

# BRIEFING ROOM



Since *S.W.A.T.* is published nine times a year, there are three months each year that do not receive a "cover date." Subscribers will have noticed that we have gone from our July issue to this, the October issue, and may have assumed that they have been shorted or missed an issue.

The truth is, with the ownership of *S.W.A.T.* changing hands, we were crunched for time on the "August" issue. Rather than simply throw something together, and go to the presses, we skipped to the October issue. This was done to insure that we have brought you, our readers, the best magazine possible. We know the importance of a hard-earned dollar and publishing a quality product is of paramount importance to us. Rest assured you will not miss a single issue you have paid for. Your subscriptions will be extended to make up for the "lost" edition.

Government—local, state or federal—can not prevent violence by passing more gun laws, any more than passing out condoms will prevent teenage sex. Teaching young people, of any age, to be responsible begins in the home. In fact, instruction of any kind begins in the home.

Recently I was helping my niece study for her senior high school finals in Civics class. One question was worded something to the effect of, "The 2nd Amendment a) guarantees the right to keep and bear arms b) forbids the passage of gun control laws c) is intended to protect a state's militia d) has no present-day significance." My answer, of course, was "a", but I was advised by my niece that the "proper" answer was "d."

After a brief argument, my niece produced the text used by her class, *Magruder's American Government* by William A. McClenaghan, (1985, Allyn and Bacon). As plain as day, right there on page 136 were the words, "The Amendment has no real significance today—except for its propaganda weight in arguments over gun control."

Was I surprised? Not really. The emotion that I felt would better be described as outrage. The way the text read would convey to most young readers that anyone who voiced support for the Second Amendment was just spreading propaganda. The true propaganda is what our children are apparently being taught in the public school system—and they are using *our* tax dollars to do it!

For years in this column I have urged our readers to become actively involved in Second Amendment issues. Join the NRA, CCRKBA, JPFO, or other pro-gun groups; write, call, fax and e-mail your Congressmen and Senators at both the state and federal levels; defeat anti-gun politicians at the local level. And, also at the local level, I would urge *S.W.A.T.* readers to find out if such misinformation is being taught to their kids. Talk to your kid's teachers, go to school board meetings and let your feelings be known.

The First Amendment gives us the right to free speech. Exercise that right. If you depend on others to speak up for you, the entire Bill of Rights may be in jeopardy. Remember, free men can own weapons—slaves can't.

Finally, I would like to welcome Clint Smith to *S.W.A.T.* A familiar name to anyone involved in tactical shooting training, Clint is probably best known for the excellent courses he instructs at Thunder Ranch (and before that under the name of International Training Consultants). More at home instructing on the firing line than he is at a computer's keyboard, we are grateful Clint has taken the time to share his experience and insights with us in these pages. Look for him as a regular contributor.

Until next time, stay low and watch your back.

## NOTE TO CONTRIBUTORS

*S.W.A.T.* Magazine welcomes contributors on weaponry, tactics and related subjects.

**MANUSCRIPTS** should be double-spaced and typed. Submissions on a 3.5-inch, Macintosh-compatible disc with printout are preferred, composed in MS Word. Compact discs are also acceptable. Maximum word length: 1,800 words. Manuscripts submitted without a self-addressed, stamped envelope will not be returned. For more information and complete guidelines, query the editor at 3025 N. Valley View Drive, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314.

**PHOTOGRAPHY** should be of professional quality, taken with a 35mm camera using ASA 64 or 100 SLIDE FILM. Quality color prints can be used, and digital photographs are also acceptable. Black-and-white prints of professional quality are acceptable. Prints with dates on the image will not be accepted.

**WARNING:** Certain products shown or advertised in this publication, while fully legal under federal law, may be restricted under state or local regulations. Before attempting to purchase any items that would fall under the Class III weapons category, you should check with your local office of the BATF.

**NOTE TO SENDERS:** Mail new products or product information, books and videos, catalogs, other publicity and Letters to the Editor to 3025 N. Valley View Drive, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314.

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