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Close Quarter Combat

Tactics and Strategies for Military,
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MAGAZINE

April/May 2002
ISSUE #12

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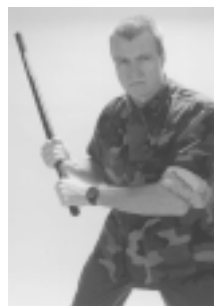
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About the Cover: Mike Gillette, NLSI Des Moines, Iowa, demonstrates a painful Joint Crank on Ken Brock of the West Des Moines Police Department.

Urban and Rural Combat Footwork

By W. Hock Hochheim

“The infantry learns to love the ground!” is an old military expression, and after being on the receiving end of gunfire and lobbed explosives, a ducking troop instinctively sees where he can find the best cover. What does he do if there isn’t any? He penetrates the ground with his entrenching tools; even his fingers will dig deep if that is all he has. Before long, as he walks across the next potential hot zone, he studies the very lay of the land ahead. The slightest natural incline or man-made structure might save his life.

Consummate warriors learn to cover air, water and land. Exclusive of parachuting and scuba, for any citizen, enforcement officer or soldier, covering land is done three ways—by crawling, walking and/or running over urban and rural terrain. Urban and rural terrain is defined as the insides and outsides of a vast variety of manmade buildings and structures. All this is traversed in differing kinds of weather and lighting under no fire, light or heavy fire conditions. Fire could also mean hand strikes and kicks!

The foundation for combat footwork comes from three main sources.

- 1) Walking and running
- 2) Sports! Karate, basketball, football, rugby, etc.
- 3) Obstacle courses

The walk and the run

Warriors traverse terrain. Nothing replaces running regularly to accomplish this goal. It builds wind, endurance and spirit. Experts will say that a regular regimen of jogging and wind sprints is the best combination. Treadmills are nice; but I believe you must run outdoors in all kinds of weather, to maximize your potential.

Note, I said running! Look anywhere and you will find overweight people walking. Doctors love to tout the great residuals of walking, but for someone craving weight loss or facing battle, running and sprinting is the equation for success. The mere ability to walk and weave through a crowded store, parking lot, swamp or

prairie is important. Walking and running constitute the essence of fighting footwork. If you can walk and run, you are well on your way toward forming a foundation for fighting.

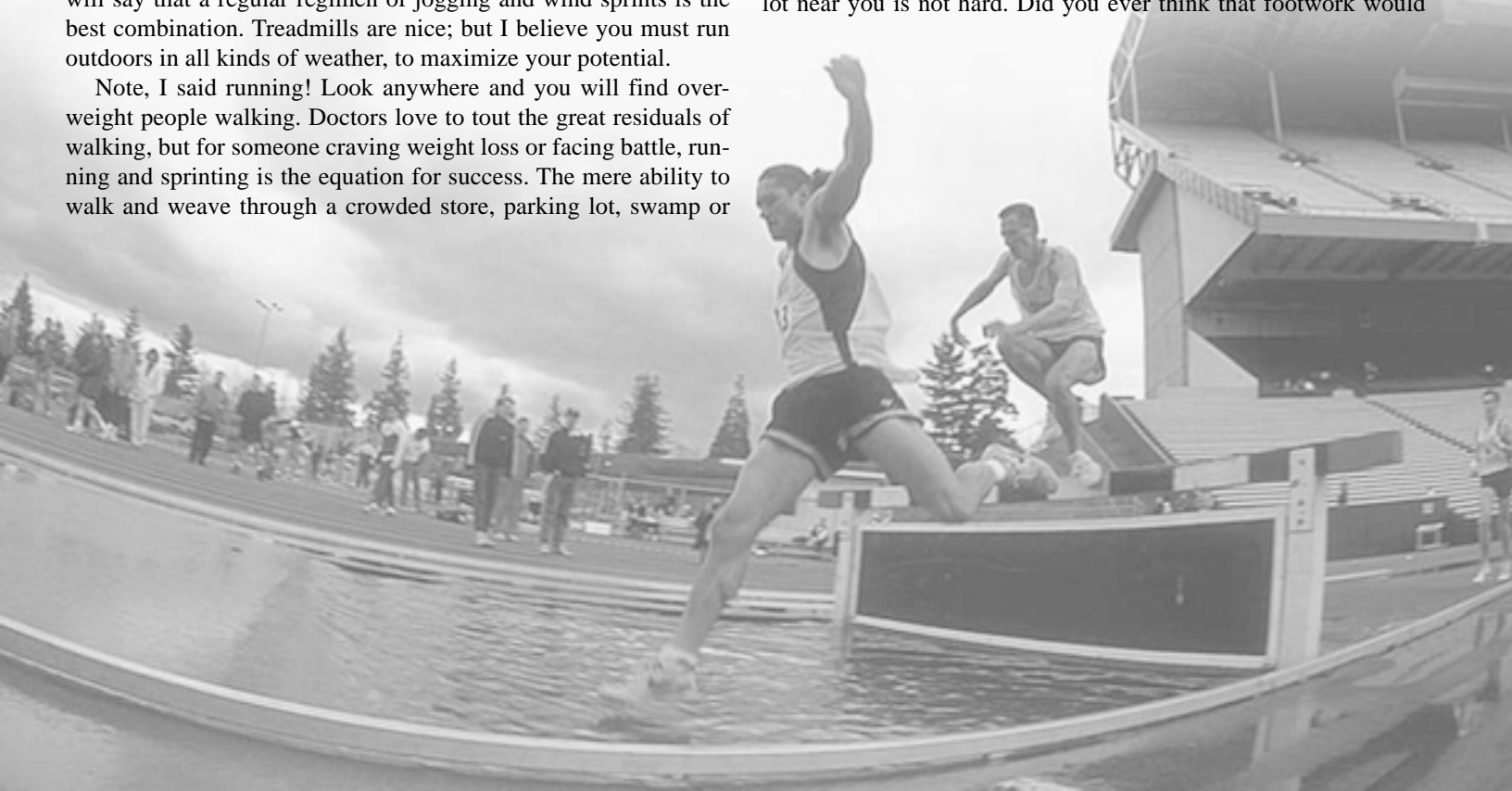
Sports! Boxing, karate, basketball, football, rugby, etc.

These sports require agility that carries the body side-to-side, forward and back. Football programs can have incredible footwork drills. Even a defensive end on a football team may have better footwork drills than most boxing programs! You still must do the standard boxing steps, but you must do so much more. Every martial art has its diagram that, once laid down on the floor, sets the pattern for footwork exercise. At their root, the paths are universal. They can all be easily based on the concept of laying a universal clock face down on the ground and, using the axis of clock and the direction of the hands, travel to differing numbers.

All these sports help build leg strength. Free weights, cable pulls and/or machine strength training provides the key to a powerful performance.

Obstacle courses

There is a reason why police, military and firefighters have obstacle courses in their basic and advanced training. In combat, one must traverse, fight around and deal with a variety of obstructions, building deftness of foot that cannot be mastered by the skip rope or the shuffle step. Setting up a small course in a field or a parking lot near you is not hard. Did you ever think that footwork would



include your hands? Well covering ground does! Make sure you have to jump over some things, and make some quick turn on a dime movements in your obstacle courses. While climbing walls, ladders and ropes doesn't seem to directly affect your combat footwork, it does help your overall workout, confidence and spirit.

The barefoot conundrum

Being barefoot has nothing substantial to offer with fighting footwork. In fact, in 30 years of martial training with thousands of students, I have seen more foot and ankle injuries in barefoot fighters than I have with practitioners wearing proper sport footwear. Many traditional systems have worn footwear for centuries; so claiming some kind of classical mandate doesn't hold water in reality. Some will tout barefoot training as the way to insure that the exact outside point of a bare heel is used in a kick for perfect leg alignment. Some schools will protect their expensive mats by mandating bare feet. This is an unfortunate excuse. Maybe some day they will realize their error and save up for one of the many brands of matting that offers padding and yet holds up under shoed workouts. People will more than likely be wearing shoes when they fight; so it only makes sense that they should train with shoes on. Period.

Summary

Like the Infantryman who must learn to love the land, close quarter combat fighters, with or without weapons, must learn to see and feel the ground they will do battle on and have the savvy, agility and strength to overcome the variables of weather, surface and space. 🌟

Combat Footwork Equation

- Proper foot gear
- Jogging
- Wind sprints
- Leg strength training
- Sport-related footwork
- Obstacle courses



Dispatches

E-Mail: I have a couple of questions. Could you recommend some good defensive firearms instructors? What are your thoughts of Massad Ayoob and his courses? I want to start getting serious about defensive shooting classes and was wondering if there were anyone in particular you would recommend. Any insight would be greatly appreciated.

Reply: Massad Ayoob is a pioneer in the gun combat business, and probably the most influential shooting instructor to appear in the last 30 years in the U.S. There are others in other countries. Thanks to the good work of people like Ayoob and Clint Smith of Thunder Ranch, the training bar has been raised, and as a result, now there is a shooting club or gun range within striking distance of just about EVERY city in all of the U.S. All of these operations act within a certain acceptable parameters and common denominator. We have our recognized group, Steve Krystek, Roger White, Mike Gillette, etc.—the ones listed on our webpage. Las Vegas Metro P.D. Officer Krsytek is the most active shooting instructor. His federal, military and city pedigree is impeccable. In my seminars I teach tactics and 70 percent of the CQC Gun/Counter-Gun course can be taught indoor with replicas and soft ammo like with rubber band guns. Rubber band guns don't sound dangerous or sexy, but you would be surprised how many master pistoleros are shot in close quarter drills! The other 30 percent of the course you must go to the range and shoot. Given the general, national parameters, you could get a lot done at your local range or with a little traveling.

Land Mail: What in the world is a tactical blanket? Does it have something to do with the Star Wars missile defense? E.Z. Boulder, CO

Reply: A tactical blanket is a flexible ballistic shield, like a sectional curtain that several people can open up, grab the top rung and walk across a hot zone with some safety. (Watch your feet! Don't hold it too high!) Look at www.instantarmor.com for photos of a tactical blanket.

E-Mail: Your Buffalo Nickels has some nerve to make fun of dear old Buddy Ebsen. He is a wonderful man and still alive. He just celebrated his birthday.

Reply: And many more to you, Buddy. If the Buff picks on you, he loves you. He just has a strange way of showing his love.

E-Mail: Please do not ever make this magazine a monthly publication. I am so afraid it will water it down, as I have seen with so many other issues. I read every word cover-to-cover. C.T./San Pedro, CA

Reply: Not to worry for now, perhaps when cloning becomes an exact science.

Send your e-mail questions to HockHoch@aol.com or land-mail to **Close Quarter Combat Mag, P.O. Box 601, Keller, TX 76244**

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E.A.G.L.E.S. Combat Ju-Jitsu Joint Cranks

for the Street

By Mike Gillette

Photos by Dan Kane

You may already know of joint cranks by other common names such as *joint locks*, *control holds*, *compressions*, or *submissions*.

All of these terms refer to the practice of manipulating the various joints on an opponent's body in order to subdue them.

You generally accomplish this by turning or bending joints beyond their normal range of motion. Depending upon the specific technique used, this action will produce pain, a leverage advantage, or both. The theoretical goal of these techniques is to use the pain stimulus as a means to influence an opponent's actions.

The notion of controlling an opponent in such a manner is quite popular, and many well-known defensive tactics systems are built completely around the practice of joint lock techniques. The appeal of these systems, particularly for law enforcement personnel, is the idea that the non-injurious maneuvering of their body parts may physically control aggressive individuals. The idea of injury-free control tactics is an attractive sounding one and has become increasingly popular in a liability-conscious profession. However, basing your self-defense system solely upon joint manipulations will make it too limited to be effective. An intoxicated person, or someone on drugs, emotionally disturbed or any combination of these will not respond predictably to pain in the same manner as a sober, law-abiding citizen. As the saying goes, "Your mileage may vary."

Judo instructor Mark Tripp of Detroit, Michigan summed up the role of joint manipulations for self defense like this: "The ability to employ joint locks is a useful asset in close quarter grappling situations. However, it is largely meaningless without the ability to strike. Your opponent will seldom stand quietly while you proceed to break his arm. Yet many attacks, by their very nature, will put the opponent into a perfect position for a joint lock. Still, the rule is to first unbalance the opponent with striking before performing any locking technique."

Because joint manipulations *are* important to learn and apply, they are found throughout the E.A.G.L.E.S. System. As far as terminology is concerned, they are referred to as joint *cranks* instead of locks. This distinction is made to eliminate any confusion stemming from the application of techniques. Some joint cranks are accomplished when a particular joint is immobilized such as a front arm bar. In that example, the joint is essentially *locked* so that it will not move so long as the technique is in place. Other techniques do not necessarily rely upon immobilizing the joint, but on the application of significant torque to that joint. The goal of a joint crank may be pain, leverage, setting up a takedown, or even joint damage depending on the situation. In other words, a crank does not always have to be a lock to be effective.

