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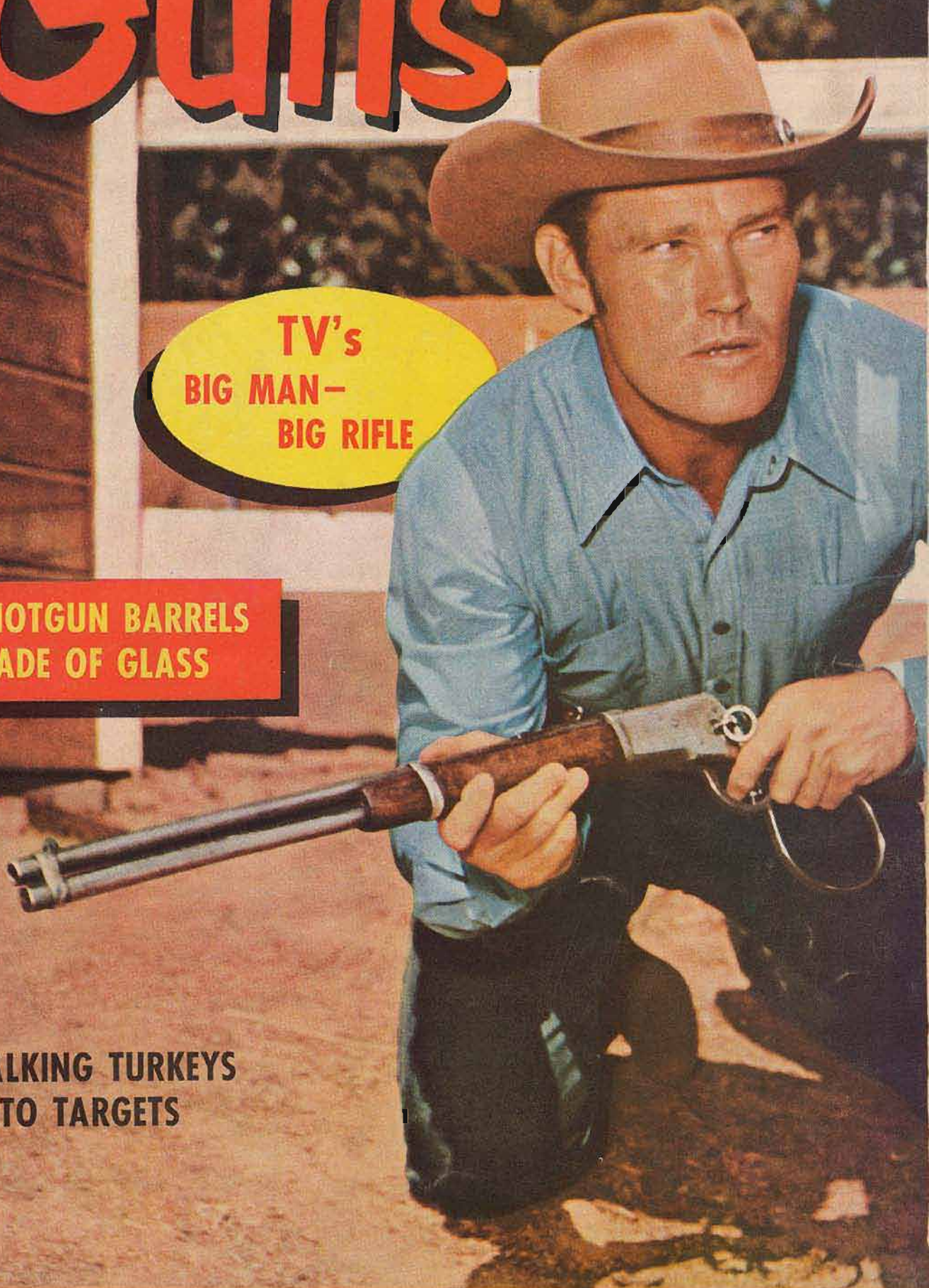
# Guns



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BIG MAN—  
BIG RIFLE**

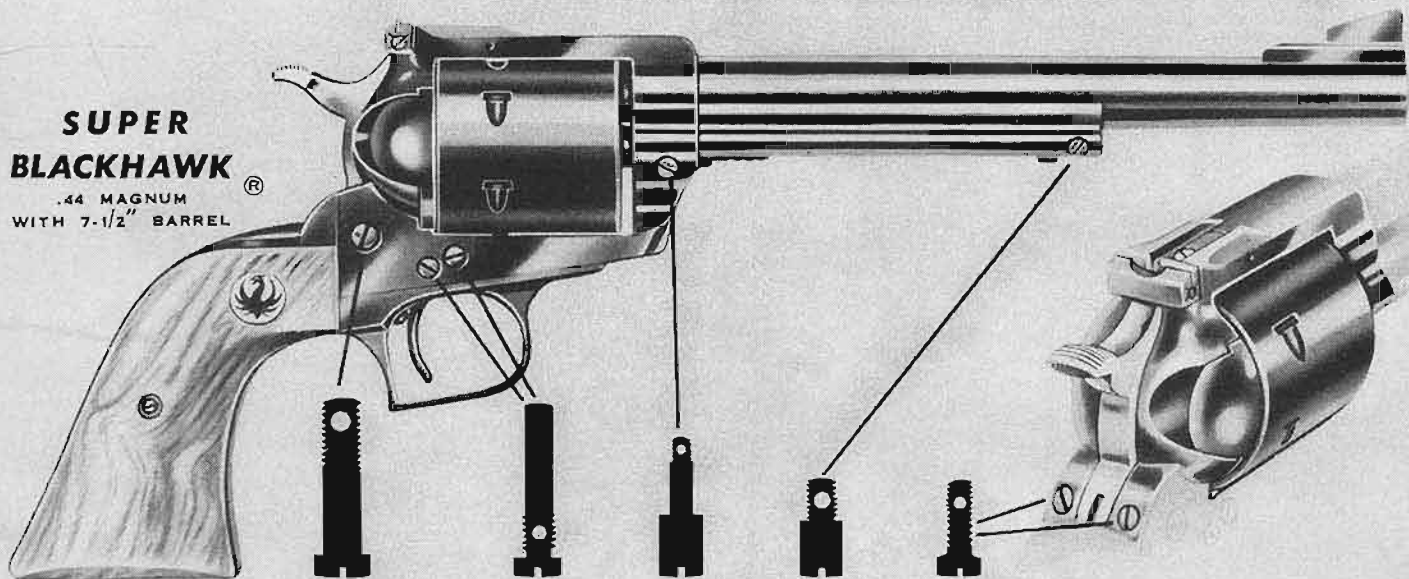
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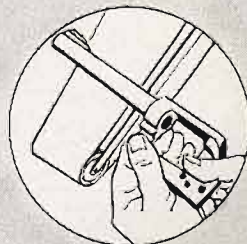
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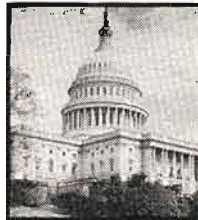
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# KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS

**Congressman Robert H. Michel**  
18th (Peoria) Dist., Illinois

THE SECOND AMENDMENT was intended...to prevent the disarming of the average citizen by act of a central government and to preserve to him the freedoms for which he fought. As a former combat infantryman, I am quite well aware of the value of the individual rifleman in warfare. I will oppose legislation which would restrict or harass responsible citizens in the ownership of personal firearms...

**Congressman William K. Van Pelt**  
Comm.: Merchant Marine & Fish, Science & Astro.  
6th Dist., Wisconsin



THE U.S. CONSTITUTION, as amended, is one of the greatest documents that man has conceived. The Second Amendment spells out very definitely that we as a free people are capable of defending our freedoms by force if necessary... Sportsmen throughout the Nation are playing a large part in establishing voluntary groups to instruct our youth in the handling of firearms, which to me is most important because they not only become accustomed to handling a gun but also develop a respect for it. I would...oppose any legislation which might restrict the right of an individual to own firearms that he might use in extreme instances to protect his person or domicile as well as to use as a sportsman in the field.

**Congressman Basil L. Whitener**  
Comm.: Judiciary  
11th (Gastonia) Dist., North Carolina

THE CITIZEN SOLDIER has always been the first line of defense in our Nation since the days of the American Revolution. An essential part of our security is the right of the people to keep and, whenever necessary, bear firearms in defense of their liberties.

**Congressman J. Carlton Loser**  
Comm.: Judiciary, D.C.  
5th (Nashville) Dist., Tennessee

IT IS MY OPINION that the term "militia" was intended...to cover the broad field of non-professional soldiers, of citizens trained and accustomed to discipline and the care and use of firearms. Today's equivalent is to be found in the membership of the National Guard and the organized reserves, and in the veterans whose military training and experience entitle them to serve in the defense of our liberty and the preservation of public order. I believe it an important part of the education of our youth for citizenship that this right to keep and bear arms should be publicly proclaimed and exercised; that young people should be taught the care and use of guns; that licensing and regulating procedures should be reasonably ordained and strictly enforced; that the forfeiting of this right to bear arms may be the sure and irrevocable consequence of any serious crime of violence. The right of each citizen to bear arms is both a symbol and an essential part of the freedom we desire to preserve and of the responsibility we must accept.

**Congressman Clem Miller**  
Comm.: Banking & Currency  
1st District, California

THE NATURE OF modern weaponry is so complicated, and the need for centralized coordination so intense, that the mere idea of militia is ludicrous. Now, let me hasten to add, that developments in the future may put the militia (or the individual with his arms, most precisely) in the forefront as our protection shield. If the world should be caught up in the madness of an atomic cataclysm, our highly organized society would break up into its lowest common denominator—the individual and his immediate neighbors. At once, and in the twinkling of an eye, we might have the conditions of the frontier reestablished. At this time, the only arsenal he could avail himself of would be that (which) he had immediately on his person. He would be on his own. He would need all of the cunning which modern man has somewhat lost. Having arms, carrying arms, and familiarity with arms would be an integral part of such self-reliance. For this reason, I have always supported programs which would develop the individual responsibility and reliance of a former age. The very survival of the human race might depend on a few Robinson Crusoes spotted around the globe. This may not be what you had in mind in your letter [about the Second Amendment], but I believe it needs saying by somebody.

Readers' Note: All Congressmen may be addressed as "House Office Building," and all Senators as "Senate Office Building," both at "Washington 25, D. C."

# Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

MAY, 1960  
Vol. VI, No. 5-65

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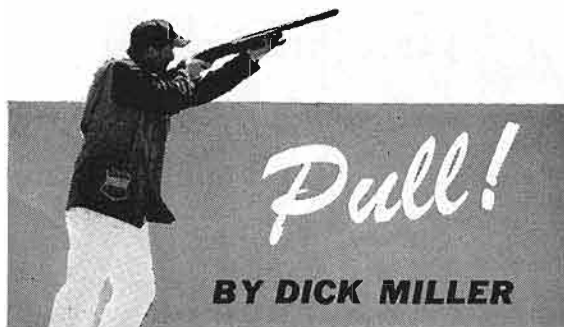
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**A**MONG THE THINGS a trap and skeet editor would never know unless he opened his mail is the fact that more and more hotel people are becoming aware of the desirability of hosting trap and skeet tournaments. For instance—

Sheraton is considering expanding their single trap and skeet fields at their fabulous French Lick Springs resort hotel in scenic Southern Indiana to a multiple layout. The Sheraton French Lick Springs could then host state, regional, and perhaps some national tournaments. Shooters express an interest in the proposed addition of French Lick Springs to the circuit because of the complete recreational facilities for mama and the kiddies. Several Lincoln Park Gun Club trap and skeet fans, on Chicago's North Shore, vowed that the good wife might even insist on taking in the shoots at a spot like Sheraton's Southern Indiana spa. One shooter allowed as how if his wife found out about the proposed new facility, he might have to go to the shoots there whether he wanted to or not . . .

Two of Miami Beach's plushest hostelrys are thinking of adding skeet tournaments to their off-season attractions. One of the hotels would bring our South American shooting friends into stateside competitions hosted in Miami Beach . . . Miami Beach would be a natural in the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, and Caribbean circuits.

Following up last month's PULL! column on the fine performances of women in the clay target games, we note that Mrs. John B. (Kit) Dinning of Ruxton, Maryland, is reported in "Skeet Shooting Review" with a .958 four-gun average on 3450 combined skeet targets in 1959. During the process of compiling this sparkling record, Mrs. Dinning broke 579 of 600 small gauge targets with her 28 gauge gun, for an average of .965. The .965 average broke a record of .962 on 500 targets set by Mrs. Ann Martin Hecker of Tucson in 1951.

Squadron Leader Barney Hartman of the RCAF came across the border from Ottawa to pick up the marbles in the men's all-around division. Barney's norm on 3400 combined targets was .983. The all-around title requires minimums of 1000 all-gauge, 600 twenty-gauge, 400 small-gauge, and 400 sub-small gauge; with an added condition that the small guns account for at least one-third of the total targets.

Frank Trezise, SAAMI field representative in the Buckeye state, has been named outdoor editor of the Columbus "Star." Frank wants shooting news for his outdoor coverage from Ohio, West Virginia, and Western

Pennsylvania. A full-page spread of pictures showing the Dar-Lee Shooting Range at Summit Station, Ohio has already delighted the area's clay target buffs. Shooting news should be sent to Frank at his home address, 2040 Harwitch Road, Columbus 21, Ohio.

Harry B. Brown, a fine trapshooter, who hails from 739 Belmont, Chicago 14, in the Windy City has an idea which seems to PULL! to have merit. Harry suggests that a Ducks Unlimited optional be added to all state, zone, and national shoots. The winner of the DU optional would take half the optional purse, with the other half going to DU, to help keep ducks in our skies. Non-hunting shooters would not be taxed, since the purse is an optional, to be entered only by shooters who wish to participate. What do our readers think of Harry's brain child?

More and more shooting preserves are adding skeet and trap installations to their family recreation facilities. Mama and the kiddies can pop away at clay birds, while Dad is in the field bringing home pheasant, duck, quail, chukar, even turkey, for the table. Warm-up sessions for all the hunters improve field performance. Val Christmann of Richmond Game Farms, Richmond, Illinois reports new clay target games for his popular preserve, in a story from Ray Gray's fine outdoor column, a feature of the Chicago's *American* sport pages. . . . Vern Enders, up at his Enders Airport Farm in Hartford, Michigan, offers trapshooting day and night, to his hunters and shooters. . . . Glen Acres Hunt Club, over near Oakland, also in Michigan, throws a lot of clay targets along with the feathered targets. . . . Big Island Shooting Preserve, at Union Mills in Indiana, near LaPorte plans an enlarged clay target offering, with perhaps a separate clubhouse for the new facility.

More industrial firms are realizing the value of shooting programs in employee recreation. Croname, Inc., in Niles, Illinois, has plans for a complete program for the firm's employees, including skeet, trap, rifle, pistol, and leased hunting privileges.

The ground rules for National Industrial Recreation Association's (NIRA) first annual national industrial skeet tournament are being readied for an early announcement by Don Neer, NIRA's executive director.

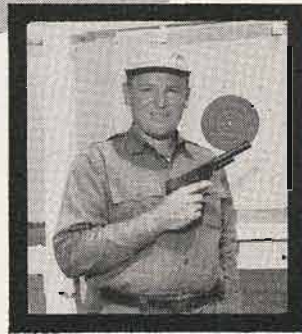
Indiana University's Center For Police Training utilizes the University's skeet and trap range to bring better firearms training to law enforcement officers from all branches (Continued on page 63)

# HI-STANDARD SHOOTERS WIN THE TOP AWARDS

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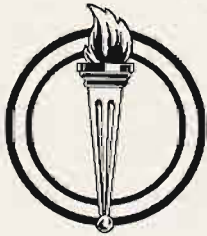


Santiago Machuca  
Sergeant, U.S. Army  
Score: 879-35



John C. Forman  
U.S. Border Patrol  
Score: 877-40

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The Gold-Medal-Award-Winning United States Team  
Left to right: Lieut. David Cartes, M/Sgt. Roy Ratliff,  
Sgt. First Class Aubrey E. Smith, M/Sgt. Richard Stineman

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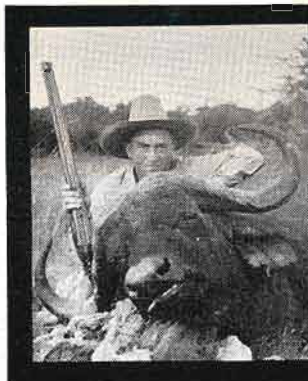
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GUNS QUARTERLY? Page 52



# Elmer Keith says . . .

### The Revolver Lanyard

We learn a little every day, or at least we should. Elmer Purcell, an old Salmon River trapper and prospector, a friend of mine for many years before he crossed the Great Divide a decade or more ago, taught me the proper use of a revolver lanyard. Elmer was a big, powerful man, well over six feet and over 200 pounds. He killed all his game, including elk, deer, and bear, with a 9 mm Luger. He wore the gun in a shoulder holster, with a buckskin thong for a lanyard.

This lanyard went around his neck and one shoulder, much as the Canadian Mounties wear theirs. It was adjusted for length, so that when he gripped the Luger normally in his right hand and extended it toward game or target, he put a good heavy pull on the lanyard. Then he brought up his left hand to help steady and support the gun and right hand. In this position, with the lanyard steadying both hands and the gun, he could do very good pistol shooting, even in a hard wind. The pull of the lanyard gave him a very steady "gun platform" for careful game shooting. He shot most of his game in the head or neck and usually at close range.

S & W, Colt 1917, and some other service revolvers came out with a lanyard swivel in the butt, and swivels can be added to most any revolver. For game shooting or for any long range work where a man does not have time or the terrain does not permit a sitting or back rest position, the revolver sling or lanyard can be a very great help in placing your shots. It can also prevent the loss of your gun while boating or riding rough country.

Try a lanyard on your long barreled revolver, especially the Buntline version, and see how much it steadies your aim and hold for game shooting.

### Vermin Rifles

I receive a good many letters every year asking what rifle and cartridge I prefer for vermin shooting. Twenty-five years ago, Don V. Schmitt made up a .22-4000 for me on a Springfield action using the 6.5 Mannlicher case. With about 35 to 36 grains of 3031 and the 55 grain Sisk bullet, it was a perfect vermin cartridge for hawks, owls, close range coyotes, and bob cats. It was very accurate and flat shooting, but at ranges beyond 300 yards it was too small for coyotes and eagles.

I next tried the .220 Swift, and it also was excellent for shooting all small vermin to 300 yards, but beyond that range failed miserably on coyotes and eagles. So I went back to the .300 Magnum, 280 Dubiel, and later the .285 O.K.H. for long range work.

These three with 180 grain bullets did the finest long range work on this class of game of any I have used; but, along with the Swift and the .22-4000 Schmitt, they seemed unnecessarily powerful for most of the smaller vermin.

I next tried the Hornet, owning and using several of them on Springfield, Model 70 Winchester, and 23 D Savage actions. The little Hornet designed by my friend, the late Grove Wotkins, was excellent to 150 yards on all small vermin, but lacked expansion at times out at 200 yards. Later, I obtained a little Z B Czech .22 Hornet and fitted it with a 4 X Weaver Scope. This made about the nicest little Hornet rifle I ever owned and is superbly accurate. Mrs. Keith liked it so well I gave it to her.

For years, I had written my old friend, Frank J. Kahrs, then advertising manager of Remington, to give us the equivalent of the 2-R Lovell in a rimless case. Finally, Remington did even better in the production of the .222 Remington. Since it came out, it has been my vermin cartridge, first in Remington rifles and later in a fine little Sako Mauser with full Mannlicher stock. I also fitted this rifle with a K-4 Weaver scope and it has well served my needs for a small vermin rifle.

The .222 Magnum, also by Remington, gives a trifle more velocity and, if anything, about 50 yards more killing range. Both are very fine little rifles and cartridges, and they suit me best of all for average vermin shooting. Like the Hornet, both are superbly accurate, and the .222 Remington as well as the .222 Magnum can be sighted for 200 yards point blank and, by holding a trifle low at 100 yards, you are right on the money for all small vermin shooting to about 225 yards. These little cartridges offer plenty of power for all small vermin to 200 yards, and will even take bobcats and coyotes very well at that range. I found them sadly lacking, however, at over 300 yards in killing power on both eagles and coyotes.

When I have to make hits on coyotes or eagles out at long range, I prefer my heavy barrel .280 O.K.H. with 55 grains 4350 and 180 grain W.T.C.C. bullet.

Each year, wild house cats, bobcats, coyotes, horned owls, and killer hawks, as well as eagles, destroy more upland game than is annually harvested by the hunter. The crow and magpie also destroy an unbelievable amount of eggs of nesting wildfowl and upland birds. All hunters and sportsmen should make eternal war on these vermin, if we are to continue to enjoy fall upland bird and waterfowl shooting. Wherever the vermin are kept in check by the rifleman and shotgun shooter, the game increases.



### Stout Rapid Reloader

Stout Enterprises Inc., 7241 Atoll Ave., No. Hollywood, Calif., now offer their big shotshell reloader at \$350.00 complete. Fired empty cases are started on one side and move around the spindle in a sequence of operations, extracting fired primer, recapping, loading powder, seating over-powder wads, ramming down filler wad, loading shot, then crimping. As each empty is fed into one side of the machine, a fully loaded shotshell emerges from the other side of this production-line tool. One stroke of the operating handle performs eight operations at one time, all fully automatic once the loader is properly adjusted. It is claimed an experienced operator can reload 20 to 30 boxes of shotshells in an hour. Too big and costly for many, this tool should be just what the doctor ordered for custom shotshell loaders or clubs wanting to load quantities of shotshells in the least time. Resizing of the case is accomplished at the same time the crimp is finished, and over-power wad pressure is adjustable from 30 pounds to 100 pounds, which takes care of about all shotgun powders.

### Pistol Carrying Case

I have received a raft of inquiries as to where plans or parts could be secured for building shooting boxes to hold and carry two or three target pistols and the spotting scope. Julius Reiver Co., Dept. G, 4104 Market St., Wilmington 99, Del., furnishes plans and do-it-yourself kits for the home manufacture of excellent shooting kits for the pistol target shooter. These various kits sell for from \$16.45 to \$19.50 and make up into very practical kits, with space for three target pistols, the spotting scope, plus ammunition and cleaning tools.

### Foot Gear

For many years, the most practical foot gear for the hunter working in snow or wet tundra country has been the Maine Hunting Shoe made by L. L. Bean, Freeport, Maine. This is a top quality, leather top, rubber hunting shoe, made on a last to comfortably fit the individual's foot. I have used Beans leather-top hunting shoes for many years when the ground was snow covered or for hunting over wet ground. While so many leather-top rubbers are loose and afford a very poor fit, causing the feet to chafe, the Bean Hunting shoe fits the ankle snugly and the last also supports the foot, making

for dry, comfortable wear when the going is rough.

For mountain hunting combined with some saddle horse work, or for long hard hikes in rough country, I have never found any hunting shoe the equal of the Packers and Loggers made by the White Boot & Shoe Co. of Spokane, Wash. These are hand-lasted, high-arch-supporting shoes made of finest materials for many years' hard service under the worst conditions. They come in both a light dry elk tannage and a heavy calf oil tannage. The oil tan is, of course, the best for wet country, while the Packer in the lighter tannage is one of the most comfortable hunting boots imaginable for dry weather hunting. Tops come well above the ankle and lace up tight enough to thoroughly support the ankles in rough going.

Usually, one can travel farther and finish with his feet in better shape with these hand made White shoes than anything in the foot-gear line. They are expensive, costing around \$30.00 to \$34.00 per pair; but they last for years if properly cared for. Soles and heel taps can be had either of leather or composition, plain or hobnailed and calked for use in heavy timber country where one is so often walking on logs far above the ground.

We have used White shoes for hard hunting for over 30 years, and still wear them. Address White Boot & Shoe Co., Spokane, Wash. Made to measure on direct order or in the usual sizes and widths. All have high arch supports and, usually, high heels ranging from 1 1/4" to nearly 2". These higher than normal heels are set far enough ahead to make the shoe comfortable when riding a horse, as they hold the stirrup well. They also support the foot going up hill and are indispensable to dig in and hold the foot coming down scree or steep mountain slopes. The Forest Service forces all their smoke jumpers to use these White Packers or Loggers for their own protection in jumping.

### The Modified Choke

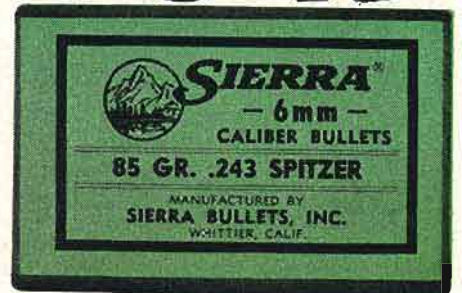
The modified choke boreing is perhaps the most useful all-around bore for most shooters. It is designed to throw around 60 per cent of the shot in a 30 inch circle at 40 yards. Good modified chokes, however, usually throw about 65 per cent patterns. The modified choke should just about cover a 30" circle at 40 yards, with no dense center such as is typical of full choke patterns.

While the modified choke will not extend  
(Continued on page 66)

# STOP-LOOK-LISTEN

The varmint hunt will be a success for the hunter who will stop, look, and listen carefully to this advice: "Sight in before every hunt! Shoot several groups at the ranges you expect to see game! Reload with SIERRAS, the most accurate and destructive bullets made!"

How do Sierras kill BIG GAME? Read "The 30-06 in AFRICA." Write for your FREE copy today!



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## CROSSFIRE

### Duck Stamps Wanted

Here at St. Louis University we collect federal and state migratory bird hunting stamps and sell them to support missionaries in Central America, Japan, Korea, and among the American Indians. I wonder if your readers would be willing to mail us their old duck stamps to help us in this missionary work. We can also use foreign and United States Air Mail, commemoratives, and high value stamps.

James C. Fleck, S. J.  
3700 West Pine Blvd.  
St. Louis 3, Mo.

### An Aid To Law Enforcement

I am a police officer, and a lover of fine guns. I like your articles on police firearms training, not only for the articles themselves but for a reason you may never have thought of. Such articles publicize the fact that police officers today do know how to use their guns. The fact that we do know how, and the fact that people know we know how to use guns makes it a lot easier for us to subdue criminals and enforce the law than it was years ago.

