

NOVEMBER 1965 50c

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# Guns

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VIET WAR?**

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# KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS

### Congressman Herbert Tenzer 5th Dist., New York

I support legislation which would place reasonable controls on the irresponsible use of firearms while protecting the rights of sportsmen and responsible citizens. Amendments are being drawn up to remove antique firearms and bona fide big game guns from restrictions in the bill. Sportsmen and law-abiding gun owners need not fear the passage of the bill.

### Hervey G. Machen 5th Dist., Maryland

I have always opposed legislation that would unduly restrict ownership and use of firearms by citizens. However, in my opinion the right of the people to keep and bear arms is not infringed by reasonable regulations on the sale of pistols. Pistols in the hands of irresponsible people can and do cause tragic loss of life. For this reason, I would support adequate controls providing they do not interfere with the legitimate use of firearms.



### Congressman Teno Roncalio Wyoming



Universal shock over the brutal assassination of President John F. Kennedy and mounting concern over crime's grip on our society has prompted legislation to limit the traffic in guns, hoping in some way to disarm those violent men who threaten peace and order. This well-intentioned motive has unfortunately been directed into legislation that will not loose that grip, but can even strengthen it.

The Dodd bill, as it now stands, is a clear threat to private ownership of firearms. It is a virtual "Pandora's Box" whose stumbling blocks will emerge as the government invades an area where it promises to do little good,

but can, in fact, do much harm.

I can appreciate the pressures put upon my colleagues to support legislation to render ineffectual the threat of those violent criminals who daily make the headlines, but this legislation will not eliminate this threat . . . only heighten it.

Laws are observed by the law-abiding. And while hunters, sportsmen and collectors will observe the letter of the law, does this mean that these criminals would? Is this not unilateral disarmament? The security and safety that metropolitan residents are demanding cannot be purchased at this price . . . the virtual surrender of the right to keep and bear arms.

Certainly my colleagues will agree that there are more basic, more realistic, more workable solutions that can be applied to this problem. I am therefore going to strive to the best of my ability to prevent this legislation's passage. Instead of aiming the energies and talents of our legislative and executive branches into the means by which men commit crime, I propose we delve into the reasons men commit crime and the lives of the criminals themselves.

The understanding Senator Dodd has shown on problems of juvenile delinquency can bring better fruits than a bill against guns. When we move into the causes that bring men to use a gun against his fellow man, we will be doing a better job of "promoting the general welfare of the country" without infringing upon the principles of personal freedom that are the base of this general welfare.

Readers Note: All *Congressmen* may be addressed at "House Office Building," and all *Senators* at "Senate Office Building," both at "Washington 25, D.C." Address all *Governors* at: State Capital, name of capital city, name of State.

# Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

NOVEMBER, 1965

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### THE COVER

Few of us are lucky enough to win a free mountain lion hunt, but NIRA rifle champ, Bob Utter, did just that. On our cover, he looks down on his first Utah mountain lion, as Jake Jones calls back one of the dogs. The exciting story of this hunt will be found on page 32, in GUNS' special hunting section. Color photo and story illustrations by Tony King, photographer for the Desert Inn Ranch.

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# CROSSFIRE

### From New Zealand

It is with great interest that I read of your fight to retain the privilege of carrying firearms. In New Zealand all rifles have to be registered with the Police Dept., and persons under 16 years of age are not permitted to own or use firearms. Persons under 21 must secure a permit to use or own a shotgun, but these weapons are not registered. Handguns are not permitted to be owned or carried, and personally I see no use for them in New Zealand.

We have large numbers of Red Deer to shoot as well as Thar and Chamios in the mountains. I use a .222 Remington for all my shooting, and I reload my own ammo by putting a 55-grain projectile in place of the standard 50.

I enclose the membership fee for your Shooters Club, and I'll be looking forward to seeing more copies of the very fine and interesting GUNS Magazine.

Arthur B. Munden  
Mangakino, North Island  
New Zealand

### Legislation

Instead of legislating against the sportsman, why not legislate against the criminal?

Ralph W. Cram  
El Paso, Tex.

When we become a disarmed nation, we will be at the mercy of the criminals.

O.K. Wilson, Jr.  
Orangeburg, S.C.

### Thank You, Jim

Maybe I'm not being very modest, but I think your August issue is a knockout. You have something in this issue for the entire field. Keep up the good work.

James E. Serven  
Tucson, Ariz.

### Dandy Hunting Section

The section on hunting is a dandy, not only because of my stuff, but as a "block" of stuff mighty useful to hunters, and at the right season.

Clyde Ormond  
Rigby, Idaho

### Much Impressed

As a life member of the National Rifle Association, I have been much impressed with your legislative efforts and program on behalf of shooters, gun sports and the right to possess arms, and in accordance with your suggestions I have written a great number of letters to legislators and others. As a

member of the American Ordnance Association, I have been most disappointed with their inaction in this vital issue.

But GUNS Magazine should be the official organ of the Shooters Club of America, with subscription included as a part of the membership fee, don't you think? In the meantime, enclosed is a personal check to cover the cost of membership and subscription.

Captain W. C. Cripe  
Military Sea Transportation Service,  
Atlantic Area

### .44 Magnum Controversy

The first time that I thought maybe the .44 S&W Magnum was not over-rated, was when an acquaintance of mine shot a factory load through a telephone pole! Try that with your .357, .25-20, or .32-20 sometime.

As one who has had good results in shooting many hundreds of rounds of full power loads through the .44 Magnum, I suggest Herrett's turn-down thumbrest stocks for comfort and control; and the 225 grain 10% tin jugular jacketed hollowpoint bullet with 26 grains of 2400, for maximum effect.

Paul Jackson  
Dearborn, Mich.

Kudos to Col. Askins for his "Over-rated .44 Magnum!"

B.R. Hughes  
Crossett, Ark.

I cannot understand such comparisons coming from a man who is supposed to know a little about guns. I would suggest that Col. Askins leave the .44 Magnum to those that can shoot it successfully. Above all, he shouldn't just write about his own inability to use the gun.

Joseph B. Skaggs  
Granada Hills, Calif.

Thanks to Col. Askins for cutting the .44 Mag. down to size. Too many gun writers have been too forgiving of the gun's miserable ballistics because it is only a handgun.