The E.A.G.L.E.S. learning sequence for joint cranks starts at the end of the extremities and works in. This means our first topic of study is finger cranks. Finger cranks are often overlooked in martial arts training. Yet they may be used with devastating effect. The finger bones are inherently fragile, and during a close quarters confrontation an opponent's hands are frequently accessible. The fact that these techniques are banned in No-Holds-Barred fighting competitions is a testament to their seriousness.

Before learning specific joint cranks, you need to have a basic understanding of the joint's architecture. This refers to the manner in which the joint was intended to move and the ways that it can be moved for control purposes.

The finger joints may be bent inward;



they may be bent backward;



they may be bent to either side;



or they may be twisted.



One street-practical use for finger cranks is to defeat the grasp or restraining hold of an opponent. A finger crank is simple to execute and attacks the grip at its weakest link. For a demonstration of how even one finger can affect the power of your grip, try this simple test. Make a tight fist as shown in photo **A**. Now



make the same fist while extending your pinkie finger as shown in photo **B**. No matter how hard you squeeze, you cannot exert significant tension with the pinkie extended. This example provides a clear picture of how quickly a grasp may be compromised simply by leveraging one or more digits.

You may also manipulate the thumb, but in a somewhat different manner. A thumb joint behaves more like a wrist than the other fingers.

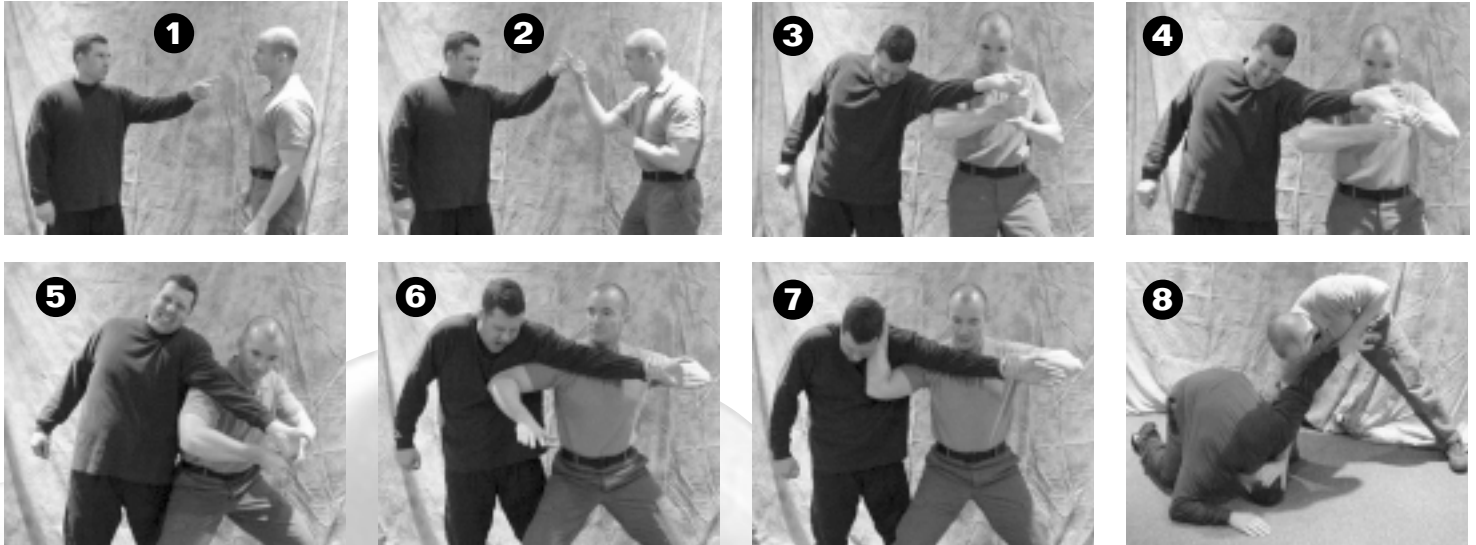
You may effectively crank the thumb backward,



or to the side.



In this first combat scenario, the aggressor accompanies a verbal threat with a warning finger gesture (1). My first response is to grab the finger and crank straight back (2). To maximize leverage against the finger I straighten out his arm (2). Using both of my hands, I obtain a double split finger crank (3-4). The split finger crank facilitates an arm bar across my shoulder (5). A back elbow strike will distract the assailant long enough to seize his head and set up a takedown (6-7). When the takedown is completed, the assailant's head is stabilized on the ground (8).



The next combat scenario depicts a front takedown using a violently executed finger crank.

The assailant first initiates a two-handed front choke (1). As my lead-in to the finger crank, I execute an up-percut punch to his chin (2). Using both of my hands, I seize two of his fingers and crank straight back and downward (3). Continuing with this direction of force, I bring the assailant forward toward the floor (4). With the takedown complete, I retain my grasp of his finger for follow-up control purposes (5).



(Special thanks to Patrol/SWAT Officer Ken Brock of the West Des Moines Police Department for serving as our bad guy in these photos)

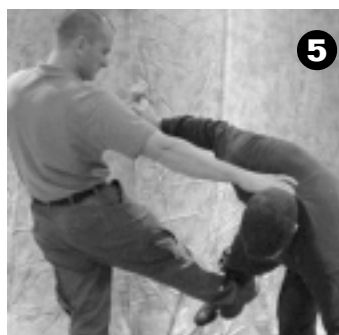
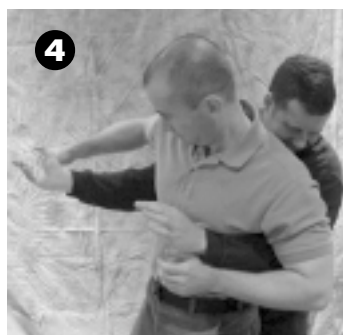
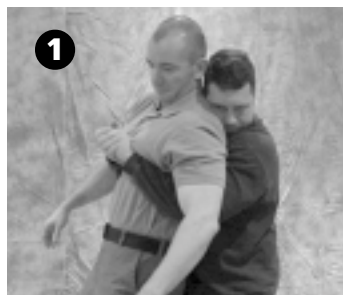
In the gun threat scenario the finger crank is an incidental component of the gun takeaway. Here, I am confronted by the assailant pointing a pistol at my throat (1). The first step is to clear the muzzle from my body and stabilize the weapon (2). Aggressively stripping away the pistol is the first priority (3-4). After that is accomplished, I begin my follow-up responses. I use the pistol to strike at the base of the assailant's neck and seize it with both hands (5). Cranking his neck up and forward, I begin the takedown (6). As I continue the front pull takedown, I press the pistol into the base of the neck for additional leverage. Once the subject is on the ground, I reposition the pistol to the front of his throat (7). In this way, I may use the trigger guard to exert pressure against the Adams apple.



Notice how the trigger guard creates a finger crank against the assailant's index finger.



In the final scenario, the assailant grabs me from behind in a bear hug (1). I first loosen his grip by using my knuckles to strike at the sensitive area on the backs of his hands (2). From this position, I grasp his index finger and crank it back over the top of his hand on a horizontal plane (3). This finger pressure is sufficient to break his grasp (4). I then turn clockwise to reposition for a foot sweep takedown (5). When the takedown is complete, I use a knee-to-head pin and a straight-arm crank to contain him on the ground (6).



D U E L S O N H O R S E B A C K

By Stuart O. Landry

In England, dueling never achieved great popularity, although many prominent Englishmen fought duels. But the French maintained the system, and this is why it later became important in New Orleans, which in the course of time became one of the great dueling centers of the world. But strange to say, the custom of dueling never became popular in Quebec, likewise a French province.

During the time the city on the banks of the Mississippi River was sparsely settled, there were no duels reported. The practice of the code came in about the end of the 18th Century after the arrival in New Orleans of immigrants from San Domingo, and later, officers and soldiers from Bonaparte's army.

In the year 1836, Lt. Shamburg of the elite regiment, the 2nd Dragoons U.S.A. quarreled with Adolph Cuvillier, a popular and gallant young Creole. Cuvillier challenged him. President Jackson had ordered that officers could not fight civilians. Shamburg hesitated. But his enemy kept needling him, and Shamburg decided to accept, making unusual terms in the hope that Cuvillier would not fight. He proposed that they fight in a 10-acre lot on horseback, with cavalry swords—the parties to be stationed 10 yards apart and to charge at the word. Followers of the code condemned these terms, but they admitted that Shamburg had a right to try to escape the penalty of fighting a civilian.

Shamburg's seconds were Capt. Thurston and Dr. Smith, both of the Army. Cuvillier's seconds were Mandeville Marigny and Emile LaSere—the most determined and experienced combatants in New Orleans with reputations for prowess, skill, courage and chivalry.

Mandeville, the son of Bernard Marigny, went to Paris as a protégé of Louis Phillippe. With his friend, the Duke of Orleans, he was educated at the military school at Saumur in France and commissioned in the cavalry.

Emile La Sere belonged to an aristocratic Creole family. He was small, quick, and impulsive and had fought many duels.



The seconds asked for a week. Cuvillier had never had a cavalry sword in his hand, and was not a good rider. Marigny borrowed a spirited but docile horse from Ursin Bouligny, the Sheriff of the Parish of New Orleans. Under Marigny's instruction and with a week's intensive training, Cuvillier was ready.

The Carrollton Race Course was the scene of the fight. The affair became public, and even the names of the horses that the principals were to ride were known. Bets were placed, and wagers were numerous and large.

Early on the morning of the duel, a large crowd gathered. Many climbed over the high paling enclosing the track and took seats in the grandstand. Col. Oliver, the lessee of the

track, permitted the duelists to use it, and to give *éclat* to the affair, he also loaned his splendid milk white stallion to Lt. Shamburg.

The principals and seconds were all mounted, the former carrying sabers only, and the latter armed with sabers and pistols. Shamburg's weapon was the U.S. Army regulation broadsword; Cuvillier's the long straight heavy sword of the French Cuirassier. Stationed 100 yards apart, at the words "Charge—one, two, three," the combatants were to advance upon one another, and engage with their swords until one or both were unhorsed, when the seconds should interfere and stop the fight. In case neither was unhorsed in the charge, they were to wheel when they reached the stakes and make another charge.

The combatants presented a gay and splendid appearance as they trotted up to their respective positions. Shamburg, a man of Herculean strength, wore the undress uniform of the Second Dragoons, and handled his magnificent milk white charger with perfect ease and skill. Cuvillier, slightly built, lithe and graceful and dressed in the ordinary attire of a civilian gentleman, was calm and cheerful.

The word was given, and the cavaliers, putting spurs to their animals, leaped forward to the conflict. Cuvillier held his sword straight forward from his body, whilst Shamburg waved his broad blade over

(continued on page 14)



THE SQUAD ROOM

Record Number of Police Deaths in 2001

Two hundred and thirty-five city, state and federal police officers across the nation were killed in the line of duty during 2001, making it the deadliest year for the law enforcement profession since 1974. Included in the total were 70 officers who died at the World Trade Center in New York City on September 11, the most officers ever to be killed in a single incident in the history of our nation.

The top five causes of death were as follows:

- 1) Terrorist attacks: 71
- 2) Shootings: 68
- 3) Car accidents: 42
- 4) Struck by other vehicles: 23
- 5) Job-related illnesses: 12

According to preliminary figures released jointly by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) and the Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS), 231 federal, state and local law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty over the past 12 months.

"The level of public support and appreciation for our law enforcement officers has increased dramatically since September 11," observed NLEOMF Chairman Craig W. Floyd. "But the incredible bravery and selfless sacrifice our officers displayed that day was no different than every other day of the year in communities across America. We owe all of our police officers a huge debt of gratitude for the invaluable work they do."

For more information on police deaths in 2001, please visit the Memorial News section at: www.nleomf.com and click on "Record Number of Police Deaths in 2001."

To support the Law Memorial and to help us honor those officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice, please visit: www.nleomf.com/Support/default_new.html

Hiring and Drugs

Quizzed at police recruit seminar, 25 percent of the agencies admitted they allowed past use of drugs while the vast majority allowed previous use of marijuana. The FBI has a sliding scale.

Correctional Safety

The State of Texas is taking the nation's lead by announcing a series of initiatives designed to protect correctional officers from prisoners. Ideas include protective clothing such as vests, personal body alarms and im-



provements in standby rescue teams and equipment.

"Marijuana Laced with Dead People Stuff..."

...is how one drugged kid called smoking marijuana cigarettes laced with



embalming fluid. As a result, the fluids are disappearing from funeral homes, hospitals, laboratories and morgues in thefts and burglaries.

Shocked Memory

One of the many reasons eyewitness testimony may vary from person-to-person is sheer stress. When Jessica Payne of the University of Arizona learned how little research there was on the relationship to stress and it's effect on memory she began extensive experimentation. She also studied how the facts were consolidated and processed. "Witnessing a crime is so stressful, it may be very difficult for a witness to pick out the right person from a line-up," says Payne.

The Baton Strikes

In the United States, in a sample time period between 1994-1999, a study of some 120,000 law enforcement use of force incidents, the impact weapon was used only one percent of the time, yet accounted for 11 percent of the total complaints of excessive force. This speaks of a serious training issue.

