

TACTICS AND PREPAREDNESS



SHOT TIMER TRAINING

MANDATORY NOT OPTIONAL

I was a young police recruit entering the Chicago Police Academy in October of 1989.

BY JAMES WASHINGTON
PHOTOS COURTESY
DRYFIRETRAININGCARDS.COM

In the first few days we were brought up to speed on the requirements we would have to achieve to graduate from the academy in the next six months. The academic requirements did not seem that stringent to me with 70 percent being the minimum average to maintain your position, and the physical fitness standards did not seem daunting even though I was not a distance runner. Being one of the bigger fullbacks in the Chicago Catholic League, I really did not

enjoy running any distances over 300 yards. Unfortunately for me, one of our fitness instructors was Mr. Tero, brother of the famous Mr. "T"—only in a much leaner form—and he loved running long and hard ... to include stairs.

The one area, however, that I really didn't have anything to gauge my ability to complete was the State of Illinois Law Enforcement Firearms Standards. Up to that point in my life, my only exposure to firearms were

hunting and plinking with my uncle who was a Creedmoor Silhouette pistol shooter and spoke badly about action shooting sports. After the first week of firearms training, I no longer worried about passing the state requirements. By the end of the academy, I had become one of the top four shooters in a class of 105 cadets.

After a poor performance in a shooting while in uniform patrol, shortly after getting out of the academy, I began looking *continued >*

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Shot timers are the only way to track your speed accurately and gauge your training specifically. ShotMaxx pictured above.

for other ways to improve my shooting skills for the real world. On the advice of other patrol officers in my district I attended my first United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA) match just across the Indiana border. This was the first time I had been exposed to shot timers and the experience was very telling when I saw hard evidence of the draw and shot times, as well as differences of split times between a big city copper and those I competed with to include: plumbers, electricians, accountants and lawyers.

It was at that time I knew my shooting journey was only in its infancy. All I ever wanted to do for a living was be a police officer, and I was doing just that in one of the most violent areas in the country. I began looking for the best places to obtain knowledge and skills that would help me protect the community I was serving. This took me to John Shaw's Midsouth Institute of Self Defense. It was there I truly learned the importance of tracking draw, split, reload and par times to help improve and push a shooter's ability. The evolution of my shooting skills could not have happened without the use of shot timers and you may be surprised to learn that the majority of law enforcement agents and military personnel, for many years, have never shot on a shot timer.

Shot timers are electronic handheld devices that record each individual shot fired in a string by a shooter. They have the ability to be started instantly with the push of a button or a delayed time with the push of the same button. You can let the string of fire run freely, known as Comstock Timing or set a par

time for a string of fire. This par time setting is most valued when used during dry practice sessions. Without the ability to accurately know and track what your skill levels are for each skill that you want to develop, improvement is haphazard at best. The 1 One Thousand, 2 One Thousand method of tracking performance will not work. Skills are built in small increments with historical tracking and only a shot timer is precise enough for this.

The first time shot timers were best proven to show the exact results of performance was in 1932 when Edward McGivern set a world record by firing 5 shots from a revolver in .45 of a second. It should be noted that Mr. McGivern's group size for this feat was just over a half an inch at 15 feet. Later, in the early 1980s, Ron Bailey, of Competition Electronics and Ronin Coleman, of PACT Championship Timer—both competition shooters themselves—came out with smaller handheld timers that could be easily used by anyone on the range at affordable prices of under \$140.00. I have used both timers and keep one of each of them in my range bag, though I know shooters that are committed to one or the other.

To obtain the best payoffs for your time and effort you can use the shot timer to build individual metrics like the draw to first shot, from dry practice to the square range. I suggest that you write down the skills you would like to build and go to the range to obtain a baseline. Let's use the draw to first shot as an example to get the data needed to begin improvement.

Place a target at 10 yards. Use a target that



If you want to truly be the best shooter you can be for combat or competition shooting, understanding shot cadence is important to achieving this goal.

will need a degree of trigger control and sight alignment to hit like an 8-inch paper plate or the "A" Zone of an USPSA target. Set your shot timer to a delay setting with a random start of 1 to 3 seconds.

On the beep, draw and fire one round as close to the center as possible; only hits count. Repeat this drill for 3 to 5 reps and average the time. That will be your baseline to train for the upcoming week or two.

Before your next trip to the range, you will practice this drill at home during your dry practice sessions. Let's say your time from the draw to one hit on the target is 2.5 seconds. You will set your par time for 2.5 seconds with the same random draw times you had at the range. Use a target of similar size and distance that you used at the range.

On the buzzer, you will draw, bring the sights to the target and press the trigger once, noting the alignment of the sights at the breaking of the shot. Make sure you call each shot at the releasing of the sear. Calling each shot out loud according to where the front sight was located to the rear sight. Once you make this time on three consecutive draws drop your par time by two tenths of a second. Continue to do this until you cannot make the par time after 4 or 5 attempts. Then bump up the par time by 1 tenth of a second until you can make that time 3 times in a row.

On your next live fire session, set your time to a half second slower than your fast draw to first shot par time during your last dry prac-



tice session. After 5 or 6 dry practice draws, load and make ready and work your way down as close as you can to your dry practice session. You will use this same method to build speed with your transitions from target to target, single shot reloads, multiple shot reloads, multiple shots and transition reloads.

If you want to truly be the best shooter you can be for combat or competition shooting, understanding shot cadence is important to achieving this goal. The shot timer is the only way to track accurate and consistent data needed to reach your goals. Timers allow you to push yourself until you exceed your current abilities and track those results over time. Then, with proper practice and commitment you will be able to build your base skills and achieve the level of performance you desire. Many government shooters who have passed time and accuracy qualification standards for their agencies for years shooting in groups on stop watches and commands have been shocked to discover they do not actually meet their agency standards when individually evaluated on a shot timer.

This tool is now used by all the high-performance shooters around the world in competition circles, elite military units and top law enforcement units. This is a testament to the

benefits of training with shot timers when it transcends lines from amateurs to professionals, from sport shooters to those who are responsible for law and order. All sport shooters, and the top military and law enforcement shooters—to a person—are using shot timers to train. These entities are further apart than most people realize when it comes to training philosophies, but everyone at the top of each is training on shot timers. Most are simple to learn to operate from included operator manuals and many have demo videos online.

You are responsible for everything you do and do not do with a firearm. After you have been trained for safety by an NRA instructor, choose a shot timer and make that part of your training regimen. There is no other way to make such fast and measurable gains in performance. ✓

BIO

James Washington served as a patrol officer, field training officer, firearms instructor and police sergeant. He served on the FBI Gang Task Force in Chicago for six years and is a firearms & tactics instructor for multiple agencies and armed citizens.



THE ANATOMY OF THE NUREMBERG TRIALS

WRITTEN BY **TELFORD TAYLOR** | SUMMARY BY **CHRIS GRAHAM**

Telford Taylor served as an army intelligence officer in WWII. Post-war he was a member of the American prosecution staff and eventually became chief counsel at the Nuremberg Trials.

The Allied nations agreed to a judicial process, rather than summary execution, for key National Socialists (Nazis) at the end of the war. Held in Nuremberg, the birthplace of the Nazi Party, the British, American, French and Soviet governments provided judges and prosecutors to trials that pursued some of the most reprehensible living figures from the fascist regime. Taylor shared his insights and observations in the cautionary historical account: *The Anatomy of the Nuremberg Trials*.

