

# Packing & the Friendly Skies



Why Transporting Firearms May Be The Best Way To Safeguard Your Tech When You Fly

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you may have seen me before...



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i speak at lots of cons...



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many of which i can't drive to...



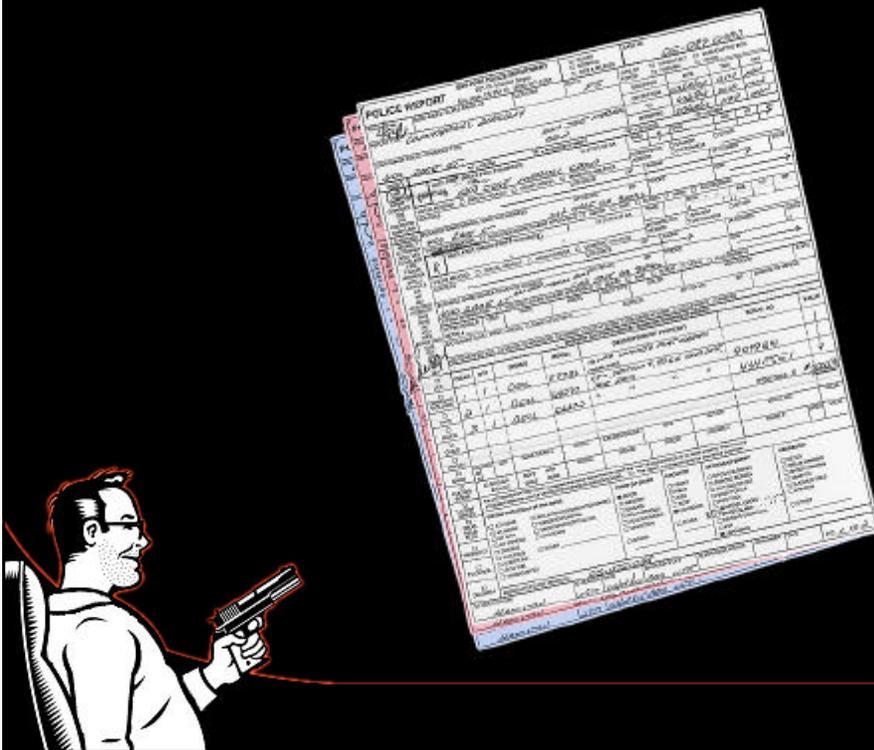
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my bags used to get opened a lot



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... and not always by the TSA



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nowadays i lock all my gear



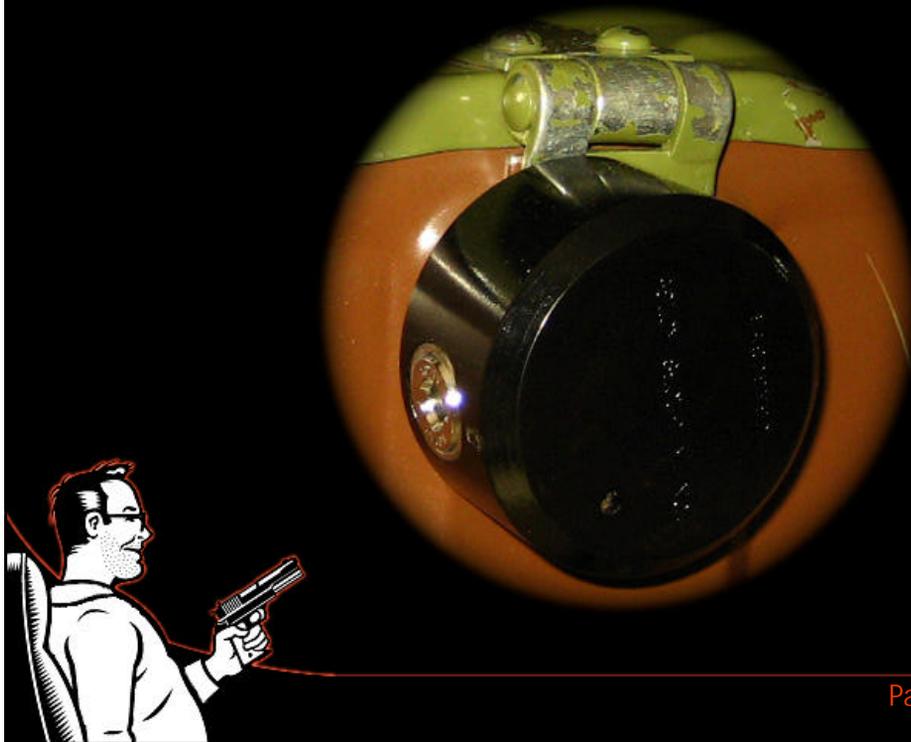
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notice... these are *not* TSA locks



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but proper heavy-duty padlocks



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how is this allowed



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simple, really...



