

The Independent American

Volume 1 Number 4

The Magazine For A Free Life

November/December



seem to have as their editorial premise, "we will lie about whatever we get as long as we get enough ad money." A close second to both of these is the "send us the product (bribe) and take out an ad

and we will print your advertising copy as a 'staff review' in our publication". Seriously. Read the various "survival" and/or gun rags, it's done all the time. But not here.

KIMBER KRAP

by Douglas Bell

Sorry, did I give away the gist of this article with the title? It's just that I really despise the cutesy crap some magazines seem infested with for article titles, or the "what the heck is THAT title about?" titles, neither of which seem to have much of anything to do with the article in question. Give me an idea what the article is about and I'm happy. OK, not really happy, but less irked anyway.

The other thing that really bothers me, among a few dozen other things, is the "we can't tell the truth about products we get", or as at least a few magazines

Write a few of the various gun (and especially the full auto or "self reliance") magazines for their editorial and writers guidelines and it is right there in black and white, "we will not, as an editorial policy, report on any item or product that is sent to us for review that does not work properly, is dangerous to the user, or fails in testing. The product is either returned to the manufacturer to be repaired or replaced, or is simply not reported on in this publication"!! Seriously! Others put it as "any product which does not meet our standards will not be reported on", with several variations on the theme, but all basically saying "the ad dollar is KING here, so the subscribers or buying public can just go hang because we don't care about

them! If a product is junk, you won't be reading about it here, because we don't care about our subscribers."

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The Independent American

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Don't miss an issue of *The Independent American: The Magazine for a Free Life.*

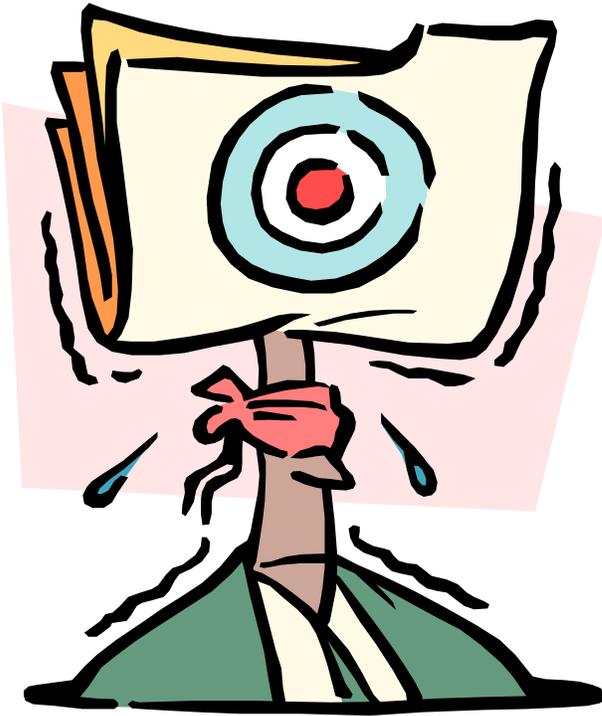
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52244

Doug's Two Cents



by Douglas Paul Bell

Doug P. Bell here. This is our fourth issue and yes, it too is free. This issue is the last free issue and the only reason you are reading it is due to Corceigh, who has been working like a dog. Corceigh has been learning new computer programs, working day and night, burning the midnight oil, slaving away, all to get you, *The Independent American* reader, the finest in reading material. Slaving away to ensure that the magazine gets out on time and is the best survival/self-reliance/how-to and generally useful magazine you can find, on the magazine racks or the web. You want to thank someone for getting you the finest magazine money can buy (remember it's free!), then thank Corceigh.

To give you an idea what has been going on here, I still don't have my computer

back. Yes it has been awhile since it went off to be fixed, and yes, I have tried to buy another one, but the one I was going to get went for more money than I could come up with. Yeah, I AM broke, so get those subscriptions in! Do it now, while you are thinking of it! NOW! NOW! NOW! Remember if I don't have a job working on this magazine I'll have all the time I need to hunt you down and ...excuse me, some nice young men in white coats are here to see me, oops, forgot the meds, which I can't afford if you don't send in your subs! Just kidding! Heck, I can't afford them anyway!

You might notice (or not) that the Kimber article doesn't have quite the photos we had hoped for. There is a reason for this. BOTH of my 35mm cameras have decided to stop working! The Minolta wouldn't work, OK, get out the Pentax and guess what? It just decided to go belly up that day too. Wonderful. And people wonder why I'm never in a good mood. Anyway, the photos included are due to Corceigh working night and day, day and night, (you know that has a nice ring to it, I wonder if we could make a song out of it, now where was I? Oh yes, my cameras going belly up and Corceigh working constantly to get some shots in so you can have some idea what the text is about). All the photos in the Kimber article are due to Corceigh's hard work.

Something we at *The Independent American* have been toying with is a question and answer column. It always amazes me the questions that get answers in the magazines. For example there was one that went something like this: "I have an old shotgun with two barrels. I can stick

my fingers in the barrels and got one finger caught. How old is the gun and what is it worth?" Answer: "Your double barrel is a Barking made in Belgium in 1884 with 28" barrels and the reason you got one finger stuck is that barrel is full choke while the other is Improved cylinder. There is little collectors value in these guns, but it should bring \$50-\$75 dollars." WOW! All that from that stupid question! Now if we, at *The Independent American* were to get a question like that, the answer would be totally different, something along the lines of "HOW THE HECK WOULD WE KNOW?!" Let me give you an example of how to write a proper letter: "I have an old shotgun with two barrels. I can stick my fingers in the barrels and got one finger caught. How old is the gun and what is it worth? PS- I've enclosed a \$20 bill for your time and trouble, and yes, I am a subscriber to *The Independent American*." See the difference? Clear, concise and all the information I need, now for the answer: "Thank you for your letter with question. We here at *The Independent American* are always glad to hear from our readers. Concerning your question about your shotgun, you will need to send us some clear photos of the firearm and good sharp close ups of any markings. Heck, just ship the gun to me UPS and we will call it even for wasting our time (which once gone we can't get back) reading your letter. PS- What did you expect for a lousy \$20? Next time send a \$50 and photos! Plus you had better be renewing your sub!" See the difference? Our answer doesn't waste the readers time or just take up space in the magazine so it seems longer.

All kidding aside folks, we do need you to send in your subscriptions and if you

would like to write for us, we are always looking for good writers and interesting articles. Articles on what? Just about anything that might be of interest to you or our other readers. How-to is always popular, as is what-to or why-to. Got a product that needs reviewing? Write it up! Do please be careful with reviews, amazing as it might seem, there are some people who might not be totally honest in their reviews. Yeah I was amazed to learn that myself.

Speaking of reviews and articles, we at *The Independent American* feel it our duty to bring you honest and accurate reviews and articles. This includes articles and reviews of items or ideas that might not be mainstream or popular, they are sure to be non-PC. The reason for this is the so called "popular" or "mainstream" media does not always tell you the truth, or it might even slant the story so as to make it seem that the "truth" is something entirely different than it really is. You know, like some demonrat (yes, that is spelled correctly) CONgresscritter getting up and saying high taxes are good for you (they don't pay taxes so they don't care), "we" (they) can tax ourselves (or them at least) to wealth, (after all they live on your tax dollar and vote themselves raises every year), up is down, black is white, crime is not a problem (it isn't if you have armed body guards and are above the law! Remember they - your CONgresscritter - don't have to obey any of the laws they pass!), countries that blow unarmed US ships out of the water are our friends and have to be defended at all costs, you know the drill.

We at *The Independent American* feel it is our duty to tell you, the subscriber to our

magazine, the truth. No matter what. No lies, no soft sell, no "we refuse to report on products that don't meet our standards, because it might endanger the all mighty advertising dollar" which almost all other magazines have as an editorial policy. Don't believe it? Write just about any gun (especially the very popular and specialty type gun mags), self-reliance or survivalist type magazine and they will either spell it out, "we do not publish any bad reviews of any product - PERIOD - even if it was sent to us by the manufacturer to be reviewed, and we do not accept any less than 100% favorable articles from outside sources", or they will hem and haw about products or articles that are not up to their standards, meaning anything that might endanger the all mighty ad dollar. We here at *The Independent American* feel that you, the subscriber, is the reason we are here, not to push whatever piece of junk is coming down the pike. We actually go and do, we buy our products (HINT! HINT! Any manufactures or sellers who want an honest review of your product? Just send it to us. You might not get the review you hoped for, but you will get an accurate and honest review!) and we tell you, the subscriber, what we have found out. No white wash, no lies, no "we sent it back to the manufacturer because it wouldn't work, was broken, or was a POS, so we want to suck up to the maker". We print just what we found when we got the item. We will NOT lie to you. If we change our policy I will tell you.

As always, we here at *The Independent American* are more than glad to hear from our readership, both the good and the bad. Like something? Let us know. Don't

like something? Let us know about that too. Would you like to see something we haven't done? An article or review? Let us know. Remember, YOU, the reader of the *Independent American* are the reason we are here, not the ad dollar. Drop us a line.



About This Issue



Corceigh Green: contributing editor.

Welcome to *The Independent American's* fourth issue. As our editor Douglas Paul Bell announced above, this is our last free issue. This issue was to be our second premium service issue, but due to some technical difficulties we had extended our free viewing period to the end of this year (2003). To our

subscribers, we have extended your subscription through the end of next year. We at *The Independent American* believe in sharing our bounty. Enjoy.

If you are one of the readers who have put off subscribing till the last moment, **this is it**. If you want to continue reading the best survival/freedom/homesteading information available, you will need to subscribe. It is not that we haven't enjoyed bringing you this information, but it does cost us money and we are trying to at least break even. We feel that 15 federal reserve notes (FRNs) a year is a small price to pay for the type of high quality information we are presenting.

To subscribe send a 15 FRN money order to: The Independent American, Subscription, P.O. Box 1894, Iowa City, Iowa [52244]

Enough business. Now it's time to enjoy our current presentation to you. As you can see, the weather is turning across our fair country from the long, warm days of summer to the long, cold night of winter. Thoughts of Independent Americans across the country will be turning to the holidays, of family time in front of a warm fire and winter maintenance at the homestead.

In this issue, our Info-Line column is presenting ideas for Independent Americans for Christmas presents for the family that are fun, informative and/or helpful in survival or around the homestead.

The first part of a long awaited article, *Turning Weeds Into Food Crops*, is being presented in our About Plants column. This article will instruct the

reader how to gather wild plants to utilize in a garden in case you haven't gotten your non-hybrid seeds when you need them.

Our editor, Douglas Paul Bell presents more reviews of books of interest to Independent Americans and writes a review of the Kimber Custom Classic. Will it stack up to the standards of Independent Americans?

How to Acquire A Firearms Battery; and firearms to consider is a short and dirty guide as to methods of obtaining a firearms battery and the types of firearms you may need for survival and the homestead.

Glenn Boman gives us an example of how to make out survival lists in his column, Survival and Firearms.

Hari Heath is back with *The Brushfire News* and contemplates communism in America.

The reverend J. D. Hooker contributes to this issue in the Projects For Home and Life column. He instructs the reader on making a heddle loom. Time has not yet permitted the forge bellows project, but it is forth-coming.

As always, we hope you enjoy our presentation to you and may you never need the information herein, but may it prosper you and see you through any situation. Thank you.



Continued from page 2.

Others put it as "any product which does not meet our standards will not be reported on", with several variations on the theme, but all basically saying "the ad dollar is KING here, so the subscribers or buying public can just go hang because we don't care about them! If a product is junk, you won't be reading about it here, because we don't care about our subscribers."

However, at *The Independent American* we believe that you, the buyer of this fine, high quality magazine, is the reason we are here, not to act as pimps and shills for whatever trash and junk that is fostered off on us in the name of the all mighty dollar. That makes us unique among ALL survival oriented and self-reliance style magazines and most firearms oriented publications today. WE don't lie, and WE report the truth. Let the chips fall where they may.

Now the title of this opus is "Kimber Krap", and that is just what I got. Sure I could have sent the Kimber .45 auto pistol back to the factory to be replaced or repaired. The "mainstream" gun rags are just chock a block full of articles where the writer did just that, and either skimmed over that fact, reported it at the very end of the article in passing, or simply ignored the fact in writing up the story. But that isn't our style. When I read an article, I want to know what I'm getting up front, what sort of product is the factory cranking out and pushing out the door, not what the factory does after they get caught in the ringer. What sort of product does the factory pass off to you and me, and not the worked over guns the gun magazines get.

Yeah I know, the gun writers all whine they don't get special, tricked out guns, but an equal number of factory reps quietly admit when they know a gun is going to a writer or gun magazine the gun gets a going over, from a little to a lot. Of course some reps also admit it really doesn't matter because if the gun is garbage, you, the magazine buying public aren't going to hear about it anyway, so why bother to do anything to the product? The ad money will buy even the worst turd a gold (or at least brass) plating. But not here at *The Independent American*. Sure, sometimes you may need to wait until the writer is calm enough that the key board doesn't get pounded to scrap, they can put pen to paper with out stabbing the paper and screaming "That worthless piece of -----!\"", or there is no danger of a high blood pressure induced stroke. But you WILL read about it here, I guarantee it. If we ever change our policy, I'll let you know.

As to why I bought a blued Kimber Custom Classic (they have since changed the names of the guns, this one is one of the "lower" end Kimber pistols) at \$625.00 dealer cost, rather than a stainless steel Colt or Springfield Armory, either of which was cheaper at that time than the blued Kimber in question, all I can say is I was just as easily mislead by the various gun articles as the next guy. That's right, I got suckered. Ripped off. Lied to. Just like you.

I wanted a high quality, high class 1911 style .45 Auto (yes I know the 1911 was made from 1911 to 1923 when it became the 1911-A1, but can we finally

get on with this story?) and read the various gun rags, who all loved the Kimber, with the sole exception of GUN TESTS Magazine which consistently seemed to have problems with the Kimbers they bought. That's right, GUN TESTS is the only other gun magazine that buys their guns just like we do. They also report on the guns, warts and all, although possibly not as firmly as we do here at *The Independent American*.

So the deed was done, the money paid, the pistol shipped. I'll never forget when I first opened the plastic clam shell carrying case to reveal the beautiful pearl within. And yes, it was beautiful. Of course it was later revealed as a brass plated turd instead of a pearl of delight, but the tarnish hadn't set in yet, and I didn't know what was in store for me at the time.

Carefully I picked the pistol up and racked the slide. How to describe the feeling? There wasn't a thousandth of an inch play in the slide and it felt like it was gliding back and forth on greased ball bearings. We are talking S-M-O-O-T-H! I couldn't have been happier!

Since I had now checked to make sure the gun was unloaded and there was nothing in the chamber, something you should do with ALL guns whenever you pick one up, everytime, I squeezed the trigger. And squeezed. And squeezed. And pulled and pulled. Hmm...seemed to be getting weak in my old age. After setting the gun down so I could flex a little feeling back into my hand, I proceeded to grasp the Kimber in both hands and using both index fingers, pulled on the trigger.

Finally the hammer dropped. Several more tries also required both fingers to drop the hammer. Hoping that it might smooth up with use and wear, I dropped the hammer until the cramping in my hands forced me to quit. However the trigger pull was much lighter and smoother, and the hammer easier to drop. At this point it finally occurred to me that I should measure the trigger pull to see what it actually was now that it had finally "lightened up".



Though the Kimber looks good and has a smooth action, there are many problems that need to be worked out on it.

Since my trigger pull measure only goes up to twelve pounds, it was completely out of it's class when trying to measure the Kimber trigger pull. Rigging up enough weight of a known amount was a bit of a problem, but as I had a sixteen pound turkey in the freezer, I had most of the weight needed, of an exact amount, to check the trigger pull. I'm sure the turkey would have been happy to know it's death was not in vain, although a future life as a trigger pull weight probably wasn't what either the bird or the store thought would happen. The "final" trigger pull weight was a mere eighteen pounds two ounces to eighteen pounds four ounces, but at least I could drop the hammer with one hand now.

OK, now that we had that sorted out, how did the Kimber feed and eject? As it turned out, it didn't. Hmmmm....maybe the LSWC (Lead Semi-Wad Cutter) bullets I was using was the problem, OR maybe it was the cheap seven round no name magazine Kimber supplied with the gun that was the problem. This was the first of many parts that was found to have a quite lovely ring to it when thrown into the garbage can. Since the gun was, well not designed by Chip McCormick, but at least set up by him with Chip McCormick/Shooting Star parts, such as the Chip McCormick plastic mainspring housing, grip safety, extractor, etc., why Kimber couldn't have supplied a Chip McCormick/Shooting Star magazine I don't know.

Now that the feeding problem was cured by discarding the junk magazine and using a Shooting Star magazine (my favorite magazines by the way), the SWC rounds were sliding into the chamber just like they were supposed to. The problem was, they were not extracting or ejecting like they were supposed to! Seems the Chip McCormick extractor (which is NOT interchangeable with Colt or military spec extractors, or Colt or military spec slides, or at least none of the six or so I tried them in) had not been polished, or tensioned, at all, at the factory. It would be a five minute job to polish and tension an extractor, or at least to do it right. This couldn't have been done at the factory? With a 99% failure to extract and a 100% failure to eject, I wonder how this pistol got through test firing and quality control, that is on top of the probably thirty plus pound trigger pull it came with out of the box. At least removing the extractor was easy. After

removing the firing pin retainer, I turned the gun up and the extractor fell out!

As I said, this is only a five minute job to fix, but at this point I wasn't really in the mood to deal with it. The extractor also made a very satisfying ring when hitting the trash can and I simply put in a Shooting Star extractor I had already had polished and tensioned, which also didn't fit any military spec slides, which is why I had it laying around. That problem solved!

The slide release started out rough, gritty, and stiff, but was getting rougher, grittier and stiffer, until it finally seized up completely. The problem was the slide stop is just a cheap casting and the end where the slide stop plunger was bearing had not been polished or smoothed in any way, so the slide stop plunger simply ate a hole in the (extremely roughly) cast end and locked the slide stop up completely. As you might guess, this also made it very hard to take the gun apart. The slide stop had a nice ring to it hitting the dust bin. I replaced it with a military surplus slide release.

Finally! The Kimber was working! Enough burrs were removed from the internal parts, most of which the average person would have mistaken for oddly shaped wood rasps before polishing, the trigger pull (after a trigger job) was down to a manageable four and a half pounds, what else needed to be done? As it turned out, there were three more items I needed to deal with to bring the gun up to a proper working condition.

Since Kimber sees fit to inflict and supply their pistols with an abomination

in the form of a one piece full length recoil spring guide rod, which probably really isn't their fault as most .45s seem so afflicted from the factory with them now, as is the style, that was the next part to prove to have a pleasing ring to it when bouncing into the waste can. Some, so called, gun pimps...er...writers claim the full length recoil spring guide rod is needed to "eliminate spring kink and bind" which makes the .45 Auto chamber, cycle and extract more reliably." LIES! If the 1911 needed a full length recoil spring guide rod, John Browning would have supplied one or the lack would have been spotted some ninety odd years ago.

Actually, aside from making money for the useless accessory manufacturers, the only real need for a full length recoil spring guide rod is to add extra weight up in front of the trigger guard to keep the gun from recoiling as much and to control the muzzle jump. Admittedly the other reason they are needed is to provide a much needed brace and support for many of the huge recoil compensators currently in vogue right now, and some compensators state that a full length recoil spring guide rod is required.

If you must have a full length recoil spring guide rod in your pistol, at least get a two piece recoil spring guide rod so you can remove the front half when you want to use the gun as a carry piece for serious use, as the full length rod can actually be a liability in some cases. Use the full length rod for plinking, gun games and the like, but remove the front half for serious use, which is what I do.

Next to go is the cheap, cheesy, junky

plastic mainspring housing supplied with the pistol. Remember how the full length recoil spring guide rod sellers were telling us the full length rods "puts additional recoil-killing weight" in the pistol "for improved muzzle control"? Well according to Chip, we need junky plastic parts to "cut down on excess bulk, an important part of a light, pointable pistol." So which is it? "Over three ounces" added at one end, so we have to have some crappy plastic part added to the other end? At the price of this gun, they could have easily provided a two piece recoil spring guide rod and a steel (preferably) or if they have to have light weight, aluminum mainspring housing. Unfortunately, this part, being plastic, didn't have quite the same pleasurable tonal notes the other parts did. Admittedly, I COULD have lived with the plastic mainspring housing, but for this sort of money I shouldn't HAVE to put up with plastic parts, and it just rubbed me the wrong way to have spent this sort of money on a gun that was completely unacceptable, and after putting in the sort of time, effort and money to get a workable pistol, I just wasn't going to put up with plastic parts on my gun. A flat rubber covered Pachmayer mainspring housing replaced the plastic one here.

Last but not least, the grips. Now the supplied two piece rubber covered grips were quite acceptable, and there was noting wrong with them. The only problem, for me that is, is I use my pistols year round and that means in sub-zero temperatures as well. When using a pistol at sub-zero temperatures, the less sub-zero metal in contact with my hands the better I like it, so I prefer one piece wrap around rubber grips. In warmer

areas this might not be a problem, but like I said, I just feel better with minimal ice cold metal to skin contact.

I also liked the allen head grip screws supplied by Kimber. Neat, business like and sporty, they keep the gun from having bugged up screw slots. The only problem is, of course, you can generally find something to tighten up slot screws with, but you are out of luck with out the proper sized hex head wrench with allen screws.

Now that we have replaced the extractor, mainspring housing, grips, slide stop, one piece recoil spring guide rod, given the gun a trigger job, polished all the internal parts, were there any other problems with the gun? Unfortunately, yes. The Kimber rusts at the drop of a hat, even worse than the Savage 24 does. About the only way I've found to keep the gun from rusting is to keep it in an oil bath. Other than that, checking it every few days and keeping it well oiled is about the best that can be done.

Accuracy wise, the gun does pretty good. With my eyes, my handloads and off a rest, 25 yard groups of 3"-4" are fairly easy to shoot. With someone who is a better shoot, has better eyes, or factory target loads, undoubtedly that could be tightened up considerably, but I'm happy.

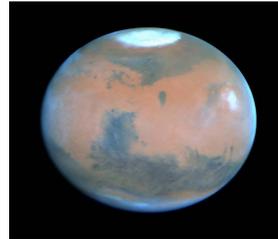
In case you were wondering, Kimber slides and frames are cast by Smith & Wesson, as are most of the slides and frames for many of the smaller and "semi-custom" .45 manufacturers. That's

why S&W brought out their version of the 1911, with the external extractor. The external extractor is there to be different and is cheaper to manufacture, NOT because it is better. Any time someone can make a product cheaper and charge more for cheapening the item, it is hailed as an "improvement". Don't believe it.

In conclusion, if you are looking for a handgun for self defense or competition shooting, leave the Kimbers alone and buy a gun that works right from the factory.



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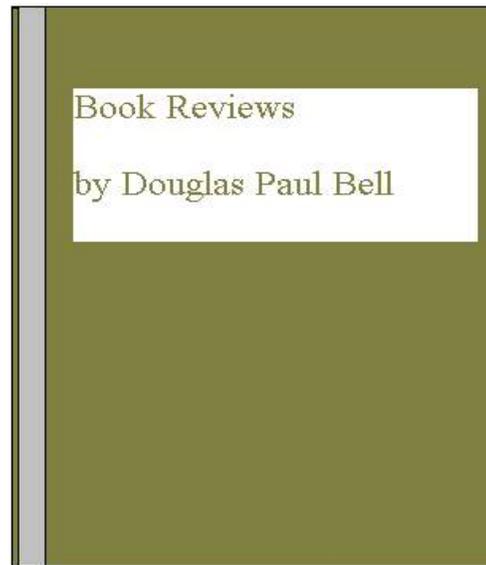
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The Second American Revolution
reviewed by Douglas P. Bell

“The Second American Revolution: First Shots Fired” by Marc Ridenour (American Eagle Publications, 1997, 5 5/16” x 87/16”, 161 pages) is from the same publisher as the highly readable, extremely interesting and factual *Civil War II*. As you may have noted, the two books also share a closely related, or at least similar, title, but unfortunately that is where the similarities end.

