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This is the 22nd year of this annual "classic" and it has yet to suffer from the ages. It's old enough to vote, and like good whiskey, has only bettered itself with time. The book is great, and it'll join shoulder-to-shoulder, the generation of Gun Digests I own. Many of the earliest editions are collectors' items, and I've paid a premium for them and have yet to own the full swath of Amber's wide-ranging interests in print.

WILLIAM R. BIBBER

***** 1968 GUN

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DIGEST

Meet Editor JOHN T. AMBER, The expert's expert-

"., . I envy no man and can only suppose I am the envy of every man! My years as editor of the GUN DIGEST — now culminated in this 1968-22nd Deluxe Anniversary Edition — have been sheer pleasure. My association with sportsmen, firearms technologists and historians has been challenging and rewarding. These friends —men of the outdoors, the gunshop, the shooting range — have kept me young and made my life-long interest in firearms and hunting a neverending challenge. My desk has been on the plains of Africa, the crags of Alaska, a machan in India, the mountains of Bavaria. It is my hope that, in this 1968 GUN DIGEST, you can share some of the enthusiasm and deep satisfaction the world of firearms has enabled me to enjoy."

BONUS! 16 FULL COLOR PAGES

by Merrill K. Lindsay and Bruce Pendleton

Magnificent gallery photographs in full color that trace the evolution of breech loaders beginning with the 14th century stone-throwing cannon.

U. S. PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS

by Jay Charles and Technical Staff
The experts report on new U. S. handguns and accessories with charts of
all handguns, new and old, centerfire and rimfire.

BREECH PRESSURE

BREAKTHROUGH
by Michael York and Don Cantrell A new, reliable and low cost system that enables every rifle shooter to determine the breech pressure in his own rifle!

BREECH LOADING FIREARMS

by Merril K. Lindsay
A detailed and fascinating account of a brilliant discovery that took six centuries to gain acceptance.

A HISTORY OF PROOF MARKS

Gun Proof in Czechoslovakia—first of a series on European Proof Marks that will continue in future Gun

VARMINT CALLING
by John Lachuk Calling brings in varmints, often at surprisingly close range Here's how—when—where . . . and with what for this year-around sport.

BROWNING VERSUS WINCHESTER by Bill Resman

A blow-by-blow comparison of the Model 101 and the Superposed with surprising conclusions. "Must reading" if you're in the market for an over-under!

EUROPEAN AIR RIFLES ARE FOR MEN by Col. Charles Askins A critical look at U. S. Air Rifles in comparison to European in which the U. S. comes off second-best.

THE 23½1? by Bill Corson A new caliber that's somewhere be-tween a 22 centerfire and a 6mm. The author claims it will beat the pants

U. S. RIFLES & SHOTGUNS 1967-68 by G Staff George Nonte and the Technical

An extensive survey of new rifles, shotguns and accessories with a full and detailed report on new Remington

BLOCK THAT KICK

by Donald Hamilton
Donald Hamilton, creator of the bestselling espionage-intrigue books
starring Matt Helm, knows guns and
proves it in this thorough look at
"recoil."

TUNE UP FOR THAT HUNTING TRIP by Pat Snook A practical plan to prepare you for that big hunting trip if field accuracy and speed is what you want.

REMINGTON'S 40-XB

by Jim Horton A test-fire report on the rifle with guaranteed performance includes appropriate comments on cartridges, sighting equipment, reloads and bul-

HOME GROWN EXOTICS by Byron W. Dalrymple Sure, you can hunt grouse, pheasant, bobwhites, ducks—but how about chachalacas, whitewings, curlews and sandhill cranes? Here's overlooked smoothbore targets that offer great

GUNS FOR COMPETITION

by Col. Jim Crossman
If you are a novice with ambitions to
be a competitive shooter—rifle, pistol or shotgun, here's advice you'll
need to pick the right firearm.

FIREARMS FUNDAMENTALS Concise definitions of firearms terms for the beginning shooter.

SCOPES & MOUNTS by Bob Bell A thorough analysis of new scopes, mounts and shooter's optical specialties. Complete with prices.

TESTFIRE 1967-1968
by Ken Waters and the Technical

A shooting performance survey of new and interesting firearms and accessories

ARE ROUND NOSE BULLETS ON THE WAY OUT? by Ken Glanzer A look at the pros and cons of spitzer versus round nose bullets with some cogent facts to back up this author's conclusions.

TRAIL BIKES AND TRAIL GUNS by Frank C. Barnes

A thoroughly researched survey of motor cycles for the hunting trail, with specifications and prices.

.22 SINGLE ACTIONS

by L. S. Sterett A comparison of the many .22 cal. rimfire copies of the Colt Peacemaker. With some you get your money's worth, others less than you pay for.

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by George C. Nonte, Jr.

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available for handloaders and gives
you the benefit of his experience with
tin use.

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For pure accuracy—the ability to put each bullet in the same hole or nearly so—is the small or big cartridge your best bet? Here's your answer!

answer:

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by Robert Sherwood

A comprehensive test of the Remington Model 600 in the author's favorite caliber.

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by Frank de Haas concise but exhaustive discussion of the history of this landmark and its variations. Profusely i trated.

ARMS FROM ABROAD by Bob Steindler and the Technical Staff

All that's new and interesting in the foreign firearms field.

THE SNUB-NOSED MAGNUMS

by Paul B. Weston A police instructor tells why the Magnum's popularity with peace officers is on the increase.

RAMROD GUNS—COUNTRY STYLE by E. C. Lenz Once obsolete—now muzzle-loaders are enjoying a resurgence. Here an enthusiast tells how to make them deliver.

AMERICAN SIGNAL PISTOLS AND FLARES by Vagn G. B. Christensen A detailed and documented study of A detailed and documented study or these interesting, strange looking and sometimes vitally useful devices.

NOBODY CALLS THEM HOGS ANY-MORE! by Bob Bell Varmint shooting isn't what it used to be, says Bob Bell, and he tells you why!

THE 444 MARLIN AND ITS BIG BORE BROTHERS

by Christian H. Helbig A comparison of this new large-cali-ber lever action rifle with some of its predecessors.

AMERICAN BULLETED
CARTRIDGES

by Kenneth L. Waters
A new check list of modern U. S.
Ammunition plus a guide to performance and usefulness.

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page of centerfire handgun cartridges, shotshell loads—ballistics and prices 7
pages hunting, target, spotting and varmint
scopes, mounts and stands . . . 4 pages
receiver front sights, ramp sights, handgun
sights, shotgun sights and sight attachments . . . 1 page of Arms Associations in
America and abroad . . . 12 pages of "The
Arms Library." by Ray Rilling, for every-America and abroad . . 12 pages of "The Arms Library," by Ray Riling, for everyone in the arms field . . 2 page Glossary for Gunners . . . 11 page Directory of the Arms Trade.

Amber's great 1968 Gun Digest is now at your local sports, book, department store or news dealer. Or send only \$4.95 per copy for fast postpaid shipment from GUN DIGEST ASSOCIATION, Dep't D180, 4540 W. Madison St., Chicago, III. 60624.

How to make that FIRST shot count!



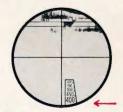
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TRIGGER TALK

THE GUN DEALERS of today are faced with a grave problem. Every time some nut decides to go on a shooting rampage, the newspapers are less concerned with why he did it than with where he got the gun. I will be the first to admit that there are some gun dealers in the country who operate in utter disregard for the law; who think no more of selling a gun to a minor than the dope peddler cares about selling them narcotics. However, these are only a small percentage of the total number of dealers. And, the Federal government, which has the authority to knock them out of business, doesn't seem to be able to do it.

In a recent speech, the "Honorable" Senator Dodd used the term "gunrunners" three times; and he didn't mean only the real gunrunners, but every firearms dealer who opposes his anti-gun legislation. Of course, this speech got a lot of publicity. How about us—the shooters, gun collectors, hunters, and legitimate gun dealers using this same sort of word substitution. Why not say "nincompoops" when we are talking about anti-gun legislators? That ought to get us some publicity.

It is easy for some to call every gun dealer a gunrunner, but why not tell the whole story? Why not tell of the so-called "gunrunners" in Chicago who stopped sales of guns for over a month because Mayor Daly got a bit worried. Why not tell of the "gunrunners" in riot areas who helped police by furnishing guns and ammunition to them when they needed it most? Why not tell of the "gunrunners" who go beyond the existing laws to be sure that they do not sell to undesirables?

Then, why not tell of the nincompoops who have so forgotten the individual citizen that they are willing to deprive him of his sporting pleasures because they—the nincompoops—cannot see crime as a social sickness, not a result of gun sales? Why not tell of the state nincompoops who put into their gun laws "dealers cannot place any gun in any window or showcase which can be viewed from the street." Why don't the nincompoops get their heads out of the sand and open their eyes to the real problems of crime?

THE COVER

No, the guns on this month's cover are not real; nor are we saying that everyone should buy a pistol with a silencer and/or shoulder stock. The guns pictured this month are examples of non-functioning models made by Mr. Nakata of Japan. The Japanese cannot buy handguns, but they have gone wild over model guns, especially those exotic types used by James Bond, et al.

JANUARY, 1968

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George E. von Rosen Publisher

Arthur S. Arkush Ass't to the Publisher



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CROSSFIRE

Fast Draw In Chicago

On behalf of the Chicago Colts Fast Draw Club, I would like to thank you for the article "Is Fast Draw Dead?" published in the November issue of Guns Magazine. I feel certain there will be response from fast draw people all over the country for your interest in supporting this phase of shooting, possibly enough to consider a bimonthly or quarterly article on fast draw.

Our club is meeting at the police range in Bensenville, Illinois, and anyone interested in watching the club in action or applying for membership in the club should contact Wally Toblesky, 427 Larkdale Lane, Mt. Prospect, Illinois, phone 259-4079, or myself at 1419 Buckthorn Drive, Prospect Heights, phone 296-4510. All inquiries by interested parties will be answered as soon as possible.

Richard E. Plum Prospect Heights, Ill.

Braverman & Springfields

A comment of mine in the Guns Question and Answer section for July, pointing out the dangers inherent in low-number Springfield rifles, has started a small Jehad; let the following quotations shine!

"Springfield actions below 800,000... are not desirable." Roy F. Dunlap, Ordnance Went Up Front.

"Tests indicate that the Springfield is inferior to the Jap 6.5, standard military Mauser, Eddystone Enfield, and Remington Enfield insofar as receiver strength." Parker O. Ackley.

"The two piece firing pin of the Springfield is a mistake in design.... Springfield bolt lugs have been known to crack off.... Mauser design is better engineering.... Springfield often blows firing pin to full cock from pierced primer.... Mauser handles escaping gas better." Captain E. C. Crossman, Book of the Springfield.

"The Model 98 Mauser and the Model 99 (1939) Japanese rifles are

safer than the Springfield." Maj. Julian S. Hatcher, Hatcher's Notebook.

"Americans . . . would not think of using a low numbered Springfield." W.H.B. Smith, Mauser Rifles and Pistols.

Also, be it noted that official government records list 137 accidents with low numbered Springfields between 1917 and 1929; no one knows all the additional accidents suffered by civilians. Handling escaping gas properly was never solved, and WW I soldiers still shudder at the memory of the gun's nasty habit of jamming on the fourth cartridge.—Shelley Braverman.

Licenses and Souvenirs

I would very much like to answer Dwaine E. Fritz's letter which appeared in the July, 1967, issue. I am also a lifetime member of the NRA and I don't think Mr. Fritz is even in the ball park. He's just too far out. I will not give up my rights just to satisfy him.

There's not a thing wrong with Nazi souvenirs. Is Mr. Fritz against war souvenirs in general? I have in my possession a Nazi dagger and I also have a cannon ball from the War of 1812.

The idea of licensing shooters is ridiculous. As any WW II veteran who fought in Europe can tell you, the sporting arms were found in the police stations. I agree that there has to be some firearms legislation, but the good bills never get a chance, as the bad ones have to be beaten down by the law-abiding shooting public.

Philip Eadie Durham, N. C.

Pigeon Patron

I very seldom write letters to magazines but your feature "Those Fascinating Flyers" in the July issue made me sick. I didn't know such a "sport" existed and I simply can't get over the

news. So there are guys who use live pigeons for targets? Ecchhh!

I'm no Ann Landers, I've fought in three wars, WW II, against the Communists during the Greek Civil War of 1944-49, and in Korea. I have killed men, some I know of and others I don't know of. I've spent five years in Africa and I've hunted all over the continent. I hunted on foot (not from a helicopter) and I often involved my life to give a tusker or a buff a sporting chance. Now your Mr. Clarence Massey comes and tells me I'm a sentimental idiot.

This is something of a disappointment because I have the highest opinion of your magazine. I think it's the best in the field, both informative and really entertaining. But

That "article" about the flyers was a stinker. I hated every word of it. I expect sportsmen to respect game, to respect the miracle of life, to hunt for the thrill of hunting, not killing. This mass butchering of fine birds, which incidentally make lovely and enjoyable pets, is entirely beyond my comprehension. In all my years, despite what many people may think, I have never met a real hunter who didn't feel fondness and affection towards animals, even rhino! The article was disgusting. If I ever see another one like it in your fine magazine, I'll never buy it again.

> Petros Yorgantias Athens, Greece

of quality

Nuts to 94's!

I picked up one of your old issues of Guns today. I read Les Bowman's snow job on the 94. Maybe Les has stock in the 94. He should have written about the same Daisy Air Rifle. He could get about the ME and MV from a Daisy. Didn't Les have enough money to buy a 95 or wasn't he man enough to carry it. How come so many writers build this lousy 94 up as being so great all the time? Maybe no one knows what the 95 was and what loads it fired, such as .38-72, .40-72, .30-40, .303 British, .35 Winchester, .30-06, .405, and 7.72 Russian, a far better load than the .30-30. The .30-30 is for a bunch of lame people or women. Lame people can use the gun for a cane; women can use it for a broom or duster.

Let's hear about the really good lever actions, the 95 or maybe the 71, in .348. And what's so bad about the .444 Marlin? It's better than a .405. This all must be a joke. Les is on a horse all the time; why should he worry about weight?

Bert Van Nostran Youngstown, Ohio

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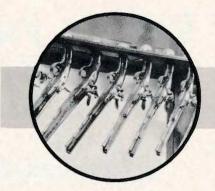


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GUN RACK

Gun Digest

The 22nd edition of John Amber's Gun Digest is out, It is the same size as the last year's edition and surprisingly-and happily-carries the same price tag, \$4.95. For the shooting man this bite will represent his best spent five bucks throughout the year. The Digest, this 22nd issue, is loaded. Maybe the best part of the book, with its assembly of shooting stories, facts, data, tables and photos, is the latent value inherent in stacking up each issue and after a time resorting to the library as a reference source. I do that. Besides the enjoyment gained from reading the mental preambulations of a dozen or so of our better known authorities, I find a constant use throughout the year of such valuable additions as the listing of all the guns makers which is a part of every issue.

John Amber, the omnipotent editor, is a shooting man himself with a penchant for benchresting. He makes all the benchrest bangfests. Too, he knows all the guns-writing hacks and all the guns manufacturers on a first name basis. He shoots and hunts and travels the game fields from one end of North America to the other. His experience and background lend a kind of authority and substance to the Digest which is lacking in any rival publications.-Col. Charles Askins.

Parks Reloading Bench

Often we get queries from fellows who want some sort of plans for a good handloading bench. Our own loading benches are sort of like Topsy —they just grew from whatever was at hand. We do have some ideas about just what does make the ideal working setup, and one of these days soon we'll give you all the dope on a firstclass bench you can build to suit your needs. One fellow, Vernon Parks, 104 Heussy Avenue, Buffalo, New York, is ahead of us on this subject. He is offering some of the finest looking benches you could want. They are available in several forms-top only,

top and legs kit, or complete bench. And, in a variety of sizes.

Parks' bench tops are a full 13/4" thick, heavy enough to withstand any tool and any sort of work, as well as to stay in place without being bolted to the floor or walls. Construction is laminated maple, over which is applied a nice, clear finish. Looking across the Parks' bench we are using reminds me of looking down a bowling alley. The top is so pretty, it seems almost a shame to drill holes in it to bolt tools down, and I was tempted to make a bar out of it instead. Ah, well-

Legs furnished by Parks to go with the tops are heavy weight fabricated steel workbench style-not the spindly and wobbly type available at various department store tool departments. Along with them some spreader bars to tie the entire bench unit rigidly together. Assembly doesn't require much time or trouble. Drill a few leg screw holes, then cinch everything up tight with the screws and bolts provided.

Parks tells us he has more accessories coming along to go with the benches. Scheduled to be next is a "Reloading Cabinet" to provide secure storage space for all those many goodies every devoted handloader accumulates.-Maj. George C. Nonte, Jr.

Norma HP Loads

The Norma-Precision Co., importers of all things made by AB Norma Projektilfabrik of Sweden, now has for sale a fine new .45 ACP loading. The bullet is a hollow point. It weighs 230 grains, is of Lubaloy jacketing, and has a muzzle velocity of 850 fps. The hollow point exposes the leaden core. The open point is 1/4" in depth and 7/82" in width. The conventional ogive of the standard .45 cal. 230 gr. bullet has been retained. A 150 rounds through three different pistols indicates no tendency to malfunction. Accuracy is good. Recoil is mild; this is a standard velocity and energy loading.

(Continued on page 78)



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t will not flow away.

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COLLECTOR'S CORNER

By ROBERT MANDEL

FOR THE COLLECTOR, there are certain definite types of arms which are set apart from all others. The first of these are the English coach pistols and blunderbuss long arms. The guards of public stage coaches were armed, as a rule, with a short blunderbuss with brass barrel and one or a pair of pistols with brass barrels and brass lockplates. Many times the barrels were numbered, for the coach house or company would have many arms in service. They would also engrave on the gun butts the crest or coat-of-arms of the particular coaching line to which they were supplied. The coach pistols with crest are very rare, and were made with flintlocks and brass lock plates until 1830. Other pistols, of the English military type with brass barrels, were supplied to officers for sea service, for the brass barrel was held to be less prone to rust than was the one of iron or steel. These pistols however, were not numbered or crested as the distinctive coach pistols. Army standards of bore and barrel length were not applied to the naval service, which seems to have had a miscellaneous collection of serviceable arms supplied by ships chandlers and bought haphazardly by Admiralty agents.

NOTHER peculiar and valuable A type is the Scotch pistol with its all-steel or gun metal stock. These represent a special type of arm which was primarily of Spanish origin, but which was developed in Scotland by local craftsmen. By 1645 a Scottish industry of firearms makers had been established at Doune by Thomas Caddell and other gunsmiths. A seemingly never-ending line of pistol makers followed, and at the start of the 18th century the all-metal flintlock pistol, with heart, bulb, or rams-horn butt was part of the Highlands full dress. The disarmament of the Scots and the disaster of Culloden in 1745 did much to eliminate the manufacture of arms in Scotland, but even so it continued to 1830. A military version of the Scotch pistol was introduced into the British army for the use of the Royal Highland Regiment. These pistols were an all steel rams-horn type with belt hook, pricker, steel ramrod, and barrels made by Bissel, a Birmingham gunmaker. Similar arms have metal kidneyshaped butts and have the barrel maker's or armourer's mark of John Waters of London 1725 to 1770.

NOTHER type of arm which sets A itself apart from all others is the great English military weapon of the 18th century-the "Brown Bess." This was the general name given to the regulation flintlock musket until the date of the Crimean War. The origin of the name is supposed to date back to Elizabethan times-the "Brown" referring to the russeting or browning applied to the gun barrel in order to make them more rust proof. A Brown Bess marked G.R. may date anywhere between 1715 and 1830. The later models can be recognized as being of rather more mechanical workmanship and having a flat double-necked hammer. Many models and types of the Brown Bess were made and they in themselves are a full time study.

The French established their "Manufactures Royales" at Charleville, St. Etienne and Maubeuge in 1718 when they, to all intents and purposes, standardized their regulation arms. Prior to this no uniformity had been insisted upon, except that of caliber. Every regiment had its own weapons, which varied in dimension and quality. Out of this standardization came the model of 1763 musket, with its muzzle band and ramrod guide and a sight integral with the band. This model was important, for it was the type copied by the American gunmakers when making arms for our War of Independence. One other French firearm that falls into the type set apart . . . the Model 1777 Flintlock pistol. It was a crude arm with a plain round iron barrel with no fore-end. The ramrod slid through to the butt, and a clumsy iron strap connected the breech and butt, a large brass trigger

guard screwed to the base plate of the lock completed the assembly. But out of this poorly designed arm the first American pistol was patterned; made by Simeon North from 1799 to 1802.

TH the outbreak of our American War of Independence a definite type of new military phenomenon was born—the rifle sharpshooter who took cover and shot accurately at ranges far beyond the arm musket. To meet the needs of the colonists, our own gunsmiths evolved a special arm known as the Kentucky rifle. They had long octagonal barrels and slender light stocks of maple, fitted with a curved butt plate and a patch box. The secret of their value lay not so much in their accuracy, which was very good rather than remarkable, but in the ease of loading. The European rifleman used a tightly fitting lead ball which he slammed down hard until it expanded to fit the grooves or barrel of the weapon. The American, with his Kentucky rifle, simply wrapped his bullet, which was small in size, in a greased leather or linen patch. Reloading a fouled rifle was no trouble for him-his loose fitting ball and patch could be pushed home as swiftly as it could be fitted

into the barrel; the patch lubricated the bore.

THE last quarter of the 18th century I shows marked advances in general design. Pistol barrels became solid. octagonal-and accurate; locks were vastly improved and a great deal of experimentation was carried on to find best shape and fall of the hammer, and details of shape and fitting to make the arms more weatherproof and more reliable. By 1790-1800, the dueling pistol was a very perfect arm, well sighted, weighty and, above all, practical. The silver fittings of the past, however beautiful, yielded to plain blued steel; even the ramrod tip became horn instead of brass. The locks were much improved, their action swift and reliable. French arms. though beautiful, were not as practical as the English dueling pistol, which were admittedly the best in the world. This month's column has covered just a few of the arms that have a certain definite form that set them apart from all other collectors firearms and, in the months to come, I will endeavor to cover the many other types which fit into this select group.

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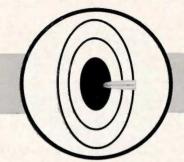


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POINT BLANK

By COL. CHARLES ASKINS

WE ARE RELEARNING a lot of lessons in the Vietnamese War. I say "relearning" for we fought a jungle campaign throughout the South Pacific 25 years ago. We found then that when you try to fire through a jungle cover many times the bullet does not reach the target. In Vietnam the North Vietnamese soldiery are ahead of us in knifing through the bamboo with the bullets they use.

when it strikes limbs, brush or even grass before reaching the target. The consensus of opinion is that when the bullet hits some kind of shrubbery it is deflected. The theory being that because of the spire point which is common these days to both sporting cartridges and the military kind, that the long ogive on the projectile deflects it and a miss occurs.

A long series of interviews with U.



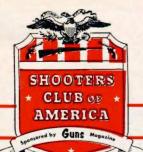
Col. Askins examines his dowel box deflection tester.

The standard service rifle of the VN Communists is the Soviet AK-47, a 7.62mm (.30 cal) which fires a 122 grain bullet. This slug is jacketed in mild steel. It penetrates brush, bamboo, grass, vines and other typical jungle cover a lot better than the 55 grain 5.56mm (.223) caliber fired by our troopers in the M-16 rifle. The reason for this is that our bullet is jacketed in Lubaloy. This "Lubaloy" is a trade name for an alloy made of 90 per cent copper, 10 per cent zinc. In any comparison between the toughness of a bullet which carries a steel outer envelope and one made of mostly copper, the former wins hands down.

There is a most surprising amount of ignorance among so-called experts as to precisely what a rifle bullet does

S. Marines now returned from the fighting along the DMZ in North Vietnam discloses a startling degree of dissatisfaction with the 5.56 mm cartridge. It fires a bullet something less than half the weight of the North Vietnamese AK-47 ball and herein, I believe, lies the trouble. Veterans spoke about firefights at close range and in heavy cover, and noted time and again that they fired point blank at partly visible enemies and did not score. These enemy were concealed in stands of bamboo, tall grass, and vines, and seemed impervious to the concentrated fire of the Marine infantry. The most of the Marines with whom I talked were quite sure the tiny bullets broke up before reaching the enemy.

(Continued on page 75)



News from the ...

SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA

Dedicated to the Constitutional Right of Every Citizen to Keep and Bear Arms

Testimony by representatives from shooting sportsmen's groups, coupled with dealer and industry support, [plus an assist from Senator Roman Hruska (R. — Neb.)] provided welcome help for America's shooting sportsmen during recent hearings before the Senate's Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency

In past years, Senator Thomas Dodd (D. — Conn.), well known for his anti-gun viewpoint, has ruled subcommittee hearings with an iron hand. He has said, "I would be for abolishing all guns . . . I never saw any sense to guns anyway, and I do not go backward by saying so. I hope some day the world will say, 'Destroy them all'."

Attorney Mark K. Benenson, speaking for the New

York Sporting Arms Association, presented strong points to the subcommittee and was able to counter with facts, the Administration position that there is a casual relationship between the availability of firearms and the nation's crime rate. Benenson cited an independent study which compared conditions in the 36 states that do have firearms licensing laws against the 14 that do not. The homicide rate in the licensing states is 4.8, for the other

states it is 4.1 per 100,000 population. For aggravated assault, it's 86.1 compared to 80.

Mr. Benenson also examined the rising rates for homicide in New York City under the highly-restrictive Sullivan Law. Homicides increased by 237% between 1840 and 1846. Accepted to page 1847. tween 1940 and 1946, despite boosts in police man-power of 151% and in the police budget by 232%, while the population increased just 4%. He also pointed out that Philadelphia's gun law was wasted legislation, with the homicide rate up 17% in the two years

since the law was passed, compared with the same period of time prior to its enactment. Warren Page, president of the board of governors of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, testified that "The legitimate use of firearms by millions of law-abiding gun-owners, hunters and shooters should not and need not be unduly restricted in any new legislation." Mr. Page suggested that since concealable firearms were the big offender in crime (involved in 70% of all gun crime although they constitute only 10% of the gun population), proposed legislation should be limited to additional controls of handguns.

Senator Dodd asked the witness if long guns would be substituted if only handguns were controlled. Mr. Page pointed out that experience under New York State's Sullivan Law disproved this contention. Handguns are still the major offender in New York.

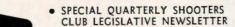
Representing dealers from the mid-Atlantic area was William M. Carter, owner of Carter's Gun Works in Charlottesville, Va. He has organized an informal group of gun dealers from Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina and Maryland. Mr. Carter ginia, North Carolina and Maryland. Mr. Carter stated his organization's viewpoint that education is more effective than legislation and that stricter court sentences for offenders can be more effective than the enactment of any new laws.

