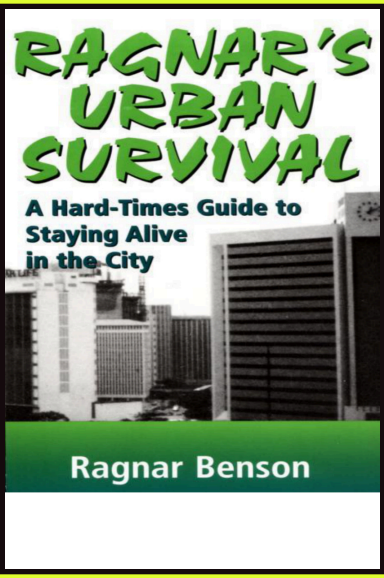
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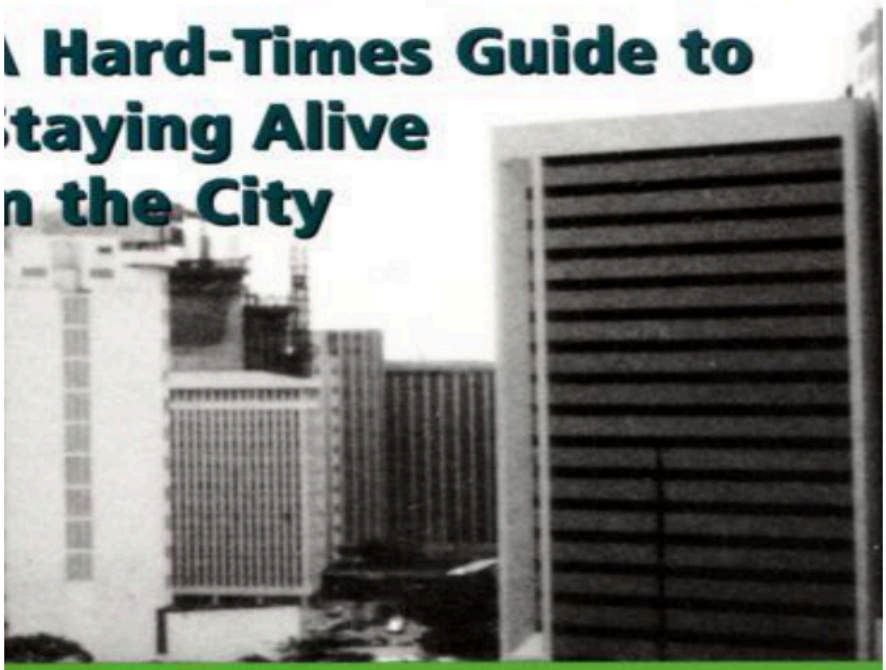
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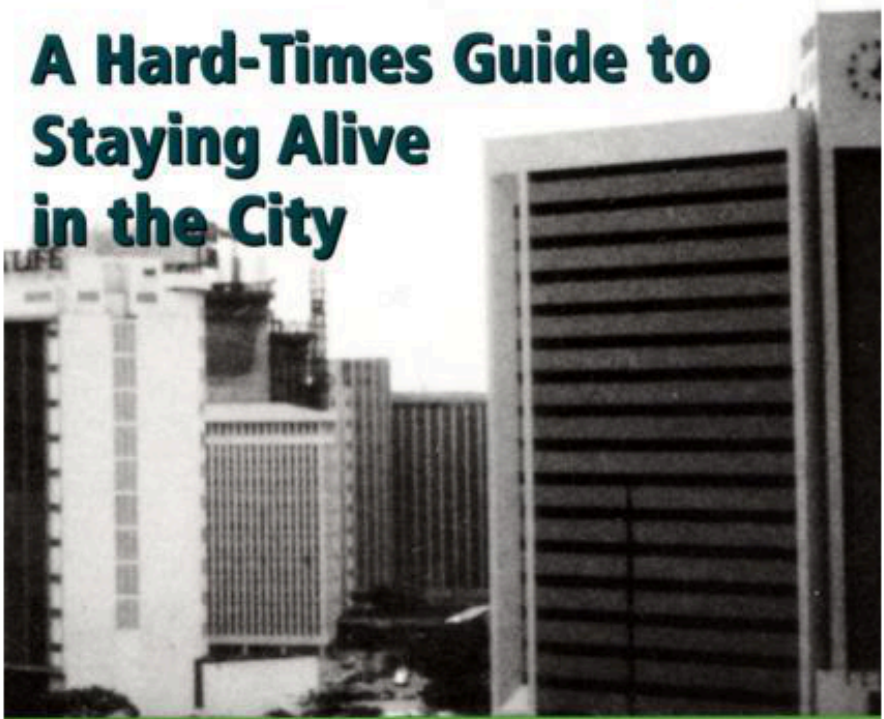
A Hard-Times Guide to Staying Alive in the City



