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Colonel's Corner

Lt. Colonel Norman A. Chandler II
Founder and CEO of Iron Brigade Armory



HELLO TO ALL MY FELLOW AMERICANS-

Another great month has gone by and I feel as though I've been given a reprieve from the gallows. How this country stays afloat I'm not sure but 'someday' the dinky is going to be swamped and capsize. I have been to a gunshow almost every weekend since my last newsletter. I would be kind if I said the great lumbering American bear has awakened from his nap, but what I see is more of what I saw last Fall. Folks are consistently buying weapons and gear at a steady pace-at whatever pace they can afford. Savage Arms is making a big splash in all the mainstream gun world media. They have simply delivered a price point rifle to those who want the latest caliber or gimmick-good on them. If you go and sell it..you'll walk around the gunshow a long time and probably not come up with a buyer willing to pay what you think it's worth. But folks don't think value when they buy-most just want the need gratification of the adrenaline rush of something new. This past weekend in Charlotte I spoke to 7 people who had just purchased a new Remington M700 and wanted work done, or at least had questions about future work. I hope they don't wait too long-the ship might sail without them. Two weeks ago, many of us were at the Chantilly Va. show-me for the first time-1200 tables-15,000 at the gate and most were so lost it was stunning. I suddenly remembered I was in 'occupied' territory and what should I expect. Many were arrogant but I eventually located 15-20 of the faithful and the show ended in a very positive note. Next time I will be better prepared. There was 3-4 feet of snow the deck which added to the overall affect of being in a strange place-wow...what a pile.

While perusing the news channels the past few days, I have seen an increased amount of chatter regarding the rising cost of goods and production. BOTTOM LINE-ALL costs are passed on to the consumer. This is what the old timers used to call inflation. We have had steady inflation despite the US Governments claim otherwise, hence no cost of living increases or COLA for the retirees-pretty clever. You can standby for some heavy duty price increases beginning very soon. By midsummer, you'll be planning a vacation in your back yard like Archie Bunker used to joke about. All the fun will be out of the great trip to see America first. Fuel will be \$3.00 a gallon or more, again-ugh. Have you noticed that eating out lately has become extremely expensive-what used to be \$9-10 plate is now \$20+ bucks-hmmm. I think consumers are having a tough time finding something they can afford to consume. Next year ought to be a real doozy.

Ron Paul was on the news recently-I was not impressed. He announced many great financial and economic points but also displayed an anti-war /anti-military attitude and was later criticized by some veterans groups. He likened this 'war' to other conventional previous wars including Viet Nam. This is the 3rd Crusades, NOT a conventional 'militaristic' war. We are fighting a radical Muslim force and a religious power base that is hell bent on world domination. These people make the Commies look like kindergarten kids. Goes to show you that our leadership is blinded but this is only one of many problems. This War is like treating fire ants-you never kill them all but you sure don't see any mounds in your front yard. Therefore, we should continue this battle until no one on earth 'notices' or can name a radical Muslim mob.

I have spoken with a great many of you recently on the phone and at gunshow's. Your collective worries seem to be that you are the Lone Ranger and no one else is thinking like you or you are worried that your family may believe you've over reacted or gone off the deep end. Well....that's not true. You ARE thinking correctly and there are a lot of our fellow Americans that see the problems. Most of them just see the problem but some are taking action. Let's dust off an old American premise -YOU are responsible for yourself and your family's welfare and safety-NOBODY ELSE. It isn't your wife's duty or your older daughters duty or you grandfathers job-Tis yours! Back in the early 90's a family sued their local police because after the 911 call went out, the police took too long to respond and someone died. It went all the way to the US Supreme Court who basically ruled that the police were responsible for public safety NOT individual safety-tough luck folks. This concept should be carried over to include any and all supplies you may need to sustain you and your family for a long, long, maybe very long time. As I said in previous newsletters-don't panic-just get busy. Make a list and start filling it as best you can. It's important to remember and put into perspective, that you will NEVER be 100% ready so just keep working at it steadily. I spoke with a Gun Show promoter recently and she said people are fearful and I asked about what. She said she didn't know but that their attitude had changed and the crowd was more diligent in attending and buying with a purpose.