Administration supporters found tough going when they stated the objectives of their bill, S-1, as amended. Slowly and carefully, Senator Hruska shook every major point, claimed by the anti-firearm forces, proved their facts inaccurate and destroyed their arguments. Over and over again, witnesses were forced to admit that Hruska's compromise bill would accomplish the same thing the Administration was asking for -- without unnecessary restrictions.

Spokesmen for the firearms fraternity have made many important gains, but there is still a rough road ahead. Coming up now will be a Senate fight to substitute the Administration bill for the reasonable requirements of the Hruska measures. Senator has backing on both sides of the floor.

When the Senate bill is sent to the House, anything can happen. If the bill is referred to the Ways and Means Committee, undesirable clauses in the Senate version may be removed. But nothing is for sure, except that proposed legislation will be discussed from now until Congress adjourns. Congressmen will listen to organized groups like The Shooters Club of America. If you're not a member, it is imperative to join now. Use the coupon below right now. Make sure your voice is heard in the fight to protect your rights.

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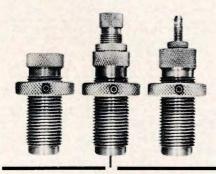
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HANDLOADING BENCH

By MAJ. GEO. C. NONTE

In THESE DAYS when we enjoy an abundance of surplus military rifles, handloading assumes probably its greatest importance for the limited-budget shooter. While aged military ammunition is usually available for most of the guns, it is often of doubtful quality and—with typical Berdan primers—inconvenient to reload. And, of course, such ammunition is hardly suitable for hunting anything except edible small game.

Through new, Boxer-primed cases are available in many calibers, a high percentage of shooters prefer to save their pennies. They simply reform dirt-cheap fired domestic cases to fit whatever guns they are shooting. The most commonly used case for this purpose is the venerable .30-06, ever available in abundance for very little money, though many less well-distributed calibers work just as well or better.

The mechanics of making cases fit chambers for which they were not intended have been covered in great detail in a number of publications, so we need not go into them here. Suffice it to say that virtually any of the smokeless-powder period rifles can be supplied with cases in this manner.

But there are problem areas. For example, one reader writes that he formed and loaded large batches of 6.5x55mm cartridges from .30-06 military brass a couple of years ago—and that many of the remaining rounds on the shelf have split at the neck. This is a common occurrence when a case is shortened and necked down from its original dimensions, especially when the job was begun with fired brass.

Brass hardens as it is "worked" (expanded and contracted), and this is called "work hardening." This hardening, combined with the fact that shortening the original case places the new neck in a purposely-harder area, makes necks much more likely to split—"season crack"—while loaded. This natural tendency is greatly increased by the brass being in a state of tension. This means sim-

ply that the bullet, being larger than the inside of the neck, stretches the brass tightly. This tight grip of case on bullet is what holds the bullet in place, so is necessary. But if it exists to an excessive degree, and the brass is relatively hard, the neck will split. I've seen this occur within two weeks of loading, particularly FA 57 '06 brass formed to 6.5x55mm.

However, there is a simple solution to this problem. Anneal the formed case necks before loading. This returns the brass to its original soft, malleable state—as it was intended to be—resulting in a shelf life of many

The simplest, but least reliable, annealing method requires nothing but a small propane torch and a pan of water. Holding the case head between thumb and finger, rotate it slowly (five to six seconds for one revolution) while holding the torch flame on the junction of neck and shoulder. As the brass changes color to brown or blue—not red, as often stated—drop the case instantly into the water. This cold "quench" softens the brass and

relieves internal stresses.

Holding the case in your hand, rather than standing it in cold water, is less likely to result in an occasional overheated or "burned" case. If the case head gets too hot for finger comfort, the neck is undoubtedly too hot, and you've got to get it into the water faster.

A faster and more uniform method requires the use of your bullet-casting furnace filled with molten lead—preferrably with lead temperature at about 600-650° F. Decap cases first, then dip half their length mouth first into light oil. Then, submerge neck and shoulder only in the molten lead for four or five seconds. Withdraw from lead and with a quick snap of your wrist, throw out any lead clinging inside the shoulder. Do this very quickly, for lead will solidify inside the case in only a very few seconds.

Obviously cases annealed in this manner can get no hotter than the molten lead. This insures much better heat control than can be obtained with a torch, producing much more uniform neck hardness.

Incidentally, when you do get involved in this case-forming business -and most of us do eventuallynever trim to final length until after necking down (or up) is completed. Brass does not flow with absolute uniformity while being reworked. Consequently, if trimmed to correct length, then necked, case mouths will often be distorted out of square, or shorter or longer than you intended. This is more usually true when necking up than necking down.

Back in 1895, the Dutch and Roumanian Armies discarded their assorted big-bore, black powder rifles and ammunition. To do so, they adopted a new rifle designed by Ferdinand Von Mannlicher. It was an exceedingly strong and simple rifle that stayed in first-line service through subsequent wars until Hitler's Wehrmacht overran those countries some 40 odd years later. They were chambered for a very efficient smallbore smokeless powder cartridge—the 6.5x53 R Mannlicher-which drove a 160 gr. round nose bullet at the nowusually steel-cased. Get some good (preferably new) .303 British cases, and if you've any choice, choose some with a fairly hard neck anneal, Box-

er-primed, of course.

A 6.5x53R full-length resizing die is handy, but not absolutely necessary. Reduce the .303 neck to 6.5mm caliber, at the same time shoving the shoulder back slightly, so that the case will chamber fully in the M95 Rifle. If your brass is too soft, the cases may buckle slightly at bodyshoulder juncture, while harder brass will flow more smoothly. This tendency can be reduced, at least, by accomplishing the reduction in two or three stages, say, from .303 to 7mm; to .270; to 6.5mm. Any short 6.5mm die, even a neck-sizing die, will do for the final operation.

Trim the reduced case to 2.10" length and load with any cheap 6.5mm bullet of 100-160 grs, weight and no more than 30 grs. of H4895 or 31 gr. of IMR 4064 Powder. Even though the shoulders may be slightly buckled or bulged, these loads will fire-form the cases perfectly, with no case loss.

Being a rimmed case, the 6.5x53R should be resized carefully. Dies often

$6.5 \times 53R$ LOADS

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9.	SP 160-gr. Cast 129-gr.	(266455)	IMR4320 Unique	33.0 gr. 10.0 gr.	1500
10.	Cast 143-gr.	(266469)	2400 (Her.)	17.5 gr.	1700

modest velocity of 2400 fps. Mightily impressive to soldiers accustomed to black powder performance, though not when compared to today's 6.5mm (.264) Magnums.

Now and then assorted lots of these M95 Rifles (31" barrel) and Carbines (173/4" barrel) show up at quite reasonable prices. Not pretty-with their massive, straight bolt handles and pregnant, protruding magazines-but superbly made and quite strong. For better than 40 years they were highly favored as the basis for super-accurate British "Match Rifles," which are shot at ranges of 1200 yards and beyond. If you have one with a good bore, it's well worth loading for.

Cases are a problem-only surplus military ammunition normally available, always Berdan-primed, and set the shoulder back too far-allowing cases to separate after only a few reloadings. Adjust your full length die so it just touches the shoulder of fireformed cases enough to allow them to chamber freely.

At this point, you're ready to brew up some full-charge loads, so here's a table of some we've found to perform well and give good case life. All were loaded in reformed W.R.A. .303 cases of WW II vintage with W-W 120 primers. Load 2 is an excellent small game load, but ricochets badly. Load 5 is probably the best deer-black bear combination, and an excellent target load when the Norma 139-gr. FJ boat tail bullet is substituted. Load 8 is duplicating the original military load. Loads 9 & 10 are great for

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Nonte

Handloading

I am a new subscriber after purchasing your magazine for many months from the newsstand. I would like to ask your experts if it is safe to use the new Super Vel .38 caliber 110 gr. HP ammo in my newly purchased handguns: Charters Arms Undercover .38 caliber with two inch barrel, and the S&W model 37 Chief's, lightweight in .38 caliber with a three inch barrel? I have written to both manufacturers and to date only S&W has replied, stating that they have no experience with this ammo and suggesting that I contact Super Vel Cartridge Co. This I did recently; their reply is pending. However, I feel that your experts will give an unbiased opinion, and prefer their opinion.

> Harry J. Papaian Bryn Mawr, Penna.

Super Vel ammunition in .38 Special caliber, loaded with the 110 grain hollow point bullet, is safe for use in both of the guns you list. However, this load is far less efficient in such short barreled guns than in those possessing barrels of four inch or greater length. There is another disadvantage to this particular loading in the very short barrels-in that when firing at night, severe muzzle flash is produced. Under some conditions this bright muzzle flash can be very detrimental in that it virtually blinds the shooter for a few seconds .- G.N.

Colt Shotgun

I would like to know something about the following shotgun, as to when it was made and about how much it is worth. It is a Colt 12 gauge double barrel, hammer shotgun with Damascus 30 inch barrels. The serial number is 10706. This gun is like new inside and out.

> Fletcher Johnson Indianapolis, Ind.

inches. Introduced in 1878, hammer shotguns were made by Colt until 1891: the last known serial number of this model sold by the factory was 22690. Prices at that time ranged from \$50 to \$85. Collector's value for your Colt, if in the like new condition you state, should be somewhere around \$200.00.-R.M.

.33 WCF Loads

Please send me all the reloading information you have available on the .33 WCF for an 1886 Winchester rifle. Michael J. Bradley Pittsburgh, Penna.

Listed in Cartridges of the World, by Frank Barnes, is a .33 Winchester load which I find highly satisfactory. It consists of the 200 grain bullet driven by 41 grains of IMR 3031 powder, producing a muzzle velocity of 2220 fps. This exceeds only very slightly the original smokeless powder factory loading in this caliber.—G.N.

.410 Lefever

I own a .410 double barrel Lafever which is marked "Nitro Express." Would you please advise me as to whether this gun has any collector's value and, if it does, the estimated value thereof?

I noticed an article in the Shooter's Bible covering the Lefever guns which mentioned that apparently these guns were not made in .410 gauge. Would you please further advise me as to whether it is safe to shoot this gun for I intend to let my boy use this gun if it is safe.

Keith H. Stokes Helena, Montana

Your Lefever shotgun is .410 sounds like a fine gun, one that is seldom seen. The .410 double in any of the fine old models, such as Parker, L.C. Smith, etc., and in nitro barrels are much in demand and command a fine price. Collector's value for your Lefever in the .410 gauge would be

about \$300.00 in very good condition. I am sure that your gun would be fine for your son to shoot, but just to play it safe, why not have it checked out by a competent gunsmith in your area.-R.M.

Ejector Replacement

I have a Ranger Model 101.13 in .22 caliber, for which I need an ejector. Can you tell me who made this rifle and who to contact for parts?

Ernest E. Smith St. Louis, Mo.

"Ejectors" for most .22 bolt action rifles are nothing more than a prong or projection of metal making contact with the back of the cartridge edge and flipping it out of the action after the extrator has withdrawn it from the chamber. Often a gunsmith can make or rebuild such an ejector in less time than it takes to locate one. I would suggest this approach first. Should it be the extractor you need, building it is more difficult.

Spare parts for contracted mail order house guns, such as the Ranger 101.13, are in limited supply in the first place. When manufacturers such as Mossberg, Marlin, and Savage Arms complete the orders, the works are delivered to the purchasing company, which in this case, I'm quite certain, was either Sears or Montgomery Wards. You can write to both and also to Numrich Arms, 204 Broadway, West Hurley, New York. -w.s.

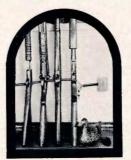
Ira Johnson Pistol

I purchased the following pistol from Francis Bannerman & Sons about 1935 for \$15, as I recall. Can you give me a current evaluation? Stamped on the lock plate is "US I.N. Johnson" (right of the hammer) and "MIDD" CONN" to the left of the hammer. The barrel is eight inches long, round, and smoothbore of about .55 caliber. It has a brass front sight and a swivel ramrod. The stock is smooth black walnut. It has a one piece brass butt and back strap and trigger guard, and a two piece barrel band and side strap. The markings "US JH and P" along with an anchor are on top of the barrel near the tang. It is in perfect working order and the surfaces are very good.

Douglas P. Steward Pittsburgh, Penna.

You have an interesting Johnson pistol, with its Navy marking on top of the barrel. I've not seen too many with this mark, which in many ways will take it out of the common Ira Johnson holster pistol. I would value it at about \$175.00.-R.M.





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OUR MAN IN



CARL WOLFF

DODD BILL GOES FORWARD WITH TRICKY AMENDMENT

Yet another trick by the anti-gunners has been pulled in the form of a proposed amendment to the socalled "Dodd-Celler" bills. The amendment, designed to shave off some of the opposition, has a built-in backfire for sportsmen.

Simply put, if such a thought-twisting idea as is proposed can be, the proposal would leave all the gun czar power offered the Federal government in the antigun measure unchanged. It would, however, theoretically allow individual States to pass laws exempting their residents from certain portions of the legislation dealing with outlawing the interstate movement of some rifles and shotguns.

The proposed amendment reads: "This paragraph shall not apply in the case of a shotgun or rifle (other than a short-barreled shotgun or a short-barreled rifle) of a type and quality generally recognized as particularly suitable for lawful sporting purposes, and not a surplus military firearm, which is shipped, transported, or caused to be shipped or transported, in interstate or foreign commerce by an importer, manufacturer, or dealer licensed under the provisions of this Act to any person who resides in a State which has enacted a State law exempting the residents of such State from the provisions of this paragraph."

This is a new concept in Federal law. The Constitution gives Congress the power to enact laws. But, does it give Congress the power to delegate power to the States to nullify them? The concept unproven, the courts could very well reject the amendment after the law is enacted. Thence, the total outlawing would prevail.

Another point-this is very limited language. The exemption only applies to importers, manufacturers and dealers. Nothing is said about citizen to citizen shipments or sales. Nothing is said about citizen to gunsmiths for repairs, etc. And, what is a shotgun or rifle "particularly suitable for lawful sporting purposes"? Senator Dodd's opinion is that a gun is designed primarily "to kill." The Secretary of Treasury could make his own judgment.

One more point-the amendment further states "The Governor of a State shall notify the Secretary of the enactment of such a law. " As a matter of Constitutional powers, it is generally agreed that Federal law cannot dictate the duty of a state official.



The reason for the proposed amendment is simple—the nine-membered Senate Juvenile Delinquency Sub-committee, the most "anti" group of lawmakers in Congress, on September 20th voted only 5 to 4 to favorably send forward to the full Judiciary the Dodd-Celler concept—the most restrictive gun legislation pending before Congress. In full Judiciary, the Chairman Senator James Eastland (D-Miss) and the majority of other members rejected a similar "Dodd bill" during last session.

In favor of moving the Bill up from the Subcommittee were Chairman Thomas Dodd (D-Conn) and Senators Birch E. Bayh (D-Ind), Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass), Joseph D. Tydings (D-Md), and Hiram Fong (R-Hawaii). Officially voting against the action were Senators Strom Thurmand (R-SC), Roman L. Hruska (R-Neb), Quentin N. Burdick (D-ND), and Philip A. Hart (D-Mich). Actually Chairman Dodd ordered the vote while Senators Hruska and Burdick were en route to the meeting, and his vote broke a deadlock.

In the House side Judiciary Subcommittee Number 5 has also been trying to report to the full Committee the House version of the Dodd-Celler bill. Chairman of the full Judiciary, Emanuel Celler (D-NY) also heads the Subcommittee. In a test vote members deadlocked along party lines in a test vote on the above "compromise." Unlike Dodd, Chairman Celler chose not to vote to break the tie. It had the effect of holding the measure in the Subcommittee.

Both actions followed within a week a letter from President Johnson to the Congress in which he urged prompt enactment of gun legislation. In his letter the President urged "the measure (the Dodd-Celler bill) is aimed solely at keeping deadly weapons out of the wrong hands . . This legislation will impose no real inconvenience on gun buyers."

The story on the President's action is that a Republican task force on crime was holding a meeting to blast Democrats for doing nothing against crime. The man in the White House out flanked them by his mes-

sage to Congress.

Senate Republican Leader Everett Dirksen is known to be urging the more mild firearms bill offered by Senator Roman L. Hruska. He has suggested that such a measure be added to the Administration's Safe Streets and Crime Control Act when it reaches the Senate. This is the anti-crime bill already passed by the House.

Readers will recall when the measure went before the House, anti-gunners tried to attach the Dodd-Celler bill as a rider. It was ruled (see the November issue) not "germane" to the subject. In the Senate there is no hard and fast rule on "germaneness."

Senator Dirksen stated that in the Senate the measure would have a lot of things hung on it. "When that crime bill hits the floor it's going to really be a Christmas tree," he said. The Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont) is also known to be in favor of the milder Hruska Bill.

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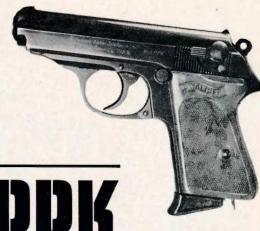
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A concise background on the manufacturing history and a close look at some of the variations of ...



THE WALTHER PR

By MASON WILLIAMS



American Col. Jarrett was among the first to enter the Walther factory at Zella-Mehlis near close of WW II.

FIRST BECAME INTERESTED in Walther PPK pistols shortly after World War II, because of the safety features plus the excellent double action mechanism. These tough little pistols were cropping up in some of the strangest places and were being carried by some of the most professional and competent individuals I have ever known.

My first sight of a Walther PPK went back to the early nineteen thirties when political prisoners in Germany were "exercised" at night under street lamps. They walked slowly in double file around a park or along a side street shuffling in the tired manner of men who lived under harsh suppression. I was always surprised at the small number of guards that walked leisurely along each side of the long, serpentine columns. On mentioning this to a companion he called over a guard who showed me his pistol under a street lamp. He was proud of it. It was one of the first PPK's and a highly thought of weapon. No, none of the guards ever worried about the prisoners making a break for it. These little pis-

tols would stop them before they could get far. The only PPK that I knew after the war was the so-called basic PPK pistol in .32 ACP. Large numbers had been brought back to this country and were being sold for a few dollars by ex-servicemen. These pistols were mostly in caliber 7.65 mm (.32 ACP) and were finished like Swiss watches so that they functioned easily, reliably, and put to shame the more commercially produced American automatic pistols. I still enjoy taking one of the pre-war pistols apart and examining the superb finish, fitting and workmanship. They are truly a pleasure to see and examine.

Partly on this account and partly because of their small, compact size and shape, they came into the hands of special agents, detectives and men who needed a second handgun or a single, completely safe and reliable weapon that they could depend upon. In addition, these pistols gave fine accuracy with

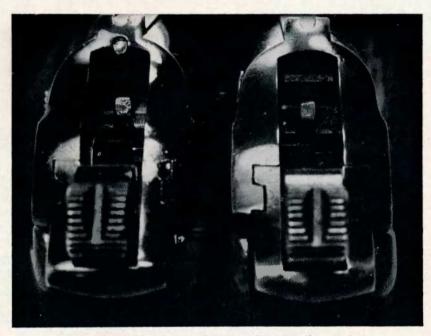


their fixed barrels. The design permitted the shooter to carry this pistol with a round in the chamber and the hammer down in a rebound position with complete safety. When needed, the pistol could be instantly drawn and the trigger pulled back like that of a double action revolver. The hammer was drawn back, and allowed to fall and fire the cartridge. After this first shot the hammer remained back to give the shooter a crisp single action trigger pull. If the pistol

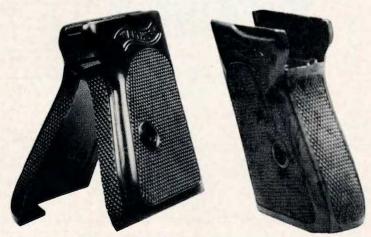
was to be holstered the shooter would then snap down the safety catch that dropped the hammer onto a solid block of steel that prevented accidental discharge, thus rendering the pistol absolutely safe. Most shooters would then flip up the safety, removing the steel block from under the hammer and placing the hammer in a rebound position that enabled the shooter to carry the pistol loaded, safe, and ready for instant use.



Standard PPK's have a button clip release while an early variation has a release at bottom of grip frame.



Shown alongside a normal PPK in .32 ACP, this variation in .32 ACP without a cartridge indicator is quite rare.



All of the PPK's manufactured after WW II, whether made at Ulm or by Manurhin, have two-piece grips.

THE WALTHER PPK

Center fire pistols carried a cartridge indicator that showed whether or not a cartridge was in the chamber by means of a sliding pin that protruded out above the firing pin if a cartridge was in the chamber. When empty, a spring forced the pin down into the rear of the slide. A touch of the finger would tell the shooter whether or not the pistol carried a cartridge in the chamber. The magazine release ressembled that of the Colt Model 1911 pistol. It was located on the left side of the frame behind the trigger guard. Pressing in on this button released the magazine that then slipped down and out of the pistol grip. With practice the shooter could eject the empty magazine and slam in a new one in less than two seconds, giving him sustained fire power and a considerable edge over any opponents using revolvers.

In other words, this PPK pistol came with the cartridge indicator pin, the push button mazagine release in the side of the frame, and in calibers .22 Long Rifle, .32 ACP and .380 ACP. The left side of the slide bore the following marks: "Waffenfabrik Walther Zella-Mehlis (Thur) Mod PPK Walthers Patent cal. 7.65 m/m."

The serial number appeared on the right side of the frame directly behind the trigger guard and ran vertically. These pistols had one piece, three sided plastic grips. A laynard loop extended down from the bottom of the grip behind the magazine. The magazine could be neither plain metal or it could have a plastic extension. This pistol represented the basic Walther PPK pistol, and could be considered as standard production.

The manufacture of self-loading pistols had been prohibited within the Federal Republic of Western Germany after the war. Because of this, arrangements were made with a French arms firm just inside the French border. All pistols produced at this plant carried the stamp on the left side of the slide: "Manurhin—Lizenz Walther."

This contract continued through 1960, when basic production was resumed in Germany, however the Manurhin plant does turn out certain parts and handles fill-in orders for the German plant. Manurhin does not manufacture and assemble complete Walther pistols. I wish to stress (Continued on page 77)



Revolver with Automatic Ejector

By FRED E. POE

T HIS REVOLVER was invented and manufactured by W. von Steiger in the city of Thun, Switzerland, in the year 1875. W. von Steiger was in business between the years 1870 through 1880, and he produced several different types of revolvers during this period. His system of numbering different models followed no pattern; it may have been consecutive or may have started with number 1 with each new model. The revolver pictured is an experimental model, serial number 32; one of a group produced for the Swiss Army to test and try in the field. After two years of strenuous testing, many malfunctions in the unique automatic ejection system were revealed and it was rejected by the military. The basic reason for the malfunctions was that the automatic ejection system was very susceptible to dirt and grit and consequently would jam very easily. A copy of the Swiss ordinance reports states the Swiss Government bought only ten of these revolvers at a price of 300 Swiss francs per revolver (Continued on page 76)



ARE YOU SHOOTING DANGEROUS AMMO?



By Maj. George C. Nonte









Surplus ammo can surprise you, sometimes with an accident

NCOUNTED MILLIONS of rounds of surplus military ammunition have been sold on the open market in this country over the past couple of decades. I've wandered through massive warehouses that seemed to contain more such ammunition than would be required to stage a half-dozen Latin revolutions. During the still-extant surplus boom, virtually every caliber and type of military round made since the advent of the central-fire metallic cartridge has been offered for sale—right along with guns in which to shoot it. And while the variety available isn't as extensive as it was a few years back, there is still plenty of practically everything made since WWI.

Of course, not all of this ammunition is in top-notch shape. Some has been offered that produced more misfires than bangs, but by and large, its reliability is surprising, even when it looks like junk. This is, more than anything else, a tribute to the state of the art in the arms industry. Ammunition produced over a half-century ago often performs as well now as when it was made.

Military ammunition offered through normal surplus channels usually consists of ball (inert projectile) and tracer (T) or armor-piercing (AP) types, with a bit of incendiary (I) showing up occasionally. Neither of the latter three types serve any useful purpose for the sportsman, and can actually be dangerous to lives and property if not fired under strictly controlled conditions. Anyone who has ever worked a machinegun range knows the problems encountered with fires when such ammunition is in use. A haystack or grain field set afire by a careless shot can make any gun buff personna non grata.

While the foregoing types of ammunition are rather well known, others of more dangerous nature are not. While the reputable surplus dealers do not sell dangerous types, some undesirable characters do—and in addition to that source, thousands of small lots show up from time to time, having been brought home by returning servicemen from our last few and current wars. Usually when this sort of stuff is offered for sale, the seller doesn't know what he has or whether it is dangerous, or just doesn't tell the purchaser. The purpose of these few words is to enable anyone to identify dangerous and/or undesirable items of military small arms ammunition before they can cause any grief.

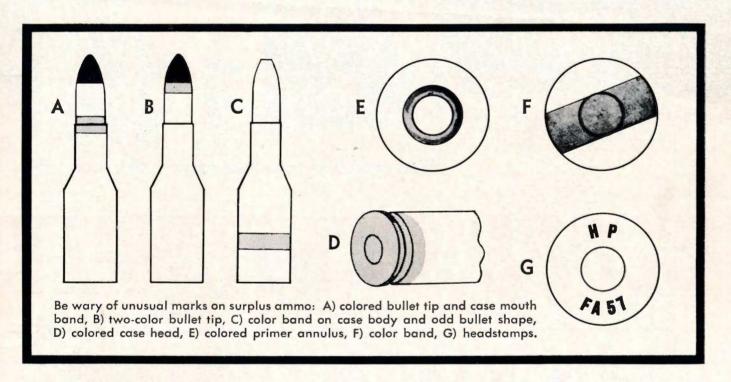
There are a number of types not desirable for general use, so let's take a look at them and what they can do.

TRACER: Normally consists of a fairly conventional bullet, somewhat longer than usual, and containing an incendiary compound in a cavity in its base. Upon firing, the incendiary material is ignited by heat from the propelling charge—and burns in flight to produce a visible flame. When a tracer comes to rest before the compound is completely consumed, it will start fires in almost any readily-combustible material. Don't let the armchair experts tell you they won't,

The other type is actually a combination explosiveincendiary (HEI) in that a small, percussion-fired bursting charge is utilized to insure complete breakup of the bullet. It also serves to scatter the phosphorous farther and more violently than mere bullet breakup. Cartridges of this type should never be fired. They are no bargain, at any price.

