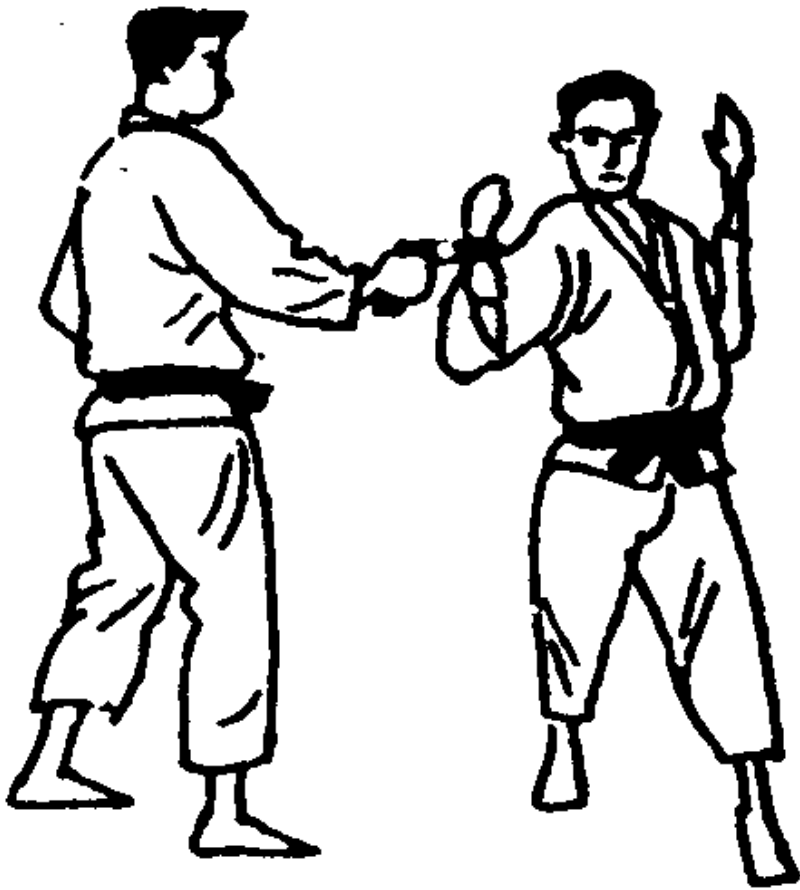


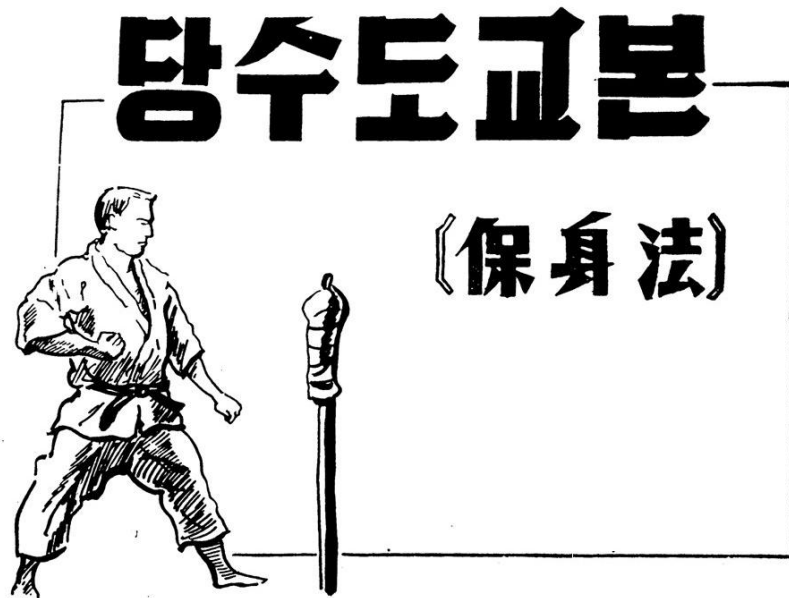
# Tang Soo Do Gun Defense

(唐手道) 당수도권총호신술

By Master Daniel R. Segarra



保身法



The following is an excerpt from Hwang Kees Tang Soo Do Ho Sin (bop) Sool book. It was about 125 pages in length and featured self defense while seated, lying down, common self defense against holds, defense against clubs, knives, guns, rifles and bayonets.

