted messages via pagers, computer diskettes and short wave radios. She even met in restaurants with Cuban diplomats. She made two trips to Cuba for the U.S. government. D.I.A. counter-espionage investigators became suspicious in 1996; it took five more years of surveillance before Montes could be arrested.

Montes began as a researcher and, being an achiever, eventually rose to acting director of a division. Her early fields of interest were Nicaragua and El Salvador. This was the time of the struggle of Castro-allied guerrillas against the democratic government of El Salvador. In Nicaragua the *contras* (counter-revolutionaries) were fighting the Castro-allied Sandinista regime.

The United States was involved in helping the Salvadoran government and the *contras* in their conflicts. And there sat Montes sending to Havana info on everything the Pentagon did and knew. (One may chuckle at the thought of D.G.I. chiefs scratching their heads at Montes' reports about the private military advisors fielded in El Salvador by SoF's Bob Brown.) From Havana, relevant info was transmitted to the Salvadoran rebels and the Nicaraguan government.

Montes' field of activity was expanded to Cuba; she became the Pentagon's chief authority on Cuba. (Champagne at intel headquarters in Havana?) Among her co-workers she was known as the "Queen of

Cuba." Included in the info she sent to Cuba were the identities of four covert U.S. agents in that country. (A U.S. official later said they were "alive and safe" -- no explanation.) Because of her high position, Montes had access to intel from other agencies, such as the C.I.A., including info on military matters beyond her sphere. It is quite likely that material provided by Montes went even further, to nations with which Castro was friendly: China, Russia, Libya, Iran and so on.

ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS SPIES IN U.S. HISTORY

Montes was "one of the most dangerous spies in U.S. history," according to Scott W. Carmichael, a D.I.A. counter-intelligence investigator, in his book on Montes, *True Believer*. Carmichael was instrumental in her exposure. Because of her position, she had opportunities to influence policy, she had access to a vast amount of sensitive information. It has been said that Montes did more damage to the United States than was done by two better-known turncoats, the C.I.A.'s Aldrich Ames and the F.B.I.'s Robert Hanssen.

On 24 September 2001, F.B.I. agents entered D.I.A. offices at Bolling Air Force Base and arrested the queen. She is now serving a 25-year prison term at a federal penitentiary in Texas. Four Cuban diplomats were expelled from the U.S. for involvement in the case. In the end, Ana Belen Montes did help her country. Prosecutors asked for the prison term for her instead of the death penalty in return for her revealing all she knew about Cuban intelligence.

Carmichael wrote: Montes "... was one the longest-running spies in U.S. history. She operated alone. And she didn't accept a dime in payment for her services" (but was reimbursed for expenses). If not for pay, why did Montes betray her country to a communist dictatorship? At her sentencing she stated, "I believe our government's policy toward Cuba is cruel and unfair, profoundly un-neighborly, and I felt morally obligated to help the island defend itself ..."

Carmichael: "Ana Montes was on a crusade... Ana Montes will serve her time productively ... [S]he'll be running the place before too long."

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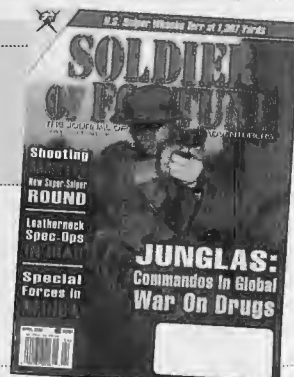
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THEY KICKED OUR BUTTS AND SCAMMED US

And Carmichael wrote: "... [T]he Cuban Intelligence Service has been kicking our butts in the intelligence business for decades. We've underestimated them. They've scammed us, they've tied up our

resources on worthless, controlled operations, and they've essentially run circles around us...."

The spy-catcher warned: "My fear is ... they've recruited many Ana Montes among us and planted those agents wherever they deem necessary within the U.S. government to advance their

interests. It was easy ... to recruit Ana Montes. How can we deny the likelihood that they've recruited many others within the intelligence establishment?"

Jay Mallin has covered Cuban affairs since 1950. Did Cuban intel ever try to recruit him? Yes. He said: "No thanks" (but that's another story). ✕

FIREFIGHT: WITH A TEAM OF HEROES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38

"She didn't want me touch her. She was going to die and she didn't want me to touch her," Gant said. His Iraqi counterpart, consoled the woman saying, "It's OK. He is my brother."

She then allowed him to apply tourniquets to both of her severely wounded legs. There was also a little girl in the vehicle. Gant, a



One of a small group of Iraqi commandos assists A Co., 502nd Inf Bn, 101st Airborne in a search for weapon caches in Mamadia, Iraq. Photo: SPC Timothy W. Story U.S. Army

family man with two kids of his own back in North Carolina, Tristen, 9, and Scout, 7, wanted to keep this child safe.

"I realized that we might all die today, but this little girl will not," he said, talking about how he put the child in his up-armored vehicle. "We had some sporadic small arms fire after that, but we had broken their back. They wanted us to stop there.

"I later found out that the women lived, and the little girl," he said with a smile, "was still afraid of U.S. forces, but she was really small... maybe one. She didn't understand; [she] just knew that someone had grabbed her from her mom and dad. She didn't know that it was for her own protection. I hope that one day, her parents tell her what happened..."



Iraqi SpecOps forces conduct a raid to detain suspected terrorist leaders of an insurgent force in Baghdad, 6 May. Motivated and well-trained Iraqi troops will be the heroes of tomorrow. DoD Photo by MCS1 Michael B.W. Wayking, USN

They engaged the insurgents until the patrol was able to get out of the area, eventually making it into Baghdad and down a route known for explosively formed projectiles.

WELCOME HOME, BROTHERS

When they finally made it back that day, they were met with a celebration. They were more than 200 Iraqi Commandos singing and bathing the road with goat's blood and planting bloody handprints all over their war-torn, bullet-ridden vehicles. There were celebrating.

"I will never forget them hugging and kissing us, their brothers in arms," he said of their return. "They do this in celebration, when they think we gave our lives for them, or could be dead."

Though months have

passed since that battle occurred, Gant recalls the story of the battle like it was yesterday.

"On that day, there were no Americans. There were no Iraqis, no whites and no blacks. There were no Sunnis, Shias, Christians. There was just a group of warriors working and fighting together," he said. "All the men I fought with that day showed incredible courage and bravery. That was one of the highlights of my life; working with those men that day." ✕



Iraqi Civil Defense Commandos (ICDC), armed with 5.56mm Tabuk assault rifles rush an objective from their lightweight utility vehicle during an assault drill near Camp Hurricane Point, Ar Ramadi, Iraq. The 1st MARDIV has been engaged in training ICDC troops while conducting Security And Stabilization Operations in Al Anbar Province. DoD Photo by PFC Brandon E. Loveless, USMC



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TERRORISM SITREP

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AMERICA AT WAR

1. THE NETHERLANDS

SECURITY INTEL REVAMP: **VENEZUELAN MILITARY** capable of overpowering Dutch military in Dutch Caribbean islands if strongman Chavez invades. Former secretary of defense Kamp had "severely underestimated military strength of Venezuelan military in terms of equipment and readiness," says **SOF** source. **U.S. INTERVENTION** would be required to push Venezuelan military back.

