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# ***SWORD and PEN***

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

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**[www.americancombato.com](http://www.americancombato.com)**

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**Merry Christmas To Our Friends and Supporters!  
May You and Yours Have a Wonderful Holiday!**

# E d i t o r i a l

## *Simplicity And Savagery!*

“I have a high art: I hurt with cruelty those  
who wound me.”

**Archilochus, 650 B.C.**

**SEVERAL** years ago one of our students had the misfortune to need to use his training. For reasons unknown to him he was approached by some misfit who immediately became confrontational and *very* aggressive. Our student had only several months training at the time, but was definitely serious — soon to be tested for Yellow Belt. From his relaxed-ready position it was clear to him that he was facing real trouble. This a–hole simply wanted a victim and it apparently seemed to him that our student fit the role perfectly, so . . . being scum the a–hole extended a hand and shoved our student backward. In balance and recovering to a braced position immediately our student greeted the a–hole’s advance with an upraised fist by chinjabbing him. He then grabbed the a–hole and applied a double knee attack to the lout’s testicles. Incident over. Scumbag down. Our student departed the scene speedily so as not to have to deal with any possible onsite recovery by the scumbag (perhaps entailing the scumbag’s accessing a knife or gun), or possibly the approach of one or more of this sewer rat’s companions. The location of the attack was isolated (which scumbags tend to insure before moving in), and our student concluded the encounter smelling like a rose, and completely uninjured — although, as he reported, “Really shook up!” Okay.

Our student later told us that he “went after that bastard with everything I had”. “I simply was determined not to get killed,” he continued, and I “*turned animal*”. This last comment is important. “Turning animal”. In other words, our student attacked his attacker with **savagery**. The lesson that we constantly teach (I.e. that there is no “nice way” to defend yourself) had sunk

in! Our student did everything right! He dropped all semblance of decency and sportsmanship and restraint. ***Stop the attacker***. That was all he focused on or cared about. In fact he told us that when the scumbag crumpled to the sidewalk he (our student) “felt the urge” to kick the rodent’s brains out. Following his training, however, he realized that no further action was necessary to protect himself, and he concentrated on escaping to safety. Two very fundamental things enabled our student to deal with the street sh–t: First, as our student plainly told us, he “turned animal” and went after his tormentor with unbridled savagery. He even heard a crack when he delivered the chinjab, almost certainly indicating fractured teeth, a broken jaw, or both. Even a broken neck is possible under certain conditions . . . and our student just did not give a damn about *anything* but stopping the assailant and staying in one piece. Not a millisecond of hesitation followed the chinjab and our student seized the attacker powerfully and rammed two successive knee blows into his testicles with every ounce of strength and speed that he could muster. Problem solved.

The second important thing to note is that the violent attack was brought to a swift and decisive halt by the very simplest and most fundamental of actions: the **chinjab** and the **knee attack**; both taught in Lesson One of our brief Introductory Course!

Savagery and simplicity. Nothing complex, acrobatic, and ***certainly nothing you’d see in any competition match!***

Please do not think that we are making any claims that merely learning one or two moves is enough. In many situations **followup** is required, and a somewhat varied repertoire is essential. Our student was simply fortunate that he had trained hard in the very basic material he had thus far been taught, had paid attention to our admonitions regarding mindset, attitude, and determination-to-stop-the-enemy, and found the chinjab and knee attack to be quite adequate to defend himself.

**Savagery and simplicity**; burn these two components of success in close combat into your brain, and train incessantly to achieve an ever-increasing capacity to apply and employ ***both*** in any emergency.

## Bradley J. Steiner

“ . . . ***attack and keep on attacking*** . . . ”

William E. Fairbairn (from the note to instructors, *Silent Killing Course WWII* — Second session of instruction.

### The Will To Win

**THE** person who has “had enough” of being victimized, who has decided that he will never again tolerate a hand laid in malice upon himself, and who is now indifferent to whatever the cost of fighting back may be, is a *very* bad individual to attempt to victimize. This is because his WILL is set, fixed, and determined. For him there is *no choice*; he *will* destroy his tormentor — and if necessary die doing so. Only a fool would ever target such a person.

In sporting contests the entrant’s “will to win” is understood as being a very important factor for his success. Skill is of course needed, and so is physical strength, agility, and condition, as well as competitive experience. But in all cases where those factors are adequately in place, it will be the competitor’s *will to win* that carries the day. **The big difference — and it is *huge*, and very different, indeed! — between the sport fighter’s will to win and the combatant’s will to win, may be summarized thusly:**

- The competition fighter is *not* facing a **survival need** to win any given match. He simply wants very badly to win it, and so does his opponent; but no competitive fighter believes or feels that his life is on the line, or that he may end up a cripple for life, or — even worse — that these things might happen to a loved one, if he fails to defeat his adversary.  
— **The combatant knows, feels, and understands that he is in DANGER. His will to win is in fact a will to *survive*! Having no way to**

know his adversary's *intentions* or *capabilities* or *experiences* or *possible influence from drugs, liquor, insanity, hatred, rage, etc.* or some combination of those factors, the combatant's will must be the same as that of a man determined to escape from a burning building. **LIFE HANGS IN THE BALANCE.** In point of fact, every good teacher of self-defense inculcates this in his students, and every good student absorbs it.