Larry Fafarman  
Los Angeles, Calif.

### #12 Canister?

Re: "How to See Your Deer" by Col. Dave Harbour—I've been a hunter for quite a few years now, and for the most part what the Col. had to say made sense, but . . . a deer at 600 yards by aiming two feet high, two for three? Come on, fellers.

Looks like hunting is out and artillery is in. How about an article on no. 12 canister used on pronghorns. You don't even have to see 'em.

Lee E. Harris  
Walnut Creek, Calif.

# This gun has muscle and good looks

(but it's not for everyone)

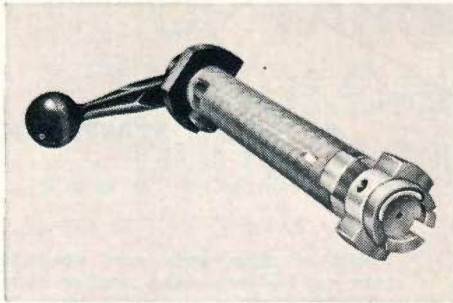
It's a gun you graduate to, a gun for big game, a gun to hang on the wall, a gun that says something about you — the man, the shooter.

It's the Savage 110 Premier Grade big game rifle—comes in 243, 30-06 or 7mm. Remington magnum. This gun



packs a real punch. Elk, Brown bear, Mountain goat — the largest North American trophies are fair game for the One-Ten.

A lot of thought has been put into its design. Take the bolt, for example. It has massive double locking lugs. Gives you a lockup that's really solid.



The bolt head is fully recessed, with twin gas ports for added security. The safety? It's right on top where it's handiest. A free-floating barrel of chrome-moly steel brings out the great accuracy of this fine action.

Nothing has been spared to give the 110 Premier Grade a stock of true custom quality. Beautifully grained French walnut is brought to a mirror finish with hand rubbing between each coat and the next. The roll-over cheek-piece is hand carved. Skip-a-line hand checkering adorns the fore-



end and the pistol grip, both tipped with rosewood. The pistol grip is artfully shaped to fit the hollow of your hand. This gun is quietly handsome — not ornate or showy.



This is a rifle strictly for the sportsman who knows what he wants — a precision shooting mechanism that looks as good as it shoots.

When you're ready for a big game rifle that will be a source of pride and satisfaction for many years to come, introduce yourself to the Savage 110 Premier Grade. You'll like each other. Sold only by retail sporting arms dealers. Right or left-hand action. 243, 30-06, \$185; 7mm. Rem. mag., \$195. Other 110 models from \$102.50 to \$295 for the Presentation Grade.



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POWER..."**

Here's a real action story about Sierra Bullets written to us by Glenn W. Slade, Jr. of Houston, Texas.

"I recently had an experience which I thought might be of interest to you.

"To start the story I might mention that the first bear I ever killed was shot with a Sierra 30 cal. 180 gr. BT bullet with one shot at a distance greater than 1000 yards. The fact is substantiated by an affidavit from a witness.

"This spring on a bear hunt in northern British Columbia, I shot two black and one grizzly using Sierra bullets. All were killed with one shot. One black and one grizzly bear were shot at a distance of approximately 400 or 500 yards and the second black bear at a distance where killing power REALLY counted—8 feet! The bear had started what I thought would be a false charge and not really caring to shoot another black, I decided to stand out the charge. The bear was shot at a measured distance of 8 feet. At this point I could no longer presume this to be a "false" charge! One certainly must rely on the UNFAILING KILLING POWER of Sierra bullets to have such confidence."

\*The Sierra 30 cal. 180 gr. BT bullet used by Mr. Slade is one of 53 precision made bullets available at dealers everywhere. Start using them today for more successful hunting.



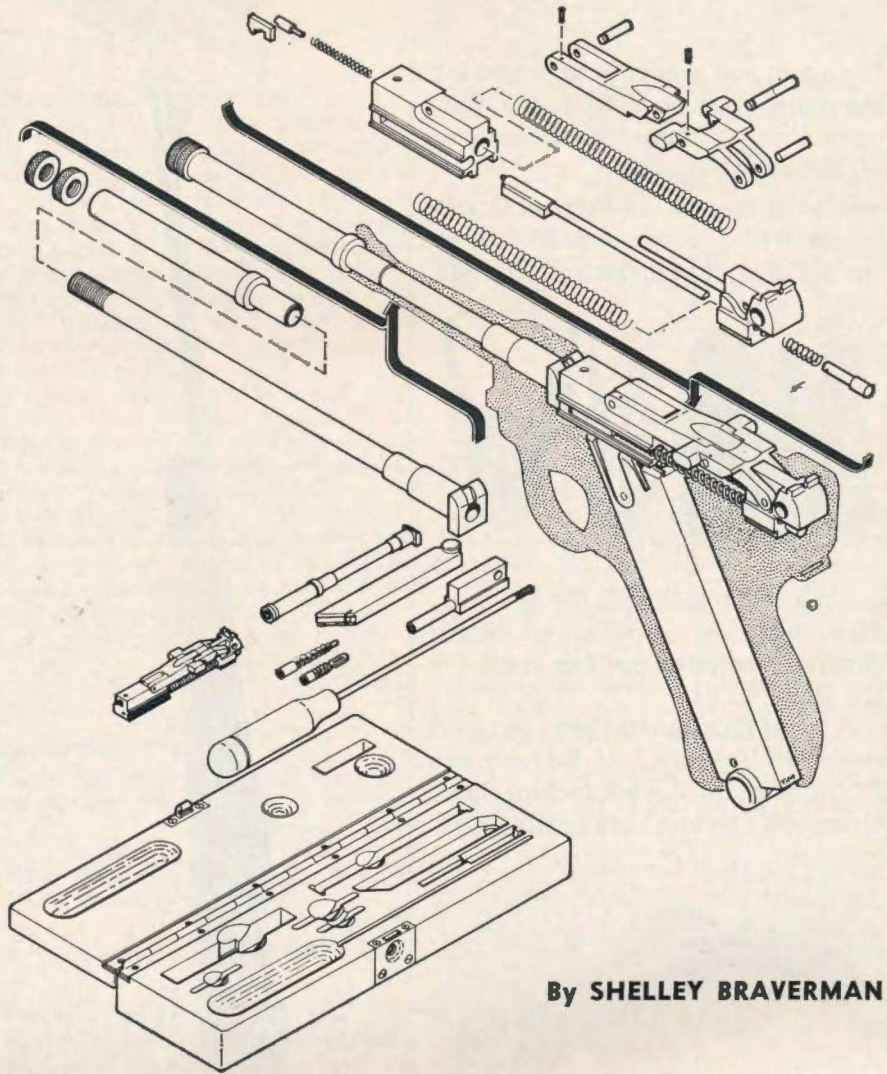
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# AN INSIDE LOOK