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now, i fly with firearms all the time



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## flying with firearms...

- it's easier than you think
- it's relatively hassle-free
- it results in *major* security



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## facts and the law...

- federal standards  
(mostly uniform, specifics can vary by airline... but no one can abridge your rights)
- checked bag only, unloaded  
(do i really have to tell you that?)
- non-TSA lock  
(no one else gets the key or combo)
- declared upon check-in



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## specifics about packing...

- **hard case, size can vary**  
(i'll assume you'll use larger luggage to leverage the law to your advantage)
- **ammo policies can vary a lot by airline**  
(how it's packed, how much you can carry, same luggage or separately)
- **bags may not be opened once secured**  
(unless you are present)
- **no outside indicator labels of any kind**  
(27 CFR 478.31 - Delivery by Common or Contract Carrier, 18 USC Section 922e)



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how the procedure works  
and what to expect...



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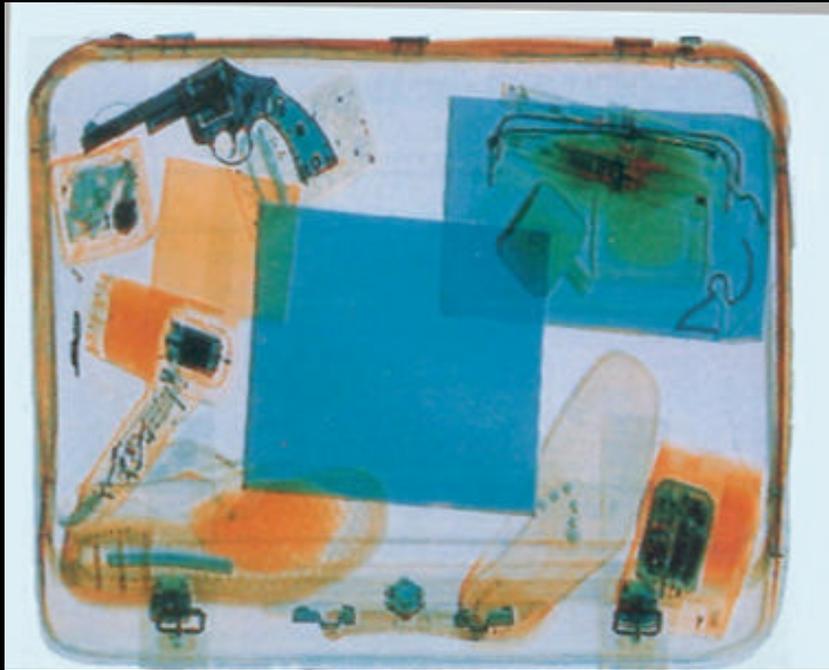
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some extra pointers that can  
make the whole process  
easier, better, faster, stronger...



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## extra pointers...

- don't be a dumbass when you declare
- name tags on everything, inside and out
- keep cases **locked** as much as possible  
(better to be asked five times to open them than to send them away unsecured)
- getting to secondary screening area
- **no** outside indicator labels of any kind  
(that's US federal law, other nations have own standards)



Federal law states: "No common or contract carrier shall require or cause any label, tag, or other written notice to be placed on the outside of any package, luggage, or other container that such package, luggage, or other container contains a firearm." 18 USC Section 922(e)

