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SWORD and **PEN**

Official Newsletter of the International Combat Martial Arts Federation (ICMAF) and the Academy of Self-Defense

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www.americancombato.com www.seattlecombatives.com

Editorial

Self-Teaching Materials

And How To Make The Most of Them

WE now offer a pretty comprehensive array of self-teaching materials for those who either find that they are unable to train under a qualified close combat and self-defense teacher or that they really enjoy their classical/traditional or competition training, yet wish to bolster and supplement it so that — should an actual emergency arise — they will be able to handle it with confidence and with the finest *combat* techniques available. And while the following will be expanded upon significantly in the months and years

ahead, we urge *anyone* who is serious about developing real world close combat and defense skills and mindset to avail himself of

• Our 11-DVD self-teaching Course in *American Combato (Jen•Do•Tao)*. This is the *only* legitimate and authentic presentation of the skills in our System. It provides a condensed but complete approach to personal self-protection with bare hands, stick, and knife. It is the next best thing to taking personal instruction with us, and if you really want to learn hardcore, practical, serious personal combatives and individual self-protection that *works*, we urge you to obtain and work with this Course! There is material sufficient for anywhere between one and two years' *hard* training and study . . . if you take the lessons seriously and *learn what is presented*. No flash, no sizzle, no acrobatic nonsense or flashy, classical showmanship. These are **war-proven** techniques. Our System is based of an *offensive, preemptive* core philosophy and methodology, upon which foundation we go on to instruct in practical *defensive* or **counterattacking** techniques which back up and support the aggressive, offense-based curriculum.

This DVD Course is presented in a way that *teaches you carefully*, rather than attempting to dazzle or impress you with actions that are done so quickly you can't follow them.

• Our Self-Hypnosis Programs. There will be at **least** 20 individual programs — maybe more. Probably no one needs all 20; but if you will select the two, three, or perhaps four programs that address specific problems, concerns, or stumbling blocks — possibly *weaknesses* — in your own mental preparedness for close combat and self-defense, and then order and <u>work as</u> <u>we instruct</u> on the self-hypnosis programs you select, you will be amazed at how your mental preparedness is sharpened, honed, and elevated to heights you probably never thought were achievable. *Hypnosis is* "weight training for the mind". It offers, to borrow a phrase from Sigmund Freud's description of the meaning of dreams, a "royal road to your unconscious" and what is perhaps the single most powerful and speedy way of programming the human mind that exists. *Used in conjunction with the DVD Course, you will be able to develop the best skills and the highest level of mental conditioning for combat and self-defense*. • Our Combat Training Lectures. These lectures offer you the opportunity to learn a wealth of valuable insights, tips, suggestions, guidelines, and **facts** about the realities of individual self-defense, unarmed and armed close combat, physical readiness, tactics, and attitude. They enable the individual who cannot attend our group classes, where similar instruction always accompanies technical drill and practice, to benefit from serious, honest, straight-from-the-shoulder, no-nonsense doctrine that has been acquired by us over more than 55 years involvement in this field! You will want to listen to these lectures again and again . . . and you are sure to realize that with every listening you gain something new. These lectures are outstanding supplementary learning aids to the DVD Course.

• Our instructional book on weight training: *The Complete Guide to Effective Barbell Training*. This book has been a sought-after classic in the physical training field since it went out of print in the late 1970's. Now finally available in a high quality reprint edition, it enables you to learn the truth about **sane** bodybuilding and the use of weights to build all-round physical excellence — strength, agility, health, toughness, and total fitness — *without* being misled by the nonsense appearing in mainstream magazines, and in so many of the absurd present-day books and courses on the subject. *This book is perfect for those wishing to use weight training in conjunction with their close combat and self-defense work!*

• Our exclusive book on *Mental Conditioning For Close Combat and Self-Defense*, and other material on quality CD's offer still more for the self-teaching student of these disciplines.

All you need do is avail yourself of these materials and USE THEM persistently and seriously, and you cannot fail to achieve the goals that you desire!

