

Officer's Life Depends on Many Survival Elements

Formula Includes Regular Practice In Pistol Course

By ROSIE BOLEY
Mail Tribune Staff Writer
When a law officer becomes engaged in a gun battle, his life may depend on his familiarity with a number of things.

Here are a few of the elements essential in survival:
(1) Familiarity with the weapon and its operating technique.
(2) Good marksmanship.
(3) Knowledge of safety measures in handling the weapon.
(4) Ability to take advantage of available cover and become a "small target" for the enemy.

Practice Needed

Another vital element in the survival formula is regular practice, according to Charles Champlin, Medford police chief. For this reason the local police department Tuesday through Thursday last week sponsored a practical pistol course for officers of all law enforcement agencies in the area. The course was conducted at the National Guard firing range on the edge of the foothills southeast of Camp White.

Instructors for the 36 participants were Champlin and Harold Brack, special agent from the Portland FBI headquarters. Officers attending the course received refresher training in use of the .12 gauge shotgun, commonly known as the "riot gun," and the .30 caliber rifle. Most of the instruction, however, dealt with the .38 caliber revolver, the most commonly used police weapon, Champlin said.

Use Live Rounds

After general practice sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday the officers each fired a series of 50 "live" rounds, or shots, with the .38 revolver on the final day of the school. A live round, Champlin explained, is a shot for which a regular bullet rather than a blank is used. Scores were recorded at the end of this series.

In the record shooting series participants assumed various positions and fired at ranges of 7 yards, 60 yards, 50 yards and 25 yards. At the 7 yard range each officer stood in a crouched position and fired 10 rounds from the hip. Twenty-five seconds were allowed for these 10 shots.

Officers then moved to the 60 yard line and fired five rounds from a prone position. Then standing and using board barricades, each fired five rounds with the "weak" hand, (the left hand for most of them) and five rounds with the "strong" hand. Simulate Conditions

Champlin explained that while using the barricades officers were simulating conditions under which they would be forced to fire around a wall or similar cover.

He also pointed out that the men fire first with their weak hands and later with their strong hands as a safety precaution. A shot fired with the weak hand, he said, is more likely to "go wild" than one fired with the strong hand. Also, the men complete portions of the shooting series at varying times. Thus, if an officer fired his potentially dangerous shots first there would be less chance of another officer standing in line of the wild bullet, he explained.

In the final part of the series the men stood at the 25 yard line and fired five rounds from kneeling positions. Then, standing behind the barricades, each fired five single shots with the weak hand and five double action shots with the strong hand. Firing a single action shot involves simply pulling the trigger.

Time Limited
Five minutes and 45 seconds are allowed for all shooting from the 60, 50 and 25 yard lines.

Targets in the practical pistol course are life-size paper outlines of men from the hips to the top of the head. These are mounted on burlap-covered frames. Points are determined according to the vital areas the bullets strike. Bullets striking the head, chest and abdominal regions count five points, shoulder and groin areas four points, right arm, three points, and left arm, two points.
Highest scoring honors Thursday went to nine officers, all from the Medford police department. They were Orlo McGee



AT SEVEN YARDS—Participants in the practical pistol course held here Tuesday through Thursday are shown above firing 38 revolvers at a range of seven yards. For shooting while standing, the men assume crouched positions. Police Chief Charles Champlin (in plaid shirt) is shown timing the men with a stop watch. Champlin acted as instructor the first day of the course.



AT SIXTY YARDS — Officers assumed a prone position to fire at targets from a distance of 60 feet. Part of their training is to make themselves as small a target for the enemy as possible. The prone position is considered one of the best in this respect. A total of 36 officers attended the practical pistol course, sponsored by the Medford police department.

96, Clyde Fichtner 93, Charles Champlin, Jack McMillan and Berle Stephens, 92, Roy Thompson 91, and Lyle Perkins, Keith Gildesgard and DeLair-Tusow, 90.

Others firing were from the Medford police department, Marilyn Abshire, Robert Allen, Elroy Erickson, Roger Flagg, Milton Hanson, Robert James, Frank Lengele, Leo Mitchell, Robert Montgomery, Rollie Pean, Donald Pursell, Jack Sanders, Raymond Seely, Theodore Whisler and Edward Zaneider; Jackson county sheriff's office, Paul Bettiol, Dean Coe, Earl Courtney, Dean DeBerry, Robert Gheysen, Norman Matteson, Veryl Vanoose, Joseph Walsh and Glenn Wright, and Grants Pass police department, William Edwards, Dean Snider and Earl Whitmore.

60 Points Needed

Champlin explained that a score of 60 is required for an officer to qualify in shooting. Only one man fell short of that score in the Thursday series.

He pointed out considerable improvement in shooting averages was recorded at this session as compared with records of a similar course held last October.

This year nine men scored in the 90s; eleven in the 80s; ten in the 70s; five in the 60s; one in the 50s and none in the 40s. In October four scored in the 90s; nine in the 80s; ten in the 70s; nine in the 60s; three in the 50s and three in the 40s. In October 38 men participated, and Thursday 36 participated, he said.

Champlin commented that in addition to firing, the men attending the course get special pointers from the instructors on such matters as safety, proper shooting positions and self defense. They also have opportunities to ask individual questions during lecture sessions.

The police chief said the department plans to conduct two practical pistol courses annually, and it is hoped that another will be held next fall.