This is an interesting view into the how advanced Grandmaster Hwang Kee's Moo Duk Kwan really was in its early development.

I hope you enjoy this brief glimpse into early Korean martial arts history.

I've added some more up to date information to address modern firearms. If you would like more information like this please visit us:



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In the spirit of the martial arts;

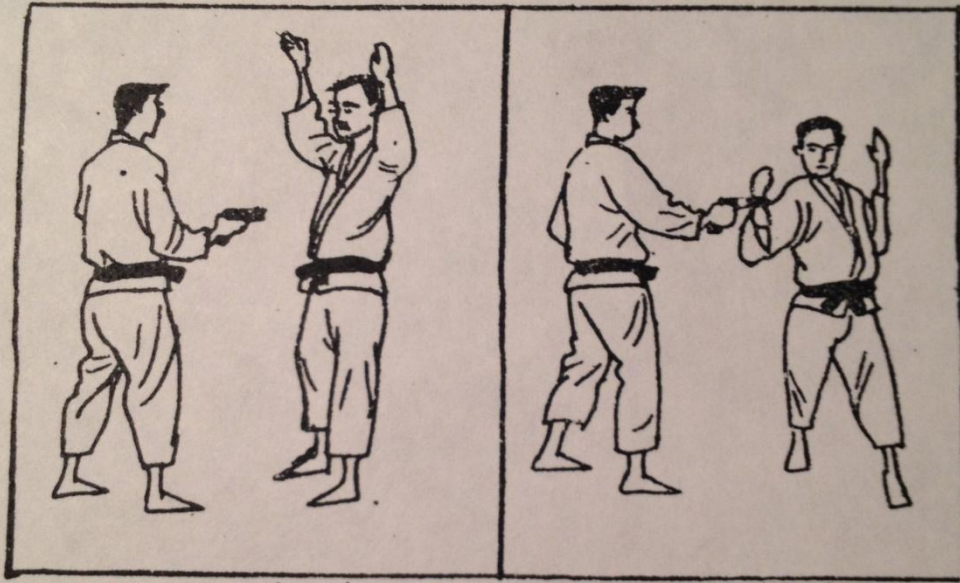
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan Segarra'.

Dan Segarra

**IMPORTANT:** This information is for historical purpose and these techniques should NOT be attempted. The translator/author Master Daniel R. Segarra assumes NO responsibility for your attempts to apply this information. Remember this information was developed for firearms in the early 50's. Firearms have drastically improved since then and these techniques should not be attempted.

권총 (拳銃)