- The competition fighter *wants to fight* — which is normal and natural. That is the essence of sport fighting; the continual testing of one's skills in the sport against another sportsman's skills. Competition fights are arranged and scheduled. Often the arrangement of one or another particular fight has taken considerable effort on the part of managers or the fighters themselves, before the looked-forward-to event comes to fruition.

— **The will of the combatant to emerge victorious derives almost without exception, in spite of a *reluctance to do battle*. Sane people avoid fighting (not sport fighting, but mutual combat), and the person drawing upon his will to defeat his enemy in actual combat rarely if ever expected, wanted, or would have himself if he had been given a choice *chosen* for the battle to be fought. Now that he has *no choice* the combatant goes 100% into the conflict with his **WILL TO WIN** set for victory**

- Normally two men who compete in a sporting fight have respect for each other. There's is not a hate-filled or a vindictive attitude; nor is it one of contempt. Sportsmen fight those whom they believe present a worthwhile and important challenge — a challenge which, if successfully met, will result in the victor's having advanced in status within the competitive sport itself.

— **Violent predators are seething with hatred (often resentment, envy, and sheer malice, as well); and it behooves the combatant to be able to **MATCH** any predatory antagonist with the strongest white-hot hatred imaginable! The combatant's **WILL** is — properly — set to ***DESTROY***. One "respects" the enemy's capacity to harm, and the threat that he poses; but *personally* it is more than appropriate for the victim of a violent attack to **HATE HIS ATTACKER** instantly, totally,**

and in a murderous rage. It is no less rational — even desirable — for healthy, decent, peacefully productive human beings to *hate* those who theoretically might harm them or their loved ones, and to fire up their **WILL TO DESTROY** such vermin if and when necessary.

- The sport fighter is determined to win — *in a very specific manner, via the employment of very specific, agreed-upon skills, and according to the rules of the game*. He in no sense enters a fighting contest determined to “win at any cost”. In fact, each contestant agrees that an objective third party — i.e. the referee — will decide who wins and who loses.

— **The combatant has set himself to win — period; by any foul, distasteful, unscrupulous, unorthodox, mean, unsportsmanlike, indecent means. And his WILL is so determined that he will do ANYTHING in order to stop his enemy and prevail. Since violent predators stop at nothing and possess the will to injure their target, and then get away, it is right and good that combatants follow suit and set their minds so that they are ready, willing, and able to do a-n-y-t-h-i-n-g to a predator.**

- “**Desperation**” is probably the one word that best sums up that which prompts the will of the combatant to destroy his enemy, while “**ambition**” perhaps sums up that which prompts the sporting fighter to win his matches.

— **The combatant *has to win*; the sportsman *wants to win*.**

It is easy for the dishonest smart ass or jackass to play with words here, and, for instance, to assert that “surely the combatant *wants to win*, also”. We believe that we have made a point here for those trying to understand. For those trying *not* to understand . . . well . . . they don’t matter, and we are not addressing them (nor do we care in the least about them).

For *your* benefit, however (and we are speaking to the honest, seeker-after-combative-abilities; who we hope to be **YOU**) please strive to understand how crucial will be your iron will to save your life or the lives of those you love in any emergency, and to *cultivate that will* whenever you train. **DO THAT BY NEVER FORGETTING WHEN YOU TRAIN EXACTLY**

## WHAT IS AT STAKE

Go through the violent offender like a juggernaut — with no mercy, no compassion, no forbearance, no sympathy, no restraint, and no hesitation. ***GO THROUGH HIM WITH AN IRON WILL SET TO WRECK HIS WHOLE DAMN PLAN TO INJURE YOU! AND DO NOT STOP UNTIL YOU ARE SAFE.***

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



Here are a few comments about us and what and how we teach, from a handful of the many genuine authorities in the field of close combat and self-defense who are familiar with us and with our work:

**“Brad Steiner is one of the three finest instructors of close combat and self-defense that I know of, in the world”**

**— James R. Jarrett,**

**Former U.S. Army Special Forces and LAPD SWAT/Protégé of the late, internationally famous defensive tactics and baton master, Robert Koga. Mr. Jarrett holds a 5th degree Black Belt and is a renown firearms, self-defense, and counterterrorist instructor. He is a former university professor and an author.**

**“ [Brad Steiner] is simply the finest teacher of any subject that I have ever had . . . I feel deeply blessed to be able to know and to study under him”**

**— Greg Anderson,**

**Third degree black belt, author of *Weapons At Hand*, accomplished professional athlete (wrestled at the national level and played college football), world-acknowledged authority on physical training, author, and Director of Ideal Exercise, one of the finest fitness facilities in the Western states.**

**“Brad Steiner knows real self-defense and what works in hand-to-hand combat like no one on earth! His Method is incredible!”**

**— Detective Ralph Friedman (NYPD Retired),**

**Ralph was, at the time of his retirement, the most decorated police officer in the history of the NYPD. He has**



received, among other awards, the coveted 'Combat Cross'. Ralph was featured, along with his brother — an NYPD Transit Police Officer — on the TV Show Top Cops.

