REAL-WORLD ROOTS

Point shooting has its roots in the street work and officer training conducted by British police officers W.E. Fairbairn and E.A. Sykes while officers of the Shanghai, China police force between World Wars I and II. In a 12-year period, the department accounted for 260 street thugs killed and 193 wounded—and that is just the shootings with pistols!

ICPS is Albert Timen's updated version of the Israeli method of combat point shooting and is based on his personal experiences in Israel using the method in live COC/COB circumstances. It isn't a theoretical system because, like Fairbairn and Sykes, he has used it in live gunfights and he's still around to tell about it. Fairbairn and Sykes fought in dark alleys at close distances. They developed and taught a system based on pistol in condition three (full magazine, hammer down on an empty chamber). "Often, people overlook the need to understand context," Albert Timen explained to me. When Israel was still a fledgling nation it procured arms from any source it could. Consequently, many different firearms of varying condition and quality were fielded, often with minimal training. In an effort to standardize procedures, all semi-auto pistols, regardless of design, were carried in condition three.

Today, Israel still fields various firearms with different operating systems from Glock to Browning Hi Power, Beretta and more. There is another reason the Israelis keep condition three as a carry condition in certain parts of the security forces and police. In Israel a lot of police officers get attacked. Walking through a crowd is a very real danger for uniformed cops, and terrorists have taken the officer's gun out of the holster and then killed the officer with it. Here in the USA, many holsters have a built-in retention device that is incorporated into training. In Israel, they adapt training and equipment. They carry in condition three so that the officer has a moment or two to recover the pistol while the bad guy bomb. Albert made the decision to arrest the man. He left his car and sprinted to the taxi, running up to the left rear door. Albert smashed the window, leaned inside the vehicle, and grabbed the man's hand. He snapped the bomber's fingers and dragged the man out of the taxi and prodded him out on the pavement, rendering him unconscious. After taking control of the man, Albert saw the suicide bomber's vest of 12 pounds of military grade TNT, studded with steel ball bearings. A wire ran from the detonator to a switch taped to the inside of the man's wrist.

MANY LIVES SAVED: When I interviewed Albert Timen he told me the arrest was, "One of the most important things that I could accomplish in my life. Lucky for me, when I broke the window his mental processes shut down. It gave me those precious seconds to act before he could operate the switch...we take our training seriously. We cannot repeat our mistakes, as in these types of situations you only have one chance. Real people paid with real blood to teach us these lessons."

FACE-TO-FACE

I would not have survived another incident. I was very determined. I was just months into my training. I was a KAPAP Ace, but even that doesn't stand up against the body of terror tactics and techniques and other things."