

Author	Thread
SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	Reloading the lever action rifle. Alot of people don't have all the "high-speed" gear and guns that everyone seems to believe are necessary to fight. I'm a big believer in "low-tech, high-skill" so let's look at a tool that is considered somewhat antiquated. Lever action rifles are pretty common throughout the U.S. Most are brush guns that people use for deer hunting, but they can run for S-D if you work out a system of gun-handling. Here's a simple reloading system that I've worked out to help keep the gun up. Most lever guns are longer in stock, reciever and barrel length than carbines, and are a bit more difficult to manage with one hand. Because of this added length we're gonna' use the strong hand to manipulate ammunition and keep the off hand on the forend. Off hand placement is centerline on the gun so this helps balance things out. Also the gate is smaller on a lever gun than say on a pump shot-gun so this makes loading a bit more of a precision affair. Stll yet another reason to use the strong hand to reload. I like to keep spare ammo in the off hand, pinched between my last, third, and second fingers. This gives me the dexterity of my index finger and thumb to manipulate doorknobs etc. I'll pull ammo from the off hand with the strong hand as needed. Think of a lever gun (particularly a big bore with limited ammo capacity) as a "shot one load one" affair. Try and reload when you can and keep the gun topped off. Obviously this is dictated by the flow of the fight. Let's begin from an empty gun. SouthNarc has attached this image: Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! —Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
11-27-2002 03:11 PM	
SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	First thing I'll do is throw the lever down, which opens the action on the empty gun. Keep this movement economical. SouthNarc has attached this image: Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! —Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
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SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	Next, reach up with the strong hand to retrieve a round from the off hand. SouthNarc has attached this image: Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! —Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
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SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	Insert the round in the chamber leading with the nose. Remember these are smaller than shotgun rounds and more likely to roll around in your hand, so I like to feed it in there versus just slapping a round in the chamber like you would with a 12 gauge. Beginning of feed. SouthNarc has attached this image: Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR!









		--Carl Cestari					Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged	
	11-27-2002 03:19 PM							
SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	End of feed, round completely in the chamber. SouthNarc has attached this image: Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! --Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged							
	11-27-2002 03:21 PM							
SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	After the round is chambered, reach down, grab the lever and pull upwards which runs the bolt forward and completely chambers a round. Why do we do this? Because it gets the gun ready to fight even if it is only for one round, and because the reloading process is somewhat slower than with a magazine fed weapon. Anytime while topping off the mag tube, you can fire a round if necessary if you load in this fashion. From here we'll begin to top off the magazine tube. SouthNarc has attached this image: Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! --Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged							
	11-27-2002 03:26 PM							
SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	Reaching with the strong hand to the off hand again we'll begin to retrieve rounds one by one. SouthNarc has attached this image: Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! --Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged							
	11-27-2002 03:28 PM							
SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	Bring the round to the gate and push in and forward with the tip. This opens the gate and allows us to push a round in and forward. Use your thumb to push forward and your finger to push to the side and open the gate in one smooth motion. This get's the round started properly on the correct path into the mag tube. Practice this as sometimes you can hang one if your not smooth. SouthNarc has attached this image: Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! --Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged							
	11-27-2002 03:32 PM							
SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher	Once the round is started on the right path, I'll now use my thumb to continue pushing forward in one smooth motion until it properly seats and locks in the mag tube. SouthNarc has attached this image:							











Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! —Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
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SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	Once this is done, we're back in a firing position ready to go. Repeat the previous steps as needed to top off the gun completely. I posted this mainly because not everyone has the duckies to drop down on a new tricked out M-4 style carbine, and I don't want those who can't afford such to feel like they are handicapped. Also sometimes a lever gun, might be the only thing available, and you should be able to fight efficiently with whatever's at hand. Lever guns are certainly slower than box-magazine weapons sure, but they can be managed provided you work out efficient economical gunhandling skills. Their advantage is usually a bigger round hitting the adversary, like in the case of the one here, a 405 gr. 45-70 round. Remember this is not the way, just a way, and some things to think about. Enjoy! SN SouthNarc has attached this image: Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! —Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
11-27-2002 03:42 PM	
one2gofst BMF Jr. Offline Registered: Apr 2002 Location: Missouri Posts: 988	SNarc, thanks for the PSP. I appreciate it because I don't have the scratch for the type of autoloader I would most like to have, but am thinking aboug getting a lever gun for deer hunting anyhow. One question I do have, about the first round loading into the chamber rather than the feed tube. Would it not be as fast to load the first round into the feed tube and then cycle it into battery. It would seem like the number of steps are the same, but the number of different steps for the whole process is decreased by one. It seems like its just an issue of - open, load, close- vs. -load,open,close- Can you please explain a bit more of the benefits. Thanks. Steve And brothers we shall be, in the fight against tyranny. Power will descend forth from our hand, and our feet shall swiftly kick at our command. And we shall flow forth like the sea and teaming with vengeance shall we ever be. -Mr. Skin Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
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SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	You're welcome Steve. Of the two it's faster to me to load the open chamber than the closed gate just because dropping a round in and slamming it home requires a little less precision than pushing the round in through the gate. Of course that's subjective. Work with both and see which one you prefer. Just remember to keep your motion economical regardless of the one you choose. Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! —Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
11-27-2002 07:32 PM	
Rex G SDF Guru Offline Registered: Sep 2002 Location: Southeast TX Posts: 632	Thanks, SN. Until my department finally let us carry carbines recently, and specified AR15/Mini-14, I never owned a autoloading rifle of any kind, actually preferring lever-actions for being lefty-friendly but ambidextrous. I could not carry a rifle back then on duty anyway, so I just chose what worked for me, on my own time. A Trapper carbine for the tiny trunk of my Jeep, and a Browning BLR for the times length did not matter. I still lust for a 45-70 lever rifle, but there are other more important things already in line, for now. Have Colts, will travel Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
11-27-2002 08:20 PM	



