

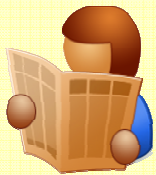


Tactical Talk

Volume 13, Issue 2

February

2009



Anyone who does not read the newspaper is uninformed.

Anyone who does read the newspaper is misinformed.

—Mark Twain

Inside this issue:

<i>Armed Response DVD's</i>	2
<i>FBI Summaries</i>	3
<i>RM-Q2 Targets</i>	4
<i>Dougan article</i>	6
<i>Real Heroes</i>	8
<i>Special Events</i>	9
<i>Closer than you think . . .</i>	10

Tactical Conference 2009

The annual Rangemaster Tactical Conference has become one of the premiere training events on the circuit. The 2008 event was a huge success. Over 135 shooters attended, from all over the US. We had live-fire, classroom, and hands-on training segments, put on by 17 of the finest firearms and tactics trainers in the US. The shooting match involved reactive 3-D mannequins representing both threats and non-threats, in realistic scenarios. Targets even shot back, with blank firing shotguns, adding to the stress and realism.

The 2009 event promises to be the best ever! We are pleased and proud to announce that the 2009 Tactical Conference will be held at the fabulous new facilities of the United States Shooting Academy, in Tulsa, OK. USSA is a fantastic new training complex, with numerous ranges, modern classrooms, a shoot-house and more. Holding the event at USSA will enable us to accommodate a lot of practitioners, and Tulsa is just about the geographic center of the US. There will be live fire training, in addition to the scenarios, and there will be a scenario to take advantage of the shoot-house. All of the usual trainers will be present, plus some new surprises. Instructors providing training segments will include: Tom Givens, John Farnam, Massad Ayoob, Steve Moses, Skip Gochenour, Hany Mahmoud, T.J. Pilling, Karl Rehn, Mike Brown, Paul Gomez, John Hearne, William Aprill, Rob Pincus, and others.

For more details on the facility, see www.uss shootingacademy.com. Entry fee will remain \$149.00, which is quite a bargain. Call 901-370-5600 to register. Advance registration is required, and this event fills two-three months in advance every year. Don't delay. Dates are 25-26 April 2009. The host hotel will be the Hilton Garden Inn, Tulsa Airport, 7728 E. Virgin Court, Tulsa, OK, 74115. For reservations, call 918-838-1444, ext 5015. We have a special Rangemaster rate of \$79.00.

New DVD series from Armed Response

by Tom Givens

Several years ago I had the pleasure of meeting Ralph Mroz and David Kenik of Armed Response, a training company in New England.

Ralph is a regular contributor to several gun magazines and both he and David have authored useful books on the subject of armed self defense. The two have now released a three DVD series that covers quite a bit of useful information for anyone who carries a gun for personal defense.

The first DVD is entitled “Fundamentals of Defensive Shooting”, and contains a full 2 and ½ hours of good info. One thing I like about this series, is a menu that allows you to pick the topic you wish to view and go straight to it. This DVD is divided into 11 major sections, comprising 43 separate topics—a wealth of information. For instance, Section 5 is divided into Alternative Carry Positions; Fanny Pack; Vest/Coat Carry; Off Body Carry; Carry Shirts; and Belly Bands.

The second DVD is “Tactics and Techniques for Defensive Shooting”, two hours in length. This one is broken into 16 segments, with 20 individual topics, including Challenging, and Holding a Suspect at Gunpoint. Ralph uses a real car and the interior of a real residence to illustrate some of his tactical information. This really aids the viewer in understanding the material.

Volume Three is “Dynamic Drills for Defensive Shooting”, again two hours long. This DVD is focused on getting the most from your range trips and your dry work. It includes numerous drills, with Ralph demonstrating them live fire.

Each DVD in the set is available for \$34.99, or \$84.95 for the three disk set. To order, contact Armed Response directly at

www.shop.armedresponsetraining.com/main.sc?sourceCode=rm .



FBI Officer Killed Summaries, 2007

by Tom Givens

The FBI Uniform Crime Reporting section recently released detailed data on the police officers killed in the line of duty in 2007. In the US, 57 law enforcement officers were feloniously killed (murdered) by criminals in 2007, in 51 separate incidents. There are some interesting tidbits of information in the report, and being aware of this information can help dispel misinformation and myths propagated by movies and TV.