2. UNITED STATES EXPLOSIVE PIZZA

PLOT at Fort Dix, N.J. thwarted. Conspiracy to "kill as many soldiers as possible" in an armed attack "in the name of Allah," foiled as **FBI** operatives arrest six terror suspects. **FBI WARNS; EXTREMISTS DRIVING SCHOOL BUSES AND CABS. WAR-INDUCED MELTING POT; 25,000 IRAQI REFUGEES TO IMMIGRATE** to United States, some on fast track for citizenship. The Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) uses "hate crime data" to have U.S. taxpayers fund security and "target hardening" at U.S. mosques and Islamic Centers "vulnerable to terrorist attacks." CAIR rigs "bogus" statistics, and "misrepresentation and exaggeration of bogus incidents of anti-Muslim hate crimes" to obtain "protected victim status" for U.S. Muslims, audits reveal (*Jihad Watch*). **"WE ARE GOING TO WAR"** -- stockpiling of weapons and explosives by

core groups of Islamic terror cells inside the U.S. downplayed by federal officials and the media. "We have been told what to say and just as important, what not to say, and warned not to deviate from that 'template,'" a law-enforcement official tells *Northeast Intelligence Network*. **BIN LADEN PLANS NUCLEAR ATTACKS**, FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III tells *Newsmax*. **BORDER PATROL BASIC TRAINING PASSES THE GAO TEST** -- 6,000 new BP agents to be deployed by end of 2008. **TIPTOE THROUGH THE CONGRESS' POLITICAL CORRECTNESS:** Armed Services Committee banishes "Global War on Terror" and "the long war" terminology from the 2008 defense budget (*Military Times*). **PAINTBALL JIHAD** desperate L.A. law enforcement officials accelerate deportation of illegal immigrant gang members smuggling in arms and explosives and practicing paintball urban combat.

3. SYRIA AND JORDAN REFUGEES BURDEN

ECONOMY as 1.2 MILLION IRAQI REFUGEES live in squalor in camps in Syria, 750,000 in Jordan. **FOUR MILLION IRAQI REFUGEES** displaced worldwide.

4. ETHIOPIA GUANTANAMO MOVES TO THE DARK

CONTINENT as U.S. operatives interrogate terror suspects, including westerners, at secret Ethiopian prisons infamous for torture.

5. SPAIN THREE HUNDRED POUNDS OF EXPLOSIVES

are uncovered in northern Basque country.

6. RUSSIA UNSECURED NUCLEAR SITES JEOPARDIZE

safety of nuclear material. U.S.-funded security measures fall below high security standards due to access difficulties and Putin government carelessness.

10. COLOMBIA 13.2 tons of

cocaine, five boats, weapons and communication equipment seized near Pizarro, 400 kilometers west of Bogotá.

11. NIGERIA CHEVRON OIL TANKER

BLOWN UP, sailor killed, five foreigners taken hostage by Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta. Former **DUTCH COMMANDO** Arjan Meliesie, chief of security for German company Bilfinger Berger released from captivity after two weeks. Meliesie served in the De Facto Forces of Major Sa'ad Haddad in South-Lebanon in 1982.



7. **UNITED KINGDOM** EXTREMISTS ENGAGE IN "HIGH LEVEL OF OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY" to train local Muslim jihadists to go fight British troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. "CLEAN SKIN TERRORISTS" from in Europe could launch next 9-11, U.S. DHS Chief Michael Chertoff tells *Daily Telegraph*. "MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, London Eye and other government sites at 'severe' risk of terrorist attack." LONDON TRANSIT ATTACK SUSPECTS charged in transit massacres on 7 July 2005.

8. **GERMANY** AIR MARSHALS INSTALLED on U.S.-bound flights after terrorist threats. ANTI-TERRORISM DATA BASE exposing membership of terrorist groups, terrorist camps, telecommunications and cyberspace espionage is criticized by "human rights" left-wing jugheads as violation of "civil rights."

9. **SWITZERLAND** SWISS-U.S. COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIP fired up to investigate terrorism financing and information swapping in the global banking center.



10.

12. **SRI LANKA** CIVIL WAR escalates in preparation for final offensive. Air force, navy and army plan to disable LTTE rebels in daily raids and bombardments.

13. **MEXICO** DEADLY DRUG GANG WARS claim more than 600 lives in first quarter of 2007. Deaths expected to equal the 2,000 reported in 2006.

14. **TURKEY** RIDERLESS BICYCLE BOMB in market in Turkey's largest city, *Izmir* claims 15 lives. Public outraged that president-elect could reinstate Muslim rule.

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15. **PAKISTAN** SUICIDE ATTACK kills 25, thought to be a reprisal for killing of Mullah Dadullah, veteran Mujahedeen chief.

16. **AFGHANISTAN** U.S. HELICOPTER ATTACK TAKES OUT Pegleg Taliban Chief, Mullah Dadullah, who was training U.S. and U.K. citizens to return home and blow up strategic sites.

17. **ALGERIA** BLOODY AL-QAIDA--POLICE FIREFIGHTS kill 27.

18. **SUDAN** AIR FORCE ATTACKS CIVILIANS in North Darfur State. Rocket attack hits school, injuring nearly 200.



PLAYS WELL WITH OTHERS

"Our collaboration with the German Paratroops has gone along very well. We work regularly together and the men are establishing good contacts. As I said before, the 8th Paratroop Regiment has had a lot of experience here in Africa. A lot of the men have had three or four tours of duty here and that helps a lot. On the other hand, for our German comrades, it's the first time they've ever set foot on African soil and things here take some getting used to. From the very beginning we've worked with them and tried to explain how things work here in country. I'm not talking so much about military matters but the things on an everyday level, the day-to-day business of getting along in Africa. It took them some time to adapt but they seemed to have picked up some of our African 'savoir faire' and they seem to be doing pretty well."

"The 29th of September we invited them to our base to celebrate 'St. Michael' with us. [Saint Michael is the traditional patron Saint of all French airborne units.] In the morning we had combined jumps followed by the traditional 'St. Michael' military

festivities. They don't have the same traditions or the 'airborne' heritage we do and I think they appreciated the occasion which furthered the solidarity between the paratroopers."

"On a whole, EUFOR has been a success and the cooperation between the different nationalities has been excellent. As for myself and my men we are looking forward to continue working with the people we've met here."

KINSHASA

Working out of the main operational base of EUFOR at Ndolo Airport, I went out on several patrols through Kinshasa, both in vehicles and on foot, with the paratroopers of the French 8th Regiment. Patrols were increased in the days following the inauguration of Joseph Kabila as the first democratically elected President of the Congo. Joseph Kabila, son of the late Laurent Desire Kabila, originally came to power after the assassination of his father in January 2001. Despite the fact that the majority of the 8 million inhabitants of this immense African metropolis supported the

losing candidate, Jean Pierre Bemba, the situation remained calm. At one point Bemba and the closest members of his private militia were persuaded to leave the capital peacefully and other members of his para-military political army disarmed. For the moment a possible civil war had been avoided, and such protests and street violence as did erupt were handled by Congolese Security Forces and MUNOC soldiers.



Specializing in night ops and urban combat, a unit of French paratroopers, armed with Famas assault rifles, an FRF2 sniper rifle and a Mini-Mag light machine gun, preparing for an eventual hostage retrieval/civilian evacuation scenario.

TAMING THE CONGO CONTINUED FROM PAGE 67

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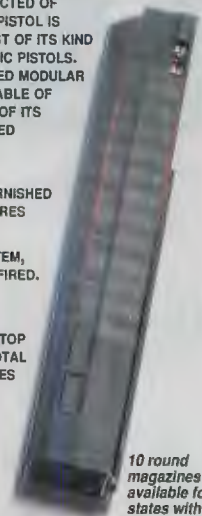
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It took nearly two hours for 87 B-52s from Guam to taxi, take off, and become airborne when Linebacker II kicked off on 18 December 1972. They took off every 30 seconds from

attacking bomber force assembled since World War II." The B-52 targets on the first day were Kep airfield, Hoa Lac airfield, Phuc Yen airfield, Kinh No vehicle repair site, Yen Vien rail yards, Hanoi railroad repair facility, and the main Hanoi radio station. An F-111 force was assigned missions against nine targets. Beier described the endless takeoff roar as "amazing."



