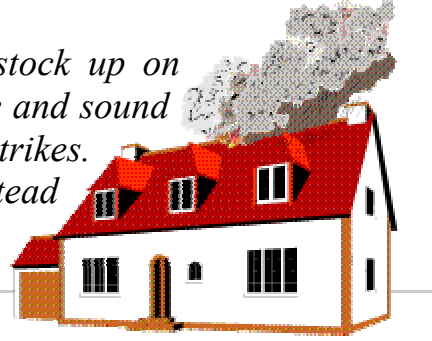


A Survival Scenario

OK, you've gone to all this trouble to stock up on survival goods to keep you and yours safe and sound through whatever disaster or emergency strikes. All this preparation stands you in good stead when the balloon goes up. You have food, water and shelter while most of the sheep are lost without the shepherd.



Then your neighbor is killed by a bunch of marauders who steal everything he has, rape his wife and children and torch his house. The last you see of them, as you peer out the basement window, they are laughing as they drag his 14-year old daughter away, naked, into the night.

You have a sinking feeling in the pit of your stomach. You know they'll be back, and your house will be their target. No one has seen a police man for over a week and the national guard is protecting gas stations in the city, nowhere near your house.

This is *not* the time to realize you should have included a gun or two in your survival supplies. Remember, even if you could get to the gun store and they were open, there's a five day waiting period (Thank you, Mrs. Brady).

This is the time to make sure all your magazines are loaded, all your guns are clean and to set up some rules of engagement with your family.

The Best Tool for the Job

Not everyone likes guns. But in a scenario like the one above, they are probably the best chance you have of surviving the next day or week. And that's what this site is all about: Survival, using all the tools at hand. And guns are just that -- tools. Used properly, they can get the job (protecting you and yours) done more efficiently and effectively than you could do without. And misused, they can be dangerous. Just like your car or chain saw.

If you abhor the thought of killing someone to save your own life, if you think having a gun simply means you'll end up getting shot by it or if you believe the right to bear arms granted by the second amendment applies only to the National Guard, not we the people, you should give up now and check in to a local FEMA Camp since you are unable to protect your family or yourself.



If you are not a gun owner, but you are thinking of buying one, we encourage you to learn to shoot, to handle a gun safely and to practice.

Meanwhile, [back](#) to the specifics about protecting yourself during a survival-situation.

Protecting Your Stuff

If luck or planning lets you live through the immediate disaster -- the hurricane passes, the earthquake dies down or the riots are quelled -- you are faced with the longer task of living through the aftermath. All the topics we've dealt with earlier -- food, water, shelter and emergency medicine -- are critical. But you have to hang on to all four to survive, and many of those who are less-prepared may envy your stash and wish to make it their own. See the [scenario](#) we put together for an example.

You need to protect yourself both from those who see the situation as an opportunity to cash in and those who are so desperate they have no way to survive except by taking your stuff. You will run into the first (criminals) early in a long-term survival situation. The second will be a later phenomenon, after their meager supplies have petered out and the hand of government is nowhere to be found.

There are several steps you can take to protect yourself from these and others who threaten your survival:

- Keep a low profile. The fewer people who know you have a huge stash of food and water, the less who will turn to you. This also means don't flaunt it and create resentment. Don't be

boiling beef stew in the afternoon over a backyard fire when others are starving and not expect trouble. Instead, use a camp stove in your fireplace late at night.

- Do not seek to profiteer from your advanced planning. This will result in resentment and possible retribution. If you have a surplus and wish to part with some goods, you will earn friends by giving it away or selling it at cost. If you sell it at ridiculously high prices, you'll earn nothing but hate and resentment. (Frankly, your better off keeping or using surplus items for trade.)
- After disaster strikes, post signs saying looters will be shot. Like an alarm sign, this won't deter someone who seriously wants what you have, but it may send potential thieves and looters to easier targets. During "normal" times, there is an unfortunate liability associated with displaying "Protected by Smith & Wesson" bumper stickers and wearing T-shirts that boldly proclaim "I don't dial 911, I call on .357." In the potentially lawless aftermath of a disaster, I believe the benefit of such a sign will outweigh the liability.

If you are threatened by looters or other criminals, you probably only have two choices: Turn tail and run or display a firearm you are prepared to use. This latter technique served Korean merchants well in the L.A. Riots. If you choose to include weapons as part of your survival stash (a move encouraged) you *must* have the will and the skill to use them successfully. Otherwise, you'd probably have been better off taking option one and hightailing it out of there, giving up your stash but hopefully saving your life.



