DELTA SNIPERS AT WACO?

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

FLYING WITH EG'S AIR CAV

UNMASKING THE "SECRET MAN"

STEYR'S SNUB-NOSED SNIPER

HEZBOLLAH — Anarchists And Advocates

AUGUST 1996

Win An S&W SIGMA 9MM With TACM III
Page 19
FEATURES

KATYUSHAS FOR THE KORAN
Al J. Venter
In southern Lebanon, where cease-fires are measured in hours, Hezbollah's rocket-and-run tactics usually bring swift Israeli retribution. And sometimes the multinational U.N. force there gets caught in the middle. 32

SINO SABER-RATTLING
Don Kirk
When the smoke from China's war games cleared, leaders in Beijing should have been red-faced over Taiwan's steadfast defiance. (Isn't it nice, for a change, to see somebody else's flag being burned?) 40

FULL MENTAL JACKET
Alexander McColl
Frank Dux's "autobiography," The Secret Man, is full of fantazoid spy exploits lamely presented as non-fiction. The self-styled American ninja and hero-wannabe — now Jean-Claude Van Damme's movie associate — deserves a black belt in BS. 37

AIR-SNIPING IN SIERRA LEONE
Jim Hooper
In Executive Outcomes' Hindsight, RUF's civilian-butcher- ing rebels aren't so tough. A mix of Belorussians, Gurkhas and ex-SAS help bring a long-running civil war closer to an end. 42

SHORT BARREL, LONG RANGE
Peter G. Kokalis
From across the Atlantic comes Steyr's latest bolt-action sniper rifle. Its 20-inch barrel is ideal for law-enforcement urban ops, while its price won't blow a hole in a police department's budget. 47

ADERHOLT'S AIR COMMANDOS
Col. Michael E. Haas (Ret.)
To interdict NVA movement on some parts of the Ho Chi Minh Trail, the high-tech U.S. Air Force reluctantly went low and slow with
a Flying Circus of propeller-driven
attack planes. The “prop vs. jet”
controversy raged from Saigon to
Washington. 52

BLACK SUITS, BADGES
& BRADLEYS
James L. Pate
The Clinton-era perversion of
Army Special Forces continues:
Delta Force ignores Posse
Comitatus and gets very chummy
with the FBI, further blurring the
line between “law enforcement”
and “military.” Charlie Beckwith
must be spinning in his grave. 56

COLUMNS

Command Guidance 3

Bulletin Board 6
Gulf War Syndrome Suit

Full Auto 14
Scoping The M16

Slick Willie Watch 16
Clinton Must Face Suit

Adventure Quartermaster 18
Ka-Bar’s “Next Generation”

World Sitrep 20

I Was There 22
Bullets For The Tax Man

FLAK 26
Ex-Submariner Sounds Off

Supply Locker 72

Classifieds 77

Advertisers Index 82

Air-Shipping In Sierra Leone — page 42

COVER

“One shot, one kill” is the motto of
U.S. military snipers, whose skills
have been refined on countless for-
eign battlefields. But such combat
skills might be used here at home as
the militarization of federal law
enforcement continues. Story begins
on page 56.
Self-styled American ninja
Frank Dux is billed as the “first covert operative to write a book.” Of course, that is nonsense; so is the classification of Dux’s alleged autobiography as “non-fiction.”

Now in its second printing, The Secret Man: An American Warrior’s Uncensored Story (Regan Books, 1996, New York City) purports to cover Dux’s 1981-7 adventures as a globe-trotting “off the books” agent working directly for the late Central Intelligence Agency Director William Casey.

Regan Books gushed that “the real-life subject of the Jean-Claude Van Damme [1987 martial-arts] film Bloodsport... had a hidden career known to few” yet commanded “legendary status on both sides of the Iron Curtain....”

A legend in Dux’s own mind, perhaps. Soldier Of Fortune has thoroughly examined the book written by this former low-ranking commo technician in a Marine Reserve artillery unit. Conclusion: The Secret Man is a hoax. Others agree.

“He has never been employed by, or affiliated with, the CIA,” spokesman Mark Mansfield told SOF in a 24 May phone conversation. Dux’s book, the CIA spokesman added, “is sheer fantasy, a work of fiction.”

It is unusual for the CIA to publicly comment on such things, Mansfield said, “but this individual’s claims are so preposterous that we thought it was necessary and appropriate.” He noted it is “rather convenient” for Dux that Casey is dead and unable to refute the book.