“The Second American Revolution” has the writer, Marc Ridenour, on the cover, all 6’ 6” and 600 pounds of him, with his favorite Mossberg 500 hanging from a sling and clutching a Ruger Mini-14, but minus the pop bottle glasses he wears. I guess they felt that a blind sniper and hero wouldn’t go well with what is supposed

to be an action packed thriller. This is not to say this is a bad book, it just isn’t all that good. The rear cover claims that the book is “Filled with thinly veiled barbs at the previous administration and plenty of modern west shoot-outs,” which is at least true enough, the president is called “Bubba”, his wife is “Gilary”

(pronounced as in “Gila Monster”), and

there are shoot outs galore, even letting the hero take a bullet.

One thing I did like was the writer was not afraid to mention his faith in God in the book and to follow the Bible, well up to a point anyway. When it came to a chance to get laid, the hero was more than willing to ignore, and even violate, many tenants of the Bible, but that’s another story for another day. The point I’m trying to make here is there are no atheists in a fox hole, and this book followed that pattern.

The bottom line here is not to waste your money on this book. The book was interesting in a tack luster sort of way, more so to me because I know the author than because it was worth reading. You will learn nothing about survival, the feds, fighting same, or anything else here, so don’t waste your money buying it, but if your local library happens to have it, you might like to check it out to see what passes for

survival fiction any more.

Votescam: reviewed by Douglas P. Bell

“VOTESCAM: the stealing of America – the book that indicts Attorney General Janet Reno. . . a shocking investigation” by James M. Collier and Kenneth F. Collier (Victoria House Press. 67 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005, 1992. 5 1/4” x 6 7/8”, 395 pages) is a book that I, jaded book reviewer that I am, couldn’t put down and read cover to cover, in what seemed like no time at all.

Of course the cover, the head of an eagle with the American flag being torn apart in it’s beak, might turn many people off. Others will just dismiss this book as just another paranoid conspiracy book, which admittedly, it does sometimes tend to read like. Just like no one would believe the government had deliberately infected men with syphilis so they could watch what it did to the human system, which blew up in the government’s face as the “Tuskegee Experiment”. Or no one would believe the government was giving young children extremely high doses of radiation to see how much radiation the human body could withstand while telling the parents that it was a “cure” for the illness the child was suffering from. Or that the government would set up a ghoulish network of doctors to secretly remove body parts to measure the radiation absorbed by young people from the above ground atomic bomb tests. All of which happened and happens to be true.

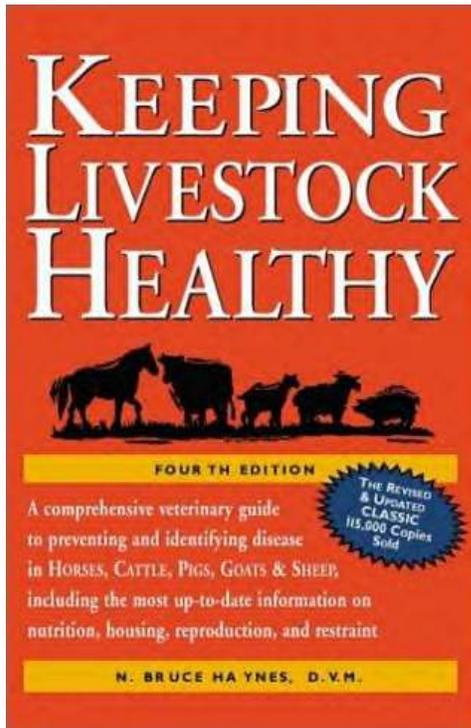
OK, if you think that the voting booth is sacred, that “we, the people” can change things at the polls, that politicians are honest servants of the people, and nothing is going to change your mind, then this book isn’t for you. However, if you think there is something funny going on when the news tells you who is going to win by how much five

minutes after the polls open, when the most favored candidate loses big, or as happened to my personal knowledge, when the ballots are destroyed immediately after counting so there can be no recount, when 75 percent of the polls are closed in areas where the wrong candidate won big in the election, but did not get the needed majority to win in a three way race, and it had to go to a runoff, then this book is for you.

This book names names, dates, places, and who did what, when, where, and how. What names you ask? Well how about Janet Reno, who as Florida Attorney General, NEVER charged a politico or other public “servant” with a single crime, no matter what they did while in office. Helen Mayer, sole owner of Dell Publishing who personally killed the “Votescam” book Dell was going to publish. Robert Lynch, a handwriting expert who forged ballots. Katherine Graham, who controlled Florida’s press, and refused to print or let be printed one word about vote scamming. US Attorney Robert W. Rust, who when presented with proof of vote scamming, refused to act. Miami Judge Henry Balaban who was always good for a court order to cover up, hide, or block, any investigation of vote scam. Craig C. Donsanto, a “Justice” Department attorney who refused to act and covered up the evidence. Mike Wallace, who as a reporter for “60 Minutes” refused to do a story on vote scamming. Federal Judge Henry F. Greene who violated the law, repeatedly, to try to stall or stop the vote scam story. George Bush Sr., who as the “wimp” in the New Hampshire primary, told NH Governor John Sununu, a computer genius, that if Sununu could swing NH to him, there would be a place for him in the Bush White House. Bush, who was down by 8 points going in, won with a 9 point lead! Sununu also got his place at the Bush White House.

So who controls the polls? A group called “New Election Service” (NES) and “Voter Research and

Surveys” (VRS), made up of ABC, CBS, NBC and CNN have total control the vote counting process in the US of A. Ask who or what these groups are and you are told that they “are private groups and don’t have to tell the American people a damn thing.” Ask questions about who controls the votes in this country and you will be told “This is not a proper area of inquiry.” I HIGHLY recommend this book!



Keeping Livestock Healthy
reviewed by Douglas P. Bell

“Keeping Livestock Healthy – a veterinary guide” by N. Bruce Haynes (Garden Way, 1978, 6” x 9”, 323 pages). is a book that farm animal owners would do well to read. However the book relies on modern drugs, and calling the vet when things look bad.

For this reason it may not be ideal for survivalists. But it also includes a great deal of information that WILL be valuable to survivalists, or anyone who works with or around animals. Things such as reproduction, restraint, etc. Over

all I would recommend that animal breeders, or anyone who intends to keep animals after the day, to check this book out.

New Complete Do-It-Yourself Manual
reviewed by Douglas P. Bell

“Reader’s Digest New Complete Do-It-Yourself Manual” (Reader’s Digest, 1991, 11” x 8 3/4”, 528 pages) is one of those odd sized books that are wider than they are high, kind of like a regular book that has been turned on it’s side. However there is nothing odd about the information! This book is EXCELLENT! Even if you don’t want to buy this book for your own personal library (you should though), you should at least go to the public library and read it to find out how to do what and get an idea what is covered here.

The 17 chapters here cover Emergency repairs, Hand tools, Power tools, Fasteners and adhesives, Woodworking, Metals and plastics, Concrete and asphalt, Masonry, Your house, Plumbing, Electricity, Interiors, Painting and wallpapering, Exteriors, Windows and doors, Home climate, Furniture. Each chapter covers from seven to sixty different repairs or “how-to” ideas.

Guns of the Wild West
reviewed by Douglas P. Bell

“Guns of the Wild West — Firearms of the American Frontier 1849-1917” by George Markham (Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., 387 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016—8810, 8 5/8” x 10 7/8”. 160 pages) is a highly interesting and very well illustrated history of the firearms, handguns, longarms and shotguns, that tamed the “Wild West”.

As the ad sheet states, the Hollywood westerns have everyone

carrying nothing but 1873 Colt "Peacemakers" and Winchester '92 rifles, but the west was filled with a bewildering variety of firearms, from tiny derringers to massive revolvers, single shot muzzle loading rifles to .52 caliber lever guns. This book sets out to set the record straight about who used what when and where.

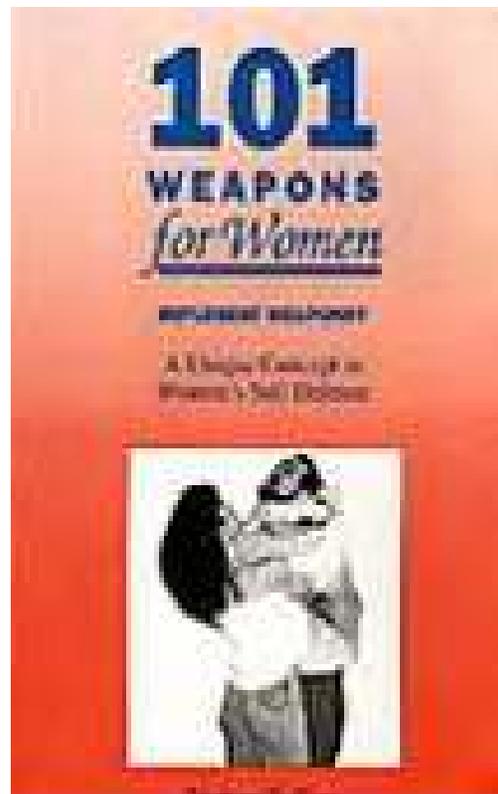
If you are interested in the guns of the Wild West, this book covers the major and minor makers as well as any book I've seen. In addition it is extremely readable, has an excellent table of contents which makes looking up what you want quick and easy, and has an American Gunmakers index so you can Look up any of the hundreds of gunmakers in the book easily. A highly recommended book.

Wild Pig In Australia
reviewed by Douglas P. Bell

"Wild Pig In Australia" by Philip Holden (Seven Hills Book Distributors. 49 Central Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. 1994, 7 1/8" x 9 7/8", 136 pages) is about wild boar or if you prefer "Sus scrofa" in Australia. With the increased interest in hunting Australia and pigs being pigs, no matter if they are in the Smokey Mountains of Kentucky and Tennessee or Australia, this book will be of interest if you are thinking of hunting wild boar.

The chapters here are "Part One: A Most Adaptable Animal" with Profile of a Species, In the Wild, and so on. "Part Two: In Tropic Regions" covers pigs in island situations, the Asian Link and so forth. "Part Three: In Wild Pig Country" covers Plains, Commercial Aspect, Marshlands, Border Country, while the appendixes covers such things as subspecies and where they are found, close relatives, and address lists of professional hunting guides and stations offering pig hunting, and selected reading.

A thoroughly entertaining and readable book on the subject of both Australia and hunting wild pig. If you are interested in either one, then this would be a book that should interest you. Be sure to mention this review as well.



101 Weapons for Women
reviewed by Douglas P. Bell

"101 Weapons for Women — implement weaponry — a unique concept in women's ' self-defense" by Rodney R. Rice (Ri-Jo Productions, POB 229, Warrenton, VA 22186, 1991, 5 1/2" x 8 1/2", 112 pages), is about improvised weapons that most women will have with them, such as clothing, jewelry, etc.

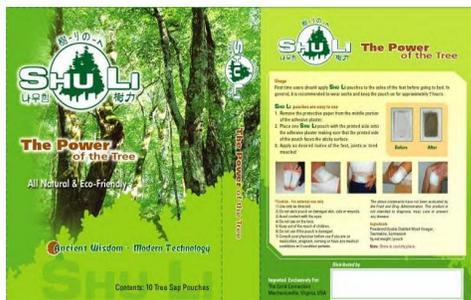
The chapters here are, Are You a Target?, Be in Control, Attack Situation Chart, Implement Weaponry, If You are

a Victim, Vital Points of Attack, Vital Points chart, Anything is a Weapon: Clothing, Purse Items, Jewelry, Paper Products, Car Items, Exercise Gear, Household Items, Office and Work. Natural Body, Miscellaneous, Summary.

After reading this book, any woman should know how to use just about any item at hand to engage an attacker. You'll never look at a pair of shoes or a stop watch the same way again. Recommended.



Advertisement



The Shu Li™ Pouch is a bag that contains a mixture of powdered ingredients. The pouch is placed in contact with the skin, and held in place over a number of hours. The typical contact points on the body chosen would be the soles of the feet. However, it can also be used in areas where there is discomfort, for example: shoulder, back, knee, ankle, elbow etc.

Stimulation Of Meridian points:

The concept of stimulating acupuncture points at the base of the feet, for example, through reflexology massage, is well established. Meridians in Traditional Chinese Medicine may be understood as channels that link various parts of the body. Stimulation of points along such meridians, by the use of needles or massage, may

stimulate other organs or bodily functions that are related to that meridian

Shu Li™ Pouch utilizes the Far Infra Red Radiation (FIR) effect of certain materials to generate that stimulus. FIR has been researched for many years in places like Japan, China, the US, and Sweden for a wide variety of conditions such as muscle sprains, strains, peripheral vascular diseases, arthritis, shoulder stiffness, menstrual pains etc. One effect of FIR is that it may replicate a cardiovascular training effect with people confined to a wheel chair, who are therefore unable to exercise in the conventional way. Some research has even suggested the idea that Infra Red stimulation of the cardiovascular system could be a possible means of maintaining cardiovascular conditioning in astronauts during long space flights.

We have designed the product for an overall longer lasting effect. Generally, the effect from the Shu Li™ Pouch ceases when all of the powder in the bag has absorbed moisture. The quantity of powder in each bag is very high. It contains 5 grams of refined wood vinegar, and other high quality ingredients. With the use of an absorbent bag material, each pouch will normally remain effective for at least 7 hours in use. After effective absorption of released toxins and moisture from the body has occurred, the particles within the pouch turn a deep brown in color and the pouch hardens somewhat.

For more information or to order, got to www.coral-online.com/kbushman or call 1-480-759 5110

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by Hari Heath

### **Karl Marx and the Ten Planks**

In 1848 Karl Marx proposed a new system of government which he expounded upon in his Communist Manifesto. Among his primary complaints was that a wealthy elite class were unfairly enslaving the masses. By controlling the instruments of production, capital assets and holding much of the land ownership, the elite class could dictate to the poorer classes what would be their condition in life.

Marx's solution was to impose a governmental system that would break down the class structure, thereby forcing equality upon us and, essentially, place all assets, property, means of production, communication, transportation and education into the hands of the government. It sounded good at the time to many impoverished peasants, but it didn't get very far. Or did it?

America was founded on individual rights and an independent self-reliant spirit, but what are we now? The pull your self up by your bootstraps, start in the mail room and work your way up mentality has been replaced by the government grant and the credit card; "community" has been replaced by "agency."

The ruling powers of Marx's time opposed his "communism," because it threatened the very foundations of their power structure. But the principles, or planks upon which it is founded eventually became quite useful to our modern day ruling powers. Let us see how our once-free nation adopted this socialist methodology and became a communist country:

### **Communism Implemented in America**

**The First Plank:** Abolition of private land ownership and application of all rents of land to public purposes.

Do you really own your land? Stop paying "your" land taxes for three years and find out. Where does "your" tax money go? Public purposes?

With allodial title (land patents) effectively eliminated by the communist court systems and your local county "recorder" (many of whom refuse to record land patents because it would take 'your' land out of 'their' tax base) we have been relegated to the status of renters with color of title "deeds" to "our" property. Absolute property ownership was a fundamental right when our country was founded, but now with communism...

**The Second Plank:** A heavy progressive or graduated income tax.

Ever heard of the IRS? State Tax Commission? Are they fully implemented in America? Do you have any further questions? First control the peoples' land, then control the money that they earn...

**The Third Plank:** Abolition of all rights of inheritance.

Key word "rights." Rights are not things permissively granted by government, like obtaining a probate court's permission to acquire your inheritance. Rights are what you possess independent of government. When private matters are routinely controlled by public forces they cease to be private matters. Yes, you can inherit the option to "rent" your father's farm after he passes on. After you pay the inheritance tax -- and if you have a farm left...

**The Fourth Plank:** Confiscation of the property of emigrants and rebels.

Ever heard of the word forfeiture? Did you know that the U.S. Department of Justice is a self-funding operation that is maintained with the proceeds from drug forfeitures? Did you also know that 80 percent of federal drug forfeitures are not prosecuted criminally? If someone is involved with drugs during a declared "war on drugs" are they not a rebel?

What other "rebellious" acts result in confiscation? "Illegal" gun possession? Environmentally related takings? IRS seizures? Planning, zoning and building code violations? Driving "your" car on

"your" highway without a license -- you rebels...

**The Fifth Plank:** Centralization of credit by the creation of a National Bank.

In 1913 the Federal Reserve Act was passed which turned over our constitutionally mandated, congressionally-controlled economy of substance to the whims of the privately held "Federal Reserve Bank." It took only 20 years for this private consortium of mostly foreign bankers to bankrupt America. With private gold ownership prohibited in 1933, our substance-backed economy was replaced with a credit economy. We now trade these private bank "notes" as virtual money or write checks from "accounts" which are nothing more than digital memories in the bank's great computer. Credit cards, loans, and our entire economy are now rooted in a privately held, national banking system, which enfranchises nearly every bank. The jaws of Wall Street hinge on the words from the Federal Reserve Board...

**The Sixth Plank:** Centralization and control of communication and transportation by the government.

Have you ever heard of the press referred to as the fourth branch of government? Can you start a radio or TV station without an FCC license? Did the food on your table come to you because a truck driver with a federally-controlled commercial drivers license drove it to the store under a myriad of rules and regulations on a truck that is licensed to engage in interstate commerce? Is your car controlled by the government? Damn commies...

**The Seventh Plank:** Government control of factories and the instruments of production; cultivation of the soil in accordance with a common plan.

OK, so you have an idea for a new product and want to manufacture it. Fine. You acquire some land to build your production facility. Then you get the property re-zoned, conduct an environmental assessment, get a building permit, insurance, a bond, public health compliance certificate, water, sewer and electrical permits, hire a licensed and bonded contractor and a duly authorized architect, a surveyor, file incorporation papers with the Secretary of State, issue stock in compliance with the Securities and Exchange Commission, comply with OSHA, EPA, state and local regulations, sign up with workman's compensation insurance, get state and federal tax numbers, a business license, and..., and..., and... ad nauseam.

Government control of the instruments of production? Try farming. Subsidies to grow some crops, sometimes payments not to grow any crops. Recently, some farmers in California were fined for putting back seed from their own crops to plant next year. It is now a regulatory violation for farmers to keep and plant their own seeds. Mandated by law to use only patented, hybrid seeds, farmers are at the mercy of government authorized-seed sources to get their next crop planted...

**The Eighth Plank:** Equal obligation of all to work. Establishment of industrial armies.

As "colored" landowners reduced by

"color of title" deeds to tenant status, we must pay rent. When the majority of people were producers, as it was at the beginning of this century, there were goods to trade in an economy of substance. Now that we have become mostly consumers, passing debt transfer "notes" between us, we must work, or conduct some business in the system to obtain these credit instruments that are traded for the sustaining components of our lives. Add a tax burden of 55 percent of the average person's income (including the hidden taxes), and we must work. One out of three people work for the government (socialist reapers) so those of us who produce have to pay their share.

Have you ever been on an urban freeway at rush hour? Industrial armies...

**The Ninth Plank:** Consolidation of agriculture with manufacturing industries; gradual abolition of the distinction between rural and urban dwellers for a more equitable distribution of population.

Agribusiness? Highly mechanized farming methods? Family farm foreclosures? Suburban sprawl? Mall culture? The conversion of farmland to housing developments?...

**The Tenth Plank:** Free education for all children in public schools. Conform education with industrial productions.

Can your children attend school without tuition? Will school vouchers soon further implement this plank of the communist manifesto? Have you heard of the school to work program? Goals

2000? Are we communist yet?

**Falling for the Socialist State**

How did we get here from there? Water takes the path of least resistance. People are much the same. Provide the proper channel and people will fall for it with their gravitation towards security, comfort, convenience; the good life.

Few people seek new frontiers, fearlessly face difficult challenges and fewer people still are willing to rebel against tyrants. The many will only watch, or wait until the way is paved. The road to socialism is paved with good intentions.

America began as a Constitutional Republic. Separation of powers, limited government, checks and balances -- all that good stuff. Once the socialists (communists) found the channel in our Republic they began to open it up. Little by little. A slumbering population leaves government in charge of itself. Who checked the balances? A little benevolence here, some emergency relief there and, after a time the conduit was opened and the flood of socialism began rushing in. People, at least the many, prefer the easy path. The easier the better. The more good life the socialist reapers could provide for the people, the more room at the top they made for themselves.

Frederic Bastiat pointed out the fallacy of socialism in 1850, just two years after Marx published his communist manifesto:

*“Everyone wants to live at the expense of the State. They forget that*

*the State lives at the expense of everyone... The State is the great fictitious entity by which everyone seeks to live at the expense of everyone else.”*

Have we abandoned our Republic and its limited form of government so we can climb the great pyramid scheme of socialism? How many former producers will become reapers before the ugly truth is revealed and the socialist empire crumbles? Is there anyone to blame but ourselves for following the easy path of socialism while allowing the founding principles of our nation to fall in ruin?

Grover Cleveland, during the reconstruction era following the War Between the States, saw the emergence of the American socialist state and offered the following warning:

*“I can find no warrant for such appropriation in the Constitution, and I do not believe that the power and duty of the General Government ought to be extended to the relief of individual suffering which is in no manner properly related to the public service or benefit.*

*"A prevalent tendency to disregard the limited mission of this power and duty should, I think, be steadfastly resisted, to the end that the lesson should be constantly, that though the people support the Government, the Government should not support the people.*

*"The friendliness and charity of our countrymen can always be relied upon to relieve their fellow-citizens in misfortune. This has been repeatedly and quite lately*

*demonstrated.*

*"Federal aid in such cases encourages the expectation of paternal care on the part of the Government and weakens the sturdiness of our national character, while it prevents the indulgence among our people of that kindly sentiment and conduct which strengthens the bonds of a common brotherhood."*

As we continue to depart, agency by agency, from the constitutional form of government laid down for us, and fall for the ruse of socialism, believing somehow, that what is taken in taxes will somehow be returned in benefits, we give new meaning to an old adage -- Red Blooded American. The Russian Communist leader Nikita Khrushchev said it best:

*"When the American people will wake up, they will be communist."*



## **Join America's Celebration of the 230th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party**

by Corcceigh Green

On December 16, 1773, a group of American colonials calling themselves The Sons of Liberty, having been pushed too far by the abuse of taxing authority of the government of their day, donned blankets and war paint, thinly disguising themselves as Native Americans, and boarded a ship in Boston Harbor. The Sons of Liberty then dumped the ship's cargo, tea, into the harbor.

American colonials had nothing against tea, however, this tea had been taxed by the English crown without the representation in a political body of the American colonials. This was such an affront to the American colonial's principals of free born people that committees were formed to block the landing of the already taxed cargo and finally led to the destruction of the cargo.

Today, 227 years after Americans declared their freedom from the corrupt rule of despotism, American Citizens are again burdened by ever increasing taxes on their incomes and properties to name only a couple of pursuits that Americans have every right to. To make matters worse, if those taxes are not paid, Americans are imprisoned and/or their properties confiscated. This despite the fact that in many Counties and States, Citizens have voted to limit the amount that their properties can be taxed. Americans have seen their victories at the polls declared null and void by a judicial system dependent upon a tax

hungry legislature. Once again Americans are being taxed without being truly represented.

228 years ago, ( the War for Independence began April 19, 1775), taxation without representation was one of several evils that began a bloody 8 year war for freedom. Before entering that war, our forefathers exhausted every peaceful means of righting the wrongs of a despotic government.

We too can employ peaceful means, while there is yet time, in an attempt to right the wrongs of our overtaxing bureaucratic government. Our forefathers have paved the way for us. Our so called representatives no longer hear the voices of their constituents through the clamor of special interest groups, but there is a means to remind them what the voice of free Americans sounds like.

This year on December 16 celebrate the courage of our forefathers which set us free by calling your County assessor's office and politely wish the person answering the phone a happy anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, the day that Americans showed the world what they thought of taxation without representation. Be polite and you might want to ask if your taxes has gone up this year. Also, ask this person to share your wishes with the rest of the assessor's office. Other things that you might want to consider would be sending a homemade greeting card for the occasion along with a bag of tea to your County, State and Federal representatives.

Please e mail, write, phone or otherwise tell all freedom minded Americans that you know to take part in this protest/celebration on December 16. In order to make an impression on those who have failed to represent us, we will need Americans in mass to take part in reclaiming our freedom. Thank you.



## How To Acquire Your Firearms Battery; and What Firearms to Consider

by Corcceigh Green  
photos by Kyrole Green

There's no doubt about it. If you're an Independent American you must have the tools to remain independent. Some of those tools are firearms. Firearms have played a very prominent role in the building of our country. They were the tools used to gain our Independence and the tools we use to defend our freedoms. For the first couple of centuries of our history firearms have always been plentiful and easy to acquire.

