

Out of My Mind

"No More Musophobia"
by Anil Shrivastava "Musafir"



We have been trying to get rid of a few stubborn mice from our home for years. It was 2012 when my wife first spotted them and shouted, "There is mouse in the house." Then she found one more then one more then one more. We had to replace our freeze, throw all the groceries from the pantry and get the entire house including the basement professionally cleaned. We called several reputed rodent removal companies such as MiceRUs, Micesorous, MiceNotNice, MouseArrest, MicemanCometh and NoMoreMrMiceGuy.

Getting no results, I finally hung a note on the community board of my

neighborhood supermarket:

"We have several mice living in our house that need to be removed. If you are an expert at trapping/ removing mice, please contact us at ##%#@5744.com"

I received an email the next day, "Hi! I am responding to your ad in the supermarket looking for help in disposing off some mice. I think I can do the job. If interested, please let me know. -Arnold S"

Me to Arnold S: "I still am looking for someone to do this. You are the only person who responded. I have seen 3 mice already, but there may be even more. What will it cost to get rid of them?"

Arnold S to me: "It will depend on method that you would like to use. Generally for this situation I'd like to use the Exterminator option. This will cost you \$100 an hour to neutralize all the targets. – Arnold S"

Me to Arnold S: "What is Terminator? Is it something like Arnold Schwarzenegger used in the movie, Terminator?"

Arnold to me: "I meant terminator mines. They are directional mines that have small plastic explosives and contain steel ball bearings that are sent flying toward mice. I'd set a trip-wire by the entrance to mice holes. Any mouse coming out of the hole will be shredded in thousand pieces. If you have children or pets, I recommend that you outsource them to your parents or in-laws. –Arnold S"

Me to Arnold S: "Um, is not that a little extreme? I don't think our neighbors would like someone setting explosives in their neighborhood."

Arnold to me: "My methods are extreme, but effective. From what you describe, we are dealing with veteran mice that would stop at nothing but Exterminator. I just want to bring the right tool for the job. I understand that you don't want to use Exterminator.

The next option is to set a sniper position inside your home and wait until the mice come out to shoot them. I will bring another person with me called spotter. My spotter and I will wait as long as it takes to get the perfect shot on each mouse. Some jobs like this may take a week at \$100/hour. My spotter and I will not sleep until we get rid of mice in your house. During that period please do not come near us or talk to us. We'd bring a 0.50-caliber M82 sniper rifle to ensure that mice really die. Since you have problem with noise, we'll bring silencers so that your neighbors won't know what is happening inside. –Arnold S"

Me to Arnold S: "Are you ex-military? I think I'll need at least one reference before I give you the job"

Next day, I got a reference from someone called Nicholson.

Nicholson to me: "I am an old client of Arnold. He told me that you wanted a reference for a job. Let me start off by saying that you couldn't have made a finer choice. Arnold is the best there is. He literally saved my life countless times in Afghanistan.

Back in 2015, I was posted to Afghanistan to fight the Taliban. Arnold was hired to escort me during the war. Everything was going fine until our convoy was hit by the enemies. Next I knew that I woke up in a prison camp with Arnold. They took Arnold and me in a hut where at least eight Taliban were planning to kill us. Arnold managed to kill all eight Taliban only using pepper spray. He not only killed the eight, he managed to capture five more who served us as butlers. This happened because Arnold scared them.

This just goes to show you that if Arnold can take care of men, he can certainly annihilate mice in your house. - Nicholson"

Arnold S to me: "You may have received a recommendation from Nicholson. I am going to ask Joe to send another recommendation. –Arnold S"

Me to Arnold: "Please stop telling your references to email me! We have already decided to live with mice. After 7 years we are used to them. We no longer suffer from musophobia."