## WIN A DIRTY HARRY.44 MAG & ROBOCOP AUTO 9 >>>



TOP

GUNFIGHTING
LEGENDS

# BUILD YOUR OWN BEAST... Under \$1,000

### PLU5

- > SURVIVE BEING SHOT
- > GRID-DOWN REALITIES
- > TRUCK BED COVERS
- 'MERICA MERCH
- > 100 DEADLY SKILLS COMBAT EDITION
- > SCOPE TORTURE

SHARPS BROS. HEATSEEKER, RUGER AMERICAN, PULSAR THERMION XG50

# BIG-SCREEN ICONS

- DIRTY HARRY VS. ROBOCOP
  - 6 GREATEST COP FLICKS
    - UZIS IN THE MOVIES <

CENTURY'S

CLONE TO DIE FOR

ARE YOU READY FOR MINIGUN MANIA?



ATHLON PUBLICATIONS



HOLY
SHERP!
THE MOTHER OF ALL ATVS





# LOAD UP



very honest, red-blooded, law-abiding, gun-carrying citizen who purchased this issue believes that defending the U.S.

Constitution, ourselves and our loved ones, and the police is vital to the preservation of a free and civil society. We earnestly do all of those things by way of our First Amendment right, first and foremost, along with our Second Amendment right.

It's pathetic when we see activists attacking-verbally and physically-the finest men and women who swore oaths to protect and serve in our communities. It's sadder still to see media outlets and statist politicians propagandize while big-tech/big-business leaders silence and outright cancel conservative voices promoting law enforcement and 2A rights, and shedding light on the truth.

That was the "where we stand" part of this "Load Up" page. Here's where we're headed... As an homage to two of the most famous Hollywood police characters, we tasked the crew at Outlaw Ordnance to transform a stock S&W Model 29 into the ultimate Detective Dirty Harry Callahan commemorative pistol. One copper classic wasn't enough for our subsriber cover. Hell no! Editor-in-Chief Linas Cernauskas said, "Hey fellas, do you think you can recreate RoboCop's Auto 9 if we are able to have Taurus USA shake loose a working man-priced

PT92?" Outlaw's co-owners Nacho and Cheeto (see page 12 for their real names) shot back, "Send 'em. We're fully ready to report for Ballistic 'Custom Challenge' duty!" The kicker, both of the beauties will be awarded to two lucky winners at ballisticmag.com. Piggybacking onto the challenge, Alex Landeen answers the question: Who's the all-time, most badass bane of bad guys, Clint Eastwood's Harry Callahan or Peter Weller's Alex Murphy/ crime-fighting cyborg?

The cop and movie weapon fodder keep cruising with Jason Swarr (our editorial brother from Athlon Outdoors' Skillset mag) and his in-your-face take on the six greatest "Cuff 'Em & Stuff 'Em" flicks ever, plus Peter Suciu's historic look at box office UZIs and his must-read "Dirty Harry Trivia" piece. On the serious side, Massad Ayoob shines a spotlight on 10 legendary gunfighters and their timeless self-defense wisdom.

Like you, we gun magazine editors always love a good bargain. In the end, we're all blue-collar and self-reliant-minded. That's why we paired up the



Visit outdoorgroupstore. com to subscribe to Ballistic and order print and digital copies. Subscribe for a year and you'll save money to spend on things like guns.

Sharps Bros.' Heatseeker chassis with the budget-friendly Ruger American rifle for our newsstand cover. We couldn't resist topping it with Pulsar's latest Thermion XG50 scope. This rifle rig (less the glass) will only set you back \$1,000. That's a small price to pay for long-range competition or hunting precision.

Our edit and design team wants to share three final cop flick picks that didn't make this issue but are deemed worthy of mention. The Naked Gun series is one. We loved it when Detective Frank Drebin told the crowd watching the exploding fireworks factory, "Nothing to see, here. Please disperse." Plus, his oneliner, "Nice beaver," never gets old. Also, an action-thriller called End Of Watch, according to Cernauskas, is a real sleeper pick that is shot documentary-style. Last but definitely not least-Blazing Saddles. The quote that will live on forever: "Badges? We don't need no stinking badges."

Let's keep the guns, movie and culture conversation going. Email us via editdesk@athlonoutdoors.com. That's it for roll call. Enjoy the issue! -Nino Bosaz

We Stand Corrected: On page 80 of the Feb./March '21 issue, the correct web address for Ronin Arms is roninarms.com. In Survivor's Edge Spring '21 issue, we ran into a font issue on the "snake bite symptoms" diagram on page 112. Corrected text now lives on ballisticmag.com.

## ballistic

**EDITORIAL DIRECTOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** SENIOR EDITOR ART DIRECTOR/COVER DESIGN **PREMEDIA DIGITAL MANAGER EDITORIAL ASSISTANT** CIRCULATION CONSULTANT

Linas Cernauskas Mark Chesnut\* Rory Slifkin Franco Nguyen Matthew Hogan Richard Ortega Scott Hill/ProCirc Alex Landeen (handguns); Scott Conditt (rifle)\*

**EDITORIAL INQUIRIES** 

**COVER PHOTOS** 

editdesk@athlonoutdoors.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS/SINGLE COPIES 800-284-5668; subscriptions@athlonmediagroup.com

ballisticmag.com • tactical-life.com personaldefenseworld.com • realworldsurvivor.com

### **ATHLONOUTDOORS**

athlonoutdoors.com

SENIOR VP/ **GENERAL MANAGER** 

Nick Seifert

**ADVERTISING SALES** 

National Office 212-478-1910; sales@athlonoutdoors.com

### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVES

NORTHEAST REGION SOUTHEAST/UPPER MIDWEST **WESTERN REGION** MIDWEST/CENTRAL SOUTH

Scott Buchmayr; 978-462-6335 Amos Crowley; 216-378-9811 Scott J. Cherek; 307-635-8899 Dan Flavin; 248-515-8654

Jim Coen: 212-478-1949

**DIRECT RESPONSE ADS** SENIOR DIRECTOR, MARKETING & OPERATIONS

Carrie Roeder

DIGITAL SALES DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING DIRECTOR

Brock Norman

MARKETING COORDINATOR/ **ADMINISTRATOR** 

Maureen Pichner

### ATHLON MEDIA GROUP

**CORPORATE OFFICERS** 

Chuck Allen PRESIDENT, CEO

CFO/TREASURER Mary Lee Vanderkooi

**CORPORATE ADDRESSES NEW YORK:** 

60 E. 42nd St., Suite 820, NY, NY 10165; 212-478-1910

### **NASHVILLE:**

2451 Atrium Way, Suite 320 Nashville, TN 37214; 800-284-5668

ONLINE STORE: outdoorgroupstore.com

**TO THE READERS:** Be advised that there may be products represented in this magazine as to which the sale, possession or interstate transportation thereof may be restricted, prohibited or subject to special licensing requirements. Prospective purchasers should consult the local law enforcement authorities in their area. All of the information in this magazine is based upon the personal experience of individuals who may be using specific tools, products, equipment and components under particular conditions and circumstances, some or all of which may not be reported in the particular article and which this magazine has not otherwise verified. Nothing herein is intended to constitute a manual for the use of any product or the carrying out of any procedure or process. This magazine and its officers and employees accept no responsibility for any liability, injuries or damages arising out of any person's attempt to rely upon any information contained herein.

BALLISTIC® (ISSN 2573-0290) is published bimonthly by Athlon Sports Communications, Inc., 2451 Atrium Way, Suite 320, Nashville, TN 37214. Single copy price: \$9.95 U.S. and \$10.95 CAN. Subscriptions are six issues for \$32.97 per year in the U.S. Periodicals Postage paid at Nashville, TN, and at other additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send subscription requests to: Athlon Media Group, PO Box 292167, Kettering, OH 45429. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Ballistic, PO Box 292167, Kettering OH 45429. Submissions of manuscripts, illustrations and/ or photographs must be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The publisher assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material. Copyright © 2021 by Athlon Sports Communications, Inc. All rights reserved under international and Pan American Copyright Conventions. Reproduction in whole or in part, via electronic or any other means, without written permission of the publisher is strictly prohibited. Printed in the U.S.A. Volume 7 Issue 3. Ballistic Magazine adheres to the California Consumer Privacy Act of

2018. For more information about your rights as a California consumer or to opt out of the sale of your personal information, please visit

BallisticMag.com/ccpa.

# SEMIAUTOMATIC PEACE OF MIND

© 2021 O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc.

Mossberg MC1sc

Mossberg MC1sc

Agree Pass TV USA

O

MOSSBERG SINCE 1919

Personal defense begins with the knowledge that if danger should strike, you can effectively strike back. Enter the Mossberg\* MClsc\*Subcompact 9mm Pistol. Combining optimal reliability with superior ergonomics, the MClsc helps ensure that you'll be prepared and protected.

Learn more at Mossberg.com.



THE PREMIER FIREARMS & SURVIVA



### **FEATURES**

### 12 CUSTOM CHALLENGE Win two "Outlaw" blue line specials! Dirty Harry .44 Mag and RoboCop Auto 9 BY ALEX LANDEEN

### **26 DIRTY HARRY TRIVIA**

We're not just gonna let you walk out of here without this Callahan 411 BY PETER SUCIU

### **40** THE HEATSEEKER

Sharps Bros. chassis meets a Ruger American-build it for under \$1,000 BY SCOTT CONDITT

### **54 MINIGUN MANIA**

There's a new M134 maker in town, and we're here to unleash their beast BY FRED MASTISON

### **62** LIGHTS, CAMERA, UZIS

History of Hollywood's love affair with Israel's most iconic weapon BY PETER SUCIU

### **CENTURY ARMS AP5**

Has HK's MP5 finally met its match with Century's new CQB weapon? BY SEAN UTLEY

80 10 GUNFIGHT GREATS

> The time-proven wisdom of these legendary men must be passed on BY MASSAD AYOOB

### 88 SURVIVE A **GUNSHOT WOUND**

Treatment on the spot can mean the difference between life and death BY FRED MASTISON

APRIL/MAY 2021

### 94 **CUFF 'EM & STUFF 'EM**

Listen up! These six cop flicks have the right to remain awesome BY JASON SWARR

### **102 EPIC GRID FAILS**

Here's a reality check on how bad actors can send us to the dark ages BY JIM HENRY

### 114 DOWN UNDER DUO

Two new knives from Halfbreed show no weakness in their game BY JOSHUA SWANAGON

### **128 LATITUDE ADJUSTMENT**

Sightmark's new PRS scope goes for a ride it won't soon forget BY FRANK MELLONI

12





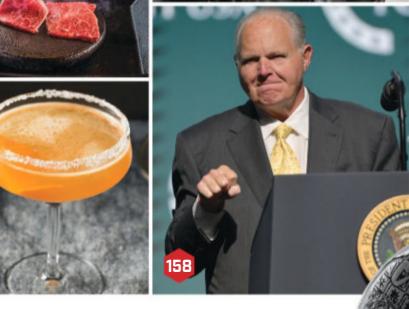


THE PREMIER FIREARMS & SURVIVAL MAGAZINE









### **DEPARTMENTS**

### **08** BREW HA HA

Meanderings of a modern cavalier BY FRANCIS MACOMBER

### 20 STOCKPILE

New and noteworthy editors' guns and gear picks

### 34 HOT AIR

Umarex makes our day with its S&W Model 29 .44 Magnum replica BY FRANK MELLONI

### **52 THE UNKNOWNS**

Two Made In USA companies that take the boredom out of gun maintenance BY FRANK MELLONI

### **76 CUSTOM CORNER**

Martin Kove gets a custom wheelgun fit for the Strike First King Cobra BY SCOTT CONDITT

### **86 RANGE PROFILE**

Get your shoot on at Michigan's Huron Valley Guns **BY LINAS CERNAUSKAS** 

### 110 HIT THE BOOKS

Clint Emerson's 100 Deadly Skills Combat Edition will bring out the warrior in you

BY FRED MASTISON

### 122 WILD RIDES

Can anything stop the monstrous mother of all ATVs? BY MICHAEL D'ANGONA

### **126 TRUCK UPGRADES**

DiamondBack Covers proves that not all tonneaus are created equal BY ANDY GROSSMAN

### **136 WEAPONS INSIDER**

The Kentucky company that makes more lowers and parts than you ever imagined

BY FRANK JARDIM

### 140 WILD KITCHEN

Shell it out...with three killer clam. mussel and scallop dishes BY JON SUNDRA

### **146** DINING OUT

A firearms insider's guide to eating Las Vegas **BY J. MARSHALL** 

### **150 AFTER HOURS**

Six killer cocktails for those who want booze with a classic bang BY FRED MASTISON

### **154 THREADS**

A handful of great 'Merica merch companies that help you wear your 2A pride

BY ALEX LANDEEN

### **158 PATRIOT TRIBUTE**

R.I.P. Rush Limbaugh, America's number one conservative voice BY MARK CHESNUT





0

WHERE TRUSTED QUALITY MEETS SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE

(AVAILABLE IN 5.56 NATO, 300 HAM'R AND 300 BLK ONLY)



QUALITY YOU CAN TRUST

SERVICE YOU DESERVE

The Wilson Combat PROTECTOR ELITE is available from your local dealer exclusively through Davidson's www.davidsonsinc.com and Sports South www.theshootingwarehouse.com

# rewhaha MEANDERINGS OF A MODERN CAVALLER BY FRANCIS MACOMBER

I never tell people I am a public servant. I think if you deal with the public you are supposed to be nice and make them happy. I only deal with dirtbag criminals, but it is totally OK if they are dissatisfied with the service I give them: smashing their front door at O'dark thirty, waking up their neighbors, seizing their cool car, etc. In truth, I'm more of a public antagonist than a servant. But after many years of blissful aggravation, I made a misstep and got promoted. The allure of nearly \$11 more per day was too much for me. Dumb move. I used to be responsible for the mistakes of one idiot. Now I'm responsible for a few more...I should have studied harder at math.



FAST, EASY

Would you rather always hit a bulls-eye, but when you do a Justin Bieber song plays in your head, or have unlimited ammunition, but every time you shoot 20 people show up and start dancing the Macarena?

Always bulls-eye with Justin Bieber: 59 votes (27 percent)

Unlimited ammo with the Macarena: 160 votes [73 percent]

**Best response:** "It's only interesting if you're accurate. I'd be loving J Beebs if he played to my continual success." Personally, if I had unlimited ammunition, I would set up a roadside stand with a sign that said "Ammo" and probably have enough money to retire in a few hours.

> EDITOR'S NOTE: Join in on more Ballistic "Brew Ha Ha fun online at ballisticmag.com

My wife and I only enjoy two genres of movies together—comedy and revenge. After that. I move toward action and sci-fi, and she goes toward puppies and feelings or some crap. Needless to say, I traversed the first season of Altered Carbon without her in the same room. Her loss. Set hundreds of years in the future, the set feels like Blade Runner, but the action and gun play are much improved. Technology now allows a person's consciousness to be stored in a "stack" and put into different bodies. Hence rich people can basically live forever. And you're never sure who you are talking to. Or drinking with. Or banging. Action, sex, violence and the man trying to keep a brother down. I just told the wife I am sleeping on the couch tonight so I can start on Season 2.







# Drewhaha MEANDERINGS OF A MODERN CAVALIER



Crafty Brews

If you want to see how grumpy I can get, dump me off anywhere in California and just walk away. How can they waste such great weather on a state that has outlawed everything I love? But the rest of the family thinks San Diego is heaven on earth. They clearly aren't paying for the hotel or gassing up the car. On a recent excursion, my better half took me to a brewery in hopes that drunkenness would improve my disposition. The woman knows me. We found ourselves at Deft Brewing in an industrial part of town. The bar

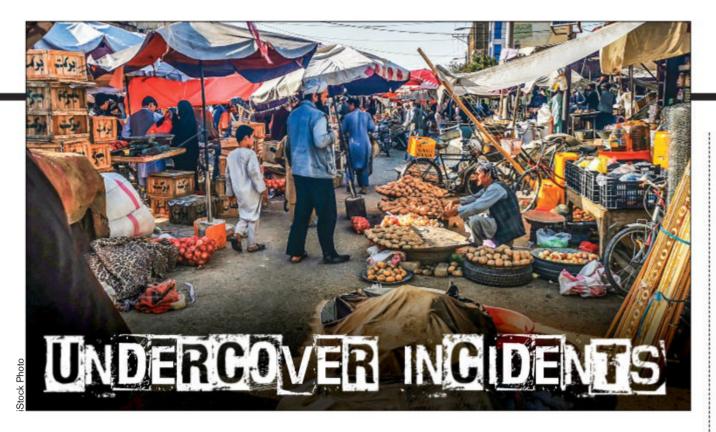
resembled the neighborhood with cinder blocks, corrugated steel and not a lot of fanfare. They didn't even have coasters. What the building lacked in flavor, the beer had in spades. Their award-winning English porter, called Dawn of the Deft, became a personal favorite. It's full bodied, but not as heavy as you might think with a smooth finish. A full pint on a breezy, cool afternoon is almost enough to make you forget you are seated in the land that hates pretty much everything in this magazine.





My wife tells me that size matters, but I assume she means smaller not bigger or she wouldn't have married an Irishman. Sometimes smaller is more, and the folks over at Ravin Crossbows apparently agree. The R18 debuts this spring and it doesn't look like any crossbow I have ever seen. However, it delivers more ft.-lbs. of energy than a compound bow. Less than 5 inches wide and 18 inches long, it fits in a backpack that is literally too small to hold my laptop. A total of 28 states now allow crossbows during archery season, and there is no law where I live against shooting bows and arrows within city limits. I saw a coyote in the wash less than a mile from my house last week. All that and the simple cool factor have me salivating.





Those who have never traversed Afghanistan cannot fathom how primitive it all really is. Cavemen. But with cell phones. Who do bad things with donkeys. One day my team got a tip that a small bazaar in Kabul was selling opium under the table. We took about 50 Afghan counterparts and hit the place from all sides in order to trap everyone inside. As my F150 rolled into my AOR, the thin brown mud was so high it was coming in under the door. I threw it in park and

unassed the vehicle into what turned out to be a waist deep pool of human and animal feces, rotting vegetables, and a smell that would knock a buzzard off a gut truck at 100 yards. It went downhill from there. We got precursors, not drugs. I almost shot a guy who threw his cup of chai at us from three stories up, and we never got the S#!& smell out of that truck. That was also about the same time I got a weird rash that still plagues me after more than 15 years.

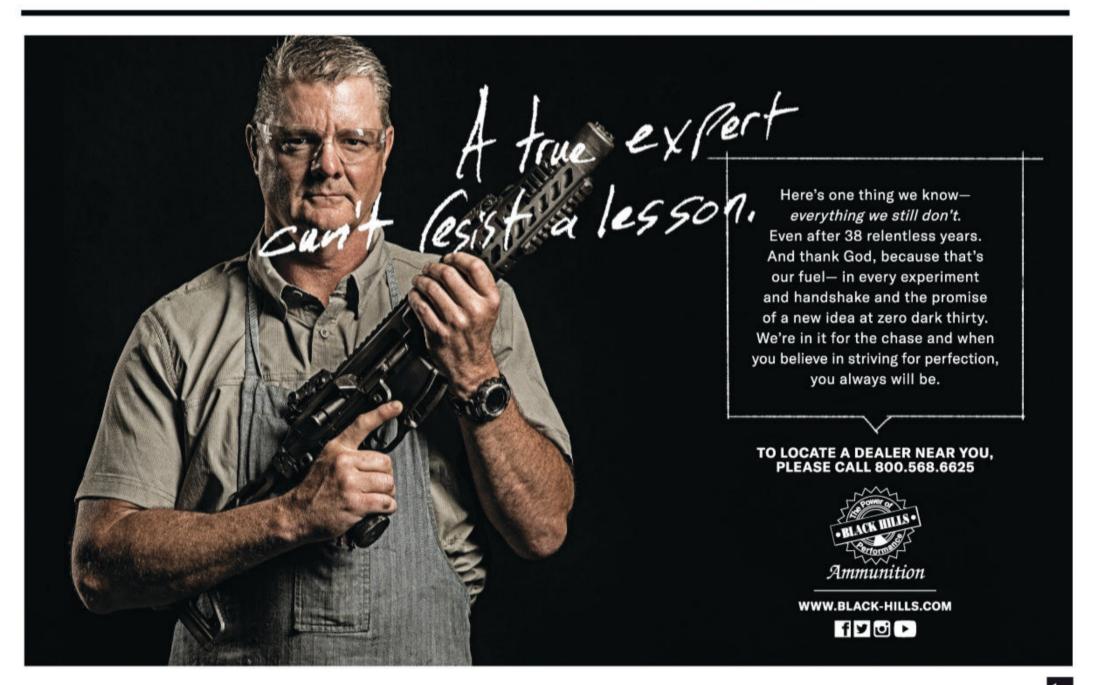
# HISKEY OU WERE HERE

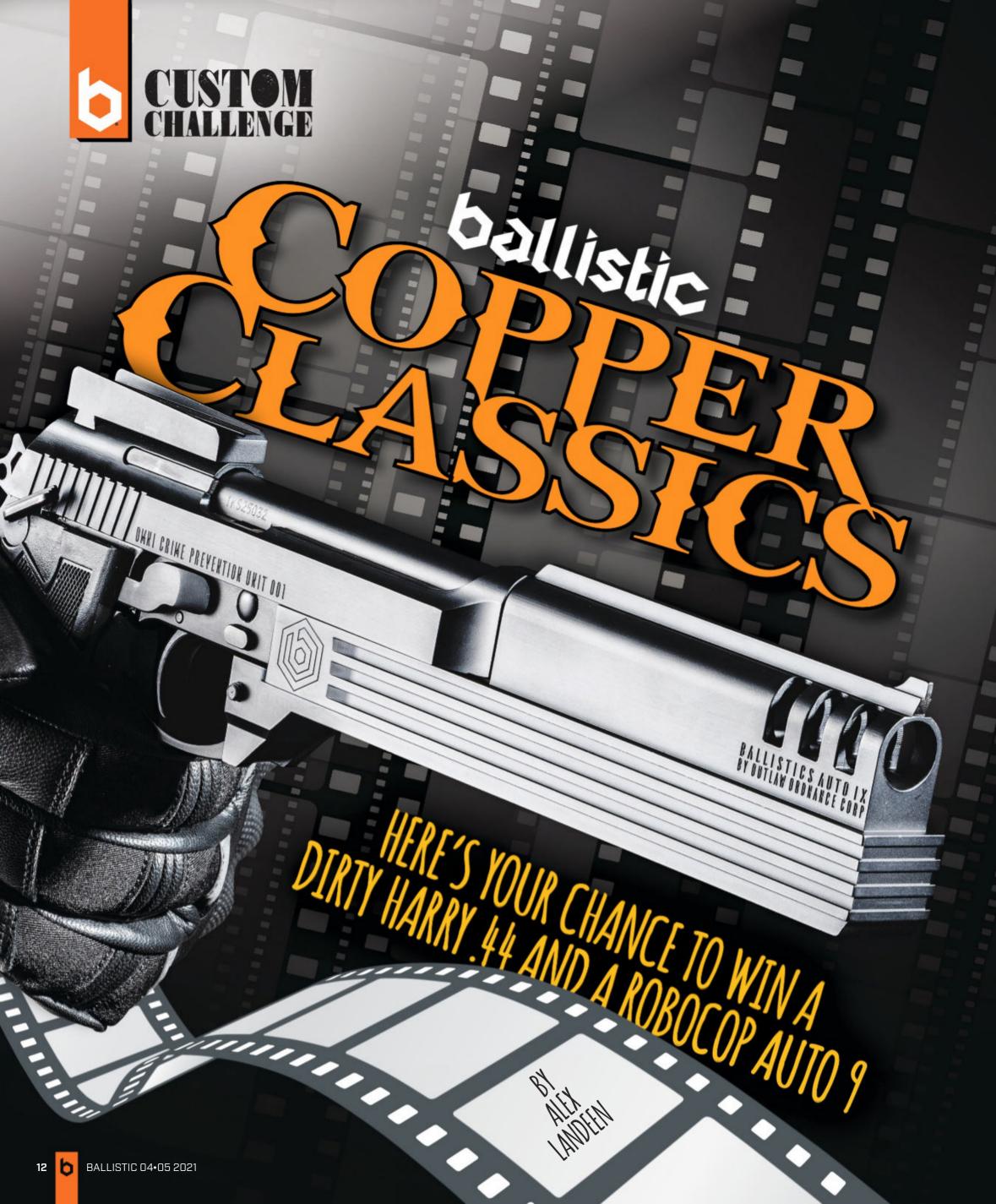
LAGAVULIN

Everyone should have one bottle of really good whiskey gathering dust until one of those special moments arrive: "She said yes!" or "Congratulations you're a dad!" or "My ex-wife just got stabbed in a bar fight!"

Mine has been Lagavulin for as

long as I can remember. My wife says it smells like band aids, but I can assure you it tastes like peat and smoke and more peat with a pretty strong smoky peat finish. Amazingly I saw it at Costco the other day and I almost cried with joy. Then I was told we are still on a tight budget that does not include expensive bottles of scotch, and I cried for real.







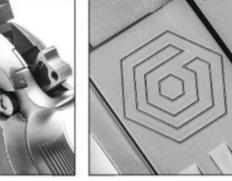


### A TAURUS TRANSFORMED

RoboCop's Auto 9 pistol was based on a full-auto Beretta 93R, but because everybody hates paperwork and nobody raised their hand to take a year's pay cut to buy one, we decided to start this issue's challenge with a Beretta clone: the Taurus PT92.

The most striking feature of the *Ballistic*Auto 9 is the compensator/flash suppressor/
awesomeness multiplier fixed in front of the
slide. Completely custom and designed from
scratch, this accessory is machined out of billet aluminum and engineered to slide right over
the accessory rail. It is held in place by a bolt
drilled through the front of the triggerguard.

"From the very beginning we weren't sure. Putting on an attachment like this often takes months of R&D, and when you test fire, you tear it up," Nacho explained. "We were a







little challenged in getting it done on the first attempt so we could hit the time frame."

The new rear sight was also machined completely in-house from aluminum. "There is nothing like it on the market," Chip said. "But the sights line up perfectly, like from the factory. It's dead on."

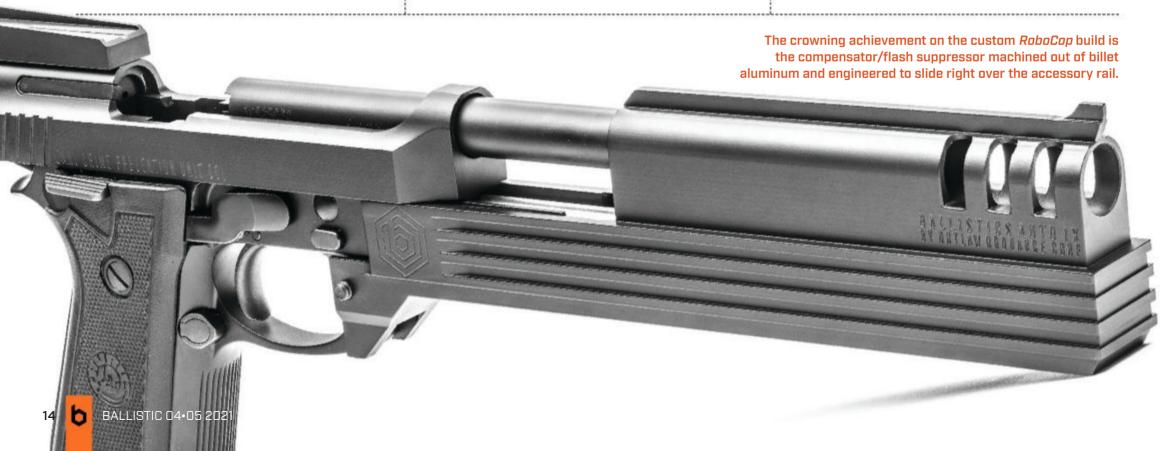
Once all the accessories were finalized, the factory logos and stamping were removed from the slide, and the OMNI Crime Prevention Unit and *Ballistic* badging were added. The pistol was finished in Armor Black cerakote.

I don't know about you, but just looking at the *Ballistic* Auto 9 makes me want to round up some no-good slimy punks.

### **DIRTY HARRY S&W MODEL 29**

The design process for every Outlaw Ordnance engraving project starts with research—lots of it. Normally the conceptualizing process to release a new gun takes more than three months. In this case, they had about three weeks.

When they got the theme for this challenge, Outlaw had one of their designers start the process right away. "The guy literally went







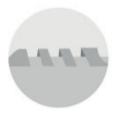
Red Dot Ergonomics



Performance Duty Grip Texture



Red Dot Ready



SuperTerrain Serrations



Modularity



Performance Duty Trigger



What does it mean to be ready? waltherarms.com

© 2020 Walther Arms Inc. | All Rights Reserved





WHO IS THE ULTIMATE BANE OF THE BAD GUYS?

When I first began pondering the question of who is a better law enforcer, *Dirty Harry* or *RoboCop*, it turned out to be a deeper conundrum than I had originally anticipated. What does it mean to be a better cop?

There are many aspects of policing that need to be taken into account. For example, I don't see Harry Callahan being really efficient with paperwork, which is a large percentage of the day-to-day aspects of enforcing the law (I am told). On the other hand, Alex Murphy, aka RoboCop, has a data spike that he can plug directly into a computer. He can probably churn out reports fast enough to make that old dot matrix printer smoke its guts. He also seems just fine plugging that data spike into the necks of bad guys (RIP Mr. Boddicker). So one can see there is more to take into account than initially suspected. That being said, let's turn on the juice and see what shakes loose, so to speak.



### GETTING THE BAD GUYS

This is going to be pretty even as both Callahan and *RoboCop* inevitably get their criminals. If we are talking about sheer numbers, *RoboCop* wins. Being an officer, not a detective, gives him access to a higher level of criminal behavior. Callahan foils the occasional bank robbery during his lunch break, however, he is not driving a beat looking for small-time crimes. But this category is not about numbers, necessarily.

They both seem to have a pretty similar *Wild Wild West (1999)* use of force policy: "Shoot first, shoot later, shoot some more and then when everybody's dead try to ask a question or two." To be fair, the bad guys are generally shooting back. When they have suspects who get tight-lipped about the information that they need, both Callahan and Murphy don't seem to have much issue putting on a little "pressure."

Callahan does lose a few points here as his "pressure" tactics and lack of warrants while trying to find kidnapped Ann Mary Deacon lead to the antagonist Scorpio being released without trial.

Speaking of trials, RoboCop wins hands down

## CUSTOM DIRTY HARRY 44 & ROBOCOP AUTO 9

as a witness in court as his computer brain records everything he sees and does. Callahan's temperament also leads to complications on the stand.

### WORKS WELL WITH OTHERS

Callahan is known for being hard to work with. That's not just because he tends to be hardheaded and callous, but he makes a point of explaining that his partners have a tendency to get shot or killed. He does, however, seem to warm up to his assigned partners as time goes on. He also has no time for bullshit and resents authority that gets in the way of his doing his

job. That is commendable but often gets him in trouble with the higher brass.

RoboCop, in the beginning, doesn't seem to work with anybody. He is a computer running a program. After having a dream while "charging," he begins to remember more and more of his old life. By the end of the movie, RoboCop seems to be equal parts Murphy and machine. Prior to being killed and reborn, Alex Murphy was known as a "dutiful, upstanding and mild-mannered police officer" who seemed laid back and good at his job. This makes me assume that the Murphy/Machine combination that is RoboCop would make a

great partner. Of course, that's regardless of whether he would actually need one or not.

### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

RoboCop is a star from the start. At first, he is cleaning up crime at a rate that gets him noticed and put on TV, as well as paraded out among some elementary school kids like the ultimate show-and-tell. Since at this point he is still mostly machine, he doesn't have much personality. At one point he ended an interview with, "Excuse me, I have to go, Somewhere there is a crime happening." Like I said, a little dry, but he is not wrong. I have to assume that end-of-movie Murphy/RoboCop is a better talk show guest. Another strong point here is I believe that *RoboCop*, regardless of how much of Murphy's personality is back, still

must behave according to his prime directives: Serve the public trust, protect the innocent and uphold the law.

Callahan seems to be mostly a hero, but his checkered past might get him in trouble with the public. He seems to loath journalists unless he is trying to sleep with them. He mostly tries to stay out of the spotlight, which is good.

### WEAPON HANDLING

While most of Callahan's shooting techniques could use a little updating, he is quite the marksman with his .44 Magnum, getting headshots and center mass on almost every

Callahan gets his Model 29 out of his crossdraw leather. I assume if RoboCop's weapon deployment speed ever became an issue, a little software update would fix the problem.

### COLLATERAL DAMAGE

Again, I would say that this category is pretty even. To make an omelet, you have to break some eggs. To get the really bad guys, sometimes you just have to break some shit. It happens. Dirty Harry seems to get in more trouble for this kind of behavior, however.

### STYLE POINTS

Harry Callahan is a smooth operator. He stopped four bank robbers while eating a hotdog. Got shot, hardly noticed. Then took the time to deliver his, "Do I feel lucky, well do ya, punk?" speech to one of them. Years later, he drops the "go ahead, make my day" line. Classic.

What does RoboCop have here? Not a lot. We get a "Buddy, I think you're slime," and "Your move, creep." Not a real strong showing in the one-liner game. He does gain some cool points for being a cyborg, however.



inconsequential bad guy, unless he needs to take the time to talk trash to them before they die or get arrested. Style points here, for sure.

RoboCop is, well, a computer. His Auto 9 has a 50-round magazine, and he wields it with the precision that one would expect from a CNC machine, so we can leave proper technique out of his equation.

What the 9mm lacks in power to the .44 Magnum is surely made up for by a sheer number of standard, armor-piercing, flechette, high explosive, or non-lethal projectiles traveling with pinpoint accuracy. Not to mention with one extra magazine he walks around with 100 rounds at all times.

One thing I will give Callahan is draw speed. RoboCop's holster is encased in his thigh. The process of deploying his sidearm is a little slow compared to the speed with which

### SO WHO'S THE ULTIMATE?

It's definitely a tough call, but I have to be true to myself, and say that RoboCop has the edge as the best cop. Not as OEM configuration, but as the amalgamation of Alex Murphy and computer. Callahan wins all day against a computer without empathy and sympathy, but the combination of speed and precision inherent in a computer with the good-guy cop who was Murphy is almost the total package. I say almost because *RoboCop* has a distinct lack of a "package," which brings his game with the ladies down quite a few points below Callahan's. I did take this into consideration.

This is just one man's humble opinion. Please don't cancel me. Regardless, as Chip from Outlaw Ordnance pointed out to me, "Chuck Norris would whup both their asses."

- Alex Landeen

An innovative, affordable and lightweight chassis for the

Ruger American.



The Sharps Bros. Heatseeker for the Ruger American Short Action (calibers: 308 WIN, 6.5 Creedmoor) allows you to easily upgrade the traditional factory rifle stock for improved versatility and a sleek, modern appearance.

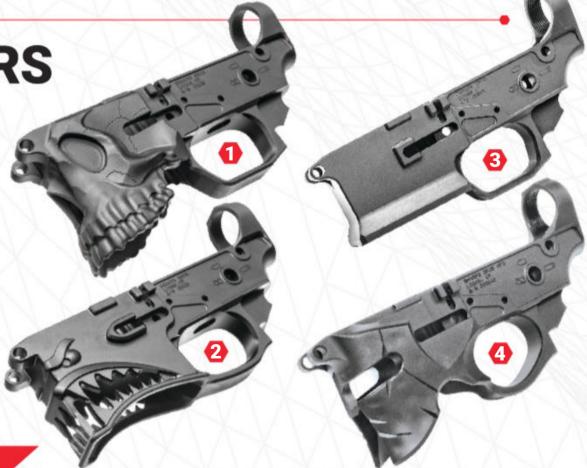
This 1lb, 3-ounce chassis is machined from billet (solid block) high-strength 6061-T6 aluminum and includes a 10 ounce, 14" handguard cut from a unique extrusion shape exclusive to Sharps Bros. Both the chassis body and handguard are finished in a matte black Cerakote. The handguard features MLOK slots on 4 sides for various attachment options (light, bipod, night vision, ARCA rail) and two quick disconnect fittings per side for sling attachments. Heatseeker's standard AR15 grip interface is compatible with AR15 pistol grips, and the AR buffer interface allows you to further customize your rifle with your preferred AR15 type stock. Heatseeker is compatible with AICS short action magazines from Magpul and Accuracy International.

**STRIKING RECEIVERS** 

The ultimate in custom AR receivers: Sharps Bros.

Featured here are the The Jack, Hellbreaker, Livewire and Overthrow from Sharps Bros. All four receivers have aggressive looks, incredible craftsmanship, and details only found on high-end receivers.

- ES INCLUDE: Oversized integral trigger guards and beveled magazine flares
  - A hard coat anodize finish per MIL-A-8625, the anodizing model for most military and aerospace products
  - Full compatibility with all mil-spec internal parts, aftermarket mil-spec upper receivers, PMags, Hexmag and other standard capacity magazines
  - Multi-caliber mark



1. The Jack 2. Hellbreaker 3. Livewire 4. Overthrow

**AVAILABLE AT WWW.SHARPSBROS.COM** 

# **STOCKPILE**

# NEW AND NOTEWORTHY EDITORS' GUNS AND GEAR PICKS



### PULSAR THERMION XG50

Pulsar's new Thermion XG50 boasts 640x480 microbolometer strength and 12-micron pixel detail to detect heat signatures up to 2,400 yards. It is also the first-ever riflescope to combine a BAE sensor, onboard recording and multiple color palettes. Its 1024x768 AMOLED display gives users stunningly clear images, and its continuous, digital zoom ensures varmint, hogs and big game animals are easily located. The scope also boasts a stadiametric rangefinder and a defective pixel repair feature. [pulsarnv.com]



Always hard at work forging away at badass backcounty blades, TOPS Knives has a new hackmaster worth getting your paws on. The new High Impact may just be the largest full-tang hatchet on the market. At 3/8 inches thick and over 3.5 pounds, it definitely packs a punch as well. The High Impact is large enough to swing with two hands, but still light and small enough to get some work done with just one. Well-contoured, tan canvas Micarta handles go all the way up the black traction coated 1075 blade, and it's topped off nicely with a quality leather cover. The blade is 5.75 inches and the High Impact sports an overall length of 20 inches. [topsknives.com]

0



### AERO PRECISION EPC

Aero Precision's new Enhanced Pistol Caliber represents the company's leap into the world of pistol-caliber AR platforms and features a full lineup of AR9-style parts and accessories. Product offerings include receiver sets, 9mm black nitride bolt assemblies, lower parts kits, 9mm barrels (5.5, 8.3, 11 and 16 inches) and complete upper receivers. The lowers feature an integrated triggerguard and are compatible with Glock magazines. They also have a last round bolt hold open mechanism and are compatible with 9mm or .40 S&W.

(aeroprecisionusa.com)

20

# THE DEVIL'S HAND

Ballistic fans will recall Jack Carr on the cover of our October/ November 2020 issue. In the issue we teased you that he was working on his fourth masterpiece in The Terminal List series, and an advanced reader's edition found its way to our undisclosed bunker. Carr's latest thriller, The Devil's Hand, is, without question another epic page-turner. If you're a gun nut, an action junky and a fan of kickass, fully authentic prose, then Jack Carr's your man. Let us nutshell it for you: It's been two decades since the U.S. was attacked on home soil. That's 20 years of the GWOT. The enemy is now ready to strike our lands and our people again. There's a new president in town—a young populist looking to offer hope to a war-weary country. But this POTUS has a secret.

Halfway across the globe a regional superpower struggles with sanctions imposed by the Great Satan and her European allies, a country whose ancient religion spawned a group of ruthless assassins. Faced with internal dissent and extrajudicial targeted killings by the U.S. and Israel, the Supreme Leader puts a plan in motion to defeat the most powerful nation on earth.

Meanwhile, in a classified facility five stories underground, a young PhD student has gained access to a level of bioweapons known only to a select number of officials. A second-generation agent, he has been assigned a mission that will bring his adopted homeland to its knees.

You won't want to miss how James Reece and his team of patriots kick Satan back to hell. The Devil's Hand is 500-plus pages of: "For the love of God, thank you Lord for creating men like James Reece!" Order your copy today at officialjackcarr.com and send us thank-you notes via editdesk@athlonoutdoors.com.

SAVAGE SON JACK CARR'
TRUE BELIEVER JACK



### SAR USA VERTU 12

The new VERTU semi-automatic shotgun from SAR USA blends Turkish engineering with cutting-edge manufacturing for a fine 12 gauge. The inertia-operated shotgun features a steel alloy upper receiver with an aluminum alloy laser-marked lower receiver. The stock features an elegant Turkish walnut oiled finish with laser-engraved checkering. Available with a 26- or 28-inch barrel, the shotgun is chambered for 3-inch shells. The barrel features a Truglo sight for easy aiming, and SPro internal choke tubes. And at only 7.4 pounds, it won't be hard to carry. [sarusa.com]



### N8 TACTICAL HOLSTER AND MAG CARRIER

Known for its top-quality holster offering, N8 Tactical has introduced the new Professional OWB Holster and Flex OWB Mag Carrier. The firearm-specific polycarbonate pocket on the new holster is designed specifically for your firearm and is made from an incredibly durable material ensuring that your holster will last a lifetime. Built on a durable leather form, the Single or Dual FLEX OWB Mag Carrier comes with a two-layered, leather backer that provides full coverage of the carrier to maximize comfort.

