A collection of survival tools including a knife, a handgun, a compass, and a bottle of deer dust, all arranged on a wooden surface. A map of Washington state is partially visible in the background.

# SURVIVAL CODE

# HANDLING THE KILL

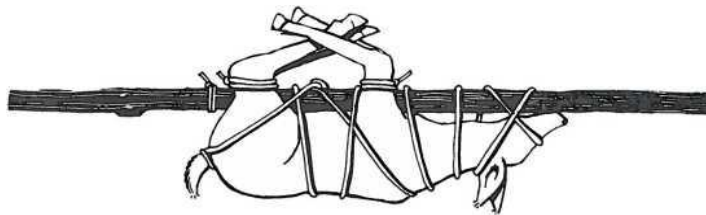
# HANDLING THE KILL

Wounded and trapped animals can be dangerous. Before approaching closely check whether an animal is dead.

Use a spear or tie your knife to a long stick and stab a largish animal in its main muscles and neck. Loss of blood will weaken it, enabling you to move closer and club it on the head.

If you have a companion, it is easier to carry a large animal by tying it firmly to a bough, which can be carried on your shoulders, but you should not take it all the way into camp, where it would attract flies and scavenging animals.

Even large animals can be dragged to a location if turned the animal has horns or they will make



animals can be more convenient upon their backs. If horns cut off its head this difficult.

Place the pole along the belly and use a clove hitch around each pair of legs. Lash the animal to the pole and finish with a clove hitch around the pole. If the animal has horns, tie these up out of the way.

It is preferable to butcher all game on the trap line. It will attract predators and carrion eaters that in turn may become trapped. Use the entrails to bait traps. Carry on the back to camp what you can manage without exertion. In cool climates cache the rest for collection later.

## THE KILL

Suspend a carcass from a bough, too high for scavengers on the ground and out of reach from the branch. A cache in the crook of a tree will keep meat away from ground predators but will still be accessible to felines and other climbing predators.

In territories with vultures and other large carrion eaters it will be almost impossible to protect it, so carry what you can. What you leave behind is unlikely to keep in a hot climate.

Blood is a valuable food, containing vital minerals. Carry a vessel for taking it back to camp. Keep it covered, cool and out of the way of flies.

### **WARNING!**

#### **Health Hazards — diseased animals**

There are lymph glands in the cheeks of all animals (more noticeable on large ones). If large and discolored they are a sign of illness. Any animal that is distorted or discolored about the head (such as a rabbit with the symptoms of myxomatosis) should be boiled - there is then little risk of

infection from eating it – but care should be taken in preparation when there is a risk. It is essential that any cut or sore in your skin be covered when slaughtering or handling meat, for if an animal carries disease a break in the skin provides easy entry to your body.