Your Survival Weapons

Choosing the best survival weapons will depend on your needs. Do you wish to protect yourself from a single intruder or a large group?

Will you be engaging targets at close or long range? Do you wish to hunt as well?

Your answer may be "all of the above," and I recommend the following survival weapons:

- One or two pistols for every adult or adolescent capable of using it. Should be at least .38/9mm caliber or larger.
- A 12 gauge shotgun for all large adults. 20 gauge for smaller-statured adults. Either semi-auto or pump, the higher capacity the better. Stock both bird shot, buck loads and slugs.



- A semi-automatic battle rifle, such as a AR-15, FAL, H&K, AK-47, SKS or Ruger mini 14. At least one for every two adults capable of firing it. An AR-15 is preferred because it has ammo and parts interchangeability with our country's standard issue weapon.
- A large scope-equipped rifle capable of engaging man-sized targets 400 yards or more.
- Stock up on high-capacity magazines and ammunition as well. You should have a minimum of 10 high-capacity magazines and 1,000 rounds for your "battle" rifles. Additional ammunition is a good idea. If you do not need to use it, it can be an excellent barter item.

This is a good firearms stash that, used properly, can help you protect yourself in many situations. You will be able to carry the pistols concealed if you are not expecting imminent trouble but wish to be prepared. The shotguns are excellent close-quarter combat weapons, ideal for defending your home. The .223 rifles are not only intimidating, they are able to sustain a high level of suppressing fire and provide both offensive and defensive fire. The large hunting or sniping rifle (in 30-06, .308, 7mm or a similar caliber) is good for hunting and reaching out and touching someone.



Suppose you only have a pistol and a .22 rifle. Well, you're better off than many. There's a good bit of truth to clichés like "better a hit with a .22 than a miss with a .45." Hopefully, just the visible presence of a firearm will be enough to quell any problems.

Heavy Weapons

Owning fully automatic weapons and other "weapons of destruction" such as grenades and rockets is illegal for the average citizen. While you may be able to obtain a class III firearms license, the process is difficult and the weapons expensive. That means most of us will need to rely on home made weapons.

So people recommends Molotov cocktails, which can be made by mixing gasoline with detergent. I do not recommend experimenting with home made explosives.

For those interested, [TEOTWAWKI](#), a survival novel, discusses ways to take out tanks and other heavy vehicles.

How Bad It Will Get

How bad will it get? When will it happen? Am I really prepared? I assume these are questions that "Self-reliant" people ask themselves all of the time, not to mention the ever popular "What role will the Government play in a crisis of that magnitude?" Almost assuredly it will be an adversarial role at best. Considering the recent attacks on Militias, Separatists and Religious groups by the FBI, ATF and other government terrorist agencies, convince me that "Komrade Klinton" and his underlings will expend every effort that they can to "shove" this country and it's people into their beloved socialistic "New World Order".

There are as many theories as to how prepared one should be as there are possible scenarios concerning the "collapse". If you believe Kurt Saxon's theory about the National debt and it's interest (which is pretty compelling) we may indeed face some sort of economic crisis by the year 2000. We are already witnessing smaller banking institutions being absorbed by the largest ones. Hostile takeovers of businesses are commonplace. Individual free-enterprise is slowly being dismantled by large wealthy

conglomerates. Small business is failing at an alarming rate. Truthfully, anti-trust issues are increasingly ignored by the Government. The enormous growth of the stock market could end up like a balloon being filled until it pops. The growing disdain with welfare abuse and subsequent welfare reform laws that have been passed lately and the recent anti-immigrant laws will all add "fuel to the fire". The Socialist-Elitist power base has continued a 'soft on crime' attitude for over 30 years now in an order to justify more and more restrictive and prohibitive laws. Continual disarming of law abiding citizens has led to increasing frustration of those citizens and all the while the elitists are armed to the teeth. More often than not, decent, hard-working, law abiding Americans are feeling increasingly powerless against crime, inflation, underhanded business tactics and Government intrusion into their lives. Government indifference in certain areas and over-legislation in others has led to a 'crisis of priorities' in this country.