I like your work against gun legislation also. If the citizens of this great country value the constitutional rights promised them so long ago, they had better get on the ball with letters to their lawmakers opposing those laws that threaten to hamper the freedoms of all Americans. I enjoy the shooting sports, and I want to enjoy them long after my career as a police officer has ended.

David Russell  
Shafter, California

### Praise From A Pro

Your articles on fast draw, particularly those by Dec Woolem, are fine. I am a friend of Dec's, worked with him in California in 1955. I have done quite a few road shows myself; have just finished working at Frontier City USA, in Oklahoma, and have made a movie on Fast Draw. Last year, I formed a Fast Draw Club in Edmond, to teach safe gun handling. I am billed as "The Sundance Kid."

If everyone interested in fast draw, including the kids and the kids' parents, would read and pay attention to your articles, accidents with guns would be practically eliminated. "It's not the gun but the person behind the gun that does the killing."

Bob Taylor  
Edmond, Oklahoma

### Model 94

I want to congratulate you on your article concerning the .30 WCF in the January issue. Two years ago I bought a second-hand Model 94 because I could not afford a more

expensive deer rifle. I had wanted a more potent cartridge, but then decided to practice with it and be able to place my shots.

In September of last year I learned to handload for my pet. As I had more ammunition to practice with, the jackrabbits took a pounding. More than a score have fallen to my bullets. All have been running, at over 50 yards.

This year my practice paid off. I killed my first buck; a one-shot kill at 87 paces. He was running.

I am only 20, and I hope to acquire many more rifles in the future, but my 94 will be the nucleus of my battery.

I buy every issue of your fine magazine. Keep up the good work.

Duane Richter  
Fort Worth, Texas

### Big Problem

The big problem in the East and particularly in the big cities, is "Where can I shoot?" The metropolitan areas have plenty of 50 ft. indoor clubs where it is possible to shoot .22 rifles, but the man who wants to shoot high-power rifle, shotgun, and pistol outdoors has his troubles.

The Outers Club, Inc., offers an answer. This club has just purchased 83 acres of fine woodland near Wingdale, N.Y., within easy driving distance of New York City and Westchester counties. Adequate backstop is provided by high, steep hills, and plans are already set to construct a 300 yd. rifle range, plus pistol and trap facilities. Now the club is looking for members who will pitch in with them and help build what can become one of the finest private ranges in the East.

Founded in 1924, the Outers Club has a long history of wins by teams and individuals in a wide variety of national and local shoots. However, membership is not restricted to hotshots. Men of limited experience who are seriously interested in any form of shooting are welcome to apply for membership, which is relatively inexpensive. Anyone who would like full details should write to the club secretary, Ben Mecklenburg, 32 East Devonia Ave., Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Simeon Costa  
Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

### He Likes Black Powder

Just finished the article "Return Of The Navy Colt" (February) and am overjoyed at this further evidence of the trend toward a return to black powder shooting. Now that this sport is within the reach of the average gun crank, how about an article giving complete information as to the casting of balls, procurement of powder, loading, full instruction for the neophyte?

(Continued on page 14)

BAUSCH & LOMB'S

# Balvar 8



## hunt all game with ONE SCOPE

It's a proud moment when you first see your own Balvar 8 on your favorite rifle... the most wanted hunting sight anywhere around the world, the incomparable scope giving you instantly and continuously variable power from  $2\frac{1}{2}x$  to  $8x$ .

The unique Balvar 8 tapered cross hair reticle has no apparent change in size as you change power. Focus, eye distance and point of impact also stay constant throughout the entire power range.

Varmint or big game, you've never hunted with such a superb scope before. Aim through this scope at your dealer's. See why Balvar 8 features make this the ultimate in telescopic sighting. See why you'll thrill year after year when you say, "I own a Balvar 8 by Bausch & Lomb."

Write for information or send 25¢ for 96-page manual, "Facts About Telescopic Sights." Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester 2, N. Y.

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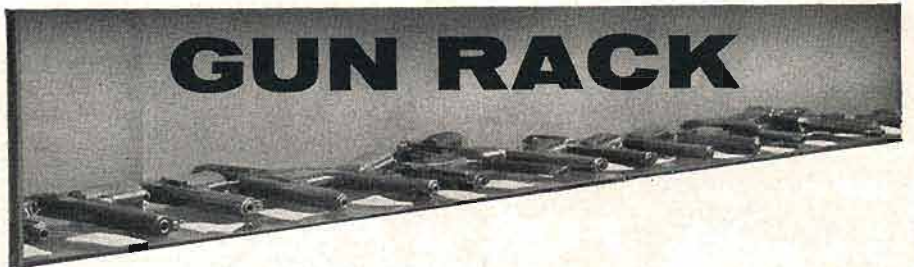
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City..... State.....



Your order form for  
**GUNS QUARTERLY**  
is on page 52

# GUN RACK



### Iris Filter Aperture

Direct by mail from England comes an unusually well made and versatile iris-type aperture for target iron sights. A small stud lever varies the iris diaphragm but in addition, to heighten contrast and increase visibility through color changes as well as the iris-changed amount of light passing the aperture, there is a dial which moves tiny filters of various colored glass across the line of sight. Six "lenses" range from clear through yellows to green and blue, for best visibility under outdoor and indoor conditions. This aperture is not a "glass sight," does not magnify at all, and merely combines in one device gadgets that the shooter often hangs upon his shooting glasses. The price is \$8 postpaid from makers Shooters Supply Co., Ltd., 149-A Cleveland St., London W-1, England. Our Iris came in a cloth bag stamped "PASSED FREE CHICAGO CUSTOMS" so you may not be required even to pay duty on this.

### Pisto-rifle

First it's single shot pistols that look like revolvers, and now it's rifles that carry built-in pistols. What won't they think of next! This one was thought up by Russ Moure of Firearms International Corp. and is available from F.I. dealers when you ask "So, what's new?" New it is, a handsome pocket-cumplinking pistol plus light, facile, and reasonably accurate repeating sporting rifle. Caliber of course is .22 LR. The whole kit includes pistol and rifle barrels, and the conversion



can be made just as quick as saying "Oscar Neal." Assembled as a rifle, an operating rod extends forward of the forearm to punch the slide back, while a sheet metal breech housing which also carries the rear rifle sights keeps the hot brass out of your face. We've been egging-on F.I. into producing this for a couple of years and they did it. The new F.I. outfit, called "Combo," sells for \$64.95, sort of "two for the price of one." Combo should prove popular with campers, saving the trouble of packing two arms yet permitting pistol or rifle use as required for filling the pot or fun. The rifle-with-a-pistol-grip is likewise a first step in the next half-century's transition from sporting rifles patterned after the Brown Bess, to sportsmen patterned after today's "citizen-soldier" armament. From Firearms International, Dept. RM, Washington 22, D.C.

### Remington "New's"

What's new at Remington includes .243 calibers in the 721, 722 and 725 bolt action

rifles. We like the lines and finish of the 725 especially, and with the .243 now available, it makes one of the finest of all varmint and light game hunting rifles. It's not a moose gun at 500 yards, but the .243 holds up with a lot of power at ranges beyond 250 yards, in many cases equalling, nearly equalling, or even excelling the .270 and .30-06 in some loads.

New chambering is also added to the Model 870 pump shotgun, which now digests 3" 20-gauge magnum shells.

One of the neatest power-packages we have held in a long time is the Model 760 Brush Carbine with 18½" barrel. This popular new-look Gamemaster now weighs only 6½ pounds, and seems somehow to have oomph lacking in the longer barreled pump rifles. The 760C is standard stocked, comes in .280, .30-06 and .270 calibers. Price is just \$115.85.

### Varmint Hunters' Association

Everybody these days gotta have a "association," and us varmint hunters are no exception. Here is a new shooting association of national scope that really offers its members something they can't buy elsewhere—a place to hunt. Based on regional "ground work," VHA representatives line up rural landowners, ranchers and farmers, who will permit VHA members to shoot pests, groundhogs, crows, etc., over their land. The farmer displays the VHA insignia inconspicuously on his mail box, so it tells us riflemen in the know that this is the man we should ask if we want to go hunting. VHA publishes a monthly bulletin, "Hill And Dale." Write to Ed Cantor, Secretary, Varmint Hunters' Association, Box 25, Centuck Station, Yonkers, N. Y., for details.

### Ruger Shake-Pruf Screws

Bill Ruger has begun bolting his pistols together with Ny-Lok screws, identical to ordinary machine screws except for a stud of nylon pressed into a tiny hole on one side so it protrudes enough to cause a slight binding of the threads. This does not interfere with normal screwdriver assembly and disassembly, but it does prevent the screws from working loose from shooting vibrations. These screws will also be available if you want to put a new set in your old Ruger revolvers. From Sturm, Ruger & Co., Southport, Conn., or see your dealer. A little thing, but it makes good guns even better.

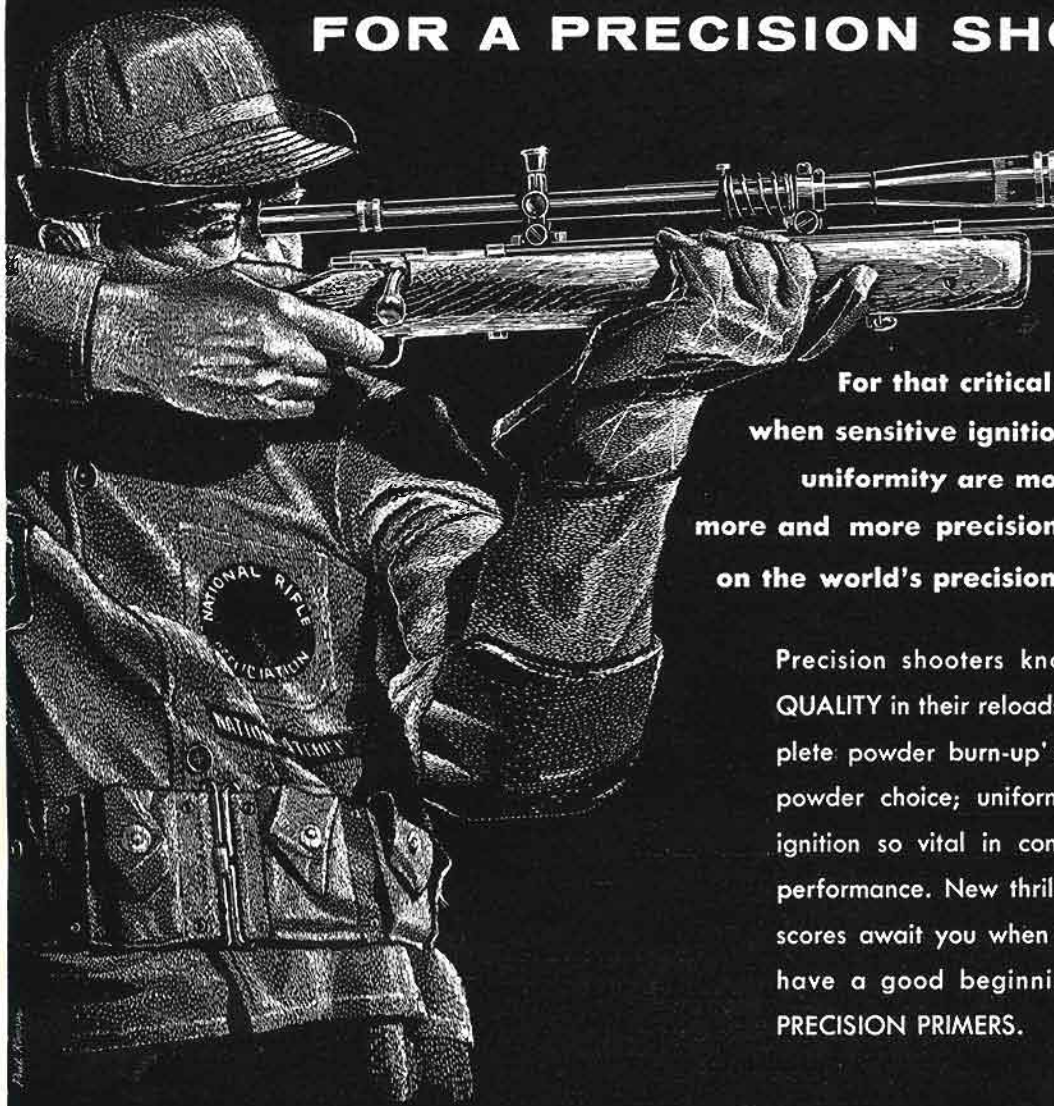
### Ithaca Deerslayer

A little too late for the Illinois slug season, we handled an Ithaca 20-gauge rifle-sighted shotgun. It was an amazing little "rifle," and in spite of the absence of grooves in the bore, that's what the new gun really is—a smoothbore rifle.

The term, contradictory as it seems, was used years ago to denote a Kentucky or American sporter bored smooth to permit

(Continued on page 65)

# A PRECISION PRIMER FOR A PRECISION SHOOTER



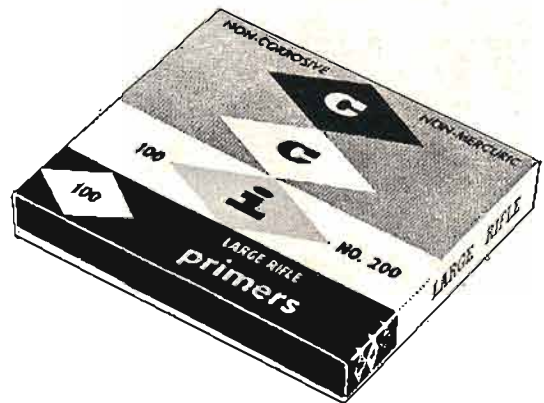
For that critical instant  
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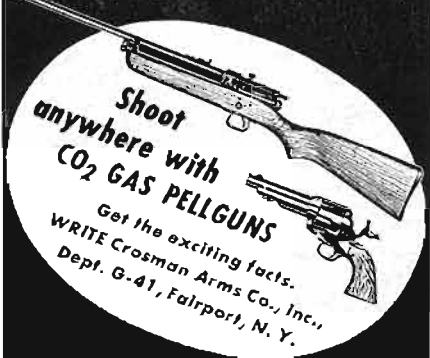
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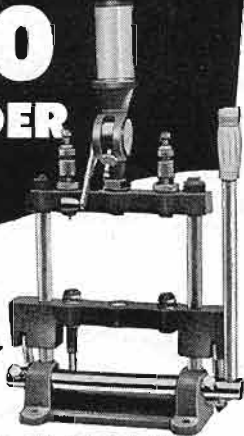
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**FASTEST, MOST VERSATILE RIFLE-  
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features:

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Rifle—Pistol Loader (less dies,  
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powder measure)—ea. \$36.00



**D-L PRODUCTS COMPANY**  
Box 4495, Lincoln 4, Nebraska

(Continued from page 10)

Thank you for a truly fine magazine.

John R. Potapczyk  
Canandaigua, New York

### Lawmakers, Pro and Con

Congratulations on your article, "Know Your Lawmakers." I think it is a very good service for sportsmen and gun bugs alike.

I would like to say that Senator Herbert H. Humphrey and Congressman John Dowdy had very encouraging letters. I would like to say, however, that I disagree somewhat with Congressman James A. Haley and Congressman Samuel N. Friedel. As I do not live in either states these Congressmen are from there is not much I can do, but I do hope the people there will act.

As for Senator Joseph S. Clark, I would like to know if he has got guts enough to take a stand on this issue and let the people of Pennsylvania know his views.

James H. Creuse  
Cheyenne, Wyoming

### Praise Is Sweet

I have just finished perusing my March issue of . . . the only magazine . . . which could fit the slogan, "Finest In The Firearms Field" . . . which has that extra finesse which creates better quality. Then I read the story, "Francis Wharton: Canada's Backwoods Wizard," and was so enthused that I must thank you personally for publishing this . . . superlative . . . story . . .

A golden set of chambering reamers to Francis Wharton! My hat is off to him and to Bert Stent for . . . an unsurpassable article of editorial utopia!

Douglas Hough  
Vancouver, B. C.

With deepest regret, we report the death,  
last month, of Francis Wharton.—Editors

### Youth Training

As an interested reader of your magazine, I've noticed your articles on youth training and also on national defense. Working with young people in Lake County for more than twenty years (where I am a member of the Board of County Supervisors), I have thought along many of the same lines and considered many of the same problems you have expressed. I plan to propose to the officials in my county that we get to work organizing a voluntary training program for our young people, both boys and girls. The nature of this program might correspond, in terms of the interest it would hold for teens, to an advanced Scouting schedule. We plan to provide them with some training which would help them and other citizens in our community survive both missile and "conventional" military attack. This program would attempt to furnish training of such nature to the young people in the community so that they would be of valuable aid in the event of any emergency, in volunteer first aid, food distribution, engineer and light defense units. Disorganization is the consequence of any emergency, whether natural or man-made, unless sound preparations to maintain order are made in advance. Keep up the good work GUNS is doing by reporting on the benefits of young people's instruction in the shooting field, in both safety and target skill.

Mel Mullins  
Round Lake, Ill.



**The girl  
(and the gun)  
we left  
behind!**

Annie Oakley performed fabulous feats with a Marlin Model 91 .22 rifle. It was a sweet little rifle in its day.

But we've left Annie and that model far behind. Today's Marlin rifles (including the .22 caliber lever-actions shown here) have a feature that gives every shooter, novice or expert, an accuracy bonus of 15 to 20%.

It's Micro-Groove Rifling—sixteen shallow swaged grooves, that grip and mold the bullet, instead of four or five deep cut grooves that may gouge and unbalance the bullet. The result: less gas leakage, less bullet wobble, less barrel wear—and above all, better accuracy!

Most rifles today are barreled like that old-time Marlin. Only today's Marlin has Micro-Groove Rifling, the modern key to higher accuracy! See the complete line of Marlin .22s—lever-action, bolt-action and semi-automatic—at your favorite sporting goods store.



**MARLIN MODEL GOLDEN 39-A:** Tubular magazine holds 25 Shorts, 20 Longs or 18 Long Rifle .22 cartridges. Fixed strap swivels; fine walnut stock; receiver drilled and tapped for standard receiver peep sights and for adapter base for scope mount (packed with rifle); gold-plated trigger; automatic side ejection. Priced at \$79.95, only \$8.00 down under Marlin Pay-Later Plan.



**MARLIN MODEL 56 LEVERMATIC:** Exclusive short-stroke action. 7-shot clip magazine. Automatic side ejection; solid top receiver for low scope mounting; packed with adapter base for tip-off and top mounts; Bishop-style stock of finest walnut; 22" blued tapered barrel of Special Analysis Ordnance Steel. Priced at \$44.95, only \$5.00 down under Marlin Pay-Later Plan.



Just a split-second 2-inch flick of the fingers, and Marlin's exclusive short-stroke lever action—a feature of all Marlin Levermatic models—ejects the fired cartridge case and jacks a live shell into the breech. Your trigger hand never leaves the stock, your trigger finger never leaves the trigger! Ask your Marlin dealer to show you the Marlin Levermatic models shown on this page—and the famous Marlin Golden 39-A, America's finest sporting .22.



**MARLIN MODEL 57-M MAGNUM LEVERMATIC:** Chambered for the revolutionary new .22 Magnum Rimfire cartridge, this Marlin offers 100-yard varmint shooting at less than 6¢ a shot! With all the quality features of the Model 56 and Model 57, it is a real buy at \$54.95, only \$5.00 down under Marlin Pay-Later Plan.



**MARLIN MODEL 57 LEVERMATIC:** This is tubular-feed version of the Model 56, with a capacity of 25 Short, 20 Long or 18 Long Rifle cartridges. Has all quality features of Model 56. With Marlin Micro-Vue 4X Scope, it is a favorite of seasoned shooters. Priced at \$49.95, only \$5.00 down under Marlin Pay-Later Plan.

Be sure to see the Marlin line of high-power rifles at your Marlin dealer's, too—they're real game-getters for meat-minded sportsmen! In 30-30, .32 Special and .35 calibers.

# Only Marlin has Micro-Groove

Prices subject to change without notice.

Marlin Firearms Co., New Haven, Conn., U.S.A.

Please send me the new 90th Anniversary Marlin illustrated catalog in full color, plus Marlin Sighting-In Guide and Manual (value \$1.00). I enclose 25¢ to cover handling and mailing.

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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

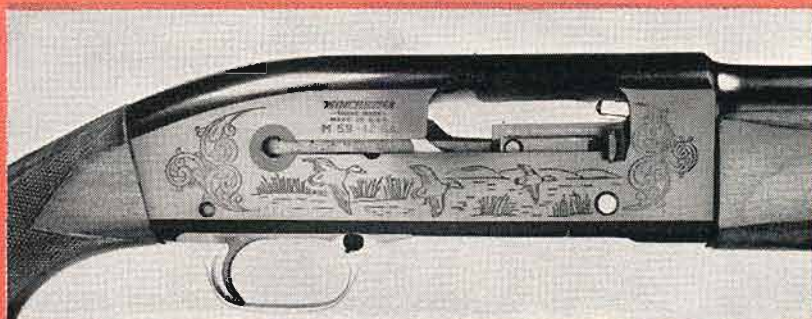
Offer expires July 31, 1960

K-5

# SHATTERPROOF



Elite autoloader of WRACo line is fiberglass-barreled Model 59. New gun is full 12, weighs less than a 20, has bright touches of gold on trigger guard, plus engraving.



**AMAZINGLY LIGHT YET THREE TIMES AS STRONG AS STEEL IS  
NEW WINCHESTER MODEL 59 SHOTGUN BARREL OF WOVEN FIBERGLASS**



Basic mechanism of Model 59 is Williams' chamber from Model 50, has fixed barrel but interior recoiling chamber. New shotgun handles well in field, is so light you'll easily carry it in one hand!



# GLASS BARRELS!



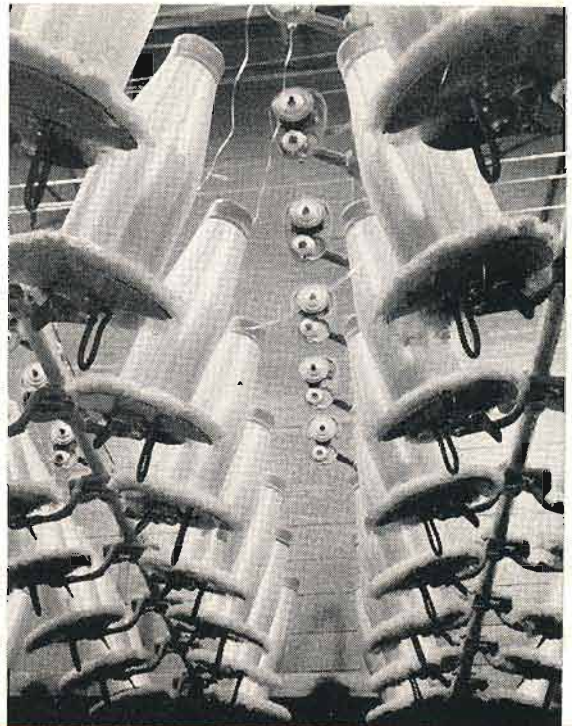
By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS

**E**IGHT YEARS of almost cloak-and-dagger secrecy ended this month with the public announcement of the new Winchester Model 59 shotgun. That secrecy was maintained even through seven months of actual use of the gun by the public—or part of the public. The trick was that the people who bought and used Winchester Model 59s didn't know, and won't know until now, what they were using. This was all a part of the most extensive, the most carefully conducted, the most thorough pre-testing ever given any sporting firearm. These unknowing buyers weren't testing the safety or the operating efficiency of the new gun—these had long since been proved at the factory. They were paving the way for public acceptance of a brand-new concept in gun making—the use of glass barrels.

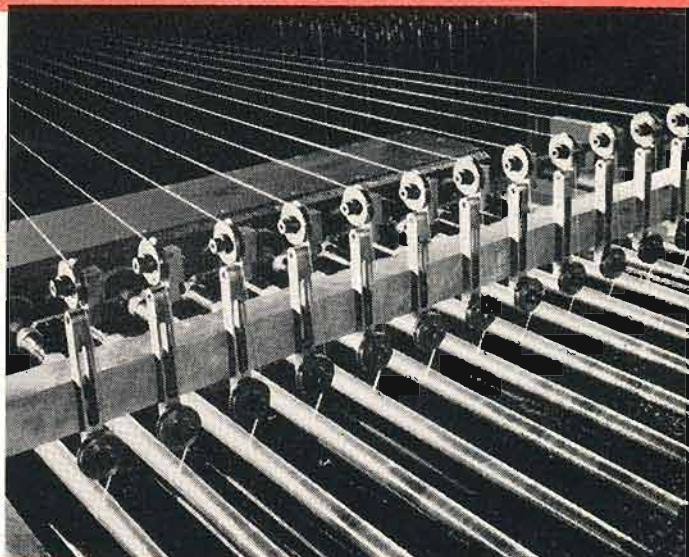
In September 1959, some 5,000 new Model 59s were placed on the market in North and South Dakota. Ads heralding the new Winchester appeared in a selected few Dakota newspapers. All many users knew about the guns was that this was a new Winchester model. Nobody knew *how* new; in fact, it didn't seem to differ much from the Model 50. Maybe if shooters had known that they were putting high-potency loads through glass barrels, they'd have worried; but they didn't know it—and that was exactly what Winchester wanted. Needless to say, no barrel burst. How could they? These glass barrels are actually much, much stronger than steel barrels.

By snooping through the Patent Office Report, I had months ago ferreted out clues to this break-through in shotgun construction, and a pleading phone call wrung loose a pre-production specimen. With it, using slugs, I clobbered a spike buck with a neck shot as long ago as October, down in the vast Sinissippi Forest near Oregon, Illinois. When I showed the gun to tree-farm forester Howard Fox, he commented about the light (5½ pounds) weight. When I told him the barrel was made of glass, he looked puzzled. When I hauled out my knife and whittled a few gray, plastic-like shavings off the gun's muzzle, he looked startled. Yet neither he nor any of the other hunters to whom I made this disclosure expressed any skepticism about the durability, safety, or practical worth of glass barrels. The average response was, "Well, now, what won't they think of next?"