Both carry N8 Tactical's "Two Week, Try It Free Guarantee." [N8tactical.com]

### STOCKPILE

### **OUTDOOR EDGE LEHAWK**

Outdoor Edge is always coming up with inexpensive yet quality sharp stuff for outdoorsmen. Its new LeHAWK Multi-Carry Knife sports a 2.5-inch Wharncliffe blade of 8Cr14MoV steel and an ergonomic duck head handle for a secure lock-on grip. Carrying is easy with its MOLLE-compatible

sheath. Included paracord quickly converts LeHAWK into a hideaway neck knife. [outdooredge.com]

### **ZEV CORE DUTY RIFLE**

Zev Technologies' new Duty Rifle is the second LE and military focused product from the company, following the OZ9 pistol. Currently offered with a 16-inch barrel length, ZEV will soon be offering 10-inch models and filling special requests from agencies. "We've been working diligently on moving into the Military and LE market," said Dan Groce, Zev's director of brand engagement. "The Core Duty Rifle has the DNA that ZEV is known for. Accuracy, reliability and performance remain key focus points for our Military and LE products." [zevtechnologies.com]



The versatile new RazorWork knife from Outdoor Edge it two great knives in one. This EDC knife features a replaceable, scalpel-sharp, 3-inch utility blade made from Japanese 420J2 stainless steel that has been heat-treated and hand-finished to achieve its razor-sharp edge and offers three-times the cutting edge of a standard utility knife. When it's time for hunting, switch to a 3-inch drop point blade, thanks to Outdoor Edge's RazorSafe system, which allows the user to change blades quickly, easily and safely with the push of a button. [outdooredge.com]

### BUSHNELL PRIME LOW GLOW TRAIL CAMERA

Top-tier trail camera company Bushnell has introduced the new Prime Low Glow camera. Built with the renowned quality of all Bushnell trail cameras, the Prime Low Glow features a straightforward setup and easy-to-navigate menu. Thirty-six low glow LEDs provide consistent illumination, with 24 megapixels of resolution for crystal-clear images no matter the time of day. Adjustable settings allow the new camera to capture one to three images per trigger, or anywhere from five to 60 seconds of video at a time. [bushnell.com]

# NO MATTER WHAT YOU CARRY, DESANTIS HAS YOU COVERED





Precision molded with exacting curvature for maximum concealment and fits like a second skin Adjustable tension, onlies compatible, and

Adjustable tension, optics compatible, and easily configurable for both height and cant

DESANTISHOLSTER.COM





Known for its top-end backpacks, Mystery Ranch is also in the accessories market for shooters and huntersm, alike. Its new Hands-Free Rifle Sling serves as both a standalone sling or a functional backpack attachment system for right- or left-hand shooters. The ambidextrous and magnetic sternum strap allows the sling to be utilized for secure traveling and instant rifle access. It attaches and grips to your shoulder with a silicon backing, while the buttstock securely rests in a waistband rifle stock dock. (mysteryranch.com)

### RIVAL ARMS **CHASSIS SYSTEM FOR** REMINGTON 700

Recognized for premium aftermarket handgun and rifle components, Rival Arms has expandedw its offering of drop-in chassis systems with the new R-700 Precision Chassis for Remington 700 rifles. The R-700 chassis is designed to accept the Remington 700 short-action barreled action. The chassis is CNC-machined from aluminum billet and available in three finishes— Type III hardcoat anodize matte black, KG GunKote FDE and KG GunKote Satin Gray. The R-700 is designed to accept AR-15 grips and buffer tubestyle buttstocks. (rival-arms.com)



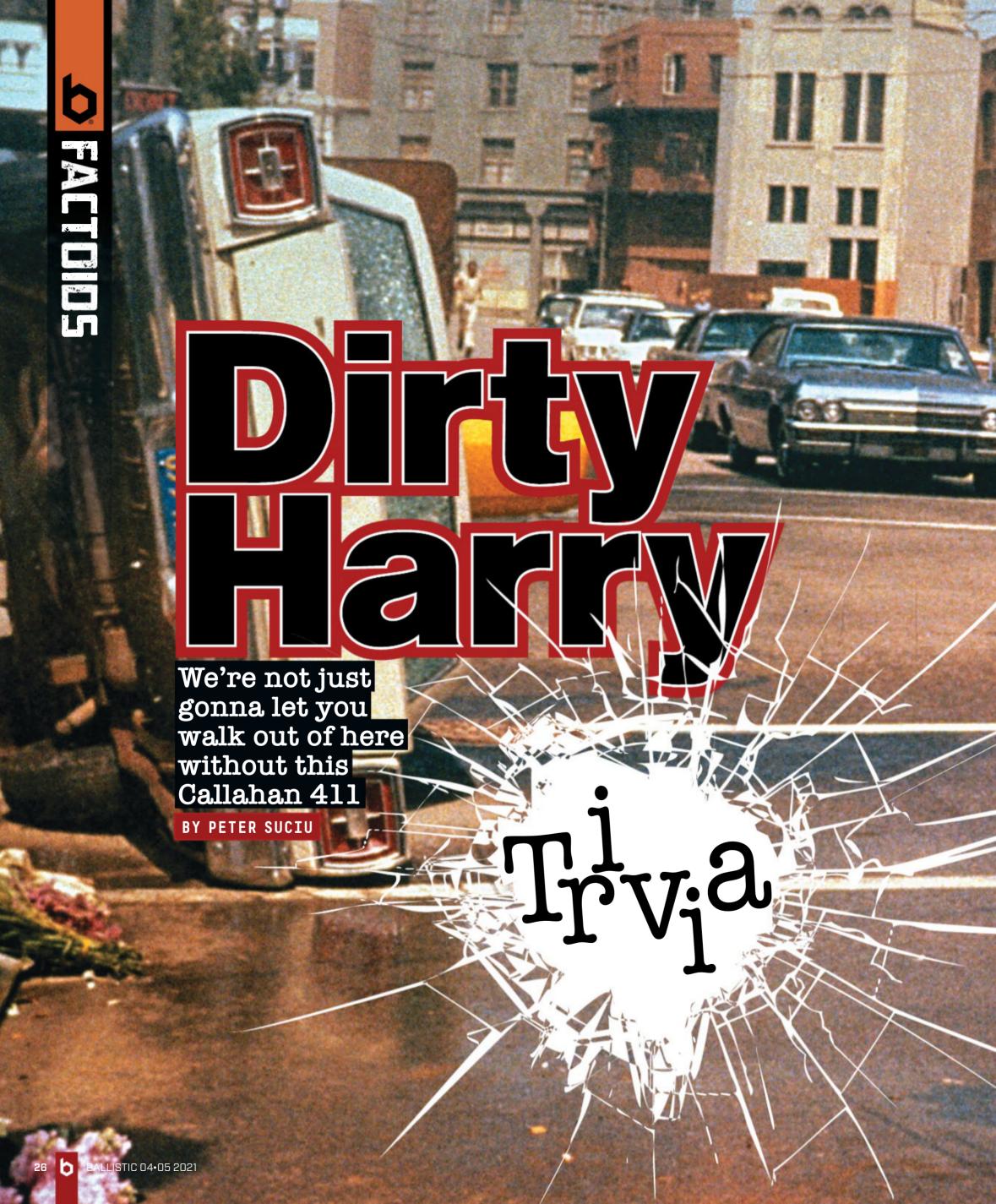


### **TASMANIAN TIGER** PHONE COVER

(tasmaniantigerusa.com) 🏶

The unpleasant truth is we are rarely without our smartphones in this day and age. Tasmanian Tiger's new TT Tactical Phone Cover is worth the \$16 just to protect your comms. It's designed with MOLLE to allow attachment to backpacks, belts, vests and carriers, so it's ready for the range or field. Made from durable, rugged 700 denier Cordura, the TT Tactical Phone Cover has 2 D-Rings on the back for additional carrying options. The MOLLE attachment requires one MOLLE loop. Two sizes are available to accommodate most smartphones.

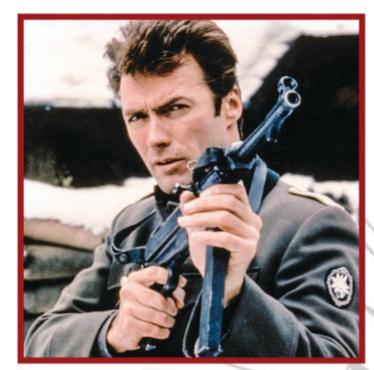






## **b**

### **DIRTY HARRY TRIVIA**



### **Casting Callahan**

Clint Eastwood had already broken out of the "cowboy" star mold, and had appeared in the World War II films Where Eagles Dare and Kelly's Heroes. Yet it was Dirty Harry that allowed the then 41-year-old actor to truly adapt to the changing themes in movies. As Callahan, Eastwood was able to retain the grittier nature of past western characters, but in a contemporary San Francisco setting.

Moreover, he wasn't nominated for any awards, but Eastwood's performance was praised by critics upon the film's release. As importantly, it set the tone for the police detective archetype that refuses to play by the rules—a notable change from prior police dramas that largely depicted officers

as clean cut family men who never "drew outside the lines."

However, even as it is now impossible to think of anyone else in the role, Eastwood wasn't actually the first choice to play the San Francisco detective. The film began as a script titled *Dead Right*, written by the husband-andwife team of Harry Julian Fink and Rita M. Fink. Known mostly for their TV work, the two were looking to branch out, and they crafted the story about a hard-edged New York City cop hunting a serial killer.

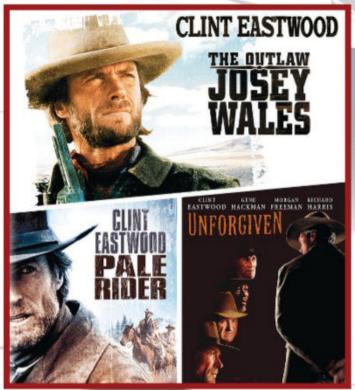
As the Finks had written the John Wayne film *Big Jake*, it is possible they had envisioned "The Duke" for the role of the case-hardened police officer—but producer Jennings Lang had other ideas. As the story went through multiple drafts, the setting was moved to Seattle before settling on San Francisco. Yet unable to find a box office star, Jennings sold the film rights to ABC Television.

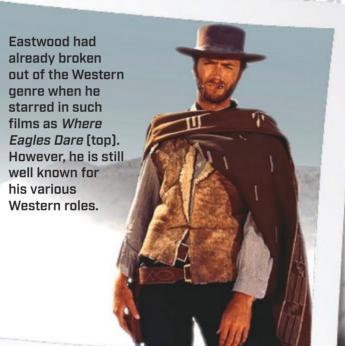
The violence in the screenplay was a big issue for the network, however, and the rights were then sold to Warner Bros., which opted to cast Frank Sinatra, while veteran screenwriter John Milius polished the script.

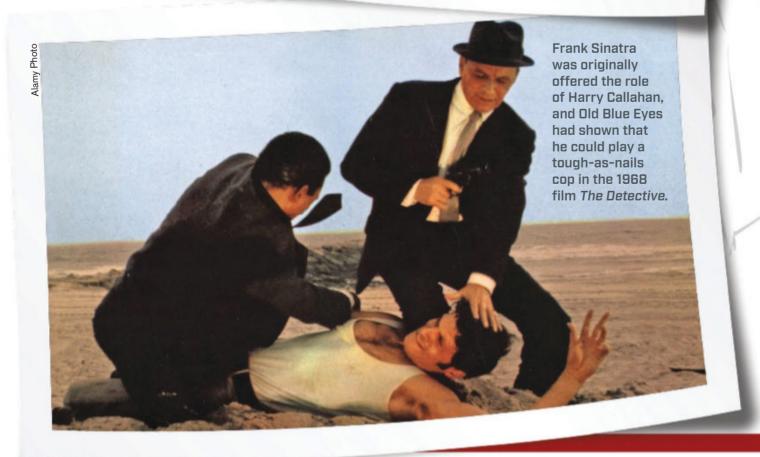
It might seem hard to accept Old Blue Eyes in the role, but he had shown his range in the 1968 neo-noir film *The Detective*, an adaptation of the novel by Roderick Throp. It should be noted too that the film has been seen as a "prequel" to the 1988's *Die Hard*, as that film is based on the novel's sequel *Nothing Lasts Forever*. Additionally, the character as written by the Finks described a police detective at the end of his career—in his mid-to-late 50s, and Sinatra was 55 at the time.

Sinatra even expressed interest in playing *Dirty Harry*, but he had suffered a shoulder injury and wouldn't be able to wield the .44 Magnum that was meant to be Callahan's signature gun—an addition to the story that was fleshed out by Milius.

The role was then offered to Wayne, who reportedly passed because he didn't like being offered Sinatra's rejects. It appears that Wayne seriously regretted the decision as he was also looking to remain relevant with the decline of Westerns and he subsequently went on to star in two detective movies—McQ and Brannigan—which each had a similar vibe. In the latter film, Wayne even carried a Colt .357 Diamondback, another notable hand cannon from the era.



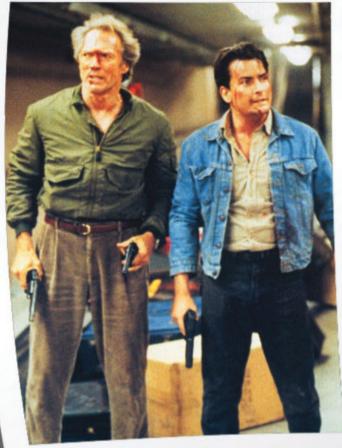






# DIRTY HARRY TRIVIA





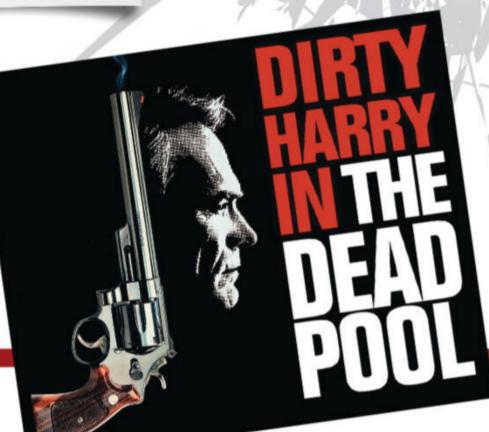
Finding the actor to play Callahan proved to be almost as difficult as catching a serial killer. The role of Harry Callahan was offered to Robert Mitchum, Steve McQueen, Burt Lancaster and George C. Scott, the latter of whom said he turned it down due to the violent nature of the film. Lancaster shared similar sentiments, and McQueen passed as he had recently starred in *Bullit*—also set in San Francisco—and didn't want to make another "cop" movie.

The role was offered to Paul Newman, but the film was too "right-wing" for the liberal-leaning actor, and that's when Eastwood's name was floated.

Interestingly, Lang had brought the script to Eastwood in 1969, but it wasn't until it made the rounds that the actor actually signed on. By that time the script had gone through several rounds of changes, adding more guns and

TOP: While not technically Harry Callahan, we could imagine Harry might not be so "Dirty" had he been promoted and put behind a desk—as Eastwood's character was in *The Rookie*. Then again, it might have made him "dirtier" still!

By the time the "final" Dirty Harry film, *The Dead Pool*, was made in 1988, the S&W Model 29 was given top billing on the poster!



making the character far grittier. There were even plot points that were dropped, including Marine snipers, but it was the basic hardedged cop who goes after a serial killer that found favor with Eastwood.

### Money & Culture Controversy

Dirty Harry ended up being the fourth-highest grossing film of 1971 and earned around \$36 million at the U.S. box office, which was a significant return on the film's modest \$4 million budget. Since its release, the film has been selected for preservation in the National Film Registry by the Library of Congress for being "culturally, historically and aesthetically significant."

However, the success of the film also came with its share of controversy. It sparked a debate over police brutality, the rights of the accused and even issues of gun control. Feminist protestors stood outside the 44th Academy Awards ceremony holding signs that read, "Dirty Harry is a Rotten Pig."

Then there was the fact that the film was also notable in that it drew up the real-life case of the Zodiac Killer, with Callahan trying to catch a serial killer known only as "Scorpio" by any means necessary. While such "ripped from the headlines" stories are common today, back in the early 1970s that wasn't the case.

Ominously, *Dirty Harry* has been credited with inspiring the very real Faraday School kidnapping in Australia, where soon after the film's release two men—one coincidentally named Eastwood—kidnapped a teacher and six school children. Fortunately the children escaped and the kidnappers were caught without the need for a violent standoff.

### Sequels & Dirty Harry 5 1/2

Perhaps what no one, including Eastwood, probably expected was that the film would spawn a series of films featuring Callahan—but the 1970s was also the original era of the sequels! Just two years after *Dirty Harry*, the first of four sequels was released: 1973's *Magnum Force*. The plot revolved around a group of renegade traffic cops targeting and executing criminals who managed to avoid conviction in the court of law.

Magnum Force didn't earn the critical praise of the original, but its success at the box office



WE DIDN'T IMPROVE THE PLATFORM

# ADVANCED THE RIFLE CARTRIDGE

6mm ARC is the most versatile cartridge for the AR-15.







**6MM ARC** 

FOR THE WHOLE STORY, VISIT HORNADY.COM/6MMARC



and the popularity of the character lead to The Enforcer (1976), Sudden Impact (1983) and The Dead Pool (1988). Eastwood, who was 58 years old when he made the final film, called it quits and suggested that any future stories would be akin to a parody-despite the fact that the original script called for Callahan to be in his mid-to-late 50s, not to mention that Wayne was 63 when he turned down the role.

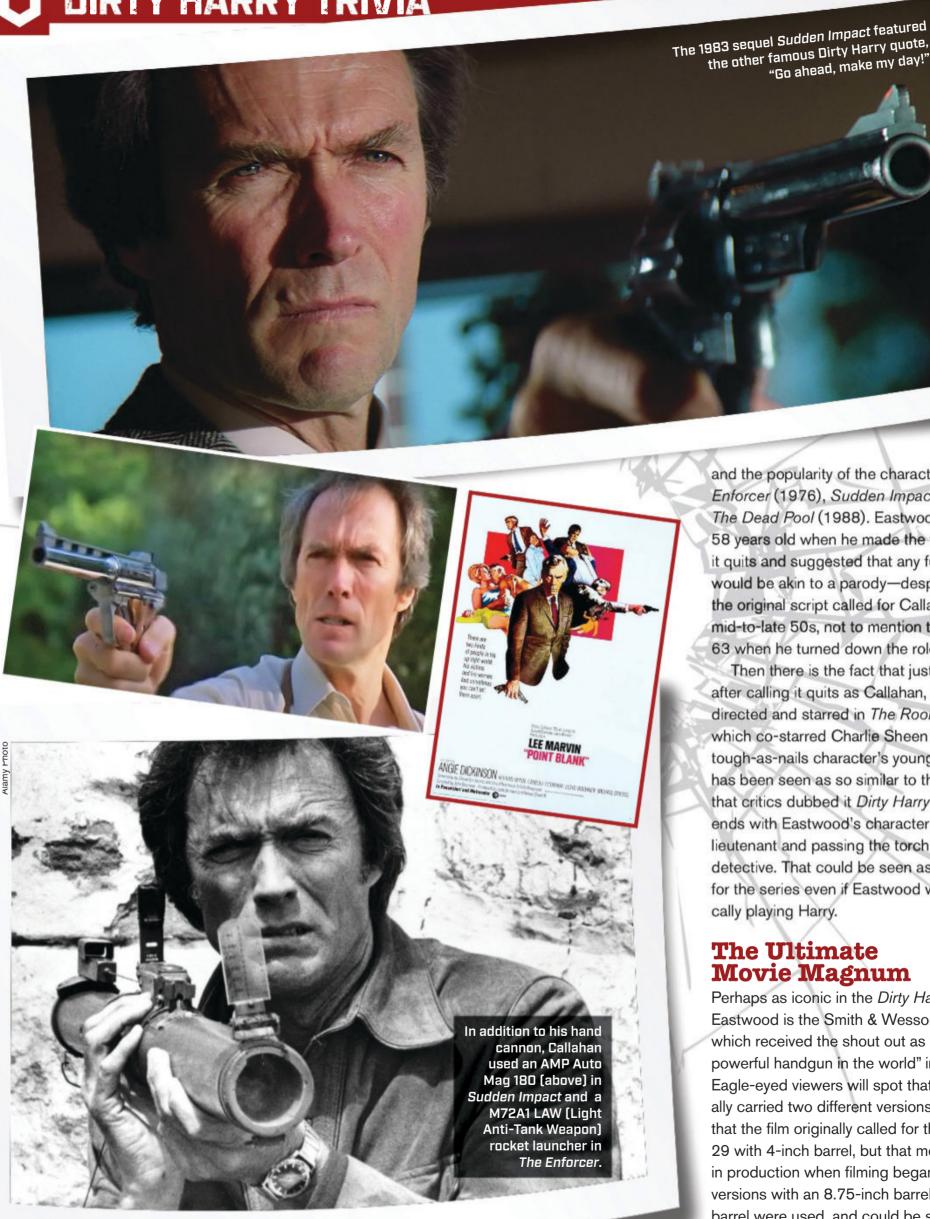
the other famous Dirty Harry quote,

"Go ahead, make my day!"

Then there is the fact that just two years after calling it quits as Callahan, Eastwood directed and starred in The Rookie. That film, which co-starred Charlie Sheen as Eastwood's tough-as-nails character's young rookie partner, has been seen as so similar to the franchise that critics dubbed it Dirty Harry 5 1/2! It even ends with Eastwood's character promoted to lieutenant and passing the torch to a younger detective. That could be seen as a fitting end for the series even if Eastwood wasn't technically playing Harry.

### The Ultimate Movie Magnum

Perhaps as iconic in the Dirty Harry films as Eastwood is the Smith & Wesson Model 29. which received the shout out as "the most powerful handgun in the world" in the first film. Eagle-eyed viewers will spot that Callahan actually carried two different versions. The reason is that the film originally called for the S&W Model 29 with 4-inch barrel, but that model wasn't in production when filming began. Instead, versions with an 8.75-inch barrel and 6.5-inch barrel were used, and could be seen.



As for the "most powerful" statement, that was only partially true, as in 1970 the .44 Remington Magnum was actually eclipsed in size

and power by the .454 Casull round. However, the .454 wasn't first widely available as a commercial cartridge, but we shouldn't expect that a San Francisco detective would have known that fact—and certainly it is unlikely the "punk" would have known, anyway!

Despite not technically being the most powerful weapon any longer, Callahan stuck with the Model 29 throughout the series, but in the film *Sudden Impact* the inspector's primary sidearm was lost and he replaced it with the AMP Auto Mag 180—an almost futuristic looking pistol chambered in the .44 cartridge. Yet, while it is even implied in the context of the film to be a "new" weapon, the .44 Auto Mag Pistol began production in 1974.

There is certainly no denying that *Dirty*Harry and the subsequent films in the series
practically made the Model 29—or the ".44

Magnum" revolver—infamous with moviegoers.

However, it wasn't even the first film to feature one.

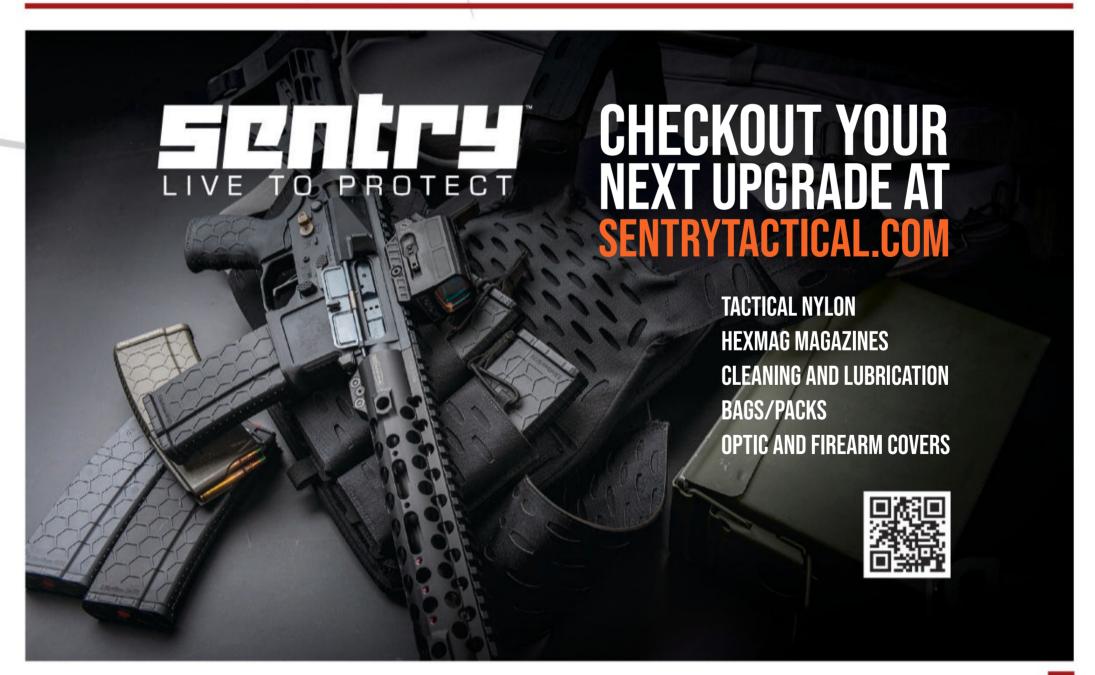
The personal hand cannon was first introduced in 1955, yet it wasn't until 1967's Point Blank starring Lee Marvin that the gun was first seen on the big screen. The movie was an adaptation of the novel The Hunter, and the main character was used in subsequent adaptations including 1999's Payback starring Mel Gibson. Interestingly, both Marvin and Gibson use the Model 29 with the 4-inch barrel.

The Model 29 would go on to be used by other "play-by-their-own-rules" police detectives including Nick Nolte's Jack Cates in 1982's 48 Hours, another film that just happened to be set in San Francisco, while Eddie Murphy's Axel Foley character carried the gun in Beverly Hills Cop III. The Model 29 was also seen in the hands of Roger Moore's

The iconic S&W Model 29
was Harry's gun of choice,
but the .454 Casull-chambered wheelgun, like the BFR
shown, is still more powerful.

James Bond in *Live and Let Die*, Robert De Niro's Travis Bickle in *Taxi Driver* and Chow Yun-Fat in *The Killer*.

Eastwood also carried the gun as Det. Nick Pulovski in *The Rookie*—only further making us see that as the true finale for Callahan.





# ICCONIC CLONE

UMAREX MAKES OUR DAY BY RECREATING THE S&W MODEL 29 .44 MAG. REVOLVER

BY FRANK MELLONI



Most would be surprised to find out that my childhood wasn't typical for a gun writer and professional firearms

instructor. Where most beguile their readers and students with tales of hunting and plinking with their dad, my stories are quite the opposite. As my parents were from New York City, the only exposure they ever had to firearms has been in conjunction with a crime. So throughout childhood, I was told that guns were "no good" and that, "Only criminals had a reason to have them." However, by the ripe old age of five, I was able to deduce that the "good guys" also carry guns, so maybe it's not the gun but the person holding it that determines the device's morality. I guess if Congress was able

to think as clearly as a 5-year-old, then we wouldn't have to suffer through all of these useless gun-control measures, but I digress.

After explaining this, I'm commonly asked, "So what got you into guns?" My signature answer is, and always will be, "I didn't choose guns, they chose me." It's really that simple. I saw guns, I liked guns, I played with guns. There was nothing more I would rather do as a kid and I just couldn't explain why. It was one of those things that I never grew out of, and thank God for that! To say that shooting airguns in the backyard was a favorite pastime would be a complete understatement. Being that I was denied access to powder-burning firearms, I would enhance the backyard experience by pretending the gun in my hand was one that I hounded after in real life. Of them all, few stood out more than the Smith & Wesson Model 29, with its .44 Magnum chambering making it the most powerful handgun in the world (in 1971 at least). Well, I guess I wasn't

alone, and there are still kids out there that play this way—meaning there is hope for this world yet. With that, Umarex has created a fully licensed Smith & Wesson Model 29 replica that fires steel .177-caliber BBs so you can see exactly how lucky a tin can on a fence post is.

The Umarex M29 in-

firing and unloading.

cludes six "cartridges" for realistic loading,

#### THE MIMICKED MAGNUM

When I initially picked up the new pistol at Athlon Outdoors' 2020 Annual Rendezvous in Driggs, Idaho, and saw how it operated, my first thought was, "Man, I got screwed being born in the '80s." This thing looked, felt

> and operated authentically enough to stop a bank robbery without even having to stop eating your hot

> > dog. The guns I had growing

up were cheap looking and had major operation flaws that completely killed the fantasy. The Umarex Model 29 doesn't suffer from these maladies. It is made with all-metal construction and features the realistic double/single-action mechanism of the real deal. Completing the recreation are realistic cartridges that you pre-charge

to-life loading, firing and unloading.
After my first fondling at the 2020 Athlon
Rendezvous, I knew I needed to get one of
these home to get some more trigger time,
and perhaps make a cheesy pun or two to
make my wife, Barbara, disgusted to be
associated with me.

with a BB for 100-percent true-

The best part of the Umarex Model 29 is that you can shoot it in your basement without a visit from the cops. This makes a great companion pistol if you own an authentic Model 29 and want to get convenient, inexpensive practice in or if you just enjoy shooting a realistic gun without the noise, recoil or trip to the range. A word of caution though: This thing is easily confused with the real deal so if you do own a genuine Model 29, be sure to come up with some sort of system where you don't pick up one



# HOT AIR

expecting the other. Lastly, do not bring it out—EDC-style—in public because it could get you jammed up with a brandishing charge, or even worse.

#### **HOME ON THE RANGE**

For my basement range day, I donned my fanciest jammie jams and set up a shooting table, an archery backstop, a Lyman trigger gauge and a Caldwell G2 chronograph. It was at the beginning of this session when I realized exactly how realistically the gun operated. From the rear, a single BB is pushed into the "primer" area of the cartridges, then up to six are loaded into the cylinder. When you pull the trigger the hammer falls and strikes a release pin that lets out a portion of the 12-gram CO, cartridge to propel the BB from the case, past the cylinder gap, through a forcing cone and eventually down the 8.375-inch barrel. Folks, this is precisely how a bullet leaves a cartridge through a real revolver. Next up was to give those cartridges a better look. While everything was spot on with the gun's dimensions, the Umarex Model 29 cartridges were a bit off. They were somewhere between .357 Magnum and .44 Magnum in size. I thought this was a shame because it would be cool if you could utilize original Model 29 speedloaders, but I suppose this makes it less likely for some jackass to try to put real ammunition into it to "see what

happens." Our accuracy and velocity testing was done at 10 yards using Hornady Black Diamond Anodized BBs and Umarex's own CO, cartridges. To charge the gun, I had to remove one of the grip panels and insert a CO, cartridge into the frame. Once in place, an Allen wrench is required to pop it to get things going. Yes, it's a tool that has to be carried, but at the same time, it's nicer than having some goofy tab hanging out of the bottom of the grip. With CO, in place, we measured an 8-pound single-action trigger pull and estimated a 13-pound pull for the double-action pull. Nonetheless, it didn't change the experience one bit, and I enjoyed firing more than 80 shots through a single CO<sub>2</sub>

HIGH-GRADE CO A single 12-gram CO2 cartridge powers the M29 replica. It stays out of sight to increase realism.

#### SPECIFICATIONS

## **UMAREX MODEL 29**

	413
CALIBER:	.177
BARREL:	8.375 inches
OA LENGTH:	13.6 inches
WEIGHT:	43.2 ounces
FRAME/FINISH:	All-metal/electroplate Finish
SIGHTS:	Fixed red ramp front, adjustable notch rear
ACTION:	DA/SA
GRIPS:	Faux wood grain
POWER SOURCE:	COs
CAPACITY:	6 BBs
VELOCITY (AVG.):	368 fps
MSRP:	\$150





## ADVANCED OPTICS. VISIONARY DESIGN.

Introducing the all-new TORO (Taurus Optic Ready Option) platform. Available for the first time ever on the full-size Taurus® G3. Four interchangeable red dot mounting plates give you the ability to outfit your optics-ready Taurus® G3 with a variety of popular brands—quickly and easily. The exclusive TORO platform is seamlessly integrated into the slide, enabling faster target acquisition and follow-up shots no matter your application or budget. Add in our Limited Lifetime Warranty and industry leading customer service for quality standards that you can depend on.

TaurusUSA.com



The performance was phenomenal, showing that the designers put far more thought into the Model 29 replica than merely its looks. I found

the velocity was surprisingly consistent, especially if I took frequent breaks to allow the CO<sub>2</sub> cartridge to come back to room temperature. The fastest way I found to do this was to keep the gun in my hand to let my body heat speed things along. I saw an average velocity of 368 fps until it dramatically dropped off, indicating impeccable regulation and a reduction in those last shots that peter off. Our 10-yard target saw groups in the 1.5-inch neighborhood, with our best group measuring 1.16 inches, which is impressive for a smoothbore pistol. Having more than 8 inches of barrel makes accuracy like this far more obtainable, so it wasn't completely surprising. Our point of impact was about 2

inches low on the target, but that can easily be fixed by adjusting the sights, which allow for

both elevation and windage corrections.

Unloading the Model 29 is just as you would expect, except easier because firing it doesn't involve the heat and pressure that is associated

with jamming your cases into the cylinder walls. Simply press the cylinder release, swing it out and tip the gun back while hitting the ejector rod.

#### A REAL STEEL

Umarex did an outstanding job capturing everything we love about this iconic revolver and putting it into an affordable package. The realism drew

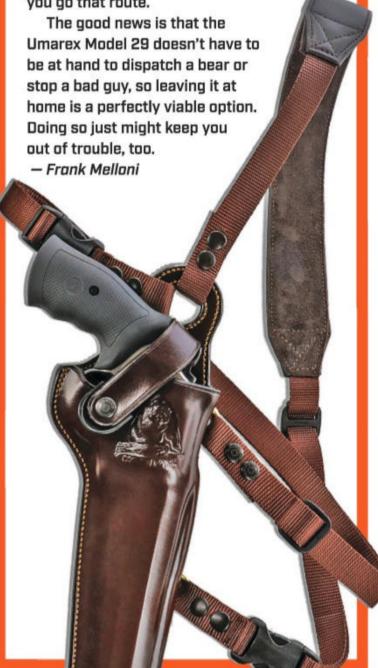
me to the design. My number one gripe with all replicas is if I can't believe it, I just can't enjoy it. Now, of course, the Umarex Model 29 didn't generate the signature .44 Magnum recoil, but maybe that's one aspect I can live without after all.

**Editor's Note:** The Model 29 will be available through distributors in late July/early August. For more information, visit umarexusa.com

# HOLSTERING YOUR CLASSIC

#### So, how do you carry the Umarex Model 29?

Well, it ain't easy. There aren't a lot of companies left that still make holsters for this big boy, as it has fallen out of the common market. DeSantis discontinued its last production holster for the M29 a few years back but still can put one together through its custom shop if you want a spectacular piece of leather. Uncle Mike's makes some big nylon rigs, but none that are intended for the Model 29, so you'll have to work with something close. GALCO does, indeed, make a universal N-Frame holster called the Kodiac, but you are stuck with a chest-carry option if you go that route.







More than just another striker-fired pistol, the P-10 is decidedly CZ, from the way it feels to the way it shoots. Industryleading features, legendary build quality and superior shootability make the P-10 stand out from the crowd. The world is full of followers – take your own path.

Experience CZ.

**CZ P-10** 

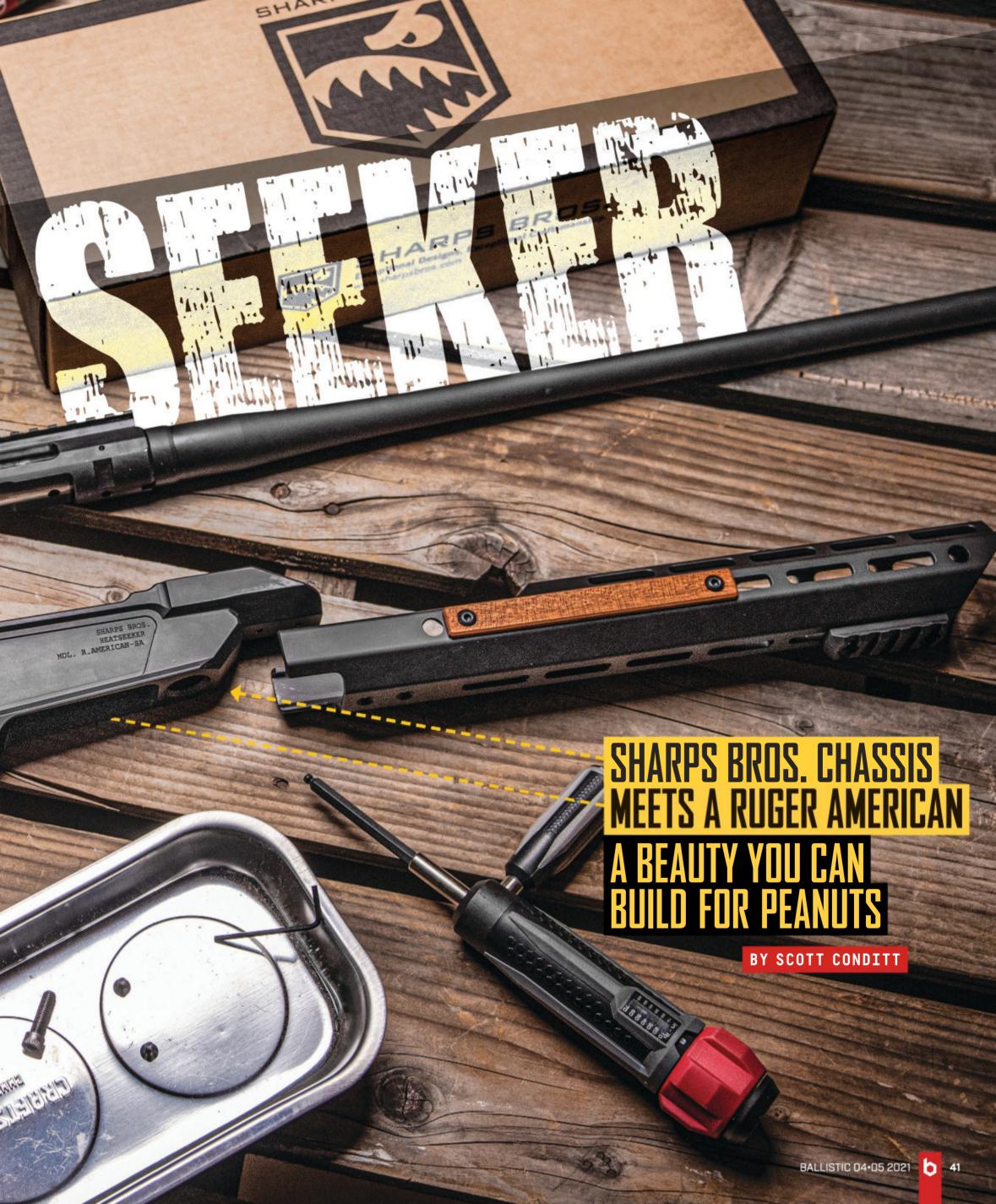
@CZUSAFIREARMS











# 6

# THE HEATSEEKER



**INCE ITS RELEASE,** the Ruger American bolt action rifle platform from Sturm, Ruger & Co. has become synonymous with providing consumers with outstanding quality and accuracy at a shockingly low retail price. Seriously, how a rifle with an MSRP of \$449 performs as well as it does out of the box is striking to even some of the most seasoned long-distance precision instructors and pros I know. Perhaps it's the distillation of 72 years of engineering refinements and manufacturing savvy. Then we have Sharps Bros., a relatively young company by comparison, founded in 2012 by John Sharps. Sharps Bros. is undoubtedly best-known throughout the industry for their uniquely designed AR lower receivers, like The Jack, Overthrow, Warthog and Hellbreaker, each sporting a unique character's wicked visage machined from 7075-T6 high-quality billet aluminum. If Post Malone is proudly showcasing a gold-plated Sharps Bros., the Jack skull-faced AR, behind the bar at his home during live stream benefit concerts, you know Sharps is doing something right.

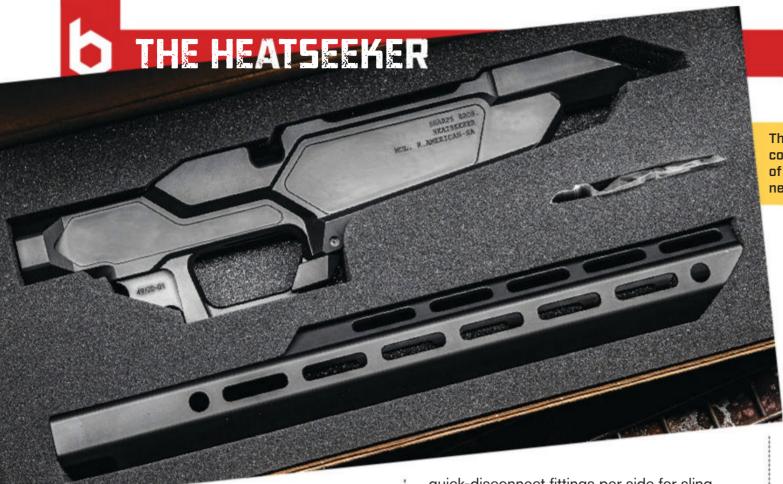
Following closely on the heels of the success of the wildly popular AR lower receiver line, Sharps Bros. went on to become a full-fledged firearm design and manufacturing organization, turning out products in three major subsequent categories: AR-15, AR-10 and Kalashnikov. Innovative engineering practices and outside-of-the-box creativity in their proprietary designs are staples that make Sharps Bros such a unique brand. This is why it's no surprise that John Sharps has now put his mind to work in taking the bolt action in a bold new direction by designing the new Sharps Bros. Heatseeker chassis for the Ruger American precision platform. The new Heatseeker costs \$459 and combines the renowned function and accuracy of Ruger and the savagely cool style and platform enhancements that Sharps Bros is known for. The resulting combination is truly where the best of both worlds collide in the most incendiary fashion.



# HOME COMMUNITY PROTECT COUNTRY CONSERVATION



©Copyright 2021 EOTECH, Inc. All rights reserved. EOTECH®, Vudu® and HWS® are registered trademarks of EOTECH, Inc.