Everywhere you look, life is over-complicated. Thousands of "systems" are overtaxed or overburdened. Here in California we are facing the fifth year in a row of excess rainfall. Some areas receiving more than 200% of the normal yearly rainfall. The floods, levy breaks, road and land damage is definitely overtaxing our tax base. California is favorite landing-zone for new immigrants as well as illegal ones. All you ever see is construction on our forty year old road system to expand and accommodate the massive amount of automobiles which causes more back-ups and is almost always over-budget and over-deadline. California also has the distinction of being one of the largest welfare states in the nation. Our schools are for the most part, poor, and we are one of the most expensive states to reside in. California is suffering from an impending rupture of the belly, so to speak. Too many people, too many disasters, not enough money and not a clue in the world. If you multiply this by other highly populated states you may get a recipe for destruction.

Considering that at least 30% of this country's populace is on some sort of "Social Entitlement" massive animosity and anger will ensue when those entitlements are cut or withdrawn. Our Government's overindulgence of lazy, ignorant people over the decades has begun to come back and haunt it. After all, this is the only nation in the world (as far as I know) that pays people to have babies and not earn a living and financially subsidizes immigrants. But, even ignorant people can become angry and fight being ruled more by emotion than by

intelligence and logic.

While I do not condone his actions, the Una bomber, may have been right when he stated that technology will ruin mankind. In this country we have become so dependent on gadgets, gimmicks and techno-advances the we may have forgotten how to be self-reliant. All this technology has made the average American apathetic to his environment. One of my favorite sayings is; "Boobus-Americanus....everything is fine as long as the lazy-boy vibrates and the cable TV works". His neighbor's house is being burglarized, but hey, there's a really good field-hockey match on ESPN2. Shut off his cable and he's ranting up a storm.

All of those factors, including never-ending racial tensions, are currently in the works, and can contribute to a social collapse of some kind. Sadly, a revolt based on the Government's long standing abuses of the Constitution and Bill of Rights (which I think is an important issue) will be secondary to a general uprising of the poor and lower middle classes against the wealthy elitist power base in this nation. As more and more individual rights of Americans are compromised, the sheep will slowly awaken and stampede. The time frame for all of this is unsure. This could easily take another generation to complete the circle. I do, however, believe that by 2000 the situation will escalate. I have no real "hard" evidence other than a nagging feeling based on what I have seen over the last fifteen years. I could continue with other observations but I think you get the point.

Recent reports have surfaced concerning Urban Battle Tactical Exercises being conducted by the U.S Military to undoubtedly prepare for possible civil unrest far worse than the 1992 Los Angeles riots. Questions about the "willingness" of Military personnel firing upon fellow citizens have been debated with mixed reviews. I believe the reasonable assumption will be that, yes, the Military will fire upon citizens when ordered to do so. When the "Poop hits the fan", as many of us believe, the Military, National Guard, Police and Sheriff's agencies will become the enemy to even decent law-abiding citizens. It is sad to think that you may have to end the life of a Police officer that is just "doing his job" but the reality of it is that if you were ordered to drop your weapon, even though you are simply trying to "Bug out", You may not be killed but you would certainly be detained, searched and have all of your weapons confiscated. You would then be sent on your way unarmed to face the wrath of the criminal vermin prowling the streets, which brings me to.....

Militias. I believe that originally, our founding fathers envisioned Militias as citizens organized and trained to protect states from being overrun by a sudden tyrannical shift in the Government. Even though they are not a part of the actual Military of this nation, their goal is supposed to be the same. That is, to protect and defend the Constitution and ensure the continuation of domestic tranquility. The founding fathers set this up specifically so that "We the People...." would never have to suffer the abuses of an imperialistic, tyrannical Government such as the colonists endured in the early days of this country. Unfortunately, nowadays, any group that dons a uniform and picks up a weapon seems to be calling themselves a "Militia". This is simply wrong and does nothing to promote the 'correct' stature of true citizen militias. Groups like the Montana Freemen, in my opinion, are nowhere near a true militia but more like self-serving militant malcontent revolutionaries waiting for a chance to "stick their collective foot in the door" and had no intention of defending and upholding our Constitution.

When will the crisis begin? Technically speaking, it already has begun. What is unknown is when it will all come to a head. My personal prediction is within ten years. Where it will happen will probably be right here in California, along with Florida, Texas and just about every inner city area that is overpopulated, undereducated, welfare ridden, high crime rate, etc. The reason I choose California, Florida and Texas is the high concentration of resident and illegal aliens, many of them criminals. As systems and people become overtaxed and over stressed to the breaking point, Natural citizens will begin to fight with immigrants and illegals over food, fuel and other things. Tolerance for most will completely stop. Police will intervene in these small skirmishes thus setting off riotous behavior, most likely from the minorities as has already been demonstrated in Florida. States with areas that have a large gap between rich and poor will be prime grounds for crisis.