Some have asked us this question: "Why, when you run a School where you offer personal instruction, do you produce all of these materials that enable people, in essence, to train without going to you, personally?" The answer is simple. We *LOVE* what we do and what we have been involved in for all of our life. We know that for some people it is a hardship to travel to my School in Washington State or to Prof. Bryans' School, in Arizona. We also know that an awful lot of decent people **need** this training — today more than ever before in our Nation's history. This is why we do it. For a *fraction* of the cost of live instruction, disciplined individuals who reside in other cities and states, and in other countries, *now have the chance to acquire authentic physical, tactical, technical, and mental training that could easily be responsible for saving their lives, one day. Possibly the lives of those they love.* For those who have come to realize that the "school of self-defense" they are attending is teaching them *nothing* of serious value, **here** is the chance to learn what you want and what you need to know *without* feeling depressed because no school of quality that focuses on selfdefense exists where you live.

Yes! we *do* want more personal students. So does Prof. Bryans. But our mission is to teach and to spread our System and methods of effective, reliable mental and physical training for <u>all</u> who want and need it. We do not "churn out instructors or black belts" so as to set up a nationwide chain of incompetently run, diluted "schools" where teachers having had — at best — but a few years training, now presume to instruct a self-defense seeking public in skills that they are not <u>professionally</u> qualified to teach.

We strive to link up with people who, although not teaching our System, are nevertheless top quality men in the field. Men like John Perkins, Tom Saviano, Tony Vanella, Jim Harrison, and so on . . . and we *gladly* refer people who live near these excellent teachers to attend their schools. But still there is a great need for instructional materials to reach those who are isolated to train alone. **We aim to provide it!**

The plain truth is that while it is *best* to obtain qualified, professional instruction in a subject (i.e. self-defense skills) upon which so much — even life itself — may depend one day, it is quite *possible* and *practical* to opt for self-teaching and independent training *if the materials that you obtain*

actually do teach worthwhile skills, and if they have been prepared by a professional in a manner that is intended to enable self-instruction. And, of course, the **BIG "IF"**: <u>If you will use and work consistently</u> with those materials in a disciplined, assiduous, consistent manner!

And that's it, really. The way in which you make the most of self-teaching materials is to use them <u>consistently</u>, putting in *real effort* — physically and mentally — to make that which is taught and presented **a genuine**, **permanent part of yourself**.

There was a time in the past when, short of learning from a professional, close combat, self-defense, weaponry, physical training, mental conditioning, and tactical survival could only be learned from accessing the relatively few *authentic* books and manuals on the subject. (In fact we advocate strongly that serious students *continue to collect and to use the really good printed sources that exist*; they contain excellent material.) However, today, with the advent first of videotapes — and now DVD's — and the use of modern audio recordings — i.e. CD's — it is quite possible to approach the benefits of live, professional training via these mediums.

In this (*Sword & Pen* on www.americancombato.com, each month) <u>and</u> on our other site, www.seattlecombatives.com, every month, there is an ongoing wealth of FREE instruction, suggestions, tips, information, and encouragement provided for all who wish to avail themselves of it. We not only post new articles and book reviews on www.seattlecombatives.com as frequently as *twice* a month, but that site also contains a gold mine of material which has been posted during all of the years of its existence, and remains freely accessible by scrolling to the bottom of each section's page and clicking on "previous posts"! WE WANT YOU TO LEARN; WE WANT TO HELP YOUR LEARN! AND YOU <u>CAN</u> LEARN, EVEN IF OBTAINING PERSONAL INSTRUCTION IS NOT FEASIBLE FOR YOU. Remember: quality DVDs, audio programs, and printed materials are *far superior* for learning close combat and self-defense than are schools and teachers who focus upon classicism, sport, or whose teachers may be more well-intentioned than professionally qualified. The fact is that you *can* learn practical, war-proven close combat and selfdefense techniques, *and* you now can acquire the proper degree of mental conditioning **on your own**.

The big question is: "Will you make the effort, and will you invest in yourself in order to accomplish to task?"

Bradley J. Steiner

Be sure to check out our DVD Home study Course in Close Combat and Self-Defense; our powerful Self-Hypnosis Programs for Mental Conditioning, Our Recorded Lectures, and our Written Materials — all Described in This Newsletter, and on our Other Web Site:

www.seattlecombatives.com Start Really Training For Defense of Yourself and Those You Love!

If You Are Ever Attacked

You Had Better Assume The Worst!

THERE persists the notion that self-defense may often be accomplished by simply demonstrating, with relatively little application of force that, one had

best *not* be messed with. And while it may certainly be true that a percentage of *pests* may be deterred by mild applications of force, it is certainly *NOT* true that proper self-defense training ought to emphasize a plethora of "control holds", cute tricks that inflict noninjurious pain, and "self-defense" techniques that break holds, dodge blows, and cause handshake-squeezers to let go — all without crippling or otherwise severely injuring one's opponent.

