Congratulations on your purchase of an AKMS rifle featuring an underfolding metal stock. With proper care, maintenance and handling, it will give you long, reliable service.

We specifically disclaim any responsibility for damage or injury whatsoever, occurring as a result of the use of faulty, non-standard or remanufactured ammunition, any modifications or changes made to the firearm; improper use or unsafe handling of the firearm.

FIREARMS SAFETY IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SHOOTER. ALWAYS TREAT ALL FIREARMS AS IF THEY WERE LOADED AT ALL TIMES!

IMPORTANT!
READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS IN THIS BOOKLET BEFORE USING THIS FIREARM.
IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGE

Children are attracted to and can operate firearms which can cause severe injuries or death. Prevent child access by always keeping guns locked away and unloaded, when not in use. If you keep a loaded firearm where a child obtains and improperly uses it, you may be fined or sent to prison.

Firearm Safety Depends on You

A gun is only as safe as the person operating it. You can never be overly careful when handling a firearm. Carelessness is often the cause of shooting accidents, such as failing to keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, not being sure of your target and what is behind it, failing to engage the safety properly, leaving ammunition in the chamber or using improper loads. Since a bullet can never be called back once fired, such errors in gun handling can result in the loss of life, severe injury or property damage. It is thus crucial for your safety and the safety of those around you that you learn the principles of safe gun handling and storage before you begin to use your new firearm. Be a safe shooter! Please read this instruction book thoroughly, even if this is not your first firearm purchase, as not all firearms are the same. The first step in being a safe shooter is to learn the rules for the safe operation and handling of firearms. **There is nothing more important in gun handling than safety.**

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF FIREARM SAFETY

The Ten Commandments of Firearm Safety must be etched into your memory before you begin to handle firearms. These rules are intended to be followed by all persons handling firearms in the field, on the range or at home. Please read, review and understand these rules before you begin to use or even take your new firearm out of its box. Remember, firearms safety depends on you! Memorizing these safety rules will help prevent gun accidents. Please study these safety rules before handling your firearm.

**Commandment #1**

*Always Keep the Muzzle Pointed in a Safe Direction*

This is the most basic and most important safety rule. A safe direction is one in which an accidental discharge will not cause injury to yourself, to others or property damage. This is particularly important when loading or unloading your firearm. Never point your gun at anything you do not intend to shoot. Treat every gun as if it were loaded at all times.

**Commandment #2**

*Firearms Should Be Unloaded When Not Actually in Use*

Firearms should only be loaded when you are in the field or on the target range or shooting area, ready to shoot. When not in use, firearms and ammunition should be secured in a safe place, separate from each other. Remember to unload your firearm completely, so that there is no ammunition in the chamber or magazine. Before handling this or any firearm, or handing it to someone else, visually check the chamber and magazine to ensure they do not contain ammunition. Always keep the gun’s action open when not in use. Never assume a gun is unloaded -- even if you were the last person to use it. Never cross a fence, climb a tree, wade through a stream or perform any awkward movement with a loaded gun. When in doubt, unload your gun! Never pull or push a loaded firearm...
toward yourself or another person. And, never carry a loaded gun in a scabbard, a holster not being worn or a gun case. Common sense prevails in gun safety!

Commandment #3
Don’t Completely Rely on Your Gun’s Safety
Treat every gun as though it could fire at any time, even if you are not applying pressure to the trigger. The “safety” on a firearm is a mechanical device which, like any such device, can become inoperable at the worst possible time and fail to function. By mistake, you may think the safety is “ON” when it actually is not. Or, you may think your gun is unloaded when there is actually a round of ammunition in it. The safety serves as a supplement to proper gun handling, but cannot serve as a substitute for common sense. Never handle a gun carelessly and assume that the gun won’t fire, just because “the safety is on.” Never touch the firearm’s trigger until you are ready to shoot. Keep your fingers away from the trigger when loading or unloading. Never pull the trigger when the safety is engaged or when the safety is positioned between the “SAFE” and “FIRE” positions. Never place your finger on the trigger unless you intend to fire.