Interesting! The gate is up and the pre-show lines are very long. At the last Raleigh NC show it was 1.5 hours long. At Chantilly it was 20 minutes long initially and by noon had grown to 1+ hours long and stayed that way till after 1500 hours. I guess it does takes diligence to stand in a long line with temperatures below freezing.

Recently on Glenn Beck, Hannity and O'Reilly, the call seems to be for no new Government controls or spending. Well.....that's a nice start but NOT enough! What we really need to do for a balanced budget is cut ALL spending in half-go back to 1960 size government. By that I mean we chop our State and Federal Governments -IN HALF. I mean fire half and send them home-permanently. If they need a job, there are options, as the military recruiting office doors have never been locked in my lifetime. Getting rid of government commissions and fact finding councils and boards has to stop. Giving all small business' with annual revenue under 2-3 million a 100% tax break would be the fastest way to put America back to work. Those Mom and pops are 65% of our commerce-they are taking the risk and doing the heavy lifting so why would you wish to penalize them-ever? It seems that common sense eludes us.

BULLET POINTS:

1] The ammunition component shortage is here to stay. It's a worsening situation. By June it will be bizarre-my guess is worse than last summer. Dealer fill rates are 20-30%. Ammunition manufacturers have a long list of orders and can't fill them due to lack of components. Is this a bubble like the AR-15 scare. I don't think so as the need for ammunition is ongoing and the competition for scarce ammo is a continuing situation. The tool and die mills making reloading gear are working 6-7 days a week-all shifts-and still you can't find a decent selection of dies at any gun show. Where is it all going? Your guess is as good as mine but I would say that folks are arming up. Putting all this in perspective might mean that 2% of the American people are buying these products. The balance of

folks could care less and many don't know reloading even exists.

2] Gold and silver. The buying opportunities remain due to market manipulation, a weak dollar and a host of other dumb reasons. G. Gordon Liddy is on nightly telling you that 'gold goes up---not down'. Someday soon, this low ball pricing and availability will be gone forever and you'll have to go to the Smithsonian to see an ancient American silver dollar.

3] Gun work at IBA-work continues at a steady pace and quality of our work has never been better. While I was writing this, Tiny came in asked for a slot head replacement screw for an M24 Sniper rifle we are re-finishing. We are only being paid to 'refinish' not fix the customer's rifle. One of the mount screws broke or maybe it was broken when it got here? We have old style parts and screws so no big deal, but what is a big deal is the willingness to stop what you are paid to do and fix what someone else didn't do or repair a part of lesser quality with junk screws made overseas. So yes we will charge more than the local bicycle repair shop and I'm confident you will receive a weapon back you can bet your life on.

4] Rocky's new book, HAWK'S REVENGE, is approaching 20 chapters-Part 2 begins and the sea battles will rage. The Moslem dhows have no idea what is coming their way. Call Abby or Cecelia if you wish to be placed on the reserved book list.

5] The Chandlers are also planning to write a book starting this Fall that will encompass all articles we've written over the years [15 years] in conjunction with PRECISION SHOOTING MAGAZINE. The book might be entitled 'The Chandlers on Guns' and we intend to dust off old ideas that still work and critique the plethora of junk that abounds in the American gun market place. We don't intend to compare manufacturers-that's your job. We do intend to evaluate what the product should look like and how it should perform, IE-a scope mount rail came in with no recoil lip on the underside-a pure piece of junk. ALL IBA, Badger and Nightforce rails have a lip-to keep the mount 'mounted' and not tend to slide forward under recoil. UGH-the list is long. You'll need seat belts for this book and asbestos gloves to handle it because after all, the Chandlers are opinionated fellows.