Unfortunately, during this present period in our history the fundamental freedom to keep and bear arms, as enumerated in the Second Amendment to our Constitution, is under attack by anti-American politicians and media who scorn the American way and the thought that the average Citizen has rights that cannot be legislated away. This is causing more and more difficulties to the honest American Citizen who wishes to purchase and keep a firearms battery. This article will take into consideration what is available and methods of purchase in these "interesting times".

**Methods Of Purchase:** In an America, as founded by our forefathers, this wouldn't be a subject worth writing about. Unfortunately, America has drifted far from it's founding principals of freedom and liberty, as shown in our first method of purchase.

**Method # 1:** In most States it is possible to walk into a gun shop, sporting goods store or other establishment holding a Federal Firearms license and buy what you need. This method takes advantage of America's modern marketing system with it's inventory stocks and delivery infrastructure. It is also most convenient when looking over a firearm before you buy it.

This method also has some drawbacks. In many States your Second Amendment Rights are violated by forcing the Federal Firearms License (FFL) holder to keep the firearm you've purchased for a set number of days from you. This violation is generally referred to as waiting periods. In States where these violations are not in effect, a federal violation of your Second, Ninth, and Tenth Amendments Rights exists which requires you to pass an instant background check before being allowed to purchase a firearm.

The information collected on you during this "check" is kept for several days. By law, this information is supposed to be destroyed, however, pro-rights groups have found that this info is not being destroyed, or, it is being copied and entered into a database, thus creating an unlawful registration of firearms owners.

You will also be required to fill out form 4473 listing information as to the type of firearm you buy and where you live. Check out the famous scene in the movie Red Dawn where a Cuban colonel orders his comrades to go to the sporting goods store and find the forms 4473 to round up gun

owners. How Slick Willie would have loved to have accomplished this during his regime!

**Method # 2:** You can become registered with the BATF by applying for an FFL of your own. This will allow you to buy and sell firearms across State lines and through UPS, and to purchase firearms at greatly reduced dealer's cost. Unfortunately, during Herr Klinton's regime, the annual fee for an FFL rose from \$15 to \$600! The admitted reason for this was to reduce the number of FFL holders and institutions where one could legally buy a firearm. This restraint of an American institution has not even been considered for correction by the current regime.

Another disadvantage to the FFL option is that you must agree to allow BATF agents into your place of business, (which may be your home), to check your inventory. If privacy is important to you, you can kiss it goodbye.

Similar to the FFL option, a C&R or Curio & Relic license allows collectors to buy certain firearms classed as curios and relics across State lines or through UPS. It does not allow purchases for the purpose of resale of those firearms, however, and most makes of firearms do not have the curio and relic classification, so your options will be quite limited. You will also have most of the disadvantages as you had with the FFL option.

**Method # 3:** Private party purchases. This method is the most private, as it leaves no records and no bureaucrat knows what you have bought or where you live. Private party purchases by one Citizen from another is completely legal. It is only illegal to buy firearms in this manner across State lines, as government claims it may regulate state commerce. Simply look through the classified ads in your paper and the local market ads. When you find a firearm you

are interested in, call the seller and set up an appointment. When at the seller's place, check out the firearm thoroughly, (This is a whole other subject to be covered in a later article.). If the firearm is to your approval, plunk down your money and take it home. There are no forms, checks or registration. The anti-American elements are trying very hard to end this however, so pick up your firearms while you can.

The advantages to this method are huge and I have bought much of my collection in this manner, but there are some disadvantages here as well. The firearm that you buy will almost invariably be used and the seller is selling it for some reason. Usually, sellers are in need of cash and the firearm is in very good-excellent working condition, but occasionally a firearm just doesn't work out for the owner and sometimes this is due to a lack of quality. If you buy a lemon with this method, you probably will not be able to return it, so know how to evaluate a firearm and have your bore-light and gauges with you when you go to pick it up.

Another disadvantage to this method is that fewer people are selling their firearms. You may not see your first choice in rifle, shotgun or handgun being advertised and, especially in areas where firearms play a dominate role in the culture, they can cost almost as much as a brand new firearm of the same make. In using this method, you must consider your knowledge and skill of firearms and how much your privacy is worth to you.

**Method # 4:** Buy at dealer's cost with a 10%-15% mark-up. This is basically the same as the first method, except you pay the distributor for the firearm, the distributor holds it for you while your friend with the FFL sends a copy of his license to the distributor. When the distributor receives the license, he ships the firearm to the FFL holder. You go to the FFL holder's place of business, pay him a customary 10%-15% of

the price of your firearm, fill out form 4473, go through the instant check/waiting period/registration then take your gun home. For the average Joe American, this is a convenient option. You do not need an FFL (including the expense and intrusion that comes with one), a C&R license (ditto the FFL), nor are you limited to your sporting goods shop's firearms selection.

The best way to shop for bargain firearms with this method is to subscribe to *The Shotgun News*. Read through the advertisements by the different vendors and when finding a bargain right for you, call the vendor and ask them about your selection. If you decide to buy, leave the vendor your credit card number for the purchase, then have your FFL holder send the vendor a signed copy of his FFL. In a couple of weeks you'll have your firearm.

This, too, has it's disadvantages. As you can guess, the same disadvantages that apply toward method # 1 will apply toward this method. One other nuisance can crop up with this method, as well. Some vendors do not wish to deal with individuals and their orders. I ordered a Century Arms CETME from Southern Ohio Guns in this manner. The rifle was shipped and was received quickly, but what I received was basically a curtain rod with a rough, dark bore that would malfunction every three or four rounds. When I called Southern Ohio Gun I was flatly told that they would not speak to me about the rifle, as I was not the FFL holder, even when I explained that the credit card on file that purchased the "rifle" was mine. After hanging up, I believed that I was being taken for a ride and called the credit card company to cancel the order. I eventually sent the "rifle" back via my FFL holder and received a refund.

I am under the impression from my experience with Southern Ohio Gun that they are merely a drop shipper of firearms and do not actually handle the guns they sale. I'm not sure if that is how they actually



do their business, but it is the impression I got. To avoid this kind of nuisance buy your firearms from vendors who do not mind talking with you and helping you through any problems that may arise. I have dealt with CDNN Investments and J&G Sales and have found them to be extremely helpful and reliable.

Another problem that can arise is with surplus or used guns. Pay attention to the NRA ratings used on the guns you buy, because you will not be there to personally select the firearm they send you. Stick with the Very Good - Excellent ratings and honest vendors will not disappoint you. This may not always be the case however, as the CETME I received from Southern Ohio Gun was advertised as in excellent condition. Know your ratings and your vendors, as you want a firearm in working order when you receive it.

**Method # 5:** Black-market. This is certainly a method that will get you what you want and sometimes at a nice price. The advantage is there will be absolutely no paperwork and privacy is assured. The bad news is you may get a firearm that was used in a crime. You do not want such a firearm found on your person or premises! Another huge drawback is that many firearms that are on the black market are stolen. You do not want a stolen firearm found on your person or premises either! Beside the lawful problems of buying such "tainted" firearms, as an Independent American, you do not want to support an industry based on theft. An Independent American has no use for theft and can work for or build what he/she needs for him/her self.

Now you have a clue as to methods of shopping for your firearm battery and with a little study into the working of firearms you will be able to determine if the firearm of your interest is in good working condition.

Everyone has his/her own ideas as to what

types and models of firearms one absolutely *must* have in the survivalist arsenal. Of course, if everyone wanted to own the same thing for the same reasons, there would only be six or seven types of firearms made. The types of firearms you will want to acquire for your arsenal will depend on what conditions you are preparing for and what your geographical/climatic conditions entail.

Despite what these conditions hold, a general requisite of firearms needs can be used as a guideline for most survivalists. As a general rule, I consider a well rounded arsenal to contain the following types of firearms:

The hunting rifle, the battle rifle, the shotgun, the .22 LR caliber rifle, the side arm, and the .22 LR caliber side arm. As an extra, I also would approve of a defensive carbine. Let's take quick look at each.

**The hunting rifle:** As the survivalist/homesteader/Independent American, the need for the hunting rifle will serve multiple purposes. First, the hunting rifle must be able to take big game in your area or any area you have plans to relocate to. It must be chambered in a common caliber so that ammunition for it is plentiful. It must be very accurate and hit what you are aiming at distances out to 500 or more yards, depending on your skill.

As for the roles it will serve, it must provide meat for your family/group's table and being accurate enough and hard hitting enough for sure kills at long distance will serve as a sniper rifle. For these roles, equip your rifle with a quality scope and sling.

Calibers to look for in this firearm should be very common and versatile. For anywhere in the lower 48 States, the .30-06 is the most versatile and plentiful cartridge to chamber this firearm in. The .30-06 is capable of handling a wider range of bullet weights and styles than any other cartridge. Once a

military round and now a favorite with hunters all across America, the .30-06 is still one of the most popular cartridges in existence.

This does not mean that the .30-06 is the only cartridge you should consider. In my opinion it is the forerunner because of its unsurpassed versatility. Other cartridges for consideration should be any high powered cartridge used by the military such as the 7.62X51 NATO/.308 Winchester. This cartridge can do a good deal of what the .30-06 can, but cannot throw heavier bullets at as great of ranges. Since your acquisition of this rifle is motivated by the need to hunt game for food, to act as a sniper rifle and perhaps to defend yourself, the advantage of throwing heavier bullets at greater ranges is not a small one.

Other cartridges based on the .30-06 are springing up all the time and are proving to be excellent game getters. The .280 Winchester and .270 Remington are very adequate cartridges and can be manufactured from .30-06 brass.

The .300 Winchester Magnum and other similar calibers surpass even the .30-06 in its ability to project heavy bullets out to great ranges. These cartridges are worth looking into especially for those living in Alaska where the tundra calls for a cartridge that will push its bullet to far ranges. Moose is a prevalent game animal and kodiaks roam the streams. For the lower 48, however, the big magnums will prove to heavy for whitetail and mulies.

The make of rifle best suited for the above purpose is the classic American hunting rifle. Bolt actions are inherently accurate and treat brass cartridges extremely well, leaving them suitable for reloading. Your best bargains here are your Remington and Winchester models with Ruger 77s providing some bargains. I have found that the Rugers are never as accurate, however, and just do not have that qualitative edge.

Remington 788s used to be plentiful and were inexpensive alternatives to the higher end models, yet were accurate and very nicely put together. Being the proud owner of one of these fine rifles, I can whole heartedly recommend you pick one up, if you can find one.

Remington also made a very nifty little rifle chambered for the .350 Remington Magnum. I have a relative who used to own a Remington 650 and rues the day that he traded it away. This great quality rifle handles superiorly in the brush, it was accurate and the cartridge got the game. These rifles are making a come back. Being revived as the model 600 and offered in a wider variety of cartridges, this will be a rifle worth looking into.

The Remington 700 BDL chambered in .30-06 was my personal choice for this selection in my arsenal. My 700 has the synthetic stock and parkerised finish. This makes for a superior configuration for wet and cold climatic conditions. I topped my 700 with a Leopould vari-X scope and has proven to be extremely accurate, placing several different loads and bullet weights in the same point of impact! NOT BAD!



The Remington 700 BDL chambered in .30-06 is the author's choice in hunting rifles.

The Winchester model 70 is the personal

choice of a certain friend. I have not fired one, but he has fired the Remington 700 and the Winchester 70 and prefers the Winchester. I, however, stopped looking after I ran across my 700.

The Ruger model 77 is quite a bit more affordable, but is only suitably accurate. The quality of workmanship is also somewhat less. If you have a choice, pick up a quality Remington or Winchester.

There are other quality rifles out there. The Weatherbys are quality rifles, but very costly and many are chambered in proprietary cartridges that will become hard to come by. Stick with the basics. In the end, any quality rifle should serve well, as long as you are willing to put in the time and effort to become familiar with it. Your skill is what will get you through a situation. The rifle is a tool that should perform as well as you can operate it.

**The battle rifle:** The battle rifle can be of practically any action type, but all modern battle rifles that are “legally” available to Americans are either bolt action or semi-automatic. Since your hunting rifle can serve as a defensive rifle as well as a sniper/hunting rifle, I am going to focus on the semi-automatic versions of the battle rifle in this article.

Note, the battle rifle should NOT be confused with the battle carbine or “assault rifle”. The battle rifle (for this article) is semi-automatic in operation and fires a full power cartridge (Usually the 7.62X51 NATO/.308 Winchester). An assault rifle is select fire in operation and fires a mid-powered cartridge such as the 5.56 NATO/.223, the 7.62X39 or the 5.45X39. The battle carbine fires the same variety of cartridges as the assault rifle, but is semi-automatic only in operation.

The battle rifle gives it’s operator the advantage of firepower and range. It should

be accurate enough to consistently hit targets out to at least 500 yards, thus outranging assault rifles/carbines. The semi-automatic action allows for greater volume of fire. The operator does not need to take his hand away from the trigger and grip to operate the action manually. This makes it easier to engage multiple targets and to fire follow-up shots.

Most battle rifles are also magazine fed, or they are loaded via a detachable magazine placed directly into the receiver allowing the bolt to automatically eject and chamber new rounds. By loading many magazines, loaded magazines can be exchanged for empty magazines when they become spent.

All of this technology was incorporated to increase volume of fire. For the survivalist, it means speed of operation. The survivalist must acknowledge that speed is not a substitute for skill. It matters not at all how fast you can put bullets down range if those bullets do not impact your intended targets. You *must* acquire the skill to use your rifle or the single advantage of speed will become a detriment. You will merely expend your supply of ammo quickly without opposing the threat. To sum this point up, if you believe that you can purchase a semi-automatic battle rifle and set it in a corner against the day you need it and it’s technical advantage will make up for your lack of skill, you are dead wrong! You will have to train every bit as hard with your semi-automatic battle rifle as you would with a bolt action battle rifle.

You may wish to opt for acquiring a bolt action battle rifle to save cost or to acquire more for family or group. If it is not an obstacle to you to purchase the semi-automatic rifle, I would recommend purchasing the semi-automatic variety. Sure, you’ll only benefit by a couple of technical advantages and you’ll need to lay aside some spare parts for maintenance, but if you train well enough, the semi-automatic battle rifle’s edge will help you out a good deal.

There are a few models of semi-automatic battle rifles available in America today that are worth considering by an Independent American to include in his/her firearm collection.

FN-FAL varieties are very prevalent at present. The L1A1 and STG 58 fire the 7.62X51 NATO. Their dealer price begins right around 600 FRNs. Accessories are plentiful and full capacity magazines are cheap and plentiful. I have not fired one of these, but I am told by those who have that they are reliable and leave the brass reloadable.

A drawback to the FN-FAL varieties is that they will all be surplus parts guns put together on newly made receivers. While good results have been had by that method, the overall quality of firearms produced in this manner has been somewhat iffy. Some buyers of rifles made by this method have had to send two or three back on average until they were finally sent a firearm in reliable working condition.

Questionable quality is not limited to the FN-FAL. In fact, the FN-FAL has a much better reputation than some. Another semi-automatic battle rifle is the CETME. The CETME has earned a reputation of being of very poor quality. The reputation is true. Stay away from these guns. I have already made the reader aware of my story with the CETME. Mine was not the only similar story, as I became more aware of the rifle's reputation. You may get a working model with a fair bore on your first time around, but odds are that you will have to go through the hassle of sending several of these turds back to the supplier before you get some scrap that will function. Don't waste your time on the CETME.



The CETME is riddled with problems, being a parts gun kit slapped together on a newly made receiver. Pass these by.

The ol' reliable wompin' stick, the M-1 Garand can still be found, but they are getting well worn. The M-1 fires the .30-06, is fed by 8 round clips that are inserted downward through the receiver into the Garand's fixed magazine. These clips are ejected after the last round is expended. These rifles seen American troops to victory in WW II, and a stalemate in America's first politically strangulated "police action", the Korean "conflict".



One of the best battle rifles ever made, the M-1 Garand. Unfortunately, most of these are becoming too worn for service.

The Garand is a little long in the tooth, but when a sample is found that is in very good to excellent condition, they still make a very fine battle rifle. Unfortunately, most of the very good to excellent condition Garands have been snatched up off the market. What is left is samples that are worn and mostly in the fair to good condition. You will pay around 600 FRNs for the worn Garands and because of their collector value, you might pay more than 1,000 FRNs for an excellent specimen.

The M-14 is the Cadillac of battle rifles. Unfortunately, in another act of rabid anti-Americanism, the communitarian president, Bill Clinton, sold as much of these as he was able to Latvia so that he could keep them out of the hands of real Americans. As a result, there will be no Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) allowing

American Citizens to qualify for buying M-14s at a reduced price from the government's arsenal. This also means that there are very few of them on the civilian market.

Springfield Armory makes an American market version of the M-14 called the M-1A. The Springfield Armory M-1A is a semi-automatic only version and functions very reliably, is very accurate and up to the task of the Independent American's battle rifle. It utilizes the M-14's magazine, so is not limited by the unconstitutional full capacity magazine ban. The magazines are becoming quite expensive, however. Magazines are not all that is expensive about this option. The rifle, a couple of magazines and a sling will run you around 1,500 FRNs. If you are on a budget you may have to pass this one by.

My favorite and the one that I settled on for myself is the Izhmash Saiga model .308. It is basically a scaled-up AK-47 built by the arsenal that brought you the Dragunov.

Like the Dragunov, the Saiga features the oversized AK style action, ruggedness and reliability as well as the accuracy of the famous Soviet sniper rifle. Check last issue's article on the Izhmash arsenal Saiga model .308 for a closer look at the features of this battle rifle. It is my experience that this rifle works and works well. It will make any American an excellent all duty rifle.



The author prefers the Izhmash Arsenal Saiga .308 as his battle rifle.

Magazines for the Saiga can be a problem. After finding the rifle that I bought to be an excellent model, I decided to buy more magazines as I was making the Saiga my choice in battle rifles. Unfortunately, the magazine supplies for the Saiga had dried up in America. It was sometime before I finally built my supplies up. The magazines are limited capacity at 8 rounds. Due to the unconstitutional full capacity magazine ban incorporated into the unconstitutional Brady statute, newly manufactured full capacity magazines cannot be imported or sold in the USSA. Magazines are currently being sold at 25 FRNs a piece.

The Saiga's dealer price is 298 FRNs. For the quality and price, (the rifle is shipped brand new in the box as opposed to the surplus models that may be of questionable quality), the brief magazine scarcity was well worth the inconvenience.

**The Shotgun:** A shotgun is an extremely versatile tool that can serve the survivalist in all situations except that of long range shooting. Using slugs, the shotgun can provide the means of taking big game. Bird shot will bring small game to the table while buckshot and flechettes will help defend the survivalist. Of course, bird shot and slugs also make excellent defense projectiles.

It is this versatility that earns the shotgun a place in the Independent American's closet. Though quite limited in it's range, the shotgun will keep meat on your table and protect your family should the need arise.

The shotgun comes in a variety of actions, all of which are useful. It is generally agreed, however, that the pump action gives the survivalist the greatest versatility. Different loads can be loaded in the shotgun's tube and as the pump action is worked manually, the difference in loadings will not cause a malfunction as they could in a semi-automatic action.

The pump also has the advantage of holding more rounds than the break action, which will hold one round for a single barrel, or two rounds for a double barrel. Lever action shotguns are rare, but a collector can run across them including some new reproduction models. These will also digest different loads in the tube without trouble.

The king of the quality pumps is the Remington 870. This is the shotgun of the military and almost every police department in America. It is so widely selected for a reason. It is very well made and probably



The Remington 1100 is an excellent choice for the shotgun.

the best pump on the market. If your going for a pump, this is the one to aim for.

You do not have to opt for the pump to obtain a serviceable shotgun, however. Semi-automatics are a bit more finicky, but I have found that my Remington 1100 feeds without any problems and has never failed me, whereas, I have broken the action rods on two separate pump guns. If you break these while in combat, your shotgun is out of action.

Break actions and lever actions are fine too.

They are not as suitable to combat because they hold a more limited number of rounds, as mentioned earlier, but they are great game getters. Because of their cheap cost, they should be considered for extra camp guns or extras for family. These actions are also utterly reliable and will probably be in your family for centuries.

When considering what gauge to buy, the 12 gauge holds the edge. It is the most popular gauge which means ammo supply will be more plentiful. The 20 gauge is next and makes a nice little game getter. Try to standardize on one gauge for the family/group though. That way there will be less reloading components to buy and ammo can be shared.

Buy an extra barrel for your shotgun. One should be a modified choke and the other an improved cylinder bore. The modified choke is for hunting. The improved cylinder bore is for defense.

**The .22 LR rifle:** This is mainly a small game and homestead duty rifle.

For the homestead, a .22 LR rifle performs the chore of keeping pests out of the garden and out of the feed supply if you raise livestock. It will also serve as a low cost ammo, training rifle and a great first rifle for the young'uns. It makes a very fine backup to your mouse and rat traps. It also bags those fur and meat bearing animals that like to munch on your vegetable garden such as rabbits and gophers.

Beside bagging game around the homestead and protecting food supplies, the .22 rifle also performs admirably as a small game

hunting rifle for the field. Should the Independent American find himself trekking across the countryside, he/she will find that .22 LR ammo is very light and that he/she can carry a great deal of it.

Though I do not recommend this, I have talked to some people who have taken such large game as elk with the .22 LR. This was accomplished by sneaking to within 50 yards of the animal and shooting it in the back of the head. This is what I am told and I have every reason to believe the persons who told me their stories. In my estimation this is unethical and a hunter should only purposefully hunt and take game with a caliber of weapon that can reliably kill the hunted game with a shot to the heart or other vitals. However, this is worth considering should you find yourself in desperate need and have only your .22 rifle available.

Of all the models of .22 rifles on the market, the most recommended is the Ruger 10/22. This recommendation goes back to the 1970s when survivalism got a boost in public relations thanks to the regime of Jimmy Carter. The Ruger 10/22 is well built, accurate and, despite it's aluminum receiver, rugged. It will deliver in performance what the other .22 rifles on the market will, but it had the advantage of being fed by a detachable rotary magazine.

It is this detachable rotary magazine that set the 10/22 apart more than any other feature. Originally designed to hold ten rounds and fit flush against the stock, it wasn't long before some intelligent, entrepreneurial companies like Ramline and Mitchell began producing after market magazines that held 30 and 50 rounds respectively.



The trusty Ruger 10/22 with 50 round Mitchell magazine and Tasco scope.

This increase in magazine capacity suitably impressed both the gun owner and survivalist communities. Remember, these were the days before government officials and the controlled media began to demonize full capacity magazines. It would be about a decade before the wailing and gnashing of teeth began over imaginary “assault weapons” attacks in school yards and shopping malls. A gun owner could load up a couple of magazines and target practice all day long and a survivalist could keep some magazines ready and have an inexpensive, fast shooting, close range defensive carbine. (Not that I've ever considered the .22 LR a viable defensive cartridge. However, you can store huge quantities of the ammo for pennies and rely upon massed fire to the cranial region from several 50 round magazines should the need arise.)

Thirty years later, America is not the same place. Now days we have an out of control government that does not think twice about violating the rights of Americans. Government unlawfully restricts the capacity of magazines to ten rounds and will criminally use lethal force to uphold it's decrees. Of course, magazines manufactured before the unlawful ban can be “legally”

purchased, but the prices for a 50 round Mitchell drum magazine now exceeds 100 FRNs where they were once less than 20 FRNs.

This does not negate the 10/22's top recommendation as the survivalist's first choice in .22 rimfire rifle. The ten round detachable magazine is more than adequate for hunting and pest eradication and the .22 LR was never a viable defensive choice in ammo, anyway. The gun owner may also buy extra ten round magazines for that daily plinking excursion.

With the full capacity magazine advantage being infringed upon by government, other .22 rimfire rifles are finding places in the survivalist's and Independent American's battery. Tube fed rifles that hold up to 14 rounds have proven themselves trustworthy for survival, hunting, plinking, and pest control.

There are many such rifles on the market. Among the most notable is the Remington nylon 66. It is accurate, reliable and well built. The synthetic stock gives it the advantage of an all weather field gun. You can even buy a stainless version termed the Apache. These Remington .22 rifles are solidly built, reliable and accurate. Their disadvantage is in the tube feed design, but



The Remington Nylon 66 in stainless steel and black synthetic stock is an excellent .22 rimfire rifle.

speed in reloading is not a pre-requisite in hunting or pest control. If you need a defensive rifle, check into the battle rifles or hunting rifles.

I have fired and/or owned many .22 rifles over some time and I have never been disappointed. They all seem to deliver an excellent performance. I still own an old Mossberg 151K with a long barrel. This rifle has served me very well and I consider it an excellent small game hunter.

As mentioned, there are more .22 rifle types in production beside the semi-automatics and these provide hours of fun and are reliable enough to provide food for the table and to keep pests out of the garden. Should I need to decide on which .22 rimfire rifle I would need with me, I would decide on the Ruger 10/22 without hesitation. This is because I am more familiar with it than most and I am more likely to find sources for spare parts and accessories, should I need them in a hostile environment. Whichever rifle you decide on, however, will serve you well, as long as you stick with the well known, quality models.

**The side arm:** For those of you who live in urban areas or where neighbors are of socialistic leanings that tend to wet their panties at the sight of a firearm, the sidearm may be your first consideration, as concealability will be very important to you. What bed wetting Americans don't see, they usually don't worry about.

As for us real Americans, the sidearm is our last ditch defense firearm. That is, we use it only when necessary to defend our lives or the lives of our families. Beside training, hunting and plinking, the sidearm has only one other purpose; to protect our lives and families. As such, you are obligated to obtain the very best quality sidearm that you are able to afford. No junk! That doesn't mean that some of the less



expensive models should not be considered. It means that quality must ALWAYS be considered above cost.

Another obligation you have in the choice of a sidearm is to carry and train with the most powerful cartridge that you can properly handle. Stopping power is not just a term made up to promote one caliber above another. Some cartridges *actually are better* at imparting their energy and causing more damage to an aggressor, thereby increasing the ability to stop an attack, than other cartridges.

Bullet design has helped in increasing the ability of weaker cartridges to stop an attack. With modern bullet design, an Independent American might be tempted to purchase a sidearm chambered in a less than proficient cartridge, but consider this. Amerikan politicians have shown a rabid hatred for American freedoms, especially the right to keep and bear arms. Exorbitant ammunition taxes and bans have already been proposed and enacted in the past. They certainly will be again in the future. Should an outright ammo ban be fostered upon the American people, you will need to cast your own bullets if you want ammo. No more modern bullet designs, which means a degradation in stopping power. Prepare for this possibility now and obtain the best stopping caliber you can properly manage.

There are plenty of calibers that are proficient stoppers to consider, but stick with the more popular of these, as you would for your hunting and battle rifles. Of the proficient stopping calibers, the .44 special, .44 magnum, 10mm, .357 magnum, .45 long Colt, .45 ACP and .40 S&W are the popular cartridges in America.

The .50 A&E, .454 Casul, and .475 Linebaugh are stoppers alright, but they can be a bit too much to handle in a firefight. Other cartridges, like the .480 Ruger are too new to have become popular enough to ensure a reasonable supply of ammunition.

Of course, if you do find a cartridge you like, you may ensure your own supplies by collecting as much as you can now and reloading, but keep in mind, when anti-American bureau-rats ban ammo, you will be stuck with what you have and rare ammo supplies will be scarce to barter for.

That leaves the question of revolver or semi-automatic? Both have their advantages and disadvantages. The semi-automatic generally holds more rounds and, for most, they are faster to reload when extra magazines are available. This makes the semi-automatic tactically superior when you must engage multiple targets. However, when those magazines run dry, the semi-automatic comes to a stop until you stuff more mags. The semi-auto is also more complex with a greater number of moving parts. This tends to increase the propensity of the machine to malfunction. If you increase the tolerance of fit between moving parts to decrease malfunctions, accuracy suffers.

There are trade-offs in the designs of the various semi-automatics, but some very good ones are made and will serve the Independent American very well.

First and foremost among the semi-automatic designs is the time honored Browning 1911. This recoil operated, semi-auto design can be found incorporated into Colt Government models, their variations and clones. Colt clones include the Para-Ordnance, Springfield Armory, Rock Island Armory, Grizzly Auto Mags, Dan Wesson and even the new Smith and Wesson 1911. All of the above clones are reported to be of good quality, though I have yet to shoot any, except the Grizzly and the Colt Government and Commander models. I can report good experiences with the Grizzly and the Colts.

Browning 1911 design handguns can be found in .380 ACP, 9mm, .38 Super, 9mm Largo, .45 ACP, .45 Winchester Magnum, .460 Rowland, .50 A&E and quite a bit

more.

Stick to the rule of obtaining the most popular cartridges with the best stopping power. The .380 ACP and 9mm are inadequate stoppers. Bullet design has helped the 9mm considerably, but remember that you may need to cast your own bullets and reload to maintain an ammo supply. In this capacity, the 9mm is inadequate. The .38 Super, 9mm Largo and .45 Winchester Magnum are all adequate stoppers, but not at all that popular in America. The .50 A&E may be a bit too much for some, so test fire the cartridge to see if it's right for you before purchasing a sidearm in it.

The .460 Rowland is a neat little cartridge that gives the performance of a .44 Magnum. Due to a special compensator on the barrel of the .460 Rowland drop in kit, the recoil for this cartridge is extraordinarily mild for it's performance. Though the .460 Rowland is not popular at the moment, it's popularity is growing. Because the performance of this cartridge fired from your 1911 design handgun to reach .44 magnum characteristics and can be utilized as a handgun hunting cartridge, I recommend that a .460 Rowland drop in kit be purchased with your handgun. This will give your handgun added versatility.

The 10mm was a great idea! This cartridge gives .357 Magnum performance out of your semi-automatic. It is a hard hitting cartridge that has been used in handgun hunting, even taking mule deer at ranges between 50 and 100 yards. The FBI switched to this cartridge after their 9mm and .38 special handguns failed to stop two criminals in a now famous Miami shootout.

The Smith & Wesson handgun that was adopted by the FBI, however, did not stand up to the punishment that the cartridge put it's frame through and failures of the handgun resulted in testing. As a result, the FBI loaded the cartridge down until it fell between the 9mm and the .45 ACP in

stopping power.

Someone got the idea to shorten the case and the .41 A&E and later the .40 S&W was born. However, instead of calling for a handgun that would stand up to the tests, the FBI switched back to a 9mm with an improved bullet design. Of course, the FBI will never have to worry about ammo bans.

This leads us to the .45 ACP. This cartridge is the king of the semi-automatic handguns in popularity, whatever the bullet design may be. Because this was the adopted cartridge of the U.S. military between 1911 and 1985, there is a very prevalent supply of .45 ACP ammunition in America. The stopping power of the cartridge is quite adequate even with cast bullets. If you are leaning toward a semi-automatic sidearm, you can do a lot worse than a 1911 style handgun chambered for the .45 ACP with a .460 Rowland drop in kit.

After switching to the Berretta 92 in 9mm, the military now appears to have seen the light. Special Forces Personnel are now allowed to purchase their own handguns chambered in the .45 ACP. The 9mm using FMJ bullets proved, once again, to be an inadequate stopper since the military is limited to FMJ or ball ammo.

Other semi-autos that deliver good performance are the recoil operated, double action Sig Sauers, Berettas, and the gas operated, rotating bolt Desert Eagles.

Besides 9mm and .45 ACP cartridges, the .357 Sig can be had in the Sig Sauers. This is a good cartridge, however, it is a fairly new one and has not yet established itself to the point that it may still be obtainable after a ban. In the Desert Eagles, chamberings in .44 and .357 Auto Mags can be had. These never really caught on in America partly due to some handguns chambered in these cartridges that did not perform well. Although, these cartridges are good performers, Independent Americans should

stay away from them due to their lack of great quantity.

Desert Eagle also offers the .50 A&E, which is an excellent performer and has become reasonably popular enough to consider for your handgun. As stated above, however, test fire the cartridge first to see if it is right for you. Remember, you may need to fire it under combat conditions, so be certain that you can double tap and make follow-up shots.

My first choice in the semi-automatic sidearm department is the Colt Commander chambered in .45 ACP. Unfortunately, I do not presently own one.



The Colt 1911-A1 Commander is an excellent semi-auto sidearm.

For my personal protection sidearm I have opted, as many will, to carry a double action revolver. When choosing revolvers always opt for the double action over the single action. The double action cocks it's hammer, rotates it's cylinder, drops it's hammer and fires with each squeeze of the trigger. You must manually thumb the hammer back on a single action to cock and rotate the cylinder. With practice, there won't be any difference in speed of operation, but a tactical reload will seem to take an eternity when applied to a single action.

Most experts will tell you that the revolver is an excellent handgun for the first time owner. This is true, because the action is

simple and there is very little controls, like decocking levers and safeties to get in the way of the first time owner. Unfortunately, some of the same experts are telling the public that because of this simplicity, the revolver owner need not train as much with his/her sidearm. This is most definitely not true.

You must become proficient with your sidearm no matter if it is a revolver or semi-auto. You need to be familiar with it's function, cleaning and take down. You must become a good marksman. AND you must be able to operate it under combat situations. This means you must master the tactical reload with a revolver. Many revolver owners can perform this maneuver almost as fast as trained semi-auto owners. This takes training. You will need to buy speed loaders with your revolver and invest some time at the range.

One secret that, as a revolver owner, I would like to impart to you is the easy chair practice. Simply buy 12 dummy rounds, (14 or 16 if you own one of the Smith & Wesson 7 or 8 shot revolvers.) and load your revolver with 6, 7 or 8 dummy rounds. Next load your speed loader with dummy rounds. Every time you are seated in your easy chair in front of the boob tube, practice the tactical reload drill.

The drill goes like this. Open the cylinder of your revolver. Tip the muzzle toward the ceiling. With your weak hand, quickly, but smoothly press the ejector rod downward. While tipping the barrel back downward, switch your hold on the revolver, cradling the cylinder and frame in your weak hand. Retrieve your speed loader from it's carry position with your strong hand and charge your chambers. Close your cylinder to it's firing position with your weak hand while grasping your revolver's grip with your strong hand. Raise the revolver to firing position while aiming at a safe point in the room. Reload your speed loader with the ejected dummy cartridges and repeat the

process several times. You couch potatoes can enjoy this during commercials.

Before you grasp your revolver's grip, you will notice that you must let go of the emptied speed loader. Because you will want to retrieve this in the field, practice dropping this into a pocket in a coat, vest or special pocket in your shirt. Never let it just drop.

Always practice the tactical reload at the range when you are firing as well. Here's another secret. Do not practice for speed at first. Practice slowly for smoothness of motion. Speed will come when your body learns the motions it is performing. Soon you will become faster and you will not even have to think about performing the motions as you carry them out.

Popular cartridges chambered in revolvers that are also good stoppers are .44 special, .44 magnum, .45 ACP, 10mm, .357 magnum and the .45 long Colt. The 10mm and the .45 ACP are usually chambered in semi-automatics, but are found in the Smith & Wesson 610 and the 625 respectively. These revolvers are loaded via moon clips so that their rimless cases can be ejected after being fired. Again, obtain your sidearm in the most potent cartridge that you can manage, unless you need to standardize with others in your group or family.

If you can effectively fire the .44 magnum cartridge, but your wife can only effectively fire the .45 ACP and you both want revolvers, consider obtaining .44 magnums and firing the .44 special in them for defensive loads. This will allow you much more versatility than you would obtain from a semi-auto.

The same option is available in the case of the .357 magnum. If a member of your family/group is unable to manage the .357 magnum load, (though I couldn't imagine why), .38 special defense loads can be fired from the .357 magnum revolver. The .38

special can also be loaded up to +P+ levels without the slightest concern toward damaging the handgun when fired from a .357 magnum. Target loads of the lightest recoil may also be loaded with no concern for changing recoil springs to handle very light or very heavy loads in the revolver. This gives even greater versatility for the individual, family or group.

I would hesitate, however, to standardize on a .38 special load for defense, as the little .38 does not have a good reputation for stopping an aggressor with cast bullets. You may take advantage of modern bullet design now, but who knows how long it will be before one of the global socialistic schemes being proposed by anti-American politicians will be run through Congress and signed by a president? Think about that and buy some bullet molds when you've obtained your battery!

Revolvers that are being made by such reputable firms as Colt, Ruger, Smith & Wesson and Dan Wesson are all excellent performers and will serve the Independent American very well.

The sidearm that I am currently carrying is the Colt Trooper MK III chambered in the .357 magnum. It is reliable, accurate and holds up to heavy loads very well. It's frame rides very comfortably on my hip. The Pachmayer grips fits well to my hands and the whole package is a pleasure to fire.



Firing the Colt Trooper MK III is a pleasure.

Also in .357 magnum, is the Smith & Wesson model 27 or model 28 highway patrolman. These are by far wonderful revolvers to operate! They are as accurate as any, very reliable and hefty enough to absorb loads of time on the firing line belching out heavy .357 magnum loads. This model is definitely one of my favorites!

Smith & Wesson did get into a peck of trouble with American gun owners when they signed an agreement with the Clinton regime, which would excuse them from a few of the frivolous law suits being cooked up by the regime in return for manufacturing all of their firearms with integral gun locks and developing user identity technology in their firearms. These previous owners of Smith & Wesson were also volunteering information as to where their firearms were going and what dealers were purchasing them. As a result, Americans boycotted Smith & Wesson, bankrupting the firm.

It is unfortunate that an American institution with such heritage as S&W was, at the time, owned by English interests. Fortunately, this has been corrected. After going bankrupt, the English firm sold Smith & Wesson to some American interest, who immediately cancelled the agreement with the communitarian regime of Bill Clinton.

In my eyes, S&W has been redeemed and since they continue to produce an excellent product, I can recommend their acquisition.

This is most fortunate for gun owners and Independent Americans wanting to acquire a revolver for a defensive sidearm. Smith & Wesson continues to produce excellent quality and innovative revolvers. The S&W 386 and 386PD exemplifies this innovation. The series of models 386 incorporate scandium alloy frames and 7 shot cylinders. Even more interesting is the model 627 8 shot stainless steel revolver. The S&W model 386 and model 627 are both chambered in .357 magnum.

With newly manufactured semi-automatic magazines now unconstitutionally limited to 10 rounds, the S&W 386 and 627 offer the Independent American a loaded capacity nearing that of the semi-auto while maintaining the advantage of a revolver's ability to digest a wide variety of loadings.

When it comes to hefty, rugged designs, Ruger takes the prize. Ruger has a well earned reputation for beefing up their revolvers. They are probably the strongest double actions on the market. They are reliable, accurate and very capable of digesting heavy loads. For the survivalist/Independent American looking for a defensive and/or hunting handgun to carry on his/her hip, you couldn't get a stronger model than one of the Rugers.

For that all-around, do everything handgun, the Super Redhawk is as close to perfect as you will get. This model is available in .44 magnum and .480 Ruger. Stick with the more popular .44 magnum for reasons mention above. For defensive purposes, fire the .44 special and reserve the full powered magnum loads for hunting.

The GP-100 is another excellent offering by Ruger in .357 magnum as is the more concealable SP-101. These revolvers complement each other well. The GP-100 is excellent for on the hip carry and can be purchased with adjustable sights and combat grips. The SP-101 is a bit smaller and features fixed sights and a spurless hammer for ease of draw from concealment. Your choice between one of these will depend upon your location and your neighbors. If you live in a freedom phobic area you will need to consider concealment first, so opt for the SP-101. If you live in a piece of America that has not yet been destroyed by socialist pander, get the more duty oriented GP-100.

Another firearms maker that can truly be called innovative (in fact, that's how they

advertise) is Dan Wesson. Dan Wesson firearms offer changeable barrels and shrouds, allowing the owner to change between short barrel for concealment to medium length barrel for duty carry or long barrel for hunting or silhouette shooting.

Dan Wesson offers the model 7360 firing the .357 magnum. This is capable of handling magnum loads in ++ range. This would make an excellent choice for defense and hunting. The model 744 fires the .44 magnum. The advantages of revolvers chambered in .44 magnum have already been discussed. Dan Wesson also offers the model 745 which is chambered in .45 Long Colt. Due to the popularity of cowboy action shooting (a wonderful pastime) .45 Long Colt ammunition is very abundant and can be considered plentiful enough to obtain after a ban.

The model 7460 is a very versatile model. This model can fire several cartridges including the .45 ACP loaded to +p or regular loadings, the .45 super, .45 Winchester magnum, the .460 Rowland, which duplicates .44 magnum performance, and the .45 auto rimmed. While some of these cartridges are obsolete or scarce, it is comforting to know that you can fire a wide range of ammunition should you have trouble finding your first choice in caliber.

**The .22 LR sidearm:** This is going to be your practice sidearm and a small game handgun. During elk and deer season, I often carry my Ruger MK I Target Pistol. This is in case the day ends without sighting an elk or deer and I spot a grouse or two on the way back to camp. This method of carrying the .22 LR sidearm with the hunting rifle will give the hunter/survivor enough versatility to take a wider variety of game.



The Ruger MK I Target pistol.

There are many firms that produce a .22 LR sidearm. As I've mentioned, I have opted for the Ruger MK I Target model. The Ruger MK IIs are also high quality. Because it is possible that you may need to use your .22 sidearm for defense one day, try to obtain this piece in your battery in semi-automatic or double action unless you need a low cost single action like the Ruger Bearcat for practice in cowboy action competition.

Doug Bell, the editor of *The Independent American* will tell you that if you are going to carry a semi-automatic pistol in a major caliber for a defensive sidearm, then buy a semi-automatic sidearm in .22 LR for training. If you are going to carry a revolver for defense, then buy a revolver in .22 LR for the same reason. This is a good point as firing your .22 in training will teach you to operate the same action type as your major caliber sidearm.

Beside the Rugers already mentioned, Browning produces the Buck Mark series of semi-automatic .22 pistol. These are also very accurate and reliable.

For revolver owners, Smith & Wesson produces the small frame, snub nosed model 317 which can be purchased in 2 or 3 inch barrels. These would be good training choices for those carrying a revolver in a concealment configuration, but since part of the purpose for owning a .22 LR sidearm is

for gathering food, I would suggest something with a longer barrel and target sights.

The S&W model 617 should fill the bill rather well for revolver fans. It is available with 4, 6 and 8 3/8 inch barrels, has a hefty feel and depending on the individual, is up to the task of hitting small targets like squirrels for the table.

The homesteader/survivalist should not be shy about carrying a two gun rig when working on tasks at the ranch or farm. On one hip, carry your major caliber defensive sidearm. On the other hip, carry your .22 in case you need to exterminate a pest from your garden or field crops, or in case small game happens to show itself and you are in need of table fare.

**The battle carbine:** This is the last firearm in our consideration, but does not necessarily have to be the last in yours. Unlike the battle rifle, the battle carbine fires an intermediate powered cartridge and is limited in range compared with the more powerful cartridge fired by the battle rifle.

The battle carbine is generally semi-automatic in action, but can be any repeating rifle that fires an intermediate cartridge. This rifle type can be useful for taking whitetail deer sized game with the proper bullet, but the real usefulness of the battle carbine shows through as a short to intermediate range defensive rifle. It is designed to bring a high volume of fire against multiple targets from ranges as close as arms length to 300 yards. It's intermediate powered cartridge discharges with very mild recoil, making recovery and re-engagement easier.

Because the battle carbine is fast handling and helps to enable the individual to engage forces of superior number in prepared defensive situations, the Independent American will be interested in acquiring one

or more of these for him/her self and family/group. It must be realized, however, that such encounters with obviously superior forces like those that massacred the Church members of Mt. Carmel, Waco must be avoided. Due to the limited range of the battle carbine, a full blown battle rifle should be first in consideration regarding a rifle that will be employed in a defensive or combat situation. This is especially true if you are anticipating a "Red Dawn" or totalitarian take over situation.

Cartridges that can be found in rifles that may be utilized as battle carbines are the 7.62x39 and the .223/5.56 NATO which are by far the most popular. Others include the .30-30, .444 Marlin, .450 Marlin, .50 A&E and the .300 Savage.

Like the cartridges for your sidearm, select a battle carbine that fires a popular and effective cartridge. Most of the cartridges mentioned above are proven stoppers. Of these, the .223/5.56 NATO has a reputation of not doing it's job on the battle front. (As, once again, demonstrated Somalia and Afghanistan.) This is due to the fact that the 5.56 NATO round utilizes a low weight and small diameter bullet and depends on velocity for it's striking energy. On paper this works out great. In the real world high velocity bullets with small weight and diameters tend to zip through their targets and impart only a fraction of that energy into a vital. This merely leaves neat little holes through which the target eventually leaks enough blood through to cause the target to die.

Scoring a casualty is all that a military may need to consider, however, when it is your family and your backside on the line, you want a stop. Not an eventual casualty that may still inflict damage. Go with larger calibers that have a proven record of causing stops.

Semi-automatic battle carbines will be chambered in either the 7.62x39 or the 5.56

NATO. Those firing the 5.56 NATO are the AR-15 and it's various clones, the SAR AK look-alike, the Mini-14, the H&K-93/HK-33 and the Daewoo K-1 expedition rifle.

The AR-15 and it's various clones should be considered too complex, mechanically, to be suitable for use by low-tech Militia units, survival groups or individuals without the backing of a national armory. The design has been so overworked with small springs and dozens of pieces that are easily lost upon disassembly (not to mention the finicky gas direct system action) that a more rugged rifle should be sought after.

The SAR AK look-alike is an excellent choice in any caliber. This system works no matter what you do to it. It is not as accurate as AR-15 systems, but it will work when the AR-15 has been thrown in the scrap pile.

The Mini-14 has never really been considered to be reliable. There are many people who own these and some who do not shoot them very often are satisfied with them. They do not seem to function well when rapid fired, at least not with full capacity magazines. Again pass these by for an SAR.

The H&K-93 is rugged and reliable if you are purchasing a pre-ban civilian import version. Do not buy the parts gun kits assembled on newly made receivers. Bad results are accustomed to the assembled parts guns.

The pre-ban Daewoo K-1 is built on a gas piston system like the AK/SAR. It is much more reliable than the AR-15s and is more accurate than the AK, however, they are commanding a whopping price. For the difference in price, the Daewoo is not *that* much more accurate than the AK/SAR.

Many of the carbines above chamber models in 7.62x39 as well as the .223/5.56 NATO. However, the two carbines that this cartridge was originally intended for are

plentiful and inexpensive in America. The SKS and AK-47 are the epitome of ruggedness and reliability.

The SKS is the more accurate and less expensive of the two. In addition it can be made more accurate by removing it's factory stock and replacing it with one of the many aftermarket stocks available for it. I did this for one SKS and it transformed the rifle into a tack driver using Wolf ammo. The stock I opted for was the High-Tech, Monte Carlo stock. This stock is synthetic and will help the rifle resist the weather.

The SKS is fed via stripper clips or one cartridge at a time into a fixed 10 or 20 round box magazine. Tactical reloads are a bit slower than with detachable magazines, other than that, I would give the SKS an edge over the AK-47 and variations. Excellent condition SKS carbines can still be found for 150 FRNs dealer. That gives this little battle carbine a huge plus!

The AK-47 is not a tack driver, though for purely combat purposes from close ranges out to 300 yards, it'll hit it's target within a 6 to 10 inch radius depending on your skill. Where the AK-47 excels over the SKS is in it's full capacity magazines. This allows for more rounds expended before a tactical reload is required, and allows for a faster reload as long as you have loaded magazines. It's absolute dependability and ruggedness means that there is much less chance of a malfunction in a fast moving situation than with a more finicky system. These factors combine to make an almost perfect battle carbine system for Independent Americans. AK-47s are still prevalent in America and may be purchased starting at just under 300 FRNs dealer.

The .50 A&E is the only other semi-automatic cartridge on the list for battle carbines. While it is a good cartridge in the realm of battle carbines, it is available only in AR-15 clones at this time. Due to cost and high maintenance, I am suggesting that



Independent Americans pass over the AR-15s and clones for more reliable and rugged AKs, and SKSs.

unobtrusive looking carbine, as is all of the lever actions, that is less likely to draw attention from bladderless freedom-phobes.



The SKS is a fantastic little carbine. The SKS and the AK-47 should both be considered as the Independent American's battle carbine.

