

# THE FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR



The Official Publication of The International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors



## THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING

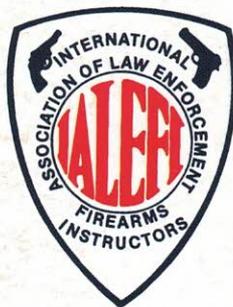
When the wall came down and the Union collapsed, we quickly discovered that the complaints we have in the U.S. about adequate training time and resources is pale in comparison to the situation in Russia..... 22

## NEW YORK HOSPITALITY

From early morning 'til late at night, through 500 rounds they went. The most accurate word used to describe the Long Island, New York Regional Training Conference was "extravaganza!" ..... 24

## TEAM IALEFI IN EUROPE

There were unique challenges and opportunities... not the least of which was a language barrier...which faced the IALEFI instructors who journeyed to Heidelberg, Germany for the first ever European Regional Training Conference in April..... 5



## ARE WE TRAINING OFFICERS TO SURVIVE?

We can train them to draw and fire six rounds in four seconds but are we adequately preparing them for the lethal situations they are likely to encounter on duty?..... 9



# After millions of rounds on the test range, the U.S. military was convinced. Then the real test began.

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The International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors is a non-profit membership organization with aims and purposes to provide educational services, encourage the development of relevant training programs and criteria for Instructor certification, and to conduct an Annual Training Conference. IALEFI active membership is open to those professionally engaged in the training of law enforcement, security, criminal justice, and investigative personnel.

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# THE FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR

SUMMER 1993

VOLUME 10

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# The President's Message

by Michael P. Beckley

The 93 ATC in Reno, Nevada is almost upon us. It seems such a short time since that last ATC in Tampa, Florida. I hope that the Reno Conference will be as big a success as the Tampa Conference was.

Our Executive Director, Bob Bossey, and our Conference Program Chairman, Bob Hunt, have put together another outstanding program. It should be the greatest training program yet.

I hope that everyone has had a chance to review the editorial policy published in *The Firearms Instructor*, (page 16 of this issue). I hope that the membership takes advantage of this

policy and submits articles and pictures for publication. We want them, need them, and keep in mind these articles are what makes the magazine work.

On another issue, I hope that you are planning to put on a Regional Training Conference in your area in the coming months. I speak from experience having done five of them, they are a lot of fun and provide an opportunity to expose instructors in your area to the finest training available at a modest price. For those who cannot make the ATC, its a great way to bring the Reno Conference to your area on a smaller scale. If you are

thinking about it, call, fax or write Terry at Laconia and she will send you a package with all the details.

In closing, I would like to thank both the members of the Board of Directors and those members who have taught at various conferences over the years. It's because of your efforts that this organization has achieved the recognition and respect among the law enforcement community that it enjoys today. 

Good Luck,

Michael P. Beckley  
President

## Board of Director's Attendance Record

	Dec 90	Mar 91	Jun 91	Sep 91	Dec 91	Mar 92	May 92	Sep 92	Dec 92	Mar 93
Beckley	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	C a n c e l e d	P
Callahan	P	P	P	A	A	P	A	P		A
Chargois	NM	NM	NM	P	A	P	A	A		A
Bossey	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Hargreaves	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A		P
Howard	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	A		P
Hunt	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Januzelli	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Kapelsohn	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Keller	NM	NM	NM	A	P	P	P	P		P
Lawson	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P		P
Lepore	P	A	P	P	A	P	P	P		P
MacDonald	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Meyer	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Pollack	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Repass	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Scott	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	A	
Tarley	A	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	
Williams	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	

A - Absent      P - Present      NM - Non Member

\* December 1992 meeting was canceled due to weather.



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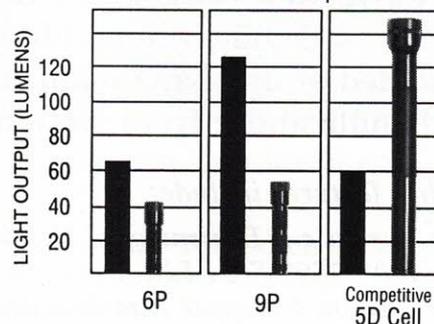
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# IALEFI's First European Regional Training Conference

by James A. Moss

What do you get when you bring 43 firearms instructors from eight countries together in Heidelberg, Germany for a weekend of seminars, shooting, and socializing? Why you have the first IALEFI Regional Training Conference (RTC) ever held in Europe. That's precisely what took place on the weekend of 3-4 April 1993.

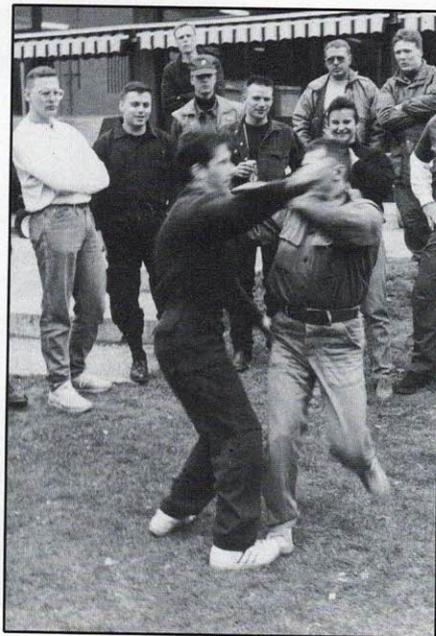
Participants and instructors at the RTC came from extremely diverse backgrounds. They included 25 Americans, one German, six Swiss, two Canadians, two Italians, three British,

IALEFI member Captain Otto Simonyi, and a Hungarian/English translator.

This RTC presented several unique challenges and opportunities. Despite the formation of the European Community and its quest for standardized laws and regulations, the fact remained that each country represented viewed firearms, police, and law enforcement firearms training in different lights. For example, German police agencies, for the most part, do not conduct combat shoot-

Army's Heidelberg Rod & Gun Club. Students were divided into two groups of approximately 20 students each. The groups attended two classes each day. Classes on Tactical Pistol and Close Quarters Shooting Techniques were presented on Saturday, while Sunday covered Tactical Team Development and Cover Utilization.

Frank McBee, from the Palm Bay, Florida Police Department presented the Tactical Pistol class. During this course of instruction, various shooting drills were introduced to the stu-



Josef Delbo and Lazlo Zacharias, Hungarian National Police Special Service, demonstrate knife defense techniques.

one Belgian, and three Hungarians. Our one French participant, IALEFI member Jean Pascal Esparciel, was declared "missing in action" when he failed to appear at the Heidelberg Hauptbahnhof (main train station) at the time he said his train would arrive. The Hungarian contingent consisted of three members of the Hungarian National Police Special Service (Anti-Terrorist Unit), including

ing. Conversely, the Swiss law enforcement and security agencies are very active in conducting realistic combat training. On the positive side, the variety of techniques and tactics used by participants in their respective agencies provided everyone with a wonderful opportunity to learn from each other.

Four classes were presented at the RTC, which was held at the U.S.

dents. These drills included turns, pivots, and shooting on the move, to name a few. After taking one firing order through a drill, Frank would then have the students take turns "running the line" so that they would get the full value of the training objective. In observing this class, the variety of shooting styles and levels of proficiency between each country represented at the RTC became evident.

Dennis Martin came from England to present the class on Close Quarter Shooting Techniques. This class was very similar to the presentation Dennis made at the 1992 IALEFI ATC in Tampa, which was geared towards personnel involved in VIP Protection. Utilizing both classroom and live-fire, Dennis provided students with a wealth of information on holster selection, concealed carry, drawing the weapon, and shooting in close quarter battle (CQB) situations. In order to push the students' accuracy and speed, their target areas were yellow 3" X 5" cards taped to standard silhouettes. With approximately 25% of the RTC participants actively involved in VIP Protection/Personal Security, Dennis' class was particularly valuable in that it provided students with some teaching methods and techniques which many of them had never seen.

After a long, hard day of training, all of the instructors and about 15 of the students adjourned for an enjoyable evening at the Berg Brau Brewery Restaurant in nearby Leimen (the home of tennis star Boris Becker). While eating wurst and drinking beer (all brewed on the premises), a lively discussion ensued for several hours in English, German, French, Italian, and Hungarian, regarding firearms training, knives, women, and every other topic imaginable. The whole evening was capped off when Joe Tuzzolino from the Clifton, NJ Police Department got into a coaster flipping contest with Joseph Delbo from the Hungarian National Police.