**UNDER THE HOOD** 

The 1.2-pound Heatseeker chassis is machined from billet (solid block) highstrength 6061-T6 aluminum and includes a 10-ounce, 14-inch handguard cut from a unique extrusion shape exclusive to Sharps Bros. Both the chassis body and the handguard are finished in a stealthy matte black Cerakote. The handguard features M-LOK slots on four sides for various attachment options (light, bipod, night vision, ARCA rail, whatever your heart desires) and two

quick-disconnect fittings per side for sling attachment. The Heatseeker is currently available for the Ruger American Short Action platform chambered in calibers .308 Winchester and 6.5mm Creedmoor. The Heatseeker allows you to easily and affordably convert your Ruger American short action into an enhanced magazine fed system, and the sleek, contemporary and edgy design will completely transform the look of your rifle with no need to visit a gunsmith. The Heatseeker model chassis for the Ruger American is compatible with AICS short-action magazines from Magpul and Accuracy International.

The Heatseeker chassis and handguard come expertly packaged, along with all of the tools and accessories you'll need to get started.

Unboxing the Heatseeker is a treat. It comes beautifully packaged with all the tools you'll need and a rock-simple single sheet of instructions, which is all you'll need to fix the chassis on to your Ruger American short-action. The ease of install can't be stressed enough: Just remove a few action screws from the Ruger American, remove the stock from its barreled action, and it literally takes about 10 to 15 minutes total to assemble the Heatseeker chassis body and handguard in their place using a small bag of parts. For this build out, I used the Ruger American Predator chambered in 6.5 Creedmoor. Heatseeker's built-in AR buffer interface allows you to further customize your rifle with your preferred AR-15-type stock, and for this build, I integrated the MFT Battlelink AR Stock with the MFT adjustable cheek riser. You can use any AR-15 grip of choice, and the Sharps'





During these troubling times, it has never been more important to be prepared with the ultimate protection. The Nighthawk Custom Agent 2 IOS with Trijicon red dot, Surefire light, and suppressor is something that everyone needs. Meticulously designed and hand crafted down to the last detail, the Agent 2 will get the job done when you need it most.



# THE HEATSEEKER

The Sharps Bros. Heatseeker affords virtually limitless configurations and component combinations. Accessorize accordingly. Shown wearing Pulsar's Thermion XG50 thermal riflescope.

Bros. Brazilian Cherry grip & handguard panel set was just too cool not to include. The result is a futuristic-looking precision rifle that's ready to rock at long distance. The Heatseeker plus Ruger American combo is comfortable, visually stunning, ergonomic, repeatably accurate, and for good reason feels like an equally familiar but brand new shooting experience. It really is enjoyable to work with, and punching ragged hole groups at respectable hunting distance is no sweat once you're dialed in.

# PROFESSIONAL'S OPINION

Experiencing the quality and accuracy firsthand within my own capabilities as an enthusiastic student of the craft who knows his limitations (I'm capable and reasonably consistent up to 300 yards), I really wanted to put the Heatseeker in the hands of a seasoned professional long-distance shooter. I needed someone who is well-versed with

The expert opinion: Despite its very modest price tag, the Heatseeker can absolutely serve as an excellent hunting and long-distance

the Ruger American platform and has worked with a wide selection of the various chassis available on the market. So, I called upon my buddy and long-distance precision instructor Rob Orgel of the renowned training outfit Emergency Response Tactical for the task.

Over the course of Rob's career, his bio includes being a Combat Instructor (CI) for the USMC and serving as the lead sniper instructor at schools for elite military units, law enforcement and civilian precision rifle competitors. In short, this dude gets scientific with ballistics on a plane that borders voodoo-territory to me, and it's fantastic to behold his skill and knowledge. After he had a chance to handle and work with the Heatseeker and had sent a dozen Black Hills Gold 6.5 Creedmoor 143-grain ELD-X rounds downrange with impressive placement



















# b

# THE HEATSEEKER



# "...punching ragged hole groups at respectable hunting distance is no sweat once you're dialed in."

and grouping, he seemed pleased with the performance. I asked Rob what his initial thoughts on the Heatseeker were, both in general and compared to other chassis he's worked with in the past.

"All of my Ruger American rifles find their way into a chassis," he said. "A chassis offers several advantages from the stock platform. Some of those advantages include different stock options that will allow for length-of-pull changes as well as cheek comb changes. Having precision accuracy in a lightweight hunting rifle should draw the attention of all hunters and precision shooters alike. In many

cases, a chassis can increase accuracy due to the shooter being able to customize his weapon for his body type. Additionally, a lot of the times our barrels aren't truly freely floated, and a chassis can fix that."

When asked if there was one element of the design that initially caught his eye, Rob said, "Where this chassis shines is that it is lightweight and more versatile than its competitors. Creating M-LOK all the way across the bottom and sides is not new. However, M-LOK across the top gives me the capability of mounting night-vision clip-on units in front of my precision optic. This is a

great advantage and usually requires aftermarket parts in addition to the chassis. Finally, having precision capabilities and a lightweight weapon makes people want to take their precision skills to the field. That's huge." This feedback was solid and complemented my impression of the Heatseeker.

#### TAKEAWAY

The Sharps Bros. Heatseeker chassis hits its mark dead-on with enhanced functionality, badass aesthetic design style and overall quality. It simply takes your Ruger American to the next level at a fantastic price point and provides a phenomenal precision platform for both hunting or long-distance shooting. The Heatseeker is going hot! To find out more visit ruger.com and sharpsbros.com.



**▶** 9MM SUBCOMPACT



**TRITIUM PRO DAY/NIGHT SIGHTS** 

PORTED SLIDE

**DLC-COATED BARREL** 

# CARRY SOMETHING A LITTLE COULTER

MICRO 9" RAPIDE (BLACK ICE)

SHARE

MICROS RAPIDE

#### KIMBER'S HOTTEST HANDGUN NOW IN SUBCOMPACT SIZE

You're not boring. So why carry a gun that is? The new Micro 9 Rapide (Black Ice) takes all of the features and style found in our Custom-sized 1911, and puts it in our proven subcompact Micro 9 package.

Forget basic. This takes cool to another level.

LEARN MORE AT

KIMBERAMERICA.COM



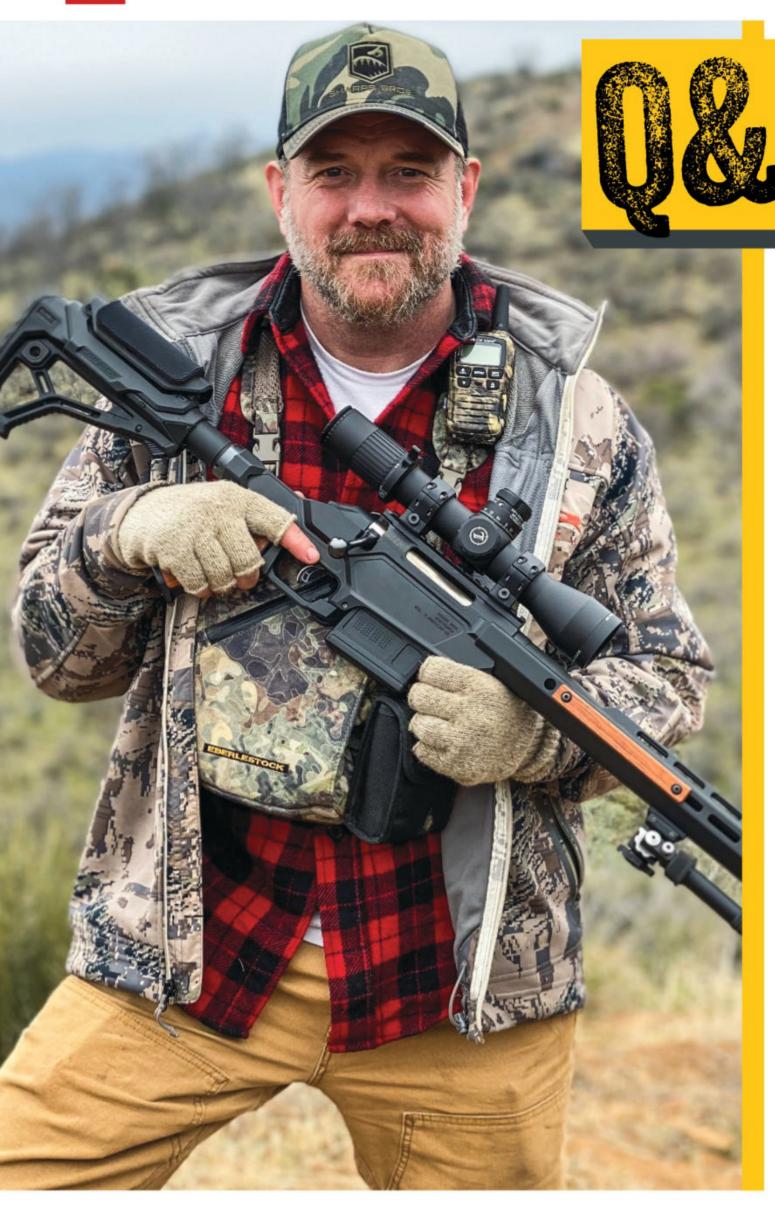
- ► KIMPRO® II FINISH
- ▷ AMBIDEXTROUS THUMB SAFETY
- > EXTENDED MAGWELL



WHAT ALL GUNS SHOULD BE"



# THE HEATSEEKER



#### WHAT INITIALLY INSPIRED THE **HEATSEEKER DESIGN?**

JOHN SHARPS

After establishing ourselves in the AR market, I really wanted to expand. I've been shooting a variety of firearms my whole life, so, if Sharps Bros. limited ourselves to ARs it wouldn't really represent who we are as firearm enthusiasts. We then began offering an AK receiver, which has seen widespread adoption from incredible builders like Meridian Defense, Rifle Dynamics, Krebs Custom and more. We have a number of AK receiver options now: MB47, MB74, MB47-1913, and more. Once we had gained some traction in the AK space, I wanted to go back to my roots of hunting with single-shot T/C Contenders, so we designed some grips for the T/C Contender and Encore that have a Mil-Std-1913 rail interface for use with a variety of stocks and braces. My background in the T/C world was all about taking that "One Good Shot" to harvest game: I have always loved hunting, and shooting long range is one of my favorite pastimes. I like making faraway steel ring and wanting to develop something that would scratch both the hunting and longrange itch is what led me to create Heatseeker.

#### **APPROXIMATELY HOW LONG WAS HEATSEEKER IN DEVELOPMENT?**

Almost every product we design takes between nine and 12 months from napkin sketch to production samples. Heatseeker followed along those lines initially, but the Heatseeker for the Ruger American has a couple of years of learning into it. The first Heatseeker model we released was for the Howa Mini Action. We went with the Howa Mini first because (1) you could buy a barreled action off of the Brownells website for sub \$400, (2) they had 6.5 Grendel as a standard caliber, which is my favorite mid-size game round and, (3) it was a smaller market. I knew we would learn some

things about boit action chassis design along the way, so we started with a smaller market so that by the time we got to larger markets like the Ruger American (and Remington 700 will be next) the designs would have benefited from predecessor models.

# WHY THE RUGER AMERICAN SHORT-ACTION PLATFORM?

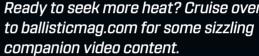
I tell anyone who will listen, the Ruger American is phenomenally accurate for the price point. I honestly don't know how Ruger does it: For around \$400 you are getting a nice smooth action with a great trigger that is capable of ragged-hole groups at 100 yards. I've also been a longtime fan of the Ruger brand: My first revolver was a Blackhawk, and my father collected Ruger No.1 rifles. To me,

Ruger is a name that's synonymous with great quality and American strength.

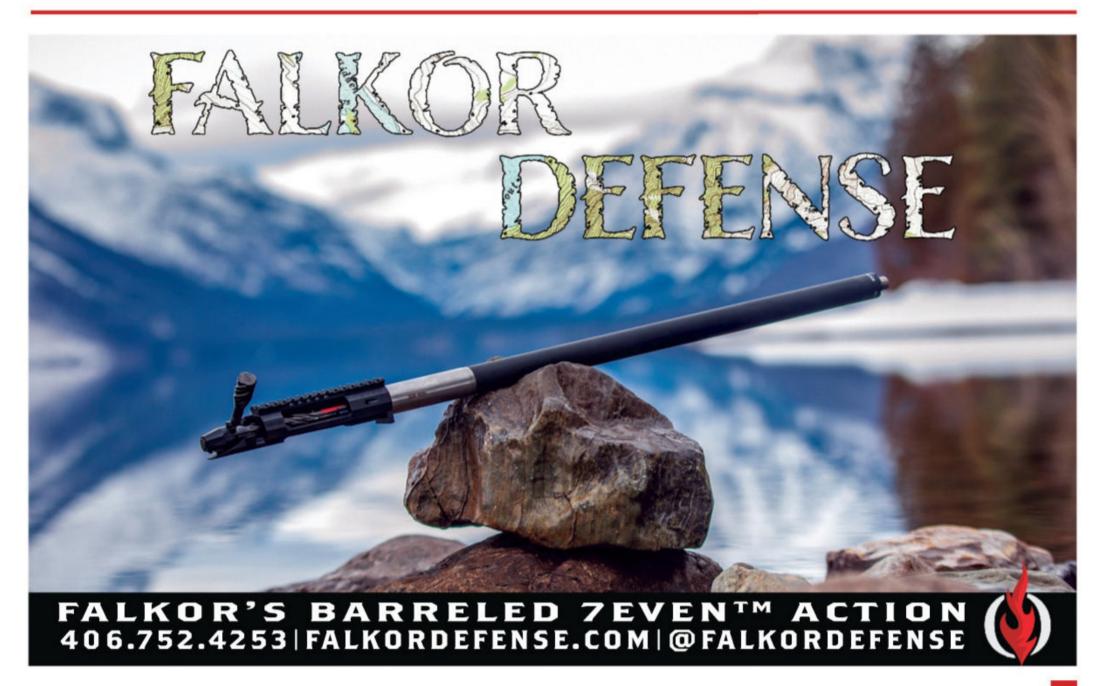
# WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT USING THE HEATSEEKER?

Well, for me I think of it a bit like Lieutenant Colonel Hannibal Smith thinks about the plans he and his fellow *A-Team* members would successfully execute. Stay with me, here: What I'm saying is that whenever I'm sharing a Heatseeker build on the range with my sons or taking it on a hunt with my dad, or when I get customer emails saying how much they love the chassis, or they share photos of their Heatseeker on a hunt...man, that makes me want to light a cigar, grin like Col. Smith and tell it like it is: I love it when a plan comes together. —*By Scott Conditt* 









# THE UNKNOWNS



# COOLFACTOR CLENNERS

TWO MADE IN USA COMPANIES THAT TAKE
THE BOREDOM OUT OF GUN MAINTENANCE
BY FRANK MELLONI

#### PRO-SHOT

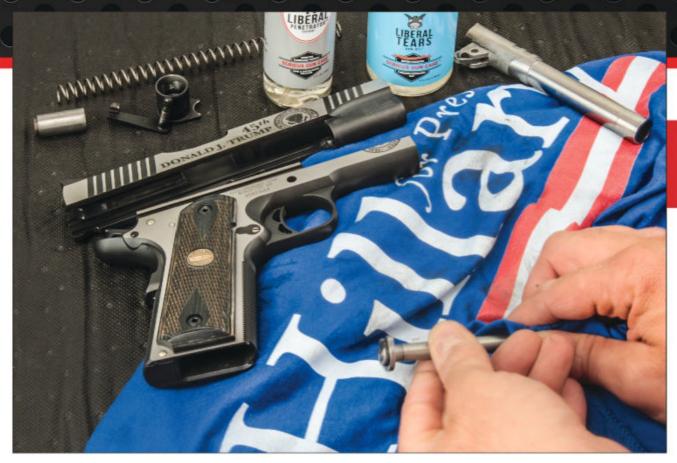
If you're like me, you've probably got caught up in the notion that cleaning kits are meant to be replaced frequently. While it's true that you should check and replace certain components, it shouldn't mean that you are scrapping every part after just a few cleanings. The Damarin family has always felt that way, and in 1982 brought precision craftsmanship to the gun cleaning industry with the Pro-Shot Brand. Pro-Shot is based on one of the most important principles of maintaining accuracy—not hurting your gun while you are cleaning it!

Pro-Shot's cleaning rods are made out of a special stainless steel that is harder than conventional aluminum or brass, yet is still softer than the metal that comprises your gun barrel. Through micro-polishing and burnishing, a tough-as-nails, smooth-





Pro-Shot offers its products *ala carte* or in handy kits like this one, which includes just about everything you might need to clean and maintain your firearm. **LEFT:** Don't forget extra patches. Pro-Shot patches are of the highest quality and cover just about every caliber you might need to clean.



as-silk finish is built into the surface that cannot be rubbed off and is impervious to even the harshest of chemicals. I am a fan of the five-piece design, as it packs down neatly into a small carrying case that can fit into nearly any range bag. If you don't plan on commuting with your cleaning rod, Pro-Shot also has solid one-piece units available that range from 26 inches all the way to 42 inches—in case you need to clean a Mosin!

On the other end of perceived disposable cleaning tools are the cleaning brushes themselves. Pro-Shot's brushes start off with twice the "meat" of other brushes, giving them a more complete scrub with fewer passes and more than twice the lifespan. Furthermore, each brush is made with a brass core and coupling that extend its life and resist flexing and bending. This foundation is present in all of the brushes they make, including their bronze and nylon brushes, and Pro-Shot's exclusive Tornado brush, which utilizes closed-loop bristles, eliminating 100 percent of the sharp bristle ends.

Pro-Shot's products are available a la carte or in a variety of bundles. As I write this, I'm looking down at the "True Universal" Rifle, Pistol, and Shotgun Kit as well as the .38-9mm kit. Each kit includes the appropriate rod, brushes, patch holders, bore guides, assorted cleaners and lubricants, and even a battery-free fiber-optic bore light. These kits are complete in every way and won't leave you constantly running out to buy replacement parts when all you want to do is clean your weapon and wrap up your range day. For more information, visit proshotproducts.com.

#### LIBERAL TEARS

The Liberal Tears Brand was conceived and trademarked by TJ Kirgin, Owner of Tactical Shit retail and media. The idea came about just a few days after Con-

gressman Steve Stockman tweeted about liberal tears being a good "gun lube" back in 2013. What started





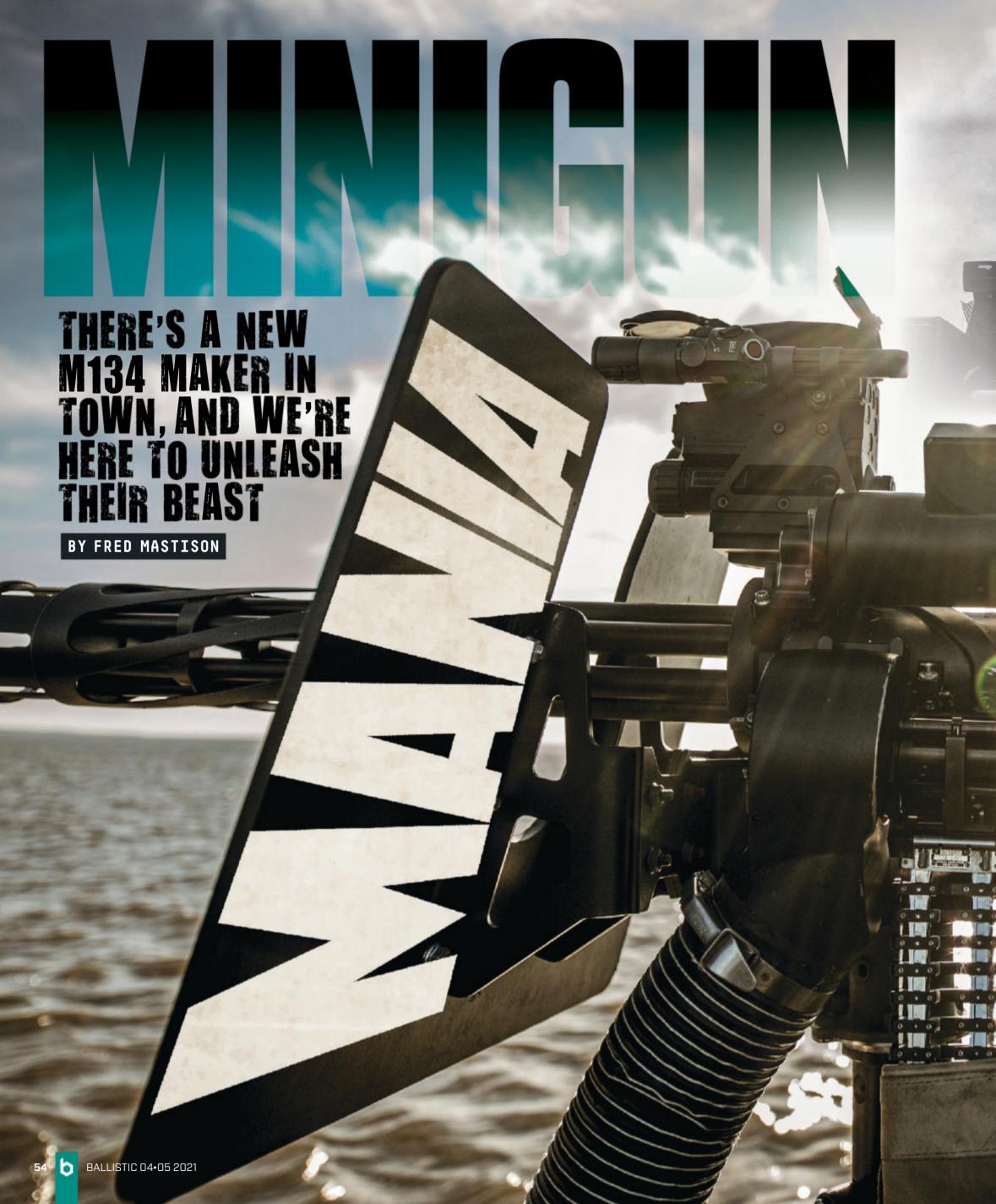
Despite the name, there are no tears involved in using these fine cleaners. Just a simple spray and wipe is often enough to remove even the deepest fouling.

as a series of epic memes quickly became real products and are good for far more than just a cheap laugh.

Liberal Tears gun oil is 100-percent American both in spirit and production. Not only is it made in the states, but it carries a distinct bacon scent as well, taking the edge off the arduous task of gun cleaning. In practice, I have found that if you have enough of it on your gun you'll even generate the nostalgic aroma of a morning campfire cooking breakfast when you're shooting. The solution not only lubricates, but it traps built-up carbon, making future cleaning effortless. Simply wipe it off and spritz on another layer to keep your guns running smoothly and your stomach growling.

Liberal Tears Penetrator is a petroleum-based solution that is safe for use on nearly any gun finish. It was developed with the help of some major players in the game so it isn't merely a novelty item. Far too often we see something "cute" and it turns out to be no more than a junk product in nifty packaging. We've used this stuff to handle neglected AR bolt carrier groups, crusty .22 LR parts and just about everything in between. Because it's oil-based it can be treated like a basic CLP, lubricating whatever surfaces that can't be reached for removal. The same non-aerosol type spritz bottle ensures that you get every last drop out of the container.

Today the Liberal Tears brand continues to grow to include the 2020 staple of hand sanitizer and, of course, premium coffee, which is mandatory for dealing with an ever-growing army of diseased, exhausting Karens that plague this earth. Liberal Tears is scheduled to launch their next product line this year to include personal defense Olioresincapsicum or Tears Pepper Spray—"Makin Commies Cry since 2020." For more information, visit liberaltears.net.





# MINIGUN MANIA

#### **MODERNIZED GATLING**

The modern Minigun can trace its DNA all the way back to the 1860s when Richard Gatling replaced the hand crank mechanism on his famous gatling gun with an electric motor. This was a new invention at the time and gave the Gatling gun a fire rate of close to 3,000 rounds per minute. Ironically, the design never took hold in military circles, and the gun was mostly relegated to history books. In the 1960s, the U.S. military was wading into Vietnam and started taking a look at electric motor-driven guns like the Gatling. General Electric took on the task and scaled down the M61 Vulcan cannon, which fired a 20mm round. They chambered the new gun in 7.62 NATO, and the M134 was born.

> Fast forward to today, and the M134 has seen some serious evolution. Enter the Minigun Jedi at Profense. The president of Profense, Michael

With its DNA based

gun, the modern

lead faucet.

in the classic Gattling

M134 is a fast-firing

"THE M134 FALLS INTO A VERY SPECIFIC CATEGORY OF GUNS I CALL, 'HELL YEAH.'"

lacobucci, shared with me that the company has its origins in the aircraft industry. They moved toward weapon design and manufacturing after a client requested a Minigun for a specific aircraft. The owners explored current options and ultimately decided that they

could do it better themselves. lacobucci, a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel, has extensive experience in the Special Operations community and has been instrumental in the growth and expansion of Profense. In fact, over 50 percent of the employees at Profense have a military background. It is this real-world understanding of weapon application and implementation that has helped Profense experience meteoric growth in the defense industry.

#### **MEET DA BEAST**

The core of the Profense line is the PF M134 Minigun Weapon System. It is an electrically driven automatic Gatling-gun style weapon with a sustained rate of fire in excess of 3,000 rounds per minute. The gun can also be equipped with a "dual-rate" digitally controlled gun control unit (GCU) that allows the user to select either a 1,500 RPM or 3,000 RPM rate of fire. The M134 fires the standard 7.62x51mm NATO cartridge and utilizes a linkfed ammunition system. The M134 is driven from a self-contained battery power supply, or power provided from the platform vehicle's electrical system.

According to Profense, their M134 is the most technically advanced M134 weapon system available supporting U.S. defense forces as well as NATO and non-NATO allies.







The Tavor TS12 is a 15-round, self-loading, gas regulated bullpup shotgun.

Compact, easy to use, maintain, and ideal for home defense or sporting.

IWI.US



# MINIGUN MANIA

#### SPECIFICATIONS

# → PF M134

**APPLICATIONS:** 

Vehicles, Unmanned aerial vehicles, Naval vessels, Aircraft and Remote Weapons Systems (RWS)

**DIGITAL GUN CONTROL** UNIT (GCU):

Select 1,500 and 3,000 rounds/min (+/10%)

**EFFECTIVE RANGE:** 

1,100 meters

**SUPPRESSION RANGE:** 

1,300 meters

**BATTERY:** 

Aviation-grade 24 VDC (rechargeable)

**AMMUNITION:** 

Linked 7.62x51mm NATO w/M13 links

**GUN WEIGHT:** 

66.1 pounds (crew served); 56.9 pounds (fixed forward)

RECOIL:

150 to 300 pounds

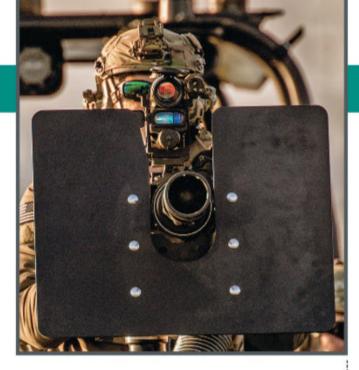
**DA LENGTH:** 

40 inches

**DA WIDTH:** 

8.5 inches

Tested to and compliant with MIL Spec standards 50+ awarded and pending international and United States patents.



Their claims have quite a bit of support. The Profense M134 exceeds the performance requirements defined in MIL-M-45920 for the U.S. Army and provides "state of the art" feature enhancements that separate the Profense M134 Minigun weapon system from the competition. Profense has exceptional quality standards and performance objectives. To achieve these, Profense meticulously inspects each aspect of their gun and designs system-level improvements centered on performance, readiness, ease of use and long-term sustainability. Unlike some other companies in the M134 space, Profense is actually manufacturing their own version of the M134 with several significant design differences from other guns in service The PF M134 is capable of providing suppressive fire as well as destroying targets. The new model provides state-of-the-art enhancements not found in many other M134 models.

\_\_\_\_\_

today. This self-contained operation allows them to drive innovation and development of the M134 to levels unobtainable by other companies. Some of the advances Profense has brought to the table are brushless motors and advanced GCUs that make operation more efficient and effective.

One of the most interesting things I discovered about Profense is that they have designed and produced a 5.56 NATO version of the classic M134 as well. Descended from the PF M134, their PF 556 has been designed using the same patented technology and aerospace manufacturing processes, but with the additional benefits of being a lighter and more compact system. The PF 556 is equipped with a fully programmable digital GCU that incorporates full brushless motor control of the weapon and the ammunition booster. This unique feature allows for precise weapon and ammunition quantity management.







The perfect ammunition begins with a perfect case. Precisely designed. Exactingly engineered. Ingeniously manufactured. Resulting in single-digit standard deviation. One box will tell you everything. This is ammunition made perfect.

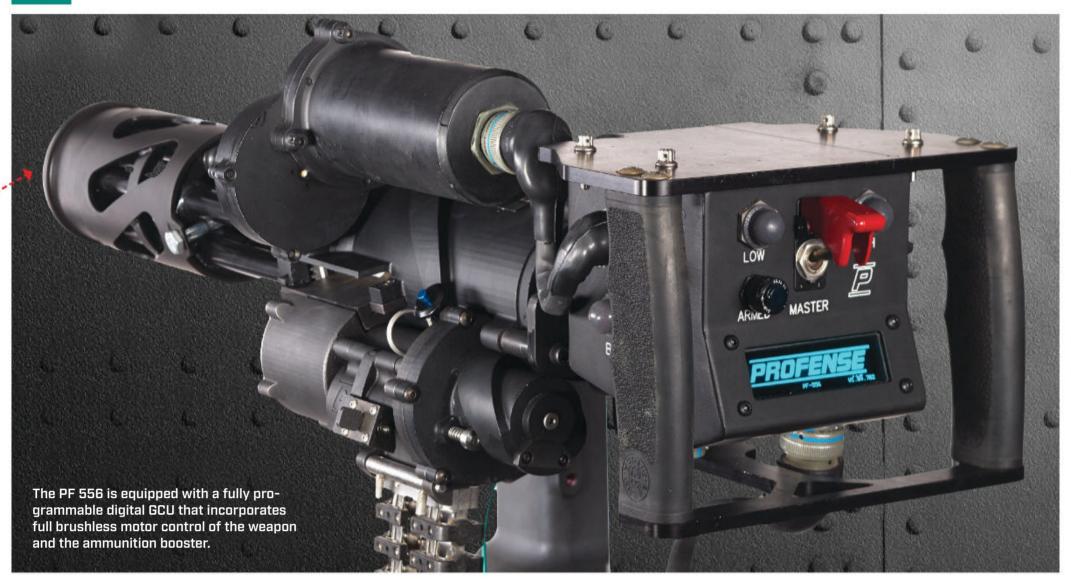




Copyright 2021 True Velocity Ammunition LLC. All rights reserved. Visit www.tvammo.com/legal

# 6

# MINIGUN MANIA



SPECIFICATIONS

# **PF 556**

APPLICATIONS:	Vehicles, Unmanned aerial vehicles, Naval vessels, Aircraft and Remote Weapons Systems (RWS)
DIGITAL GUN CONTROL UNIT (GCU):	Select between two rates of fire up to 4,000 rounds/minute (+/-10%)
EFFECTIVE RANGE:	900 meters
SUPPRESSION RANGE:	1,100 meters
BATTERY:	Small, lightweight, 48 VDC (rechargeable)
AMMUNITION:	Linked 5.56x45mm NATO
GUN WEIGHT:	33 pounds
RECOIL:	70 pounds at 4,000 rounds/minute
OA LENGTH:	27.8 to 35.8 inches

A minigun like the Profense M134 is a welcome addition to any battle arsenal. With it, the operator can fire around 3,000 rounds per minute with an effective range of 1,100 meters.

### WHY PROFENSE REIGNS SUPREME

I visited with lacobucci and asked him what the major advantage Profense has on the competition. "We have an organic engineering capacity as well as an organic manufacturing capacity under the same roof," he said. "This provides us incredible agility when developing new products." Concerning specific innovations, he said, "The variable rate of fire we have developed allows training to be done at a lower rate of fire, making it more cost effective."

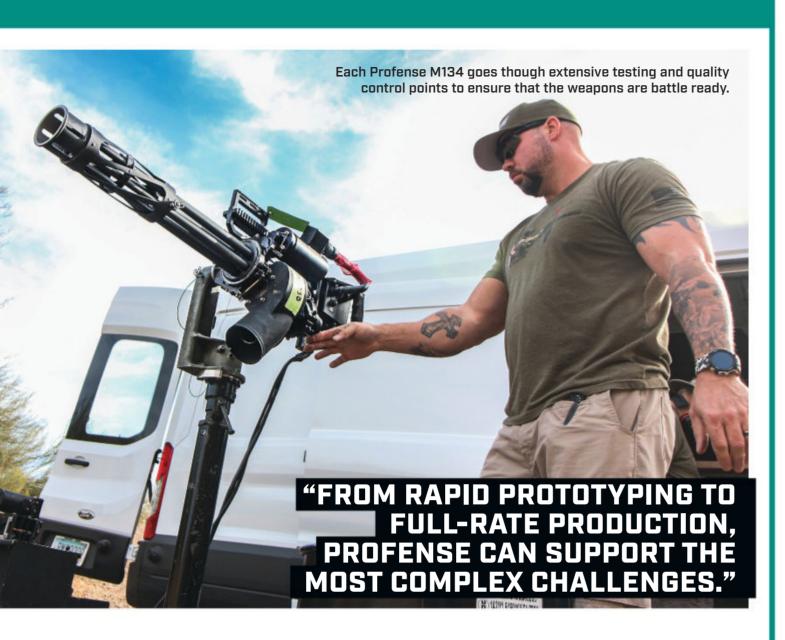
Profense has established itself as the premier manufacturer of the M134, and lacobucci shared that their guns can be found "in every time zone across the world."

One advanced feature that the PF M134 and the PF 556 have is the ability to be operated remotely. This creates an opportunity for the gun to be used to engage targets while the operator is secured in a safe position.

### LET 'ER RIP

The Profense headquarters and manufacturing facility is located just a short drive from Phoenix, Arizona. The team was kind enough to let me come take a detailed tour of their facility as well as get some range time. I have had the fortune of visiting some of the most advanced weapon manufacturing facilities in the United States, and Profense is one of the best I have seen. Their ability to go





from idea to prototype under the same roof is almost unheard of. Throw into that a team with real-world knowledge about the application of these guns and you have a company sitting at the top of the hill.

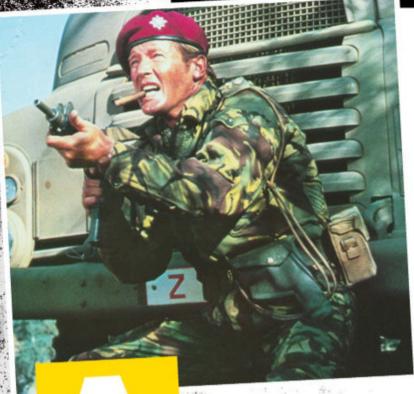
While I may wax poetic about the technicalities and dry stats of range day, the truth is that it was absurdly enjoyable. The M134 falls into a very specific category of guns I call, "Hell Yeah." I say that because once the initial burst starts and ends, most people are thinking, "Hell Yeah!" I also consider the M134 to be a ballistic anti-depressant as it can make just about anyone smile. I have had the fortune of being around Miniguns prior to this and the PF M134 is different. The most visually noticeable feature are the cooling fins on the front of the six barrels. Profense has designed these fins to provide a 25-percent reduction in heat when the weapon is in operation. This system is patented and termed by Profense as the Aeroclamp. The team at Profense is all business, though, and the range day and testing were executed with professional military precision. They understand that the end users of these guns will be facing dangerous situations and that performance and reliability are not just catch phrases.

Profense is not a one-trick pony by any stretch of the imagination. Besides the weapons, they offer training as well as OEM services. The Profense Team has over 50 years of weapon system experience incorporating a variety of rotary-, sea- and ground-based solutions. From rapid prototyping to full-rate production, Profense can support the most complex challenges. To add one more feather in their cap, they offer upgrade kits for the GAU-2, GAU-17, MK44 and M134. Designated MUK or Mission Upgrade Kits, the client can upgrade their current weapons with Profense tech.

There are few companies out there that have the pedigree and capability of Profense. Even more rare is a company that has such a dedication to excellence and the end user. It was an honor to spend time with the team and, honestly, it was one of the more enjoyable range days I have had the chance to take part in. The cliché thing to say now is that if you get a chance to run a PF M134, you should jump at it. The opportunities to do that are exceedingly rare, but hardcore shooters like me have eternal hope. For more information, visit profense.com.



# Oox Office Steel



Along with the AK-47, the Israeli-made Uzi may be one of the most infamous firearms ever produced. To gun-grabbing activists and anti-Second Amendment politicians, all submachine guns are often described as Uzis. Yet, the fact remains there might be similar looking weapons, and even variations based on the original, but there is really only one true Uzi.

## The Backston

Developed after World War II by Major Uziel "Uzi" Gal of the Israel Defense Force (IDF), the compact submachine gun (SMG) was among the first domestically designed and produced firearms in the newly independent Middle Eastern state. While not the first weapon to use a telescoping bolt design, which allowed for the magazine to be housed in the pistol grip, it was certainly the first gun to successfully utilize the design.

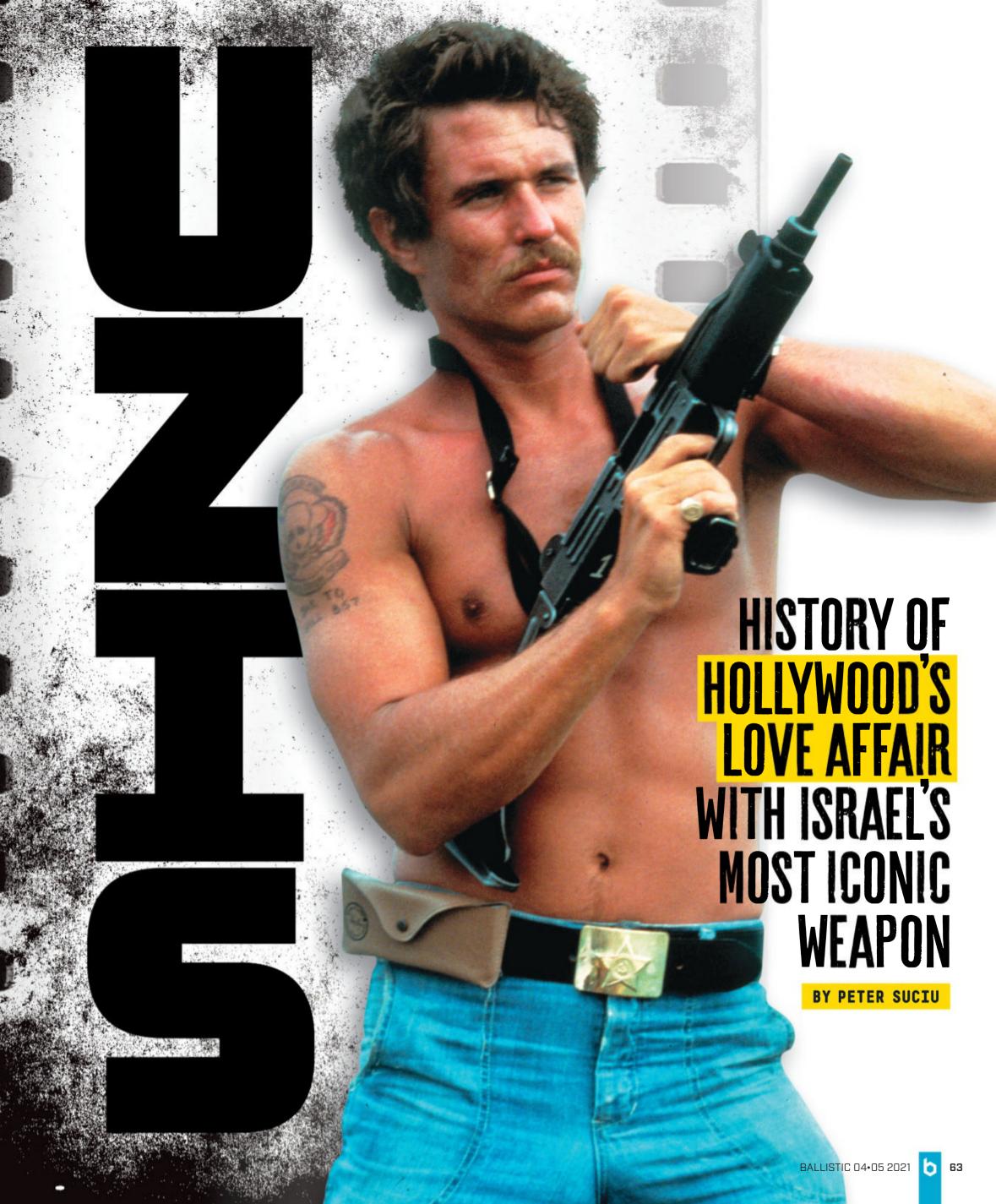
The open-bolt, blowback-operated SMG was first issued to IDF special forces in 1954 and was placed in general issue two years later with

paratroopers as well as tank and armored-vehicle crews. However, due to its compact size, the Uzi was never used as the standard firearm of the IDF. Yet it proved ideal for close-quarters combat and in special operations.

First used in the Sinai desert against Egyptian forces during the Suez Crisis, the weapon's compact size helped lead to its international success. From the 1960s through the 1980s, more Uzi SMGs were sold to military, law enforcement and security forces than any other SMG ever made.

A surprising fact is that despite its success and international popularity, it wasn't actually until 1976 that the mainstream American public ever likely even knew of the gun's existence. It was featured in no movies, and apart from some footage of the IDF engaged in combat during the Six Day War in 1967 or the Yom Kippur War in 1973, it rarely appeared in the media and might just have been the best-kept secret in firearms.



