

THE FINE ART OF EXECUTIVE PROTECTION

Handbook for the Executive Protection Officer



A. Hunsicker

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*The Fine Art of Executive Protection:
Handbook for the Executive Protection Officer*

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You are an Executive Protection Officer.

You provide professional protection and physical security to your Principal.

As an executive protection officer, you provide a high quality service with expertise and accuracy, and you are always ready to train and improve your skills by challenging any conventional methods.

You perform your duties with determination and professionalism, whether on national or international soil, always in accordance and harmony with the law.

You conduct your duties according to the highest standards of integrity, morality, honor, and loyalty.

You carry out your assignments of protection regardless of nationality, religion, or race, respecting your colleague officers with strict solidarity.

Your colleague officers are your brothers-in-arms, discipline and comradeship are your strength—courage, and loyalty are your virtues.

Your assignment to protect your Principal is sacred. You will carry it out until the end, at all costs and at the risk of your life.

In the line of duty, you will act without passion and without hate; you will respect the defeated, never abandon your dead or wounded, and never leave your post.

You will get your inspiration and commitment to excellence from our motto:

*“SEMPER PROTECTAMUS”
Semper Paratus -Nec Aspera Terrent*

*To all those brave women and men, Security Guards, Dignitary and
Executive Protection Officers, Law and Security Enforcement Personnel,
which lost their lives to protect others.*

To my Father

To Smokey

My gratitude and love to my dear wife Serran, for being on my side with her dedication, support, patience, and encouragement and for helping me to finish this project.

Violence, when there are other alternatives, is immoral.

Violence, when there are no alternatives, is survival.

"I do not know what it is like to bit a man twice."

Li Shu Wen (1864-1934)



Manchu Imperial Bodyguard

"Imagine what I could have done using a fistful of these warriors."

Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821)



Napoleon's bodyguard Roustan (Turkish = Rüstüm)

"It is a fine thing to be honest, but it also very important to be right."
Winston Churchill (1874-1965)



Caesar Augustus' Praetorian Guard

“Chastity, Poverty, Obedience and Protection of the Pilgrims on their Journey”
Perpetual vow of the Knights Templar (1120-1312)



Knight Templar

“The public good is in nothing more essentially interested, than in the protection of every individual’s private rights.”

William Blackstone (English Jurist, 1723-1780)



Swiss Guard (Pontifical bodyguards)

“Stand with anybody that stands right, stand with him while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong.”
Abraham Lincoln



Toshizo Hijikata, Vice Commander of the *Shinsen-gumi*
(A Special Police Protection Unit, 1869)

A special thanks is reserved for Jeff Young and Rebekah Galy of Universal Publishers, which professional guidance and expertise helped me through the process of publishing this and my previous book.

*The man who follows the crowd will usually get no further than the crowd.
The man who walks alone is likely to find himself in places no one has ever been.*

Alan Ashley-Pitt



Bu'shi'do

Bushido—means “Way of the Samurai”—based on the “Seven Virtues”.
Among the Chinese warriors, it is known as *Wu Shi Dao*—“The Way of the Warrior”.

During the 9th and 12th centuries in Japan, the warrior class, known as *samurai*—also called *bushi* (meaning: knight or warrior)—raised from the provinces. They became the ruling class until their decline and later total abolition in 1876 during the *Meiji* Era.

These warriors were men who lived by the *bushido*, a philosophy and guide for the warrior. The samurai were trustworthy and honest, and their loyalty to the emperor and his overlord “*daimyo*” was unique.

They lived frugal lives with no interest in riches and material values, but rather in honor and pride. They were men of true valor, with no fear of death. They would enter any battle, no matter the odds. To die in battle would only bring honor to one’s family and one’s lord.

This code of honor and moral principles, transferred verbally to each generation of samurai, became the written known form of the Bushido.

An Executive Protection Specialist is a warrior, but much more so a guardian, believing and doing what duty demands; proud of his/her formidable skills, but never takes pleasure out of the resulting consequences.

Throughout history, there have always been people like us, whether Praetorians, Knights Templar, or samurai, who turned into implements of steel and armor, so others would not need to. They were willing to offer their lives so others could live safely. Protection was their watchword—protection their creed.

Using the *bushido* code and the outlined virtues as a reference provides a point for reflection to everybody interested in the profession of Executive Protection Specialist. These virtues are not only of the samurai but form the essence applicable to the conduct of a true *Guardian*.

Jin

人

Compassion

The meaning suggests that one should aid the poor and care for those in trouble—to develop a sympathetic understanding of people. Through intensive training and hard work, one acquires strength, agility, and sharp senses. You are not as most people; therefore, your power should serve for good. You have compassion. You help your comrades and those in need at every opportunity. If an opportunity does not arise, you reach out to find one.

Gi

議

Integrity

Be honest throughout your dealings with all people. Believe in justice, not from other people, but from you. Honesty, justice, and integrity must become one with your life and actions. This is about making the right move or the right decision, not because it is easy, but to preserve correct ethics and morals. No matter the outcome or result, one does not lose face by applying proper justice.

