INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES
FOR MILITARY POLICE INVESTIGATORS

1. CHOOSE LOCATION BEST SUITED FOR INTERVIEW
   a. Proper setting is instrumental to success of an interview.
   b. Avoid distractions (no radios, telephones, noise)
   c. Privacy
   d. Select a favorable setting.
   e. Physical comfort
   f. Juvenile offenders

2. TECHNIQUE
   a. Prepare background information ahead of time.
   b. Get acquainted
      (1) Identify yourself and purpose of interview.
      (2) Identify person to be interviewed.
   c. Develop rapport
   d. Motivate interviewee
   e. Keep subject talking
   f. Use open ended questions
   g. Never attack self esteem or dignity of interviewee
   h. Control direction of conversation (gather information pertinent to elements of proof for offense being investigated)
   i. Maintain conversation at interviewee's level
   j. Respect individual's "space" - comfort zones
   k. Eliminate physical barriers (Avoid talking through screen doors and the like)
   l. Display sincerity
   m. Repeat information back to interviewee to stimulate clarification or corrections of errors

3. TAKE WRITTEN STATEMENTS (DA Form 2823)
   a. Confessions and witness/victim statements
      (1) Narrative form
      (2) Questions/answer form
   b. Procedures for taking statements
      (1) Avise of legal rights (DA Form 3881), if applicable
      (2) Have interviewee relate specific details of events
         (a) Insure elements of offense are all included
         (b) Clarify all general statements
USE OF FORCE

You should use only the minimum amount of force necessary to detain a subject.
The amount of force permitted is that force necessary to:
1. Secure and detain the offender
2. To overpower the subject’s resistance
3. To prevent escape or recapture of the offender if escape is attempted.

Note: To much force may mean you will be watched closer and be subject to punishment. You are never justified in using unnecessary force and it will damage your status in the community.

You should not use threats of force or violence when making arrests. This does not keep you from telling and warning offenders prior to the use of force.

Whenever any physical force is used, all law enforcement personnel involved should make written statements explaining, in detail, the necessity for and type of force used.

Hand restraints: you will use hand restraints to control all arrested personnel.
Place juveniles (under age children) in hand restraints only if they cannot be controlled by any lesser means of force. To avoid having a prisoner suffocate, you should keep restrained prisoners from being placed on their stomachs.

Hand Impact Weapon (Club): the club is used as an extension of the arm rather than a bludgeon. When used as an extension, it is easily adapted to fend off blows suspects may strike. When it becomes necessary to strike with the club, use it to disable rather than injure:
(1) Never direct blows to the head or groin area, these may result in death.
(2) You may direct blows downward at the shoulders and/or collarbone. You may use cross blows directed at forearm, shins and the back of the legs.
(3) You can direct jabs to the stomach or back.

CHOKES HOLDS

One or more of the following circumstances must be present:
(1) The officer reasonably believes that he or another person is threatened with death or serious physical injury.
(2) To prevent the commission of one of the following major offenses.

NOTE: In the event that DEADLY FORCE is used or if DEADLY FORCE is shown, the use should be reported to the entire chain of command. This includes drawing a weapon and presenting the weapon for use on a
Training Vignette #2: You are guarding a gate. An unmarked van, driven by a lone man, turns toward your gate and begins accelerating. You signal for him to stop, but he continues accelerating. By the time he gets to your position, he is traveling in excess of 60 KPH. What do you do?

The excess speed, coupled with the disregard for your signs to stop are good indicators of hostile intent. If you reasonably believe that hostile intent is present, you are authorized to use force to stop the vehicle. The appropriate force in this case is warning shots and, perhaps, application of deadly force to stop the threat.

Training Vignette #3: While you are out patrolling the streets, you see a man with a rifle in one hand. He sees your patrol and runs through a market. What do you do?

You may fire warning shots, however the presence of civilians in the area will prevent you from firing on the man. The risk of injuring innocent people is too high given the circumstances. You should contact your headquarters to notify them of the incident and pursue the man if possible.

LAW OF LAND WARFARE

- Prohibits firing on “protected targets”
- Mosques, churches, hospitals, schools, ambulances

QUESTIONS?
FORCE PROTECTION RULES FOR THE
USE OF FORCE

AGENDA

• HOSTILE INTENT/HOSTILE ACT
• GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF FORCE
• SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATIONS FOR USE
• LAW OF LAND WARFARE

USE OF FORCE GUIDANCE

• At all times use only the MINIMUM AMOUNT OF FORCE
  NECESSARY TO NEUTRALIZE THE THREAT
• When possible, the following steps should be taken when faced with a
  situation requiring the use of force:
  - Give a verbal warning
  - Physically restrain the threat
  - Fire a warning shot
  - Deadly force - Fire at center mass

Training Vignette #1: You are assigned to guard an entrance gate to a
compound. You notice an individual entering the compound through a
smaller gate to your right. No weapons are visible. When asked to stop,
he does not acknowledge you and continues walking. What do you do?

Given the circumstances, what is the appropriate level of force to use?

SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATIONS

• The use of force is specifically authorized under the
  following conditions:

HOSTILE INTENT / HOSTILE ACT

• Hostile Intent = Accelerating toward a traffic control point,
  pointing a weapon at you or other friendly forces, etc.

• Hostile Act = Crashing through a traffic control point, firing
  a weapon at you or other friendly forces, etc.
c. Prepare investigators statement.

QUESTIONS?
USE OF FORCE

Deadly force defined: deadly force is that force which when used, such as firing a weapon, will cause or is likely to cause the death or serious physical injury of a person. It is justified only under conditions of the most extreme necessity and only as a last resort when all lesser means have failed or cannot reasonably be employed.

08/31/93
Sgt. LAPPERT
135th MP Det. LAC

USE OF FORCE

Firearms: if it becomes necessary to use a firearm, you will observe the following steps if you can so it remains the same with the requirement to prevent death or serious physical injury to others.

1. Order them to halt before a shot is fired. The order will be: "HALT OR I'LL SHOOT."
2. Do not fire warning shots.
3. Do not fire shots if they are likely to endanger the safety of innocent people standing around.
4. When possible shoot to terminate the illegal action or until the subject is unarmed.

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USE OF FORCE

WHEN TO USE DEADLY FORCE

Force is normally necessary in the following situations:
1. When apprehending a resisting subject
2. For the protection of property
3. To protect persons
4. When given a lawful order by a supervisor

Note: To assist you with these decisions you have at your disposal: other security officers, police, physically binding measures, hand impact weapons, and firearms.

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USE OF FORCE

Use of Force: Supervisors, insure all officers reporting for duty are familiarized with the levels of force and in the order they are to be used:
- Officer's Presence
- Verbal persuasion
- Unarmed self defense
- Hand Impact Weapons (Club)
- Show of deadly force
- Deadly force

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