



SECURITY

CONSULTANT

MONTHLY

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Welcome to our first 2010 issue of the Security Consultant Monthly. 2009 was a growth year for us. The establishment of our consulting practice in Germany, the move from Germany to the United States to establish a Stateside office, networking in our consulting activities, the founding of our small arms training subsidiary **ARIZONA WEAPONCRAFT SOLUTIONS**, and the establishing of it's newsletter, **THE SAGUARO GUNNER** all added up to an extremely busy, yet successful year. I have decided to temporarily scale back SCM to a six issue a year publication. I am actively seeking an assistant editor and once a suitable one is found, we will return to monthly publication. Our goal is to provide an informative and interesting read for the security professionals on our mailing list, and for those who download the journal from our website. We also publish on ScribD and get a LOT of hits on the journal there as well as a lot of downloads from the website.

This is going to be an interesting and challenging year for the security professional, and we wish you as successful a year as we intend on having!

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1) Consultant's Musings: Countdown to Showdown

It should come as no surprise to anyone that the Mullah Mouthpiece of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad announced that Iran has reached an advanced state of nuclear fuel enrichment. What *is* surprising is the state of dithers this seems to have put the United States and Western Europe in. Again. And of course, again.

And it comes as no surprise that the UN Nuclear agency now states it is worried that Iran is actually making nuclear weapons. Well Duhhhhh!

Perhaps because of the number of times I have spun around the sun, I find it amazing how quickly human beings forget history, even history that is within living human memory. It wasn't really that long ago that the world watched Adolph Hitler take control of a devastated Germany; begin an arms race in violation of international law, spouted vitriolic hatred aimed at the Jews, (and made it clear what he was going to do to them when he had the chance), continued to maintain that he only wanted peace (the same "Peace in Our Time" that the democracies desperately wanted to believe until it was too late to avoid the inevitable) and then launched the world into the most devastating war humanity had ever seen up till then. And he kept his word in regards to the Jews. The Holocaust can arguably be described as the most horrendous example of wholesale butchery committed by man.

Now fast forward to today. Compare Ahmadinejad's rhetoric and actions to that of Adolph and Co. and the similarities are quite profound. The same arms race while proclaiming peaceful intent. The same hatred of the Jews with the vow to destroy Israel. The same fanaticism. It's as if Ahmadinejad curls up with a copy of Mein Kampf at night. And the Western democracies still cling to the illusion that economic sanctions will buy the "Peace in Our Time" that Chamberlain proclaimed at Munich. And with the same predictable results.

But this time the equation isn't totally the same. The Jews are no longer a scattered helpless people. They are a strong nation state (probably nuclear armed), and do not intend to be subjected to the same horrors they suffered at the hands of the last fanatical butcher they had to contend with.

Ahmadinejad intends to destroy Israel when he has the means.

Israel does not intend to be destroyed.

Ahmadinejad will continue to develop nuclear power until he feels strong enough to destroy Israel.

Israel does not intend to be destroyed.

Do the math.

So while Obama and Co. stand in shock and awe that the “Apologize for America” world tour has had little effect on the Muslim world, and Western Europe is preoccupied with basket case economies and a failing Euro, little Israel is going to end up standing as the bulwark defense of Western Civilization.

And I suspect that they will do an excellent job of it. With or without ours or Europe’s help.

The clock is ticking.

2) Personal Security: Safe Room in the Home

When dealing with at risk clients, one of the first suggestions that they should receive is to construct a safe room (sometimes called a panic room) in their residence.

Depending on the client’s profile, vulnerability, and financial situation, this could range from a mini Ft. Knox to an interior room or even large closet that has no windows or skylight. I often advise clients to use the bedroom bathroom if the house is so designed, as it is quick and easy to get to in the event of a night time home invasion. The door should be solid core wood or even steel that opens outward. Replace the wood doorjamb with a steel one or reinforce the wooden one with steel strips or angle iron. Door hinges should be mounted using 3 inch wood screws. The steel lock strike plate should be a four screw model. A keyless deadbolt with a minimum 1inch throw rounds out the door. (Actually, having 2 deadbolts is not a bad idea. Many newer apartment complexes use two on the front doors.) The disadvantage of keyless locks though is the possibility of a child or elderly person locking themselves in and the client out.

Inside the room should be at a minimum a flashlight with spare batteries, a cell phone *in a charger*, water, and whatever comfort and health items the client needs to survive until summoned help can arrive. Of course, each clients needs are individual.

Some clients have both the need and finances to install custom built or prefabricated safe rooms that also double as storm shelters. The problem with these can be the amount of time and distance it takes to get there in the event of a home invasion, attempted kidnapping or assassination.