Of the officers killed, the average age was 37, with an average of 10 years experience at time of death. It's not the rookies who get killed—it's the officer who has become jaded, burned out, and lulled into routine, in many cases. Of the 57 officers, 55 were slain with firearms. Of those, 38 were killed with handguns (69%).

Historically, the South has always been the most dangerous region for law enforcement, and 2007 was no exception. By geographic area, the officers killed were in the South (31), West (9), Mid-West (9), Northeast (7) and Puerto Rico (1).

Of great interest to me, the report also detailed the persons identified by law enforcement as having murdered police officers from 1998-2007. In that ten year period, a total of 624 suspects were found to have murdered police officers. The offenders were:

Under 18 years old- 39 (6%)

18-24 years old – 246 (39%)

25-30 years old- 121 (19%)

18-30 years old= 58.8% of the total. All other age groups were represented, to a much smaller degree.

The average age of the offenders was 29, and the average height/weight was 5'9" to 5'10", 177 pounds. Of these, 614 were male, and only 10 were female. Of these offenders, 357 were White (57%), 252 were Black (40%), 7 were Asian/Pacific Islander, and 6 were American Indians.

Of the 624 offenders, 509 had a prior criminal record. Of those, 261 had been convicted of a crime of violence, and 26 had previously been convicted of murder. Only 26 of the offenders were killed by the victim officers, and another 76 were killed by other officers or citizens coming to the aid of the murdered officers.



RANGEMASTER TARGET

The RM-Q2 silhouette target was designed by Rangemaster to provide a better, more relevant target for defensive shooting training and practice. Some key points:

It is a neutral color, not stark black and white.

The scoring rings are subdued, not readily visible while shooting. This forces the student to learn to hit the vital area without a distinct aiming point or reference.

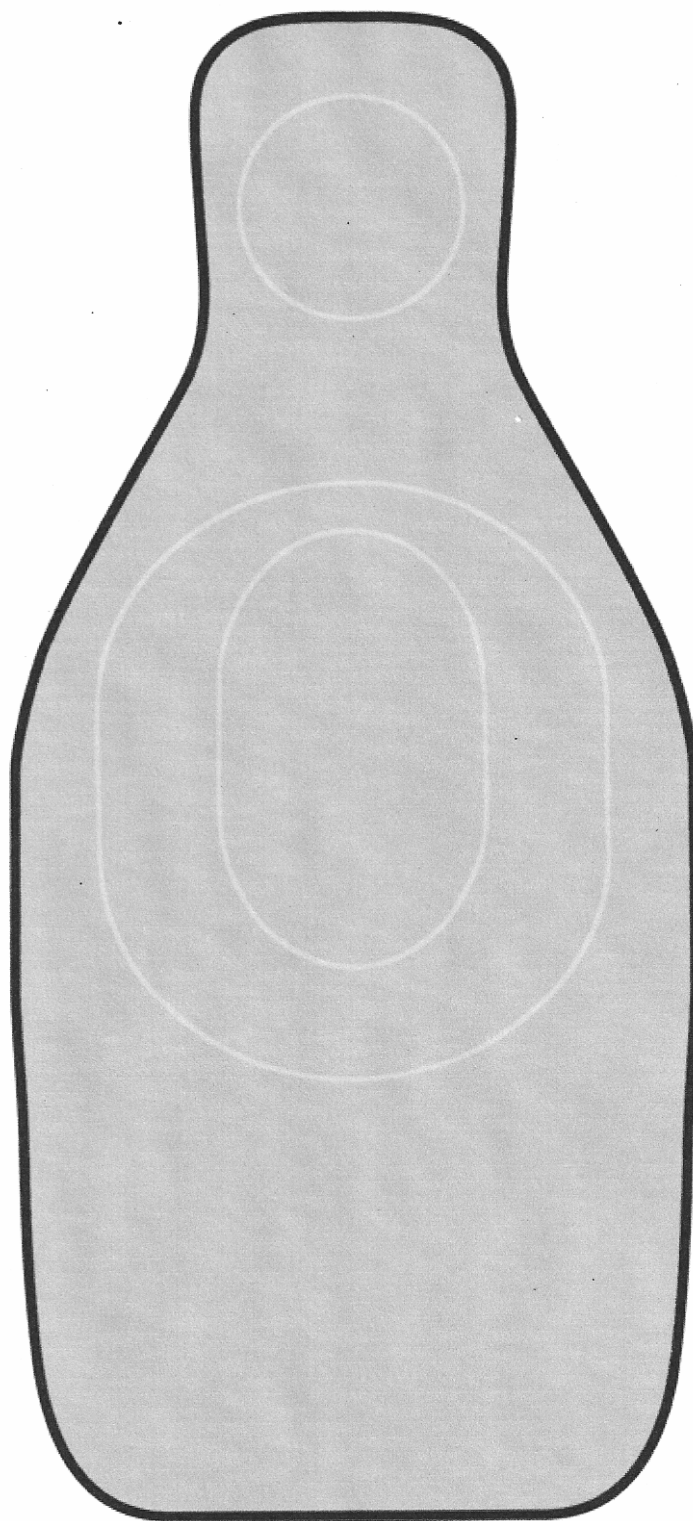
It is the size of an actual adult human torso, from the belt to the top of the head.