The remaining cartridges, .30-30, .444 Marlin, .450 Marlin and the .300 Savage will be found in lever action carbines. Marlin and Winchester both make decent rifles, but Marlin is of superior quality, while the Savage 99 (which chambers the .300 Savage) is of great quality and features. Unfortunately, the Savage 99 was discontinued many years ago and you'll have a tough time finding someone willing to part with theirs and if you do, it'll cost you a bundle.

The .300 Savage gives a great mid-powered cartridge performance and will take deer size game out to 200 yards. The Savage 99 incorporates a fixed rotary magazine. This gives the cartridge it is chambered in the added versatility of not requiring a flat nose design like those firearms utilizing a tube magazine. The Savage 99 is also an

Do not, however, choose a firearm merely on the basis that it may be "legal" longer than certain other firearms. If you are going to pass over a good firearm solely on the basis that you may be required to turn it in and that freedom-phobes may leave you alone for a bit longer, then don't bother acquiring firearms for your own or family's defense. If you don't have the fortitude to exercise your rights when they are "legal", then you will not have the fortitude to defend your rights when they are "legislated" away.

The .30-30 is actually a bit more powerful than the 7.62x39 and will take deer size game out to 200 yards. Firearms chambered in this caliber will include the Marlin 336 series and Winchester 94/Winchester 94 Trapper model. The Marlin is of generally superior quality and will serve the Independent American better.

The .444 Marlin is a close-in brush cartridge. It's range should be considered in the 100-150 yard range for ethical hunting of deer size game. It's recoil is extremely mild and helps to make a rifle fast handling. The .444 Marlin can be found chambered in the Marlin 444 and Winchester model 94 Timber Carbine. Again, buy the Marlin if you have the choice.

The .450 Marlin is a mid-range cartridge. It was designed to be an improvement of the .45/70 government and primarily for the Alaska bush where it is possible to round a bend in a path and meet a grizzly head on. The .450 Marlin has the wimp to take one of these bad boys down should he show a liking to putting the wimp on you. It is a straight wall case, belted cartridge with a big weight, large diameter bullet that wouldn't think twice about cracking a rib to get to your lungs. The .450 Marlin pushes a 350 grain bullet at 2100 fps at the muzzle. Gotta love a cartridge with an attitude! This cartridge can be found in the Marlin 1895M and the 1895MR.

With training and familiarity with your firearm, a lever action carbine can be as quick handling and accurate as any semi-automatic. They do have some disadvantages when compared to modern semi-automatic carbines, though. Except for the Savages, lever actions are tube fed and must be reloaded one cartridge at a time. Even the Savages incorporate a fixed rotary magazine and must also be reloaded one cartridge at a time. This makes tactical reloads lengthy.

The other disadvantage to the lever action carbine comes when you must shoot lying prone. To accomplish this, after firing your shot, you must roll onto your weak side to work the action with your strong hand, then roll back to prone position, re-acquire a target and fire another shot. This procedure has the potential of giving away your position.

Lever action carbines also command a higher price than the two best choices in semi-automatic battle carbine, the SKS and the AK-47. Not that they are bad choices, because they aren't, the lever action must take a second place to the better semi-autos.

While everyone will have different priorities in his/her living environment, therefore different needs in firearms, this article will serve as a good guide for those exploring their options in the field of survival arms.



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Public Announcement From the Give Me Liberty Foundation

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*About Plants*

**Growing Weeds For Food  
Crops Part I**

by Corcceigh Green

On one typical northern Idaho July 3rd evening I found myself in my garden covering my squash with newspapers. We had rain that day and the clouds were clearing away for the night. The daytime temperatures were in the 60s and with the coming clear night, we were expecting frost. Yes, frost is a common occurrence in the Idaho panhandle in the summer months. Frost can occur at any time of the year and I've had a killer frost wipe out a crop of peppers one August 18th of 1997.

In the process of covering my squash, I was pulling some weeds. The weeds I was pulling were a variety of lamb's quarters, prickly lettuce, couch grass, wild oats, goat's beard, dandelion and a good deal more weeds than I like in my garden. I noticed that despite the cold nights we were having, the weeds were thriving where the garden variety plants needed protection. I wondered why garden variety plants could not be as hardy as the weeds. The answer came a second later, as I realized that the plant's seeds that I was cultivating were produced somewhere else in a different climate. This made my cultivated plants acclimated to warmer nights and longer growing seasons.

It also occurred to me that the weeds I was vanquishing from my garden were edible. In fact they were wild plants that

every survivalist is trained to seek out in search of food in the wilds. If one could consume these plants to stay alive in the wild, why couldn't one cultivate these plants as hardier sources of food than the average garden variety?

The answer, of course, is yes, they can be. This brings up another question. Why would you want to cultivate wild varieties of plants in your garden other than for their hardiness? While these wild varieties are much hardier than their cultivated cousins, they tend to be tougher and more bitter. They are not exactly bred for their taste. In fact, they are not bred at all. So, why not just buy non-hybrid seeds and cultivate them over some years to acclimate them to your growing conditions? Absolutely, you should, but should you find yourself living your most feared survival scenario, say an economic/political collapse following a nuclear war pronounced by plague, famine, the rising of the dead and the come back of bell bottom jeans and polyester suits and you experience massive crop failures and need to start over, you might find your answer right in the remnants of your own front lawn.

Seriously, if you find yourself disenfranchised from your homestead and supplies, you need not suffer. You are able to harvest wild plants to use as crops in your field or wherever you find yourself. After all, our ancestors did not make a trip to the nursery and buy some shrubs and seeds when they wanted to spruce up around the cave. They followed a few methods of cultivation that we are able to duplicate today in order to propagate plants that can be used as food.

The first method is saving seeds. This is just like the method we use to save the seeds of our non-hybrid garden plants. The wild plants from which saving seeds will be most beneficial are the annuals and a few perennials.

During the spring and summer months take note of what edible plants are growing around your area and their locations. If you need to, write these locations down and even make maps. In summer or autumn, you will return to these locations and collect the seeds.

Seeds must be ripe when you harvest them or they will not produce plants. To ensure that the seeds you collect are ripe, observe the parent plants. Some will bear ripe seeds sooner than others. When you've noticed that some plants have produced ripe seed, collect the seed from the other plants that have the same appearance of being ripe, yet still on the plant. This will make gathering a quantity of seed easier.

Noticing when seed is ready to harvest will become easier with experience. On plants that bear their seed openly on stalks, like curly dock and pepper grass, the seed becomes hard, dry looking and brown. Just as some of the plants are loosing their seed, collect the seed on the plants that are in the above described condition.

To collect seed from the stalk, simply pluck them with your fingers and store in a discarded pill or ant-acid bottle. Mark the bottle carefully with the variety of plant seed you have collected. For small plants that produce seed on stalks, like the sorrel and wild spinach, firmly take

the stalk between your index finger and thumb and slide them up the stalk, causing the seed to fall from the plant. Be certain that you've placed some paper or cloth on the ground by the plant to recover the seed.



Saving sorrel seeds.

Some plants like dandelion depend on wind for the dispersal of their seed. Therefore their seed develop parachute like plant fibers attached to them. When the seed head opens to reveal the ripe seeds, they blow off from the main plant and are carried by the wind. These plants are exceptionally easy to collect seed from. When the seed head opens, pluck the seeds from them and tear away the "parachutes". Place them in bottles and mark them as well.



Goat's beard seed can be plucked from the open seed head, their "parachutes" removed and stored in a bottle.

Some seed are contained in fruit or nut. For those of us accustomed to collecting non-hybrid seeds from tomatoes, collecting seed from fruit or nut bearing plants will be familiar. Allow the fruit or nut to ripen on the plant until it drops from the plant on it's own. Collect the fruit or nut and allow it to ferment for a few days, then remove the seed from the fruit by straining it through a colander. Remove the nut from it's surrounding peel, but leave the shell. Plant the nut, shell and all in a pot containing peat moss and compost three inches deep. Keep moist until sprouting. If you are sprouting a tree, keep out of direct sunlight for several years.

Other seeds occur in pods that develop on the flower structure after the flower has been pollinated. Examples are bean and sweet pea pods. These pods will burst open and drop their seeds when ripe. It is best to tie a small paper bag over these pods as they begin to turn brown, so that the seed can be easily collected after the pods have opened.

Sprouting trees, shrubs and some perennials actually takes much more

patience than is called for. Most homesteaders will never see the results from sprouting trees. What you will want to do is transplant mature or young trees and shrubs. Even perennials like mints and wild ginger will benefit greatly from transplanting.

Look for trees, shrubs and perennials that you would like on your homestead during the spring and summer. Perennials will benefit by being transplanted in the spring, while trees and shrubs may be transplanted in the fall. When you find plants that would be beneficial to your homestead mark them by tying brightly colored string or ribbon and their branches or trunks and make a note of their location.



Mark the plants you want to transplant. like these service berries, with string or ribbon.

Prepare the ground at your homestead before you dig your transplants. Dig necessary holes and add necessary nutrients. When digging your transplants, take as much of the transplant's native soil with it as possible. Try to expose as little roots as possible and keep the soil and roots moist. This will keep transplant shock to a minimum.

Cutting slips is another means to



propagate plants into your garden. This is effective mainly for perennials. Partly dig the parent plant and wash part of the soil away from the root. Cut the fleshiest root into 3 inch sections and immediately place into pots horizontally, covering the slips with one half inch of soil and moisten.

Basically, these are the same methods that we use every year in our gardens and greenhouses. Most of us are familiar with these methods, but what plants should we look for should we need to regenerate a food garden from scratch? The following is a good guide for most areas of the country as to what plants to look for and how to propagate them.

First on our list is pepper grass. This plant is also known as shepherd's purse and scurvy grass. Pepper grass grows close to the ground, produces pinnately divided leaves in one variety, and lobed and smooth leaves in another variety. The leaves grow close to the ground in a ring which sends up a stalk from the center. The stalk will alternate with leaves and will branch and terminate in flower heads. When mature, the flower will produce a two lobed paper pod. Each pod lobe will contain a single seed.

Pepper grass is so useful to Independent Americans that it should be a normal addition to every garden. The seed can be picked green then dried and used as a very tasty and hot pepper substitute. This is something worth considering as a bartering item or as a business. In medieval times, spices used to command a price of the spice's weight in gold. Today, pepper grass seed can be bought as brown pepper at road side stands. They are sold with pepper mills as a gift

item.



The seed stalk of pepper grass, or shepherd's purse.

For propagation, pick the seed pods from the stalk, rub between your hands to remove them from their paper shells and place on a smooth, flat surface. Gently blow the lighter paper shells from the seed to separate. Store seeds in a bottle in a cool, dry place.



Brown pepper grass seed separated from the tan paper shells and ready to be stored in a bottle.

The leaves of pepper grass are four times higher in vitamin C than oranges. In times of famine when good nutrition is hard to come by, people would seek out

and eat the leaves of pepper grass to ward off scurvy. This earned the plant the nickname, scurvy grass. The leaves are tender when picked young and make an excellent addition to salad and can be considered an ingredient in spring tonic.

It's use as a salad green, a source of vitamin C and as a peppery spice should put pepper grass, AKA shepherd's purse near the top of every Independent American's list of plants to propagate.

Another plant of multiple use that should be considered for our purpose is the wild lettuce. There are many varieties of wild lettuce, all of them produce leaves that are high in vitamins and, depending on the soil, minerals. The leaves are tender when young and, though somewhat more bitter than the cultivated varieties, are readily useable in salads.

Salad greens are the extent of wild lettuce's food value, but wild lettuce has more value than it's food use. Wild lettuce has been used in the past to treat a-vitaminosis or vitamin deficiency. Allow the plants to go to seed, then pick the older, tough leaves and dehydrate them in the shade. In the winter months when greens are rare in your diet, brew a tea with the dehydrated wild lettuce leaves for a beverage. This will help to restore vitamins to your body.

Another purpose that makes wild lettuce of particular importance to Independent Americans is it's use as a pain killing medicine. This report comes in from the Washington State Survivalist group on Yahoo groups web site. When the lettuce has bloomed, pick the entire plant and remove the leaves. Bruise and pack the stalk and flower tightly into a glass

container and fill to the brim with a high proof alcoholic beverage like Vodka. Set in a window seal for a week or two and you will have a primitive form of laudanum.

The milky sap of lettuce is high in alkaloids similar to the sap and seeds of poppies. These alkaloids are the active ingredient in opium and laudanum, which kills pain. Since all substances capable of deadening severe pain, like that of a broken bone, is restricted from those without a license to practice medicine, the Independent American may need the means to create pain killers for medicinal use in case of societal collapse.

Some wild lettuce varieties are better at producing these alkaloids in their sap than others, though all lettuce varieties do produce them. Washington State Survivalist recommends miner's lettuce, while my research indicates that prickly lettuce is desirable for this purpose. It is also important to note that these types of preparations are not to be used for recreational purposes. Like laudanum or similar opiates, such preparations can be addictive. **USE ONLY IN A MEDICAL EMERGENCY!**

For it's source as a food, health supplement and medicinal pain killer, wild lettuce should be considered a beneficial plant for propagation in a survival garden.

Wild lettuce sprouts a single stalk that terminates in flowers. When mature the flowers develop seed heads and parachutes like those of the dandelion, but smaller. Collect the seeds after the seed head opens.



Wild lettuce.

The dandelion is a well known weed that is considered by many a pest of the lawn and garden. The dandelion's reputation as a hard to eradicate weed that scars the lawn is undeserved. It is hard to eradicate, but if homesteaders knew the bounty produced by the dandelion they'd gladly trade in the front lawn for a dandelion patch.

Practically everyone has tasted young, tender dandelion green tossed in a wild salad. The greens are high in vitamin K, A, D and C. Dandelion greens will also serve the survival gardener all year around, because it is not necessary to use only the young leaves for food. Older, tougher leaves can be picked and boiled as spinach.

The dandelion blossoms themselves are very useful to Independent Americans. Pick the blossoms, removing their stems, then soak them in salt water overnight. Remove them from the brine the next day and dehydrate them and save them in jars as you would dried fruit. These can be steeped as a tea and used as an anti-bacterial wash. Wine may also be made from the blossoms.

The roots can be ground and brewed into a coffee substitute or other beverage. The roots are high in potassium which

helps the body balance it's electrolytes making any beverage brewed from the roots a good energy drink during hard work.

The roots are also used in herbal medicine for complaints of the digestive system. They have an tonic effect on the digestive system and a specific effect on the liver and gall bladder. They are also diuretic. Steep One teaspoon of the powdered root to one cup of water. By simmering the preceding solution for fifteen minutes, a stronger solution will be made which should be taken once a day for gall bladder complaints.

By making a tincture of the root using brandy, many resins contained within the root can be dissolved into the tincture which would not otherwise be dissolved and assimilated by steeping or simmering. These resins are likely to aid the medicinal properties of the roots. Take between ten to fifteen drops of the tincture in a glass of water three times a day.

There is probably no need to collect the seed as dandelion grows in most open fields in America. If you do need to plant a plot, save the seeds as described for seeds with parachutes. In the spring, plant the seeds in a plot, covering them with a quarter inch of soil.

Goat's beard is another useful garden plant who's wild cousins abound in neglected fields. Mainly a root crop, the gardener should dig the root while young and tender before the formation of a stalk. Also known as salsify, the root is very akin to parsnip and can be used to substitute parsnip in recipes and table fare.

Should you allow your goat's beard to form stalks and flower buds, the buds can be picked before blooming, then steamed and eaten as artichokes.

Goat's beard resembles a giant dandelion when blooming or bearing seed except

found throughout America. It's tender leaves provide a sour, but good tasting green. Even children will find these pleasant tasting greens a treat and you will have no problem getting your little ones to eat these greens. They are usually eaten raw, by themselves, but are a



A patch of goat's beard gone to seed growing next to some daisies.

for their longer, non-divided leaves. A cultivated version generally known as salsify exists for the gardener, but the wild versions are basically the same. The Independent American may save the seed as he/she would for wild lettuce and dandelion. Plant the seed in rows one quarter inch deep in the spring.

Sorrel is a wide spread plant and will be

welcome addition to salads, sandwiches, soups and pasta. Medicinally, they are

used as an appetite stimulate, a treatment for scurvy and an antiseptic.

Sorrel produces spinachy, arrow looking leaves. It sprouts branching stalks that produce flower along it's length especially toward it's top. The flowers develop seeds in the summer.



Sorrel plants. The arrow shaped leaf can just be made out.

The FDA is warning Americans not to consume sorrel in large quantities because of its oxalic acid content. Oxalic acid is toxic in large doses, though consuming this plant will pose no problem to those in good health, it would be prudent to restrict its intake in small children, the very old, infirm and pets. Parboiling the leaves before eating will destroy the oxalic acid content and render the leaves safe to eat. Otherwise, sorrel will be a welcome addition to any survival garden.

Plantain is a close growing herb. There are several varieties, most having narrow, strongly ribbed leaves which grow from a crown and send up several short stalks from the center. Another variety produces leaves which are much broader and is named wood plantain. All varieties are similar in usefulness to Independent Americans.

While older leaves are much too tough for culinary purposes, the younger more tender leaves are high in vitamin K and calcium. The high calcium content is extremely beneficial to women who need extra calcium to ward off diseases such as osteoporosis. For those who raise chickens, plantain leaves are especially

useful. Chickens need both green vegetation in their diets and a lot of calcium. Egg laying birds need the calcium to develop healthy eggs, while birds raised for meat tend to develop fat and muscle more quickly than their skeletal structure can keep up. They need loads of calcium to support that weak skeletal system.

The leaves of plantain, which are high in tannins, are also used in herbal medicine. Tannin content makes the leaves astringent. This helps stop bleeding while aiding healing by helping tissues knit back together. A poultice made from the leaves is effective in minor sores, cuts and scrapes, as well as insect bites and bruises.

To make a poultice, crush a handful or two of the fresh, washed leaf in a mortar. While crushing with pestle add a few drops of cold pressed, virgin olive oil now and then until your poultice is the consistency of a thick cream. Because the leaves contain strong, fibrous ribs, you will need to vigorously work your pestle to crush the leaves.

The seeds are also used medicinally. They are mucilage in content and are effective in treating diarrhea, dysentery and bleeding from the mucous membranes. Crush a small amount of seed (Enough to fill the diameter of a half dollar.) and brew into a tea. Take three cups a day.

The above uses makes plantain a desirable plant for the Independent American homesteader to seek out. Because this plant is so wide spread, it may be unnecessary to propagate it in a garden, but notes should be taken as to

where it can be abundantly gathered.

The plants in the above paragraphs are very useful to the survival gardener. They provide nutrition in the form of vitamins and minerals plus provide healthful alternative medicine that works. One major area where the above plants are lacking is in the provision of macro-nutrients and calories.

Macro-nutrients come in three flavors. Carbohydrate, protein and fat. You *must* include an intake of all three macro-nutrients in your diet or you will die. While the above plants are useful to the survival gardener, you will need to include plants that will provide macro-nutrients in order to stay alive.

All three of the macro-nutrients are easily found and easily provided for in the plant kingdom. The lawns of Americans are teeming with plants necessary for obtaining macro-nutrients. These plants are grasses.

Grass actually feeds our planet. Wheat, the staff of life, oats, rye, barley and corn are all cultivated grasses. We collect their seeds, process them by grinding and eat them. The fact is that *all* grasses, wild and cultivated, provide edible seeds that humans and other mammals may use as food which provides their bodies with all three macro-nutrients.

Like other plants, grass seeds develop and ripen in their own seasons. For most grasses, this is in summer and early autumn. The seeds will develop in “ears” at the top of the stalk. When ripe, they will become brown and the stalk will begin to dry. Harvest the grass seed just before they drop from the plant.

You will need to harvest a fairly large quantity to feed yourself and your family through winter. Generally, a two acre field is needed to supply a family of four in wheat annually. By scouting open fields and meadows, an area exceeding two acres can be plotted and harvested in summer and autumn.

By driving a pick-up truck or other vehicle into the field and cutting the grass with a scythe, the grain can be threshed into the bed or containers and driven back for processing.

Remove the hulls of the grass seeds by placing them in a barrel with a heavy wooden rod of approximately the same length as the barrel. Roll the barrel vigorously to be certain that the hulls have been split away from the seed. When you are certain that the hulls have been split away, winnow the seeds by placing them in a blanket and throwing them into the air so that the seeds fall back onto the blanket. The breeze will carry the lighter hulls away.

When properly stored whole, the seeds will keep indefinitely. Storing twice as much as you need to get through the winter will give you extra resources for bartering, taking in family or group members in need of shelter and meals or for seeding other out of the way clear cuts, burn outs and meadows for more resources.

The types of grasses that you want to look for are those with the largest seeds and ears. This will make processing easier and produce greater yield by weight per acre. Of course, if you are going to cultivate wild varieties of grass,

the seeds and ears will be smaller. That does not mean that you cannot find varieties that produce great tasting and sizeable grain. In fact such varieties abound.

In my area, there grows a grass that produces a fair sized, black grain. It is called the St. Maries wild rice. It grows along our river banks and lake shores. The flavor is richer and nuttier than the cultivated variety. This wild rice is sought after by many restaurants and commands a high price in the markets. Small one pound boxes are sold for as much as \$50. People who know what to look for eat this gourmet treat for free.

St. Maries wild rice, like other wild rice grows long stalks. They can grow to the height of a man, though are usually shoulder height. Their leaves are long and alternate along their stalks. The ears grow at the top of the stalk. There is one ear per stalk. St. Maries wild rice, like all wild rice grows close to river banks and lake shores because it needs a large amount of water for it's early growth cycle in the spring months. This makes rivers and lakes an excellent place to begin looking for food producing grasses.

Wild rice grain will range in color from light tan, brown, dark brown, reddish brown to black depending on the variety. Aside from the color and taste of the grain, wild rice grass stalks and leaves will appear similar.

An easy way to harvest wild rice that is growing next to a river bank or lake shore is to wade in the water, pulling a small, flat bottomed boat behind you. Cut the grass stalks and thresh their grain

into the boat. When you've gathered your grain, load the boat onto your truck and drive the grain back to be processed.

As with all plants, always leave enough plants and seed behind to replenish this resource for next year. Also, in case you do not wish to announce your presence, cut the grass high on the stalk near the ear. This will give the appearance that high grass is still growing in the area and no-one has been cutting it. This is especially true, because very little people will know to look at the grass as a source of food.

Another good source isn't actually wild, but feral. Oats may occasionally be found growing in stacks of hay and sometimes even straw. This occurs when the plant drops some seed before or during harvesting and the seed or seeds sprout and grow in the bails. Generally, this does not produce enough plants to provide any quantity for food, however, the feral plants can be cultivated and their seeds saved and added to a producing meadow. It is possible that they will cross-breed with wild oats and add to their content.

Wild oats (not the feral variety) is a plenteous source of grain. This variety grows throughout America, especially in the west. Also known as arrow weed, wild oats are both a boon and a bane. The boon is in their edible seeds. They retain the same pleasant oaty taste as their cultivated brothers and deliver the same unsurpassed nutrition.

Oats, wild or cultivated, are the most easily digested grains available. They supply a large amount of readily available carbohydrates to the survivor,

which is necessary to assimilate protein into the diet. When food has been scarce, an easily digestible source of nutrition will be necessary for a victim of starvation to begin to assimilate nutrients again. Oats are idea for this. Oats are also a superb feed grain for draft and farm animals as well as chickens should you be on the look out for a food source for a homestead.



Wild oat grass on the left compared with wheat on the right.

The bane of the plant lies in it's seed and hull. Arrow weed is not well liked by hound and bird dog hunters. The seed, like all grass seed, is very hard. They are also surrounded by a tough hull that spreads out as it grows away from the stalk. This gives the hard seed/hull combination a sharp pointed end with two barbs on the opposite end like an arrow. These arrows can find their way into the paws, skin and ears of hunting dogs. Once the barbed end has penetrated the body, they are hard to remove and work their way deeper into the body causing irritation and infection.



Wild oats.

Scouting for fields that contain a high quantity of wild oats will help hound and bird dog owners to avoid such injury to their companions as well as help them to locate a source of highly nutritious food. Hunting dogs should always be inspected after a day in the field, so as to reduce any medical complications.

Meadow grass is another species native to the mountainous areas of my region. It has a pleasant, oat like taste and abounds wherever there are expansive clearings. Resembling small wild oats without the severe arrow shaped hulls, meadow grass also produces sizeable and nutritious grain. This grass may actually be related to some species of prairie grass, which are also highly nutritious.

