

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 17, 2010

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Madam Secretary:

We are writing to express our opposition to the decision made by the Department of State to block the importation of nearly one million American-made M1 rifles from the South Korean government—a transaction that had previously been approved by this Administration last year.

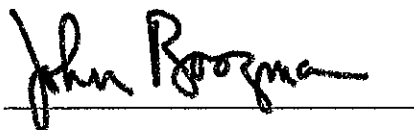
These vintage semiautomatic rifles are of historical significance to firearms enthusiasts and collectors across the country, particularly for those veterans who served their country honorably in Korea and Vietnam.

The claim that the importation of the firearms should be blocked because they “could potentially be exploited...for illicit purposes” is just a reiteration of tired arguments by gun control advocates. Possession of these antique firearms by Americans is lawful, and potential purchasers would be required to go through the same background check process as they do for new firearms. Furthermore, these are the very same types of rifles that have been sold by the federal government to civilians for decades through the Civilian Marksmanship Program.

If these classic rifles are allowed to be destroyed (which we fear is, presumably, one of the “alternative options to dispose of these firearms”), a valuable piece of American history will be sacrificed for the sake of political expediency.

Therefore, we are writing to respectfully urge you to reconsider this decision and to permit these M1 rifles to be bought from the South Korean government and sold to law-abiding Americans. We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,





M ST

Bob Hor
Jeff Miller
Howard Cole

Don Young

M Bant

Doug Jamison

Rick Griffith

L M Cole

Jason Attmore

Andrew Blackman

Michael Baker

Todd Field

Jenny Reberg

Kent Stank

Rick Boucher

Tom Graves

Erin Hunt

Jean Schmidt

David P. Proe

Jim Marshall

E Mabot

Carlson

Phil Gregory

Jim Roney

Nike Cotman

Robert E. Jatta

Randy Run

Zach Wray

Robert B. Aduhob

Virginia Fox

John Kline

Blair Huff

Fitz Hachstein

Spencer Baker

Ken Burton

Steve King

A. Kirkpatrick

Geoff Jarvis

Cynthia M. Lummis

John Fleming

Jo Romer

Roy Blunt

Jerry Moran

John G. Dingell

Walter B. Jones

Donald Manzullo

Nick Rahall

Bill Fong
Hyk R
W. Call clin

Glenn G.T. Thompson

Bob Argis

Steve Drake

Joe Wilson

Bartlett

Lynn Jenkins

Kayla Long

Rob

Dean Keller

John Eric
Ken Buchanan

Tom Murrey

Betsy Mackey