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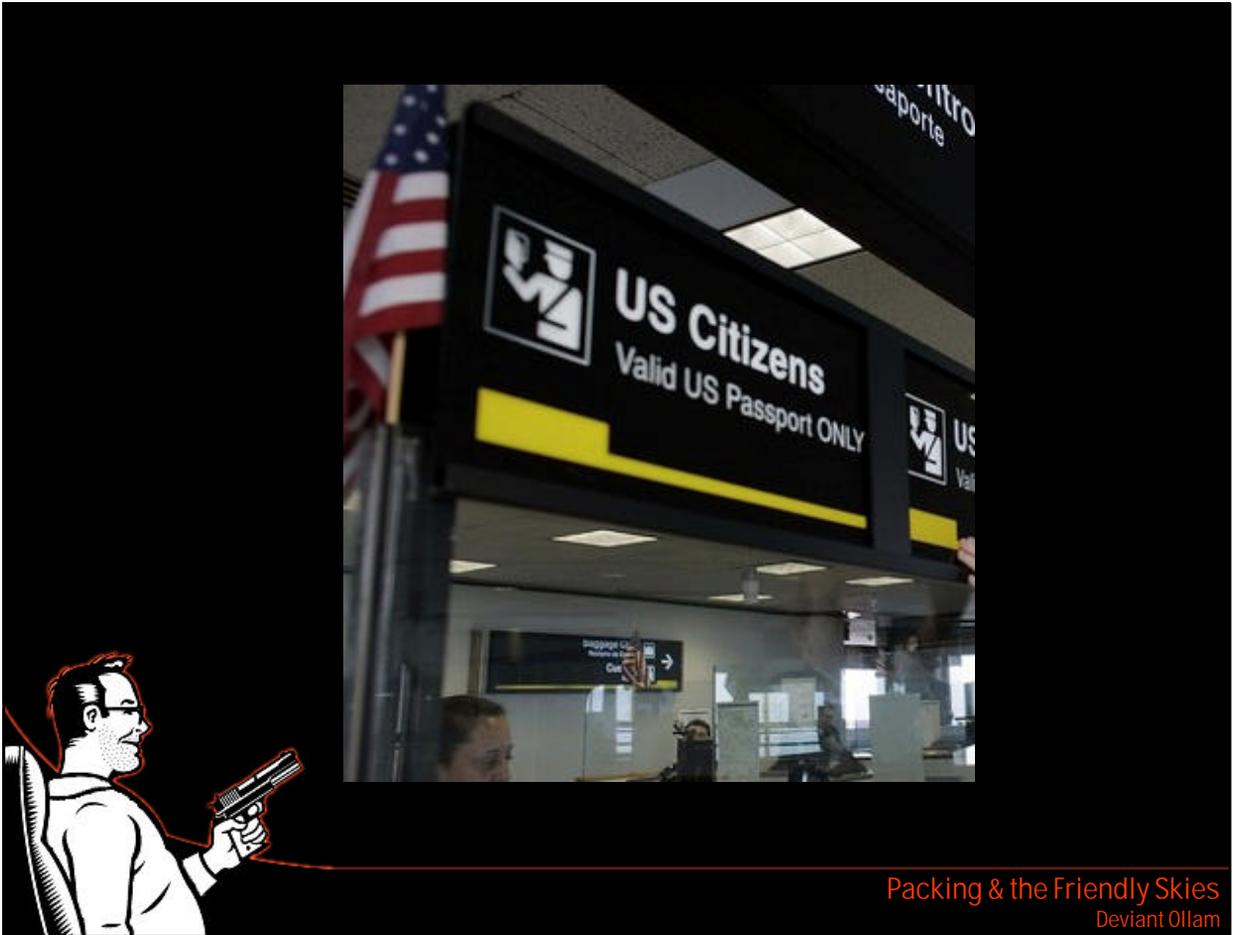
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## more international notes...

- luggage tagging
- clearing customs
- other people you'll encounter



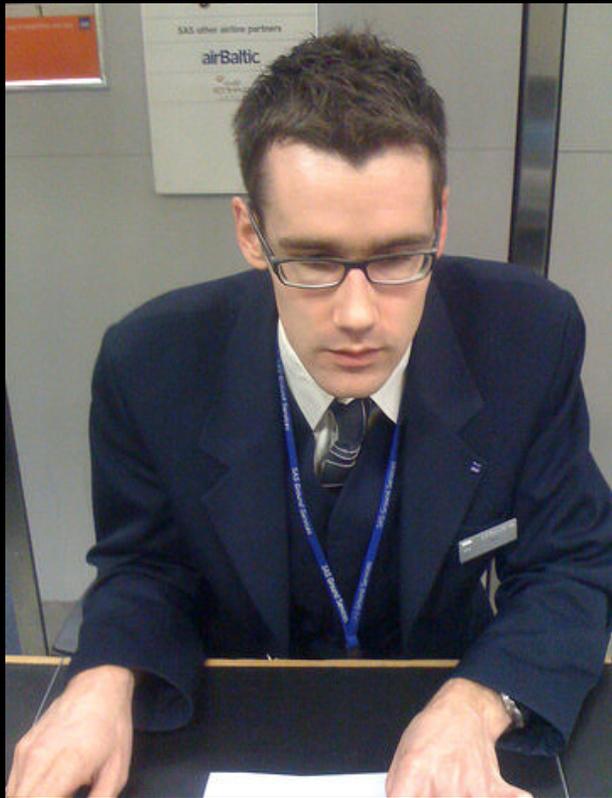
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one other tip to  
deal with hassles...



