

## **How Far Would You Go?**

**By Joseph Parish**

When we consider any major disaster scenario where we would need to get home from where we work to protect our family, we encounter many options which enter the picture. We start to think "A-Team Tactics" when we are hard pressed to come up with ideas. My question to my readers is just how far would you go to get home?

Let's briefly look at a scenario and see how you would handle it. It has been said that the most likely time for a national disaster such as foreign attack to take place would be on a weekday between the hours of 8 AM and 5 PM eastern time. Suppose you are at work in a major city and your normal routine was to travel from your small-town location in the outskirts of the city to your work location on a daily basis. After your work is completed you retrace your steps back to your small town once again. If it happens during this time frame you may be at your place of business say 40 miles or so from your home. Are there bridges which you must cross? Are there bottleneck highways which may hinder your return home? What if EMP has disabled the entire fleet of vehicles which are on the highway?

No problem you say, it now time to set out on foot. You generally keep a set of Jeans with a basic, plain shirt in your vehicle along with some generic work boots so you are all set to "hoof it" home. Your goal will then be to keep a low profile, and avoid the dangerous masses. Somehow you would need to get home to your family to where it is the safest.

You will generally have at least a few hours or even several days before you notice the ill effects of a major breakdown in our infrastructure. Chances are you will not immediately see roaming street gangs out, and about so quickly. You won't see pro criminal types out grabbing the fleeing individual's belongings, but you might see widespread looting taking place.

Attacks on the common man will likely hold off until the power in the city has been off for a several days, or the food supply starts to run low or lastly when fresh water is no longer obtainable. It would not be unheard of to consider these time frames as a window of calm after the shattering event occurs, and before the real problems start to happen. Escape and evade will be the top priority. There should be little trouble accomplishing this at this point in time. You must do what your immediate circumstances dictate. These are the times you will need to make a firm decision, and depart the city immediately. If you happen to get caught up in the mass exit from the metropolis then you are simply not thinking fast enough. You must have enough insight to be either partially, or completely departed from the city when the curtain finally lowers. Don't be fooled for one moment as timing will be everything. The key will be to get out fast, and with any supplies you may need to make your way home. Don't wait for a personal invitation, because than it may be too late.

There are several options at your disposal which you may consider. The first is portraying yourself as someone you are not. Would you try to pass yourself off as a member of the military, or perhaps as a law enforcement officer to get through the various road blocks that are likely to be erected along your way?

Often the use of ones "Wits" is overlooked in a survival situation where in fact they could be your most important tool. Do you have an old military ID card that you kept from your service days as a souvenir? Any official looking documents that you could resurrect to use in your favor? Fake IDs, and the proper BS just might get you past a difficult road block.

Am I suggesting the possibility of impersonating a Law Enforcement Officer, or a soldier? Yes, I realize that both these actions are illegal, and could net you a worse fate than perhaps the one you are trying to evade. When we consider these types of actions, we must also weigh clearly on the consequences of them. It is a federal offense to impersonate a military soldier. It is likely that in situations of dire emergency you would not wish to be incarcerated in a federal prison, or a local jail so such actions must be carefully considered.

You might think this is a bad idea, and consider forgoing your fake persona in favor of keeping a low profile where you do not draw much attention to yourself. That would be a safe way to handle the issue. However, impersonating an officer of the law, or a military member may be illegal right now according to the rules of the game but these rules often change when the balloon goes up. When it comes down to a choice between breaking that law, and surviving your course of action is clear and to the point for most people.

I would venture to say that all legal ramifications are nil once the balloon has reached its breaking point. The topic to be made here is if you are not prepared to go all the way towards surviving, why start to prepare at all?