

Collecting and Shooting the Military Surplus Rifle



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kivaari's match/target SK



He Who Hesitates Is Lost

Opinion by: [Mark Trope](#)

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I had wanted a certain Mil-Surp arm for the *longest* time. Several acceptable examples came my way. One was offered at my local gun shop, one was seen at a gun show, several were viewed in on-line auctions. All were within fair market value, and most importantly; all were within my price range. Each time I found some lame reason for passing on a good gun...and each time woefully I regretted it.

After my last such *faux pox*, my dear wife of almost 13 years gave me some sage advice. She said: *"If you see something you really want, buy it!"*

Within a matter of a week I found an example of that Mil-Surp arm. Not only was it extremely clean, the price *very* reasonable. I was a happy man!

Now, not every gun on your personal **"MUST HAVE"** list (Mil-Surp or otherwise) is going to be readily available, or within the comfort range of your checkbook. However, if those criteria are met, then I say: *"Go for it!"*

Of course you may have to a quick cell phone meeting with the “household finance committee” before committing community funds to said purchase. However, turn on the charm, beg shamelessly, whatever it takes, and you will leave the store with a new bang stick. But, *don't* wait to make the call; we all have that number on speed dial!

Just recently I was in my favorite gun shop. I saw a certain arm out on display. The gun was in good condition, and the price was *more* than right. It was just too good to pass up!

Just as I decided to buy it, my friend B. walked in and was moving toward the end of the counter where this gun had been. The second he saw it in my hand, the grin on his face told me all I needed to know.

He later verified that he had seen it yesterday, handled it, passed on it, and left the store. Realizing his mistake, he returned with the intention of buying it...5 minutes too late!

“He Who Hesitates Is Lost”

Joseph Addison (1672-1719)

English dramatist

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