The first type is not particularly dangerous to handle, however, the second can be—especially if age and rough handling has increased its sensitivity. Being of such small size and simple construction, their firing mechanisms are not equipped with the safety devices normally associated with explosive projectiles. A round of this type ammunition can be detonated simply by dropping it on a hard floor, if it strikes point-on. I consider this type of ammunition extremely dangerous. It should be destroyed by controlled burning (something beyond the average shooter's capabilities and facilities), dumping in deep water; or turned into an Ordnance depot.

HIGH EXPLOSIVE: A purely explosive (HE) round, which is usually percussion-fired as above, but contains a



ARMOR-PIERCING: Normally, a bullet containing a pointed, hardened steel core that will punch through more metal than a ball bullet of corresponding weight. Usually the core fills up most of the jacket, leaving very little space for lead or other filler material. No more dangerous than ball ammunition, except that ricochets are probably more frequent.

INCENDIARY: This is one of the mean ones. There are two forms: One utilizing a quantity of phosphorous or similar material which is sealed off from the atmosphere until the bullet leaves the muzzle, or until the bullet breaks up on contact with a target. As soon as the phosphorous contacts oxygen in the atmosphere, it ignites and burns furiously, starting fires wherever it comes to rest. The flaming phosphorous is scattered only by the breakup of the bullet as it strikes the target.

greater quantity of explosive material. It possesses all the dangers mentioned above, plus making a bigger bang and throwing more fragments farther when it does detonate. Even more dangerous is another type, exemplified by the Japanese 7.7x58mm high explosive round. This type does not use a mechanical percussion firing mechanism, but rather depends upon simply crushing of the soft bullet jacket to detonate its very sensitive explosive. Even a relatively gentle tap can set this type off, so don't, under any circumstances accept any—even as a gift.

In addition to their pure form, the incendiary and explosive types may also be encountered combined with tracer or armor piercing characteristics. It's surprising what some engineers can crowd into so small a space when they put their minds to it. Usually such a combination contains less explosive or incendiary material, but this makes them no less dangerous. (Continued on page 67)

GUNS . JANUARY 1968



SCOPE SIGHTING-IN



De Boman

By LES BOWMAN

SCOPE COLLIMATORS MAKE SIGHTING IN EASIER AND MAY SAVE AN EXPENSIVE HUNT

A BIG GAME RIFLE is only as good, as its sighting equipment, regardless of how well the user of that rifle can shoot. However, the finest of sighting equipment becomes useless if not properly adjusted to hit the point of aim.

Today, telescope sights are a common piece of equipment on the big percentage of hunting rifles. They range from the very low priced models, to the better ones, that will be priced from around \$40.00 to over \$100.00. When a well made, solid mount, is added to this, the price of scope and mount sometimes equals or exceeds that of the rifle on which it is used.

Here in the western big game hunting country you seldom see a rifle with only open sights. Most rifles bought for use out here come with a clean or slick barrel, made for the installation of a telescope sight. Most all of my personal rifles are made this way and for years I have never found a need for an open sighted rifle, even in the brush country of Alaska or in the Arctic snow and ice mountains. It is the big game hunting season out here right now and I have just returned from two successful hunts-for two very different types of big game found in quite dissimilar hunting areas—mountain sheep and moose. There were two of us on these trips and we each carried a rifle equipped with the very finest of telescopes and mounts. Although long shots were necessary on both the sheep and moose, the bullets were placed in the correct spot, resulting in quick, clean kills, and this was easily accomplished by the use of these good accurate scope sights.

Going into the Thorofare for the moose, we visited a number of hunting camps. There were 4 to 9 hunters in these camps and on our way out we had a chance to revisit these camps and check the results of 6 or 7 days of hunting. I found two rather surprising conditions in most of these camps. One was the lack of care about sighting in the hunters' rifle and a direct result of this was the number of game misses by these hunters. At least 50 per cent of the hunters were very concerned about the possibility of their scopes being off but were reluctant to try sighting in again while in game country.

During the time I outfitted, sighting in a hunter's rifle was one of the things I insisted should be done before we ever went into game country. We had a very good and complete rifle range at the ranch headquarters and it was used often and thoroughly. There are a number of things that can happen to knock a scope out of alignment, after the hunter has started on his hunt. The following account is only one of many examples of what can happen to a hunter's rifle and scope on a western packin trip.

On our way in for the moose, a party of hunters passed us on the trail and we noticed that two of these hunters had no rifle scabbards, carrying their guns on slings over the shoulder. At the top of Deer Creek Pass, 11,000 feet elevation, they dismounted to take pictures. One hunter accidentally jabbed his horse in the neck with the rifle barrel, as he was getting back on. His horse spooked and promptly bucked him off, down a very steep slope. Rider and gun parted company, bouncing down hill for some distance, through the rocks and grass. Fortunately, neither sustained serious injuries, but the next morning, without ever knowing whether or not his scope was still in alignment this hunter went out after his game.

We stopped at this camp on our way out and found that the man had been missing his game quite consistently. It seems a waste of time and money for a hunter to go home empty handed from a hunt when this condition is very



View through the Scope-Sighter.

easily prevented merely by checking to see that his rifle and scope were functioning properly. A number of years ago there would have been only one way to do this, actually sighting in the gun on a range, but for the present day hunter there is a much more practical way, especially in active game hunting country.

Several years ago, a west coast optical wizard and a dedicated bench rest shooter, Mr. John-B. Sweany, perfected a very small and light weight (6 oz.) optical gadget that, with a proper size spud or lead slipped on the end of a rifle barrel, made possible the setting of a scope to within inches at a 100 yards-without ever firing a shot. This gadget is called a collimator. It collimates or aligns the scope sight with the bore of the rifle. The dictionary defines a collimator as, "a fixed telescope for use in collimating other instruments, an optical system that transmits parallel rays of light." It further explains the word collimate as, "to bring into line-to adjust accurately the line of sight-to make parallel." This is

exactly what this small 6 ounce gadget does for the rifleman.

I have used one of the Sweany Site-A-Line collimators for many years. I have carried mine, with the right size caliber spud for the rifle I was using, on all my hunts. Although I have occasionally knocked the scope out of alignment by dropping the rifle or having some one knock it over, I have never been worried as to where my rifle is going to hit. By slipping the collimator on the rifle barrel I was able to determine if it was out of line, how much, and then reset it to the proper place, in seconds. This can be done at any time, by candlelight or even by the light of a match. It can be the prime factor in a hunt that is successful, instead of one that ends in failure because of missed

John B. Sweany of Calistoga, California, perfected the first popular commercial collimator offered to the public. They are marketed through Alley Supply Co. (P.O. Box 458, Sonora, California). The spuds to align it with the bore are short pieces of fine drill rod of exact bore diameter, with a spring insert to hold the rod flat against the bottom of the bore. The first Sweany collimators have a crosshair. in the form of an X, and when you look through the rifle scope the crosshairs of the scope registers at some point on this X in the collimator. This permits the scope to be aligned to the proper point, to shoot within a few inches of where it is desired at 100 yards.

After this is done the rifle should be sighted in on the range and then checked again with the collimator. The location of the scope crosshairs or post on the collimator's \times is filed mentally or a small sketch can be made showing this relation- (Continued on page 56)



Preliminary scope adjustments are easy to make with a collimator. Here the author uses the Site-A-Line to install a scope on a Remington 6.5 mm Magnum.

D ID YOU EVER GET the feeling that somebody was putting you on? I did, when I tried to find out what happened to almost a million pistols.

The guns in question were the so-called "Underground" single shot pistols made during World War II. In 1942, the OSS (Office of Strategic Services) requested a quantity of cheap, throw-away guns, which were to be air-dropped to the underground forces of occupied Europe and Asia. What evolved was a gun of simple design with a barrel of seamless steel tubing, so simple in fact that it was not rifled. The guns where chambered for the .45 ACP cartridge, and were sheet metal stampings, held together by spot welding. This single shot had no ejector, instead, the pistol was furnished with a wooden dowel. With each pistol came an instruction sheet, shown here, which was in the universal language of simple drawings—no matter where it landed, the recipient could understand the functioning of the gun. The contract for the pistols went to the Guide Lamp Division of General Motors, who tooled up and produced one million guns in the fantastic time of only thirteen weeks.

In the years since the war, this basic information on the pistol has been well known, but there it ended. A few of the pistols have turned up in the hands of gun collectors, and there are several in various museums. The pistols were there, but what of its use. if it were ever used? I had read much about the war, but never found a reference to the pistol, or even a hint that it had served its purpose, so I started to snoop.

When one thinks of the Underground, the first country that comes to mind is France. I telephone the French Consul General in Chicago, and although he had been in the Resistance in Tunisia, he had never seen or heard of this pistol.



A letter addressed to the Guide Lamp Division of General Motors brought a courteous reply. In effect, it said that they had no information on the pistol since "at the time it was produced it was handled in a very confidential manner by the government." They advised me to check with a branch of the government, but could not say which one.

So I wrote to the appropriate branch, namely the CIA, a lineal descendant of the OSS. In due course, I received a large manila envelope with no return address, and with the flap sealed with tamper-proof tape; in the best cloak and dagger tradition. I opened the envelope in a dark corner of my room, also in the best tradition of the secret services, and found that the information I wanted was "classified."

I went back to my thoughts that perhaps the French might still have the answer, so a letter went off to the French "Pentagon." I received a reply from an officer who, to the best of my knowledge is "Chief Engineer" of the French Army. He stated that the Underground Pistol was unknown to them, and certainly none were ever issued to the French Army. He suggested that we inquire of the CIA—but you know how that turned out.

One of the most interesting letters I received from my inquiries came from the Paris Chief of Police, M. Roland Faugere:

"I have the honor to inform you that the Police Scientific Laboratory at the Prefecture has in its collection a pistol, caliber .45 ACP, without mark or number, of American origin, with characteristics corresponding to the one described and pictured in your letter.

"This office has no historical documentation on this arm and it is therefore impossible for me to tell you if it was used in Europe during World War II, or if any are now in the hands of private citizens. I assure you that up to this time no crime has been committed with this type of weapon in the region of Paris."

Although this was of little help, except to tell me that if the missing thousands of guns were in France, they hadn't been found by the criminals, as yet, there were other sources. I inquired of many of my gun bug friends who were in Europe and Asia during the war. What did I get? Almost nothing. From scores of those who were in the Philippines, "a few." From those in France, "nothing."

The only mention of this pistol in Europe came from Jerry Tuttle, of Wilmette, Ill. He was stationed in Munich after the shooting stopped, and his outfit was sent to a nearby DP camp to shake it down for weapons. They picked up an armored car full of various firearms, including "five or six" underground pistols. So there we are; a "few" in the Philippines and "five or six" in Europe. This still leaves quite a few out of a million, doesn't it?

The pistols were, at the time they were delivered to the OSS, well wrapped in stout cardboard boxes, well waxed for waterproofing, and each box contained ten rounds of ammunition. If they had not been unpacked, they should still be in good condition—but where are they, those missing 999,990 pistols?

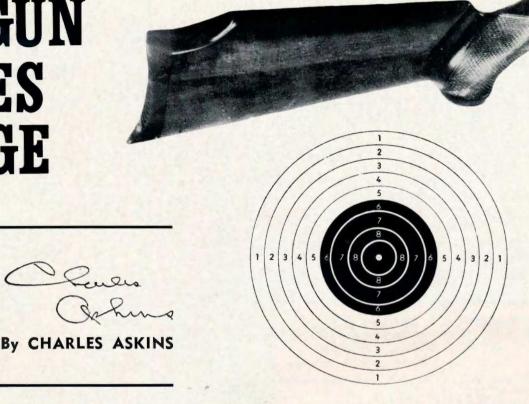
the Cloak and Dagger



Gun...

By KINGSLEY P. KARNOPP

THE AIR GUN COMES OF AGE



WE HAVE DISCOVERED a new shooting game. So new, as a matter of fact, that news of the sport has hardly gotten around. This new shooting game isn't like sheet, and it has nothing to do with trap shooting, it does not require an elaborate range set-up like the running boar, and it isn't played with bull guns or shot off benchrest. The game, happily, fits right into the tremendous population explosion we are suffering. It goes hand in glove with the new urban and suburban sprawl we see on all sides. New firing ranges seldom built; there just isn't the available space. Our new shooting game takes cognizance of all this.

The new sport is air rifle shooting.

Least you let out a loud derisive snort and exclaim, "That's kid stuff!" let me hasten to say that this new kind of air rifle gunnery has nothing to do with BB guns.

There is an entirely new order of air rifle in circulation these days. It shoots quite as accurately as the .22 40-X target rifle, and the truth is it may shoot slightly better—at its prescribed distance, 10 meters (33 feet). The rifle can be fired anywhere, outdoors or indoors, in your living room, hallway, garage, backyard or basement. It is virtually noiseless, quite

safe, and seldom restricted by legislation. It is not a firearm.

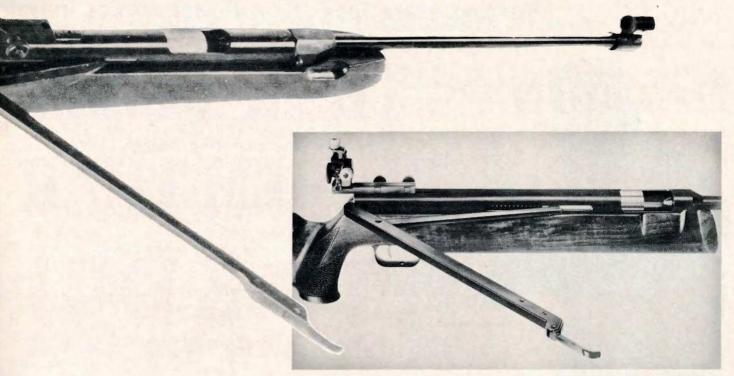
This new order of air rifle is made in West Germany. There are several of our largest arms makers in this country who are importing the German product. These guns makers of ours are firmly convinced that there is a big future in the air rifle sport in this country. So am I. Savage Arms now imports the Anschutz air rifle. Daisy, the oldest and largest makers of BB guns, ship in the Feinwerkbau air rifle. And Interarmoo, the sizeable importers of surplus military rifles, offer the Walther air gun. A fourth outfit in the picture is S.E. Laszlo (Hy-Score Arms Co.); their rifle is the old-line

"What is so special about this new air rifle?" you may ask. Visualize, if you will, the appearance of the current .30 caliber 1000-yard bull gun. It has a big target stock, a heavy bull barrel, a set of finest precision sights, the rear adjustable by micro-clicks to \(^1/4\)-minute movements for elevation and windage. There is a precision trigger, adjustable for both movement and letoff, with a stop in it and a travel so short it can scarcely be seen. This then is a very close comparative gun to the new order of air rifle.

The new breed of air rifle weighs 10 pounds. It has a large strictly target type stock, a heavy barrel, the finest of micrometer adjustable sights, the rear movable to \frac{1}{6}\cdot of-a-millimeter clicks, the front a hooded type with a series of aperture inserts. The caliber is .177", with chromium finished barrel, and an accuracy of \frac{1}{8}" at the regulation firing distance of 10 meters.

The only relationship virtually between this modern rifle and the venerable BB gun of our youth is that both employ air as the propellant force. After that all similiarity ends!

There is a considerable production of air rifles in this country that do not shoot BB's. These rifles have barrels with lands and grooves, fire a skirted (waisted) pellet, have good sights and are capable of an acceptable degree of accuracy. Calibers range from the .177 through the caliber .20 and the .22. Our most popular choice by quite a margin is the .22. This is a long standing favorite of ours because of our vast understanding of the caliber in powder-burning cartridges. However, some exhaustive tests indicate that the .20 caliber is the more accurate. This because of the care the manufacturer-Sheridan-gives to the production of this unique pellet.



Top: Daisy Feinwerkbau 150. Above: Savage Anschutz 250. Both guns use recoil damping system which substantially reduce or eliminate recoil.



Some of our domestic models are pneumatic by type; others employ CO₂ gas. These rifles, good though some may be, cannot shoot up to the performance of the German imports.

It is a little obtuse and slightly longwinded how the German high-precision air rifle took hold in this country. If you will bear with me I shall trace this history from its beginning.

It began directly after World War II. The Germans were forbidden to manufacture any manner of firearms and they turned to the air rifle for the sport had been well established before the commencement of hostilities.

The Diana Co., an old air rifle firm, commenced first to make a rifle. It was a replica of the rifle they had made before the Nazi came to power. The Diana outfit today is the largest manufacturer of precision air rifles in Europe. After Diana, the Walther Company, former makers of a line of sporting rifles, got into the act; this was in 1953. Walther concentrated on the design of an advanced type air rifle and soon dominated the field with

models that were, at that time, beyond any shadow of doubt the best.

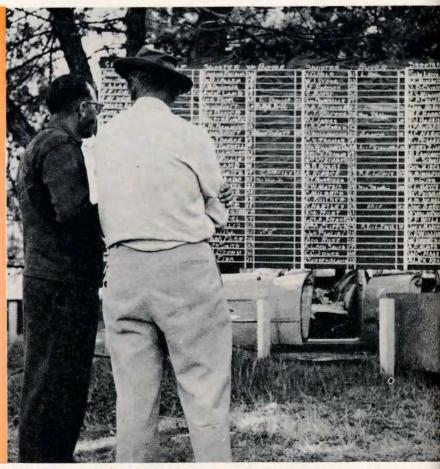
The response of the German shooting public was a hearty one. From an initial membership of 10,000, the national shooting federation soon numbered a quarter-million.

Air rifle shooting, as practiced by not only the Germans but all over Europe, is almost always fired indoors. It bears a most striking similarity in many ways to the national pastime of darts in England. There every pub has a dart board. (Continued on page 69)



THAR'S GOLD IN THEM THAR THAR!

By MONROE ARMFIELD



Two old pros talk things over in front of the roster board. With as many shooters as this in an event, purses can be quite substantial.

make you nervous, but lots of money can be won

10,000.00! Why, that's \$100.00 per target!" exclaimed an incredulous reader of the morning newspaper. "Boy! I didn't know trapshooting could pay off like that. Even the 'also rans' make money at trapshooting."

A skillful (and lucky) winner of the Grand American Handicap trapshooting event, conducted annually at Vandalia, Ohio, had just garnered the most coveted of all trapshooting events. Even the cash winnings of "near high scores" were staggering. A trapshooter, by playing options and purses in the "Grandaddy" of all trapshoots could pocket about \$10,000.00 cash for his high score of the day. Sound fantastic? Just listen to this.

In the 1966 Grand American Handicap race, the winner took home \$6,000.00 in cash without entering the optional purses. Had he entered the optional purses, he would have upped his take to the \$10,000.00 figure! That's pretty good pay for about an hour's work or play, depending upon how you look at it. He was the only contestant out of the 3,465 that entered the match to score a perfect 100 straight.

If you can shoot top score at a handicap match in most any major trapshooting tournament today, you stand to win some valuable merchandise plus four figure cash prizes. Trapshooting for money, while not exactly new, has

The Grand American Handicap, held on the ATA grounds in Ohio, lures trapshooters from across the nation.

been growing steadily during the past few years. As the attendance at large tournaments increases, cash purses grow to gargantuan proportions.

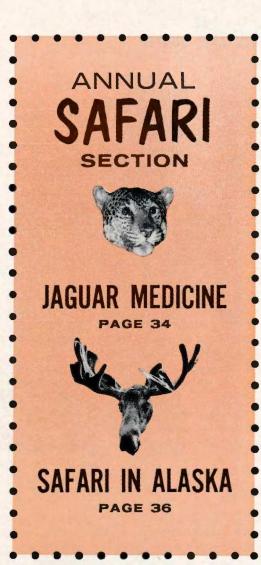
Merchandise prizes for top scores in trapshooting matches run the gamut from television sets, radios, to automobiles. A shooter may win a beautiful automobile as top prize and then also collect three or four figure earnings in cash from optional purses played in the event. One of the nice things about shooting for money in a registered trapshoot is that, because of various optional purses on different segments of the match, a shooter may start the event with a disastrous string of lost targets and then recover sufficiently to put together a string of hits that will often win enough to pay his entry fees. Or he may do it the other way around. He could break 50 or 60 targets and then have a streak of carelessness, nerves or whatever it is that causes shooters to miss targets. His total score on the hundred birds would of course be ruined, but optional payoffs on his 25 straights and the 50 straight could pay him handsomely. Consider the following incident which happened not long ago.

Windy weather at a large tournament held recently at Las Vegas, Nevada resulted in some fantastic payoffs in the optional purses. On two separate occasions, shooters won \$1,203.00 for a lone 25 straight on one trap in a handicap event! During the same windblown event, a 48 out of 50 merited the happy trapshooter a generous \$1,140.00! Now these are exceptional payoffs and I do not mean to imply that they are commonplace, but they do show what can happen in the optional purses.

Best of all, these "king sized" winnings are available to the ordinary trapshooter. You don't have to work your way up to a major tournament by elimination or qualifying events. Except for the Grand American Handicap, all you need to compete in a large trapshoot is an ATA (Amateur Trapshooting Association) membership and handicap card available for \$3.00 per year. To compete in the Grand American Handicap you must have a record of at least 3,000 registered targets during the past three years, 1,000 of which must have been shot during the past year. This is so that you may be assigned a fair yardage handicap for the big events. Armed with this card, your shooting equipment and your entry fee, you are ready to compete for some of that crisp, green lettuce that is so popular in shooting circles today.

Many winners of large handicap events are virtual unknowns in the trapshooting world. Most every trapshooter has an exceptional day once in awhile and confounds himself by scoring a 99 or 100 straight in a handicap event. Such a score at a major tournament, can be worth thousands of dollars to the shooter. Just how much your high score will pay you depends upon many factors. Needless to say, if you take advantage of all available options and purses on the program, your winnings can snowball into huge proportions in short order!

At most tournaments a shooter is eligible for "added money" by merely paying the customary registration fees and for the targets. "Added money" is just what the term implies. This money is contributed by the gun club or by various businesses that are (Continued on page 65)





A strip of white adhesive tape down the rib of the author's 12 gauge Beretta double allows him to shoot it accurately in the dimmest of light.

JAGUAR MEDICINE

By STEVE MILLER

THE 12 GAUGE MAGNUM SHOTGUN LOADED WITH 0 BUCK DELIVERS A DEADLY PILL

R ECENTLY, WHILE READING a popular shooting publication, the subject of Jaguar hunting came up, and much to my surprise, when the subject of the proper arms was discussed, the shotgun was never mentioned. Among guns recommended for the largest cat on our continent were the following: .30-06 with 220 grain bullet, .300 H&H Magnum, .300 Weatherby Magnum, and the .270 Winchester.

While I don't remember the author mentioning just how much experience he has had on Jaguar, I do know from my own experience that the above mentioned rifles, while probably more than adequate on any game, are about the worst possible choices for the hunter after Jaguar. I feel that before we go any further we should first examine our quarry, its habits, and the sort of terrain that it prefers.

The Jaguar is a member of the cat family, found from South Texas and Arizona, down through Mexico, through Central and South America, as far as northern Argentina. In its northern ranges, it seldom exceeds 150 pounds in weight, while in the South it will often exceed 200 pounds. It is not a gregarious animal, and prefers to travel alone. While the Jaguar's range can vary from the high arid plateaus to the thick jungle like forests of Panama, it generally prefers the lower areas, where plenty of water is found. Unlike most cats, the Jaguar likes water, and many have been killed while swimming large rivers and lakes. In some areas, the Cayman, or Alligator, makes up a goodly part of the Jaguars diet. Preferred food for the Jaguar is the Javelina, and the mere presence of Javelina, will often insure the success of a Jaguar hunt. In cattle raising areas, they often become confirmed cattle killers, and many large ranches employ professional hunters, or Tigreros to keep the population down. In the Spanish speaking countries of Latin America they are known as Tigre and in Brazil, by their latin name, Onca. While only slightly larger than its American



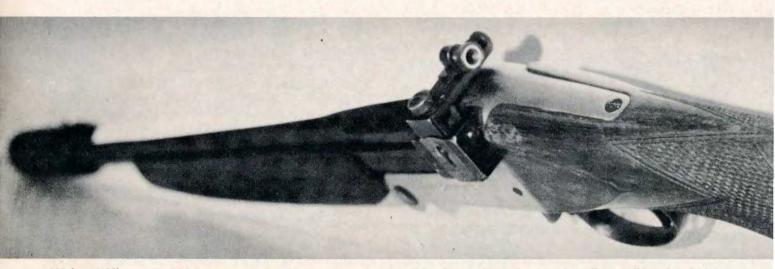


One of the author's favorite Jaguar guns is this single barrel Beretta with the barrel cut off at 18 inches and fitted with a Cutts Compensator.

cousin, the Puma, Jaguars are far more aggressive, as hunters with valuable dog packs have often learned. Man-eating and manmauling cats are common in Latin America, and the hunter who only wounds his quarry stands an excellent chance of being charged.

I have killed Jaguars with the 7mm Mauser and the .30-06, and while they did the job, it has been a long time since I have depended upon the rifle, as Jaguars are usually shot at close range, while moving, and often at night. My method of Jaguar hunting is similar to

the method used for tiger hunting in India. A bait is tied out, or a natural Jaguar kill located, and we sit up at night, with a light until the cat appears. For this sort of hunting, where ranges seldom exceed 25 yards, a rifle, especially with glass sights is a definite liability. Even when hunting the big cats with dogs, shots are usually at a moving cat, at similar close ranges, and the man with a scope sighted rifle is more apt to just miss completely, or worse yet, wound the already enraged animal. (Continued on page 71)



OUR 49th STATE WAS CALLED SEWARD'S FOLLY A CENTURY AGO BUT TODAY IT'S KNOWN AS A HUNTER'S PARADISE



SAFARI TO ALASKA

By JEROME ENGEL

HOW'D YOU LIKE to hunt your choice of 20 forms of big game in just one of these 50 United States—with a chance at timber wolves, lynx, wolverine, arctic and blue fox thrown in as a bonus? If shotgunning is your forte there are ptarmigan, grouse, assorted ducks, geese and hares plus other small game to keep you happy. The seasons are long, the bag limits lavish and huge portions of the country are nearly as virginal and unspoiled as they were a century ago. Doesn't that sound great? If so, pack your gear and head for Alaska!

Potential visitors visualize Alaskan hunting as chiefly consisting of giant brown bears and the largest moose on the North American continent; with, perhaps, some Dall sheep, mountain goats and the nomadic caribou. The fact is that it's a hunting Valhalla, with game and fish so plentiful that they're the year-around food mainstays of many permanent residents. The state's game regulations actually list over 40 kinds of furred and feathered game.

Alaska now has as many species of big game as all the rest of the United States combined. Its huntable population has been estimated at between 750,000 and 1,000,000 head. If that seems like a tremendous amount of game it must be remembered that they are scattered along both sides of 1,500 miles of airline distance. Additionally, the

large game animals living in Alaska's coastal seas are classed as marine mammals and many of them can also be classed as big game.

