

TRIGGER TALK

FROM FRONT COVER to back, this issue of GUNS is devoted to recognition of the 100,000 law enforcement officers in America who keep the peace with guns.

Wayne Weems, gun editor of Southwestern Law, leading police journal, has contributed his thoughts on police rifles. Many policemen, who enjoy hunting, are good shots with the rifle, says Weems, and he goes on to show why a long gun in the police cruiser can be a valuable aid to crime prevention.


Another weapon closely allied to police work, pro and con, is the fabulous Thompson Submachine Gun. Machine gun salesman Valmore Forgett discusses from his long experience the merits and demerits of submachine guns for police work under today's crowded conditions. He reveals some surprising facts about Tommy Guns for police.

Kent Bellah has created a special "Gun Rack" review for this issue, testing metal penetrating bullets for police handguns. The test results will prove valuable to the officer who wants to load his gun with the right ammo for the job.

Tech editor Bill Edwards made an armchair tour around the world, surveying police work in other lands for his report on "Guns Behind the Law Abroad." His descriptions of current Soviet police; of the training of the famous Carabinieri of Italy; of Mexican police shooting programs, contain much of interest and some points worth imitating in American training programs.

A highly critical study of budgets and bullets in American police training is Robert Dymont's "Whose Fault Is It If Cops Can't Shoot?" This is a followup on "Why Cops Get Killed," published in our last police issue many months ago. Dymont lays the blame squarely at the feet of the city officials and the general public who fail to support police training with enough funds to give officers good shooting practice. Many improvements have been made since GUNS' last story. Much yet remains to be done in raising all American police instruction to the high levels enjoyed by some departments.

We promised you an article for this issue, "Why Not A Pro-Gun Law?" The article was prepared, the pictures made (some pretty amazing ones, revealing the facts about the illegal traffic in confiscated guns, for example) but something came up which demanded we hold the story and await events. By the time you read this, new revised regulations to the Federal Firearms Act of 1938, under which all manufacturers and gun dealers are licensed, may impose such a heavy burden of bookkeeping and record-tending that could change the whole picture of gun-making and gun selling. A representative of one major firearms firm told us, "If this regulation goes into effect, we will have to go out of business." Protests have been filed with the Director, ATU, Bureau of Internal Revenue, at Washington, about these revised regulations; but as we go to press, the decision is a few days off and the results are anybody's guess.

GUNS will carry the full story, including what you can do about it. 



THE COVER

Colt SA .45 marked on butt "Robert A. Pinkerton from Richard Croker." Son of detective Allan Pinkerton, investigator Robert Pinkerton received this gun from one of New York's leading Tammany politicians. It is thought that Crooner Croker gave this Colt to Pinkerton about 1879.

GUNS

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

HUNTING · SHOOTING · ADVENTURE

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George E. von Rosen
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REPRESENTATIVES: NEW YORK, Eugene L. Pollock, 40 East 40th St., New York 16, N. Y., Murray Hill 5-6760. MIDWEST, Jack Proval, 360 N. Michigan, Chicago, Ill., Franklin 2-2488. CALIFORNIA, The Ren Averill Company, Ren Averill, 232 N. Lake St., Pasadena, Calif., RYAN 1-9291; and Gordon Cole, 74 Bret Harte Terrace, San Francisco 11, Calif., Prospect 6-3902.

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