Among the experiences the author shares is the ominous silence of a court room when an SS officer unemotionally testified to rounding up and executing 90,000 Jews. He paints a vivid picture of the head of the German

State Bank panicking in court as it became clear that he knew his bank was receiving jewels, gold and other valuables taken off the bodies of concentration camp victims. There was an international military tribunal and a medical trial in which 23 of the highest profile physicians and scientists implicated stood trial for war crimes.

The international military tribunal convened on 20 November 1945 bringing accusations of war crimes against 24 defendants. Twelve were hanged after being convicted, seven were found guilty and sentenced to prison, one committed suicide and one avoided the scheduled trial due to a car accident.

The medical trial ran from 25 October 1946 to 20 August 1947. High profile doctors

and scientists accused of medical experimentation on out-of-favor sub-populations and inmates of concentration camps from 1933 to 1945 were tried. Witnesses from clinics, hospitals and camps throughout Germany and Eastern Europe were brought to Nuremberg to testify or were deposed for sworn statements to be used in the proceedings.

The judgments by the war crimes tribunal at Nuremberg and subsequent trials laid down 10 standards to which physicians must conform when carrying out experiments on human subjects in a code that, according to the British Medical Journal (BMJ), is now accepted worldwide. This judgment was intended to prevent and deter future crimes against humanity in the form of medical ex-

perimentation. The “Nuremberg Code (1947) Permissible Medical Experiments” created the requirement of voluntary informed consent from human subjects.

According to the British Medical Journal: “The principle of voluntary informed consent protects the right of the individual to control his own body. This code also recognizes that the risk must be weighed against the expected benefit, and that unnecessary pain and suffering must be avoided. This code recognizes that doctors should avoid actions that injure human patients. The principles established by this code for medical practice now have been extended into general codes of medical ethics.”

The Journal goes on to state: “The protagonists of the practice of human experimentation justify their views on the basis that such experiments yield results for the good of society that are unprocurable by other methods or means of study. All agree, however, that certain basic principles must be observed in order to satisfy moral, ethical and legal concepts”. The Journal enumerates the points of The Nuremberg Code as follows¹:

1. The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential. This means that the person involved should have legal capacity to give consent; should be so situated as to be able to exercise free power of choice, without the intervention of any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, overreaching, or other ulterior form of constraint or coercion; and should have sufficient knowledge and comprehension of the elements of the subject matter involved as to enable him to make an understanding and enlightened decision. This latter element requires that before the acceptance of an affirmative decision by the experimental subject there should be made known to him the nature, duration, and purpose of the experiment; the method and means by which it is to be conducted; all inconveniences and hazards reasonably to be expected; and the effects upon his health or person which may possibly come from his participation in the experiment. The duty and responsibility for ascertaining the quality of the consent rests upon each individual who initiates, directs, or engages in the experiment. It is a personal duty and responsibility which may not be delegated to another with impunity.

2. The experiment should be such as to yield fruitful results for the good of society, unprocurable by other methods or means

of study, and not random and unnecessary in nature.

3. The experiment should be so designed and based on the results of animal experimentation and a knowledge of the natural history of the disease or other problem under study that the anticipated results justify the performance of the experiment.

4. The experiment should be so conducted as to avoid all unnecessary physical and mental suffering and injury.

5. No experiment should be conducted where there is an a priori reason to believe that death or disabling injury will occur; except, perhaps, in those experiments where the experimental physicians also serve as subjects.

6. The degree of risk to be taken should never exceed that determined by the humanitarian importance of the problem to be solved by the experiment.

7. Proper preparations should be made and adequate facilities provided to protect the experimental subject against even remote possibilities of injury, disability or death.

8. The experiment should be conducted only by scientifically qualified persons. The highest degree of skill and care should be required through all stages of the experiment of those who conduct or engage in the experiment.

9. During the course of the experiment the human subject should be at liberty to bring the experiment to an end if he has reached the physical or mental state where continuation of the experiment seems to him to be impossible.

10. During the course of the experiment the scientist in charge must be prepared to terminate the experiment at any stage, if he has probable cause to believe, in the exercise of the good faith, superior skill and careful judgment required of him, that a continuation of the experiment is likely to result in injury, disability, or death to the experimental subject.

Dr. Robert Malone, inventor of the mRNA and DNA technologies found in the “Emergency Use” gene therapies promoted around the world for highly-profitable involuntary subscription-style injections, without long-term testing, has posited that a “golden BB” will unravel mandates. Members of the pharmaceutical industrial complex have lobbied courts for unprecedented permission to complete compliance with freedom of informa-

tion act (FOIA) requests 75 years from now. Denying this demand either by court orders for legitimate FOIA compliance accompanied by vigorous enforcement, or by whistle-blower disclosure directly to the public might pop the balloon of mandates. Dr. Malone has suggested, however, that whatever jurisdiction is the first to allow civil suits to puncture the unprecedented and legally unenforceable total-liability-protection vendors have been handed by friends in government will quickly unravel mandates for all.

A former prosecutor, head of a special crimes unit, and experienced Florida trial lawyer has stated: “The Nuremberg Code is not an American statute. Its’ principles are embodied in numerous laws, regulations, and policies throughout the world and in the USA that are presently being broken. If American citizens cease tolerating non-enforcement of these statutes and regulations - mandates will end immediately. ‘I was just following orders’ is not a legal defense. Inducing third party coercion does not exonerate one from being a conspirator in a crime. Redefining words and recalculating standards after the fact does not make the unlawful lawful. On the contrary, in this case, those things appear to be prima-facie evidence of a deliberate effort to preclude ‘informed consent’. The most constructive thing any American can do today is initiate a lawsuit, or join one of the many existing suits, to force inhumane policies back within the confines of the law and zealously pursue criminal and civil liability for the many individuals violating existing laws”.

The ideals of the Nuremberg Code have helped protect the free world from medical fascism for nearly 75 years. If citizens require these to be upheld again in 2022, we might create another 75 years of freedom. Whatever your hopes for the future, we must learn from the past and some of the most important lessons from history are contained in Taylor’s historical account: *The Anatomy of the Nuremberg Trials*. ✓

NOTES

https://media.tghn.org/medialibrary/2011/04/BMJ_No_7070_Volume_313_The_Nuremberg_Code.pdf accessed 30 Dec 2021.

BIO

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PIKABAN - GERRALT

“Now you have massed troops and encircled the enemy, who is determined to fight to the death. This is no strategy! You should lift the siege. Let them know there is an escape route open, and they will flee and disperse.”

– Offensive Strategy; Sun Tzu’s Art of War

BY ANDREW CURTISS

Applying pressure to one’s opposition is a strategy that can be used to coerce and encourage submission, or it can be used to provoke an adverse reaction.

This is a particularly important lesson in irregular warfare. Austria was not only the home country of Adolf Hitler, but the nation was Hitler’s first target for fascist conquest. After the Allies destroyed Hitler’s National Socialist (Nazi) movement in the long and horrifyingly bloody campaigns of WWI, several generations of Austrians have lived in freedom under a parliamentary republic. There are multiple courses of action (COAs) that may play out in today’s experiments with fascism in Austria.

TIMELINE

10 March 2020 - Austrian officials closed schools and universities citing health concerns from Covid-19 (Wuhan Virus); they banned public gatherings and restricted travel to and from neighboring countries.

16 March 2020 - The entire nation was placed in a state of “lockdown”. Lockdown fines were enforced (reportedly 3600 Euros or \$3859 for violating lockdown quarantine and curfews). Restaurants and businesses who violated these mandates were fined 30,000 euros

(\$32,605). Citizens were required to physically distance themselves from each other (6 feet) and to wear a face covering.