Moose are probably the most uniformly distributed big game in Alaska and are constantly extending their range to areas of former scarcity. The Alaska-Yukon moose is the largest living member of the deer families of the world. A big mature bull may stand over seven feet tall at the shoulder, weigh around 1,500 pounds and carry an antler spread of over six feet. Hunters get from 400 to nearly 1,000 pounds of high-quality meat from each kill, which is more than the live weight of most edible big game of comparable maturity. Consequently, moose are hunted more avidly than any other Alaskan big game. Hunters usually go in parties of from two to four so that when one makes a kill the others can stop hunting and lend manpower to get the carcass field-dressed and the meat cared for.

Moose and civilization get along well together which makes hunting the big beasts fairly easy within reach of roads, rivers and railroads. The present population of around 120,000 could be cropped by some 35,000 animals each year, or four times the present hunting take, without reducing the basic supply. But this level of hunting harvest

will have to wait until the state has a great many more roads and far more hunters.

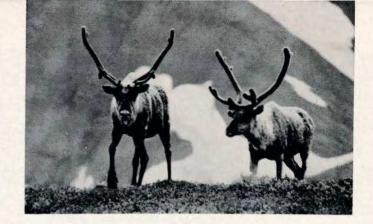
Barren Ground caribou number approximately 500,000 head, divided into about a dozen specific herds. About 30,000 are taken annually by hunters, as compared to the 100,000 born each year. Since natural mortality is taking off the surplus in only a few of the smaller herds the net result is that the total Alaskan caribou population is increasing. This is a cause for grave concern to the Fish and Game Department since herd growth isn't being matched by the slow-growing "reindeer moss" which the animals favor as winter food. These lichens have been estimated to require 100 years to replenish themselves in heavily grazed areas. If caribou migrate in search of such foods they may become less available to hunters along the road system and the annual harvest will decline accordingly. Hunting can be easily regulated but overpopulation of the species may lead to such serious decimating diseases as brucellosis and foot rot, which are already appearing in the Arctic herds. In some parts of their range caribou are vital subsistence foods for human populations.



For many years the mighty Alaska brown bears were considered a race apart from the grizzlies. But biologists now point out that both of these dished-faced, long-clawed, hump-shouldered, broad-headed bears have so many common characteristics that they're merely variations of the same species. In fact, where they occupy the same range, the browns and grizzlies interbreed. The usual difference in size is accounted for by plentiful food and shorter hibernating seasons. In short, the largest bears are found where food is abundant and a milder climate gives them longer feeding and growing seasons.

For Boone and Crockett Club and Alaska Big Game Club trophy scoring purposes bears taken north of the Wrangell Mountains—beginning at Mt. Natazhat on the east, the Alaska Range, and the 62nd parallel—beginning at Houston Pass on the west, are now scored as grizzlies. All long-clawed and hump-shouldered bears taken south of this division line are called brown bears and scored accordingly.

Since 1961 a "hide sealing" program has provided accurate information on the Alaska brown and grizzly harvests. Department biologists thus have a chance to measure the hides—and sometimes the skulls—to provide aging data and to learn where and when the bears are taken. This shows that the annual brown-grizzly harvest runs around 600, not at all excessive in view of the estimated combined population of over 10,000. The kills run about 50-50 between spring and fall seasons and are quite evenly split between resident and visiting hunters.

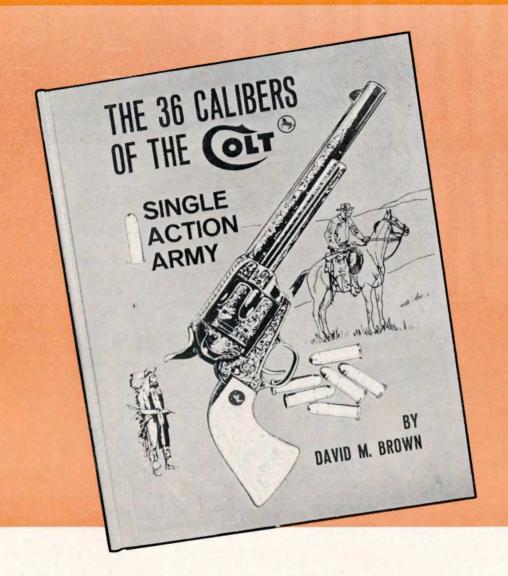


The hide sealing program reveals that from 10 to 15 per cent of the state's total harvest has come from south-eastern Alaska, a similar proportion from the interior and arctic regions and 70 to 80 per cent from south-central Alaska. A good indication that the big-bear population isn't being over-harvested is indicated by the fact that the world record brownie, taken on Kodiak Island in 1952, was closely crowded by another brownie from Kodiak in 1961. Over-exploited populations simply do not produce trophy-sized animals, whether bears or other species.

The magnificent polar bear wanders the ice pack of the Bering Sea and the Arctic Ocean in its year-around search for seals. It is a fine swimmer and often drifts long distances on ice floes and then swims back to the main ice pack or hauls ashore on some remote arctic coast. Northern sea ice also moves constantly clockwise around the North Pole so, given time enough, a polar bear might drift and travel great circumpolar distances. Male polar bears do not hibernate, hence travel and feed all year long. Gravid females hole up in dens in the old ice of pressure ridges or on remote islands for from four to six months but resume their wanderings when their spring-born cubs are no larger than big house cats.

No one knows just how many polar bears live on the arctic ice though an educated guess puts it at 20,000. From 150 to 250 of them annually show up in the Alaskan game harvest. Kotzebue has become the major polar bear hunting center but much hunting is also done out of Pt. Barrow, Teller, Pt. Hope and Wainright. Wherever they start, hunters must go considerable distances from shore to find their game. The average distance from the Alaska coast to polar bear kills (Continued on Page 61)





Guns BOOK EXCERPT

THE FOLLOWING material was excerpted from the book, "The 36 Calibers of the Colt Single Action Army," by David M. Brown. Published by the author at 845 Louisiana S.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico. \$15.00.

In the book, David Brown covers in great detail, each of the specimens in his collection, which comprise each of the calibers in which the Colt Single Action revolver was made. The following two pages are taken from the book exactly as they appear, and published here to show the great detail with which each of the models is covered.

In addition to extensive coverage of each of the calibers, the book also has chapters on identification by factory markings; how to detect rare and faked Colt rarities and includes a chronology of design changes from 1873 to 1940.

The one caliber we chose to show here, the .22 W.R.F., is only one of the 36 calibers of Colts in David Brown's collection, and in his book. Each of the calibers is covered by text, a photograph, a letter of authentication from Colt's, and drawings of identifying features.—Editor.

THE .22 W.R.F.

The .22 W.R.F. Single Actions were made in the Flat-top or Target Models only. No Standard Frame in .22 W.R.F. was made, but in our search the same calling the found four of the same made in the Flat-top frame. for this rare caliber we found four of the seven made in the Flat-top frame. The one pictured here was bought in England, shipped in 1889, and bears British proof marks.

Colt's made special hard-rubber grips for this special-order revolver. These are much larger than the standard grip, made in three pieces, each piece bearing the same Serial Number as the revolver. This extra-long grip is serial to handle this fine target revolver.

The hammer screw is also longer than stendard, making it possible to use the carbine stock which makes the revolver into a shoulder arm. The ase the carone stock which makes the theory of the a shoulder arm the striker on the hammer is of the smaller type, as on all Fist-top .22 and

NUMBER OF COLT SINGLE ACTION ARMYS MADE IN .22 W.R.F. CALIBER:

Standard Frame Standard Frame Flat-top 7 Standard Frame Bisley Model 0 Bisley Model Flat-top0

Coll's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Company, Inc. Hartford 14, Connecticut, U.S.A. January 27, 1964



Mr. John J. Malloy, 737 Queen Anne Rd., Teaneck, N.J.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your check in the amount of \$3.00, to cover historical information on Single Action Army Revolver #128463.

Our records indicate that the above Revolver was originally shipped from our factory as follows:

Calibre 7 1/2" Blue Barrel length Finish Stocks Rubber Type of frame Sold & shipped to: TARGET Purdey & Sons, London, England. February 20, 1889 Address Date of shipment Number of same type guns in this shipment.

Trusting the information given above will be found of interest, we are

Yours truly, COLT'S PATENT FIRE ARMS MFG.CO.INC.

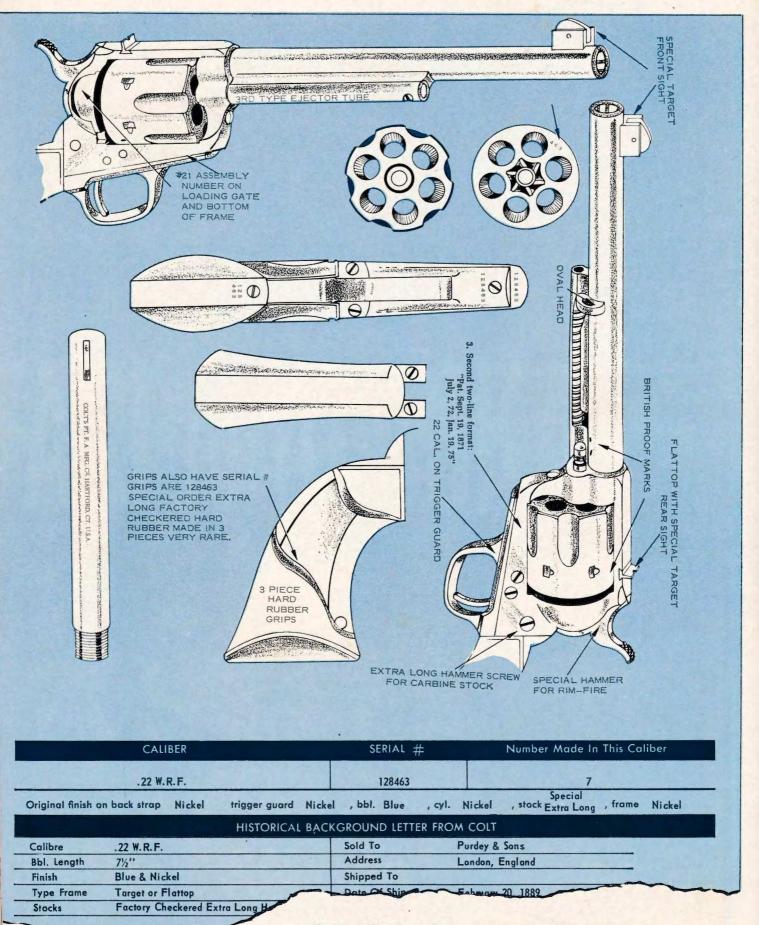
R.H. Wagner, Spare Parts Supervisor.

AJ

Founded in 1836

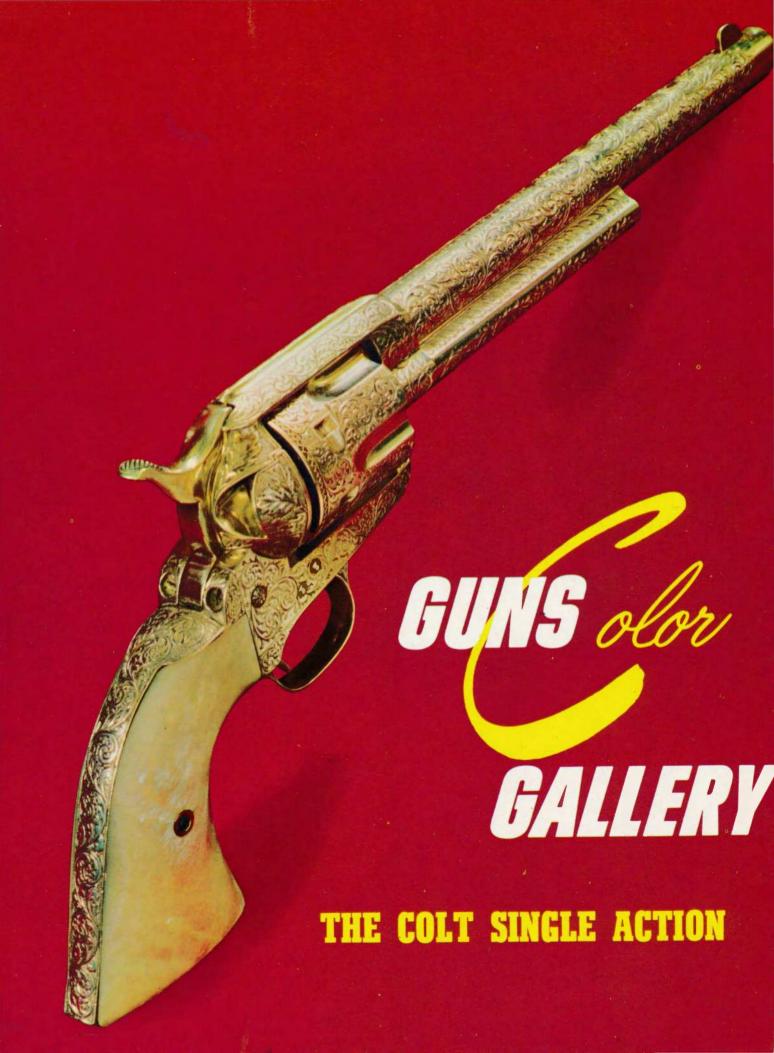


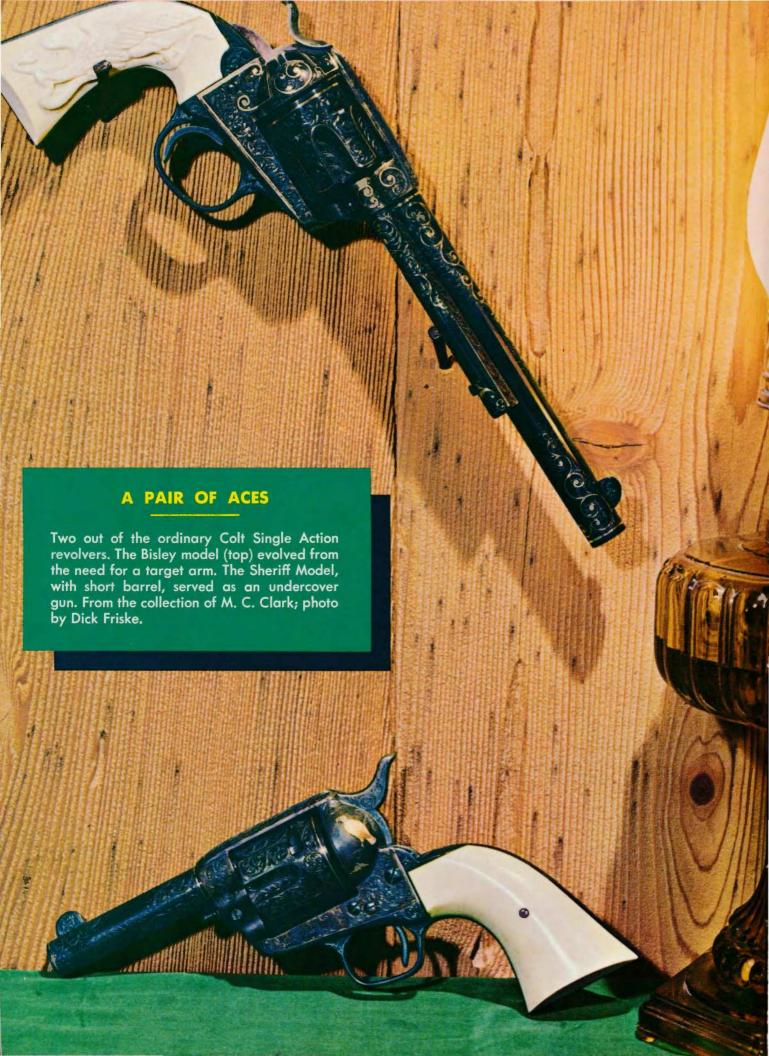
MORE PAGE 40 ▶

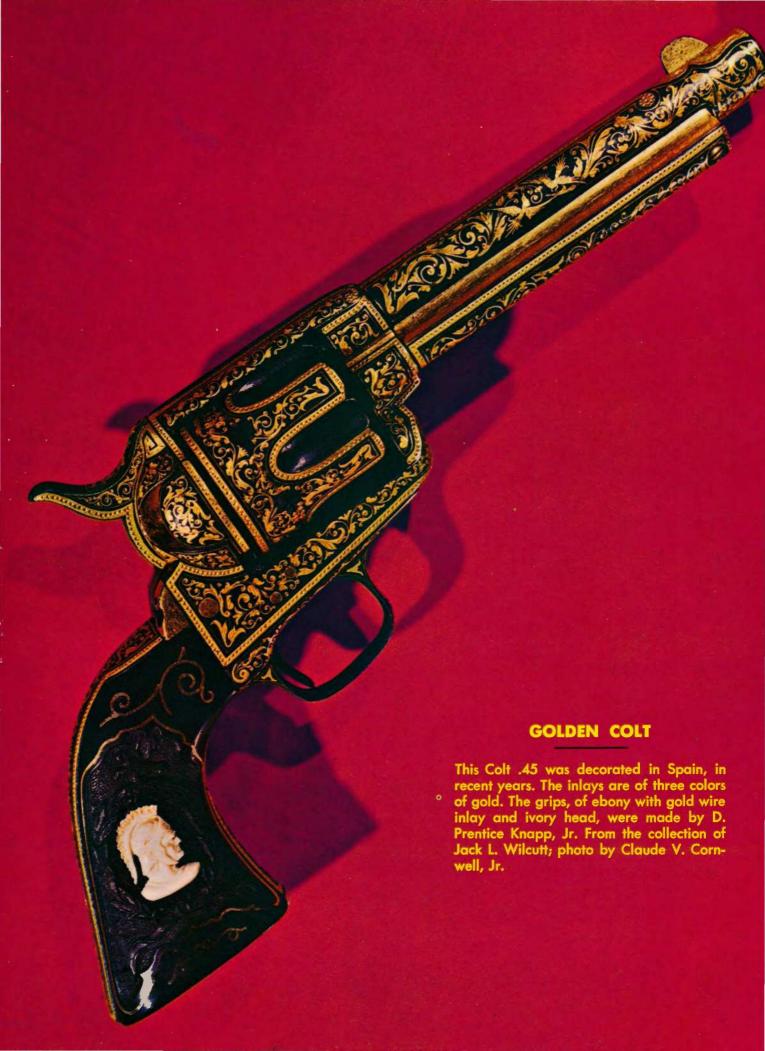


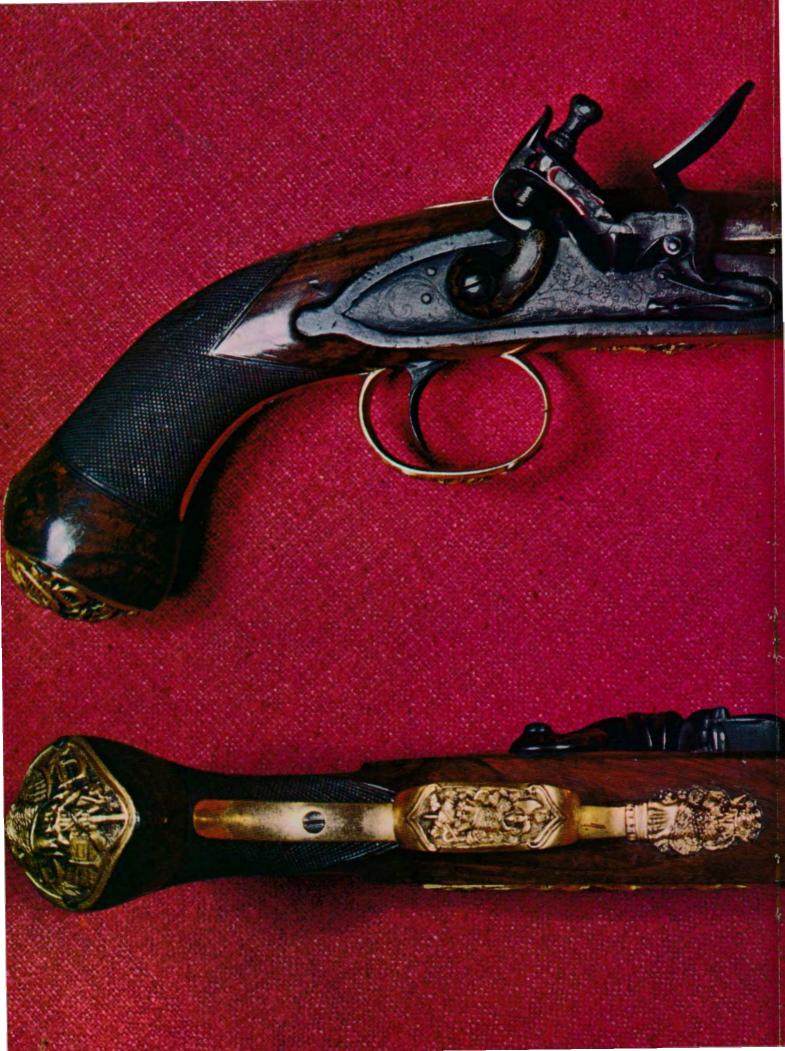
COLT SINGLE ACTION

This Colt Single Action is reported to have belonged to an emperor of Japan. A Colt letter shows that it was shipped to Japan in 1889. From the collection of David M. Brown. Photo by Harry Kinney.

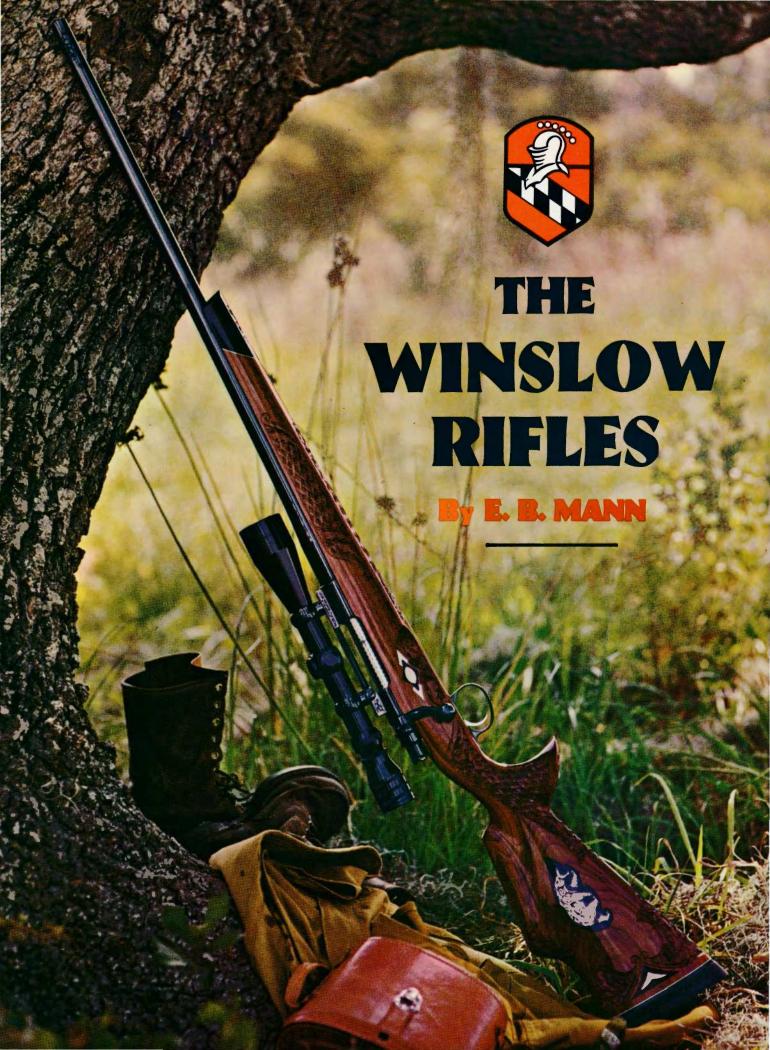












WHILE PRODUCTION-LINE manufacturers are struggling to cut a dime here or a dollar there from firearms prices, firms specializing in "Custom Grade" rifles are finding ready markets for guns costing several times as much as the prices the big companies are trying to reduce. This is a phenomenon causing much head-scratching, some dismay on the one side, and considerable smug elation on the other, throughout the firearms industry.

Many explanations are offered: "People have more money now." "Buyers are used to paying more for everything." "There are more shooters, hence proportionately more wealthy shooters." Down to the sour-grapes comment, "Who wants to cater to a few

prestige-seekers?"

No doubt about it, these factors do contribute to the picture. But it seems that the same factors apply to the thinking of the mass-production planners. Instead of shaving costs to shade prices, why not listen to the plaints we hear from dealers (and buyers!) across the nation that, even though the guns may shoot as well, or even better, than the old ones, the appearance of

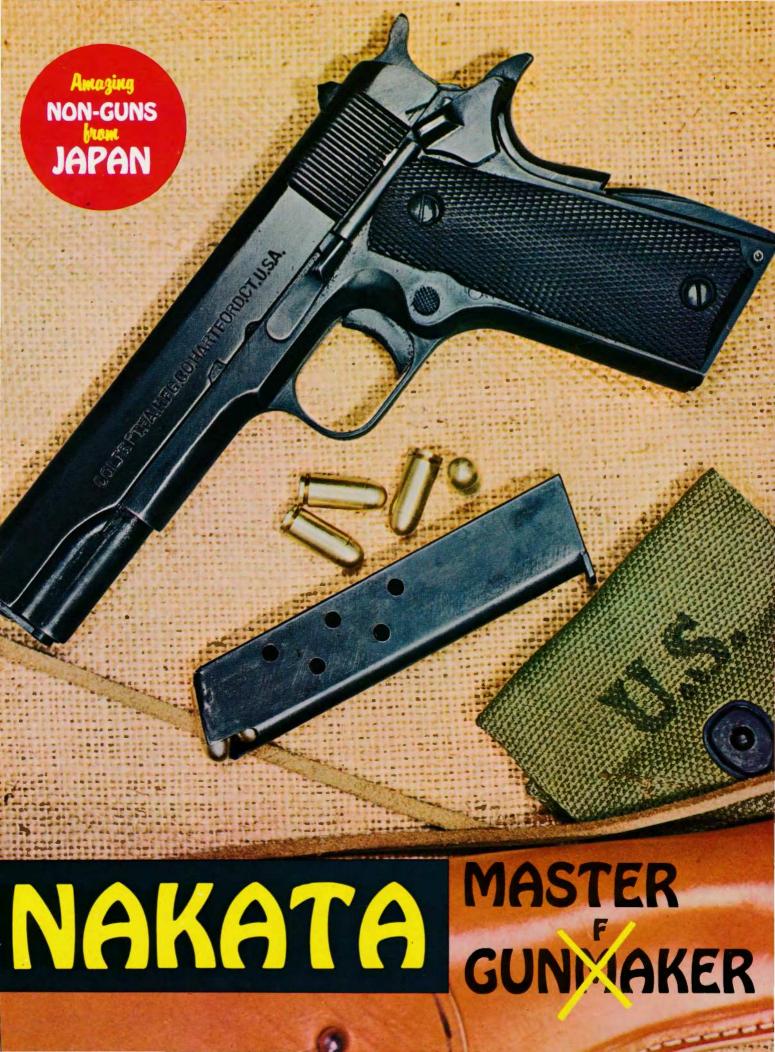
quality is lacking?

