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About GURPS

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Rules and statistics in this book are specifically for the **GURPS Basic Set, Fourth Edition**. Page references that begin with B refer to that book, not this one.

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INTRODUCTION

William Ewart “Dan” Fairbairn was one of the most influential combat instructors of the first half of the 20th century, and the source of several important close combat styles. Trained as a Royal Marine, he joined the international Shanghai Municipal Police (SMP) before WWI. Within a few years, he would become the SMP’s instructor in unarmed combat, riot control, and use of all firearms. Already during the 1920s he was a famous figure within the international law enforcement community. Fairbairn improved handgun-shooting techniques and virtually invented modern riot control and SWAT-type entry tactics. He also developed his own unarmed combat style, Defendu, which was used, not only in Shanghai, but likewise in other British colonies and settlements throughout Asia.

In addition to unarmed combat, Fairbairn excelled in firearms use and was an expert knife fighter. His entire skill set would be of particular use when, at the start of WWII, he returned to Britain and began to train Allied special ops troops and secret agents. During the war he attained legendary status and finally ended up in the USA, training American personnel. After the war, at over 70 years of age, he was still instructing police forces around the world in combat skills and riot control.

GURPS MARTIAL ARTS AND THIS BOOK

This book presents the core teachings of William Fairbairn in **GURPS** terms in one volume. It repeats the details of Fairbairn Close Combat Training (FCCT) from **GURPS Martial Arts**, but provides much additional info on that “Silent Killing” style, including variations and typical technique Combinations. In addition, there is a full write-up of Defendu, the original style on which FCCT was based, and a complete

style template for Fairbairn-Sykes Handgun Shooting, providing optional rules for using guns in close combat, based on those in **GURPS High-Tech**.

PUBLICATION HISTORY

The section on the Fairbairn Close Combat Training is based on that in **GURPS Martial Arts** (2007), written by Peter Dell’Orto and Sean Punch, which was in turn based on that in **GURPS WWII: Hand of Steel** (2002), written by Shawn Fisher. Some of the gun techniques and pieces of equipment first appeared in **GURPS High-Tech** (2007), authored by Shawn Fisher and Hans-Christian Vortisch. The material on Fairbairn and Defendu was expanded from an earlier treatment in the *Pyramid* article “The Shanghai Municipal Police” (2004) by Hans-Christian Vortisch.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hans-Christian “Grey Tiger” Vortisch, M.A., studied languages in Berlin and London, and is currently pursuing a law degree. He began writing for **GURPS** as a freelancer in 2001. He was author or co-author of **GURPS Covert Ops**, **GURPS High-Tech, Fourth Edition**, **GURPS Modern Firepower**, **GURPS Special Ops, Third Edition**, **GURPS WWII: Motor Pool**, and several e23 publications on military topics. He wrote additional material for numerous other **GURPS** books; translated, edited, or contributed to several German *Call of Cthulhu* products; and published many articles in American, British, and German gaming magazines. Hans has been an avid gamer since 1983. His non-gaming interests include science fiction, history, cinema, and punk rock. He lives in Berlin. His martial arts experience is limited to several years of Judo, Tae Kwon Do, and T’ai Chi Chuan.

... suddenly at the top of the stairs appeared a couple of dear old gentlemen (we later discovered one was 56 and the other 58). Both were wearing spectacles and both were dressed in battle dress with just a plain webbing belt. They walked to the top of the stairs, fell, tumbling, tumbling down the stairs and ended up at the bottom in the battle crouch position, with a handgun in one hand and a fighting knife in the other. A shattering experience for all of us.

– R.F. “Henry” Hall, “Memories on His and Her Majesty’s Service”