Alcohol, Drugs and Guns Don’t Mix. Make No Mistake About It!
Never handle firearms after consuming alcohol or taking drugs that can affect your judgment. Shoot sober! Alcohol, certain kinds of drugs and firearms don’t mix. Safe firearms handling requires alertness and concentration on one’s actions. You cannot handle a firearm safely after consuming alcohol. Never consume anything that can impair your judgment or physical coordination when handling a firearm.

Commandment #4
Be Sure of Your Target - And What Is Beyond It!
Once fired, a bullet (or shot charge) can never be called back; so, before you shoot know where the bullet is going and what it will strike. Be certain your shot will not injure someone or strike something beyond the target. Never fire in the direction of noise, a movement or at any object you cannot positively identify. Be aware that a .22 Short bullet can travel over 1-1/4 miles. A centerfire cartridge, such as the .30-06, can send its bullet over 3-miles. Shotgun pellets can travel 500-yards and a shotgun slug has a range of over a half-mile. Make sure your shot has a safe backstop, such as a hillside. Keep in mind how far the bullet will travel if it misses your intended target. Once fired, a bullet can never be called back. You are responsible for your actions and judgment.

Commandment #5
Use the Correct Ammunition
Every firearm is designed to use a certain caliber or gauge of ammunition. It is important that you use the correct ammunition for your firearm. Information on the correct ammunition to use with your firearm appears in the firearm’s instruction manual and the manufacturer’s markings on the firearm itself. Use of the wrong ammunition, improperly reloaded ammunition or corroded ammunition can result in the destruction of the firearm, serious personal injury and/or death. Form the habit of examining every round of ammunition before you put it into your gun to ensure it is of the proper gauge or caliber and that it is in good condition.
Commandment #6
If Your Gun Fails to Fire When the Trigger Is Pulled, Handle With Care
If a cartridge or shell does not fire when the trigger is pulled, follow Commandment #1 and keep the firearm’s muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Keeping the muzzle pointed away from your face and anything you do not intend to shoot, wait at least 30 seconds (to ensure that the ammunition is not delayed in firing) before carefully opening the action, unloading the firearm and disposing of the ammunition safely.

Commandment #7
Always Wear Eye and Ear Protection When Shooting
Exposure to shooting noise can permanently damage hearing and flying debris, such as powder residue and ejected cartridge cases, can injure your eyes. Thus, it is only common sense to wear both eye protection (such as shooting glasses) and ear protection (such as a sound muffling headset) whenever shooting. Also, wear eye protection when cleaning or disassembling your gun, to ensure that cleaning solvent and tensioned parts (such as springs) do not come into contact with your eyes.

Commandment #8
Be Sure the Barrel Is Clear of Obstructions Before Shooting
Discharging a firearm with an obstruction in the barrel can result in personal injury, property damage or death. Before you load your firearm, check the chamber and magazine to ascertain that no ammunition is inside. Also, check the inside of the barrel (called the “bore”) to ensure it is free of obstructions. Even a small amount of mud, snow or excess lubricating oil or grease in the bore can cause excessive pressures resulting in a bulged or burst barrel which can injure or kill the shooter and bystanders. It’s a good idea to make a habit of cleaning the bore and checking for obstructions with a cleaning rod just before each shooting session. If the noise or recoil experienced upon firing seems low or weak, or something doesn’t feel “right,” cease firing immediately and check to make sure that there is no obstruction in the barrel. Placing an undersized shell or cartridge into a gun (such as a 20-gauge shell in a shotgun chambered for 12-gauge ammunition) can result in the smaller round of ammunition falling into the barrel and acting as an obstruction. When a round is subsequently fired, the barrel may burst, causing injury to the shooter and bystanders. For reference, re-read Commandment #5.