2 April 2020 - Austrian officials encouraged citizens to download a phone app and inform against those suspected of having the virus and self-report when they have come into contact with someone believed to have the virus.

6 April 2020 - The Austrian Chancellor announced a law that made face coverings compulsory. Austria restarted its alternative

Austrian officials announced a fourth “Hard Lockdown” for 10 days, and announced mandatory “experimental medical intervention”, in clear violation of the Nuremberg Code, for all, beginning in February 2022.



service draft for men to assist in the administration of healthcare during the pandemic.

14 April 2020 - Austria was the first country to announce the lifting of lockdowns for essential business and personnel only. Face coverings were made compulsory even outside, even by oneself, while exercising. Social gatherings were still restricted.

1 May 2020 - Hairdressers and shopping malls opened. Restaurants and hotels remained closed.

4 September 2020 - Austria introduced the “Corona Traffic Light” assigning risk levels to various parts of the country based on the green, yellow, and red color codes.

17 November 2020 - Austria went into a second lockdown for two weeks, social distancing, mandatory face coverings and limited social gathering orders continued.

26 December 2020 - Austria implemented a third “Hard Lockdown”.

8 February 2021 - The third lockdown was lifted: retail shops, schools, services providers, museums, parks, zoos etc. were allowed to open again with heavy mandates such as mask wearing. Hairdressers and massage therapists were only allowed to serve

customers if they provided a negative COVID-19 test from a licensed medical testing site no more than 48 hours old.

5 March 2021 - The Austrian Government began to promote and distribute experimental Covid-19 medical interventions.

2 July 2021 - Austria embraced the European Union “Green Pass” a digital passport which required proof of experimental “vaccination” in exchange for conditional freedoms.

28 September 2021 - Austria required people to leave their contact details when visiting restaurants, bars and clubs in Vienna.

9 October 2021 - Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz stepped down from his position amidst corruption probes. He was replaced by Alexander Schallenberg.

23 October 2021 - Austrian officials announce non-work-related meetings are limited to six people indoors and 12 people outdoors, leaving an exception for funerals.

3 November 2021 - Austrian officials begin “Lockdown Light”. Between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. leaving the house was only possible in special circumstances, such as protection of life and possessions, helping others, for work and education and for physical and psycho-

logical regeneration outdoors. Masking and physical distancing were enforced.

14 November 2021 - Austrian official Karl Nehammer calls for the government to impose restrictions on all “unvaccinated” people over the age of 12. Authoritarian members of the Austrian government approve and agree to implement the policy despite breaking laws against promoting involuntary medical procedures, interventions, and experimentation. The “unvaccinated” are prohibited from shopping and any activity outside of their homes. Herbert Kickl leader of the Austrian Freedom Party (FPÖ) calls for nationwide protests in opposition on 20 November. Manfred Haidinger, President of the Austrian Armed Forces Union (FGÖ), followed suit the same day.

19 November 2021 - Austrian officials announced a fourth “Hard Lockdown” for 10 days, and announced mandatory “experimental medical intervention”, in clear violation of the Nuremberg Code, for all, beginning in February 2022. Fines will be imposed on the “unvaccinated” at a reported cost of 7,200 euros (\$8,151).

20 November 2021 - Tens of thousands of Austrians openly protest lockdown and

More than 40,000 men and women march in protest of lockdowns and forced submission to medical experimentation.



PIXABAY - PANHARD2

forced, partially-tested, recurring gene therapy injections referred to as “vaccinations” across the country. Protesters waved flags and carried signs with slogans such as “no to vaccination” and “enough is enough” to oppose authoritarian officials claiming new powers for themselves.

24 November – A network of Austrian officials declare: “a meeting planned by citizens as well as the political party rally have been recognized as illegal” by the Vienna Administrative Court”. Hermann Greylinger, president of the Social Democratic Trade Unions (FSG) and the police respond stating: “The police feel unable to carry out these checks on the Austrian people” referring to “Green Pass” enforcement.

30 November 2021 – Austria extended lockdown until 11 December.

2 December 2021 – Alexander Schallenberg steps down as chancellor.

4 December 2021 – Vienna; more than 40,000 men and women march in protest of lockdowns and forced submission to medical experimentation.

6 December 2021 – Karl Nehammer assumes title of chancellor.

8 December 2021 – Austrian officials announce lockdown to be lifted for all except

the “unvaccinated” in support of an apparent divide-and-conquer strategy. Chancellor Nehammer stated: “Unvaccinated people could get their shots to end the restrictions” offering hope that compliance with his demands will restore human rights for Austrians. He adds: “It still takes a lot of convincing to get those who haven’t even been vaccinated yet” in an apparent enticement to third party coercion against the “unvaccinated”.

11 December 2021 – Mass anti-lockdown and anti-“vaccine” protests began across Austria. Protesters in Vienna chanted: “Resistance!”

ANALYSIS

A clear escalation of events occurred over a period of months. The escalation was driven by a network of Austrian officials. The citizenry has been generally benign. However, we see as officials pushed into a fourth “Hard Lockdown” and demanded submission to medical experimentation in the form of recurring involuntary gene therapy injections and “vaccine passports” required in exchange for a promise of partially restored conditional freedom—the people have chosen to respond with non-compliance. It appears that the military and police have also taken

a stance counter to the ambitions of authoritarian Austrian officials. The Austrian Freedom Party has risen to the forefront of this issue. Shortly after authoritarian officials made the announcement for forced “vaccination” the FPÖ became a rally front and the military and police followed suit.

Authoritarian Austrian officials responded by criminalizing protests and political rallies. This is unfolding within a government dominated by one political party that is facing ongoing corruption allegations. Sweden and Norway have long ended all Covid related mandates (lockdowns, forced medical experimentation, “vaccine passports”, etc.) without demonstrable health detriment while Canada, the U.K. and Israel institute draconian recurring mandates without demonstrable health benefit. The authoritarian Austrian officials violating the Nuremberg Code are intelligent, educated and experienced political operatives. It must be considered whether their actions are deliberately calculated to foment strife and/or whether they are acting on behalf of an external third party.

The conditions in Austria appear to have created at least two opposing camps. The first of which is the network of authoritarian officials driving policies that run counter to

Mass anti-lockdown and anti-“vaccine” protests began across Austria. Protestors in Vienna chanted: “Resistance!”



PIXABAY - RAMHARDZ

the interests of citizens. They appear to be accumulating illicit powers by enforcing the “Green Pass” (‘Vaccine’ Passport’) and are reportedly being rewarded for mandating Covid “vaccine” use. These officials agreed to unprecedented secrecy in support of Covid product promotion and have required none of the standard long-term testing, while abridging standard short term testing requirements for mandated products. The second camp is the FPO and its’ coalition supporting populous, law enforcement and military personnel. This group supports the right of the individual to move freely, engage in commerce, and voice their political opinion as they choose, and recognize these as inherent rights not dependent on permission from an official.

Nehammer and the network of authoritarian officials have been quick to generate a narrative that the FPO and supporters are white nationalists and right-wing extremists. They are attempting to associate them with the former Nazi party—while employing tools of fascism themselves—and have attempted to create a narrative that the FPO is a potential domestic terror group. They employ organized ridicule, projectionism and gaslighting.

I assess that the way is being paved to justify a one-party system. When gatherings, es-

pecially “political rallies”, are made illegal it becomes difficult to organize as an election draws near, and it must be considered to what degree this motivates authoritarian policies. It also means that political dissidents are only left the path of insurgency open to them.