Airman Terry Schiesser works on the gun turret of a Dog in Guam, during 1972. Four fast-firing .50 Browning machine guns made the B-52 a dangerous target to follow. Photo U.S. Air Force

HANOI'S FIRST BLOOD

The North Vietnamese drew first blood on Day 1, taking down two G models designated Peach 02 and Charcoal 01 as well as a Dog model called Rose 02 with SA-2 "Guideline" missiles. Five B-52 crewmen died, seven were captured, and

two parallel 11,000-foot runways at Anderson. Another 42 B-52s flying out of U Tapao joined them, forming what the Air Force calls "the largest

the entire crew of Peach 02 was recovered after bailing out over Thailand. An F-111 and an A-7 flying support were also lost with

all hands.

Staff Sergeant Turner retaliated by downing a MiG-21 from Brown 03 with his tail guns. His Silver Star citation says he distinguished himself by defending his aircraft against multiple enemy fighter attacks in which he destroyed one of them. Turner died in 1985 from a lingering illness after attaining the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. A leadership school at Ellsworth AFB, S.D. is named after him.

Master Sergeant Lewis E. LeBlanc, the gunner on nearby Brown 2, was a bit more colorful when describing the events of the day to his debriefer after the mission.

"I observed a bogey on my radar at the 0630 position at 6NM [nautical miles] (this was 4NM behind Brown 3), he closed to about 3 NM behind me. I attempted to lock on to the bogey, but the nose ALR-18 (B-52 nose-mounted electronic device) jammed my radar as I attempted to lock-up with my track radar..."

"I saw Brown 3 dropping flares, and I saw what looked like a flash from the guns of Brown 3. Then I saw a bright fireball, much brighter than the flares behind Brown 3. Then I looked on my radar scope and the bogey had disappeared."




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Before reaching the hostile skies over Hanoi, Beier said he still wasn't too excited after learning the big bombers were going Downtown, as Hanoi was known.

"I was too ignorant," he said. "As far as my going north for the first time I can only describe it as ignorance is bliss. I knew I was going into combat, but I didn't know what to expect."

Beier did know it was an important mission because it was the only time during his career when all the flight crews in his wing were briefed together before the mission began, he said. He was already on temporary duty for Operation "Bullet Shot" that Nixon ordered to make the North Vietnamese get

war, the radar network was being secretly improved by Soviet-bloc technicians, to include new fire-control radar that increased the accuracy of the SA-2 guided missiles. Unfortunately the G models, unlike the Dogs, were not equipped to counter all the threats they posed.

After the briefing, the crew pulled together for the mission. There was very little joking or grabass. Every man had a role to play and each of them wanted to get it right.

"In SAC we used the hard crew concept. From inception until somebody left we stayed together. It was a team. We were very professional; in fact I think it was the most professional

South Vietnam. The big bombers blasted the periphery of the Hanoi-Haiphong defensive complex but they had not gone downtown.

Linebacker II was to be different. The intent was to destroy all major target complexes in the Hanoi and Haiphong areas that had been hands-off for the entire war. Anti-aircraft sites, command and control centers, harbors, communications hubs, and any industry still standing was on the butcher's block. The all-weather force of heavy B-52s and smaller, brand new swing-wing F-111 Aardvark attack aircraft would bomb by night while tactical aircraft would continue to conduct daytime attacks.

For once Air Force officers

A semi-historic B-52G Stratofortress does a 2006 fly-by with the fully historic B-29 Superfortress. Photo: U.S. Air Force



serious about negotiating an end to the war so flying to Vietnam was nothing new. Until Linebacker II started it had always been the same routine.

THIS WILL BE A BIGGIE

"Everybody new it was going to be a big mission," he says. "The briefings were held in a room that holds 100 crews. I was 21 years old. Ignorance is bliss. I knew we would get shot at but not to the severity it was. It was like one of those World War II movies where everybody comes in and they call us to attention. The general or somebody told us our target was Hanoi."

What they heard in the briefing that followed was disquieting. By 1972, North Vietnam defenses included 145 MiG fighters, 26 SA-2 Guideline surface-to-air missile sites (21 in the Hanoi/Haiphong area), a heavy concentration of anti-aircraft artillery, and a complex, overlapping radar network. Throughout the

organization I ever worked for. We were on the same leave schedule, the same alert schedule. We did everything together. I reported only to the aircraft commander." Beier remembers.

Unit integrity and a team spirit were an absolute necessity for what lay ahead. The size and strength of the North Vietnamese defenses around Hanoi and Haiphong were so great that many naysayers believed the B-52 bombers would not be able to survive encounters even with North Vietnam's conventional defense network.

SAME TEAMS: A NEW BALL GAME

There was real reason for skepticism. Every previous air campaign, including the initial Linebacker campaign carried out between April and October 1972, had been intended to interdict the North's myriad supply routes feeding its North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong forces operating in

instead of Pentagon whiz kids shaped the list of targets so that the bombers could limit civilian collateral damage, including the drab prisons holding American POWs, and still hit the enemy hard. At this stage in the war most of the captured Americans had been brought to the environs of Hanoi for security reasons, so they got to enjoy the spectacle. It boosted their tattered morale to see their Communist tormentors terrorized by the explosions announcing the United States Air Force was finally hitting home. Air Force Gen Curtis E. "Iron Ass" LeMay's call to bomb North Vietnam "back to the Stone Age" was about to be realized.

Initially, Linebacker II specified three days of intensive effort, with contingency plans for a longer campaign in the works. To do it, the flight line at Andersen was jammed with 99 B-52Gs and 53 B-52Ds. Their missions from Guam would run about 12 hours and require in-flight refueling. Before Linebacker



For the moment, the results of this first European "experience" as a combined force in Africa are positive. The RDC seems to be on the way to finding political stability and



French paratroops, stationed at the permanent French military base in nearby Libreville, Gabon, conduct training exercise

virtually self-contained unit where essential services are contracted out to private companies, the per day per man cost is around 55 euros (\$70). At Libreville, Gabon I visited an encampment set up to house German paratroops. The tents were new, the facilities, dining hall, restrooms, showers, were all there but the site was totally abandoned except for the civilian service and security personnel. The soldier's union had decided that the place was not up to standards set by the German Army so the troops were transferred to hotels. (!) Another problem facing the European Force is the lack of standardization. Differences in transport, loading and unloading procedures, radio and communications equipment, and military hardware in general have all posed problems, sometimes difficult -- and costly -- to resolve.

For the moment, the situation in the Congo has stayed calm. As the Mandate expires, EUFOR troops are heading home and their equipment and material is being shipped back to Europe. The bases they set up and occupied have been handed over to Congolese authorities and most people consider the mission accomplished. The total cost of

the intervention of the European Peacekeeping Force has yet to be determined but as one UN official stated "It's preferable to spend money on a relatively expensive peace than to risk even a cheap war." The question is, are European taxpayers going to continue to support this type of preventive intervention, which could be deemed necessary each time elections are held or whenever the possibility of violent conflict arises?

One thing is certain: From a military standpoint cooperation between European nations is possible, and thought by many to be a future necessity. Problems encountered during the Congo "experiment" are on the way to being resolved as European military leaders are becoming more and more concerned about standardization. There is talk of setting up European joint-training centers, the first of which may very well be a European Airborne Training school, which is supposed to be built in Spain. As General Damay stated, they seem to be one more step forward toward the creation of a true European Army.

--Richard Lucas is a frequent contributor to SOF. ✂

one can hope that democracy will take a foothold in the Congo and affect the surrounding countries. Never the less, some quarters have questioned the cost efficiency of this type of intervention. I was told that the daily expenditure of such a mission would be estimated by the French Army at a cost of 16 euros (about \$20) per man per day. At Ndolo, built and operated much like an American overseas base, i.e. a

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FLAK

Please ask your "gun control" friends this question....



If a student or a teacher had defied the "gun free zone" law at Virginia Tech and had been carrying a weapon and

STOPPED the murderer before victims had to wait until he stopped himself, would they have complained that he broke the law? Just wondering....