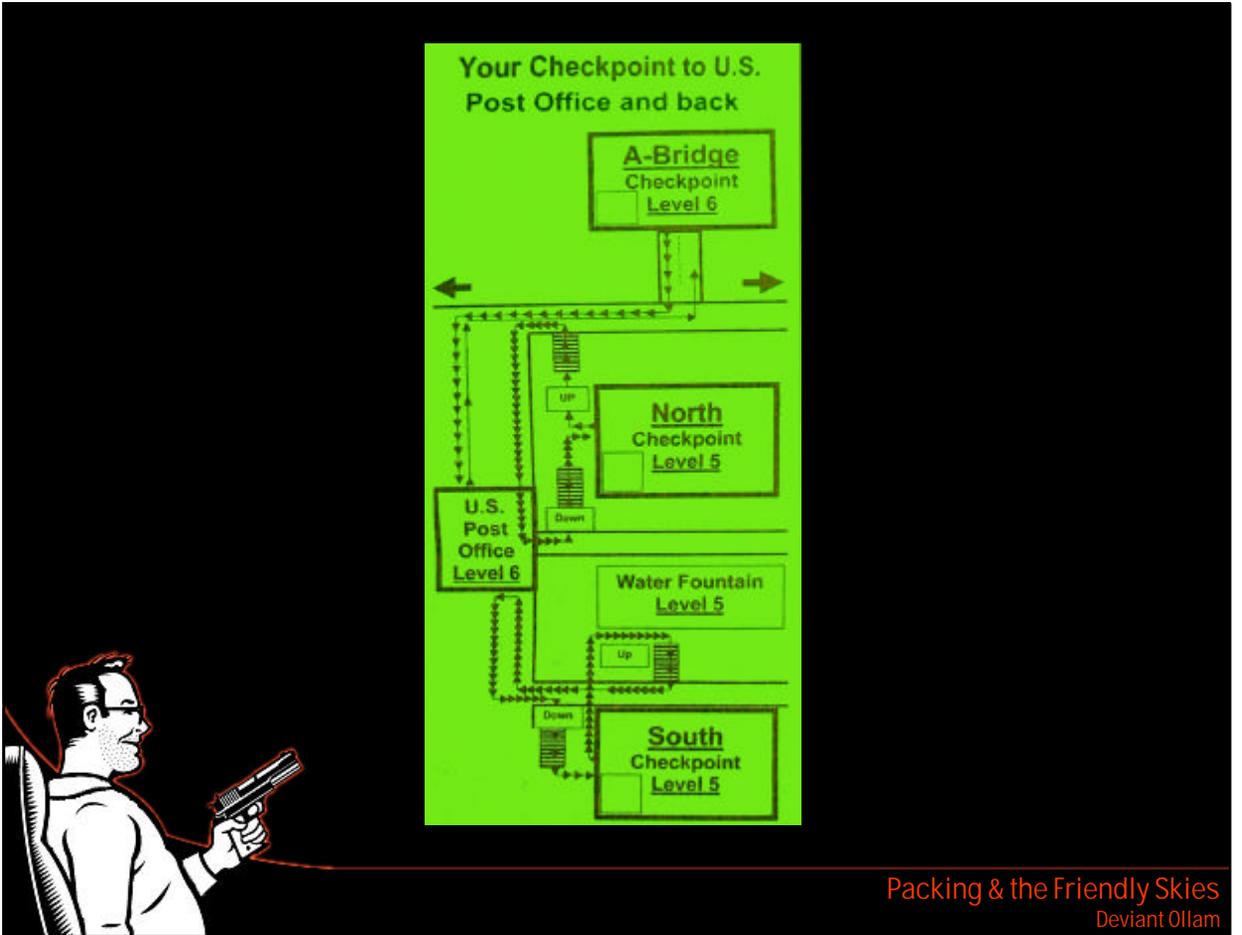
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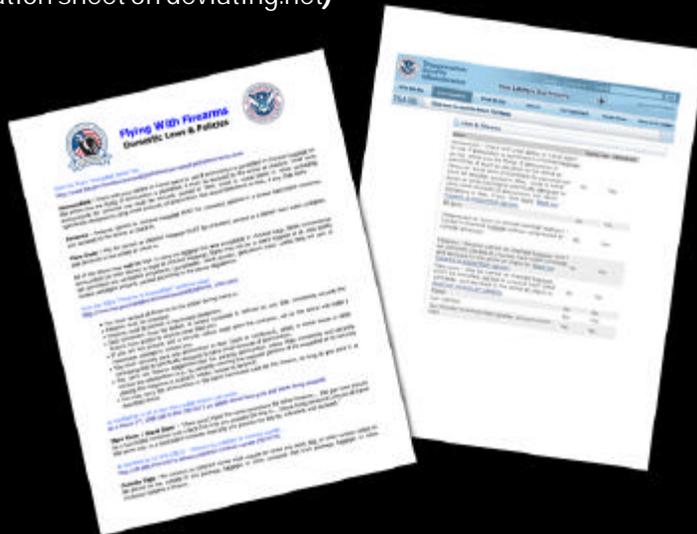
my advice ...



