

HOW TO CARRY IN 39 STATES • SECURITY CLEARANCE FALLACIES • DISABLED TERRORISTS

Journal for Law Enforcement, Intelligence & Special Operations Professionals

The Counter Terrorist

JUNE/JULY 2018

VOLUME 11 • NUMBER 3

SUMMER TIME,
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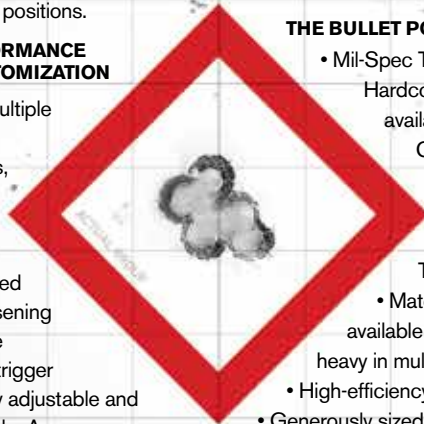
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Cover Photo: IDF

FROM THE EDITOR:

"Skynet gained self-awareness after it had spread into millions of computer servers all across the world."

by **Garret Machine**

After listening to the Zuckerberg testimony before the committees last month, I have to say I am impressed with his acute acumen for PSYOPS and disappointed with our leadership's dove-like approach to his treachery. I am what you would call a late adopter of all things technology. Didn't have a cell phone until 2001. Didn't have a smart phone until 2013 and still drive a manual transmission. I did not use social media until my contracting firm required it for client communication in 2014. I am vehemently against social media and resist the fact that technology has taken control of everything. (See the article on investigations for clearances). In its latest incarnation, we have somehow removed the right to an impartial trial by jury. The court of public opinion is all that matters anymore. As soon as one is accused, it is as if they are guilty because of tabloid-like news entertainment production, no one can escape the barrage of emotionally charged headlines. In the meantime, the youth of the most recent generation only care about going viral for "likes" and "shares" on various platforms, no matter the cost. Fast forward to the latest Facebook scandal reaching congressional attention and the taking advantage of the unknowing public for evil ends. Command and control of your thoughts, yes, your thoughts.

By writing the word "elephant," I make you think of an elephant, and with that logic everything can be engineered and framed in a way that your psyche can consume it so as to produce a desired outcome or conclusion. That was the objective of the Cambridge Analytical data mining. (Do your homework and listen to the excellent overview by NPR.)

What impressed me: Zuck did not answer one question directly; he deflected and gave vague answers. The old men ate it up and didn't know how to deal with him. He played on their rudimentary understanding of technology and computing to make everything sound benign and open to interpretation. He only said what they needed to hear to give him a pass; he even dodged the affirmative action question by Rep. Clarke from NY. I could not believe he left there without divulging any conclusive resolutions.

What disappointed me: We are so afraid of technology that we don't even understand its true power over our minds and how it controls our actions and impulses. The fact is that privacy is a myth and gone forever. Nothing can be truly erased from the Internet. Zuck owns your data, and it's for sale. If that were not true, then you would profit from the sale...Further, I believe that the internet of things should be regulated just like any other utility required for functioning like the water, gas, and phone. I believe we should be protected much like the EU has put the General Data Protection Directive in place to safeguard its citizens from exploitation of personal data, protecting public records and rebuilding trust in news outlets.

All of the above can circle back to the national (and neverending) debate on gun control, which is overwhelmed with misinformation and irrelevant facts framed in order to shape your opinion. Faux sources are quick to spin up "click" grabbing headlines and you consume them through the tracking/monitoring device in your pocket...What is further damaging is the effect on personal security. I have made a concerted effort to protect my personal information from appearing in search results (DOB, address, phone, SS), but even with substantial time and effort put into protecting myself, as a productive member of society, I am by default a victim. Public records give access to everything about me from a plethora of sources. How do we combat this epidemic? How do we fight and win?

Now your DNA... The Golden State Killer was caught even though the last known crime he committed was in 1986, but how and what took so long? You did... The FBI created a fake account with one of the ever-popular DNA testing services available to the public under the auspices of connecting you with your past, ancestry, family and health profile. Turns out they had some DNA from one of the original crimes in the late 1970's and simply sent in that sample into a catalog that now tracks the DNA of 1 in 25 Americans. Basically everyone. Each company cross references the DNA data with one another and other sources. The FBI was able to obtain 9 family trees based on the DNA they supplied. Of the 9, one lead to the GSK. They got a sample from him and it was a match. Even if you personally have not submitted your DNA to said services, it does not matter because so many of us have that there is enough to map your unique genome. The web that is your privacy is already cataloged with your phone, SS, IP address, home address, credit report, DL, DOB, email address, Facebook facial recognition, buying habits, search history, purchase history, POB and your genetic make-up...the list goes on. Good luck.

Garret Machine

Editor, *The Counter Terrorist*

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A TALE OF TWO LICENSES:

By Karim Manassa



U.S. Marine, Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Photo by: Pfc. Brian Bakkala

HOW TO AFFORD YOURSELF THE BROADEST RECIPROCITY WHEN CARRYING A CONCEALED FOREARM

The two most coveted resident or non-resident concealed carry licenses are Florida's Concealed Weapon License and Utah's Concealed Handgun Permit. Owning both empowers the user to carry in 39 states.

The 11 states not included are California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Oregon, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island. Moreover, based on current Federal draft legislation, Utah's permit is currently the only one that meets the

proposed stringent background check requirements for national reciprocity.

Obtaining a Florida Concealed Weapon License (CWL) is straightforward. If you are a resident, simply schedule an appointment to visit your nearest Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Regional Office, show proof you meet the very minimal live fire gun safety training requirement, get your fingerprints and photo taken, and remit \$97 (\$55 for the license and \$42 for the fingerprints). You will be mailed your new license within 90 days, and it lasts 7 years. If you are not a resident,



the process is the same except that you can submit everything including an application through the mail.

Obtaining a Utah Concealed Handgun Permit (CHP) is also straightforward but may require more legwork to find a Utah Department of Public Safety Certified Instructor if you reside outside of Utah. Unlike Florida's license, which accepts virtually any type of instruction, Utah is very specific and requires instruction to be performed only by one of their certified instructors. In Florida, for example, there are only 4 of Utah's instructors in the entire state, so having access to one is not as convenient. Once you do find one and receive training, though, simply mail your application, training certificate, photo, fingerprints, and \$67 to Utah DPS. Utah's license lasts 5 years.