Sunday morning kicked off bright and early with John Meyer, from H&K Training Division, presenting his class on Tactical Team Development. John's lecture/seminar, which he has presented at previous IALEFI ATCs, covered the basics of personnel selection, equipment selection, training, and managing a tactical team. His presentation generated numerous questions from participants who were unfamiliar with this "American" way of law enforcement.

The Cover Utilization class, presented by Jim Moss from the Department of Defense in Frankfurt, Germany, also took place on Sunday. Based on Andy Casavant's Cover Utilization program, this class had students move to various points of

edge to use in some live fire exercises. Utilizing Simunition training rounds and video taping, pairs of students were put through one of ten scenarios involving anywhere from one to three "subjects." Students quickly learned the value of proper cover utilization as some felt the sting of being hit with Simunition rounds, while those who sought and used their cover were able to safely engage their targets.

Overall, the RTC was a great success. IALEFI gained many new members and everyone learned something that they could take back to use in their own training programs. Plans are already underway for a second European RTC to take place in Switzerland, possibly in November. Many thanks to Ken Murray from Simunition, for getting the barrels and



RTC instructors with Hungarian National Police Special Service firearms instructors and translator.

cover and simulate firing. Their target was someone holding a video camera. The camera was the eyes of the suspect in that the camera lens recorded the perspective of what the suspect would have seen. After critiquing the video tape in the classroom and having some students run the course again, everyone was given the opportunity to put their knowl-

edge to use in some live fire exercises. Utilizing Simunition training rounds and video taping, pairs of students were put through one of ten scenarios involving anywhere from one to three "subjects." Students quickly learned the value of proper cover utilization as some felt the sting of being hit with Simunition rounds, while those who sought and used their cover were able to safely engage their targets.

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#### About the Author:

James Moss is a Special Agent and Senior Firearms Instructor with a Department of Defense agency currently assigned to Frankfurt, Germany. He has provided firearms instruction to police and military personnel in several Central and South American countries, throughout Europe, and in the U.S. since 1982 and he has been an IALEFI member since 1989.



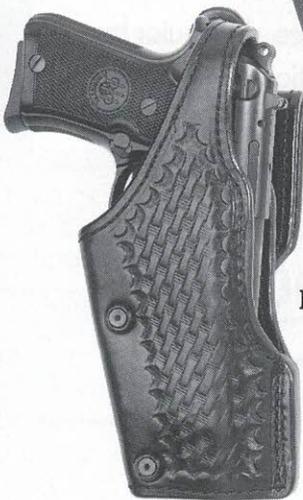
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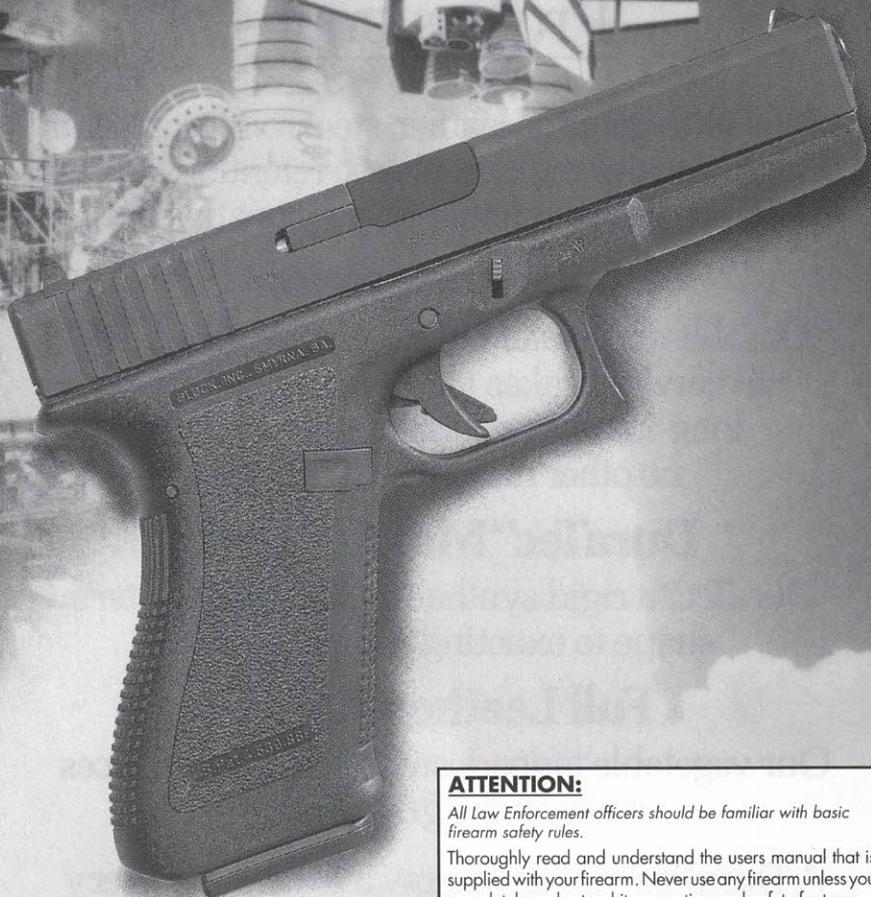
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# PPC And Realistic Training: A Paradoxical Overview

by Bryan Dennis

The myth that PPC, or Practical Pistol Course Shooting provides a complete firearms training program still exists in many departments. But this myth is quickly being dismissed as instructors learn this style of shooting clearly lacks street relevant components. The current trend in firearms training involves realistic training; providing stimulus officers will encounter on the street in a lethal situation. But should we exclude PPC shooting just for the basis of change? This article will compare these two types of training and will examine how realistic and PPC training can be incorporated in achieving a complete firearms training program.

PPC courses are simply courses of fire which involve time stressors while enhancing marksmanship skills. For example, an officer may be required to fire two shots in two seconds from the draw. Another stage of fire may involve firing twelve rounds in twenty seconds from the twenty-five yard line. At the conclusion of the course, points are calculated and an overall score is figured. The success of this course is measured by the overall score in relationship to the number of points possible, e.g. 269 out of 300.

Basic police recruits are usually exposed to this style of shooting while attending their respective academies. When recruits graduate and return to their departments, PPC instruction continues and basic officers attempt to improve their scores. Once this is achieved, they often advance to an intermediate level.

The intermediate level involves the mastering of basic fundamentals: grip, stance, sight alignment, trigger manipulation. Once this is accomplished, intermediate level officers are expected to score higher on the

same PPC course. When a higher score is reached, the officer may be moved to the advanced level.

Advanced level firearms instruction necessitates the mastering of firearms fundamentals while achieving consistently high scores on PPC courses. Greater emphasis is placed on fine motor skills in conjunction with fundamentals as well as shot placement.

The preceding three stages of traditional police firearms training is commonplace in many law enforcement agencies today. In these agencies, emphasis is placed on PPC courses as adequate preparation in developing street survival attributes. But the ultimate question we must ask ourselves - is this street relevant training?

We may be able to train officers to be fast at the draw and fire six rounds in four seconds, but what are we trying to train officers to do?

After all, our major goal as police firearms instructors is to adequately prepare officers so they can function and survive lethal situations they encounter during the performance of their duties. Unfortunately, PPC courses do not satisfy this training requirement.

I have heard many firearms instructors from a variety of police departments and academies refer to PPC shooting as combat pistol courses. Any person with any military experience would surely disagree with this terminology. Combat involves fighting in battle, not standing stationary on the 20 yard line waiting to draw and fire six rounds in 15 seconds. It's time to examine PPC courses for what they are, not try to preserve and justify them by affixing an intriguing label.

PPC courses do not teach officers to use verbal commands, movement techniques, and reaction to outside stimuli. They simply provide time stressors as a mode by which officers engage static targets. Officers are forced to count the number of rounds they must fire, engage their target while standing stationary on the firing line, and reload with no consideration in seeking cover. This has been the problem with firearms training in the past. We have negated to include all the factors officers will encounter and have to deal with on the streets. Now, I'm not downgrading PPC courses or simply recommending they be dismissed as irrelevant training, but I do believe they should only be exercised at the basic level. Otherwise, we will be inducing the shooter to become accustomed to one style of shooting without any regard to environmental variables: multiple adversaries, close quarter shooting, friendly vs. hostile targets,

and many more. The shooter will be subconsciously trained to stand stationary in a lethal encounter instead of using movement and cover techniques. This brings us to the present with the evolution of realistic training.