The scoring rings are correctly placed, from an anatomic standpoint. The head ring represents a solid ocular window hit. The two rings in the chest are placed correctly. The inner ring represents the heart and major plumbing, on the vertical centerline. The outer ring describes the area bounded by the collarbone at the top, the diaphragm at the bottom, and the nipples to the sides. Hits outside this area count very little.

This target is available at Rangemaster, or through Law Enforcement Targets (www.letargets.com).

RM-Q2

Law Enforcement Targets, LLC
1-800-775-0782 www.lawtargets.com



The Urban Rifleman: The Long and the Short of It

by Will Dougan, Rangemaster Instructor



The precision rifle is a specialized tool for a fairly narrow purpose and when it has been pulled out of the vault something has gone very wrong. The procurement of such a weapon means that you think that you are going to get one shot and by goodness you better make it. For such a high-pressure shot, you're going to need some special equipment and training.

Rifle. A well-made, accurate, bolt-action gun is the best option. Personally, I like the Remington model 700, but others make fine rifles such as Savage, Winchester, Kimber, Browning, Weatherby and others. While most professionals use heavy barreled rifles, I'd consider using a lightweight, hunting styled barrel. A heavy barrel does not make a gun more accurate nor precise, just heavier.

Cartridge. By head and shoulders, the 308 Winchester is the most popular round with police and military sharpshooters. It offers plenty of power, excellent accuracy and manageable recoil. Having said that, there are plenty of other good choices such as the 243, 257, 260, and 7mm-08. All offer real world performance that is virtually identical to the venerable 308.

Optics. All too often, shooters will spend hundreds of dollars on their firearms and skimp on the riflescope and mounts. This is a terrible practice. No matter how you slice it, a rifle is no better than its scope and a scope is no better than its mounts. One buying a scope a good rule of thumb is to spend as much on the optics as you did on the rifle. Companies such as Leupold, Nikon, Burris, and Zeiss set the gold standard in precision optics. While there are other good companies, even some that cost much more, the aforemen-

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

tioned ones offer fine glass, solid mechanical adjustments, and excellent reputations and warranties. The mounts that hold the scope to the rifle fall into one of three categories: 1. Redfield style (although the Leupold brand is more commonly used today). 2. Weaver style and 3. The stuff you should avoid. Whichever one you choose, be sure they are made of steel, are properly mounted and secured with a bonding agent such as Loc-Tite.

Ammo. The most important criteria for your ammunition is that it is consistent in both reliability and accuracy. Obviously it should fire every time you press the trigger and it needs to shoot an accurate and precise group of shots. Police and military professionals would consider five shots, all within one inch of each other at 100 yards, to be acceptable.

Training. While studies show that most shots taken by police snipers are taken at 50 yards and closer, it is still necessary to seek and obtain training to learn to use your precision rifle. With longer distances everything comes into play such as trajectory, wind, temperature, and elevation. Dealing with these issues requires specialized training from an expert. The longer the distance is often a great advantage for the trained rifleman. After all, an enemy armed with a knife or a Lorcin has little chance against a trained shooter with scoped rifle 300 yards away. On the other hand, the rifleman at the more common range of 50 yards has a set of problems that required quality instruction as well. While he may not have to judge wind, elevation, or temperature with the same degree of accuracy, he will often have a much smaller space to shoot through and a shorter amount of time to take his shot. Also, the same bad guy that was easy pickings at 300 yard could now return fire with his pistol with a real possibility of making his hits or close the 50 yard gap within a very few seconds with contact weapon in hand.