INSURGENCY

Historically, there are a combination of factors that contribute to the emergence and development of an insurgency. Polarization is the first and arguably the most heavily weighted of these factors. Whenever there is a section of society or group of people among the citizenry who feel aggrieved, polarization is present. However, there are a list of other factors that contribute to the rise and success of an insurgency. We generally see that when three or more are present the likelihood of an insurgency developing increases.

- Polarization, division, balkanization of the populous***
- Unpopular laws or doctrine***
- Sudden Emergence of political activism***
- Sudden Changes of health factors within a society***
- Sudden cultural shift**
- The question of credibility of the

established government*

- Perception of bureaucracy or corrupt government*
- Election or assumption of power by an unpopular political leader*
- Overall distrust of government by the people*
- Perception of excessive or unfair taxation*
- Various employment / unemployment trends*
- Economic uncertainty *
- Perception of corrupt / excessive law enforcement
- Prolonged or protracted state of unrest or conflict
- Significantly disproportionate wealth or power
- Poor Public Health Programs
- Emergence of a political party or political interest (Special Interest Groups)**
- External assistance

*(Factors are marked by 1, 2 or 3 *. The number of * indicated the perceived presence and weight of the factor for the assessment.)*

The environmental atmospheric for the emergence of an insurgency are present in



Austria. This does not prove that there is currently an insurgent movement, it merely suggests that one could emerge as pressure continues to be applied to the population.

There are numerous courses of action (CoAs) that are possible. However, I have identified three primary possibilities based on the data presented. The first CoA is that the citizenry of Austria—and only the citizenry—revolt against fascism. The second is if all or some of law enforcement organizations and military personnel rise against fascism. The third CoA is that some or all of society *and* law enforcement officers and military personnel rise up against fascism.

POPULAR REVOLT

To examine this, we must first look at outcomes. The first possibility is likely out of the question: complete submission to authoritarian demands. Their goal posts are continually moved (possibly as part of a demoralization line-of-effort) and it appears unlikely that the authoritarians will be satisfied.

It is also unlikely that Austrian society will collaborate quickly enough to successfully overthrow fascist officials without sustaining violent reprisal. Furthermore, the citizenry of Austria has already been disarmed. This means that with violent reprisal from authoritarian

officials, without the aid of at least some law enforcement and military personnel, revolt may be unsuccessful. Unlike the Austrian people, the Austrian government *does* have guns and will certainly use the military and police to quash any resistance quickly so long as the authoritarian network of officials can compel compliance from those institutions.

Revolutions take time and organization. I believe most resistance efforts would be to develop: an underground economy, networks for disseminating uncensored information that is not consistent with fascist propaganda, the development of clandestine networks for planning, organizational support, operational, and auxiliary support cells to include hacking and cyber efforts. They may implement both peaceful and other methods of resistance. It must be noted, however, that it is often the most intransigent population segment, not the majority, that gets its way. A tiny minority of us demand kosher food for example, but we all consume kosher products regularly because of this principle.

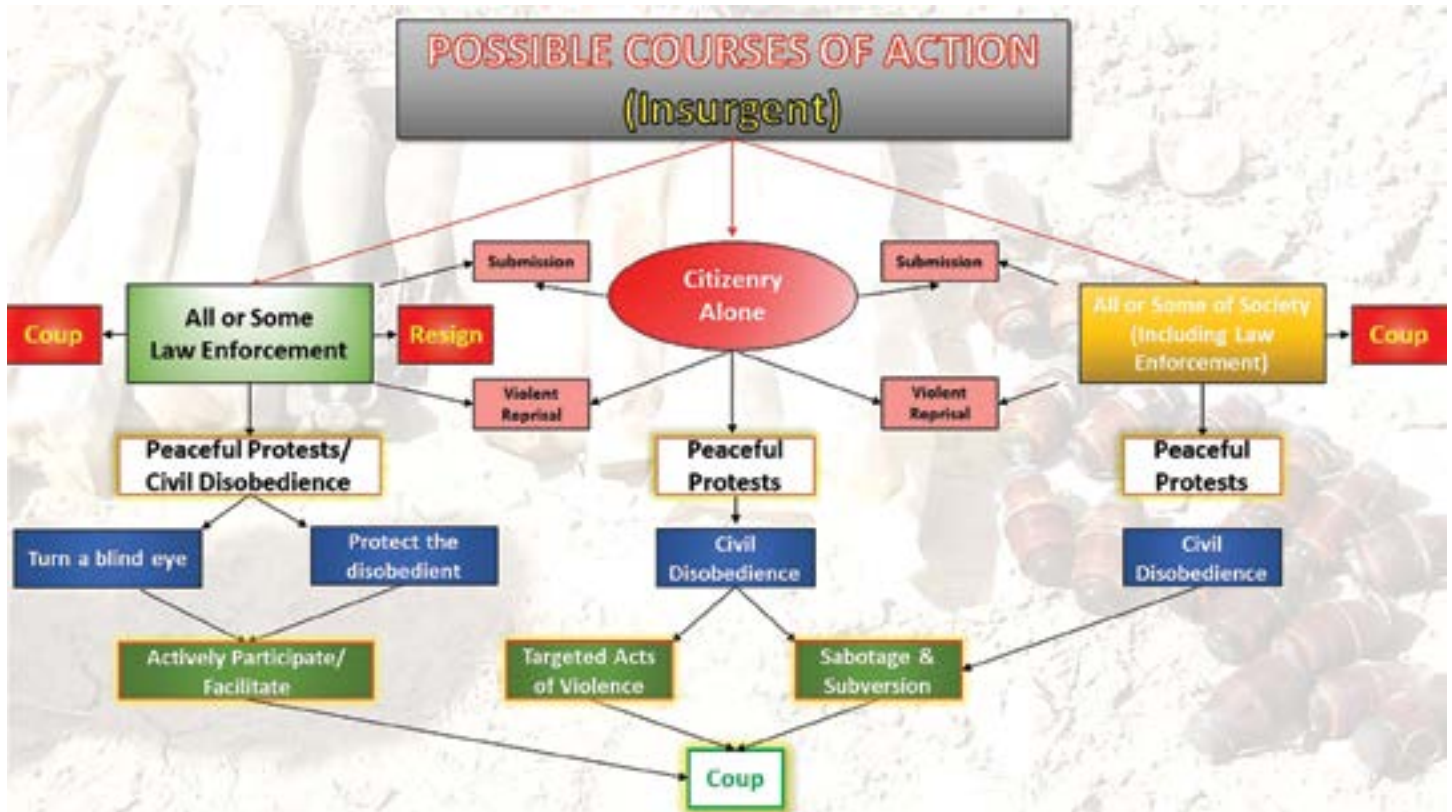
Protests can be used to rally support, build morale, pass information, impede function of government and civilly disobey. All electronic communications are compromised, and tradecraft would have to be employed to organize. This includes, surveillance, counter-

surveillance, the use of concealment devices, coded communications, cut outs, hand offs and dead drops. Distribution of uncensored informational pamphlets, newsletters, secret and encoded publications and graffiti are historically common.

People may openly disobey authoritarian officials. These tactics draw attention to authoritarian illegitimacy and to a resistance. When one is civilly disobedient, they must come to terms with the fact that they will likely be arrested. Examples of civil disobedience might be: overt non-compliance with mandates, fraudulent compliance, the assistance of others in this, disrupting official functions or gathering in violation of fascist orders.