SouthNarc Idiot Thrasher Offline Registered: Feb 2002 Location: MS. Posts: 3089	Quote: Originally posted by Ade Let me answer my own question Now <i>that's</i> what I like to hear!: If you can answer your own questions after applying a principle to the problem, then I've done my job. You're thinking. Cool! Quote: My thought is that I would top off during any lulls, and in the event of shooting it empty, go to loading one-shooting one. There you go! Quote: It seems to me that thousands of WW1 and WW2 soldiers have had this problem solved long ago. Ain't a whole lot real new is there!, Outstanding Ade. Whether the rock hits the mirror, or the mirror hits the rock.....it's ALWAYS BAD FOR THE MIRROR! --Carl Cestari Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
11-28-2002 03:34 PM	
Tony from Finland Heavily armed in Helsinki Offline Registered: Aug 2002 Location: Helsinki, Finland Posts: 1142	Damn... I've lusted after a lever action rifle (well carbine, actually) since I was a little kid. Never did get one though. ☹ Otherwise, I'd let you know my thoughts on the reloading with the weak hand-thing. ☹ (Being a leftie, having done quite a bit of my FMA training with the right hand (should result in increased dexterity with that hand), and preferring to keep my "shooting hand" put, I imagine I might feel using the weak hand to be quicker... (After looking at the pics again: not to mention the fact the port is on the right side of the gun. Duh... ☹) But unfortunately can't verify since I don't have that sort of gun to play with. ☹) Just your average Finnish metalhead/goth-type knifewielding gun-nut Cultivating a relaxed state of paranoia k1u8a2u02@sneakemail.com Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
11-28-2002 10:57 PM	
Ade Anti-ULF League MEMBER Offline Registered: Oct 2002 Location: Eastern Kentucky Posts: 226	SouthNarc, Better lay off the encouragment man... I might start getting used to it, and then have to start thinking for myself all of time. Can't have that, now can we? You'd be out of a job. ☹ Seriously though, thank you. Your original post was what prompted the thinking. Being able to effectively convey useful information AND make people think at the same time (especially via internet) is a rare skill. You really should try teaching this stuff professionally. Thanks again. Ade Report this post to a moderator IP: Logged
11-29-2002 02:10 AM	
grime! FatMan on a roll! Offline Registered: Sep 2002 Location: The Atomic City Posts: 1415	Tony, A Trapper carbine in 44mag/45LC and you can reload via the gate with your weak hand quite easily. Keep the butt inplace, using your right hand stuff the round into the tube. If you can do a little visualization, the obvious advantage is easy to spot - for LH folks the loading gate is eye level making it VERY easy to observe what the RH is doing. Consider your theory to have been proven correct. It even makes for easy top offs from prone. BTW, a Rossi M92 44mag is my home long gun. ☹ The simple fact is, there are people out there who are nothing more than a bipedal cheeseburger. They're a self propelled snack pack looking for someone to eat them. There is no helping the truly consumable among us. - Ken Cook Never attribute to maliciousness that which can adequatly explained by stupidity. Losing is unacceptable

The best laid plans of mice and men sometimes go awry.

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11-29-2002 04:55 AM

Rex G
SDF Guru

Offline

Registered: Sep 2002
Location: Southeast TX
Posts: 632

I don't think Marlin makes any break down rifles right now. The 1895 in .45-70 is "only" 37 inches w/ an 18.5" barrel. The 336 in .30-30 is 38" w/ 20" barrel. I want to get me a .45-70 since there is no limit on caliber for hunting in Missouri and I like the idea of the big bore.

Have Colts, will travel

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11-29-2002 06:58 AM

one2gofst
BMF Jr.

Offline

Registered: Apr 2002
Location: Missouri
Posts: 988

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Steve

And brothers we shall be, in the fight against tyranny. Power will descend forth from our hand, and our feet shall swiftly kick at our command. And we shall flow forth like the sea and teaming with vengeance shall we ever be.

-Mr. Skin

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11-29-2002 07:15 AM

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