Pilots Shot Hijackers

On July 6, 1954, an American Airlines pilot shot and killed a would-be hijacker. Captain Bill Bonnell carried a pistol on his plane because his planes routinely carried U.S. mail.

Passenger Ray Kuchenmeister, armed with a pistol, worked his way into the cockpit. Bonnell pretended to acquiesce and told him to turn and throw a switch. When the hijacker turned, Bonnell shot him.

Blotter Quote

"If they're going to get us, it's going to be a gunfight. It's not going to be murder. It's not going to be a crime. It's going to be a gunfight."

— Geraldo Rivera
From the village of Taloqan, Afghanistan

Barricade Tactics:

How to Cover and Shoot

By Steve Krystek

Movement to Cover

Once we've identified the need, availability and location of cover, how do we *tactically* get there, and what do we do along the way? First and most critical is Line of Movement. Our Line of Movement is determined by our relative position and proximity to the barricade. Our goal is to allow the barricade to protect us as soon as possible. For example, if our position is approximately 30 feet away at a forward 45-degree angle to left or right, our Line of Movement should be "L-shaped" not diagonal.

Most competitors and novice shooters who've never been shot at would say that moving diagonally to the barricade is the quickest way to get from Point "A" to "B," and the fastest way to return fire. On both accounts, this philosophy would be correct. In reality however, this is tactically unsound. There is no shot timer in a gunfight, nor is there anything more important than acquiring ballistic protection prior to our counter-attack. By utilizing the above strategy, we greatly minimize our exposure to the threat by partially obscuring ourselves half of the time.

In addition to our Line of Movement, considerations would include proper weapon orientation, alteration of our shooting plat-

form when moving to our support-side, whether to draw or not to draw prior to acquiring concealment/cover (providing your firearm was holstered), and whether to shoot-on-the-move or wait to engage until after establishing a barricaded position. In most cases, decisions are based on the proximity of our adversary, location of cover, and circumstances of the confrontation.

Shooting Positions

Generally speaking, there are three standard Combative Shooting Positions used in conjunction with cover. They include *Standing*, *Speed Kneeling*, and *Double Kneeling*. Use the standing position when the barricade is at least your height. Normal shooting stance and platform should be altered as little as possible while rolling out and around either side of the barricade. Speed Kneeling lowers your profile and acquires an unsupported position with one knee planted on the ground. Use it when the barricade is at least stomach-high or during alternating exposures with head-high cover. Use the Speed Kneeling Position for rolling out and around either side of a barricade and the outside knee should be grounded. The Double Kneeling position (a.k.a., California Kneeling, "The Lewinsky," or the "I Wanna Be a GS-14 Position") means planting both knees on the ground. This option applies during those unfortunate times when you must shoot over the barricade as opposed to around it and/or if the barricade is waist-high thereby negating the use of the previous two positions. By grounding both knees, you effectively control exposure by raising and lowering the shooting platform as necessary. In the event the barricade is oddly shaped or limited in size, alter the above-mentioned positions or assume alternative positions in an effort to properly conform to the cover provided.

Alternating Exposures

Tactical use of cover involves surprising and confusing the adversary. Accomplish

this before, during, and after strings of engagement by alternating positions and exposures. Each time you emerge from behind cover to engage the adversary, fire from a different position than your last. For example, if you use the corner of a building as your barricade, fire your first string from a standing position, disappear, and then quickly rollout again to fire another string from a kneeling position. If you engage the threat once more, re-emerge from a standing position.

What if you come under fire and are lucky enough to set-up behind a large hard object open on both sides? Return fire from a kneeling position on one side, then move to the other side and engage from a slightly higher profile crouched or standing position. Next string of fire, move back to the first side you engaged from...and so on. Keep the enemy guessing. Do not allow them to fix their front sight on one location where they know you will emerge from next. Between strings of fire, make an effort to minimize the time spent not observing the *threat* area. By all means, if cover is available, use it...just don't let the adversary sneak-up on you while you savor the protection.

Fighting from behind cover may be the single greatest advantage in a projectile weapon encounter. It affords you the time and protection necessary to counter-attack with well-aimed fire. When you shoot, expose only what you must to safely fire the weapon. If you are highly skilled, consider shooting ambidextrously when applicable to maintain the lowest profile possible.

I must reiterate a critical point. In order to use cover, you must first know where it is located. Take note of and identifying cover and concealment around you. Knowing where cover is located before a confrontation begins is more advantageous than having to search for it during the chaotic initiation of the fight.

Steve Krystek previously served as the senior team leader and trainer of a military special weapons and tactics team, and later as a member of the U.S. Department of Energy's nuclear protective force. He has trained with more than 120 law enforcement agencies, military units, and civilian groups throughout the United States and overseas in close-quarter combat, tactical firearms, and special operations. Steve is currently a full-time police officer for a major metropolitan police department and Director of the Las Vegas-based Progressive F.O.R.C.E. Concepts, a personal combat training organization. For information about training opportunities, call: (702) 647-1126 or visit: www.PFCtraining.com.



Deviant Ingenuity

By Edward Tenner

Until September 11 the humble box cutter was the Yankee counterpart of the Swiss Army knife: rugged, versatile, and curved for a powerful grip, the master key to our corrugated-clad cornucopia.

We may however know just how this little device became a lever of mass murder. Details of the investigation are still secret, but the utility knives that Mohamed Atta and his accomplices wielded that Tuesday were not necessarily concealed from airport screeners; the blades were well under the 4-inch limit prescribed at the time by the Federal Aviation Administration. Hundreds of law-abiding American technicians and hobbyists probably carried one on board in an attaché case or overnighter that morning. Yet the box cutter has taught us the power of criminal redefinition of legitimate technology—what might be called deviant ingenuity.

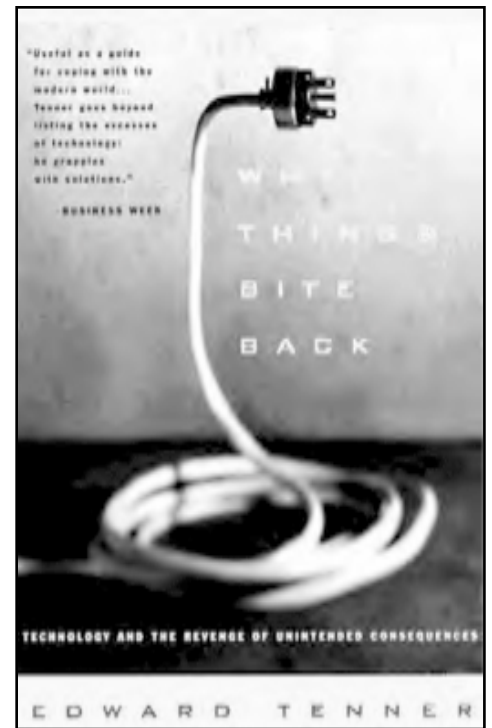
Once we start to look, we see it everywhere. The box cutter itself had a troubled history before September 11. Unlike proudly sinister switchblades and gravity knives, it could be carried legitimately, as a genuine tool. Yet some cities banned sales to juveniles in the 1990s after outbreaks of gang mayhem.

The honest screwdriver is a basic part of the criminal repertory, standard in burglary and, in the view of the 1980s New York subway vigilante Bernhard Goetz, even armed robbery. (After shooting the young men he claimed were threatening him with screwdrivers, Goetz in turn disposed of his pistol by breaking it up with one.)

A ring of keys can serve as brass knuckles. Even the sports of American childhood have been abused. The baseball bat, long a domestic gangster weapon, has been selling vigorously in lands where bases, balls and gloves are still rare. In the United States, antisocial kids prime the Super Soaker, a steroidal squirt gun that would otherwise be the height of youthful hilarity, with bleach solution instead of water.

The war on terrorism has turned these annoyances into matters of life and death. It has brought many formerly mundane objects—down to hairspray and nail clippers under new scrutiny lest they be exploited by public enemies. The conventional view is that advanced technology will save us. Next-generation passenger screeners, for example, may be able to signal even the lethal plastic and ceramic knives that are already available (And it's about time. Obsidian, a volcanic glass used in Aztec sacrifices, can be flaked sharper than any scalpel.)

Arms race. If only deviant ingenuity were so easy to apprehend. Criminal skills can flourish in societies of ostensibly total surveillance and control, as surprise prison inspections regularly show. Convicts fashion lethal shanks from hairbrushes and turn shoelaces into garrotes. And technological trends may be promoting deviant ingenuity faster than they are arming society against it.



To understand why, go back to the 19th century. Serious crime still demanded traditional skills rather than improvisation, and many criminals were gifted enough to have prospered honestly. The 19th-Century German goldsmith Reinhold Vasters, who may or may not have intended forgery, was so masterly that some of his pseudo-Renaissance jewelry is still displayed in major museums. Bank-note counterfeiters might be adept engravers. Safecrackers could have locksmithing skills.

Now technology can replace artisanship, inside and outside the law. Software can help mimic hard currency and divert electronic funds. Today's safes defeat fingertip manipulation, but their attackers use new types of explosives borrowed from the construction industry.

While some skills may have declined, it's easier than ever to learn others. Knowledge once seeped slowly from one culture or craft to another. Centuries passed before the secrets of silk and porcelain were smuggled from China. Now guild barriers have broken down, and technology helps knowledge spread almost uncontrollably, as the nuclear and chemical manuals found in al Qaeda safe houses in Afghanistan show. The Internet is only one of many channels; technological changes from dry process photocopying to inexpensive fax and long-distance telephone service have also sped the flow of knowledge.

A would-be arsonist or bomber can easily summon a world of expertise. Ever since a Molotov cocktail appeared on the cover of a leading literary review, information on far more destructive homemade explosives has filled bookshelves and Web pages with titles like *The Anarchist Cookbook*. Timothy McVeigh's Oklahoma City fertilizer bomb was just the most horrific of these. Entire publishing companies specialize in taboo knowledge.

Many other criminal methods are simply passed along by word of mouth. The art of grinding up time-release tablets of the prescription painkiller OxyContin has transformed it into the scourge of rural America, hillbilly heroin, spread rapidly from one abuser to another, producing a chain reaction of addicts who become suppliers.

Or consider auto break-ins. The old method used a special tool called a slim jim that had to be expertly manipulated. The new style required cunning to develop but takes little skill to execute. Small jagged ceramic fragments, for example from broken spark plugs, can shatter side window glass silently when thrown correctly. On the street they're called ninja rocks. Unlike the slim jim, the ninja rock looks like a bit of junk. Only with a string tied to it—as possessed by one unwisely frugal thief in a southeastern state not long ago—does it become a prosecutable burglary tool.

Such inventiveness also spreads in developing countries. In Borneo, the telephone company was baffled by the theft of 3,500 pay phones. The culprits were fishermen who attached the handsets to powerful batteries; feedback from the microphone to the speaker emitted a tone irresistible to tilapia.

Because deviant ingenuity is so flexible, it is hard to fight without creating new kinds of criminality. Making drivers' licenses secure against photocopying has discouraged casual forgery but

stimulated sales of "genuine" documents by a few corrupt license bureau employees.

Limiting purchases of spray paint to thwart graffiti writers not only has inconvenienced legitimate shoppers but has helped turn vandals toward the even more damaging tactic of etching subway glass and shop windows with sharp objects and acid.

And banning things because of their potential for terror may also defeat pro-social ingenuity. Consider the total absence of blades on an airplane. In the few cases of throat blockage that cannot be cleared by the Heimlich maneuver, a well-known emergency procedure is to take a sharp knife—a box cutter will do—make a cut an inch below the Adams apple, and insert a straw or the shell of a ballpoint pen, then breathe. The inventor of this technique was displaying the same talent for improvisation in the service of life that the terrorists were using to spread death. Deviant ingenuity is the dark side of human resourcefulness.

While armed force can deter some threats and electronics may help reduce others, deviant ingenuity remains a moving target. We foresaw many elements of the September 11 attacks, including sleeper cells and the use of aircraft as bombs against landmarks, yet we lacked the wit to see how they could be put together. We have to anticipate the sinister creativity of terrorism. As Milton Glaser, designer of the original World Trade Center graphics and observation deck (as well as the "I Love New York" heart logo), put it, the attack was "a work of the imagination." Only superior imagination can defeat it. ★

Edward Tenner, Author of Why Things Bite Back, serves as a visiting scholar at Princeton University. He is currently working on a book about technology and the body.

Duels on Horseback

(continued from page 10)

his head. The horses met, and the tremendous shock, nearly upsetting the riders, gave them little chance to use their sabers with effect. Shamburg's horse leaped aside, thereby saving his rider from the desperate plunge of Cuvillier's sword. Cuvillier leaned over his pommel and escaped the tremendous swoop Shamburg made at his head, which knocked off his hat. Cuvillier's fine beaver was badly slashed.