Couch grass should also be considered as a food source. Couch grass is related to crab grass and propagates not only by seed, but runs rhizomes under the ground from which new plants sprout. It's rye



like grain is edible, but small. The rhizomes of this weed, however, are edible and harvestable not only during a week in the summer or fall, but can be harvested throughout the spring, summer and autumn. Like the seeds, the rhizomes are high in carbohydrates. The plants should be dug and the rhizomes separated from the stalks. After separating the rhizomes, wash them in a stream and allow them to dry in the sun. When the rhizomes have dried for a few days, pound them in a metate and grind them into flour. In this form, they are ready to eat. Simply mix them with wheat flour to stretch your wheat supply and use in regular recipes.

Grasses are the world's favorite crops when it comes to staple foods, like bread and cereals. Independent Americans must also learn to recognize them and to utilize them in the form they find them for the purpose of survival and feeding their families.

Other grain crops also exist that are of the buckwheat family. These are some species of docks. The yellow dock and the curly dock specifically provide edible parts to supply the survivalist with macro-nutrients.

The tubers of these plants fed early Americans during their expansions across the continent. Under the ground, the roots of the dock species develop small, potato like tubers. They may be prepared by boiling and changing the water at least three times during the process. This has the bad habit of turning your pans black, so use special pans for this.



Curly dock plant.

Yellow and curly dock also send up stalks which develop seeds along its length. The seeds resemble rhubarb and buckwheat seeds to which the docks are related. These seeds are an edible grain and provide essential oils, carbohydrates, fat and protein. Allow the seeds to ripen until they turn a deep brown. When brown, they can be rubbed off the stalk onto a blanket spread under the plants. The seeds develop a tough paper shell with three ribs. They are hard to remove, but can be done. Use the barrel and rod method mentioned above for separating grass seed from their hulls, then rub vigorously between your hands and peel the hull from the seed. This is a lot of work, so set your children in front of the radio or boob tube and give them each a bowl to go through and make a family time of it.

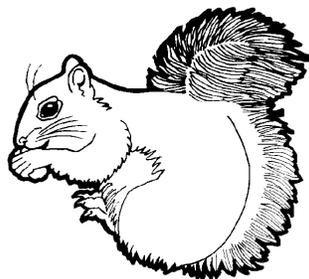


Curly dock grain.

You may also try to crack the grain with a flail. (Two sticks tied together like nun-chucks.) Spread the grain out on a hard surface and hit it with the flail. This will crack the hull and the seed. When finished, run a rolling pen or rod over the cracked grain to help remove the hulls, then winnow to separate.

When seed is cracked, it will not store as long as whole grain. When storing cracked grain, layer with food grade diatomaceous earth and bay leaves in buckets. Place dry ice near the bottom layer and allow to evaporate. After evaporating for some time, seal the buckets. Your cracked grain will last through the winter and into the spring and summer in this manner.

In next issue's column, we will conclude this article with transplanting trees, shrubs and other plants.



The opinions reflected in the following column are not necessarily the opinions of the staff or writers of The Independent American.

## The Kiss-Off Commentaries



by Pug Mahone

### The Crisis in the Christian Churches:

There is a little known crisis affecting the Christian Churches within America these days. Little known, that is, to most Christians. Nor is this crisis limited to the Christian Churches.

What is this crisis? It is the violation of our First Amendment Rights by the criminal action of the federal and some state governments. It is the establishment of religion. The requirement of a license to preach the Word of God and to practice one's religion through the Internal Revenue Service in the form of a 501(c)3 incorporated entity placing any Church accepting such a number directly under the authority of government.

To require such a license or number to operate as a duly designated Church establishes religions which may operate under "tax exemption status". Any Church which operates without a designated number or license is not "recognized" or established by government via the IRS.

Remember the First Amendment in our Bill of Rights? The first part commands

our government, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;”

Without a number (501(c)3) your Church will not be “recognized” by government and will not be allowed to operate as “recognized” or *established* church entities operate.

Remember, government has no authority to make law that establishes a religion or to prohibit the free exercise thereof. As precedence now stands, any religion that has been established through the acceptance of 501(c)3 status may operate in a manner prescribed by statute and enjoy certain tax privileges.

While this regulation of government status churches violates our First Amendment, one may be asking oneself what harm there is in this violation if Churches may still operate.

Well, throw some cold water on your face, because this situation is not so harmless as it sounds. In trading their status as tax immune Churches of God for tax exempt entities of government regulations, America’s Christian Churches have turned their backs on teaching the ways of God and have begun teaching their congregations to obey the word of Caesar.

This has become quite evident during the previous regime when that regime’s Caesar began deploying the tactic of using the IRS to investigate any Church or Church official that dared criticize Caesar or Caesar’s government for the purpose of revoking the 501(c)3 status. One famous pastor, Pat Robertson,

actually had his license to preach revoked. It was through many months, much judicial hassle and much public outcry that Mr. Robertson’s government recognition was re-established.

Though Mr. Robertson is again allowed to preach and his Church is again a government established entity, the ordeal of the violation of his and others’ Right to freely practice their religion has not been lost on much of America’s 501(c)3 entities.

No criticism of ungodly or unlawful actions are any longer being brought forth by these entities. The current Caesar proclaims himself to be a Christian man and his 501(c)3 entities proclaim it loudly with him despite his actions toward the Indiana Baptist Temple, his part at Bohemian Grove where homage to a stone owl idol was ritually carried out and his wholesale gutting of our Constitution.

Instead, such government established entities are emphasizing a strict adherence to any and all government regulation, lawful or unlawful. This is being done through a misinterpretation of scripture in quoting Romans chapter 13.

Romans 13 states in part, “Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God:”. It is this portion that 501(c)3 earthly established churches fixate upon.

Let’s be smarter Christians and Americans than this, shall we? (Even

Satan quotes scripture.) The powers that be in America are defined by our Constitution. As such, we, as Christians and Americans, by no means offer resistance or defiance to our true form of government. It is to those that have usurped this lawful authority that we lawfully resist and insist obey the true higher power.

The higher powers must also be defined in this scripture. Since Christians must always take the definition of a Biblical term from Biblical context, let's look toward the example of John the Baptist. This is an example that Church leaders should be following today. John the Baptist built his ministry on preaching of the coming of the Kingdom of God and the repentance of sin. During this ministry, John the Baptist continually pointed toward the Jewish king, Herod, as an example of unlawful deeds. This so upset that government that Herod eventually imprisoned John, finally beheading him.

This certainly does not evoke an image of an earthly king or mortal leader as being *the* higher power. This example evokes an image of mortal earthly leaders being subjects to a higher power than themselves.

In America, our forefathers acknowledged this higher power and recognized that earthly kings were nothing more than corruptible mere men. With that being the case, our forefathers acknowledged the Rights that were endowed upon individuals by their Creator and that no man or government had the authority to disallow the use of those Rights. Exercising our God given Rights is not an act of disobedience to

the higher powers nor is pointing out unlawful deeds carried out by the illegitimate actions of a government bent on criminal deeds. It is no less than God's prophets have shown us and have acted upon themselves.

All of the disciples of Jesus had suffered similar fates as John the Baptist. They had been imprisoned and executed in defiance of the statutes of the governments of their time for the preaching of God's doctrine. In the end, they taught us that the higher powers belong to God, that we are to practice our religion freely. We are to point out criminal actions even when carried out by governments and when government attempts to regulate and establish Churches, we are to treat any such statutes as null and void just as our forefathers indicated. In other words, we are to resist the unlawful ordinances of criminals if we are to obey the higher powers.

This is a message that 501(c)3 established churches will not tell you. It is because at accepting the government number of incorporation, government established churches reject the higher powers of God in favor of the earthly powers of Caesar. These entities deliver to you the message of Caesar disguised as the message of God. From these entities, you will be hard pressed to find the unadulterated message that God has for you. Your solution is to come out of any organization that has accepted government establishment as an incorporated entity. Many have started and organized home churching organizations in the same manner as the home schooling movement.

Christians who are becoming dissatisfied with adulterated teachings of the Word of God have formed Bible study programs and worship services outside of the control and regulation of earthly government as God intended and our forefathers acknowledged.

It is not the intention of this magazine or even this column to become a religious or Christian topic publication. However, this magazine and column is about freedom. One of the freedoms that Americans enjoy, and intended to be enjoyed by all people, is the Right to worship as one's conscience dictates. No man, group of men or government can dictate that for another. It is why government is forbidden to establish religions or prohibit the free exercise thereof.

**Murder and foul deeds continue to smear the State of Michigan:**

The State of Michigan has earned an ugly reputation during the decade of the '90s and the early years of this new millennium. In the decade of the '90s, Michigan's Citizens has seen some of themselves organizing Militias for the purpose of defense against a federal government bent on ignoring our Constitution and enslaving the populous. The State government of Michigan has responded by cooperating with criminal federal bureaucracies and moving against the Militias that were organized in defense of our Constitution.

This column has already reported twice on the plight of Mark Koernke, which took place in Dexter, Michigan. Events like the attempted framing and the successful false imprisonment of Militia

leader, Mark Koernke has significantly weakened the Michigan Militia, which was once thought formidable. Now, with a type of semi-disbandment of that State's Constitutional Militias, the Citizens there are experiencing the true ruthlessness of which criminals occupying offices of governance will operate. The bed wetting cowardice of freedom hating bureau-rats cannot tolerate the thought of liberty minded Americans living as free Citizens among their subjects. This thought so freezes their bowels with fear that they must continue to send better men than themselves, but far more stupid than the average, to seek out and assassinate, frame or outright murder those that were once involved in the defense of America.

This situation has come to fruition again recently in the form of the murder of former Michigan Militiaman, Scott Woodring.

Woodring was a member of the Michigan Militia and proponent of the sovereign Citizen movement, which informs Citizens of their Rights and educates them in America's constitutional government and how to defend themselves in court against unlawful judicial onslaughts against their liberties. Woodring also was involved in politics. He ran for township supervisor of Dayton Township, Michigan. He reportedly received 10 percent of the vote. Even without the possibility of vote fraud, which has become rampant throughout America since the twentieth century. This percentage and the possibility of educating more Citizens made Woodring a threat to the criminal system.

A thin excuse to move against Woodring was manufactured by Hesperia, Michigan police department “authorities” on a false charge of soliciting. Woodring had pulled into a gas station/convenience store where two teenage females were apparently “hanging out”. Dressed in somewhat revealing attire, the teenagers were informed by Woodring that their appearance was that of harlots and they should consider a less revealing wardrobe. Apparently, this incident was reported by a witness to the police, who erroneously, or perhaps maliciously, entered the incident as a solicitation.

In fact the only evidence that can be mustered to support police action against Woodring is the story of the witness who was pumping gas at the time and a recanted testimony of one of the teenagers. A high probability of witness tampering exists considering the circumstances of changing testimonies.

Having some knowledge of how the present tribunal system works in today’s Amerika, Woodring did not trust his fate to this system when officers from the Hesperia, Michigan police department and the Newaygo, County sheriff’s department [sic] showed up at his property to serve the warrant for the trumped up charges.

[County sheriff services are properly referred to as a County sheriff’s office as the sheriff is a constitutionally elected official. A department is a bureaucratic position of appointment.]

Little is known about the initial confrontation between “authorities” and Woodring, but Woodring barricaded

himself in his home and reportedly informed the policy enforcement officers that he was armed. State police were then called onto the scene and the “standoff” continued for two days after which state police swat troopers forcibly entered Woodring’s home where trooper Kevin Marshall was shot. Trooper Marshall was taken to the hospital where he died in surgery.

It is being reported that Scott Woodring had shot trooper Marshall, however, as we will see Mr. Woodring was not at his home when the siege ended. It is not truly clear whether he was occupying his home when trooper Marshall was shot. Like many of these situations, Marshall could have been hit by “friendly” fire as many swat officers have been. Though Marshall was hit by a 5.56 NATO caliber weapon and the Michigan state police are reporting that their storm troopers were not carrying 5.56 caliber weapons, these reports by state police cannot be taken at face value. It would not be the first time such a unit lied to the American people about the status of their weapons. We must note that swat teams almost always deploy such carbines with their entry teams or perimeter units.

It is also being reported that trooper Marshall was hit in his side in an area not protected by his bullet resistant vest. We also need to note, however, that SS-109 bullets are designed to penetrate light armor. Such rounds would probably penetrate a vest at CQB ranges as this.

As is standard among Amerikan ninjas, tear gas was fired into Woodring’s home before the assault commenced. This may have created conditions that limited the

visibility of the attacking ninjas, which would contribute to an accidental friendly fire shooting. Once again it is probable that Americans will never really know how trooper Kevin Marshall was killed.

After the failed assault against a home which may not have been occupied, State “authorities” “borrowed” armored vehicles from the Michigan State national guard, then using the armored vehicles to approach the house, launched two grenades into the home which detonated, causing a fire.

Where have we seen this tactic before? Could it be that the ninja assault forces decided to burn down another American home and shoot the occupant as he came running out? It’s happened several times before.

This time, however, assault forces were disappointed as they found the home unoccupied. Woodring had long vacated the area. After a search of the area, a backpack containing food and ammunition belonging to Woodring was turned up 3/4 of a mile from the Woodring home.

An APB was issued for Mr. Woodring and a huge statewide manhunt commenced against him. This incident came to a close five days later when police received a tip that Mr. Woodring had been sleeping in his car four miles from his home. It is being reported that police responded, approached Woodring’s car and commanded him to remain in the car, but Woodring emerged from his car and pointed an “assault rifle” [sic] at police, who fired, killing Woodring.

Of course, the above report is from official police documentation and press release. That does not mean that this is what happened. It is also possible, considering Michigan “law enforcement” reputation, that Mr. Woodring was ambushed and murdered while returning to or emerging from his car without warning. There have been far too many of these incidents in the new Amerika.

Americans must also note that this incident ended badly after a phone tip to policy enforcement officers led them to the location of Scott Woodring, thus ending the life of an honest and innocent American. I certainly hope that some Americans have learned not to call into such tip lines until you are absolutely certain that you know the true facts about the person you are informing on!

There are over six million statutes on the “law” books today. You cannot get through your life without breaking several of them. The next time a sniveling brown shirt wanna-be’s big mouth compels him or her to pick up a phone to tattle on a neighbor, it might be wise for the brown shirt wanna-be to remember that other Americans have phone lines too. It wouldn’t take much to look into the background of anyone, anywhere and find something the gestapo will be interested in.

People with big mouths also tend to brag. Should an American overhear a braggart declaring how he/she caused the death of an American in the above manner, perhaps the next anonymous phone informant will be divulging information on this certain little braggart. ‘Nough said?

In the meantime, another Waco style raid/murder was narrowly avoided in Bay township, Charlevoix County, Michigan with all due credit going to Rick Stanley and the 2nd American Revolution Militia.

This incident began when Lyle Barkley applied for and received building permits to place two mobile homes on his property. (An act that our Constitution does not require a permit for and that our 4th Amendment forbids government from interfering with.) It was later that the permits were revoked by Bay township zoning administrator (an unconstitutional office) Randy Frykberg after a complaint was filed by former township supervisor, Bud Chipman, and ordered Barkley to remove the pre-manufactured homes from his property.

Chipman was recalled from his office. No explanation was given for this.

Barkley refused the unconstitutional order to stop using his property as he seen fit. Court charges were filed against him and (wonder of wonders) judge Richard May ruled in favor of zoned tyranny, ordering Barkley to remove the mobile homes from his property.

Mr. Barkley responded as though he were living in America and installed the homes on his property, ignoring blatantly unconstitutional rulings as unlawful, null and void as any American would in a free system. Of course, the tribunal system does not follow our highest law and many times does not even follow it's own statutes and precedence.

The adherence to a higher law infuriates

such little minions of the system to no end. Judge Richard May found Lyle Barkley in contempt of a court order on August 28 fining him 800 FRNs and ordering him to remove his structures from his property by September 18.

Barkley refused to pay any ransom to the tribunal system stating, "I won't pay it. If I pay it, it's the same as saying I'm guilty." Barkley is also refusing the court order to manage his property as zoning administrators think is good for him.

Singly, a person or family could not defy such an unlawful order as County or State government would merely send ninja troopers in to remove or kill any person whose rights were being violated. Mr. Barkley is very fortunate in this case. Barkley is a pact member of a Constitutional Militia known as The 2nd American Revolution Militia headed by Rick Stanley.

Upon receiving the order to pay ransom and to dismantle his property, Barkley contacted his Militia organization informing them of the situation. The 2nd American Revolution Militia (2ARM) is a pact membership. Their members sign a pact that commits them to come to the defense of any of the other pact signatures. They also cooperate with other Militias that are part of the pact signatories.

Rick Stanley confirmed 2ARMs commitment to the protection of their members and assured Barkley of 2ARMs help. After this confirmation, Barkley, who owns B&B Construction began constructing earthen berms and defensive positions on his property. 2ARM was able to mobilize and have



600 members on Barkley's property on three days' notice.

Fortunately, that notice did not need to come. At this writing, the deadline for Barkley to remove his structures from his property has come and gone without harm to Barkley and his family. When confronted with an equal force of arms to itself, judicial and County forces decided to back down. They are stating that they wish to try to settle this matter peacefully.

Leader of 2ARM, Rick Stanley made the following statement about the incident, "We basically are not going to tolerate unconstitutional acts by governments in the future. They do this kind of thing thousands of times a day, every day, across the United States. But we've drawn the line and said, 'Not with our pact members.'" This reiterates the statement, "No more Wacos!", made by Militias when the militia movement first began in earnest.

2ARM and others are keeping an eye on this situation should County government be waiting for the attentions of Americans to turn to the next fad so that they may attack without attention. Should the need arise, more alerts will go out and Militia members *will respond!*

Finally, this is one situation where an American Militia stood up and backed down well-armed corrupt officials bent on criminal intent. Unfortunately, we must also report a sad event associated with this incident. Stanley is reporting a very poor showing from Militias within Michigan. There were three Michigan Militias, which promised, support, yet

put no boots on the ground nor had any bodies physically show up at the spot of contention.

In a press release, Stanley stated that it is no wonder that many such incidents have taken place in Michigan, from Rainbow Farms and Scott Woodring to Mark Koernke. It is because the Michigan Militias are all talk and no show. I hate to think this to be the case, but it did take a Denver based national Militia to do the job of backing down criminal actions in Charlevoix County, Michigan. This was not due to the lack of Michigan Militia organizations. It was due to the lack of action. Thankfully, this incident has remained peaceful due to the action of the 2nd American Revolution Militia.

For further information about the 2nd American Revolution Militia, the reader may log onto their web site: [www.stanley2000.com](http://www.stanley2000.com).

**UPDATE** regarding Rick Stanley. Rick Stanley was arrested by SWAT ninjas late in October for exercising his God given right to keep and bear arms. District court judge, Donald W Marshall Jr. has been put on notice to release Rick Stanley or face arrest by the Constitutional Militia.

For more news, go to [www.stanley2000.com](http://www.stanley2000.com) More to come as this situation progresses.!



## Survival and Firearms

### Survival Lists

by Glenn Boman

Most folks like lists. You know the kind.. anything that acts as a preparedness indicator by which one can declare himself as having the appropriate necessities to do whatever it is he wanting to do. With that in mind and with the often asked questions about preparedness still alive and well in my head, I'll try to make a "list" of what I'd take with me in my "bug out" kit. Just what a "bug out" kit is can't be defined to its finest point since it will be a little different for each person and other factors such as territory, climate, and expectations all play a part in what one will put into his bag. What is the purpose of an emergency type grab and go bag, backpack, or container? Simply this.. a fairly complete emergency supply of essentials which will sustain a person or small group of people for enough time to develop alternate plans for survival or to reach some common objective(s) which will provide for life essentials. My personal "bug out" kit is simply the old backpack which has been a trusted friend on several pack trips in the past. In a very real sense, it is a mini-warehouse of goods which experience has taught me will be most probably needed should the need to "take to the wilds" ever becomes a reality. In fact, it may not be the "wilds" one has to take to, but may be the road, sea, rivers, north country, swamps, retreat, friend's lakeside cabin, or life on the run from "Big Brother" after the crash. It might come in handy for surviving the times after the earthquakes and aftershocks, the floods, the brush fires, the burned house, etc., as well. So, just what does my personal kit contain?

The old blue backpack has numerous pockets as one might imagine and each of these pockets contains specific items which are placed for convenience sake with an eye toward accessibility. Of

course, some items are more conveniently located than others.. the snake bite kit being in most convenient side pocket right at the zipper so that it can be accessed almost instantly. The sewing kit, extra batteries, and "replacement" type supplies are located deeper in the pack since these are not likely to be needed until and unless a camp site is secured or even made semi-permanent. The 50 foot long rope is in the bottom of the pack, but should become a very handy item for camp use, shelter construction, etc.

But, I diverse from the intended answer to the above question. I carry a first aid kit which consists of bandages, antiseptics (topical), band aids, antibiotic ointments/creams, tweezers (for splinter removal), a pre-packaged suture needle complete with thread (for obvious uses), a snake bite kit along with the first aid kit, and several kinds of pain-killers, sinus medications, antacids, etc. Your list of items will no doubt be similar, but distinctive as well since you may not need the sinus medications that us allergy sufferers like to have handy.

I also carry a fishing "kit".. actually a small plastic case full of small hooks, weights, swivels, line, and even a few tiny lures. Poles will be fashioned from natural materials such as canes, tree limbs, saplings, or the line will be hand-held. I have a few larger hooks, but for the most part, I carry the #10, #12, and #14 teeny-tiny hooks that some people use to tie trout flies and nymphs. Why so tiny a hook? The fish will swallow them along with the bait there will be no worry about "catch and release" when one's life is literally "on the line." The fishing kit and natural baits that I'll use should keep me in food should the wilderness anywhere near water become my escape route. I could go lighter if I took out the BB split shot but they only weigh a fraction of an ounce and sure beat trying to tie rocks onto a fishing line for sinkers.

In one pocket of the pack, I have several

boxes of .22 LR ammo and a small .22 pistol in the stainless configuration. On my belt, there will always be a large caliber handgun with at least enough ammo in a speed-loader or magazine for one reload. The .22 pistol will be my survival camp gun and the belt magnum or combat gun will be my large game handgun or self-defense hand gun for nasty encounters. I will also carry in the hands a .223 "assault" rifle with large capacity magazines and FMJ loaded rounds for the serious, longer ranged encounters. This description of guns and ammo pre-supposes that this particular "grab and go" is under hostile conditions. Should this scenario develop, there would be re-supply stops along my journey where proper equipment would be made available for the various contingencies I might face. Note: if limited to only one type gun for wilderness survival, I would personally choose the .22 rifle with proper and adequate hunting type ammo. Note also, for urban, suburban, or survival where "hostile" encounters with people might be more than possible, I'd choose the large capacity assault rifle in .223 caliber. Out in the Rockies, I'd choose a large caliber "assault" type rifle and a large caliber magnum handgun... this of course being in addition to a couple of .22's in handgun and rifle configurations.

I don't see the grab and go pack as a fully loaded armory for combat, but as an aid station to help you get to where you need to go before your supplies run out. It is "where you're going" that should serve a resupply base, cache site, retreat area, and so forth. The "emergency" duffle bag, backpack, ammo can, suitcase, etc. Should be the "ticket" that provides the ride to your safe haven.

In addition to the above, my pack contains items of freeze-dried foods and air dried foods to numerous to mention, but all, with the exception of the dried fruit, would need water to reconstitute it in preparation/cooking. Dried foods are the most compact, easily storable, and

light weight one can secure in a pack. Obviously, one should not be concerned about the fat and calorie content of his food under survival conditions, but should seek sound nutrition as his basis of concern. Fat and calories might kill you over a few decades if you aren't concerned, but nutrition.., specifically, lack of nutrition, can kill you over a much shorter time I carry an aluminum mess kit to cook in, but one can discard the "guts" of the kit as it comes from the surplus store or the local WAL-Mart store. All one needs is a pan with a handle and it will serve as a fryer, boiler, broiler, etc. One little piece of advice, don't forget the spices.. especially salt and pepper.. might as well have a more "tasteful" experience as you travel to your retreat/survival area!