AT THE ERMA LUGER CONVERSION



By SHELLEY BRAVERMAN

WITH THEIR 1936 CATALOG, Stoe-ger Arms Corp. introduced the "Luger .22 caliber Insert Assembly"—now generally known as the Erma-Luger Unit. As introduced and made by Erma-Werke at Erfurt, Germany, it consisted of a .22 caliber barrel and adapting sleeve, locking nuts, breech assembly and magazine. In this model, the rear sight is adjustable for windage. Other variations, without the adjustable rear sight, included the version illustrated that came with cleaning accessories and tampion to protect barrel accuracy, and a "three-piece" unit made by Erma at their new plant after WWII.

In use, the original breech assembly, ejector, and magazine are removed. The conversion barrel is inserted and positioned, with the extractor notch up. The Erma breech assembly is installed and the pistol re-assembled. Long Rifle .22 ammunition may now be fired in place of the original .30 or 9 mm cartridges.

Most of these units were carefully made and balanced, and function quite well with adequate care; "regular" 22 Long Rifle ammunition with lubricated bullets is preferable, and the unit must be kept clean and lubricated. "High-Speed" ammo should never be used.

While the mechanism employs a toggle similar to the Luger, it is strictly "blow-back" in action—operating by self-contained springs. (The Luger main-spring is not used).

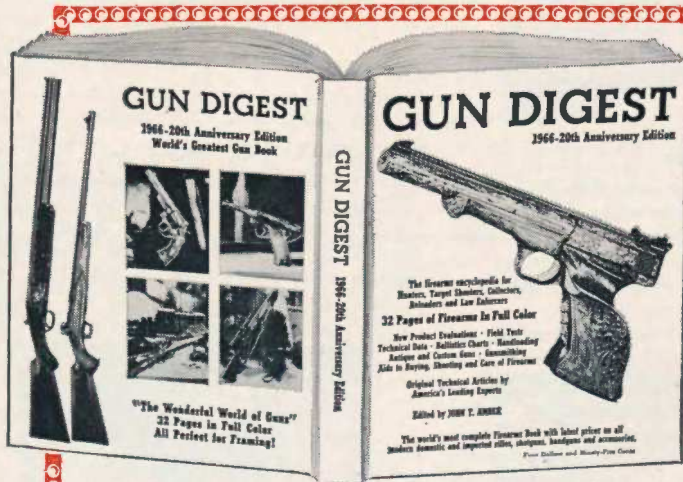
The magazine is of very heavy and sturdy construction and its right lip extends above its mouth; this projection serves as an ejector. Magazine capacity varies, some holding five shots and some ten. No more than five shots should be inserted, however, or feeding failures are likely to occur.

In addition to the three issues mentioned, a fourth was made in New York, about 1954, by an American firm; it never achieved commercial production.



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### The Deloadmatic

Tired of levering ammo through a Winchester 94 to empty the magazine? Get this new gadget, it's worth the \$3.95 easily, especially when you consider all the ammo you lose over a period of years by jacking it out of the gun.

Deloadmatic, long in the development stage, was shown to GUNS editors some two years ago by its inventor Glenn Cowden. Essentially, the Deloadmatic is a metal rail that fits into the magazine of the M94 by pushing aside the magazine cover plate. Once the Deloadmatic is in place, the spring that holds the cartridges in the magazine is automatically tripped, and the ammo comes popping into the little plastic pouch that is fastened to the rail. The bottom of the pouch has a Velcro closure that is the self-adhering material that has made news lately by replacing zippers. We tried the Deloadmatic on our M94 and it worked perfectly, especially once the knack of inserting the rail had been mastered—and this takes but a couple of tries at the worst. Glenn tells us that the Deloadmatic works on all Winchester lever action rifles and also on the Sears M54 carbine. Plans are now under way to adapt the existing Deloadmatic for the Marlin Model 336, and this item is slated for release within the next six months. You can get your Deloadmatic from your dealer, but if he does not yet carry it, write to G.E.C. Enterprises, Inc., Box 284G, Times Square, New York, N.Y., 10036.

### Combat Special Holster

This is perhaps the most startling handgun carrying rig that we have ever seen or used. Essentially, the Combat Special Holster consists of two plastic shells, the inner shell being fastened to the outer shell by means of a pivoting rivet at the bottom of the holster. The inner shell of the holster consists of two form-fitting halves which are fastened to each other by means of a leather strip on the forward end, thus making this half of the holster very much like a clam-shell holster. With the revolver nestled in these two halves, and the spring tension of the outside shell adjusted to your liking, the encased gun is moved forward until the outside and forward portion of the rig clamps around it.

You can jump, run, walk, and even turn

the holstered gun upside down, and the revolver won't be released. In drawing the gun, the method of clearing from the holster deviates somewhat from the standard system. With the Combat Special Holster, the gun is pushed down and to the rear. This action releases the spring in the outside shell, and as the gun follows through the



arc, the two halves of the inside holster open smoothly so that the gun clears the holster completely.