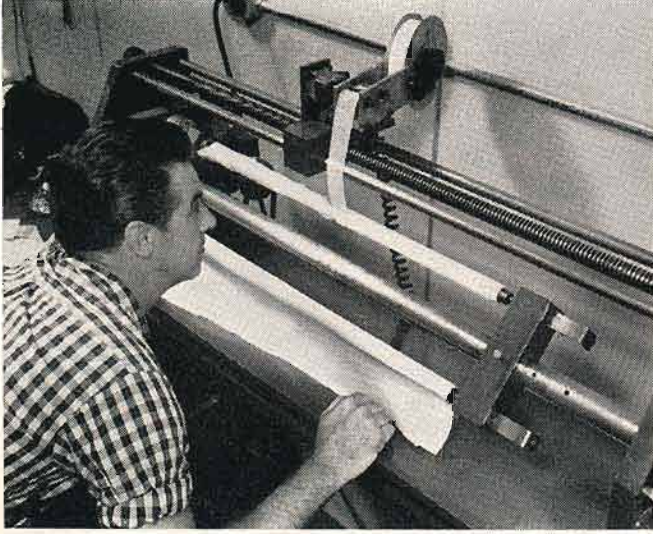
Later, in February, we spent two days further testing the Model 59 on quail, pheasants, and ducks on Winchester's famous Olin Farms shooting preserve in down-state Illinois. Our shooting company was a pretty critical group of top gun writers and editors. I heard nothing but favorable comments



Five hundred miles of gossamer glass fiber pass from spinning-mill "creels" through binder. . . .



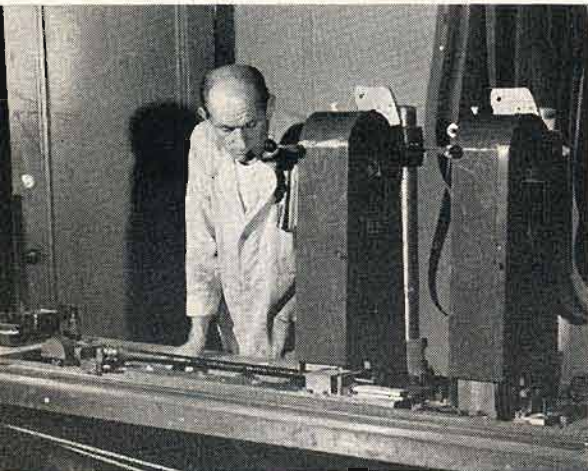
. . . And are wound onto .020" steel tubes which serve as barrel liners to resist shot scouring.



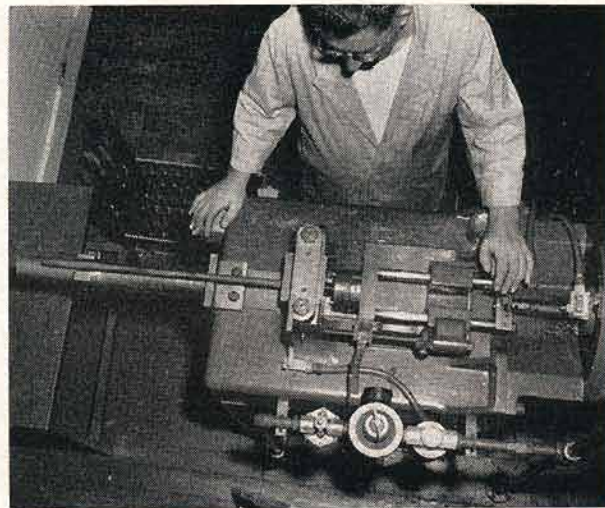
about Winchester's new baby. At five pounds eight ounces, the gun is light to carry, fast to swing and point. Yet even with hefty 12 gauge slugs, recoil is light. This is doubtless due to the floating chamber (same as in the Model 50); but such sweet-shooting qualities in a 5½ pound 12 gauge are, to say the least, surprising.

The Model 59 receiver and guard are anodized aluminum alloy, polished and finished jet black and glossy gold. Not long ago, this in itself would have been remarkable. But light metal in guns is no longer either questionable or surprising. The surprising thing about the Model 59 is that downy-light, lustrous, three-times-stronger-than-steel glass barrel.

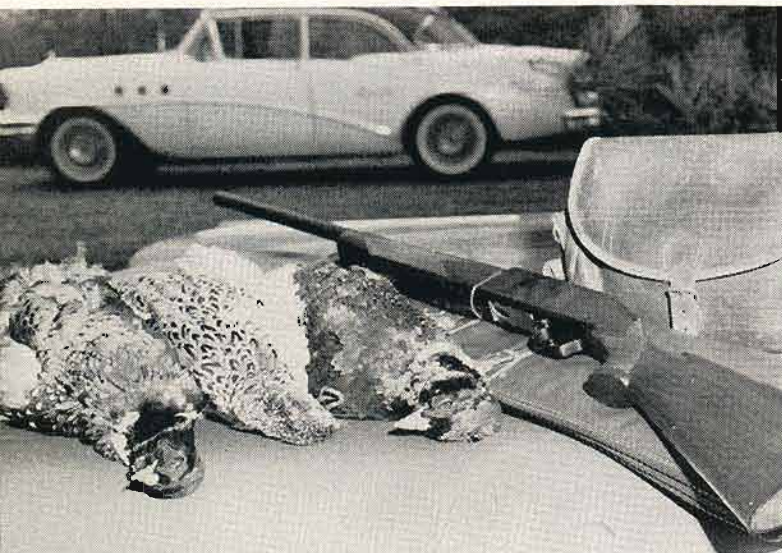
Model 59 is a product of Winchester's search for light weight combined with great strength. Aluminum was the obvious first choice, and it was tried. Many metals and



At top, woven fiberglass cloth covers thread-wound tube for strength against bending. Gauze holds cloth when dipped in binder, baked then belt sanded.



Hydraulic jack pulls threaded barrel end over bore tube before fiberglass wrap.



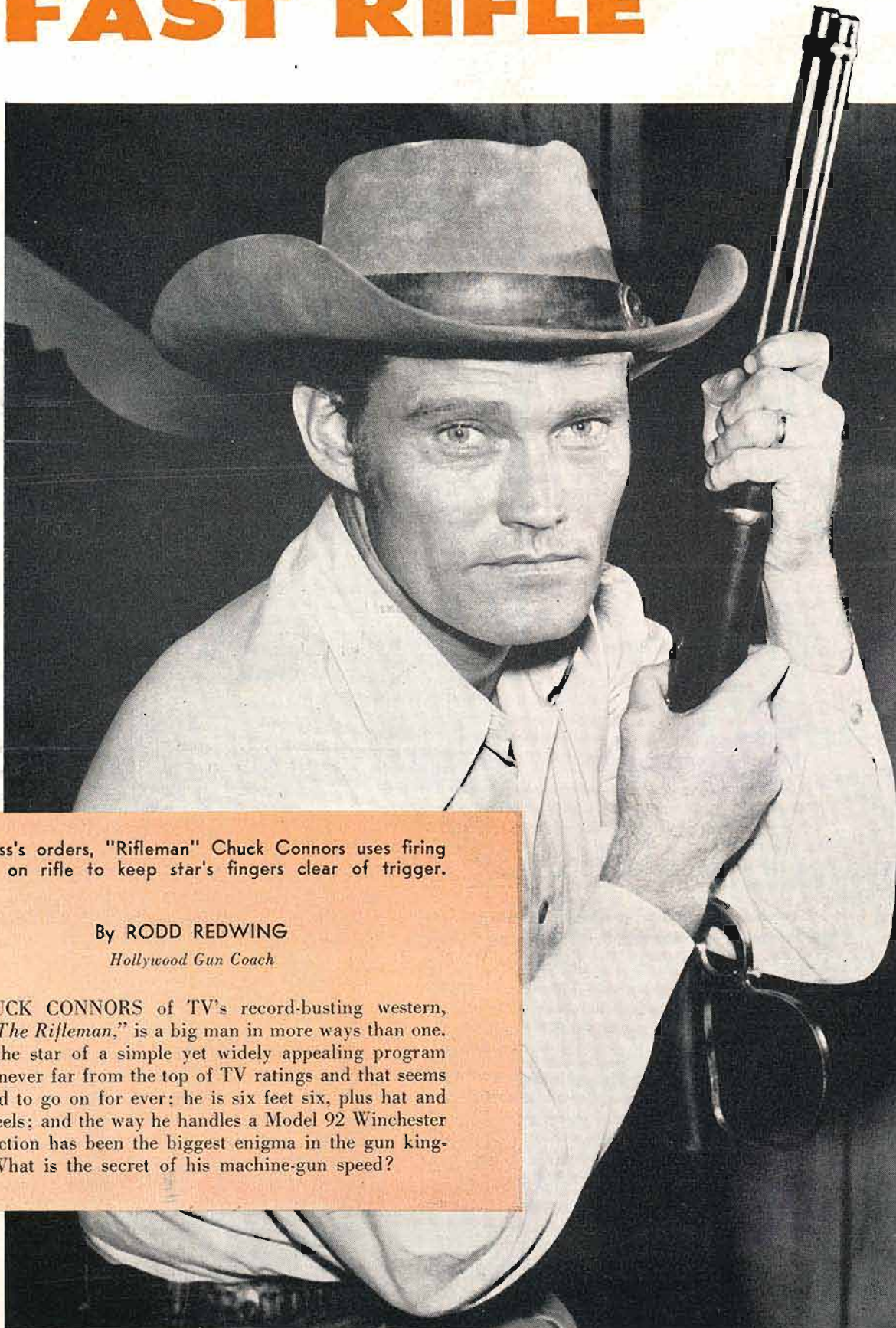
Edwards field-tested 59, shot deer (slugs showed good accuracy), ducks, quail, pheasant, on two day Gun Seminar at Winchester Olin Farms game preserve.

combinations of metals were tried and discarded. One such trial ended with a barrel blown into a bushel of fragments. Facetiously, Winchester engineer Jim Hartley quipped, "We should've put a basket around it to catch the pieces."

What's the old saw about true words spoken in jest? Hartley's crack about a basket reminded them of the old built-up and wire-wound barrels for cannon. A search began for a material that would be right for "the basket." The search led to—glass; fiberglass thread wound tightly around thin, shot-resisting tubes of either aluminum or steel. The basic patent in the field, filed February 7, 1955, illustrates an experimental military high-velocity rifle barrel in a Model 70-like receiver. Patentees were James C. Hartley, Harry I. Day, and John L. Wilson (Hartley has since left Winchester, is now production chief of Rowbottom Machine Company, makers of the Ljutic-Shellmagic Shot-shell Reloaders.)

This patent (No. 2847786) reads in part: "... a light-weight barrel for firearms of all kinds which will withstand, without significant change, firing conditions under which present-day steel alloy barrels would bulge or burst. However, if the gun should be fired under even more extreme conditions causing the liner to burst, the metal particles will be contained and not (Continued on page 40)

# TV'S BIG MAN- FAST RIFLE



On boss's orders, "Rifleman" Chuck Connors uses firing device on rifle to keep star's fingers clear of trigger.

By **RODD REDWING**

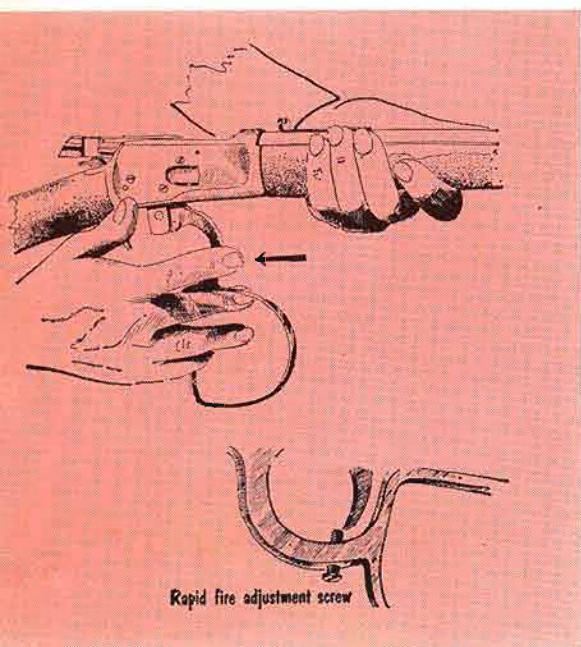
*Hollywood Gun Coach*

**C**HUCK CONNORS of TV's record-busting western, "The Rifleman," is a big man in more ways than one. He is the star of a simple yet widely appealing program that is never far from the top of TV ratings and that seems destined to go on for ever: he is six feet six, plus hat and boot heels; and the way he handles a Model 92 Winchester lever action has been the biggest enigma in the gun kingdom. What is the secret of his machine-gun speed?

EVER WONDERED HOW THIS MAN DOES WHAT HE DOES WITH THAT RIFLE? HERE ARE THE ANSWERS, BY THE MAN WHO TAUGHT HIM



With fingers outside of guard, "Rifleman" slaps lever through nine shots. Set screw in guard (left) trips trigger and allows hammer to fall with breech solidly closed. Late trigger tripping is essential to get firm firing pin fall, ensure no misfires on TV high-rating show.



This is the story of that rifle and how he shoots it. And I'm the man who should know. I taught him.

But first let's get acquainted with Chuck Connors.

Something happened to American men in the late fifties. They got taller. In the roaring twenties, Wallace Reed at six feet two was the tallest man in the movies. In sports, coaches realized full well the potential value of height, in basketball and elsewhere: but most of them felt that it was an unrealized, maybe unrealizable, potential. Most of the tall boys, they said, were all length and no breadth, all reach and no rhythm, lacking in speed, stamina, and muscular coordination. Today—what a difference! There is hardly a basketball team in the collegiate circuit that doesn't have at least one star towering six-six or better: football players run nearly as tall; so do the track and field athletes. And these men are not great in height only. They have the speed, the coordination, the lightning reflexes that match those of their smaller brethren.

Are you wondering what sports have to do with this story? Well, Chuck Connors came to TV-movie stardom by way of professional baseball. I saw Chuck play first

base for the Los Angeles Angels, and I spotted him then as one of the handiest big men I had even seen. He covered a lot of infield, and he could reach anything thrown within ten feet of him. Chuck had still another advantage in baseball. Imagine yourself a catcher, with something this big thundering at you. Block the plate? Not me, brother. He can have it! I'll tag the small ones.

There was something working against him, too, in baseball. He couldn't take the game quite as seriously as some do. He thought it was fun. There's the story about the time when he hit a homer and covered most of the ground between second and home with a series of front flips and handsprings. That must have been something to see: six feet six of firstbaseman doing cartwheels around the base paths.

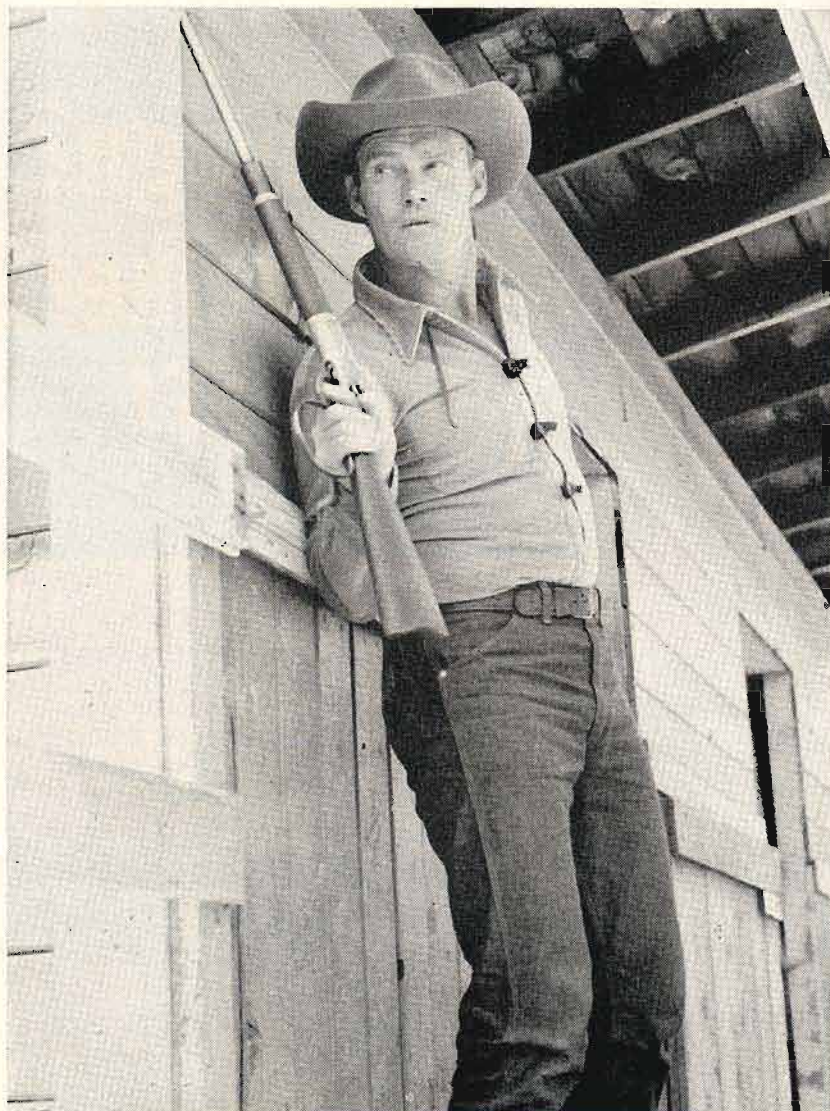
When Chuck's TV producers cast him as "*The Rifleman*," they called me in to coach him in rifle handling. Having seen Chuck play baseball, I knew he had the coordination needed for the kind of rifle work the part demanded; and when I saw him handle that Winchester .44 carbine *before* instruction, I knew he was no novice. He knew the rifle

from muzzle to butt-plate, and he knew how to shoot it. But the part demanded that he be able to shoot it as fast as a fast man can handle a revolver—and that's a big order.

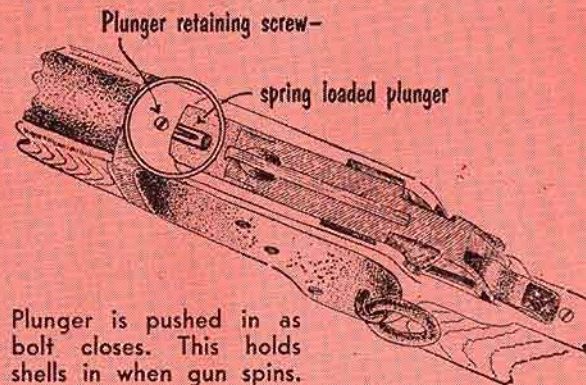
It's not only a big order; it takes a big man to fill it. I mean that literally. Chuck's rifle is standard in size, with a 20" barrel. A man needs to be well over six feet to have the arm length to handle that rifle as Connors handles it. (As it happens, there are three real rifle-handling experts among the stars in Hollywood. They are John Wayne, who did his stuff in John Ford's "Stage Coach;" Don Murray, whom I taught for the 20th Century Fox picture "From Hell To Texas;" and Chuck Connors, "The Rifleman." Each of these men is well over six feet three inches, and each has the manual dexterity of a cat. There is also Steve McQueen, of TV's "Wanted: Dead Or Alive;" but Steve's "rifle" lacks a lot of being standard.)

The first thing Chuck said to me after we were introduced was, "Do you think I should handle the rifle right handed—or left?"

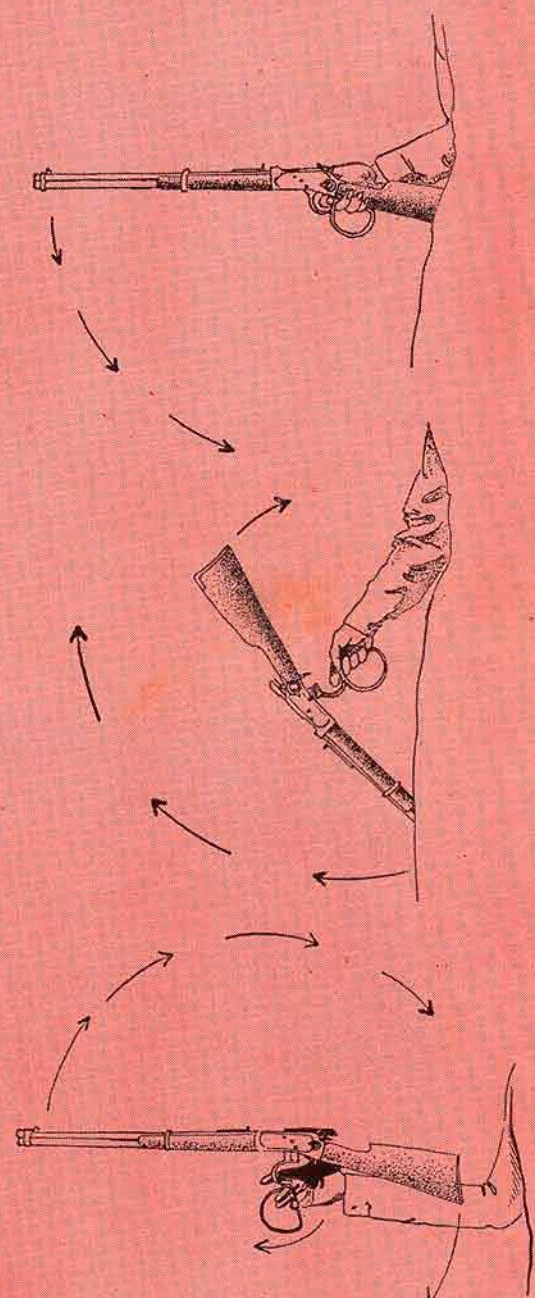
Now if I were a baseball coach and a rooky asked me whether he should bat right- or left-handed, maybe I wouldn't be so startled. But guns are, for the most part, right- (Continued on page 53)



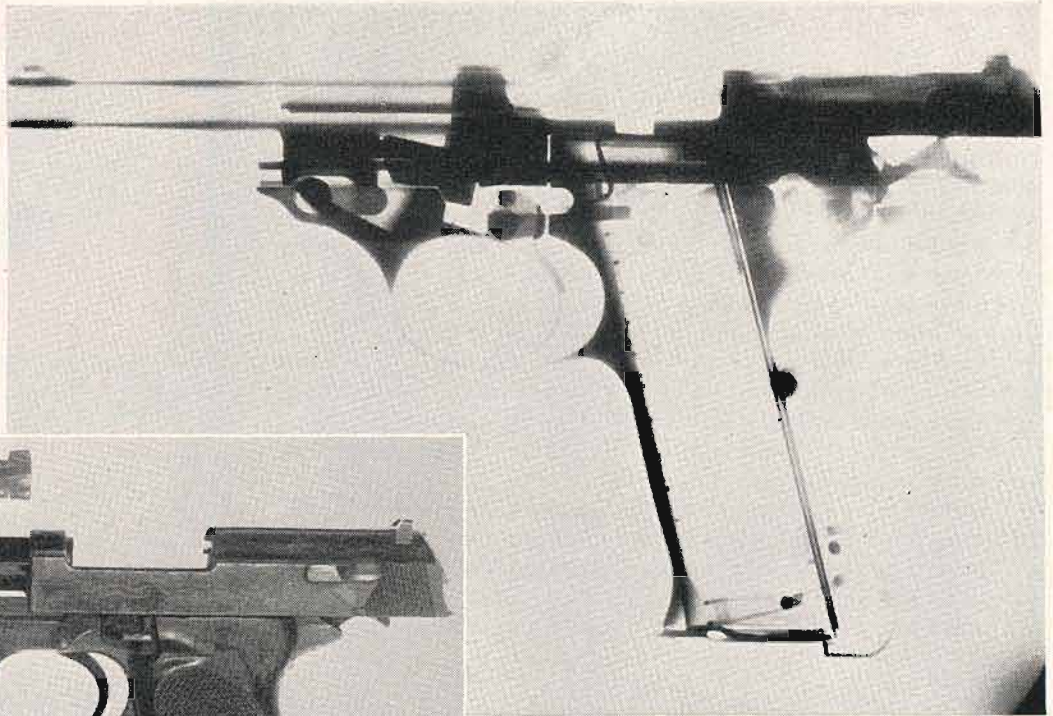
Hero of many westerns, TV tall man Chuck Connors can flip his '92 like a machine gun. Automatic trip on lever is secret of speed.



Plunger is pushed in as bolt closes. This holds shells in when gun spins.



Swing-cock motion starts as rifle is dropped down till lever opens breech; then flip gun up to shoot. Spin-cock, bottom, makes circle; pauses to fire.



In P-38 phantom, locking block is shown in correct position, under barrel at slide and down in frame cut. X-ray permits study of inside design function.

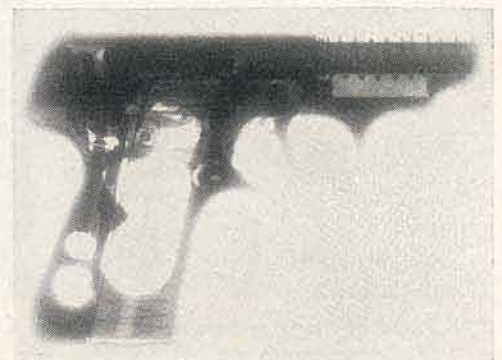
# Bad Design? Fake Walker? X-RAY IT!

By EDWARD D. PADGETT



Colt .45 automatic is among best designs with direct-acting parts. Recoil spring compresses evenly around guide forward of guard.

Sauer DA38 was giving trouble in ejecting. Gunsmiths fiddled with it but shadowgraph revealed that recoil spring was bent on barrel.



## INNER WORKINGS OF GUN BECOME VISIBLE FOR STUDY UNDER

### X-RAY, AND FAKE ALTERATIONS ARE PITILESSLY EXPOSED

**A**N IMPORTANT TOOL in firearms studies is the X-ray. Pioneer discoverer of the means to "see" through a solid object, Dr. Wilhelm Roentgen early applied his miracle of penetrating vision to his own shotgun. A firearm was thus one of the first objects to be investigated at the dawn of the discovery of X-rays and today weapons, for many reasons, are an important field of survey for the Roentgenologist, or X-ray technician.

Seeing inside a firearm has many applications. The ballistic scientist uses high speed X-rays in studying the passage of a shot charge down the barrel. The design engineer applies the seeing eye to the inner parts of an automatic gun mechanism and so comes up with a solution to higher rate of fire, or jam-proof operation. The gun collector, in defense against elaborate, costly fakes, can profitably spend the cost of an X-ray to save a loss of perhaps thousands of dollars.

Since Dr. Roentgen discovered X-rays in his laboratory in Wurzburg, Germany, on November 8, 1895, new uses have been perfected rapidly. Roentgen's discovery that materials, such as tungsten, would emit X-rays (or Gamma rays) when bombarded with high-speed electrons, was an accident. He placed a metal key on a protected photographic plate; later had occasion to develop the plate and saw the phantom of the key outlined on the picture. Tracing the circumstances back to the moment the key was placed on the plate clued him in to the fact that the tungsten was radiating an invisible "light" that could affect photographic emulsion. So the X-ray was born. Picturing his shotgun was natural, but what make or model it was is not recorded, nor is it stated whether the good doctor found anything wrong with its mechanism. Since that day, many inventors have saved countless hours of labor by studying new or old guns with X-ray to learn what goes on inside.

Substances occurring in nature have their own characteristic structures. These structures can be identified, or

"finger-printed" by the penetrating eye of X-rays. The penetration, or absorption, of X-rays depends on the thickness and atomic nature of the substance. This property is called "differential absorption." Because of this property, and since X-rays affect photographic film, an X-ray negative is a two dimension picture, or shadowgraph, of the internal structure of the object being X-rayed. For example, thinner parts of a gun appear as darker shadows. Thicker parts appear as light shadows because the X-rays do not pass through the thicker regions as easily as through the thin parts. When a positive print is made from a radiograph, the reverse process holds. Thicker parts appear dark, and thinner parts appear as lighter shadows. Hence, the X-ray "eye" can detect poor design considerations, defective or worn parts, poor workmanship, and "fake" replicas.

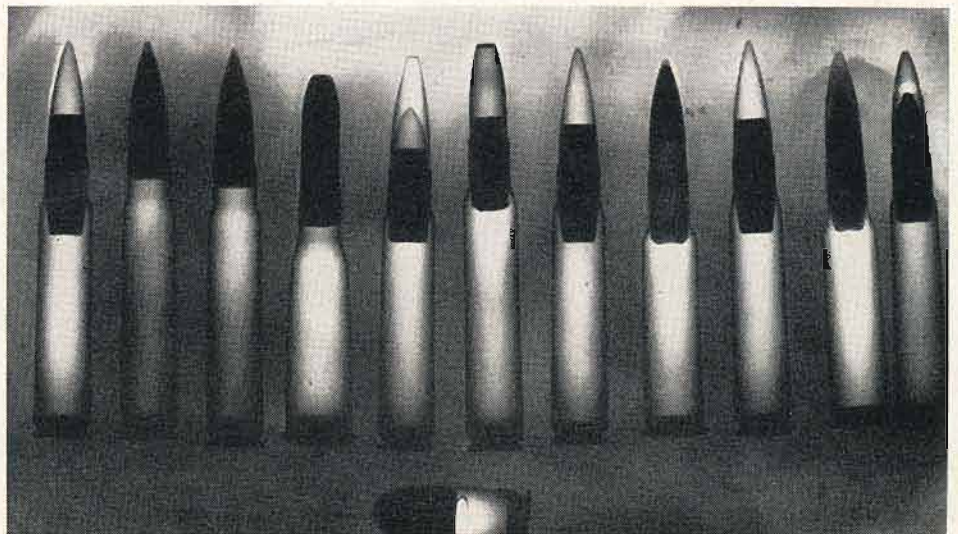
An odd little pistol pictured is the almost full-size X-ray photograph of a Steyr, Austrian, vest pocket semi-automatic pistol, caliber 6.35 mm (.25 ACP).

Of interest in the design revealed in the X-ray is the recoil spring on top of the barrel—a popular idea in European handguns. This allows the pistol to be designed so the barrel pivots on a hinge (spring loaded), located just in front of the trigger guard. A notched extension on the rear of the barrel, and a groove in the slide (just above the front end of the firing pin block), couples the barrel assembly and slide into one piece. Barrel and slide are decoupled by pushing down on a horizontal bar (dark horizontal wedge) just above and slightly to the rear of the trigger.

The radiograph shows design detail of hammer and firing pin block. In the uncocked position, the hammer is flat against the firing pin block. Accidental discharge of this gun is possible because of the weakness in the design of the safety system, which is clearly indicated by the X-ray photograph. The external safety lever is the dark, wafer-like segment directly back of the hammer.

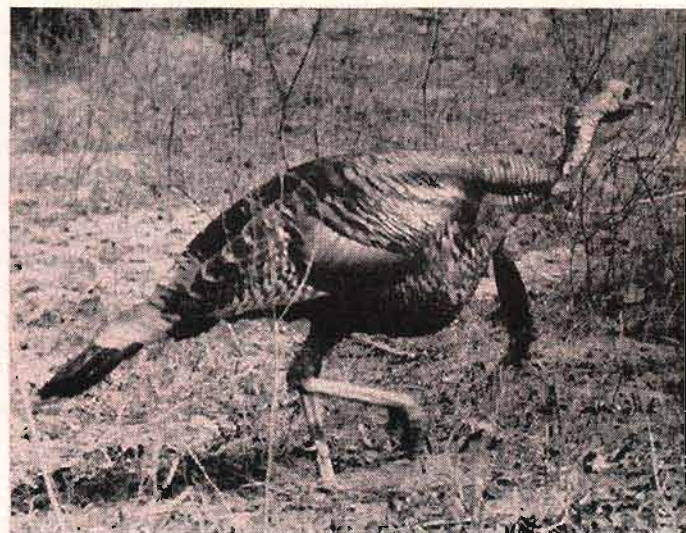
When the slide is retracted by *(Continued on page 54)*

Austrian OWA pistol under X-ray reveals over-barrel slide spring liked by European inventors. At right, lead bullet cores print solid; X-ray shows ammo design.





**YOU HAVE TO BE SMARTER  
THAN A TURKEY TO PUT TURKEY ON  
YOUR TABLE—AND HE'S  
THE WILDEST, WARIEST OF ALL  
BIG GAME TARGETS**



New Mossberg in .22 Winchester Magnum was field proved on Texas turkeys. Tinsley prefers medium power smallbore, scope. If law says shotguns, No. 4s in 12 gauge gun is writer's choice.

# Talking Turkeys into Targets

By RUSSELL TINSLEY



Big Toms may run 18-20 pounds, hens usually 8 to 10. Heavy feathers demand large shot for clean 50-yard kills.





Time-honored cedar box scraped by slate is type of call preferred by author for Texas hunting.

**T**HE TREE-CANOPIED creek bottom was dark as the inside of a cave as I inched along its sandy floor 30 minutes before daylight. I had to move slowly for stealth, guided only by instinct and memory. Back in the years of my youth, this creek had been a favorite hangout and I had traveled this route many times, until each bend and obstacle was familiar. But I had never dreamed, then, that some day I'd be crawling here in the darkness after wild turkey! Until last Saturday, I'd have sworn there were no turkeys in this vicinity.

Last Saturday was a part of a week-end with my parents

in the small town of Mason, in central Texas. For old times' sake, I decided to walk down to a park of pecan trees where I had hunted countless times, as a boy, for rabbits and squirrels. It was a misty November morning and the footing was damp, so my footsteps made little sound. I skirted a tight knot of pecan saplings, and—all hell broke loose. There was a wild flapping, and a pair of turkey gobblers took off. Up ahead, six more turks ran frantically into the heavy cover . . . I was more surprised than the turkeys. If anybody had told me turkey were using here, I'd have called him a liar.

So now you know why I was here before dawn on the opening day of the deer and turkey season, wearing camouflage clothing and carrying my 12 gauge Winchester pump loaded with No. 4 shells. This time, if I crossed trails with turkeys, it would be no accident.

From the sign I had studied last Saturday, it appeared that the turkeys drifted up this creek regularly to feed on acorns. So, when I came to a fallen pecan tree that blocked part of the creek bed, maneuvering strictly by feel, I crawled in under the supporting branches and settled myself as comfortably as possible for the long wait I figured was coming.

I was right about the wait. It was well after daybreak before enough light filtered through the overhead treetops to make anything visible in the creek bed. There were sounds enough. A squirrel hopped from a pecan tree and kicked up an enormous racket in the leaves. A woodpecker dropped on the trunk of the very tree where I was hiding, and his busy bill rapped out a resounding chorus.

By eight o'clock, my cramped (*Continued on page 44*)

Dining off wild game is fitting climax to hunt, says Tinsley who returned to old home town in Texas to find good hunting for his favorite game.



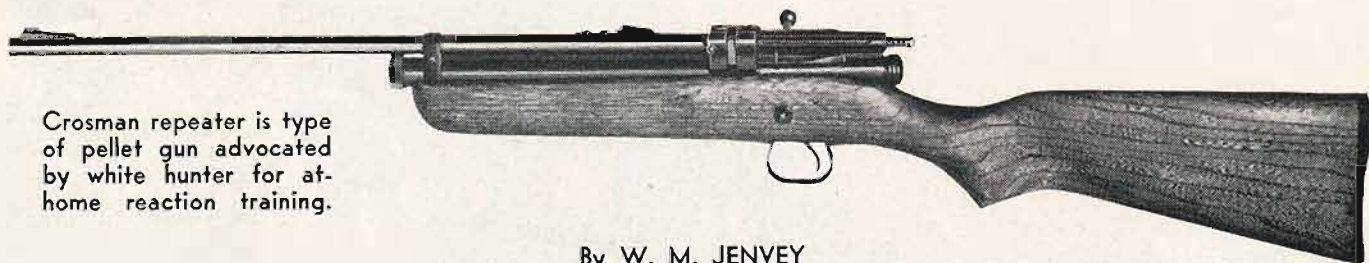
# A BB GUN

# CAN HELP YOU

# KILL AN ELEPHANT



Jenvy's Safari truck sports battery in many calibers but hunter uses .22 repeater to keep alert.



Crosman repeater is type of pellet gun advocated by white hunter for at-home reaction training.

By W. M. JENVEY

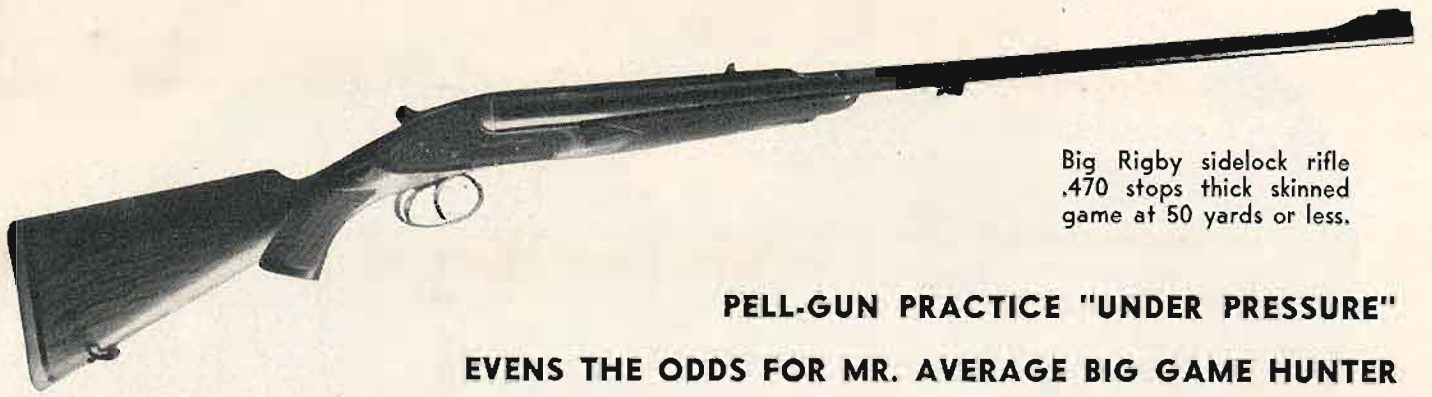
*Professional Hunter, Kenya, East Africa*

I OFTEN FEEL SORRY for clients when, facing a trophy they want badly, they mess up the shot. When one thinks of the time and money involved in getting to Africa for that long-dreamed-of safari, one is amazed at the poor preparation some sportsmen make for it. The same thing goes for all hunting, or certainly for all big game hunting. Even if it's a hunt within your own continental, national, or even your own state borders, you spend money for the trip and equipment and it only makes sense that you should also spend some time and thought in preparation to avoid disappointment, embarrassment, and (out here) even danger.

Some hunters seem to expect to learn to shoot after they arrive here. Others do squeeze in a half-hour or so of

practice at home, and think they're ready if they plunk in a bullet or two with careful aim from a well-padded prone position. They never think of physical condition—yet physical condition can make or break a vital shot after a difficult stalk.

Practice for safari, or for any big game hunt, should approximate the conditions you are likely to encounter on the hunt itself. It isn't likely that you can simulate the hell of a thump your heart gives when you are suddenly confronted, close up, with a bull rhino—but you *can* practice in such a way that you will be reasonably prepared to shoot well in spite of that excitement, and in spite of the hard breathing and shaky muscles resulting from the stalk that brought you up to that rhino. You



Big Rigby sidelock rifle  
.470 stops thick skinned  
game at 50 yards or less.

## PELL-GUN PRACTICE "UNDER PRESSURE" EVENS THE ODDS FOR MR. AVERAGE BIG GAME HUNTER

can do it, if need be, in your own back yard—with a BB rifle!

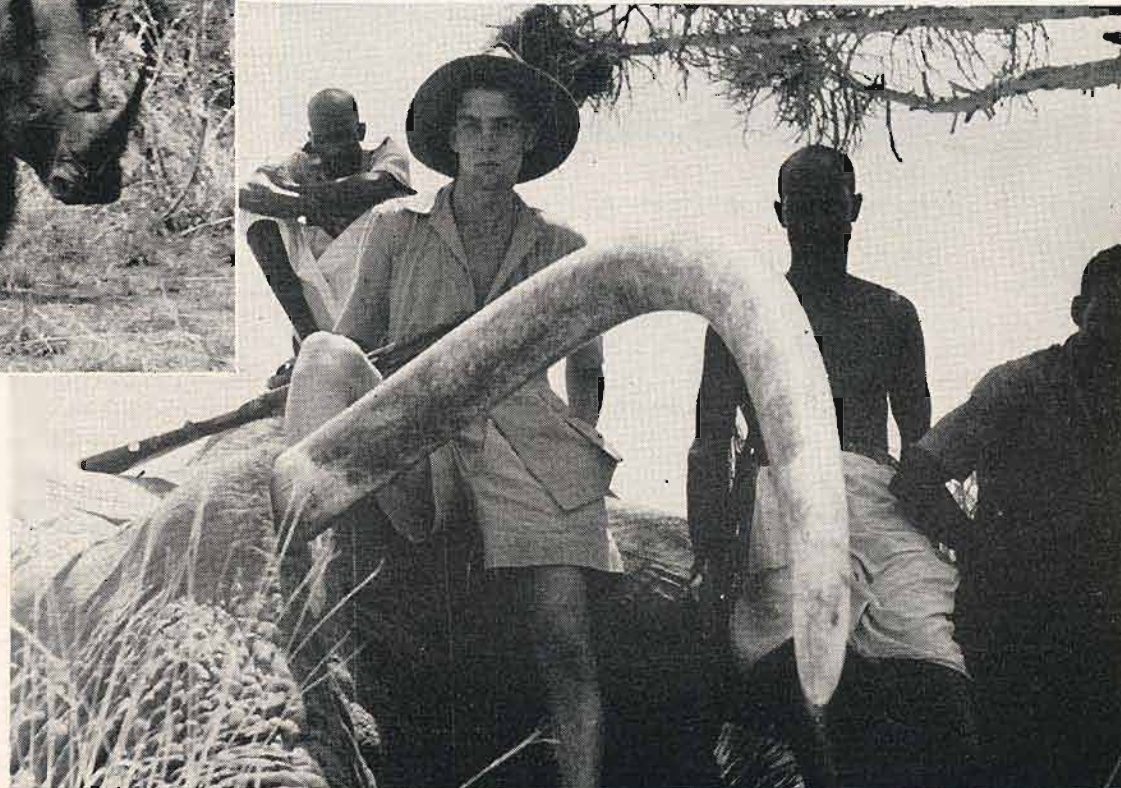
Exactly what conditions are you going to face when that shot is offered? Whether it's a shot at one of your own deer or at a fine tusker, it's not going to be like prone shooting on your home range. Likely enough your heart will be pumping from exertion; you'll be wet with sweat and dry-mouthed from excitement; and you'll be tense with the knowledge of how vital it is to you that you hit, and hit well, this trophy you've come so far to get. Out here, it's vital to your white hunter, too. The dull thump of a "perfect" belly shot will mean, to him, that he's got a beast to run down and kill. If it's one of "the big five,"



First shot has wounded buff—can you stop him with  
coolly-aimed shot before he gets into high grass?



Where do you aim, when do you shoot, at two tons of charging rhino hid in 4" leather? At right, ivory on good elephant may weigh 100 pounds each: will facing these on hoof scare you?

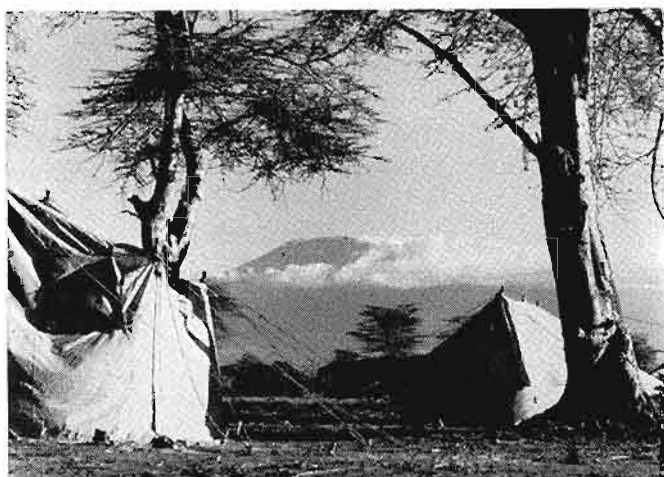




Too far for elephant—follow up, get close. At right—close enough? Will tree distract your aim? Miss, and you chase him in the bush.



Idyllic camp life of African hunt is pleasant contrast to pulse-pounding danger of follow-up after bad shot.



Author's camp is often near Kilimanjaro, storied high land of Kenya. Much game still abounds in East Africa.

that's a nasty job, one that has cost the lives of many hunters, professional and amateur.

Let's look at a typical situation; or maybe two.

You and I have done some plains game hunting, and you've acquitted yourself well. Now we're on the tracks of a bull elephant in a miombo forest in southern Tanganyika. It is October. The grass fires went through in July and underbrush are dry, crackling, fallen leaves. There is no underbrush, just the tall, grey-and-black trunks of trees. You think the elephant will be sighted a long way off in such open forest, you have made up your mind to make the brain shot. That's O.K. with me. You have been shooting well, have listened to what you have been told of the difficulties of the shot, and if you still feel you can pull it off, fine.

Those last droppings were hot; I tell you it won't be long now. Your heart leaps and commences a steady thumping. I am listening intently, and so are all the others, and you wish your heart would slow down so you could listen too. But, you think, you will have time to calm down after the game is sighted.

Everyone is walking very softly now, and you concentrate on walking quietly too, peering ahead, still wishing your heart would slow down. You are so intent that you nearly bump into me. I have stopped and am pointing ahead. "You see him?" I ask.

All you see is a grey and black mass of tree trunks. Following the line of the pointing finger, you look hard and wonder how an elephant can hide in such an apparently open forest. Then a movement catches your eye. Hell's teeth, he's as big as a house! His back seems to be up in the topmost branches! He looks thirty feet high!

I move into the lead, and you follow. The tracker disappears somewhere behind us. You wonder whether your heart is making more noise than your feet on the dry leaves! We move to within sixty paces of the elephant. Fifty. Forty! The elephant is padding silently and majestically along, and it is difficult to walk quietly and still quickly enough to lessen the distance.

Suddenly, the bull halts. The (Continued on page 60)



# Don't Let Recoil Scare You!

By TOM COFIELD



Taking up recoil with body reduces kick to nothing, says long-time Chesapeake Bay waterfowler Cofield who claims trap-skeeters fire hundreds of shots without "kicking."



**FIREARM RECOIL, IN COMMON CALIBERS, IS MORE  
BARK THAN BITE. IF YOU CAN LIFT A GUN, YOU CAN SHOOT IT**

WHEN SIR IZAAC NEWTON promulgated the physical law that "For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction," little did he know how literally his words would be taken!

Shooting enthusiasts feel the proof of Newton's discovery each and every time they pull a trigger on a loaded gun. Naval ordnance technicians go to great lengths building hydraulic mechanisms to absorb the "equal and opposite reaction" of giant naval guns when they are fired, for otherwise the recoil would literally tear them off their mounts.

High-speed fighter planes have been known to lose as much as 50 miles per hour speed when all their wing-

mounted guns were fired at once.

These are examples of serious, realistic recoil in action. It is a force to be reckoned with. It is also a force that loses a lot of its potency in terms of shoulder-mounted weapons as soon as some of the mystery surrounding the subject is dispelled.

There are a few heavy caliber weapons, such as the .450, the .600 nitro-express, and a number of other big-game cartridges whose recoil is severe enough to cause nose bleeding and headaches. But the run-of-the-mill hunting weapons, such as twelve gauge shotguns and rifles in common use in this country—such, for instance, as the .30 and .30-odd family calibers—are more (Continued on page 38)



Contenders for Prix Leclerc of 28th Infantry had real lion mascot at 1958 Grafenwoehr competition.

# WHO ARE THE WORLD'S BEST GI GUNNERS?

By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS



As targets rise, winning LMG teams of 21st Infantry double forward from 500 to firing line at 400 yards for first leg of fast-paced shoot with new Royal Typewriter B.A.R.s.





As Sgt. (left) bears down on roll pin to strip B.A.R. gas adjust plug, tattooed AR-man whisks off dust from sight leaf using shaving brush.



US took individual first place rifle trophy in 1957 Prix Leclerc, which France won.

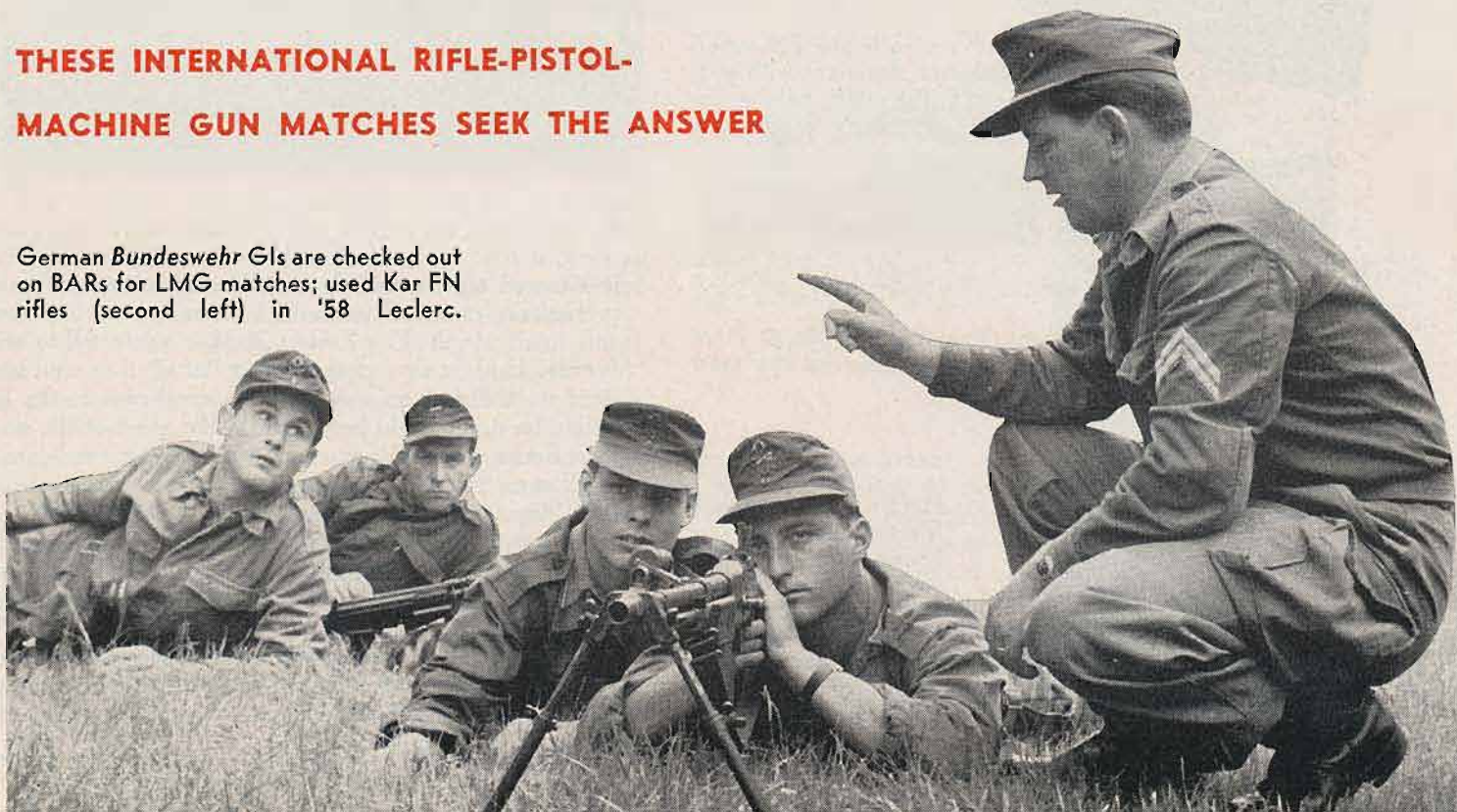
**O**N HOTLY-CONTESTED FIRING LINES this month throughout USAREUR—U.S. Army, Europe—America's finest shooting teams are competing for the honor of representing the United States in the western world's most serious shoot, the Leclerc Matches, to be fired in Europe in August.

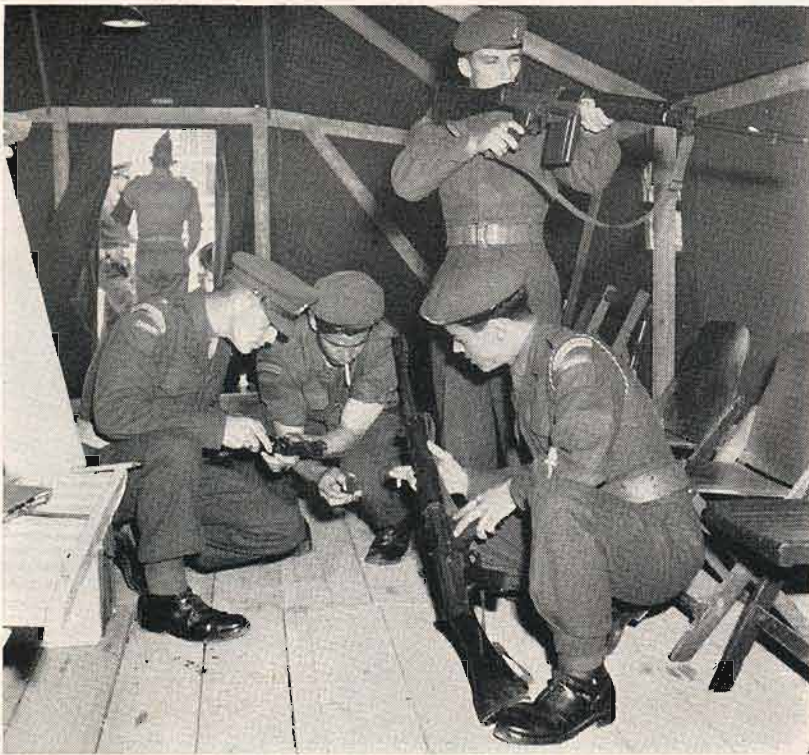
Across the ranges at the great Grafenwoehr Training Area, 60 miles NE of Nurnberg, shots ring out whose echos will be heard around the world, and whose fast-paced, thrilling schedules will directly affect our Stateside shooting picture in the next few years. For American shooters in the Army abroad are getting their first real taste of all-around marksmanship competitions that put sense into the

words of Congress behind the U.S. National Matches, that the citizen should be skilled in the use of "military-type small arms." At Grafenwoehr, at Stuttgart, at Mannheim, at Frankfort, wherever U.S. Forces are stationed in Europe, the best shooters of the best-shooting units are being discovered in Command-wide competitions which have all the flair and tenseness of Perry, with a plus. For, in addition to pistol in a quick but decisive combat course, and rifles fired with hearts throbbing and pulses pounding from a 100 yard sprint, two-man teams serve *light machine guns* in the only American-fired matches of their kind in our competitive shooting picture. Pistols, rifles, and light machine guns are the target arms in this all-nation shoot,

## THESE INTERNATIONAL RIFLE-PISTOL- MACHINE GUN MATCHES SEEK THE ANSWER

German *Bundeswehr* GIs are checked out on BARs for LMG matches; used Kar FN rifles (second left) in '58 Leclerc.





Canadians of Royal 22nd Regt. inspect new FN 7.62 mm. rifles of British Enfield production.



Advancing to line, FN-armed Belgians, American with M-1, and British soldier holding Enfield, get ready to compete.



the now-famous Prix Leclerc.

The scores reveal how tough this one-day match is. From 1951 through '57, highest possible score per team was 2472. In '53, Americans went through the wringer to assay only 1643—yet won first place! We won in '54 and '55, but lost in 1956 to the French Army *maitre tireurs* who beat us at our own game using our own guns: Colt. 45s, M-1s and BARs. They upped the score to 2073, which record still stands.

In 1958, hosting 84 riflemen, 70 automatic riflemen, and 14 pistol shooters of Belgium, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, and the Netherlands including U.S. competitors, the 1st Battle Group, 19th Infantry, conducted the Leclerc shoot at Grafenwoehr. The new German Army, the Bundeswehr, hosted all nations in 1959 at Hammelburg last August. Where the 1960 matches will come off is not published as we go to press, but it will be scheduled sometime in August or September, and will be run by one nation of the Western Alliance. Norway and Denmark can and have participated on invitation.

The heroic bronze bust of France's great Free French Marshal, whose name is given to these interarmy matches, is first prize, held not by an individual but by the best all-around combat team. Though excellence in the soldier



Heroic bust of French Marshal Leclerc bears inscription "In homage to the officer and to the soldier who is an example to our Armies," goes to team winning the now-famed NATO shooting match.

is honored and rewarded, the shooting selection through preliminary events all over the various armies' commands and, finally, in the Prix Leclerc itself, is calculated to bring forward the best men from the best Battalion or equivalent sized unit. This requirement forces excellence at the Battalion level, and is in keeping with the spirit of the whole Prix Leclerc, which is intended to raise the excellence of small arms training through all the competing armies. In these days of the Big Bang, the intense interest and keen rivalry between field units for final choice to fire the Leclerc for the U.S. is the modern Pentomic Army's way of saying the day of the individual rifleman—automatic rifleman—is not yet over.

Leclerc arms are those of the fire teams in modern armies. The rules say simply "Pistol," "Rifle" and "Light Machine Gun (BAR, Bren, or (Continued on page 47)

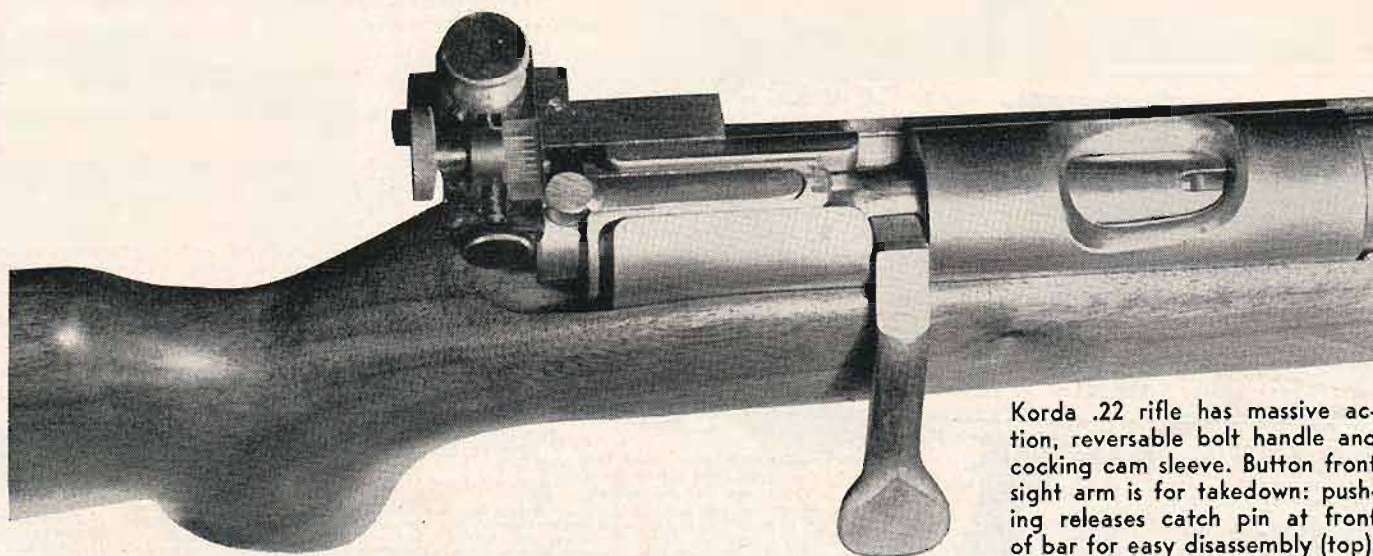
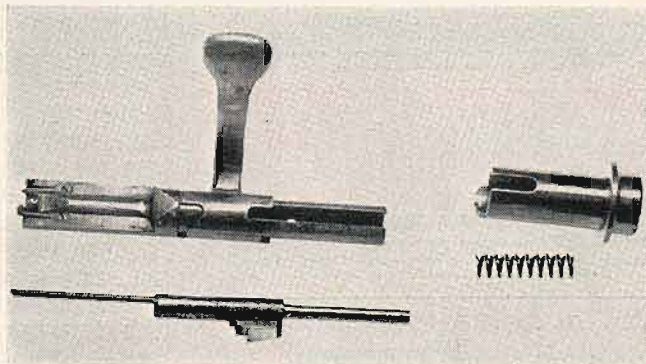


# Gun OF THE MONTH

By HARVEY BRANDT



THE OLD • THE NEW • THE UNUSUAL



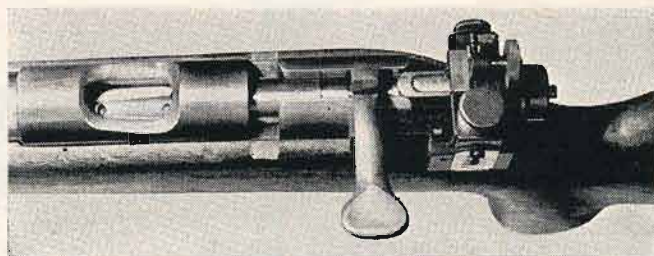
Korda .22 rifle has massive action, reversible bolt handle and cocking cam sleeve. Button front sight arm is for takedown: pushing releases catch pin at front of bar for easy disassembly (top).

## EXPERIMENTAL BOLT ACTION .22 RIFLE IS LEFT OR RIGHT-HANDED AT WILL OF SHOOTER

A GUN DESIGNED because of GUNS Magazine's urging is some sort of flattery, and so we are happy to illustrate this month the .22 rifle of Edward C. Korda. Machinist Korda is right handed. But our article several years ago on left-handed rifles inspired Korda to design a breech to be assembled either left- or right-handed.


Korda's model rifle, the only one made, is fitted with a right-handed No. 57 Lyman sight. Even so, if the bolt be assembled lefty-fashion, it can be operated okay. The bolt disassembles into a bolt head and body which is a simple turning, with some notches and grooves below it for cartridge feeding and extractor-ejector parts. These can be reversed. Secret of the left-hand operation is the symmetrical bolt handle, with its sleeve-type cocking cams. Each end of the sleeve has a cam, hence reversing the bolt handle completely changes the working of the action.

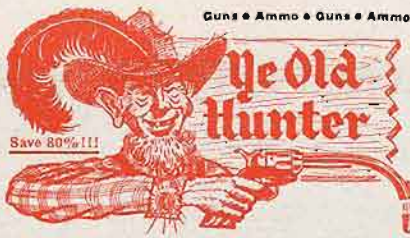
The bolt handle and sleeve slips off instantly, once the rear bolt plug and firing pin spring housing is released. A simple spring-plug catch holds it into the bolt body. Depressing the plug raises the catch pin that hooks into



With handle for left-hand operation, bolt can be taken from gun by rotating bolt handle to clear the sight bar.

the bolt, freeing housing and firing pin-spring group.

Korda at present is considering plans to market this basic action, or perhaps a complete rifle, depending on the type of interest shown. His design so far is a single shot, for simplicity and cheapness of manufacture. It would be an action well adapted to a match rifle at low cost (though limited production might be costly), and a clip repeater could easily be built up on the basic tubular receiver. For further details, contact: Edward C. Korda, 26500 Chardon Rd., Richmond Hgts. 32, Ohio. 



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Ye Old Hunter illustrates all weapons by actual unretouched photographs so you can see how they REALLY look!

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• Cal. 7.65MM (30 Cal.) • Adjustable Open Sight • Commercial High Finish Bluing • Positive Safe with Checkered Lever



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Cal. .303

Cal. .303

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Cal. .22



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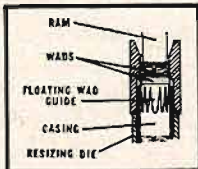
**mec**

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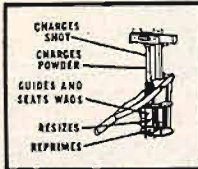


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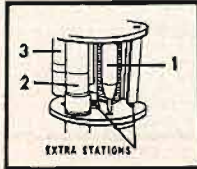
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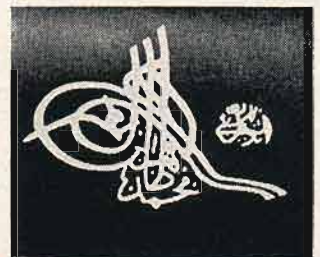
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# GUNS in the NEWS

[Special]—

President Eisenhower visiting Afghanistan in December presented to King Mohammed Zahir Shah a Super Grade Model 70 Winchester rifle. The presentation made at Kabul of a special .270 gold inlaid weapon followed a long tradition of gift guns set by past Chief Executives of America and others. As early as 1839 a set of handsomely inlaid and engraved rifles and pistols was forwarded by Samuel Colt, then of Paterson, N.J., to H.M. the Sultan of Musquat, a token of esteem from His Excellency Martin Van Buren, President of the United States. Later presentations to distinguished royalty of the Near East included a handsome Remington .44 M1874 revolver from President U. S.

Grant to the ruler of Egypt, while President F. D. Roosevelt's presentation Savage Model 99 to the Shahinshah of Iran has been pictured before in GUNS. President Dwight Eisenhower's choice of a Winchester followed our leading gun-sportsman's liking for the fine Winchester arms.



Royal "Hand of Fatima" seal is in gold on M70 magazine; may have originated as hand of Turkish Sultan.

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## EUROPEAN HAND FIREARMS

By Jackson & Whitlaw  
(Quadrangle Books reprint, 119 W. Lake, Chicago I, \$25)

Perhaps the *worst* thing that can be said about this handsome reprint of a much sought-after classic rare volume of gun lore and pix is that the illustrations, as reproduced, lack the needle-sharp clarity of the original. But the guns, spanners, flasks, and tools are still highly visible, and the whole book is eminently worth adding to your library if your taste runs to European pistols and Scottish pistols and guns of the 16th, 17th, and 18th Centuries.

The errata of the first edition (1923) are not corrected in the reprint, so we list them here. P. 9, *last line*: Delete "with." P. 13, l. 13: For "second" read "first." P. 66, l. 13 *from bottom*: After "principle" insert "of." P. 100, "ALEXANDER CAMERON." *At end of paragraph add*: "(Plate VI, Fig. 23)." P. 102, "IH:" For "heart butt" read "scroll butt." P. 102, "WILLIAM HERIOT." *At end of paragraph add*: "(Page 67, Fig. J)." P. 104, "RM." *At end of paragraph add*: "(Plate IV, Fig. 12)." P. 105, "THOMAS MURDOCH." *At end of paragraph add*: "(Plate VII, Fig. 28)."

The Whitlaw section of this book on Scottish arms lists and illustrates the almost unique snaphance long guns, of which a few still survive.—W.B.E.

## ASIAN JUNGLE—AFRICAN BUSH

By Colonel Charles Askins  
(The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Penna. 1959. \$10.00)

Charlie Askins needs no introduction to guns readers or, for that matter, to anyone at all familiar with the literature of guns and hunting. Few men have hunted more, or more widely over the world, than this ex-handgun champion, ex-Border Patrolman, World War II soldier, and stormy petrel of the shooting world. This book tells graphically and vividly of the guns and game of two continents; tells it with the verve and the style that is Askins' trademark. If hunting, guns, and back-of-beyond adventure appeal to you, this is a book you shouldn't miss.—EBM

## THE PLAINS RIFLE

By Charles E. Hanson, Jr.  
(Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, \$10.00)

For years this reviewer along with other skeptical pedants has sneered at the corrupt phrase, "the plains rifle," and scoffed, "There was no such thing. The old expression was just "a plain rifle," at a low price, as distinguished from "fancy rifle." Certainly in the past the earliest of arms writers, such as

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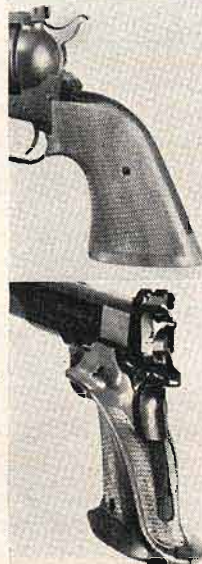
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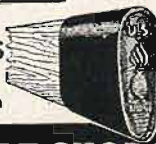
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Charles W. Sawyer, had slim claim to establishing such a title as "the plains rifle." But in Hanson's new book, this arms student and historian of the Museum of the Fur Trade has done a masterful job of setting forth specific qualities in the early American heavy sporting rifles and proving his right to call them "plains rifles." In this milestone book, chock full of contemporaneous quotes judiciously and knowingly edited, Hanson describes and lists many significant facts and interesting, accurate anecdotes about the plains rifle. This western sporting rifle for the first time in arms literature, here takes on an individual identity.—W.B.E.

### BUCKSKIN AND SPURS By Glenn Shirley

(Hastings House, New York, 1958. \$4.50)  
Glen Shirley has done a world of research into the history and lore of the Old West, and his first book, "Toughest Of Them All" (University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque) told the stories of a dozen or so of the less publicized but tough-as-a-boot denizens of that land of fact and fiction. This new volume adds a dozen more names

to that lusty roster: some good men and some bad, but all "tough men in a fracas," and all good with guns. Shirley writes well, and supplies dozens of pictures to add to your gallery of western notables.—EBM

### THREE NRA HANDBOOKS

(National Rifle Association, Washington, D.C., Prices below)

Three new, profusely illustrated handbooks, each 8 1/2" x 11 1/2", have just been added to the NRA shelf of books on guns and shooting. These are titled, respectively, "Shooters Guide" (\$3.00 to non-NRA members, \$2.00 to members), "Gun Collectors Handbook" (\$2.50 to non-members, \$1.50 to members), and "Questions & Answers Handbook" (\$2.50 to non-members, \$1.50 to members). Though paper bound, all three are handsomely printed, profusely illustrated, and worthwhile additions to any gun lover's library. That they are informative and authoritative goes without saying in view of the NRA trademark. You'll want them yourself, and each or all would make fine gifts. (Good for juniors too.)—EBM

## DON'T LET RECOIL SCARE YOU

(Continued from page 29)

bark than bite in the recoil department.

In the event these words alone fail to convince you, visit most any skeet or trap range during a scheduled shoot. Odds are there will be at least one little slip of a girl manhandling a twelve gauge shotgun almost as long as she is high, and shooting it through a hundred or more "KICKS." One lass I watched defeat her male competition in a 500 round match couldn't have weighed much over ninety pounds, soaking wet. Yet she stood up to the pounding her gun gave her and came out of it not only unscathed but top-gun of the day.

The secret of her shooting skill came from long hours of practice. But had recoil been a serious factor, she would never put in those hours.

Recoil is the inevitable result of the explosion contained within the barrel of any gun. It has two elements: direct force, and noise.

The latter is a great deal more appalling than the former. In other words, if it were possible to remove the sound of the explosion, the mere push of the gun would be materially reduced in importance. (Some 450 years ago, Benvenuto Cellini wrote in his "Memoirs" that he had invented a "noiseless gunpowder." Ben wasn't always entirely truthful, but it's too bad he didn't pass this discovery down to posterity!)

The most noticeable and widely felt effect of recoil is called "flinching," which tends to jar the gun off-target. But it is not usually the backward push of the gun that causes a shooter to flinch. It is a conditioned reflex action precipitated by the shock waves of the explosion as they wash back from muzzle and breech. In short, concussion, muzzle-blast, is the hngaboo that causes most shooters to flinch. The recoil itself, though an undeniable force, is harmless, providing the gun is held snugly against the shoulder.

And the muzzle blast is nothing more than a loud noise, as impotent and fleeting as a snowflake in a blast-furnace.

Some beginners seem instinctively to mistrust the strength of gun-barrel-steel and fear their weapons will "blow up" in their hands. One cure for these particular jitters is to dis-

mantle the gun and explain the workings or function of each part, pointing out how little of the explosion actually is exerted and contained or absorbed by the gun itself.

In the case of hunting rifles, the weight of the weapon is calculated to help absorb most of the recoil. Autoloading shotguns dissipate recoil by using it to work the machinery which ejects and reloads the gun. The final cushion, however, is *the flexibility of the shooter's body*.

Were it not true that the shoulder and upper body will easily and instantly give with the push of the gun, then recoil would be a punishing force, probably of unbearable magnitude.

Place the stock of a gun against a stout tree and fire it—and you will probably crack the stock. The tree will not give with the push, thus all the force must be absorbed by the wood in the stock except the very minor amount transmitted to the immovable tree.

Now place the gun against an old auto tire, fire it, and watch the tire easily cushion the force because it is flexible, as flexible as the human body.

The highly exaggerated but glowing descriptions of new guns one hears among hunters can be and doubtless has been the cause of much of the ballyhoo being built up around the subject of recoil. Imagine the wife's feelings when her spouse invites her to shoot that new gun after she has heard him tell his cronies what a "powerhouse" it is and how it is a "man's gun" that "shoots as hard from one end as from the other."

Understandable though this pride may be, the listener might be a novice who is not aware that truth-stretching is a permissible deviation when a hunter is talking about his newest acquisition.

Recoil is like a dark alley in a dubious neighborhood: fearsome when it is unlighted.

But the daylight of knowledge reveals it in its mundane, everyday garb. Just another alley.

Don't let the recoil myth bluff you. Shooting is fun—and the shooting sports are among the few sports in which the "little guy," man, woman, or child can play on a par with the big ones.

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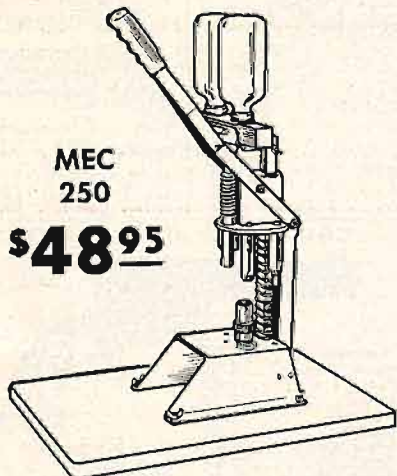
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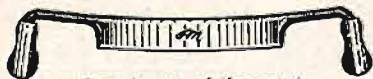
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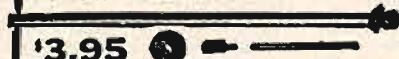
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(Continued from page 18)

scattered." Further advantages of the composite barrel include dampening of barrel vibrations, thus reducing whip and achieving one further step toward the goal of ultimate accuracy—for the invention applies to rifles as well as to shotguns.

Using fiberglass thread, alternately criss-cross woven around a .020" tube-steel liner and bonded with a plastic, proved successful. One interesting discovery regarding the fiberglass in this application was that the rate of propagation of stress along the individual fibers was far slower than through the metal of the liner. The glass "never knew it was hit." A high stress from an overload would flex the steel liner, but the glass transmitted that stress along its fibers so slowly that the peak had passed and the shot charge had exited before the glass reacted. Pressures caused in normal steel tubes from, say, snow or a fragment of defective wad in the muzzle, do not faze the fiberglass barrel.

In early versions, I am told, the liner was not even needed for strength, at least for a few shots. In a barrel without the black color in the binder, and minus a liner, my informant said it was possible to see the shot charge traveling up the barrel at the moment of firing! But with the black finish, very durable and actually running through the entire thickness of the material, the only clue as to it being a *different* material is the absence of the WP Winchester proof mark in its usual place on top of the barrel. Instead, because it is hammered in by the proof director after test and the fiberglass will not "take" the stamping well, the mark is placed on the alloy lug which is affixed to the bottom of the barrel, holding the tube to the magazine tube. Otherwise, the gun appears quite "normal."

In muzzle loading shotgun days, the sportsman fed his front-loader varying charges of powder, wadding, and shot until it was "just right." The smart birdman stuck to that load, once discovered, regardless of conditions. Large bore guns, 12, 11, 10, even 8 bores, were popular for field and upland shooting. The concept of "magnum" for ultra-long range wildfowling was reserved for 1" or 1 1/2" bore punt guns. As a matter of fact, such bores gave not long range (since it was lawful to bait the water and scull one's boat right into the midst of a sitting flock) but wider and more even patterns because of the bigger bore and less jostling to the shot column during barrel time. My 10 gauge Greener duck gun, dated 1850 on the barrels, throws the most regular pattern of any shotgun I have ever fired, though perhaps not to

the extreme ranges of modern high velocity loads. Its pattern at ranges from 30 to 50 yards is circular, and the distribution of shot is incredibly even, without a hole. Many shotgunners attribute this phenomenon to the large bore and short stack of any given weight of shot within the barrel. What all this suggests, in terms of modern arms and especially large-bore lightweight guns such as the Model 59, is the propriety of using the largest bore-diameter gun you can find that is otherwise appropriate for the purpose. Certainly the ultra lightweight Model 59, made of alloy and glass fiber, compares very favorably with light 16s or 20s which have, as their principal merit, their light weight in the field.

Kick with the Model 59 is not important. Using some of the new Micro target loads, no significant recoil could be felt. Of course, I knew when the gun went off, but it was not objectionable or bothersome. Some guns very definitely will wallop you if you hold them wrong. Initially testing the 59, I brought the gun up rifle fashion, sighted it through the port on the indoor range, and fired three shots. Firing more would have just wasted ammo. For recoil, the test was adequate and the results almost negative: no recoil to speak of. A sidelight on the regularity of functioning, both of the gun and the Micro ammo, came up when I tried to spot the empties on the floor. After a few minutes search I looked up and found them at eye level on a ledge beside the shooting position, shells in a little heap, all flying to the same spot as the action opened.

In field shooting at clay birds, the Model 59 did its part well. The lightness at the muzzle gave the 28" barrel the fast handling qualities of a shorter tube. At 50 yards, prone, shooting "another make" slugs, the Model 59 grouped five shots on a paper the size of this page. Another shotgun specially bored for slugs and iron-sighted did not make any tighter group. In prone, the M59 did kick considerably, because of the very solid shoulder I held behind her. The modified choke seemed to handle the slugs as well as any, in spite of the steel threads being a little loose in the alloy receiver, causing the barrel to wobble. Current M59s have been designed with foreend changes to prevent this looseness.

But since the new gun is a single barrel with a factory-bored choke, how would a gunsmith fit a choke tube to this glass barrel? The answer lies in the use of synthetic or plastic binders and glues to stick the

(Continued on page 42)

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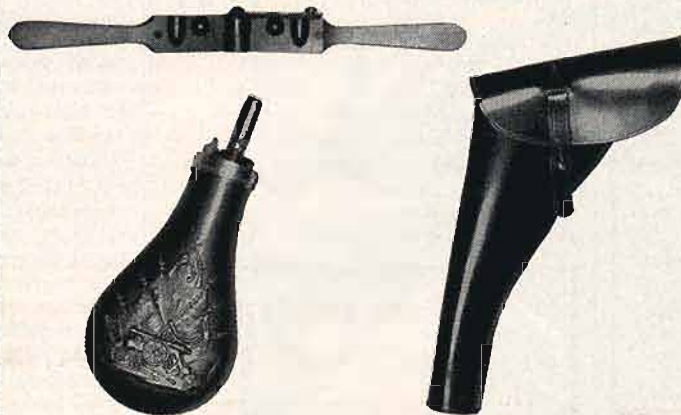
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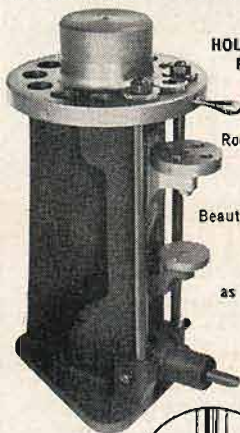


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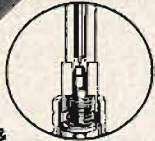
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(Continued from page 40)

choke device, bored to fit the muzzle, securely to the fiberglass. Fiberglass can be sawed and cut, although it is not at all like metal to work in a lathe. It may prove best to order such devices from the factory and let Winchester have the fun of fitting chokes, ribs, and other trimmings to their new material scatterguns.

Glass, as any school boy knows, is more elastic than steel. But glass in plate form, as we usually know it, has a low elastic limit, cannot be stressed high without failure. Glass in gossamer fibers, handled as textile, is remarkably different. Flexible, it retains in a linear direction all of its tensile strength. The chrome-moly steel chamber and barrel-thread piece is fitted over the seamless .020" steel tube, then wrapped with ten strands of continuous glass fiber to resist bursting in a radial direction. Filaments are pulled from a "creel" or bobbin, passed through a resin bath to wet and "glue" the glass into a unitary coating, and wound by rotation of the barrel. After winding, the tube is lightly sanded outside; then wrapped roller-shade fashion with woven fiberglass cloth to give lengthwise strength. Unlike the Hawken barrels of the 1840s which were eagerly sought after by the iron-hungry gold seekers, to use as crowbars, the Model 59 is not recommended for jacking up cars or prying fallen trees from off the roof. But it will stand up under all normal and a devil of a lot of abnormal stresses from firing. For example, one Winchester lab test plugged the bore entirely to get a burst. . .

In fabricating the inner barrel, the steel chamber and breech-thread end is separate, slid over the tube and held against a flange

on the tube end. One of the engineers wondered what would happen if shot began to strike that flange and bend it backwards, closing the bore. Experimentally, this improbable condition was arranged and, finally, as the tube peened closed with one last full charge of shot that stopped solidly about five inches from the breech, the barrel let go. A tiny fissure appeared in the surface and the 12,000 pounds plus pressure leaked out—that was all. No jagged, shell-fragment shards splintering into the shooter's wrist, no danger to the shooters standing next to you—just a rent, through which the gas escapes. . . This tough test was extreme, arrived at only after the usual abuses failed to blow up the barrel. A 20-gauge shell lodged ahead of a 12 was tossed down range with cheerful abandon from the test stand: the gun stood this tremendous extra proof without damage. Clay plugs were put in the bore and those which burst the barrel, finally, working up to the limit bit by bit, were, on the average, double the weight of clay plugs in the same place which regularly burst steel test barrels under the same conditions. No doubt about it, the fiberglass wonder is safe!

To the historically-minded, the new barrel is (shudder to use the word) a sort of new-day Damascus barrel . . . which is explained this way. In black powder days, plain iron barrels were the rule. Powder got stronger, but machines to drill steel lagged in development. The only way the strong new alloy of iron, steel could be worked into a gun barrel was in fibers or wires, giving rise to the wire twist lamination of alternate iron and steel known generally as "Damascus." For years, the best guns had finely figured Damascus barrels using many strands of steel wire literally woven into a matrix of iron. But, gradually, gunpowder overtook the gunmakers in its development. Then cheap methods of drilling steel were developed and a homogeneous steel blank replaced the hammered, welded tube of a good Damascus barrel as the strongest thing the gunmakers' art could turn out. Now the idea has come full circle. By placing around a common weak steel tube a winding of fragile, tenuous fiberglass, Winchester has created a barrel lighter than steel and much stronger—a goal which, a century ago, was the purpose of the invention of Damascus steel. Surprisingly, the rips in the modern fiberglass tube under blow-up stress are much like the fissures and rents which once occurred with a Damascus barrel, with one trifling exception—the fiberglass barrel stands many tons more pressure than any Damascus tube would ever take!

After a fair shake at testing it, I fail to get excited over the glass barrel gun. What's to be excited about? As an engineering project it is remarkable, brilliant, even sensational. But so far as a gun goes for the field, it is merely an ideal smoothbore—light, fast in action and feel, easy handling, safe beyond requirements. . . What else would you expect, in the new Winchester twelve-bore Model 59?



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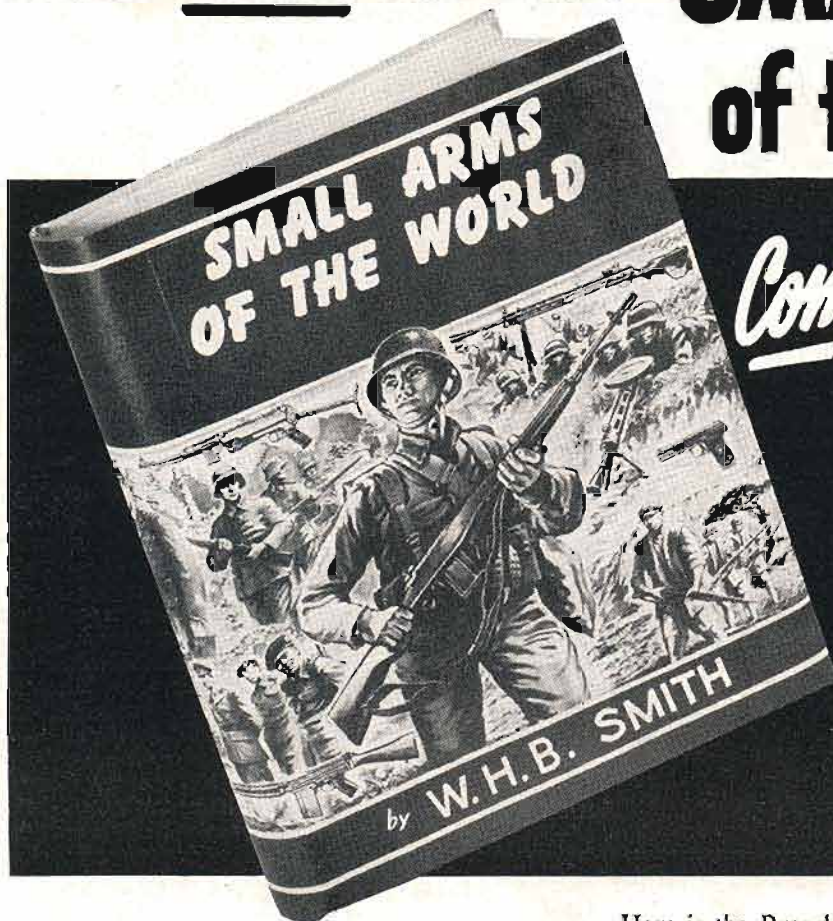
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## TALKING TURKEYS INTO TARGETS

(Continued from page 25)

muscles were protesting. I dared not change position, knowing that an alert turkey could pick up the slightest hint of noise or movement. I checked my wrist watch again. Eight thirty. Then something made me shift my gaze up to my right along the sloping bank of the creek.

There, less than 30 yards away, stood a big tom turkey staring alertly. When I pivoted my head, it seemed to me that I brought the shotgun around and into shooting position with one simultaneous motion. But if you think this is a success story, you're mistaken. My reflexes weren't quick enough. With a disconcerting "perk," the gobbler wheeled and vanished through the trees.

It was an exasperating experience, a terrific letdown. But frustration is often the best adjective for describing wild turkey hunting. Maybe that's why it's so challenging and exciting.

Two subsequent trips down the creek during the season failed to bring me even a glimpse of those elusive toms. Perhaps someone else beat me to them, though it seems unlikely that anyone could kill all eight of them. Maybe they migrated back into heavier cover with the coming of hunting season. At any rate, the turkeys had disappeared. On my later trips, I failed to uncover even any fresh sign . . . But that's the way it is with turkey hunting. Some times you get them; most times, you don't.

The wild turkey gets my vote as the slyest creature in the woods. When a hunter outwits one, he deserves to push out his chest. It requires stealth, know-how, and an assist from Lady Luck to put one on the dinner platter.

This native bird of North America ranges from the Great Lakes south to Central America. At one time the wild turkey was practically extinct in many parts of the country, but during the past few years it has made a remarkable recovery. In my native state of Texas, for instance, turkey populations have come back strong after the drouth years. Pennsylvania boasts of a record number of turkeys. The game departments in Colorado, West Virginia, New Mexico, Missouri, Ohio, Michigan, Mississippi, Georgia, and Arizona, to name a few examples, all report gratifying comebacks of the wild turkey.

Turkey gobblers generally will average between 18 to 21 pounds, the hens 8 to 10. Not many reach the king-size proportions of the 27½-pound gobbler reported trapped in Carter County, Missouri, last fall.

There are three methods of hunting turkeys—still hunting, stand hunting, and

calling. Stand hunting is the universal favorite, simply because a turkey's eyes are conditioned to movement and it can be best fooled by something which does not move. However, the super-sharp eyesight of the turkey can pick out the outline of a human at a remarkable distance, unless he is concealed completely. I wear camouflage clothing when there is no danger from other hunters, complete with the camouflage-colored headnet to hide the reflection off my eyeglasses.

Remaining on a stand properly is quite an art. It calls for more patience than I can claim. The slightest movement may betray the hunter's position. The turkey is the most suspicious critter that I have ever met.

The success of stand hunting naturally depends on the hunter's position. No sensible person would wander out in the woods, sit down patiently and hope that a wild turkey will wander past. He must select his stand with care to assure the ideal position for meeting turkeys. The secret of a successful turkey hunter is his ability to "read" sign. Droppings under trees betray the turkeys' roost, while their scratchings and lost feathers reveal their feeding grounds.

Stillhunting is the most difficult of all methods, yet many turkeys are killed this way by deer hunters who accidentally sneak upon unsuspecting birds. It is particularly hard on clear days when the dry leaves crackle underfoot. The ideal conditions for stillhunting are light mist when the leaves are moist, and a breeze to muffle any unnatural noise.

I like to search for turkey sign a couple of days after a rain. Then I know any tracks and scratchings which I discover will be unmistakably fresh. The normal range of a turkey band has been estimated at something like 1000-1500 acres, so the closer you situate yourself to their roost, the better are your chances of intercepting them to and from their beds.

Wild turkeys prefer mature forests for their range. They are gregarious birds. In Texas, the hens and toms mingle only during the spring mating. During the fall, the flocks of hens and gobblers are separated. Since the turkeys' front-line defense is their ears-eyes combination, the denser forests give them an advantage. The farther you get away from roads, the better are the chances of sighting wild turkeys. But the odds are always against you—unless you can call them to you.

Calling is a fascinating way of outwitting turkeys during the spring hunting seasons in the Deep South. This is the mating period, and even the grandpa toms can be fooled by



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the imitation of a love-sick hen's cluck. There is nothing quite as dramatic or unnerving as a big tom strutting before his female admirers, his wing tips dragging the ground and his tail upright in a majestic fan of feathers.

But calling also is effective at times in those states where only fall turkey hunting is allowed. It seems to work best when a flock has been scattered, and the birds are talking back and forth, trying to regroup.

The foremost blunder of the tyro turkey hunter is attempting to call too frequently. Make your calls brief, pausing a long while between each stroke of the call. Wait so long that you feel like you can't stand waiting another minute—then wait that much longer. Practice at home until you feel you've got the call down pat. One mis-stroke of the call will send a wary tom high-tailing in the opposite direction. There are various commercial calls on the market, but my favorite is the time-honored cedar box which is stroked along the edge with a sliver of slate.

Many hunters give critical attention to the preliminaries of luring the birds within gunshot range, but take their turkey-shooting weapon for granted. What they don't realize is that the selection of the gun is fully as important as any other detail of the hunt. A hunter with a mis-chosen weapon usually will only wound one of the tough, tenacious birds. In some parts of the country, the shotgun is the pet turkey weapon; in others the rifle gets the majority vote.

My choice in a shotgun is a 12-gauge, loaded preferably with three-inch magnum shotshells in No. 4 size, with full choke. I disagree with the belief that No. 2 shot is the best size for turkey. In fact, I even prefer No. 6 over No. 2. The performance of a shotgun is based on the density of the shot pattern. Several concentrated No. 4 or No. 6 shot in a vital area are more lethal than one or two misplaced No. 2 shot.

Getting a shot at a sly turkey at ranges less than 50 yards is rare indeed, which is why I prefer the full choke, to keep the pattern tight at the gun's maximum range.

In a rifle, I like the relatively new .22 WRF Magnum. This might come as a surprise to many turkey hunters. Several turkey-hunting friends of mine gave this cartridge a thorough workout last hunting season, and they all agreed that it was potent. Some extensive tests of mine have brought the same conclusion. Yet the 40-grain slug traveling at 2000 f.p.s. from the muzzle doesn't cause much meat damage.

Actually, any of the flat-trajectory varmint cartridges, from the .22 Hornet to the .222 Remington, are all right on turkeys, but the exploding bullets destroy lots of meat, primarily because of the high muzzle velocities.

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180	2896	2445	2082	1747	1478	1222

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## COMPARATIVE

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165	2.2	9.7	21.9	42.5	71.8	109.0
180	2.8	11.0	25.8	49.5	86.0	132.0

## RECOMMENDED LOADS

Cartridge	Powder	Charge	Muzzle V.
.30-40 Krag	# 4350	49	2573
.300 Savage	# 4350	48	2618
.308 Win.	# 4350	52	2656
.30-06	# 4350	59	2885
.300 H&H	# 4350	68	3095
.300 Wby	# 4350	80	3298

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The .22 rimfire long-rifle simply isn't enough cartridge for turkeys, but the .22 WRFM gets the job done if you do yours. One of the pet turkey loads in Texas is the old .25-20, which has a muzzle velocity of only 1460 f.p.s. with the 86-grain bullet, and 1290 f.p.s. with the 100-grain slug.

According to my observations, the secret of adapting the popular varmint loads to turkey hunting is handloading them to reduce muzzle velocity, thus eliminating much tissue damage on impact. Naturally, much of the flat trajectory will be sacrificed, but since most turkeys are killed at ranges less than 150 yards, that doesn't make much difference. Even big-game loads like the .270, .308, .244, and .243 are suitable for turkeys when muzzle velocity is scaled down to about 2000 f.p.s., using solid bullets. My personal preference of centerfire cartridges is the .222 with muzzle velocity reduced with handloads. The normal commercial .222 load (3200 f.p.s. with 50-grain bullet) is too destructive.

I most certainly recommend a scope-sighted rifle, if for no other reason than it aids in proper bullet placement for clean kills. With a shotgun, the hunter should aim for the turkey's head for the least meat damage. At close ranges with exact-sighted rifles, the hunter might also attempt a head shot. But to compensate for any error, I aim at the butt of the neck. Here the bullet will be passing above the breast meat, and will be hitting the most vulnerable spot on a turkey other than the head—the backbone. The idea, of course, is to stay away from the breast. Not only will a breast shot destroy most of the eating meat, but a turkey can take a terrific wallop in this region and still escape, crippled, into the woods. I once saw a turkey

that traveled almost a mile after being shot through one wing and completely through the breast with a .30-30 slug. Another time, I saw a hunter shoot the entire lower portion of the gobbler's breast away with his .300 Savage, yet the bird still traveled a considerable distance.

The shotgunner and rifle man have a different advantages, in turkey hunting, and each has certain disadvantages. The scattergun man can catch birds on the wing; the rifleman usually can't. But in wide-open spaces like much of Texas the rifle hunter can pick off turkeys at distant ranges, beyond the reach of the smoothbore. The type of terrain should dictate which weapon you select. In dense foliage such as that found in the Deep South, the shotgun is the logical choice. The rifle is better for more open and less populated country. The rifle-shotgun combination is perhaps the best of all.

A wild turkey is a great runner, and it prefers to escape on foot rather than fly. Normally, it won't take to the air unless crowded. Then it must run several yards before getting airborne. Once up, it can fly at speeds up to 35 m.p.h., and will glide as much as a quarter of a mile.

Wild turkey hunting is among the best of shooting sports. Only the hunter who studies his birds and their habits will succeed consistently. Rarely is a sly turkey killed by the haphazard hunter. Perhaps this will be your year to get a crack at one of the elusive prizes. If so, be sure and confident of that weapon in your hands. Don't spoil an otherwise perfect hunt with a wounded bird or one that isn't fit for the dinner table. After all, eating wild game is the fitting climax to any hunt.

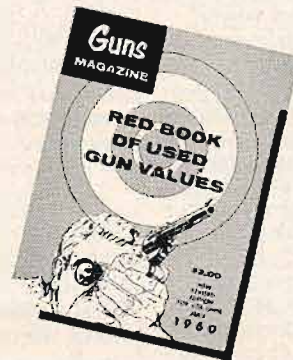
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## WORLD'S BEST GI GUNNERS

(Continued from page 32)

Each army may enter only one team. Usually 28 or 30 men are picked, leaving a few as alternates in case of sickness or accident at the last minute. Each team goes through the Prix Leclerc with no substitutions, once the shooting starts. Under a non-firing team captain are 24 firers: two officers, seven NCOs or "old" soldiers, more or less, and at least 15 "young soldiers" having less than two years experience. No man fires more than one weapon, and no man fires another's weapon, with the exception of the LMG pairs who take turns with one gun. Within each team, 12 are riflemen, ten men in five pairs serve the light machine guns, and two fire pistols.

An important feature of the Leclerc course is the light machine gun shooting. While Americans are generally familiar with the pistol (France's Adjutant Chef Burais took first place pistol in 1958), and the rifle is a common weapon in the U.S. among sportsmen and targetsmen (Pvt. Bohomen of the Netherlands took first place rifle last time),

the Light Machine Gun is seldom seen on U.S. target ranges. Yet from the land of no machine guns, Sp4 Cassidy and Sp4 Rico emerged with first place for the U.S. in the LMG class, scoring 232, followed by Pvt. Pac and Pvt. Roberts, U.S., for Second with 231, followed by Sp4 Senyitko and Sp4 Blum, Third, all Americans. The total possible score in this is 240. The peppy nature of the LMG event guarantees that a "possible" is a long way off.

Two partners constitute an LMG fire team, and they must not change their positions except according to the rules. The target is four feet square.

Competitors lie down at 500 yards firing point, have five minutes to fire off two clips each containing ten rounds as fouling shots. They may fire these at the butts, not the targets, and watching the dust, if the day is dry, aids in estimating wind drift at that range. The guns, except the BARs of U.S. make, have interchangeable barrels, and each ten-shot salvo is put through a different

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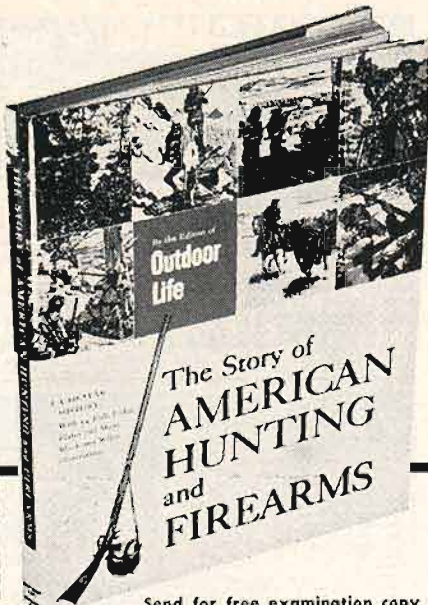
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barrel. Though the barrels are quick-changed, five minutes is not too long a time in spite of the men being the most expert light machine gunners of their battalion, hence the most expert of their Army.

After warming up, competitors remain prone, the guns cleared, no round in the breech, not cocked, and the safety set. Two magazines of the four record magazines, 15 shots each, may be in the gun or carried by No. 1 gunner. No. 2 carries tool kit, parts, and magazines. As they tensely watch down range, some of the MG teams seem inattentive to the targets. They are instead listening carefully for the warning command of the range officer who calls 30 seconds before the targets appear, "Watch Your Targets." Then, as the targets appear, the LMG crews leap to their feet and double to the 400 yard line where after this brisk sprint they flop down, reset the gun and fire two 15-shot magazines with the change lever on full automatic, *all within sixty seconds*. No pair may open fire unless both men are in their respective correct positions on each side of the gun. When the targets are pulled, No. 1 closes the breech, sets "safe" and then changes position with No. 2, who then becomes the gunner. Targets at this stage remain concealed for only one minute. When they rise, the pair spring up and race to 300 yards, where they again fall into position and No. 2 fires his magazines on full automatic.

The rules are explicit about firing these guns on full automatic, to get the jostle of the recoiling mechanism. The Bren gun, fired rapidly on single shots, can punch out a neat hole making a very close group at almost any range; the BAR with its hefty barrel and two feet equals a bedded sporting rifle in its inherent accuracy. But when those couple of dozen foot pounds of recoil are liberated at 600 shots per minute against the marksman's shoulder, it brings out all sorts of target scoring problems.

When the targets disappear again after 60 seconds, No. 2 unloads or clears the gun, applies the safety, and all competitors remain lying down until the range officer gives the all clear signal.

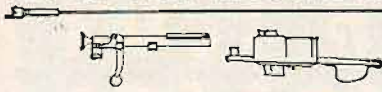
At 300 yards, a second phase is fired, 40 shots rapid. This starts with the pair in position, No. 1 behind the gun, breech open, magazine installed, sights set, and change lever at SAFE. As before, the range officer gives a 30-second "watch your targets" warning during which safetys may be put off and aim taken. The targets pop up for 24 seconds, with No. 1 getting off his clip on full auto only, no single shots. When the bulls are pulled, No. 1 clears and locks the gun and, on orders from the range officer, swaps places with No. 2. The last volley is fired similarly by No. 2, full auto, 20 shots in 24 seconds. Always, the teams remain in the prone until the range officer declares the "all clear." Binoculars may be used and the members of each pair coach their fellow shooter on his fire effect. Highest possible score a total 360 with the LMGs.

Some anomalies occur in the scheduling of ammunition for various courses of fire. The pistol course is much like that in any competition except it is all rapid, allows 20 seconds for automatics, 26 seconds for revolvers, and is all in 6-round increments—failing to consider, for example, the combat efficiency of the Browning Hi-Power holding

(Continued on page 50)



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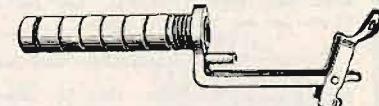
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(See also pages 37, 46, 53)

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(Continued from page 48)

4 shots without reloading, or the speed of action of a Walther pistol loaded, locked, and the hammer down on double action safe for the first shot. Six shots are first fired at 20 yards (20 and 26 seconds). Then the distance is cut to 10 yards (six shots, 10 and 15 seconds). Last, 10 yards, six shots in two-shot doubles on three individual targets separated by two targets' width. The automatics have 6 seconds, the revolvers 8 seconds for this fast-shifting schedule. More than two shots on one target, score highest two. Total possible pistol score is 144.

The rifle course is based on the 8-shot capacity of the M-1 rifle, denying the firepower of the FN 20-shot rifles. A four-foot target is used starting at 300 yards with two sighters in two minutes and eight for record in eight minutes, prone. Score is 32 maximum. Next, at the same sized target, 300 yards, eight shots rapid. But here the riflemen begin lying down at 400 yards, load eight rounds on command and apply safe. A half minute before the targets begin their one-minute exposure, the range officer cues

the riflemen with "Watch your targets." As they appear, the riflemen rise and on the double hit for 300 yards, falling into prone and opening fire. The third course at 300 yards is at a 22" diameter target, prone. Competitors first load with two shots and fire them as sighters during one initial six-second exposure of the target. Then eight rounds are charged and fired in four six-second target exposures, not more than two shots at one time. Targets are concealed for six seconds between firings. As before, the range officer will warn "Watch for your targets," which allows the shooters to assume firing position, release safeties and aim. Highest score here is 40.

The last course is the fastest of the rifle events, starting at 450 yards and concluding at 100 yards, movement on the double. Riflemen, as before, start lying down, though not necessarily in the "prone" position, load eight rounds and set safe. The warning "Watch for targets" comes 30 seconds in advance—as the boards glide up the men rise, double to 400 yards, fall into prone and fire two shots, all within 45 seconds. During the next 15 seconds the targets are withdrawn and the men prepare to advance but hold their positions until the carriers come up again. During the next 45 seconds they run one hundred yards to the 300 yard line, fall prone and fire two shots. Then fifteen seconds of no targets, again targets for 45 seconds, allowing time (?) to run to 200 yards and fire two shots kneeling or sitting. Then another 15 seconds of no targets, followed by a 45 second exposure, allowing the men to advance to 100 yards and fire the last two shots standing. During advancing, bolts are closed, chambers loaded and safeties ON. While preparing to advance no man gets the jump on another. When the targets are down, each man must have at least his stomach, one elbow and one hand on the ground, a rule which also applies to the machine gun shoot. Highest score for phase four of the riflery is 32, maximum of 136.

This gruelling marksmanship competition, lasting only a day, but in which no man nor team has approached the so-frequent perfect score so common in Stateside shooting matches, is the high point of the competitive season for U.S. targetmen abroad. Like many Camp Perry trophies, it honors a distinguished soldier, the Free French fighter Philippe, Vicomte de Hautecloque, who took the pseudonym "Leclerc" to avoid reprisals against his family when he fought with the Free French in Africa and Morocco. His famed French 2nd Armored Division led the Allied Armies into Paris, later was first to enter Strasbourg. This gallant soldier, whose troops served him with the admiration, loyalty, and love that our history has seemingly reserved only for American Civil War generals, died in a plane accident in 1947. Posthumously, his nation paid him the exceptional honor of naming him a Marshal of France.

It is this man whose dedication to the spirit of freedom is memorialized with the awarding of the Leclerc Prize in this great test of small arms competency. But perhaps the greatest honor for Leclerc is this gathering of shooters of all nations to commemorate his leadership of free men. Inevitably, the spirit of the Prix Leclerc will make itself felt in the American shooting world.

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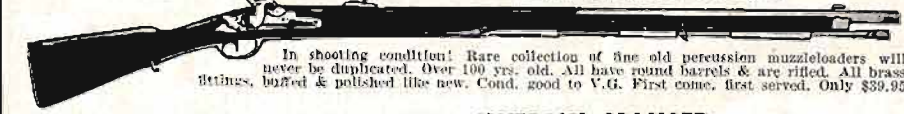


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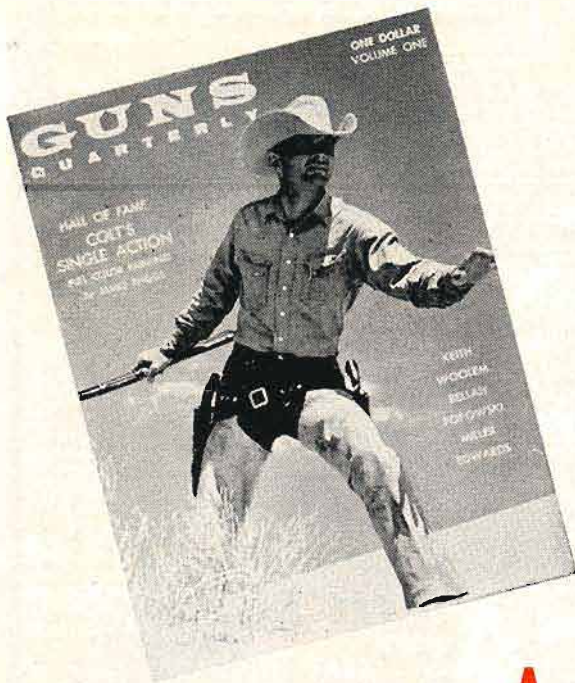
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## BIG MAN—FAST RIFLE

(Continued from page 21)

handed tools. True, this Model 92 lever action Winchester can be worked with either hand, since it's a top ejector, but . . . why? Was Connors left-handed? I tried to remember how he played baseball.

He must have read my thoughts. He said, "I was a switch-hitter, remember? At most things, I'm as good with one hand as the other."

Not many people are truly ambidextrous, but Chuck is. And I mean dexterous—in the sense of speed and skill. Add this to his size and speed and power, and all I say is, if any one of my Indian Chief ancestors had had a tribe of braves like Connors, complete with rifles, we'd still own the country!

Remembering baseball gave Chuck the answer to his own question. He grinned. "So why not be a switch hitter with the rifle, too? Let's learn both ways."

So that's what we did. It has its values, on the program. Connors can shoot around the right or left side of any cover, for instance. Did you think our cover picture was reversed? It isn't. Connors shoots either-handed.

The Winchester carbine with the "loop" lever is not an easy rifle to handle. This type of looped lever was first used by John Wayne in "Stage Coach;" but Wayne's rifle was shortened to a barrel length of well under 18 inches; Chuck's is 20. But the problems didn't bother Connors. He learned as fast as Jerry Lewis learned to handle a revolver, and Jerry had been my fastest pupil.

Chuck's "pilot" show with the rifle was to be a Four Star western under the Dick Powell banner. According to the script, he was to rapid-fire the rifle—really rapid. What we wanted was nine shots in about 1½ seconds—and speed like that with the lever action Winchester requires some doing. Slam that lever out and back fast, and you can drive that sharp trigger right through your trigger finger before you know it. And having a high-priced star laid up with a punctured and well handaged gun hand is not conducive to efficient program production. This had to be avoided.

This is the way to do it. With the trigger finger completely outside the lever, swing the lever forward and back with the other three fingers. Not until the lever is all the way back should the trigger finger curl in to trigger the shot. Whether fast or slow, this is the way to do it; but to attain the speed we were seeking, the sequence of movements has to be lightning

fast and completely automatic.

Chuck practiced, slowly at first, then speeding it up. Needless to say, he was dry-firing. Later, he used blanks; still later, ball ammo.

The day before the picture was shot, Chuck could fire nine shots faster than you can read this sentence. On silhouette targets, he could score all hits *all* of the time, and fairly tight groups *most* of the time. He's better than that now. He can make groups that would shame all but the best of hunters. But I was nervous. It's one thing to shoot well in practice; it's something else to remember all you've learned and keep your reflexes working when the cameras are rolling.

I needn't have worried. Chuck shot the scene in one "take"—no slips, no stage fright, no "misfires." There's no surer way to make yourself popular with a producer.

After the shooting, Chuck's boss asked me if there was any danger of Chuck being hurt doing that kind of shooting. I said there definitely was danger, and explained that trigger-through-the-finger business. The next question was, "How can the danger be avoided?"

The answer was—to make the rifle fire automatically through the action of the lever. I said, "It can be done, and the Stenbridge gunsmiths can do it; but it will cost you." He said, "What's the cost? This is insurance. At what we pay Connors, what will it cost if he's crippled?"

So we went to work on the rifle. At first glance, you'd say the problem was not a tough one. You'd think that, if the trigger were somehow held back in firing position, the rifle would fire when the lever snapped home. But—it won't work that way. To fire the cartridge, the hammer must snap down on the firing pin. With the trigger held back, this doesn't happen. The hammer eases onto the pin, and there's no impact—no shot.

Accepting the fact that the rifle has to be triggered, we had to work out a way to trigger it with something other than Chuck's finger. My drawing (Left column, page 20) shows how it was done. The setscrew installed through the trigger guard part of the lever can be adjusted to strike and trip the trigger at exactly the right time—provided, of course, that the trigger action is adjusted properly to work right under this kind of triggering. This is a ticklish job, made more so by the fact that the rifle must be convertible to normal manual operation simply by retracting the screw out of contact with the trigger. But it was done,

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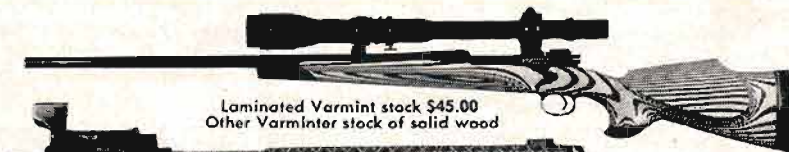


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and the results speak for themselves.

Another problem which looks simple until you try it is that trick Chuck uses of swing-cocking the rifle. Did you think that the looped lever was all that was needed for that maneuver? It isn't. Take an "as is" rifle and swing it as Chuck does, and the rifle is upside down at the very instant the to-be-loaded cartridge is released to slide into the chamber. What happens? The cartridge falls in the dirt and you come down with an unloaded rifle.

My drawing (top column, page 21) shows the solution. A spring-loaded plunger is installed, which works in and out above the chamber and acts as a cartridge stop when the rifle is in its upside down position. It looks simple now, but it didn't look so simple when the pencil first touched the drawing board. Anyway, it works; and now Chuck can rapid-fire his .44 Winchester without danger to his hands, and he can swing-cock and spin-cock it without losing a cartridge.

What is swing-cocking, and how is it done? Swing-cocking is one of the many ways to cock a rifle with one hand. The rifle is held in the position shown second from top, page 21, about waist high. The barrel is allowed to drop, causing the stock to rise out of the hand, with three fingers holding the lever at what would be the hub of a forward spin. When the rifle is upside down and the well-known click reports that the cocking action is completed (third from top) the rifle is forcibly swung back to its original position horizontal and is ready to fire. This cocking maneuver can be done with the regular rectangular lever as well as with the loop.

Another maneuver which Chuck uses at the beginning of every "Rifleman" episode is spin-cocking. Here the rifle needs the doughnut loop.

In this picturesque bit of gun legerdemain, the rifle is held so that the forearm is parallel to the ground. Three fingers inside the loop force it down and forward while tilting the

barrel upward. The thumb and trigger finger must both be straight (Bottom, p. 21). The rifle is forced into a back spin, using the loop as a hub. The muzzle of the rifle should pass close to the arm-pit and move in a circle to the front. Grasp the loop when the flat side comes back into its original position and, when the stock settles into your hand, you have completed the spin-cocking maneuver. This is very hard to do with a stock rifle with the regular rectangular lever, since only one finger, the ring finger, must spin the rifle; but it can be done.

Connors' rifle can also be fanned. Fanning revolvers is strictly Hollywood stuff; none of the real gunfighters used it in combat, with good reason. The primary reason is that, when you are trying to hold a revolver dead on a target, slapping the gun hard enough to knock the hammer back is not exactly conducive to accurate aim. You can learn to fan with fair accuracy, with enough practice; but it is a complicated two-handed operation at best, one which can easily go wrong. When you are shooting for keeps as the old timers were, you use the simple, sure-fire methods.

Fanning the rifle makes at least a little more sense than fanning a six-gun, since it can be held more firmly, is less easy to knock out of line. First, lever a shell into the chamber. Then ease the hammer down. Now, with trigger held back and the buttstock braced between forearm and hip, fan the hammer back with the other hand. I don't know what advantage you could possibly gain by this method of shooting—but it's showy, and Hollywood likes showy things.

The things Connors does with his rifle are showy too, but don't let that fool you—Chuck is a rifleman as well as a fancy rifle handler. He fires blanks for TV, naturally; but he can amaze you also with live ammo, whether rapid fire or with deliberate sighting. He's fast; and he hits what he shoots at—which is the point of all shooting as well as the point of "The Rifleman" stories.

**BAD DESIGN? FAKE WALKER? X-RAY IT!**  
(Continued from page 23)

hand, the firing pin block travels to the rear and moves the hammer into the cocked position. When the slide is released, the compressed recoil spring brings slide and block (which are attached together) forward and places a cartridge in the chamber. After the first shot is fired, the gun operates as a simple blowback type of semi-automatic pistol. Magazine is single line, box type, holding seven cartridges. Weight is approximately 12 ounces, and overall length is 4 9/16 inches. (Radiograph was taken with 140 Kilovolts, 5 milliamperes, 30 seconds exposure or operating time.)

For studying automatic arms in motion, both still and moving X-ray photos are helpful.

The M-38 double-action .32 semi-auto pistol by J. P. Sauer & Sohn, Suhl, Germany, always had a tendency to "jam." Several gunsmiths had unsuccessfully tried to remedy the difficulty. The cause of the "jamming" was revealed by X-ray photography. The recoil spring was defective. The spring coils around the barrel were unevenly spaced, causing friction jamming. This distortion may have been caused by excessive strains during firing, or by excessive displacements during assembly or disassembly, probably the latter.

The barrel and receiver of this gun are

one piece, firmly pinned together. To disassemble, the slide must be pulled back, and up, to disengage it from the grooves in the receiver. The process applies excessive amounts of distortion to the recoil spring. This method of disassembly is a poor design feature, complicated by the fact the coil spring is wound on a taper, with the narrow end forced over the barrel first, but often removed and put back wrong, causing the spring wire to kink.

The triggering system of this double-action weapon is complex. The X-ray shows the articulation, or knuckle type junction, between hammer and circular main spring (in handle).

In the Sauer M-38 when the hammer (inside rear part of slide) is in the rest, or lowered position, it does not rest on the firing pin block. This splendid safety feature helps prevent accidental discharge. This pistol cannot be fired, even though a cartridge may be in the firing chamber, when the magazine is removed from the handle. The slide remains closed after the last shot has been fired. Magazine is single line, box type, holding eight cartridges. Weight of pistol is approximately 26 ounces, and overall length slightly less than 6 1/2 inches. (Radiograph was taken with 140 Kilovolts, 5 milliamperes, operating for 35 seconds.)

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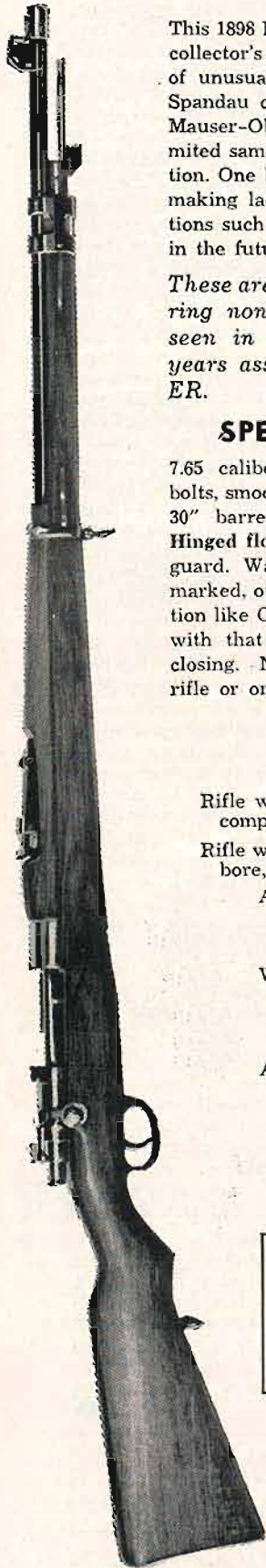
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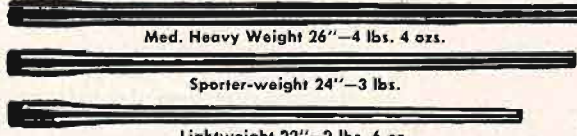
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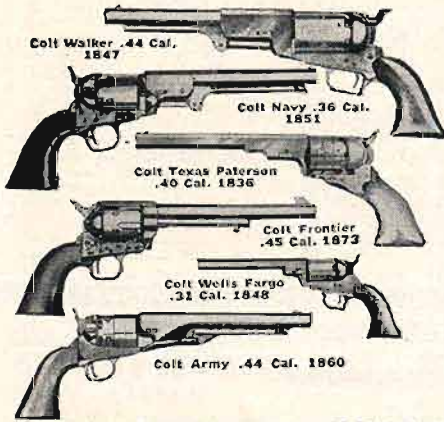
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Another shadowgraph pictures a standard Colt semi-automatic pistol, caliber .45 ACP. The recoil spring is underneath the barrel, characteristic of most Colt and Browning pistols. The turns of the recoil spring are uniformly spaced. Contrast this with the defective recoil spring shown around the barrel of the .32 Sauer pistol.

Apparatus was arranged so X-rays could be used to study the motions of the recoil spring and recoil spring guide. However, grip safety, hammer strut, sear spring, sear, and slide stop release are visible in this picture. Rib locking grooves in slide and ribs on barrel are barely visible at the top of gun.

When a shot is fired from a .45 automatic, the expanding gases exert a thrust of approximately 2250 pounds against the base area of the bullet, driving it forward through the barrel. A back pressure pushes against the breechblock causing the barrel and slide to move to the rear. This back motion unlocks the barrel from the slide, ejects the empty cartridge case, pushes the hammer back to cock it for the next round, and compresses the recoil spring. The recoil spring compresses neatly and uniformly, and the spring guide centers the spring with respect to the retaining plug. This is an excellent design.

After the last shot is fired, the slide is locked open. This happens because the magazine spring pushes up on the magazine follower until a projecting segment on the slide lock catches in a notch in the moving slide. All these parts and their relations one to the other can be seen in successive photos during the firing cycle. Rib locking grooves in the slide are easier to see when the slide

is locked open.

Radiographs are useful in identifying collectors items and exposing "fake replicas." In a representative case, a collector wanted to know if a cap-and-ball gun bearing the name "Col. Sam'l Colt" and serial number 132, and apparently made in the early 1860s, was an original. Radiographs of the gun were made and checked against design features of other Colts. A radiograph which helped prove that the gun was an original shows the barrel and ramrod assembly conformed to similar, genuine Colts. The front sight, which was made of brass, did not show in the radiograph, because strong X-rays penetrate thin brass very easily. But a check-up revealed that the front sights of similar Colts (but bearing later serial numbers) were made of the same material. The inside design of the spring loaded catch that held the ramrod in place underneath the barrel matched that of other Colts. This ordinarily could not be checked without damage to the lever latch by disassembling. The functioning of the pivoting mechanism of the ramrod was like that of similar Colts. However, as a light grey area in the picture showed, this particular pivot had a great amount of "free play." Subsequent investigation indicated that this was due, partly, to wear—and that this Colt, bearing serial number 132, had seen considerable service in its day as a "Peace Maker" in the southwest.

X-rays can reveal frauds, too. Welding up either a name stamping, such as the word "replica," to create a "Confederate Colt" can be revealed by the penetrating Gamma rays. In checking so-called squareback guard Army Colts, of the 1860 model with cornered trigger guard like the 1847-52 run of production, the brazing at the corner where the round guard was cut, reshaped, and fitted together, is revealed under the surface plating. "Stretching" the barrel of a Dragon to make a fake Walker model can be detected where the extra piece of welded-on barrel is seen as a shadowy extension in the radiograph. Perhaps more important than any other special use of the X-ray, is its importance in the final analysis of a suspected fake revolver.

Recent intense interest in ammunition collecting has also brought the X-ray into play. Certain bullets such as the "B-Patrone" German service projectile are explosive, but of interest to advanced cartridge collectors. Sectioning one for display is dangerous, but an X-ray will reveal the bullet structure just as well. The lead core stops the radiation, prints differently from the cuproalloys of case and bullet jacket. Projectile design can be studied without destruction of a valuable specimen, and subtle comparisons of shape made, as in the case of various Armor Piercing core types. Radiographs have settled collectors' arguments about unidentified smooth-headed cartridge cases, as to whether they were rimfire or some hitherto unknown type of inside-primed centerfire.

A good look inside a gun and its cartridge can be had by the use of X-ray photography. The X-ray has come far from its moment of discovery in 1895 but, considering that Dr. Roentgen pictured a shotgun among the first to fall under his strange "camera," we can hardly claim its uses were not foreseen.

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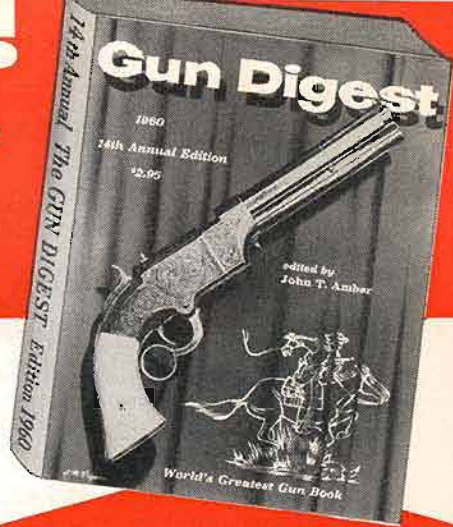
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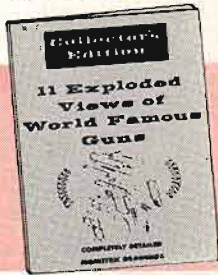


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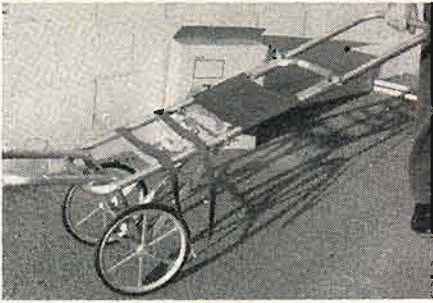
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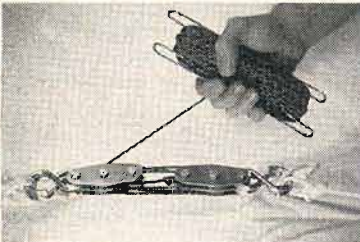


**TOTE-CHAIR** gives sportsmen a chance to conserve their strength. Fits snugly into knapsack and weighs less than 7 lbs. Makes a comfortable seat for sportsman as he waits along the trail. Sturdy, dependable, easy to assemble for carrying big game. Can be used as litter in case of accident, for transporting canoes, outboard motors, camping packs, logs, scout hikes, for fishermen, and campers. Picnic table box also available. Deluxe Tote-Chair model No. 25 has 12" U Shape piece to extend over wheels end, also rubber tires, new design pin lock, red canvas seat, two 48" heavy red straps, and red Knap-Sack. It lists for \$34.95. Manufactured by Tote and Chair Products Co., P. O. Box 176, Hanover, Pa.

**MULTI-GAUGE SHOTGUN BARREL TUBES** originally developed for skeet shooters, now used extensively by hunters in the field. Tubes slip into barrels of shotgun to convert it to smaller gauge. With tubes, a 12-gauge over and under or side by side can be converted to 20, 28, or 410 gauge. Two different gauges may be used simultaneously, or shooter can convert to another gauge or back to the original—without structural



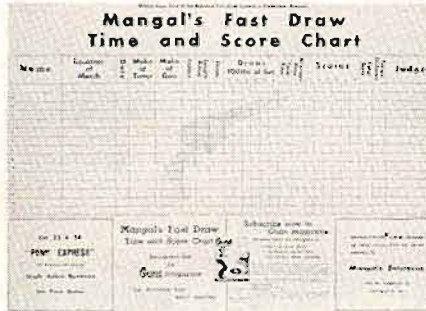
change of the gun. Tubes made of high strength aluminum alloy anodized to give a hardness of about 65 Rockwell C, with extreme abrasion resistance. Multi-Gauge tubes provide advantages of an equivalent number of complete guns without the bulk or weight of multiple guns. Tubes are manufactured by Ekwall Corp., P.O. Box 307, Monrovia, Calif.



**GAME HOISTS** for deer hunters make light work of heavy lifting. Constructed of lightweight aluminum, with molded nylon pulleys and super strong nylon cord and slings. Fits easily in coat pocket. Model No. 7 (illustrated) has 7 to 1 advantage, 80 ft. cord, 1000 lbs. max. capacity, priced at \$9.95, ppd. Model No. 3 has 3 pulleys, 40 ft. cord, is priced at \$5.95, ppd. A product of Dunaway & Co., Dept. G-5, P. O. Box 4961, Dallas 6, Texas.



**FISHING SPOONS** in set of six, red and white colored, offered for 99c by The Conrad Company, Dept. S-14, Box 989, Minneapolis, Minn. Lure has been well-known stand-by for years, and is available in choice of sizes: large, medium, small or assorted.



**MANGAL'S FAST DRAW TIME AND SCORE CHART** enables gun enthusiasts to improve their draws, scores, and time. Chart is designed for use at personal and daily performances, as well as for local and national fast draw events. Chart measures a convenient 19 x 14 inches, will permit use of either pen or pencil. Pads consist of 50 charts, available at \$1.25 per pad. Mangal's Chart selected by the fast draw committee as official scoring chart for all National Fast Draw Contests held in Tombstone, Arizona. Manufactured by Mangal's Enterprise, 4133 W. Harrison St., Chicago 24, Ill.



**T-20 PREDATOR CALL** in steady demand by hunters seeking year-round sport. The T-20 produces a high-pitched distress call, simulating the cry of rabbits, and other small game, often tracked by foxes, coyotes, wolves and bobcat. It is an orally-operated call, made of hard rubber. Increased production of the Predator Call in 1960 has been announced by the manufacturer, the Philip S. Olt Company, Pekin, Illinois.

**FOLDING TOASTER** will delight hunters and all outdoorsmen. Makes delicious golden brown toast outdoors with old time flavor on open flame of camp stove, charcoal grill, or camp fire. Can be used in cabins, at home on gas range. Priced at \$1.00 postpaid from R. Laacke Company, 1027 W. Walnut St., Milwaukee 5, Wis.



**THERMO-SERV Insulated Tumbler Sets** sure to delight sportsmen with attractive wildlife scenes, and high thermal qualities. Tumblers end messy, damaging moisture condensation. "One piece" construction allows them to be washed in any standard dish-washer. Assorted Deer, Geese and Muskie designs. Cannot impart a "metallic" taste to either hot or cold beverages. Beautifully gift packaged with "Jewel Plated Goldtone" carrying caddy. From the Thermo-Serv Sportsman Series manufactured by N.F.C. Engineering Company of Anoka, Minn.

**HANKER TO TANGLE** with a Bengal tiger? Air France, in cooperation with Outdoor Vacations, Inc., offers 10 "package" trips including round-trip air transportation from New York with hunts of various lengths, ranging from the northern Himalayas to the teeming forests of southern India. Prices start at \$2,200, go up to \$3,500. But, like everything else, a tiger shikar can be purchased on the installment plan. For 10 percent down, you can bag your tiger, pay for it while your guests admire the striped rug in your den. Pick up free a folder at your Air France office, or from your local travel agent; or write Outdoors Inc., 103 Guitar Bldg., Columbia, Mo.



**GUN CLEANING KIT** designed to fit all guns, rifles, pistols, and shotguns, all calibers, all gauges, introduced by Marble Arms Corp., Gladstone, Mich. 3-piece jointed brass cleaning rod featured in metal case kit. Special joint construction makes it rigid as a one-piece rod. Two rod tips included, one for rifles and pistols, the other with a special adaptor for shotguns. Also included in kit is assortment of highest quality flannel cleaning patches, Nitro-Solvent Oil that cleans and oils in one operation, Kleens-Easy Cloth for rust removal, and Gun Blue.

# WITH Guns



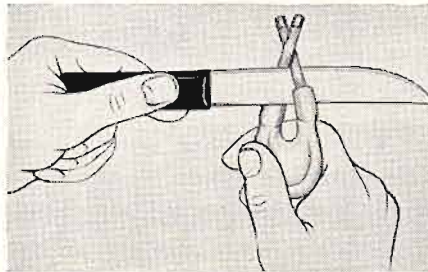
**DERINGER MODEL KIT.** Ultimate in realistic gun model kits, this antique genuine metal and wood Deringer pocket pistol sells at only \$9.95 on do-it-yourself basis. Easily assembled, pre-inletted walnut stock requires only slight fitting. Pistol is a handsome decorator, ideal for collectors, or as an eye-catching desk weight, at a fraction of the value of a real Deringer. Similar to gun used to assassinate President Lincoln in 1865, famous Deringer is part of America's history. Overall just five inches; barrel two inches long. From J & E Models, 1683 Stewart Ave., Dept. G-5, New Hyde Park, N. Y.



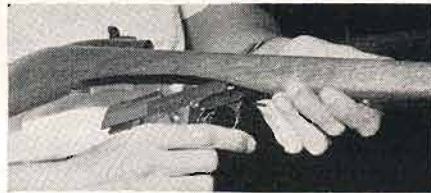
**SPORTSMAN'S ELECTRIC SOCKS** all wool with reinforced nylon heel and toe with the warming wires sewn into the portion of sock. Socks operate on two standard six volt lantern battery, collaborated to provide 110 degrees of heat. Batteries carried in case on hunter's belt. Available in men's sizes 10, 11, 12, and 13 only. Retail for \$14.95 postpaid. A popular item with hunters, ice fishermen and all outdoors people. Electric Socks manufactured by Taylor Sales Company, 226 W. Wayne Ave., Wayne, Penn.



**COLT AUTOMATIC REPLICAS** in miniature of world-famous model, finished in gleaming chrome with realistic knurled black butts, introduced by The Hubley Mfg. Co., Lancaster, Pa. Most recent addition to authorized line of toy Colt cap pistols manufactured by the firm. Cap pistol shoots single caps and has a removable bullet clip and six play bullets. Detailed die casting shows authentic Colt markings. Measures five inches in length, retails for \$1.00.



**"UNIVERSAL" KNIFE AND SCISSORS SHARPENER** is a useful, practical sportsman's tool that will quickly sharpen all kinds of fishing knives such as pocket knives, fillet knives, and similar types. Sharpener can also be used on dull points of fish-hooks. Small enough to fit any tackle box or vest pocket. Enables hunters to sharpen their knives to a keen cutting edge. An ideal tool for all outdoorsmen, offered by mail only for \$1.00 postpaid, with money-back guarantee. From Outdoor Sports Products, Box 35, Vanderveer Sta., Brooklyn 10, N. Y.



**PISTOL-CARBINE** outfit dubbed "Combo" is handsome, versatile .22 LR sporter, developed by Firearms International Corp., Dept. RM, Washington 22, D. C. Woods weapon consists of complete pistol with removable barrel, permitting pistol machinery to be inserted into stock-barrel assembly to make a semi-auto rifle. Sells for \$64.95. Combo is "two for price of one." Shift from rifle to pistol or vice-versa takes a few seconds. Pistol is Unique Model L, available separately at lower price if only pistol is wanted.



**NEW "CARTRIDGE" CONCEPT** in cabinet and den hardware recently announced by Supra-Lyte Inc., Box 1524, Mansfield, Ohio. .30-06 and 50 cal. cartridge replicas give unique cabinet hardware completely masculine touch for use on gun cabinets, in dens, and offices. Flush and  $\frac{3}{8}$ " inset hinges, handles and gun cradle brackets available in solid, highly polished brass. Easily adapted for new or replacement installation.

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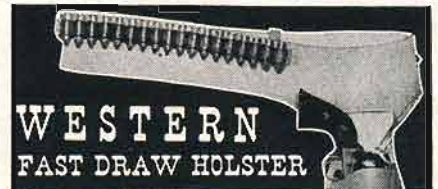
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is on page 52

## HOLSTERS, CASES, CABINETS

(See also pages 59, 44, 61, 62)

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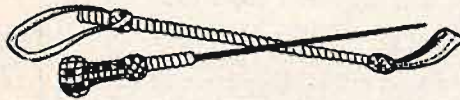
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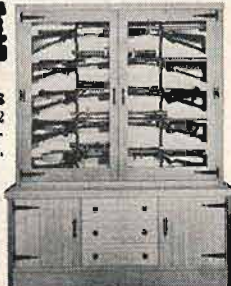
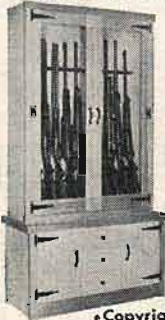
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### BB PRACTICE FOR ELEPHANT

(Continued from page 28)

giant head swings sideways. He's suspicious; he's heard us. We freeze. There is no room for a clear shot; two trees cover his quarters. Funny; the forest seemed so open.

The big head swings forward and the massive bulk is set in motion again. He doesn't see us. What a difference between the awesome frontal appearance as he turned, and the enormous, wrinkled pair of baggy trousers sagging along ahead of us now! We follow. The distance lessens, but he still manages to put trees between him and us. But there's a clear patch ahead which the elephant must cross. I hurry, and beckon you up beside me. Then, deliberately, I kick some dry leaves underfoot. The big bull halts and swings broadside, head high, listening.

"Now!" I whisper. The bull catches the movement as you raise your rifle. The piggy eye dilates and a small upward movement of the massive head presages flight. "Shoot!" I tell you. Fighting your madly racing heart, you are doing your utmost to hold your weaving rifle steady. The elephant's head is swinging, and I think, "This might be a wounded elephant." Your shot crashes out. The bull's head jerks with the impact of the heavy slug, but he stays on his feet. It is a wounded elephant! You shoot again. The dust puffs off the big head, but the bull is still on his feet and on the move . . . I've got a chore to do.

Imagine another hunt, this time after smaller quarry. The country is dry and fairly open with low, scattered thorn bush giving the only cover. A herd of oryx is up ahead. The gunbearers have been left behind—the fewer people to show themselves in this sort of country the better. As we get closer, the stalking becomes more difficult. The bushes are too low to allow an upright stance, and

the quick movements from bush to bush, bent double, have you puffing. I can't help you; the oryx are feeding along, and we must hurry or they will be gone. I lead you on one last quick dash of some thirty yards, knees bumping against our chests.

As you sink thankfully to your knees at the last bush, you're winded. A swarm of small native bees seeking the salt from your perspiration will not get away from your eyes. There is no hole through which you can poke your rifle; you will have to move out past the skimpy edge of the thorn bush, to get your shot. When you do, the oryx will see you. There won't be much time.

You edge over as carefully as you can, trying to get set in a firing position. A thorn sings into your hand. Up jerk the heads of the oryx—they see you! That bull third from the left is a beauty. Those blasted bees! . . . Damm that thorn! . . . The rifle swings up into line . . . The cow next to the bull turns away. The bull moves his head, his ears flick, he twitches his tail, he is about to go. You shoot. . . The herd stampedes, and the bull with them. . .

You had a lot to contend with: the heat, your racing pulse, the bees, the thorn, the knowledge that the feeding oryx would run—a lot of pressure; pressure that you never dreamt about back home when you were coolly plunking shots into the target.

Excitement when about to get a shot is nearly always there. It varies with the individual. The physical exertion of the stalk is often inevitable—one can easily lose a good trophy by stalking too slowly. Pressure mounts when the shooter finds the only available cover is anything but ideal—an awkward slope of the ground, grass a little too high, brush a little thick—it's never perfect. The point is, something has been done by the hunter to prepare for this pressure. He must practice *under pressure*—back home—long before his hunt starts.

Excitement—"buck fever"—is common to most of us. The boys who show up best in controlling it are those with plenty of hunting experience behind them. There are a few, very few, who do not get this fever. I knew one visitor, a white-haired ramrod of 72 years, who, as he coolly dropped trophy after trophy, said, "I don't see why hunters have trouble getting this game. Most of it just sets there and looks at you." To offset him, a Continental gentleman who went on safari with a friend of mine, fired 87 shots and managed to hit two animals. The first, a Grevy zebra standing broadside, was hit in the offside rear hoof. The second, an impala, was killed instantly with a perfect neck shot at 328 paces, off-hand, with every rear-sight leaf lying flat along the barrel! The man then had the cheek to say, "There! That's what I've been telling you all along I can do."

As a safari progresses, most hunters steady down and turn in reasonable—some, excellent—shooting. But I feel that all hunters could shoot better if they gave more thought to their practice. The only fellow out hunting who holds his rifle practically rock steady is one who is hunting game at which he shoots from great distances—varmints for instance—and has time to organize a rest as good as a bench rest. At those distances, buck fever does not bother much.

A good white hunter will try to help the shooter. A start can be made when stalking if, but only if, conditions allow a slow stalk

to cut the physical exertion to a minimum. But ideal slow stalking conditions for the species hunted may not turn up. Again, when the shooting spot has been reached, the white hunter, with a few careful slashes of his hunting knife, will cut away the twig which is casting a blur across the scope, or the thorn that pricks the sportsman. The white hunter may try to do something about his client's excessive supply of adrenalin, too; but there is really little he can do. To keep the sportsman calm he may be told the game they are tracking "appears" to be a long way off yet. Some men seem to handle themselves better with such short notice. Others, if the quarry allows, do better taking matters slowly. Most successful is to have the game come to the hunter when he has been made comfortable and has a rest from which to shoot. This can sometimes be done, as when hunting leopard—but not always.

However, the help a white hunter can give is limited and is a negative approach to the problem. The start has to be made back home, by the sportsman by practicing when "under pressure."

To sharpen up my own shooting, I always take a .22 small bore repeater on safari with me. After a practice session with it, I finished off dry firing with my heavy rifle. (In a hunting camp, it is often unwise to make much noise with heavier rifles and some people, by practicing a lot with a heavy rifle, find later they have had practice at flinching—not at hitting the target.)

I used the .22 initially to practice shots where I would pretend I was being charged by some animal coming at me from an awkward angle. A quick but accurate shot was desired. A small mark on a convenient tree would be noted; then I would walk past at varying angles and distances and, on giving myself a signal, would whirl and fire, turning either right or left. Practicing alone had the disadvantage of knowing when to turn. With a companion to call the signal, trying to catch you on the wrong foot, and trying to better your score or group, the practice becomes much more interesting. "Pressures" are being applied.

To prevent too slow a shot, which would enable the shooter to beat the other's group, a time limit between signal and shot can be imposed. This adds more pressure. Accuracy is counted before speed, so the shooter with the smallest group is the winner. An accurate shot made too late does not count. When the groups become small and all shots are fired within the time limit, a smaller target can be selected. Hits only are counted. It is much harder to make a hit with each shot, within the time limit, with your friend's loud voice calling off the seconds to add an extra bit of pressure. Two or three consecutive hits by the opponent makes you try harder and adds more pressure.

Variations were used. One of the best is to set up three small stones or pegs of wood some twenty-odd paces away, which the shooter has to hit within ten seconds. The shooter must walk broadside, at an angle, away from, or toward the targets, and must shoot on call. He knows where the targets are, but does not know when the call will come. Knowing his "friend" will try to upset him by calling at the worst possible instant, he is already under "pressure." The command of "shoot," the loud counting voice, the working of the bolt and realigning of the sights, and the competitive spirit of the

practice make one tense and you must concentrate really hard to steady the waving rifle and quickly ease off accurate shots.

While the off-hand position is most important and should be practiced most, the sitting and kneeling positions should also be practiced—but always with the accent on speed: speed in getting into position, and speed in letting the shot off accurately. Prone shooting is not used a great deal in Africa, or in most other big game hunting either. Anyway, it is the position most people need to practice least.

This type of practice has helped me, and my friends, to shoot accurately quickly. To my mind, this kind of practice is of more practical use in Africa and in all big game hunting than the normal, slow, target-range practice.

Most hunters can find in or around their own homes at least 30 feet of clear space at one end of which a target can be placed—maybe in the basement or backyard—and where it is safe to use a pellet gun. Yes, a pellet gun. Buy plenty of pellets, and get a really keen friend to compete with you. For targets, use 50 foot small bore cards. These will keep a record of your improvement.

First, find out how accurate your pellet-gun is, so there will be no excuses. Start off with a few walking steps, safety on, and at the friend's call of "shoot," whirl and fire. Try a group of three within ten seconds with

(Continued on page 63)

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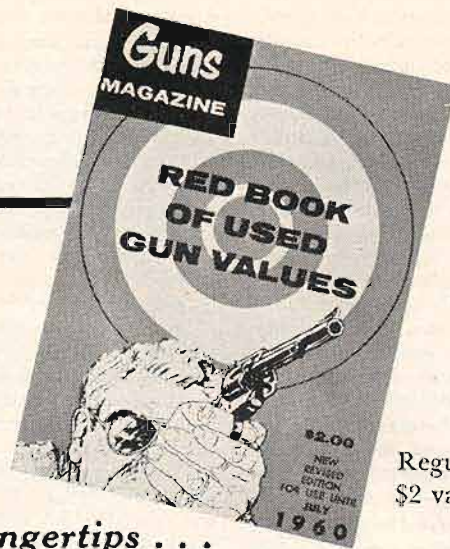
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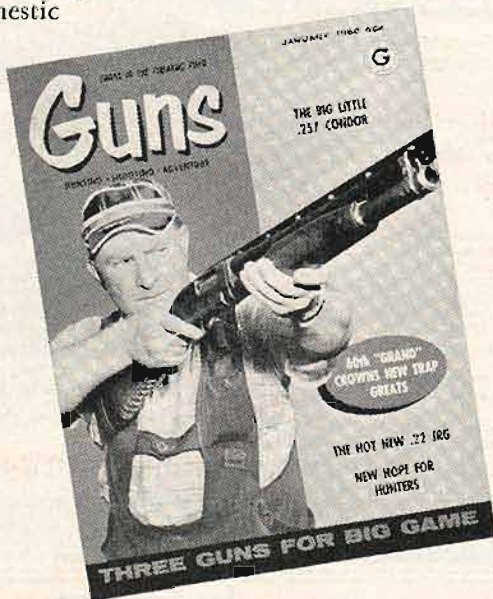
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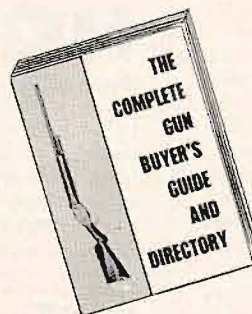
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(Continued from page 61)

your friend calling off the second count. Then let the friend have a try, and put the pressure on him. Now try this: Remember my mention of palpitations and madly waving rifle barrels? The closest one can get to that at home is by violent physical exercise. If your target is in the basement, on your friend's command of "Go," run, taking the pell-gun with you, up the stairs, out the back door, around the house, and down to the basement again. As you come gasping through the door, he calls "shoot!" and follows with a loud count of three seconds. How did you do then? Don't break your neck! And don't worry about what your neighbors think.

Think up another way to get your chest heaving, other ways to apply "pressure." Go back to whirling and shooting, shooting quickly, and always under "pressure." Once you do well under these conditions, hunting

conditions will seem much easier.

Practice too with a rig simulating intervening tree branches and you shooting from an awkward position. The accent should be on speed with best possible accuracy for here, at practice, speed is necessary to teach you to fire as best you can with a rifle that is not behaving the way you would like it to. On safari, the accent will be on accuracy with what speed you can apply; and where conditions are easy, you will be able to show what really good shooting is like.

It is all up to you how great that improvement will be. It depends on how conscientiously you practice. When you tire, ask yourself how much you want that trophy. You will be tired then, too. Now, tired costs you a missed target. Then, tired may cost you a wasted trip and a lifetime's disappointment.

## PULL!

(Continued from page 6)

of government, including Coast Guard arms training schools. The trap and skeet ranges will be humming during the Colt-Indiana University Second Annual International Combat Pistol Match to be held at Bloomington June 10-12. Many law enforcement officers from three or more nations will be sharpening their skeet and trap eyes while not squadded on the PPC pistol range near-by. Last year, police pistol teams from Canada and Puerto Rico sampled skeet for the first time, and found the game much to their liking.

\* \* \*

The Northwest Skeet Association, with headquarters in Minneapolis, has reached out for Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and South Dakota territory, and added Jay Schatz for Illinois, Duward Staples for Iowa, Ed Scherer for Wisconsin, and Lester Rienertson for South Dakota to the association's directorate. The Northwest Skeet Association's championships will be decided at the St. Paul Rod & Gun Club, July 9-10.

\* \* \*

To our earlier announcement heralding the Micro Trap Range of Dirks-Beath, Inc., at Las Cruces, New Mexico, we add the word that skeet will join the trap lay-out soon, for a fully rounded shooting program. . . . Pardner Tellyer's Micro Trap Range monthly newsletter is a welcome and chatty addition to our mail, and one worthy of copying by other gun clubs. It's full of names, dates, places, times and tidbits.

\* \* \*

The Gary Country Club, home base for such perennially tough skeet gunners as John Tuckek, has added a second skeet field to accommodate increased skeet interest at the Steel City club. The Gary club is the adopted base of operations for such comers in the skeet game as Jim Foster and Paul Brown of near-by Crown Point. Gary C.C. hosted the Lake County Skeet Shoot in 1959, co-promoted by the Gary "Post-Tribune," which drew 87 entries.

\* \* \*

Ft. Benning, Ga. Preparations are nearing completion at Ft. Benning for Army's entry into the field of competitive trap shooting, says Major Gene S. Stalcup, former Georgia shotgun champion. The U. S. Continental Army Command's call for skilled shotguns has resulted in a number of applications for tryouts for the newly organized Olympic clay target squad of the Army's Advanced

Marksmanship Unit. Twenty-five potential competitors will be selected for tryouts which will create a six man Olympic team.

Shooters accustomed to the American clay target games will find that "something new has been added" when they try the Olympic type of shooting. Where American traps are required to send the clay birds out for a minimum of 52 yards, international rules call for slimmer discs thrown at higher speed to carry a minimum of 72 yards.

Major Stalcup also reports formation of a Ft. Benning Trap and Skeet Club, to become active in the near future.

Major Stalcup won the Georgia State 12 gauge championship in 1950, the .410 gauge crown in 1951; has since added the All-Service 12 gauge championship, to his list of honors.

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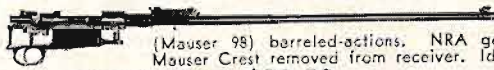
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## GUN RACK

(Continued from page 12)

shot as well as ball to be fired: "a smooth-bore rifle." These arms appeared in Ohio, and my old friend Howard Barlow's grandfather, Jesse Barlow, used to make them. In the lake area of Pennsylvania and upstate New York, either as singles, side-by-sides, or over-unders, the "smoothbore rifles" had their turn in history. Ithaca's slim, carbine-like pump shotgun is the modern deer- and bear-busting counterpart of a less known but quite traditional American sporting arm. And as I looked at the proportions of the 20-gauge repeater, built on the M37 Feather-light lines, I wondered how much more it would cost to put a .45 bored 20-gauge blank on that action to get a .45-70 or (not impossible with redesign) a .458 pump repeater.

Ithaca, by the way, has a new set-up in which they deliver direct to dealers. Ithaca is the latest (H & R, Colt) to break away from the jobber distribution plan. Described by President Shelly Smith as "the most dynamic package in Ithaca's 80 years of gunsmithing," the new sales set-up involves franchised dealers in all areas, assuring you of top service.

There are rumors of more "new-s" coming out of Ithaca soon. GUNS will keep you informed.

### Colt's First AR-15s Come Off Line

Sam Colt's life-long search for firepower was answered for sure with the recent acceptance testing of the new Colt Armalite AR-15. Manufactured within the Colt plant at Hartford, the new rifle is improved over prototype No. 1, written up in "Gun Rack" a year ago. The cocking handle is now on the back of the receiver, and the gun is even more dust and dirt proof than before.

The Armalite Fairchild symbol of a flying horse seems an age-old allegory come true and with this "airage" light .223" rifle, the rampant colt takes wings. New caliber designation is a happy medium between .224" Winchester Military and .222 Remington Special, both experimental cartridges preceding the Colt regular production run guns. A lot of 5,500,000 cartridges was recently made up on a friendly power foreign order, along with a test bolt action rifle. The friendly foreign power has ordered some thousands of AR-15 rifles. The ammunition was available and shipped first, along with one commercial sporter to test the stuff. The country involved has strict gun-import laws, and the police nearly flipped when they saw the import license for *five and one half million rounds of cartridges and only one rifle!*

Colt's AR-15 weighs 5 pounds 11 ounces, fires semi and full auto, takes 20-shot detachable magazines, is quite accurate in spite of its light barrel, and can be obtained with grenade-launching adaptations. Cooper-Macdonald, Inc. of Baltimore, Md. are agents for international sales. As a police rifle, especially when fitted with a scope, it would be ideal. A semi-auto version will also be available for open sale in the U.S.

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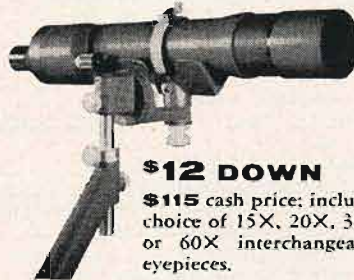
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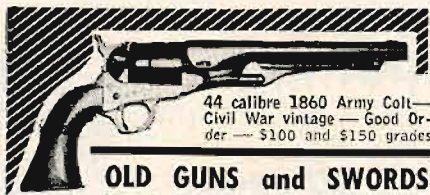
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## ELMER KEITH SAYS

(Continued from page 9)

its killing range out as far as the full choke barrel, it is a far more uniform and even killer up to 50 yards, for most gunners, than is the full choke gun. A good full choke should go 70 to 85 per cent, and usually, in these days of folded crimp and hard shot, most of them will do 75 to 80 per cent. With a good full choke there is a very dense center, and usually most of the shot will be in a 24" pattern, with a thin fringe of shot around this center. The expert will kill with the full choke to far longer range than he would with a modified pattern, but by the same token the average shot will hit and kill more regularly under 50 yards with a modified pattern. That even 30" spread with no dense center and no holes is one of the most killing patterns possible for the average gunner, and birds are not shot up as badly as when centered with a full choke pattern. For decoyed ducks as well as close range jump shooting on creeks and much upland work, the modified choke is the best bet for the average gunner.

## Heavy .270 Bullet

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These heavy bullets are much better in the .270 Winchester cartridge than anything lighter for brush and timber shooting where some raking shots are apt to be all that is available, and also for any shooting with this small bore on heavier game. I have never used nor recommended a .270 for elk, moose, or big bear, although others do. In 30 years of big-game guiding, I have seen the little cartridge fail many times even on mule deer, black bear, and goat, and I have never recommended any bullet lighter than 250 grains nor a caliber under .33 for the larger American species.

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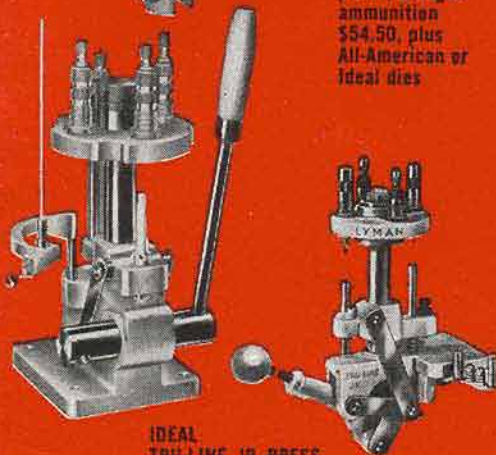
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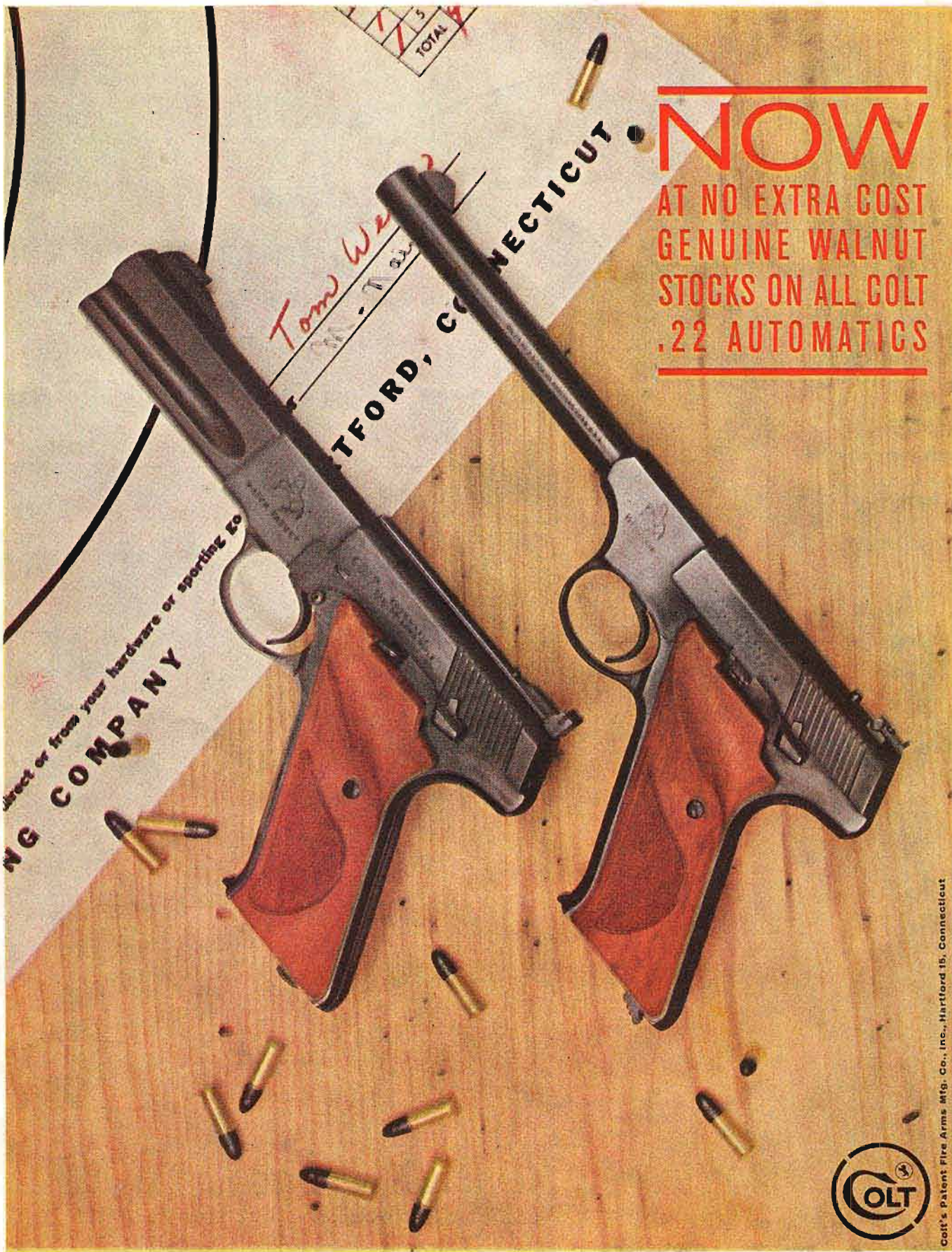
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