The escalating riotous behavior in many areas will cause state and local governments to attempt severe firearms restrictions and maybe even attempt confiscation of ALL firearms. Many people will comply, foolishly believing that their government and police will protect them. Others, however, will under no circumstances, give up their guns to anyone. Local police agencies may find themselves engaged in numerous 'shoot-outs' with angry and frightened citizens. In some areas of heavy activity, valid and self-imposed Militias may activate even before the area National Guard deploys

and end up in fights with local law enforcement who might feel that the Militia is interfering with their duties. Some of these scenarios were also demonstrated during the 1992 L.A./Rodney King riots. (Ammo and gun sales halted, citizens harassed by Police for defending themselves against looters.)

Essentially, you will see situations like L.A occur all over. Nothing cataclysmic, but continual. Personally, I feel that those of us who live in or near large Cities or in suburbs near large cities will be affected. People who live in smaller towns, especially farm communities maybe less affected at first, although, may become affected later if things don't calm down. Hate and other fringe groups may use the crisis and may lay as a means of acting out their plans. Gangs and looting packs will certainly seize the opportunity for self gain.

As law enforcement and the military are called into play things will get critical. As I stated earlier, soldiers will most likely be called upon to fire on anyone they deem to be a threat. Even if that person or persons are simply defending themselves, their home or neighborhoods. Some may comply and some may refuse. The problem is....you may only have a second or two to decide if he is going to help you or kill you. I also feel you have even less of a chance with a cop. Cops will probably be so paranoid by then, they will fire at anything that moves.

O.K., so you have your bug out pack, some weapons, your car, scanner & shortwave and a will to survive. Good. You're also scared to death. GOOD!! you should be. You know where you want to go. The question is, can you get there in one piece. Most likely, everyone and his brother will have the same idea as you, except, you are part of a small percentage that is at least somewhat prepared. You may be very well prepared, so much the better. Most of the sheep, when surprised and stampeding will have no idea what they are doing. You are faced with a profound question; How ruthless do I have to be to survive? If someone gets in my way, am I going to have to kill them? My answer would be yes, even if I do not necessarily want it to be. Your "Prime Directive" at this point is to defend yourself and/or your family, or, if you are in a survival group, to your compatriots and get to where you need to go. The police will not be your allies, they are having to deal with the out of control criminal element and the sheep stampede. If you get caught in the middle, oh well. Most likely the police will think you're a criminal or some militant nut-case who got an

excuse to shoot his rifle. Would I shoot a cop? Probably. Especially if he were to try and keep me from defending my home or stop me from getting to where I needed to go. If he crosses that line, he has become no ally of mine. All you have to do is look at other countries where civil crisis become out of control to give you an idea of what we might face.

If you don't have a safe haven anywhere out of the hot zone, you need familiarize yourself with any heavy wooded areas away from the hot zone. National parks or Bureau of Land Management areas are good. In other words, some place reasonably safe that you can crash at and give yourself time to assess the situation. You may want to stay there if it's a really safe place or you may want to move on until you find a really safe place. That may also depend on how bad things were when you left. If you research this before things get messy, then you are all that more prepared. This area may also be handy for an interim hideout until you get to your safe haven. If you think you're going to be there awhile, make sure your area has some water access. Rocky and hilly terrain is even better as it's easier to defend and blend into.

In summation, the coming "Dark ages" as some phrase it will occur in the most vulnerable states and not the whole country at once. The crisis will be a result of many factors, economic, criminal, natural and government induced. In many areas of dense population, people are nearing the breaking point. We see daily evidence of this. Extremist fringe groups are surfacing and are being egged-on by a Godless media for ratings and the almighty advertising dollar. Inflation and interest rates are on the rise again. Food and fuel costs are rising dramatically. Certain large companies are reporting record profits while the average American's income has dropped. Personal debt is at an all time high. At current rates the interest on the National debt will exceed one-trillion dollars by the year 2000. More families are living at the poverty level than ever before. Almost one-third of the populace is functionally illiterate and on social programs. Teen pregnancies are on the rise and even occurring in pre-teen girls. Government agencies run rough-shot over citizens. FBI agents execute women and children and are slapped on the wrist. Law enforcement continually fails to control lowlife street gangs but always finds the time to harass law abiding citizens about what kind of gun they own. Wealthy liberal-socialist zealots shape our government policies. Komrade Klinton will continue to paint a rosy picture of how everything is better now. As Peter Alan Kassler has said, "The truth is politically incorrect".