The pack contains one change of underwear, two extra pair of heavy duty socks, one change of clothes, a plastic rain suit and a "space blanket" for emergency shelter/weather protection, etc. I'll wear my hat, but will also have a couple of large bandanas for wiping sweat, making headbands/sweatbands, insect shields for the old "back of the neck" and/or a mask for camouflage purposes.. I use the camouflage print bandanas for woodlands purposes. Every six months or so, the clothing is "exchanged" for more appropriate weather related garb.

As I begin to wrap this up, allow me to briefly mention a few other items. Of course, there is the bedding which consists of a large blanket for summer and a heavy duty 0 degree rated sleeping bag for winter. I have a small wad of rubber bands in the pack...(go figure!), but they will provide corner tarp holders with "give and take" when the trees sway in the breeze. A personal hygiene kit which has in it a little toothpaste, brush, waxed dental floss, "hotel" sized bar soap, etc. There is a tiny roll of nylon twine of several hundred pound test. An "army" can opener is in the pack though I don't even have any canned goods in it.. never know when you might

occasion across a can of food and need to open it other than with your .30-'06! HA! I also carry an older pair of prescription eyeglasses.. .better than none at all even though the prescription changed a couple of years ago. There are a few other items that will help me keep the old belt knife sharp and keen-edged. Some other little things that are not necessities either are thrown in for luxury. Total weight of my pack is about 45 pounds in the spring and summer and about 50 pounds or so in the winter time. I just hope that I never have any use for it except for the fishing trip in the back of beyond with my son or to get away from it all for a few days, etc. But, if the time ever comes.. .I can grab it and go and "make do" for quite a while from its contents.. .at least until scrounging around provides any other needs.

Just wanted to share these things with you today. ..remember, your "grab and go" kit may not be a backpack.. .might be a trunk full of supplies in the family car or truck. To each his own!

Of course, the above suggestions are fine for the back pack and "bugging out" scenario, but brings up the question of "How much is enough?" after you have reached your retreat or survival haven. How much of these supplies will you need to live on? It must be assumed that this question applies to all the various aspects of survivalism: both the physical and the mental preparations. For example, how much "learning" is enough for survival? Or, how much stored food is enough? And still, how much ammunition is enough? Needless to say, there are no simple answers due to the simple fact that there are numerous factors that will affect survival. Allow an example here.. .I personally plan to store absolutely no "Mickey Mouse", -30 below insulated boots for survival times. The obvious answer to why this is, is that I live in a relatively warm area of the country and if snow comes even once a year, it is an oddity. The survivalist in Montana's mountains will, however, want to have some heavily insulated cold weather

boots! So, the simple factor of geography cannot be ignored for the person planning for the down days ahead.

Still another factor that one has to personally deal with is that of one's own expectations. If one expects to survive a "mostly" economic collapse with the nation slowly rebuilding itself back into prosperity, then he would probably lean to the Howard Ruff ideas of survival. That is, he'd rush out to purchase diamonds, gold, and silver coinage which would no doubt earn him a handsome return on his original investment during the rebuilding period. The survivalist who, on the other hand, expects total anarchy, chaos, and loss of civil order in an "every man for himself" setting will forego the coins and load up on guns and ammunition. One will believe that precious metals can purchase anything under conditions to be found in hard times, and the other believes that self-preservation/defense/or offensive capability is the ticket to coming through the dark night. To further simplify this hypothesis, it can be said that our mind-set related to what we perceive to be the greatest threat to our survival will directly impact our choice of items, knowledge, or stores to be laid back.. Still, how much is enough?

Again, "enough" will be as personal a choice as will our other perceptions. Factors such as our beliefs of how long or protracted hard times will be or how severe they might be will have a bearing on how "much" will be considered in our own minds to be enough. Whatever vein one chooses to follow in his personal survivalist philosophy, only he can feel comfortable with the final choice(s) he has made in this regard. For some, a few bags of silver pre-65 coins might be enough while to another, a complete arsenal and an ammo dump will be insufficient!

It may seem that there are just too many variables to overcome to answer the question "How much is enough?" This is faulty reasoning. There are some general

guidelines which can help to provide the survivalist with at least a starting point so that he can be relatively confident that his preparations are beginning to shape up to the point of meeting his needs. The first factor toward meeting this goal is to firmly examine one's basic survivalist philosophy. When ones' beliefs are on solid ground, then the structure of preparation can be undertaken with some degree of sanity, organization, and purpose. Not knowing the reasons one is undertaking his preparations will leave more of a panic than a certainty in the survivalist's attitude and thinking. Without trying to overly stress the importance of this, it is crucial that one has based his philosophy upon solid conviction(s) and upon rationally reasoned possibilities. It is from this point that he can begin to properly direct his energies in this regard.

Once the "direction" has been determined, the survivalist can begin to contemplate such necessary considerations as time frames, "scenarios", "rebuild knowledge", and more than there is space to list here. Without trying to sound trite, let it be said that once the parameters of "thought" have been assimilated and understood by the survivalist, he can then build up inventories to the point that respectable and reasonable expectations can be made in regard to having enough in the particular areas of his preparations. Again, these will vary by individual, group, family, etc. One may consider ten cases of MRE's to be enough to get him and his family through until spring when gardens can be planted and harvested or until sources of food supply can be located and so on. Another might be content to face WW III on U.S. soil with his Mini-14 and two twenty-round magazines of ammo. There is folly, fiction, fallacy, and fatality in not being reasonable in meeting one's expectations of having "enough".

A most rational approach to establishing fitting and proper guidelines for survival conditions is to simply take note and be aware of things which we may not even

be aware of. For example, how much food does one currently consume? Wouldn't it be rational to think that an amount for storage could be determined by simply multiplying current usage by 52 weeks, 12 months, or twenty years? True, there are some things that cannot be figured in that way. . . rounds expended for self-defense, for example. But, one can speculate.. "If in a fire-fight, multiple intruders, how many rounds would I need?" Creative speculation can be a useful tool for such determination in this regard. Common sense, too, should prevail. No more need to lay aside business suits and a rack of dress shirts and ties! I would not think that the survivalist would need a store of shoe polish either!

We have all seen these lists drawn up by a well-meaning survivalist showing us dummies what we all need to store back in order to survive"! One such list in my possession gives firecrackers for signaling purposes! Sorry, but no July 4th celebrations on my back forty! My gun will make just as much noise if I need to signal anyone. (I can see the possibilities of firecrackers with delayed fuses used for diversionary purposes however.) It is probably best to consider one's own list made up with some of the following in mind: geographical features of the area where one hopes to survive; food, clothing, and shelter needs; self-defense needs; medical needs special" needs; health related needs; climate; rural, urban, or suburban(?); alone or with family or group members; transportation needs; informational needs/knowledge/skills; communication needs; supply needs; etc. and so forth. Notice that these have no lists to them.. .how can they and still put everyone under the same umbrella? While there are certain things, skills, items, and so on that are "common" to all survivalists, the pursuit of laying aside "enough" should be as individualistic and diverse as most personalities.

A final thought or two... As some of you know, when I'm pinned down, I tend to overdo the "enough" factor. One

correspondent will no doubt recognize my recommendation to store one million rounds of .22 ammo! That roughly figures out to be one round fired every second for twelve days! That is one heck of a hunting trip or fire fight! HA! One could look at it as shooting 50 rounds a day for fifty-five years. Why so much? For barter purposes during the dark days, of course. See how varied thoughts on "enough" can be? Let it be stated categorically here that "enough" is what one can reasonably be expected to utilize in order to survive his determined survival scenario. The rest is up to you, him, they, or whoever is/are the survivalists. Be sure of this one thing, when laying aside survival stores, buy the best that can be had no matter what. One may not have as many, but the quality of the "few" will more than compensate for the lack of quality in the lesser quality items. Make sure that your choices are not just impulse purchases, but reasoned and rational approaches for acquisition of equipment necessary to complete the task(s) at hand or perceived to be coming down the road. Make your basic list and review it periodically. Use it as a checklist for what you believe to be "enough". Periodic review and additions or deletions might become necessary as your understanding and expectations grow. Finally, make sure that whatever your list contains, you feel comfortable in your abilities to use those items as intended. For example, you may acquire several battle rifles, but unless you are familiar with take-down procedures, use, capabilities, and other necessary knowledge and unless you possess the skills to properly make use of them, the disadvantage is yours to bear!

I don't know "how much is enough?" If you do, please write to me.. enclose your list.

Take care.



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From the staff of *The Independent American*, Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!

## Info-Line



This is the time of year when Americans begin thinking of Thanksgiving dinner, sharing time with our families and Christmas. Christmas is a time of giving for Americans and when it comes to giving, Independent Americans want to give the best possible gifts to those we care about. It is with this thought in mind that *Info-Line* Offers the following.

### Useful and Informative Christmas Presents for Independent Americans

by Corcceigh Green

You do it every year anyway. You make lists, check them twice, then wreck the malls to buy special gifts for those you care about to see that look on their faces when they unwrap them on a certain December morning.

This year forget the trendy toys and status symbols that don't contribute anything worthwhile to everyday life. Follow this guide to presents that will inform, serve or help the receiver of the gift in every day life.

Put simply, you are looking for practical. Unfortunately, practical has been confused with dull, boring or not fun. Our current culture has congregated toward the flashy, trendy and status setting. You may find it hard to resist this trend, but the good news is, you don't have to. Presents can be fun and practical. (No, I don't mean

giving your wife a vacuum cleaner for Christmas. That is sure to suck the fun out of the holidays!) What you need to do is look for gifts that your recipient is interested in and will use in everyday life.

The interests of most people today lie in whatever will entertain them at the moment. Face it. The majority of those calling themselves Americans are lazy, non-thinking automatons mindlessly reacting to the stimuli presented to them by a controlled media. This Christmas, we Independent Americans that actually possess a useful brain stem can help to reverse this misfortune by giving the herd what they want with a little twist.

When shopping for a member of the herd, it is important to remember that such cattle do not want objects that will cause them to think or, especially, to analyze the issues of life happening around them. Therefore, it will be necessary to trick them into thinking.

For the couch potato that must be watered daily, there is no better gift that the spud's unblinking, hypnotized gaze will love better to see than a DVD or VHS movie presented to him/her.

Since the images of movies and television viewed by these members of the tuberous vegetable kingdom take the place of mental activity, it is possible for you to stimulate a false thinking pattern to transform into an actual thought. You will need to buy movie and/or TV titles that present situations that are pertinent to today's issues and does not offer a false conclusion. That is *very* tough to find, but some titles do exist.

Recommended titles are: *The Patriot*. NOT the Steven Segal rip-off. You will want to give the Mel Gibson real deal. This is a moving story of a war for freedom, the costs of that war and what it takes to fight. It is a story of the birth of our country and a period in our history that all Americans should study and understand. This includes spuds.

*Johnny Tremain and the Sons of Liberty*. Like *The Patriot*, this movie is a moving story of the birth of our country concerning the period between the Boston tea party and leading to the events that led to the shot heard 'round the world. This movie is HIGHLY educational and

entertaining. Unlike any movie made after 1968, this movie includes the reason that the English crown dispatched marines into the towns of Concord and Lexington. If you already know the answer, don't spoil it. If you don't, you *SHOULD!!* Unfortunately, this movie has not been released on DVD. (Gee, I wonder why?) You will need to hang on to your VHS to enjoy it.

**Amerika.** You will find references to this ABC TV miniseries throughout this magazine. This was absolutely inspired! The premise in this miniseries is The United Nations becomes a communist organization and takes control of these United States of America. This show didn't miss a thing when it came to everything the globalists want for our country. Internal passports, national ID cards, foreign troops, thought control, brainwashing, regionalization and complete tyranny is presented to the viewer as a result of an internal conspiracy to surrender American sovereignty to the UN. For the life of me, I do not know how ABC allowed this gem to be released through them.

There are one or two flaws in this series that can be easily explained to the receiver after viewing. 1.) The United Nations becomes communist after the U.S. resigns its membership. The truth is, the UN will not "become" communist as it was founded as a communist organization. 2.) A former demonratic president was not a member of the internal conspiracy to relinquish American sovereignty and opposes UN rule. Yeah, right! What did America's experience with Sick Willie teach us?

This is a 7 part miniseries which story will draw the viewer in and possibly open the eyes of a spud to the awful consequences of legislation like the PATRIOT act. Highly recommended.

### Documentaries

There are those spuds who will watch a program to become informed. This is unfortunate because most programming presented by the media is designed to misinform. If you are giving informative or educational programs this year, there is only one stop you need to make for true informative documentaries. Go to [www.infowars.com](http://www.infowars.com) and order *9-11: The Road to Tyranny*. Being in the constitutionalist movement for some decades, as I've been, I was

not surprised by the information herein and it is what I've been trying to tell friends and some family for a long time. When I showed this film to some family, however, I was amazed at the effect it had on them. If you have never seen the light come on behind someone's eyes when they awoke to see the world as it really is, you *can* experience it when you give this gift!

If you know anyone who loves to listen to music, you can cover this area as well. Patriotic musicians have been cropping up around the country since the '90s and there are several CDs offering good music with true patriotic themes for Americans.

Johnny Rowland has gained some notoriety with his CDs promoting freedom and American ideas. His song, *Citizen of the Earth* has been a huge hit at anti-UN demonstrations. Johnny Rowland's music can be described as country. It has an upbeat tempo and a positive message toward regaining America. Johnny Rowland's CDs can be purchased from Johnny Rowland at: Johnny Rowland, 327 Irvin Rowland Rd., Dubberly, LA 71024

Steve Vaus is another country patriotic bard. Steve Vaus had a promising career in the main stream music media when his song, *Talk Radio*, was released. When the top producers in the media realized what this song was about, his career was cancelled post haste. Like other patriots who found themselves blackballed by the controlled media manipulators, Steve Vaus offers his songs outside of the main stream. This guarantees that most of America will not hear those songs, but you can offer them as gifts to open the ears of those you care about. Steve Vaus CDs can be purchased from; [www.stevevaus.com/vaus.music.html](http://www.stevevaus.com/vaus.music.html)

To those that are fans of rock music, the patriotic band, Poker Face rocks to the tune of freedom. Their CDs are available at: [www.pokerface.com](http://www.pokerface.com).

Some of us have friends that love to spread their communist poison to the chagrin of their betters. Some real Americans may have had the misfortune of having a pinko donate a sum of money in the recipient's name to anti-American organizations like Handgun Control or the Democratic Party. This year return the favor by making a donation in your favorite commie's name to Gun Owner's Of America, The We the



People Foundation or the Constitution Party.

For truly Independent Americans on your list that have no need of being nudged awake, there are a number of great gift ideas that will be appreciated.

In the way of obtaining information, shortwave and some AM radio stations, satellite receivers, and computers are the only effective media at present where the truth will be heard.

Sangean and Grundig are the better quality brands in shortwave receivers. If you want to hear the real news and issues from other constitutionalists, you will definitely want to look into getting a C-band satellite dish, LNV and receiver. These have become ridiculously cheap since the introduction of small dish digital technology. Some can even be had for free, if you offer to haul the "eyesore" away from the owner's yard.

Computers and the internet are an invaluable source of information with many audio streams and web sites dedicated to disseminating news and information that government would rather keep the lid on.

More on shortwave frequencies, C-band satellite, computers and the internet will be forthcoming in a future issue.

While you're thinking of it, A subscription to *The Independent American* would be a wonderful gift to Independent American types. The best information available anywhere, *The Independent American* offers articles on survival, homesteading, terrorism and resistance to tyranny. Every two months the receiver of your gift will receive a new PDF computer magazine chock full of articles like you are reading now.

A word of warning is in order, however. Do not give a subscription to a liberal that you may care about. If you do, please be certain that all electrical connections to the liberal's computer is well away from his/her chair and that you spread newspaper on the floor. The information we present has been known to cause catastrophic bladder release in liberals. Some electrocutions due to the placement of electrical outlets HAS occurred! Please be careful!

As for stocking stuffers, the staff of *The Independent American* felt that some of the cheap pocket knife imports might serve Independent Americans in survival kits, glove compartments, back-ups to more expensive models and for every day carry. However, after testing some \$3.95 generic Chinese crap, we are advising to spend the \$18 - \$20 for a Wenger or Victorinox.

The \$14.95 that goes toward a small pocket sized Montana Antler Craft fire starter is well worth the money, as well. A fire can mean the difference between life and death. You'd better provide your loved ones with the means to make fire when their lives depend on it.

Got ammo? Ammunition is one commodity that you will ALWAYS need more of. .22 LR cartridges are small enough to be stocking stuffers and their cost (presently) makes them affordable. Surplus ammo for the frequent shooter or for holding in reserve is always a needful gift and can be purchased more cheaply in quantity.

Fishing and hunting gear is always a fun gift and such gifts are readily useable in the fields of survival and homesteading. Fishing and hunting are recreational sports that also carry over into obtaining food for the table. The very essence of survival.

As you can see, gifts for Independent Americans that are also fun are quite easy to come by. Gifts for tricking the herd into thinking may be a bit fewer and farther between, but by using some creativity, those gifts can be purchased and given without the bleating cattle realizing that they are beginning to think until they have been awoken.

Good luck this year with your Christmas tasks and make the most of this holiday season.



## Projects for Home and Life

### Fashioning the Simple to Use Homestead Style Rigid Heddle Loom

by Rev. Dr. J. D. Hooker

At times it's mighty interesting to see just how much of what you worked hard at teaching your kids when they were little, they still hold on to once they've grown.

My wife and I for instance, recently enjoyed being on hand as our eldest daughter, Montana (who doesn't like for me to mention that she just recently turned 27), showed her own eldest daughter how to pound partially rotted nettle stalks to separate the fibers. Before teaching her how to put together and use a simple wooden drop spindle to twist these fibers into a very passable substitute for linen yarn.

What sort of surprised me though, was when she had her husband bring the wooden loom that I'd built for her back when she was 9 or 10 in from their garage. Excepting the fact of how much the pine I'd used in fashioning it had darkened over the intervening years. It looked just exactly the same as it had the day I'd finished building it for her; and, it had seen a *lot* of use over those years too.

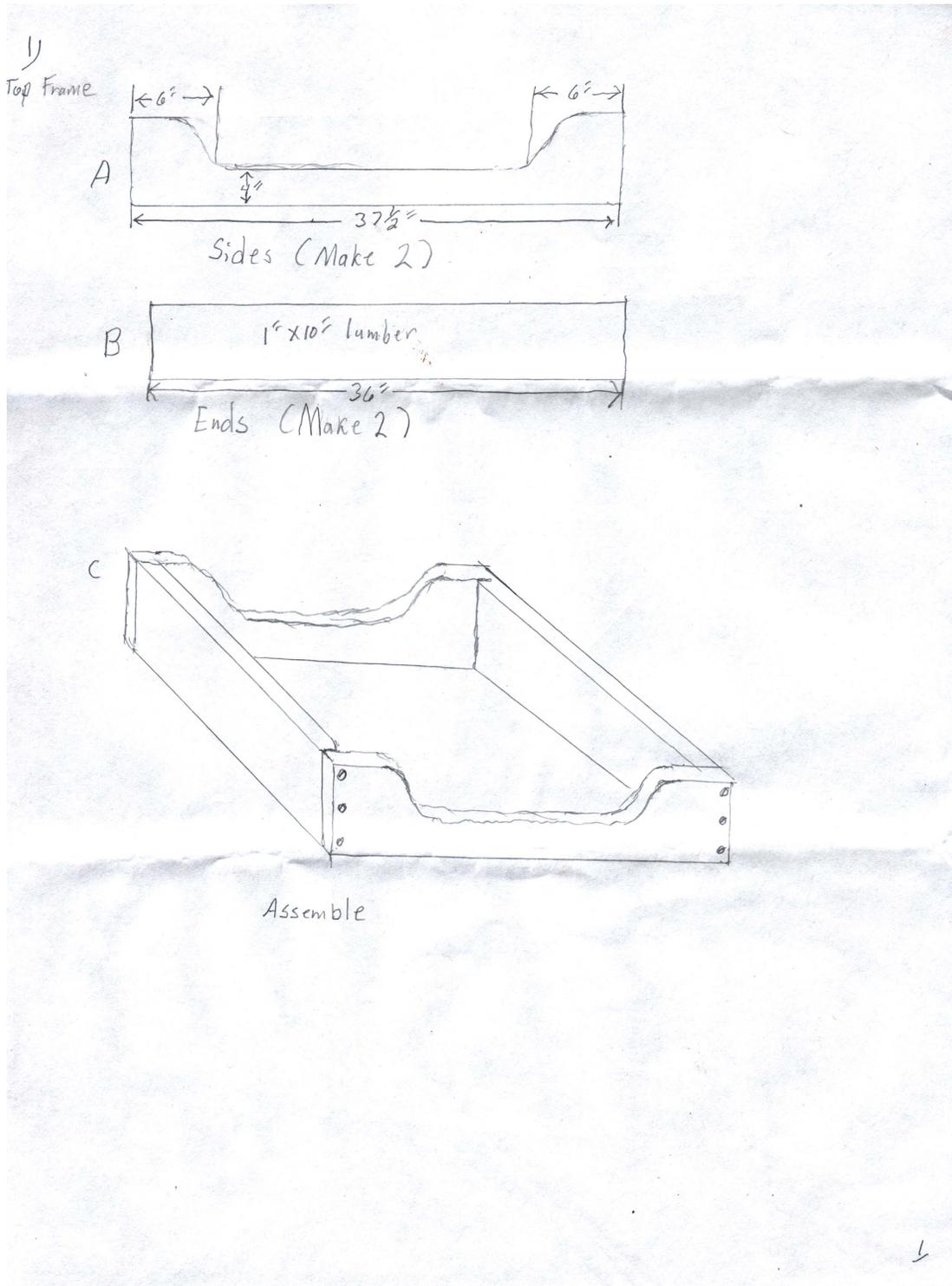
Though actually incapable of doing any of the really fancy weaving work possible when using one of the more complex multi-harness type looms. Nor at all useful for fashioning any of the colorfully woven designs like the Navajo and others produce on their simple frame

looms. This rigid heddle type loom I'd put together for her sure works great for *quickly* and *easily* weaving simple cloth items, such as blankets, rugs, woven rag rugs, and so forth; and does a mighty nice job at it. In fact, for weaving *any* sort of plain or even simple striped cloth, I'd actually find the rigid heddle loom to have a pretty fair edge over any of the others.

Though stringing up this style of loom before use is a pretty straight forward operation. While weaving with one is simplicity itself Fashioning the actual loom itself requires pretty close attention to detail. The plans I've included with this, detail how I put together one of these looms sized suitably for use by a 9 or 10 year old girl kid, that could still prove useful after she'd grown. Yet, these plans are *readily* adapted to produce a similar loom in just about any size you'd desire (I've seen 1' wide demonstration models, as well as 8' wide models, which all worked just a nicely), as long as you'll pay pretty close attention to the small details.

After cutting standard 1"X10" pine boards to shape, I assembled the top frame using *both* carpenter's glue and wood screws. After which, the 1"X4"s used to form the legs, were attached using the same method; and the holes for the rollers bored as indicated. It's worth remembering that if a longer cloth is desired, several more rollers can readily be added as shown.

The short uprights, which serve *only* to hold the heddle in position, were then put into place using carpenter's glue and carriage bolts. After which came the two portions of the work which *must* be done *accurately*.