Chu ugi

忠
議

Loyalty

These are the Japanese characters for “loyalty”—but they also contain the meaning of “being faithful and true.” You should show loyalty to your commander. Warriors are responsible for everything that they have done and everything that they have said, no matter the consequences. They are loyal to all of those in their care. They remain fiercely true to everyone within their responsibility.

Yuu

勇

Courage

It is important to display courage and bravery when facing Death. This does not mean that you should seek out death, but you must be vigilant in trying to ignore idle threats. Do not use courage blindly; be intelligent and wise. Do not hide in a shell like a turtle, but enjoy life smartly and be alert. Risk has to be in a perfect harmonic balance, so seek fulfillment in bravery.

Makoto

誠

Honesty and Sincerity

Be truthful and honest not only to your commander, but also to yourself. When you have sworn to perform an action, it is as good as done. Nothing will stop you from completing what you have said—you have no need to “give your word”, nor do you need to “promise”—because speaking and doing are the same action.

Meiyo

名
譽

Honor

Honor means: showing great respect for yourself, other people, and the rules by which you live. When you are honorable, you keep your word. You do the right, regardless of what others think or are doing. Honor is a path of integrity. You have only one judge of honor and character, and this is yourself. The decisions you make and the way you carry them out, is a reflection of who you are.

Rei

禮

Respect

We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy. We treat others with dignity and honor the rules of our family, school, and nation. Respect yourself, and others will respect you. The true strength of a warrior becomes apparent during difficult times.

浪人

Ro'nin

Ronin—a Warrior without Master

In ancient Japan, a *Ronin* was a samurai who served no master. Regardless, these samurai lived by the code of their kinship. Loyalty, honor, courage, and integrity were not just words, but the path these warriors took throughout their lives. They often hired themselves to needy persons, who were unable to defend their lives and possessions from bandits, thieves, and murderers. Many times these lonely warriors received only food in return for risking their lives.

The most famous Ronin was *Musashi Miyamoto*. He was the original true bodyguard, a wanderer, loner, and arguably the best samurai who ever lived. Musashi was Japan's greatest swordsman, and his bravery and mastery of weapons is legendary, even today. He was one of the famous 47 Ronin.



Musashi Miyamoto

For reasons of simplicity, the designation *Executive Protection Officer* will appear abbreviated as EPO.

The Author

Mr. Hunsicker is a Security Enforcement and Personal Protection Specialist with more than 20 years of professional experience in the fields of physical security and close protection; namely threat and risk management, dignitary protection, advisory, and coordination for physical security.

He served as security coordinator and dignitary protection adviser in Asia, European and African countries, and the United States. His assignments included clients of the private and corporate sector, celebrities, governmental entities, and NGOs. He also frequently accepted *pro bono* assignments as consultant to educational and humanitarian entities.

His skills and knowledge gained from specialized military training, such as special operations, expert marksmanship, weapons instructor, Martial art training, and Martial art instructor became enriched by a great field experience. Whether as a team member, team leader, coordinator, or adviser for physical security and dignitary protection, his rich experience permitted him to instruct and to lecture security, intelligence, and risk management related topics at several international institutions.

Over the years, Mr. Hunsicker played a role in the training, planning, and organization of security enforcement units and training facilities of international, private, and corporate clients.

He was the founder and executive of an international security agency, which later expanded into an institute for international security studies, with a special department for counter-terrorism studies.

He held membership of professional organizations, such as the Airborne Law Enforcement Association and International Counter Terrorism Officers Association. He is actively associated with the International Association of Airport and Seaport Police, the Counter Terrorism Study Unit of ISIS, the German Military Police Association, and the Diplomatic and Executive Protection Officers Association. His affiliation extends to humanitarian organizations, such as UNICEF, UNDP, UNA, the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Malta, the Hereditary Knights Templar of Britannia, and the Royal British Legion, among others.

Mr. Hunsicker is also the author of *Understanding International Counter Terrorism: A Professional's Guide to the Operational Art*.

Prologue

This manual contains information collected from training material and results based on and gained throughout my professional experience as Dignitary Protection Adviser and Security Enforcement Expert.

All reference material is quoted and respective sources are indicated. A wide variety of references and sources are listed for further reading.

Written material of this particular subject, personal protection and physical security in general has been excellently carried out by many instructors, professionals, and governmental entities. However, none has offered to the public an in-depth look into the operational aspects of the executive protection specialist.

The number of incidents and crimes carried out by terrorists, criminals, and gangs, such as physical threats, violent attacks, assassinations, kidnapping, and hostage situations are increasing by the minute worldwide. Each incident is a constant and ever-demanding challenge to the law enforcement and the personal security professionals in particular. A detailed but understandable manual for the Executive Protection Officer is a priority and the answer to those challenging situations.

Information about every aspect of executive protection is not only an important part of the professional's training curriculum, but it also plays a vital role for the client, who seeks protection. This manual will provide a clear view of all aspects, not only for the professional, but also for prospect clients. To make sure of this, all available training and study material, individual case studies, and real scenarios, combined with professional experience serve as a foundation for this specialist's manual.

Reasonable efforts have been made to provide reliable data and information, but one can only assume limited responsibility for any changes or the validity of all material because of the rapid path and ever changing patterns in this profession.

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