

1/27 DEFENDING THE DEFENDERS: Counterterrorism subject of class for local officers

By STEPHEN FARRIS/Daily Sun Staff

Defensive tactics instructors from several law enforcement agencies across the state gathered in Corsicana this week to receive additional training in the area of counterterrorism techniques held at the Navarro College Police Academy.

The class was conducted by the ISI – International Security Instructors (specializing in countering global terrorism) with instructors Avi Nardia and Albert Timen, a former intelligence team member of the Yamam, Israel's premier counter-terror (takeover) unit -- the Yamam are equivalent to the U.S. Delta Force and F.B.I. Counter Terror units and Albert Timen former elite Undercover counter terrorism elite unit member and Instructor at the Israeli counter terror warfare school and Police special units.

In a brief biography, Nardia taught defensive tactics and operational behavior at the Operational Police Academy in Israel, which is charged with training the entire police force of the country.

Nardia is considered one of the top instructors of CQB (close quarters battle) -- Defensive Tactics, used by the Israeli Army and police, and is considered one of the top instructors in the Israeli Krav Maga.

"All our instructors come from tactical units out of Israel," Nardia said. "Each instructor has been trained in the use of Kapap/Lotar -- Israeli CQB and Martial art."

Nardia said he has taught classes around the world, but today he was teaching law enforcement officers techniques concerning guns in which they learn different ways of disarming a gun from a perpetrator, field of fire, understanding weapon's, and team work.

During a portion of the class, Timen stressed the importance of law enforcement officers carrying the same types of weapons, and working as one unit.

"When faced with a situation such as a gun battle, you don't want to carry one type of gun and a fellow officer carries a different type," Timen said. "For instance, if you run out of ammo, you can use the ammo your partner is carrying as long as it is the same type. It could mean the difference in staying alive or becoming a casualty."

Hank Bailey, defensive tactics instructor and deputy for the Navarro County Sheriff's Office, said he wanted to get additional information and training to share with fellow deputies.

"The course has been very helpful. The training and information will be beneficial to our officers," Bailey said.

Kelvin Dews, defensive tactics instructor for the Department of Public Safety Training Academy in Austin, has been a training Sgt. for the past year and has been with DPS for 12 years. He was also attending the class to learn new information and better tactics techniques in order to share with troopers and recruits to improve their training.

"The training and information is even better now because things are constantly changing around us. We are constantly faced with different situations," Dews said. "This week we covered various drills and defensive tactics, learning something new in different phases of training," Dews said.

ISI also offers classes to law enforcement instructors in Suicide Terrorism, Anti-Terrorist First Responder, Bus Intervention, Riot Control and K-9 Training to name a few, and offers civilian courses and seminars as well.

The three-day seminar was hosted by NCPA providing an in-service class for local law enforcement agencies.

"We are always looking to upgrade and present different classes for law enforcement agencies," Dan Williams, NCPA instructor.

NOTE -- The Israeli CQB Art of Kapap/Lōtar (Any weapon - one mind) has been written with a special ink called blood. The knowledge came from experience, many times by making tragic mistakes, then studying the results to understand what needs to be done correctly next time. Unfortunately, Israel is the most experienced nation in the world when it comes to Terrorism and that is why it has developed one of the most valued CQB training systems in the world. For more information visit the ISI Web sites at www.isi-team.com and www.Kapapacademy.com