If you wish to learn parlor tricks and live in a world of supreme fantasy, that is certainly your privilege. But if you want to be able to *defend yourself* or to *dispatch an enemy in battle*, then give up the idea that you can acquire the ability that you need by studying cream puff techniques. *Violent criminal attackers are dangerous in the extreme. So are <u>all</u> violent troublemakers, bullies, and smartasses who just love to target victims for torment. Such scum demands rough treatment; and only persons who are prepared to dish it out <i>the second that they become victims* stand any reasonable chance of surviving and escaping serious injury or death.

Read the papers. Watch the news online. *Speak* to people who have experienced being victims. Speak to police officers, if you know any. *Read non fiction books about violent crime and what these manifestations of breathing filth have inflicted upon innocent victims!* Talk to someone who has been pushed around, bullied, and been physically abused. All of this will give you a nuts-and-bolts understanding of just what it is that you *really* are up against if and when you are ever so unfortunate as to be attacked and set upon by a physical aggressor. And, often, it is *more than one* aggressor. *Predatory animals often attack in packs*.

Our personal attitude toward *annoying* persons who we know and who initiate mild forms of physical harassment is to **walk away**. We try never to associate with or to permit ourself to be exposed to brainless human garbage who delight in physically bothering people. However, it sometimes can happen. When it does, *to repeat*, **so long as we know that the pest is not dangerous, but is merely a typical pain-in-the-ass** we refrain from any physical reaction. *Not* because we do not want to injure a physical pest, but because we do not want to escalate a situation and then find that we need to

seriously harm the worthless jackass. We don't want the legal trouble. We don't want to exert ourself. We simply *disengage*.

In any situation where, because we are *not* certain that the fool who is attempting to bother us is completely benign, we act and act fast. We **stop** him. Decisively. *And we are not concerned with his welfare. We are concerned only with <u>our own</u>. Or with the welfare of anyone whom we must take action to defend.*

Violence is not to be played with. It is serious business.

Unless you are a completely dedicated expert (i.e. advanced black belt, or equivalent) whose goal in part is to teach, you can **forget about** "low level force" options. Only a police officer or security professional had any need of those skills, and it may one day be desirable for you to be able to teach such techniques to a law enforcement officer. That's fine. *But do not, for heaven's sake, delude yourself into believing that such techniques are suitable for self-defense!* They are **NOT!**

Violent criminal offenders of every kind and in every city on the planet leave victims dead or maimed. These predators have no regard for human life, and no respect for any victim's dignity or well being. The only thing that these **monsters are motivated by is the desire to GET OR DO WHAT THEY WANT, and then to GET AWAY WITH HAVING DONE IT**. They are not worried about a victim who "knows karate" or who has picked up a few tricks of self-defense in a weekend seminar. *These monsters are tough, experienced, and well prepared to do whatever it takes to take their victim's life, or to leave him crippled . . . <u>so long as they achieve their objective and then get away</u>.*

When you find yourself confronted by such a creature your one and only concern should be: *Stop this monster and prevent him from doing harm!*

Mind-reading is not a part of martial arts training (*legitimate* martial arts training, that is), and even the finest programs in practical close combat and

self-defense cannot enable you to discern the **intentions** and the **capabilities** of anyone who attacks you. That is why in *American Combato*, as in all of the programs taught by our Associate Teachers, violent offenders are dealt with very, very severely. As realists we **appreciate** that we are not supermen, and that if we are to survive we really do need to manage the prevailing crisis with a serious level of force.

Please get that message through your head, in case whatever instruction you have had or are now receiving has not **hammered** it home!

We recall with a certain degree of amusement something that occurred about a year ago. A gentleman ordered our DVD Course and invited a friend of his (who is a black belt in a traditional martial art) to watch a few of the DVDs with him. "Oh, man," the black belt friend said after watching the first DVD, "those kinds of techniques can *really* maim someone — maybe even kill him!" The gentleman who had ordered the DVDs in order to learn selfdefense was amazed. "Well," he said, "I want this for self-defense. I'm only going to use it if I'm in danger. I *want* the ability to damage an attacker severely!" The black belt shook hs head. "Look, I can use blocks and I can avoid an attacker and then use controlled force without causing serious injury. I would *never* use Steiner's stuff. That's for *war*!"

