

Mail Tribune Writer, An Inexperience Gunman, Finds Shooting Skills of Law Officers is Good

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An inexperienced gunman finds competition stiff against veteran law enforcement officials in a target practice course set up by the federal bureau of investigation.

The course lasts 6 minutes 10 seconds, during which time 50 rounds of .38 caliber ammunition is fired into (or at) "silhouette" targets from four different distances and five positions.

Some 38 law enforcement officers from five agencies in southern Oregon went through a two-day session, the second in the course this year, at the National Guard pistol range off Antelope rd. last week. Although six participants failed to register scores of 60 or better, each practice round—groups of four men fired twice in each half day—produced improved scores.

Chief Instructor
Medford Police Chief Charles Champlin, who received instruction in conducting the course while attending the FBI academy at Quantico, Va., instructed participants in the course Wednesday and Thursday. On previous occasions, FBI agents from Portland conducted the course upon request of local officials, but this time, FBI officials said an agent was not available.

The "silhouette" target, which also was devised by the FBI, is used, in place of a bullseye target, to simulate the shape of a human body. The silhouette is outlined into sections with a large portion of the head, neck, chest and lower abdomen rated the highest number of points—five. Edges of the abdomen count a point less, with the "strong" arm counting three, and the "weak" arm counting two points.

The "strong" arm is the arm which is used most, depending on whether the person is right or left handed. The "weak" arm would be the left arm if a person is right-handed.

The "silhouette" target is used because law enforcement officials, in the line of duty, fail to see criminals as "bullseyes." And use of the different distances and various positions is because officers, in emergencies, do not waste time getting into correct bullseye target positions and determining aim through gun sights.

The first 25 seconds of practice consists of firing 10 rounds rapid fire—"double action"—from a crouched position seven yards from the target. The position is used in practice because it is one most used when officers encounter criminals off-guard. The round starts with five shells in the pistol, which is drawn from the holster, fired, reloaded, another five rounds fired, and holstered empty—all within 25 seconds.

Firing from a distance of seven yards is "instinctive" aiming. Officers' eyes primarily are kept on the target, with secondary vision on the gun, which is fired from hip level in the crouched position.

Yours truly was greatly surprised that what appeared to be a large target could not be hit from seven yards.)

Following the 25-second practice, the remaining 40 rounds are fired from three distances and four positions in 5 minutes 45 seconds with gun sights being utilized.

From a prone position 60 yards from the target, five rounds are fired in single action—the pistol, before each shot, is cocked with the thumb. (Yours truly was not entirely sure the pistol was directed at the correct silhouette, from a stomach position looking over tall weeds.)

Officers then move to a distance of 50 yards from the target for the next 20 rounds—all single action firing. The first five rounds are from a sitting position, the next five from prone, and the last 10 from standing positions behind a barricade simulating the corner of a building, behind which officers may seek cover.

The first five rounds from behind the barricade are fired with the "weak" hand—left handed for a right-handed person—to give officers experience shooting with both hands. The last five are with the "strong" hand.

(Yours truly had difficulty trying to stretch the left thumb to cock a .38 caliber pistol in "weak" hand firing.)

The final 15 rounds is fired from a distance of 25 yards with five shots in rapid succession from a kneeling position. Five are fired from behind another barricade with the "strong" hand in rapid fire, and the final five are single action from behind the barricade with the "weak" hand.

As Instructor Champlin said, "You then go up and read the bad news."

One of the most important aspects of practicing on the FBI planned course is reloading,



RAPID FIRE—Members of southern Oregon law enforcement agencies are pictured above in the first phase of the fire arms practical shooting course held at the National Guard pistol range Wednesday and Thursday. In 25 seconds, officers draw a loaded .38 caliber pistol from their holster, fire five rounds, reload, fire five more, empty and re-holster the revolver seven yards from the target. The remainder of the course is completed from three other distances and four other positions. In addition to the crouched position above, officers fire from

prone, sitting, kneeling and standing positions. The silhouette target and firing course were devised by federal bureau of investigation as determined from experience of officers involved in "shooting frays." Four men firing are observed by a coach, who reminds the shooter of safety regulations and correct positions. The complete course, arranged principally for the .38 caliber revolver, lasts 6 minutes 10 seconds in which 50 rounds of ammunition are fired. Reloading time is counted in the over-all time. (Brainerd photo.)



READING TARGETS—Determining scores after completion of the 6-minute 10-second fire arms practical shooting course is pictured above. Scores are computed by multiplying the number of bullet holes by the figure representing "kill value" in the silhouette, and multiplying the total by .4 for the participants percentage. Federal bureau of investigation officials recommend a score of 60 or better for

law enforcement agencies, but requires its own agents to fire 80 or better. Only six of the 38 participants in the two-day course last week fired 60 or below, and Medford Police Chief Charles Champlin, who conducted the training, said additional training periods would be established for those who shot 60 below and for others interested in improving their scores. (Brainerd photo.)

which is counted in the time limit. On two occasions—at the start of the first 10 rounds and at the start of the final 40 rounds—the pistol is loaded and in the holster.