The riders went back to their posts and after a breathing spell in which the girths were tightened, they gave ready for another charge. The horses were greatly excited, and by fierce eyes, foaming mouths and nervousness showed that they entered into the spirit of the affair. At the word, "Charge—one, two, three" the duelist rushed at each other again. As a collision was about to occur, Shamburg's horse reared up. Cuvillier's sword, directed at the body of his opponent, passed through the neck of the noble white horse, causing him to reel and fall sideways to the ground, throwing his rider. The

seconds hurriedly rode up and stopped the combat.


Attention was then given to the wounded horse, which lay on the ground bleeding to death. He died in a few minutes. The combatants and their friends returned to the City, many disgusted with the turn of events.

Col. Oliver put the high value of \$500 on his charger. The question then arose as to who was responsible for his loss. Cuvillier said he wasn't, and Shamburg said he didn't kill the horse, that the owner knew when he loaned him that there was a risk involved—"it's the fortunes of war, you know." Col. Oliver never got paid for his horse. He was the real loser of the duel.

Another famous duel on horseback had more tragic consequences. In 1840 Hughes Pedesclaux, a Creole duelist belonging to an old family fought a French Cavalry officer on the "Plaine Roquette" in the Faubourg Marigny. Stripped to the waist, they used broadswords. The Creole ran the Frenchman

through, killing him instantly.

These are the only duels on horseback in this country documented. ★



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True Cop Story

A Finger-Width from Death

By Jane Eden

When Deputy Michel Yocum of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department made a routine traffic stop recently, he had no indication that scant moments later he'd be staring down the wrong end of his own gun barrel.

The suspect got out of his car and came back to the patrol car with an easy walk. A call to the station and routine questions revealed the suspect had numerous moving violations and was a recent parolee, driving without a current license. However, he remained friendly throughout questioning, even after Yocum asked him to put his hands on the hood of the car.

Things changed abruptly however, when Yocum opened the back door of the police car and linked the suspect's hands behind his back intending to transport him to the station.

The previously cooperative man twisted free of Yocum's grasp and with a spinning kick, knocked him up against the squad car with a thud. In a split second, Yocum regained his balance and squared off against his opponent. However after only a brief scuffle, the man broke free a second time and ran down the street and up the driveway of a nearby house.

Yocum ran after the suspect while simultaneously trying to contact dispatch to request backup. No one replied. Yocum followed close on the heels of the suspect along the edge of a chain link fence and overtook him just as he crashed through a gate in the fence. Both men tumbled into a private backyard locked in a boiling tangle of close quarter combat. At 5'9 inches and 170 lbs., Yocum was young and fit, but his opponent at 6'4" and 220 lbs. had a significant advantage. Yocum had his work cut out for him.

Immediately, the suspect grabbed for Yocum's gun, and realizing the danger, Yocum fought to keep his gun holstered.

"At that point, I realized I was alone," says Yocum. "Dispatch hadn't answered. Nobody knew I was on a traffic call, and nobody knew I was in a backyard."

He triggered his radio several times as he fought, but still no answer. In scant seconds,



the suspect managed to pull Yocum's gun from his holster.

Adrenalin pumping full force, Yocum struggled to keep the barrel pointed away from his body. Before he knew it, both men lost their balance and tumbled to the ground. Twice Yocum heard the click of the safety release as the suspect unlocked it. Twice he managed to summon the strength to relock the safety. Repeatedly the suspect tried to take aim and shoot him. Yocum could feel his energy fading fast, but he fought on in desperation. He knew his time was running out.

With quick insight, Yocum stuck his finger behind the trigger to prevent the gun from firing. The suspect continued to pull the trigger crushing his finger in an attempt to shoot Yocum. He could feel the bones cracking, but he held on. Better to lose a finger than to have his brains splattered all over the backyard, Yocum thought.

When he couldn't get the gun to fire, the suspect began to punch the cop viciously in the face and head. His fists were huge. Each punch made Yocum see stars, but he held on. In the struggle, somehow he managed to release the magazine from the Beretta, and he saw it falling as if in slow motion toward the mud. So did the suspect. He loosened his gasp on Yocum and made a grab for the magazine. Yocum saw his chance. He bit the suspect viciously on the forearm. Much to his amazement, the suspect didn't even react. Yocum's head throbbled from the intense blows he'd sustained. His vision blurred. He could feel himself losing consciousness.

"I have an eight-month-old son at home," says, Yocum. "The thought of my boy grow-

ing up without me brought tears to my eyes."

He told the suspect twice, "I don't want to die. Let go of my gun and run." But the suspect didn't respond. The sounds of sirens in the distance halted Yocum from falling totally unconscious. "Suddenly, I woke up for a second, and my vision cleared. I kicked the guy in the groin," the Deputy explained. "I knew I hurt him."

The suspect fell backward with the force of Yocum's kick and released the gun. Yocum managed to regain control of his weapon. He fired hoping he still had a round in the chamber. He did.

"I heard the gun blast. I saw the muzzle flash. And I heard a bone-crunching thud when the bullet hit his chest," he says.

On television the suspect usually falls after he's been shot. But in real life that's not always the case. With the suspect still standing, Yocum's felt his sight fading and could tell he was about to lose consciousness. He recalled his police training about how criminals often fight on long after they receive fatal wounds, sometimes because they are high on drugs, sometimes due to adrenalin. He didn't know which in this case, but as he felt himself going under, Yocum aimed and fired one last round. The last thing he heard was the suspect hit the ground before Yocum himself collapsed.

Yocum survived the ordeal and was eventually taken to St. Francis Medical Center and treated for a concussion, multiple lacerations and a badly crushed finger. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. ❀



Michel Yocum



Battlefield Diary

Patton's Gunfight in Mexico

By Martin Blumenson

George S. Patton, Jr.'s participation in the Punitive Expedition is recorded in a variety of his papers left to posterity—letters to his wife and parents, almost daily entries in a journal he started when he went off to Mexico, and more or less formal documents like reports and official correspondence. During the 11 months of the expedition's life, Patton's point of view changed drastically. Patton, in mid-1915, was assigned to Fort Bliss, Texas, then commanded by Brigadier General John J. Pershing. After several months of service in the field, Patton was transferred to the post headquarters.

He secured a house, and his wife Beatrice joined him. Not long thereafter, on March 9, 1916, Pancho Villa and a band of several hundred men raided Columbus, New Mexico, shot up the town, and killed 17 Americans. Pershing was instructed to form a Punitive Expedition and pursue Villa into Mexico.

A second lieutenant seven years out of West Point, 30-year-old Patton quickly discovered that his regiment was not to accompany Pershing. The reason was that Pershing wanted young, lean, and tough officers and troops with him. The colonel, who was Patton's regimental commander, was old, fat, and too out of shape for active campaigning. We "will sit here and watch the rest go past us," Patton wrote his father. "It is hell to be so near a fine fight and not get in it... so I went to General Pershing and asked him to take me as an aide. He said he would if he could so I still have hopes."

Somehow Pershing must have heard of Patton's wish, for later that afternoon Pershing called Patton to his office and said he had heard Patton wanted to go with him. Patton emphatically confirmed his desire.

They traveled to Columbus by train, saddled their horses, crossed into Mexico in the early morning hours of March 16, and traveled 52 miles that day. "The General loaned me a saddle blanket to re-



Pershing inspecting the troops shortly before the mission in Mexico. Originally Patton was not scheduled to go, but when Pershing got wind of Patton's desire to accompany him, he made Patton his aide.

place one that someone stole from me while we were eating," Patton wrote in his diary. I stole another one for him."

In May came the highlight of Patton's Mexican service. Pershing sent him with three automobiles and 14 men to buy corn from Mexicans in the area. On a hunch, Patton decided to visit a ranch reputedly owned by an uncle of Julio Cardenas, a noted Villista. A few miles out on the road leading north from the village of Rubio, Patton stopped his vehicles and carefully explained to his men what he planned to do.

In the leading car, Patton would have his driver speed up as soon as they came within sight of the Saltillo Ranch. He was to pass the house and halt just beyond it. The driver and a soldier were to remain in the car while Patton and two others ran across the northern end of the hacienda. The second and third cars were to stop just south of the house. Three men from each of these cars were to race across the southern end of the ranch. That would leave six men in the cars to cover the road and the northern, western, and southern sides of the house. The other nine men were to meet on the eastern side and search the place.

They carried out this plan and found only Cardenas' uncle, who sold them some corn. Something in the uncle's behavior led Patton to suspect that Cardenas might be at home at the San Miguelito Ranch, some six miles away, where his wife, mother, and baby lived. He decided to carry out the same operation.

As Patton's car was approaching and speeding past the house, he noticed three old men and a boy skinning a cow in the yard on the eastern side of the house. One man ran into the residence, then returned and continued his work.

When his car stopped just beyond the northwestern corner of the ranch, Patton jumped out and ran along the northern edge of the house. One man was immediately behind him. Patton rounded the

northeastern corner and walked toward a gate and a big arched door. The two other cars had stopped near the southwestern corner of the building, and six men rushed along the southern end of the building.

When Patton was about 15 yards from the main gate, three men armed with rifles and pistols dashed out on horseback. Seeing Patton, they wheeled to the right toward the southeastern corner of the house. Patton refrained from firing his pistol, for he did not know who they were. Perhaps they were not Villistas at all.

The horsemen reached the southeastern corner and saw the six Americans coming from that side. They turned back and galloped toward Patton, firing their guns. Patton returned the fire with five shots from his pistol at a range of about 20 yards. He did not know it then, but two bullets struck home. One hit a man in the right arm and broke it. The other entered the belly of the man's horse.

The Americans at the other end came around the corner and started to shoot. Since Patton was in their line of fire, he and the man with him ducked around the corner. Consequently, he failed to see the man and the horse his bullets had hit turn into the arched gateway and re-enter the interior court of the ranch.

Patton reloaded, then came around the corner to the eastern side again. A man on a horse was coming right at him. Remembering someone's advice to shoot at the horse of an escaping man, Patton fired at the mount, broke the horse's hip, and the animal fell on his rider. The rider disentangled himself, rose, and brandished his pistol. Patton and three others all fired at him; he crumpled and fell. Another man was about 100 yards away and riding eastward until Patton, together with four or five other Americans, felled him with rifle fire.

Suddenly they noticed the third man about 300 yards away and running along a wall. He was the one who had been hit by Patton at the beginning of the fight and had turned his wounded horse into the courtyard. He had re-entered the house and jumped out of a window on the western side, then fled on foot.

Several of Patton's men fired at him, and he dropped. A soldier went to him and saw that the wounded man had lifted his left hand in surrender. When the American was about 20 feet from the man, the Mexican raised his pistol in his right hand, fired, and missed. The American killed him.

The three men and boy who were skinning the cow had coolly continued their work. Patton called them, and, using them as shields, he and three of his party entered the house and searched all the rooms. They found a young woman, an older woman, and a baby—wife, mother and child. No one spoke.

Outside, the cow skinners said that the bodies were Colonel Julio Cardenas, Captain Isador Lopez, and Private Juan Garza. To verify the identification, Patton's men strapped the corpses on the hoods of their cars and took them back to headquarters. Pershing was pleased by the exploit, was very complimentary to Patton—these were important Villistas he had killed.

The *New York Times* correspondent interviewed Patton immediately afterward and filed a story. When it appeared, it made Patton a national hero for about a week. Many newspapers picked it up and ran it on their front pages, for there had been no real news about the expedition, no real results, no glorious triumph; there were only accounts of columns marching endlessly through difficult country, of soldiers enduring hardships, and of the general and his staff in-

specting units. Now, suddenly, an attractive young man had accomplished something, and all America came to know about it.

Patton wrote to his wife: "As you have probably seen by the papers, I have at last succeeded in getting into a fight . . . I have always expected to be scared, but was not, nor was I excited. I was afraid they would get away.

In Mexico the excitement was short-lived. There was nothing to do. "Did absolutely nothing but take a bath." Duties were routine. Pancho Villa had disappeared, his bands had melted into the mountains, and the pursuit phase of Pershing's operations had come to an end. Patton devoted much of his time to writing papers on the proper use of the rifle, pistol, saber and machine gun. He helped plan and supervise troop exercises and maneuvers. He had long discussions with Pershing on the functions of cavalry, on the role of airplanes, on the advantages of trucks and autos. He played some polo, went to bullfights and practiced his horsemanship.

"I am very well," he wrote to his father, "and having a stupid time." ★

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Editor's Note: For more about Patton, visit the official website at: <http://www.geocities.com/pattonhq/homeghq.html>

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Hack! *Another Untold Story of Not Looking After the Troops*

By Colonel David Hackworth (US Army Retired)

Special Forces Sgt. 1st. Class Nathan Chapman was shot in the back by a terrorist in Afghanistan this month and killed. Ranger Sgt. Casey Joyce was shot in the back by an insurgent in Somalia in 1993 and killed.

Both of these deaths probably could have been prevented had the grunts been wearing decent flak jackets. Joyce was wearing the Army's best at the time, the Ranger vest, but he'd removed the armor plates at the back to lighten the load.

Chapman, like most of our Special Forces operators on dangerous missions, wasn't wearing any vest at all—these warriors say they're too heavy, too cumbersome.