**“Your Method is excellent. You have expanded upon and improved considerably the method I learned from Fairbairn and Sykes during WWII and what the USMC taught to the Raider Battalions. And you’re a very good student and teacher”**

**— Maurice (“Maury”) Geier,**  
Former U.S. Federal Agent and counterintelligence officer during WWII. Also a combat shooting instructor for FBI and other federal officers, as well as a hand-to-hand combat teacher who was so fierce he earned the nickname “Deathhouse Geier”.

**“Your American Combato is a very good System”**

**— Charles (“Charlie”) Nelson,**  
WWII hand-to-hand combat judo instructor with whom we trained for nearly three years. It was from Nelson that we learned the O’Neill System, as well as what A.J. Drexel Biddle taught (Charlie was one of Biddle’s students).

**“You are indeed a ‘Professor’ of combat arts! I quote you all of the time”**

**— Grandmaster Jim Harrison,**  
The premier pioneer in America of the Asian fighting arts of ju-jutsu and karate. The late Bruce Lee once said of Jim Harrison that he is the one person he would *not* like to fight. It would take a thick pamphlet to describe all of Jim Harrison’s accomplishments and contributions to the combat arts in America.

**“From you I learned the valuable lesson of ‘attacking’**

**instead of ‘defending’ when you have to defend yourself”  
— Grandmaster John McSweeney,**

**The “Father of Irish Karate”, John was one of Ed Parker’s first Black Belts. John also studied boxing, judo, ju-jutsu, and kung fu. The quotation above is from a letter John sent to us after reading our Tactical Skills of Hand-to-Hand Combat. We maintained a correspondence and friendship until John’s passing.**

**“You certainly do make many excellent points about how mental conditioning for self-defense may be achieved. Although I had never anticipated RET (Rational Emotive Therapy) being utilized for martial arts training, you have done quite an impressive job. I appreciate your outstanding abilities with hypnosis, and I think that your innovative ideas deserve a widespread audience”**

**— Dr. Albert Ellis,**

**One of the most famous psychologists in the world. Of him Dr. Robert A. Harper once wrote that he believed Dr. Ellis’ contributions are as significant as those of Dr. Sigmund Freud. We owe a good deal of how we work with students to achieve all sorts of psychological breakthroughs to our intensive study of Dr. Ellis’ works.**

**“ [Y]our articles are read, studied, and saved whenever they are published. You have an understanding and command of the subject of fighting that very few people have”**

**— George Kalishevich,**

**Former USMC Sergeant and combat veteran of Southeast Asia. Kalishevich was a multiple Black Belt holder, a boxer, weight trainee, and hand-to-hand combat teacher since the 1960’s. He was also an experienced bouncer. He passed away several years ago.**

**“As a law enforcement officer working dangerous assignments in the most violent parts of the New York metropolitan area in the 1970’s, I found that Mr. Steiner’s advice was always on the money. The information contained in his articles in Combat Handguns, Handguns, American Handgunner, and Soldier of Fortune magazines was lifesaving. As a professional armed and unarmed combat trainer, I regularly referred to many of the concepts Mr. Steiner wrote about. He often went right to the source to discover how and why certain methodologies worked. Bradley Steiner is one of the few civilians actually certified by Col. Rex Applegate to teach close combat.**

**The late John McSweeney . . . dubbed the ‘Father of Karate in Ireland’ told me that he also was greatly influenced by Mr. Steiner’s writings, especially the idea of paring down close combat techniques to a few essential strikes, trained to perfection. Mr. McSweeney told me that he had a pet name for Brad Steiner. He called him ‘The Monk,’ in reference to Mr. Steiner’s vast knowledge of martial arts and mayhem. My own writing about martial realism was inspired by Brad Steiner’s”.**

**— Grandmaster John Perkins,**

**The brilliant innovator of ‘Guided Chaos’, John Perkins’ background in unarmed combat (and armed combat) is the result not only of training but of lots and lots of real world experience.**

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

## DVDs!

Eleven carefully prepared professional instructional DVDs describe and demonstrate the most practical, powerful, reliable, and authentic skills of no-nonsense realistic and war-proven unarmed and armed hand-to-hand combat methodology and personal defense developed since WWII! This Course, describing methods from that System developed in the early 1970's by Bradley J. Steiner, which crystalized into the American Combato (Jen·Do·Tao)<sup>™</sup> all-in modern close combat/self-defense martial art in 1975, will teach you how to defend yourself and those you love in any situation! Some of these methods have been copied, imitated, and pirated during the last 25 years, but a complete self-defense course derived directly from the original and authentic System — and the only authorized presentation of American Combato — is now

available for home study. All of the techniques, all of the theory, and all of the mental conditioning and related doctrine in these DVDs is presented by the System's originator, Prof. Bradley J. Steiner, himself. Like Fairbairn, Sykes, Applegate, O'Neill, Brown, Begala, and Biddle in the second world war — from whose lineage this modern Martial Art is a direct descendant — Prof. Steiner clearly, simply, and plainly instructs in real world, lifesaving combatives doctrine.