Subversion may be employed by infiltrators within official organizations. Subversive acts may be as simple as leaking sensitive or embarrassing information about the authoritarians, instigating an uprising within an official organization or dereliction of a designated duty. Another historical subversive tool is the use of misinformation and disinformation. In today's world of social media and internet communications this is a very common tool for all. Governments, and corporate partners automate and mass produce this line of effort (LoE).

Violence may be directed at what are de-



terminated to be high value, legitimate targets. The risk to reward ratio, unintended consequences and escalations are essential to calculate for the success of any operation. It is also important to minimize collateral damage if a group wants to take credit for the act of violence. These acts include the instigation and organization of riots, destruction of buildings and infrastructure, intimidation, and acts of violence against fascist officials and those who assist them such as the French Maquis carried out in WWII. Bombings, ambushes and assassination fall into this category.

Sabotage historically includes the destruction of records and databases, power substations, bridges, railroads and other critical infrastructure such as highways. Arson is common, and in today's world sabotage includes the hacking and bugging of computers and servers. This is a preferred tool for insurgents and like subversion is best employed by individuals with access to and placement within the targets. Sabotage is carried out covertly by individuals acting alone, cells and entire movements to diminish regime control and assist resisters.

MILITARY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT REVOLT

It is unlikely the military and law enforcement

will, as a whole, commit a coup d'état if their pay is in question. If they did, authoritarian officials would almost certainly surrender themselves immediately for trial. It is more likely, however, that some who disagree with tyrannical policies will resign their positions rather than impose tyranny. It is more effective, however, that law enforcement officers and soldiers with integrity clandestinely work with insurgents or simply act to undermine fascism. When personnel choose to resign their position, obedient minions are elevated in their place. Revolutionary governments purge these institutions as a standard play to replace key personnel with fellow travelers and the authoritarian officials can use selective enforcement of 'vaccination' mandates and other leverage to purge public servants with integrity and retain compliant ones.

The better organized and connected the network, the more effective the insurgency, though this must be balanced with the need for security and decentralization of cellular structure. It will be important for loyal military and law enforcement personnel to be active in "sniffing out" who else within their organization is loyal to their principles, oaths and to citizens rather than to the inducements of authoritarian officials. Police officers can simply choose to be derelict in their orders to quell

political opposition. Police may leak information and undermine arrests, investigations and operations against the resistance. This may include non-enforcement of the "Green Pass".

POPULAR REVOLT AND POLICE REVOLT

The most likely avenue for a successful insurgency will be if some of society from each sector revolts. It is unlikely all the citizenry or all of the police will choose to revolt. However, it is likely that a large portion of society, some of the military, and some of the police would choose to revolt. A number of peaceful, non-violent measures may unite these otherwise independent opposition groups. The question is: will military and police revolt against fascism in battalions, companies or platoons; or will there only be individual resistance to the regime?

Despite censorship, propaganda LoEs and news blackouts, huge peaceful protests have made it difficult for authoritarians to hide political opposition. Rational actors understand visible opposition to authoritarian policies are the exposed tip of a hidden iceberg of invisible opposition. Civil disobedience, used strategically, has historically forced authoritarians to choose between backing down and openly using ever more violent and coercive LoEs to

Austrian officials are advancing the narrative that as soon as citizens comply with demands life, liberty and prosperity can be restored. History provides few examples, however, of citizens acquiescing their way into restoring their freedom.

impose demands (resulting in increased anti-authoritarian resistance within a society and third-party support for them).

THIRD-ORDER EFFECTS

Newton's third law of motion states that for every action there is an equal response in the opposite direction. In unconventional warfare, we must take this simple principle and then analyze; not just the primary effect, but also the second and third-order effects. For example, if the insurgency decides to clandestinely take out a power unit substation to demonstrate the regime's inability to maintain basic infrastructure, a second order effect is that the local grocer loses the ability to keep food refrigerated, resulting in supply chain problems and making it difficult for the residents of that area to meet basic food needs. Consequently, the regime—with the force of controlled or incentivized media—would predictably exploit the claim that a power outage was caused by the insurgents, whether they have proof or not. This could turn the public against insurgents. Presently, authoritarian Austrian officials are advancing the narrative that as soon as citizens comply with demands life, liberty and prosperity can be restored. History provides few examples, however, of citizens acquiescing their way into restoring their freedom. An accurate course of action analysis is essential for the success of any organized movement.

REGIME COURSES OF ACTION

The above timeline shows us that the authoritarian Austrian officials have used the "frog in a simmering pot" method to condition the citizenry into acquiescence over time as well as us-and-them, divide and conquer strategies. The public has accepted so much oppression that it is difficult to resist further fascist acts. The pot is boiling, and the frog—not having jumped out earlier—is being cooked. The regime has what is known as "operational momentum" in that trends have been going their way with few setbacks until now. Like a snowball rolling down a hill, it grew larger and larger, collecting more mass as it went. Physics tells us that an object in motion, stays in motion until it comes into contact with

another object with equal or greater force.

From the start, authoritarian officials enacted emergency measures to lockdown society. In the first round, citizens had little reason to doubt their necessity based on the news they consumed and official policies could have been interpreted as best guesses at constructive action. Presently, data indicates that countries such as Sweden that have ended all restrictions have generally better health and substantially stronger societies than countries such as the U.K. that continue to pursue highly authoritarian mandates and Austrians seem to have noticed this.

The regime continues to enact curfews, enforcement for violation of the curfews and implemented societal conditions such as mandatory masking and physical distancing. These are not just controversial public health policies, but they practically serve as operant conditioning methods used to train compliance. "Rolling lockdowns" give some relief to the citizenry and the temporary relief can be held out as a carrot for the compliant. This model keeps citizens off balance, but less provoked than simple continuous lockdown might.

As seen in the timeline, there was no significant visible opposition until the November announcement of permanent lockdown for all and stringent fines for the noncompliant. It must be considered that the first authoritarian mandate for lockdown of all may have been designed to make a lockdown of some seem more reasonable by comparison. Authoritarians have attempted to criminalize dissent at protests and political rallies. Intimidation in the form of door-to-door house checks for curfew compliance has been practiced.

Following Karl Nehammer's decision to lock down and punish the "unvaccinated", he also declared his main political opposition, the FPÖ and any opposition to masking, forced "vaccinations", lockdowns and to "Green Pass" as domestic terrorist threats. Historically, propaganda, censorship and news blackouts have been commonly used by regimes to create false narratives and suppress real ones. In the present day, this can be largely automated and carried out electronically. The regime will likely attempt to partner with sympathetic governments, organizations and

corporate partners that can maximize this ability. As of 14 November 2021, travel bans are implemented against those who decline experimental medical interventions and do not have "Green Pass".

If history is our guide, authoritarian officials are likely to target the most effective governmental investigative body or intelligence institution for use as political police against opposition. The most cooperative organization can be rewarded and a con-compliant one can be defunded. Authoritarians traditionally recruit informants and insinuate operatives as deeply and widely as possible within dissident groups to report and to influence their actions. Electronic surveillance will likely be highly automated too and will likely digest virtually all of the electronic communications of Austrian citizens and include hampering dissident communications and insinuating false messages where desired. Tracking electronic devices of populations and individuals is commonplace.

Currency control is a traditional way for an authoritarian government to manipulate citizens. Measures such as requirement of a green pass to possess currency, access ATMs or make purchases might corral the public's behavior. Digital currency may be introduced that can be turned on and off or be transferable only at approved locations. Using emergency authorization, citizen's judiciary and civil rights will likely be further infringed in the name of pandemic response and fighting "domestic terrorism". Random home searches and vehicle check points have historically been used to inhibit opposition.