Brandi

Gun-rights advocate Steve Schreiner

responds: I have an even more cogent question: were there any carry-concealed permit holders either in the dormitory or in the classroom building who might possibly have stopped the massacre, but were prohibited from doing so by University regulations/VA state law? That should be brought to light. How to do it? The entire carry-concealed data base for Virginia was revealed by the Roanoke Times recently. Cross-reference it with the student and employee data base of VA Tech.

R.I.P. Doug Zembiec

It is with heavy heart that I report the death of Captain Doug Zembiec, USMC. Captain Zembiec, former CO of Echo Company 2/1, call sign "War

Hammer six," was conspicuously mentioned in Bing West's book *No True Glory*. His leadership, bravery, patriotism and audacity made him one of the key small unit leaders in the Marine's battle for Fallujah, Operation Phantom Fury (Nov. 2004) and Operation Vigilant Resolve, (Apr. 2004). My deepest sympathy goes to former FBI colleague Don, Doug's father, Doug's wife and his family.

**Very respectfully,
Bob Taubert**



GUNFIGHTER OVER HANOI CONTINUED FROM PAGE 66

ended, Beier went on one mission that lasted 22 hours while the bomber force flew in a carefully choreographed route so everyone arrived over the target at the same time, he said.

"I think it was the mission on the 26th of December. We were Number

Four out of 18 Gs. Our mission was to hit the railroad marshaling yards. We launched early, they wanted everybody to hit with a 15-minute time frame. It turned into a 22-hour mission," Beier recalls.

WALL-TO-WALL SAMS

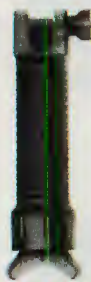
On the first day of Linebacker II, 129 B52s ultimately arrived over Hanoi in three waves, four to five hours apart. They attacked the airfields at Hoa Lac, Kep and Phuc Yen, the Kinh No complex and the Yen Vien rail yards. The aircraft flew in tight cells of three aircraft to maximize the mutual support benefits of their ECM equipment. The brass said they were required to fly straight and level to stabilize the bombing computers and ensure that all bombs fell on the military targets and not in civilian areas.

The pilots of the early missions reported that "wall-to-wall SAMS" surrounded Hanoi as they neared its outskirts. That's when a SAM hit Charcoal 01 piloted by Lt. Col. Donald L. Rissi and crewed by Maj. Richard E. Johnson, Capt. Richard T. Simpson, Capt. Robert G. Certain, 1/Lt. Robert J. Thomas and Sgt. Walter L. Ferguson. Of this crew, Certain, Simpson and Johnson were captured and shown the bodies of the other crewmembers. Certain, Simpson and Johnson were held prisoner in Hanoi until March 29, 1973, when they were released in Operation Homecoming. Six years later, the bodies of Rissi, Thomas and Ferguson were returned to U.S. control by the Vietnamese.

Capt. Hal K. Wilson's Rose 01 was in the lead aircraft of a B-52 cell from U Tapao that went down the same night. Also on board his aircraft were crewmen Maj. Fernando Alexander, Capt. Charles A. Brown, Jr., Capt. Henry C. Barrows, navigator Capt.

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Richard W. Cooper Jr. and tail gunner Sgt. Charlie S. Poole. Wilson's aircraft sustained fatal damage from a SAM hit to the fuselage that occurred near his target area. Rose 01 caught fire and the crew bailed out in the early morning hours of December 19. There was no time for orderly bailout but as later examination of radio tapes indicated, all six crewmen safely ejected. The report proved incorrect and Cooper and Poole were later declared dead. Thirty-one years later their remains were returned home.

On Day 3, six Buffs went down -- including Olive 01 carrying the deputy airborne commander. Day 4 saw four Buffs go down. The next Buff losses didn't occur until Day 8 when two ships spiraled out of control after SAM strikes. The crew dogs who made it, credit the drop in



The tail-gunner entry hatch on a B-52D being serviced in Guam in 1972 has a positive ventilation hose attached while technicians are inside its close quarters. To escape in an emergency, the tail gunner used a different route: He jettisoned his whole gun turret and jumped out of the hole this left in the fuselage. Note the four-barrel gun turret, aft. Photo: U.S. Air Force

losses on badly needed changes in tactics. It was the worst time for the big bombers.

"We changed tactics on either the 22nd or 23rd," Beier recalls. "We changed divergence, height, time and routes. Until then, they were kind of waiting - flak, SAMs, MiGs."

Notes another B-52 pilot who flew the Hanoi mail, "these tactical changes were probably due less to a great epiphany on the part of Pentagon planners, and more to the possibility of a threatened mutiny on the part of B-52 crews who were being fed into this gauntlet."

A RECORD THAT STILL STANDS

On Christmas Eve, Airman 1st Class Albert Moore, onboard Ruby 03, shot down a MiG-21 attacking his cell near Hanoi while the bomber flight was attacking railroad marshalling yards. Moore picked up the attacking Mig at eight miles and calmly started tracking him. At 2,000 yards he told the pilot to begin evasive action and opened fire, sending 800 rounds in three bursts into the Mig before it disappeared off his radar. His victim proved to be the last airplane shot down by a tail gunner since the beginning of aerial combat.

Day 8 and 9, four more Buffs were lost to enemy SAMS, the last B-52s shot down during Linebacker II. During the 11-day campaign SAC's B-52s flew 729 sorties and dropped 15,000 tons of bombs. North Vietnamese forces had fired about 1,240 SAMs. The Air Force lost 15 B-52 bombers, which amounted to a loss rate of less than two percent. Of 92 B-52 crewmembers involved in the losses, 26 were recovered, 25 were listed as missing in action, 33 became prisoners of war, and eight were either killed in action or later died of wounds. In addition, the U.S. lost two F-11As, three F-4s, two A-7s, two A-6s, one EB-66, one HH-53, and one RA-5C. As soon as Hanoi signaled it had enough, Nixon ordered the operation to cease. The Air force maintains the Christmas bombings were the most precise bombing attacks the world has ever witnessed. Crews involved in raids generally agree that the strikes against anti-aircraft and strategic targets were so thorough that the U.S. could have completely destroyed North Vietnam if it had so desired.

Of the 61 crewmembers that went down over North Vietnam, only 33 were released in 1973. Whether it was worth the cost is an argument that will probably continue through time. One thing, however, is certain. The captured airman and their families who benefited from the brave Buff crews who sacrificed all, know the answer to that question: They get to spend the rest of their lives in freedom.