Well, the black belt was right about one thing. Our techniques *are* "for war". They are suitable for a literal war, or for the microcosmic "war" that one may find himself obliged to fight — and to **win** — in self-defense.

Unfortunately, classical/traditional and sporting/competitive techniques, tactics, and attitude *SIMPLY ARE NOT SUFFICIENT OR RELIABLE* for real world combat, when your life is at stake. War-proven skills and the warrior's mindset *ARE*; and it is *this* that must be acquired.

Never assume that *any* attack against you is less than potentially lethal. Never try to "control" or to "arrest" anyone who attacks you. Control and arrest is the responsibility of law enforcement officers, *not* of private citizens acting in self-defense.

You will have **one single chance** to defend yourself or to protect a loved one in a real attack. Use that one chance well; use it to your advantage.

ALWAYS ASSUME THAT YOUR ATTACKER IS DANGEROUS, CAPABLE, AND DETERMINED. <u>THEN USE YOUR SKILL,</u> <u>STRENGTH, AND MENTAL FOCUS TO STOP HIM</u>. Anything less amounts to playing a kind of "Russian roulette". And you do *not* want to play such a game!

DVD Course NOW AVAILABLE! (You Can Learn Self-Defense and Close Combat At Home!)

The First and Only Complete Self-Defense and Close Combat Course in American Combato (Jen·Do·Tao) on High Quality DVDs!

Eleven carefully prepared professional instructional DVDs describe and demonstrate the most practical, powerful, reliable, and authentic skills of no-nonsense realistic and war-proven unarmed and armed hand-tohand combat methodology and personal defense developed since WWII! This Course,

describing methods from that System developed in the early 1970's by Bradley J. Steiner, which crystalized into the American Combato (Jen·Do·Tao)[™] all-in modern close combat/self-defense martial art in 1975, will teach you how to defend yourself and those you love in any situation! Some of these methods have been copied, imitated, and pirated during the last 25 years, but a complete self-defense course derived directly from the original and authentic System - and the only authorized presentation of American Combato — is now available for home study. All of the techniques, all of the theory, and all of the mental conditioning and related doctrine in these DVDs is presented by the System's originator, Prof. Bradley J. Steiner, himself. Like Fairbairn, Sykes, Applegate, O'Neill, Brown, Begala, and Biddle in the second world war — from whose lineage this modern Martial Art is a direct descendant — Prof. Steiner clearly, simply, and plainly instructs in real world, lifesaving combatives doctrine.

You can order any of the eleven DVDs individually, or you can purchase the entire Course, in which case you pay for only ten DVDs. You receive one FREE!

Each DVD contains the equivalent instruction normally given in four to eight private lessons. This Course is the equivalent of at least 50 private lessons with Prof. Steiner, personally! And you can review this instruction again and again, and save the DVDs for your children to study when they are old enough.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!:—

The system of martial arts presented in these DVDs is not a "traditional" or "classical" martial art.

These DVDs, and the information, and techniques contained within should not be taught, shown, or divulged to anyone under 18 years of age.

Due to the serious nature and lethality of the techniques shown, no one under 18 should be instructed in the techniques.

Due to potential serious injury or death, minors under the age of 18 should not be allowed to purchase or view the techniques demonstrated on the DVD's and in the system.

Minors lack the proper judgment and emotional restraint and discipline and should not be entrusted with the techniques contained herein. Please utilize the techniques only in those situations where you would utilize a lethal weapon, similar to using a firearm, an improvised or edged weapon.

Please keep DVDs in a safe place out of the reach of minors, similar to safekeeping of firearms.

Contents:—

DVD #1 FUNDAMENTALS

- How to stand, move, distance, and position yourself
- The combat color code
- Attack mindedness
- Evasive footwork
- How to shield
- "Fairbairn's Four" —

The chinjab smash, the handaxe chop, the tiger's claw, and the side kick. All clearly explained and demonstrated so that anyone with no prior experience in any martial art can understand and develop the skills! These are the first four of *American Combato's* 16 Key Blows (originally regarded by W.E. Fairbairn as the "most essential" basic blows, comprising a complete mini-system of personal hand-to-hand combat, once mastered).