Retired Special Forces Colonel Dave Hunt, who ran black ops in bad places like Cambodia, Iraq and Bosnia, says, "The stuff we had slowed you down and cut your endurance."

Body armor dates back to the 13th century, when metal plates were worn under chain mail. But by the 14th century, the knights were decked out in so much armor—from head to foot—that their horses could barely trot. If a horse went down, that knight was as immobilized as a turtle on its back—easy slicing for a swordsman. Because of the lack of mobility and the subsequent introduction of gunpowder, the savvy knights eventually did what many of our defenders are doing today—gave body armor a pass.

Even though metallurgical skills and weaponry improved a thousand fold from the days of the Knights of the Round Table to World War II—where the U.S. Army took 823,483 casualties (80 percent infantry)—our grunts still went into battle much like the Johnnies and Rebs in our Civil War, totally unprotected. The same was true in the early part of the Korean War—where the Army took 109,958 casualties (84 percent infantry). By the end of that conflict, flak jackets were available, but they were heavy, made for warriors sitting behind a weapon, not for grunts slipping through the bush. While these jackets were greatly improved during the Vietnam War—where the Army took 230,398 casualties (80 percent infantry)—they were shunned by most grunts in the field because of weight, unwieldiness and the fact that they became sweat suits in tropical conditions.

Today's technology can produce a lightweight jacket that will stop most bullets. The concealed body armor currently worn by George W. Bush, the Secret Service and many law-enforcement folks does the trick.

Sure, the president should have the best vest that money can buy, but I have a hard time understanding why guys and gals in the Secret Service get priority over our grunts, especially our Special

Most soldiers start out intending to wear their protective vests. However the weight slows them down. By the time they reach the field, most discard the jackets because they are too heavy.

Warfare operators. Compare the casualty stats and ask yourself who needs the jackets more.

The Army has been spending serious money and too many years in search of the right flak jacket when it's already on the shelf. With just a fraction of the dough spent on research and development since Casey Joyce died, our Special Ops guys could already have been wearing the finest body armor available. If he'd been wearing one of those Secret Service specials, Nathan Chapman would probably be with his wife and kids in Tacoma, WA, recovering from minor bruising instead of 6 feet under.

It costs a minimum of \$1 million to train a Special Forces operator. Newsweek spent \$700 to buy a high-quality, lightweight vest for my trip to Somalia—without having a nickel invested in my education.

After 56 years around conflicts, I've seen generals up front where the dying occurs no more than a dozen times. You can bet your old boots that if they were the ones hanging out in Death Valley, the Army would have the lightest, most up-to-date body armor going.

If the members of Congress would allocate just 1 percent of the energy they spent trying to zap Clinton over Monica or they're about to spend going after Bush over Enron and put it toward looking after our boys in the trenches, you better believe decent body armor would be made in every state in the union.

And, for a change, the porkers would be doing something patriotic. Just ask widows Chapman, Joyce and scores more women in black. ♣



Soldiers in the future may wear robotic suits complete with power-base that look much like the one above currently under development by Sarcos. Combined with a computer chip, the suits could save their wearer if he's wounded by taking him home. Paralyzed and elderly could regain physical mobility. The possibilities are incredible.



Ask Major Corrigan

War veteran, Major Gordon Corrigan, retired British Military, has spent decades with the Gurkhas and was once one of their training commanders. In his regular column he answers questions on British military history and combat.

Fraud and the Gurkhas

By Major Corrigan

A number of readers have asked about Martial Arts instructors who claim to be Gurkhas. Unfortunately, the reputation of the Gurkhas is such that there are people claiming to be Gurkhas who are not.

Firstly, let us define the term 'Gurkha.' All Gurkhas come from Nepal, but not all Nepalis are Gurkhas. The definition of a Gurkha is a member of the martial clans of Nepal who have traditionally been enlisted into the British and Indian armies. Anyone who claims to have fought as a Gurkha in World War II must now be at least 75-years-old, so they are unlikely to be teaching Martial Arts, unless, they are teaching a small class of old snails with hip replacements.

Anyone claiming to have served in the Gurkhas since the war – and there may well be some in the U.S. – will possess a Record of Service Book, known in Nepali as a Lal kitab. If in doubt, you should ask to see it. The Lal kitab gives the man's service history and a short assessment of the man and his conduct. If he claims to have lost it, do not believe him: Gurkhas hang onto their Lal kitab with the grip of grim death. If there is still doubt—a stolen or a forged book perhaps—then enquire as to the man's Jat, or tribe. The vast majority (95 percent) of Gurkha soldiers are either from the Gurung, Magar, Pun, Tamang, Rai and Limbu or Chettri clans.

Apart from some men who left the British Army on redundancy during the periods 1968-1971 and 1994-1998, when there was a run down in the size of the British forces, all Gurkha soldiers serve for a minimum term of 15 years, and will have an entitlement to a pension. Ask to see the pension book. Any soldier who left the British Army after 1985 on the completion of the normal 15-year engagement, or who served longer on promotion to sergeant or above, will have the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (before 1985 it was awarded for 18 years good service, and anyone of the rank of Colour Sergeant or above will have it), and you could ask to see

that. You could also ask him for his army number: non-commissioned ranks have an eight-figure number. Gurkha officers have a six-figure number.

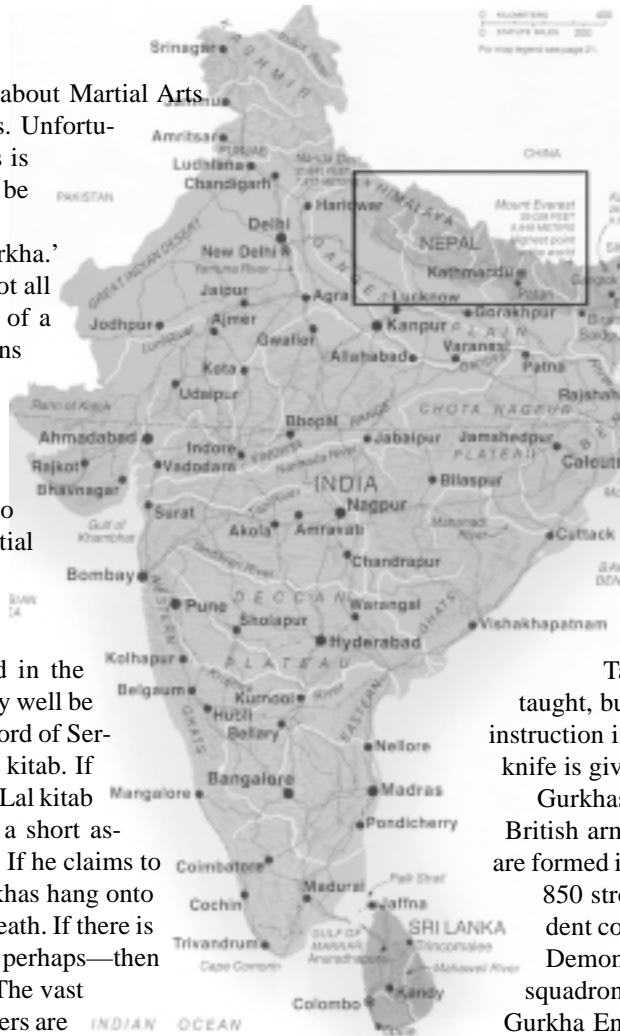
Ask him where he did his recruit training: from 1948 to 1973 the Training Depot was in Sungei Patani, Malaya; from 1973 to 1994 it was in Sek Kong, Hong Kong; from 1995 to 1999 it was in Church Crookham, England; and it is now in Catterick, England.

Of course, a fake may read this and prepare his answers accordingly, and the only sure way to find out if he is genuine is to have him interrogated by a British officer who has served in the Gurkhas and speaks the language. I know of only two in the entire U.S., but there may be more! Apart from Gurkha soldiers who serve with the Special Air Service, the only forms of unarmed combat taught officially by the Army are Taekwando and Akido. Bayonet fighting is taught, but not knife fighting, although some basic instruction in facing an attacker armed with a club or knife is given.

Gurkhas have served the British since 1815. The British army today has about 3,500 Gurkhas. They are formed into two infantry battalions, each battalion 850 strong. In addition, there are three independent companies of infantry, each 140 strong; two Demonstration Companies, each 150 strong; two squadrons and a headquarters each of The Queen's Gurkha Engineers, Queens Gurkha Signals and the Queen's Own Gurkha Logistics Regiment. At present

one infantry battalion is in Bosnia (after returning from Sierra Leone, and East Timor before that) and the other in Brunei (after serving in Kosova). The independent companies and the Engineers, Signals and Logistics troops, are spread all over the world (a parachute company was recently in Afghanistan).

The British Army recruits about 250 Gurkhas every year from Nepal, where there are around 60,000 applicants for the places available. Each Gurkha unit has a small permanent cadre of British officers (14 in an infantry battalion) who are required to qualify in the Nepali language and to understand the background and culture of their men. ✪





Scuttlebutt



Friendly Fire

We lose a lot of our best people to the accidental discharges of weapons, officially called friendly fire. Some government statistics report that 24 percent of our casualties in the Gulf War was from our own friendly fire. We all know from simple common sense that distractions and jarring can cause an accidental discharge of a weapon. The University of Frankfurt, Germany's Institute of Sport's Science conducted a little-known, in-depth study on trigger pressure under the stress of body movements, one of the principle causes of accidental discharges.

Chris Heim, Dietmar Schmidhleicher and Eckard Niebergall conducted a study of individuals climbing, running, jumping, losing their balance, punching, kicking and pushing with their fingers inside the trigger guards of weapons near the trigger. The average trigger pull was established. Not only did sudden impacts like tripping or being hit cause discharges, but also the concept of *inter-limb reflex* causes an unintended tension on the trigger finger during all the previous listed tasks. The limbs of the body seem to react in a coordinated tension under these actions. The left arm pushes. The right arm experiences some sympathetic muscle excitement or tension or contraction, which inadvertently affects the trigger pull.

There is no reason to think the same results do not apply to long guns. The lesson learned is, keep your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard until the very last possible second. And if you feel the need to move around with pressure on the trigger, you had better be prepared for potential problems.

Be All That You Can Be, Russian-Style

The Russian military is going to an all-volunteer force, a process that is expected to start in 2005. Doubling salaries is on the agenda.

The New Look

The U.S. Army is planning on very serious modernization...of uniforms. Things like a high-tech coverall for battle are under design. The death of polyester may be in the future.

18Bs Green Beret Recruit Posters

For the first time since Special Forces became a branch in 1987, the Army will enlist civilians directly for the Special Forces, all in an effort to forestall expected SF shortages. Of course recruits must pass a stringent series of tests and schools in a very tailored two-year program.

Exoskeleton Growing?

As reported in last year's *CQCMag*, military contractors are making even more advancements on the science of building powerful, mechanical skeletons to turn soldiers into super fighters. The body suit is scheduled to be ready by 2005.

Enlistment Unaffected

Contrary to popular belief, national emergencies such as the attack on New York City do not result in military enlistments among young Americans.

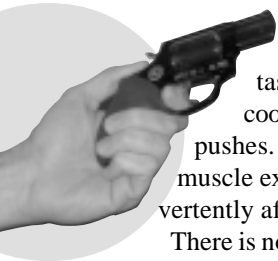
Boots Made for Running

The Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki has approved a new waterproof combat boot, an Army version of the Marine Gore-Tex-Lined Infantry Combat Boot.

Surf Zone

After a decade of research and some \$70 million spent on engineering and testing, the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps are nowhere close to having suitable equipment to detect and breach minefields in shallow waters, close to the beach. The *surf zone* is a term that describes the region extending from the mean high water line on the beach to a water depth of 10 feet.

This is considered to be the most difficult area to conduct mine detection and clearing. Mine clearing is still done with 1950s technology. The navy's existing mine warfare forces consists of 12 coastal mine-hunting ships and 14 mine counter-measure ships, one command and support ship, 20 mine hunting and mine-clearing helicopters, 15 explosive ordinance disposal detachments, a very-shallow water detachment and mammal detachments.



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MILITARY BRIEFING

World Watch

Afghan Firepower

Conservative estimates indicate there are more than 700,000 guns spread out among 26 million people in Afghanistan. With Iran willing and able to provide additional weapons, disarming hostile factions and warlords seems all but impossible.

Immigration

The 150 million people who live outside the country of their birth make up less than 2.5 percent of the world's population.

Natural Bio-terrorism?

Contaminated coal is not the only hazardous earth material that geologists are tracking. They have found dust storms from Asia and Africa spread a host of potential health hazards to the Americas and around the world. Hundreds of millions of tons of soil from these eastern continents blow across the oceans every year, carrying with them pesticides, heavy metals, radioactive isotopes, insects and pollen. Such global transfers have already caused documented infectious diseases such as *coccidioidomycosis*.

Science writer Hannah Holmes author of *The Secret Life of Dust*, tells us that billions of tons of dust rises from the Earth every year from deserts, volcanoes, oceans, living things, factories as well as descending from outer space. "You may have inhaled 150,000 particles of these other-worldly (and other worldly) specks," says Holmes.