One unique and important aspect of Utah's license is its extensive and continually ongoing background check. Once you are issued a license, your background is checked every 24 hours against a multitude of domestic

and foreign databases. A benefit of this system for Utah residents with a CHP who are purchasing a firearm in Utah is that no background check is needed. This is one reason why Utah requires near immediate notification whenever a licensee moves, whereas Florida gives its licensees 30 days to notify of a permanent address change. With any infraction of Utah's license, they will deactivate it and demand surrender of the license. Indeed, it is Utah's uniquely strict background check procedures that enable it to meet the proposed Federal national reciprocity law's background check requirements.

Possessing these licenses still requires the owner to thoroughly understand the concealed carry laws and restrictions whenever traveling. For example, Florida's license covers not just handguns but also other weapons such as knives or saps, but only when in Florida! So remember that if you travel to a state that honors Florida's license, only the pistol will be covered by the license. Another example is where we can carry. In

Utah it's perfectly fine to conceal carry with their CHP on school grounds, but this is not permitted in other states that honor Utah's license. Neither Utah nor Florida require the licensee to voluntarily disclose their license to a law enforcement officer unless specifically asked, but another state might require you to make this disclosure whether you are asked or not. So it's important to educate yourself on the local law of the land before traveling to avoid trouble. •

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Karim Manassa is founder of South Florida-based EDC Pistol Training LLC, a six-instructor firearms training company designed to inform and challenge Civilian and Law Enforcement students of all experience levels on Pistol, Carbine, Low Light No Light, Force on Force, and Care Under Fire medical training. To learn more about their credentials, philosophy, and courses, visit www.edcpistoltraining.com.

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SUMMER TIME, AND THE LIVIN' IS EASY...

"There are no secrets to success.
It is the result of preparation,
hard work and learning from failure."
- Colin Powell

(Mevo Horon lit. Horon Gateway) is an Israeli settlement and religious moshav shitufi in the West Bank. Photo by: Oyoyoy

By Editorial Staff

"Come on! Come on, get in, it's time go!" This is what I am hearing for the second time in ten minutes. I go inside the truck and wait. We all wait for about half an hour and then get back out again. It is summer and the night air is hot. I feel a nice warm breeze against my face as I sip from my clear commercially purchased 1.5-liter water bottle. We patiently wait behind a fire station in a Moshav as some curious resident youths stare as they pass by. A Moshav is a type of kibbutz-like commune or

community in Israel that is located on the West Bank, and gated in and carefully guarded by the IDF (Israeli Defense Force) and the residents. I look out into the valleys and hills beyond the barbed wire fence and think how many soldiers (Persian, Byzantine, Muslim, Crusader, Mamluk, Ottoman, Jordanian, British) have battled on this land before me, all fueled with their own cause and justification. Just then, the mission commander (a Captain) says, "Okay, this is it; get in, lets go!" The unit commander is also on this

mission with us, and it is going to be one of his last. The unit changes its commander every two years, as with most positions for officers in the IDF, whereas an NCO (Non-Commissioned Officer) can remain in the same position for twenty years. The unit commander (Colonel A.) will be working in the United States with the U.S. Marine Corps as a liaison as of August this year, so he wants to get some action in for old times sakes before taking up a desk in Washington. He is a nice man, and he really knows how to move the





A Royal Air Force pilot wearing night vision goggles. Photo by: SSAC Chris Hill/MOD

unit forward and make progress with our activities, and most importantly, he always ensures that we only get the best missions. And in fact, we do get the best missions, because we are actually working quite closely with the operational wing of the Shin Bet (Israel's internal security force in the Ministry of Defense), while the unit is attached to the army's central command structurally. Most people, even in the army, don't realize our

very close affiliation with the Shabak.

Once again we pack into the truck, squeezed in like sardines. So, why the delay? Well, because you only go when you are absolutely certain that it is the correct moment to strike. This is the best answer that I can give you. The unit commander is standing one man behind me in the truck. All of us have turned on our infrared markers on our helmets. These cheap little lights light up bright on our helmets

when looked at through night vision goggles. Once inside the truck we check one more time with our night vision to make sure everyone's works. They do. We keep a small piece of tape over the area directly in front of the light bulb so that it is not bright enough to see with the naked eye at night in the pitch black. The unit commander notices that my tape has fallen off and puts a fresh piece on. He has some tape wrapped around

the stock of his gun, and he rips it off just for me. At 35 years of age and fifteen years in the field, he doesn't miss a thing. He does not know whose head it is that the helmet is on; he just mutters what he is doing and places the tape as we move closer to an area just on the edge of one of the refugee camps (pop 12,000 on 92 acres) in Jenin.

No vehicle can drive inside because it is just far too dense and the streets are way too narrow. Our target's dwelling is right on the edge of the housing block, which is good. We will not have to travel too far on foot and worry about being exposed before we can start working on our structure. We need our man dead or alive, but we know that alive is the preferred option for interrogation purposes. He is 33 years old and guilty of a heinous crime. He and his group of militants from a Hezbollah branch operating in the territories with Hamas would recruit suicide bombers in the worst way. They would find confused wayward youths (I was surprised to learn that 42 percent of suicide bombers in this camp are under the age fifteen) and introduce them to the ways of the Jihad, the holy war. They teach them about what it means to become a martyr, about sacrificing themselves for the greater good of the Muslim brotherhood, and of course the most pathetic and ridiculous part—the 72 virgins. That seems to be enough motivation for them, considering that 224 of 300 suicide terror attacks from 1980 to 2003 involved Islamist groups (as compiled by the Chicago Project on Suicide Terrorism). The weak-minded ones are given instructions on exactly how, what, when, and where to

detonate. They are to be showered, clean shaven, and nicely dressed with a suicide note in pocket. But forget about that. When it is crunch time, they are just expected to blow up and take as many Westerners with them as possible, and a Jewish westerner is always a bonus. But I haven't gotten to the worst part yet. If the boys consider backing out, they are given an ultimatum of violence, fully threatened and intimidated by the faction. If they do not comply, their families are destroyed: their mothers and sisters raped, beaten, and then sold; their brothers killed; and their fathers exiled. What if you were given such an ultimatum? Kill and sacrifice yourself on a kamikaze mission, or watch the lives of the people you love destroyed, while you sit helplessly like a coward with nowhere to turn. It is undoubtedly twisted but very much a reality. From 1980 to

“He and his group of militants from a Hezbollah branch operating in the territories with Hamas would recruit suicide bombers in the worst way.”