-- Nat Helms is a frequent contributor to (rom.)SOF

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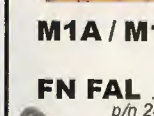
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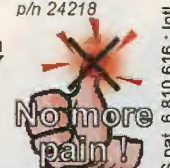
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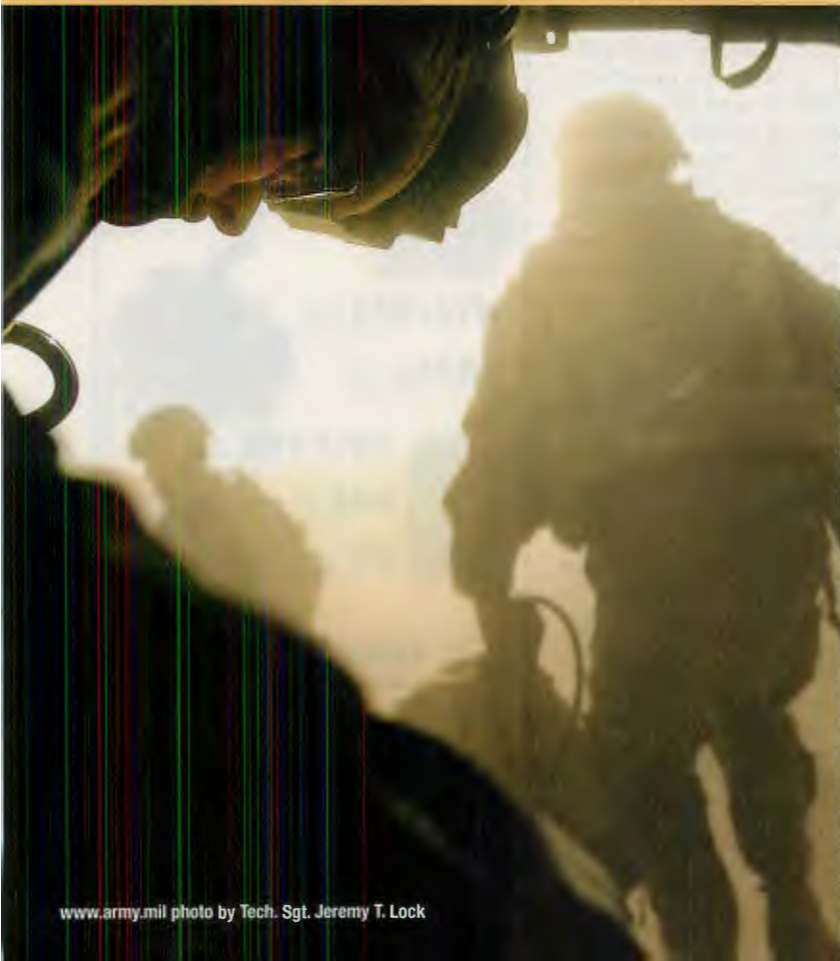
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Seriously injured who are rushed from the battlefield often arrive at hospital facilities in the United States with little more than the clothes on their backs. It takes time, sometimes a month or more, for their personal belongings to catch up.

Noted a 22-year-old Marine Lance Corporal from Michigan,

"I know when I was sitting in my hospital bed, and I got mine, that kept me quite busy for a while with the CD players, and the cards, and the cell phones," he said. "The cell phone was probably the best thing... it was nice to know people cared that much." A 23-year-old Corporal from Tennessee summed it up: "Thank you, a big thank you," he said. "I don't have enough words really to say how grateful we are for all the presents and the donations... we highly appreciate everything. Anything, from the smallest thing, anything they can do is helpful."

For complete information on the program and how you can help, go to: www.rescuetaaskforce.org

FOUND ON THE FBI'S "GOTCHA" ARCHIVES:

In Missouri there was a guy caught impersonating a Marine Corps Captain. He applied for membership in the Marine Corp League, went to events and even a funeral all decked out in Marine Corps garb... The Commandant of the organization thought there was something strange about this individual, who wore the uniform incorrectly, and called the FBI. The

FBI's agent Nixon recalls, "He had attended their annual dinner and a funeral for a Marine who had passed away; had worn a uniform; a Marine Corps dress blue uniform with, of course, numerous medals and commendations on it... he had those medals out of order."

Confronted by the FBI, the man plead guilty and was sentenced to six months.

LAST YEOMANETTE DIES AT 109

The last surviving female World War I veteran, Charlotte Winters, has passed away in Boonsboro, Md. She was 109 years old. Winters served in the U.S. Naval Reserve as a yeoman, including service at a gun production facility at the Washington Navy Yard.

She continued to work for the Navy in Washington until her retirement in 1953.

The Naval Reserve Act of 1916 enabled the Navy to begin enlisting women in mid-March 1917. Nearly 600 were on duty by the end of April 1917: That number grew to more than 11,000 by December 1918, shortly after the armistice. These women were popularly known as "Yeomanettes." ❌



FLAK

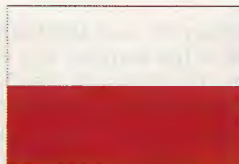
FLAK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 08



INDONESIA



MONACO



NETHERLANDS



POLAND



YUGOSLAVIA

as it was shown behind Patton when he was rallying his troops with a speech, it is hung from its top with the blue field on its own right (to the left of the viewer). When it is displayed on a moving object (like a vehicle or a shoulder patch), the rule is that the blue field leads, as if it were on a standard in motion. If it were worn on the left shoulder, with the blue field leading, the field would be on the flag's own right and look "normal"; but when it is worn on the right shoulder, the blue field still leads the way, which

makes it look "backward." If this doesn't make sense yet, imagine how a cloth flag would look on the right fender of a vehicle in motion: Since it is secured on the "field" end of the flag, the blue field would lead the way - and be on the viewer's right.

In civilian protocol, such as a police uniform where it might be worn on the left shoulder or on the breast, the field is then displayed on its own right; a decal on the right side of a vehicle, however, would properly be "reversed" so the field

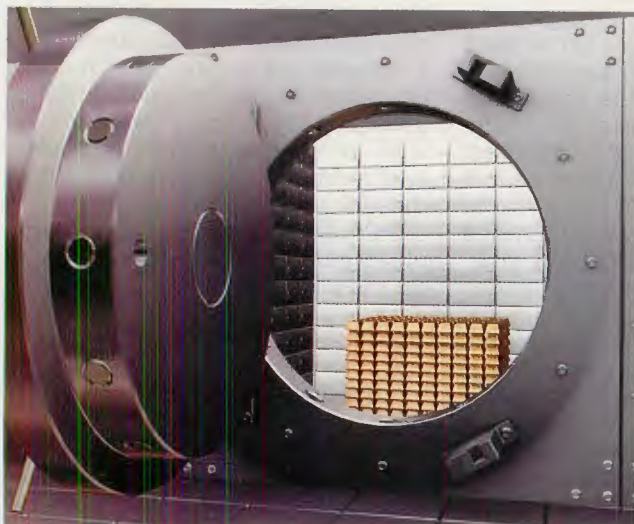
leads.

Traditionally, the American flag has been hung upside down -- as on a ship in -- to indicate it is in trouble or as an SOS signal. The American flag is one of relatively few that can be so used, as many are symmetrical: A union Jack or a Japanese meat ball or rising sun upside-down looks the same; hang a Polish flag upside down and you have an Indonesia or Monaco flag; hang a Dutch or Luxembourg flag upside down and you have a Yugo flag, etc. ❌





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M1911 GOODIES FROM BROWNELLS

institutions. Their "forever" venue is because of their utterly reliable service, and the fact they are continually evolving from "the best" to "even better." We refer here, to the M1911 pistol and to Brownells. Now, from our "how good does it get" file, comes news that Brownells is launching their first-ever 1911-specific catalog -- the most popular handgun of all time now has a 60-page catalog dedicated specifically to its parts and accessories immediately available from Brownells.

Free to 1911 enthusiasts, the catalog features all the Model 1911 parts, accessories and brands offered by Brownells in a compact, convenient-to-use format.

"The 1911 continues to grow in popularity with recreational shooters and personal defense, and with military and law enforcement professionals as well," said Frank Brownell, company president. "The new 1911 catalog allows us to better serve customers by offering a specialized selection of products in one handy, compact catalog."

The catalog also includes a feature new to Brownells catalogs: dream guns -- color images of customized 1911s with the various add-ons, accessories and aftermarket products labeled. "The dream guns give users an idea of what parts look like on a 1911 before they order," Brownell said. "Brownells gun techs frequently receive calls from customers asking them for recommendations on customizing 1911s. The dream guns are the closest things to picking the brain of a gun tech from the comfort of your favorite chair."

Two of our favorite things in the shooting arena have been around so long that they have become American

Stocking more than 30,000 items, they are already the world's largest supplier of factory gun parts, gunsmithing tools, equipment and firearms accessories. Now, Brownells new M1911 catalog offers popular items including barrels, safeties, triggers and tools, plus many new products including custom wood grips and night-sight mounting.

Customers can receive a free Brownells 1911 Catalog #1 by calling 1-800-741-0015 or visiting <http://www.brownells.com>. Tell 'em SOF sent you.