Dux again exploited the dead in claiming he socialized in El Salvador with SEAL officer Al Schaufelberger, who was killed there in May 1983. (Think of all of the aging, suburban women whose claim to “fame” is a jealously held fantasy about having slept with JFK — you get the idea.)

Alive And Kicking
One of the real-life characters mentioned in the book is not dead, and he resents Dux’s references to him. Retired Army Major General John Singlaub, whose SpecOps career began in WWII with the OSS, even had his attorney complain to the publisher, HarperCollins Publishers, Inc.

Dux claimed he last saw Singlaub in 1993 at a SpecOps expo in San Diego. Not only does Singlaub not know Dux, he did not even attend that event. The bullshit gets deeper: The Secret Man says that Singlaub headed the Phoenix program, which conducted “black” missions in Vietnam.

True, Phoenix operatives ruthlessly attacked the Viet Cong infrastructure; problem is that then-Colonel Singlaub headed the Studies and Observations Group (SOG). He was never involved with Phoenix, an entirely separate project.

“You know, it’s an insult to your intelligence, on the subject of special operations, to think that this guy [Dux] could say that he was involved in these things in the way that he said he was involved,” Singlaub told SOF Publisher Robert K. Brown. “It’s an outrage. And with respect
to what he said about Bill Casey ... that’s an abomination.”

Dux further claimed to have known an “Admiral Smith, a Gulf War commander” whom he last had seen in Saudi Arabia “when I delivered intelligence assets needed for General Norman Schwarzkopf’s implementation of a plan to disguise U.S. helicopters as Iraqi copters to penetrate Iraqi airspace.” More nonsense.

Retired Gen. Schwarzkopf told SOF: “During the operations in the Persian Gulf, we never had a plan to disguise U.S. helicopters as Iraqi copters to penetrate Iraqi airspace.” Further, I don’t know the Admiral Smith who is referred to as a ‘Gulf War commander.”

Then there’s retired Navy Commander

Wood’s idea of an ex-CIA tough guy.

**In His Own Defense**

On 15 May SOF interviewed Dux by phone in hopes of resolving some of the differences between “image” and “reality.” Most of his responses can be characterized as hazy and back-pedaling. When pinned down on obvious errors, Dux leaned heavily on it’s a secret. He even noted at one point that some of the details may have eluded him due to a brain tumor.

Surprisingly, after writing a 316-page book that purports to expose a lot of the CIA’s dark and dirty secrets, on several points Dux was unwilling to elaborate on grounds of security, or claiming that to answer the question would expose himself or his family to retribution. This lame evasion avoided such things as the actual time and place of his purported, initial interview with Casey.

Not surprisingly, SOF isn’t the first publication to challenge Dux’s self-aggrandizement. On 1 May 1988 the Los Angeles Times carried a lengthy piece, “Ninja: Hero or Master Fake?” It said Dux had a long history of telling those who would listen “romantic tales of warfare and adventure,” including the story of his heroic participation in a covert military mission in Southeast Asia.

The Times’ article suggested that Dux was a “bright but undistinguished young man who, using cleverness and chutzpah, re-created himself as a super-hero a decade ago, painstakingly authenticating his new persona with military medals, trophies and newspaper clippings of questionable origins.”

In the early ’80s, Dux operated Los Angeles-area schools that taught a style of ninja combatives he had developed: Dux Ryu. Dux unquestionably is an accomplished martial artist, but even in that esoteric realm he apparently could not leave reality well enough alone.

The movie Bloodsport, starring Belgian actor Jean-Claude Van Damme, purportedly recreated Dux’s brutal competition — during an unauthorized leave from his secret duties — in a secret, by-invitation-only duke-out called the Kumite (a Japanese martial word meaning “fight”).

In his book, Dux bitterly denounced the Los Angeles Times and another California publication, Black Belt magazine, as participants in a smear campaign begun in 1988 by none other than White House aide Oliver North.

Black Belt’s current executive editor, Jim Coleman, told SOF: “We do not believe Dux competed in it [Kumite]; we don’t believe the event ever happened. He basically was a small-time martial-arts instructor here in California until that film...”

Give Dux credit, though: he’s made big money bamboozling some of the cultural elite in New York and Hollywood. Nowadays he is billed as story co-creator in Van Damme’s big-budget movie, The Quest.