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

Each DVD contains the equivalent instruction normally given in four to eight private lessons. This Course is the equivalent of at least 50 private lessons with Prof. Steiner, personally! And you can review this

instruction again and again, and save the DVDs for your children to study when they are old enough.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE!:**—

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

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

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

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

**Minors lack the proper judgment and emotional restraint and discipline and should not be entrusted with the techniques contained herein.**

**Please utilize the techniques only in those situations where you would utilize a lethal weapon, similar to using a firearm, an improvised or edged weapon.**

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

**Contents:**—

***DVD #1 FUNDAMENTALS***

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

The chinjab smash, the handaxe chop, the tiger’s claw, and the side kick. All clearly explained and demonstrated so that anyone with no prior

experience in any martial art can understand and develop the skills! These are the first four of *American Combato's* 16 Key Blows (originally regarded by W.E. Fairbairn as the “most essential” basic blows, comprising a complete mini-system of personal hand-to-hand combat, once mastered).

### **DVD#2 BASIC BLOWS**

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

- The straight heelpalm
- The knee attack
- The front kick
- The elbow smash
- The fingertips *thrust*
- The fingertips *jab*
- The snap kick
- The backfist-forearm smash
- The hammerfist-forearm smash
- The basic straight punch
- The ear box
- The throat lock

### **DVD#3 ATTACK COMBINATIONS - FIRST SERIES**

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

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

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

### **DVD#4 ATTACK COMBINATIONS - SECOND SERIES**

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

### **DVD#5 COUNTERATTACKING THE UNARMED FRONTAL ASSAILANT**

- No realistic close combat system is worthwhile unless the matter of *counterattacking* (i.e. reacting to attacks which you have been unable to preempt) is covered. In this DVD you will learn:

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

### **DVD#6 COUNTERING THE UNARMED REAR ATTACK**

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

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

### **DVD#7 COUNTERING KNIFE AND CLUB ATTACKS**

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

- How to deal with knife *threats*, from varying positions
- How to save your life if attack by an adversary who is determined to slash or to stab you with a knife



- How to counter overhand club attacks
- How to counter the backhand club or baseball bat swing

### **DVD#8 COUNTERING HANDGUN AND SHOULDER WEAPON THREATS**

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

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

### **DVD#9 COUNTERING MULTIPLE ATTACKERS**

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

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

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

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

### **DVD#11 KNIFEWORK**

- Psychological factors
- The universal grip (for stiletto and Bowie type knives, as well as for kitchen, utility, and all other types of knives, and for improvised stabbing and cutting implements)
- Knife *offense*

- Defending yourself with a knife

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

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

All DVD purchases are of course nonrefundable.

**Personal checks may take up to three to four weeks to clear, in some cases.** For *immediate* shipment send cash, or a postal money order, bank check or bank money order, payable to Brad Steiner. Send your order to:

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

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

### **Combat Strategy**

**HERE** is a tried and proven strategy for becoming as fast as possible in launching your counterattack against whatever a physical aggressor might initiate: ***Use the natural weapon closest to the enemy's most vulnerable target(s) at the time, and attack with all of your strength and ferocity.*** Naturally you must followup . . . but if you pound this fundamental strategy into your consciousness and train with it always in mind, you will find that your ability to react to any attack that you have not been able to preempt becomes amazingly fast and efficient. Here are some examples of how this strategy of defense or counterattacking works:

If an opponent seizes your wrist or arm from the side *immediately* lash out with a side kick to his knee. (Note: This reaction may be applied against almost any conceivable grab, seizure, or hold that occurs from the side, whether the attacker employs one or two hands.)

Should an attacker grab your jacket collar from the front (using one or two hands) and *pull you suddenly toward him*, drive the extended fingers of both hands into his eyes and knee him in the testicles. The attacker's own strength and the momentum of his pull will add considerably to the power of your eye attack. A chinjab smash, head butt to his face, thumb gouging attack to the eyes, or ear box may also be extremely effective, and possibly would be favored by some. ***Ignore the attacker's seizure of your clothing.*** You can buy a new shirt or jacket later!

When an attacker grabs your shirt or jacket from the front and either *holds* you or *holds and pushes* you, give way to his momentum or simply step back on one side and apply an arms sweep over his extended arm or arms, then chop back to his face or throat/neck area. (Note: If a one-hand grab, step back **opposite** his grabbing arm so as to avoid his *free* hand. If a two hand grab it make no difference which side you step back on. *Do not, however, attempt to either go forward against the attacker's force, or to make him release his grip on your clothing.*)

When a frontal underarm bearhug or encumbering body hold is attempted, *do not struggle against the attacker's encircling arms.* Instead, **as he reaches under your arms to join his hands behind you, bring both of our hands up and drive gouging thumbs into his eyes.** An ear box works very well here, too. So does a knee to the testicles — combined with the other strikes. And never overlook **biting the face in such close, enforced proximity.** (Note: You will find as you practice this — *with extreme caution and control, never “connecting” with your actions, please!* — that as the attacker reaches under your arms from the front he actually *assists* your counter by pushing your arms out and giving them a “head start” in movement!)