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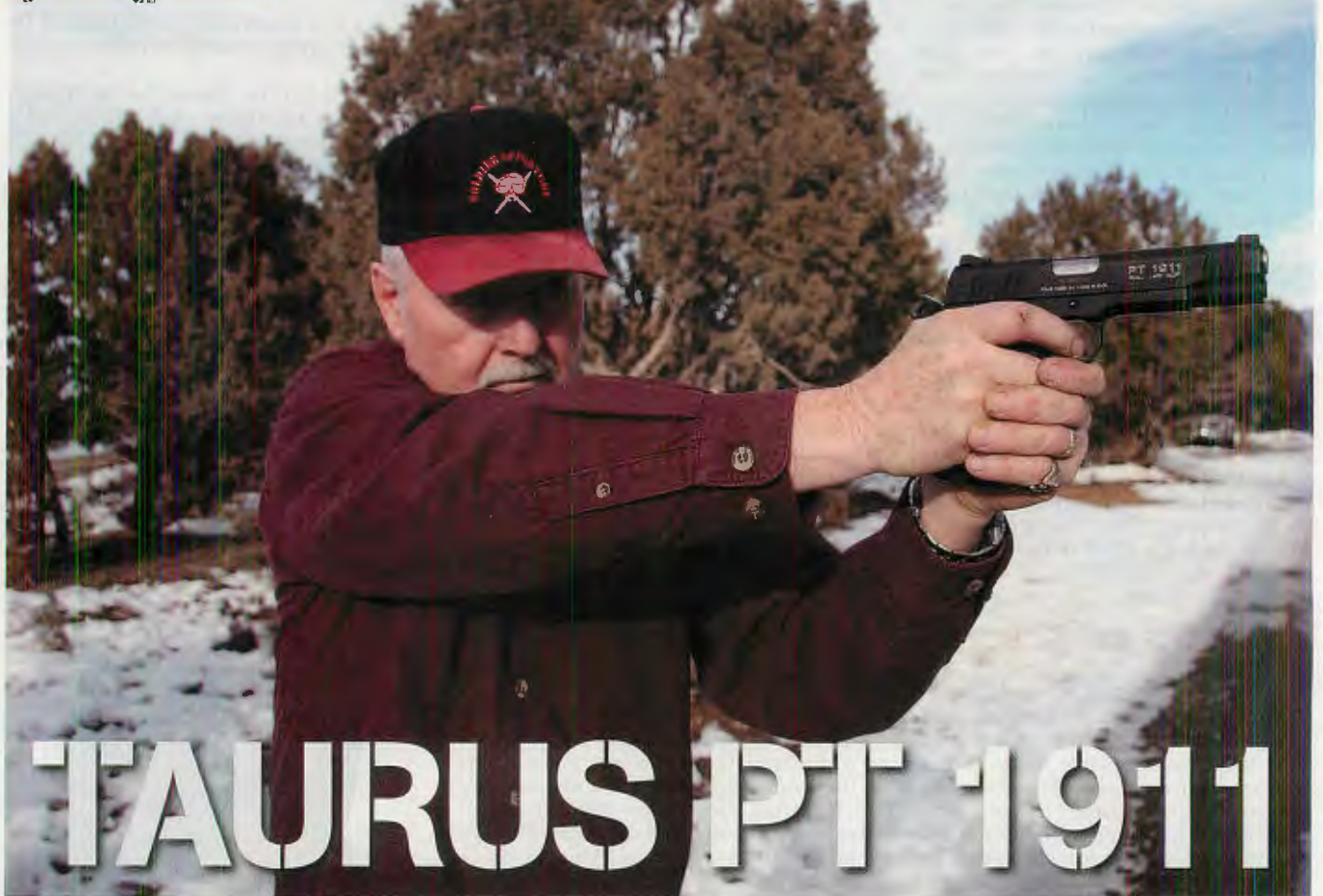
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Johnston found the PT 1911 to perform extremely well with all .45 ACP ammunition tested.



THERE'S A NEW 1911 IN TOWN!

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY GARY PAUL JOHNSTON

With the calendar approaching a century after America's small-arms genius John M. Browning designed his timeless Model of 1911 pistol, he is surely smiling. The number of companies manufacturing his gun tops a dozen, with variations next to impossible to count.

Unlike the original, the quality of today's 1911 style pistols runs the gamut with the more "affordable" versions available for a few hundred dollars and the "top of the line" guns running up to the thousands. It is relatively safe to say that there are two types of shooters in America: those who own one or more 1911 pistols and those who will, and a key word here is "more."

Many shooters, especially new ones, start out with a less expensive 1911 pistol, whether it is new or used. In my case, it was a used World War I Colt I bought at the age of fourteen. I had just met Col. Jeff Cooper in Big

Bear, California, and had watched him compete there in one of Andy Anderson's matches. Cooper didn't win the match, but I was hooked. My folks drove me to Hi Hunter's Gun Shop in Burbank where I picked out the old Colt from a dozen 1911's.

Saving lawn-mowing money, I bought ammunition for that pistol (and a half-dozen other guns), and I shot it a lot. After becoming a police officer, I carried revolvers, but I always owned at least one 1911 pistol, and I competed with several handguns "trading up," at every opportunity. I wouldn't want to try to tally up the number of 1911 pistols I have owned, but it is at least seventy-five.

Having had the opportunity to test and evaluate hundreds of 1911 pistols, I have pretty much seen it all, so to speak. I still appreciate the most basic 1911 pistol like my first one, but I continue to marvel at the improvements made to the pistol, as

well as some of the "top end" guns offered today. I say "some," because not all of them are equal.

While I appreciate beautiful guns, I find this term elusive, as a pistol that is less attractive at first glance may have great utilitarian value, and this kind of pistol possesses a beauty far deeper and lasting than its surface. If a pistol looks as good on the outside as it really is on the inside, all the better.

As should be evident to all, high quality in firearms is by no means exclusive to America. After all, firearms have been made in the four corners of the world long before Europeans discovered America and our own firearm heritage stems from a world melting pot of craftsmanship. With modern, state-of-the-art metallurgy and machinery commonplace throughout much of the world, firearms technology is far from exclusive to the USA. A prime



example is the country of Brazil, where several companies have been making high-quality firearms for the last half-century. One such company is Taurus.

After making a great name for itself during the past several decades with its excellent line of double-action revolvers, Taurus introduced an equally well received line of auto-pistols several years ago with its 24-7 family of duty grade pistols in 9mm, .40 S&W and .45 ACP. The latest of this ilk is the Taurus 24-7 SOCOM, the pistol designed to meet the requirements for the new U.S. Joint Service Pistol (JSP) Program, which is now on hold.

About the same time that the 24-7 SOCOM pistol was being developed in the summer of 2006, Taurus was putting the finishing touches on, of all things, a 1911 style pistol in .45 ACP. With nearly all handgun manufacturers now offering at least one 1911 type pistol, one might ask, why another? A fair question deserves a fair answer, and quite frankly it's because there is an obvious market. Also, for Taurus, it was time.



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After carefully studying trends in 1911 production and what features were most in demand, Taurus determined that it could produce a high-quality entry-level 1911 with many custom features, at a price that could compete with any other. The key words here are high quality and the result was

ejection port on the right side of the slide is engraved "PT 1911" and "Cal. .45 ACP," and below the port is the serial number and the words "Forjas Taurus S.A. - Made in Brazil." This first part translates to "Taurus Forgings, Inc." On the left side of the slide is the Taurus logo and on the left side of the dust

an extended polymer base and removing it reveals a sufficiently beveled magazine-well mouth. The front strap is also checkered with 30 lpi, as is the bottom of the trigger guard, inside of which is an adjustable long trigger. The grips are black polymer molded in the traditional large double diamond



The PT 1911's ejection port is lowered and flared. The right side of the slide is engraved with the model name.

the new Taurus PT 1911 pistol. Let's take a closer look.