Commandment #9
Do Not Alter or Modify Your Gun and Have It Serviced Regularly
Firearms are complex mechanisms that are designed to function properly in their original condition. Any alterations or changes made to a firearm after its manufacture can make the gun unsafe and will void its warranty. Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others by altering the trigger, mechanical safety or other mechanisms of your firearm. You should have your firearm periodically checked for proper functioning and serviced by a qualified gunsmith.

Commandment #10
Learn the Mechanical and Handling Characteristics of Your Firearm
Not all firearms operate the same way. The method of carrying, handling and operating firearms varies with the mechanical characteristics of each gun. Thus, you
should never handle any firearm until you become familiar with the safe handling, loading, unloading and carrying procedures for that particular firearm, as well as the rules for safe gun handling in general.

**LEAD WARNING!**
Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms or handling ammunition may result in exposure to lead and other substances known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm and other serious injury. Have adequate ventilation at all times when shooting. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure.

**Basics of Safe Gun Handling**
1. Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
2. Firearms should be unloaded when not actually in use.
3. Don’t totally rely on your gun’s safety.
4. Be sure of your target and what’s beyond it.
5. Use the correct ammunition for your firearm.
6. If your gun fails to fire when the trigger is pulled, handle with care.
7. Always wear eye and ear protection when shooting and cleaning.
8. Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions before shooting.
9. Don’t alter or modify your firearm and have your firearm(s) serviced regularly.
10. Learn the mechanics and handling characteristics of the firearm you are using.

**Safe gun handling depends on you! A safe shooter is a knowledgeable shooter.**

**IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE**
The AKMS Semi-Auto Rifle is manufactured from surplus and new firearm parts. As with all surplus products made from used parts, it should be carefully inspected before use, preferably by a competent gunsmith! This is to ensure your safety and the safety of those around you.

**Background**
The AKMS represents an upgrade from our basic Romanian underfolding rifle. Beautiful laminated wood grain handguards, ergonomic pistol grip, and a steel reinforced underfolding buttstock all combine for a refined look and feel. This rifle accepts standard AK magazines and accessories.

**Operational Characteristics**
The AK functions much like other semi-automatic rifles in that once a loaded magazine is inserted and the bolt cocked, the operator needs only to pull the trigger and the mechanism fires a round, ejects the empty cartridge case and feeds another fresh round into the chamber.

**Specifications**

**Adjusting Sights**
To adjust the front sight for elevation, turn the front sight post clockwise to move the strike of the bullet up. Counter-clockwise to move strike of bullet down. (See Illustration #1.) To adjust for windage drift the front sight post. (See Illustration #2.) For example, if the strike of the bullet is...
To adjust the front sight for elevation, turn the front sight post clockwise.

To adjust for windage, drift the front sight post.

Rear sight close-up.

To Operate the Folding Stock
Depress the hinge button (See Illustration #4) while exerting pressure downward on the stock. The stock will fold underneath rifle’s receiver. (See Illustration #5.) To re-deploy the stock, depress the hinge button while exerting pressure downward to swing it back into place for use as a buttstock.

Diagram showing major operational parts of the AKMS Semi-Auto Rifle
Study of this picture will aid you in understanding the instructions in this booklet.
WARNING! Always ensure that the ammunition you are using is clean, undamaged and of the proper caliber, before loading your rifle. The manufacturer and distributor of this rifle disclaim any liability for the use of remanufactured, reloaded or hand-loaded ammunition. Protect your investment in this fine firearm by using only factory fresh, quality ammunition. The use of improper caliber or low quality ammunition could result in injury, death and/or property damage upon firing. Remember, firearms safety depends on you!

WARNING! To minimize the risk of personal injury, death or property damage, magazine loading should only be done when you are about to shoot.

WARNING! Before loading, make sure the inside of the barrel is free of dirt or other obstructions.

WARNING! Always check each cartridge to ensure it is of the correct caliber before loading the firearm.

WARNING! Keep fingers away from the trigger while loading.