As a major distributor put it, "The average shooter is a tough customer. He wants a gun he can show proudly as well as shoot productively. If a gun lacks close wood-to-metal fit, fine finish, slick operational 'feel,' he's very prone to push it back over the counter without bothering to test the maker's claim that 'it shoots better.' Maybe this is not fair to the honest efforts the makers are putting forth to offer quality performance at lowest cost, but it's human nature. I'd say, spend a few bucks for fit and finish, and boost the price ten dollars. A few would complain, but more would be happy."

Winslow Firearms Division of the Winslow Company, in Osprey, Florida (a few miles south of Sarasota) is capitalizing on this shooter-demand for custom quality, custom-looking rifles. The quality is there, else they couldn't make their Lifetime Guarantee against defects, plus their unswerving guarantee of minute-of-angle performance. Every Winslow rifle must shoot one-inch groups at 100 yards, or Winslow will either make it do so or give you a new rifle.

The custom look is there, too. You can make a game (Continued on page 58)





米軍用 コルト 45 オートマチック M1911 A1 ¥ 4,500 〒150

口径 .38 全長 21.5 cm 重量 1 K g 装弾数 7 発 表面ガンブルー仕上

1911年(明治44年)米軍制式拳銃として採用されたこの拳銃は第一次、第二次に使用され現在も使用しております。

専用ホルスター ¥1

弾倉ケース ¥

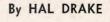
拳銃ベルト ¥ 250

から、改造の危険がなく安心して実物大のモ

ヨートリコイル等すべて実物通りに作動し、



Precision workmanship is obvious in Nakata's models of the Walther P-38 and Colt handguns.



A 38 YEAR-OLD JAPANESE shopowner has made an honest fortune for doing something which, in the Western world, would only get him denounced as a fraud and perhaps jailed. He makes fake weapons, deliberately fashioned counterfeits of some of the most famous handguns of World War II.

It is all legal, proper and honest. A customer who buys a Tadao Nakata forgery knows what he is getting. The mild, bespectacled former prisoner of war provides spurious, well-made pistols, which do everything but shoot, to Japanese collectors who are forbidden by unbelievably tough gun laws to own anything else.

His wealthy success in just seven short years is unbelievable—and so is the scene of his success, a small, cluttered shop with a closet-sized workshop in the back. It is a combined arms museum and business—and something which at first might startle and frighten customers draws them in.

The grey snout of a .50 cal. machine gun thrusts out of a

shabby storefront and threatens to wipe out every stroller along the crowded street. It is hard to be surprised by anything in Ueno, where a shopper can become the owner of a can of Indian curry or a Czechoslovakian motorcycle.

But many passersby stopped to closely examine the weapon—and discover that it was only a lethal-looking counterfeit.

Just behind it, in a thick glass case, was a headless store dummy that wore a coal blue German Luftwaffe tunic. Nearby was another uniformed plaster figure, a Panzer Grenadier who might have stepped out of a 25-year-old newsreel of the invasion of Poland.

A Japanese Kamikaze pilot had donned his ceremonial Rising Sun headband and was prepared to fly his first and last mission against the enemy. A British Tommy stood, arrayed in helmet, gas mask and puttees, resolutely ready to roll back the German advance on the Somme or to defend Tobruk to the last shot.

In dusty, time-worn uniforms, they all stood stiffly around a long plank table, piled high with enough precisiontooled firepower to wipe out a platoon of Prussian Hussars or a regiment of Viet Cong.

A British Lewis Gun, a Japanese Type 99 Nambu, an American M-1 rifle, a round-drummed Russian Degtyarev—they are all here, in a display that lures customers and converts browsers into buyers. Over the counter go the handguns, the "weapons" that look authentic and deadly, but are actually clever and harmless fakes.

Nakata's customers are collectors, not shooters. His store is always crowded by the curious and romantic young who did not know the war that touched the lives of their elders; and by misty-eyed old timers, some of them laborers who still wear their yellow-stained khaki garrison caps and can recall with grim nostalgia their days on the Pacific battlelines or the Manchurian front.

The fakes look genuine enough at

first glance to fool the most knowledgeable gunsmith. Pick up Nakata's biggest seller, the Colt .45 automatic. Pull back the slide; hear the hammer click and listen to the authoritative snap as a clip-fed dummy round is chambered. The balance is perfect. The feel of gun metal seems totally real. It can do anything except fire.

Instead of gun metal, this non-gun and all others are made of a dense zinc alloy of the same weight and feel. From grip to bore, every part is complete and functional. For a non-gun, there are non-cartridges, realistic, perfectly-scaled brass ones with no primer. They can be seated and extracted by working the slide.

Why non-guns instead of real ones? This is a good question for advocates of the Dodd Bill to ponder. Japan likely has the most restrictive firearms laws in the world. The Japanese citizen did nothing and said nothing when legislators in the National Diet, honestly concerned about a rising crime rate, gaveled drastic control laws into

JAPANESE GUN MODELS

ドイツ軍ワルサーP38

8月発売予定 ¥ 5,000前後

口径 9 mm

全長 21.6 cm

重量 1Kg

装弹数 7発

表面ガンブルー仕上

1920年代(大正10年〜昭和初期)に かけて開発され、1938年(昭和13年) 軍用拳銃 P.38として採用、現在も製 造しています。

○ルガーP-08に引続いて製作中のワル そなえております。どうぞ御期待下さ



Nakata's model of the Walther P-38 is authentic down to the last detail. Every part functions just as it does on the real thing.





Non-guns in Nakata's shop range from machineguns to pistols. He also has a steady demand for helmets and other military equipment.



the books. Result? Handguns cannot be bought. They cannot be sold. They cannot be owned. Penalties for violations range from a whopping fine to a five-year prison sentence.

Shoulder weapons can be owned, but only after a tangled morass of paperwork that extends even to doddering antiques like matchlock rifles and the Spencer carbine Nakata bought from an American collector and displays on his wall. One antique dealer I know carefully conceals his centuriesold Korean and Chinese hand cannons, on the theory that some hard-charging, sharp-eyed rookie might call them handguns and haul him in. He would have to show, in court, that they were legitimate antiques; the burden of proof would be entirely his. He would not be recompensed for time in jail, loss of business, or court costs.

Where does all this leave Eiji Watanabe, the lawful average citizen who wants a handgun? Not to hold up the noodle shop or run amuck in a schoolyard; he merely wants a well-made weapon to collect and display. All the law allows him is a non-lethal facsimile.

This is where Nakata stepped in, back in 1960, giving up a small hardware store to turn out skillfully-fashioned fakes that make American visitors whistle with astonishment—and bring frequent visits from apprehensive policement who want to make sure he isn't turning out real weapons.

Most of the non-guns are linked to recent history many Japanese would rather forget, World War II. Nakata appears to be making all the sidearms carried by all sides.

The Type 14 (1925) 8 mm Nambu Automatic Pistol, mechanically functional and minutely accurate in detail, goes over the counter here and at other outlets like Kiddyland, one of Tokyo's largest toy stores. It costs 4,000 yen (about \$11) and could stand inspection beside the souvenir you brought back from the Philippines in 1945.

There is the long-barreled Naval Model of the German Luger (Parabellum) 9 mm '08 Automatic, complete with shoulder stock attachment and the 32-shot round drum that went into the clip feed. Eight thousand yen (about \$22) takes it home.

A German Mauser 7.63 Automatic, however, is displayed beside the flag of Nationalist China, because Japanese troops saw this weapon in the hands of Chiang (Continued on page 81)



Behind the scenes in one of the most important aspects of gun design

By HARRY O. DEAN

H OW SAFE IS YOUR GUN? A simple five word question like that would seem to deserve an equally simple answer, and I would sure like to give you one. However, the complexities that are involved appear to weave such a thick surrounding net of variable factors that a direct answer seems to be impossible. We'll go on to study some of these factors. Meanwhile, I think I have discovered a sneaky way to evade the original question. They say "A question answered with a question is an unanswered question." How about that? Now if you ask me, "How safe is my gun?" I can come right back with a real snappy answer: "How safe are you?"

It has been my pleasure and privilege to meet many of the shooting industry's engineering wizards. There is no finer group of dedicated men in the gun game than those who design and test our firearms. They have a big job. A good part of it consists of giving you, the shooter, just what you want. Does that sound oversimplified? It sure does! Giving you what you want is one heck of a tough job. You are a demanding cuss. If you don't believe it, let's see just what you expect.

You want a gun that is good looking and that balances and handles well. You want a wide choice of calibers and gauges to satisfy your every whim. You want the gun to be safe, strong, accurate and trustworthy. You want it to hold up under every sort of adverse condition. You even expect to mistreat it from time to time and have it emerge unscathed, unscarred, unrusted and unbusted. And, as if all that wasn't enough—you have the colossal gall to expect the price to fit your pocketbook!

While you are standing there looking so smug, the firearms engineer is getting ulcers. He thinks he can satisfy your wants, but that last bit about a reasonable price is giving him fits. He'll do it though. He always does.

His most important problem, the one he can never lose sight of, is the matter of your safety. The guns manufactured today are without question the strongest, the safest and the most handsome we have ever had. I am certain that you are anxious to hear more about the problems of gun design and you may look forward to a specific story on this phase of firearm manufacture in a future part of this series. For the present, we will consider the tests involved after the production of the gun. If this seems like "putting the cart before the horse," I can only hope for your patient indulgence. This is because the two phases interlock like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle and we can start assembling our puzzle with any single piece.

The word "Gun" has a big U in the middle and the designing engineers spell it "you." It is you they must protect when they design safety into your gun. But it is also you they must worry about when you pull some silly stunt that could throw all their fine work into scattered pieces—

and maybe scatter a few pieces of your anatomy around as well.

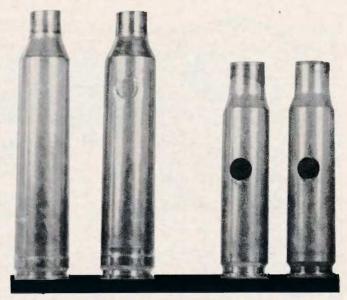
Since I mentioned visiting the gun plants, I might point out that one of the most interesting phases of gun manufacure and also the phase most applicable to an article on strength of firearms is the "proof testing" section. Our manufacturers take great pride in their products and they leave no stone unturned in their quest for safety. When a new gun is designed, it is often tested to destruction. The staff engineers try to foresee every possible mishap and they also try to think of every idiotic stunt that some haphazard or irresponsible shooter might dream up. When they finally have their new leadslinger all ironed out, they (and you) can be sure of one thing: The gun is safe!

I'll qualify that last sentence. The gun is safe to the extent that it will hold all normal factory loads and all reasonable and intellegently assembled handoads. Further, the gun has what we might term an "extra margin" of safety. This is that amount of strength over and above what might be considered normal for a given gun and its cartridge. Special cartridges called "Blue Pills" or "proof" loads are fired in all shotguns and high power rifles to establish the fact that the gun can withstand a reasonable overload. Notice the word reasonable in the last sentence. There are limits to everything—even proof loads!

The weird bird who gives gun designers gray hair is the character who knows about a guns safety margin and feels that this little extra strength area is his private bailiwick. It is surprising to learn how many shooters feel that overloading "just slightly" is perfectly safe because the rifle is designed to have this extra margin of strength. The really knowledgeable handloader knows that a load somewhat below the top charge usually gives the best performance. It is a childish and deadly game for two men who own rifles of the same caliber to try to outdo one another in the matter of handloading. If Joe has worked up to a maximum charge and Pete thinks it is a great talking point to say that his load is one half grain higher and that Joe is shooting a "sissy gun," he certainly has nothing to brag about. Maybe he can also brag about his primers coming out much easier too! "I just hafta tap the case on the edge of the loading bench and they fall right out."

We can smile about it, but it most assuredly is not a joke as you well know. We have enough anti-gun people clucking about for new laws to restrict the shooting sport without adding fuel to their fires with self-inflicted injuries due to careless handloading.

The "blue pill" is a cartridge that the average shooter will never see. But shooters are a curious lot and I'm sure my readers would like to hear a bit more about the cartridges that are used to prove the strength of gun actions. The old designation "blue pill" may not be entirely true today. It was common practice many years ago to identify these proving rounds with a lacquer marking of some sort. At one time it was blue. In the interests of standardization, the industry has set up a sort of clearing house called the "Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute." This organization, whose name is a mouthful in itself, performs a very necessary function. It acts as a central source of information and a control to permit all makers to load to a standard set of ballistics for a given bullet in a given caliber. Thus, the chamber dimensions are now the same for all manufacturers and the correct (Continued on page 74) drawings and dimensions



Shells fired in pressure guns ordinarily blow out brass at the piston hole, though sometimes only a mark is left.



Proof cartridges come in white boxes with red markings. They have a tinned case and a red lacquered bullet tip.



Silver color bases and red-lettered warning labels mark shotshells as high pressure proof loads for testing only.



PULL!

By DICK MILLER

THE STATE of the Nation, as we enter a new year, is good, viewed from the vantage point of the clay target sports. Neither the Grand American, nor the Skeet Nationals set new attendance records in 1967, but the shooting pace was torrid in both, and there are valid reasons for the lack of new attendance records.

The Grand dropped from an almost thirty-five hundred (3464) in 1966 to just short of three thousand (2928) in 1967, but this was due in part at least to the new rule assigning 25 yards as a penalty handicap, rather than 22 yards for failure to record enough registered targets. Many shooters who in the past would have taken their chances from 22 yards felt that 25 yards was too far from their work. The Skeet Nationals attracted 637 gunners at Savannah, Georgia, where the record attendance (738) was set two years ago. Unfortunately, the skeet event was held during the wave of violence that plagued many of our cities, and some shooters of record were reluctant to leave their homes and businesses during that period.

IF THE venerable Grand did not set attendance records, it did provide a setting for other records and newsworthy shooting performances. Hiram Bradley, from Greenville, Ohio, missed a target during the Grand, which ended his string of consecutive hits at 1,469. Unofficially, the string is even longer, but Bradley, who was almost too ill to shoot during the Grand might possibly be able to sit on that string for a while. Arnold Riegger's 1434 stood since 1959, and the long-time standard of 1404 by the great Joe Hiestand survived from 1938 to 1959.

More history was made when it took one hundred straight to win the Grand American Handicap for the second year running. Del Grim from Lincoln, Nebraska, posted the perfect century of 1966, and Herman Welch of Downer's Grove, Illinois, followed suit this year. Welch came back after a year's layoff due to poor scores to win the richest prize of all in 1967. And, he picked a beautiful spot to break his first-ever perfect hundred at handi-

cap. His only previous perfect century was from 16 yards. Welch's Grand win can be compared to a baseball rookie hitting a grand slammer on his first time at bat, or a football rookie running the kickoff back for a touchdown the first time he got his hands on the ball. But, such is the Grand made of.

And, for another man-bites-dog Grand story, Hiram Bradley's long run did not gain him the the coveted High-Over-All championship. That title went to Larry Gravestock from Wichita Falls, Texas, when he smashed 98 targets from the 27 yard line in Saturday's Vandalia handicap wind-up. This shooting feat is much like scoring on an 80 yard run or pass on the last play of the game.

History touched the doubles championship in the 1967 Grand. Chris Bishop of Leawood, Kansas, won the title with the first perfect hundred recorded in the Grand championship event, but still had to turn back Ira Eyler, Jr. from Martinsburg, West Virginia, before he could take home the trophy. This was a shock for Bishop, and a bitter pill for Eyler.

Buried in the small type of Grand reporting was the item that Larry Gravestock won the Saturday's preliminary handicap, which receives little publicity, because it serves largely as a warm-up event. His 98 one week later was one target shy, but far more significant. Because of the previous feeling that long yardage shooters do not fare well in the Grand, it should also be noted that Dick Williams, a 26-yarder, a runner-up to Gravestock in the warm-up event.

A NOTHER newsworthy item from the 1967 Grand was the 16 yard Amateur Clay Target Championship victory by Ernest Havlicek from Pomona, Calif. The handicap victory always goes to an unknown, but the 16 yard title goes to the big names more often than not. Havlicek was making only his second trip to the Grand, and his first on his own. His only previous visit to Vandalia was part of a trophy award.

If your first name was not Ed, it was useless to try for the High-All-Around. The winner: Ed Lake, after a

shoot-off with Ed Jurgens, and Ed Leavendusky. The 1967 Grand recorded another first, a 100-target International event. Sharp little Gene Lumsden, from South Gate, California, a member of the U.S. Army shooting team, recorded the initial championship, after six hopefuls had smashed 100 of the longer, faster, more difficult targets. Four of the deadlocked six were members of military teams, which indicates the stress the military is placing on this shooting game (for international reasons). Congestion at the top is not news in the NSSA World Championship of Skeet, and 1967 at Savannah was no exception. Eleven amateurs broke 250 straight in the 12 gauge championships, and it took 360 more targets by Jim Bellows, an Air Force gunner from Encino, Calif., now stationed at Lackland AFB, Texas, to stake out the trophy. He has been this route before, too having added 275 straight after the regulation 250 to win in 1963, and dropping out in the 13th extra inning in 1965.

IT IS news to report that not a single 1966 defending champion repeated, although all but one were on hand to try. Two newcomers cracked the championship rolls. Lt. Col. Richard A. Rowden, Jr., whose Lackland AFB contingent covered themselves with glory at Savannah, led his troops well with the twenty gauge trophy. Unflappable, pipe-smoking Kerr Craige Arey has installed the 28 gauge top trophy in Danville, West Virginia, a first for both Arey and West Virginia.

Hundred straights come hard in the .410 game, so rare that it takes barely more than two hands to count all of them. But, at Savannah in 1967, Lawrence Jacobs from Sicklerville used a borrowed gun to break the hundred, then had to settle for second place when tough Jimmy Prall, who is no stranger either to shoot-offs and long runs, took the shootoff. Jacobs had just completed only his second year of competition.

Bellows also added the high-overall to his laurels when he dropped only four birds in the other three gauges for a 546x550. And, this time he was spared a shootoff.

As I have said many times in this column, there are a lot of man-bitesdog stories in the shooting game. Buried in the small print of coverage (if reported at all) of the Skeet Nationals were such items as the Senior trophy to Otto Meyer of Los Angeles, who at seventy plus years broke 541 of the 550 championship targets. And, equally newsworthy is one more item connected with Meyer's victory. He

was tied at 99x100 in the twenty gauge event by eighty-six year young Art Weaver, from Seattle. Meyer took the victory on the toss of a coin when Weaver was too tired for a shoot-off.

How often have you heard that skeet is a young man's game. Don't try to sell that idea to Otto Meyer and Art Weaver. They won't know what you are talking about.

Another special event at Savannah in 1967 was a full course of championship events for shooters confined to a wheel chair. The wheel chair event was added in 1966 as a twelve gauge event only, and was given the four gun treatment in 1967. O. Fred Aiken, from Warwick, Rhode Island, won each gauge, and Charles Lambert was runnerup in each event. Aiken broke 97 in the .410 race, 87 in 28 gauge, 98 in 20 gauge, and 241 of the 250 12 gauge targets. His High-Over-All mark was 518x550 which would be coveted by a lot of men who can stand erect to shoot their targets (including the writer).

Bob Shuley, one of two civilians who represented the United States at the Pan American Games at Winnipeg, fired a 290x300 (where) at the NRA International Championships held in July at Fort Benning. I have reported winning efforts by Bob Shuley (and his Dad) many times in connection with the Skeet Nationals and other skeet matches, so it seemed appropriate to add this item immediately following the news from Savannah.

Speaking of the Pan-American Games in this state-of-the-nation report, Lt. Allen Morrison fired a 195x200 to win the gold medal for the United States in this event. The Yank team of Shuley, Morrison, Bob Rodale, and Al Buntrock won the team event. International trap, a game long desired for the Pan-American Games, and which I tried hard to bring about in 1959, was not on the list of approved games for Pan-Am medals.

And now, for one final shooting news story to top them all in 1967, comes this one. George Snellenberger, the great Hoosier trapshooter from Angola, won the Preliminary Day high-over-all trophy in the 1967 Canadian Trapshooting Championships. But, he failed to show up for the first official event on Friday morning. He did show at noon, however, and shot targets as usual, along with his wife, whom he had married during the morning. He didn't win a major trophy but he did win Kitty Ebner, from Pittsburgh, Pa., as a doubles partner. This shooting game has everything, including romance.



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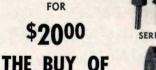
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SCOPE SIGHTERS

(Continued from page 27)

ship. Once a rifle is correctly sighted in and the positions noted in relation to each other, it is only necessary to set them back to that same point if a scope is removed or knocked out of line.

Last spring I was sent a new gadget, quite similar to the Sweany Site-A-Line. This came from the Collins Co. (Shepherdsville, Kentucky 40165), and was called a Scope-Sighter. It is also being marketed now by John G. Lawson (The Sight Shop, 1802 East Columbia Ave., Tacoma, Washington 98404).

The Scope-Sighter is approximately the same size and weight as the Sweany but instead of the 45 degree angled crosshairs it has a grid, consisting of ten horizontal and ten vertical lines from a common center. These lines are about 1" apart at 100 yards. They make setting a scope a very easy matter, after a little practice. With this new Scope-Sighter I am able to set a scope to within an inch or two on a new rifle and can set one back on a pre-sighted rifle I have previously checked, to within an inch at 100 yards.

A short time after I received and had tested the new Scope-Sighter, I attended a west coast manufacturers meeting where I met and talked with Mr. John Sweany. I told him how well I like the new collimator and he said he was then working on a new type reticle for the Site-A-Line and would send me one very soon for testing and it was not long before I did receive one of the new ones. The new Sweany has a series of five concentric circles radiating from a central point. These circles represent approximately 11/2 inches distance at 100 yards. This collimator is used exactly the same way as the Scope-Sighter, but the use of the small reference cards that come with the new Site-A-Line collimator make it a very easy job to check a scope that is out of line or to re-install one that has been removed. For instance, I mark the reading I take on a rifle that has been accurately sighted in on one of these reference cards and it is very easy to determine the proper replacement point. In fact, both these collimators work enough alike that it's merely a matter of preference by the user as to which he likes best. For the past three months I have been using both and find that some of the gun men who have used both like the grid in the Scope-Sighter and some prefer the Site-A-Line circle. However, regardless of which one you use, they are worth their weight in gold, when you are out on a long-planned-for and perhaps quite expensive big game hunt. In my test work I use one daily, and on a hunt I check my rifle every morning before leaving camp.

The Scope-Sighter is a Japanese-made instrument. Just what the service situation in this country will be I do not know but assume it will be adequate. The Sweany is California made and serviced. It sells, with one spud, for \$39.95. The Scope-Sighter, two spuds and case, sells for \$24.50. Sweany spuds, for different calibers, sell for \$3.85 each, in regular lengths or \$4.50 each, in long length, for rifles having a Pendleton or similar recoil brake. Spuds for the .30 caliber M-14 service rifle are \$5.50 each.

Right now I only have the two spuds that came with the Scope-Sighter but I understand that they will furnish others on order. I do not have prices on them,

John Sweany told me that any of the older type X crosshair Site-A-Lines can be changed to the new circle reticle for around \$3.50 each, plus



shipping charges. Some owners of the older Site-A-Lines have told me that they are not accurate enough and do not repeat a reading accurately. This is due to the users lack of practice or to improper use, plus the fact that the 45 degree angle reticle doesn't give the user as definite a check point as the new circle type or the grid type of the Scope-Sighter. One must remember that the collimator aligns the scope with the bore. Allowance must be made for the trajectory of the bullet and the scope height above the barrel.

In using any of these collimators there are certain things to watch closely. One is to be sure to put the collimator spud in so that the spring that holds it flat against the bore is to the top and presses down on the spud. Next, and very important is never to let the collimator touch the end of the barrel, Keep it from \(\frac{1}{16} \) " away.

A rifle barrel is never absolutely straight and the last 3 inches of barrel length is most responsible for the true direction the bullet will travel after it leaves the barrel, so spuds are made of a length to take the proper advantage of this. Longer spuds would give inaccurate readings.

Although collimators are used most often by gunsmiths for scope installations, I think one of these instruments rightfully belongs in the duffle bag of every hunter, especially if he does any long and expensive hunting. I can usually do without cleaning equipment for one hunt but I certainly want my collimator to use every day before I go into the field.

Most any hunting rifle of today is accurate enough for good clean kills to the limit of its energy range, but it can only do this if the sighting equipment is in perfect alignment and stays that way.

So far I have only talked of sighting uses for the collimator, but there is one other use that I have found for it. As of right now, I do not know of anyone else using it for this purpose, although it works exceedingly well. I use it for checking stock fore-end pressure, either upward or sideways. I test a lot of new rifles and check each one with a collimator for foreend pressure. The gun is held in my gun vise, the collimator installed and the scope setting noted. I then loosen the front action screw as I look through the scope. Any upward or sideway pressure can easily be noted.

One excellent rifle I recently received had 6 inches of upward pressure and 2 inches of side pressure on the foreend. I like all my rifles, hunting varmint or target, to have a tight recoil lug fit, a solid bedding, whether on the wood or glass, on the first 21/2 or 3 inches (about case length) of the barrel and free floated from there on out. This new rifle would climb with each shot as it warmed up and also shoot slightly to the right. After six fast shots it was placing the last one 6" or 8" high and 2" to the right of the first shot. Relieving this pressure allowed the barrel to shoot to one impact point, even when it heated up rapidly.

The collimator has greatly reduced my work in properly checking and/or bedding stocks on my rifles. This same procedure can be used in the field, to check stock warpage, when on a long hunting trip where extreme humidity changes may have affected the stock

Today's hunter really has no one to blame for missing his game but himself. With the accurate scopes and the straight shooting rifles of today, plus the assistance of a good collimator, properly used, a hunter is practically assured of clean, quick kills. He just has to learn to put his shot in the right place and he'll always find he can "come home with the bacon."







