

Chinese Type 56 Rifle, ca. 1970



Estill R. McIntosh, of Booneville, Kentucky, served three tours of duty in Vietnam. During his first two tours, McIntosh shipped this enemy rifle home to his mother piece by piece. Once back in Kentucky, he assembled the weapon before returning to Vietnam for his third tour. On May 10, 1970, McIntosh was killed in action. Years later, and working in conjunction with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Kentucky Historical Society accepted this rifle into its collections to tell McIntosh's story. The shipment of such weapons is illegal and is not condoned by the Kentucky Historical Society.

Kentucky Historical Society Collections

War is not just a compilation of dates that represent a series of battles. "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)," an online exhibition that illustrates the personal stories of bravery, innovation, heartache and perseverance, provides evidence of the people and artifacts history books often neglect. To learn more about this item and others in the military collections of the Kentucky Historical Society, visit "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)."