The subject of self defense items is inevitable with all the attendant questions. Firearms are an obvious choice assuming that a member of the household *is highly trained in their use*.

Handguns or shotguns are the basic choices. If the safe room is also a functional bathroom, then stainless steel or other corrosion resistant finishes are preferred. It is important that these firearms be dedicated to the safe room and stored there.

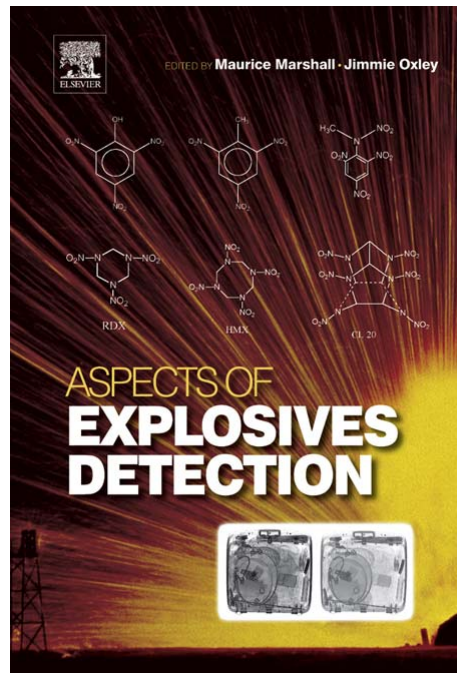
If your client needs a safe room, a lot of practical thought needs to be put into it’s design and construction.

3) Book Review: *Aspects of Explosives Detection*

Maurice Marshall-Jimmie Oxley

Elsevier

ISBN: 978-0-12-374533-0



Necessity is indeed the mother of invention, and security technology is indeed incident driven. The war on terror has driven the technology of explosive detection to the overdrive mode.

This book is a thorough in-depth study of the subject. The authors begin with an explanation of the detection problem and move into an evaluation of the various types of explosives in common use. Using a panel of contributors, chapters discuss the various methods of explosives detection including the use of dogs, colorimetric detection, nuclear technologies, x-ray technologies, CT technologies, mass spectrometry ion mobility spectrometry, and amplified fluorescent polymers. There is a highly useful chapter on post-blast detection issues, and the book ends with an interesting chapter on the constitutional aspects of search and seizure.

One of the obvious problems with advanced explosives detection equipment is that it is extremely expensive and requires extensive training of operators to be effective. As time goes on, both cost and operability issues will get better.

This is a highly technical up to date book that is an excellent reference for any security professional who deals with high risk clients or facilities that are potential terrorist targets.

4) Computing on the Go: Hewlett-Packard Mini-110



When I began doing training sessions and seminars using a projectors and PowerPoint presentations, I soon realized that my trusty Toshiba laptop was still too big to be carrying around. Plus, if I damaged it, I was out of business for awhile since I don't have a desktop computer in my stateside office. I had been looking at the various notebooks available and finally settled on the HP Mini-110.

The size is extremely handy for the traveler, or someone who needs to combine his computer with a lot of other equipment in a mobile configuration. It is 10.3X6.6 inches and 1.2 inches high. The computer with AC adapter weighs in at 3.2 lbs. Extremely light and handy, the operating system it come with is Windows XP. This works well for me as my laptop is also XP, and I prefer XP to that abortion Vista that my desktop in Germany came with. The 160 GB hard drive is plenty large for travel duties and my entire business files fit easily without the need for an external drive with plenty of room to spare. The processor is a 1.6 GHz Intel Atom but it only comes with 1GB RAM.

This Mini works perfectly for it's intended purpose and I can only find two faults with it. First, the 1GB RAM isn't really enough and needs to be upgraded to 2. (The max it will carry). Second, the screen size is 10.1 inches diagonal which makes scrolling through PDF files a bit of a chore. But that's the nature of the beast, and it's small size was it's major selling feature for me. It just takes a bit of getting used too if you are used to larger screens. It comes with a built in VGA port for external monitors or projectors, a 5in1 digital media slot, 3 USB ports, and a built in web cam and microphone. The keyboard is 92% the size of a standard laptop.

This model was definitely made for the professional on the go. And at a retail of \$329.00, I think it is an excellent bargain for the traveling security professional that needs an all around light weight small sized computing workhorse.

5) Final Thoughts: Next issue

I will begin a series on the various aspects of doing security surveys, both as an introduction to those who have not had occasion to do them, and for the experienced consultant who might appreciate a variety of views and techniques. If you have a subject that you would like to see covered in future issues, or would like to write an article yourself, please contact us. We have a small but growing subscription base and we post the journal both on our website and on ScribD, which gives it wide internet coverage. Till next issue, stay safe.