Beginning at the muzzle, the PT1911 has a match style stainless steel barrel, which is enlarged behind the muzzle and the muzzle is recessed to protect it. However, when in battery, the bushing is not extremely tight on the barrel, and does not require a great deal of torque to turn it. Beneath the bushing is a hollow recoil-spring plug, which houses a full-length guide rod. On the front of the slide is a dovetailed Heine front sight with a dot. This sight is extra wide to accommodate an Allen screw, which enters the sight from the top in order to secure the sight from moving laterally in the dovetail. On both sides of the slide are four forward cocking-grooves, which offer excellent purchase, and these are angled to exactly match six more on each side of the rear of the slide.

The ejection port is typically lowered and flared and hides a conventional extractor. Here, the chamber portion of the barrel is engraved ".45 ACP" and below that the serial number. In front of the

cover portion of the frame is again the serial number.

On top of the rear of the slide is a Heine rear sight, with one white dot beneath an extra-wide notch. Putting the front and rear dots together forms an "8," Heine's "Straight-8" sighting system. In any light in which a target can be seen, one can clearly see this "8" without having to take his eyes off the target, and if the target is a suspect, this would allow an officer to watch the suspect while keeping the sights aligned. The "8" also can be aligned in some light where the black sights cannot be seen.

A "Commander" style hammer rides above a really well designed "beavertail" style grip safety with a hump at the bottom. This hammer has Taurus' safety system with a vertical lock that can be rotated with a furnished tool, to prevent the pistol from firing. Forward of the grip safety is a well executed, ambidextrous, extended thumb safety. Beneath the grip safety is a flat steel mainspring housing with 30 lpi checkering.

The 8-round magazine has

pattern. The PT 1911 is finished in a fine bead-blasted texture with all parts in matte blue, except the barrel.

The functions of my sample PT 1911 range from acceptable to excellent. The trigger operates a Series 80 style firing pin block and its letoff is about as good as the best broken in GI 1911 pistol I have ever fired, i.e., it's a good combat, duty trigger. The magazine release is excellent and the ambidextrous thumb safety is about excellent. Everything else works just fine.

There are lots of "custom" things done to the PT 1911. I guess I could sum it up by saying that the important custom style things are done really well, while others are OK. For example, the "throating" done to the mouth of the chamber is as good as I've ever seen, as is the feed ramp and the mating of these two. This equates to reliability, the most important aspect of any pistol. The 30 lpi checkering on the bottom of the trigger guard is more for looks, in my opinion, but then I consider this frosting on the cake of any pistol.



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Columnist & Contributing Editor, Black Belt Magazine

I imagine yourself face to face with:

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The PT 1911's grip safety is well designed, as is the ambidextrous thumb safety.



Here the Safety Key is seen inserted into the PT 1911's Safety Lock. When applied, the lock allows the magazine to be removed, but locks the hammer and slide.

Accuracy Chart – Average of Both Pistols

Five 5-Shot Hand-Held 25-Yrd Groups Using Pro Chrony LE. Elev: 7000', Temp: 42*, Humid: 53%

.45 ACP Cartridge	Muzzle Vel	Small Group	Large Group	Average
Black Hills 185 gr. JHP	977 fps	2.66"	2.94"	2.82"
Cor-Bon 185 gr. DPX	1071 fps	3.11"	3.49"	3.27"
Hornady 230 gr. JHP	854 fps	2.96"	3.24"	3.14"
Federal 165 gr. PD	1047 fps	3.02"	3.31"	3.18"

TAURUS 1911 CONTINUED ON PAGE 80

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TAURUS PT 1911

Specifications

Specifications:	Taurus PT 1911
Caliber:	.45 ACP.
Muzzle Velocity:	800 fps.
Operation:	Browning short recoil.
Type of Fire:	Single action, semi-automatic.
Barrel Length:	5 inches.
Overall Length:	8.5 inches.
Weight:	39 oz.
Feed Device:	8-round box magazine.
Safety:	Thumb safety, firing pin block, grip safety device.
Sights:	Fixed 3-dot.
Grips:	Black checkered polymer.
Finish:	Matte blue.
Price:	\$650.00 (sugg. ret.).

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The Taurus PT 1911's grip safety is well designed, as is the ambidextrous thumb safety. Another well-designed item in this frame is the Wilson Tactical Cop Tool, an invaluable aid for law enforcement, EMTs and firefighters that features a chisel tip for prying/scraping, exposed tang for glass breaking/pounding, a serrated edge for cutting belts and fabric – and a scary sharp cutting edge. (Available online from www.wilsontactical.com, or from Wilson Tactical, Dept. SOF, 3989 Hwy. 62 West, Ste. 3, Berryville, AR 72616; phone: 870-423-3319.)



Finished in a smooth matte blue, the PT 1911 is well fitted, reliable and smooth in operation.

The cocking grooves in the slide are some of the best I've ever used and I appreciate a pistol with forward cocking grooves. I like the wide notch of the rear sight, but would like to see a narrower front sight. This would probably require trading the Allen screw for a roll pin, but I can use the front sight, as it is, as the PT 1911 is a combat pistol. As far as 30 lpi checkering goes, it's OK, but I'd be plenty happy with 25- or 20 lpi checkering. It's a little rougher, but I like a pistol that won't slip in my hands.

Not all 1911 pistols have a lug-locking barrel, but the PT 1911 does, and the sample had zero play in the rear of the barrel. The PT 1911's barrel seems to lock up just right to provide an ideal balance of reliability and accuracy. After closely examining the fit of the pistol I anticipated that it would prove to be a 3-inch pistol at 25 yards, which is well within what I

consider acceptable combat accuracy.

While most of the above features fit somewhere between the preferable and what I could live with categories, there are a couple things I would have to change. The most obvious of these is the full-length recoil spring guide rod. Although there'll never be a law passed against full-length guide rods on 1911 pistols, I think a hacksaw should be furnished with every 1911 that comes with one.

Seriously, if you're in love with one of these, please don't take offense, but please do consider it seriously. The full-length guide rod was conceived for competition 1911 pistols, as it adds weight to the gun to dampen muzzle flip. Full-length guide rods made of tungsten greatly contributed to this, but add nothing to the gun in terms of reliability, accuracy, or otherwise. What it does do is make the pistol more difficult to field strip. If none of these detriments matter to you, then disregard and have at it.

The other thing I'd replace on the PT 1911 is the grips, as while the factory grips are attractive, as with the 30 lpi checkering of the frame, they do not provide enough purchase for my needs. I'd replace the grips with a set of Gunner Grips from Simonich Knives or Strider Knives, or a set of G10 Tactical Oval or standard 1911 grips from Mil-Tac.

There are a few other custom touches that I would either make by changing parts, or permanent subtle ones I'd do to the frame and slide, but that would probably wait until the PT 1911 was in need of refinishing. In the

meantime, I'd shoot the heck out of it. By the way, several other versions of the PT 1911 are under development.

TRIGGER TIME

Speaking of shooting the PT 1911, I put a few hundred rounds, of various brands of .45 ACP ammunition through this pistol without a hitch. Where accuracy was concerned, my groups held well under my personal criteria of 4 inches at 25 yards for combat accuracy, with my best 5-shot hand-held group measuring 2.63" at 25 yards. That's real combat accuracy.

For an entry level 1911 pistol, the Taurus PT 1911 has a lot to offer at the right price. For those who want to use it as the basis for an upgraded custom pistol, I'll bet you won't find much to improve. Additional models are planned including stainless steel. Taurus also now markets the new improved SR-15 rifle for Knight's Armament Co.

For information on the PT 1911 and all their new pistols, contact Taurus International Mfg., Inc., 16175 Northwest 49th St., Dept. SOF, Miami, FL 33014; phone: 800-327-3776, on the web at www.taurususa.com.