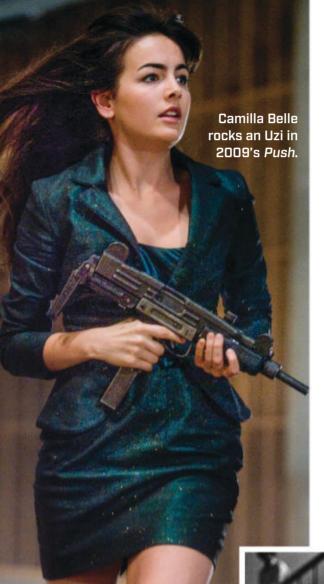


# Lights, Camera, Uzis









**TOP LEFT:** TV character actor Stephen Macht was the first actor to use an Uzi in a movie in the 1977 NBC TV drama *Raid on Entebbe*. **MIDDLE:** Uzis are used prominently in the 1980 mercenary film *The Dogs of War*. **RIGHT:** Richard Burton's character of Col. Allen Faulkner in *The Wild Geese* was based on the real "Mad" Mike Hoare, arguably one of the most infamous mercenaries of the 20th century.

That changed on June 27, 1976, when an Air France Airbus A300 jet airliner with 248 passengers was hijacked by Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine terrorists and members of the German Revolutionary Cells.

#### The Entebbe Raid

It was on July 4, 1976, while across the United States bicentennial celebrations were underway, that a daring raid by IDF commandos took place at the Entebbe airport in Uganda to free those hostages. Operation Thunderbolt as it was known was conducted under the command of Lt.

Alamy Photo

The Israeli-made film Operation
Thunderbolt was the most
accurate depiction of the July 4,
1976, raid on the Entebbe airport
to free hostages being held by
Palestinian terrorists. Dozens of
Uzis could be seen in the film.

Col. Yonathan "Yoni" Netanyahu—younger brother of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. In the end, all seven hijackers/terrorists as well as upwards of 45 Ugandan soldiers were killed, along with, sadly, three hostages. Lt. Col. Netanyahu was also killed, the only member of the IDF to lose his life in the raid.

The Uzi was among the firearms used in the raid and it was ready for its close-up. Within months of the daring operation, three different films were produced—two for American network TV.

The first, *Victory at Entebbe*, aired on ABC in December 1976, less than six months after the raid. It featured a surprising number of stars including Kirk Douglas, Anthony Hopkins and Burt Lancaster, but unfortunately it didn't feature any Uzis. However, the NBC production, *Raid on Entebbe*, aired just a month later and its cast included Peter Finch, James Woods and Charles Bronson. More importantly, it was the first movie to feature IDF soldiers armed with the Uzi.

While it wasn't technically a "big screen" debut, the Uzi had its moments. In the film terrorists/hijackers and the IDF alike are armed with the SMG, an inaccuracy as the terrorists were reported to be armed with Czechoslovakian-made CZ Vz. 61 E Skorpions and later were equipped with AK-47s provided by the Ugandan forces.

# TO CARRY

It's dangerous out there. Why go alone?

At just over 5.5" long and 4.5" tall (from the bottom of the magazine to top of sights) and an unloaded weight of 18 oz., the ZEV Z365 packs all the concealable confidence you need when venturing out on your own. It doesn't hurt to be ready for unforeseen circumstances.

SHOWN (ACTUAL SIZE): ZEV Z365 Octane Gunmod with RMSC Optic Cut, Gray Slide, Black Barrel.



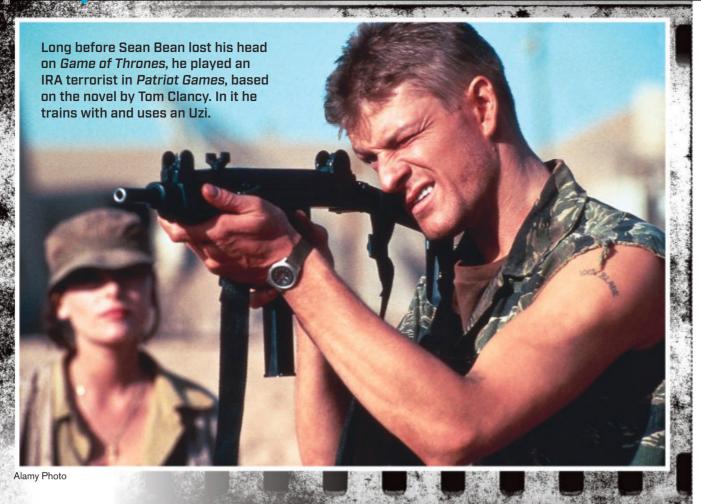


See our complete line of innovative products at **ZEVTECH.com** 

SIGSAUER

MADE IN COLLABORATION WITH SIG SAUER

# Lights, Camera, Uzis



TV character actor Stephen Macht, who played Netanyahu, has the notable distinction of being the first "star" to carry the Uzi in a movie. He certainly wasn't to be the last. Nor was *Raid on Entebbe* to be the final word on the operation.

A third movie, *Operation Thunderbolt*, was produced in Israel and released in the summer of 1977 and it is clearly the best of the bunch—story and plot wise it is also vastly superior to the 2018 *Seven Days in Entebbe*.

Operation Thunderbolt lacked in marquee stars—Klaus Kinski and Sybil Danning were about the biggest international names—but

it was produced using full-sized exterior sets while three of the Hercules transports that were used in the actual raid were used in the film. The IDF commandos are seen correctly armed with the Uzi, while it is also worth noting this film was also the first to use actual Soviet-made AK-47s.

# Supporting Roles

Despite appearing in two of the three early films about the Entebbe raid, the Uzi wasn't quite a star. It wouldn't be until the 1980s that the word "Uzi" truly entered the modern vernacular, but in 1976 the SMG was used

in the film *Two-Minute Warning* starting John Cassavetes and a year later in *Stuntwoman*, where it was carried by sex-symbol actress Raquel Welch. It was also used by Robert Shaw's character in the action thriller *Black Sunday*—his final role before his death. In the film, the Uzi is seen for the first time fitted with a suppressor.

In subsequent films, the Israeli SMG remained largely in the background such as in the 1978 film *Midnight Express*, and few apart from firearms enthusiasts likely could have identified the weapon by name.

The first time the gun was even seen in extended combat scenes was in the 1978 mercenary film *The Wild Geese*, where it is used alongside the L1A1 SLR (FN FAL) and Sterling L2A1 SMG. A total of five identical Uzis were used in the production, which was filmed in South Africa. At various times, Richard Burton and Roger Moore can be seen carrying one.

## Cry Havoc

Arguably the first film to even use the name of the weapon was another mercenary-themed film, 1980's *The Dogs of War* starring Christopher Walken, Tom Berenger and Paul Freeman. All three of the soldiers of fortune carried one in the film's climactic raid.

The process of buying the firearms and ammunition made up a significant part of the story as does the smuggling of the contraband weapons out of France. It should be noted that in the novel version by Frederick Forsyth, it was German MP40s from World

The Terminator was among the first mainstream films to call out the Uzi by name.

FAR RIGHT: Dennis
Farina was always
good at playing
tough guys. Even
after taking a
beating in Reindeer
Games he manages
to remain in the fight
armed with an Uzi.





# **Bad to the Bone**

Full tang stainless steel blade with natural bone handle —now ONLY \$79!

The very best hunting knives possess a perfect balance of form and function. They're carefully constructed from fine materials, but also have that little something extra to connect the owner with nature.

If you're on the hunt for a knife that combines impeccable craftsmanship with a sense of wonder, the \$79 *Huntsman Blade* is the trophy you're looking for.

The blade is full tang, meaning it doesn't stop at the handle but extends to the length of the grip for the ultimate in strength. The blade is made from 420 surgical steel, famed for its sharpness and its resistance to corrosion.

The handle is made from genuine natural bone, and features decorative wood spacers and a hand-carved motif of two overlapping feathers— a reminder for you to respect and connect with the natural world.

This fusion of substance and style can garner a high price tag out in the marketplace. In fact, we found full tang, stainless steel blades with

bone handles in excess of \$2,000. Well, that won't cut it around here. We have mastered the hunt for the best deal, and in turn pass the spoils on to our customers.

**But we don't stop there.** While supplies last, we'll include a pair of \$99 8x21 power compact binoculars *and* a genuine leather sheath **FREE** when you purchase the *Huntsman Blade*.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed. Feel the knife in your hands, wear it on your hip, inspect the impeccable craftsmanship. If you don't feel like we cut you a fair deal, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price.

Limited Reserves. A deal like this won't last long. We have only 1120 *Huntsman Blades* for this ad only. Don't let this beauty slip through your fingers. Call today!



**BONUS!** Call today and you'll also receive this genuine leather sheath!

Huntsman Blade \$249\*

Offer Code Price Only \$79 + S&P Save \$170

1-800-333-2045

Your Insider Offer Code: HUK479-01

You must use the insider offer code to get our special price.



155 D LILIW/70

Stauer® 14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155, Dept. HUK479-01
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 www.stauer.com

\*Discount is only for customers who use the offer code versus the listed original Stauer.com price.

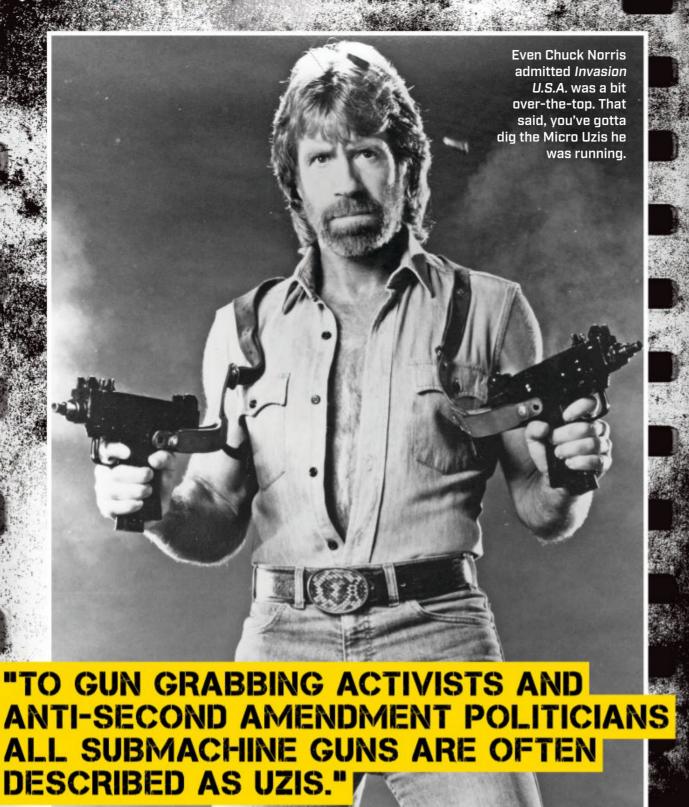
California residents please call 1-800-333-2045 regarding Proposition 65 regulations before purchasing this product.

• 12" overall length; 6 ½" stainless steel full tang blade • Genuine bone handle with brass hand guard & bolsters • Includes genuine leather sheath

Stauer... Afford the Extraordinary.®



# Lights, Camera, Uzis



War II that were used in the armed coup in Africa, but the filmmakers changed it to Uzis—likely because it was impossible to find enough functioning surplus MP40s for the production.

In fact, there weren't even enough Uzis! In addition to real Uzis that the principal stars carried, in some scenes Military Armament Corporation Model 10, more commonly and erroneously known as the MAC-10, were dressed up to look like the Israel SMG. Those faux MAC-Uzis, as they have become known, showed up again in the films *Stripes, Raw Deal* and *The Killer Elite*, as well on TV's *The A-Team*.

During the final act of *The Dogs of War*, Walken's character could also be seen armed with an Uzi fitted with a Sionics' Two Stage Sound Suppressor and Star-Lite Scope. While the night-vision scope was accurately depicted, the suppressor produced the near silent "pop, pop" sound so common with movie "silencers."

## Decade of the Uzi

It could be argued the early to mid-1980s were the "golden age" for the Uzi, as it was seen in numerous films including *Death Wish 2* (1982), *Uncommon Valor* (1983) and even in *Scarface* (1983), where Al Pacino's character Tony Montana used one after he dropped his "little friend."

The firearm was even called out directly in 1984 teen horror comedy *Night of the Comedy*, which humorously depicted the death of most of humanity. In one scene the

Raquel Welch was arguably the first big screen "starlet" to be seen with an Uzi in the hit film Stuntwoman.

FAR RIGHT:

Paul Freeman, Tom Berenger and Jean-François Stévenin are seen with Uzis in The Dogs of War.





two teenage female survivors discuss their jamming-prone MAC-10s, and one suggests that if their Green Beret father were there he'd have gotten them Uzis!

Perhaps the biggest shout-out to the Uzi to date occurred in James Cameron's 1984 science fiction classic *The Terminator* when Arnold Schwarzenegger's T-800 character asks to see various firearms at a Los Angeles gun shop and simply utters, "Uzi 9mm."

However, there were a *few* notable problems with that scene. First, the Uzi had a short barrel rather than the 16-inch barrel fitted to the civilian semi-automatic Uzi carbine. Moreover, it is clearly an open-bolt Uzi, meaning the fully-automatic version and not the semi-automatic Carbine. Director Cameron had later tried to suggest that the T-800 may have converted the Uzi, but without the right tools, not to mention parts, such a conversion would be nearly impossible. Still as the gun shop owner (played by Dick Miller) noted, the T-800 knows his guns and the Uzi was a "fine choice."

By the late 1980s and early 1990s, the Uzi practically became a household name, and it appeared in more than two dozen additional movies and was carried by such actors as Mel Gibson (*Air America*), Kevin Spacey (*The Usual Suspects*), Harrison Ford (*Patriot Games*), John Travolta (*Facel Off*), Hilary Duff (*War, Inc.*) and Colin Farrell (*Seven Psychopaths*).

The Uzi has also appeared in countless TV shows including *Doctor Who*, *Knight Rider*, *Miami Vice*, *The Sopranos*, *Breaking Bad* and *The Walking Dead*.

# Small Gun, Big Screen

The Uzi was much like the Baldwin family—there was more than one that appeared in the movies. This included the semi-auto Uzi Carbine, which has even stood in at times for the original Uzi including in 2004's *Hotel Rwanda*, which depicts the firearm in use with UN forces, who wouldn't have carried the semi-automatic civilian weapon.

In addition, there are the Mini and Micro Uzis. The former was introduced in 1980 and was largely employed with security forces and paramilitary forces that required a compact and even concealable SMG. It was first seen in the 1986 action film *The Delta Force*, starring Chuck Norris and Lee Marvin. Filmed

primarily in Israel, the Mini Uzi was readily available to the armorers, but it subsequently appeared in more than a dozen films including several Hong Kong action films of the late 1980s and early 1990s.

The even more "compact" Micro Uzi introduced in 1986 has also been a staple in action films beginning with 1985's Com-

mando. Chuck Norris also double-carried Micro Uzis in the 1985 remake of *Invasion U.S.A.* However, many of the weapons seen in these films aren't actually the mil-spec versions, but rather the civilian versions imported and sold by Action Arms. Regardless of the model, few weapons have been as iconic as the Uzi.





# CENTURY ARAS BY SEAN UTLEY HAS HK'S MP5 FINALLY MET ITS MATCH

I doubt there is a gun fan alive that doesn't like the MP5. It has stood the test of time with proper design in function and aesthetics. As a teen in the '80s I was exposed to unrelenting levels of testosterone-fueled action flicks that glorified guns of every sort. I don't know how you could come out of that era not a fan of guns like the MP5.

At the tender age of 13, my best friend and I made a pact that the first one to become a millionaire would buy one MP5 for each of us. Since you're reading this from me, it's evident I didn't become a millionaire (I'm sure he did, though). Of course the versions that we lusted for back then (and now) were full-auto submachine guns, and last time I even glanced at the price of a full-auto MP5 it was \$26,000—and that was 15 years ago.

Thankfully, manufacturers have made it possible through clones to have an MP5, if only a semi-auto version. One such manufacturer, or importer I should

say, is Century Arms International, which has brought the United States many cool weapons that might otherwise have graced our eyeballs only in some B movie on Netflix. The list includes the UC-9, based off the Israeli UZI; Golani, which is based off the Galil; and the L1A1, which is based off the FAL. Their latest import is the AP5 (apparatus pistol), their version of the iconic MP5. Apparatus pistol is Latin for machine pistol. I like the name, as it's less offensive in today's hyper-sensitive atmosphere. I say we all deserve a good apparatus pistol in our lives.

WITH CENTURY'S NEW CQB BLASTER?

#### **FIRST LOOK!**

The AP5 dropped in our lap during the annual Athlon Outdoors Rendezvous. It's a three-day-long, show-and-go fest of the latest firearms and accessories that certain manufacturers have to offer. Adam Ruonala, senior marketing coordinator for Century Arms, told me I'd want to stop by their tent to see something cool. Being the precision snob that I am, I couldn't imagine anything cool that wasn't chambered in 6.5 Creedmoor,

300 PRC or something of the like. Boy, was I wrong. He placed the AP5 in my hands and I was immediately teleported back to 1980-something. Hand me a mag, quick!

#### TRUE TO THE GAME

When is a clone not a clone? Well, probably when the firearm is manufactured on the very machines used to manufacture the original, down to the most detailed of specs. You'll be happy to know that the AP5 is made just like the original bad boy on German-made equipment used to make the HK MP5, so they are pretty much one and the same. I guess this is a good spot to insert William Shakespeare's quote, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." In other words, AP5 buyers will be happy.

"MKE is the Turkish military firearms manufacturing facility, and in the early 1970s they commissioned HK to build a facility in Turkey so that they could make the MP5 for their military and law enforcement," Ruonala said. "The



#### **CENTURY ARMS APS**



#### **CENTURY ARMS AP5**

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	9mm
BARREL:	8.9 inches
OA LENGTH:	17.8 inches
WEIGHT:	6.3 pounds (empty)
GRIP:	Polymer or brace
SIGHTS:	Rear drum, fixed front
ACTION:	Blowback semi-auto
FINISH:	Black
CAPACITY:	30+1
MSRP:	N/A

**BELOW:** The threaded and tri-mount integrated muzzle of the Century Arms AP5 gives the shooter a variety of different options for suppression and placement of muzzle devices.

contract ended in 1990, and the machines and facility stayed." I guess you could say the rest is history because now they are using the facility and machines to make these exact-to-HK-spec goodies for us. Plus, all of the parts are interchangeable with HK parts.

Century is releasing three versions of the AP5—full-size version, which is featured in this writing and designated the AP5, a mid-size AP5-P and a AP5-M, which is a small, fully concealable version. Because of my roots, I'm partial to the full-size AP5 and couldn't turn down the chance to evaluate it. While I am a staunch precision rifle guy, those types of rifles can't hold my gaze if there is an MP5-type gun in the room. Do you know how many people I sniped in the *Rainbow Six* video game franchise with the MP5 topped with a high-magnification optic? Precision rifles be damned!

Of course, the roller-delayed blowback of the MP5 is the centerpiece and the AP5 is this same ultra smooth and reliable system. Obviously, the AP5 is chambered in 9mm, but it has a hammer-forged barrel, something I wasn't aware of. But being to the true H&K spec, it is true on this version, as confirmed by Ruonala. Also, each barrel has a three-lug quick attachment and is threaded in 1/2x28, so get those cans ready for mounting.

I'm a lover of the MP5 but not an all-in connoisseur with knowledge about all the different variants. But upon researching the AP5, it is pretty much the MP5A3 version with a single-sided, metal safety selector as opposed to the more modern polymer safety selector. It also features the contoured grip, which is great for all right-handed shooters but not us southpaw types. But, that's nothing that can't be overcome. Plus, there is a hefty amount of lowers and parts that can be purchased if you want to change it out. As I write this, I'm perusing the ambi safety selection online. I smell another gun purchase a-brewin'. Each AP5 comes with two 30-round mags, a Picatinny-style mount to throw optics onboard, a sling and a factory cleaning kit.

#### **COMPACT DEFENDER**

It's not uncommon to question the role of specific firearms. The AP5 fits into many roles short of a long-range bomber. Don't get me wrong, it's still 9mm, but it has a wide footprint. I think it's great for car and truck duty, and it's also undoubtedly a take-to-the-range-often type of firearm. Plus, it could be used for home defense. The gun's dimensions







72



## X5 TACTIX

1-6X24



#### MORE FEATURES & BETTER PRICE

#### THAN THE COMPETITION

With a high performance reticle, more adjustment and more features, you would anticipate a higher price. That's not the case with Riton Optics. The X5 Tactix 1-6x24 is a best-in-class scope that will beat the competition on features, performance AND PRICE.





The Only U.S. Military And Law Enforcement Veteran Owned Optics Company.



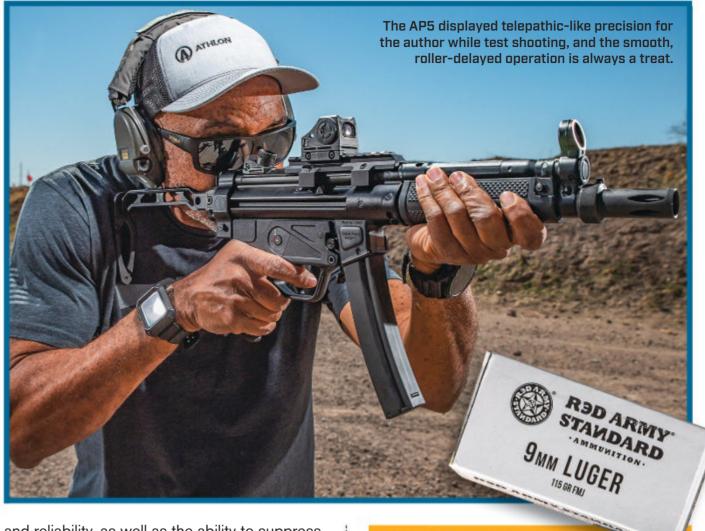
# b

#### **CENTURY ARMS APS**



So who's wielding the AP5 in these photos?
Meet Kendl Wong, full-time carpenter,
competitive shooter and online gamer who
currently holds a yellow belt in Krav Maga.

The author's been working with Kendl on her precision rifle shooting and writing skills. Before long, Kendl will be helping us bring fresh content to the pages of *Ballistic*, *Tactical Life* and *PDW* magazines. Check out



and reliability, as well as the ability to suppress it, make it a winner.

The threaded and tri-lug configuration of the muzzle gives the end user options for suppressors. I've been a long-time fan of tri-lug so the old Gemtech comes to mind. The threaded portion begs for the SilencerCo Omega 9k, and that's what it got. The roller-delayed blowback system itself is a suppression advantage since the pressures inside the chamber must build to a certain point, then decrease some before the bolt opens and the guns cycles. This delay helps keep a mass of unwanted gases from blowing back into the operators face. Pure blowback weapons don't do this.

#### **UPGRADES**

The AP5 comes as a true pistol. Unlike the modern version of such a pistol, it lacks any type of arm brace. The backend is bare. If you want to make it more subgun-like, you'll need to buy a brace of some sort, and I'm happy to tell you there are options.

J-Mac customs, maker of finer firearms parts and accessories such as muzzle devices, gas blocks, barrels, AR receivers, handguard accessories, and stocks and braces, sent out some necessary parts for the AP5 to bring it to a collapsible pistol brace configuration. These

#### **CENTURY ARMS AP5**

PERFORMANCE

LOAD	ACCURACY
Red Army Standard 115	2.1
Federal LE Tactical HST 147	1.6
Winchester Active Duty M1152 115	1.1

Bullet weight measured in grains and accuracy in inches for best five-shot groups shot at 25 yards on supported tripod and bag.

parts consisted of a RAS-MP5 1919 adapter for MP5, AB-8R arm bar with rise and AB-BA brace adapter. Everything was well made and fit properly with an incredibly smooth and simple install. With everything attached, the AP5 was deserving of range time.

#### **RED ARMY RANGE TIME**

The delayed roller type of action means your shooting experience will be very enjoyable. It's smooth and lacks drama. It makes you feel like you can shoot faster and better at all times, and that might be true save for the trigger on the AP5. It's long and clunky compared to an AR trigger or one of competitive products like the BT APC9. I don't remember the trigger being so restrictive. It makes split times a little

74

more at @kendllyanne. -Sean Utley

slower until you figure it out, but it's nothing to worry over. Your shots will be sure and accurate.

I ran Century's Red Army Standard steel-case 9mm through the AP5. That's what they sent with it, and I figure if they say it will work, then it will. And it did. The AP5 ran flawless from round one to round multiple hundred. Two mags isn't enough. Be prepared to buy extras. The MP5 is the real reason why the PCC (pistol caliber carbine) even exists—as an attempt by other companies and their products to get you as close to the experience that HK created inside this design. Sadly there's only one like it.

I opted for a little accuracy session, although I don't know what it could possibly prove. Once I had the Shield SIS zeroed to my liking, I just put the dot over where I wanted to hit and pressed the trigger. It was like the bullets knew where



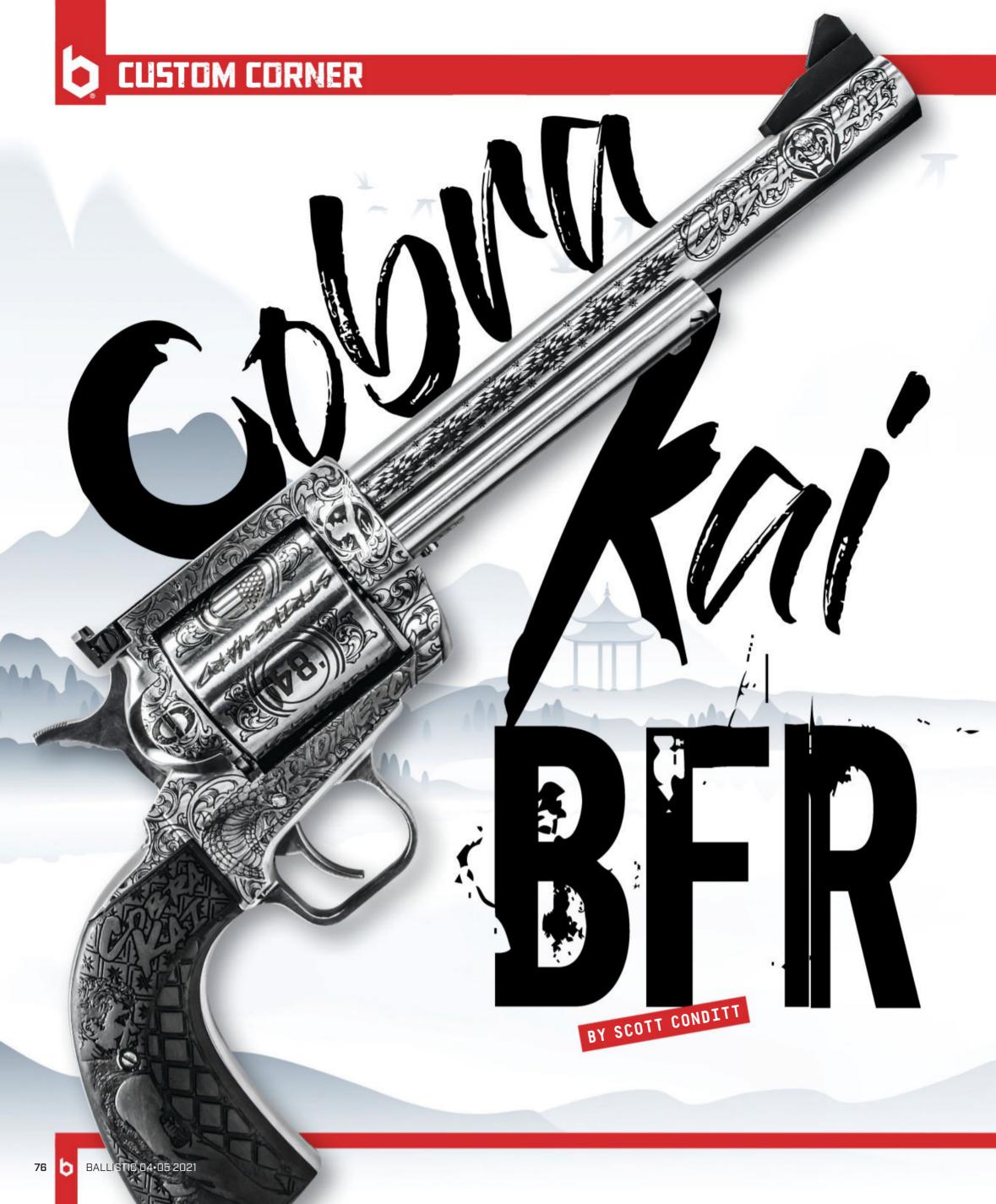
to go all on their own with the Red Army Standard ammo. I grabbed a tripod from the SUV, put an Armageddon Gear Game Changer on top and slapped the AP5 on top of it all at 25 yards. Stability was a little challenging, but it

got the job done. The steel-case blaster ammo gave a 2-inch group. Federal sent out some of their 147-grain LE hollow-point ammo, and it posted a 1.6-inch group, which isn't bad. The best group came from Winchester's M1152 active duty ammo. This 115-grain flat-nose projectile, which is noticeably hotter than other 9mm, yielded a group just over 1 inch at 25 yards. Again, this was done standing while resting the gun on the bag, which means it will do better. End result: The AP5 is accurate.

What's the price? I dunno. Street prices look to be around \$2,600, though I'm told by Century that there is no set MSRP.

I've always wanted an MP5, and I think I've waited long enough. Without spending a ton of money, this might be one of the best options available, although other companies have MP5 clones. Knowing the history of the AP5 and how it came to be, I'm comfortable with its build quality—it's the same right down to the metallurgy, according to Century Arms. I don't need it, but I've wanted one since the 80's. Century, send the bill. You won't be getting this one back. For more info, visit centuryarms.com.



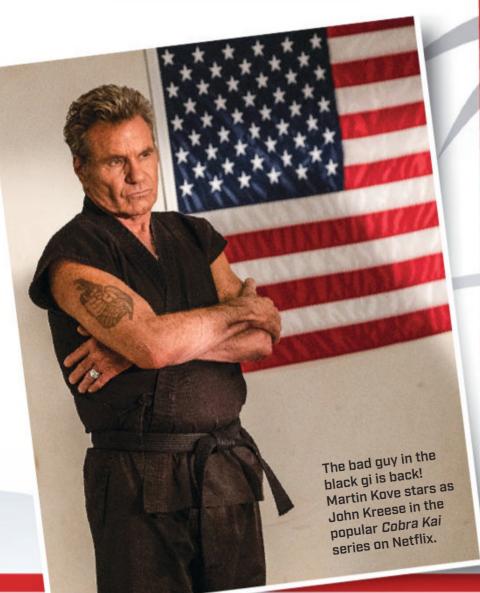


# Martin Kove gets a custom wheelgun fit for the *Strike First* King Cobra

幸福真理

#### arge-frame revolvers

have earned longstanding iconic appeal and a cult following for their aggressive style, powerful capability, reliability, durability and distinctly classic, yet timeless, Western American aesthetic. In a way, many of these same badass attributes can be said of my buddy, film and television star Martin Kove. Marty gained widespread popularity with the release of 1984's Karate Kid as the mean-spirited sensei of the Cobra Kai dojo, John Kreese. Recently, an entirely new generation of fans has been turned onto the bad guy in the black gi as Netflix's Cobra Kai series has become one of the most highly watched shows on the platform worldwide. In another aspect of my life, making movies, I've had the distinct privilege of directing Marty on screen in a few films, along with his son and fellow actor/star Jesse Kove, who played a revelatory role in Season 3 of Cobra Kai as a varsity captain who bullies the younger version of his father's character, John Kreese. This serves as the



catalyst for Kreese's journey to becoming a no-nonsense ass-kicker who doesn't back down from a fight and lives by the creed...*no mercy*.

Now, I hate to ruin the mystique, but contrary to their on-screen personas, in real life, Jesse and Marty are two of the nicest, most humble, witty, funny and hardworking dudes I know. That's not polite Hollywood ass-kissing either. These dudes are legit just great guys, who I've learned over the course of our time together, like me, love to have fun, *love* Western films and love shooting guns—especially revolvers. This is why when the opportunity to create something really special for Marty with some friends in the firearms industry arose, it was impossible not to strike first and strike hard on the chance. This is where Magnum Research and Outlaw Ordnance enter the scene.

### TH= 4Toryboard

Like good casting for a film, when it comes to creating cool artistic custom firearms there are a few brands and outfits that just gel and set the bar in successful collaborations over and over again. I reached out to friend and Director of Marketing for Kahr Firearms Group Jodi DePorter, who I knew had worked numerous times with laser engraving artisans Nakia Jackson and Chip Pierce at Outlaw Ordnance to produce some truly stunning custom pieces.

When asked about the number of unique custom pieces she's produced in collaboration with Outlaw Ordnance over the years, Jodi commented, "I've enjoyed the collaborations with Nakia and Chip. Some of the first ideas on the Auto-Ordnance 1911 were from something I personally envisioned wanting myself, a 'Victory Girls' theme, so we moved forward designing it with Nakia's help. That was a huge success. We just have fun during the creative process, and when a design comes together and we are ready to start cutting, I'm always so excited to see the first article.

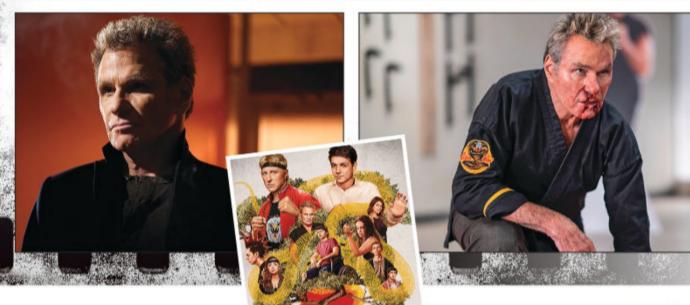
"We have done custom designs on guns from all the companies we (Kahr Firearms Group) own—Kahr Arms, Auto-Ordnance, Thompson and Magnum Research. Nakia, Chip and I all have many things in common, but most of all we are patriots. So, we have

# b

#### CUSTOM CORNER







NEVER DIES



done several patriotic themes and are working on more for 2021. The most popular designs from 2020 were the Auto-Ordnance 'Liberty' and the 'Revolution' 1911 models."

I asked Jodi if she thought we might be able to do something special with them for the King Cobra himself—a tribute revolver, if you will. She loved the idea and didn't hesitate to make the call. Within half an hour I heard back from her. "I talked to the guys at Outlaw," she said. "They're huge *Karate Kid* fans. Let's do it!"

### king Making

Magnum Research is the maker of pistols like the Desert Eagle and the Biggest Finest Revolver, aka Big Frame Revolver (aka Biggest F&\*\$%\*& Revolver to the foul-mouthed amongst us). As the Magnum brand name implies, they don't do anything small. Manufactured in the USA, the BFR lays claim to being the most powerful production single-action gun made, complete with all stainless construction and a cut rifled barrel that delivers

unmatched accuracy with lead or jacketed bullets and is available in 12 caliber options and two frame sizes. This was the perfect pistol for Marty, a larger than life character and rabid fan and history buff when it comes to Western American history and cinema. He has, in fact, appeared in TV's *Gunsmoke* and such films as *Earp* alongside Kevin Costner and *The White Buffalo* with Charles Bronson, among numerous other Western greats throughout his career.

The Netflix series Cobra Kai's huge

original cast members and new stars

alike appearing in each episode.

popularity is largely due to its multi-generational appeal, with

For this top-secret custom piece, I looped in Jesse Kove, wanting his input on the design and his help to select the caliber and frame combination. Marty and Jesse are not only father and son, but they're best friends as well who hit the range regularly and embark on annual week-long horseback trail rides together. No one knows what Marty would love to see on a custom wheelgun better than Jesse.

After going over options, Jesse selected the 7.5-inch-barreled BFR in .44 Magnum with a black micarta grip. We brainstormed graphics, icons and imagery from Cobra Kai and Karate Kid that could be worked into the polished stainless steel, and then the gun was sent off to the team at Outlaw Ordnance, who took all of the rough design ideas to the next level. Outlaw managed to work every icon into the layout and design, including the Cobra Kai snake logo on both sides, snakeskin diamond patterning, Western flourishes throughout and the 1984 All Valley Karate Tournament emblem. They even managed to etch and extrude the black grip with the profile of John Kreese himself. Every available inch of the gun turned out beautiful and was beyond our wildest imaginations. The crown jewel, though, was the cylinder with the words, "STRIKE FIRST...STRIKE HARD...NO MERCY," etched between each groove. It was an absolute knockout piece that, as I learned, required "Miyagi"-caliber patience and craftsmanship to achieve.

When asked if the piece posed any difficulties during the process, Nakia humbly noted:

78

"Not going to lie, it is a challenging firearm to engrave. With the finish and the curvature of the parts, it is very time-consuming. But we enjoyed the challenge and look forward to the next one." With Nakia having worked on so many special pieces, I had to inquire if the Cobra Kai revolver was special, knowing who it was going to belong to. "Every time we are asked to work on a project of this caliber, we are honored and humbled," Nakia said. "Karate Kid had such a profound impact on most of us that grew up in the '80s. It taught us to only fight in self-defense, honor, and that hard work pays off in the end. These are lessons we all share in our defense of the Second Amendment, our work ethic and pride in all that we do at Outlaw Ordnance. These lessons have also carried over to the younger generations with Cobra Kai, and after watching all of the seasons and becoming a big fan of the show, it was an enormous honor to do this project and see the reaction to our work from Martin Kove (John Kreese), who we all have tremendous respect and affection."

#### Crowning Moment

As luck would have it, the opportunity to present the gun to Martin after months of work finally came on the film set of a commercial my creative partner, Jeremy, and I were directing, starring none other than the Kove boys, back in the saddle again. When opening the BFR box with the polished stainless steel gleaming, Marty looked wide-eyed like Ralphie in A Christmas Story opening his Red Ryder BB Gun. He was instantly mesmerized by the piece and astonished at the level of detail. He couldn't help but turn the gun over in his hands repeatedly, finding new treasures engraved into the surface of the fine firearm at every rotation.

The biggest "Ah-Ha" moment had to be seeing the full-body profile of John Kreese on the grip itself and the cylinder engravings bearing the Cobra Kai edict. Now a work of art in its own right, as timelessly engraved in the stainless gunmetal as his on-screen performances are engraved in our minds as fans, the Martin Kove King Cobra BFR has been struck and is ready to show no mercy on the open range.

Editor's Note- Don't fret, the story doesn't end here! For in-depth interviews with both Martin and Jesse Kove, visit ballisticmag.com.





MEPROLIGHT

meprolight.com

**EVERYTHING YOU AIM FOR** 



# THE TIME PROVEN WISDOM OF

t is said that there are few new things under the sun, and that is certainly true of tactics and philosophies of self-defense. In these disciplines and others, today's leading practitioners will be the first to tell you that they stand on the shoulders of giants who have gone before. Yes, we just hit you with a double-tap of cliches, but don't forget why cliches are so commonly used: It's because they are generally true.

Let us take a look, in alphabetical order, at just a few of those giants of the past, no longer with us, whose lessons still resonate today.

# 1. COL. REX APPLEGATE (1914-1998)

Col. Applegate was a renaissance man of self-defense. He was the first gun expert of the 20th Century to integrate barehanded combat with the combative use of the knife and, of course, gunfighting. His Applegate-Fairbairn fighting knife, in both fixed blade and folding formats, remains in production and popular use today. He taught self-defense techniques to OSS and others during WWII, and was a bodyguard for President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Col. Applegate was well along in years and was walking with the support of his cane when he was jumped by a pair of vicious muggers. Rex's cane flashed twice, and he went on his way unmolested, leaving both of his attackers horizontal on the sidewalk. One was clutching himself between the legs, and the other was unconscious due to head trauma.

Rex gave us the single most popular style of self-defense revolver still widely in use in modern times. Working in Mexico in the years after WWII, he found the old top-break hammerless .38 S&W handy for concealment under tropical wear. Attacked by an enraged man with a machete, he had to empty that little gun into the assailant to stop him. Rex went to S&W and asked them to make that neat little hammerless as a more potent .38 Special with a solid frame. The result was today's hugely popular Centennial series.

Rex had his own method of point shooting, refined from that of Fairbairn and Sykes. It worked, because it brought the handgun to line of sight. Applegate contributed a vast amount of knowledge to the art of self-defense. His classic book *Kill or Get Killed* is available online.



# THESE LEGENDARY MEN MUST BE PASSED ON

# 2. WILLIAM APRILL (1966-2020)

We lost William Aprill all too soon in 2020. Cop and therapist, he was a true renaissance man in terms of self-defense. An award-winning shooter and master instructor in weapon retention, disarming and close-combat struggles, William's signature specialty was understanding the criminal mindset. He had debriefed and analyzed countless violent criminals. Picture a combination of criminal psychologist Stanton Samenow and the fictional John Wick, and you have an idea.

Aprill's most famous lecture was "Unthinkable," in which he distilled his time studying violent criminals and how they selected, approached and finally attacked their victims. Key in this research was how they de-selected, that is, made the decision, "I'm not going to attack this victim, because something

tells me he or she will hurt me more than I will hurt them."

Sadly, William never wrote a book, though he did contribute an excellent chapter on criminal mindset to my own book *Straight Talk on Armed Defense: What the Experts Want You to Know.* Fortunately, he allowed his lectures to be recorded, and his legacy is a trove of those. They are critical viewing for everyone in your life, not just the gun people and dojo denizens. An online search for "lectures of William Aprill" will get you there.

# 3. COL. CHARLES ASKINS, JR. (1907-1999)

The son of a famous gun writer, Col. Charles Askins, Sr., Charlie literally grew up with a gun in his hand. The many gunfights he survived during his years on the U.S. Border Patrol, where he rose to the position of chief firearms instructor, are legend. So are some of his adventures in the Army in WWII.