When an *overarm* frontal body hold is undertaken you may begin with one of two moves: **Bite deeply into the attacker's face and rip off a piece of his flesh — his cheek, nose, etc. or seize his testicles powerfully and violently.** (Note: Whichever action you take, *go into the other action immediately following*. I.e. Bite then grab; or grab then bite).

When an attacker raises his fist or fists in an obvious gesture indicating his intention to punch you, lean back and away, and as he steps in to deliver his initial punch, **lash out with a side kick to his knee.**

As an attacker slams a side headlock on you, go forward with the momentum of the attack and hit or seize his testicles with your foremost hand. Then drive the open fingers of that hand up into his eyes.

The foregoing are not intended as full counterattacks. For descriptions of how to *completely* react to attacks see our DVDs dealing with counterattacks. Our purpose here has been merely to explain an excellent, proven strategy for dealing with attacks for which you were not prepared to preempt. We urge you to consider the principle here and to adapt it as you see fit to your own training.

It works.

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## **LEARN *AUTHENTIC* CLOSE COMBAT SHOOTING**

Here is your opportunity to learn the close combat shooting method that is taught in the American Combato System! Not competition shooting disguised as “combat shooting”, but the *REAL DEAL*; combat shooting that has been developed as a direct result of combat experience, and that has been validated and proven in **war**.

PROF. MARK BRYANS WILL BE TEACHING THIS COURSE IN  
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA.

The course will be given over an intensive 3-day period and will include:

- **The war-proven point shooting method developed**

by William E. Fairbairn in Shanghai, and perfected *through combat application* in Shanghai, and later on all over the world during WWII by over 10,000 fighting men trained by Fairbairn, Applegate, and Sykes

- Use-of-the-sights shooting when distance, time, and light permit — *all part of the Fairbairn and American Combato shooting method*
- *Unarmed* combatives — incorporated with handgun techniques — so often needed in real world engagements (This integration of handgun *and* unarmed methods parallels the type of wartime training that military and intelligence personnel received. *Sometimes you need more than a gun!*)

**Cost for the three-day Course is \$999.**

Call Prof. Mark Bryans for more particulars, and if you wish to secure a spot in this excellent forthcoming Program.

**928-308-2285**

Our Constitution's Critical Second  
Amendment  
(And How We Have Re-Written It!)

**THAT** we are an uncompromising supporter of individuals' right to keep and bear arms — with or without a Constitutional amendment that specifically states it — has always been true. However, we certainly applaud the presence of the second amendment in our Constitution (even if most of today's political scum regard the Constitution and our Bill of Rights as antiquated).

One problem we note with the second amendment is how scoundrels have

always found ways to deliberately **misinterpret** its meaning and intention. They continue to do so. No surprise  
Years ago, and purely as an intellectual exercise for our own personal satisfaction we decided to re-write the second amendment, and to do so in a way that closed all of the loopholes that allowed the powerlusting scum and sewage to misinterpret and misrepresent it. Read our version. See what you think:

**"IT BEING NECESSARY THAT THE PRIVATE CITIZENRY NEVER BE OR FEAR BEING DISARMED BY THE GOVERNMENT OR BY ANY OFFICIAL OR NONOFFICIAL ENTITY,**

**"THE ABSOLUTE AND INVIOATE RIGHT OF THE PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL TO OWN, TO KEEP, TO CARRY IN WHATEVER MANNER HE CHOOSES UPON HIS PERSON, AND TO BEAR WITHIN AND WITHOUT HIS DWELLING PLACE AND RESIDENCE, INCLUDING HIS VEHICLE, WHATEVER ARMS AND AMMUNITION MAY BE CONTEMPORARY IN HIS LIFETIME, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED, ALTERED, ABOLISHED, MODIFIED, OR MADE SUBJECT TO TERMS OR CONDITIONS OF LICENSING, REGULATION, RECORD-KEEPING, CONFISCATION, ABRIDGMENT, OR OTHER DIRECT, INDIRECT, OR REMOTE MEANS OF CONTROL OR CURTAILMENT BY ANY ENTITY — PUBLIC, OR PRIVATE — OR BY ANY MEANS NOW KNOWN OR THAT MAY BE CONCEIVED AT ANY TIME IN THE FUTURE."**

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We felt rather satisfied that — if our Founding Fathers could somehow be resurrected today, and if they could see the travesty that those unspeakable monsters in office have been doing to Americans' liberties in the last 125 years or so, and to the Constitution and Bill of Rights that they authored to

help protect against this ever happening, they would smile in approval of our effort.

# *Liberty!*

## **Knifework For Self-Defense**

**Caution: ALWAYS CHECK WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES BEFORE OBTAINING, CARRYING, OR USING A KNIFE OR ANY OTHER WEAPON! OBEY THE LAW.**

**THE** knife is one of the oldest weapons known to man. And while there are certainly differences between the modern fighting knife and the stone age weapons used by primitive man, the *idea* of a stabbing and cutting weapon remains as valid today as it ever was . . . and the modern fighting knife reflects many centuries of deadly experience and combat effectiveness with whatever knives or knife-like weapons were extant at the time.