앞에서 권총으로 중단을 위협 당하였을 경우



위협 장면

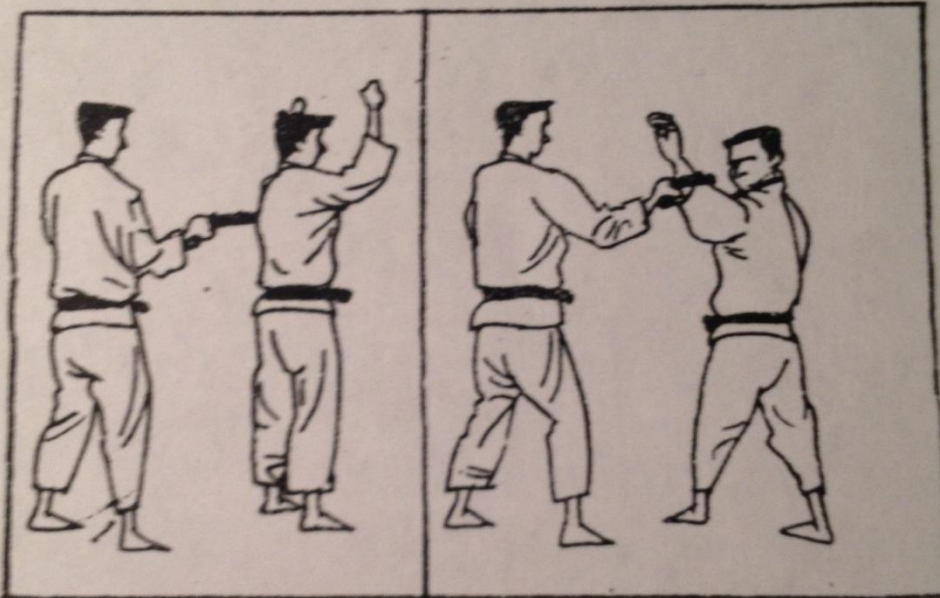
방어 장면

乙이 권총으로 甲의 중단 명치를 향하여 겨누게 될 때 甲은 두 손을 들고 있게 되었을 때 甲은 몸 상체를 그 자리에서 틀어 측면 향하여 권총을 피하며 (甲의 우측이전면이 되고 좌측이 후면을 향하게 된다) 甲의 right hand로 乙의 공수인 right hand를 안에서 밖으로 쳐서 방어하고, 乙의 상단을 향하여 반격한다

**When threatened by a handgun pointing at the middle part of body from the front.**

The situation is when person A is pointing a handgun at person B's pit of the stomach (solar plexus) while both of B's hands are up. B needs to twist the upper body to face the side and hit A's right hand (offensive hand) so that the gun would be pointing away. B should then counter attack A's upper body.

뒤에서 상단을 위협 당하였을 경우



위협 장면

방어 장면

乙이 권총으로 甲의 후방 목덜미를 향하여 겨누고 있을 때 甲은 두손을 들고 있게 되었을 때 甲은 몸상체를 그 자리에서 틀어 측면을 향하여 (甲의 왼쪽이 전면을 향하고 오른쪽이 후면이 됨) 권총을 피하며 乙의 공수인 右수를 甲의 左수 팔꿈치로 안에서 밖으로 방어하고 돌아서 乙의 상단을 향하여 반격한다

**When threatened by a handgun pointing at the upper part of body from behind.**

The situation is when person A is pointing a handgun at person B's middle part of body from behind while both of B's hands are up. B needs to twist his/her own upper body counterclockwise to face A. While twisting, hit A's right hand (offensive hand) so that the gun would be pointing away. B should then counter attack A's upper body.



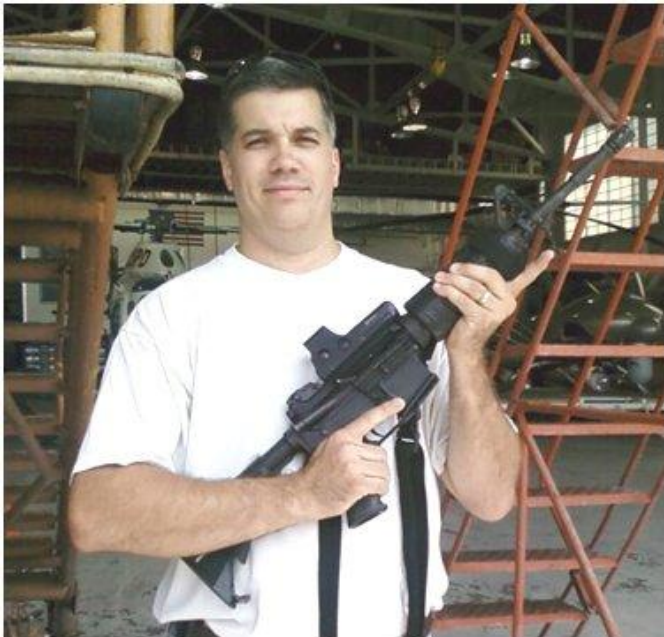
The author firing an uzi machine gun during counter terrorist training on 9/11/2001

Gun defense Kwan Chung Ho Sin Sool 권총호신술 is a serious subject and must be seriously practiced. One mistake can be fatal so there can be no room for error.

