

OCTOBER 05

INFORMATION LETTER/UPDATE:

Calendar Changes/Updates Law Enforcement:

Calendar Changes/Updates Civilian/Open:

IN GENERAL:

Hurricane Rita took a swipe at us and we weathered through. Nacogdoches absorbed “displaced persons” from both Katrina and Rita and it was a zoo for a few days. We were fortunate and only lost power for about four days, but the water stayed on which was a pleasant surprise.

I have had to reschedule a couple of trips due to LE manpower issues, the hurricanes and some personal matters that I needed to attend to. The rest of the year should be on track.

COURSE UPDATE(S):

None noted.

RANGE UPDATE:

The range survived the storm. I can see two to three pieces of loose tin and that is the extent of the damage. Many yellow backers are scattered about and I have new ones on order. I will walk the woods/brush the next few days to find the rest.

I lost a few trees during the storm and my “Africa” tree on the top of my sniper hill was snapped in two. It will be missed as it was a great landmark. It had a three-four foot base. I will do a bit of bush hogging tomorrow and check the rest of the property out.

TRAINING:

None noted.

EQUIPMENT:

GG & G Single Point Sling Attachment:



I finally got around to shooting my backup AR with the GG & G one point sling mount and I found one big problem with it. When indexing the rifle with your nose against the charging handle, the sharp elbow indicated above will punch a hole in your upper lip after firing a few rounds. The elbow needs to be cut down about half way, enough so you can put a 550 cord leader through it. The current configuration is unacceptable and painful. I will be sending an after action report to GG & G.

Kimber Failures

I received a few e-mails agreeing with me about my Kimber comments. I just finished a three day tac pistol/rifle course in Oklahoma and there were two Kimbers present. One had numerous problems and we finally got it up and running on the second day.

During my time in Special Ops, we had a couple dedicated armorers who kept our guns running. Without them, we would have had major problems. If you have problems with your Kimber, keep the pressure on the company to turn out a better product.

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BLACKHAWK SERPA HOLSTER

I have witnessed and been informed of several problems with this holster. First, it is carbon fiber holster with a trigger finger push button unlocking device. Two officers in my last Tactical Pistol Instructor course could not make the times from the draw with this holster. The push-button mechanism was difficult to index/find under stress and even after six days, they still had problems.

Another problem brought to my attention from a recent student was tactical training problem. During a scenario, he exerted excessive pressure from his trigger finger to the unlock button and when drawing the weapon, drug the finger along the holster and into the trigger guard, discharging the airsoft weapon prematurely into his leg during his draw sequence.

Trigger fingers are just that, for the trigger. I think it should remain straight and have one function, to index the trigger. The current thumb break snap or hood is the way to go.

IN CLOSING

Book

I am working with Author House on getting my book published within the next 30 days or so. We have worked on cover design and the interior formatting. All is going well and you should be able to download an e-version or purchase a hard copy shortly. It will be titled, "Leadership and Training for the Fight." It can be found at:

www.authorhouse.com

Take care and be safe.

Paul R. Howe