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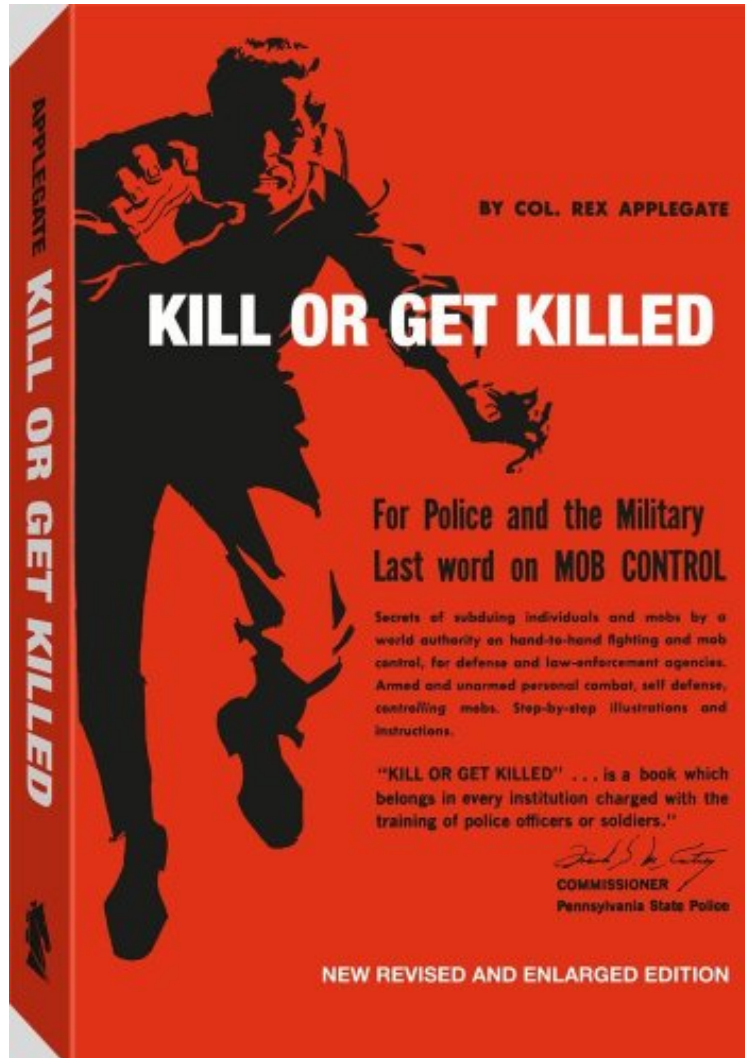
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Kill Or Get Killed

Rex Applegate : Kill Or Get Killed before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kill Or Get Killed:

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Good then Good nowBy J. W. MullinsYou could say that Rex Applegate was ahead of his time, but this isn't quite true. What he was teaching in 1943 was just as important and useful to the soldier fighting in World War 2 as it is to the soldier fighting the Long War today. There is no book in the world that will make you a John Rambo by reading it, any sort of combatives take time and practice with live people to learn. The system developed by Colonel Applegate is wonderfully simple and brutal though, it is easy to learn and fairly instinctive to use. Many martial arts are just that, art, they follow a rigid skill set more geared towards competitions in a ring that combat.The chapters covering the use of knives and pistols are just as good, and while the majority of people now follow the Modern Technique for handgun use a lot of what is discussed is still very valid. His

short chapter on training and firing ranges is inspired. Certain aspects such as holsters are of course dated, but it adds a yesteryear quality that makes it just that much more enjoyable to read. I recommend this book highly, and is a good no none sense read.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Interesting.... great piece of work..... for it's time.By

JPBlackBeltI would tend to give to give this work 3 stars based on content.Although there are some things that are definitely still valid. Many of the riot formations shown in this book are still being taught today (at least they were in my police academy.) His demonstration on use of cover, etc. There are good things here.However there is also a lot of outdated information as well. Most of the defensive tactics and shooting techniques are VERY outdated for example and haven't been taught for decades.I do however give it four stars as it was a PHENOMENAL collection of information and techniques for it's time. Applegate did a GREAT job putting it all together in one source. I can't really find anyone else who had done an equally thorough job of putting it all together.(Yes, I realize he was taught a lot of his stuff from other sources, Fairbiarn for example..... but I can't find an equally thorough piece of work from any of Applegate's predecessors.)This really should be in the library of any self-defense enthusiast (by the way... it is fun....