The remainder of the reloading is counted in time in which the total 50 rounds must be fired. (Yours truly found he had five thumbs on each hand during reloading.)

Officers taking the course are taught to make themselves the smallest possible target, as would be the case in a "shooting fray." In determining practicing positions, FBI officials took the five positions most used by officers who had experience in actual "shooting frays."

The course is organized for a standard .38 caliber revolver, the type primarily used by law enforcement agencies throughout the country. Pistols used during

Public Service Program Planned

Plans for a weekly, public service television program to aid pet and livestock owners with animal health problems were made Wednesday by members of the Rogue Valley Veterinary Medical association, who met at the Cave Shop, Grants Pass. The program, scheduled for Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m., is sponsored by KBES-TV and produced by members of the veterinarian's association.

A different veterinarian will be featured each week to discuss topics relating to animal health. Once a month a panel will answer questions which have been submitted by viewers.

Dr. Walter Weller, Ashland, will talk on salmon poisoning in dogs on the next program, Oct. 25. On Nov. 2, Dr. Walker Krebs, Grants Pass will discuss traumatic gastritis in cattle, also known as "hardware disease."

Members of the association at the Grants Pass meeting also discussed parasitism in young cattle.

Injured Flier Once Stationed in Medford

The state police office in Medford recalled Saturday that 1st Lt. Charles W. Clark, co-pilot of a jet bomber which crashed near Tokyo Friday, was a state police officer stationed here briefly in 1952 and 1953.

Clark, whose home is in Roseburg, was a reserve Air Force officer, and was called back to active duty from his job here in January of 1953.

A story about the crash appeared on Page 1 of Friday's Mail Tribune. Clark was injured, but was reported in good condition.

practice are those carried by officers while on duty so the patrolman will be familiar with his particular pistol.

Each officer firing is coached regarding safety regulations and proper positions. The coach during practice also serves as an observer for the shooter.

During the two-day session last week, officers also fired, for acquaintanceship purposes only, a .30 caliber rifle and a 12 gauge riot gun on the National Guard rifle range.

This is the first year in which such practice sessions have been conducted twice, and Chief Champlin said he hopes funds may be made available to conduct the course about once every three months in the future. The course was initiated here two years ago, and had been held annually until this year.

Ammunition used by the Medford police department is what is called "wad-cutters"—used shells reloaded with a lighter amount of powder than regular .38 caliber shells. "Wad-cutters" are used only in practice sessions.

Scoring targets is based on

Three Patients Flown By Mercy Flights

Three patients were carried to Veterans Administration hospitals in the Portland area by Mercy Flights planes Friday and Saturday. The flights brought the number of patients carried by the non-profit air ambulance corporation to 414 in the almost six years it has been in service.

Dr. Charles Todd, VA physician at Camp White, went north for medical treatment at the Vancouver VA hospital Friday evening. He was accompanied by Mrs. Todd.

En route north, the plane stopped at Grants Pass to pick up Ed Hill, who was going to the VA hospital in Portland for treatment.

At about noon Saturday, the plane left again carrying Joseph Brown, Gold Hill, a cardiac patient, to the VA hospital in Portland. Lee Flink and Cecil Davis were pilot and co-pilot on the Saturday flight.

Portlander Found Guilty Of Taking State Funds

Portland—(U.P.)—Mrs. Myrtle G. Coad, Portland, mother of four children, has been found guilty of taking \$1112 in state funds while working as a cashier for the State Tax Commission.

A Circuit Court jury in the court of Judge Frank J. Loneragan returned the guilty verdict after deliberating five hours.

Mrs. Coad was dismissed from her job with the commission in May after working there for several years. No date has been set for sentencing.

Trick Shot Artist Featured Nov. 1 in Gene Autrey Show

The Gene Autrey show, featuring Autrey, his horse Champion, Pat Buttram and Annie Oakley, will be presented at Hedrick Junior High school auditorium, Nov. 1, with performances at 4:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Annie Oakley will give a demonstration of trick shooting; Gene will sing, ride Champion and put Little Champ through his tricks. A group of ropers, singers, dancers, clowns, whip artists and acrobats will take part in the show.

Autrey, in his 15th year on CBS radio, is currently the top Columbia recording star, with more than 35,000,000 record sales to his credit. "Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer" alone has sold 5,000,000 copies.

Square Dancers To Aid Car Fund

A square dance jamboree will be held Oct. 29 from 8:30 until 11:30 p.m. in the gymnasium of the new E. H. Hedrick Junior High school.

Proceeds from the dance, which is sponsored by the Rogue Valley Square Dance Callers association, will go to the Jackson County Disaster Car fund to be used for the purchases of needed equipment.

Emergency first aid material, tools, axes, stretchers, facilities for preparing food and many other items are badly needed to equip the disaster unit, according to Wes Coleman, Captain, Medford Fire department.