DVD#2 BASIC BLOWS

• Continuing from "Fairbairn's Four", this powerful presentation completes your lessons in the remaining 12 Key Blows — the most practical and effective blows — in unarmed close combat.

- The straight heelpalm
- The knee attack
- The front kick
- The elbow smash
- The fingertips *thrust*

- The fingertips jab
- The snap kick
- The backfist-forearm smash
- The hammerfist-forearm smash
- The basic straight punch
- The ear box
- The throat lock

DVD#3 ATTACK COMBINATIONS - FIRST SERIES

• Powerful and devastatingly effective combinations of attacking actions which are adaptable to an infinite number of situations and emergency circumstances. These attack combinations utilize the Key Blows, and include additional offensive unarmed combat actions and tactics. which enable you to infinitely combine, and improvise limitless sequences and applications of ferocious attacks of your own.

This DVD focuses on attack combinations leading with *HANDAXE CHOPS* and *THRUSTING ACTIONS*, the first two categories of "attack combinations" in *American Combato*.

In this and the next DVD you will learn more combinations of each type than you would ever possibly need.

DVD#4 ATTACK COMBINATIONS - SECOND SERIES

• Completing a well-balanced, comprehensive curriculum in vicious, unconventional, yet simple and readily applicable attacking sequences which enable the practitioner to overwhelm and disable any assailant. These combinations continue to expand your capability with the Key Blows and with other actions and tactics, and turn you into a dangerous, unpredictable, offensive combatant in close quarters combat. You'll be an expert at taking the battle into the enemy's camp and *attacking your attacker!* This DVD trains you in *DISTRACTING LEAD ATTACKS, KICKING LEADS, and MISCELLANEOUS LEADS*.

DVD#5 *COUNTERATTACKING THE UNARMED FRONTAL ASSAILANT*

• No realistic close combat system is worthwhile unless the matter of *counterattacking* (i.e. reacting to attacks which you have been unable to

preempt) is covered. In this DVD you will learn:

- How to immediately react with devastating and decisive force against any grabbing type attack from the front
- How to break holds that attackers might apply if they catch you off guard
- How very simply to counter punching or kicking attacks

DVD#6 COUNTERING THE UNARMED REAR ATTACK

• Attacks from behind are *deadly*. Learn first and foremost to guard against leaving access to your rear. However, if caught unaware, learn

- How to counter sudden grabbing attacks from behind
- How to counter holds that may be applied from behind

DVD#7 COUNTERING KNIFE AND CLUB ATTACKS

• The proper tactics and mental ploys applicable to these situations is emphasized. Technically, you will be taught

- How to deal with knife *threats*, from varying positions
- How to save your life if attack by an adversary who is determined to slash or to stab you with a knife
- How to counter overhand club attacks
- How to counter the backhand club or baseball bat swing

DVD#8 COUNTERING HANDGUN AND SHOULDER WEAPON THREATS

• Obviously these, like knife and club attacks, are *deadly* threats and only the simplest, most basic and reliable methods should be studied. No weapon "takeaways" or complicated nonsense here! These are commando type actions and will work under the most adverse conditions. Intended to save lives — not your wallet.

- Frontal handgun threats
- Side handgun threats
- Rear handgun threats
- Frontal shoulder weapon threats

— Side shoulder weapon threats

— Rear shoulder weapon threats

DVD#9 COUNTERING MULTIPLE ATTACKERS

• Key principles and tactics of countering more than a single aggressor

• The core *scenarios* and how to develop counterattacking capabilities against two or more attackers that *really work*.

DVD#10 HOW TO USE THE STICK FOR SELF-DEFENSE

- Basic stick techniques
- The *complete* Fairbairn stick method (beyond what is taught in *ALL-IN FIGHTING/GET TOUGH!*)
- The USMC's Kengla Technique
- Some advanced stickwork combinations
- How to use the yawara hand stick (for modern applications)

DVD#11 KNIFEWORK

• Psychological factors

• The universal grip (for stiletto and Bowie type knives, as well as for kitchen, utility, ad all other types of knives, and for improvised stabbing and cutting implements)

- Knife offense
- Defending yourself with a knife

The cost of each individual DVD is \$59.95 + **\$6.** shipping and handling (**\$20. postage and handling for foreign orders**)

If you purchase the complete 11-DVD Course you pay only for 10 DVDs, bringing the total cost to \$599.50. You get one DVD FREE. Add \$20. for **postage and handling (\$40. for foreign orders).** That's just under \$600. for \$7,500. worth of training!