Agriculture stirs up dust particles that contain pesticides that may be found halfway across the world.

Golden Oil

Despite being already oil-rich, Saudi Arabia is sitting atop an additional untapped 5,000 square miles of potential oil deposits, so reports geologists from Ohio State University to the Geological Society of America in Boston.

San Paulo Death Squads

The assassination of Sao Paulo's City Mayor Celso Daniel shocked Brazilians. Sao Paulo has a population of 18 million. Violent outbreaks are frequent. Residents fear death squads are at work funded by government and political parties. Daniel is the second mayor killed in San Paulo in the last several months.



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IQ vs. EQ

Psychologist Daniel Coleman states that emotional intelligence is the primary factor that distinguishes great leaders from average ones. Experts define EQ emotional intelligence as the capacity to handle your own emotions and your relationships with others. Other experts add analytical abilities and IQ to the mix.

The Breathing Brain

Exercise is great for all sorts of mental functions, and one of the best protections against memory loss. One reason for this is physical exercise delivers vital fuel to the brain. Oxygen constitutes one of those fuels. The brain totals up only 2 percent of your body weight, but consumes 25 percent of the oxygen you breath.

Eyes on the Back

Between the ages of 30 and 60, we develop a progressive inability to focus on nearby objects, a condition known as *Presbyopia*. This is the reason we all need reading glasses eventually. *Presbyopia* is caused by the same deterioration of our connective

tissues that is responsible for bad discs in our backs. Seemingly unrelated, many people develop eye and back problems within the same times periods.

Sprinting for Explosive Power

Running is good for anaerobic workouts and cardiovascular health that are necessary



for endurance. It encourages your body to lay down new blood vessels to pump nutrients to your energy hungry muscles so they will stay the distance. But for fighting strength and agility, you still need sprints. A two-mile run is a good place to start. Try

running half your normal running distance, then beat your time coming home, taking rests every 400-800 yards. The best program includes both, interspersing the sprints with the distance running for optimum results. Explosive power is what you need in close quarter combat, and the only way to get it is to explode on a regular basis. If you run now, try adding at least 20 sets of sprints in 30 second durations to the beginning of your run right after your warm up to reduce the chance of muscle pulls. If you don't run, start now (provided your doctor says it's okay). Sprinting will build the white muscle necessary for explosive speed, and increase your endurance. And, you may even burn a few extra calories.

Training Arena Quotes

"While shooting, I scarcely realize that I have a gun in my hand. I look straight at the object to be fired at, and the moment the butt of the gun touches my shoulder, I fire."

— Annie, Oakley

Lead Poisoning

In 1988, friend of Anthony M. Gregory Lt. Rangemaster, Cumberland, Indiana Police Department told him he had lead poisoning. He described his symptoms as extreme fatigue, irritability and memory loss. Gregory didn't pay much attention at the time, but his friend's words came back to haunt him numerous times in years to come. As range instructor, Gregory used an indoor range for most of his practice sessions. He assumed because the shooting took place inside where the air was filtered, that lead levels would remain low. He didn't know a lot about lead poisoning, and the whole thing just sounded like something to whine about in his opinion.

Over the following months, Gregory's irritability rose significantly. He suffered crushing fatigue, headaches, mood swings, sleep disorders and serious memory lapses. The loss of memory proved most disturbing to him because prior to his intensive indoor training, he's prided himself on having a nearly flawless memory. He realized he needed to address the problem after he spent two days devising a database, only to find he'd designed the exact same database four weeks prior and didn't remember doing it. His memory became so bad that he didn't remember his friend's story about lead poisoning. Finally, a science article about lead poisoning developing at a police academy class clued Gregory in that he had a serious problem. He stopped his shooting activities immediately and saw a physician for testing.

Gregory's blood lead level was 74 ug/dl—which indicated serious lead poisoning. Over the next 40 days his level dropped to 34 ug/dl—about one ug/dl per day. It appeared that his level had peaked at 90 ug/dl when he stopped his exposure 2 weeks prior to testing.

Because his levels dropped quickly, he did not seek additional medical attention. His irritability dropped, his memory problems resolved. However his fatigue lingered for quite some time.

Gregory went back to shooting, but now he follows a serious hygiene and respiration safety plan. He knows that lead poisoning can and does happen. And it can happen to anyone who spends time at a shooting range.

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Combat Notebook

DMS Striking! Two-Handed Impact Weapon Grips and Attacks

By W. Hock Hochheim

Running the Numbers

Pick up a good-sized stick or long gun. It has three striking surfaces—two ends and a shaft. Move it around with your arms. You can see that you can only hold the tool three different ways with your two hands and use the weapon with success. One way is both palms down, which I call the stick grip. The second is the rifle grip where one of the palms is turned up. Then the other is with two hands on one of the ends. These are the three grips of DMS, my double-handed system, more commonly known as Dos Manos System. DMS when coupled with my single-handed grip material called SMS, become the 10-Level SDMS Impact Weapon Course.



Held like a bat, or more like a samurai sword with some space between your hands to better control the weapon.



Stick Grip-Palms Down



Rifle Grip-One Palm Up



When long guns must be converted over to an impact weapon, the two ends become a barrel tip and/or bayonet on one end and a stock and/or butt on the other. The shaft becomes the body of the rifle.

I have discovered when you grasp the tool with both hands in the three manners; there are 33 basic ways you may strike out with the two ends and shaft. To properly train modern fighters for maximized survival in close quarters combat these 33 ways must satisfy a martial stick, an enforcement baton as well as shoulder weapon applications.

I have broken these 33 attacks into four study groupings for several reasons. One is they fit well into easily digested themes. The other is they are easier to teach and remember. They are not meant for memorization like some form or kata, but rather practiced to develop command and master because your body must learn to synchronize itself to maximize balance and power. Do them in the air. Then do them hitting solid objects. You will inevitably memorize them anyway.

Here are the 33 ways or directions of DMS Striking. All may be done with the rifle or stick grip.

DMS Basic Grouping 1

The 15 Main Angles of DMS Attack (15 ways)

DMS Advanced Grouping 2

The Surrounded Riot Drill (4 ways)

DMS Advanced Grouping 3

Heaven and Hell Drill (2 ways)

DMS Advanced Grouping 4

The Batting 12 Angle Drill (12 ways)

Do the Work

Here are the Basic 15 Angles of DMS attack



Angle 1: Right side attack to the left side of the opponent's head, at a downward angle



Angle 2: Left side attack to the right side of the opponent's head, at a downward angle

See the Science

The 15 Main Angles of Attack Drill is the hardcore bashing and smashing that is the essence of stick combat. The Surrounded Riot Drill is a favorite police drill and coincidentally a typical Japanese martial arts series. It involves looking first, then thrusting in all four directions. It is an advanced study of the thrusting movement found in the basic 15 angles. For those peculiar times of higher and lower targets, the Heaven and Hell Drill must be incorporated to finish out the directional requirements. Heaven stabs up and Hell stabs down. Lastly the Batting Drill deals with the common grip of a street fighter on any ubiquitous impact weapon. A trained warrior has muscle memory to strike in all angles as needed.



Angle 3: Right side attack to the opponent's left shoulder, in an almost horizontal strike



Angle 4: Left side attack to the opponent's right shoulder, in an almost horizontal strike



Angle 8: Left side attack, downward butt-stroke to the opponent's right hip, "thigh height"



Angle 5: A straight shaft thrust/shove to any target on the mid to upper torso



Angle 9: Right side attack, downward butt stroke to the opponent's left hip, "thigh height"



Angle 6: A two handed stab to the heart, with a forward step



Angle 10: Right side, hooking and stabbing thrust to the left side of the opponent's face



Angle 7: A two-handed stab to the right side of the chest, with a forward step



Angle 11: Left side, hooking thrust or butt strike to the right side of the opponent's face



Angle 12: With a horizontal shaft, a downward, strike on the bridge of the nose, or face



A Mandatory switch to the rifle grip

Angle 13: Bayonet style stab to the torso (can be delivered right-side or left-side)



Angle 14: Upward butt rifle from your right to your high left




Angle 15: Upward bayonet cut from your low left to your high right

Practice these while standing, while kneeling, while on your back, while walking backward and forward. Execute with 1/2 beat kicks and then with 1/2 beat hand strikes. When you practice the shoulder weapon applications, remember to undo or secure your sling around your weapon so it will not inadvertently hook or catch anything.



Secure that sling! If you expect to fire your weapon again, do not wrap the sling in such a manner that it interferes with function of the weapon.

Now you know 15 of the 33! In the future months, I will publish the other three group drills to complete the DMS solo command and mastery movements. ★



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Irish Stick Fighting

By Pete Kautz

*“Oh! An Irishman’s heart is as stout as shillelagh,
It beats with delight to chase sorrow and woe;
When the piper plays up, then it dances gaily;
And thumps with a whack to leather a foe.”*



The stick is perhaps mankind’s most ancient weapon. People from every nation know stick-fighting arts. In Ireland the stick, or *bata* in Gaelic, was a common weapon, and these early traditions of stick fighting lived on into the first part of the 20th Century.

The *bata* is more commonly known today as the *shillelagh*. Foreign writers first used this term in the 19th Century to describe the sticks carried by the Irish, but it actually means a specific type of hardwood in Gaelic. The term stuck, however, and would be further corrupted into the term “shillailing” by some newspaper writers when they used it to describe a beating. One 19th Century court record from New Orleans relates an Irish woman saying in defense of her husband: “He’s a fine fellow, but when he’s been drinking, he loves a good shillailing.”

The *bata* became synonymous with being Irish in the popular imagination. It went right along with the green coat and derby hat, the clay pipe, and the bottle of whiskey. Even today, Notre Dame’s “Fighting Irish” football team defends the “Jeweled *Shillelagh* Trophy” twice each year. The *bata* was commonly carried by both Irish boys and

men and used for both sport and self-defense.

As boys, you would probably carry a *bata* as soon as you could. Like many things in Irish society, it was a mark of being a man to carry one. You might use it to play a pick-up game of *hurley*; an old Irish field-hockey like sport that originally used a human head dipped in lime for the ball and allowed for individual wrestling matches to halt the game. You would likely use the stick to fight with your friends as well, just like you saw your brothers and fathers doing. The *bata* fighting had a very social aspect to it, so there is little doubt that boys saw this and would copy it in play.

As a teen and young adult, you might use it to defend yourself or bolster your side in a faction fight. When you were an old man, it aided in walking. In all cases, carrying the *bata* branded you as a Son of Erin. Though many gentlemen in the 19th Century carried walking canes, only the Irish carried *bata*. This is important to remember, because in America at the time being Irish was not looked upon as a good thing.

One thing we forget about the 19th Century is that there was a very structured view of class, nationality, and race. In the 19th

Century, the American public viewed the Irish immigrants as generally worse than Negroes, and we certainly know how they were treated at the time. They were thought of as uneducated, lazy, diseased, drunken beggars...but with a humorous side as well. Ethnic comedy of the time is rich with Irish jokes and stories of the dumb Irish domestic servant or manual laborer.

For example, the book *Scenes in the South* was published in 1860, and was based on Col. James R. Creecy’s travels and adventures in the South over his lifetime. Most of the stories are from the 1830’s-1840’s era. He writes of the Irish immigrants:

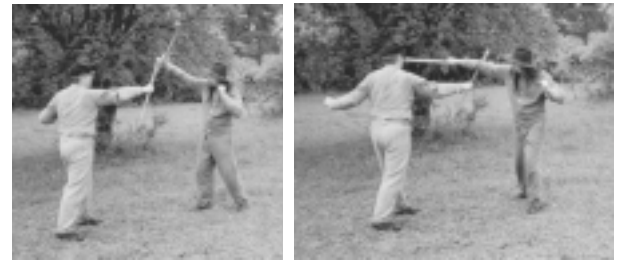
“For many years, the annual influx of the lowest order of Irish into New Orleans has been immense, and the numbers who are buried in the swamp, subjects of yellow jack and cholera, are astonishing; and yet their places are instantly filled up, as are the ranks of well-disciplined troops in destructive battle.

Eight out of 10 who are attacked by those diseases become victims; and perhaps at least one-third of every importation have one or the other or both of those dreadful diseases.



Defense against the Overhead or Forehand strike

Parry the opponent's blow with the **butta** as you move out of the way, and snap the **ceann** of the **bata** into his left temple or jaw with the same motion. This is done as one movement, not as a two-count block and hit or parry and riposte type action. After the strike, you want to either return to guard quickly or follow up, if the blow momentarily stuns the opponent.



Defense against the Overhead or Backhand Strike

Parry the opponent's blow with the **butta** as you move out of the way, and snap the **ceann** of the **bata** into his right temple or jaw with the same motion. The left hand can be used to strike or wrestle, grab the opponent's arm or **bata**, and in the most serious cases hold a knife, broken bottle, or sharp rock.

Nine-tenths of all the diseased poor immigrants who find shelter and attention in the numerous hospitals are foreigners, by far the greatest number of whom are Irish of the lowest and worst character; reckless, abandoned, drunken, lying, dirty, ignorant wretches, who are more at home in a police station than anywhere else; and as the fun-loving John Duggan would say, "Dthey ar' niver at pace until dthey ar' in a fight intirely!"