The old methods worked during a time the firearms were more primitive as well used less frequently in Korean society at that time. Guns are now more easily available, much more effective and often wielded by thugs with a higher propensity for violence. Many of the modern gun defenses practiced by Tang Soo Do Moo Sa Do Kwan practitioners are similar in principle but more focused in the execution, psychology and mechanics than the older methods. This is due to the fact we are facing more effective firearms and more violent aggressors and our understanding of kinetics and psychology is more advanced. The older methods worked for their period of time and as weapons evolve sometimes our techniques must too in order to effectively deal with the advanced technology.

### **Some important points**

\*One should learn to use a firearm or at least shoot one to respect and realize the deadly potential of the weapon, the loud sound it makes, the dangerously hot gas that escapes the muzzle. The basic nomenclature of firearms etc.



The author at the NYPD aviation unit.

\*A firearm going off near your head can be deafening and shocking, grabbing the barrel the wrong way could get you seriously injured, these things must be understood to learn effective disarming techniques.

\*So the way you approach a gun disarm is VERY important. The direction which you move and control the gun, the way you grab the gun, the innocent people around you etc. all factor in.

There are basically three types of attackers with a gun:

- 1) Someone that is going to pull the trigger (kill you)
- 2) Someone that does not want to pull the trigger but will if provoked.
- 3) Someone that will not intentionally pull the trigger and is using the firearm as a bluff but may accidentally pull the trigger out of fear.

There are a variety of pistols, far too many to develop individual gun disarms for each and that would be impractical, so the first contact with the attacker must either remove you from the line of fire or redirect the gun away from the target (you). As we do this we also grip the gun in such a way that it takes it out of battery (commission) so if a round is released (gun is fired) our grip will not allow a second round from discharging.

We must seize control of the weapon then either incapacitate the attacker or disarm quick enough that they cannot respond.

- We must assume that the attacker will resist and each disarm must be structured for that and the potential challenge points throughout each technique.
- Each practioner must know how to properly grip the pistol and clear it (tap, rack and reassess the target).

- In addition practioners should practice shooting actual firearms. If that is not possible then practioners should practice using unloaded airsoft pellet guns with safety gear. This is nowhere near as good as shooting a regular firearm but it is better than nothing.
- Forward pressure is the best option when available. By pressing forward if the attacker pulls the weapon away or moves back you continue to control the situation.
- If the gun is disarmed but not in a proper firing grip, bring it to the body using the body as an extra contact point to make the change in grip safer and less likely to drop the firearm.

These disarms have been as thoroughly tested as much as one possibly could. We have used unloaded compressed air guns which when fired one could feel the blast and know if you escaped unharmed. We've used paintball guns (that was painful), blank firing safety pistol which fired safe blanks but for all intents and purposes were the exact weight and function of a real firearm. Wearing the proper safety gear and taking all the necessary safety precautions. Covering every possible scenario we could; what if the attacker resists?, what if we fall?, what if we lose control of the weapon?, what if we drop it?, what if there are other attackers? Etc. Our firearms defenses are the result of all this testing, research and development.



### Action verse reaction

Action always beats reaction. An exercise that illustrates this point. Ask someone to hold a crisp dollar bill by one of the smaller edges between the thumb and forefinger of your strong hand. When the other person lets go of the note, you will find it near impossible to catch it with your thumb and forefinger – even if you try to prepare yourself for the moment. After playing this for a little while, the time will come when you will catch the note more frequently because your brain learns and reprograms its response.

Why is it so difficult to catch the dollar, even though we're expecting it to be dropped? As shown in studies, researchers know that even when a stimulus is expected, humans require between one-quarter and one-half of a second to perceive and process the input, and on average, another 0.06 seconds to complete even the simplest movements such as pressing a trigger, or pinching our fingers to catch a dollar bill. In the "dollar bill" trick, gravity beats reaction time, since even the fastest reaction time of 0.31 seconds results in the dollar bill falling just over a foot and a half before the brain can process the input, and the fingers can pinch closed.