Realistic firearms training involves firearms training in environments officers most likely find themselves in on the street. It encompasses as many outside stimuli as possible, with emphasis applied on recognizing and negotiating lethal situations.

This involves decision making, use of cover and concealment and verbal commands, and as many additional variables as encountered on the street. Emphasis is placed on enhancing decision making skills while eliminating unproductive range commands which only hinder the adoption of street survival skills. In realistic training, the officer controls his or her own destiny, not simply following range commands.

The application of realistic training comes in many forms and is only

limited by the instructor's imagination. There are presently three types of scenario-based realistic training: individualized, interactive, and computer-aided.

Individualized scenario-based training is probably the most preferred method of incorporating realistic firearms training with street relevant situations. Scenarios can be constructed on indoor and outdoor ranges and often consist of wood and cardboard props. These props can be used to closely simulate vehicles,

	Basic Level			Intermediate and Advanced Level			
	Marksmanship	Timed Fire	Reloading	Verbal Commands	Cover and Concealment	Equipment Utilization	Movement Techniques
PPC Training	X	X	X				
Realistic			X	X	X	X	X

# Training for Survival: The Police Budget

April 30, 1993 Marion Police Department

*Firearms training is an essential part of any law enforcement agency's training. Unfortunately, budget restraints often make it difficult to provide a complete and efficient firearms program. So the question is, how do we rise above all this and still properly train our officers? The answer doesn't have to be more money, just more imagination.*

The new trend in police firearms training today is to realistically train officers to survive situations they will most likely encounter on the street. But in order to achieve this training, must we spend large amounts of money in buying realistic targets, props, and other paraphernalia? The answer is no. I have found that a little imagination can go a long way in achieving a complete firearms program.

## Targets

Full figured color targets can cost a considerable sum of money, so why not use standard paper targets like the B-27 and add a little realism to them. Old T-shirts are perfect for this. By cutting them in half and then stapling them to your target, you can keep officers from shooting at the "X" ring and concentrate on upper body shot placement. You can even fill balloons with water soluble red paint and tape them underneath the shirt for an even more realistic effect.

## Props

Another low cost idea is the construction of props. By using some old lumber, cardboard and some fresh

buildings, or problem-specific locations in which a department desires training focus. Again, the instructor's imagination is the only limitation when designing and building scenarios. The addition of lights, sound, and other non-penetrable props can make them even more realistic.

The most common scenarios involve traffic stops, disturbance calls, and building searches. An officer is usually "dispatched" to the range scenario by hearing a radio call similar to what he or she would hear when working on the street. The officer then advances and makes use of verbal commands, approaching suspects, use of cover and concealment, and all other functions he or she normally does when handling a situation. Some scenarios may require lethal force while others may not.

The benefit in realistic scenario training is that individual officers control how they handle their own calls. Over-instruction is eliminated

and officers can concentrate on their actions instead of counting rounds and worrying about range firing instructions. The firearms instructor is able to closely monitor the actions of the shooter and document tactical considerations either through the use of videotape or direct observation. This form of individualized instruction accelerates the proficiency of shooters because tactical and shooting problems are immediately identified and corrected through remedial training.

The second type of realistic training is often referred to as interactive training. This form of training can involve paintball, Simunition™ ammunition, or even cottonball reloads.

Paintball has gained considerable notoriety over the past few years. There are numerous indoor and outdoor paintball facilities throughout the United States and foreign countries. Although initially marketed for

survivalist and military buffs, paintballing has been accepted as a training platform in many police departments.

The advantage of paintball training for law enforcement use is realism. Upon impacting their target, paintballs shatter and splatter water-soluble paint in a typical spread pattern. Not only does the officer see if he impacted his target, the assailant officer feels and reacts to being struck. Paintball scenarios can be set up almost anywhere, thus eliminating the need for an actual shooting range. Unfortunately, paintball guns are quite different in size and operation than normal guns and participants must wear protective gear.

Simunition™ and cottonball reloads are similar to paintball, however, no special guns are required. Officers can use their normal duty weapons and engage targets with almost the same effect as paintball. The advantage here is that holster and

paint, you can build anything from a vehicle to a home. By using some string, you can add life to your structure by creating doors which open and moving targets. Other props you can use are mailboxes and fire hydrants, even artificial shrubbery. The firearms instructor should be aware though, that having metallic props on the range provide risk of injury and should be replaced with materials that bullets are able to penetrate such as wood and cardboard.

## Adding Sound and Lights

Now that we have covered targets and structures, we need to add the final touches of realism. If you have an old stereo system with a tape player, bring it in to your range. I suggest you record authentic radio traffic and add whatever sound might be present during your selected scenario. For example, if you have designed a domestic disturbance scenario, why not record some type of argument. You can record arguments from television or even make up your

own. You might even want to dub in the sound of police sirens which simulate responding secondary units.

Another added touch is with lights. Spot lights allow you to create lighting which is true to the selected scenario. You can purchase different colored bulbs for even more effects. Another type of light I recommend is a police lightbar. In traffic stop scenarios, a flashing lightbar mounted on the ceiling of the range behind the shooter will provide a more realistic scenario. It is important that officers be trained to adapt and utilize available light in dim and no-light situations.

Realistic scenarios enable experienced shooters to expand their street survival attributes. Therefore, it is important that firearm instructors exceed fundamental levels of instruction and train officers in the most realistic circumstances possible. By having officers shoot in situations they most often encounter, we can be sure that we are incorporating a valuable portion of a complete firearms program.

handgun techniques are incorporated in this type of training. Paintball guns are usually larger than real handguns and cannot be holstered.

The third type of realistic training is computer-aided. These machines normally project a video display of scenarios. Officers stand in front of the screen with special ammunition and/or guns and interact with the presentation. The computer records shot placement, time, and success of each round fired. The major problem with this type of training is that officers are somewhat restricted in their movements and will always fire in the same direction, i.e., the screen. However, with the great increase in computer and laser technologies, it is likely that computers will dominate the style of firearms training in the future.

The difference between PPC and realistic training stems from environmental variables. PPC is a fine course of instruction for introducing new

trainees to time stressors, reloading, and marksmanship skills. But when trainees advance to intermediate and advanced levels, the relevancy of PPC shooting is no longer applicable. PPC shooting only serves as a measuring device for basic skills.

Realistic training serves to duplicate as many environmental variables as possible and allow officers to utilize their adopted skills when engaging targets. The use of the police radio, flashlight, verbal commands, approach, are all stimulus variables which must be accounted for in realistic training. In other words, we want to include all the factors officers will have to deal with during high-stress and lethal encounters. PPC shooting does not include these variables. So, should we exclude PPC shooting for the basis of change? No.

PPC shooting still provides basic marksmanship training under time stressors. It also provides a measuring device in determining an officer's

marksmanship skill level. But it is important that firearms instructors exceed fundamental levels of instruction and train officers in the most realistic circumstances possible. By having officers shoot in situations they most often encounter, we can be sure that we are incorporating a valuable portion of a complete firearms training program. 

#### *About the Author:*

*Bryan L. Dennis has been a police officer with the Marion, Indiana Police Department for 6 years with assignments in Criminal Investigations and Undercover Narcotic Investigations. He is currently assigned to the Firearms Training Program. He holds an Associate of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Indiana University and has completed Firearms Instructor courses at Smith & Wesson Academy, Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, and Glock, Inc.*

