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CSAT

DECEMBER 03

INFORMATION LETTER/UPDATE:

I want to thank all the officers and agencies that I have had the honor to work with this year. It has been a great year and I have enjoyed the information exchanges and feedback.

ITOA

I had the pleasure of giving three “break out” sessions entitled “Training for the Fight,” at the Illinois Tactical Officers Association (ITOA) conference in November. The seminar dealt with the Task Force Ranger planning, train-up and execution of the Somalia missions in 1993. It was a great chance to visit with old friends and make some new ones. ITOA is a class act, setting the standard for conferences.

COMFORT ZONE

I was speaking with a Team Leader recently when commented that his favorite aspect of my training was when I took his team out of their “comfort zone.” I think this is critically important in team development and progress. I believe that if teams only practice what they are comfortable with, eventually they will run into that worse case scenario. Generally, they will have problems dealing with it because they are unprepared tactically, physically and mentally. To prevent this in training, throw in glitches, problems, snafu’s, to the problem once your officers have mastered the basics. If you study history and past incidents, everything that can go wrong, has already happened at one time or another. Ensure your tactics and techniques will work when everything seems to be going to hell in a hand-basket.

FUTURE CLASSES:

ADVANCED TACTICAL PISTOL/RIFLE

- I am working on a three-day Advanced Tactical Pistol/Rifle course which will build upon the fundamentals of the Tactical Pistol/Rifle course, but will add the following. I want to include: low light, shooting from vehicles, shooting and moving, etc.

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PATROL RIFLE

- Looking at the wave of the future, I see a great deal of departments going to the M-4 Carbine and other patrol rifles. I am planning on offering a three-day course in the use of the patrol rifle and its tactical employment.

PATROL RIFLE INSTRUCTOR

- Using the Patrol Rifle course as a base, I would add two-days and make a five-day Patrol Rifle Instructor Course.

CUSTOM COURSES

- If you have something in mind that does not fit what I have offered, please let me know. I have been exposed to a great deal of training, training environments and real world stuff over the years that I don't advertise it. Some areas I like to instruct and others I do not. For example, protection. I can do protection and teach it, but I don't really care for it. I do have friends in the community that excel in this area and can easily teach it and I will refer them to you. As for ideas on the classes you would like to see, send me your thoughts and I will get back with you.

IN CLOSING

Again, I just want to say thanks to all the officers and men I have had the pleasure to work with these past years. Again, I continue to learn many things from you, which helps me to continually refine my classes. And finally, I must say thank you for your dedication and service to our great nation.

Respectfully,

Paul R. Howe