All DVD purchases are of course nonrefundable.

Personal checks may take up to three to four weeks to clear, in some cases. For *immediate* shipment send cash, or a postal money order, bank

check or bank money order, payable to Brad Steiner. Send your order to:

Brad Steiner P.O. Box 15929 Seattle, Washington 98115 U.S.A.

You will want to study these DVDs again and again, as they are rich in content and packed with solid, reliable information and instruction!

In Praise Of Revolvers

"THE autopistol is the sidearm of the future. The revolver is antiquated."

Years ago (in the early 1970's, in fact) we heard a very well known gunwriter speak those words confidently. And, as one might expect, his followers smugly echoed his sentiments. *The autopistol will replace the outmoded "wheelgun"*.

Well, here we are well into in the century following the one in which that bit of nonsense was first promulgated, and guess what? The revolver is quite as popular and as "current" as it ever was. *And it ought to be*. The quality revolver is not only as effective a weapon as it always has been, it actually offers a few advantages for some individuals over the semiautomatic pistol.





AT THE TOP IS THE JUSTIFIABLY FAMOUS SMITH AND WESSON MODEL 10 (MILITARY & POLICE) .38 SPECIAL REVOLVER. THIS WAS ONE OF THE STANDARD ISSUE WEAPONS OF THE NYPD, IN THE 1950'S AND 60'S. BELOW IS A ROUND BUTT, SUB-NOSED VERSION OF THE MODEL 10. SMITH & WESSON'S EXTREMELY POPULAR CHIEFS REVOLVER IS A 5-SHOT, SOMEWHAT SMALLER VERSION OF THE MODEL 10 SNUBBY, AND IS A *GREAT* CONSTANT CARRY SELF-DEFENSE HANDGUN.

ALTHOUGH POOH-POOHED BY THE MAJORITY OF THOSE WHO CONSIDER THEMSELVES "PISTOLEROS", THE PROVEN, BASIC .38 SPECIAL REVOLVER OF QUALITY MANUFACTURE IS A NEAR PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE ARM FOR MANY. (FOR ANYONE DESIRING MORE PUNCH THAN THE .38 SPECIAL, THE OLD MODEL 13 — IDENTICAL TO THE MODEL 10, SAVE FOR CALIBER — IS A GREAT CHOICE. SIMPLE, RUGGED, RELIABLE — A *GREAT* SELF-DEFENSE WEAPON).

Revolvers are extremely reliable. And while quality semi-autos that are correctly handled and properly maintained are also extremely reliable, *many people who need and want a defensive pistol do not have the interest in weapons to attend to their "proper maintenance"*. Or to mastering what is to some people, their greater intricacies on handling. "I just want a gun for an emergency," some will say. "I'm not going to go to the range regularly, compete in shooting events, or get serious about collecting firearms or reading about them." *Sacrilege* to gun nuts, no doubt; **but not at all uncommon amongst everyday, normal, decent people**.

Revolvers are not ammunition sensitive. Semiautos frequently are. That is a fact, and a lot of people who need a defensive sidearm *do not want to bother having their weapon modified in order to accommodate special ammo*. They simply want to obtain powerful factory ammunition for their weapon, load it, and rest assured that it will *fire* and *function* when needed.

Revolvers may be, for some persons, the only type of handgun that they are comfortable operating. Racking a slide is *not* within the physical capacity of many diminutive women or of some frail or elderly people. Merely picking up a weapon, pointing it and firing, *is*.



THE COLT DETECTIVE SPECIAL, ABOVE. THIS UTTERLY RELIABLE, COMBAT-PROVEN 6-SHOT .38 SPECIAL SNUBBY IS A FINE CHOICE FOR PERSONAL PROTECTION.

And even in cases where a person is an avid shooter, physically formidable, and quite willing to learn and follow any technicalities, *a good revolver may be a "best choice"*. What comes to mind is firing a sidearm while on board a vessel. Having empty cases kicked out and strewn about on the deck may present a hazard; and then there may be other instances when the shooter simply does not want to have ejected cases to deal with.

Don't miss the advantages of revolvers! They are certainly not "better than semiautos", but neither are semiautos better than revolvers. Each type of handgun has its advantages and disadvantages. And the serious student of close combat will recognize this, and make arms selections accordingly.