6] AR15 parts [prepositioned war reserve]-a minimum list. In the last newsletter I promised a list for the readership. Creating the list sparked much debate here at IBA. Here is what we came up with.

BASIC PARTS KIT [considered to be the minimum]

1-spring kit-all springs for the AR rifle

1-pin kit-all pins for the AR rifle

1-bolt carrier repair kit-all small parts including gas key

1-bolt, complete

RETAIL/CATALOG PRICE: \$111.95

IBA PRICE: \$85

MASTER PARTS KIT [considered to be overkill but would be real useful if and when]

2-spring kits

2-pin kits

2-bolt carrier repair kits

2-bolts, complete

1-M4 gas tube

1-AR-15 rehab kit-includes hammer, trigger, disconnect, selector

RETAIL/CATALOG PRICE: \$272.95

IBA PRICE: \$215

NOTES:

1] ALL parts are Bushmaster brand.

2] We consider these kits useful for repair of any Bushmaster, DPMS, Colt, Rock River or Armalite model with a few minor exceptions.

3] We have also assumed that most 'prepared' people have 2 or more AR style weapons-hence the Master kit.

4] We have also considered the possibility of not only a future parts shortage/non-availability, but the lack of a way to actually get the parts delivered to you. Given civil unrest, Martial Law requires the closing of all gun stores and sale of all munitions. Something to think about in your spare time.

5] These listings are not on our web site yet so if you are interested, we will take the order and ship when we have all the parts available in kit form-guessing 2 week lead time for assembly.

I thank all of you for your service to our country.

SEMPER FI,
N. A. Chandler
PRESIDENT-IBA

Featured Item of the Month

Thunderbear/IBA Military Style Slings

Web ID 644



Thunderbear/IBA Military style 1 1/4" inch wide sling with huge strength capable of withstanding the toughest conditions on earth. Capable of lifting more weight than the rifle can bear so we feel confident the stock or swivels will give before the sling breaks. During testing, we attached the sling to a 4 wheeler and picked up the entire mass without stitches or keepers popping.

This sling can be used as a strap for a litter, used to boost troops over a wall or barrier and can be disassembled and the short strap utilized in the rifle 'sniper carry'.

Made of industrial nylon webbing and available in black and OD green. MADE IN THE US of A.
Options:

Sling Only without swivel hardware - \$30.00

Sling With **Standard** 1 1/4" Uncle Mike's QD swivels - \$39.00

Sling With **Standard** 1 1/4" Uncle Mike's QD Swivels - Swivels Painted - \$49.00

Sling With **Heavy Duty** 1 1/4" Uncle Mike's QD swivels - \$49.00

Sling With **Heavy Duty** 1 1/4" Uncle Mike's QD Swivels - Swivels Painted - \$59.00

Sling is available in OD or Black, please specify when ordering.

Swivels can be painted OD or Black, please specify when Ordering.

[Click Here](#) to Order Now!

Luck of the Sniper!



This month at IBA it pays to be a sniper! For every \$50.00 that you spend with us this month you will receive an IBA Embroidered Patch for FREE!

These are regularly priced at \$7.00. They are OD Green with Black stitching.

[Click Here](#) to start shopping.

Patches will be added to your order during processing.

Limit 3 patches per customer per order.



Dear IBA Customers,

We are very excited by all of the new products we are bringing to you Over the next few months you will be seeing many new great additions to our website. If there is ever anything that you don't see on our website please contact us and we will do our best to find the product at a great price for you. We love getting all of your customer feedback and comments, it helps us continue providing you great customer service and the products that you need. Keep the emails and phone calls coming! We have also added several new gun shows that we will be attending regularly. Keep checking our website to see updated info on the shows we plan to attend. As always we would like to remind all of our customers that are military and law enforcement that you are always in our thoughts. We appreciate your service more than you know! To everyone, have a Happy St. Patrick's Day and a wonderful and safe month!

Your Iron Brigade Armory Family



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