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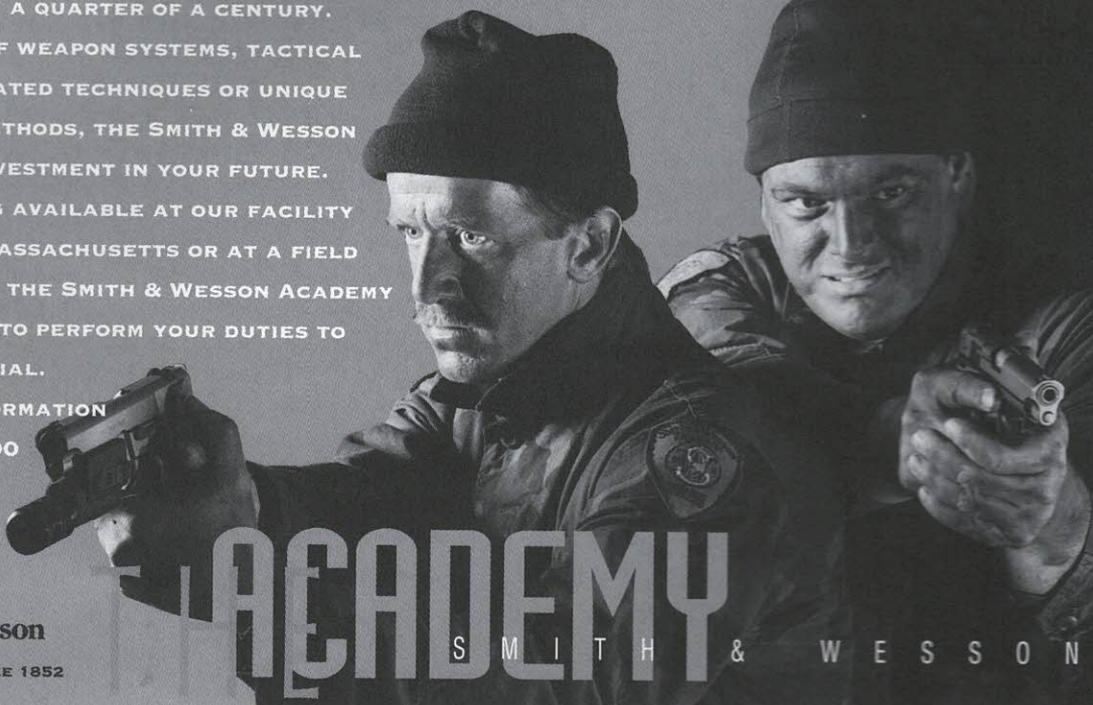
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# Corrections Committee

by Lt. Dennis Pegg

We are still soliciting articles for the corrections column on various topics of correctional interest. We're also looking, once again, for a good correctional turn out at the Reno ATC. If you haven't made your plans yet, you owe it to yourself to do so.

There are many interesting and informative topics that would be very helpful to correctional training. You'll have a chance to meet first hand, with others in the field and "network." A trainer can "pick up" many useful tips for his own institutional value and self education and enhance the departments programs.

Also, some areas that have a strong "correctional flavor" are prisoner transportation, chemical munitions, restraints and tactical handcuffing, interpersonal communications, special weapons and close encounters, riot, and crowd control, defensive shotgun, edged weapons and hostage negotiations, just to name a few.

In this day of ever tightening budgets and hard economic times, its a wise trainer indeed who knows how to resource and network to enhance his in-service training and other programs. Networking can save time and money. It's an old way of getting new and updated information and ideas, sharing problems, and finding solutions. You're not alone out there and you'd be surprised how many trainers may have "your answer" and are only too happy to share expertise and knowledge in various areas.

In the spirit of sharing, for any of you that need information on High Profile Prisoner Transportation, or Courtroom Security, frequently the nearest office of the Federal Marshals Service will be of real help.

Finally, I notice that the latest issue of Smith & Wesson Training newsletter had information on a new course offering in Use of Force Man-

agement that's long overdue. Bravo! to Smith & Wesson Academy for this addition. The contact and description looks good. I'm glad to see that as trainers in recent years we are looking at the entire spectrum of the

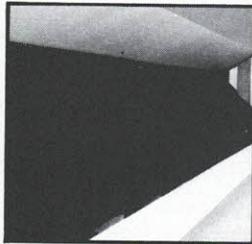
use of force and many are realizing that in this litigious society we need to have a "good grasp" on the whole use of force continuum.

Get those Correctional articles in. Stay safe, see you at the Reno ATC.



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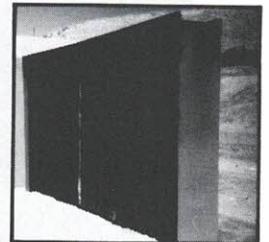
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# Police and the Use of Force: The Savannah Study

by Vance McLaughlin

*The following article was submitted by Vance McLaughlin, Ph.D., Director of Training for the City of Savannah, Georgia Police Department. The article originally appeared as an appendix to his book and is offered for the readers benefit.*

## Model Use-of-Force Plan for Law Enforcement Agencies

The following is a comprehensive use-of-force plan for law enforcement agencies. Each of the individual items should be included and evaluated. There are no "pick and choose"

options because each part must coordinate with the other parts.

**1. Needs Assessment** - the agency needs to determine what type of situations its officers face which involve force and what type of force

has been used in the past. It should also examine whether the clientele

served by its department present any specific challenges.

**2. Subject Control Instructors** - these instructors should be skilled in the following areas:

a. Communications - how to communicate with people, how to listen to people, values and norms of different ethnic/cultural groups, verbal judo, kinesics, and proxemics.

b. Defensive Tactics - system must be medically, legally, and tactically based.

May include intermediate weapons, hard empty hand control, soft empty hand control, lateral vascular neck restraint, and handcuffing.

c. Firearms - handgun system must include basic marksmanship, tactical training, and combat training. This includes: (1) Basic marksmanship - familiarization with hand-

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gun, disassembly, cleaning, the ability to hit a stationary target at different distances, and malfunction drills, (2) Tactical training - cover/concealment, tactical loading, double taps, speed drills, moving targets, and night firing, (3) Combat training - simulating combat situations in which there is an opponent that can cause some sort of harm to the officer who must react (red-handle gun drills and paint ball guns).

These instructors must have a lesson plan, competency-based testing, and visual aids (which could be brought into court).

This course must be coordinated so that the laws, statutes, SOP, and force continuum are all applicable and do not contradict any of the other training.

**3. Officers' Competency** - officers must have a specific level of competency that can be measured. Nobody should carry weapons or have the power to arrest without these competencies. The type of training and

number of hours of training are no substitute for competency.

**4. Standard Operating Procedure** - must be established to be consistent with the Constitution, law, statutes, and the use-of-force program taught to officers.

**5. Method of Accountability** - monitors use-of-force incidents. This should be done for the following purposes:

a. To provide feedback. Feedback would provide the following: to ascertain if officers are actually using their training; if certain procedures and techniques are used and how successfully; if the type of incidents that occur change over time; and if officers using methods, strategies, or techniques that have not been formally taught are effective in de-escalating situations.

b. To protect officers and the department from frivolous suits (criminal and civil) brought by litigants. The information should help establish an officer's consistency in use-of-force and show the officer's judgment/training.

c. To identify those officers who misuse force and establish whether misuse of force is because of officer (1) Incompetency, (2) Poor judgment, (3) Maliciousness

d. To gather data (location, type of incident, race, and injuries) to better understand the force situations. When this data is analyzed scientifically by academics, administrators, and trainers, problematic areas will be apparent.

**6. Administrators should be accountable for:**

a. Full and accurate reporting of all use-of-force situations.

b. Training and competency-based standards that are achieved by officers carrying weapons and having arrest power.

c. Corrective steps that are taken when misuse of force occurs. These decisions must be equitable and widely known through the department.

d. Supporting officers who have used force correctly regardless of what political pressure is applied. 

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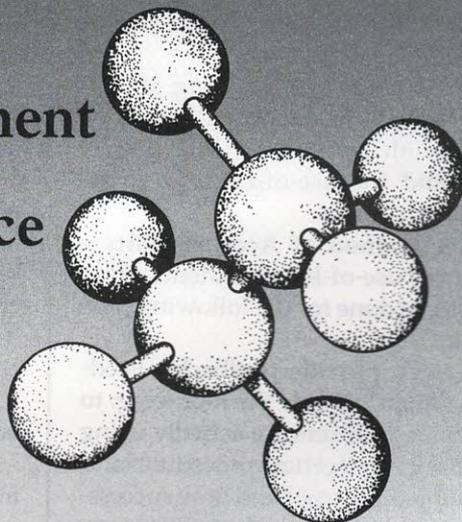
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Members are urged to provide us with input on the style and content of THE FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR. Submitted articles should conform to these rules:

1. Articles should be typewritten and double-spaced on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper. Please have your article free of spelling and grammatical errors;

2. A black and white photograph of the author, along with a brief biographical sketch, should be included;

3. Any photographs submitted should include captions. Black and white photos are preferred. Photos will be returned on request;

4. Submitted manuscripts will not be returned. The author should retain a copy of the manuscript.

Articles should be directed towards law enforcement firearms training, trainers, instructional methods, and officer survival. The specific techniques and practices proposed in the article may be original, unconventional, or controversial, but should reflect sound training and safety principles. IALEFI does not publish product reviews, evaluations, or endorsements. Articles on other subjects may mention and discuss the use of specific products, including limited professional critique of the products, but the thrust of the article must be one of training methods, firearms techniques, and officer survival.