What about the limited ammunition capacity of revolvers, compared to the much greater ammunition capacity of semiautos?

If for any reason a large ammunition capacity is important to you, then certainly a semiautomatic pistol will offer an advantage that a revolver cannot match. *But the truth is, for <u>self-defense</u>, a high ammunition capacity is rarely if ever important*.

The average number of rounds that is expended in a situation in which a handgun is fired in self-defense is **three rounds**. *Three* rounds, not 10, 13, 15, or 18. Only **3**. Thus it is obvious that ammunition capacity is, for a personal defense sidearm, practically beside the point. The little 5-shot S&W snubbies are quite adequate . . . as far as *how many rounds* they carry is concerned . . . for a close range self-defense emergency.

Granted that revolvers are *not* always the "best choice" in handgun type for all needs. *But neither are autopistols*; and that is the message we wish to convey. It is utter foolishness to suppose that revolvers are "antiquated", "obsolete", or "inferior to autopistols", as too many zealots keep saying. **Both types of handgun serve important purposes and fill very definite shooter requirements.**

If you are in need of a defensive handgun make sure that you consider *all of the facts*. You must not be swayed by the "experts" who pump out their opinions and proclamations in the newsstand "gun magazines". *REAL* combat experts and experienced combatants know that one does not limit oneself by adhering to senseless dogmatism. *And the rhetoric that appears in print, no less than the "teachings" that are offered in so many shooting schools, classes, and courses, so often amounts precisely to*

that: senseless dogmatism.

Autopistols are probably most realistically suitable for military combat challenges, as well as for those who *enjoy* weapons and *like* to work and train with their personal arms. For many people, however, the quality revolver is often not merely an "acceptable" choice; they constitute the <u>best</u> choice.

We do not say this because we personally "prefer" revolvers. We don't! We *prefer* the .45 Colt automatic. We are being objective and we are honestly presenting that which out training, knowledge, and experience has proven to us to be the **TRUTH**.

POSTSCRIPT (While we're on the subject of *guns*):—

Exactly What We Told People Each Month For 9-1/2 Years

In Our Column In A Mainstream Gun Magazine (And What

Fairbairn, Sykes, And Applegate Told Them In The 1940's!)

BELOW QUOTED FROM ARTICLE IN: USA Today -5 January 2013:

"FBI focuses firearms training on close-quarters combat

"Dramatic shift in emphasis follows a review that found that 75% of shootings over 17 years involved suspects who were within 3 yards of agents.

"QUANTICO, Va. — The FBI has quietly broken with its longstanding firearms training regimen, putting a new emphasis on close-quarters combat to reflect the overwhelming number of incidents in which suspects are confronting their targets at pointblank range.

"The new training protocols were formally implemented last January after a review of nearly 200 shootings involving FBI agents during a 17-year period. The analysis found that 75% of the incidents involved suspects who were within 3 yards of agents when shots were exchanged.

"The move represents a dramatic shift for the agency, which for more than three decades has relied on long-range marksmanship training."

Note: The FBI, as the above segment of the news article clearly states, has been doing that ridiculous *"long-range marksmanship"* bullshit for "three decades". That is thanks to the so-called "new technique" crap, which was <u>not</u> a part of FBI training previously. The FBI — properly — emphasized the point shooting method *until* it became mesmerized by the inane nonsense touted by the Cooper crowd.

WE NOT ONLY "TOLD YOU SO"; WE'VE BEEN "TELLING YOU SO" SINCE THE 1980'S!

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Against Multiple Attackers

THERE are three types of physical attack that must *always* be regarded as deadly: 1) Armed attacks, 2) Attacks from behind, and 3) Attacks by more than a single assailant. This certainly does not mean that *any* given attack — regardless of how apparently mild or amateurish it may appear to be <u>*at first*</u> — is *not* deadly. Indeed, virtually any physical confrontation might well prove to be a life-threatening event. However, you can be **certain**, and you must adjust your training and your attitude to reflect this certainty, that any armed attack, attack from behind, or attack by more than one individual *IS* absolutely to be regarded as **deadly**. Period.

Briefly, there are *five general rules* for dealing with multiple adversaries. They are:

- SEIZE THE INITIATIVE
- REDUCE THE ODDS
- KEEP ON MOVING
- KEEP ON ATTACKING

• ESCAPE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Let's go over each of these so that they are clearly understood.