"Thousands of them leave every summer for the upper country, where they do not fare much better than in New Orleans. They are never employed except from necessity. The Negroes have decidedly the preference, and readily obtain much higher wages. The Irish females are as disorderly and dissipated as the males, and 'tis sickening to see what numbers are every morning taken before the recorders for crimes and misdemeanors the proceeding night!"

With this kind of warm welcome to life in America, one can see why the Irish would carry the **bata**, and also why no one else would, for fear of being mistaken for an Irishman!

Fighting with the **bata** was done on a number of levels. Men fought with the **bata** as a game, where the objective became to knock the other man's hat off rather than crack his skull. Sometimes a mug of beer was even held in the left hand, and the rules became if you spilled your beer, you also lost! These kinds of social stick fights took place at pubs and weddings or funerals.

Faction fights were more serious affairs that pitted thousands of Irish in combat against their countrymen in the 19th Century. These fights could sometimes be a family against another family, or may set an entire town or parish against another. Throughout the 19th Century, whenever there were large festivals or get-togethers, there was almost sure to be a faction fight. The English who were policing Ireland by that time, would stay out of these for the most part, letting the Irish squabble among themselves, and only dispersing the crowd if it looked like they (the police) were personally in danger.

Fighting techniques with the **bata** were recorded in some martial arts manuals from the time period. In Donald Walker's 1840 *Defensive Exercises* he demonstrates several basic techniques, saying:

"I have placed this (the shillelagh) first among the exercises with the stick, not on account of its excellences, but because it is easily acquired...it is not a very scientific amusement."

Walker also writes of the Irish as being ungentlemanly brutes, as

opposed to the proper Englishmen who settle matters with their fists:

"In Ireland, men usually fight with sticks. In this mode of combat, a man may, at the outset, receive a mortal blow...in the same country, owing to ignorance of the general rules of boxing, and the sprit it inspires, a man, who conceives himself aggrieved by another, does not scruple to waylay him, and murder him with a bludgeon or pitchfork, or to set fire to his cabin, and burn him and his family in their sleep."

Combative use of the Bata

The **bata** is generally from 3 to 4 feet long, and is held about 1/3 of the way from the bottom. The grip used is either a full grip, or a saber grip with the thumb along the back of the stick. This extended thumb is a traditionally used grip and works well with lighter **bata**, but compromises the grip too much when heavier sticks are used.

The stick is held overhead and the support hand is also kept up near the head, like a high boxer's stance. The hat was often stuffed with straw or newspaper to provide some small protection. I imagine that faction fighters may have wrapped their arms as well, if they had the time to prepare for the melee.

This high guard stance with the stick serves several purposes. First off, it provides a natural position to launch strikes from. You don't have to raise the stick and then strike; it is already raised and waiting. The basic strikes of the **bata** are whipping or snapping blows from the sides, overhead, and straight up (the + sign) or circular blows from the same angles. Thrusts are done with the butt and the head, but are rare.

The grip and stance also allow you to parry with the bottom-third of the **bata**, and this is one of the unique aspects of their use. Though the bottom third of the stick, known as the **butta** (*butt end*), does not have the strength of the **ceann** (*head*) to block with, it can still parry and redirect blows. A skilled **bata** fighter can use the **butta** to parry in such a manner that the force of the incoming blow actually assists the counter-strike!

This is possible because the **bata** uses a flicking style of strike that's power is magnified by the knobbed head. The butt end of the stick is moved in the opposite direction of the head to add to the force of the blow with each strike. Because of this, the force of an opponent's strike pushing the **butta** helps to send the **ceann** of the

(continued on page 30)



COLUMN

The VanCook View

Elder Fighting Savvy

By Jerry VanCook



Recently, I had a pretty unique experience. I got a glimpse of what I'm likely to be like if I make it another 20-30 years on this planet.

Long background story made short: I was in the Amazon jungle last month and came down with heat exhaustion. I may elaborate on this in a future VanCook View column—IF AND WHEN I get over the embarrassment of having ignored all the warning signs until it was too late. In any case, my son got me out of there and back to Iquitos, Peru in time to get treatment. Then he pushed me through airports in a wheelchair all the way to the hospital in Oklahoma City where I spent another day with IVs stuck in my arm and having every test known to mankind. Advice: If you don't already have a 6'5" 250 lb. son, get one. They really come in handy when you play the fool and let yourself get to the point where you can't walk and the nearest civilization is a hundred miles away.

Anyway, if you've never had heat exhaustion I'll let you in on a few secrets. First, it comes with some VERY unpleasant side effects. One is the fact that you don't want to get more than about 10 feet from the closest restroom. I won't get graphic here, but when you're also dehydrated and trying to drink about a gallon of water and another gallon of Gatorade each day, it makes for a rather vile Catch-22 combination. The other major problem I had (I'm not bothering to mention the minor ones, like slurring my words like a drunk or getting so mad at myself for being stupid that I developed a fairly nasty disposition) was called "foot drop." Even after I got to where I could shuffle along with a cane, my right foot flopped about like a perch recently jerked out of the lake. My balance sucked big time, and my legs were weak. Some of that is still going on as I write this.

The bottom line was this: I suddenly saw what I might be like in the self-defense department if I live long enough to get old.

Now, there are stories about older gentleman who warded off attackers; and they are the stuff of which legends are made. Jack Dempsey knocked out two would-be muggers in front of his NYC restaurant when he was in his late 70's, and my good friend and mentor Colonel Rex Applegate did a number with his cane on two similar attackers when he was 82. (They wanted the golden Mexican peso bolo tie he always wore. They got a trip to the hospital instead.)

Now it's not as if I live my life constantly looking over my shoulder in the parking lot of Wal-Mart. However, you don't live the life I've led, without making an enemy or two, and you just never know when one or two might show up. Hey, the heat got to *me* in the

Amazon; anything is possible. As I hobbled from doctors' offices to labs and back, the incidence involving Dempsey and Applegate weighed heavily on my mind. How did these elderly men do it? What did they change as they got older that enabled them to still be effective even though their bodies had deteriorated? And what can I change, at the moment, to maximize my remaining self-defense assets?

First, I realized that while an awareness of my surroundings had always been important, it was now doubly so. Awareness is what gives you time to prepare for an attack, and since it was going to take me about twice as long to prepare during this period I needed to be twice as cognizant of my environment. Second, I was going to have to base my defense on a pretty stationary position because fast and fancy footwork just wasn't going to be in the cards. Third, I needed to do everything possible to avoid looking like a potential victim—hobbling around on a cane is mugger-bait to begin with, and that needed to be counter-balanced as best it could.

The awareness came easily since I have practiced it most of my life anyway. Since fast movement was not in my repertoire at the time, I decided holding my ground and delivering a quick and furious counter-attack was my only answer. I don't believe in *playing* with opponents at any time, but I had even less room for such frivolity now. Since January means wintertime in Oklahoma, I was able to stick my .40 caliber double-action derringer in the outer left-hand pocket of my coat. With the cane in my right hand and my left on the hidden derringer, I had both lethal and non-lethal weapons immediately available. I could shoot through the coat if necessary while still appearing harmless to the decent citizens I encountered as I limped along my way. My standard self-defense items stayed where they usually are.

In an attempt to balance out the I'm-A-Good-Victim-Come-Get-Me look that my temporary disability mandated, I wore some of my more aggressive-looking clothes. Ever since my undercover police work days I've recognized the powerful messages that clothing sends, and I wanted to imply to any potential aggressor that my injury had come through violence, that I was very comfortable with violence, and that I hadn't had my fill of it yet, if he was stupid

enough to try me. This turned out to be black jeans, my black leather tactical jacket, and black Magnum boots. The color black, in itself, sends a dark message, and the jacket and boots also spelled P-O-L-I-C-E to all but the most brain-dead street vermin. In turn, this implied that I was probably carrying a weapon and it would make far more sense to go find someone else to try to attack or rob.

Does all this sound a little silly? Like “much ado about nothing?” Well, maybe it was, maybe it wasn’t. Although one of the clinics where I had to have blood drawn was in one of OKC’s highest crime areas, I never really felt much threat. That might be because no threats were around. On the other hand, it might be because I had gone to the trouble to prepare, and the threats left to find easier-looking victims when they saw me. That’s one of those things I’ll never know.


I’m better now, and the docs say I’ll be good as new in another couple of weeks. No, I still won’t be able to play the piano. (Sorry, if you don’t know that old joke I’m not going to explain it here.) But this has been a great learning experience for me, and it’s brought home once again my belief that you don’t EVER have to be helpless. Your brain is your first line of defense, and as you age and your body changes, your strategy and tactics must change to fit the new you.

Lots of studies have been done on how attackers pick their victims, and one of the ways seems to be the way people walk. If you walk with confidence, you are less likely to be assaulted. So, in closing, let me just say this: Sometimes, for reasons beyond your control, you come down with either temporary or permanent disabilities, which cannot be hidden from public view. These automatically make you more susceptible to attack.

So, if you must limp, limp with CONFIDENCE. ✪

A well known author of more than 40 books, **Jerry VanCook** is also an instructor in Okinawan karate. He has studied Aikido, Thai Boxing, Kung Fu, Kali, and is a Rokudan (6th Degree Black Belt) in *Bei-Koku Aibujutsu*. In 1998 he was inducted into the World Head of Family Sokeship International Martial Arts Hall of Fame, and received their “Writer of the Year” award. His titles include *Real World Self Defense* and *Going Undercover*. VanCook spent 14 years in law enforcement with the Garfield County Oklahoma Sheriff’s Department, a federally funded undercover task force, and the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation.

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Irish Stick Fighting

(continued from page 28)

stick out to strike. This kind of sneaky counter can be quite successful since the attacker’s stick is not in a position to block the counter-strike.

To use terms that people will be familiar with from Filipino martial arts, the basic bata strike is not quite a watik and not quite an abanico, but a hybrid of the two. The strike retracts like the watik does, but it travels in a plane similar to the abanico. Unlike the normal abanico, however, the strikes impact with the **ceann**, or head of the bata, and not the sides or *flats* of the stick.

The **ceann** focuses the energy of the strike, just like a knuckle-punch focuses a hand strike. This allows even a light **bata** to pack a mean punch. Sometimes the **ceann** was drilled out and filled with lead, and these sticks were absolutely lethal. I have handled one **bata** of this style made by noted Irish hopologist Ken Pfrenger, who was recently seen in *Irish Fighter* magazine. To be struck with a weighted **bata** of this type would be analogous to being hit with a hammer.

The importance of the **bata** to the Irish even today was recently seen in a court case in Halifax, Canada. Ms. Nora Lipka was trying to get justice after a college student crashed a party at her house, got drunk, and stole two antique **bata** that had been in her family for over 100 years. The thief claimed he was so drunk as to not remember what he did with them; but Ms. Lipka thought otherwise as the thief was an archaeology student at Memorial University of Newfoundland—with a specific interest in Irish archaeology.

One of the **bata** was brought to Canada by her grandfather, Mark Bredin, a Dublin baker who immigrated to Toronto in 1883. The stick was a finely carved piece of Irish blackthorn with a thick, corkscrew design and a hand-carved dog’s head as a handle. Unbelievably, the judge ordered the defendant to pay Mrs. Lipka only \$75 for each of the stolen sticks! Ms. Lipka says she was hoping for a tougher decision, “I was hoping to get an Irish judge who would really conk the guy on the head—which is what people did with their shillelaghs,” she says.

By either name, **bata** or **shillelagh**, the stick remains dear to the Irish heart. May it beat forever! ✪

For more information on the bata, visit <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/4933/shillelagh.html>

For more information on the fighting arts of 19th Century America, visit <http://ahfaa.org>

Special thanks to Tod Creasey for being the stunt man in these photos.

Pete Kautz is the director of both Alliance Martial Arts and the American Heritage Fighting Arts Association. He is a leading advocate of the Western Martial Arts and teaches both historical and modern fighting courses in classes and at seminars worldwide. Visit alliancemartialarts.com and ahfaa.org for WMA articles, techniques, links and more.



The Bouncer

Night Club Stabbing – The Verdict

By Joe Reyes

In the June/July 2000 issue of *CQCMag*, I reported to you a stabbing that occurred in the parking lot of a nightclub. One summer night after one male and two females were ejected from my club for fighting, two additional males, involved to a lesser degree in the altercation, quietly followed the ejected three outside.

On the lot, another struggle ensued. We told you how the lone ejected male stabbed one of these other two followers.

I was working that night and assisted the injured person until medical help arrived. He was raced to intensive care and almost died. The stabber was arrested and charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault, and possession of a weapon. Neither the police nor I could locate a witness to the stabbing. My name was given to the district attorney as the head of security.

Nearly two years later, I thought *CQCMag* readers might find how the incident came to trial and the results of the trial interesting. Perhaps this knowledge will help those interested in the security profession or those already employed in related professions.