The holster received for tests was designed for the Colt Python 6 inch barrel revolver, and examination proved it to be well made. Beside the adjustable spring tension in the outer part of the holster, another noteworthy feature is the adjustable belt loop. Two small screws allow the use of a belt that is ½ inch wide, and by resetting the screws, you can then use the same holster on a 2 inch wide belt. The plastic is Royalite ABS Thermoplastic made by U.S. Rubber, and can be carved with a sharp knife and then sanded for any modification



you might care to make. Extensive tests by us and by several police officers proved that learning the method of drawing a revolver from this holster is not at all difficult to master, but a certain amount of practice is needed. This is one of the most interesting holster developments we have seen in a long time, but one or two officers who tried the holster objected to the quite audible click

that occurs when the inner parts of the holster with the gun are released from the outer shell. It was argued that silence might be essential when drawing a gun while facing an armed opponent in the dark, but actual tests by means of a tape recorder showed that the noise of the holster opening is not much greater than that of drawing from leather. These holsters are now nationally distributed, but if you cannot get one locally, write to J.C.&G., Ltd., 6575G N. Federal, Denver, Colo., 80221.

### Pattern Gauge

R. C. (Bob) Hyde Sales of 2116G Liberty Street, Lincoln Park, Mich., offers a combined Shotgun Range and Pattern gauge, called X-Pert, that is worth its weight in gold. Patterning a shotgun can become a first rate chore, but with this gauge, the job becomes a cinch. Instead of using the conventional 40 yard range, you can use a distance of 30 feet, and that means that you can pattern one or more shotguns any time, even indoors. With the gauge, you don't need to count shot holes, but the gauge will give you, at one quick glance, the pattern percentage, the shot dispersal and shot deflection—in other words, the X-Pert gauge will even tell you where your gun shoots.

### De Mayo's Holsters

Vic De Mayo, Dept. G, 1230½ Yonkers Ave., Yonkers, N.Y., 10704, offers a fine line of leather holsters. We tried one of his Hip-Hugger holsters for a Colt Police Positive Special with 4 inch barrel, and found that his holster is equally adaptable to uniform wear and for concealment wear.

Vic offers a full line of holsters, but specializes in police holsters. The Hip-Hugger we tested was made of fine quality leather, well stitched and formed, that bespoke quality workmanship and careful selection of the materials used in making these holsters. The Hip-Hugger can be worn on a belt, but can also be clipped on the waistband of trousers. Such a method of carry often allows the gun and holster a certain amount of movement which precludes an efficient combat draw, but the Hip-Hugger, even without the use of a belt, did not show any untoward movement, and allowed a smooth draw. Vic will mail you his catalog for the asking, and a new one is now in the works.

### Sentry Collar

Sergeant's, the dog care products manufacturers, have developed something new that really works on dogs that spend a lot of time outdoors. Called the Sentry Collar, the Vapona impregnated plastic collar is put on the dog in addition to the regular collar, and it will keep the dog flea and tick free for three months. I have used the collar on one of my hunting dogs to complete satisfaction and since the price is under two dollars, anyone can equip his hunting dogs with one of these collars and save the time and trouble that is required to give the dogs the anti-tick and anti-flea baths. Sentry Collars are available in hardware and pet shops, as well as in super markets.



GUNS • NOVEMBER 1965

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## Panel of Experts

*Because of the heavy influx of questions, it has become necessary to limit the number of questions submitted in one letter to two. Your questions must be submitted on separate sheets of paper, must carry full name and address, and your Shooters Club of America membership number. If you are not a member of the Shooters Club of America, send a dollar bill with each question. Questions lacking either number or money cannot be answered. If you want a personal answer, enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for each question.*

### Interchangeable Barrel

I own a Winchester Model 12, 12 gauge trap grade, 30 inch barrel with rib. I would also like to be able to shoot skeet with it, thus requiring a 26 inch barrel, improved cylinder. As you know, the Remington 870 has interchangeable barrels, and that is what I want to do with my Model 12. Have you any suggestions?

Harlan J. Greenfield  
Freeport, Ill.

Your Winchester Warranty Center can put an interchangeable barrel on your Model 12. Assembled and with ventilated rib, extension fore-arm and fitted to your receiver, the job will cost \$135.45. In your state, the Winchester Warranty Center is the Chicago Gun Center, 3109 W. Armitage Av., Chicago, 47, Ill.—P.T.H.

### 1881 Marlin

I have an 1881 Marlin lever action .40-60 and would like to know its history. Does it have a collector's value?

PFC C. Olson  
San Francisco, Calif.

Marlin Firearms Company was established in 1870 and began making repeating rifles in 1881. The Model of 1881 was made in three cal.: .40-60, .45-70, and .45-85, all in their day considered to be powerful cartridges. This model was discontinued and replaced by the model of 1889. In this one the ejection opening was on the side, leaving a solid top to prevent the entrance of dirt and objectionable matter. The gate on the 1881 model was a sliding one, but on the model 1889 was hinged at the rear. Value of a fair condition Marlin 1881 would be around \$45 to \$60.—R.M.

### Black Powder Loads

We are making up test guns in .405, .45-70, and .50-110. I need reloading data and barrel specs (twist, etc.) on all of these.

Fred Bay  
Adak, Aleutian Islands

Your gunsmith can suggest bore specs for rifles he makes. In the .405, Winchester used a .405 bore, with 6 grooves and a 1:14 twist. In the .45-70, Marlin used a .449 bore, with 6 grooves and a 1:20 twist. Equally good results, or better, may be obtained with different specs. We are not familiar with specs or loading data for the .50-110.

The .405 can be fired with a case full of Ffg black powder to the base of a seated bullet of around 300 grains. The .45-70 (originally charged with 70 grains black) is loaded the same way with bullets of up to 500 grains and the same screen powder. Best accuracy is obtained for a particular rifle by varying the charge down or up a bit, as with smokeless loads. I'm sure the .50-110 (that was originally charged with 110 grains black) could be loaded the same way, with the same powder, and bullets of up to 300 grains. Some black powder loads are sensitive in the bullet weight and charge, more so than in smokeless loads. It may require a good deal of experimenting to obtain good accuracy.—K.B.

### Firing Pin

I have a Winchester Model 88 in .308 caliber, purchased in 1957. After about 200 rounds, the firing pin broke. The local gunsmith told me this is characteristic of 88's because the pins are weak. Could you recommend a means by which I can correct this difficulty?

William R. Snow  
Wilmington, Calif.

Generally speaking, the percentage of broken firing pins in the Win. M88 is very low. If yours broke and you had it replaced with a factory pin, you should have no further trouble.—P.T.H.

