

# IR UPDATE

## WEEKLY

**July 3, 2018**

### **Independence**

Independence Day is my favorite holiday of the year. American history has long been a passion, and many books about the American Revolution strain my bookshelves. I am fascinated by the story of how the revolution came about and the audacity of revolting against the world's most powerful country and fighting the powerful British Army and Navy. I am almost finished reading "Lexington and Concord: The Battle Heard Round the World," by George C. Daughan.

But I am also drawn to Independence Day because it is the easiest holiday to celebrate. No one expects presents or cards. People (family) don't expect you to visit or even call. Other than a U.S. flag or maybe some bunting, decorating is not a huge chore. Unless you invite a few friends over for a backyard BBQ, there is no expectation for a large, complex dinner. And if you are as lucky as I am, other people get together and have a huge parade and all I have to do is sit and watch it come down the street. Later, other people shoot off fireworks for my enjoyment as I enjoy a frosty beverage. And it all takes place in the middle of summer, a time generous with sunshine and usually tolerable weather.

It is in this spirit of patriotic laziness that I wish you a happy, safe and fun Independence Day with this shorter-than-usual column.

All the best,  
Gary



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P.S. Congratulations to the [nine IR professionals](#) who recently earned the IRC credential.