Photo by: AP

early 2004, 90 percent of suicide attacks had the central objective of compelling a democratic state with military forces in a specific territory to leave said territory. Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East. Terrorists often times seem to forget about the ultimate goal and focus on micromanagement (violence). But that is exactly where we come in...

Our target will be armed, he will fight, and we need to be prepared for that. We also have a secondary mission to recover a suicide belt in his house. At close to 1:00 am, it is go time, and I'm just about to set foot into the unknown for a two-way gunfight for the third time this week. We break out of our truck at a fast running pace; we are light and quick. There is a beat-up schoolhouse to our right and the edge of the refugee camp to our left. Three others and I move down a flight of steps into the camp's depths; everything is uneven in these places because of the natural foundation of the hillside. It is all steps, and nothing is on flat ground. We are on the side of the house with its entrances facing us in a narrow alley. The unit commander, the mission commander, his radio man, and two more men quickly break open the schoolhouse entrance, which is now perpendicular to my position on the side of the wanted man's house. The old schoolhouse is known to be unoccupied and is our safe point to fall back on and retreat to for our pickup and departure. The most dangerous position is on the roof of the enemy's building, which is a location held by a four-man team that specializes in working with ladders and ropes, also known as a

"monkey squad." They use ladders and ropes to shimmy onto the roof of this three-story structure. This is a dangerous spot not due to its location but because of the exposure and vulnerability of climbing onto the roof safely. One man stands back taking cover far enough in the street below the ladder so that if someone were to be on the roof and approach the side of the building, he would have a clear shot at him. Our snipers in the periphery need to function as counter-snipers. Once the first man is up he takes responsibility for clearing the roof and the safety of the climbers. Now the other three men can climb up, one at a time, while the others hold the ladder and watch the street. The streets, made of cobblestone, are virtually empty. The homes are brick, stone, and mortar. The building walls are lined with posters of the dead, terrorists who were killed or blown up and now idolized and glorified, further feeding the fire of the angry youth.

I'm on the side of the house with its entrances and need to break into the house across the narrow street of steps. We descend the three levels of steps and landings and reach the door of the house that we need to enter. It is just after 1:00 am. I am breaching the door in silence with the use of hydraulics, which are very quiet, as the three others in my squad cover the area we came from: the rooftops, the entrances to the house with our target across the street, and the direction the steps go down. I hear shouting, and I respond to the woman on the other side of the door, "Iftach elbab, achna jesh," which means "Open the door, we are the Army" in Arabic. The





These exclusive photos show the efforts of the IDF soldiers in the Hebron area. Photo by: Israel Defense Forces



AK-47 Photo by: SAIT7

“The bullets dance on the floor in front of our four-man squad. Luckily no one is hit with a ricochet, because that, too, could be fatal.”

steel double door has upper and lower bolts. The door, which would be hard to breach quickly without the use of explosives, is common to the Middle East and this area. The woman starts to open the door nervously and slowly. The bolts are hard to move because the door is about 50% bent out of the frame. Our terrorist has a lookout to keep him informed. The lookout tells him who is across the street. The lookout is his brother (we later find out) who is also in the house with him. We know that the group of guys who are sleeping in shifts are doing so to guard the main entrance of the structure.

Just then, one of the wanted men emerges from the window with a Kalashnikov 7.62mm assault rifle, also known as the AK-47. Throughout the world, the AK and its variants are among the most commonly smuggled small arms, sold to governments, rebels, and criminals alike with little international oversight. At 8.5 pounds, it is not light and it is not that accurate either, but what do you expect from a weapon that has not changed in 60 years? This gun-

running trade ensures a ready supply of inexpensive weapons to a number of conflicts, including the Balkans, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Lebanon, Gaza, and the West Bank. In some countries that are recovering from war or that are currently at war, prices for AK's are very low. In Somalia, Rwanda, Mozambique, Congo, and Ethiopia, among others, prices are between \$30 and \$125. After the Soviet retreat from Afghanistan, the Soviet Army left huge quantities of weapons, including AK's, which were used in its civil war between the Taliban and Northern Alliance, and were also exported to Pakistan. But the proliferation of this weapon is evidenced by more than just numbers—the AK is included in the very flag of Hamas and Hezbollah. The weapon is notorious.

The adversary opens fire on us from the target structure, without even looking or aiming at all, basically using the spray and pray technique. It's as if he is simply holding the rifle out through the window and pulling the trigger on full automatic. The bullets dance on

the floor in front of our four-man squad. Luckily no one is hit with a ricochet, because that, too, could be fatal. And thankfully, the shooter is too much of a coward to expose himself and take proper aim, even at a distance of ten meters. With no cover from fire I forgo silence and refer to the other side of the double door, "Open the door!" in Arabic, and at this point one side of the double door is open, which is half the space of a normal doorway, and with my gear I'm a little too thick to fit through. We fire back at the gunman in the window as he attempts to reemerge; he is hit. He retreats inside and now we need to move quickly to our vantage point on the roof. At least now we know he is home. I drop my backpack and forcefully squeeze through the door while the woman,

in her full Arab burka, is flustered and confused. I get in and open the other side of the door by lifting the pin that holds the concrete floor and the other pin that grips the ceiling. We all pile in and do a quick search/scan of the inside of the house, which is exactly like being in a modern cave. Like Fred Flintstone' house, the ceilings are low and the walls are made of stone; it looks like a prehistoric family lives there, a lair-like home in which everyone must walk around hunched over. It smells like old trash. I am the first one up the steps immediately after the door. Then it curves around and leads to the kitchen-bedroom-closet area that is inside. I put all the inhabitants (a woman and two men) in one room of the house, the bedroom. The woman sits on a chair and I cuff the two men, search them,

and sit them on the bed. The steps continue up to other apartments. One warrior is downstairs manning the door to the house and watching for any activity that might come from across the street or in the alley. The other two soldiers move to search the rest of this building we just breached. They move up the steps and shortly after radio me that they are sending people my way, one at a time, who are searched but not cuffed. In about 12 minutes I have twelve people in this bedroom. I search them again, one by one; then I cuff the men and they sit on the floor of the bedroom. There are some children; we, as males, never physically search the women, for no other reason than out of respect for their safety after we leave. The whole structure is now secure. Once we secure our building, we position two