### First Repeater?

I have in my collection a post-Revolutionary rifle which I understand is the very first type of repeating firearm. It has a block of three loads which slides through the gun breech, and was manufactured by "Osgood

& Townsend" in Painted Post, N. Y.

Can you give me any information on this gun or tell me where I may get the history of the men manufacturing it? Also, I would like to know the approximate value.

A. H. Erwin  
Ponca City, Okla.

Your rifle sounds like an Americanization of the Systeme Jarre: French patent in 1862 to J. Jarre of Paris. The magazine is a rectangular block with 3 or more chambers which slides horizontally across the breech of the barrel, actuated by the moving of the hammer. There is a rifle like this in the Washington National Museum, once belonging to General Sam Houston: it is pill lock and five shots to the magazine. The "harmonica" pistol uses this same sliding action, and was made both in France and here in the United States (I have also seen a few made in Belgium.) I can find no listing of your "Osgood & Townsend, N.Y."

Value of your rifle in good to fine shape should be \$150 to \$200.—R.M.

### Astra & De-activated Pistols

Do you know the address of the Astra (Unceta y Co.) automatic pistol company in Spain or South America? I would also like to know where I can get de-activated automatics.

Daniel McInenly  
Elizabeth, N.J.

The correct address for Astra is: Astra—Unceta y Compania, Apartado 3, Guernica (Vizcaya), Spain. Almost any gunsmith could probably arrange to sell you "de-activated" pistols—probably at their usual price plus \$5.00 for de-activation. If you'll let me know what pistols you want, I'll try to help you locate them.—S.B.

### Deer Loads

Can you suggest a good load for deer using 129 grain 6.5mm Hornadys in a .264 Win. Mag? Loaded to about 3200 fps (approximating the 130 gr. .270) it should be accurate, easy on the barrel, and efficient on deer.

Would you suggest some loads for 100, 120, and 140 gr. using IMR 4350, Norma 205 and/or H 4831?

S. Alan Carriker  
Roby, Tex.

With the 129 gr. Hornady in your .264 Win. you get 3200 fps with 63.3 gr. 4350 or 65.4 gr. 4831. Hornady will supply his data for the .264 Win. for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

I settled on the 140 gr. Speer bullet with 62.0 gr. 4831 and CCI 250 magnum primers for 3200 fps, which is a fine flat shooting load for all .264 game or varmints.—K.B.

### Blue Remover

I have a Whitney .36 revolver that has been reblued. I would like to know if there is some way of removing the blue without using an abrasive. I have seen several blue removers advertised in gunsmith catalogs, but have hesitated to use them as I don't know what type of finish they would leave

on a gun. The serial no. on my Whitney is 9531K. Do you know what the "K" stands for?

Peter Von Vranken  
Rye, N.Y.

We have found Whitneys with the following letters: M, F, C and K so far. What these letters stand for, as yet no one seems to know, unless it is a factory designation as to group orders placed. The government purchased 11,214 of these revolvers at \$12.00 each during the Civil War.

The only commercial blue remover I know of is a product called Rust and Blue Remover, by Sun-Ray Chem. Corp., 303 Pine Ave., Fresno, Calif.—R.M.

### Swift Reloading

I recently had a .220 Swift rifle made up with a 24" barrel with 1 in 14 twist. I have since heard that a standard barrel will be shot out by the high velocity of the Swift within a few hundred rounds and that production rifles were therefore made with stainless steel barrels.

I wonder if you could give me reloading information for this cartridge so that the velocity will be backed off enough to allow a much longer useful life for the barrel. I am interested in bullet weights of 48 and 55 grains.

James V. Harwood  
Kailua, Hawaii

No need to ruin a Swift barrel with a few hundred rounds. Use the lighter loads in Speer's Manual. My custom Apex went over 4000 rounds. Many were Speer's 55 gr. bullet with 37 gr. 4064 and CCI 200 primers at 3619 fps in a 23" tube, and some were 35 grs., which is adequate. Lighter bullets use more powder and give faster erosion. I'd stay with this bullet. I believe CCI primers give longer bore life than some types. The company had a .30-06 test rifle that still had good hunting accuracy after firing over 65,000 full charge loads.—K.B.

### Roper Shotgun Shell

Can you help me identify a shotgun shell I've recently added to my collection? It's made of steel, and in all one piece like an old brass shell, but it is rimless. The only headstamp is "SP" on the primer. Does it have any value?

R. Jumica  
Libertyville, Ill.

Your collector's shotgun shell is a Roper. Roper made a revolving 4-shot shotgun, cal. .64, steel cartridge case with percussion primers. They were sold as late as 1880, manufactured in Amherst, Mass., under the personal supervision of C. M. Spencer, inventor of the Spencer rifle. Value of a fine condition shell is about \$1.00 \$1.50.—R.M.

### Barrel Changing

I am planning on having a new barrel put on my Model 725 Remington action, caliber .280. I'd like to know if I could get a significant increase in velocity by having the new barrel in a .280 Improved. Would you please send ballistics and loading data on this cartridge? Also, please state the model

(Continued on page 62)

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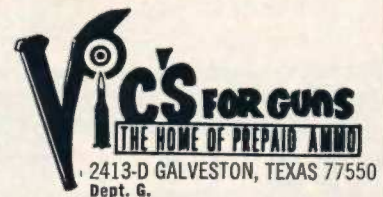
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# HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



**C**OLT'S .38 GOLD CUP National Match was the world's finest .38 Special factory gun when introduced in 1960. Like other .38's, it wouldn't stay in the 50 yard 10-ring, which is 3.39". Like all finely tuned target pistols it was temperamental and critical in loading. With a bastard .354 to .355 groove diameter, which S & W uses in their M52, standard flat base bullets loaded with standard dies were not satisfactory. Best accuracy was with factory Hollow Base Wadcutter ammo in lot numbers selected for a particular gun.

Speer Hollow Base Wadcutters, introduced in 1964, helped solve the problem. They cost little more than casting your own with virgin metals, and shot beautifully in tight or sloppy bores with the hollow forming a perfect gas seal. The bevel base improved accuracy by eliminating rifling "fins" and by aiding straight line seating. With superb accuracy, they reload perfectly in standard dies.