Over-control and central planning have historically caused misallocation of resources and supply chain fragility when compared to free markets. Rationing resources has been a tool for authoritarian leverage, and narratives are commonly created to shift blame and hold out hope of prosperity through submission. Moving dissidents to concentration camps has been a historical tool of authoritarians. Australia is presently doing this. Even America experienced this during WWII with the internment of German, Italian and Japanese Americans.

False flag operations have been used



The author, on ODA 326, carrying out close target reconnaissance in Afghanistan.

cally assassinated or blackmailed key political opponents and fixed elections. The Austrian regime may do this if they become desperate. It is unknown if election fixing was a factor in the infiltration of parliamentary republic institutions by authoritarians.

CONCLUSION

There appears to have been a revolution of sorts carried out in Austria. Authoritarian officials have openly violated the Nuremberg Code and have ended the concepts of individual liberty and private property for citizens, and are holding out hope in the form of the suggestion of conditional future freedoms for the compliant, while citing health policy as their justification. At present, it appears unlikely that the USA or NATO will deploy forces to liberate the people of Austria, and it is unclear if neighboring countries are officially or unofficially accepting Austrian defectors or refugees yet.

It remains to be proven whether Austria is witnessing the manifestation of central planning run amok with authoritarian inclined officials simply breaking laws and practicing deception to hide their past failures—and to continue claiming rewards from those industries benefitted—or whether an orchestrated plan to regenerate neo-fascist power is the primary driver of events.

Austrian citizens appear to be at a crossroads. On the one hand they may submit to forced medical experimentation and sacrifice their children hoping for partial restoration of their freedoms or they may resist. History teaches us that seized powers are not normally relinquished freely and populations have not generally submitted their way back to freedom. History also teaches us that violence begets violence and once blood is spilled it is impossible to calculate who will be left standing at the end. Around the world, many people are praying for the avoidance of conflict. If the Austrian authoritarians continue to apply pressure, however, conditions for insurgency will further ripen and it must be considered whether that is a goal of the oppressors, and who might be benefitted. ✓

BIO

Andrew Curtiss (Maxurpotential.com) is a former member of the 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne). He is trained in unconventional warfare and advanced HUMINT skills. He was nominated for the Silver Star and is a Bronze Star ("V") recipient and has operated in over 30 countries as a special operations soldier and U.S. Government contractor. Today, he operates his own business as a Corrective Exercise and Human Performance Specialist in Clarksville, Tennessee.

GEARREVIEW

SPARK 2

The Spark 2 is a wing designed specifically for schools and beginner pilots. It features technologies taken from higher performance paragliders combined for safety, forgiveness and good inflation characteristics. Paramotoring has exploded in popularity as more and more people unplug from television and internet to experience the real world. A compatible paraglider/paramotor combination can be stored in a garage, transported in a truck, and taken off and landed in an open field. This represents the simplest to learn, most economical, least regulated, niche of aviation and may be your ticket to outdoor freedom. www.flyozone.com



Vigilance and preparedness are two terms that should be a way of life for Americans.

It is possible to be prepared for many emergencies that some call “unforeseen”. It is also possible to prepare for the situations that can bring danger to you and your family. Vigilance is what gives you an idea of what to prepare for, when and where to be most attentive and situations to avoid altogether. You can have all the gear money can buy, and comprehensive planning, but if you do not practice the art of vigilance it will be of little help. The two terms go together, but the most important is vigilance.

I think we can all agree that we live in a very uncertain and tumultuous time and place. Our very existence seems to be threatened at every level. Rising fuel and food prices, indications of pending shortages, open crime unchallenged in some jurisdictions, and

a border with a highly-expensive and highly-hamstrung security effort suggest more challenges rather than fewer may be in our near future. Ask yourself: Do I feel safe? Do I have what I need to keep my family safe? We must face the reality that we are responsible for our own safety. Initiatives such as “Defund the Police” have depleted our law enforcements ranks and when rehiring is done it must be considered what ideology or competencies will be the priorities to recruit. Crime and murder rates are up. Long term food storage and the Second Amendment are traditional American preparations for possible natural and man-made disasters.

My way of vigilance and preparedness began in 1997. I was a Road Patrol Deputy with a county sheriff’s office. I carried a “Go Bag”

daily. My Go Bag had extra ammo, batteries, food and water and other essential items that I found to be necessary when patrolling rural areas. At any time, I could find myself sixty miles from my station. If you are at a crime scene and need a piece of gear, you don’t have the option of leaving to get it.

This is when vigilance became a very important aspect of my preparedness. I would routinely check my gear before going out on my tour of duty. Clothing, food and water were the primary items that needed to be added. At this time, I was also assigned to the Emergency Response Team, “ERT” more commonly known as SWAT. With the addition of more equipment that I was proficient in using, my level of preparedness was raised. I exercised vigilance in the way that I took

PIXABAY - PEXELS

VIGILANCE

PREPARING THE MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT

BY DAVE CADY

care of my equipment and the way I looked for clues to what to anticipate.

After completing a call out or training session I immediately replenished and repacked my gear. 1999 and Y2K was my first practical exercise in vigilance and preparedness for the home. Y2K was the switch over from 1999 to the year 2000. "Experts" predicted that computer systems would fail due to the systems inability to make the change of year.

Prior to Y2K, many of us purchased portable generators. We stocked up on food and essentials. The new year came and all systems stayed operational, but the whole experience strengthened my resolve, and commitment to being vigilant.

MIND

To be vigilant one must adapt and possess a certain mindset. You must make yourself aware of the situations in your life. For me, being prepared to face life threatening situations on the job was paramount. My assignment with the Narcotics Task Force and ERT demanded that I maintain a constant state of readiness. Equipment had to be checked before and after a mission. Preparation for a mission centered around intelligence gathering of the "target". The person or location that we would be descending upon. We had to investigate every aspect of the target's life. We assumed no case was routine. For me, vigilance meant that I would take the necessary steps needed to mentally focus on what my assignments would be for the raid. I visualized my actions for the most probable events and I visualized my actions for the most dangerous contingencies. My mindset has not changed with retirement.

I still acknowledge that this is a dangerous world. Although I am not going to be knocking down doors anymore or clandestinely applying a GPS tracker on a criminal's car, I always strive to be aware of my environment. I selectively turn off outside concerns to study my environment in detail. I am always armed and prepared when in public. A vigilant mindset is a mindset that is always ready to act in the face of adversity and one that is always open to any *possibility*.... Nothing is impossible. Nothing can be completely ruled out.

It does not have to be shots fired in the grocery store parking lot. It can be a motor vehicle accident that you witness or a choking in a restaurant. When leaving the safety of your residence you must possess a vigilant mindset. Col. Jeff Cooper described this as going

from condition white (oblivious, like when daydreaming or preoccupied like a driver texting) to condition yellow (mentally present in the moment, observant and asking yourself: What if X or Y happens? I will....

to evaluate where you are today, invest daily effort, and apply vigilance to see where you stand at the end of every week. You can't eliminate all of life's stresses any more than you can make a hill shorter, but you can ap-



A family survived in an above-ground tornado shelter when EF5 tornado destroyed their home in Joplin, Missouri, 2011.

Anticipate threats in your area and be prepared. If you're in a tornado prone location, do you have a safe space and supplies?