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men from my squad (soldiers K and S) on the roof: the urban sniper and a team breacher/medic. The squad leader is down at the entrance, and I'm with the civilians, who are being inconvenienced at 1:33 am by the terrorist antics of their neighbor. Now that we are confident in our situation and have control of people and structure, we radio for one of two squads that have moved into the old rundown schoolhouse to come in, after another drop-off of additional troops (six men) from the other side of the old schoolhouse. The squad we want is a breaching squad that will penetrate the house of our enemy and kill him. We know at this point that he will not come out without a fight. The squad leader calls all occupants of the adjacent house, the house that fired on us, on a megaphone, commanding that they come out one at a time, slowly with hands raised. The entry team, which has moved to our house, assists my squad leader in taking in the inhabitants of said building. They come up the steps to me at a medium pace, already searched and cuffed. I receive them with another man who is part of the four-man entry squad. We again search the men and sit them on the floor in the almost-full bedroom, and they then sit on the kitchen floor. Most of them stay quiet and merely mutter indiscernible words as they look at the dirty tile floor. I hear some shooting from outside but hear nothing of it on my radio. A few of the men start to complain about the flex cuffs on their wrists, saying the cuffs are cutting off circulation. I check them and re-cuff them, but one of them still complains. The others

look at him curiously, as if to say, "You're not special." Finally, three men come up blindfolded, which means they have been identified as enemy forces that have surrendered. They, too, are seated on the floor of the cluttered dirty kitchen. There was a zoo of roaches throughout the kitchen and bedroom but no one seems to be bothered by them. I instruct some of the heavier people of the group to sit on overturned buckets that I find in the kitchen, as heavier people have trouble bringing their wrists together behind them and then sitting on the floor. One of the blindfolded ones, we later find out, is one of the many brothers of the wanted man who first spotted us from the window.

Once they are all in the small apartment, the urban sniper radios from the rooftop and asks to be replaced. I offer to be the one to replace him. I head up to the roof, and now I can see everything: the team on the roof across the street, the old school house and light coming from the doorway below where we came in. We are watching the windows and the side of the house opposite the side the old school building is on, the far side. We also pay attention to the rooftops around us, in case a rooftop sniper (and there are many around) notices us. A rooftop is a dangerous place to be because you are openly exposed to receive fire from other rooftops on the periphery. There are no exits on the building side, although there are windows, and our position is the only one where you can see this. The entry squad receives the order to work on the interior of the house. They are

about to enter the open door across the street and shoot their way through the interior of the structure until they neutralize the one remaining inhabitant. They slowly cross the street, one at a time, under the safe cover of each other and all of us; I can see this all from my vantage point. Just then across the street on the perpendicular side of the building, I see some odd movement from one of the windows. It is coming from the second story. Then a man with a rifle slung around his back hangs from the windowsill and drops out onto the street below; he falls awkwardly to the ground. I raise my rifle from the ready to sight. He looks quickly around, right and then left down the alley, and he runs with his AK-47 rifle now in hand to the right in the direction of the alley with all the steps where we were originally, right where we were first shot at trying to breach the adjacent door. The entry team is just getting into the house. Within the few seconds from when I first see him at the window I take aim through the red dot on my weapon, at his center mass on the street below. This type of sight system uses a solar/tritium-powered red dot that illuminates your target but is only visible through the lens on the sight it passes through. No one can see the laser like dot except for the one who looks through the lens on the sight. It is sighted like a regular scope and has a battery that is charged by daylight and works best at night when there is no light pollution. I like this sight system because when engaging targets at close range (20 meters or less), you can simply lift the weapon into your line of sight, and if the target's center

mass is in the window you can fire and you will hit it. It allows for total speed and accuracy. But the target is at an angle down and moving. Today I have to be precise because my rooftop position and moving. My aim is quick and confident; I fire once and he goes down, another shot follows as quick as I can make it precise. He lies all but motionless belly down and face to the left, left leg over his right, as I keep my sights on him waiting for him to move. The man with me on the roof radios to the mission commander that the target is down and that the fire is good (which means that the fire came from one of us and that the hit was successful). The entry team is instructed to continue the search of the house as if highly

motivated adversaries are still inside, and the squad on the other rooftop (dead man's house) moves to the far edge of their roof for a closer view of the body. They request permission to fire additional shots to confirm the kill at a closer and more decisive angle. The permission is granted, and with carefully placed headshots he is sure to be no more. Soon the alley is noticeably pooling in blood. Mission accomplished, for now...

Inside the house, the squad searching seizes three more rifles that were abandoned by the target's cohorts who surrendered. There are no other occupants inside the target dwelling. We are all about to move to the old schoolhouse building for our regrouping and departure when the brother—who at that

point knows from all the shooting that someone is likely dead—wants to cut a deal. He bargains using information on the whereabouts of the suicide belt, which is scheduled for tomorrow's delivery, in return for his temporary freedom. He pleads on the spot, but it is too late. The entry team in the house has already located the belt. We have to hold our position while a bomb technician from the engineering division (Yalome, Diamond in Hebrew) moves into the house to render safe and/or destroy it. Meanwhile, two men move quickly to recover the weapon from the dead man. About 42 minutes later we go to the old schoolhouse, one at a time, with the three blindfolded POWs, at a running pace. Our transport is ready. •

Orlando Wilson

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THE BANE OF OUR EXISTENCE AND GREATEST THREAT TO FREEDOM:

HOW DID WE LET
TECHNOLOGY TAKE
OVER EVERYTHING?

Photo by: Pixabay

By Edgar Brodie

So you're telling me the U.S. paid China to store my data?

Over my career I have undergone both security clearances and background investigations. I also have several friends who have undergone each or both. As a licensed investigator and having experience in police intelligence, I am very familiar with this process.

Security clearances are conducted to make sure that individuals who may have access to sensitive data will not be compromised and give access to said data to a known adversary, like say the Chinese. The sensitive data in

question also includes the personnel files on other employees, as such information may be exploitable.

As it turns out, the office of personnel management (OPM), which is the centralized clearing house for security clearances, did exactly what it seeks to avoid. OPM stored all the classified data on 21 million American who have clearances and work for the U.S. military and federal agencies with a contracting company. Said contractor company has a backdoor to the Chinese government. I know it sounds crazy and you're thinking like

me, "Why use a contractor for that?" or "How could we be so stupid?"