The disaster car is designed to meet any emergency arising from any cause—such as storm, fire, or accident—in Jackson county, Coleman said. The car is voluntarily manned by members of the fire department.

Advance tickets for the dance may be purchased at Swem's Book and Gift Shop or Purucker Piano House.

Great Northern Freight Train Wrecks Near Bend

Bend—(U.P.)—A southbound Great Northern freight train was derailed south of here late Thursday, sending 14 cars off the tracks and scattering debris for more than one-half mile. There were no injuries.

Cause of the derailment was not known. The train was on a Bend-Klamath Falls run and the cars were loaded with freight.

Bow ties comprise five per cent of all ties made in the U.S.

Central Point Man Hurt in Accident; Cars Said Damaged

Allen William Hill 31, of 121 Manzanita st., Central Point, was taken to Sacred Heart hospital by Medford ambulance Friday afternoon for treatment of a badly bruised leg, following a two-car accident on the Crater Lake highway above Eagle Point, it was reported Saturday.

State police said the Hill car, carrying the driver and his wife and son and daughter, collided with another car driven by Arthur Joseph Marineau, 64, Grants Pass, at about 5:35 p.m. Losses Control

The investigating officer said he was told that the Marineau car attempted to pass another west-bound vehicle, saw the Hill car coming, and swerved back into its own lane. Marineau applied his brakes, swerved and lost control, sideswiping the Hill car, forcing it into a ditch the officer was informed.

No others were injured, but both cars were reportedly badly damaged. No citations were issued.

A log truck driven by Wallen Rufus Chrisco, 41, Shady Cove, and a pickup driven by Victor Ettore Gardner, 49, Eagle Point, collided in the Brownsboro area at about 6:15 p.m., police reported. There were no injuries nor citations, but both vehicles were damaged, police said.

Four Medford Doctors Take Heart Training

Four Medford physicians were in Portland Oct. 14 and 15 for the fourth annual symposium on heart disease sponsored by the Oregon Heart association.

Drs. Ray L. Casterline, Oscar Heyerman, Ralph E. Hibbs and Fred Loris attended a series of scientific lectures concerning problems in the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease.

Guest speakers included Franklin D. Johnston, M.D., professor of medicine, University of Michigan medical school; Maurice Sokolow, M.D., associate professor of medicine, University of California medical school, and D. Evan Bedford, M.D., University of London and physician to the National Heart hospital, institute of Cardiology, London, England.

The Oregon Heart association is a participating member of the United Medford Crusade.

Park Superintendent Tells Story of Hunter and Bears

Tom Williams, superintendent of Crater Lake National park, last week reported an encounter between a deer hunter and a family of bears.

His moral was: "Just because they call a bear a dumb animal, don't underestimate him, particularly in the matter of foraging."

Nine County Men Enlisted in Navy In 'Buddy Program'

Nine men were enlisted in the U.S. Navy recently through the Medford recruiting station, according to local recruiters.

Enlisting from Medford were Ivan Wendell Goble, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Y. Goble, 2595 Starlite lane; Ralph Charles Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph P. Miller, 1916 Grandview ave.; David Wesley Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Moore, 342 Mae st.; Donald Dean Tosh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Buck Tosh, 1916 Grandview ave.; Virgil Dexter Evans, son of Mr. and Mrs. George D. Evans, 1130 Niantic st.; Charles Albert Lewis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Lewis, 1058 Barnett rd.; and Lester Dale Livingston, son of Mrs. Lara M. Livingston, 513 King st.

Enlisting from Talent was Clarence Edwin Meadows, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ora H. Meadows, route 1, box 376. Enlisting from Ashland was Joseph Aaron Roberts, son of Ronald M. Roberts, 248 1/2 Wightman st.

All nine men enlisted under the "buddy program" and will go through the nine-weeks period of recruit training together in the same company at the Naval Training center, San Diego, Calif.

About 30 per cent of all U.S. candy sales are made in food stores.

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This is the story the superintendent told:

The other day, a deer hunter en route home visited Crater Lake National park to view the scenic wonder. Behind his pickup truck he towed a jeep. In the rear of the jeep were two nice bucks. Near headquarters he saw a black bear with three cubs. Bringing his vehicles to a stop, the man jumped out, armed with a camera. Mother bear and two of her children obligingly posed.

Completing his photography, the man climbed back in his car and started home with a feeling of contentment—two fine bucks and several exposures of mamma bear and her brood. Unwittingly he had acquired another trophy. A shout from an onlooker brought him to a halt and it was then he discovered an extra passenger—the third cub—happily ensconced in the rear of the jeep, munching on a deer carcass.

The man attempted to discourage the diner. The cub, continued his banquet. Soon mamma bear joined her son and brought along his brother and sister. Together they presented a formidable front. Possession being nine points of the law, the visitor withdrew and put in a call for reinforcements while the bear family continued to feast.

Acting Chief Ranger Packard, answering the call for help, drove the "free-loaders" away and the hunter departed, wiser in the way of bears.

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