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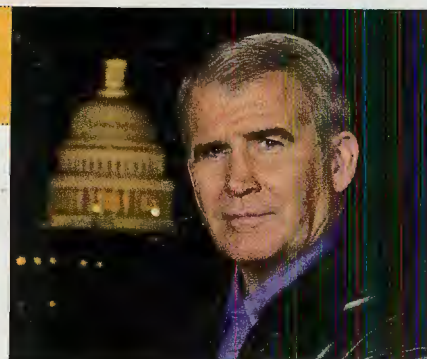
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Losers

WASHINGTON -- If Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid is right nearly 60 percent of Americans agree with him that the war in Iraq is already lost. And if he is correct in saying that losing the war will increase Democrat majorities in future elections, then it may be fair to conclude that Americans now love losers. I'm not buying any of it -- and neither are the troops who are fighting this war.

In the days since Reid announced "this war is lost," I have heard from dozens of the soldiers, sailors, airmen, Guardsmen and Marines that I have covered in eight trips to Iraq and two to Afghanistan for FOX News. Some of those who correspond with me are there now, others are home. Some are preparing to deploy again. None of them agree with Reid's assessment.

One e-mail from Ramadi, Iraq observed: "Good thing this guy Reid wasn't around in 1940 when Winston Churchill promised the people of Great Britain nothing but 'blood, toil, tears and sweat.'" Another, a Guardsman who recently returned from Mesopotamia with a Purple Heart, noted that Reid has become "Al Qaeda's most powerful ally." A Marine corporal I last saw along the banks of the Tigris River -- now a Mississippi State University student -- asked me, "Do those people who think we've lost this war have any idea what things will be like if we really do lose?" It's an important question that none of the potentates on the Potomac who just voted to withdraw U.S. troops appear willing to address.

According to military folklore, Napoleon kept a corporal at his side to ensure that the orders issued in battle were understandable by the troops who had to carry them out. Whether true or not, it's time for Reid and Nancy Pelosi to find such a corporal who will ask them such questions, for if the Democrats continue their current course, we may well lose this war -- and they will have embraced defeat and all that comes with it.

What would losing the war in Iraq mean? It's a picture so dark and depressing that it makes the collapse

in Vietnam, 32 years ago next week, look like a Sunday school picnic. The fall of Saigon was horrific for the people of Vietnam and their neighbors in Cambodia and Laos. More than 5 million became refugees and by the most conservative estimates at least a million others perished.

For most Americans, the consequences were minimal. The vast majority of the 2.8 million of us who had fought and bled there mourned the loss of 58,253 of our comrades, swallowed the bitterness of defeat and got on with our lives. Our nation spent a few hundred million tax dollars on refugee relief and resettlement, and tried to forget what people in Reid's party called "the long nightmare of Vietnam."

But classified U.S. intelligence assessments, military contingency plans and staff studies evaluating the consequences of a precipitous U.S. withdrawal from Iraq, coupled with the lack of funding for political reform measures, as contained in the legislation just passed by Reid's party, paint a far more dismal picture than anything that happened after Vietnam.

Within months, an immediate upsurge in vicious sectarian violence fomented by Iranian intervention on behalf of Shi'ite militias and Wahabbi-supported, Al Qaeda-affiliated terror groups. As U.S. forces retreat to a half-dozen staging areas for retrograde through Kuwait and Jordan, American casualties will dramatically increase as suicide bombers seek "martyrdom" in their victory.

Inside of 18 months, the fragile democratically elected government in Baghdad will collapse, precipitating a real sectarian civil war and the creation of Taliban-like "regional governments" that will impose brutal, misogynistic rule throughout the country. The ensuing flood of refugees into Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Turkey and Iran will overwhelm relief organizations, creating a humanitarian disaster making what's happening in Darfur pale by comparison.

The Kurds in northern Iraq are

likely to declare an autonomous region that could well result in Turkish, Iranian and even Syrian military intervention.

In the course of withdrawing U.S. combat brigades and support units, billions of dollars in American military equipment and ordnance will have to be destroyed or left behind. More than \$40 billion in reconstruction projects for schools, health-care facilities, sanitation, clean water, electrical distribution and agricultural development will be abandoned.

Plans to exploit the new West Qurna oil field in southeastern Iraq will be forsaken.

The governments of Kuwait, Jordan, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain, intimidated by Iranian boldness in acquiring nuclear weapons, will likely insist on the withdrawal of American military bases from their territories. Such a move will jeopardize U.S. naval operations in the Persian Gulf and logistics, intelligence collection and command and control facilities supporting operations in Afghanistan.

As Iraq becomes a battleground for the centuries-long Sunni-Shia conflict, radical Islamic terror organizations will use the territories they control to prepare and launch increasingly deadly terror attacks around the globe against U.S. citizens, businesses and interests.

Reid and his cohorts in Congress who believe "this war is lost" have acted to ensure that it will be. No one asked them:

"If we lost, who won?" The answer should be obvious.

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,

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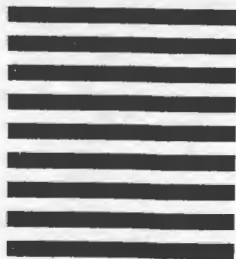
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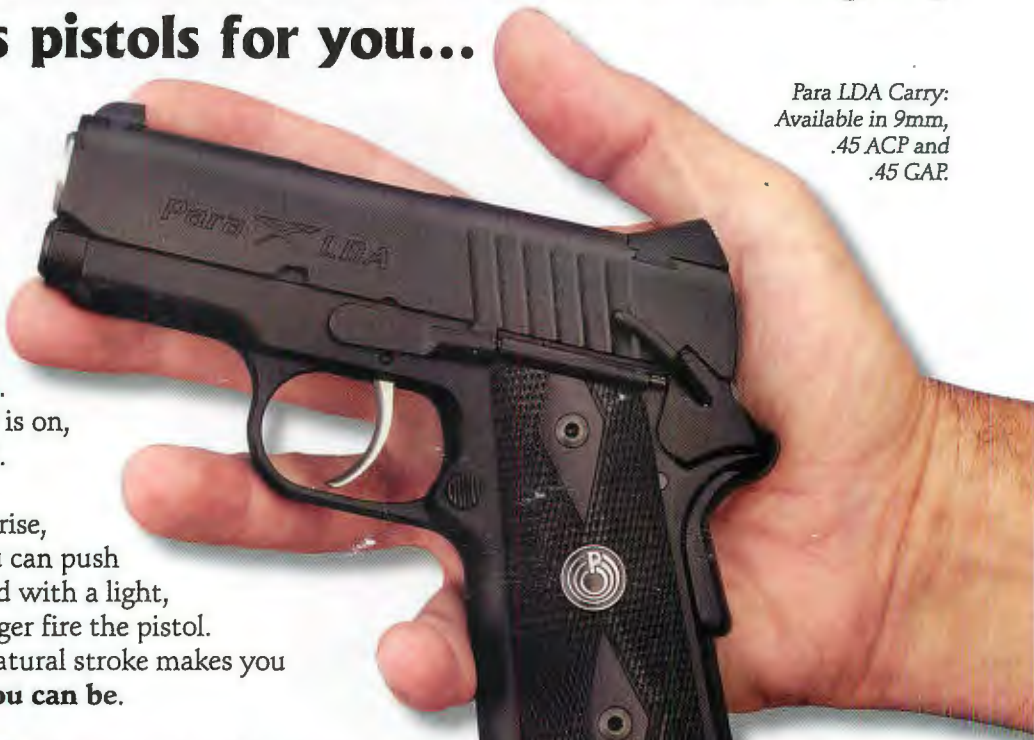


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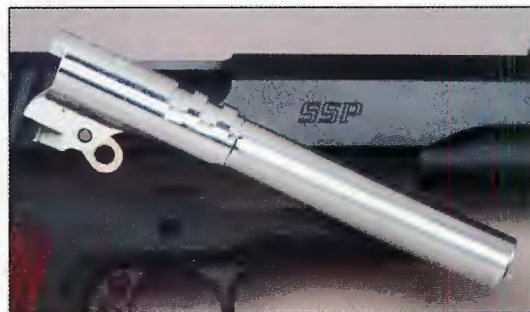
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