BODY

The mind and body work together to make a cohesive unit. If you possess a positive vigilant mindset then what should be the plan for the body? Physical fitness. A person that is physically fit has a better opportunity to have a strong mind too. There are exceptions to that, but it takes vigilance to stay in a workout program. Did you notice if you lost a pushup or gained 10 seconds on a run? Do you know if you can still touch your toes?

I entered the Police Academy at age 36, but I was used to training hard in martial arts. I was the oldest person in my class. Because of my vigilance in staying in shape I won the physical training award for that class. Two years later the agency sent me to the Cooper Institute of Aerobic Research (no relation to Col. Cooper) where I became a Certified Physical Fitness Specialist. My training in SWAT, Defensive Tactics and the Martial Arts HAVE helped me maintain the mind, body, spirit equation. I am now retired and in my sixties. Physical fitness and my martial arts training are a very important part of my life. Whatever physical inventory you choose to give yourself, it is possible

proach both of those a week from today with more energy and ability than you have now.

An elderly man once said he wasn't strong enough to start like that. He simply started one day with four rounds of deep breathing outdoors for two minutes followed by breath holds, stretched for 30 minutes, and replaced all of his daily beverages with clean water. On the second day he committed to adding a tiny bit of improvement every day. Now he is running marathons...*he* can touch his toes and *he* knows it.

SPIRIT

My martial arts training has always taught me to possess an *Indomitable Spirit*. Spirit is the final addition to the equation. If you possess a mindset that you will always keep moving toward your objective and never give up, you possess an indomitable spirit. You win or you learn. There is no fail. Setbacks should not deter you from reaching your goals. I am a believer in the statement: "Whatever does not kill you only makes you stronger". Find ways to challenge yourself and ignite your spirit for constructive purposes above and beyond

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yourself. There are Fitness Centers and Gyms that offer the "Boot Camp" method of training. That type of training can provide comradery and teamwork. It is one more way to feed the indomitable spirit that is needed to maintain vigilance.

As soon as you have made some progress you may find that teaching or sharing with another person motivates you to go even farther. What vigilance games could you share with a kid you care about? Sniper schools commonly hide military hardware like rifles, ejected brass, camouflage hats, lanyards, pens etc. across a field or tree line and have students observe from a distance to learn to identify the man-made shapes and shine. Intelligence training often has candidates attempt to recall common items displayed on a table or in a room after a limited timed opportunity to view them. Competitive shooters are sometimes given a phrase or number to remember before shooting a stage of fire, then asked to recite it after being mentally focused on the task at hand. Sitting silent and motionless in nature for 20 minutes has been used to meditate or pray, and it has been used to practice vigilance skills. These and other simple games can be modified and made more challenging each time while striving for improvements that benefit both of you.

GEAR

I live in a state that is 2nd Amendment friendly. I have carried a gun for my whole adult life and I do not leave the house unarmed. Vigilance also incorporates a high level of firearms safety. Is shirt fabric in my holster? How do I control my firearm when I use a public restroom? You should legally carry any firearm in a holster that provides an acceptable level of security. If you become involved in a physical confrontation and your firearm falls out of your pocket or an inadequate holster you have raised the danger level significantly. I had to fight for control of a handgun once. I was fighting on the floor with a suspect and another officer's handgun fell out of his shoulder holster and slid into the hands of the bad guy. With the grace of God and some well-placed palm strikes I was able to gain control of that gun. Vigilance skills practiced regularly prevent creating such problems.

I have carried a Go Bag since my early days of being a cop and I still do. What's in it? The things I need to help in an emergency: ammo, first aid, flashlight, water, gloves, chem-light sticks, etc. Take yours on a hike and get used

to carrying it. A Go Bag supplements your vigilance practices with options.

Most people have a cell phone for communication. Do you possess a charger in your vehicle and home? How about a solar charger in your Go Bag? If you do not possess a Public Emergency Service Scanner there are several Apps for Apple and Android phones. Being vigilant requires knowledge. Have you ever predicted what CNN and FOX will be reporting next week and compared your guesses to reality? Many people discover over time different vendors have unexpected similarities and they are able to anticipate future trends far more accurately than their vendor of choice does. It is essential that you share information. Alternate forms of communication for family members could be done by using GMRS or FRS radios.

Vigilance applies to observing cues for food and medicine needs too. Do you have a month supply of food? We have developed a system to reach and maintain that level. We have added additional pantry space in our lower level. You must be vigilant in rotating your food and checking expiration dates. Batteries and fuel for a generator must be rotated and checked. I start my generators once a month and let them run for thirty minutes.

I recommend that you obtain an Atlas and Gazetteer of the area that you live in. You will want to study the detailed topographic maps. Become familiar with the roads in and out of your area. Check out the alternate sources of water that may be near you. Have a plan prepared in the event that you must evacuate the area with or without functioning electronic devices and with or without your vehicle.

Mind, Body and Spirit are the foundation of Vigilance. You are responsible for your actions and inaction, and you are responsible for the safety of those in your life. Take that responsibility seriously. Build relationships with like-minded individuals. Form a network of stability and reliability in your community. ✓

BIO

Dave Cady is a 27 year Law Enforcement Officer. He has held positions as a Village Patrolman, Deputy Sheriff and Criminal Investigator. He held assignments in SWAT and served as an Investigator with the Oneida County Narcotics Enforcement Task Force. Dave is an FBI certified Defensive Tactics Instructor. He holds a 5th Dan Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do.



ENTRY TOOL CARRIAGE

THE SHAKE DOWN

BY PAT WATSON PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNCENSORED TACTICAL.COM

Tactical teams have processes in their craft that include things like: testing and evaluating gear, choosing where your gear gets attached to your armor and kit, practicing the customizing of your gear (cutting, taping, and burning extra straps), the practice of putting your gear on and off (donning and doffing drills in confined spaces, in the dark, or submerged), organizing spare tools into grab bags, retrieving tools from bags and putting them into play, and more.

Ever-present bureaucracy doesn't always allow these types of tasks to make the bullet point lists on PowerPoint presentations for training, but good teams take it upon themselves to dedicate real time to these seemingly mundane tasks and skills... although *mundane* is a subjective term.

I often get asked, "What makes your entry skill set curriculum different?" and after thousands of answers I've boiled it down to:

"Although we *will* teach you how to pair a tool and a lock together with an entry technique, we also put into practice the philosophy and the real application of how to deploy your tools and skills in the field or in real life emergencies". Our value contribution is that we cover the high-level systems approach to making entry—to help make you an expert—which you have probably heard defined as someone who is a master at the basics. What additional skills could *you* fold into your life?



Build your skills and test them. Keep practicing and test them under more challenging conditions.



Three lines of gear:

- 1st: tools on your person
- 2nd: tools in a go-bag
- 3rd: tools in a mobile or fixed storage location

THREE LINES OF GEAR

Our first unique skill that you can practice, in lock picking and in your other skill sets too, is the act of selecting, testing and placing your gear into your deployment carry methods with intent. Some actually throw a bunch of tools into a sack and expect their craft to be applied flawlessly during life-or-death emergencies. Uncensored Tactical teaches a tiered approach where you dedicate tools to be on your person (1st Line), tools in a go-bag (2nd Line), and other tools in a mobile or immobile storage location (3rd Line).

The practice of choosing what gear to buy and what gear to actually keep in your operational setup is something that is often overlooked as “automatic”. But if you break this down you probably have a limited budget, a limited amount of time to train and learn and a limited amount of space in which to carry only so many tools into the field. You could certainly just “buy stuff and use stuff” but people who are at the top of their fields spend time with a conscious effort on researching, testing and smartly placing tools into their loadouts (or smartly throwing tools in the trash). There is a lot of myth-marketing in the lock picking (and tactical) world. It is definitely a skill and a practice that is required to purchase smart tools and to test smart tools in a controlled environment before having to rely on those tools in the real world.