The precision rifle is a valuable and important part of an overall personal defense strategy. The mastery of such a powerful weapon may mean the difference between life and death for you or a loved one.

Real Heroes vs Make Believe

You're an 18 or 19 year old kid. You're critically wounded, and dying in the jungle in the La Drang Valley, 11-14-1965, LZ Xray, Vietnam. Your infantry unit is outnumbered 8 - 1, and the enemy fire is so intense, from 100 or 200 yards away, that your own Infantry Commander has ordered the MediVac helicopters to stop coming in.



You're lying there, listening to the enemy machine guns, and you know you're not getting out. Your family is 1/2 way around the world, 12,000 miles away, and you'll never see them again. As the world starts to fade in and out, you know this is the day.

Then, over the machine gun noise, you faintly hear that sound of a helicopter, and you look up to see an un-armed Huey, but it doesn't seem real, because no Medi-Vac markings are on it.

Ed Freeman is coming for you. He's not Medi-Vac, so it's not his job, but he's flying his Huey down into the machine gun fire, after the Medi-Vacs were ordered not to come.

He's coming anyway. And he drops it in, and sits there in the machine gun fire, as they load 2 or 3 of you on board. Then he flies you up and out through the gunfire, to the Doctors and Nurses.

And, he kept coming back..... 13 more times..... and took about 30 of you and your buddies out, who would never have gotten out.

Medal of Honor Recipient Ed Freeman died Sept 28, 2008 at the age of 80, in Boise, IDMay God rest his soul.....

(Oh yeah, Paul Newman died that same day too. I guess you knew that -- He got a lot more press than Ed Freeman did.)



Ed Freeman (left) is congratulated by President George W. Bush after receiving his award.

February/March SPECIAL EVENTS

Back-Up Gun Course- Monday, 9 Feb 09, 6:00pm-10:00pm- Learn to maximize the small revolver or auto in the role of a back-up gun (BUG) or as a primary gun in environments where concealment is critical.



Combative Pistol 1- Sat-Sun, 21-22 Feb 2009, at Brighton Arms, Brighton, TN. Brighton Arms is a brand new, state of the art indoor range located about an hour north of Memphis. CP1 is an intensive weekend course, which runs from 9:00am to 6:00pm both days, and requires about 1,000 rounds of ammunition. This gives us enough time and repetitions to ingrain defensive skills with the handgun.

Defensive Revolver Course- Sat-Sun, 7-8 March 09, 9:00am to 1:00pm both days. If you are required by your employer, or simply chose to carry a revolver, you need to know how to run one well. This course will teach you how to get the most from your wheelgun.

Defensive Shotgun 1- Sat-Sun, 14-15 March 09, 9:00am to 1:00pm both days. This is our basic shotgun course for home or business defense with the scattergun. Cost is only \$199, which INCLUDES all ammunition. Learn to select, modify, feed, and operate the most effective defensive weapon the typical citizen has access to.

Ladies Only Introduction to Handguns- Monday, 16 March 09, 6:30pm to 10:00pm. \$49.00 Taught by female instructors, female students only.

Combative Pistol 1- Sat-Sun, 28-29 March 2009 here at Rangemas-ter. Our signature two day class on fighting with the pistol. Covers all the essential skills involved in self defense with the handgun. Need 1,000 rounds of ammo

It is now closer to reality than you think.....

You're sound asleep when you hear a thump outside your bedroom door. Half-awake, and nearly paralyzed with fear, you hear muffled whispers. At least two people have broken into your house and are moving your way. With your heart pumping, you reach down beside your bed and pick up your shotgun. You rack a shell into the chamber, then inch toward the door and open it. In the darkness, you make out two shadows.

One holds something that looks like a crowbar. When the intruder brandishes it as if to strike, you raise the shotgun and fire. The blast knocks both thugs to the floor. One writhes and screams while the second man crawls to the front door and lurches outside. As you pick up the telephone to call police, you know you're in trouble.

In your country, most guns were outlawed years before, and the few that are privately owned are so stringently regulated as to make them useless. Yours was never registered. Police arrive and inform you that the second burglar has died. They arrest you for First Degree Murder and Illegal Possession of a Firearm. When you talk to your attorney, he tells you not to worry: authorities will probably plea the case down to manslaughter. "What kind of sentence will I get?" you ask.

"Only ten-to-twelve years," he replies, as if that's nothing. "Behave yourself, and you'll be out in seven."