To add insult to injury, in 2015 we received a one-page letter from OPM explaining that we would have free credit monitoring services against identity theft from, you guessed it, another contractor. As if the Chinese want to take out a home loan or open a Macy's credit card with my fingerprints and travel history. Then, two years later, lo and behold, they (Equifax) were also hacked by...

The whole system is completely broken because of two big issues.



First is technology and second is technology. The days of good old-fashioned gumshoe are long gone. Technology makes information seem easily attainable, making investigators lazy and easily misled. Technology allows for false flags and masks nefarious intentions. Today everything is outsourced, and the “investigator” rarely leaves his desk. All information they use to make decisions about people and their character is sourced and stored online; the irony is that the subject of the investigation can do

a much better job of compiling the information for the investigator and just give it to them. Is that acceptable?

Generally, background investigations for job hires have proven to be far more thorough than OPM security clearances. Here are the sources investigators use:

- Lexus Nexus (free)
- Tax returns (surrendered)
- Clerk of courts (free)
- Equifax (free)
- Experian (free)
- PD where you have lived (free)

Media (free)

Google (free)

You can get all the information listed above without leaving your seat. Most investigators will make a determination as to whether the acquired information is credible based off of this information and poly alone; the problem is that often there is a lot of misinformation and identity theft. Some typical disadvantages with this system are:

False addresses

False debt or loans



Photo by: Pixabay

False relationships

False employers

Often investigators will depend on the polygraph to confirm what the above sources give them. The polygraph is nothing short of junk science and is fact checking information that is questionable in the first place. Think of it like this: The employer would like to weed out sociopaths, who by the nature of their condition do not have physiological reactions to lying. So would a poly work on someone who is emotionless

and void of reactions? It is the honest person who is made nervous by uncomfortable topics. It is the truthful who second guess every scrutinizing question asked by the “examiner.” Do some research on the U.S. DHS Border Patrol polygraph issues for many cases to the point.

If you want to know how someone lives and you want to understand who they are, then you need to talk to them, go to their house, see where they live, talk to their friends and colleagues, and see how they spend their free time and

free money. You are what you eat and the company you keep.

As a quality control measure, we had a larger sheriff’s office do a background investigation on someone we knew had misinformation out in the system. Sure enough, the investigator drew false addresses generated by faux credit card applications, identified false family relationships by using social media, and painted the subject in a completely different light from the reality. They hired an investigations firm to go out and interview the subject; the interviewer was a 27-year-old (subcontractor) with no actual investigative experience or real intelligence gathering background. It literally could have been anyone who answered a “help wanted add” in the newspaper. The original investigators never left their office to compile all the data and depended on the inept contractor, who subcontracted to the 27-year-old. When we showed the investigators the reality of the results, they admitted most investigations and conclusions are drawn in this manner.

As a victim of the 2015 Office of Personnel Management (OPM) hack by China, I have to question the competency of not only the people who are gathering and organizing the data they mine but also the whole system they have in place to protect it and use it for decision making.

By contracting and then subcontracting, you lose control, communications, competency, and consistency and gain nothing. Perhaps we are too big to manage. I don’t have a solution, but anyone can identify that there is a problem. •



TERRORISTS WITH DISABILITIES



by **Alexander Korenkov**

postgraduate in the East Ukrainian National University co-founder of the Center for the Rebel Movement Research

The Islamic State is actively using people with disabilities as human bombs.

Suicide attack, or “amaliya istishhadia,” is the most dangerous weapon in the Islamic State (IS) arsenal. Having no aviation, heavy missiles, or nuclear weapons, IS tries to compensate for the technological superiority of its adversaries by using suicide bombers. In most cases, these are the volunteers who drive the explosive-equipped cars into enemy ranks to blow themselves up, hoping for rewards after such a death. According to IS official statistics, from September 2016 to September 2017 suicide bombers committed 990 attacks: 311 in Syria and 679 in Iraq.

Even after more than four years’ non-stop war in Syria and Iraq, the Islamic State is able to mobilize hundreds of

volunteers to commit suicide attacks. Moreover, the huge numbers of volunteers for committing such attacks have provoked accusations of nepotism found in recruiting and corrupted the suicide bombers recruiting process.

“Those Saudis have got things sewn up, they won’t let anyone in. They are letting their relatives go to the front of the queue using blatant favoritism,” - Abu Sultan ad-Daghestani, a pro-Islamic State preacher from Dagestan, a region in Russia’s North Caucasus (1).

Official IS propaganda shows a variety of suicide bombers different in age, nationalities, and motives. Among all are clearly distinguished suicide volunteers with disabilities. Islamic propagandists depict such suicide attackers as truly

Afghan role players and soldiers react to a suicide bomber during a training exercise.

Photo by: Staff Sgt. Joseph Wilbanks

“We analyzed all available IS material that mentioned suicide attackers with disabilities, and I’ve divided these attackers into two main groups.”

committed fighters with strong adherence to the organization’s ideology. However, available information about such suicide volunteers gathered mostly from the IS propaganda movies make clearer their true motivation.

TWO TYPES OF TERRORISTS WITH DISABILITIES

Continuous civil wars in Syria and Iraq make the life for people with disabilities in these countries incredibly difficult. Maybe in the most dangerous conditions are those who due to various reasons are forced to live under the Islamic State, today’s the most dangerous terrorist organization. While some people managed to escape from IS, others influenced by IS propaganda changed from victim status to the terrorist role.

According to IS ideology, disability does not exempt men from the religious obligation to wage jihad. To confirm such ideas, they use

the examples of the first Muslims (known as sahabas or companions of the Prophet Muhammad) as a justification. One of the most-mentioned examples is Amr bin al-Jamuha, the semi-paralyzed Muslim fighter, whose story was recorded in “Stories of the Righteous” by Murtaza Mutakhahari (an Iranian theologian and historian of the twentieth century). Amr bin al-Jamuha before the battle of Uhud (624 A.D.) swore to the Prophet Muhammad to fight the enemy until death in order to overcome his lame leg in Paradise.

Such historic examples of self-sacrifice have become an effective propaganda tool in the hands of terrorists to recruit a new generation of suicide attackers. However, under the surface of religious rhetoric and pathos, the sincerity of the ideological motivation of such IS suicide attackers with disabilities is questionable.