Charlie was an award-winning competitive shooter, that portion of

his career culminating
when he won the
National Pistol Championship in the mid-1930s
He shot all Colts: a customized Woodsman auto
pistol in the .22 division,
a heavy-frame .38 Special
Shooting Master in center-

fire and an accurized Government Model in .45. I, for one, learned more from his book *The Art of Handgun Shooting* as a boy than from any other shooting book. On the practical side of things, he was a pioneer in teaching his men active combat shooting—firing while moving and from awkward or wounded positions, and focusing on double action with the then-ubiquitous service revolver.

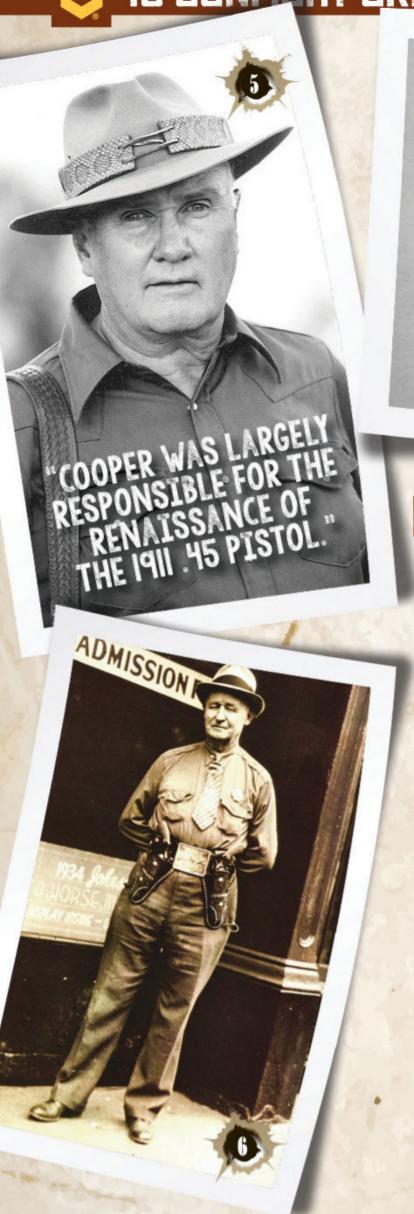
Charlie is remembered for having killed a lot of men. He was a stone killer, but in person an affable sort with a subtle sense of humor and—like many other highly accomplished and prolific hunters—a man who loved animals.

Askins left behind many books that have stood the test of time. The best read among them is his aptly-titled autobiography *Unrepentant Sinner*, if you can find it.

# 4. LOUIS AWERBUCK (1948-2014)

A combat soldier in Africa who immigrated gratefully to the United States, which he loved, Louie was a gentleman and a total professional. He did much to introduce realism into defensive firearms training: how to "work angles," innovative use of relevant reactive targets, and use of three-dimensional reaction targets and moving targets. A strong advocate of back-up guns, his focus was on realism. His books include *Tactical Reality* and *Hit or Myth*, and his many articles for *SWAT* magazine.

### 10 GUNEIGHT GREATS





# 5. LT. COL. JEFF COOPER (1920-2006)

Jeff Cooper was an absolute giant in advancing the art of what he called pistolcraft. He popularized the two-hand hold and proved that fast hits could be achieved with aimed rather than pointed fire. He created the sport of simulated gunfighting with live ammo, beginning with small matches in California and founding the International Practical Shooting Confederation in 1976, which spawned similar sports such as the International Defensive Pistol Association. In 1976 he made another great contribution, the founding of Gunsitethe first training center to teach defensive shooting to the general public. It was he who quantified the now-ubiquitous Four Rules of Firearms Safety, which are often quoted without attribution.

Cooper was largely responsible for the renaissance of the 1911 .45 pistol. His books range from Cooper on Handguns to his classic Principles of Self-Defense, and much of his philosophy can be found in Gargantuan Gunsite Gossip. Jeff Cooper: the Soul and the Spirit, his biography written by his daughter, is an excellent read. Some of his live lectures can be found online, his books can be found on Amazon, and the spirit of his work lives on in the updated teaching at Gunsite, now under the able and forward-thinking management of Buz Mills.

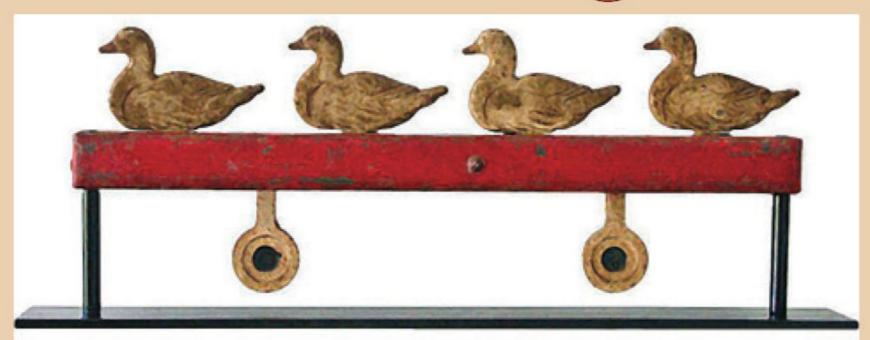
# 6. J. H. FITZGERALD (1876-1945)

"Fitz" was a cop, a fighter, a gunsmith and shooter extraordinaire. Working for Colt, he was largely responsible for a classic genre of defensive handgun, the snub-nose .38 Special revolver, with the introduction of the Colt Detective Special of 1926-27, and had a hand in the first target-grade .45 auto, the Colt National Match of 1933. He was an advocate of pocket carry and known to wear a pair of cut down .45 Colt revolvers in the leather-lined pockets of his trousers. He was the first of the gunfighting instructors to focus on weapon retention and disarming, and was famous for customized "Fitz Special" revolvers with cutaway triggerguards. His classic book Shooting seems like ancient history but is still relevant today.

# 7. CHIC GAYLORD (1914-1992)

Gaylord was a quick-draw wizard and a masterful, innovative holster maker. His work in the '50s and '60s popularized inside-the-waistband holsters, ankle rigs and other concealment gear, and paved the way for today's cottage industry of concealed carry holster makers. His classic book *Handgunner's Guide* touches on hunting and target shooting, but focuses primarily on self-defense,

# You're a sitting duck



# in a gun-free zone

Public safety is a critical part of the education campaigns of the Second Amendment Foundation, and with good reason. Without a self-defense option, we are all at greater risk.

The facts support our concerns about gun-free zones. The Crime Prevention Research Center (CPRC) recently finished updating a list of mass public shootings worldwide.

**GUN FREE** 

ZONE

**FACT:** Over the course of 18 years, 1998 to 2015, the CPRC found 2,354 attacks and at least 4,880 shooters outside the U.S. and 53 attacks and 57 shooters within this country. The study found the U.S. makes up 1.49 percent of the murders worldwide, 2.20 percent of the attacks, and less than 1.15 percent of the mass public shooters.

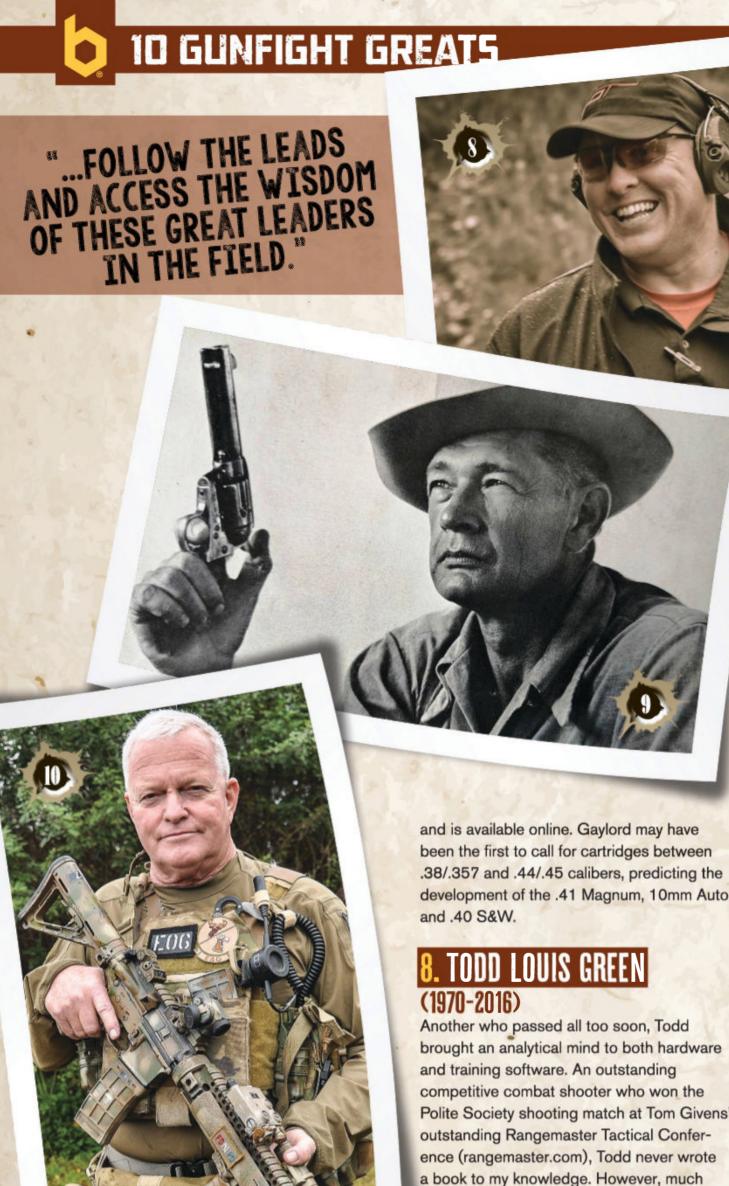
FACT: Most gunmen are smart enough to know that they can kill more people if they attack places where victims can't defend themselves; 98 percent of mass public shootings since 1950 have occurred in places where citizens are banned from having guns. In Europe, every mass public shooting in history has occurred in a gun-free zone. And Europe is no stranger to mass public shootings. In the past eight years, it has experienced a per-capita casualty rate 50 percent higher than that of the U.S.

**FACT:** The U.S. is a relatively safe place from these shooting attacks precisely because so many attacks are thwarted by legally armed good Samaritans.

**FACT:** The evidence shows that gun-free zones are not the answer. Truth is, they are an added danger because they prevent legally armed citizens from defending themselves and their neighbors. It's time to get rid of gun-free zones. The U.S. has tried them for more than 20 years and evidence shows that gun-free zones actually increase the danger. Nobody wants to be a sitting duck in a maniac's shooting gallery.



The Second Amendment Foundation
12500 NE Tenth Place • Bellevue, WA 98005 • 425-454-7012
www.saf.org



9. BILL JORDAN (1911-1997)

As a WWII combat Marine in the Pacific and a legendary Border Patrolman, Jordan was such a gifted shooter that he could hit aspirin tablets shooting from the hip. Those who trained under him were in awe of his insights into the mentality of armed combat in America. His classic book No Second Place Winner is available from Police Bookshelf, P.O. Box 1477, Concord, NH 03301.

#### **10. PAT ROGERS** (1946-2016)

In two careers that culminated as Chief Warrant Officer in the USMC and sergeant on NYPD, Rogers' extensive gunfighting experience informed his no-nonsense practical teaching with carbine and handgun alike. Many of his informative articles can be found at the aforementioned SWAT magazine archives website, and his training videos are still available at panteaoproductions.com.

I've run out of space, but you haven't run out of time to follow the leads and access the wisdom of these great leaders in the field. I knew all of the above personally except Fitzgerald, Gaylord, and Rogers, and not meeting them was my loss. From each of the others, one on one, I learned lessons that need to be passed on.

So will you.

#### 8. TODD LOUIS GREEN (1970-2016)

Another who passed all too soon, Todd brought an analytical mind to both hardware and training software. An outstanding competitive combat shooter who won the Polite Society shooting match at Tom Givens' outstanding Rangemaster Tactical Conference (rangemaster.com), Todd never wrote a book to my knowledge. However, much of his wisdom is preserved at the website pistol-training.com. Part of his legacy is the high-level gun and tactics message board at pistol-forum.com.

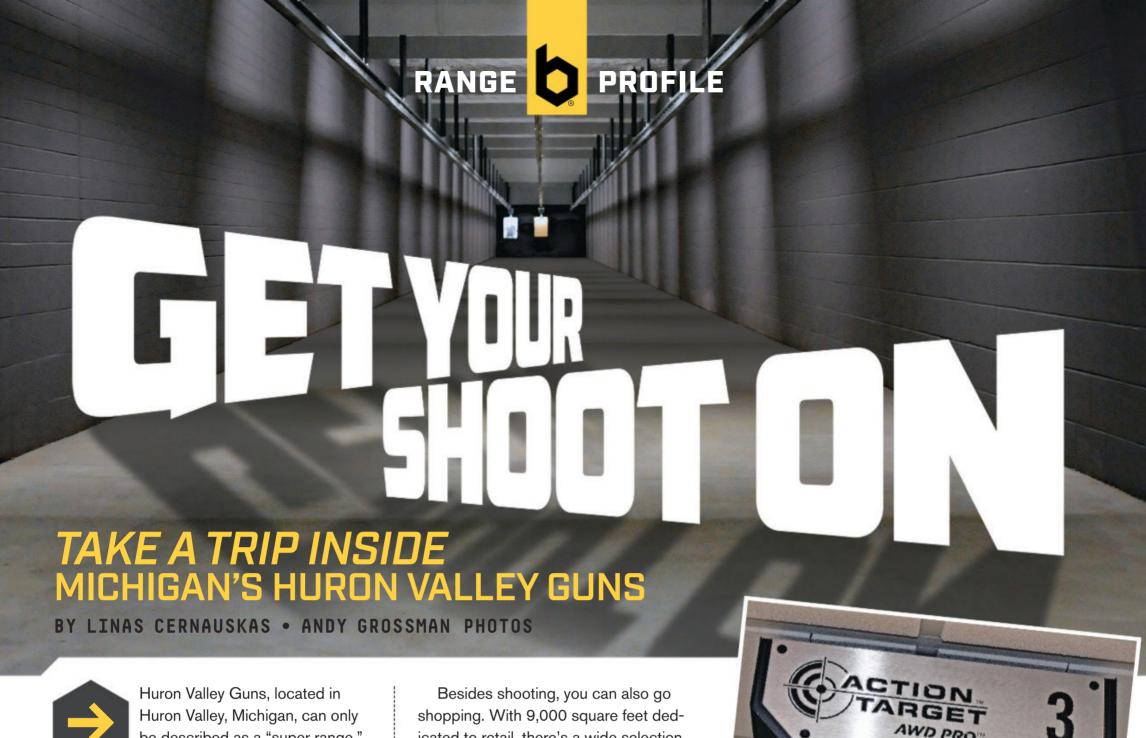


# SARD F

PROUDLY CARRIED BY ELITE FORCES WORLDWIDE. NOW AVAILABLE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Made in Turkey Imported by SAR USA SARUSA.COM





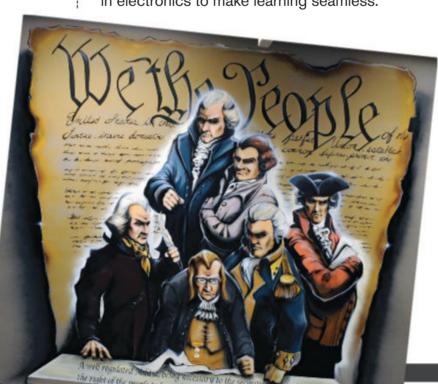
Huron Valley Guns, located in Huron Valley, Michigan, can only be described as a "super range." Huron Valley goes above and beyond. Its facility is state-of-art and offers "extras" in spades.

#### **RANGE PARTICULARS**

There is so much fun packed into this 39,500 square feet. There are four indoor ranges in total. There's an eight-lane 25-yard range that can allow for 240-degree shooting and a placement of a squad car. There's another eight-lane 25-yard range and a third six-lane 50-yard range. All of these can be used for tactical training. The fourth range features a three-lane 100-yard range that is .50 BMG rated.

All the ranges feature Action Target systems. It is an easy-to-use interface that allows for 27 different games and training scenarios for all skill levels. You can even synchronize several lanes so a group can shoot the same scenario. The targets can turn 360 degrees, and range of motion includes spinning, random edging and teasing functions.

Besides shooting, you can also go shopping. With 9,000 square feet dedicated to retail, there's a wide selection of firearms, accessories, holsters, knives, optics, apparel, footwear, uniforms and more. Best of all, they have a gunsmith on site that offers everything from cleaning to repairing your firearm. And, of course, no super range would be complete without offering classes. Huron Valley Guns offer everything from basic safety, advanced carry and hunting to tactical shooting classes in their state-of-the-art classrooms with the latest in electronics to make learning seamless.



#### **FOOD IS SERVED**

All that shooting, shopping and learning can make anyone hungry. Thankfully, Huron Valley Guns offers food service via the onsite restaurant Molly Pitcher's (make sure you ask about the backstory of this patriot folk hero when you visit). They offer excellent lunch and dinner, and if you can only try one thing, I would suggest the Garlic Breaded Cheese Curds. If you're lucky enough to be a Titanium or Corporate member, you get access to the Molly Pitcher's Lounge. There you'll find comfortable seating for relaxing and eating, a vintage billiards table, shuffleboard table, observation windows for lanes, large screen TV and a self-playing grand piano.

After a successful day of shooting and stuffing your face with cheese curds, what



attraction at Huron Valley Guns, the facility offers everything from retail and advanced training to a sizable restaurant and full-service barber shop.



#### **HVG'S MAIN MAN**

Ed Swadish is the man behind Huron Valley Guns. He was kind enough to give us a sneak peek behind the scenes, and we took full advantage. The attention to detail and the quality used throughout the facility is outstanding everywhere you look. From the range filter systems to the employees' stations, you can see no expense was spared. You can tell that Swadish is extremely proud of what he has built here, constantly looking to give to the community. He is a true American with his patriotism on display everywhere you look, and he has more future projects in mind for Huron Valley Guns.

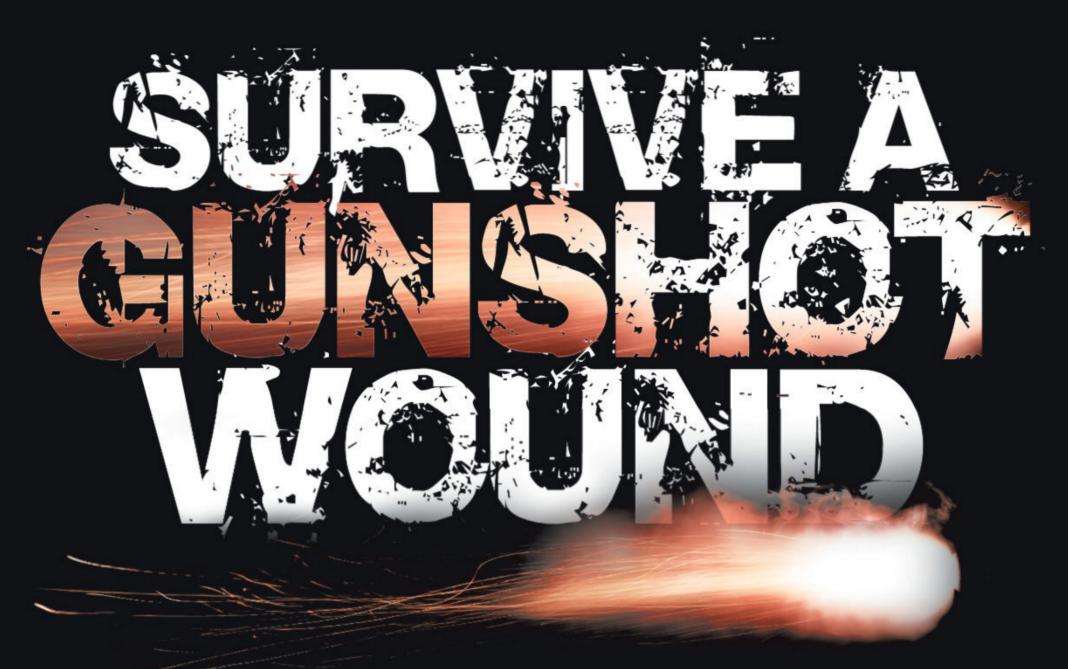
If you are ever in Michigan and are looking to get lost for a day or more, you owe it to yourself to visit Huron Valley Guns. For more information, visit huronvalleyguns.com.



14 GRIP MODULE VARIATIONS AVAILABLE TO FIT ALL MODELS







If there is one lesson that we have learned over the last several years, it is that we need to be able to take care of ourselves. While many people have known this for

generations, the ongoing turmoil has brought it into sharp focus. One specific area we need to have some skill in is first aid. I will go one step further for those in the firearms world and say that if you carry, you need to have the fundamental trauma skills to deal with gunshot wounds. Be it selfcare or treating someone else, knowing how to treat an unwelcome hole in the body is a must.

A gunshot wound is a serious injury and should be treated as such. Immediate medical attention can determine if a person lives or dies. With that in mind, let's take a look at the basics of treating a gunshot wound. First though, it is important to understand that this is not medical advice. You should seek

in-person professional training to master these skills. Also remember that you should only treat within the level of skill that you have: Do not try to do things you are not qualified to do. Lastly, I encourage you to assemble a personal first aid kit with items to be used in a worst-case scenario. As we go along here, I will offer some suggestions. With that, let's look at the basic steps.

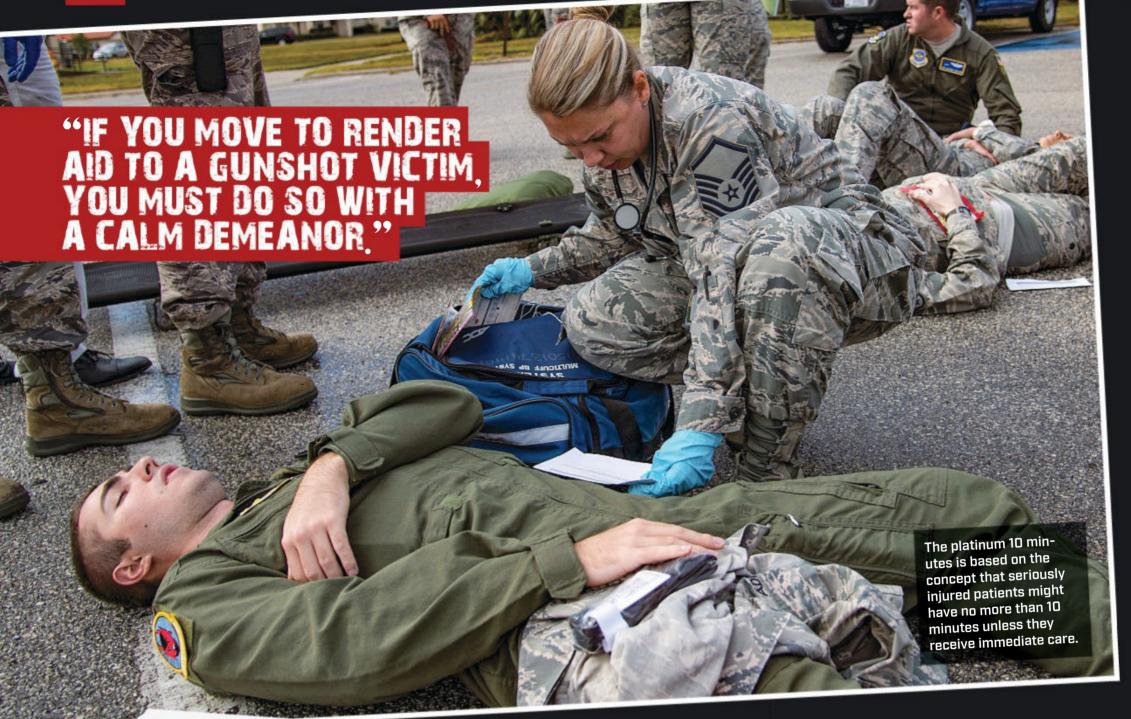
#### KEEP COOL

Our first step is one that is rarely discussed. If you move to render aid to a gunshot victim, you must do so with a calm demeanor. This is instrumental in reassuring the patient and keeping them calm. If the subject becomes panicky it can increase the heart rate and blood pressure, which accelerates blood loss and hastens shock. Keep a cool head and focus on treating them. It should go without saying, but you need to call 911 immediately. There is



# 6

#### SURVIVE A GUNSHOT WOUND

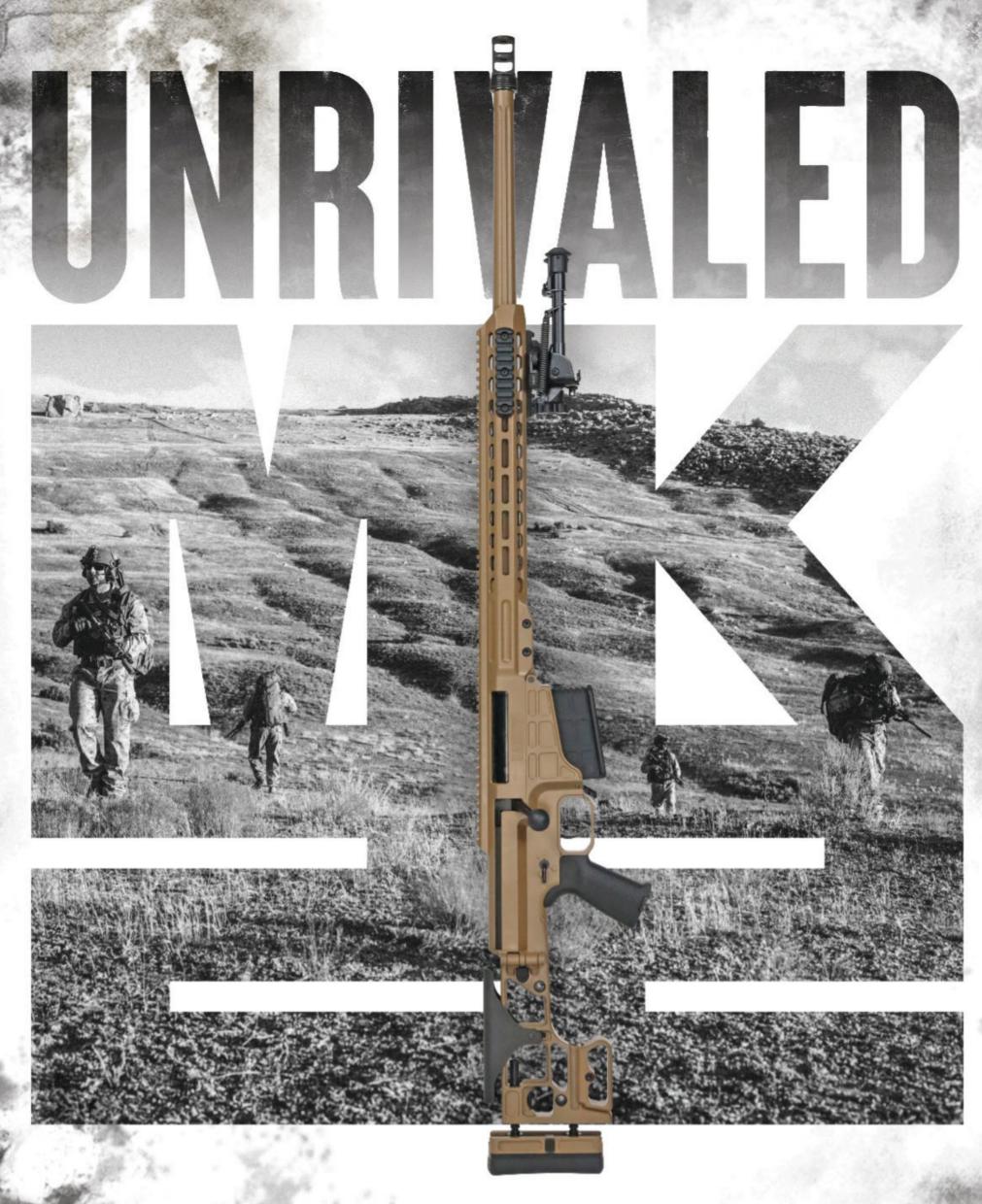




something called the "golden hour" that is the time following a traumatic injury during which there is the highest likelihood that prompt medical and surgical treatment will prevent death. Regarding gunshot wounds, however, we need to look at the "platinum 10 minutes." This is based on the concept that seriously injured patients might have no more than 10 minutes unless they receive specific care to deal with their injuries. We need to treat, stabilize and transport the person as soon as possible.

### STOP THE BLEEDING

One of the primary dangers of gunshot wounds is blood loss. After you have verified that it is safe to render aid, we need to deal with this problem. Visually inspect the whole body and look for exit wounds or other wounds. A bullet might or might not exit the body, and an exit wound will not necessarily be in a direct line from the entrance. If there is an exit wound, we will need to treat it as well. The first step





**LONG-RANGE RIFLE SYSTEM FIT FOR THE ELITE.** The MK22<sup>™</sup> sets the standard with Sub-MOA performance past 1500m in a modular package. The aluminum chassis features a folding stock with adjustable length of pull and cheek piece, M-LOK<sup>®</sup> attachment system, 10 mil rail, and suppressor capable muzzle brake. Chambered in 300 NM with additional caliber conversion kits available.



#### SURVIVE A GUNSHOT WOUND



in stopping blood loss from a gunshot wound is the application of pressure, and the application of a dressing combined with pressure can greatly reduce blood loss. According to Daniel Ricciardi, M.D., "Bleeding controlled by direct pressure is best accomplished by applying firm circumferential pressure around the limb, trapping the injured tissue against the bone and elevating the limb until bleeding is completely stopped." In this case, a compression bandage such as the Israeli bandage would work well. The Israeli Emergency Bandage is a combat-proven first aid device for the staunching of blood flow from traumatic wounds. This all-in-one device consolidates multiple first-aid devices such as a primary dressing, pressure applicator, secondary dressing and a foolproof closure apparatus to secure the bandage in place.

In the case of severe blood loss, you should consider using another tool from your

The Israeli bandage is a crucial, combat-proven first aid device that is designed for the staunching of blood flow from traumatic wounds.

kit. If the wound is in an extremity, you can apply a tourniquet. Once seen as an absolute last-ditch measure, combat studies have shown them to be highly effective with little

danger if used correctly. One that comes

recommended from the U.S. Special Operations Command Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care is the CAT Gen 7. This tourniquet has an adjustable strap that latches down and is secured by integrated Velcro. It also has a plastic windlass that is easy to rotate, allowing you to tighten it and stop the bleeding. The white Velcro strap serves double duty to secure the windlass and provides a place to write down what time the tourniquet was applied. This allows hospitals

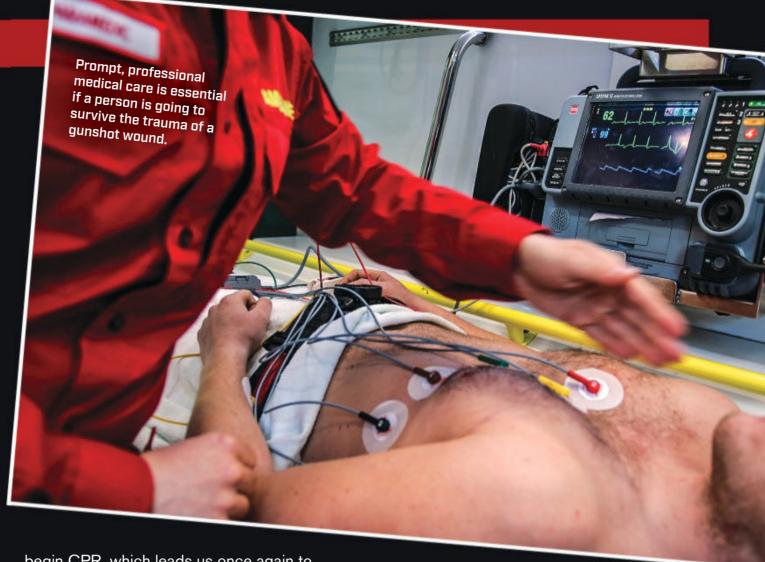
to identify how long the tourniquet has been in place and encourages staffers to prioritize treatment. To work well, a tourniquet must be applied at least 3 to 4 inches above the wound or above the nearest joint. It must be left in place throughout transport and only removed at the hospital. Do not take it off to see if the bleeding has stopped.

#### **PACK AND ELEVATE**

In the event the wound is in an area that cannot be treated with a tourniquet and the pressure bandage is not sufficient, it is time to use a hemostatic agent. These can be found as either powders or impregnated gauzes. When the gauze meets blood, it becomes gelatinous and begins to swell and stick together, essentially plugging the wound. The gauze version is most common and is applied by packing the gauze tightly into the wound and directly onto the source of bleeding. Continue to apply pressure for approximately three minutes and then reassess to see if you need more.

Another thing we will need to treat for is shock. Shock is defined as a failure to deliver adequate oxygen to tissues, and losing blood, along with the oxygen transporting hemoglobin molecules in the blood, can quickly bring on this condition. We want to elevate the wound above the heart if possible. Unless the wound is in the arm, do not elevate the legs if the wound is above the waist. Gunshot wounds to the abdomen and chest will bleed more quickly once the legs are elevated, making it harder for the patient to breathe. If possible, try to immobilize the wound if it is in an extremity. Using something like a RISE splint may make it easier to stabilize.

Lastly, continue to check heart rate and breathing. If necessary, you may need to



begin CPR, which leads us once again to training. The skills required to treat a gunshot wound cannot be sufficiently learned in an article like this or even a video. I encourage you to get hands-on, in-person training. A solid source is Dark Angel Medical (darkangelmedical.com). They provide a wide spectrum of courses that can fit the skill levels of just about anyone. The more you learn, the better you will be prepared to deal with this and other dangerous situations.

#### K!T UP

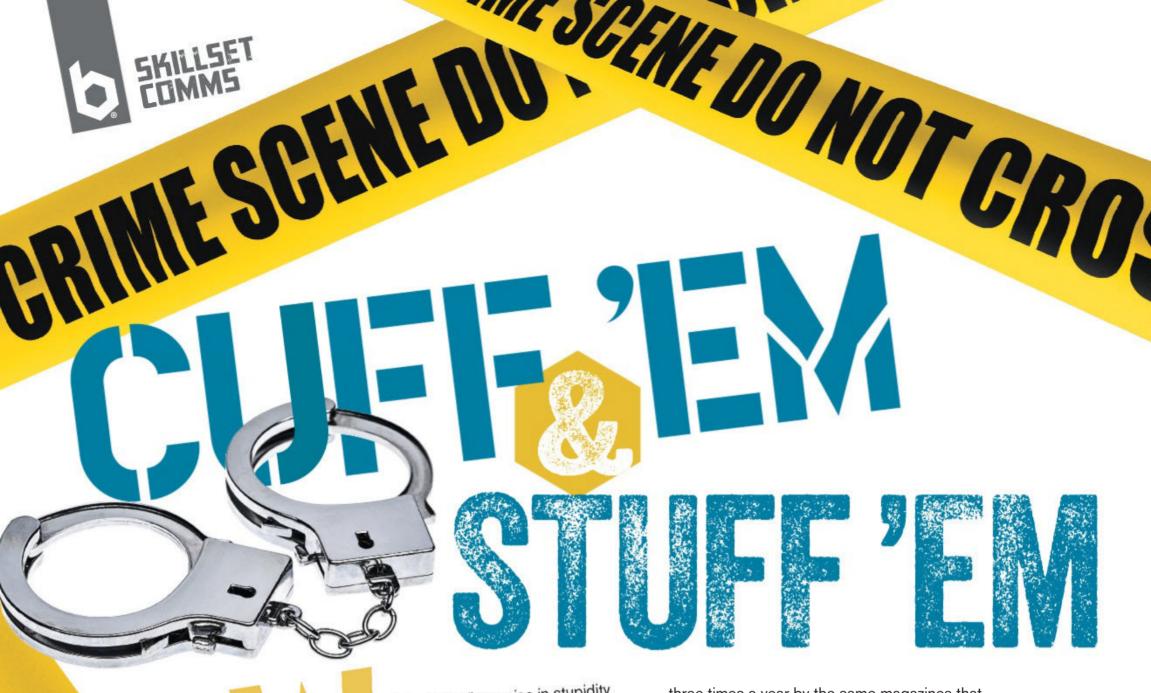
Now that we have the basic outline laid out, let's talk about your kit. These are sometimes called an IFAK or Individual First Aid Kit. These kits are designed for serious medical issues, so let's leave the SpongeBob Band-Aids at home. As a guide, here are some items I recommend you keep in your kit.

- Burn dressings
- Hemostatic gauze
- Gloves
- Ibuprofen
- Israeli dressings
- Pen light
- Permanent marker
- Pressure dressings
- Tourniquet
- Trauma shears
- · Vented chest seal

There are countless sources for kits now, and you can either buy them premade or fill them yourself. The key is to keep only essential items in it, so it remains small and easy to carry.

These skills and supplies can mean the difference between life and death. Being able to treat someone or even yourself is a skill everyone should know. It is hard for some people to accept, but ultimately, we are our own first responders.





ith the "Defund the Police" exercise in stupidity still in full D.C. Swamp swing, I say we start a new trend—defund the lousy filmmakers in Hollywood that pump out remakes of classic cop movies. Back in my day (insert angry old man voice here), there used to be a formula for good action films. The cops were tough and gritty, the women were smoking hot, the explosions were big and no one ran out of ammo. These days, if your lead character isn't a social justice warrior who identifies as a pansexual dinosaur, your film probably isn't going to see the light of day.

Now, if you ask someone who grew up before the internet and 64 genders to list their top-10 cop movies, you're more than likely to get the standard response:

Dirty Harry, The French Connection,

Training Day, Heat, The Departed,

Lethal Weapon...you know, the list. It gets regurgitated about

three times a year by the same magazines that give us the "Die Hard was a Christmas movie" debate every freaking holiday season. (FYI, Die Hard was a cop movie that happened to be set during Christmastime, so get over it.)

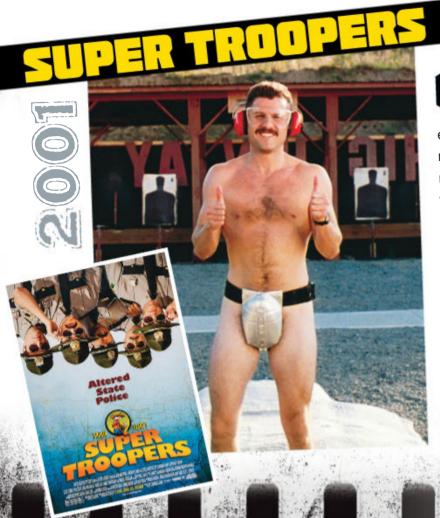
Look, don't get me wrong, these "go-to" cop movies will always top the internet lists. They are the ultimate classics and are permanent members of the 5-0 Hall of Fame. Cops love them, criminals love them, but holy hell, do we need to keep telling you this?

OK, hotshot, then where do we turn after we've rewatched *Bad Boys* for the sixteenth time? Well, gather around, my donut-eating friends, because I'm about to give you a *Ballistic* blue-light special.

So, let's pull back the "copper" curtain and remind you of some foolproof movie options that mainstream media tends to forget. Our list is filled with boobs, bullets, bad guys and even worse one-liners. These cop flicks are the black sheep of internet lists, and we wouldn't want it any other way.



# POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS



Sure, we all like to think cops are always tough and serious, but anyone who's worked in law enforcement knows that locker-room humor reigns supreme. This comedy cop movie revolves around five Vermont state troopers who have a legacy of "screwing the pooch." Now, they are in a fight for their jobs as they compete with a rival local PD to take down a huge drug trafficking ring.

Tagline: "You don't mess with the law. The law messes with you."

Favorite Character: Trooper Rod Farva, played by Kevin Heffernan. We all have a "Farva" in our lives. He's the guy you duct tape to a tree and leave for a few days but look forward to seeing what shit he pulls at the annual Christmas party.

Most Memorable Quote: "I swear to God I'll pistol whip the next guy who says 'Shenanigans.'"

Weapon of Choice: Although this isn't a shoot-'em-up movie, the Glock 17 used to blast Mac's bulletproof "junk" cup on the range is a personal favorite of ours. I mean, if you're going to haze someone, set the bar high, right?





First off, name one person over 30 who hasn't seen this movie. Actually, don't even bother because it's impossible. Police Academy set the

standard in law-enforcement comedies, and whether you are pro-cop or not, everyone laughs at this gem. The plot was simple: A major city has an extreme shortage of officers, so the mayor lowers the standards for new police recruits. So, regardless of body weight, age or criminal history, the police academy will accept you. You don't have to be Francis Ford Coppola to write the rest of this script. It's hilarious slapstick at its best.

**Tagline:** "The new police recruits. Call them slobs. Call them jerks. Call them gross...Just don't call them when you're in trouble."

Favorite Character: Oh wow, this was harder than it looks! We love Tackleberry, Hightower and, of course, the human beatbox,



Larvell Jones, but we have to go with Officer Laverne Hooks, played by Marion

Ramsey. She's soft spoken with a super highpitched voice that makes you want to stick icepicks in your ears, but to see her turn from creampuff to hardass at the end was such an awesome moment.

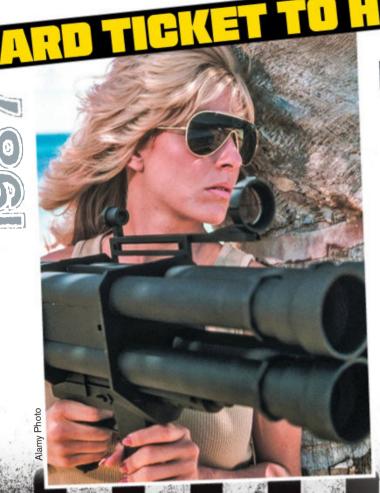
Most Memorable Quote: "Don't move,

**Weapon of Choice:** This is a no-brainer. After showing disgust with the issued Smith & Wesson Model 10 revolver, Officer Eugene Tackleberry breaks out his own Smith & Wesson Model 629 (which was a gift from his mother) and proves it's the ultimate copmovie revolver!



# POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS





You are either going to love us or hate us for this one, but either way it's a must-watch flick. The plot is pretty simple. A smoking-hot DEA agent and

her equally good-looking friend accidentally stumble upon a drug trafficking ring and have to enlist the help of their beefcake friends to take these bastards down!

This low-budget "T & A" fest has more memorable moments than Die Hard, Heat and Dirty Harry put together. Seriously, who else fights giant toxic pythons, skateboard assassins carrying blowup dolls and ninjas while wearing G-string bikinis? You are welcome in advance.

**Tagline: "**To get to PARADISE, they'll have to go through HELL!"

**Favorite Character:** Oh, it's definitely Donna, played by Playboy Playmate Dona

Speir. Donna is a bang-up marksman, pilot and DEA agent. She's skilled in hand-to-hand combat and hand-to-uh "other" assets. Plus, her one-liners make her way hotter than Bruce Willis.

#### **Most Memorable Quote:**

"We need to figure out what just happened. Let's hit the jacuzzi. I do my best thinking there."

**Weapon of Choice:** It's a tossup between the razor-blade

frisbee, which severs a henchman's jugular vein, or the quadruple-tube rocket launcher stolen from the set of *Commando*.

HARD TICKET TO HAWAII

### DOINT BREAK

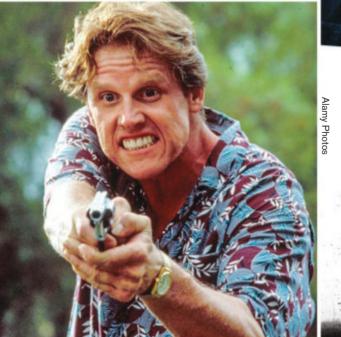


Before John Wick and Roadhouse, Keanu Reeves and Patrick Swayze solidified their place in Hollywood history with this action-movie gem. Launched at the beginning of the extreme-sports movement, this flick revolves around two FBI agents who go undercover to catch a gang of adrenaline junkies who are on a major bank robbing spree. The best part for us was the fact that they teamed up a guy known for playing a brain-dead dipshit (Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure) with a guy who really is a braindead dipshit (Gary Busey), and the chemistry is amazing. If you like nonstop action shootouts and 14-minute freefall parachute scenes, Point Break is for you!

**Tagline:** "27 banks in three years. Anything to catch the perfect wave!"

Favorite Character: There is no doubt that casting Gary Busey was a brilliant move. He plays the perfect older, out-of-shape partner who has to mentor the younger agent, Johnny Utah. He may not be as sharp as the younger guys, but when it's time to kick ass





and take down a bunch of punk surfers, there is no one better than agent Angelo Pappas!

Most Memorable Quote: "Utah! Get me two!"

Weapon of Choice: Anyone who rocks a giant revolver while jumping out of airplanes is a friend of ours, so I have to go with Bohdi's (Patrick Swayze) weapon of choice—the Freedom Arms Model 83 revolver.

98



# CUFF 'EM & STUFF 'EM

# POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

## THE OTHER GUYS

The fact that this movie hardly makes anyone's list is a national tragedy. Will Ferrell and Mark

Wahlberg are two polar-opposite cops who are forced to team up and solve one of New York City's biggest crimes. It's definitely one

of the funniest buddy-cop movies in existence. Plus, any movie that kills off The Rock and Samuel L. Jackson in the first five minutes is all right in our book.

**Tagline:** "When the top cops are busy, our only hope is the other guys."

Favorite Character: Detective Allen Gamble,



played by Will Ferrell, only because his pimp origin story is beyond legendary.

Most Memorable Quote: There are so many great one-liners it's hard to pick just one! But if we had to choose a few off the top of our heads, we'd go with these: "This

paperwork is like Bob's wife here. It's thick, ugly and has Danson's fingerprints all over it. No offense, Bob," and, "Gator's bitches better be using jimmies!"

Weapon of Choice: There is only one clear-cut winner. It's the wooden Glock 19 that was given to Will Ferrell after his "desk pop."





If this cop movie isn't in your top 10, then we have some serious issues. Set in the distant future (2009), the city of Detroit is on the verge of utter collapse. (Wait, I thought this was a fictional story? Anywho...) A terminally wounded police officer is used as an ultimate law-enforcement cyborg to take down an evil corporation determined to rule the city. This movie has everything you would want in a 5-0 thriller: robots, guns, blood and co-ed locker rooms. In the immortal words of Bixby Snyder, "I'd buy that for a dollar!"

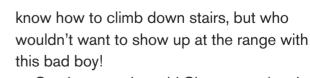
**Tagline:** "Part man. Part machine. All cop." **Favorite Character:** Clarence Boddicker, played by Kurtwood Smith. Even though he's a ruthless killer who wears pleated slacks, we now know why Red Forman (from *That '70s Show*) is a pissed-off old man. Damn you, *RoboCop!* 

**Most Memorable Quote:** "Dead or alive, you're coming with me."

**Weapon of Choice:** The futuristic stop-motion robot ED-209. Sure, it has some negligent discharge problems and it doesn't







So, there you have it! Six cop movies that are guaranteed to stand the test of time. If you ever find yourself on the wrong side of the law, strike up a movie conversation with that county-mountie and maybe he will let you off easy. Remember, backing the blue starts with you!



# 5 SURVIVAL



Even extremely harsh weather like the recent arctic blast in Texas can leave people without power and helpless if not properly prepared.

Here's a reality
check on how bad
actors can send us
to the dark ages















nbeknownst to most Americans, the United States electrical grid is not a simple standalone plane that blankets the entire country. Sure, there are segmented portions to serve dedicated areas, but the "grid" is actually three parts in total—kind of. This consists of the Western Interconnection, Texas Interconnection and the Eastern Interconnection. From these major segments, the grid is then divided up into smaller regions of service delivery. Obviously, this layout was not chosen because of availability and need, but simply how the grid was being built.

Texas, of course, is the outlier, having its own grid. This is due to a political choice to keep the federal government from intervention, but really doesn't change much in terms of vulnerability, as Texas can be exposed to all of the same events the other grids are vulnerable to.

And you might recall, especially if you live in the Lone Star State, the devastation brought on by the 2021 "Deep Freeze." According to *Scientific American*'s Benjamin Storrow, "Issues with natural gas supplies and the grid's isolation both factored into the massive

outages." On February 14, 2021, "As a burst of Arctic air swept southward across the Great Plains, power plants in Texas started flickering offline." He continued, "Wind generation fell 32 percent between 9 p.m. Sunday and 3 a.m. Monday local time, according to U.S. Energy Information Administration figures. Coal dropped 13 percent. And natural gas generation, the cornerstone of the Texas grid, plummeted 25 percent over that six-hour period. By the time the sun rose over Texas around 7 a.m., energy demand on the state's



primary electric grid had surged to about 71 gigawatts. Texas power plants were only able to muster up roughly 51 GW of electricity, leaving millions without power and shivering in the cold."

All that aside, if an attack on the U.S. grid is so large to take the East and West down, the nefarious actors would likely make it around to the Texas grid as well. Most importantly, the biggest question is how could all of this happen? How could nations like Russia, North Korea, Iran or China attack our grid and compromise life as we know it? Even worse, if the grid went down, would we survive? How? Extended power outages are not rare in the United States, and though most think they are prepared, it's quite the opposite. Exploring the options on how to best handle situations like this are key, and knowing the vulnerabilities that could cause such an event can be beneficial in survival planning.

#### SCENARIO 1:

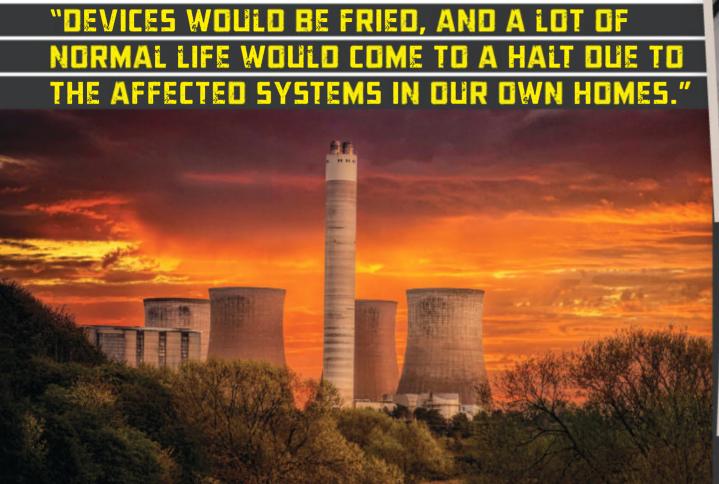
#### CYBER ATTACK

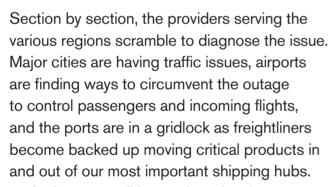
On a common business day in the United States, most large cities, and even small towns, are bustling. Mass transportation begins early in the day via rail, bus and air, and the Stock Exchange rings opening bells. Corporations handle business as usual, millions of electronic payments and transactions are happening every millisecond, and life as we know it is normal. Boston, Washington and New York, major hubs of business for the East, are operating as always.

Imagine it all comes to a screeching halt in broad daylight. Regardless of the season or weather, it's going to either get really hot or really cold. The power is out—everywhere. Traffic lights, mobile data, WiFi—everything gone. Hospitals and critical businesses switch to generator power, and fuel trucks are dispatched to help. The Eastern grid is down.



# 5 SURVIVAL





As far as we all know, there has been a major outage, but in Washington, things are much different. Utility providers from the East begin notifying the DoD and DHS that a ransomware worm has appeared in their controls systems. Warning that failure to meet monetary demands within a defined timeframe will result in the Western connection collapsing. Soon after, and most likely, the NSA would be engaged to assist and hopefully break any encryption holding the systems hostage.

This type of attack is similar to other ransomware infections like WannaCry and Not-Petya, both seen in the last few years. These attacks targeted various global businesses and held their systems captive at a cost. Unfortunately, there isn't much that organizations can do after an attack has started. Once control systems, or networks, are infected with ransomware, the decryption keys are the

only difference between a complete and total system loss or a successful restoration of service. If this were to happen to utility providers or the federal government, the consequences could be grave. Getting service back to normal wouldn't be an easy task if the plan would be to circumvent paying the ransom or to fight the ransomware. This type of interruption to the grid would make life particularly difficult.

#### FINAL THOUGHTS:

Regardless of the specific situation, bad actors holding any part of the grid hostage would not be good. In major cities, panic will begin to ensue. In rural areas, sheltering in place and keeping distance is key. Whether or not the grid comes back up in time is out of the citizen's hands. Luckily, there are ways to prepare, even if it is short term. Utility companies and the federal government are, for the most part, held to strict standards that prevent the intrusion of infections to systems. Granted, this doesn't always work, but the more preventative action possible, the better chance of thwarting an attack. This is particularly important for industrial and tech-related companies that provide critical services to the public and the federal government.





Hackers routinely make attempts at the U.S. grid, and other nations' grids around the world. Fortunately, many intrusion detection systems (IDS) are in place to stop attacks before they happen.

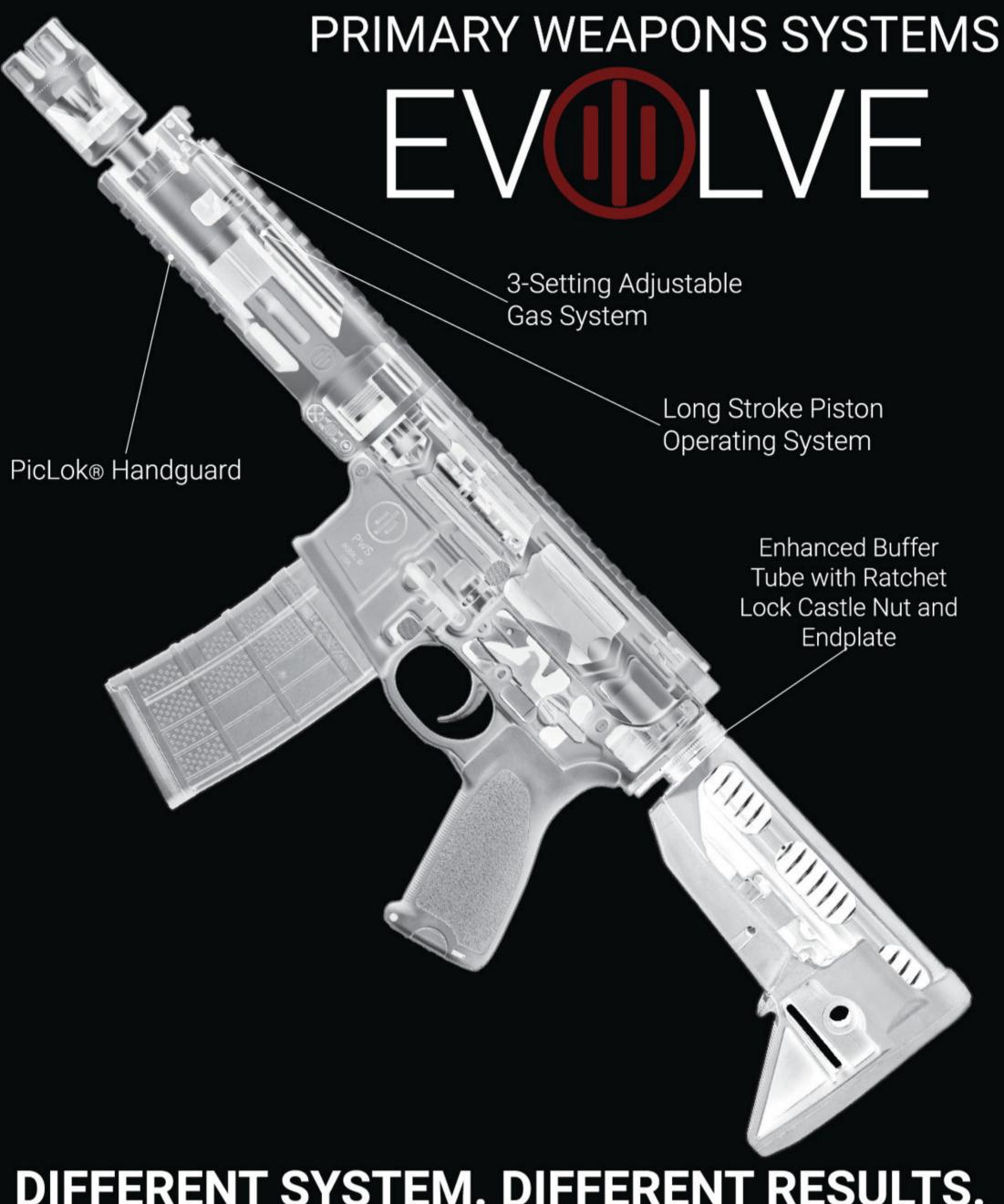
#### SCENARIO Z:

#### PHYSICAL ATTACK

Most Americans remember one of the largest attacks on U.S. soil since the new Millennium—9/11. Fortunately, since the attack, the U.S. has been fairly clear of major terrorism. However, crippling parts of the grid would be a major win for terrorist groups that want to instill fear and wreak havoc, or nation states that finally decide that starting WWIII is a good idea. Granted, these actions would be foolish and instantly start a war, but over the last 10 years, we've seen threats to our country by terrorists and opposing nations increase, so anything is possible.

With that being said, how could it even happen? Though most substations around our communities are sparsely guarded, they control very small areas of utility delivery. Large power plants are what keep the regional grid (within the Eastern and Western Interconnects) running, even in times when the power is out. In addition, redundancies can sometimes be in place so that if one region goes out, others then funnel power from various areas to "stand up" power in the affected area. With that being

104



DIFFERENT SYSTEM. DIFFERENT RESULTS.

PRIMARYWEAPONS.COM

# 5 SURVIVAL

said, though, it is possible to take multiple regions down via coordinated attacks, or something crazy like an EMP. Some fairly simple internet searches will bring anyone to a few choice maps of where exactly the major nuclear power facilities are that serve designated areas, and of course where our most populated cities are.

Understand that this would be a lot of work, and the act alone to affect the systems would be extremely complicated, so we have that going for us. And just to reiterate, anything done by another nation would be the start button for a major war, which certainly plays into the threat vs. reality. However, as we know, terrorism has no limits on the weaponization of normal things such as airplanes and trains, which have been targets in the U.S. and abroad. Otherwise, threats such as those from North Korea and Russia could definitely materialize if a major shift

changed between opposing nations.

#### FINAL THOUGHTS

For a physical attack to occur, a few things have to happen. First and foremost, the target must be accessible to the bad actor(s), or someone's going to have to launch a nuclear or EMP attack. With the strict and tight security of the DOE, I can't imagine getting close to a major power plant is going to be easy. These facilities are staffed by top-notch security teams, and even in some cases, Department of Energy sniper teams. That's just how extreme these facilities are in terms of importance. But again, to play devil's advocate, anything is possible, and terrorism isn't always about winning, it's about instilling fear. On the war side of things, an EMP attack would be crippling to the grid and other crucial services such as telecommunications and the internet. Devices would be fried, and a lot of normal life would come to a halt due to the affected systems in our own homes. Regardless of the attack, any physical damage to the grid, from regional to widespread, could take days to repair, or worse. Seasons across the country also affect things like this, so expect to be off the grid for a week at a minimum.

#### SCENARIO 3:

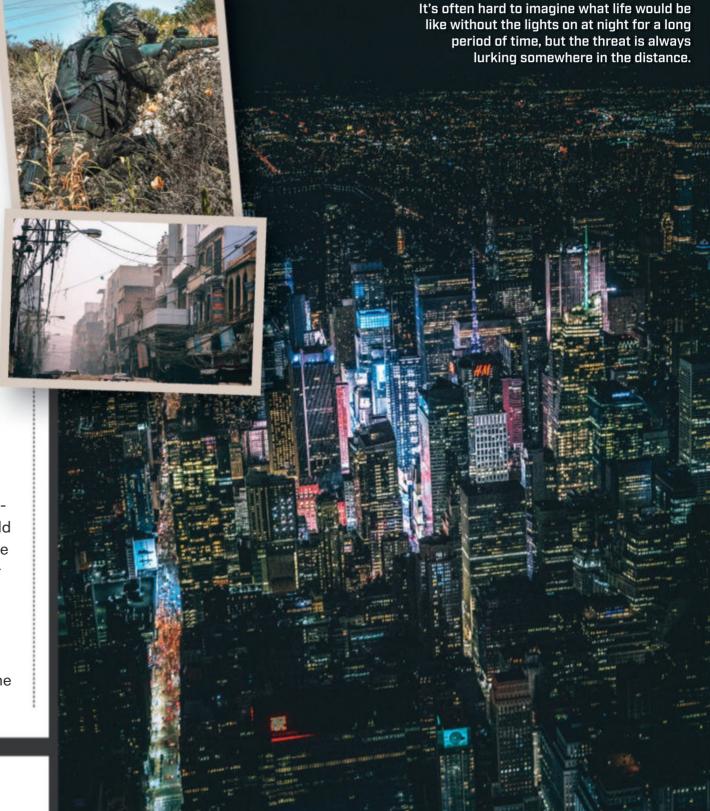
#### CYBER INFRASTRUCTURE ATTACK

As seen earlier, the feasibility of a cyber attack is pretty scary. Losing power for any extended period of time changes life drastically, and the cyber route is more probable nowadays than any other scenario. But earlier we only looked at a situation similar to those like NotPetya and WannaCry, two well-known ransomware attacks we've seen in the last few years. These attacks, like our earlier example, only held systems hostage for a cryptocurrency ransom. Granted, just because the ransom is

paid doesn't necessarily indicate the hackers will do their part in return, which is sometimes the case. Regardless, holding systems hostage is much different than doing permanent damage, which is what we're looking at in Scenario 3.

As one can imagine, aging systems in utility providers are common. Replacing servers, systems, tools and other infrastructure costs many dollars, and if it ain't broke, don't fix it—right? Unfortunately, this mentality is what can get utility companies into some serious trouble if the grid was targeted. Even worse, various agencies have warned utility providers

"DEPENDING ON THE SCALE OF THE EVENT AND THE REGIONS AFFECTED, RESTORATION COULD TAKE WEEKS OR EVEN MONTHS."





hen milliseconds matter, you need a trigger you can trust. You need the RISE® Blitz.™
With no take-up and ultra-fast Quik-Klik™ reset you can feel and hear, this
easy-to-install drop-in trigger helps you shoot faster and more accurately.
And, it's backed by the RISE® More-Bang-for-Your-Buck Performance
Guarantee and Lifetime Warranty. RISETRIGGERS.COM

NO GRA



## 5 SURVIVAL



There's no textbook way to prepare for a long-term power outage. However, there are many ways to improvise and make sure that you have both the preparation plan in place and equipment to do the job. Also, depending on where you live in the world, this could determine just what you need, where to store it or when you will need it. Preparing for this type of event is almost like preparing for the apocalypse—it's better to have and not need, than need and not have.

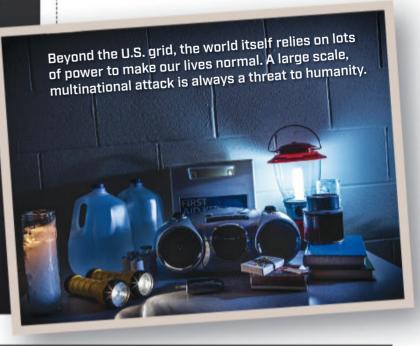
- Determine how to handle your climate. If it's going to be blistering hot, plan on circulation of the air that you have unless you have backup power. In cold climates, plan on having an alternate heat source. If your heat is electric, having a wood stove or fireplace is a great backup.
- A long-term power outage could result in difficulties surrounding water or food. For this reason alone, the importance of canned food is very critical. Sure, if it's winter time, freezer items can be moved to garages or in outdoor coolers, but things still become difficult. Having canned food on hand and a good stock of bottled water is key. As a pretty standard rule, 10 cases of water should last a few weeks, assuming it is used for cooking and drinking only. As far as canned food, a well-stocked pantry is a good start, but a reserve of a few cases of beans and soups will go a long way if your power is out for an extended period of time and stores become useless.
- Sanitation is also key. In larger cities, this will certainly become a problem if

the power is out for more than a few days, and there isn't much to solve the problem. In rural areas, it's as simple as digging pits for waste away from where you stay, but not all of us have that luxury.

- Redundancy is something we should all strive for in order to keep whatever normalcy up and running during a major outage. Backup generators and battery inverters are key for outages. With these come some considerations on where you're located, but for the most part, portable power packs for keeping lights on, and heated blankets can be stored in even the smallest apartment. On the flip side, a solid generator could keep things such as refrigerators and air conditioning functional for an entire week during an outage.
- Without security, all else goes out the window. Firearms are a great start and all, but having CCTV and physical security protections can go a long way. Granted, these systems will need a battery backup, but since they do not draw lots of power, a solid battery backup system isn't a wallet breaker. Getting creative can also be of importance too, if a system is out of the question. Tripwires with bells and battery powered door alarms are super cheap, and can be created, or bought at department stores for less than \$20. With that in mind, making sure windows, doors, locks and perimeters are covered by some sort of intrusion detection

that their current status is a legitimate concern for homeland security. The legacy systems in place, coupled with aging infrastructure out in the field, are a playground for nefarious individuals. So what could happen?

Essentially, the attack would look a lot like Stuxnet. If you work in the security industry, particularly with industrial equipment, the word alone can give you chills thinking about the consequences of an attack similar. In 2010, Stuxnet was first uncovered as a computer worm that would bore into critical infrastructure systems, particularly in Iran, Pakistan and Indonesia. This worm's primary mission was to gain access to SCADA (Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition) systems. These SCADA systems contained components that controlled industrial systems at nuclear power plants and other utility based centers. By taking control of the systems, hackers could remotely make changes to various set points or even change configurations completely. Doing this to cooling units and centrifuges can cause the units to overheat and, eventually, become inoperable. On a more extreme level, hackers could cause units to explode due to completely overworking the nuclear critical equipment. In essence, hackers could control equipment to result in a nuclear disaster similar to what we've seen happen in Fukushima, Japan, in 2012. Although the plant in Japan was unrelated to a cyber attack, the equipment functioned at a level that was unmanageable and ultimately resulted in a disastrous meltdown of the entire plant. With all of this being said, gaining control to essential controls equipment at utility plants would be incredibly disruptive, dangerous and result in long-lasting outages across the country.



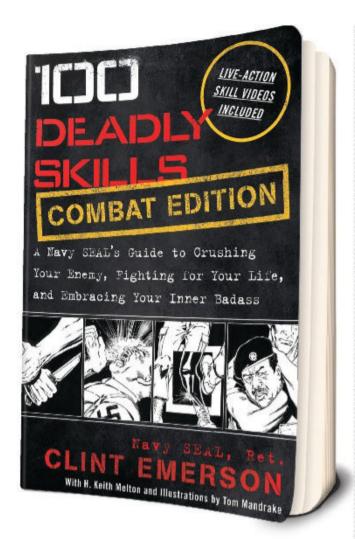
Editor's Note: In March 2020, a malicious code was injected into Uncle Sam's internal systems through an IT update from its network-monitoring vendor, SolarWinds. Departments breached include Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, State, Treasury, Commerce and Homeland Security. Little reporting has been done on this massive breach, but as of this writing, "investigations will continue deep into 2021."

#### FINAL THOUGHTS

If bad actors went this route, you had better believe the restoration of service would be far from quick. Depending on the scale of the event and the regions affected, restoration could take weeks or possibly even months. Power lines, substations and even main utility plants could need to be replaced entirely, and would certainly half life as we know it. Something so catastrophic could be seen as an act of war if actors could be identified, and in that case, life would certainly change for the long term.







When I was growing up my mother would say that there are skills I would need if I wanted to make it in this world. Simple things like

being able to change a tire, run a rifle and make a fire were things that came to mind, and I embraced them along with countless other skills. What I learned as the years rolled by is that our self-reliance tool kits need to be pretty diverse if we are truly to be independent.

Enter Clint Emerson and his popular book, 100 Deadly Skills. It contains proven self-defense skills, evasion tactics and immobilizing maneuvers modified from the world of black ops to help you take action in numerous "worst case" scenarios ranging from escaping a locked trunk, to making an improvised taser, to tricking facial recognition software. To say that it was a hit is a massive understatement, as people were drawn to it to expand their



# CLINT EMERSON'S LATEST BOOK WILL BRING OUT THE WARRIOR IN ALL OF US BY FRED MASTISON

skills. Well, Clint is back again, and this time he has added a little more fuel to the fire with his 100 Deadly Skills Combat Edition.

To appreciate this book, we need to know a little about the author. Clint Emerson graduated from high school in Plano, Texas, but spent most of his life in Saudi Arabia as his father worked for Saudi Armaco. Once he was old enough, Emerson joined the Navy and over the next 20 years conducted special operations all over the world as a Navy SEAL. Emerson continues his dedication to safety and security today, and his experience serving on SEAL Team Three, the National Security Agency (NSA) and a Special Mission Unit provides a unique perspective to professional and civilian protection.



#### **GET REAL & VIRTUAL**

Emerson's latest edition is an illustrated combat manual that presents 100 skills harvested from the world of special operations, outlaw bikers, lifelong martial artists and professional fighters. Drawing on the unique skill sets of a carefully selected cadre of experts, each technique is carefully broken down to its component parts in order to radically improve your chances of coming out on top—whether you're faced by an active shooter or coming toe to toe with a belligerent subject.

This third installment in Emerson's Deadly Skills series features input from 16 of the world's best-known experts on the art of violence. Each offers his or her own personal insights and words of wisdom on techniques and principles of combat. A very unique feature of this book is the fact that it includes "embedded" video content. This is accomplished by the insertion of QR codes throughout the book where video would help readers to gain a better understanding of the principle or technique being discussed. It is a well-thought-out design that gives the reader a multimedia experience unlike any other book. The presentation of the material is as entertaining as it is informative. Each of the experts tapped by Emerson are described as "The Badass" and are fictionally paired up with an "enemy" from history. My favorite pairing was Krav Maga expert Marcus Torgerson paired up to fight Adolph Hitler. Honestly, who doesn't want to beat the crap out of Hitler?

#### **EXPERTS ABOUND**

While the book is a mix of tech and beating up bad guys, it offers some solid advice and training tips. One section features professional knife thrower Jason Johnson matched against Jeffery Epstein. In his section, Johnson discusses the different grips a knife thrower would use based on the distance to the target. I personally found this fascinating as a longtime amateur knife





## JOIN THE REVOLUTION



#### HIT THE BOOKS



thrower. Looking at knife throwing as a combat art certainly changes the tone of practice.

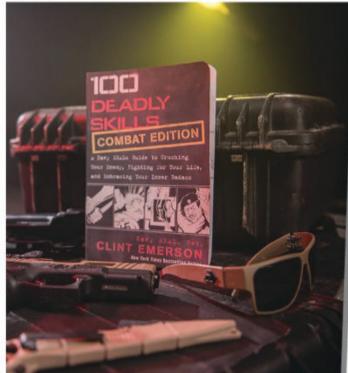
Another subject matter expert we find in the mix is Pat McNamara. McNamara spent 22 years in the Army and worked with multiple special operations units. The most notable assignment he is known for, though, is his time with 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta (1st SFOD-D). His enemy is the one and only Sadam Hussein. According to anonymous military intelligence sources, when Sadam was discovered hiding in that hole, he was doing so because he heard that McNamara was after him. While DELTA operators are glamorized as firearms masters, they are all masters of the mind as well. An example of this is when McNamara talks about "Tactical Deception." He describes in detail how your body language should tell third parties that you mean no harm. This is psychologically disarming and allows you the upper hand when things become physical.

While the book offers a variety of combatives and handgun techniques, it also has something for people who might to take care of their problem from a distance-long distance. Enter Monty LeClair, professional sniper with more than 20 years of special operations experience. His adversary in the book is Muammar Gaddafi. As with the knife throwing, I was intrigued by this section. LeClair covers several interesting topics ranging from how to sight in your rifle, to how to build an urban hide, and how to stalk and kill.

#### **TYRANT TAKEDOWNS**

Circling back now to Marcus Torgerson and his battle with Hitler, we find some solid advice on combatives. One specific technique that I appreciate is the elbow strike. While usually reserved for close fighting situations, Krav Maga has a series of strikes that apply to different situations. Torgerson goes into

"A VERY UNIQUE FEATURE OF THIS **BOOK IS THE FACT** THAT IT INCLUDES 'EMBEDDED' VIDEO CONTENT."



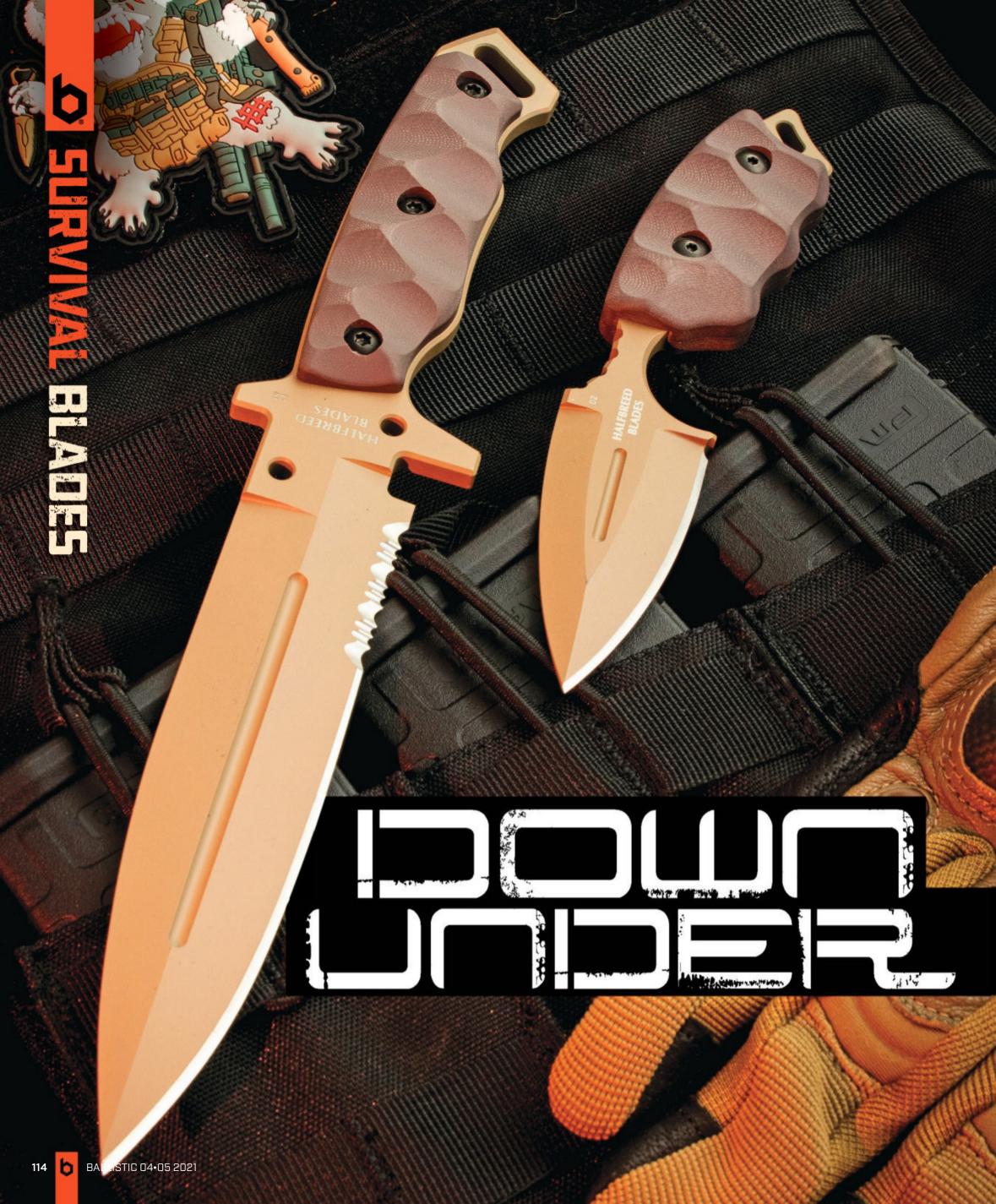
great detail on not just the strike, but the body movement incorporated in order to make it even more powerful.

Along with physical components, the book delves into principles of tactics, as well. The best example of this is found in the section featuring Brian Halliday. Halliday has gained notoriety as a real-world fighter with over 200 violent confrontations. His background is diverse, and his teachings are based on experience. His opponent is Joaquin Archivaldo Guzman, better known as El Chapo. The first thing Halliday discusses is how outlaws would set a subject up for an ambush inside a bar. It is a mix of beautiful feme fatale sharing drinks with the subject to men moving into the restroom ahead of the target in anticipation of him needing to relive himself following the drinks. It is a fascinating look at real-world tactics used by people skilled in violence.

These are but a few of the countless techniques and principles collected in these pages. As the shelves of bookstores are littered with "how-to" type books, it is important to remember that the material presented here is meant for real-world application. It is actually a very enjoyable read, and the inclusion of some of history's worst villains gives it a touch of levity. The book is a "how-to" in the buttkicking category to say the least. The best description of this book is found right on the cover: "A Navy SEAL's guide to crushing your enemies, fighting for your life, and embracing your inner badass."

Emerson's latest work is available wherever fine books are sold.





was first introduced to Hardcore
Hardware Australia (HHA) just a few
years ago. I had heard of them before,
but never had the opportunity to
handle any of their knives. But when I
did, it was well worth the wait.

Fast forward a few years to SHOT Show 2020, when I was introduced to their new entity—Halfbreed Blades. When I first started using HHA knives, I was very impressed with the solid, bombproof construction. But when I saw Halfbreed Blades for the first time, the next-level fit and finish really got my attention.

The new MIK-01PS and CCK-05 are great examples of the kind of quality that can be expected from anything coming from Halfbreed Blades.

#### THE COMBAT COUPLE

Although the MIK-01PS and CCK-05 are vastly different in profile, there are a lot of similarities in materials and construction that make these two a beautiful pairing.

Both the MIK-01PS and CCK-05 are constructed of K110 D2, which is considered a higher end D2 and features high wear and abrasion resistant qualities. Although the high chromium content provides for some mild corrosion resistance, you will still want to keep an eye on it. The tough Teflon coating will help with that, though.

Both knives feature G-10 handle scales that are scalloped for excellent retention. Typically, when handle scales feature scallops like this, they tend to dig into the hand. However, Halfbreed Blades went the extra mile on these scales and rounded off the points for a very comfortable grip.

A common feature between the two is a full tang with glass breaker/skull crusher pommel and an elongated lanyard hole. Although they are both full tang, the presentation is quite different between the two, with the MIK-01PS having an exposed tang (where the handle scales do not extend all the way to the edges of the tang) and the CCK-05 having the tang completely shrouded by the handle scales.

Giving them a big brother, little brother kind of feel, both the MIK-01PS and CCK-05 have spear points with a lightening fuller down the center of the blades, separating the primary bevel from the top swedge—

Two New Knives
From Halfbreed
Show No Weakness
In Their Game

except in the case of the CCK-05, which includes a slight blade flat between the primary bevel and top swedge with the fuller running along the blade flat.

Both knives come in your choice of three colors: black, dark earth and ranger green.

#### MIK-01P5 MEDIUM INFANTRY KNIFE

The big brother of the two, the MIK-01PS features a 6.49-inch blade with an overall length of 11.61 inches. The wide ricasso includes an upper and lower guard to prevent the hand from slipping up onto the blade during thrusting tasks.

The ricasso features two lanyard holes, lower and upper, which have different functions. The first, and perhaps most prevalent, would be attaching a retention lanyard (in either hole) for any kind of chopping or heavy swinging—holding the knife firmly in place. Another option would be to remove the handle scales and affix the blade to a tree limb, for a makeshift spear.

Just forward of the lower guard is an oversized, squared-off choil that is not only aesthetically pleasing but can be used as a wire breaker or along with the lanyard holes while attaching the blade to a limb for a spear.

The MIK-01PS features a serrated blade but is also available in a non-serrated version



BY JOSHUA SWANAGON

## 6

#### DOWN UNDER DUO









ABOVE: The MIK-01PS comes in your choice of

called the MIK-01P. Although I am not normally a fan of serrations, these are very well done and proved to be very efficient.

The sheath is a heavy-duty molded Kydex pancake-style sheath that holds the MIK-01PS very tightly, even when shaken aggressively. The sheath comes with two 3-inch DOTS Molle Locks installed but has eyelets running the perimeter of the sheath for other options—whether your own or the included Tek-Lock.

Worth noting is that the sheath does not include a drain hole, so if your knife becomes submerged or you find yourself in the rain for an extended period of time, you will want to remove the knife and pour any excess water out of the sheath.

#### CCK-05 COMPACT CLEARANCE KNIFE

Although the MIK-01PS is more the fighting knife of the two, I would personally dub the CCK-05 the little scrapper of the pair. Full disclosure: I am a bit of a small knife guy. A small knife on your person will beat a big fighting knife sitting in a drawer at home every time.

three different colors, black, dark earth and ranger green.

The 2.95-inch blade of the CCK-05 makes it legal

in most jurisdictions. The

heavy-duty pancake style

Kydex sheath is as tough

as the knife itself.

The 2.95-inch blade is legal in even some of the most draconian jurisdictions in the United States. I should mention, however, that this might not always be the case, so make sure to check your local laws and ordinances before carrying the CCK-05 in your area. The 6.69-inch overall length also makes the CCK-05 very concealable and comfortable while doing so.

The oversized finger choil acts as a deep guard and works perfectly in conjunction with the thumb ramp. The thumb ramp has some aggressive jimping, assuring a solid grip regardless of the circumstances. Personally, I found the thumb ramp to be a little far back and would have liked to see it moved just about a half inch forward for comfort. I realize that it would sacrifice some of the penetration length of the blade, but I feel that it would be a worthwhile tradeoff.

The handle itself—minus the enlarged finger choil—comes in just under 3 inches but is just

#### Halfbreed Blades

Although the Hardcore Hardware
Australia (HHA) brand was already well
established, they wanted to diversify
their market segment and deliver
premium quality and service. To achieve
this, they opted against the typical
model of adding different products or
levels of quality within an established
brand and instead launched Halfbreed
Blades to allow more creative pathways
and opportunities for innovation.

With HHA's focus on military and LE, Halfbreed Blades caters to survival, camping and hunting markets, while also maintaining a luxury level of tactical offerings. This allows the market more choices, providing consumers the chance to ultimately choose which brand they identify with more.

– Joshua Swanagon



## b

#### DOWN UNDER DUO



The injection-molded plastic sheath is one of the cooler sheaths I have seen. It is very stout and robust, and holds the CCK-05 very tightly, even during the most vigorous shaking. The sheath comes with a 1-inch DOTS Molle Lock installed but has three

your wrist in a more natural position during any

Unlike the MIK-01PS, the sheath for the CCK-05 does include a drain hole, so if your knife is submerged or takes on water during a heavy rain, you can rest easy that it will drain out on its own.

#### HARDCORE PERFORMANCE

Although I have used both Hardcore Hardware Australia and Halfbreed Blades before and know the level of quality, I am not one to

SPECIFICATIONS

kind of thrusting motions.

<b>&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</b>	MIK-01PS MEDIUM INFANTRY KNIFE	CCK-05 COMPACT CLEARANCE KNIFE
BLADE MATERIAL:	K110 D2 (59-60 HRC)	K110 D2 (59-60 HRC)
BLADE LENGTH:	6.49 inches	2.95 inches
OA LENGTH:	11.61 inches	6.69 inches
BLADE THICKNESS:	0.23 inches	0.23 inches
BLADE FINISH/COATING:	Teflon coated	DLC coating
HANDLE MATERIAL:	G10	Titanium, G10 overlay
HANDLE THICKNESS:	0.90 inches	0.78 inches
WEIGHT:	11.18 ounces	5.82 ounces
MSRP:	\$335	\$185



118

"THE AGGRESSIVE TIP OF

BLADES



let any knife rest on its laurels. So, I performed some of my usual tests for knives in this category to ensure comfort, performance and durability.

