



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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## APRIL 1, 2003 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## BOONE COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO VIOLATING FEDERAL FIREARMS LAW

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Boone County, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to being a felon in possession of a firearm.

**Martin Henry**, 22, of Boone County, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to being a felon in possession of a firearm.

By pleading guilty, **Henry** admitted that on Jan. 1, 2003, he was illegally in possession of a Norinco 7.62 caliber rifle and a Hi-Point 9 mm rifle, together with ammunition. **Henry** was charged with the federal violation in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting on Jan. 22, 2003, in Springfield. Under federal law, Graves explained, possession of any firearm by a felon is illegal. **Henry** has a 1998 criminal felony conviction for burglary in Boone County, Mo.

As a result of his guilty plea, **Henry** faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole. **Henry's** sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Waynesville, Mo., Police Department and the Pulaski County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow