

# THE MAXTACTX KNOWLEDGE BASE



ISSUE: 0\_3

**THE TACTICAL BITS:** Information and tips from the fields of security, law enforcement, and protective services.

## Technology, Your Tool not Your Crutch

Technology is a wonderful thing. The conveniences of the cell phone, PC, Internet, DVR, DVD, and automobile have in their respective beginnings evolved from wants to needs. “I want that new Model-T Ford so I can out run that horse and buggy” to “I need that Pick-Up truck so I can haul some loads to work.”

It’s that shift from want to need that can turn a user of a technology to a dependant of that technology. We as law enforcement and protective service providers can fall into this trap just as easily as anyone else. In some cases we fall even faster. When a new piece of equipment makes the job of protecting and saving lives easier, dependence can quickly become a negative byproduct of its everyday use.

The first step is to know the technology and/ or system you’re using. Never leave the knowledge of a system you’re using in the hands of the tech that threw it in your hand while he sits back out of harm’s way seeing whether or not it will actually do what it’s supposed to.

Basic to intermediate trouble shooting knowledge is a plus when you’re in the field deploying a system and something goes wrong. Unlike a person at home checking his e-mail, you can’t call tech support when you’re in the middle of a mission. Many errors in gear can be attributed to simple things, like a loss connection, physical positioning, environmental conditions, and power issues so knowing where to nip, tuck, or jig can save you a lot of time and frustration.

Another thing to always keep in mind is that before every technology or gadget, there was something else before it, serving a similar purpose. Knowing this, and being able to revert back to a more basic technique or technology is a critical element to any back up plan.

Remember every technological advance came from the human brain. As innovative thinkers, we naturally build off the fundamentals, techniques, and tools we develop.

This is the key to total operator development. Before GPS, there's the map and compass, and before that there was the magnet and land marks. The more basic knowledge you know, the more adoptive you'll be if and when all else fails and you still need to complete the mission.

Clyde J. Lucas

**ACTIVITIES CENTER:** Exercises for the mind to keep you sharp. Not just games.

## Cell Seeker 3

### Shifty Caesar

The primary suspects in this case have been apprehended. The following messages were recovered by a digital evidence response team. They have been provided below for your review and analysis.

Subject: Tina B.  
Source: (Lap Top)  
Message: xjsi yfwljy twijwx jfwq j.

Subject: Al G.  
Source: (Blackberry)  
Message: hqzhpz uwjx ijgfyj

Subject: Ron R.  
Source: (Desk Top)  
Message: gnl mtzxj gfd dfhmy ufwyd

This is just a guess, but we believe these are CODED messages.