I've caught several "experts" who cite this book, and it becomes apparent they didn't actually READ it. ha ha)3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. GET IT FOR THE HISTORICAL VALUEBy Alan D. CranfordFirst, this is a 2007 reprint of that 1943 manual--even has a reprint of Rex Applegate's autograph from July 23, 1943. Chapter 9, "Jap Close Combat Tactics" was the best military intelligence assessment of the period and wasn't repeated in later editions.If you want practical, get this edition: Kill Or Get KilledRex Applegate updated the point shooting portion in these products:Bullseyes Don't Shoot BackPOINT SHOOTING - Battle-Proven Methods Of Combat Handgunning - with an Introduction by Col. Rex ApplegateCompared to the current US Army combatives field manual, FM 3-25.150, Applegate's "Kill or Get Killed" is simple to learn (because it exploits motions already used in normal activities) and simple to retain. FM 3-25.150 emphasized controlled aggression to CONTROL enemy soldiers and irregular fighter suspects--and is heavy on non-lethal. "Kill or Get Killed" emphasized killing the enemy as rapidly as possible when the soldier had lost his weapons--using bare hands, or improvising weapons from a stick or heavy cord. Chapter 1 is "Unarmed Offense," and the 1942 US Army hand-to-hand combat manual labeled its unarmed fighting "defense."

Different mind set.I found the chapter on disarming quaint, even though the techniques work. The reason for my bemusement is that there are three reasons why someone loses control of their loaded firearm to an enemy: failure to shoot the enemy to death, letting the enemy get too close and failure to hold onto the gun until all ammunition in the gun has been expended. When a prisoner in war fails to cooperate--SHOOT! It isn't something a law enforcement officer can do--police are into control.The chapters on combat shooting, outdoor and indoor ranges (6, 7 and 8) are worthwhile--though Applegate did update his method of combat shooting that E. A. Sykes and W. E. Fairbairn taught to British and American special forces. Their Shooting to Live With the One Hand Gun is the source of Applegate's firearm training in Kill or Get Killed. I corresponded with Rex Applegate two decades ago because I was integrating some of his work (as much as allowed by contract) with commercial security guard training for the force protecting an American Army logistics base in the Middle East during the 1990's.Speaking of training, when my National Guard company deployed to the Middle East for Operation Iraqi Freedom II I advertised "knife fighting classes" based on the information in Chapter 5. My first words in that class were "I lied--this isn't knife fighting. You will not give your enemy a chance to win by fighting him--you will rapidly inflict lethal injuries on him before he realizes that you have a knife." In this reprint, Applegate's ideal fighting knife was Genuine British Commando Knife W/leg Sheath, but Applegate changed his ideal to Boker Knives AF11 Applegate/Fairbairn Fixed Blade Fighting Knife with Kydex Sheath.I read a 1943 edition first during 1976 in the base library at Kaneohe Bay Marine Corps Air Station, Hawaii, and I have been using the information since--including passing along some to Soldiers, Marines, and security personnel when appropriate.I liked being able to trace the evolution of combatives--even when it was one man's viewpoint shifting over a period of 50 years.

This is the best and longest-selling book on close combat in history. Reprinted and in current use by the U.S. Marine Corps as an official training manual, it details methods of self-defense, offensive close combat, combat shooting and crowd-control techniques in riot situations. Colonel Rex Applegate is widely regarded as the father of modern close combat and combat shooting, and this book is considered the standard by which all other books on the subject are judged.

About the AuthorCol. Rex Applegate was universally recognized as Americas foremost authority on close combat with or without weapons.