IALEFI reserves the right to edit submitted material for spelling, grammar, syntax, clarity, or length. IALEFI reserves the right to reject articles from members or others. IALEFI reserves the right to reject any submitted material, including articles, photographs, letters, or advertisements, that, in the sole discretion of the Editorial Committee would reflect or impact negatively on IALEFI or its stated goals. Members wishing to inquire as to suitability of a particular subject, before writing an article, should call the IALEFI office.

# "Your Worst Enemy Could Sometimes Be...Your Own Firearms Instructor.."

by Jose J. Blanco

I am proud of being a member of The IALEFI. The articles in *The Firearms Instructor* include worthwhile information, with the added value of life-preserving techniques. However, I would like to explore with you a more critical evaluation of the firearms instructor.

My point is that sometimes, some firearms instructors, as the fallible human beings whom they are, fall prey

The instructor's purpose is not to win a popularity contest. His purpose is to make training as realistic and as safe as possible.

to the seductive temptation of overlooking infractions or bad habits, as minor as they might appear to be. Some concrete examples are: ignoring or stretching time limitations in order to accommodate slow shooters, ignoring the dangerous habit of officers holstering an empty weapon (when they are not out of ammunition), ignoring the conditioned-response habit of immediately holstering a weapon without first covering the target (gee! its only paper, right?), ignoring the shooter's habit of not mentally counting rounds as they are being fired, ignoring shooters who do not bring complete field duty attire & equipment (i.e., speed-loaders, jacket, etc.), allowing alibis for personal shortcomings, allowing shooters to place a towel or foam pad under their knees when shooting from the kneeling position, and on, and on, and on...

Intuitively, I know that this occurs too often. Why? Many apparent logical explanations, or rationalizations, are abundant. It is human nature to rationalize things away. In addition, who wants to be repetitive and go over basic skills, over and over again. Moreover, instructors, not unlike many other people, like to be accepted by the group. You know...being a nice guy. Therefore, it is very tempting to keep attention-calling to a minimum. I know that constant repetition can become tedious. However, what is the alternative...demise by incompetence?

A faithful firearms instructor has to be ever-vigilant of his immense responsibility. He has to constantly look for deficiencies and take corrective action, while maintaining the shooter's self-esteem. The instructor's purpose is not to win a popularity contest. His purpose is to make training as realistic and as safe as possible. To constantly remind shooters that training has to be taken seriously because their

lives literally depend on it. This all sounds like common sense, right? My objective is to make you review your routine range practice. There is nothing wrong with being popular, or a nice guy. Just don't do it at the expense of quality training. 

## About the Author:

Jose J. Blanco is a Senior Federal Pretrial Officer in the Southern District of Florida (Miami). He is one of two officers assigned to the Special Investigation & Street Supervision Unit, as well as, one of the two district firearms instructors. He was trained by the FBI Firearms Instructor's School. Jose Blanco's federal law-enforcement experience dates from 1986, when he was appointed a United States Probation Officer. In 1988, he transferred to the United States Pretrial Services Office. Jose Blanco holds B.A. & M.Ed. Degrees from Loyola University, New Orleans, LA.

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# Police Firearms Training Liability

by Jim Daugherty

What we are going to talk about here is money. If you are with a law enforcement agency which does not need money, raise your hand. Most of the officers and agencies with which I am familiar would like to have more money for salaries, equipment and better hospitalization and retirement benefits. Money is being spent on lawsuits that could be used for these purposes.

If you are a Chief of Police, Director of Training or a Firearms Instructor with a law enforcement agency, you are quite naturally concerned with providing adequate training for your officers. Today, there are two specific areas of firearms training with which you need to be aware. They are marksmanship and judgmental training.

For example, as a Firearms Instructor, you are constantly asking for more equipment, ammunition, targets and more range time. That is part of your job. However, when you ask your Chief or Director of Training for

increases in equipment, he may hesitate because he has heard something different about firearms training than you have. Chiefs, Directors of Training and high level administrators with law enforcement agencies attend training seminars and workshops conducted by "legal-eagles" who teach Liability Risk Management. What they hear is this: "OK, go ahead and train all of the super snipers, master "one-hole" shooters, spend all your money training shooters. Guess what? If your master shooters and super snipers, regardless of their ability to shoot, make a poor judgement to shoot, we have got you by the short hairs and we will take millions of your dollars."

Perfect classic examples of this are illustrated in two lawsuits mentioned below. Take a moment and read these two cases carefully. (These two cases are taken from THE LIABILITY REPORTER, as published quarterly for police by AMERICANS FOR EFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT, INC.

## JURY AWARDS \$912,500 TO OFFICER MISTAKEN FOR SUSPECT AND SHOT BY FELLOW OFFICER

Several police officers serving a search warrant on a house encountered gunshots coming from the residence. They called for backup and another officer arrived in response. While the radio report had said that the suspect was inside the residence, this officer mistook one of the other officers, who was standing in the driveway, for the suspect, and opened fire on him.

The officer fired on was hit in the shoulder and leg, suffering serious injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder. Medical expenses exceeded \$50,000 and the injured officer was unable to return to work. The injured officer sued the city and the officer who fired the shots. He asserted that it had been improper to use deadly force against him, even putting aside the mistaken identification of him as a suspect, since he was not then shooting or threatening to do so. He states that the officer should have attempted to positively identify him first and to use "incremental force" rather than beginning by firing at him.

The jury returned an award of \$912,500, while an additional \$62,500 settlement was received from a neighboring city whose officers had also been involved in the incident. *Kunkle v. City of Bell, Cal., Los Angeles County Superior Court, No. SE C 59257, Aug. 1, 1989, reported in 33 ATLA L Rprt. 19 (Feb. 1990).*

## JURY AWARDS \$8.75 MILLION TO MAN PARALYZED AFTER BEING SHOT IN THE SPINE BY OFF-DUTY POLICE OFFICER.

A coliseum groundskeeper was walking home after midnight when he was confronted by a mugger with a knife who demanded his wallet. He was carrying a 9mm handgun for protection because of a prior robbery at the same location, and fired a shot in the air, after which the mugger fled. An off-duty officer, driving by, saw the groundskeeper and mugger confronting each other and the mugger running away.

The officer parked his car and drew his gun, firing three rounds at him. One shot went into the groundskeeper's spine after passing through both his arms. The injury rendered him paraplegic for life.

The injured man sued the officer, and another officer who stopped to assist him, for negligence.

A jury awarded the plaintiff \$8.75 million, said to be the largest award ever to a plaintiff against the Los Angeles police.

*Altamirano v. Hudson, Los Angeles, Superior Court, reported in The Los Angeles Daily Journal, p. 3, April 30, 1991.*

## Does it matter?

Now that you have examined these two cases carefully, are you ready for some questions? As you answer the questions for yourself, think about the training your officers have received.

(1) Does it matter who did the shooting, which officer, old or young, reserve, recruit or the most experienced officer with the department? No, it doesn't matter.

(2) What about the shooting ability of the officers involved? Does it matter if they were marksmen, sharpshooters, masters or the best shot on the department? No, it doesn't matter.

(3) What about the guns used? Does it matter what make, or brand, or made in the U.S. or foreign? Does it matter about the calibre or round capacity, 22 single shot, 50 calibre or a magazine with 20 rounds? How about the cost of the gun, \$50.00 or \$900.00? No, it doesn't matter.

(4) What about the ammunition that was used? Would fast, slow, big, little, solid, hollow point or super-expanding make a difference? No, it would not make a difference.

So what was the problem in the cases mentioned?

**THE PROBLEM WAS TARGET IDENTIFICATION AND JUDGEMENT**, the decision to pull the triggers. That is what the "legal-eagles" are talking about in their Liability Risk Management seminars.

Now that these areas of concern have been brought to your attention, the recommendation, therefore, is that judgmental type firearms training should at least equal the amount of marksmanship training!

In other words, each time you go to the range for marksmanship training or qualification, by some means find a way to conduct some training which requires target identification and a decision to be made, shoot, or

don't shoot. Bear in mind that it's the judgement that will cost your department a great deal of money that could otherwise be used for salaries, retirement, etc.