Research that we conducted some time ago included our contacting the *Daughters of the Alamo* in hopes of finding out more about James Bowie and his legendary knife. The very helpful people at *Daughters of the Alamo* sent me a lot of material about Bowie and about “The Bowie Knife” which clearly became quite a phenomenon during Bowie’s lifetime. There was even a call for *banning* Bowie knives (knife control!) because those hefty blades — fashioned after the original, which was forged by blacksmith James Black — were awesome weapons. Not so impressive in everyone’s hands by a long shot as the weapon was in Bowie’s hand, but impressive enough as a tool for killing in the age of *arma blanca*, to cause the liberal, socialistic trash of the 1800’s to snivel and whine about “protecting everybody” by divesting people of a weapon they had every right to carry, as most of them did, for **self-defense**.

After the fall of the Alamo and Bowie’s death, the famous Bowie Knife was never found. Modern “Bowie knives” such as those beautiful works of art

produced by Randall Made Knives, reflect all that is known about the design of Bowie's personal sidearm.

Throughout history it has traditionally been the *stiletto* or *dagger* type weapon that stood as the “killing tool”. During WWII it was that justifiably famous pair, **Fairbairn and Sykes**, who designed, and had produced for the commandos, what most who are interested in this field know very well as ***The Fairbairn-Sykes Double-Edged Commando Knife*** (F&S Fighting Knife, for short). The Fairbairn-Sykes is probably the single most famous, well-known and carried military close combat knife.

There is debate among those with nothing better to do regarding which is superior as a fighting blade — is it the **stiletto** or the **Bowie** type?

Personally, we have always believed that *both* designs possess essentially equal merit, and that it is the *man using the knife*, and not whether it is of one or the other design that matters most. The ongoing nonsense that might suggest that a well-made version of either is somehow “more deadly” than the other ranks with the moronic bullshit bandied about by those who seem to feel that “revolvers are not as good as automatics”, or vice versa. The handgun is as reliable and deadly as the person using it; no more, no less. **And the same goes for the person using whichever configuration of fighting blade he chooses.**

Fairbairn believed that there is no more deadly weapon than a knife in hand-to-hand combat, and we agree. (We do not think of the handgun as a weapon “of hand-to-hand combat” per se). He further believed that there was no certain defense *against* a knife — certainly not against a knife in a trained knife-fighter's hand. We agree again. As we have written elsewhere in this regard: **In order to effectively defend against a knife attack you must see it coming. If an assailant attacks you by surprise with a knife — unless he either does not know how to employ it or does not want to kill you with it — YOU ARE A GONER! (For a good, hearty laugh, go to YouTube and look at all of the “defenses against knife attacks” that are presented. *Utter nonsense.*)** There are some effective



counterattacks to knife threats — and even to all-out knife attacks — but it does not appear that too many “experts” have the slightest inkling of what those counterattacks are.

All of which points to the knife as a very effective weapon of personal combat, and a helluva good choice as a weapon for self-defense, when a firearm cannot be carried.

Consider the advantages that a quality fighting knife offers:

1. It is easy to conceal.
2. It is very light and convenient to carry. Care must obviously be taken to insure that it is carried in a readily accessible mode.
3. It is always :”ready to go”. It cannot jam, it never needs reloading, and there is never any risk of an accidental discharge.
4. It poses no threat to bystanders at a distance in case you miss.
5. It is deadly.
6. You can become lethally proficient in knifework, and become a truly formidable knife fighter, within a few hours of serious, correct practice.
7. The psychological effect on an adversary of being slashed or stabbed — or, if he sees the blade, of *anticipating* being slashed or stabbed — is just about unequaled. Many would feel less threatened by a handgun pointed at them, than by a sharp, glistening blade!
8. A knife is easily maintained. There are no parts to break or malfunction. Just leave the knife where it is convenient to grab.
9. A knife is silent, thus making it **superior** to a firearm in certain instances (normally in the military) when silent killing is required.

10. A knife in the hands of a defender who knows how to use it is a terrific morale-booster and confidence-builder. Unlike the **fantasy** that even cursory knowledge of unarmed combat “wipes out differences of size, weight, height, and strength”, a fighting knife **DOES** wipe out such differences — and the larger, heavier, taller, stronger opponent *knows it!* Often the very will to continue attacking leaves him, and all determination and fighting spirit drains out of him **the moment he sees — and feels — that razor-sharp, spear-pointed fighting knife.** A sudden, deep stab into the abdominal cavity, concluded by a *hara-kiri* type gutting slash *across* the abdominal area will immediately take the will and capacity out of the most dangerous and formidable aggressor.

11. Knowledge of and skill in knifework may contribute to your ability to *defend against* an unskilled knife attacker. Familiarization with the knife may help to some degree to diminish what otherwise might be sheer shock and terror at the sight of a flashing blade. No guarantees, but it’s possible.