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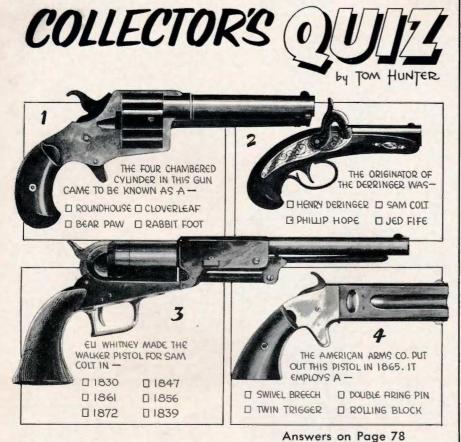
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WINSLOW RIFLES

(Continued from page 47)

out of trying to slip a sliver of paper between wood and metal on a Winslow rifle; and the finish—well, when Winslow made its debut in the bigtime gun shows (at the 1965 National Sporting Goods Association show in Chicago), a buzz went up that shook the steel (but not fire-proof) McCormick Place rafters. The controversy that began there continues unabated: "They shine like mirrors, will spook game to hell and yonder!" Countered by the grudging admission, "But ain't they purty!"

There is no denying (and the Winslow people are first to admit) that there is a considerable amount of what the Mountain Men called "fooferaw" about their rifles. "Fooferaw' was a word the Mountain Men used in disdain of anything not absolutely essential to their grimly Spartan existence. A few shooters still cling to this attitude. An article recently published in this magazine stated categorically that "If a part in a military firearm can do a job, its beauty should have nothing to do with deciding whether it should be used." The argument has merit for military weapons, but I doubt that it should be applied to sporting firearms.

Be that as it may, the "fooferaw" is there in the Winslow rifles: in brilliantly glassy finish of both wood and metal; in contours that "flourish" rather then "blend;" in carvings, engravings, inlays, up to jewelry-like gold platings. Hang a Winslow rifle on the wall or carry it on a hunting trip, and it will get attention! And if you are one of those who really do buy Cadillacs, Continentals, Imperials, or Rolls Royces for prestige value, leave the price tag on your Winslow rifle and that will get attention, too. The cheapest rifle Winslow sells is ticketed at \$305.00. They go from there up to \$1,279.00-standard. If you want to add some gold plating or other personally-dreamed-up decoration, the sky is the limit. Winslow brochures are not just spoofing when they use the phrase, "Muscle and mink blended together," in their description of their Grade Imperial rifle.

But they shoot! John Winslow loves guns, but he is a business man—not a nut—and only a nut would place a minute-of-angle guarantee behind a rifle that couldn't cut the mustard. So far, he has had to improve or replace very few rifles.

There is no real mystery about the shooting quality of Winslow rifles. Take selected Douglas barrels (delivered rifled and turned to correct dimensions, but not finished); take selected FN actions and trigger assemblies; mate them with precision hand-fitting to tolerances machines simply cannot achieve in mass production; tie the mated parts together from finishing bench to final assembly—and you are not leaving much to chance in the rifle's working potential. (And if these components—barrel, action, or trigger—do not suit you, Winslow will make a rifle for you combining whatever parts you specify or furnish.)

Take fine walnut blanks; tool them to rough contours; rough in the bedding by machine and then hand-fit a specific stock to a specific barreled action assembly until it achieves that cigarette-paper wood-to-metal union that Winslow demands—and you, too, could reasonably assume that you were well on your way to superlative performance.

The "secrets" relating to Winslow production relate solely to the finishes applied to wood and metal; and except for the actual bluing and lacquer formulae, the basic secret in both these operations can be summed up in one word-work! Dick Bortmess invented the bluing formula, and that is a company secret. But when you see the mirror-perfect chrome-like shine of the parts before bluing, you are not much surprised by the nearly-jetblack perfection of the finished product. Metal has simply been buffed, and buffed, and buffed again and again and again, until not a trace of tool-mark or dullness remains to mar the glass-hard Bortmess bluing.

The same "damn the overhead" prodigality of time and labor goes into the stock finish. With stocks already finished to near-perfection, girls place them on broadloom-carpeted benches with the care usually reserved for fragile crystal—and begin the slow process of hand-buffing. By the time the stock is ready for whatever it is Winslow applies for that high-gloss finish, the wood already has the soft yet porcelain-smooth feel of fine satin. Any finish would look good on such a surface, and the Winslow finish is not just any finish.

Stocks are made on three basic designs. The "Bushmaster" is Winslow's nearest approach to "conventional" styling. It has a Monte Carlo comb with fluted front tip, a full pistol grip with rosewood cap, and a rubber butt pad with white spacer. The beaver-

tail forend is also rosewood tipped with white spacer.

"Powermaster" stocks have a rolledover cheek-piece, with a curving dropline downward from the comb and up again to meet the butt pad. The pistol grip drops farther than normal, to the point of a sharp curve that reverses into the bottom of the stock. There is more ornamentation here, too.

The "Plainsmaster" stock is the most extreme of the Winslow designs, with a broadly flared pistol grip that actually curves forward under the hand, and an extra-wide fluted forearm.

The Grade Commander with Bushmaster stock is Winslow's lowestpriced rifle at \$305.00. Decorative refinements - from machine - jeweled bolts, French checkering, wood and/ or metal engraving, relief carving of wood and/or metal, inlays of ivory (flat, engraved, or in hand-carved relief) combined with ebony-mark the upward price curve of other grades, from the Regal at \$365.00 to the Imperial at \$1,279.00. And if the Imperial isn't ornate enough, you name it and Winslow will make it. I haven't seen one with diamonds in the decor, but it wouldn't surprise me.

You don't have to like the extremes of Winslow designs; if you don't, you have company; the relatively conventional Bushmaster design is their best seller-though this may be a result of price rather than preference. However, the second most popular of the Winslow designs is the "ultra" Plainsmaster, which has yet to be called conservative. But before you condemn the far-out Plainsmaster, it might be wise to do some shooting with one of those deeply hooked grips, particularly on one of the big, hard-hitting calibers. It just may dawn on you that this full-hand, forward-curving grip gives you a hand-to-shoulder leverage on the rifle that prepares you for the jolt such loads deliver.

You don't have to like the elaborate decorations, either. If you like, Winslow will build you a rifle without the "fooferaw," at a considerable dollar saving. As a matter of personal taste, I saw several "unfinished" stocks in the Winslow racks that would suit me better if the superb graining of the wood itself were left unbroken by any carving or inlay, however expert. But the man who does want a "fancy" rifle is spending his own money, not yours, or mine; and if he wants it, Winslow does it extremely well.

You can buy a Winslow in 11 standard and 15 Magnum calibers, or if you don't find your favorite in their listing, write Winslow about your pet "Wildcat" and he will probably build you a rifle for it.

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One "cat" that is getting a lot of attention right now at Winslow is the .17 caliber varminter, in a to-be-expected variety of loadings. For this they are using Sako actions with 22" Ackley barrels (two inches shorter than their standard minimum). I shot one of the little rifles, using loads that clock from 3650 to 4000 feet per second, and was charmed with it. Recoil is hardly more than that of a light .22 rimfire; muzzle blast is sharp but not offensive: accuracy is excellent; power is surprising. In fact, people who have used this little cartridge on game up to sheep and goats are talking (again) about "explosive hydraulic shock" to explain the instantaneous kills they report. Obviously, this tiny (20 to 25 grain) bullet is not going to retain its velocity and shock-power at long ranges, but fairly extensive testing on varmints, rabbits, etc., within 200 yards or so, have shown it to be devastating. I saw no game shot with it, but one shot into a heavy-duty gallon can full of water split the can wide open, both halves twisted and bulged in all directions.

This baby darter has been tantalizing wildcatters for years, in a variety of variations. P. O. Ackley is one of the most persistent experimenters with this caliber, and one of its boosters. There is the .17 Hornet (Ackley), made by necking down and blowing out the .22 Hornet case (recorded velocities up to 3570 f.s.); the .17 Bee (Ackley), made by necking down and blowing out the .218 Bee case (recorded velocities up to 3800 f.s.); the .17 Mach IV, made by necking down the .221 Remington Fireball and reforming to a 30° shoulder (recorded velocities up to 3850 f.s.); the .17 Javelina, made by shortening, necking down, and blowing out the .222 Remington case (recorded velocities up to 4036 f.s.); the .17/.222, made by necking down the full-length .222 Remington (recorded velocities up to 4644 f.s.); and the .17/.223, made by necking down the currently headline-getting military .223 case. The latter, due to easy availability of brass and to the over-4000 f.s. velocities and fine accuracy being recorded, is likely to be increasingly popular. The lovely halfinch group shown me was fired with a .17/.223 load (22 grains 4195, 25

grain Lee-Baker bullet; 3995 f.s.) At present, Winslow is making only the .17/.223 and the .17/.222 Magnum, these two having shown best results for him.

One thing that impressed me from our brief testing of this "pipsqueak" was the complete disintegration of the bullet in our water-filled can. The little slug drilled the can surface, ripped the can apart, bulged the back some three inches without penetration -and all we found was one flattened bit of jacket half the size of a child's fingernail, and a gritty residue of saltsize grains of bullet metal. Land-owners who insist on non-riccochetting bullets that disintegrate on impact can find no fault with this one! The only way you are likely to kill a cow with it is to fire straight into the animal!

We also shot a Winslow .300 Weatherby Magnum, for comparison, and got 1½ inch groupings under limited and far-from-perfect testing conditions (shoulder held on a simple Y forearm rest, on a less-than-solid bench). What the .300 Mag did to a five-gallon water can was as impressive as always.

Actions on both rifles were firm but velvet smooth, locking with that solid decision that speaks of minimum tolerances. Trigger-pull on the .17 was a bit heavy, on the .300 a bit light, for my personal liking, but both "broke" crisply, with no creep and no backlash. And both, of course, are adjustable to suit the buyer. I came away with the thought that I'd like to try the .17 on our southwestern coyotes. The little rifle shoulders and swings "like a rifle should" for those elusive targets; and field reports suggest that the bullet would be lethal.

Having drawn one word from Mountain Man vernacular, it is simple justice to draw another. The highest praise a Mountain Man could give a person, a thing, or a deed was when he said, "That shines!" Winslow rifles "shine," not only in their controversial finishes but in their incontrovertible performance. "Fooferaw" they have, but it is over-laid on solid quality that extends far below the surface. That combination explains Winslow prices. Whether it justifies them or not—depends on what you want in a rifle.

AND ONLY 18 AT THAT!

A blast of 18 shotguns greeted French President Charles de Gaulle in the tiny republic of Andorra, between Spain and France. The guns, however, were pointed in the air at the time. "We would like to have welcomed him with cannons," said an Andorran official. "But since we have never fought a war, we have none."

ALASKAN SAFARI

(Continued from page 37)

is now approximately 75 miles.

With local exceptions black bears occur throughout the timbered areas of Alaska. Blacks include several color phases; black is most common and the brown or cinnamon bears range from deep brown to a light straw color. A blue-gray color phase, known as the "glacier" bear, occurs in the Yakutat-Glacier Bay area of the Panhandle. Blacks are distinctly smaller than their brown and grizzly cousins, lack the prominent shoulder humps and massive heads and have shorter curved claws and much straighter nose profiles.

The beautiful snow-white Dall sheep is found in two main regions: the Brooks Range of the northern part of the state which is lightly hunted because of difficult access, and the more popular and productive Wrangell, Talkeetna, Chugach and Alaska ranges-from Anchorage toward Fairbanks, which are more heavily hunted. About 1,200 rams with three-quarter or longer curls are annually taken, nearly 85 per cent of them in the Anchorage-to-Fairbanks mountain masses. Experienced hunters esteem sheep meat above that of any other North American big game.

As far as is now known no Stone sheep, or crosses between Dall and Stone sheep, have been shot in Alaska. However, since various Canadian mountain ranges on which Stone sheep exist extend into the state, it's quite possible that someone hunting in such isolated areas may sometimes bag a Stone ram on Alaskan soil. Also, since these two argyle-type sheep exist in adjacent localities, they occasionally interbreed to produce a hybrid known as "Fannin" sheep with characteristics of both forms.

Mountain goats frequent such rugged terrain that few hunters climb to such dizzy heights except for the sake of bagging bragging heads. Meat from trophy billies-the males have thicker and bigger horns than females of comparable age-is no epicurean prize. Hence the goat hunter must be sound in lung and limb to hunt these hump-shouldered, bearded and pantaletted residents of the high peaks. Goats have to be shot with care so they don't fall off cliffs and shatter their glass-brittle horns. Most of Alaska's goats live within 50 miles of salt water in mainland Panhandle areas, though some have been transplanted to Baranof, Chichagof and Kodiak Islands. The total population is around 15,000 with about 600 annually taken during two-goat seasons running from four to five months.

Sitka blacktailed deer are chiefly confined to some 50,000 square miles of the southeast Panhandle, though the descendants of transplants made between 1916 and 1954 are also found on Kodiak Island and several islands in Prince William Sound. The total population of 250,000 manages nicely during the summers, when seashore to mountain-top forage is available. But when winter comes the herds are forced to subsist on food near sea level, sometimes entirely on seaweed and other plants exposed by the tides. Under such conditions malnutrition is commonplace and surviving deer are runted and small in body size. The annual hunting harvest of up to 15,000 has no effect on the carryover population since many times that number are born every spring.

Muskoxen were extirpated in Alaska by the mid-1800s. In 1930 34 of them were imported from Greenland, held near Fairbanks for observation for a few years and, in 1935-36, the remaining 31 head were transferred to Nunivak Island. This herd has slowly built up to about 500 head which, being in a National Wildlife Refuge, may not be hunted. But some of these animals are being moved back to the mainland where, in time, a limited hunting season will be permitted.

Elk existed in Alaska in prehistoric times. But not until 1929, when eight Roosevelt elk were transplanted from Washington's Olympic Peninsula, were they given a chance to replenish an ancient habitat. This first planting was made on Afognak Island, accessible only by boat and plane, where they increased to around 1,500 head. From this stock various transplants have been made to other Alaskan localities where they wouldn't pose a competitive threat to native big game species. Of all these the Panhandle is proving the most favorable. Limited elk hunting is now available with some 125 to 150 head annually bagged, vielding hunter success of slightly over 50 per cent of the limited licen-

Wolves and wolverines have recently been placed on the Alaska big game trophy list. Both species occur throughout the mainland where from 700 to 800 wolves and around 550 wolverines per year are taken by hunting and conventional trapping methods. During some past years as



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many as 2,000 wolves were annually taken—for fur, bounties and as trophies—so the current modest harvests are unlikely to affect the populations. Wolverines are solitary animals and are as widely distributed as wolves but are less frequently encountered. For their size they own great strength and courage and are cunning robbers of trap lines and food caches. Their fur is highly prized for frontal trimming of parka hoods because it doesn't frost up from the breath in cold weather.

Most of Alaska's small game is widely distributed with many local areas of relative abundance. It consists of three species of ptarmigan, four of grouse, snowshoe and arctic hares and over 25 species of migratory birds are raised and widely hunted in

10,000 geese are annually harvested in Alaska, a tiny percentage of the waterfowl actually raised in the state. Because of the short seasons due to weather the Fish and Game Department has been trying to get the bag limits boosted. But, since these are set by federal decree, the daily limits are held to five game ducks and six geese; with only three of the geese permitted being white-fronts or Canada-type birds. The result of such scanty limits is that the average seasonal take consists of only five ducks and one goose per each licensed hunter.

The visiting sportsman who wishes to sample Alaska's small game hunting is adequately equipped with a 20-or even a 28-gauge in most areas. Magnum chambering isn't at all necessary, certainly not if a 12-gauge is



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rior areas.

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the state. The willow ptarmigan,

Alaska's state bird, is not only its

largest but also its most abundant

ptarmigan. It is exceeded in size

among upland game species only by

the blue grouse. Visitors from the

"south 48" states are frequently as-

tonished by finding both ruffed and

sharptailed grouse in the central inte-

Migratory waterfowl seasons are

limited more by climate than by

man-set restrictions. As soon as the

year's young are strong on the wing

they set out for warmer wintering ha-

vens, urged on by the first warning

blasts of oncoming winter. The Sti-

kine River Delta, near Wrangle in the

Panhandle, is a choice migration rest-

ing and waterfowl hunting area. But it is only one of many, including Cold

Bay, Minto Lakes, the Copper Delta

preferred for such hunting. Shotgun ammunition has been so enormously improved in recent years that magnum 12- or 10-gauge shotguns would be suitable only under very unusual circumstances.

For Alaska big game the range of suitable calibers is largely a matter of individual shooting skill. Dall sheep, mountain goats, deer, caribou, black bear, wolves and wolverines can all be neatly taken with rifles beginning at the .270 or 7 mm level. For moose and the biggest bears rifles in the .30-06 and .300 magnum range are fine for hunters who know their business. The guy who can't hit game vitals with such armament is unlikely to do any better with more potent rifles. In fact he may do a lot worse if he depends on mere power instead of placing his shots.

The late Grancel Fitz, who collected specimens of every form of North American big game—from wee Coues deer and pronghorn antelope up to brawny brown-grizzly bears and

ton-heavy bull walrus—got them all with a favorite .30-06. Since many of his trophies made the Boone and Crockett Club record book it's obvious that he did a lot of hunting for top specimens. Although Grancel Fitz never pretended to be a deadeye sharpshooter he well knew the importance of putting that first bullet where it was most effective and practiced that assiduously.

W HILE it's quite true that some Alaskan guide/outfitters use ironsighted .375 magnums that's simply because they may be called on to face truculent bears at short range or help prevent other wounded game from escaping. Only under such conditions are they legally permitted to riflehelp the clients they're guiding. But for their personal hunting most of them prefer rifles of far less brutal power and jolting recoil, usually fitted with four-power or variable scopes.

Alaska annually issues a Game and Guiding Regulations booklet which spells out its game and guide laws in considerable detail. Anyone requesting hunting information is also automatically furnished a Guide Register which lists the master, registered and assistant guides available to resident and visiting sportsmen. Additionally, there's a map of the state which lists and describes the 26 Game Management Units; there are actually 30 such areas since Unit 1, on the southeastern mainland, is split into three sections, as is Unit 20 which encircles Fairbanks with a wealth of game-rich country. These 26, or 30, Units are then combined into five Guide Districts for greater coordination in game management.

Alaska is such a huge hunk of country containing game of widely diverse habits that a master guide in one District might qualify only as an assistant guide in another. For instance, a hot-shot polar-bear expert might be a virtual tyro if called on to guide Sitka deer hunters, or vice versa. And a guide who intimately knows caribou habits and habitat might be out of his depth when it comes to such mountain skills as Dall sheep and mountain goats require; and, again, vice versa.

All game and fish information is furnished from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game headquarters in the Subport Building in Juneau. General travel information is available from the Alaska Travel Division, Box 2391, also at Juneau. Travel agencies in many cities can provide airline data on connections via Alaska, Pacific Northern, Northwest Orient, Pan American World, Japanese and Scandinavian Airlines for

those sportsmen who wish to fly in to major airports, notably at Anchorage and Fairbanks. Thereafter charter flights run about \$20 per hour and up, depending on the type of aircraft and an hour's flight covers a lot of territory. Scheduled flights serve almost every town and village in the state and freelancing bush pilots additionally find landing strips everywhere.

But Alaska is by no means limited to air travel. The Alaska Department of Public Works, Division of Marine Transportation, Box 1361, at Juneau, will furnish ferry information from Seattle to various points along the Pacific seacoast, including the ports at main towns of the state's southeast coast. Some travelers prefer to go this way, taking along their motor vehicles -cars, pickups and campers-and thus have land transportation wherever they're put ashore. Others prefer to drive the Alaska Highway, via Alberta and British Columbia, and return chiefly by ferry via the Inland Route to Seattle, or vice versa. This seacoast route is known as the Marine Highway and its northern terminus is at Haines, near Skagway, and follows the western coast to Kelsey Bay on Vancouver Island or continues via ferry to the city of Vancouver. Ferry charges are based on car-and-driver haulage only, with staterooms and food extra for driver and additional passengers.

THE Alaska Highway runs almost 2,000 miles through Canada and crosses into central Alaska less than 300 miles south of the Arctic Circle. One turnoff goes south at Haines Junction to reach southeastern Alaska. By and large, Alaska highways are rather limited as evidenced by the fact that their numbering system runs only from 1 to 10. Most of these are in a network connecting Anchorage, Seward and Fairbanks but lesser roads are being extended every year to reach smaller towns beyond these population centers. As in any rugged country there are very few stretches where the motorist gets much straight driving at any uniform elevations. The major highways are well maintained and information on road conditions is constantly available via short-wave radio. During the winter months the critical areas require that vehicles travel in convoys to assure that everyone gets through.

The Alaskan Railroad runs 470 miles, from Seward through Anchorage to Fairbanks. Its timetable disclaims any responsibility for delays due to wildlife on the tracks, meaning belligerent moose, bears and migratory caribou. However it often obliges its passengers by dropping them off or



picking them up anywhere along the line. Hunters and anglers make good use of this convenience since rail transportation is both cheap and modern for the country it traverses.

Hunting, fishing or vacationing costs must be considered on the basis of the long and expensive transportation of many supplies. Hotel and motel rates are about average with the rest of the United States; singles-with-bath average around \$10 while doubles-with-bath cost \$5 more. Meal prices run from under \$2 for burger-and-shake, cafeteria dinners are about \$3, and may run up to \$10 at the plushiest spots. A quart of milk or a loaf of bread runs from 35 to 50 cents. Gasoline in the far north may run up to \$1.00 a gallon.

Guides charge from \$50 to \$150 day. Those at the latter level furnish lodging or boat charter, meals and practically all extras, plus the near certainty of finding trophy-caliber big game. Guides are mandatory on very few species of big game (Dall sheep;



polar, brown and grizzly bear) chiefly for the safety and convenience of the hunters in finding and getting out their game trophies.

Hunting licenses are remarkably reasonable. A mere \$20 will cover the basic hunting-fishing fee. Big game tags range from \$10 for deer and black bear, \$25 for caribou, elk and goat, \$50 for bison, moose and sheep, \$75 for brown and grizzly bears, \$100 for walrus and \$150 for polar bear. With the exception of such introduced species as elk, Bison and muskoxen -on the latter of which a limitedpermit season will be held this year, the polar bear is the only native big game form on which licenses aren't available on an unlimited basis to all applicants.

In sum total the visiting hunter has virtually everything going for him: lots of game, generous bag and season limits, and sundry conveniences and guides to get him to all the game he can possibly want. Alaska didn't plan this as part of its centennial year. It has been there for many years and, with the moderate hunting harvest and good game management, will continue to be available far into the forseeable future. It is the game wonderland of the North American

continent and always will be.

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SUPER DIES incorporate the first really new die design in more than 20 years. Inside the Super Die is plated with industrial hard chrome, elimi-



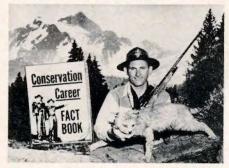
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NOVAMATIC is an all-new line of autoloading shotguns from Charles Daly. Made exclusively for Daly by Breda of Italy, the Novamatic line is designed to meet the needs of every shotgun sport—field, water, trap, and skeet. Among the exciting models in the Novamatic line is the Quick-Choke which has the extraordinary feature of actually increasing its barrel length as the degree of choke increases. In both 12 and 20 gauges, the



entire line retails from \$200 to \$249 depending on the features desired. For further information write Charles Daly, Inc., Dept. G-1, 90 Chambers St., New York City, New York 10007.

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HERRETT'S Stocks has added two new stocks to their special hardball line. They are the H-52 for S&W's Model 52 and 39 and the H-106 for the High Standard Model 106 Military. These stocks feature memory grooves for proper positioning and right or left hand shooting. Both stocks sell for \$12.00 carved from select grade walnut and \$15.00 carved from fancy walnut. For further information on these and other great handgun stocks from Herrett's, write Herrett's Stocks, Dept. G-1, Box 741, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301.

ROLLING BLOCK WOES? A new special rolling block kit from Numrich Arms will convert that tired, old rolling block into a great shooter. The kit consists of a new 28" 8-groove barrel in .45-70 or .44 Magnum with a 1 in 22 twist, an American walnut stock with a traditional crescent buttplate of steel, walnut forend, silver blade front sight, and a four way adjustable rear sight. Price is just \$44.50 complete. Kit No. 1 fits any #2 Remington rolling block. Kit No. 2 fits any rolling block in .43 Spanish or .43 Egyptian and bearing the AR and crown proof mark. Specify your action when ordering from Numrich Arms, Dept. G-1, 201 Broadway, West Hurley, New York.

TRAPSHOOTING GOLD

(Continued from page 33)

interested in the shoot for one reason or another. It is the same as a trophy except that it is cash. Sizeable amounts are sometimes put up by hotels, motels, and large restaurants with the hope of attracting the shooters to their establishments during the evening hours.

To be eligible for optional purses, which are made up of the shooter's own optional purse entry fees, a shooter must contribute to these purses. Optional purses are held on various parts of the 100 target event. The targets are shot in groups of 25 targets as are all registered trap events. There is usually an optional purse on the first, second, third and fourth 25 targets. A typical entry fee for the optional purse on the 25s would be \$5.00 on each event of 25 targets. All the money from this optional event is pooled into a single purse. Then it is usually split into two smaller purses. A typical split might be 60% of the total purse for high score and 40% for second high score. Therefore, all shooters that entered in this option and shot top score, (in a large shoot, this will almost certainly be 25 straight) will receive an equal share of the purse made up of 60% of the total purse. For example: Suppose 100 shooters entered the optional purse on the first event of 25 targets. They each paid \$5.00 as their entry fee. Total purse would be \$500.00. 60% of \$500.00 equals \$300.00. Suppose five shooters scored 25 straight on the first trap. They would each receive \$60.00 for their score on that trap.

Each shooter scoring 24 would be eligible for an equal share of the 40% purse. Example; 40% of the total \$500.00 would be \$200.00. Suppose 10 shooters scored 24 on the first trap. Each of the 10 shooters would receive \$20.00 for their score of 24 on the first trap. Each of the other three events of 25 targets would be figured the same way. Now these examples given are routine but, as noted above in the Las Vegas, Nevada shoot, they can vary greatly. The interesting thing about this system of optional purses is the fact that every now and then, a lone shooter will be the only one with the top score. In such a case, he does not have to split the purse with anyone. This is what happened in the Las Vegas shoot recently. Wind or foul weather of any kind keeps trap scores low and provides a golden opportunity for the man that can shoot a good score under the adverse conditions.