The next day, the shooting is the lead story in the local newspaper. Somehow, you're portrayed as an eccentric vigilante while the two men you shot are represented as choir-boys. Their friends and relatives can't find an unkind word to say about them. Buried deep down in the article, authorities acknowledge that both "victims" have been arrested numerous times. But the next day's headline says it all: "Lovable Rogue Son Didn't Deserve to Die." The thieves have been transformed from career criminals into Robin Hood-type pranksters. As the days wear on, the story takes wings. The national media picks it up, then the international media. The surviving burglar has become a folk hero.

Your attorney says the thief is preparing to sue you, and he'll probably win. The media publishes reports that your home has been burglarized several times in the past and that you've been critical of local police for their lack of effort in apprehending the suspects. After the last break-in, you told your neighbor that you would be prepared next time. The District Attorney uses this to allege that you were lying in wait for the burglars.

A few months later, you go to trial. The charges haven't been reduced, as your lawyer had so confidently

(Continued on page 11)

predicted. When you take the stand, your anger at the injustice of it all works against you. Prosecutors paint a picture of you as a mean, vengeful man. It doesn't take long for the jury to convict you of all charges.

The judge sentences you to life in prison.

This case really happened.

On August 22, 1999, Tony Martin of Emneth, Norfolk, England, killed one burglar and wounded a second. In April, 2000, he was convicted and is now serving a life term.

How did it become a crime to defend one's own life in the once great British Empire?

It started with the Pistols Act of 1903. This seemingly reasonable law forbade selling pistols to minors or felons and established that handgun sales were to be made only to those who had licenses. The Firearms Act of 1920 expanded licensing to include not only handguns but all firearms except shotguns.

Later laws passed in 1953 and 1967 outlawed the carrying of any weapon by private citizens and mandated the registration of all shotguns.

Momentum for total handgun confiscation began in earnest after the Hungerford mass shooting in 1987. Michael Ryan, a mentally disturbed Man with a Kalashnikov rifle, walked down the streets shooting everyone he saw. When the smoke cleared, 17 people were dead.

The British public, already de-

sensitized by eighty years of "gun control," demanded even tougher restrictions. (The seizure of all privately owned handguns was the objective even though Ryan used a rifle.)

Nine years later, at Dunblane, Scotland, Thomas Hamilton used a semi-automatic weapon to murder 16 children and a teacher at a public school.

For many years, the media had portrayed all gun owners as mentally unstable, or worse, criminals. Now the press had a real kook with which to beat up law-abiding gun owners. Day after day, week after week, the media gave up all pretense of objectivity and demanded a total ban on all handguns. The Dunblane Inquiry, a few months later, sealed the fate of the few sidearm still owned by private citizens.

During the years in which the British government incrementally took away most gun rights, the notion that a citizen had the right to armed self-defense came to be seen as vigilantism. Authorities refused to grant gun licenses to people who were threatened, claiming that self-defense was no longer considered a reason to own a gun. Citizens who shot burglars or robbers or rapists were charged while the real criminals were released.

Indeed, after the Martin shooting, a police spokesman was quoted as saying, "We cannot have people take the law into their own hands."

RANGEMASTER
2611 S. Mendenhall Rd.
Memphis, TN 38115-1503



Phone: 901-370-5600
Fax: 901-370-5699
Email: rangemaster.tom@gmail.com
Please note new e-mail address!



www.rangemaster.com

continued from page 11

All of Martin's neighbors had been robbed numerous times, and several elderly people were severely injured in beatings by young thugs who had no fear of the consequences. Martin himself, a collector of antiques, had seen most of his collection trashed or stolen by burglars.

When the Dunblane Inquiry ended, citizens who owned handguns were given three months to turn them over to local authorities. Being good British subjects, most people obeyed the law. The few who didn't were visited by police and threatened with ten-year prison sentences if they didn't comply. Police later bragged that they'd taken nearly 200,000 handguns from private citizens.

How did the authorities know who

had handguns? The guns had been registered and licensed. Kinda like cars.

Sound familiar?

WAKE UP AMERICA , THIS IS WHY OUR FOUNDING FATHERS PUT THE SECOND AMENDMENT IN OUR CONSTITUTION.

If you do not want this same scenario played out in the this country ten years from now, let your Congressmen know you are opposed to further erosion of your rights, especially your right to self defense/gun ownership/lawful carry.

"..it does not require a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority keen to set brush fires in people's minds.."

--Samuel Adams