We analyzed all available IS material that mentioned suicide attackers with disabilities, and I’ve divided these attackers into two main groups. The first group consists of IS fighters, commanders, and members of the organization’s civil apparatus who became disabled in fighting or as a result of coalition bombardment.

DEDICATED TO A LIFE OF EXTREME VIOLENCE AND SELF DESTRUCTION

The members of the first group are fanatical volunteers who deliberately came to Syria or Iraq in order to fight for the Islamists’ political project. Joining the terrorists’ ranks, such volunteers seek “النصر أو الشهادة” (victory or death). Having such

strong motivation helps these fighters continue to fight even with disabilities. Of course some of them joined the civil and non-military service in the administrative structure (IS divans system) or medical system. However, even then, being out in the fighting, these volunteers point out in their interviews their strong desire to keep on taking part in battles. Others chose *amaliya istishhadia* as the way to continue their battle.

One example of suicide fighters from the first group is Abu Yaman Urduni. His story was shown in the IS propaganda movie *Caravan of Light – 2* (2). Abu Yaman Urduni was born in Jordan. After he failed to get to Afghanistan and Iraq for jihad, Urduni chose Syria, where he became a fighter of ISIL. He quickly made a career, advancing from commander of the combat unit to the head of the Syrian province Damascus and the military amir (commander) in Salah al-Din. During the battles in Iraq, he was injured and became disabled. At first, he tried to dedicate himself to the administrative service, but when he lost his brother and son, Abu Yaman decided to become a suicide bomber.

In his interview before the attack, Urduni explains the rationality of his choice. It is not a thoughtless desire to perish or an act of despair because of the hard fate of a person with a disability. Urduni is making a conscious, rational choice, combined with a desire to take revenge for the death of his relatives. One of his main arguments for committing a suicide operation is that such attack makes greater destruction and inflicts more casualties on the enemy than any other weapon in the IS arsenal.





Abu Yaman Urduni getting into mined car.

“Amaliya istishhadia is the strongest weapon against the enemies, especially because we do not have such a powerful weapon that they have ... I would like my sons to follow this path,” - Abu Yaman Urduni

He is so confident in his own choice that in his last guidance, Urduni’s advice to his own children is to follow his example.

“Why are you crying? I have to lead a jihad and become a shahid. And you have to lead a jihad and become a shahid.”

Another example is Abu Hajir Maslawi, a young boy, 18 years old, who joined the IS ranks in 2016. His story is shown in the movie *And You Will Be Superior – Wilāyat Nīnawā* (3). Abu Hajir was injured in Mosul as a result of the shelling by the coalition. With wounded lungs, vocal cords, and hand, he signed up for a suicide attack in order “to help somehow the religion.”

“To anyone who sees me and says that I am doing this because of the despair after the injuries, I will answer: no, I am in such good mood now! I thought everything



Abu Yaman Urduni and his sons (interview before committing the suicide attack).

and did not find any justification to do nothing,” - Abu Hajir Maslawi.

His motivation is a combination of self-confidence and a desire to achieve the goal he’s gotten as ideological motivation.

The same movie shows videos with other suicide attackers. All of them are young people, injured in battle or bombardment.

Strong motivation and ideological reasoning are the main features distinguishing this group of terrorists.

They constantly emphasize the voluntary nature of their choices in opposition to despair and hopelessness.

SUICIDE ATTACKERS ACTING OUT OF NECESSITY

Completely differing reasons motivate the representatives of the second group of suicide fighters with disabilities. Members of this group became terrorists not because they got disabilities as a result of fighting

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IS terrorists with disabilities.

and want to continue fighting by other means. They were disabled long before the Islamic State occupied their home. Having no willingness or opportunities to leave IS territory, such people were forced to live in dangerous conditions.

Terrible living conditions determined their choice. Lack of medical personnel, the absence of qualified doctors and social workers leaves such people without the necessary medical and psychological help. Chronic deficiencies of medicines, especially pain relievers, deprive them of their ability to maintain an acceptable level of quality of life (4).

People with disabilities are forced to seek some ways to survive in such an unfriendly environment for themselves and, more important, for their relatives. In a system where even the richest province (Wilāyat al-Khayr) spent almost 75% of revenues on military and special religious police (44% on salaries to soldiers, 20% on military support bases, 10% for police), being disabled means losing almost all available ways for receiving some money (5).

The IS economic system has not been able to provide jobs even for healthy young people. According to the RAND Corporation report “When the Islamic State Comes to Town,” seizure of a territory by the Islamic state led to a 20% reduction in economic activity, an 80% reduction in electricity consumption, and a 30% reduction in population (6).

Such a situation provoked some people with disabilities to join the IS ranks. Moreover, the IS social system, in the absence of providing

other means for survival, fostered the choice to join the suicide squad as the way to provide the basic needs of their relatives. On the IS territory, the right for material support was not only for fighters but their relatives too, especially the relatives of those who committed a suicide attack. Just for this issue there is a responsible office in the administrative structure of the Khilafah - Heyat Shuuni-al-Usra-wal-Shuhada (the Office for the Prisoners and Martyrs). That's why becoming a suicide attacker for people with disabilities sometimes is the only available chance to provide some material support for their families.

An example of such a suicide attacker is Abu Lays Iraqi. This man lost his legs before the IS came to Syria. His story was mentioned in the movie *Caravan of Light* (7).

"I said to myself, I am disabled, I cannot do anything. I felt sorrow and bitterness when I was watching a new video (propaganda videos with IS suicide attacks). Everything inside me has broken up. I thought if only I could be with my brothers now, I would even outperform them, and may Allah give me the opportunity to kill the kafir (unbeliever)," - Abu Lays.

He decided to become a suicide attacker and committed the attack in Mosul, attacking a column of the Iraqi army. Unlike the ideologically motivated fighters, Abu Lays explains his decision as desperation. There is no pathos or bravado in his last speech, only a strong desire be helpful for others, maybe for his own family.