To start, I pulled out an old truck tire I have laying around and used the MIK-01PS to pierce the sidewall of the tire. The aggressive tip of the MIK-01PS slid easily into the tire with almost no resistance. Once the blade was all the way in, I commenced in cutting a large chunk from it to test the sharpness and had no issues.





With the large piece of sidewall in hand I decided to see how the CCK-05 would do bisecting such thick rubber. The thick stock of the CCK-05 provided some resistance but the edge was sharp enough to cut the thick rubber into a few smaller pieces.

Next, to check the tip strength and penetration power of the MIK-01PS I stabbed it vigorously into an old ammo can four times. The tip penetrated the steel with no issues, although there was a small piece of the tip that broke off. It is small enough that simply sharpening the blade will fix it.

To test the serrations, I took some heavyduty cable ties and, holding the MIK-01PS in the chest lever grip, proceeded to cut the cable ties cleanly. Then, checking edge retention, I found some heavy-duty industrial power cable and batoned through it twice, with no negative effect to the edge.

Moving on to the CCK-05 I had an old stereo component that hasn't worked for a while and took the CCK-05 in the chest lever grip and cut the power cord into small pieces. There is no deformation to the edge whatsoever.

To test the tip, I placed a piece of thick leather on top of a phone book and stabbed through both, penetrating about a half inch into the subject matter. Then to check the edge geometry I performed a rope press cut test, where I press the edge through a piece of half-inch climbing rope without slicing. With sufficient pressure I was able to press the edge cleanly through the rope multiple times.

Finally, I took a brand-new military nylon gun belt and cut it into multiple strips. I then took those strips and cut each in half, at an angle, ensuring that I was going against the weave. I had no issues cutting up the belt, and the CCK-05 still looks brand new.

#### **BOMBPROOF QUALITY**

Over the years that I have been using Hardcore Hardware Australia, and now Halfbreed Blades, I have been immensely impressed with their bombproof quality. I even sent a HHA knife with a friend to Afghanistan a few years ago and he still has it and carries it daily.

After using the HIK-01PS and CCK-05, my impression of Halfbreed Blades has only improved. If you are looking for serious, hard-core cutlery, take a look at Halfbreed Blades. You will thank me if you do. For more information, visit halfbreedblades.com.au.













CAN ANYTHING STOP THE MONSTROUS MOTHER OF ALL ATVS?

BY MICHAEL D'ANGONA



There are off-road pickups, four-by-four jeeps and all-terrain vehicles that tackle rigorous terrain. But these

crushers of Mother Nature's turf stand in the shadow of the mighty Sherp Pro 1000. This behemoth, at first glance, appears to be an amalgamation of an armored transport and a monster truck from the 1980s. But in reality, it is a powerhouse of an off roader that tackles nearly anything that sits in its path.

Furthermore, the Sherp Pro isn't restricted to good old Terra Firma—not by a long shot. When solid earth turns to mud, then to knee-high water and deeper, this vehicle floats and becomes fully amphibious! Here we dissect the beast,

explore its ingenuous advanced technology and marvel at its brute strength when nature leaves us with no choice but to take the path of most resistance.

#### **UNDER THE HOOD**

One's first impression may be that it's an oversized "monster truck," and viewing it's tires alone, that wouldn't be too crazy of a guess. However, that is where the comparison ends and outright awe begins.

The Sherp Pro 1000 features an ecofriendly diesel engine that provides high torque and the best fuel efficiency possible for such a large vehicle. With such a monstrous engine, it provides an exceptionally surprising low-level noise and vibration. In addition, the engine is adapted to run at top performance in any climate zone, no matter if the temperature is blistering hot, damp and humid, or blistery cold. Diesel to power this mega-machine is stored uniquely within four fuel tanks within the wheels themselves.



The Sherp's tires inflate and deflate depending upon terrain. Even when punctured, the Sherp won't be sidelined and will keep moving.

#### AMPHIBIOUS CAPABILITIES

What sets this bad-to-the-bone ride apart from other oversized vehicles is that water of any kind is no stopping barrier for this beast. Whether sloshing through thick, watersoaked mud or a flooded-out road, or even a pond or lake that happens to be in your path, it makes no difference, the Sherp will get you through. Its massive tires offer high buoy-

ancy, more than enough to keep the vehicle afloat. Its tires will either dig in deep to the softened earth and drive you out with sheer power, or in the case of a body of water, the tires will paddle you across and be ready to grip the terrain on the other side.

#### WE DON'T NEED NO STINKIN' ROAD

With such a boastful quote as, "Obstacles do not block the path, they are the path!" the Sherp has a lot to prove...and it doesn't disappoint.

First, the angle that this super-truck can conquer is an amazing 35 degrees, more than enough to climb up and over rocks, fallen trees, overgrown vegetation or just all the steep inclines found throughout Mother Nature's backyard.

Its tires are exceptional, not only for their ability to keep the vehicle afloat, as mentioned



## WILD RIDES





The inside of the Sherp is spacious for carrying people or cargo, while simple, highly visible controls make operating the vehicle easy for most people.



SPECIFICATIONS

#### **SHERP PRO 1000**

LOADING CAPACITY:	2,204 pounds
MAXIMUM SPEED:	25 mph
MAXIMUM SPEED ON WATER:	3.70 mph
PASSENGERS:	6
MAXIMUM GRADEABILITY:	35 degrees
APPROACH CLEARANCE:	3 feet
FUEL RANGE:	1,000 miles (with wheel fuel tanks)
FUEL AUTONOMY:	115 hours
MSRP:	\$100,000

earlier, but also because of their unique air circulation system. All tires are connected to a central tubing system that utilizes the vehicle's exhaust to inflate the tires. This allows the driver to adjust the tire pressure on-the-fly to maximize the vehicle's performance over a wide variety of obstacles. These tubeless tires feature an ultra-low pressure of only 1 to 3 pounds per inch, which if you get a puncture, might enable you to keep traveling and not get sidelined.

#### **OPTIONAL EXTRAS**

This oversized vehicle is available to the buyer in two styles—closed fixed cab or "pickup" truck" version. The closed model is suited for those needing ample protection from the elements and offers the ability to include an optional air conditioning unit. Conversely, the pickup version makes loading gear and cargo much easier and holds irregularly shaped items without restriction from the Sherp Standard's, hardtop version. Also, the pickup version is the preferred choice for search and rescue units that are found in frequent flash-flooding areas. Being able to stand up freely and scan the flooded surroundings for survivors can mean the difference between life and death.

Aside from choosing the overall body style, there are numerous badass accessories to

personalize the Sherp to your own liking and specialized purposes. For increased storage needs, you can attach a cargo rack to the top of the vehicle, a cool cargo sled for snow-filled environments and a 1,200-pound capacity cargo trailer to pull from behind with the signature Sherp monster tires. And speaking of tires, you can buy spares, rims and have metal studs installed for even better traction in snow and ice. Add rear bench seating and/or seating integrated with storage bins if people will be your main cargo. An LED light bar, a stretcher and rack for the injured, a winch, an inclinometer, an add-on ladder, a bilge pump, and back-up camera array all can be added to make your ride imprinted with your own distinct signature.

#### **TAKEAWAY**

With a \$100,000 base price tag, the Sherp is not an impulse buy for a vast majority of people. However, for environments that make the Sherp an invaluable tool—such as harsh woodlands, frozen waterways or flash flood prone rural areas—this oversized amphibian makes a sound and reliable choice. Going big is not just a cliche when discussing this intense vehicle. It is big, without a doubt, but it backs up its visual appearance with true down-n-dirty performance. For more info, visit sherpatvsales.com.



BUILT OFF OUR AWARD WINNING MPR, THE ALL-NEW MODERN PRECISION PISTOL IS HERE TO SHAKE UP THE HANDGUN WORLD AS WE KNOW IT. TAKE YOUR SHOOTING TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH OUR LATEST HANDCRAFTED FIREARM.

When we began designing the MPP we knew we wanted to design a purpose driven firearm that possessed our classic Christensen Arms feel. After our MPR's highly successful 2020, we knew we had a chance to build from a winning platform.

Introducing, the Modern Precision Pistol. This firearm features our legendary carbon fiber barrel just like its bigger brother and comes equipped with a 20-MOA optics rail, adjustable side-baffle brake, and a SB Tactical FS19141A Stabilizing brace. We can proudly say this is one of our most innovative designs yet, and it is here to stay.



## ROCK SOLID COVERNO

DIAMONDBACK COVERS PROVES THAT NOT ALL TONNEAUS ARE CREATED EQUAL

BY ANDY GROSSMAN

"How the heck can I tow my camper and my ATV at the same time?"

When I go on hunting trips or trail-riding expeditions, 90 percent of the time I am bringing my camper along to sleep in. Well, that posed a huge issue once I got my Can-Am Outlander. I drive a short bed F-150, so the ATV doesn't fit in the bed with the tailgate up. Also, the tongue on my trailer is short, making it impossible to drop the tailgate while towing the camper. Consequently, hauling the ATV in the bed was out. Plus, putting the ATV in the bed means losing all of that bed space for other gear that I don't want in the cab or in the camper—gas cans, dirty riding gear, ATV ramps, dead deer...











#### THE PROBLEM SOLVER

The DiamondBackATVS was exactly what I was looking for to haul my ATV while towing my camper. And the best part is that it leaves my bed available for gear storage. DiamondBack offers a few different styles of covers. Not all are designed to haul ATVs, but all are designed to work hard. I chose their side-loading option to make it possible to load and unload the Outlander while my trailer is still connected. The cover is made of 0.10inch 3003 alloy aluminum diamond plate and designed to handle up to 1,600 pounds on top. This thing is strong and designed to turn your truck bed into a multi-purpose functional area that will not only keep whatever you throw under it dry, secure and protected like most bed covers, but will also make the top of the bed area usable for hauling anything you can think of.

The cover consists of three panels. The center panel is about 1 foot wide and is the portion that is actually affixed to the bed rails. Then the front and rear panels actually open with the assist of a hydraulic cylinder, which makes opening much easier and keeps each panel upright while you are loading or unloading the bed. Each of the opening panels are equipped with a die-cast zinc keyed half-turn locking mechanism that turns the 3/8-inch steel locking rods to fully secure the bed of the truck. With the locking tailgate on my F-150, I actually trust the bed's security over

#### SPECIFICATIONS

### **DIAMONDBACK**DIAMONDBACKATVS

WEIGHT:	115 pounds
LOAD CAPACITY:	1,600 pounds
CONSTRUCTION:	0.10-inch 3003 alloy aluminum
COLORS:	Diamond plate alum- inum/black rubberized
INSTALLATION TIME:	Approximately 2 hours
REMOVAL TIME:	10 minutes
HINGES & EXTERNAL HARDWARE:	Steel
STRUCTURAL STUDS:	7
ADAPTER BARS:	6
HANDLES:	Die-cast zinc, keyed lock
MSRP:	\$2,429 (starting at)

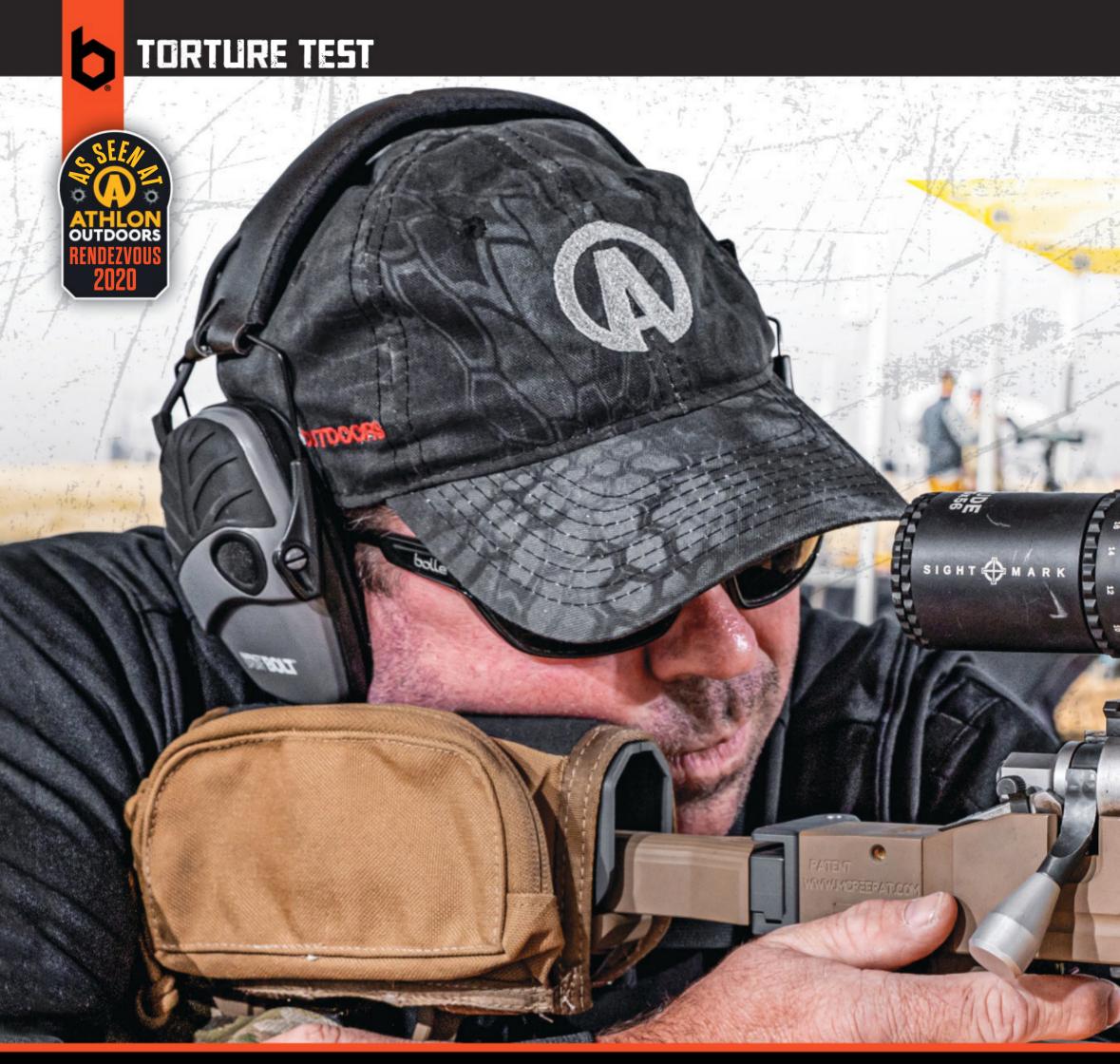
the cab because there are no windows to break and the shear strength of the cover is nearly impossible to get into without that key. The cover has a thick Neoprene compression gasket to seal out the elements, and it works very well. The seal on the tailgate makes the tailgate a bit tough to open until it breaks in. It took a little extra force for the first month or so. The entire cover took my father and me about 1.5 hours to install. The instructions

were simple to follow, and the hardest part of the installation process was climbing in and out of the bed, under the cover, to tighten everything down.

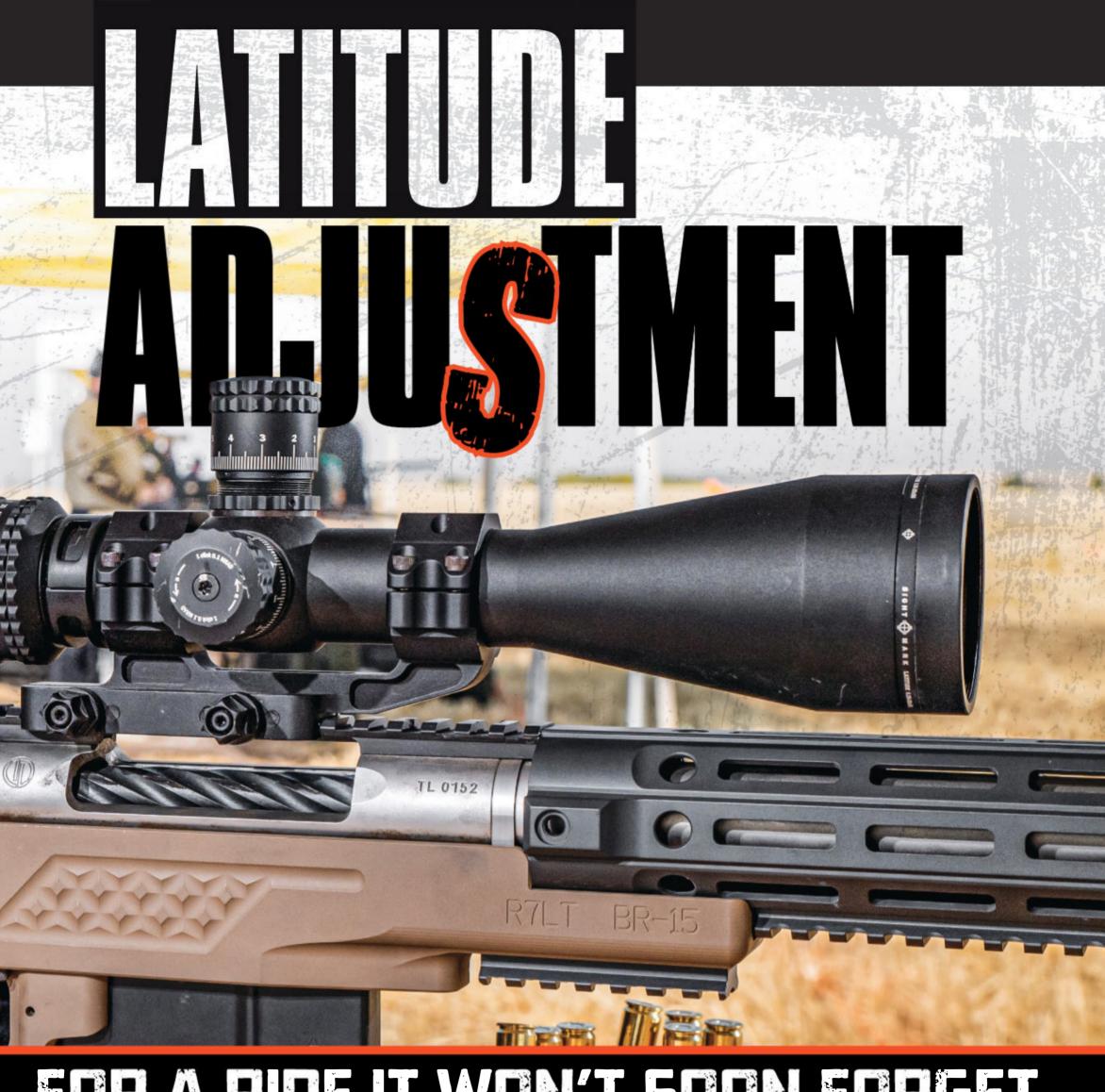
#### **READY TO ROLL**

The DiamondBackATVS comes with two extremely heavy-duty folding loading ramps in your choice of 12 feet or 9.5 feet long when unfolded. The one thing I was a little nervous about was the incline since you are driving up to the top of your bed rail. I ordered the 9.5-foot ramps so they would store completely in my truck's short bed.

The ramps feature thick, 3-inch-tall sidewalls to help guide your tires and keep them on the ramp. These ramps are designed for safety and to work specifically with the Adapter Bars that come mounted to the bed cover panels. They simple hook on the bars, which completely eliminates the possibility of the ramps kicking out on you. The cover also comes with a side rail stop bar to prevent accidentally driving off the other side of the truck. The side rail simply slides under the mounting bars on the opposite side from your ramps. DiamondBack also mounts 12 tie-down cleats through the cover so no matter what you are hauling, it can easily be tied down. Drive straight up into the side rail, tie down the ATV, throw the ramps in the bed and you are ready to go. For more information, visit diamondbackcovers.com.



## SIGHTMARK'S NEW PRS SCOPE GOES



## FOR A RIDE IT WON'T SOON FORET

## LATITUDE ADJUSTMEN



at the point in my shooting career where expensive equipment just doesn't impress me anymore. While

it's fantastic if a gun shoots sub-MOA or if a scope is crystal clear and repeatable, the point is moot if it costs a month's salary. Let's face it, you can make anything work well if you aren't afraid to throw a ton of money into it. Many manufacturers go this route with the intention of only being able to reach a small portion of the market. I mean, yeah, that works, but for me to be impressed it takes a product that functions well while still being affordable. At the 2020 Athlon Rendezvous, the Sightmark Latitude impressed me in this way, so I reached out for a sample to conduct a thorough evaluation that was going to be, let's say, less than loving.

The Latitude is Sightmark's premier long-range optic and will suit the needs of F-Class, Benchrest and PRS shooters alike. Each model is built on a 34mm main tube and offers 4x zoom, with 6.5-25x and 10-40x models available. I was most interested in the PRS version of this scope because this sport involves the greatest amount of dialing and holdover. PRS-oriented optics also need a multitude of features to please its shooters, and they all must work perfectly. The Latitude certainly delivers these features with its exposed, oversized adjustment turrets for getting the job done in fewer revolutions, FFP reticle for ranging at any magnification, and even both red and green illumination. While these features are fairly common, what isn't is the Latitude's external zero stop, which

lets the shooter reconfigure their setup far easier than common internal stops.

#### DASHES FOR DAYS

The reticle on the PRS model is of the "Christmas

Tree" variety that has been so popular of late. Sightmark built it using mil dashes instead of traditional dots to allow for finer holdover points, which are necessary for making minute corrections due to wind or unknown distance targets. Although it was packed with marks, it wasn't so busy that it was obnoxious. I liked that the numbers on the Y-axis (elevation line) were marked in the glass, which is key when the chips are down and you are being timed. Also if you are like me and have over a dozen long-range rigs, it leaves much less to memory. The half-mil spacing was a little gross but for smacking silhouettes it makes good sense as speed is the trade-off to precision. From the center to the bottom of the line there is a full 10 mils of subtension, allowing even a .308

RETICLE. PRS
LINE THICKMESS. 0.03 MRAD
MEASUREMENTS. MRAD
RETICLE COLORS

0.1 MRAD
0.5 MRAD
1 MRAD
2
0.2 MRAD TALL
0.2 MRAD TALL
1 MRAD
2
0.2 MRAD
1 MRAD
2

The Latitude's knobs are easy to grab hold of, even under stress. This picture also shows the simplistic zero-stop mechanism, which is a very handy addition to the scope's many other features.

Win. to reach 900 yards without having to touch a knob.

The windage subtentions were also .5 mil on the mainline, however everywhere below there are dots in .2-mil increments, allowing you to precisely spot an impact and correct instantly. The Latitude offers eight mils on each side of the X-axis, and towards the bottom it tapers to six mils. If you find you need more wind hold than this, you shouldn't be shooting, you should be looking for shelter.

#### A LATITUDE LICKING

The sample I received already had a good bit of wear to it as it has been traveling the country for more than a year getting abused by hundreds of different writers at trade shows in just about every climate you could imagine. Being that it had about half an inch of dust on it, I am fairly certain mine was the same optic that was at the September rendezvous as well. Now most writers might get a little upset that they couldn't get a brand new product, but not me. No, I actually prefer equipment that has already had some use. This eliminates the chance of it being a "golden sample"—writer-speak for a piece of gear that has been handpicked with the hopes of impressing the evaluator. It also had a decent round count on it already, so that reduces my own testing a bit. With ammo being scarce, this was a huge benefit.

To give the optic a good workout, we mounted it to the lightest rifle we had on hand, which coincidentally also fired the heaviest-hitting cartridge that we had at our disposal—a

# FIOCCHI. EFENDS



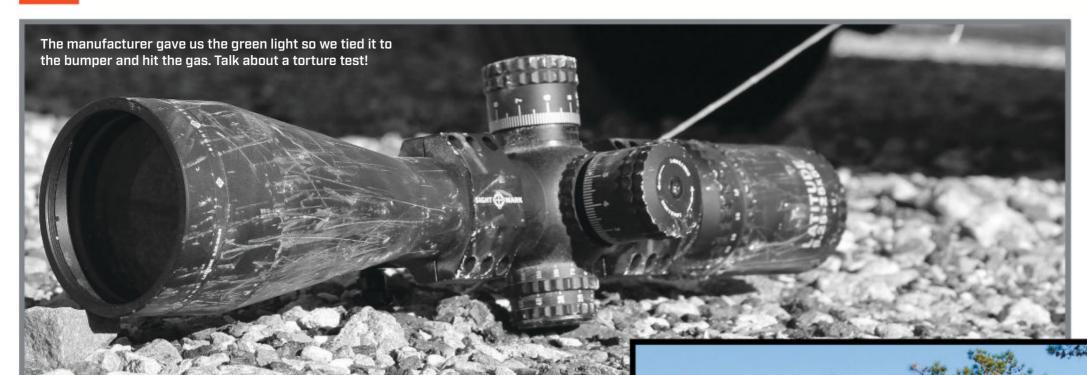
Fiocchi—a global leader in defensive ammunition—merges the latest cartridge technology with its Old-World heritage craftsmanship to deliver the new Blue Guardian defense ammo. Building on its years of producing NATO-certified cartridges and components, such as heavy metal-free primers, Fiocchi brings its innovative, manufacturing expertise to bear on a new line of specialized ammo for personal defense applications.



FIOCCHI BLUE GUARDIAN HP

## 6

#### LATITUDE ADJUSTMENT



Savage 110 Ultralite chambered in .28 Nosler. We set our Latitude into a pair of Sightmark's Tactical mounting rings and torqued all hardware down to spec using a Real Avid Smart TORX driver. If you aren't using one of these to mount your optics you are not only working too hard, but you are applying lopsided pressure to your scope—and probably too much of it, too. From here I gave it a quick table-top evaluation and took note of the knurled magnification ring, which helps to keep from slipping without having to go the throw-lever route. I also took some time to check out how the zero stop worked. It consists of a sliding plastic column that locks into your desired location with a series of set screws. This column stops the turret from going down any further and also

contains the revolution tree.

This is a great feature if you are constantly changing climates, elevation, ammo or any combination of the three. Nothing is worse than setting a zero stop at sea level only to find out that it needs to be reset once you reach the mountains.

#### **OPENING SHOTS**

I set myself up at the range and examined the glass out to about 800 yards. I checked light transmission just a few minutes before sunrise and found it more than adequate across all magnification powers. The entire FFP reticle was completely visible until

I hit 17.5x. That's still plenty of magnification to hit a man-sized target out to 1,000 yards or more. At full magnification, I had six mils worth of elevation subtensions, which I found adequate and suitable for the optics intended purpose.

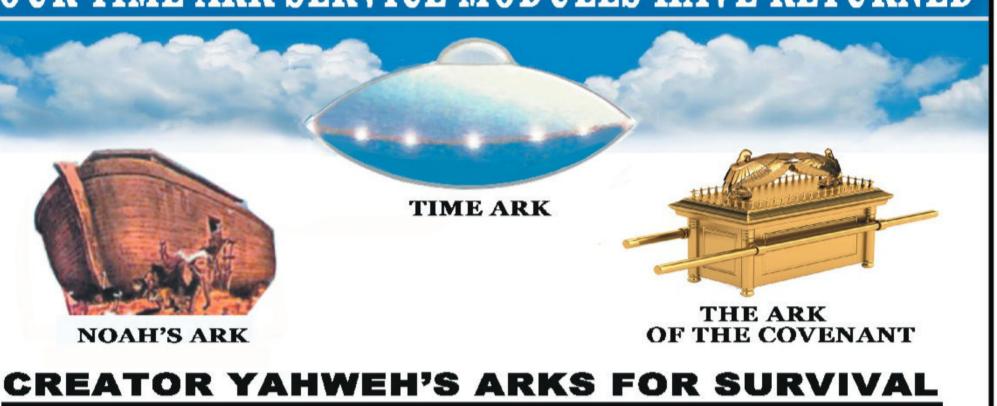
Once the sun came up a little higher, I confirmed that color transmission was true. My only gripe would be the slight distortion around the edges of the glass, but in the grand scheme it was negligible. Overall, things were very clear with absolutely no internal debris or inclusions. I zeroed at just 25 yards because I planned on doing a tall target test and the math at this distance is pretty simple. After zeroing, I had more than 20 mils of come-up to work with, which will get both .308 and 6.5 Creedmoor out to their respective effective ranges without the need for a canted rail or base.

#### THE ABUSE

With an MSRP \$840 and a real-world price of \$700, I was especially interested in seeing how much abuse the Sightmark Latitude could



## YOUR TIME ARK SERVICE MODULES HAVE RETURNED



## WWW.ATABASE.info

POSITIVE SURVIVAL IS NOT POSSIBLE ON THIS CONTINENT (Rev. 6:12-17) YOU MUST EVACUATE!

take. So before my range day, I loaded up a batch of 175-Grain Berger Elite Hunters with a near-maximum charge of VihtaVuori N570. Along with my shoulder killers, we brought out the remainder of our 160-grain Browning Long Range Pro ammo to have some fun. For those not familiar with this round, imagine the recoil if you got your .308 bear load up to 3,100 fps. Now imagine it coming out of a 6-pound rifle. Needless to say, this scope was going for a ride. In the hand, 28 Nosler makes .308 Winchester look like a .22. To ensure that the optic took as much recoil as possible we removed the Kahntrol Solutions muzzle brake and proceeded to fire 100 rounds into the dirt before allowing the rifle to cool and then reconfirming zero, it didn't budge.

We decided to up the ante by removing the optic, tying it to the bumper of the Hyundai of Justice and dragging it down 200 yards

of gravel road. We fastened the scope in a way that protected the lenses but allowed it to essentially bounce off of the turrets. Our 5 mph ride destroyed the finish on the main tube and even gouged a few notches out of the turrets. After the drive, we remounted it, re-zeroed it and prepared to put it through a tall target test to see if it tracked.

I conducted the test off of an MTM Quick Rest as it provides a lightweight solution for resting a rifle and allows the gun to recoil naturally. After confirming zero, I cranked the knob to two mils, three mils, six mils and 10 mils, firing a shot at each increment. Incredibly the optic still tracked as if it were brand new. I experienced less than 5 percent error, which arguably could just be in the accuracy of the gun. After all, the handloads were built for velocity (pain), not accuracy. After cranking the elevation turret to the top and then slamming

"WE DECIDED TO UP THE ANTE BY...TYING IT TO THE BUMPER OF THE HYUNDAI OF JUSTICE, AND DRAGGING IT DOWN ZOO YARDS OF GRAVEL ROAD."

the windage as far as it would go in each direction, I returned to my zero and put a round almost directly through the original hole—quite impressive indeed.

#### THE UPSHOT

For those who are curious, yes I received prior permission to beat up this scope. Sightmark is so confident of the Latitude that it carries a limited lifetime warranty, but as I found one might never need to use it. This optic left very little to be desired. However, it is worth mentioning that the eye box is not forgiving at all. To see perfectly through the scope, you are either on it or you aren't. Most precision rifles, however, are built to accommodate this through stock adjustments of both comb height and length of pull. So as long as you match this optic to the correct rifle you should be good to go. Other than that, I found it to be relatively compact and lightweight for a scope of that magnification range, and apparently it is as tough as the rifle you might mount it on. Hats off to Sightmark for building an optic that can fit nearly any budget and doesn't object to coming along for a ride! For more information, visit sightmark.com.

(A) ATHONOUTEOERS



**ENTER HERE** 

ballistic



TACTICAL-LIFE









NEW GUN AND ACCESSORIES GIVEAWAYS ANNOUNCED THE FIRST FRIDAY
OF EACH MONTH!





SIGN UP + SHARE BONUS ENTRIES!













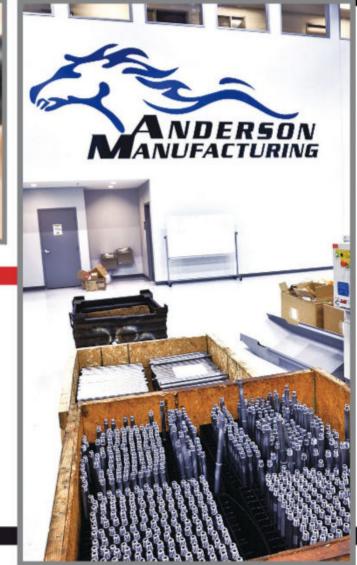


# ANDERSON MFG



THE KENTUCKY COMPANY THAT MAKES MORE LOWERS AND PARTS THAN YOU EVER IMAGINED

BY FRANK JARDIM





As a family-owned, precision manufacturer of metal components for a variety of industries, Anderson Manufacturing had no intention of being a gun manufacturer. That all changed in 2008 when a new customer requested a quote from the company to make lower receivers for AR-15 rifles, and then disappeared leaving Anderson with complete manufacturing prints and ready to go into production.

Anderson's owners, brothers Carl and Charles Anderson, knew the company had both the latest CNC machining equipment and the skilled workforce to manufacture the complex receivers, which require tight tolerances for precision fit and function. In 2009, Anderson decided to manufacture and market AR-15 receivers themselves. They quickly became popular with firearms enthusiasts. By late 2011, Anderson Manufacturing was running around the clock to keep up with demand for their receivers.



#### **WEAPONS INSIDER**

#### **RF-85 TREATMENT**

Along the way, the Anderson brothers secured the exclusive commercial firearms rights to the revolutionary RF-85 lubricating metal treatment that allows the AR platform to run reliably bone dry, without any lubrication. The RF-85 treatment technology made all other lubricious coatings and wet lubricants obsolete; and it made the Anderson products unique in the firearms industry.

Like many new entrants into a market, however, Anderson Manufacturing had its detractors from competitors and non-believers in the RF-85 "lubeless" AR-15. But the performance of the Anderson AR-15 products has turned many of the skeptics into believers, creating a grassroots marketing machine for the company with their word-of-mouth testimonials.

Today, Anderson is the largest manufacturer of AR-15 lower receivers in the country, selling throughout the United States in cooperation with its dealers and distributors. In addition to lower receivers, Anderson Manufacturing also produces finished guns, upper receivers, charging handles, bolt carrier groups and barrels for the AR-15 platform. Charles Anderson describes the brothers' success in a highly competitive industry simply as a "blessing."

Freshly cut bars of barrel quality steel are stacked ready to be fed into the conveyors for drilling.

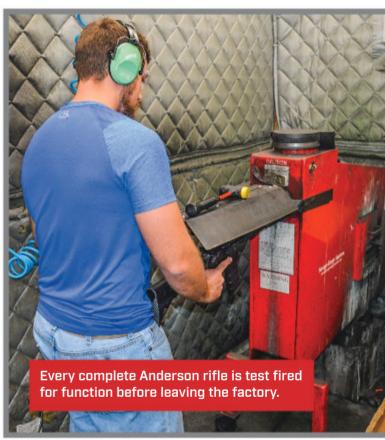
Interior shot showing a small part of the production floor lined with CNC machining equipment. Their newest and largest building houses company offices, a warehouse and the new barrel production line seen at right. P1793 ALLOY Finished lowers are laser engraved and serial numbered by this computer-controlled machine, which ensures no duplication of the numbers

> DAY, ANDERSON IS THE LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF AR-15 LOWER **ECEIVERS IN THE COUNTRY..."**









#### THE FACILITY

Anderson Manufacturing operates in a 60,000-square-foot facility consisting of four buildings, including one recently completed to add manufacturing space and allow for increased manufacturing capacity. The brothers' business philosophy remains the same as it was when they were a successful machine shop making parts for some of the largest corporations in the Midwest—a focus on delivering products of exceptional value to the customer. They do this by equipping their manufacturing facilities for high-precision, high-volume production.

More than 40 CNC machining centers, many integrated with robotics, allow the company to maintain precision quality with economies of scale that helps keep their costs low and allows their distributors to sell an Anderson receiver at retail for less than the wholesale price of many of their competitors. For example, the CNC machine that broaches the magazine well in the lower receiver relies on a robot to pick up, install and remove the lower receivers from the fixture. A similar robot does the same at the machining center that makes the charging handle. Operators keep the feed trays loaded with semi-processed or raw forgings and replace the finished parts trays when the conveyor belt fills them.

Anderson is staying competitive by investing in state-of-the-art machining equipment, which is evident in the fully automated barrel production line the company established in 2019. When supply chain problems erupted prior to the 2016 presidential election, the brothers decided they were going to make every key component of the AR in-house. Barrel production was the last major capability they needed to make that a reality.

To ensure quality at every step along the production process, test equipment, gauges and measuring tools, including state-of-the-art computerized camera, laser and tactile coordinate measuring systems, are located throughout the plant. This ensures precision tolerances are held at all stages of production, resulting in the high quality that Anderson is known for in its firearms and components. For more information, visit andersonmanufacturing.com.



## Mussels Fra Diavolo With Linguini

I developed this recipe over the years and while the end result is not all that different from typical, it is in the way the mussels are prepared. With my method you have total control of the quality, the timing of each procedure and ingredient percentages. Cultured mussels from the waters around Canada's Prince Edward Island (PEI Mussels) are considered the best and can be found in most quality supermarkets.



#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 2 lbs. mussels
- 1/2 cup dry Vermouth
- ⅓ tsp. crushed red pepper
- 1 finely chopped shallot
- 5 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 5 canned tomatoes, crushed or chopped
- 4 anchovy fillets, chopped
- ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
- 6 oz. linguini or other long pasta
- 3/4 cup mussel liquor
- 1 tbs. oregano
- ⅓ cup of chopped parsley
- 1/2 cup of parmesan (optional)
- 1 tsp. capers, chopped

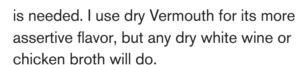
Most recipes call for the raw mussels to be added at some point to a marinara sauce, using that sauce to steam open the shells. If there's any grit in or on the mussels, it goes into the sauce, and for me, biting into a grain of sand/foreign matter is unsettling because you expect a repeat with each successive bite. Start by inspecting each mussel to make sure all are tightly closed. If the shell is partially opened, tap it smartly against the sink. If it closes, it's good. If not, chuck it. It's that simple.

The first order of business is to get the shells open and separate the mussel from the liquor (broth). I think a common mistake is to add too much wine or water for the steaming process, which makes for a weak broth. We want a rich, briny liquor, so for 2 pounds of mussels only ½ cup of liquid





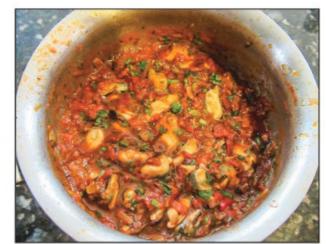




Add the inspected mussels and Vermouth to a 4-quart sauce pan, cover it and place over medium-high heat. It will take only 3 to 4 minutes for the shells to open. Empty the pan into a colander over a bowl to separate the mussels from the liquor. You'll notice that the ½ cup of liquid you started with is now about a full cup of rich broth that will impart a distinctive "frutti di mare" flavor to the sauce. Strain the broth through a fine sieve or coffee filter, and remove the mussels from their shells, saving a few whole shells for presentation. Place the shelled mussels back in the colander and rinse them for at least a minute under running water to remove any grit. Set aside the broth and mussels in separate bowls.

Making the sauce is pretty straightforward. We start by sautéing the shallots in





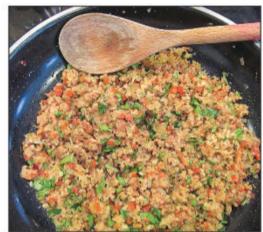


the olive oil in a saucepan over medium heat for 3-4 minutes. Add the garlic and sauté for 1-2 minutes more, then add the crushed tomatoes, mussel liquor, Oregano, anchovies, capers, crushed red pepper, salt and freshly-ground black pepper. After simmering 20 minutes or so on a medium low heat—just a gentle bubble—the sauce will have reduced to the right consistency. Now add the mussels and Parsley and continue simmering for 4-5 minutes more—just enough to bring them up to temperature. Upon tasting you might want to add a pinch or two of sugar to cut the acidity, but other than that you're done. Time your pasta prep so it's ready at the same time as your sauce. In Italy they're pretty adamant about not using Parmesan with any seafood dish but here it's quite common. Whatever trips your trigger. For a wine pairing I'd go with a Zin or Cab, but any red to your liking will













#### Clanis Casino

There was a time when this appetizer was extremely popular, but for some reason it seems to have fallen from favor. I can't imagine why because this dish is just flat out amazing. Whenever I make it it's gone in 15 minutes, and I make about 50 at a time!



#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 5 lbs. little neck clams (about 50-60 count)
- ⅓ cup chicken stock
- ½ cup finely diced red bell pepper
- ⅓ cup medium sherry
- ½ cup finely diced shallots
- ½ cup grated parmesan or Romano
- ½ cup finely diced crisp bacon
- 1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper
- 1 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1 tbsp. oregano
- ⅓ cup chopped parsley
- ½ stick butter
- 4-lb. box of rock salt
- 4 cloves garlic, finely chopped

This recipe starts the same as with the foregoing mussel prep except that we don't need the broth, so just inspect each clam and use the same criteria for determining if it's alive and well. Clams take more time to open than mussels—about 7-8 minutes in a covered pot over medium-high heat. Some will be only partially open, but these too are good. Any that are still tightly closed however, discard. Clams are more likely to contain sand, so once they cool and you remove the meat from the shells, place

them in a colander and rinse them under running water for 2-3 minutes, then set aside. Pull the shells apart and save enough halves to match the number of clams, for they will serve as spoons, if you will, for the finished product.

For the filling I prefer to hand dice the pepper, shallot, bacon and garlic, but it can also be done in a food processor.

Melt the butter in a sauce pan and sauté these four ingredients for 3-4 minutes. At that point add all the rest of the ingredients except the Parsley and 1/4 cup of the Panko breadcrumbs. Sauté over medium low heat, stirring constantly. If too soupy, add more Panko; if too dry, add more sherry or stock. The goal is the consis-



tency of a thick paste, and at that point mix in the parsley and season with salt and pepper to taste.