The placement, the practice of choosing which gear goes into which line of gear takes actual time and effort to perfect, and even once you have a perfect setup you should always be evolving and adapting to your expected tasks and your specific area of operations. To have the mindset that “choosing your gear and how you organize it” is not a skill would be a miss-step that could cost a life during a real emergency.

PRACTICE THIS SKILL

Do a full inventory of every single tool and piece of gear you expect to deploy with. Con-



stantly ask yourself “Have I tested this tool? Am I maintaining this tool properly? Is there another tool that would fit better than this tool? Has this tool earned a place in my inventory or do I just carry it *just because*?”

MOBILITY AND AGILITY

I recommend a go-bag for your 2nd Line tools. I often have entry practitioners find me and my content and say “I use a fishing tackle box” or “Why don’t you just use a small Pelican Case” for 2nd Line gear. Shoe boxes, plastic bins, tactical cases and the like are all pretty good for storage of tools, but not great for field deployment. Skill #2 today is to practice being mobile and agile with your different lines of gear.

If you are “slick” or if you have no bags attached to you and just your normal street clothes or normal day-uniform on, you should be able to do things like sit, stand, crouch, drive a car, climb a ladder etc. Your ability to do human movement shouldn’t change very much whether you’re just wearing your underwear (*really* slick) or whether you are wearing a Kevlar helmet, ceramic front and back armor plates, a gun belt and your tactical boots. You should practice being mobile and agile with or without your battle rattle on.

Now add your 2nd Line Gear to the mix. If you are practicing something simple like moving across fields, coming to a farm fence

and needing to go over that fence quickly, you could probably see that this turns into two starkly different experiences where one is the lifting/throwing/placing of a box over the fence and the other is simply climbing as usual. Now imagine one of those commercial ladders on the back of a big-box store, with the human-sized cage around the ladder. Imagine climbing up that high ladder with a fishing tackle box in your hands, and imagine doing the same with a small sling-pack over your shoulders. Choose a carry method (preferably a small bag) and *go practice the skill* of being mobile with your gear.

Practice the following with your different levels of gear:

- Getting into and out of a vehicle.
- Driving a vehicle.
- Going over different types of fences.
- Climbing ladders.
- Sprinting short distances.
- Jogging long distances.
- Carrying a large secondary object while also carrying your gear.

Go nuts with mobility and agility tasks relevant to *your* needs.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Sitting in the gear room with your team or sitting at your kitchen table and taking out



Practice mobility and agility with your gear by challenging yourself with obstacles.

tools one by one is its own type of environment. Tool retrieval and deployment (locating a tool, taking that tool out, putting that tool to use and stowing it again) often happens under very different environments during operations. You can prepare for this though through some dedicated time and skillset training.

One of the easiest field environments to duplicate at home or in the team-room, or in the lab is *low-light*. You can practice this skill yourself or you can have a training partner present you with a scenario or simply tell you which tool to retrieve.

With low light, no light or eyes closed:

- Determine the tool you need.
- You should know where the tool is stored.
- Locate that tool.
- Take that tool out of its storage location.
- Put that tool to use (or simulate).
- Stow that tool back in your bag.

The same environmental management training can be done with things like rain (garden hose), snow, cold hands, gloved hands and more. Sometimes learning happens when it

is not expected, in the field, from real world stimuli during real emergencies. Your operational skill level can be greatly increased if you put in the effort to replicate that experience at home or in a training area *before* you encounter it in the field.

A funny, although very real phenomena that I teach students how to manage is increased stress from onlookers. While you should still be able to perform while people are watching, even professionals suffer when their audience is too many or too close. One solution to this is to change your environment—tell the onlookers “Hey, I need you all to go to this other location to check this other important thing for me” even if untrue. Get them somewhere else and then breathe and try your fine-motor-skill entry again in peace. Or harder, the other option is to train your butt off so that it doesn’t matter how many people are watching.

The more you practice your basic craft with some basic environment changes, the more you will move the needle on the scale from “simple practitioner” to “wise expert”. If you want a certain skill set to be your passion topic, and to be used at the highest operational level, you need to have fun playing

with the variables, especially real life environmental variables that get overlooked in the classroom setting.

THE SEXY SKILL OF MAINTENANCE

If you don’t like the word, “skill” as a descriptor for unpacking, vacuuming, shaking out, rinsing down, drying, oiling, sharpening and repacking, then at least you could probably meet me half-way with the term “practice” which I’ve used several times in this article already ... intentionally.

I bet you would probably agree with me that some people are better than others at the practice of keeping a sharp, squared away and ready tool set for deployment. “My bags are packed and at the door 24/7” is a mindset I had to live by for over a decade of my life, professionally, and now I try to live that way by choice since I work from home and am no longer a professional first-responder. I am now a responder by choice, not by paycheck.

This skill, or practice of keeping your tools sharp between deployments is obviously not very sexy and flashy, but when it allows you to operate at a much higher level than others, and with a much lower failure rate than your peers, I think *that* is quite impressive. It’s almost always the unseen that makes a “top performer” a top performer. This is where you can remedy gear you discover still full of sand, snaps that become corroded from exposure, Velcro that gets worn out, etc.

I teach self-defense gunfighting, I teach dogs and their handlers how to prepare for real world security threats—and of course I *love* the lock picking and entry skill sets and with all of them I think the pattern remains: The tools and the tactics are important, but the how and the why, the when, the systemized and philosophical overview are also of the utmost importance and often missed by other instructors. If you want abilities rather than ideas, give this method a try. Whether you are bringing everything and the kitchen sink or you are off duty with one spare mag, a flashlight and a couple tiny entry tools on you and an aid-kit in your car, you need to know your systems can be relied upon. ✓

BIO

Pat Watson (UncensoredTactical.com) served for over a decade in operational capacities from military, to police operations, to private security. He now teaches lock picking, protection dog training, and hosts Uncensored Tactical podcast.

Whether your highest priority is tracking and supporting the forensic audits of the 2020 election in all 50 states (visit: Telegram, search: America First Audits), getting to the bottom of the COVID-19 (Wuhan Virus) misrepresentations (visit gbdeclaration.org), securing America's beleaguered southern border, or whether you are simply interested in navigating the contemporary wilderness of censorship and deception for your own family, it is encouraging to see how selfless human beings can be. This account is the Silver Star citation for Rick Lamb's 1984 firefight that rescued a freedom seeking defector from a platoon of pursuing communist soldiers.



Rick Lamb (wearing flak jacket) with his South Korean teammates.

RICK LAMB

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Staff Sergeant Richard C. Lamb, United States Army, for exceptional valor and gallantry in action while serving with the Joint Security Force Company, United Nations Command Security Force at Panmunjom, Korea, on 23 November 1984. In reaction to thirty attacking North Korean soldiers in pursuit of a Soviet defec-

tor, Staff Sergeant Lamb's aggressive actions were instrumental in defeating the enemy. Throughout the intense firefight, Sergeant Lamb displayed a complete disregard for his own personal safety while accomplishing his mission. Staff Sergeant Lamb's bravery and aggressive performance of duty under extremely hazardous circumstances are in keeping with the finest traditions of military heroism and reflect great credit upon him, the United Nations Command and the United States Army. ✓