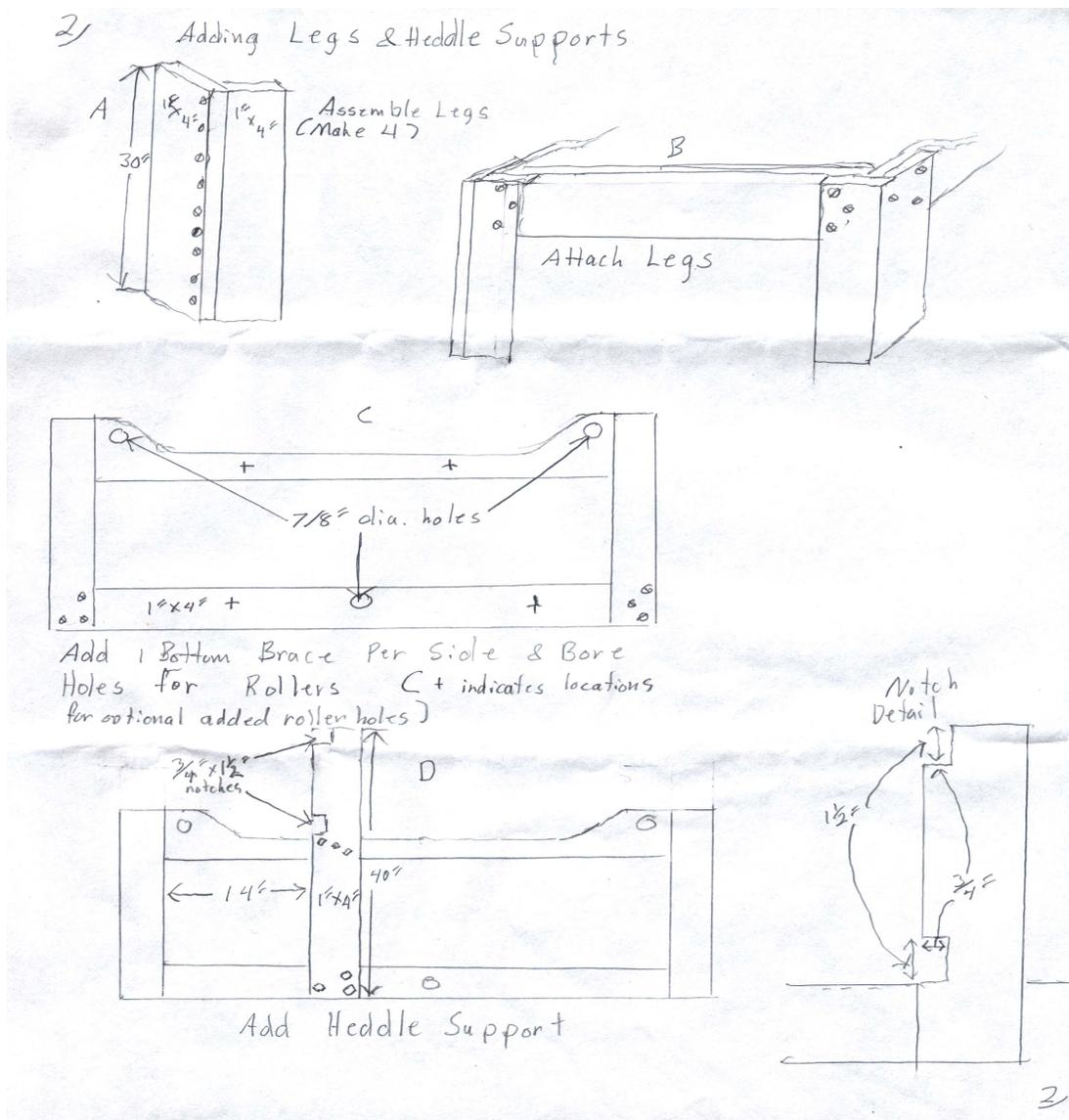


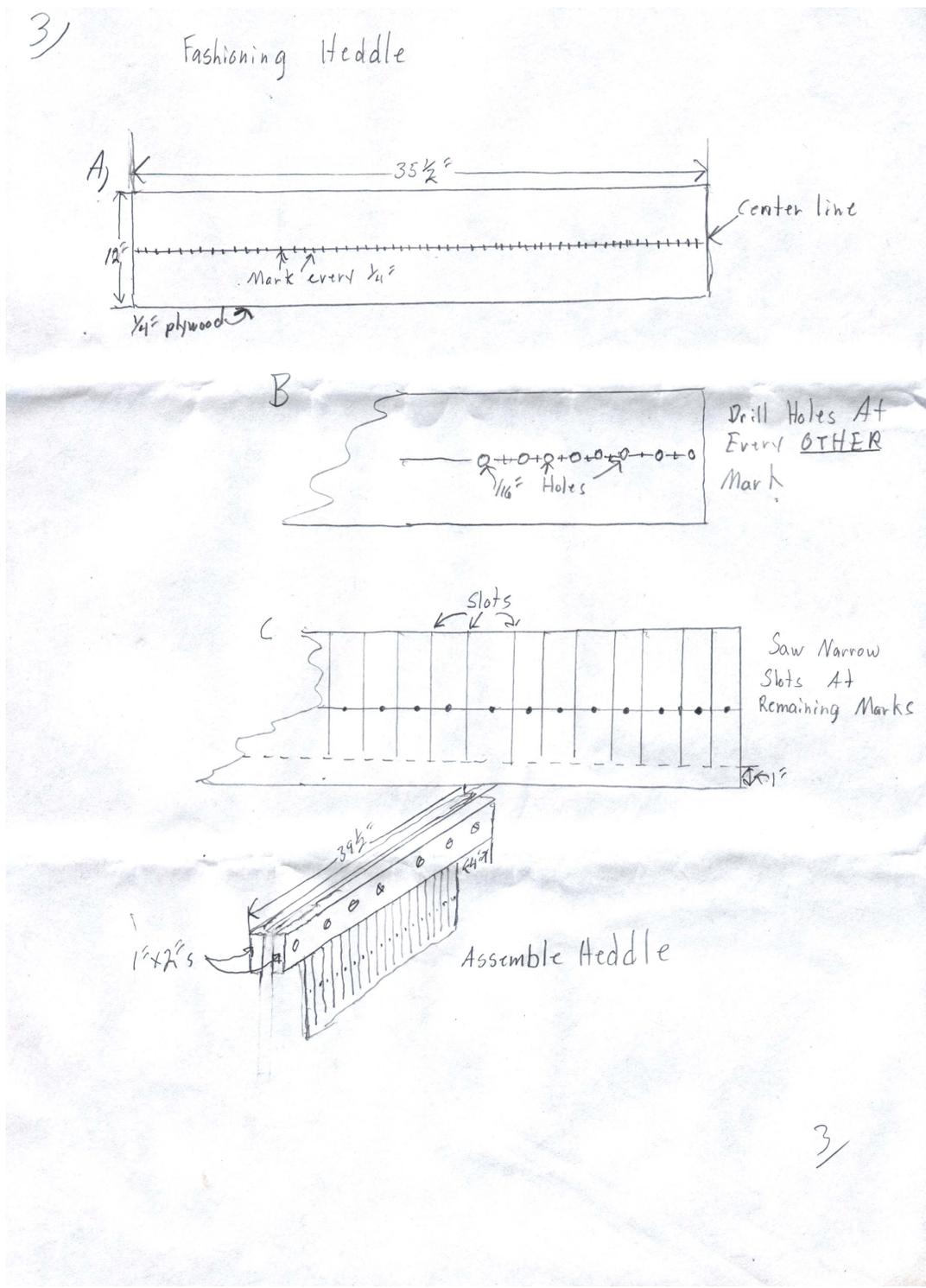
First, the heddle itself is put together as shown with a centerline drawn down it's entire length. Every  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch along this centerline a mark is then made. Next, at *every other* mark, a  $\frac{1}{16}$ " diameter hole is bored through the wood. After which, at each of the remaining marks a *narrow* slot is sawn as shown.

Once all of the slots have been cut, a strip of fine sandpaper is run through each individual slot, one at a time, and worked sort of "shoe shine" fashion, to get the edges of these slots extremely smooth.

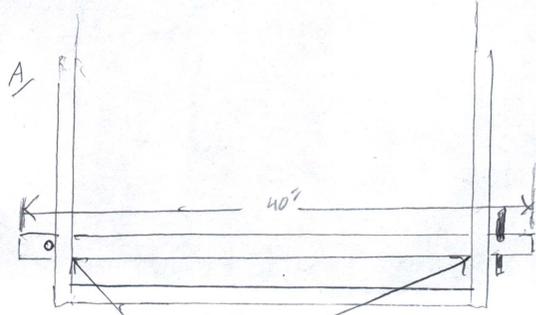
Next, each of the dowels which will be used as rollers is temporarily fitted in place, marked, and assembled as shown. This done, each individual dowel is *very carefully* marked and slotted every  $\frac{1}{4}$ ", as illustrated. The completed loom can then be fully assembled.

All that remains to be done at this point, is to notch and sand smooth a shuttle stick (as illustrated), and to string up the loom prior to it's first use. Stringing up the loom of course *is* a rather boring, and repetitive, though not at all complex or difficult task, so the aid of another person does at least make it *seem* to go quicker.

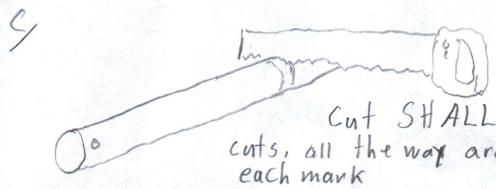
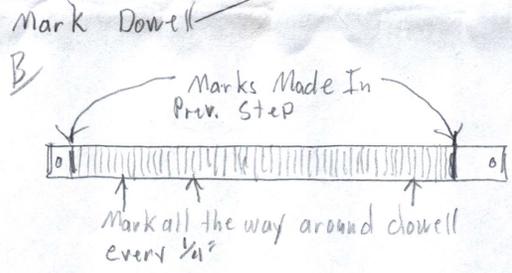




### 4) Fashioning Rollers

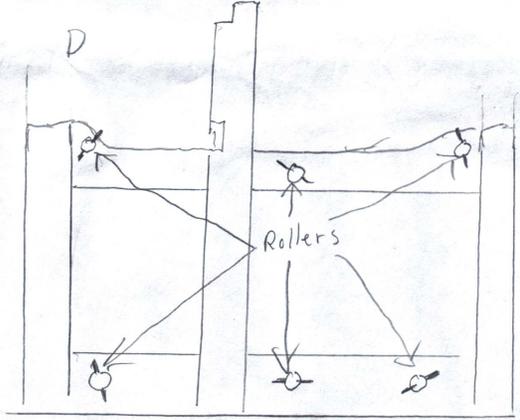


Insert One,  $\frac{3}{4}$ " dia. Dowel  
Thru. each set of holes  
bored for the rollers.  
Drill  $\frac{3}{8}$ " holes near each end  
for inserting 3" long pieces  
of  $\frac{3}{8}$ " dowel. Mark as shown



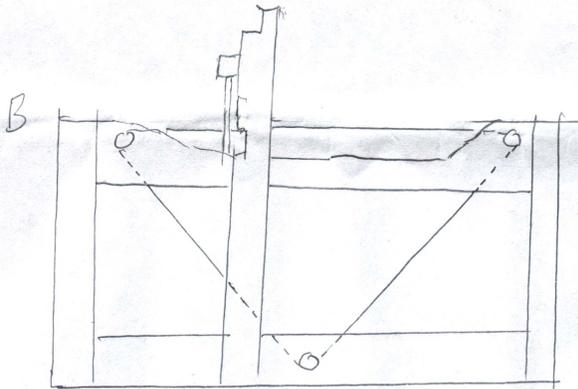
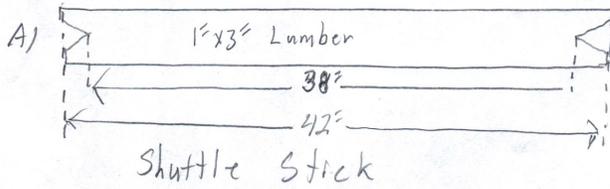
Cut SHALLOW ( $\frac{1}{8}$ " deep) saw  
cuts, all the way around each dowel, at  
each mark

Slip All Rollers Into  
Position, & Insert Short  
Dowels

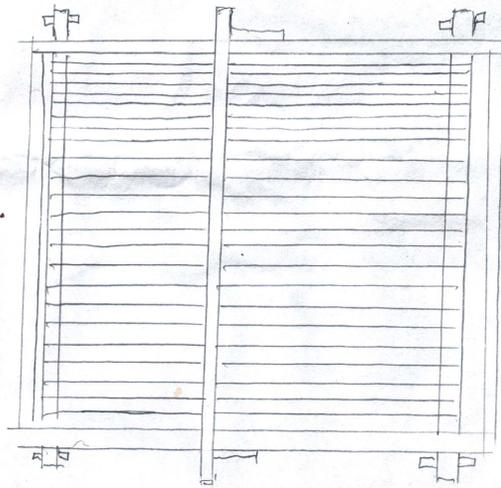


H,

S) Make Shuttle Stick & String Loom

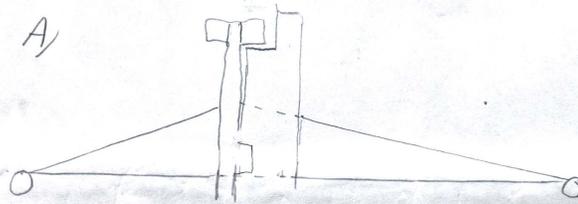


Lace String Around Rollers, letting it Ride in Saw slots. Also Running String Thru EACH Hole & EACH Slot in Heddle.



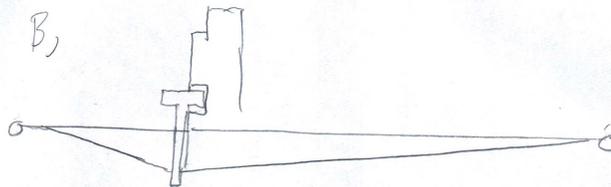
6) To Use

A)



Raise Heddle to Highest Position & Pass Shuttle Stick Between Cords

B)



Move Heddle to Lowest Position & Pass Shuttle Stick Back Between Cords, IN Opposite Direction

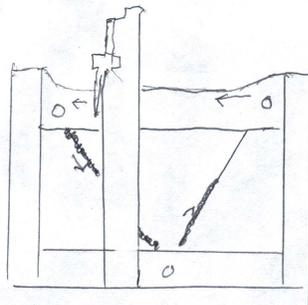
C)



Occasionally use Heddle to Pack Weaving tightly together

D)

As Weaving Progresses, Cloth IS Forced To Go Around Rollers.





Once a material (yarn, strips of rags, etc.) has been selected for the actual weaving process, this material is wrapped onto the shuttle stick as shown. The heddle's then placed in its highest position, and a single wrap stripped from the shuttle stick. Before the shuffle is passed between the warp threads ( as shown). Next, the heddle is moved into it's lowest position, with another wrap stripped from the shuttle stick. The shuttle's then passed between the separated strands in the opposite direction.

These two steps are then repeated (& repeated, & repeated, & repeated....), until the loom is all filled up. Excepting that after every seventh or eighth repetition, the heddle is used to "beat" the already woven weft strands tightly together as shown.

Once the weaver grows familiar with using this type of loom and develops a natural sort of rhythm. It doesn't take long at all until they find themselves finished and ready to remove their first piece of woven work, in order to begin another.

While I have already mentioned how this type of loom is actually only capable of rather plain, simple types of weaving, and can't really be used for fashioning any of the complex weavings possible with *both* simpler and more complex looms. It's also well worth pointing out just how remarkably versatile this type of loom's proven to be when it comes to the wide variety of materials which can be woven together on one. Obviously any sort of yarn or cordage, whether homespun or store bought will work mighty readily on this simple machine. As will strips cut from old cloth, which can be used as is or twisted into (sometimes mighty colorful) cordage with the aid of a drop spindle.

Still, *many* other (some rather unusual!) sorts of materials will also work quite well when used on one of these rigid heddle type looms. One gypsy friend of mine even used thin cotton cord for the warp threads, and fed in dried *cattail stems* for the weft. Then glued the finished product onto his living room *walls* , as a really unusual, but

attractive wallpaper substitute!

I'm sort of unsure just how many of you will even have heard of the exceptionally warm, and remarkably light weight, woven rabbit skin blankets. Which were once mightily favored by nearly **all** of the northern most Amer-Indians prior to the arrival of Hudson's Bay company trade blankets. For those who are interested though, this is the *ideal* sort of loom for fashioning one for your own uses. Start by cutting case skinned, cured with the fur on, rabbit skins *spirally* forming a single 1" wide strip from each skin. These strips are then twisted (not too tightly!) into a soft "fuzzy looking" cordage using the drop spindle. After which this cordage is simply laid aside for a week or so to take a "set", so it doesn't try to untwist itself during the weaving. This rabbit hide "yarn" is then used as the weft when weaving together the warmest blankets ever known to mankind.

While by simply using every 5th hole, as well as every 5th slot, when stringing up this type of loom using sisal bailing twine as the warp "threads". I myself have fed in dried cattail leaves, rushes, and such as the weft. To fashion some pretty foolproof and entirely natural looking camouflage coverings for use on waterfowl hunting blinds.

Looking back through this submission, as well as at the accompanying drawings and illustrations I feel just a little bit afraid that some of you actually might *think* that, maybe, putting together this type of loom could be just a mite too complex a project for you to take on. **PLEASE**, rest assured though, that if you'll work carefully, I'm certain this is well within the skill range of just about every one of this particular magazine's readers! While *far* less handy type folks than you, have been putting together and using essentially identical rigid heddle looms for quite a few *centuries!*

The **BEST** part of this though, is that once you've finished putting this type of loom together and actually tried using it. You'll find that it easily proves to be just as versatile, and as easily used, as I've told you it is!



## Life Free or Die

by Thomas Icom

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When my wife and I were first married, we lived in an apartment in a small New England city. The "bug out plan" involved staying at the family's "summer residence" in rural upstate New York, about 200 miles away. There were two major obstacles in the way: The Hudson River and the Albany, NY metropolitan area. This would have worked for some problems, but was less than adequate for others. I was traveling out to work one day, and a tractor-trailer jack-knifed on Interstate 84 going into Hartford; basically shutting down the interstate. The location was just past the Exit for Connecticut Route 72; which is also a "limited access highway". The reaction was interesting to say the least. From a traffic standpoint, one could simply take CT-72 to CT-9 (all six lane highways like I-84) and get back on I-84 eastbound a few miles past the accident. In spite of this, every secondary road was jammed with traffic doing about 10 miles an hour at most. No hazardous materials were involved, and this traffic jam was just morning commuters going into Hartford. It makes one think.

Take that 200-mile distance to the old retreat. In a car going 60+ MPH, you can do it in 3 1/2 hours. What happens if you hit traffic, need to take an alternate (longer) route, or have to abandon your vehicle? How fast can you go on a bicycle? About 20-30 MPH. How about walking? 3-5 MPH. How long does it take now? Let's say you can

walk 20 miles a day. Can you carry enough supplies and equipment on your back for 10+ days of hiking through potentially hostile territory after a societal breakdown? What would you carry? In Lucifer's Hammer, Tim Hamner bugged out to his "retreat" (the observatory) to find it already occupied. The same could happen in real life. Now do you have adequate resources on hand to retake your property, and keep it afterwards? We have since moved to a more viable semi-rural area, and plan on sticking it out here should "something" happen. "Bugging out" now entails traveling about 10 miles from work to home should something happen. There are plenty of alternate routes from A to B that can be taken, and the distance to travel is relatively small.

In talking with a lot of survivalists, I find that they are planning on "bugging out"; leaving their homes in the event of a disaster. If you live in an apartment or condo this might be a good idea, but many I have talked to have only vague plans/ideas of where they are going to go. This makes them refugees. One such individual had made up a nice "second stage" bug-out vehicle consisting of a two-wheel scooter and a bike trailer. That was good, but he had not given any thought as to where he'd bug-out to when TSHTF other than to walk up out of the blue to some Vermont or New Hampshire farm and ask to stay for a while. I told him that with a plan like that I doubted that even the AR-10 he selected for his survival firearm would keep him from being fertilizer for very long. Hopefully he has since modified his survival plans, as he is an excellent welder and should be able to keep himself in groceries during a period of severe sociopolitical stress if he went about it in a more intelligent manner.

One hot topic among survivalists is that of the "survival kit" or "bug-out bag". These two terms refer to a collection of items that is kept near one's person in the event of an "unforeseen circumstance". I dislike both terms and instead prefer to use "contingency kit", as it is more descriptive of what I feel is a suitable kit for unforeseen circumstances. A survival kit implies last-ditch supplies for when you encounter a problem in a remote wilderness area, like a plane crash or "geographical confusion" (a fancy way of

saying you're lost). You break out the survival kit because Mother Nature and her consort Mr. Murphy are about to throw you a beating, if they haven't already started. In this situation, you expect to get rescued sometime shortly after your mishap, or become unconfused and get pointed back in the right direction. A bug-out bag has a specific purpose, to enable you to relocate from a bad area to one that is safer, such as your retreat. It too implies solving a problem of a short term nature; getting to a destination safely. As such, it is often light on "support equipment". This is understandable because the general design-philosophy of bug-out bags is that the contents should be able to be carried in a rucksack in case you're reduced to using shank's mare for transportation. A contingency kit is different in that its purpose is to solve a variety of problems regarding the safety and well being of its user in extraordinary circumstances. The kit would provide equipment and supplies to enable the user to accomplish the following tasks:

- 1 Communications
- 1 Self-Defense
- 2 First Aid
- 3 Food & Water
- 4 Heat and Light
- 5 Intelligence Gathering
- 6 Shelter
- 7 Repair
- 8 Transportation & Navigation

A contingency kit would be capable of fitting in a vehicle, and consist of two parts. The first part would cover "essentials" and be capable of being carried comfortably by the individual in the event their means of transportation were rendered ineffective. Such a situation assumes that it would be safer to evacuate the current location on foot instead of staying. The second part of the kit would consist of supplemental items that would make matters easier if the individual continued to have their primary mode of transportation, or if they decided to stay put and ride a contingency out instead of trying to evacuate to another location. Included in the secondary kit would be the means of effecting emergency repairs on their mode of transportation, items that would enable them to (more or less) temporarily set-up a retreat, and equipment to help them cache their secondary kit and vehicle (if practical) should they need to evacuate on foot.

When you start putting everything together, you need to decide how you will lug it all around. I have used various items depending on the environment, equipment in the kit, and potential contingencies. Starting on the small side are modern-day versions of the possibles bag carried by mountain men and longhunters of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Traditional possibles bags were made out of buckskin or leather. Many living history buffs make their own. My friend and co-conspirator Injun' Jessie used to make possibles bags out of old blue jeans, much like the gentleman on the Frugal Outdoorsman website. Anyone who can handle a needle and thread without sewing his or her fingers together should be able to do one of these whether you decide to go with the traditional animal skin route, or use more modern materials.

For those of you looking for a manufactured solution, there are a myriad of military surplus shoulder bags from as many different countries that can be bought for under \$10. You simply go visit your local army/navy store that deals in military surplus (some of them around here are yuppie sports stores) and see what you like. I found a Dutch army gas mask shoulder bag at a local surplus dealer for \$5. It is Khaki canvas with brass hardware, and measures 12" x 5" x 5". There is a clip on the shoulder strap that was perfect for hanging a Coleman zipper thermometer/compass from, and a D-Ring on the side of the bag that the handle of my tomahawk fit though nicely. A U.S. Army individual first aid kit is attached to the shoulder strap. The 300 cubic inch inside space provided plenty of room to cover all sorts of contingencies. On the civilian side of things, I picked up a nice green hip bag (or fanny pack) from a luggage vendor at the Big-E one year. This would enable one to discretely carry in public a decent amount of contingency equipment, including a small pistol. There are even fanny packs available from Bianchi and Uncle Mikes that feature built-in holsters.

Duffle bags (usually with a shoulder strap) are a very convenient way to store the contents of a contingency kit, especially if you have a number of smaller bags that comprise your kit. They are very discrete

looking, and don't attract attention. I have used the medium-size LL Bean Adventure Duffle (Catalog #TA19938) for a couple years now. (It was a gift from my wife.) It has proven to be a rugged piece of luggage. The medium bag is big enough to hold a change of clothing, the Dutch gas mask bag, a U.S. Army medics bag, knife, tomahawk, and Grundig FR-200 emergency radio. The military-style cargo (or parachute) bags can be had in sizes large enough to hold a medium rucksack (without frame) and set of web gear (LBE).

For larger contingency kits, there is the ubiquitous backpack or rucksack. There is a wide variety of them available, ranging from Jansport and LL Bean daypacks, to the large rucksacks used by the world's militaries. In addition to the US military surplus and new manufacture gear, there has been a lot of high quality foreign military surplus imported into the country over the past few years, It is offered at very reasonable prices. The German, Austrian, Australian, and Swiss gear is probably among the best in quality when it comes to the foreign stuff. A quick trip to your local military surplus store will find a plethora of items for you to examine and decide upon. Depending on mission requirements, I use either the US military enhanced LBE vest with a buttpack, a medium US ALICE pack, or the Australian military rucksack.

In the next installment, we will discuss the contents of contingency kits.



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