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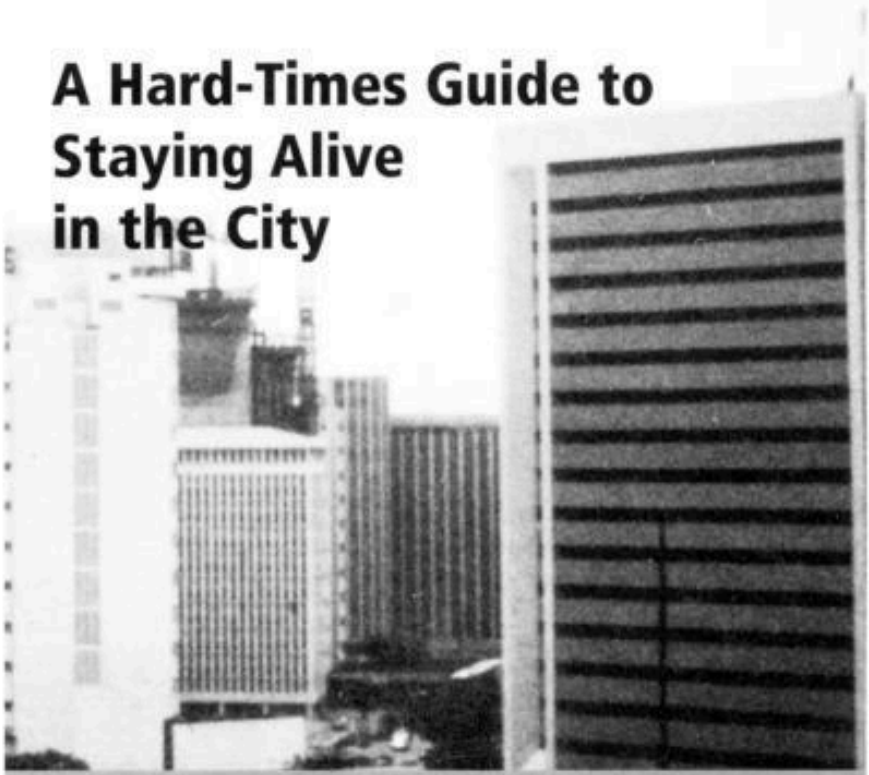
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Technical data presented here, particularly data on ammunition a
the use, adjustment, and alteration of firearms, inevitably refle
e author's individual beliefs and experiences with particul
earms, equipment, and components under specific circumstanc
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ok.

I am frequently asked if city survival is similar to survival in t untry or wilderness. Answering that question is a major premise is book. Since what many people consider wilderness surviv tually refers to recreational activities-frequently practiced by eliti ppies in SUVs- we must set these practices aside before we c swer the question: Is city survival different from rural survival?

The short answer is that city survival is very much like rur rvival, only different. It is identical in that the same basic Rule rees applies in either place, and that the Rule of Surviv ermodynamics also is still in force. (You'll learn about these rul on.) None of these basics has been repealed.



great many cities have been the scene of vicious battles already i e 20th century. It is foolish not to plan for such in the 21st centur

We also know that caching and storage remain cornerstones of any rvival program. The same is true of the rule about avoiding falling

Shelter is perhaps initially easier to find in the city, but the dange theft, bullying, and depredation will be much greate nderstanding the need for secrecy while living among large numbe people is very important.

Rural survivalists can, in my opinion, make do without guns. So table 20th century survivors, such as Bill Moreland-who surviv one for 13 years in Idaho's rugged Clearwater National Forest-d ithout guns for an extended period of years. In the city it's tirely different matter. Not only are firearms vital, at least so ust be silenced. We had better know how to make and depl ective silencers.

As a boy in post-World War I Germany, my father walked 3 mil r day carrying two 25-liter (approximately 5 gallon) cans to t ver and back. There was a group of revolutionary German soldie ntinually trying to shoot anyone-especially kids-out on the stre e reason why is lost in history. Logic suggests that poison gas fro cessant warfare continually swirling around them would ha isoned the water, but no one died from the water. Finding potab ater in a city survival situation can be an incredible proble ithout advance preparation, the situation could be terminal.

With a shortage of water, irrigating a garden will be a challenge a ay violate the Rule of Survival Thermodynamics. But city garde e still possible. They are being raised successfully even as I writ though :hey are too often of an ornamental or hobby nature.

City survivors frequently neglect planning for caching and fo orage till it is too late. Raised, or perhaps more accurately, manage estock as a renewable source of food is also possible. The tivities are not intuitive, and those who try to learn after the fl es up will become casualties.

What about energy in the city? It's required to cook, preserve foo at, and provide light. It's necessary for travel and communication well. City survivors have more options regarding energy, but the ust entail extremely clever procurement and deployment strategie uch more so than in rural situations. My experts who have be

learn all the survival tricks of slaughtering, butchering, storing, a eserving meat.

One thing that will be dramatically different for people used to ci e is the extent to which survivors niust band together for mutu otection and specialization. Voluntary specialization is aracteristic of any free, successful economy. For everyone's bene ople must be free to do whatever they do best and to trade for the st price. Without these mechanisms, the wrong goods are produc the wrong quantity and quality Survivors, unskilled in certain area e forced to spend precious hours doing for themselves what othe ore skilled people could do better, quicker, and cheaper for the ery society moves to specialization, either under the table or on t ble. Unless specialization occurs fairly quickly, there won't ough hours in the day to get everything done. Survival is not tivity for the lazy.

Resourceful, learned scrounging has always played a major role y city survival program. We need to think about these skills now

In this volume I will share what I've learned about surviving in t ty-that is my commitment to readers. Because as many others ha arned the hard way, the need for these skills can occur wi htning-like suddenness.

-Ragnar Bens