WARNING! Keep muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

WARNING! The safety lever should not extend below the safety lever stop on the bottom of the receiver or rise past the dust cover. If it does, put the lever in the safe position by rotating it either up or down into the safe position. If this occurs, have the rifle inspected by a competent gunsmith, before further use.

To Load the Magazine

1. Place the safety lever in the “SAFE” position. The safety lever is in the “SAFE” position when it is moved to its uppermost (top) position on the receiver. You should hear an audible “click” when it is correctly in place. (See Illustration #7.) **NOTE:** When the safety lever is in its lower position on the receiver, the safety lever is in the “FIRE” position. (See Illustration #8.)

2. If the magazine is installed in the rifle, press the magazine release lever (located on the bottom of the trigger guard) forward and pull the magazine from the rifle. (See Illustration #9.)

3. Place a round of ammunition of the proper caliber (7.62x39mm) between the lips of the magazine with the bullet forward.
4. Press the round down until it is held by the magazine's lips. (See Illustration #10.)
5. Place the next round on top of the previous round and continue in this manner until the desired number of rounds are loaded (30 rounds maximum depending on jurisdiction).

**To Load the Rifle**

1. Place the safety lever in the “SAFE” position. The safety lever is in the “SAFE” position when it is moved to its uppermost (top) position on the receiver. You should hear an audible “click” when it is correctly in place. (See Illustration #7.) **NOTE: When the safety lever is in its lower position on the receiver, the safety lever is in the “FIRE” position. (See Illustration #8.)**

   **WARNING!** Pulling the trigger when the safety lever is in this lower position will result in the rifle firing a round. To avoid serious injury, death or causing property damage, make sure you know the “SAFE” and “FIRE” positions of the safety lever, before attempting to load your rifle!

2. Install the loaded magazine by tilting it rearward then inserting the front catch surface into the receiver so that it latches on the magazine catch surface on the front wall of the magazine well. Next, rotate the bottom of the magazine rearward until the magazine release lever locks onto the rear locking surface of the magazine. Pull on the magazine lightly to ensure it is securely locked into position. (See Illustration #9.)

3. Keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, move the safety lever downward to the “F” or “FIRE” position. (See Illustration #8.)

4. Pull back the operating handle to its fully-rearward position and release. As it moves rapidly forward under spring pressure, the bolt will strip a round from the magazine and insert it into the chamber of the barrel, readying the rifle for firing. (See Illustration #11.)

   **WARNING!** The rifle is now loaded with a round in the chamber and the hammer is cocked. Handle with care!

   **WARNING!** The rifle is now loaded and will fire if the safety lever is moved to the “FIRE” position and the trigger is pulled! Handle with extreme caution and keep the muzzle (the end of the barrel) pointed in a safe direction!
To Fire the Rifle
1. Keeping the 10 Commandments of Shooting Safety in mind, aim the rifle downrange at the target.
2. Release the safety lever by moving it fully downward until it covers the stamped “F” (meaning “FIRE”) position.
3. Place the trigger finger inside the trigger guard and on the trigger.
4. After aligning the sights on the target, slowly press the trigger rearward to fire the first round.
5. Being a semi-automatic, after the first round is fired, the rifle’s action (its moving parts) will cycle and, as the bolt moves rearward, the extractor will pull the empty cartridge case from the chamber and eject it from the rifle (make sure there are no bystanders in close proximity on either side of the rifle, who could be hit and injured by the ejected cartridge casing; remember that recently ejected brass is also very hot).
6. Firing may be continued in this manner until the magazine is empty.
7. When firing is finished, place the safety lever in its “ON” or “SAFE” position by rotating it fully upward.
8. Remove the magazine from the rifle.
9. Check the rifle’s chamber, to ensure that it does not contain a round of ammunition, by first placing the rifle’s safety lever on “FIRE,” pulling the operating handle rearward and looking into the chamber while keeping the rifle pointed in a safe direction. Return lever to “SAFE” position.