1. Seize the initiative.

Simply put this means **attack first**, whenever possible, in any situation where it is obvious to you that the two or more individuals whom you confront intend to attack you.

If you are legally armed then using a weapon against multiple attacking persons is highly recommended. *However*, do not attempt to access any sidearm unless distance, time, and space permits you to do so without running the risk of being overwhelmed *as you attempt to secure your weapon*. Better use other techniques that clear the way and provide you the opportunity to draw your weapon, than go for your weapon and be struck or seized while doing so, and *have the attackers get hold of your weapon, themselves*.

It is very unwise to permit two or more obviously hostile individuals who approach you to launch the first blow. *Go after them*. This will give you a slight advantage, enhancing the element of surprise which you'll want to capitalize upon in *any* dangerous situation. Pairs or groups of punks *do not expect to be attacked by their intended victim*. So . . . *attack them!*

Use the most vicious, destructive actions you are capable of using when you are outnumbered. And use them *right away*.

2. Reduce the odds.

If at all possible your first action should be a handaxe chop — full force!

— to one attacker's throat or carotid artery, or a knee breaking side kick, hard fingertips thrust to the eyes, or kick to the testicles. **Cancel one of the attackers out** *immediately*. This will have the result of reducing the odds against you by one, while at the same time shocking the remaining attacker(s), and giving you a psychological advantage.

3. Keep on moving.

Never stand still! Go into furious, aggressive action, *and keep on moving*. You are a very difficult target when moving, and the momentum you generate will optimize whatever actions *you* take.

4. Keep on attacking.

In any self-defense emergency you have the following choices: **Be Defensive** — **Do Not Resist** — **Attempt To Escape** — **Attack**.

Being defensive is always ineffective against two or more attackers, since you are always up against at least twice the number of arms and legs that you possess, and you lack the ability to move in two different directions at the same time.

Not resisting gets you killed.

Attempting to escape is an excellent option -IF you have the opportunity (which you *won't* have, at the moment of the attack).

Attacking relentlessly is the best option. Use no restraint and hold nothing back from application. Your life is at stake when you are outnumbered.

5. Escape as soon as possible.

Once you have created the opportunity to do so, *get the hell away from the area!* Do not hang around once the opening to get away offers. Only in the movies is it true that good guys always win.

Unfortunately, in present day urban settings, it is *normal* for the victim of a violent attack to be set upon by more than one attacker. Those who train in self-defense must face this fact and contend with the possibility by preparing for it.

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THE techniques of practical close combat and self-defense are simple and very easy to learn. But that certainly does not mean that *all you need to do in order to be capable of stopping an enemy in hand-to-hand combat is acquire the <u>knowledge</u> of how to do the techniques. "Learning how" is step number one. It is the easiest, the speediest, and the most comfortable step. After that, however, comes step number two: DEVELOPING FUNCTIONAL ABILITY WITH THAT WHICH YOU HAVE LEARNED.*

It is possible to teach someone the techniques of boxing within perhaps two hours — and a fast learner could probably learn it within one hour. However, it might take *years* of hard training and lots and lots of ring experience before anyone who has *learned* boxing is able to *do* it well enough to be a serious

contender.



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We have pointed this fact out very clearly in our DVD Course, and we always emphasize it to tour personal pupils: *it is only through training and practice that real ability and confidence can be developed*. So, whether to train under a qualified teacher or learn from DVDs, **YOU NEED TO**

PRACTICE AND THEN PRACTICE MORE if you are serious about becoming truly proficient.

It takes a lot less time and a lot less practice of realistic combatives (such as what we teach in *American Combato*) than it takes if you train in classical/traditional methods before you can expect to be able to actually <u>use</u> that which you are studying in any emergency. In point of fact we would say that **six months** of serious, regular, hard training in *American Combato* can easily equip a man for combat *far more reliably* than several *years* of training might do in a classical/traditional martial art. **Not** because our System is "better". It is *not*. But because our System is *different*, and is geared 100% to close combat and self-defense.

But you cannot develop proficiency and confidence with our System or with any other system <u>unless you put in hard hours of thought-</u> <u>intensive training</u>!

Our goal is to be comprehensive and honest in our presentation of material to *all* of our visitors — whether they are our personal students or not. We *know* how important practical defense ability s for people today, so **please** take our words to heart. **Train. Practice.** It is your only path to practical proficiency.

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