And there is this: Once you learn how to use a knife in combat, **any** knife will serve in an emergency. Even a screwdriver, or broken glass, or a sharp stick, etc. can be used in an emergency with excellent effect by a trained knife-fighter.

Knives squirreled away in strategic places in your home — like handguns, where legal — can provide you and your family a powerful recourse in the event of home invasion.

### **The One Caveat**

We know of only one drawback to the knife, and strictly speaking it is a shortcoming of the individual user. That is, a reluctance to **use** a knife. Getting blood on one’s hands, clothing, or face, and feeling the blade slice or stab through flesh, or cause the convulsions and screams of the enemy while you engage him — sometimes body-to-body — just doesn’t sit with some soft souls; souls not too soft to shoot a man from a distance, but too soft to kill him in a bloody manner hand-to-hand. We have found that this can be overcome in those who want to overcome it; but where and when the

squeamishness remains, *the individual should not rely upon carrying a knife for personal defense*. It is worth mentioning here that what made Jim Bowie such a fierce and phenomenal fighter with a knife was his **attitude** coupled with his excellent physical agility. *His reputation as a deadly knife fighter began BEFORE THE “BOWIE KNIFE” WAS EVER INVENTED!* Bowie’s reputation emerged following the famous *Vidalia Sandbar Fight* in which Bowie used a **kitchen knife**! It was Bowie the man and not the Bowie knife that made the knife as formidable and famous as it became.

**Technical note:** In the excellent little work *Do Or Die!* Anthony Biddle claims that his knife-fighting instruction teaches the original Bowie method or system of knife-fighting. This is bullshit. Bowie did not have any formal “system” of knife fighting, and while there may well have been schools that popped up in which use of the popular Bowie knife was taught, this was in no instance or sense related to Jim Bowie. Bowie never ran a school for knife fighting, and there is no record that we know about of him teaching even a single individual to “knife fight”. Biddle was a fine hand-to-hand **unarmed** expert and trainer; but he became a bit creative in the knife department and went on to develop knife dueling as a system of knife fighting — and duels have nothing to do with combat knifework.

On balance we can say without hesitation that the knife is an excellent weapon in hand-to-hand battle — and that means, obviously, it is a desirable weapon for self-defense. So . . . forget about nunchucks, sai, tonfa, manriki-gusari, getana, shaken, shuriken, and nine foot poles.

If classical/traditional art is your thing, we’re not speaking to you. For the classicist the classical weapons make perfect sense; but **not for the modern student of combat arts!** He requires weapons of the battlefield and the street, and this means, in addition to other modern weapons, **THE KNIFE**.

POSTSCRIPT: Some might wonder why we did not discuss folding knives here. First, because folders are not as desirable as standard, fixed-blade combat knives. Second, because if the individual opts for a quality folder, then — once he’s past the matter of getting the thing opened **instantly** when it is

needed — there is no difference between how it is to be employed versus the fixed-blade combat or fighting knife.

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## **The Nightmare Of Abduction**

**REGRETTABLY**, small children can do nothing themselves about the awful crime of abduction — i.e. **KIDNAPPING** — and they must rely upon conscientious parents or guardians to protect them 24 hours a day. Until the age of about ten or eleven the majority of children are simply too small and weak to take action in defense of themselves against strong, grown adults who, let us be frank, are *practiced* in the act of snatching them. Here in Seattle there have been instances of filthy scumbags actually attempting to grab children off their front lawns. Thank God in the two cases we know about the children's mother rushed to their defense in time, and catastrophe was averted. But it was awfully close. *And unless that mother was capable in close combat (and, preferably, had a gun) the mere fact that she reacted quickly might not have been enough to save the child under certain circumstances.*

Parents really do need to be aware of the problem and especially of the vulnerability of their small children. It takes mere seconds to grab a small child, pull him into a vehicle and speed off. If a child is alone and outside the house (playing on the lawn, for instance), and the parent is *inside* the house, perhaps thinking all is OK because he or she is watching the activities of the child from a window, **an abduction can take place before the parent**

*manages to exit the house upon seeing trouble erupt outside*. Small, helpless children need to have an alert, aware, conscientious and capable adult with them 24/7.

Boys and girls age 10 and up are often physically and mentally receptive to training that would enable them to defeat **SOME** types of criminal assault by adults. What they must be taught, in addition to quality techniques that **work**, and don't just "look good", is situational awareness, avoidance, and **INSTANT** and **VICIOUS** retaliatory action, then *escape*. We practically never train children, but we wanted to pass this advice on in hopes that those looking for training know what to expect from a teacher. Classical martial arts and sport-oriented training can be exceptionally valuable training for children — **but for real world self-defense against grown and violent individuals such training leaves much to be desired. Classical and sport-type training is better suited to prepare a child to defend against a contemporary who is a bully, not to defend against an adult felon, or a much larger, stronger, experienced teenager.**

Now let us turn to the problem of *adults* who wish to be able to defend against kidnapping. Although females are far and away the most likely victims of this crime, males are not immune, and there are cases on record of men being abducted. And they don't need to be professionally orchestrated mob undertakings (vis a vis Jimmy Hoffa).