**WARNING!** If the trigger is again pressed, the rifle will fire! Keep rifle pointed in a safe direction.

**WARNING!** Always unload your rifle immediately after use and prior to cleaning and storage, in order to minimize the risk of an accidental discharge. If your rifle ever fails to fire, keep it pointed at the target for at least 30 seconds, in the event of a “hangfire” (slow ignition). If the round still does not fire, remove magazine, eject and dispose of the bad round per the ammunition manufacturer’s recommendation. Reload the rifle to resume firing. Should a subsequent failure to fire occur, follow the same procedure to “clear” the rifle and have the rifle and ammunition inspected by a competent gunsmith, before further use.

**WARNING!** The rifle will fire if the magazine is removed and if the trigger is pulled when a cartridge is in the chamber.

**WARNING!** Any firearm, if dropped, could fire if there is a cartridge in the chamber.

Unloading the Rifle
**WARNING!** Keep the rifle’s muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

1. Place the safety lever in the “ON” or “SAFE” position by moving it to its fully upward position. You should hear and audible “click” when it is in place. This position prevents trigger movement. (See Illustration #7.)
2. Remove the magazine by pressing forward on the magazine release lever, while pulling the magazine out of the rifle, begin this by rocking the magazine slightly forward. (See Illustration #9.)
3. Pull the operating handle rearward and look into the open action to ensure there is no remaining cartridge in the barrel chamber. (See Illustration #11.)
4. When storing the rifle, it is a good idea to keep the safety lever in the “ON” or “SAFE” position. Store the magazine and ammunition in a separate place from the rifle.
Rifle Disassembly (Field Stripping the Rifle)

**WARNING!** Wear eye protection, such as shooting glasses or goggles when disassembling your firearm to protect your eyes from tensioned parts, such as springs, that could be dislodged during disassembly.

**WARNING!** Before beginning the disassembly process, check to ensure the firearm is unloaded. To do so, follow the procedures detailed previously in this manual.

1. Remove the magazine from the rifle. (See Illustrations #9.)
2. Move the safety lever to the "FIRE" position by rotating the safety lever downward. (See Illustration #8.)
3. Check the rifle's chamber to ensure it does not contain a round.
4. While maintaining a safe muzzle direction, remove the dust cover by holding the rifle in a secure position (across your lap, resting on a table, etc.) and grasping the forward part of the buttstock with your right hand. Press the recoil spring cam forward and into the hole on the rear of the dust cover with your right thumb. Then raise the dust cover from the back end first with your left hand. (See Illustration #12.)
5. Remove the recoil spring assembly from the rifle by holding the forward portion of the receiver with your left hand and pressing on the back of the recoil spring cam with your right hand until its rear face leaves the groove in the rear of the receiver. Lift the receiver top cover and remove the recoil spring assembly from the bolt carrier channel. (See Illustration #13.)

6. Remove the bolt carrier and bolt from the rifle by holding the forward portion of the receiver with your left hand and the cocking handle with your right hand. Pull the bolt carrier and bolt to the rear as far as possible. Once the back of the bolt carrier contacts the back plate of the receiver, release forward pressure on the operating handle, this will allow the bolt carrier to move up and off the receiver rails. Lift the rear portion of the bolt carrier and remove it and the bolt from the receiver. (See Illustration #14.)
7. Remove the bolt from the bolt carrier by turning the bolt carrier over and holding it in your left hand. Rotate what is now the top of the bolt to the right and move it rearward with your right hand so that the guide lug on the bolt leaves the channel in the bolt carrier. You can now remove the bolt from the bolt carrier by moving it forward and out of its guide hole. (See Illustration #15.)

8. Remove the gas tube assembly and upper handguard from the rifle by holding the forward portion of the receiver with your left hand and rotating the gas tube lock arm upward until the flat face of the gas tube lock is vertical with your right hand. Then lift the gas tube end vertically out of its groove in the rear sight base and remove the front end of the gas tube from the gas block. (See Illustration #16.)