CONCLUSION

People with disabilities become



Abu Lays Iraqi

Islamic State suicide fighters for differing reasons. Their motivation ranges from a mixture of religious pathos and the desire to take revenge to the simple endeavor of getting a better life for relatives. However, none of these motives justifies the conscious choice to be a terrorist in the ranks of one of the most dangerous terrorist organizations in the world. It doesn't justify their choice to become terrorists, even with disabilities. •

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Miami Dade Police School of Justice; Patrol Rifle/Survival Tactics

by Editorial Staff

It was a warm April night at the Medley Police range, one of the many outdoor ranges used by the local PD and Sheriff's Office in Miami Dade county, Florida. The class was 16 men deep, and the topic was a cop and his rifle, a great and necessary combination considering what law officers are coming up against. There is no doubt that LE needs to move in this direction and away from the shotgun; the warrior cop is alive and well in some men, but still not enough. We trained for 8 hours with only a few breaks for water and ammo. We bounded with over watch; we closed distance, fired from cover, took on multiple threats, and learned the optimal rifle setup for officer success in a deadly force encounter. It was an outstanding group, and we had ideal conditions. We went through about 500 rounds of 5.56mm ammo over the course of fire.

We started in at around 10 meters and slowly backed it up to a range or 100 meters. Every officer a rifleman... They arrived with weapons zeroed and all the kit they needed to fight and win.

The course had an excellent student-to-instructor ratio, with 5/1 at any given moment. Some drills were set up so eight shooters could be on a line at once, while others were limited to only one man at a time. The others role-played to increase pressure and add an element of realism. In reality, you will be faced with several factors that you can be hard-pressed to duplicate on a flat range: moving targets, crowds of people, less than ideal shooting conditions, and extreme stress.

Moving targets are simulated by placing several stationary targets that require shooting in rapid succession to simulate movement. Crowds are simulated by no-shoot targets and low-percentage hit zones for shoot targets. Extreme stress is simulated by fellow officers mimicking the actions of the panicking public in the environment. While this may not be easy to visualize, we received outstanding reviews from each participant and will most likely expand the class to a two-day course of fire and enable officers to get even

further immersed in the curriculum.

One of the most interesting parts of the course, other than transition drills (which everyone loves) was the single-handed manipulation of the rifle. Anyone firing at you will aim for center of mass (the chest), and your arms will likely be in this space as you manipulate your firearms. The likelihood of an extremity getting struck is high. Therefore, officers should be prepared to handle, load, aim, and fire their rifle with one hand, both right and left handed, to include reloads. This was certainly a highlight of the course.

I would recommend any officer to have a rifle immediately accessible and have the confidence to wield it equal to his service pistol. This comes with practice and a strong foundation, one that is accessible only through expert instruction. Check the MDC SOJ website for future courses convening in 2018: https://www.mdc.edu/main/justice/training/in_service_professional_development.aspx.



SCHOOL OF JUSTICE



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Course Description:

Patrol Rifle Defensive Survival Tactics is a dynamic training course designed for officers of all skill levels. The CMS instructor staff will begin by reinforcing the fundamentals of safely operating the patrol rifle platform explain and physically demonstrate each course of fire prior to each drill. All of the firing drills are based on real world scenarios and designed to fire at various distances, positions, and rates of fire under realistic circumstances including. Drills will include taking a weapon from a point of storage in your patrol vehicle to a point of threat contact. Officers will also be exposed to sensory impact training scenarios used to train and reinforce the officer's ability to continue to fight even when injured. This will be accomplished by learning how to store, retrieve, load and employ an officer's weapon quickly, efficiently and effectively even when injured and confronted with a varied loss of sensory perception and physical motor skills. **This training can be applied to Mandatory Training.**

5.56/.223 Ammunition will be provided

Instructor(s): Julio Pinera and Garrett M

**What to bring- Next page*

WHO CAN ATTEND?

Law Enforcement and Corrections Officers. Region XIV Officers (Dade and Monroe Counties) attend free-of-charge.

DATE(S): June 18-19, 2018

TIME: 3:00pm to 12:00am

LOCATION:

Report to: Medley Police Range
Range 1
9700 NW 97th Ave,
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CONTACT:

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- Minimum 2 duty pistol magazines w/storage pouches/holders

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Never Wear Springs AR15 Replacement Spring Kit

by Garret Machine

For \$28 there is no excuse not to have this kit in your range bag or gun case. In the military, your unit armorer looks over weapons on a regular basis; in the civilian and even law enforcement sectors, the onus is on the individual to ensure that your weapon is functioning like a well-oiled machine. Any moving part is more likely to break than a nonmoving part. The AR has many springs in its operating system, and I have had a few fail on me in the field, specifically the hammer spring and dust cover spring. The dust cover was not a big deal, but the hammer spring was a gun-down failure. Going forward, I will always have one of these kits and the knowledge of how to change out each and every one of these springs.

It is not a matter of if but when a spring fails; you want to have the parts to replace or fix it right on the spot and not have to rely on the local gun shop. With all the classes I teach and places I have traveled, I can say that there have been no less than 5 occasions over the years when I wish that I had a kit like this to rely on. Here is what you get in the kit:

- 1 Trigger
- 1 Hammer
- 2 Ejection & Safety Detents
- 2 Take Down Detents
- 1 Ejector Part Cover
- 1 Buffer Detent
- 1 Magazine Catch
- 1 Disconnect
- 1 Charging Handle Latch
- 1 Bolt Release
- 1 Extractor Assembly
- 1 O Ring for Ejector
- 1 Rubber Insert for Ejector
- FWD Assist spring.



These parts are guaranteed for life with free replacement. They are manufactured with a nonmagnetic, nickel-based, high-temperature alloy. This alloy possesses an excellent combination of high strength, hot and cold workability, and resistance to all forms of corrosion found in hard use.

After learning about the Never Wear spring kit, I installed one of their flat wire buffer tubes in my AR and never looked back. It has functioned reliably with over 5000 rounds so far. It never compresses solid, meaning less wear, less muzzle rise, smoother operation, and freedom from reverberations. There is also a braided version of the spring, but I have not used that one yet. Finally, I had the pleasure of meeting the inventor of the flat spring technology used in the manufacturing process (made in Ohio,

USA), and he introduced me to his newest product.

The flat wire AR15 magazine spring replaces your existing spring and allows for 31 rounds to sit comfortably in the magazine. The primary selling point for me with regard to this product was the idea that I can store magazines fully loaded long term without the fear of ruining the feeding properties or elasticity of the moving part (the spring and follower). I have done extensive testing of this product in my CAA magazines.