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# if there's a problem...

- know the rules, show the rules  
(legal citation sheet on deviating.net)



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## if there's a problem...

- know the rules, show the rules  
(legal citation sheet on [deviating.net](http://deviating.net))
- stay polite, stand your ground
- be direct, you are doing nothing wrong
- peace of mind over lost luggage



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## more tips...

- insurance coverage can vary
- possible to play with weight a bit
- inside other luggage? sure, but why?
- not just "functional" firearms...



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# what counts as a firearm?

- proper guns



- flare guns



- starter / blank pistols



- airsoft pieces



- replica weapons



- gun parts & hardware?



the law specifies "firearms" which, by definition, expel a projectile by means of a combustible propellant... but essentially, they want to avoid screeners or automated x-ray equipment seeing anything that looks like a firearm when they weren't expecting to encounter it.  
<http://deviating.net/firearms/packing/#flare>



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# how do the various carriers rate?

A



B



C



D



<http://deviating.net/firearms/packing/report.html>

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one last pearl of wisdom...



... skipping ahead in line

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best advice i can give...



... grab a skycap

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best advice i can give...



... grab a skycap

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a frequently asked question...

what are the "best"  
padlocks out there?



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# what are the "best" padlocks out there?

Abloy PL321  
[securitysnobs.com](http://securitysnobs.com)

Abus Diskus 20/70  
[1st-in-padlocks.com](http://1st-in-padlocks.com)

Abloy Puck  
[securitysnobs.com](http://securitysnobs.com)

Abus Granit 37/60  
[a1qualitysafeonline.com](http://a1qualitysafeonline.com)

Abloy Protec 362  
[securitysnobs.com](http://securitysnobs.com)



\$25



\$35



\$90



\$100



\$200+



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another frequently asked question...

what do i use for  
luggage when i travel?



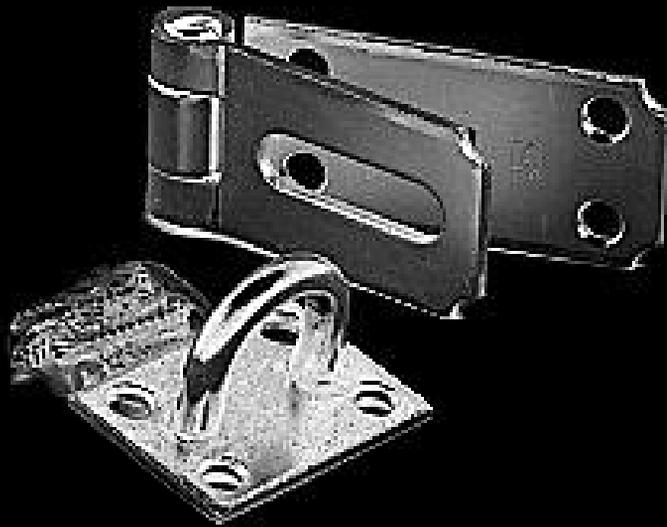
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# 81 mm mortar round case



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# heavy hinge hasp



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# bolts with J-B Weld or Loctite



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## my personal setup...

- 81 mm mortar round case

**\$ 15**

<http://store.colemans.com/cart/ammo-can-81-mm-p-225.html>

- heavy hinged hasp

**\$ 10**

hardware stores anywhere

- bolts, J-B Weld / Loctite

**\$ 5**

hardware stores anywhere



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my personal setup...

ironclad luggage

\$30



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thank you very much!



any questions?



[deviating.net/firearms](http://deviating.net/firearms)

[deviant@deviating.net](mailto:deviant@deviating.net)