Colt's greatly improved their fine .38 Gold Cup with the new Mark III. Colt's call it "The finest .38 target pistol in the world, with no modification necessary for perfect accuracy." I fully agree! It's the most accurate gun, right out of the factory box, I've ever fired, if you use the right loads and loading technique. Service guns may function with sloppy ammo, but finely tuned match pistols must have the right fodder.

The Mark III has the superb new Colt-Elliason rear sight (also now on Colt's fine N.M. .45 counterpart and .22 Woodsman Match Target). One click "Up" moves the impact  $\frac{3}{8}$ " up at 50 yards. One click "R" moves the windage  $\frac{1}{2}$ " right. The "guts" are vastly improved and vital parts are precision hand fitted. The trigger is perfection, with no creep or slop. With a grooved chamber and patented barrel bushing the barrel is held in perfect alignment until bullets leave the bore. I think the grooved chamber contributes to better accuracy. Fired shells are not damaged for reloading.

Federal Mid-Range Match ammo shot well within the 10-ring, with 2" and 2½" groups, which is superb match accuracy. Federal ammo in all calibers and lots we have tested in rifles and handguns has had fine accuracy. An exception was their first lot of .38 M-R, not labeled "Match." I believe this short run was made while machines were being adjusted. It didn't shoot any better than sloppy reloads, and wasn't good for anything but plinking. Federal cases are excellent for reloads in all rifle and pistol calibers. In the

Mark III Federal Match averaged 749 fps, with V.S. 52 fps.

It was a thrill to see our reloads shoot in 2" and better, one group near the 1.695" X-ring! This was a Speer Hollow Base Wadcutter seated flush with the uncrimped case mouth over 2.7 gr. Bullseye and CCI 500 primers, in cases trimmed 1.142. Metered loads are better with 2.7 gr. than 2.5 gr. If a charge is short 0.2 or 0.3 gr. it will still print in the group and may not drop a point. A short, lighter charge may drop a point or fail to function. I believe most malfunctions in all fine target pistols are due to light charges that are "short." Light charges and poor bullets are the reasons why so many people incorrectly claim that .38 reloads are inferior to factory Mid-Range ammo.

With 3.0 gr. Bullseye, this is my favorite varmint and small game load to as far as one can hit well, or to over 75 yards. It bags more varmints than magnum loads because you can shoot accurately and fast on still or running game. Accuracy about equals the target load in all types of guns. Colt's Mark III grooved chamber leaves a faint imprint on these shells that doesn't reduce case life. Velocity in my .356 groove Mark III is 864 fps, with deviation 28 fps. I think the Mark III, besides being a fine target gun, is also the best small game hunting gun made.

Killing power of big bore wadcutters is all out of proportion to paper ballistics, with better accuracy than any other type bullet. These light, deadly accurate loads are for deadly serious hunters, and not for chaps who get a thrill with hot magnums that have heavy recoil and a loud bang! I've enjoyed firing many thousands of hot magnum loads and have bagged many head of game with them. But I use the mild, deadly accurate .38 Special for a larger "bragging bag" of small animals. I reserve hot .357 Magnums for deer-size game down to long range coyotes. They have proved superior to heavier magnums.

Riflemen who graduate to handgun hunting have 10 times more fun and improve their rifle handling. I've long used the handgun for close range stuff and a rifle for longer range.

For varmints beyond handgun range Winchester's .225 will be one of the most popular .22 hot-shots. My M70 Standard shoots better than many custom rifles, and handles better for all-around use than the heavy  
(Continued on page 58)

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Large ring action with special short bolt throw. Guns were made by Mauser Werke, Oberndorf. Features include special medium length action, high clip guide to simplify telescope mounting. Easily converted to other calibers. Grade I, Fair to Good, \$19.75. Grade II, Good to V.G. \$24.75 Grade III, V.G. or Better, \$29.75.

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These were originally designed by "Carbine" Williams for Winchester, were one of first short, light weapons for new assault cartridges. These original carbines mfgd. to U.S. Gov't. Ordnance specifications. \$5 more for select.

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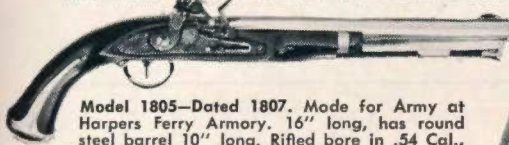
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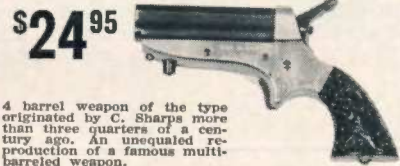


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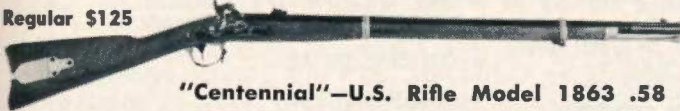


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News from the...

# SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA

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

The new Pro-Gun Press Information Service established by the S.C.A. (as announced in the September issue of GUNS), has started off with a bang! Letters have been pouring in at a tremendous rate, bringing us the names of newspapers, TV and radio stations that might disseminate pro-gun information to the general public.

This entire area of "molding public opinion" has been left in the hands of those who would eliminate our right to own and enjoy firearms for too long. With your help, we are taking the steps necessary to fill this gaping hole in the pro-gun offensive. In the months and years ahead, we shall surely see our side of the story presented to the general public in a more favorable light.

The incoming flow of mail pertaining to our Pro-Gun Press Information Service has been too heavy to allow for individual answers. We would like, therefore, to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have already forwarded names for our mailing list. Be assured that the information you provided is being acted on, and will help guarantee the future of firearms and the shooting sports in America.

This is an appropriate time to announce another important development by THE SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA. We have recently added a legislative expert, on-the-scene in Washington, to our staff. Mr. Carl Wolff is a well-known contributor to national publications, is in the confidence of those who make

legislation in Washington, and is in constant contact with all the events which are shaping the future of firearms in America. The important behind-the-scenes information published in the most recent S.C.A. Newsletter was gathered by Mr. Wolff. We are pledged to make public even more of such confidential information in the future.

These two developments, along with others to be announced in the near future, have made the S.C.A. the most potent fighting force in the battle to preserve your individual right to own and enjoy firearms. We of the S.C.A. urge you to participate in this struggle. Join the S.C.A. today and you will be taking a positive step for the future of the shooting sports in America.

Though the vigorous campaign waged in the past several years has forced us to raise our membership fee to \$5.00 per year, present S.C.A. members and all GUNS Magazine readers will be "protected" at a special rate, for a period of two years.

Use the coupon below to join the S.C.A., or to extend your present membership. Check the special option which offers you the opportunity to join (or renew) for two years for just \$7.00 -- that's \$3.00 for the first year, and \$4.00 for the second year, or a savings of \$3.00 over the membership fee of \$5.00 per year. Don't delay, enroll in the struggle for your right to own and enjoy firearms today!

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SCA-G-11

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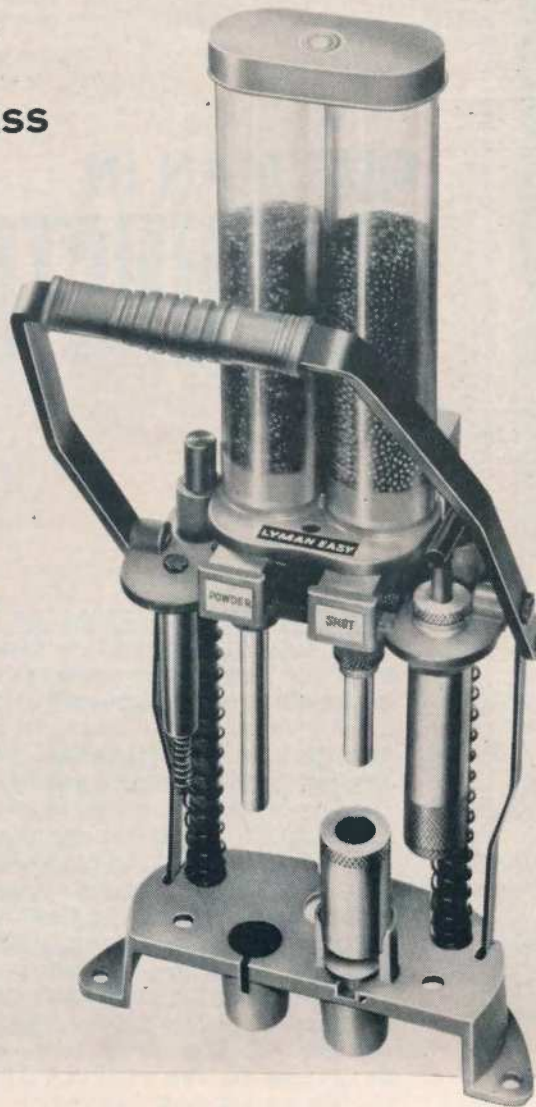
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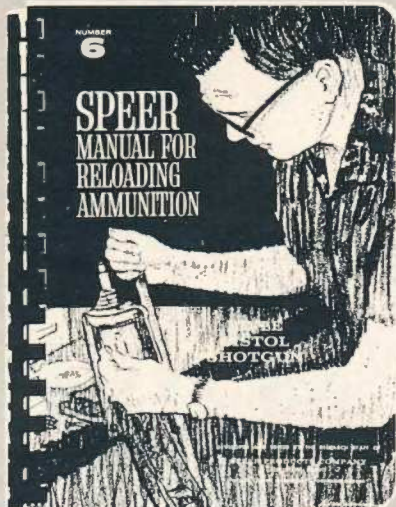
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## OUR MAN IN **WASHINGTON**



CARL WOLFF

### FEDERAL GUN REGISTRATION

The Administrative Branch of the Federal Government is likely to propose a national registration of gun owners next January. According to a usually reliable source, the idea is now under consideration by the newly established National Crime Commission, headed by Attorney General Nicholas deB. Katzenbach.

The National registration of gun owners would work like this: Those purchasing guns from federal licensees would have their names, and maybe finger prints, sent to Washington for clearance with the criminal files of the Justice Department.

Federal gun owner registration could be accomplished with an amendment to the existing gun legislation presently proposed by the Administration, or it may be established by regulation, issued by the Secretary of the Treasury, under the broad authority existing in the present language.

There is nothing new about the idea. It has been kicked around for some time by the anti-gun forces in the Federal Government. Veteran reporters recall that such legislation was introduced some 20 years ago. The revival of the idea was touched upon by this reporter in a conversation with James V. Bennett, retired head of the Federal Prison Bureau, who has been retained as a special consultant to Katzenbach's Justice Department.

During the conversation, Mr. Bennett stated that if the pro-gun forces did not go along with the Administration's proposed law even more harsh proposals would be forthcoming.

"What could be worse than isolation of gun purchasers (as outlined in the Administration's bill)? Registration?" I asked. "Yes," he said. "May I quote you?" I asked, much as a joke. With the gun hearing going badly for the Administration, it appeared unrealistic that such a further recommendation would be made. "Certainly, you may quote me," Bennett said.

### BAR ASSOCIATION BACKS ANTI-GUN LAWS

It appears to be a calculated step to pressure the pro-gun forces into accepting the major thrust of the Administration's bills as a compromise. This course of action would put the Administration in a stronger bargaining position. The courage to do this probably came from the defeat suffered by pro-gun forces at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association, held



in August, where they voted by a margin of about seven to one to support additional gun controls.

Being the biggest organization of lawyers in the country, their influence should not be dismissed lightly. Their influence is compounded because it was Sen. Warren G. Magnuson (D., Wash.), who asked the ABA to pass upon the advisability of gun controls back in the 88th Congress, when his Senate Commerce Committee held hearings on the old Dodd Bill. His committee took no action and the bill died with the 88th Congress. One of the reasons given for the no-action was the review by ABA.

While the Senate gun bill hearings were in progress something of a conflict of personalities between Sen. Dodd and some of his fellow lawmakers had broken out, including one with Sen. Magnuson.

Sen. Dodd, or perhaps one of his writers, produced a story which suggested if the old Dodd Bill had been enacted into law President Kennedy's assassin could not have purchased his gun. (Sen. Magnuson resented the implication.)

