THE STEEL TARIFFS WERE A MINIMALIST APPROACH TO GUN CONTROL

Decades have passed us by in America as we've been introduced to the realities of gun usage within our borders and well beyond. It is the common tool of war which has existed since the days of black beard sailing the oceans. The times of hand sorted gun powder dumped inside the small compartment on a long rifle are well documented as the beginning of machinical controlled hunting of game for basic survival. As time has taught us, technologic advances perfected each stage of the historical dynamical changes in weapontry. Just as once men and women utilized such items for hunting, today we've seen history catch up to us from the security prospective and not just as a element of career choice especially by women. Now is the counter balance of war, criminal action, community policing, and women in sports as a signatured competitive device along the side of male hunters. As with golf, women spend hours training at shooting ranges to improve their skills and be considered a viable opponent. Despite the disapproval and sexist expectations, guns have transformed our lives and our homes to the extent of decades of pleas to minimize access. It seems almost weird that the growth in ownership even in 2020 has not changed the minds of those who fear being at the other end of a trigger abled persons gun.

The rules have adjusted to befit our cries of survival in the valuation of life, yet, the sales and use are suggesting almost half of the country are permitted, licensed weapon owners and carriers. Each time we have crimes of rage or domestic mismanagement injuring one or the numerous many (mass shootings) there are activist bodies who protest and politic to reduce the ability to bear arms and hence reduce these violent shootings. Each time the outcomes are ineffective seemingly at reducing public interest in sales and gun usage. Just understand the statistics of gun sales for 2020 have risen a sure sidekick to the background checks for ownership amassing above 20 million.

However, most interesting as an aide to gun user ability in use was the imposed 'steel tariffs' under the Trump administration. As of early summer 2020, materials became pricier. This one decision has proven to provide a break in the fight for gun control as a supply and demand caustionary measure. The manufacturing production rate of ammunition declined as cost increased for steel and other raw material such as lead, copper, and brass pertinent to the process inadvertantly became inaccessible. Outside of the conspiracy theories of, stock piling ammunition for government selling only to the wealthy individuals there are the claims of price gouging and manufacturers having shifted production for the less popular guns, is the truth in this present day tariff instillation on steel. No matter what the alternative reason, this shortage is anticpated to extend deeply into the 2021 year.

Sure, we can all count on this COVID-19 pandemic were stuck within as being a causation of supply lines for such material and components becoming non-existent but it is thought best as the duality of the virus and cost effectiveness change through the government sanctions placed upon the steel industry. These higher prices for consumer purchase are reflective of the attached tariffs. There is also the reduction in 'truck' able transportation in response to their COVID restrictions and their

inability to 'import' ammunition from other countries unless through a FFL [Federal Firearms License dealer].

After the Trump administrations decision was inacted, hot nor cold rolled steel supplies were in short supply if not depleted as unfulfilled orders became a constant. In fact, it is said the industry supplies were at the highest cost levels seen in 13 years. Some have been asking Biden to terminate the tariffs as others urged him to keep them in place. Especially knowing it has pushed to promote 'domestic' steel pricing and access as most attractive.

It would seem that if those in mid-cycle of campaigning for better gun control would count the decision to tax steel and furthermore, the 'shortage of ammunition' for them, it is an indirect measure in support of their fight with capitol hill.



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