Usually, there is a similar optional purse for the first 50 and the second 50 targets in the 100 bird event. Occasionally a shoot program will list a third 50 target option which will consist of the second and third 25's totaled together. The major difference between the optionals on the 25 target events and the 50 target event is in the division of the monies. The 25 bird event, as stated above, is usually split into two purses. In the 50 bird event, the optional purse is often split into four purses. This is because there will be more high scores in a short 25 target event than there will be in the longer 50 target string. A usual split for a 50 target optional purse would be 30%, 30%, 20% and

This means that 30% of the total purse would be split among the high scores, 30% would be split among the second high scores, 20% would be split among third high scores and 20% would be divided equally among the fourth high scores. An example could be as follows: Suppose 100 shooters entered the 50 target optional purse and paid \$10.00 each as entry fee. This would make a total of \$1,000.00 in the purse on the first 50 targets.

Suppose there were two 50 straights. They would split 30% of the total purse between them. Each shooter receives \$150.00. Suppose there were six shooters scoring 49's. They would split \$300.00 into six equal shares with each shooter receiving \$50.00 for his second high score of 49. Third and fourth high scores would split their percentage of the total purse in the same manner.

A High Gun system is usually used to divide monies for total high score. The High Gun system differs from the percentage system in that each shooter tying with an equal high score, counts as one money. In other words, if three shooters tie with the same score, they would take the first three high place monies. They would not have to split the first place money as they would in the percentage system. In another example, suppose the program listed 1st, 2nd and 3rd place High Gun. If four shooters scored 98's and two shooters scored 97's the four shooters would total the first three monies and split it equally between them. The two shooters with second high score (97) would receive noth-



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ing. This is because the first three High Gun monies had been used to divide among the four 98's. If the percentage system had been used, the two lads with the 97's would probably have been paid more than the four fellows posting the 98's because of the necessity to split the one 1st place money four ways.

You can see that the High Gun system favors the top scores and the percentage system can favor the shooter with a score just under the highest score. Occasionally, under the percentage system, a lower score can actually pay the shooter more than his competitor with the higher score. For example, going back to the 25 optionals again, suppose ten shooters scored 25 straight and only one shooter scored 24. Under the usual percentage system, the ten high scores would split the 60% purse equally among them and the lone shooter with a score of 24 would be able to take all of the 40% purse. In this situation, the 24 would pay much more than the 25's! This does not happen often, but it does happen and of course, it is just a matter of luck. Good or bad, depending upon which score you happened to have. Most major shoots use the percentage system on the smaller optional purses on the 25's and the 50's but switch to the High Gun system when it comes to total scores on 100 targets.

Some shoots also schedule a yardage mark purse which provides an additional purse (often \$50.00) to the high score on each handicap yardage. This is usually part of the "added money" and is split equally if there should be a tie from the same yardage marker.

The opportunities of winning large sums of money in trapshooting are better than ever before. There have always been trophies, prizes and small personal wagers on shooting matches in our country. Our pride in marksmanship seems to be a part of our national heritage. And yet, we have never known anything in the way of shooting matches that approached the magnitude of the modern trapshooting tournaments. Shoots that attract contestants by the hundreds are becoming commonplace throughout the United States. State shoots, regional shoots and of course, the "Roaring Grand" each August at Vandalia, Ohio all serve to entice shooters to the trap fields like the old time prospectors were drawn to the gold fields during the last century. The money is there to be won and you can make yourself a "stake" by joining the gold rush at the trap fields.

SURPLUS AMMUNITION

(Continued from page 25)

SPOTTING: This type is intended to give off a bright flash or puff of highly-visible smoke on bullet impact with the target. Normally this is accomplished by a small charge of phosphorous or similar compound that is ignited by bullet impact or breakup. They are normally not as dangerous as incendiary and/or explosive types, they can still do enough damage that they should never be used. If you want fireworks, buy fireworks, don't use odd-ball ammunition.

PROOF: Cartridges loaded to develop far higher than normal chamber pressures. They are intended only for testing guns and parts of new manufacture. Even then, they are fired only by remote control, with heavy steel barriers in place, should anything let go. Consequently, firing of such ammunition in a well-worn service rifle from the shoulder could well take things apart—shooter included. Enough said!

A multitude of other special-purpose ammunition types crop up from time to time, but they are not dangerous in the sense that we have used the word thus far. They simply give performance that is of little use to the average shooter. For example, there is the FRANGIBLE bullet, intended to break up on impact without significant damage to the target; MULTI-BALL bullets which separate into several projectiles after leaving the muzzle; SHORT-RANGE or GUARD loads which drive a light bullet at low velocity; and various PRACTICE loads, not to mention a wide assortment of blanks for various purposes.

All of these types usually differ so much in appearance from full-charge military loads that they are easily identified. Then, too, they are not in any way dangerous.

Many shooters are handloaders, so a special problem exists in regard to some of the bullets discussed thus far. The canny scot comes out in many of us when we have the opportunity to acquire cheap or free military ammo, even though we know it isn't suitable for use in its original form. Quite logically, many fellows feel they can safely pull tracer and armor-piercing bullets from such ammunition—either so as to salvage primed cases, or to simply replace issue with commercial bullets better suited to the needs of the day.

This is perfectly okay insofar as plain tracer, armor-piercing and ball is concerned. However, those bullets containing incendiary and/or explosive compounds—in any combination or amounts—are often so sensitive that they object violently to that sort of treatment. Some explosive bullets can be detonated easily by the pressure applied by a collet-type bullet puller; others may be damaged or have their sensitivity increased by pulling to the point they are unsafe to even handle—drop one on a hard floor and, BLAM, no foot!

So, the problem is to be able to identify positively any military ammunition that comes your way. Fortunately, this isn't as difficult as it might seem at first glance. Virtually every round produced in any country is marked with symbols that clearly











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SIGMA ENGINEERING COMPANY, Dept. G-1 11320 Burbank Blvd., No. Hollywood, Calif. 91601 state just what it is—providing you can interpret those symbols. Unfortunately, there has been no great amount of standardization among countries, so one must first know the origin of the cartridge in order to decipher its markings. Due to the efforts of quite a few people, such markings have been compiled and published in several books.

We've extracted here enough small arms ammunition code and marking data to enable you to identify almost anything that comes along—at least, insofar as whether it falls in or out of the dangerous class. We have lumped them together so that while you may determine that a round is, say, incendiary, you will not be able to identify it as armor-piercing incendiary, or as incendiary tracer. The additional pinpointing of type isn't of any real value, once you've determined the ammunition to be one of the dangerous types.

One area of confusion does exist regarding ammunition loaded for captured weapons by occupied countries during WWII. It may be found carrying either the markings of the country of origin and manufacture, or, those of the occupying country. Even so, you should be able to classify ammunition as GO or NO GO, insofar as sporting use is concerned.

We'll cover here only rifle and machine gun ammunition of calibers commonly used in rifles. The bigbore, heavy machine gun cartridges are of no interest to shooters, and pistol and submachine gun ammunition is hardly ever encountered in other than ball or tracer types. The abbreviations will be used as follows: AP-Armor Piercing; HE-High Explosive; T-Tracer; APT-Armor Piercing Tracer; I-Incendiary.

ENGLAND: The .303 caliber cartridges are identified by a headstamp code and colored primer annulus, as follows: AP—green primer annulus and W, F or FS on head; I—blue or black primer annulus, B or O on head, accompanied by blue or black bullet tip; HE—black primer annulus, R on head; T—red primer annulus, G, FS or WG on head, and white, gray, orange or yellow bullet tip; Proof—yellow primer annulus, Q on head, coppercoated case.

English .303 manufactured in the U.S. is marked a bit differently: AP—green or black bullet tip; I—blue bullet tip; T—red, white, gray or orange bullet tip; Proof—yellow bullet tip.

English .303 manufactured in several other countries has even different markings: AP—W1(z) or F1 on case head; T—G1, G2, G3, G4(z), G5(z) or G6(z) on case head; I—B4, B6(z), B7(z) or O1 on head; Proof—Q3, Q4, Q5 on head.

English 7.92mm (8mm Mauser) MG ammunition is marked as follows: AP—W1(z) on head; T—G1(z) or G2(z) on head; I—B1(z) on head; Proof—Q1 or Q2 on head.

FRENCH: The 7.5mm rifle and MG ammunition carries the following markings: APT—green bullet tip; AP—coppered bullet; I—blue case mouth, primer annulus and bullet tip.

GERMANY: The 7.92mm (8mm Mauser) ammunition is marked as follows: AP—green band or red cap on case head, red, blue or green primer annulus, red or green ring on case, plain bright or coppered bullet, black tip or red ring on bullet; T—black bullet tip; I—red band on case head, red or black primer annulus, bright or black or green bullet tip, black body or green ring on bullet; HE—black primer annulus, wide black band on bullet at case mouth.

ITALIAN: The 7.7mm MG is marked as follows: T—red bullet tip; AP—green bullet tip.

JAPANESE: The 6.5mm is marked as follows: T—green band on bullet at case mouth.

Japanese 7.7mm is marked as follows: **T**—green band on bullet at case mouth; **AP**—black band on bullet at case mouth; **I**—magenta band on bullet at case mouth; **HE**—purple band on bullet at case mouth, also has pronounced flat on bullet nose.

RUSSIAN: The 7.62mm rifle and MG ammunition is marked as follows: T—green or violet bullet tip; AP—black or violet bullet tip, red bullet with black tip; I—black or red bullet tip with red band on bullet, violet/red bullet tip, red bullet with black tip and black primer annulus; HE—red bullet tip.

U.S.A.: Military small arms ammunition is marked in the following manner: T—red or orange bullet tip; AP—black bullet tip; I—blue or blue over white bullet tip; Frangible—green over white bullet tip; Proof—tinned case, HP on head.

Of course, there are many other countries with similar identification codes. Most of them tend to follow the examples set by the major powers in influence there, but a complete listing is out of the question here. The countries whose markings are listed above contribute most of the surplus ammunition to be found.

You'll note that some countries depend a good deal on case, rather than bullet markings. However, during wartime production, cases prepared for one purpose may well be loaded for another—consequently, should you encounter conflict between case and bullet markings, always accept those on the bullet.

THE AIR GUN COMES OF AGE

(Continued from page 31)

The Englishman is absolutely loco about the game. He tosses the dart to see who pays. The German picks up the air rifle to settle the same score. In West Germany, every bar has its gallery; so, too, does each club, guest house, restaurant, gymnasium and, of course, the sportsmen's homes. So intense is the interest that local, sectional, and national matches are fired. Other countries are quite as keen about the sport as the West Germans, principally the Scandinavians. And of course the shooting-minded Swiss!

During 1966, the semi annual World Matches were fired in Weisbaden, West Germany. It is customary to ask the host country if it would like to introduce a special match, and the Germans said they would-air rifle shooting. This came as no surprise to the

time of the tryout by our fellows it was very much in the design stage.

The Anschutz Co., Ulm, West Germany, is freely acknowledged to be the outstanding manufacturer of the best .22 target rifle in the world today. But on the score of air rifles the outfit was a comparative newcomer. The first of their air rifles had been made in 1960. Directly after the war Walther had seized the lead in the design and production of the blow-guns. Anschutz had been patient, and sat back to await permission to again make .22 caliber sporting and target rifles. It left the development of the air-powered numbers to concerns like Diana and the Walther Co. Anschutz got into the act tardily. As I've said, not until 1960.

At any rate, our hotrocks, sharks



U.S. Marine Corps Photo

W/O David Boyd, high man on U.S. Team, with an Anschutz 250.

other European entries but it caught the American contingent a bit unaware.

"What? An air gun match? Are they trying to kid us?" asked one of the team members. But after some quick reconnaissance through West Germany our scout returned and said we had better make some preparation. The German, and indeed all the European entries, he reported, were dead series about the wind-gun event.

We scurried about and came up with a single Anschutz air rifle. One rifle for the entire team yet: To further complicate matters this rifle was not a standard model. It was an advanced design pilot, a rifle which subsequently has been dubbed the Model 250. It is now sold by the Savage Arms Corporation, however, at the like Gary Anderson, Lones Wigger, Foster, and Dave Boyd, tried out at Ft. Benning with the single pilotmodel Anschutz rifle. The shooting course is a 40-shot affair. It is fired on the international air rifle target, a mark with a 10-ring which measures two millimeters. There are 25.4 millimeters to the inch so you will appreciate that this is a pretty tough cookie!

Anderson, beyond question the greatest offhand rifle shot the world has ever seen (all shooting with the air rifle is strictly offhand), knocked out a 398 out of a possible 400. He had precisely 38 tens and 2 nines. Lones Wigger was just as hot, he also had a 398. Captain Foster, no slouch himself, shot 36 tens and 4 nines. Dave Boyd, the Marine, shot 392. This was little



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short of fantastic, the best marksmen of the Continent had never touched 390. It appeared the American team would not only cop the team competition but our gunners would also clean up the individual match.

When the event was shot off at Weisbaden it was a different story. The air rifle affair was easily the outstanding event. Hundreds of spectators crowded up behind the match shooters and evidenced more enthusiasm for the blow-gun competition than all the others put together. The West German, Kummert, was first. His score was 385. David Boyd was high for our side. He shot 384, and tied with 5 other marksmen. Gary Anderson, our best gunner, had only 381; he was 17th. The Swiss team won the squad competition, the West Germans were 2nd. We were no better than 5th, behind the USSR which finished 4th.

We were trounced, but our people came home with high praise for air rifle shooting. They went to the National Rifle Association and their bubbling enthusiasm for the new sport sold it to the NRA fathers. The national association almost immediately decided to incorporate an air rifle program into the current shooting plan. Also decided to fire the blow-guns at the National Matches at Camp Perry. This year's Olympic Games at Mexico City will very probably include, for the first time, the air rifle.

In firming up its support for the brand new game the NRA had this to say: "The National Rifle Association now has an air rifle program under development which covers the international aspects of competition and provides for home training and will also include postal and local competitions. Later as the number of competitors interested in air rifle shooting increases there will be state, regional and national competitions."

INCE the World Matches of '66, the Daisy Manufacturing Co. has taken over the American sales of the Feinwerkbau air rifle. This is one of the very finest of the Germany-made rifles. Savage Arms has commenced the sale of the Anschutz Model 250, a spitting image replica of the rifle used by our people at Wesibaden. This rifle, incidentally, was also fired by Kummert, the West German, who walked away with the championship. Along with these, Interarmco offers the finest models from Walther. This firm, it will be remembered, pioneered the modern high precision types. Interarmco has two Walthers, the LVG 4.5 and the LG-55. Along with these is Hy-Score Arms, importers of the best from the Diana Co., the Model 810.

So extremely accurate are these

new riflles that a lot of care must be used in what to feed 'em. Up until now there is no .177 caliber pellet made in the U.S. that is sufficiently precise to do the rifles justice. The Hy-Score Co. imports a high-precision pellet from Haendler & Natermann Co., Hann/Munden, West Germany, and RWS Super Match Pellets are also available in the U.S. The German pellets, are held to extremely close min. and max. dimensions, a measurement of .184", and a weight of 7.9 grains, with wadcutter nose configuration and are packaged individually to prevent damage in shipment and handling. With these pellets and one of the better German rifles, 10 shots will plunk into one-eighth inch at the regulation distance of 10 meters.

THE rifles are powered by the ac-I tion of an extremely powerful coiled spring. This spring has a plunger on its forward end and when the sear is released the spring uncoils, forcing the plunger through a precision-milled cylinder, thereby building up the necessary air pressure to force the .177 pellet out of the bore. The better rifles are not pneumatic as are most of our air rifies. Neither do any of them employ CO2 gas cylinders. The Germans, who are far ahead of us in the matter of design want no part of either the pump-up type of air gun nor yet the gas bottle.

When the extremely powerful spring is released it develops what the air rifle aficionado likes to refer to as "recoil." There is a somewhat violent disturbance to the rifle and while it is not a kick in the sense that the powderburning firearm recoils, it does some harm to the accuracy. Actually, what the great spring does is to set up a series of vibrations and these adversely effect the rifle while the pellet is still in the bore.

Anschutz gets around this unwanted vibration-or recoil if you will-by the employment of a system somewhat like the shock absorber on the modern auto; they employ an oil brake. When the sear releases the driving spring, with its 50 pounds of pressure, the oil dampener goes into action. It consists of a rod, working in a 10 cubic centimeter oil bath. On the end of the rod is a disc, this disc does not completely fill the cylinder so that there will be a flow-by of the oil as the disc is forced through the liquid. It does a most adequate job of eliminating the unwanted "recoil."

The Feinwerkbau rifle, sold as I have said by Daisy, has an altogether different approach. When the sear releases the great spring and its plunger, it also unlatches the barreled action. The assembly floats on hardened steel rails for about .250-inch, and is

then gently halted. All this takes place as the plunger is forcing the pellet down the bore. It violates every principle we have always held as necessary for an accurate rifle. We bed our target rifles and bolt them down so there cannot be even as much as 1/1000" of play between barreled action and the gunstock. Feinwerkbau, with a fine disdain for all that is traditional, do quite the opposite—and get away with it! The Feinwerkbau is one of the most highly accurate of all these super accurate air guns. It has utterly no vibration at all.

The best of the Walther rifles provide yet a third approach. These have a plunger at either end of the great driving spring. As the forward plunger compresses the air and forces the pellet down the bore, the plunger on the back end of the spring is moving rearward, putting a successful dampener on the unwanted recoil. Scores and ability of the marksmen have now reached such levels that it is absolutely mandatory that one of these systems be employed. The air rifle without such a compensating anti-vibration device would be hopelessly out of the running.

Who is going to play at the new shooting game? Well, I see all target marksmen as keenly interested. While the new imports are fired only in the standing position by the Germans and other Continentals this does not mean that the rifles cannot also be very successfully used in kneeling, sitting, and prone firing. For the laddy-o who cannot get to his favorite club or outdoor range more than once weekly. the advantages of the new riflewhich can be shot at home-will be tremendous. The accuracy of the rifles is so fantastic that the best of our long range gunners are going to be happy with the quality of the training they can get without going to the outdoor firing ranges during, say, the frigid winter months.

Ordinarily, we like to hold out for training the kids with such non-fire-arms as these new rifles. However, in this case the youngster is going to have to be pretty good size and quite strong to hold these new models successfully. These rifles range from 9 to 11 pounds and while a lot of teenagers will have no trouble with this weight in the prone, it will be too much when firing offhand. This same is probably true of a lot of women shooters.

While the rifles are essentially target arms this not to say that only target shooters will be interested in them. This new rifle is the best answer for the big game hunter. Most of our sportsmen cannot shoot offhand. They must search about for a spot to sit or better still to belly down when a game shot is offered. A winter session with the new 10 lb. air rifle will, I'll guarantee, put them in such a high state of shooting form come next game season as to see them get off a killing shot from their hind legs.

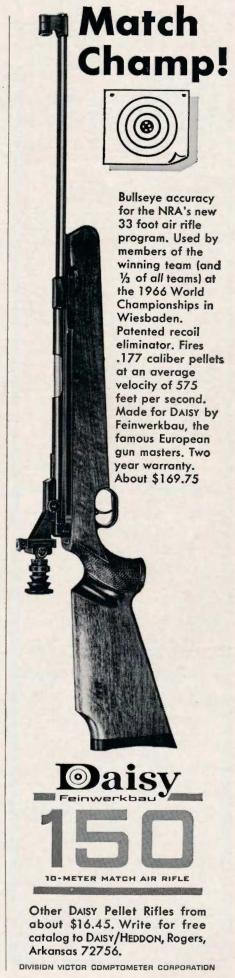
Twenty shots daily with the air rifle, at the regulation target or at any target, at the approved distance or only half that yardage, will make a cracking good offhand marksman out of any man. I have been shooting the Walther LVG 4.5 and the Feinwerkbau 250 for the past year. I get off 20 shots every day without fail. This not only serves to keep me in good shooting form for the game season but it also gives me an endless amount of good fun. I do not have to travel over to my firing range which is two miles distant, I do not have to gather up odds and ends of shooting gear; and I do not have to clean a rifle after the shooting is all completed. I simply move out to my garage and there the 10-meter range awaits me. The rifle rests in its rack nearby, the pellets are at hand. All I need do is to load and fire. For sheer unadultered good sport it is unbeatable!

JAGUAR MEDICINE

(Continued from page 35)

A few years ago, when deciding to select a new gun for Jaguar hunting, I went into a large New York gun store and selected the following: A Beretta 12 gauge shotgun, over and under, bored Skeet 1 & 2, with double triggers and nonautomatic safety. When asked by the salesman, why I wanted a gun with two triggers, I answered simply, so that I could pull both at once. While this may seem heresy to confirmed hunters, let us examine a few Tigre hunts to see why I changed

from a rifle to the more suitable shotgun. A few years ago, while hunting a cattle-killing Tigre in Northern Venezuela, I was sitting up in a tree, about 25 feet from the cat's kill, a fully grown heifer. I was sitting up alone, and was armed with a lightweight .30-06 Husquvarna, loaded with 180 grain handloads. The scope had been removed, and I was depending upon open sights for the shot. My front sight was a white ivory bead, and the rear sight was a standard Lyman leaf



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sight. The rifle had been sighted in with the iron sights, to place the bullet on target at 100 yards, so surely trajectory, at this close range could not be any factor. I remained in my hide for several hours, and at about 1:00 a.m., saw the cat enter the clearing. As there was a full moon. I was able to see his outline clearly. However, when I raised the gun to my shoulder. I was unable to see the sights. Keeping the gun at my shoulder, I transferred the five-cell flash into my left hand and aimed it along the rifle barrel. This cat had been shot at before, and I knew that he would run at the flash of light. As the light went on, I still was unable to see the sights (my eyes had become accustomed to the dark), so I simply pointed the rifle at the crouching cat and fired. I was able to make out the Jaguar as he passed under my tree, and disappeared into the brush. I followed the easily defined blood trail and found the cat (a large male, of about 175 pounds) about fifty yards from where I had been hidden, stone dead. The 180 grain bullet had caught him squarely amidships, but a trifle far back and had completely penetrated his lungs.

good friend, Ramon Hernandez, A who lives in Colombia, and probably is one of the best Tigreros in his area, showed me his Tigre gun, three years ago. It was an old New Model Ithaca hammer gun in 10 gauge, with its barrels, which happen to be damascus, cut off to twenty inches. There is no sight or bead on the gun, but the rib has been painted white. Ramon loads his own shells, which are brass, with black powder and 00 buckshot. Wanting to pattern the gun, I borrowed it, along with several shells, from Ramon and we drew a Jaguar silhouette on a large piece of paper. We then paced off 25 yards, and I let drive, with both barrels at once. While the recoil was something fierce, an examination of the Jaguar silhouette revealed that over fifteen of the large pellets had hit the cat, from the head to the lungs. It left me with no doubt, with what the outcome would have been, had we been on an actual hunt. When I asked Ramon if the recoil bothered him, as he only stands five feet tall and probably doesn't weigh over a hundred pounds, he answered simply, "Sure it hurts amigo, but it hurts the Tigre more." Ramon told me that he had a friend who owned an old English eight gauge shotgun, but had given it up as he had been unable to get brass for it, and he told me that if I could get him the brass, he would trade his gun for the eight gauge.

gun with paint, I decided that Ramon's version of a night sight was well-nigh perfect, so I simply attach a long piece of adhesive tape to the rib of the 12 gauge when I go out for cats. With any kind of moonlight, it isn't even necessary for me to use a light, and by merely pointing the 1/4 inch white stripe at the cat, I can be certain of a lethal hit. Remember, with 0 buckshot in 23/4" Magnum loads, I am throwing 24 pellets at my target, from a relatively open bored gun. Another gun that I have used successfully for Jaguar, is a single shot Beretta 12 gauge, with the barrel cut off to 18 inches and a Cutts Compensator installed. For cat shooting, I can fit the choke tube to suit the situation. For ranges up to 25 yards, I use no tube at all, and rely on the cylinder bore. For ranges of 30 to 35 yards. I use the modified tube, and for 40 yards I use the full choke tube. I have patterned the gun with 00 buckshot, at all ranges and with all tubes, and find that with the new Western Mark V buckshot in 00, it is reliable at any practical range. The gun has a Lyman ramp front sight, and a Lyman receiver sight, with the new Williams Twi-Light aperture screwed in. With the cylinder bore, it patterns beautifully at 25 yards, and also throws slugs to the same point of impact. The gun only weighs five pounds, and is short enough to handle easily at close quarters. Although I hold an additional shell in my left hand when using this single shot, I usually wear a large handgun, for emergencies. This little Beretta single shot has accounted for six Jaguars already, and none has required a second shot. If you are wondering why I chose the Beretta, in both cases, it was due to the fact that Beretta parts and service are available throughout most of South America, and since I spend so much time there, I would rather play it safe. Actually any twelve gauge shotgun with an open boring would suffice, although I would prefer a double, either side by side or over and under for Jaguar hunting. While a pump or autoloader might work out alright, Jaguars are often hunted in damp climates, and I prefer the simplest possible action. Many Tigrero's own the old Winchester Model 97 Riot Guns, and several have told me that they like the hammer feature of the gun better than any other type of safety.

While not wanting to ruin my shot-

W HILE some may argue that the twelve gauge buckshot load isn't even an effective deer load--and can quote ballistics to back up their argument-the fact is, that Jaguars aren't particularly hard to kill, if they are hit properly. Because of the conditions in which Jaguars are shot, careful bullet placement, with a rifle, is well nigh impossible. Jaguar will rarely tree, and often when brought to bay, he simply turns and fights, often killing several of the dogs, within seconds. This is why, when a shot presents itself, it must be taken instantly, and only the added insurance of from nine to 25 buckshot can make the difference between a dead Jaguar and a wounded, even more dangerous beast. Even the professional hunters of Africa rarely choose a rifle as the proper arm when trying to get a Leopard at short range, and almost every book that has been written on African hunting, states that when a wounded leopard is chased into the bush, a shotgun loaded with SSG is taken in. Probably the most ideal Jaguar gun would be a German Drilling with two twelve gauge barrels over a 7 mm rifled tube.

To the hunter who insists upon using a rifle for Jaguar, I would recommend the following. While not as good as a shotgun, the Ruger .44 Magnum autoloading carbine, with iron sights, would be a pretty good choice. The Marlin 35 Remington Marauder would also be O.K. The last gun that should be taken is one of the ultrahigh speed, scope-sighted rifles that seem to be the rage today. You can almost be assured that your bullet is going to hit brush of some kind before hitting the cat, and so you need the best possible brush gun. While the rifled slug might seem ideal, and will do the job IF placed right, it again has the disadvantage of being only one projectile. A double gun with buckshot in one barrel and a slug in the other would have the advantage of leaving the shot for close shots and the slug for long shots. However, doubles are famous for inaccuracy with slugs, and if you choose this combination, be sure that you have tried the gun out at all ranges, so that you know where the shot and slug are going to go.

