

FEBRUARY 1960 50c

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

Guns

HUNTING • SHOOTING • ADVENTURE



**SKI-SHOOT AT
SQUAW VALLEY**

**A CHAMPION
TELLS HOW**



13

**POLICE GUNS
BLAZE AT
COLLEGE MATCH**

CAN HUNTERS OUTSHOOT SKEET-TRAP EXPERTS?

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FEBRUARY, 1960

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KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey,
Comm.: Foreign Relations
Minnesota

CERTAINLY ONE of the chief guarantees of freedom under any government, no matter how popular and respected, is the right of citizens to keep and bear arms. This is not to say that firearms should not be very carefully used, and that definite safety rules of precaution should not be taught and enforced. But the right of citizens to bear arms is just one more guarantee against arbitrary government, one more safeguard against a tyranny which now appears remote in America, but which historically has proved to be always possible.

Congressman John Dowdy,
Comm.: Judiciary; Dist. of Col.
7th Dist., Texas

THE SECOND ARTICLE of the Bill of Rights guaranteeing that the federal government shall not infringe the right of the people to keep and bear arms, is just as important today as it was at its inception. A militia is perhaps more necessary, now, for the preservation of the security of a free state.

We were recently alarmed by the attempt to cause a federal registration of all firearms. Any would-be dictator, whether communist or otherwise, would like nothing better than to have a central record of the name and address of every owner of a weapon. He would be enabled to confiscate all of them, and leave a helpless populace.

Such a plan is a part of a well-considered set of Rules for Revolution, and would constitute impairment and infringement of the right to keep and bear arms. The federal government is barred from impairing this right. This Constitutional bar does not apply to the several states, each of which would necessarily be controlled by its own Constitution and laws.

Senator Joseph S. Clark,
Comm.: Banking & Currency, Labor & Public Welfare,
Post Office & Civil Service
Pennsylvania

"SENATOR CLARK has asked me to acknowledge your letter requesting an expression of his views on the Second Amendment. . . . The Senator has nothing of special interest to say on this subject. . . . Bernard E. Norwitch, Executive Secretary to Senator Clark."

Congressman James A. Haley
Comm.: Indian Affairs; Veterans
7th Dist., Florida

THE SECOND Amendment prevents the infringement by Congress of the right of citizens of the several states to bear arms for a lawful purpose. In my view, the organizing of a State militia (i.e., a home guard, a State Defense Force, or a component of the National Guard) to suppress riots or insurrections is an example of a lawful purpose. The Amendment recognizes the fact that maintenance of the militia is a necessary function of the State. The power of the State to organize and maintain the militia is subject to the power granted to Congress in Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution, but is not limited to the Second Amendment. The Amendment does not give to the citizens of the several States an absolute and unrestricted right to keep and bear arms. There must be some reasonable and necessary relationship between the keeping and bearing of arms and the maintenance of a well regulated militia.

Congressman Samuel N. Friedel
Comm.: House Adm.; Interstate & Foreign Commerce
7th (Balto.) Dist., Maryland

THE SECOND Amendment was enacted at a time when it was necessary for every citizen to be armed for protection against wild animals and Indians. At the same time, not only the British but other countries as well were covetous of this new land.

Today, in a civilized community, we recognize the danger inherent in permitting the general citizenry to roam abroad armed and consequently the use and carrying of firearms has generally been restricted to the Police Force. That this is both wise and necessary cannot be denied.

The term "militia" has, I believe, come to be regarded as synonymous with "National Guard."

From a legal standpoint, our Courts have construed the clause "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed" to mean that the right to bear arms for a lawful purpose shall not be infringed by the Congress or the Federal Government.

