



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Joel Kolander  
[jkolander@rockislandauction.com](mailto:jkolander@rockislandauction.com)  
7819 42<sup>nd</sup> St. W.  
Rock Island, IL 61201  
Ph: 309.797.1500

### **Rifle of Famed Rifle Designer John Garand to Auction this September** Garand designed the M1 Garand, the U.S. service rifle in World War II

**ROCK ISLAND, III** – The inventor of the famed M1 Garand rifle was presented a deluxe model of his own rifle upon retirement. That historic presentation firearm will be auctioned by Rock Island Auction Company this September flanked by an impressive cache of original documents and artifacts. Already causing a buzz among collectors, the Midwest auction house estimates the rifle to bring between \$225,000 - \$375,000.

“In the collecting world, this is akin to Enzo Ferrari’s Ferrari,” said RIAC President Kevin Hogan. “Being John Garand’s M1 Garand makes it an American icon, and the archive of history that accompanies it makes it museum-worthy in every sense of the word. Being offered to the public for the first time ever is an incredible opportunity.”

The M1 Garand was the standard issue service rifle issued to U.S. troops during World War II. Designed by Canadian-born John C. Garand, the rifle bears his name to the present day. He gave the design to the United States in 1936 and never received a single royalty payment for the 6.5 million rifles produced. Upon his retirement from Springfield Armory in 1953, Mr. Garand was presented with one of his own rifles bedded in a highly figured walnut stock and marked with serial number 1 million – an item taken straight from the armory’s museum. It came housed in an impressive presentation walnut case and with accessories plated in silver and gold.

The rifle will sell on Saturday of the September 7-9 auction, and more information can be found on [rockislandauction.com](http://rockislandauction.com).

### **About Rock Island Auction Company**

Rock Island Auction Company is the world’s #1 auction company for firearms, bladed weapons and militaria. Founded in 1993 by its current CEO Patrick Hogan, RIAC continues to lead the industry with record sales numbers and their extensive and beautiful marketing efforts. Their 150,000 square foot campus consisting of two buildings, hosts eight auctions each year. They actively seek consignments, be it a single weapon or a collection of hundreds, a thousand dollar item or one million. For more information, please visit [www.rockislandauction.com](http://www.rockislandauction.com) or call 1-800-238-8022.

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