The courses here are identical

to those conducted by the FBI, he said. He added that the course was devised by that agency with suggestions from other law enforcement departments.

Champlin also explained that safety of firing ranges must be investigated by an FBI representative before FBI instructors are sent to the courses. The National Guard range and several others in the area were investigated a year ago.

Inter-Church Daily Program Starts Today

An inter-church daily devotional program, sponsored by the Medford Council of Church Women and the Medford Ministerial association, started today. The program will include three window displays and recorded radio programs broadcast over three Rogue valley stations.

Window displays include an archaeological display in Barker's display of devotional booklets by participating churches in Walt Young's and a display of old and unusual Bibles in Home Appliance, according to the Rev. Escil Hiser, chairman of the daily devotions project committee.

Recorded programs will be broadcast over stations KWIN in Ashland at 8:15 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, station KYJC, Medford, at 9:15 a.m. today, and a series of "Bible in the Lives of Presidents", over station KMED, Medford, throughout the week. The program includes daily

SUNDAY, MAY 13
Gasburg Museum
AT PHOENIX
FREE Admission
To the Persons
Presenting This Ad on
Mother's Day

Mrs. Grace Guyer, Medford Resident, Dies Here Friday

Mrs. Grace Emma Guyer, 66 resident of Medford for the past 41 years, died in a local hospital Friday afternoon.

She was born in Rogue River March 22, 1890, and was married to Lewis Leroy Guyer at Rogue River June 1, 1915. They made their home at 319 Portland ave., Medford.

Mrs. Guyer has spent most of her life in southern Oregon and was a member of the First Christian church, daughter of the Union Veterans of the Civil War and past president of the organization.

Survivors include her husband, Lewis Leroy Guyer, Medford; one son, Dolph W. Guyer, Sacramento, Calif.; two daughters, Miss Joan Guyer, Medford, and Mrs. Ben Hansen, Falls Church, Va.; one sister, Mrs. Linnie Connelly, Rogue River, and one brother, Levi Stevens, Fairfax, Calif.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday at her home Monday at 1:30 p.m. by the Rev. William C. Piper of the First Christian church officiating. Interment will be at Siskiyou Memorial park.

Pallbearers will be Allen Curry, George Swinney, Earl Halgren, William Ardy, Ernest Niedermeyer and Leth Meadows.

Stevenson Nominated At Mock Convention

Eugene — U.P.—Adlai Stevenson was nominated Democratic presidential standard bearer Friday night at a mock Democratic political convention on the University of Oregon campus here.

His nomination came on the second ballot and Rep. John R. McCormack of Massachusetts was nominated vice-presidential candidate. Sen. Wayne Morse received 181 ballots to McCormack's 631 on the first ballot.

Bible readings and stories from a devotional booklet as well as sermons directed toward the program, Hr. Hiser said.

\$500,000 Worth of Equipment Scheduled For First Fire-Ama

Southern Oregon residents will have an opportunity to see a display of over a \$500,000 worth of fire-fighting equipment during the Fire-Ama Saturday, May 26, between noon and 6 p.m.

This will be the first time such a show has been staged in Oregon, according to Russ Jamison, publicity chairman.

The show will be devoted to tools, equipment and methods used in forest fire suppression. The program is part of an industry-wide project in southern Oregon to provide more comprehensive forest protection.

Cooperating Agencies
State, federal and private industry officials are cooperating in presenting a show which will demonstrate the investment in equipment which stands ready to protect the valuable timber areas, Jamison said.

Rural fire protection districts have also been invited to display and demonstrate equipment as have fire-equipment dealers in Jackson and Josephine counties.

Among demonstrations will be the use of hand tools in fire suppression, use of tankers and pumpers, a display on the use of weather information in determining fire weather, and an air-dropper for supplying fire lines.

Pumpers, tankers, bulldozers, hand tools, radio equipment and other gear common to fire suppression work will make up the bulk of the displays, Jamison said.

Among fire equipment dealers who have indicated support of the show and who will have equipment on display are Cal-Ore Machinery, Rogue Equipment, Hubbard Brothers Hardware, Crater Lake Machinery, Hauptert Tractor, Howard-Cooper and Southern Oregon Equipment.

Jamison said others interested in displaying equipment should contact Lewis L. Simpson, secretary-manager of Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association, or Sam Taylor, chairman of the Fire-Ama from Elk Lumber company.

The show will be held at Elk Lumber company north of Medford, adjacent to Elk Lumber pond and Mason-Erman warehouse.

The show is open to the public, and refreshments will be available at a booth operated by the Medford Active club. Pro-

Portland — U.P.—Hospital attendants reported here Saturday that the condition of Ralph Pyatt, 26-year-old Bandon mill-worker, is still critical. Pyatt is accused of mortally wounding state police officer Richard F. O'Connor, 32, at Bandon Tuesday. Before he died the officer shot Pyatt in the head.

Turkey and Chicken Pot Pie
Prepared in our own spotless kitchen by our Chef who uses nothing but the best selected Turkey, Chicken, Vegetables and Potatoes. These are combined with Rich Turkey Gravy, topped with flaky crust and served piping hot in the casserole in which it was baked.
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Next to Craterian Beauty Shop

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Special MOTHER'S DAY DINNER
SERVED TODAY STARTING 3:00 P.M.
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"MEDFORD'S LARGEST 19c HAMBURGER PALACE"
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No purchase necessary
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