

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 29, 2010

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Madam Secretary:

We are writing to express our opposition to the administration's decision to prevent the importation of M1 Garand rifles and M1 carbines. This move reverses a decision made last year approving of their importation and sale.

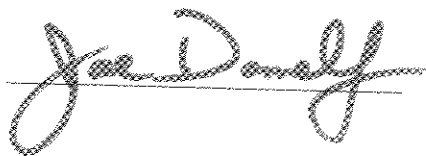
These particular M1 Garand rifles and M1 carbines were made by the United States and provided to the South Korean government for military purposes. Long a close friend of the U.S., South Korea now seeks to sell them to American collectors. As you know, a similar shipment was allowed under the Reagan Administration.

Legal to purchase and own in the U.S., these weapons are a piece of military history sought after by American gun collectors and would be purchased primarily as collectors' items. Additionally, the M1 is one of the two rifles most commonly used at the National Matches, a marksmanship competition authorized by federal law. In fact, during the National Matches there are separate competitions dedicated to each of the two rifles. Anyone who would wish to buy one of these more than 50-year-old M1 Garand rifles or M1 carbines would have to undergo the same background checks that are required for any other firearm purchase.

We are strong supporters of Americans' right to bear arms and we are concerned by the administration's decision to reverse itself on this issue. The Second Amendment rights of responsible, law-abiding collectors should not be infringed upon.

We urge the administration to reconsider its decision blocking the importation of these historic M1 Garand rifles and M1 carbines. Allowing sales to go forward would help our allies raise funds for their defense, would be in line with past U.S. government precedent, and would allow American collectors the opportunity to acquire historic firearms that are already legal to make and sell in the United States.

Sincerely,



Bill Davis

John P. Carg

~~John P. Carg~~

Kathy Dalko

Baron P. Hill

Carlson

Scott Murphy

Doug Tomson

Allen Boyd

Bobby Bright

Kurt DeMaeder

Monty

Rockney Alexander

Stephanie Joseph Sanders

Or A. We

Vern Buchanan

~~Monty~~

Harry League

John Curran

Bobby Maly

Ron Kind

Howard L. Bush

John White
Co. Capt

Paul E. [unclear]
[unclear]

Dennis W. Childers

Rick Bauer

Gene Taylor

W. Decker

Col. C. [unclear]

Burt Gordon

Dan Burton

T. Allen

A. S. T.

Samuel D. Brough

Mike Reed

Mike [unclear]

Jim [unclear]

Brad Ellsworth

Mike [unclear]

Rikki Halvorson

[unclear]