Let's put aside all of the cautions about security procedures, situational awareness, and an acknowledgment that the danger exists. These things are important, but this is not a textbook on the entire subject. We wish to emphasize but one thing about the matter of abduction defense, and it pertains to **that awful moment when the physical attempt is underway by the abductor(s) to capture and escape with the target-victim.**

Our regular and serious students will probably yawn when we say this (they have heard it a million times) and so we ask that those of them who are now reading this forgive us; but we are addressing many who are *not* our regular students, and who really need this counsel. **ONCE AN ABDUCTION**

***ATTEMPT IS UNDERWAY ONLY THE VICTIM CAN THWART IT, AND IT CAN ONLY BE THWARTED BY MURDEROUS, INSTANTANEOUS VIOLENCE***. As we understand it **deadly force** is sanctioned by the law pretty much everywhere, when used to prevent a kidnapping. In any case ***WE WOULD NOT HESITATE TO EMPLOY DEADLY FORCE IN SUCH AN INSTANCE, AND WE WOULD ENCOURAGE EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE TO BE READY, WILLING, AND ABLE TO GO FULL BORE AGAINST ANYONE ATTEMPTING TO KIDNAP HIM/HER***. It is ineffective and ridiculous to resort to anything less, since **one's life is ALWAYS ON THE LINE IN ANY ABDUCTION ATTEMPT**.

We alluded, months ago, to that awful instance — caught by a surveillance camera — of a female being snatched off the street and thrown into a van that promptly sped away. This was in broad daylight on a street in New York City! Understandably such a surprise attack will be to a degree astonishing. But proper training should prepare the student to react to such astonishment like a wild jungle animal. It appeared that the New York catastrophe was not met with so much as a peep or protest, let alone *resistance*. There is nothing whatever wrong with responsible men and women learning how to apply lethal unarmed and armed combat skills to protect and to save their lives. The police cannot possibly protect them against abduction or a dozen other types of horrific violent crime. **BUT THE VICTIMS COULD DEFEND THEMSELVES, IF ONLY THEY KNEW HOW!**

The very second a violent hand is laid upon you by surprise, ***EXPLODE*** with fierce and savage action! Attack the aggressor's eyes. Attack his throat. Kick him in the testicles. Gouge his eyes. Rip off his ears. Bite a piece of his face off. Once successfully dumped in a vehicle and carried off your chances for survival drop drastically. Remember that an abduction attempt is a **DEADLY** attack . . . whether or not the would-be kidnapper uses a weapon to assist his efforts. And just as deadly force is justified and appropriate to *escape* being held illegally captive, so it is morally justified to *prevent* the abduction in the first place. **Your only concern in such an emergency is to PREVENT the criminal's success, and then GET AWAY**. If that means



the kidnapper dies as a result of what you do, so be it. *Your life is more important than his, and he started the whole damn thing by bringing a direct threat to your life via his attempt to kidnap you.*

For some our words will doubtless be “too extreme”. We cannot help such people. They live in a world of fantasy. What we *can* do is help those who appreciate the truth of that which we say *and need help in learning how to make it a part of their psyches and their physical capabilities.* Training in American Combato will, for the serious individual, result in his or her becoming mentally, tactically, and technically ready and able to react correctly to catastrophic violence. So, we suggest, get the training before you need it.

**Question: “Suppose I am threatened at knife or gunpoint, and perhaps opposed by more than a single attacker, and I am ordered into a vehicle, or otherwise commanded to ‘go along’ with them ‘or else’?”**

**Answer: “Think for a moment. *Do you believe that things will improve when these armed monsters have taken you to where they can control you completely? Or can you face the truth?: The likelihood of you coming out of captivity alive is just about nil.***

**The rule in training military special forces units and action personnel in intelligence organizations is; if captured make your escape attempt as soon as possible. As you are taken away to a more secure location (with better containment facilities. armed guards, more professionally adept people) and you lose your physical strength and your “edge” from malnutrition and debilitating living conditions, etc., it is much more difficult — and it may be impossible — to escape.**

**The rule in self-defense is; *Get the hell away at the initial crime scene! Resist explosively and with all of the knowledge and skill that you possess. NEVER ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE REMOVED FROM THE INITIAL SCENE WHERE CONTACT IS INITIATED BY THE ABDUCTOR(S).***

Even if you must oppose a deadly weapon, ***now*** is the time to resist the kidnapping. Remember, the kidnapper does not want to raise an alarm by firing his weapon there and then. Nor, really, does he wish to kill you right

now. His purpose, for whatever reason, is to take you into captivity. That he would not hesitate to kill you in order to prevent himself from going to prison, or because you've simply become a "problem" to him later on, you should not doubt. This happens routinely. ***But when a person offers immediate and vicious resistance at the time of the attempted kidnapping the abductor is ill-prepared and can usually be maimed or killed by the intended victim who knows what to do.***

We are living in insane, dangerous times (as human beings on planet earth have **always** been living!) and we hope that this little presentation assists you and yours in coming to realistic grips with how to prepare for — and, may God forbid, *handle* if you ever must — should it come to you.

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