Place a clam on each shell, cover them with about a teaspoon of filling, and settle them on a bed of rock salt in a sheet pan. The coarse salt will retain heat and keep the shells stable. For the last step, sprinkle the remaining Panko atop each clam and place the sheet pan under the broiler—about 4 inches, until the stuffing glistens and the Panko starts to toast—for about 6-7 minutes. When cool to the touch, use each shell like a teaspoon, using your teeth to pull this celestial creation into your mouth. This dish pairs well with a Chardonnay.







#### Now! Get U.S. Decade Coin Sets from 1900-2020!

Each decade set contains a 1¢ through Half Dollar. This 65-coin collection includes:

- 1943 Steel Cent to save copper for ammunition in WWII
- 35% Silver Jefferson Wartime Nickel reserved nickel for the war effort

**Subscribe Now!** We'll send your first two decades and your **FREE** Custom Coin Set Box<sup>™</sup> with **FREE** Shipping!

- Dimes, Quarters and Half Dollars struck before 1965 in 90% silver
- Each decade set comes in a clear protective case
- · Makes a great gift



**Serving Collectors Since 1945** 



Order now! Call (800) 645-3122 or visit LittletonCoin.com/Specials for Faster Service

- ☐ 12 Monthly Shipments Only \$29.95 each – FREE Shipping every month! Cancel at any time.
- ☐ Complete Set for Only \$279.00 SAVE Over \$80 & get FREE Shipping!

  Subject to availability

Mail to: Littleton Coin Co.

Dept. ZWAM9

1309 Mt. Eustis Rd
Littleton NH 03561-3737

□ VISA □ MO	AMEX DISC No checks a	ccepted.	
Card #:			Exp. Date:
Name	Please print clearly	E-Mail	
Address			Apt#
City		State	Zip

45-Day Money Back Guarantee



#### Blackened Scallops With Vegetable Risotto

For the most part clams, mussels and oysters are displayed in stores' seafood sections alive and in their shells, but not so with scallops. These succulent little morsels are bivalve mollusks and therefore they too have a shell, one that's symmetric and of fan-like shape. Normally, all we see of scallops in display cases is the adductor muscle, which is grayish-white in color and shaped something like a thick disk. Sea scallops are larger and preferred over the smaller bay scallops. This recipe is meant to be a one-dish meal for two.



#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 3/4 lb. sea scallops
- ¾ cup Arborio rice
- ½ cup fresh corn
- · 4 tbsp. butter
- ½ cup dry white wine
- 1 finely chopped shallot
- 2 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
- ½ cup snap peas
- 3 cups chicken stock
- ¾ cup Parmesan
- 3 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 4 tbsp. Creole seasoning
- ½ cup Mascarpone cheese
- 1 tbsp. chopped Parsley

Preparing the scallops is the easy and last step of this recipe where the risotto is the co-star. We start by sautéing the rice and shallot in 2 tbs. butter over medium-high heat, stirring constantly, until the rice starts to darken slightly—about 5-6 minutes. Add the garlic and stir for 2 minutes more. Now, add the wine and continue cooking until it's completely reduced. Reduce heat to medium and with the chicken stock warming in a saucepan on the side, start adding it a half-cup at a time each time the stock is absorbed. This is a constant-stir process that will take about 20-25 minutes for the rice to fully cook and achieve the creamy texture that Arborio rice is known for.











About five minutes before that point—the rice should be just slightly *al dente*—add the peas, corn, Parmesan, Mascarpone and the remaining butter and mix thoroughly. Set aside on the warm setting.

The scallops couldn't be easier. In a saucepan add the olive oil and bring up to medium-high heat. Dip the scallops on both sides into the Creole seasoning

(I use Paul Prudhomme's) and sauté. Depending on the size and thickness of the scallops, we're talking about 90 seconds per side for a medium degree of doneness. Plate the rice in a pile, top with the scallops, add the Parsley and some additional Parmesan if desired. This dish pairs beautifully with a New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc or a French Rosé.

## SIGHT MARK®





# Lating A FIREARMS

In total transparency, I'm happy, if not elated, that SHOT (Shooting Hunting Outdoor Trade) Show was cancelled this year. Don't get me wrong, I'm a huge supporter of NSSF and, of course, the industry as a whole. But to be candid, I could do without a case of any manner of "SHOT Show Flu." After being in lockdown for the past God-only-knows-how-many months, I'm socially inept and I'm not too sure I could weather the walk down the main hall with the thousands of other poor souls squeezed into a lane like cattle. But I will miss the Vegas food scene.

The first week of January for the past 15 years or more, I've made reservations at my favorite eateries in all the cities that host all the shows, and there are a lot of shows. I get excited, almost giddy, imagining my favorite dishes and anticipating the new culinary creations. Out of all the shows in all the towns with all the great restaurants, Vegas reigns supreme.

To me, partaking in the food and drink makes show season tolerable, and I've gotten

TO Fabulous NEVADA

INSIDER'S GUIDE

BY J. MARSHALL

146

my routine down to a science. So, when the flood gates open again and we all get back to normal, check these joints out while at SHOT Show or any time you visit Sin City.

#### Bouchon

#### (TUESDAY NIGHT)

On the top of my list is Bouchon. If you don't know anything about the Culinary Arts, you

likely know the name Thomas Keller. For those who don't, he's one of the world's greatest chefs. He owns several Michelin-rated restaurants such as French Laundry in Napa, and Bouchon in Vegas is his, too. For breakfast, lunch or dinner, you can't go wrong. I prefer dinner, and I prefer the same waiter, Tom (ask for

Tom). When I go, I have my staples that I order and highly recommend.

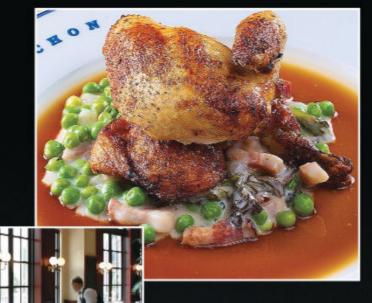
**Drink/Cocktail:** Let the waitstaff (Tom) choose your drink after you start ordering.

**Oysters:** For some reason, Bouchon's oysters just taste fresher and better. I've no clue why, but order only a half-dozen, you'll need room for all the rest.

Soupe al Oignon: French Onion Soup like you've never had with Comté cheese. Lord.

Tartare de Boeuf: Steak Tartar at its finest. They prepare it the right way: They cut and dice the meat with a knife, and only a knife.

Foie Gras: This isn't on the menu. They do have a Foie Gras dish on the menu, but it's not



this. This? This Foie Gras (Terrine de Foie Gras) is like nothing you've ever had, and depending on who you're hanging with, this dish will either make or lose you a

lot of friends. I ordered this while entertaining a client from South Georgia—he almost fired me. I digress. This Foie Gras comes in a little canning jar sealed with wax, and is a spread of sorts. I order three, one to devour immediately, one to have with my main course (i.e. dip my fries in it, spread it on my steak, etc.), and one to share.

#### Main Entrée and Dessert:

Don't bother looking at the menu. Tell your waiter (hopefully Tom) to have the kitchen prepare something off-menu. Trust me, this is the good stuff that chefs get all misty eyed over; they get to show their talent. You can't go wrong no matter what's served.

The other key to Bouchon is that it's not in the main hall, it's on

the 10th floor of the Venetian, tucked away all by itself. I like this. It's away from the crowds, and although the restaurant itself is always buzzing, the experience of eating here takes away all the background noise. That and it's less than a minute away from my room. I always make it a point to book my room in the same tower as Bouchon.

#### Yardbird

#### (HAPPY HOUR ONLY)

I reserve a corner booth, for exactly an hour, and have my drink and apps waiting. Although Yardbird sits in the main corridor and there's way too many people, it's a short walk from the showroom floor. I always skip out early on the first day of SHOT, and since my dogs are howling, Yardbird is a perfect place to sit and rest a bit. I order the following, every time.

**Drink:** Blackberry Bourbon Lemonade. It's on the menu.

**Appetizer:** Col. Newsom's Prosciutto Country Ham Plate. Two things: Any restaurant that can pull off a genuinely true pimento cheese has it going on, and combining that with some salty swine is the perfect balance and the perfect precursor to the night.





Hot N Juicy
[WEDNESDAY NIGHT]

I don't know about the rest of SHOT participants, but if I need to get away from the crowd, the industry and the strip, Hot N Juicy provides the place for me. I seldom do chain restaurants, but this place is unique and, most importantly, a great time. It's been a tradition in my clique for the past 10 years to go here and relax, laugh and enjoy each other's company. Hot N Juicy is basically a seafood boil with a twist: They steam bags of seafood in your choice of marinades and then throw them on your table. It gets messy, but I've learned that you need to order a lot of bread (make sure to order the bread before the seafood arrives). I personally use the bread to make a dam of sorts in front of me to keep all the juices and marinades from getting all over me. Another tip: If you're into some of the spicier mari-

nades, go to the bathroom before eating, trust me on this. Piles and piles of shrimp, crawfish, lobster and crabs paired with Miller High Life and so much laughter that you don't know if your side hurts from all the food or from laughing makes Hot N Juicy a place I'll always cherish.

#### Bazaar Meat (THURSDAY NIGHT)

The first time I walked into this magical hashery, after seeing hanging sides of beef being aged with massive salt blocks, I knew it was going to be good. I could tell you what to order, but honestly, the entire menu is amazing and the whole dining experience is a

journey. I do have some favorites, and I tend to splurge a little. The place isn't cheap, but having the opportunity to try the chef's latest meat art and dabble in some old-time favorites is worth it, so be

adventurous—screw the cost.

**Drink(s):** They have so many, it's hard to choose, and they have an impressive bourbon selection. Despite the massive hangover the next morning, I usually drink several different cocktails. I start with the smoked Manhattan and end with a port of the waiter's choice.

**Appetizer(s):** I tend to order a bunch of apps while here, not only because they're so delicious, but because it's also a joy watching others experience such innovation.

Kobe Airbread: First, it's true Kobe steak. Second, the way it's prepared and the explosion that happens when it hits your mouth...it's not only wonderful, but also fascinating.

**Cotton Candy Foie Gras:** You have to order just to see what it is, and it's heaven on a stick. Even the

BY JOSÉ ANDRÉS

guy from Southern
Georgia dug this
dish (he ordered
another one). Maybe
because it's on a stick, he can

relate more.

**Giant Pork Rind:** It's way better than what you get out of a bag. It is giant, but order two.

Entrée: This is where I get lost—I can't give you any more recommendations. I can tell you, though, that this place serves meat and you can't go wrong, whatever you order. I personally order the tasting menu and every time I do, I'm not disappointed. You'll get a good dose of flesh from all things chicken, lamb, pork and of course, beef, complemented with well-prepared side dishes and desserts.

Note that this place is in the SLS Casino, and I've never seen the actual casino busy. It's pretty damn quiet, and if you choose to gamble

after dinner, it's easy to find a table.

#### Bouchon

[FRIDAY MORNING]
I'm done, I have meat
sweats and a hangover.
My flight takes off in four
hours—enough time to
settle the stomach, hit the
showroom floor, say my
goodbyes and fly back to
the heartland. First stop,
Bouchon.

Seltzer Water w/
Lime: Take with four Advil.

**Hair of the Dog:** Mine is the staple Bloody Mary, and Bouchon makes a damn good one.

#### **Cheese Danish:**

Bouchon has its own bakery of French pastries. The cheese Danish is thick enough to soak up the

remainder of the alcohol from last night.

**Biscuit au Babeurre:** Biscuits and gravy, not like you're accustomed to, from the freshly baked, flakey biscuits to the pepper gravy and the organically sourced swine in the form of both bacon and sausage.

**Altoid:** Get from barkeep.

It's hard to beat that lineup, and easy to miss. I truly hope that SHOT Show takes place in 2022. As happy as I am (and so is my bank account) that it didn't happen this year, I missed my friends, my peers and the grandeur of it all. Mostly, I missed the food and treating friends and clients to true culinary experiences...and the meat sweats.



#### Men's Virility Restored in Clinical Trial; 275% More Blood Flow in 5 Minutes

A newly improved version of America's best-selling male performance enhancer gives 70-year-old men the bedroom performance they enjoyed in their 30's.

Aenhancer just got a lot better.

It's the latest breakthrough for nitric oxide – the molecule that makes erections possible by increasing blood flow to your penis.

Nitric oxide won the Nobel Prize in 1998. It's why "the little blue pill" works. More than 200,000 studies confirm it's the key to superior sexual performance.

And this new discovery increases nitric oxide availability resulting in even quicker, stronger and longer-lasting erections.

One double-blind, placebo-controlled study (the "gold-standard" of research) involved a group of 70-year-old-men.

They didn't exercise. They didn't eat healthy. And researchers reported their "nitric oxide availability was almost totally compromised," resulting in blood flow less than HALF of a man in peak sexual health.

But only five minutes after the first dose their blood flow increased 275%, back to levels of a perfectly healthy 31-year-old man! "It's amazing," remarks nitric oxide expert Dr. Al Sears. "That's like giving 70-year-old men the sexual power of 30-year-olds."

#### WHY SO MUCH EXCITEMENT?

Despite the billions men spend annually on older nitric oxide therapies, there's one wellknown problem with them.

They don't always work.

A very distinguished and awarded doctor practicing at a prestigious Massachusetts hospital who has studied Nitric Oxide for over 43 years states a "deficiency of bioactive nitric oxide... leads to impaired endothelium-dependent vasorelaxation.'

In plain English, these older products may increase levels of nitric oxide. But that's only half the battle. If it's not bioactively available then your body can't absorb it to produce an erection.

Experts simply call it the nitric oxide "glitch." And until now, there's never been a solution.

#### **NEXT GENERATION** NITRIC OXIDE FORMULA **FLYING OFF SHELVES**

Upon further research, America's No. 1 men's health expert Dr. Al Sears discovered certain nutrients fix this "glitch" resulting in 275% better blood flow.

He's combined those nutrients with proven nitric oxide boosters in a new formula called Primal Max Red. In clinical trials, 5,000 mg

merica's best-selling sexual performance is required for satisfying sexual performance. Primal Max Red contains a bigger, 9,000 mg per serving dose. It's become so popular, he's having trouble keeping it in stock.

> Dr. Sears is the author of more than 500 scientific papers. Thousands of people listened to him speak at the recent Palm Beach Health & Wellness Festival featuring Dr. Oz. NFL Hall of Fame quarterback Joe Namath recently visited his clinic, the Sears Institute for Anti-Aging Medicine.

> Primal Max Red has only been available for a few months - but everyone who takes it reports a big difference. "I have the energy to have sex three times in one day, WOW! That has not happened in years. Oh, by the way I am 62," says Jonathan K. from Birmingham, AL.

#### **HOW IT WORKS**

Loss of erection power starts with your blood vessels. Specifically, the inside layer called the endothelium where nitric oxide is made.

The problem is various factors THICKEN your blood vessels as you age. This blocks availability causing the nitric oxide "glitch." The result is difficulty in getting and sustaining a healthy erection.

How bad is the problem?

Researcher shows the typical 40-year-old man absorbs 50% less nitric oxide. At 50, that drops to 25%. And once you pass 60 just a measly 15% gets through.

To make matters worse, nitric oxide levels start declining in your 30's. And by 70, nitric oxide production is down an alarming 75%.

Primal Max Red is the first formula to tackle both problems. Combining powerful nitric oxide boosters and a proven delivery mechanism that defeats the nitric oxide "glitch" resulting in 275% better blood flow and stronger erections. There's not enough space here to fully explain how it works, so Dr. Sears will send anyone who orders Primal Max Red a free special report that explains everything.

#### MORE CLINICAL RESULTS

Nutrients in Primal Max Red have logged impressive results.

In a Journal of Applied Physiology study, one resulted in a 30 times MORE nitric oxide. And these increased levels lasted up to 12 hours.

"I measured my nitric oxide levels, you can buy a test kit from Amazon," reports 48-year-old Jeff O. "Monday night I showed depleted."

Then he used ingredients in *Primal Max Red* and, "The results were off the charts. I first woke



A new discovery that increases nitric oxide availability was recently proven in a clinical trial to boost blood flow 275% resulting in even quicker, stronger and longerlasting erections.

around 3 a.m. on Tuesday with a throbbing boner. My nitric oxide levels measured at the top end of the range."

#### **FREE BONUS TESTOSTERONE BOOSTER**

Every order also gets Dr. Sears testosterone boosting formula Primal Max Black for free.

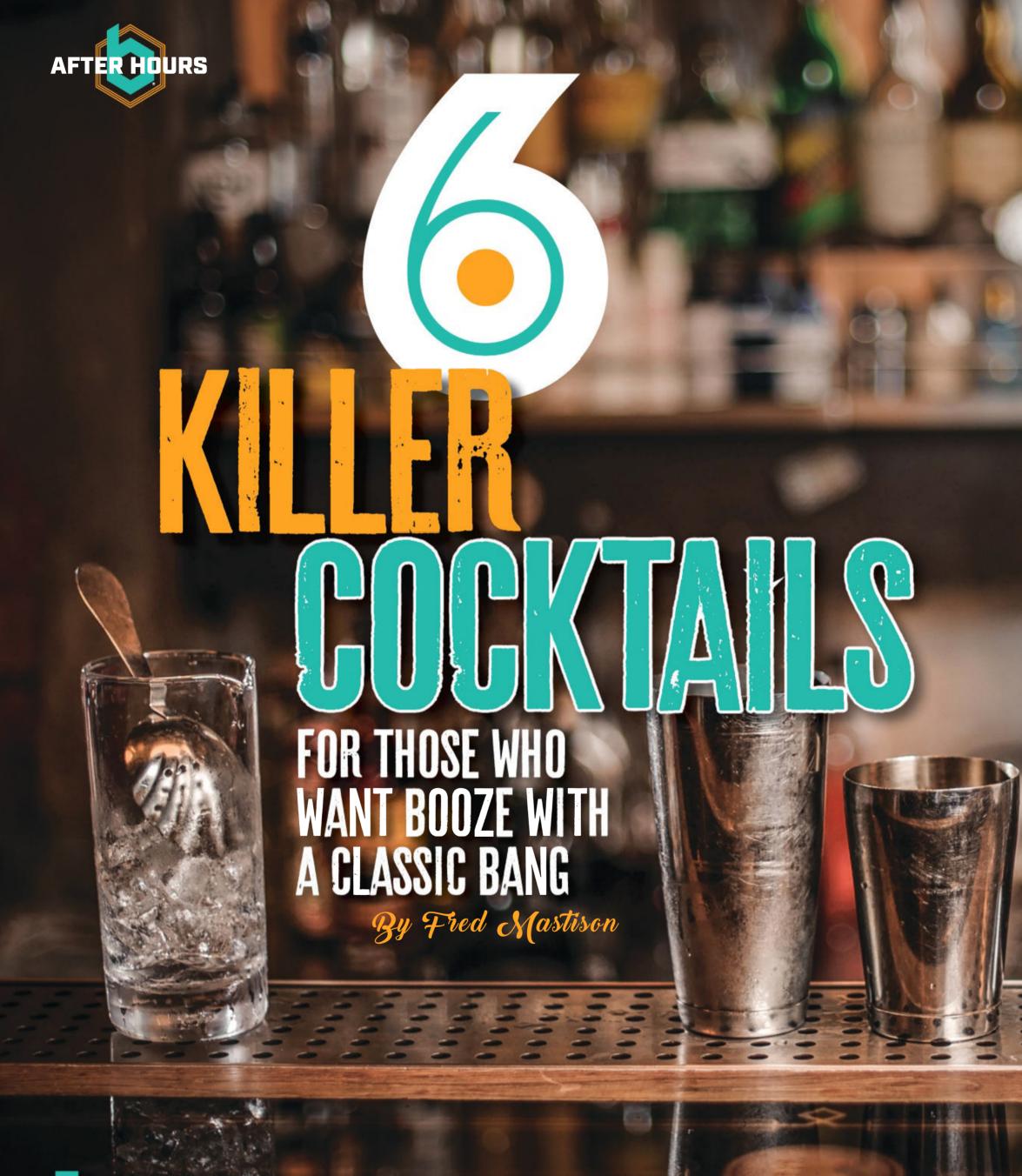
"If you want passionate 'rip your clothes off' sex you had in your younger days, you need nitric oxide to get your erection going. And testosterone for energy and drive," says Dr. Sears. "You get both with Primal Max Red and Primal Max Black."

#### **HOW TO GET PRIMAL MAX**

To secure free bottles of Primal Max Black and get the hot, new Primal Max Red formula, buyers should contact the Sears Health Hotline at 1-800-236-3161 within the next 48 hours. "It's not available in drug stores yet," says Dr. Sears. "The Hotline allows us to ship directly to the customer."

Dr. Sears feels so strongly about Primal Max, all orders are backed by a 100% money-back guarantee. "Just send me back the bottle and any unused product within 90 days from purchase date, and I'll send you all your money back," he says.

The Hotline will be open for the next 48 hours. After that, the phone number will be shut down to allow them to restock. Call 1-800-236-3161 to secure your limited supply of Primal Max Red and free bottles of Primal Max Black. You don't need a prescription, and those who call in the first 24 hours qualify for a significant discount. Use Promo Code BALL0421PMAX when you call in. Lines are frequently busy, but all calls will be answered.



EARLY FOR DINNER. By design, I slipped up to the bar to await my counterparts. My drink in hand, I sat and took in the scene. A woman wandered up beside me and was greeted by the bartender with, "What'll you have?" She paused a moment and in almost exasperation sighed, "Oh just make it a Jack and Coke." The tone of resignation in her voice told me that she was going to once again just settle on a standby drink.





beer. You can see why it was popular for those suffering from a previous night of overindulgence. The drink became so popular with the troops that the hotel received telegrams asking for bulk orders to be delivered to the front lines. While other versions of the drink exist, the common (and correct) version calls for the use of bourbon and gin as the primary spirits. Most reputable bars will have all the components to make this magical elixir designed to ease your suffering. The Suffering Bastard, however, is extremely tasty and can, in the end, send you into a hangover the next morning if you lack discipline. What a deliciously vicious cycle!

#### YOU'LL NEED:

- 1 ounce bourbon
- 1 ounce London dry gin
- ½-ounce lime juice, freshly squeezed
- 2 dashes Angostura bitters
- · Ginger beer, to top
- · Garnish: mint sprig

#### **Directions**

- Add the bourbon, gin, lime juice and bitters into a shaker with ice and shake until well-chilled
- Strain into a Collins glass over fresh ice.
- · Top with the ginger beer.
- Garnish with a mint sprig.





Once seemingly on its way to obscurity, the appearance of the classic White Russian in *The Big Lebowski* helped bring the tasty drink back into popularity. It's as close to an adult beverage milkshake as you can get.

#### WHITE RUSSIAN

Next on our "outside the norm" list is the White Russian. This tasty drink has been around for a long time but became a new bar constant after "The Dude" in The Big Lebowski brought it into the mainstream. The name is a bit misleading as the only thing Russian about it is the vodka. To those serious about White Russians, it is as close to an adult beverage milkshake as you can get. The inclusion of Kahlúa and heavy cream make this a rich and flavorful drink. As with any cocktail you prepare, having the correct ingredients makes all the difference. Take the time to get real heavy cream and even Russian vodka to make the drink as rich as possible. Remember, we are not drinking this to watch our figure. Mix it right, sit back and know that "The Dude abides."

#### **YOU'LL NEED:**

- · 2 ounces vodka
- 1 ounce Kahlúa
- · 1 splash heavy cream

#### **Directions**

- Add the vodka and Kahlúa to a rocks glass filled with ice.
- · Top with the heavy cream and stir

#### SIDECAR

Our next drink features cognac. When I say this many people envision some khaki wearing rich socialite sipping a drink in front of a fireplace at his polo club. While that might take place, cognac is not a drink exclusively for the well healed. A great cocktail that incorporates this classy spirit is the Sidecar. This is a classic old drink that offers a fresh

tart flavor. It features cognac, orange liqueur and fresh lemon juice, plus a sugared rim. According to liquor.com, the Sidecar was likely invented around World War I. It graced the pages of two books in 1922: Harry's ABC of Mixing Cocktails by Harry MacElhone and Cocktails and How to Mix Them by Robert Vermeire. Ninety-nine years after the recipe hit the pages, it is still a fantastic classic and certainly worth a try. So, slip on your ascot and blue blazer as you revel in the wonders of this cognac masterpiece.

#### YOU'LL NEED:

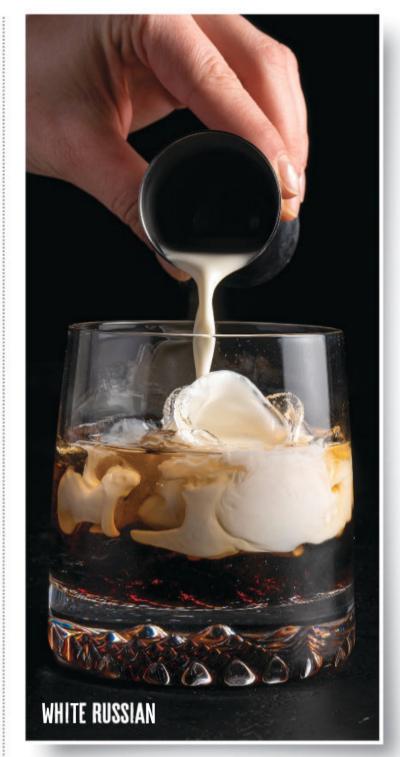
- 1½ ounces cognac
- ¾ ounce orange liqueur
- ¾ ounce lemon juice, freshly squeezed
- Garnish: orange twist
- · Garnish: sugar rim

#### **Directions**

- Coat the rim of a coupe glass with sugar, if desired, and set aside.
- Add cognac, orange liqueur and lemon juice to a shaker with ice and shake until chilled.
- Strain into the prepared glass.
- · Garnish with an orange twist.

#### FRENCH 75

A recurring theme in many classic cocktails is connection to wars. Our next magical mix follows that same trend. The French 75 is named for the 75-millimeter field gun that was utilized by the French during WWI. Consisting of gin, fresh lemon juice, sugar and champagne, the drink does not have the boom the name might imply. Like many of our drinks here, the French 75 is old with its first literary appearance in







1927. The drink is based around the unique and tasty combination of gin and champagne. While they may not seem to fit together, enthusiastic experimentation has shown us they fit very well together. The French 75 is a solid choice for an evening libation but it is also popular for day-drinking activities as well. Like the mimosa, the French 75 is an effervescent drink that pairs well with lunch or even breakfast if the situation calls for it.

#### YOU'LL NEED:

- · 1 ounce gin
- ½ ounce lemon juice
- ½ ounce simple syrup
- · 3 ounces champagne

#### **Directions**

- Add the gin, lemon juice and simple syrup to a shaker with ice and shake until well-chilled.
- · Strain into a champagne flute.
- · Top with the champagne.
- · Garnish with a lemon twist.

#### SAZERAC

Another cocktail we will explore is a close friend to the Old Fashioned. The Sazerac is a great cocktail that was actually trademarked by the Sazerac company in 1900. This drink is a common find in New Orleans and was designated as the official cocktail of New Orleans in 2008. It is also one of the more complicated

magical collection of rye whiskey, cognac, absinthe and a collection of bitters to round it out. When combined correctly they create a deeply flavorful cocktail with a wide spectrum of taste. To be honest, watching skilled hands make this cocktail is as enjoyable as drinking it. This is also a reminder that good bartenders are part chemist, therapist and cashier. Tip them well and thank them for their skills.

#### YOU'LL NEED:

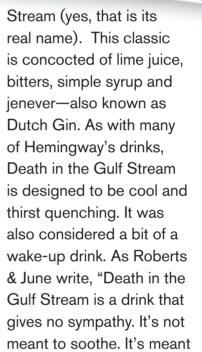
- · Absinthe, to rinse
- 1 sugar cube
- ½ teaspoon cold water
- 3 dashes Peychaud's bitters
- 2 dashes Angostura bitters
- 1 ¼ ounces rye whiskey
- 1 1/4 ounces cognac
- Garnish: lemon peel

#### **Directions**

- Rinse a chilled rocks glass with absinthe
- In a mixing glass, muddle the sugar cube, water and the Peychaud's and Angostura bitters.
- Add the rye and cognac, fill the mixing glass with ice and stir until well-chilled.
- · Strain into the prepared glass.
- Twist the lemon peel over the drink's surface to extract the peel's oils, and then garnish with the peel.

#### DEATH IN THE GULF STREAM

The last cocktail is closely connected to a writer that is as well known for his drinking as his literary prowess. One of Ernest Hemingway's favorite drinks was Death in the Gulf



DEATH IN THE

STREAM

to slap you wide awake and get you right back into the drinking game again. It's the smelling salts of cocktails, strong, bitter, and tart. As a hangover cure, it's ridiculous; but we have to admit that it has a bracing quality about it. It's not what we would call pleasant, but it is kind of magnetic." Don't let that description scare you away. Death in the Gulfstream is a great choice for when you want a tasty kickstart.

#### **YOU'LL NEED:**

- · 3 oz jenever
- · 4 dashes Angostura bitters
- · 1 lime
- 1 tsp simple syrup

#### **Directions**

- Fill a highball glass with crushed ice.
- · Dash the bitters onto the ice.
- Add the juice of the lime, and then drop the pressed peels in as well.
- Add the gin and the simple syrup.





Does it feel like you can't turn around these days without seeing another attack on our Second Amendment? Does displaying your love for America and guns get you canceled from the neighborhood block party? Well, it's time to fight back by sporting some awesome T-shirts from these freedom-loving manufacturers!

BY ALEX LANDEEN

#### SHIELD REPUBLIC

#### "Guns Beer Whiskey Freedom" and "Shove Gun Control"

influenced by what's considered

politically correct." All the products

spirit of American Pride, are designed

from Shield Republic embody the

Founded in 2016 outside Raleigh, North Carolina, Shield Republic produces apparel for lovers of liberty and freedom. Founders Barrett Johnson and Ryan Carter feel it's important to bring a general voice to blue-collar Americans and to and feel proud of while putting out products that aren't going to be





### **THREADS**

#### RE FACTOR TACTICAL

#### "Send it" and "Bill Murray Nods"

RE Factor Tactical is a SOF veteran-led company that's mission is to provide "special operations with unconventional solutions that are essential for adapting to unconventional problems on the battlefield." They also sell really cool t-shirts that anyone with a love of America and a sense of humor will enjoy. They also provide support for veterans of the military, law enforcement and other government agencies by donating portions of the proceeds to an array of non-



profit organizations. Check out all the gear and apparel at REFactorTactical.com.



#### **STILL GONNA SEND IT"**





Located just outside Detroit, Freedom Fatigues is family/ veteran/LEO owned and operated and is dedicated to producing unapologetically patriotic apparel that is 100 percent made in the USA. Founder and CEO Chris Vargo served nine years with Air Force Security Police in the Air National Guard, where he worked with Combat Arms Training and Maintenance. As a civilian law enforcement officer, he was a firearms instructor for almost 20 years and was also a patrol rifle instructor. After being injured while responding to a call, Chris came up with Freedom Fatigues as a way to stay connected with the community and lifestyle he was forced to leave behind. The company is dedicated to supporting fellow veterans and first responders by partnering with nonprofits as well as bringing awareness to PTSD and hero suicide. Learn more at FreedomFatigues.com.



#### **NINE LINE APPAREL**

#### "5 Things" and "AR/15"

From a garage to a 60,000square-foot warehouse in less than six years, Nine Line Apparel is a patriotic lifestyle brand committed to supporting our nation's heroes, creating jobs in America and being "relentlessly patriotic." In the military, a Nine Line is a medevac request for a soldier that is injured on the battlefield. To soldiers, a Nine Line symbolizes patriotism, hope and trust in one's countrymen. Nine Line's owner and co-founder Captain Tyler Merritt, a former Army Special Operations Air Mission Commander, started the company with a mission to bridge the gap between civilians and service members, and to promote the idea that being patriotic is nothing to be ashamed of. As a give-back organization, Nine Line supports a multitude of initiatives that help those in need. From first responders to military charities to disaster relief funds, Nine Line is committed to the ongoing support of charitable initiatives. See all their apparel, gear and accessories at NineLineApparel.com.

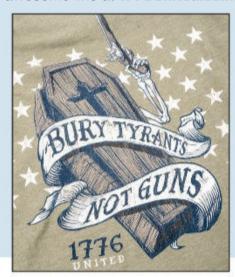
# THAIRM HIMO CALL ROLL SEND THE STATE OF COMMENTS THE STATE OF THE ST

#### 1776 UNITED

#### "The Signers" and "Bury Tyrants"

After discovering a lack of stylish patriotic T-shirts during the 2008 elections, the three founders of 1776 United decided to do something about it. With a "loving America doesn't have to look cheesy" mindset, they create shirts that let people show their love for our country, and feel good doing it. Their dream is to inspire patriotism to the next Greatest Generation. "When you wear one of our shirts, you're letting people know that you're not afraid to love your country;

you're not ashamed of being an American, you're proud to be an American." Check out the whole awesome line at **1776United.com**.



#### RANGER UP

#### "But Did You Die?" "Essential AF," "Slow is Smooth"

Ranger Up was founded in 2006 as the first ever military lifestyle brand. It's owned by Nick Palmisciano, a former infantry officer; John Tackett, a former member of the 75th Ranger Regiment; and Tim Kennedy, a Special Forces Master Sergeant who served in 7th Special Forces Group and now serves in 19th Special Forces Group.

"Ranger Up is inspired by military service, and is adamantly pro 2A," Palmisciano said. "When people ask the question, 'Why do civilians need assault rifles because an individual citizen could never hold off a military

with our power?' we can point to places across the globe, including wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, where small guerrilla forces were able to hold off superior militaries for generations using only service rifles and guile. People love to talk about the magnificence of the First Amendment, and they're absolutely right. It is a perfect addition to our Constitution. But, the Second Amendment protects the first. Without it, you simply need to hope that the government will not abuse its power. Historically, that's been a bad gamble." To check out all the 2A goodness, head to RangerUp.com.





#### TIMEPIECE

So you're wearing your favorite T-shirt; clearly that leaves your wrists fully exposed. You need a watch that's *Ballistic*-approved. No, we're not saying you want to pin Blackwater Worldwide watches to your range target to see if they can take a .308 licking. But, you do owe it to yourself to check out Blackwater's Dead Of Night 'piece. *Ballistic* editors like the Dead Of Night because it's not flashy and not loaded with too many bells and whistles. Hell, we barely know how to work smartphones. Plus, we get lots of shit done under the cover of darkness, so its luminous indicators on the hour, minute and second hands, and luminous bezel ring index and a date window, keep us in the know no matter what. Also very appealing is the \$299 price tag. The Dead Of Night sports a stainless steel case with a diameter of 45mm, a rotating bezel ring with inner and outer markings, and is water resistant to 100 meters. Check it out at blackwaterworldwide.com. —*Nino Bosaz* 

157

#### **PATRIOT TRIBUTE**

ith the recent passing of pioneer radio talk show host and best-selling author Rush Limbaugh, the country lost not only its strongest voice for the conservative political movement, but also an incredibly strong advocate for the right to keep and bear arms.

Born in 1951 in Missouri, Limbaugh passed away February 17 at his home in Florida after a battle with lung cancer. He was 70.

Limbaugh's conservative show was first syndicated in 1988, and I began listening on a regular basis in 1989. I still remember the first time I heard Rush like it was yesterday. I was visiting a tax accountant who worked out of his home and had the radio on in the background. While we looked over my paperwork, I could hear Andy Williams singing the theme song from Born Free, with shrieking animals and full-auto gunfire blaring in the background. It was Rush's "Animal Rights Update" theme for several years,

America's number one conservative voice will be greatly missed

BY MARK CHESNUT

An avid golfer, Limbaugh was known to tee it up with some pretty well-known folks, including here with Donald Trump before he became president.



and I couldn't help but chuckle every time I heard it thereafter.

Over some 32 years on what he called the "Excellence In Broadcasting (EIB) Network," Limbaugh worked tirelessly, hosting his radio show for three hours each weekday and even having a television show for awhile. Unlike many media personalities, Rush was an important part of the daily lives of millions of Americans, seeming more like family than a talk show host.

Through the decades, Limbaugh became the most loved radio host in history among conservatives, while being roundly hated by many on the other side of the political spectrum. In his defense, many who hated him likely never listened to him, instead relying on so-called "mainstream" media using brief statements out of context to flame their passion.

#### A 2A STALWART

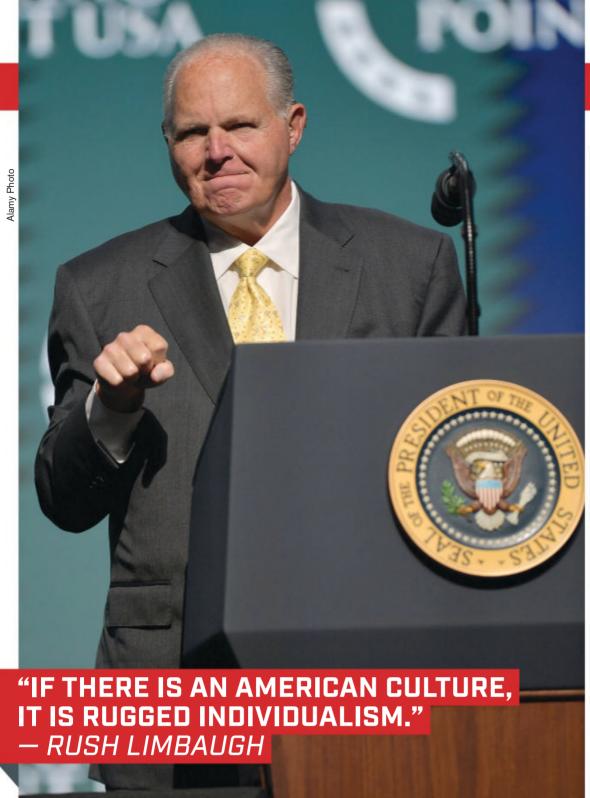
Limbaugh's thoughts on the Second Amendment were always clear, as he once noted, "You know why there's a Second Amendment? In case the government fails to follow the first one." With his giant daily audience of millions, it's not hard to see that Limbaugh likely helped shape the hearts and minds of many concerning the Second Amendment for the betterment of all gun owners.

Back in 2017 when The New York Times ran a headline encouraging the repeal of the Second Amendment, Limbaugh was quick to respond the same day. Noting that the Bill of Rights contained all things James Madison had heard no serious objections to by anybody, Limbaugh said, "It was already the presumed natural way to live then at the time. They weren't innovating, they weren't changing anything, they weren't protecting or guarding. They were just codifying the liberties and freedoms that were considered proper at the time.

"That history lesson on the Second Amendment and in fact the whole Bill of Rights is crucial; but the thing to note is that the Second Amendment was not a change, it was not an innovation, it was not abnormal, it was not unusual," Limbaugh continued. "It was simply a codification, if you will, of the thinking at the time as it related to the preservation of liberty, which is what the Constitution is."

Limbaugh even made an appearance at the National Rifle Association's annual meeting

158







back in 1993, thrilling the large crowd in Nashville with his keynote address at the member's banquet.

"In discussing freedom, I can think of no better place to do it than in front of the National Rifle Association," Limbaugh said during a speech that was punctuated by repeated standing ovations. "If liberals read the rest of the constitution the way they read the Second Amendment, then gun ownership in America would be mandatory."

Limbaugh also spoke of the pursuit of excellence—a true passion for him and a message that resounded with the NRA members present as it does with the majority of America's law-abiding gun owners today.

"I believe in the pursuit of excellence," he said. "We all want a great nation, and great nations require great individuals. If there is an American culture, it is rugged individualism. But rugged individualism has been under siege for the last four years. Rugged individualism is called 'selfishness' and it's called 'greed.' And as such, people are afraid to do things that the majority of the press and others will accuse them of.

"Something that accompanies the pursuit of excellence is an uplifting of virtually everyone around them when that is going on. I find too much of our country today focused not on lifting, but on lowering."

#### PATRIOT, FIGHTER

One of Rush's proudest moments was when he was unexpectedly presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Donald Trump at last year's State of the Union address.

"He is the greatest fighter and winner that you will ever meet," President Trump said to a loud ovation. "Rush Limbaugh, thank you for you decades of tireless devotion to our country.

"In recognition of all that you have done

for our nation, the millions of people a day that you speak to and inspire, and all of the incredible work that you have done for charity, I am proud to announce tonight that you will be receiving our country's highest civilian honor—the Presidential Medal of Freedom."

For his part, Limbaugh sat quietly with a stunned look on his face and tears in his eyes. He later described the moment as one of the most memorable of his life.

In the end, Limbaugh's pursuit of excellence allowed him to live a storybook life, doing what he loved and making a great living while doing so. That's about all any of us can hope for in life.

Rest in peace, Rush. Your passing will leave a three-hour gap in many people's day, an unfillable hole in their hearts, and conservatives without the critical voice that they've relied on for more than 30 years to assure them that their beliefs *are* the mainstream, not something to be reviled and replaced.

#### PATRIOT TRIBUTE

#### GREATEST RUSH QUOTABLES

Rush Limbaugh had a number of sayings he used frequently that brought a smile to the faces of many but sometimes tweaked those on the other side of the political spectrum. Here are a few of my favorites.

Talent On Loan From God

HOWARRRYOU?

With Half My Brain Tied Behind My Back Just To Make It Even

Formerly Nicotine Stained Fingers

Having More Fun Than A Human Being Should Be Allowed

**ACROSS THE** FRUITED PLAINS

For Those Of You In Rio Linda

BEHIND THE GOLDEN EIB MICROPHONE

The Most Dangerous Man Alive

Environmentalist Whacko

# THE RUGER-57 FUNTO SHOOT. COOL TO OWN.



The all new Ruger-57™ is just plain cool. Brought to you by the company that revolutionized the innovation of rugged, reliable firearms that the average American can afford, the Ruger-57™ is our most cutting-edge platform yet. Chambered in the high performance and low-recoiling 5.7x28mm caliber, this ergonomic, smooth shooting and accurate pistol is as full-featured as they come.