Does all of the above mean that we can discontinue basic police firearms training and in-service firearms training? Certainly not! If anything, we need to expand the basic and in-

time is spent speculating on which gun or ammunition is better for police use. It is okay to speculate and everyone can have an opinion. If classroom or range time that has been allotted for training is used for this speculation and opinion, then that is a waste of valuable time. Use training time for training, stick to the subject! Your department will be better prepared!

## ...judgmental type firearms training should at least equal the amount of marksmanship training!

service firearms training. We just need to bear in mind where we are in today's society with law suits against law enforcement agencies and officers. If there is an answer, it is in training, and quality of training. Be aware, training to minimum standards equals minimum results!

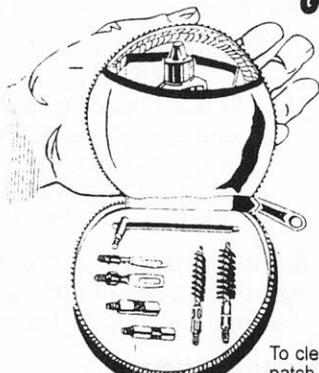
Something else is worth mentioning here because it's a problem all over and relates specifically to the title of this article. Instructors should make the most of the firearms training time allotted. Having been a firearms instructor myself in a police department and from listening to firearms instructors all over the country, I know that a considerable amount of

Finally, include an emphasis on **judgmental training** for better use of your agency's firearms training budget. The **decision** to pull the trigger could bankrupt your agency and you, so let's get on with this area of training!

*About the Author:*

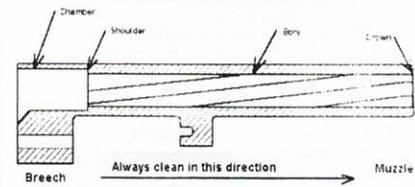
*Jim Daugherty is Manager of the NRA Police Firearms Training Department. He has been employed by the National Rifle Association in this capacity for twenty-two years. He has conducted more than 300 police firearms instructor development schools throughout the United States. Jim is a Charter member of IALEFI.*

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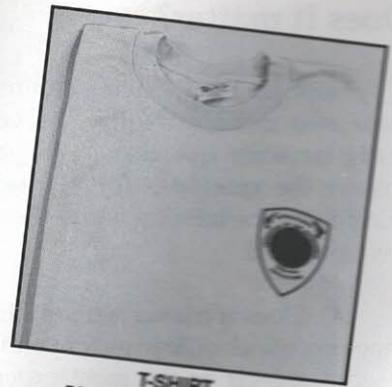
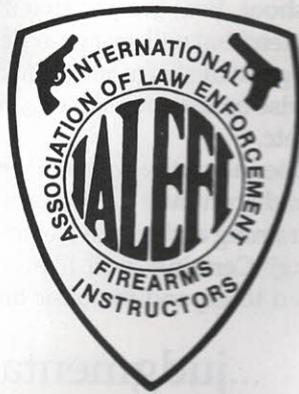
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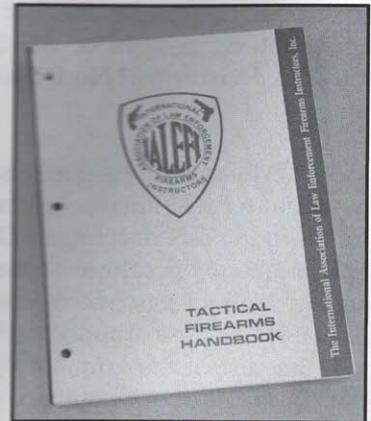
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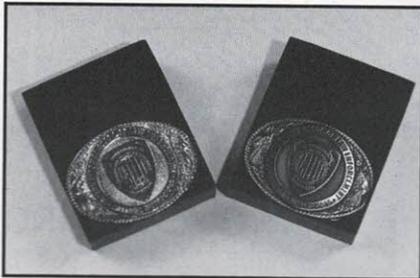
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# The Beretta 92 Machine Pistol Conversion By Full Tech VI, Inc.

by Aron S. Lipman

Over the last number of years, myself and T. J. Mullin have tested and evaluated practically every SMG in the world and we have agreed, for the most part, on all our evaluations.

We have also tested machine pistols select fire conversions; the Beretta 93R (3 shot burst version), the Glock 18 and the Browning Hi Power to mention a few. We have come up with very strong disagreement on the use of machine pistols in law enforcement and counter-terrorist work. T. J. Mullin sent me videos testing both the Glock and the Browning where at 8 feet away, five shot bursts (+ or -) would only have two shots hit anywhere on a B 27 target. Tim feels

this is acceptable for very specialized encounters. I disagree for the following reasons:

1. At extreme close quarter, which I define, as does Jim Cirillo, as 15 feet and under, (the danger zone to an officer), the weapon must be ca-

For those law enforcement agencies with specialized units, I would recommend they look into the Beretta 92 Conversion.

pable of placing all shots on the target, not just two out of a burst.

2. The weapon has to have reasonable combat accuracy. At 10 feet, all shots should be in a 10 inch circle (+ or -); at 15 feet, all shots should be in the neutralization area of the target.

3. The weapon must have a low profile. It looks the same as a semi-automatic version and must be uncomplicated whereby it is easy to transition an officer with the weapon.

Until these two men, Dick Hall and Bob Burns, came to our facility to evaluate their Beretta 92 Conversion, I was completely negative on any machine pistol, as I consider the Glock 18 in particular as an accident waiting to happen. I have changed my opinion after testing the conversion Beretta in 9mm. I also tested the Beretta Conversion 96 in .40 S&W. I am definitely impressed with the 92 Conversion, but the .40 S&W Conversion I have found uncontrollable. I feel the same about the 96 as I do about the Glock 18, an accident waiting to happen.

I am listing the reasons why I feel the Select Fire 92 is a viable weapon for certain law enforcement officers.

1. It is identical to the Beretta 92 on visual inspection. You would not have anyone know that it has full auto capabilities, making the weapon low profile. If an officer was carrying a SMG, he would lose that low profile advantage.

2. It is easy to transition to full automatic for scenarios up to 15 feet. In addition, it is very controllable because of the cycle rate, which is approximately 750 rounds per minute.

3. It works equally well with 15 round Beretta 92 magazines or 20 round Beretta 93 magazines.

4. An armorer, in approximately 20 minutes, can install the retrofit conversion kit in already issued weapons.

5. I believe in the validity of sensory overload which is accomplished in full automatic mode.

Upon testing by myself and an associate of mine, a member of the Pennsylvania State Police (Anthony Fazio), on first tries with this conversion, we were both effective at 10, 12 and 15 feet. For example, at 10 feet, from the ready position, I was able to put a double tap on three targets, three feet apart, in the neutralization area in 2.24 seconds. From the ready position in full automatic mode, five to six shot bursts were put on each in 2.53 seconds; similar results were achieved at 15 feet. Officer Fazio feels, with proper training, this weapon in full automatic could be effective at up to 45 feet. I do not agree. I feel this is an entry weapon and even with extensive training, 30 feet would be the outer limit.

For those law enforcement agencies with specialized units, I would recommend they look into the Beretta 92 Conversion.