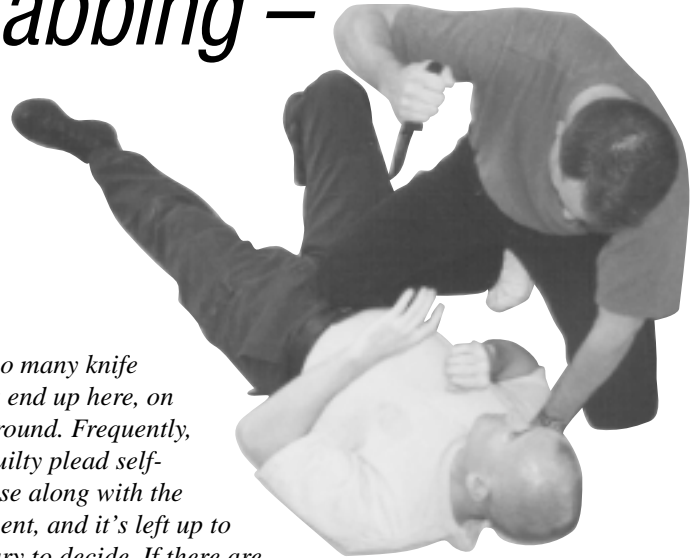
Subsequent to the attack, I had to give a statement of my involvement to the police. This usually involves appearing at the local police department during daylight, weekday hours at a pre-set appointment. This statement may be audio taped or even video taped in some jurisdictions. Or, the statement may be handwritten. The police will generally steer you into reporting the important facts, sometimes by asking you questions.

A few months after I gave my statement I received a subpoena from the Bergen County, NJ prosecutor's office, informing me they might call me as a witness. This subpoena simply came to me in the mail. Perhaps in more important cases, the subpoena might be served to you physically by a law enforcement official, or by a court appointed person such as a civilian process server. Each jurisdiction has its set procedures.

These notices usually are accompanied by a request to meet with prosecutors for an interview. Like the police interview, the prosecutors want to meet you and see what you will say. They are not supposed to "tell you what to say," tainting your testimony, but rather quiz you, much like you will be quizzed in court. Sometimes investigators that work for prosecutors do this chore and report to the prosecutors.

When I met with the prosecutor assigned to the case, we discussed the case, and I asked if I could see the knife. What I saw

All too many knife fights end up here, on the ground. Frequently, the guilty plead self-defense along with the innocent, and it's left up to the jury to decide. If there are no witnesses, it's extremely difficult to know who's telling the truth, which is unfortunate.



were police photos of the crime scene and the bloody knife. It was a tactical folder and appeared to me to resemble a bootleg, cheap version of a brand name knife, never the less it was razor sharp and serrated at the bottom of the blade. We thought we had determined the defendant owned the knife and had it in his car.

The defendant was given the chance to plea bargain and chose not to. The defense claimed the knife belonged to the victim and that the defendant had wrestled it away and used it in self-defense.

The defense maintained that if the two males had never followed the defendant outside to the parking lot, none of this would ever have happened. The motive was self-defense.

The jury found the defendant not guilty on all counts.

It just goes to show you that you never know what a jury is going to decide. If he had plea bargained he might have gotten 2 to 5 years, but he faced the attempted murder charge and beat it.

They say justice is blind, and this case was no exception. In all my years running security, I've seen a lot of charges pressed for assault. Most get dropped before they even get to court. Security personnel must work with the local police and the courts, and prepare to document and testify on events that they know and see. It's true when they tell you, "see you in court!" ★

Joseph Reyes, Jr. serves as a bodyguard and security supervisor for one of the largest nightclubs in northern New Jersey. A 10-year veteran bouncer and a veteran martial artist, Reyes is an Advanced Instructor in the SFC System. You may contact him at (973) 694-4348 or e-mail CombatArnis@aol.com.



State of the Union

Congress 2001

As of December 31, 2001 we had 11,078 member/subscribers in 26 different countries. In the year 2001 W. Hock Hochschule traveled to 49 cities in three countries, teaching 1,529 practitioners. There are 147 Congress instructors all with active students, some of whom did not have the chance to attend a seminar. Hock estimates there are some 2,250 active practitioners. The majority of Congress members who subscribe to *CQCMag* practice in other programs or other systems such as, police and/or military training, or simply do not practice at all. Thousands more do not practice, but read the magazine and subscribe because they enjoy it.

CQCG Training Mission One and other Books

In 2002 we will print the first Hand, Stick, Knife and Gun CQC Group book. Each year we will produce a subsequent edition until the set of 10 is complete. Volume 1 is under production now. We've already shot 1,700 studio photographs and estimate a 400 plus page book once the final product is designed.

Hock also hopes to produce Volume 4 of the *Knife Fighting Encyclopedia* and a very special SDMS book in the next two years.

We are excited to announce that the April/May 2002 issue of *CQCMag* will go on sale in select Borders, Barnes and Nobles and On Cue Stores throughout the U.S. This distribution is in addition to Books A Million where you may purchase *CQCMag* now. If you don't see it, ask for it. If you find us shelved on the back shelf, move us to the front. Tell everyone you know how much you enjoy the magazine.

The Congress videos are now available in PAL-the common international videotape playing system for only \$6 more than conventional tapes.

Congress Headquarters on the Move

We are excited to announce that Lauric Enterprises, Inc., parent company of The Scientific Fighting Congress and *Close Quarter Combat Magazine*, is relocating to Texas to provide our clients with better service, and to facilitate Hock's extensive travel schedule. We will office in Keller, a rapidly growing city just inside the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex. The new contact address is P.O. Box 601, Keller, TX 76244. The old Georgia address and phone will still connect to HQ for another year to smooth the transition.

2002: HOCK'S HAND, STICK, KNIFE, GUN SEMINARS

No matter the theme, remember also that each seminar allots time for *your individual* test requirements, instructor development and special requests. Keep checking www.HocksCQC.com for updates. Refresh the constantly updated pages.

April 6-7 – Kennewick, WA

CQC Group
Contact: Steve Cooke, (509) 628-2304

April 12-15 – London, England

CQC Group
Contact: Joe Hubbard, 02-08-549-8150

April 20, 21 – Madrid, Spain

see webpage for details

April 27, 28 – Fredericksburg, VA

CQC Group Levels 1 and 2 and other themes
Contact: Mike Steele, (540) 310-0184

May 4, 5 – Romeoville, IL

CQC Group CQC Group Progression Levels series continues
Contact: Ed Cavasos, (815) 485-7344

May 18, 19 – Warsaw/Indianapolis, IN

CQC Group
Contact: Steve Zorn, (219) 269-7209

May 25, 26 – Kansas City, MO

SDMS and Knife-Counter-Knife
Contact: Bryan Stevenson, (816) 690-8006

June 1, 2 – Pittsburgh, PA

Beginner and advanced CQC Group material
Contact: David Wright at Wright's Gym, (412) 921-1530

June 8, 9 – Knoxville, TN

CQC Group
Contact: Brad Walker, (965) 922-8461

June 15-23 – Frankfort, Germany

Knife/Counter-Knife
See webpage www.HocksCQC.com for contact info

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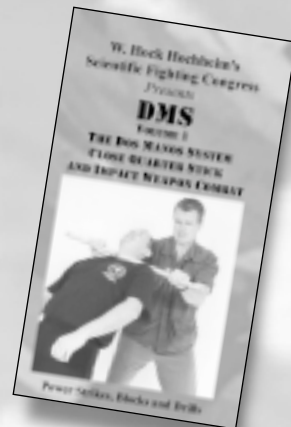
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Buffalo Nickels

Militant Kitchen Confessions

By Buffalo Nickels

Kill All Chefs

Aren't you just sick to death of all the chefs on television?

Every dawn as I shit, shower and shave, I watch these morning shows on a portable TV balanced precariously on the debris in my bathroom. Every morning, they always show a chef segment. Chef Gay Testicles. Chef Won Tong. Chef Cajun Lou Al Craw Daddy. Grandmaster Potato Rapper. Every race, every creed, every mole style has a chef. They all cook the same shit; but they talk and dress funny. One uses peanuts, the other cashews.

One of those morning dufus hosts always stands around while some idiot fries baloney a different way. Then Bryant Gumballs asks, "Now, how much pepper goes on that again, Gregaro?" Like he really cares! The host has to pretend that he is really interested in yet another recipe. Bet he doesn't even cook. And who at home actually writes down those recipes, anyway? Who writes that fast? Who really gives a fuck? Who? Do you know anyone? One person?

They even have a food channel where these ethnic clowns parade through 24 hours ...COOKING! They gave Emeril the Yankee cook a TV sitcom! I'll tell ya where that will end up. Boom! Bam! In the toilet like all the pretty meals they cook. FLUSH!

There's a guy that cooks on these shows that's so fat...so fat he can't even stand. He rolls around on a custom made stool that he hides with his layers of thick fat draping his ass like a cholesterol curtain. His head looks like a melted watermelon. But his mouth sure works when its time to taste that food...

"Oooh, dats so yummy!" he says. All his other bodily functions have ceased, but Cajun Al's tongue still works just fine! "OOOH! Dats yummy!" I'll bet Al's taste buds look like suckers on an octopus. Al's devil tongue be loven' it some food!

Smart Bombs and Charity

Big Cajun Al rolls himself right down to the supermarket on his stool, but many in the world have no such place to go, or any way to get there. We have been dropping food into Afghanistan. Or more accurately stated, we've been dropping food onto Afghanistan. Or, should I decide to be even more specific...right onto some Afghanis' heads. My buddies on active duty told me some food packages have landed right smack dab on some Afghanis. Now that's precision bombing. One minute the Afghan praises Ali and asks for his help, the next minute he gets squished by a crate of food with a big yellow smiley face painted on the side. Puts a whole new twist on doing God's work, doesn't it. "That is a real BAM, Mr. Emeril. Greetings from the U.S. Government We're here to help!" POW!

Zesty Food

There also seems to be a tragic lack of communication in the U.S. Military between the people making the cluster bombs and strewing them all over the Afghani landscape and the people packaging the food and dropping it to help local citizens. It seems both war departments



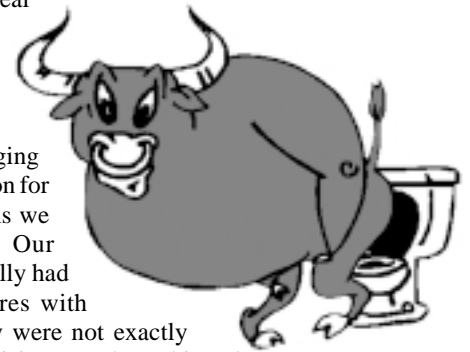
"Buffalo Nickels is a retired US Army special forces operator who does occasional consultant work and wishes to remain anonymous so he may put in his five cents worth on life, liberty and the pursuit of whatever he sees fit."

inadvertently decided on the same cheerful packaging for their products. Imagine Mr. Afghanis' confusion. *Could be peanut butter. Could be explosives.* Oops! Bite into the wrong one, baby....Wheeee, now, that's one cookie that has a real kick to it! "Oooh, dats spicy!"

Poop Soup

Not only does our packaging create some serious confusion for the locals. But it also seems we dropped the wrong food. Our guys on the ground eventually had a chance to rub elbow sores with some Afghan people. They were not exactly thrilled with our idea of cuisine. We drop-shipped them spaghetti and meatballs. They opened the package and scratched their lice-ridden heads and stroked their flea-infested beards... "What dis?"

They thought the spaghetti was lamb's brains, the meatball was poop and the pasta was tomato paste. One outta three! *Brains and poop in sauce, how thoughtful of those kind Americans.* The peanut butter we chuted in didn't cut the mustard either. It was used for plaster, soap and even spread on rashes, which are three things even George Washington Carver hadn't thought of. The rashes did not clear up. But the improvised ointment did attract some nice edible flies.



The Buffalo Nickels Diet Plans

With such an obsession for food in the U.S., is it any wonder we're all fat? Kids are fat. Everyone's fat. The overwhelming problem spurred me to create a new and clever two-part diet program. It's called NOT EATING. Yes, The Not-Eating Diet. You couple my Not-Eating Diet with its second phase, the Get-Off-Your-Ass-Phase, and you will loose weight.

"I have a disease!" whiney fatsos like to cry. "I'm going to sue McDonalds and all vending machine companies for making products that make people like me fat."

He doesn't have a disease, and I can prove it. Let's say you had cancer and were imprisoned in Nazi Auschwitz. You would still have cancer and die whether you were in a prison camp, or sitting on a beach overlooking the Mediterranean. If you were rescued from prison camp, you'd still have cancer. That's a disease, my friend! But, if you were fat and were imprisoned in Nazi Auschwitz, you would lose weight and come out skinny when rescued three years later. Anybody want to argue with that? Don't eat! Lose weight! If Cajun Lou Al Craw daddy spent three years in a Nazi prison camp, Lou Al would come out skinny. How is that a disease?

Or, you could try my other hardcore diet...the cluster bomb diet. One bite? Lose weight instantly. Now that's a diet that has a real kick to it!

Bye-bye. ☼

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