THE HISTORY OF THE WOODMAN'S PAL



Frederick Ehrsam was not only an expert on edge tools used throughout the world. By the time he settled in Pennsylvania, in the 1930's, the Swiss National was also an experienced architect, artist, engineer, manufacturer, and woodsman.

Over the next ten years, all these skills would be used in the creation of a tool that would eventually influence modern forest and land management.

Professionals in the forest and field relied heavily on the machete for clearing brush and blazing trails. Other tools were also needed to thin, trim, chop, and prune.

Frederick Ehrsam saw the need for a single implement that could not only perform the task of each as well or better, but could eliminate drawbacks like awkward weight or bulk, lack of balance or versatility, and designs unsafe for the inexperienced user.



In 1941, Frederick Ehrsam introduced the Woodman's Pal. Professionals in forestry, agriculture, and horticulture quickly recognized it as a historic achievement.

This new tool did not go unnoticed by the US Military. The Woodman's Pal or "LC-14-B" in military terms, was standard issue from the early part of World War II through Desert Storm. G.I.'s and the US Army Signal Corp. relied heavily on the Woodman's Pal for land clearing operations. At the time of the Vietnam War, the Woodman's Pal was designated the "Survival Tool, Type IV" and was issued in air crew survival kits.

Today, the Woodman's Pal is still praised by each new generation of forest and land managers, surveyors, campers, soldiers, and outdoorsmen.





- 1. The specially annealed, 1/8" thick, high carbon steel blade (hardened to Rockwell C47) will not crack or chip even in sub-zero temperatures.
- 2. The concave axe blade is convex ground for extreme strength and offers superior edge holding capabilities. The blade will cut wood up to 1 1/2" in diameter with a single stroke.
- 3. The chisel sharp sickle hook slices through stubborn vines and briers, and removes unwanted sprout growth at ground level.
- 4. The line of balance runs precisely from the grip through the sickle edge creating a natural momentum for efficient, accurate, and comfortable swinging motion.



- Resin bonded fluorocarbon coating prevents corrosion
 The safety toe extending one inch up the axe side of the tool reduces risk of deflective injuries.

