RIFLE GROUP WARNS ON FIREARMS CURBS

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 26
(UPI)—The National Rifle Association has warned its members to expect an increase in agitation for stiff Federal control of firearms when Congress convenes in January.

There has been pressure for such legislation ever since Lee Harvey Oswald murdered President Kennedy with a mail-order gun. But the association is urging its members to fight firearms control.

In an editorial in the December issue of its magazine, The American Rifleman, the association said that a flood of gun control bills could also be anticipated in state legislatures.

The editorial argued that such laws would not only be ineffective but were also unconstitutional.

Asserting that the law should be concerned with punishing the criminal, rather than outlawing the gun, the association contends that reputable firearms owners do not oppose laws regulating the carrying of concealed weapons. Several states have such statutes. A number of others have controls similar to New York's Sullivan Act, which requires registration of weapons. The association's unconstitutional position is based on the Second Amendment, which says, "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."