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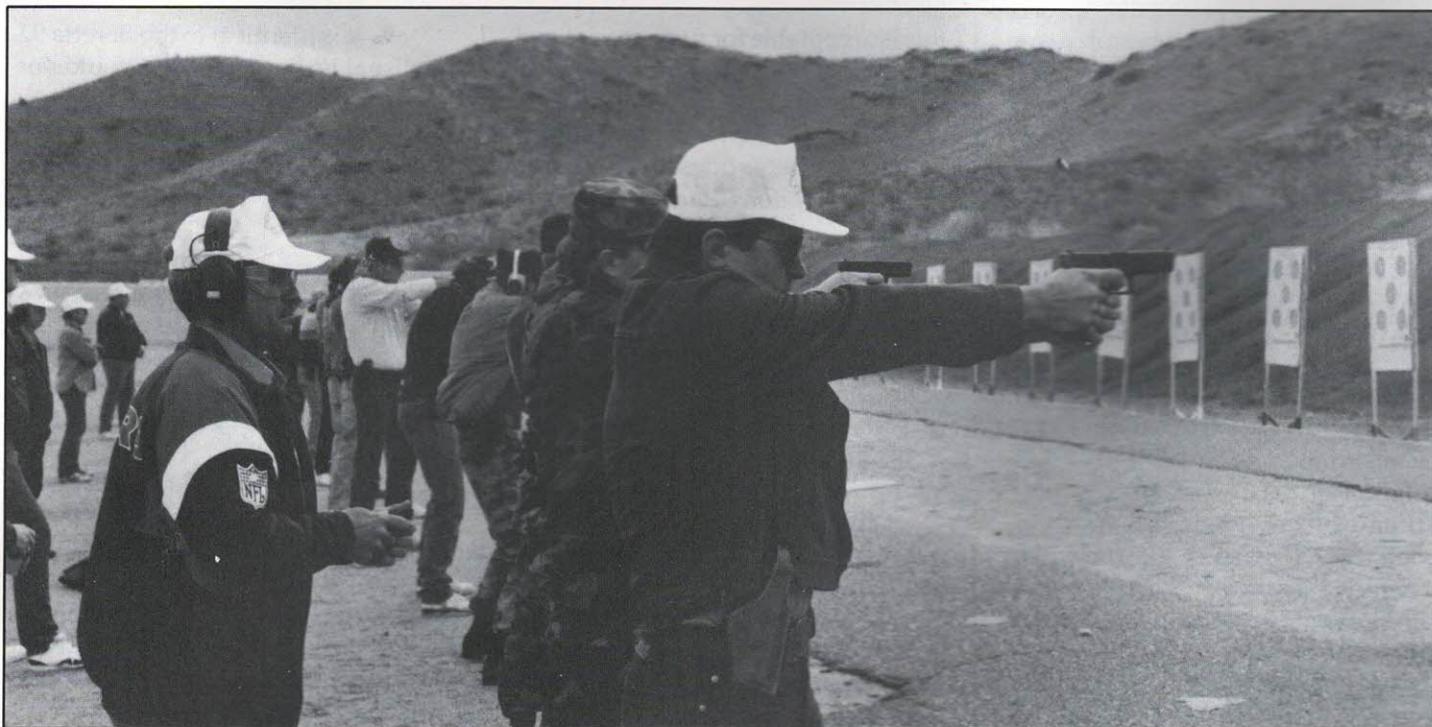
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**“In my country only criminals have guns.”**  
*I told him that in certain political subdivisions  
of the U.S., that was true also.*



## The Russian Police Officer

*by Chris Pollack*

American police officers who feel we receive far too little firearms training are sometimes amazed to find out that our counterparts around the world generally receive even less. The “modern technique” as espoused by Jeff Cooper is not debated in places where no one ever heard of it. Even knowing that, I was not prepared for the answer when I asked Russian police officer Mikhail Trusov how much firearms training Russian police recruits received.

“Three hours,” he said.

Mikhail’s English, while much better than my Russian (I can say “nyet”), is only a little better than passable, so I asked again. He assured me it was only three hours.

Mikhail, however, really likes to shoot, and thanks to Sturm, Ruger and Company, he got the chance. Mikhail was the first foreign police officer to visit the United States as part of the Ruger International Law Enforcement Fellowship Exchange. The plan is to bring one foreign police officer each year to spend several months in the United

States visiting different police departments to study U.S. methods and equipment.







During the two weeks Mikhail spent with the Phoenix Police Department, he had the opportunity to spend at least a day with many different units including uniformed patrol, air patrol, General Investigations detectives, and Street Crimes Unit's undercover officers.

The high point of the visit for a guy who likes to shoot, however, was his participation in the Phoenix Combat Classic, a pistol match sponsored annually by the Phoenix P.D. Pistol Team. Using a borrowed Glock, Mikhail took home the first trophy given for high international shooter.

After the match, he told me it was very good training, saying "This will save our lives."

Mikhail works in Noginsk, a city of 150,000 located 30 miles from Moscow. One day while shopping in Phoenix, Mikhail commented that in America guns were "very free." He added, "In my country only criminals have guns." I told him that in certain political subdivisions of the U.S., that was true also.

Mikhail also spent two weeks riding with the Arizona Highway Patrol and two weeks with the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office. Thus, he was exposed to law enforcement in three different jurisdictions that ranged from rural to America's ninth largest city. He also visited the Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy at Quantico. Ruger paid all expenses for the trip, and Mikhail lived with police officers while visiting their departments.



**Photo Descriptions:**

(Opposite page top) Match Official Dean Keller looks on as Trusov and other competitors fire the standard exercises stage at the Phoenix Combat Classic.

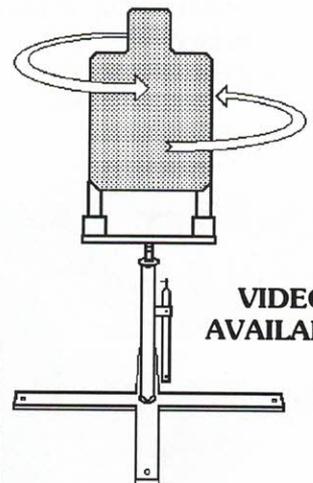
(Opposite page bottom) Match Official Dean Keller scores Trusov's target at the Phoenix Combat Classic.

(This page left) Using a borrowed Glock, Mikhail gave it a try and seems pleased with the results.

(This page right) Phoenix PD officer Kevin Pray explains the Weaver stance to Mikhail at the precinct indoor range.

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# Long Island Regional Attracts A Crowd

by Mike Boyle

The best mechanism for showcasing what IALEFI has to offer and attracting new members to the organization remains the Regional Training Conference. Nowhere is this more evident than eastern Long Island, New York, where President Mike Beckley recently staged his fifth such extravaganza this year. Seventy-two attendees from six states took part in the two day conference held on May 24th & 25th.

The format differed from previous conferences in that a supplementary program designed primarily for agency and firearms program administrators was also conducted at a nearby hotel. As in past years, the hands-on portion of the conference was held at the International Rescue and Training Consultants facility in Westhampton Beach. Training ran well into the evening on both days and the enthusiasm of both students and instructors did not seem to fade despite the late hours.

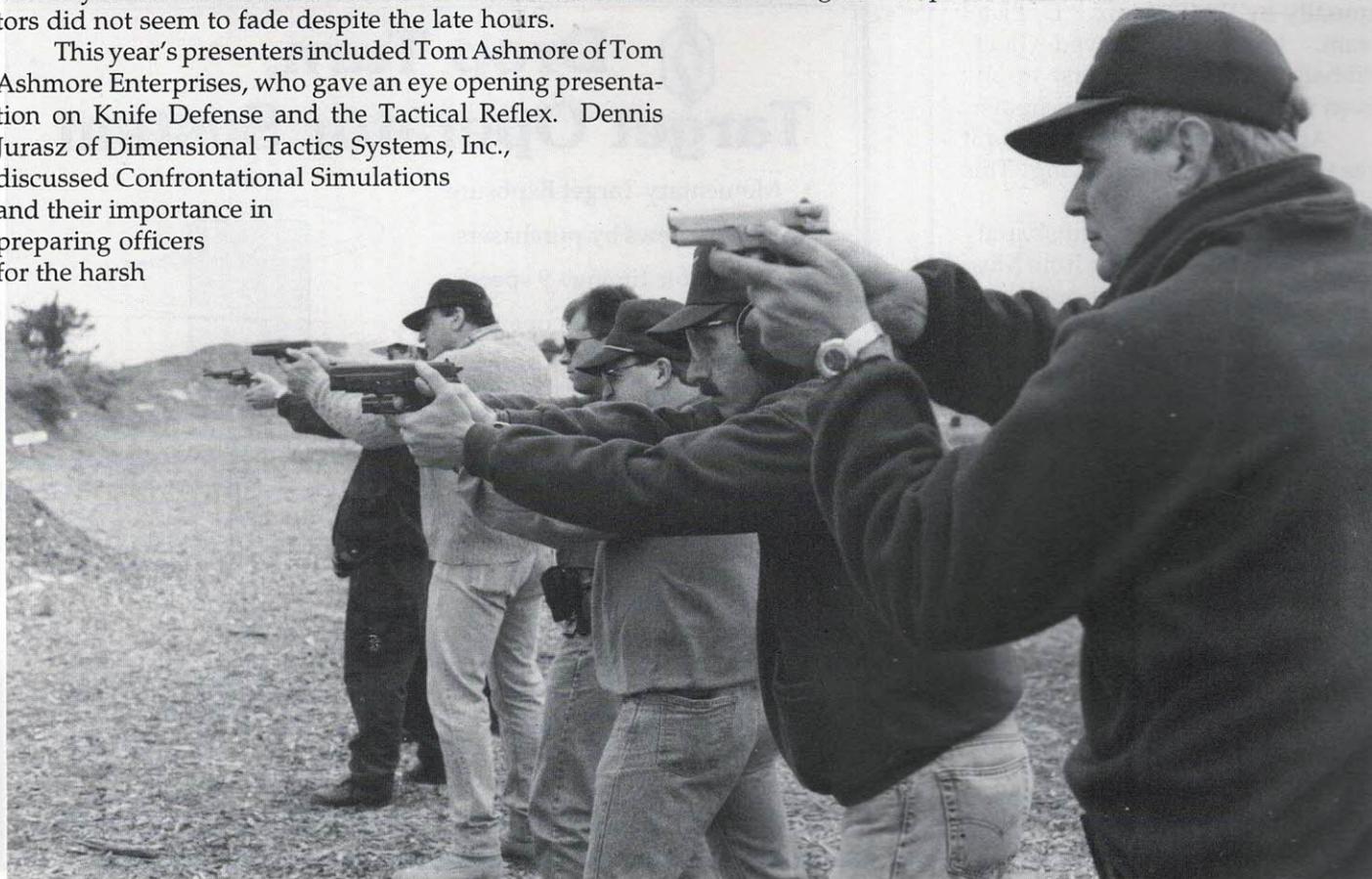
This year's presenters included Tom Ashmore of Tom Ashmore Enterprises, who gave an eye opening presentation on Knife Defense and the Tactical Reflex. Dennis Jurasz of Dimensional Tactics Systems, Inc., discussed Confrontational Simulations and their importance in preparing officers for the harsh

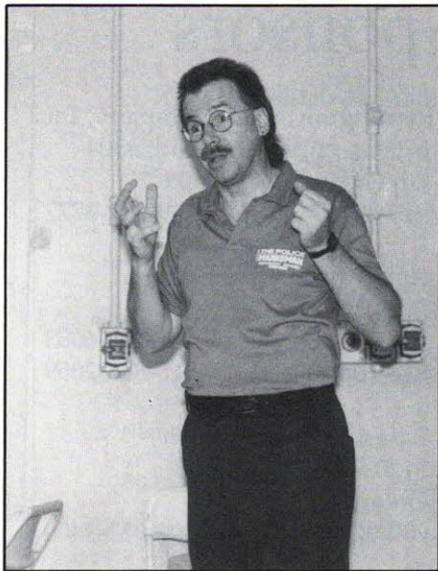
realities of the street. Dennis was followed by Ken Murray, Training Consultant for Simunition of Ottawa, Ontario. Ken not only had some innovative products to demonstrate, but students also participated in a number of realistic scenarios which ran well into the evening.

Bill Burroughs and George Harris of Sigarms Academy ran a pair of sessions on Lethal Crisis Management. This particular class ran in high gear from morning until nearly 11:00 p.m. on both evenings and provided a wealth of information. Students needed every one of the 500 rounds they were asked to bring.

At the Holiday Inn across town, featured speakers included

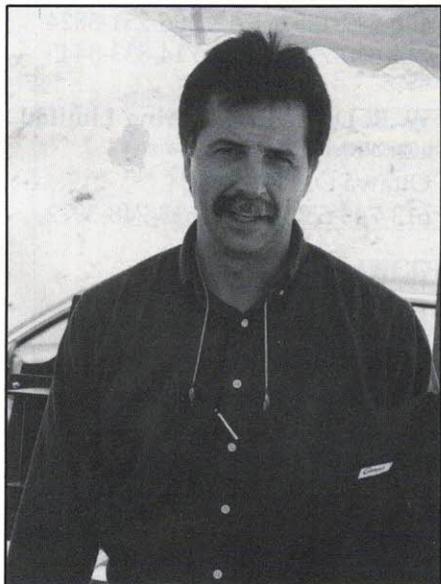
James Garside, Commanding Officer of the Nassau County Police Academy and Manny Kapelsohn of the Peregrine Corporation.





Jim Garside gave a most interesting presentation on Police Use of Force and Justification. Equally well received was Manny Kapelsohn's talk on Firearms Related Responsibility: Documentation of Training and Written Firearms Policy. Manny's background as a trial attorney gives him a unique insight into this very critical issue.

We were also fortunate to have a number of IALEFI sponsors and supporters displaying as well. They included Point Blank Body Armor, Colt, Lawmen Supply Company of New Jersey, L&R Manufacturing, Eastern Sales and Sentry Solid Lubricants. Lieutenant Al Baker, NYPD (Ret.) of American Body Armor also gave an informative presentation to



the group on tactical armor. Our hats are off to these folks for taking a little time to fill us in on their product lines.

As indicated earlier, Regional Conferences remain the key to spreading the word. In a given year, only a small percentage of the membership is able to get away to the Annual Training Conference, so much can be

said for the Regional format as a forum for exchange of ideas. All it takes is getting up and doing something about it, and if you haven't considered sponsoring one, maybe its about time you did.

As of this writing, another Regional is scheduled for New Jersey on October 21 and 22, 1993. Watch *The Firearms Instructor* for further details.

**Photo Descriptions:**

(Opposite page inset) Bill Burroughs and George Harris of Sigarms Academy conducted a most intensive program at the Long Island Regional. Students were exposed to a number of innovative techniques including shooting while seated.

(Opposite page bottom) The Sigarms staff also provided some new perspectives on weapon presentation and ready positions. Everyone who attended walked away with something to add to their bag of tricks.

(This page top left) Dennis Jurasz makes a point during his class on Confrontational Simulations.

(This page bottom left) Charlie Butera of Point Blank Body Armor was on hand to answer questions on the new Genesis Series vest. We are grateful to Charlie and the other supporters who were in attendance.

(This page top center) Board Member Tony Januzelli did a bang up business selling IALEFI memorabilia.

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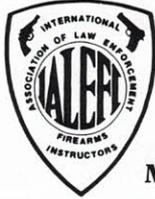
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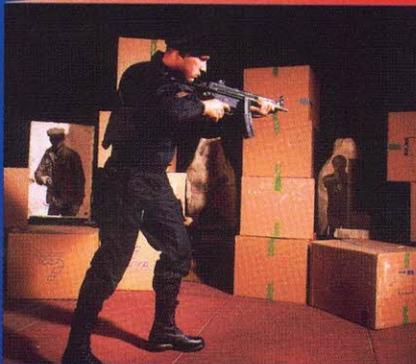
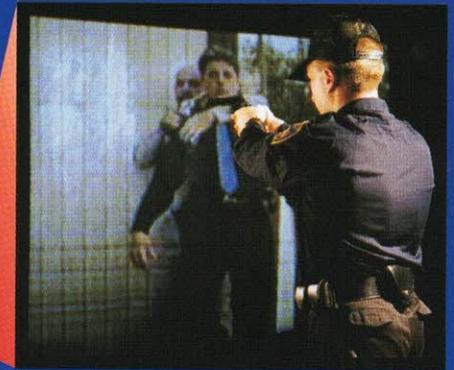
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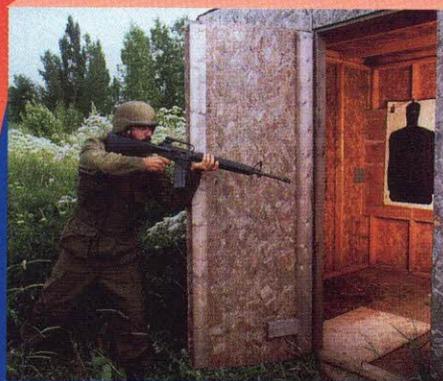
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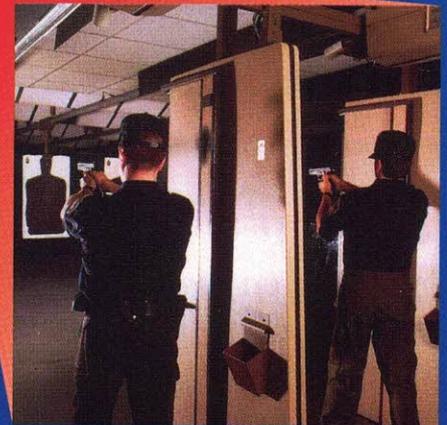
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