If you are of the opinion that only the rich and famous can afford a Jaguar hunt, forget it. For about \$275.00 round trip, from New York, and far

less from Miami, you can fly to Venezuela, or other Central or South American country. Any cattle ranch in the country will be glad to see you and assist you in getting a Tigre. After all, they pay people to do just that, and if you are a crazy enough "gringo" to want to kill a Tigre for nothing, they will not try and talk you out of it. I would suggest you getting in touch with any of the local Consulates, and ask them to give you the names and addresses of any large cattle ranch. Merely write a letter, to the manager of that ranch, and mention that you would like to come down to try for a Tigre, and state that you would be willing to pay for room and board, and might be willing to pay \$50 or so, if you get a cat. You can be sure that you'll get some answers. While not all managers of ranches can understand English, enough of them do so, and at least one or more will answer your letters. As far as I know, no Latin countries require a hunting license for Tigres, which are unprotected all over their range, but you will have to get a permit to take firearms into the country. Most Latin countries will permit you to bring a shotgun with no problems, but all 7 mm rifles, 9 mm and 45 caliber handguns are barred. The consulate will advise you of whatever is necessary with respect to firearms, but generally a letter from your local bank or police force, attesting to your good character, two passport-sized photographs, and the descriptions and serial numbers of the guns are required.

As to the best places to go, that remains limitless. From southern Mexico, to Panama, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia and Brazil, you can take your pick. For under \$500 dollars, you can have the hunt of a lifetime, and don't forget, that these countries have an unbelievable number of deer, boar, javelina, alligator, puma, feral goats and some of the best waterfowl shooting in the world. Just make sure that when you plan your hunt, you choose the right gun, and take my word for it, the best jaguar medicine is the twelve gauge double.

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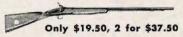
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PROOF BY TEST

(Continued from page 53)

are available to gunmakers from the institute. The proof loads are also controlled to give a uniform appearance that makes identification quick and positive. These high pressure cartridges now have a silver colored case and reddish lacquer on the bullet. The shotshell proof loads have the silver colored plating on the metal base and the sidewalls are printed with warnings in red: "Danger! For use only by gunmakers for testing the strength of guns."

The only exception I can think of at the moment is the proof load for the .22 Winchester Rimfire Magnum. These proof loads are not silvered but the bullet has a ring of red lacquer around it. The boxes that the proof cartridges come in are also well identified in bright red letters. In the arms factories, proof firing and function test firing are two distinct operations. They do not want to gamble on having the high pressure rounds fired without the benefit of the protective devices whose use are so rigidly enforced in the proving areas. In looking over some of the fired proof casings, I was able to recognize quickly some of the obvious signs which denote excessive pressure. There were pierced primers, blown primers, deformed heads and primers which were smeared across the back of the case like a squashed gumdrop. The guns had handled them all without a hitch.

Another device which helps to protect you and I when we touch off a round is the pressure gun. The ammunition makers use this miniature cannon to determine the relative breech pressures of different loads in a given caliber. Simply stated, a pressure gun is a universal receiver which contains a simple firing mechanism plus a number of barrels for all available calibers.

A barrel of the caliber to be tested is screwed into the heavy receiver and as the test cartridge is fired, a hole almost a quarter of an inch in diameter forms in the cartridge case and allows the internal pressure to activate a vertical piston. This piston in turn, transmits the resultant pressure to a small cylinder of solid copper and compresses it to a certain degree. These copper "crusher" sections are of a known hardness and the relative compression is then carefully measured with a micrometer. The shortening of the copper rod can be translated into relative breech

pressure. In this special apparatus, the ammo makers can develop new loads and keep them within the safe pressure limits of the existing rifles in any particular caliber. Regardless of the development of any newer, stronger actions, the working pressure of any commercially produced cartridge cannot be allowed to exceed the safety requirements of the weakest gun that is still in current use in the caliber being considered.

All this research work is a necessary part of the gun business. And here's a little side thought for you to mull over in your mind. All this technical engineering and development work that the gunmakers do in your behalf costs money! Therefore, when you stop to think about it, a gun is a pretty good bargain when you realize the amount of time and thought that goes into just the proof and trial work. Your personal safety should be a prime consideration when you are tempted to buy some off-breed clunker. We have some top rate metallurgists, engineers and stress scientists who go through a lot of work to insure that our guns are the best that can be had. It's a shame that a few foolhardy clowns can demolish a gun in one thoughtless moment.

After getting clearance for me to visit the seldom seen Winchester ballistic laboratory and test range, I was fortunate to be in the company of ballistic expert Mert Robinson, Here, in this modern ballistic laboratory, I found some of the laboratory technicians of our story at work on a multiplicity of ballistic and engineering problems. I smiled as I noted that a crew was busy at the chronograph checking the velocities of "projectiles" that were not really bullets at all. They were clocking the speeds of the steel studs and fasteners that are shot into concrete or steel by the commercial construction "guns" used by modern fabricators. In actual practice, the "guns" fire these fastening devices from a "contact" position, rather than from a distance to prevent ricochets. The "free flight" chronograph tests helped to evaluate the piercing power of these powerful construction aids.

In another room, I saw firearms engineers setting up for a time-andmotion photographic study of an automatic weapon at the instant of firing. In the company of Chief Ballistician, Mert Robinson, I was shown the pressure gun setup with its many

barrels, one for every caliber to be tested. Because I am employed by the New York Telephone Company, I was quick to notice the presence of a "Fastax" high speed motion picture camera. This device, a development of Bell Laboratories, can take movies at such a terrific speed that when projected at a slower rate, they give a slow motion picture of such splitsecond actions as a bullet piercing a target, or the movement of a semiautomatic breech mechanism as it ejects the spent cartridge case and feeds in a fresh round. These ballistic engineers have every modern aid at

their disposal to develop and evaluate both the cartridge and the weapon.

Perhaps now you can see how much we owe to the ballistic and engineering technicians we have praised in this article. All shooters owe these tireless and intrepid gun wizards a vote of confidence. Confidence in our fine quality American firearms. Meanwhile, we can rest assured that the guns made here by our top grade factories are the strongest, the safest and the best to be had. In the hands of intelligent shooters, that is. The fools and daredevils are a breed apart!

POINT BLANK

(Continued from page 12)

We experienced a great deal of this same sort of thing in the South Pacific during WWII. Then we were using a .30 caliber, the sturdy '06, with bullets that weighed 150 grains. Despite the greater size and weight of this slug it many times failed to reach the Nip who was concealed in fairly heavy cover. Small wonder then when we reduce the caliber from .30 to .22 and whittle down the weight by three times that our troopers complain in the Indochinese forests!

The 5.56 mm has been tested to establish precisely what happens when the rifleman at a range of 20 meters takes dead aim at an enemy seen through a screen of brush. The test consisted of firing through a series of 1/2" oak dowel rods. These rods were arranged in a fixture so that despite the spot where the bullet hit it would be compelled in every case to cut through two rods and many times would strike three.

It was learned that on hitting the first oaken rod that the halfpint slug is upset and the Lubaloy jacketing is ruptured. On striking the second rod there is a separation of jacket and inner leaden core. If this does not complete the separation on the second rod it is assured upon striking the third one.

The leaden core follows one ballistic path and the pieces of the ruptured jacket quite another. That the enemy is not harmed is understandable.

Tests conducted with captured AK-47 rifles and the 7.62 Soviet ammo shed a good deal of light on the situation. The 122 grain bullet with its mild steel jacket resists breakup so much more effectively than the 5.56.

One of the oldest alibis in the game fields is the one fetched back to camp every season by the nimrod who contends, "I missed the biggest bull elk in

the Tetons because my bullet struck a twig." It is invariably concluded that the only suitable bullet for brushbucking must be of large caliber, low velocity, and with a blunt nose. There is quite a bit of poppycock in this one.

A series of firings on 1/2" oaken dowels indicates that the diameter of the ball, its speed and its front end configuration-if all of these are on the traditional side-is no sinecure. It isn't one whit better nor yet more impressive than some of the more modern types. The sporting bullet like the miniature .223 now making so many of our fighting men unhappy in Vietnam is jacketed in Lubaloy. This material for brush-bucking leaves a lot to be desired.

During a series of tests which included the .222 Magnum (similar to the .223), the .243, the 7 mm Magnum, the .30-30, the '06, the .308, the .388, the .340, and the .458 Magnum, it was found that when the sporting bullet strikes the first solid half-inch oak dowel it mushrooms. When it goes on and impacts on the second dowel it opens up still more. In the case of the pipsqueaks like the .222, the slug sheds its jacket and leaden core and jacket pieces strike the backing target (placed 27 feet behind the fixture) at wide angles. The larger calibers commence to tumble after contact with the second dowel and upon striking the third rod will sometimes shed the jacket. One of our best known hunting bullets, this slug with the metallic membrane through its midsection, frequently breaks in two and the sections hit the backing as keyholes.

Only the .458 with its 500 grain steel jacketed bullet will shear off the 1/2inch hardwood dowels and continue on course. It resists mushrooming, will not tumble and is deviated only to a minor degree.



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STEIGER REVOLVER

(Continued from page 23)

(about \$59.00). There are no records as to how many of these revolvers were made, but several collectors in Switzerland feel that not over 50 of this type were produced and possibly only the original ten bought by the Swiss Army. The revolver has a barrel length of 6½ inches. The cleaning rod, which is attached on the under side of the barrel, is 6 inches in length without the cleaning attachment. With the cleaning attachment screwed into place it measures 7½ inches in overall length. The little brass cleaning

and locked for each cartridge. The loading gate is spring loaded so the cartridges will not fall out after they are placed in the cylinder. Now that the revolver is loaded, the cylinder lock may be released. The hammer must be left at half cock. If it is let down the automatic ejector mechanism will be engaged. If this happens, the next time the single action is cocked the ejector finger will go under a loaded cartridge and when fired pull the loaded cartridge out. The only remedy is to leave the hammer



accessory and also the small screw driver are stored inside the grips.

The grips on this model are made of walnut and are fastened on in the usual manner with a screw in the middle. When in their proper place the inside surfaces of the grips butt together and form a very neat storage compartment, which can be seen in the photo. The cylinder measures 1½ inches in length and has 5 chambers, numbered 1 through 5. The slot on the inside edge of each chamber is where the automatic action finger drops in to catch the empty cartridge.

To load this revolver, the hammer must first be pulled back to half cock position (this is not a safe position). Next, turn the cylinder left to right until the slot in the side of the cylinder lines up with the cylinder lock, which is mounted on the side of the revolver over the trigger. Then, with the thumb, push the lock into place. This places the cylinder in the proper position for the first cartridge to be loaded. The cylinder must be turned

at half cock when finished loading. When pulled to full cock from this position the cylinder will not revolve and the ejector finger, which is under a spring tension, will over-ride the spring when it comes to rest on the rim of a live cartridge as it moves forward. After the first shot the hammer may be left at full rest. To continue to fire the revolver merely operate it single action and each empty cartridge is ejected as you fire the next round. After all five rounds are fired the revolver must be cocked and dry fired to eject the last empty.

The only exposed part of the automatic ejection system is the ejector finger. All other parts are covered by the side plate which is held on by one screw, just to the top left of Steiger's name. To remove the side plate, the screw must first be removed and the side plate lifted up from the back; this will expose all of the internal parts of the ejection system. The over-ride spring on this system is located in the hammer, which has

been milled out to accept it. All of the internal parts of this system are hand finished and of the finest quality. Whether this revolver was ever patented is questionable. Neither the Swiss, German, or French patent offices contain any records concerning this revolver.

There is one other reason why this weapon may have been rejected. At the time this revolver was introduced

to the Swiss Army, the standard weapon was the 10.4 mm Chamelot and Delvigne Model 1872. The W. von Steiger revolver was made only in 10 mm caliber center fire. Since the Swiss Army had no 10 mm caliber weapons at this time their ordinance reports states that the cartridges had to be furnished by W. von Steiger for the testing of his revolver.



WALTHER PPK

(Continued from page 22)

this fact due to a rather general misunderstanding that is current today.

In addition to the Manurhin plant, Walther has two other factories that supply small parts for Walther pistols located at Niederstetzingen and Gerstetten. All final assembly, quality control, testing, range firing, and approval of the Walther PPK pistol takes place at the new German factory at Ulm.

There have been several variations in the marking of the Ulm pistols but the basic markings on the slide and receiver are as follows:

Left side of slide: Walther Banner on the left of the following inscription: "Carl Walther Waffenfabrik Ulm/Do Model PPK-cal. 9 m/m Kurz." Right side of slide under ejection port: Serial Number. Left side of receiver: "Made in West Germany," at rear of trigger guard, stamped in a line parallel to the grips. Right side of receiver: Serial Number -stamped vertically.

All of these postwar pistols have two piece plastic grips, push button magazine release, and the cartridge indicator pin in all center fire models. Due to the fact that the cal. .22 long rifle pistols must have a rim fire firing pin it is not feasible to further install a cartridge indicator pin. Because of this none of the cal, .22 pistols have this indicator pin regardless of date of manufacture.

Along about 1950 or thereabouts I encountered my first pre-war Nazi commercial pistol. This was a nicely finished PPK that duplicated the prewar commercial standards except that it had Nazi proof marks. I understand that Walther never supplied any PPK pistols to the Nazi forces directly but they did receive orders from the Government in Berlin or from the various State Governments throughout Germany.

The next type of PPK that I picked up was a rather beat up late wartime Nazi with all the tool marks. It had obviously been turned out fast, without any attempt at maintaining the

traditional Walther finish. I fired this pistol often and it never gave me any trouble, though I used it for some time as a test pistol during the development of my special bullets. I figured that if this rough PPK would digest my experimental bullets and loads, any of the well made pistols would also handle them. And this has proven to be true. The basic Walther PPK design has been so sound that I have yet to run into one of these pistols that did not prove to be safe and reliable under all conditions.

Several years went by during which I continued to work with the PPK's and one day I found myself examining a pre-war PPK that I assumed was in .22 Long Rifle. It was in nice shape and the owner claimed it jammed with his ammunition. On inquiring about the ammunition he handed me some old World War II .32 ACP cartridges. I then looked at the barrel and discovered that the pistol was a PPK .32 ACP without a cartridge indicator. This was the first example of this variation that I had ever seen. On inquiring around about this I could not obtain any information from dealers or so-called collectors. Needless to say I bought this pistol intending to check into this matter later on.

Not long afterwards I bought another PPK that does not have the push button magazine catch. Rather it has a magazine catch at the bottom of the grip. There is no cut in the receiver to take a push button magazine release. At this point I decided to find out the background and history of these two variations.

Interarmoo, Ltd, 10 Prince Street, Alexandria, Virginia, imports the Walther line into this country and it seemed reasonable to assume that they could give me full information on these unusual Walthers. I wrote to them requesting information on all of the PPK's. After long delay I received two letters, one from Interarmco, Ltd. and another from the

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Walther factory in Germany. Here is what they told me.

World War II burned the Walther factory at Zella-Mehlis destroying the plant and records, and scattering the personnel. It is impossible to obtain information on serial numbers or on the quantities of pistols manufactured. Up until 1944 at least one million pistols had been turned out by Walther but whatever pistols remained after the war were deliberately destroyed by the occupation forces.

The Walther Model PP pistol was developed and put into production during 1928-1929, and the first run featured the bottom magazine catch. When the Model PPK came out after a period of development during 1931-1932, the first few also had the magazine catch at the bottom of the grip. Shortly afterwards both the PP and the PPK were modified to take the push button magazine catch, that has been standard ever since. Because all records have been destroyed no one will ever know how many PPK's were manufactured with the bottom magazine catch, but the number cannot be great. The only other one I know of is in the collection of John T. Amber,

editor of the Gun Digest.

Remembrances are similarly vague as to the dates and reasons for manufacturing the PPK without a cartridge indicator pin. Even less is known about this than about the bottom magazine catch. It would appear that both variations are quite rare.

Walther did not go into special contracts and lots unless it was absolutely necessary and even then they did so reluctantly. Occasionally special additional markings have been placed on certain lots of pistols in recent years, such as the Interarmco stamp on the forward right side of the slide. Another is the lot of pistols supplied the Norwegian government that had to have an additional crown stamped on the slide. Some foreign governments and police orders must carry minor special markings.

It is too bad that the pre-war records no longer exist because it would be fascinating to delve back into the history of PPK production. But this is impossible and I will have to be satisfied with piecing together whatever information I can discover. I do not collect Walther pistols. I actually know little about Walther pistols. On the other hand I have used these pistols for almost three decades in all of their various calibers and forms and have developed a healthy respect for the little, tough PPK's that seem to go on year after year taking daily wear and abuse without difficulty. I can recommend them highly to anyone who needs compactness, power, and safety, combined with speed of draw and firing.

In my opinion, the .380 (9 mm Kurz as it is known in Europe) is without peer today. Whether it is a woman who needs a .22 long rifle PPK for home protection or the professional agent who needs the power of the .380 ACP in custom ammunition the PPK will do the job.

If any readers ever chance onto a PPK with bottom magazine catch or one without the cartridge indicator pin please don't shoot it. Sell it a collector. You will get enough cold cash for it to buy a new Walther PPK direct from Interarmco, Ltd.

Answers to Collector's Quiz.

1. Cloverleaf 2. Deringer 3. 1847 4. Swivel Breech

GUN RACK

(Continued from page 8)

The .45 automatic has for a very long time needed a better bullet for delivering its full punch. The standard full metal patch slug will not mushroom, will not upset, and as a consequence leaves a great deal to be desired in the matter of performance. This soft-nose hollow point by Norma is a long step in the right direction.

Penetration tests on last year's telephone directories were made. These directories contained 560 pages, were water soaked by submersion for two hours, and were then bound together with twine. Four directories weighed 42.4 pounds, and had a thickness of 8.3 inches. The new Norma bullet shot through four directories and lodged in the fifth. The bullet did not mushroom, did not upset, and the leaden edges about the hollow point were only slightly flattened.

There is also a new .357 Magnum loading by Norma. It has a soft-point. There is also a hollow point. The cavity is ½" in depth and has a width at its mouth of 5/32". The bullet is a Lubaloy jacketed slug with a weight of 158 grains. Velocity is 1450 fps at the muzzle. Tried on the dripping telephone books there was a penetration

of five of the directories and the hole of exit was about .55 caliber with a great splash of well-pulped paper about the orifice. Further tests indicated a full penetration, on the average, of seven books. Recovered bullets showed a riveting of the soft leaden nose, but no jacket ruptured.

Along with these new loadings Norma has a 9mm hollow point bullet. It weighs 116 grains and unlike the .45 and the .357 there is no softpoint of lead exposed. The standard 9mm jacketed bullet has simply had the bullet nose cut off and a cavity has then been drilled into the leaden core. This cavity is 15/64" in depth and 11/64" in width at its mouth. Tried on the directories there was no evidence of upsetting nor of mushrooming effect. The standard Norma loading develops 1165 fps MV. It was evident the jacketing on these bullets is too heavy to surely rupture. The exposure of the leaden core and the hollow-point is a fine step in the right direction but further experimentation needs be done to either decrease the thickness of the side walls or to go to some other jacketing metal more suceptible to fragmentation and rupture.-Col. Charles Askins.

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This Ft. Worth firm makes both a rifle gun case and also one for the handgun. Cases are rugged heavy gauge ABS plastic with a full length four-place hinge and three locks, all key operated. The hardware is of aluminum and there is a tongue-and-groove valance completely around the case-mouth. There are double handles, The box is lined with an ure-thane foam cushion over which there is a acrylon cover in black or red.



The Ben Forrester long gun case will hold one sporting rifle, with scope or two shotguns. The pistol case is 4x12x14 inches and will accept two six-guns.

For long hunting trips where the shooting iron is apt to be roughly handled, as when traveling by air, this Ben Forrester is the real McCoy. A gun, once stored inside and the top closed down upon it, simply cannot move, cannot shift or change position. I have more than once sighted in at home and thereafter traveled thousands of miles, jerked the rifle out of the case, and found after a few shots that it was still in perfect zero. Their address is: EMC Co., 3817 Rutledge, Fort Worth, Texas.

-Col. Charles Askins.



GUNSMITHING TIPS

By WILLIAM SCHUMAKER

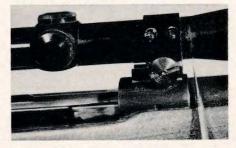
ECOIL INERTIA of today's hot R magnums frequently shifts scopes forward in their mounts. This also occurs to some extent with .270 and .30-06 class rifles. Ring tightening alone is not the answer. If overdone, it mars the finish and can bind or lock the power changing mechanism of variable scopes. The solution lies in the perfect fitting and gripping of both mount rings.

This is sometimes difficult because of the wide diameter variations of socalled 1" scope tubes. Many individual scopes mike differently from front to rear ring locations. Common clamp type scope rings are made with a closure clearance to accommodate additional cinch-up required if the tube is under 1". If it is slightly larger than

1" the clamp opening gap is simply wider when the screws are tightened. It can be readily understood that this will create some pinching and to some degree lack total uniform gripping, in spite of the fact that it may be adequate for average calibers and scope weights.

Holding ability of most makes of scope rings can be vastly improved by lightly brushing the inside surfaces with powdered rosin. Valve grinding and bolt jewelling compounds have been used in the same manner. This harsh treatment really holds, but presses a rough sand-blasted effect into the surface of the scope body. and should the ring position ever be changed, it will be quite obvious. It is used only as a last resort.

Much scope slippage trouble can be avoided by choosing the better makes of mounts, such as Conetrol, Buehler, or Redfield. For instance, the neoprene-lined Buehler split rings contain an almost invisible unit of laminated steel shim which can be peeled off in sections to arrive at a total ringto-scope contact, while at the same



Scope damage caused by slipping.

time bringing the front ring spud to proper diameter for fitting snugly into the base opening.

If all scope ring installation instructions are followed in detail, and the entire circumference of front and rear rings grips the tube evenly, and is additionally rosin treated, virtually all recoil-caused scope slippage within mount rings will be virtually eliminated.



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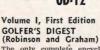
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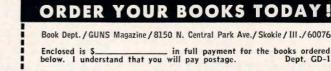
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JAPANESE MODELS

(Continued from page 51)

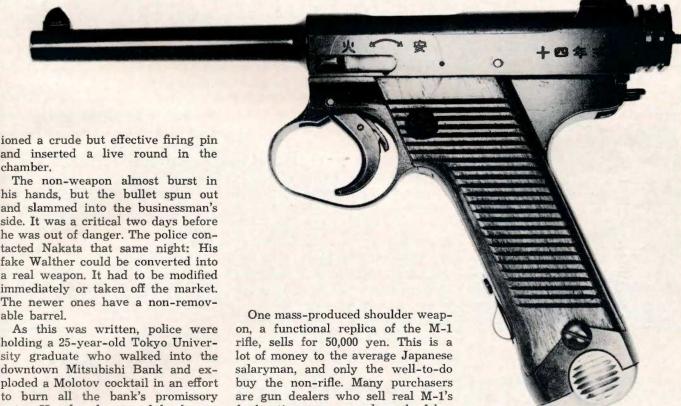
Kai-shek's soldiers, who stopped them at the gates of Chungking.

Only one of Nakata's non-weapons, the German Walther 9 mm Model 38 Automatic, ever threatened to get him in trouble. A mentally-disturbed teenager with a grudge against a middleaged businessman removed the barrel on one of Nakata's Walthers and substituted a real one he had somehow laid hands on. Through some method police would not reveal, he next fashJapanese than a blueprint-that was passed to a contracted manufacturer to strip down, copy and mass produce.

There are also inert, solid-mold pieces that are sold on varnished stands with a brass label reading, "Gun Collection." In deference to the James Bond craze, which is big in Japan and grew larger after "You Only Live Twice" as filmed here, there is a small, gilded automatic sold as a Golden Gun.

search in the Japan Defense Agency Arms Museum. Nakata insists they will never be sold-only used to attract and educate customers. Someday, he says, they will be passed to a museum with the space and spirit to display them properly.

Nakata has done well as a merchant of fake weapons and non-guns, well enough to open a good-sized sporting goods store nearby. Yet before his 20th birthday, he told himself he never wanted to see another weapon or reminder of war again. Too young to serve in the Japanese Army, he volunteered to go to China after the war and care for his suffering countrymen



and inserted a live round in the chamber.

The non-weapon almost burst in his hands, but the bullet spun out and slammed into the businessman's side. It was a critical two days before he was out of danger. The police contacted Nakata that same night: His fake Walther could be converted into a real weapon. It had to be modified immediately or taken off the market. The newer ones have a non-removable barrel.

As this was written, police were holding a 25-year-old Tokyo University graduate who walked into the downtown Mitsubishi Bank and exploded a Molotov cocktail in an effort to burn all the bank's promissory notes. He also threatened bank employes with a realistic-looking P-38 Walther that turned out to be a nongun. Police would not say if it was a Nakata or came from the shop of one of his numerous competitors.

The guns were all born in the tiny workshop. Each was first a master model hand-made by Nakata's staff of one, 38-year-old Noboru Mutobe, a machinist who once made parts for Zero fighters. He painstakingly followed "Small Arms of the World" and old U.S. arms manuals from the Occupation days as he used micrometer, lathe and milling machine to reproduce, to the ten thousandth of an inch, every part of the weapon.

Fully assembled, it was the master model-still better to a methodical for hunting weapons and use the fakes for window displays.

The M-1's are stacked beside racks of pistols that are also sold in velvet lined cases, as a real and rare collector's piece might be. A stained and riddled Japanese battleflag shadows the uniformed dummies and piles of Japanese Imperial Army uniforms that are often rented to movie studios.

Then there are the large weaponsor again, non-weapons. Mutobe, under Nakata's direction, is slowly assembling a 500-piece set of World War II small arms-everything from the Type 97 Japanese sniper rifles to the heavy .50 that thrusts out at the passing crowd. Each piece takes Mutobe a month of delicate, exacting work, after weeks of exhaustive rein prison compounds. Nakata wound up interned himself and "buried many of my boyhood friends" before being repatriated back to Japan.

"But that was a long time ago," he says. "The war is long past and part of history. And its relics should most certainly be preserved."

Editor's Note

The model guns described here are not available in the U.S. If you are interested in purchasing these, write: Mr. Masami Tokoi, 28-3, Hongo I-chome, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

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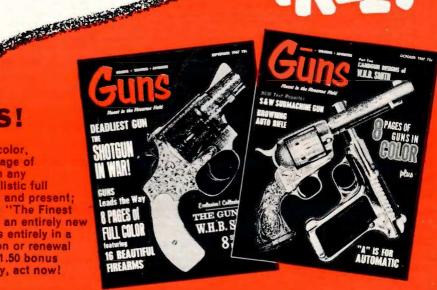
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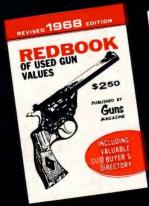
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