What this has to do with gun disarms is it takes the attacker usually almost half a second to pull the trigger if they perceive your attack. If you disguise your attack through body language, acting and psychology you may buy yourself even more time or place yourself further along in the execution of the technique. So it's not always matter of being faster than the attacker pulling the trigger it is often them having to be faster than you with a built in slower reaction time.





You can see in these two pictures the recommended grip. The initiating hand grabs the top back of gun. This is because we want to take a variety of guns out of battery (function). By grabbing here if it is a pistol with a hammer we stop the hammer from going back and firing a second round. If it is a pistol with a slide like a Glock 9mm. We prevent the slide from going back and take the firearm out of commission. Note the other hand



is under the barrel completing a circle of control over the weapon. This allows us leverage to redirect the firearm in a multitude of directions. This grip has been tested with blank firing pistols and air compressed guns to consistently that the gun out of battery (function). This combined with angling away or redirecting the firearm increases the success of the disarm.



The attacker points the gun at the defender



The Defender pivots out of the line of fire moving forward and gripping in the grip detailed on the previous page. Note the opposite hand is clear.



The Defender almost simultaneously grips underneath the barrel. Careful not to flag his right hand.



The Defender then using leverage redirects the gun back toward the attacker. If the attacker resists by pulling back this works either way.



The Defender then strips the gun down out of the attackers grip and punches the weapon into the attackers abdomen (not shown)



This then pushes the attacker away while the defender brings the gun to his body to get a better regrip using his body as an additional contact point.



At this point the defender can if their life is further threatened:

- Fire at the body (double tap) at this range it is fairly easy to hit a target even when adrenalized.
- Fire at the head (central nervous system shot) a more difficult but lethal shot.
- Fire at the hip flexors to incapacitate the attacker.
- Command the attacker to surrender.

- Move back away from the attacker or if the gun malfunctions: **Tap** the bottom of the magazine (if the firearm has one), **Rack** any misaligned ammo out of the chamber, **Reassess** the situation.

### Additional points

- Make an effort to learn your states laws in regards to self defense.
- If the attacker rushes create space by moving back they could have an additional weapon
- If you fall moving backward make sure when you require your target not to fire with your free hand or legs in the way.

- Be aware of your environment and any additional attackers.
- Be aware of where and whom the gun is pointing at at all times. The direction we move is dictated by what is around us, who is around us. If an innocent bystander is to my left I will disarm to my right etc. If a second attacker is to my left I may direct the gun toward them etc.
- We recommend people not familiar with firearms training assume a two handed grip as to not accidentally shoot their free hand. When defending your life you become adrenalized and this can affect your fine motor skills and logic. You may think you would not shoot your own hand but it has happened so better to be safe with a two handed grip.
- Proper stance, footwork, sighting, gun nomenclature is important but beyond this simple introduction and will be properly addressed in a future volume.
- If Law Enforcement show up FOLLOW their INSTRUCTIONS. DO NOT make any sudden movements. Remember they are rolling up on a situation and are unclear as to whom is the danger. They have to assume everyone is dangerous and gain control of the situation. People have been accidentally killed by police officers for turning quickly, having a toy firearm etc. This is also a good practice to rehearse as a drill.



Well we've come to the end of another article. This just scratches the surface of this topic. I hope you found this interesting and if you are interesting in learning more I am available for seminars both nationally and internationally for a variety of advanced topics:

Advanced self defense including empty hands, multiple attacker, club, staff, knife and firearms

Advanced drills and skill sets, hyung applications.

Ancient health exercises, mediation and philosophy and much more.

I hope you enjoyed this brief glimpse into early Korean martial arts history and modern self defense developments.

If you would like more information like this please contact me or visit us:

My email: <mailto:mastersegarra@aim.com>

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In the spirit of the martial arts;

Dan Segarra  
Kwan Jang Tang Soo Do Moo Sa Do Kwan