NO FURTHER DISASSEMBLY IS GENERALLY NEEDED FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE.

Rifle Reassembly
Reassemble your rifle by reversing disassembly steps 1-8.

To Clean the Rifle

WARNING! You should wear eye protection, such as shooting glasses or goggles, when cleaning your firearm, in order to protect your eyes from tensioned parts, such as springs, that could become dislodged during disassembly.

WARNING! Before beginning the cleaning process, check to ensure the rifle is unloaded. To do so, while keeping the rifle's muzzle pointed in a safe direction, place the safety lever in the “ON” or “SAFE” position by moving it fully upward until an audible click is heard. (See Illustration #7.) Remove the magazine and set it aside. Check the chamber by placing the safety lever in the lower “FIRE” position, then retracting the operating handle and looking into the open action in order to ensure there is no cartridge in the barrel chamber. Move the safety lever to its upward “SAFE” position. Firearms can inflict death or serious injury. You can never be “too safe.”

1. Obtain a quality firearm cleaning kit and thoroughly review its instructions provided.
2. To disassemble the firearm, refer to the disassembly section starting on page 10 of this manual.
3. To clean the barrel, select the correct caliber cleaning brush and attach it to a cleaning rod. **Note:** Always clean the barrel from the chamber end to the muzzle.
4. Dampen the brush with gun cleaning solvent and then push the brush through the barrel several times.
5. Remove the brush and attach a correctly sized cloth cleaning patch to the cleaning rod and push it through the barrel several times to remove loosened fouling.
6. Repeat this process with the brush and cleaning patches until a final patch comes out clean after swabbing the bore. Lightly oil the bore.
7. Remove shooting residue from the rifle's action parts and outer surfaces by wiping them with a soft cloth dabbed in gun cleaning solvent. Then be sure to remove all excess solvent and dry them.

8. Finally, wipe down all outer surfaces with a soft cloth dipped in a good quality gun oil.

**Cleaning Intervals**

Always clean your rifle as soon as possible after firing, in order to prevent buildup of shooting residue and to prevent corrosion from starting. To maintain your rifle in good working order, it should be cleaned once or twice per year, if in low-humidity environments, even if the rifle has not been fired. In a high humidity area, it may prove necessary to clean your rifle as often as once each week. **Note: In freezing weather (below 32 degrees F or 0 degrees C), the use of a dry lubricant (instead of oil) for lubrication may work better.**

**WARNING!** Excessive use of cleaning solvents or lubricants can adversely affect your firearm's functioning. Wipe the inside of the barrel dry before firing and ensure it is free of obstructions.

**WARNING!** Some cleaning solvents produce hazardous vapors. Read and follow the solvent manufacturer’s cautions found on the product’s package.

**WARNING!** This firearm should be checked periodically for worn or damaged parts by a competent gunsmith. This will help ensure its safe functioning and a long service life.

**WARNING!** There may be sharp edges on parts of the firearm. Keep fingers protected, such as by wearing a pair of protective gloves when cleaning.

**WARNING!** Handling ammunition and cleaning firearms results in exposure to lead and other substances that can pose health risks. Wash your hands and face after firing your rifle, or after cleaning it.

**Storage**

When putting your rifle away for storage, it should be thoroughly cleaned and lightly lubricated. Outside surfaces should be wiped with a light coat of good quality gun oil. **CHECK TO ENSURE THE RIFLE IS UNLOADED BEFORE STORING IT IN A LOCATION SEPARATE FROM ITS AMMUNITION.** When the rifle is to be re-used, remove all excess lubrication before firing. Make sure the bore (the interior of the barrel) is dry and free of obstructions before firing. **Note: The use of reloaded, remanufactured, hand-loaded or other non-standard ammunition may result in damage to the rifle and injury or death to the shooter and/or bystanders. The manufacturer and importer cannot accept responsibility for malfunctions resulting from the use of non-standard, defective ammunition.**