In short, I would highly recommend purchasing the AR15 spring survival kit, a single buffer tube spring, and a few good flat wire magazine springs. Available here: <https://www.garretmachine.com/collections/weapon-maintenance> •

IT STARTS WITH WHY

BY SIMON SINEK (2011)

Reviewed by Editorial Staff

If you are finding yourself in a rut, if you are not sure “why” you are doing “what” you are doing, or if you need to take a step back from your midlife crisis, this may be for you. I have been in the same industry for over 15 years, and I know exactly what I am doing and how to do it to the highest level of professionalism. Once you reach a point in your career where you’re comfortable and have a routine, something happens...your “what” and “how” separate from your WHY. The “why” is what got you to where you are in the first place. Often this is when people think they are having a midlife crisis.

You may be familiar with this concept from Simon’s TED talk on the same topic (YouTube). These days the knowledge we got from books in generations past is now transcribed in audio format, podcasts, and TED talks all over YouTube. If you watch Simon talk or listen to his message, you will not get anything new from It Starts With Why. However if you don’t watch TV or own a Kindle (which has an audio feature), I recommend the book. I read it in about five flights I took for work last month. If you do buy this book, you could get

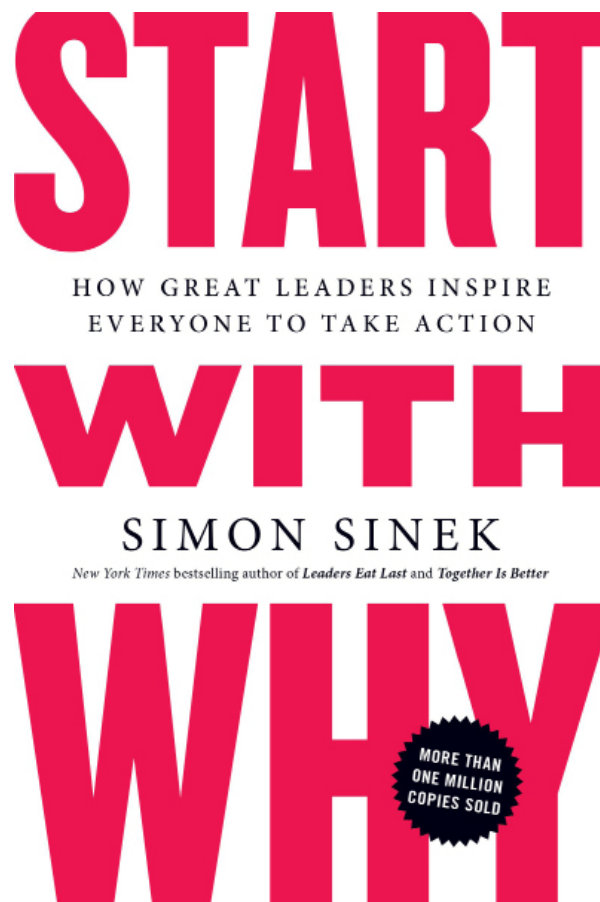
the entire content by the end of chapter three and save your time. While I like the message, it does not take 200 pages

U.S. Navy officer when I finished it.

If you sell anything, then Simon advocates using “influencers,” to be your brand representative. Influencers are people that have influence over the market. Like any celebrity endorsing a product, this is one way to market to your potential customer base. To create a cult like following similar to Southwest airlines, which he references in the book many times. He suggests creating a following with the help of a clear mission statement and celebrity endorsement. I hate SW airlines because I think their seating model is awful and I don’t value the opinion of entertainers very much.

I did, however, get one useful tip that I will immediately implement into my life, and for that the book was worth it. From now on I will start my class introductions by stating why I am teaching/instructing the course. Then I will segue into how I got there and what we

are going to accomplish. This is a good technique to build rapport with students and make yourself more approachable. •



to get it across. I try to read a book a month, so I value the time I put into these things, and I gifted this book to a

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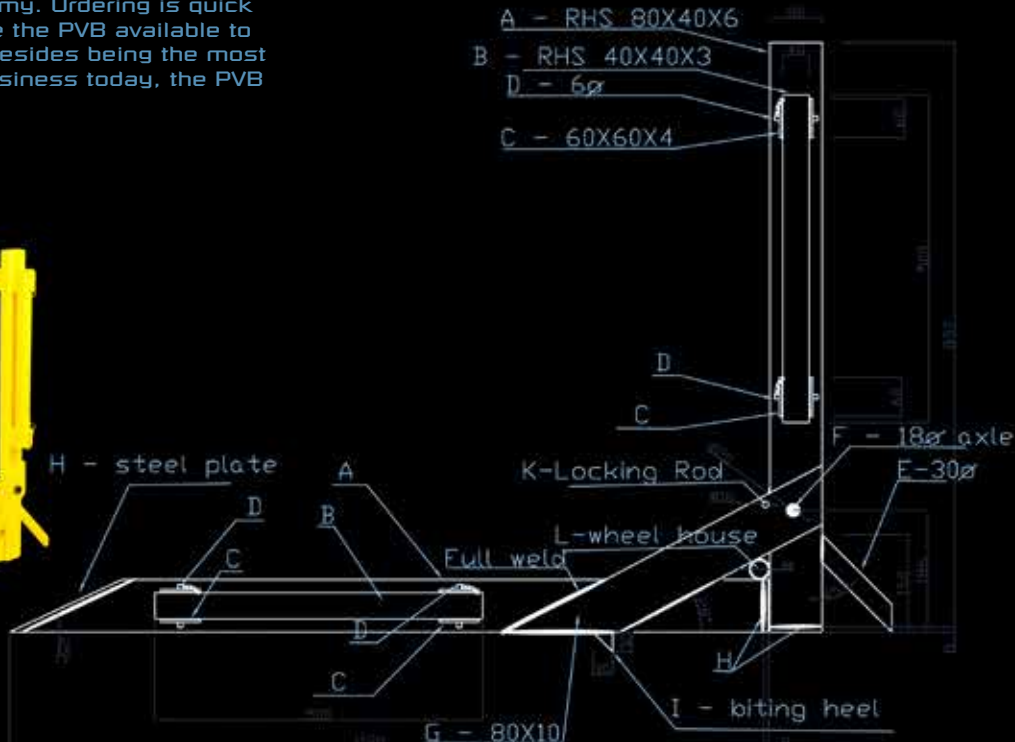
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