**Real World Vs. Reel World**

The convoluted premise of Dux’s book is this: As a young man, Dux was personally recruited by Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) Casey, who somehow knew Dux’s father, to deal with CIA employees who had gone sour, and Casey himself acted as Dux’s handler — all carried out in such a way to ensure that no one else in the Agency knew anything about it. If that doesn’t cause one’s non-
A 1993 martial-arts demonstration in which Dux uses one kick to smash two bottles of champagne held by his students.

world of the movies) the Agency has other, more bureaucratic and less dramatic ways of dealing with unsatisfactory employees.

- The DCI has vast, complex duties; he simply would not have time to act as the personal handling agent for any operative.
- A real CIA agent risks capture and harsh interrogation. The Agency necessarily would keep something as sensitive and potentially damaging as Dux's supposed functions far away from the DCI. What's described in The Secret Man violates an elementary rule of spy tradecraft.

- The book describes numerous occasions where Dux received instructions, phony passports and other support "through channels." This is inconsistent with the (preposterous) idea that Casey alone handled Dux.
- Of the eight operations, more or less, described in the book, only one has anything to do with the problem of a CIA employee who had gone bad. This further erodes the supposed rationale for Dux being hired.

The book is full of the politically incorrect, anti-CIA sentiment (a sure winner in New York and Hollywood), and badmouths the Nicaraguan anti-Sandinistas and U.S.-friendly regimes just about everywhere. Dux seemed to know nothing but a world of whores, gangsters, cops on the take and evil, corrupt CIA operatives. It is unlikely that someone with this mindset would have been welcome in the Agency.

- The book describes "Delphi," a joint CIA-KGB operation (Dux representing the CIA) supposedly to investigate aspects of the 1979 Sverdlovsk anthrax disaster. In the early '80s the United States and Soviet Union were still very serious adversaries; such a collaboration simply would not have happened.
- A common theme, right out of James Bond: The hero strolls into a notorious, underworld hangout in Milan, Duesseldorf, Hong Kong, or some other exotic place, almost immediately encounters a sinister but somehow noble and lovable Serbian, Chinese, etc., gangland kingpin who greets Dux as a long-lost brother then tells him whatever he needs to know and provides whatever assistance he needs. Strangely, no mention is ever made of which foreign language was used for these conversations.

- A whole chapter is devoted to a secret op to destroy fuel-storage tanks at Corinto, Nicaragua. The reasons for Dux and mysterious colleague "Bucky" to be there are flimsy: Bucky was there somehow to supervise the CIA's Argentine employees who did the demolition, and Dux was there to facilitate his exfiltration overland. Attempting to make an overland escape, as Dux supposedly did, instead of going out by boat with the rest of the team would have been suicidal: After a huge explosion, every enemy soldier and cop within 100 miles would be on alert. Equally ludicrous is Dux and Bucky philosophizing for 20 minutes or so while the oil tanks are blowing.

- A HALO team comprising one man each from the United States (Dux, of course), France, Great Britain, Israel, Italy and the Netherlands jumps into Iran — right in the middle of its war with Iraq — to destroy a heavily guarded chemical plant. Some inconvenient realities: At the strategic level, there is the problem of getting around the diverging agendas and institutional jealousies of six different governments and six different intelligence agencies. At the tactical level, there's the matter of different languages and operational procedures. (The passage at least is somewhat realistic in having the mission failing and all but one operative — guess who? — killed.)

"Secret" Man's Records

Frank William Dux was born on 6 April 1956, in Toronto, Canada. At an early age he moved with his family to California. On 14 April 1975 he enlisted into the Marine Corps.

Through the Freedom of Information Act, SOF's sources obtained copies of Dux's military records. They show that he served in the Marine Corps Reserve through 13 April 1981, of this enlistment, the period of 16 June to 23 October 1975 was for active-duty training as a recruit at the San Diego Recruit Depot. His subsequent USMC (reserve) assignments were as a "wireman" and (in 1978) "intelligence specialist" with the Headquarters Battery, 1/14th Marines, 4th Marine Division. He ultimately reached the rank of lance corporal.

A notation in his health record says, "This individual interviewed because of some bizarre type of behavior which centered [at] flights of ideas and exaggerations."

Enough said.

Frank Dux (center, in cap) choreographs fight scene in martial-arts movie Lionheart starring Jean-Claude Van Damme (second from left).

SOF Special Projects Director Alexander McColl is a retired colonel, U.S. Army Reserve. A Special Forces soldier, he served 2 1/2 tours in Vietnam including staff duty in MACV SOG. He also served in counterintelligence in Europe.

Assistant Editor Marty Kufus and John Hogan, an SOF contributor, assisted with this report.