The cut between the two ran so deep that one of the pro-gun witnesses from Sen. Magnuson's home state was nearly prevented from appearing to testify, even though Magnuson made the request. Sen. Dodd has also offended a number of his other fellow lawmakers by the manner in which the hearings were held.

Inside the Subcommittee, some members feel Sen. Dodd pulled something of a double-cross by abandoning his original bill, which they co-sponsored, and taking up the more severe Administration bill. Only Senators Hiram L. Fong (R., Hawaii) and Joseph Tydings (D., Md.) of the 8-member subcommittee appear willing to support the Administration's bill. With Dodd, this makes it 3 against 5. (Sen. Tydings, by the way, defended the Administration bill, opposing Franklin L. Orth, head of the National Rifle Association of America, in a debate before the American Bar Association. The debate preceded the anti-gun vote by ABA.) The other 5 members of the Dodd Subcommittee are writing their own gun bill.

The new gun bill being worked out consists of (1) requiring an affidavit for purchasing a gun through interstate commerce; (2) an affidavit for a person purchasing a handgun out of his state of residence; (3) an order directing the Administration to take a more positive role in enforcing the existing Federal and National Firearms Acts; (4) directing the Administration (in cooperation with the gun industry) to set up a "National Proofing Act" to eliminate cheap junk guns from the American market; and (5) increase the initial annual fee paid by a federal licensee.

From the over-all viewpoint, it appears inevitable that some kind of a gun bill will be written into law during the second half of the 89th Congress, which starts in January. How restrictive the measure is will really depend on President Johnson. After hearing his next legislative message to Congress, also to be delivered in January, we will know if, as the anti-gun forces suggest, he will push the harsh gun bill written by the Administration, or if, as the pro-gun forces suggest, he has had second thoughts about its provisions.



## Charles Daly

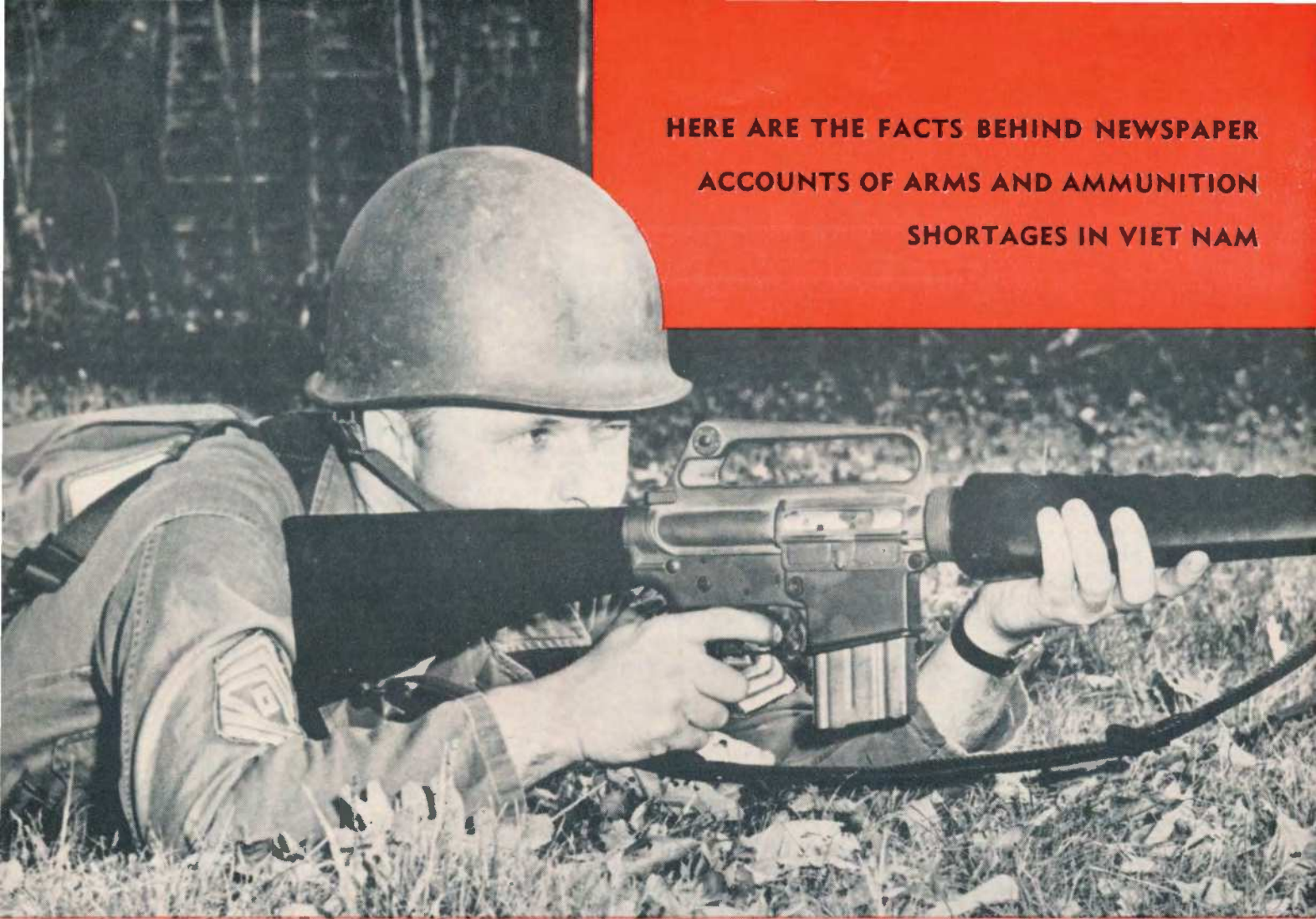
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HERE ARE THE FACTS BEHIND NEWSPAPER  
ACCOUNTS OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION  
SHORTAGES IN VIET NAM



# ARE G.I.'s SHORT OF ARMS IN VIET WAR?

By E. B. MANN

RECENTLY THERE APPEARED in "The Chicago Tribune" these statements which were attributed to "An Indiana military man, recently returned from duty in Viet Nam:"

"U. S. Troops are forbidden to use in Viet Nam the latest military equipment available on the grounds that the Geneva agreement in 1954 restricts the introduction of new weapons.

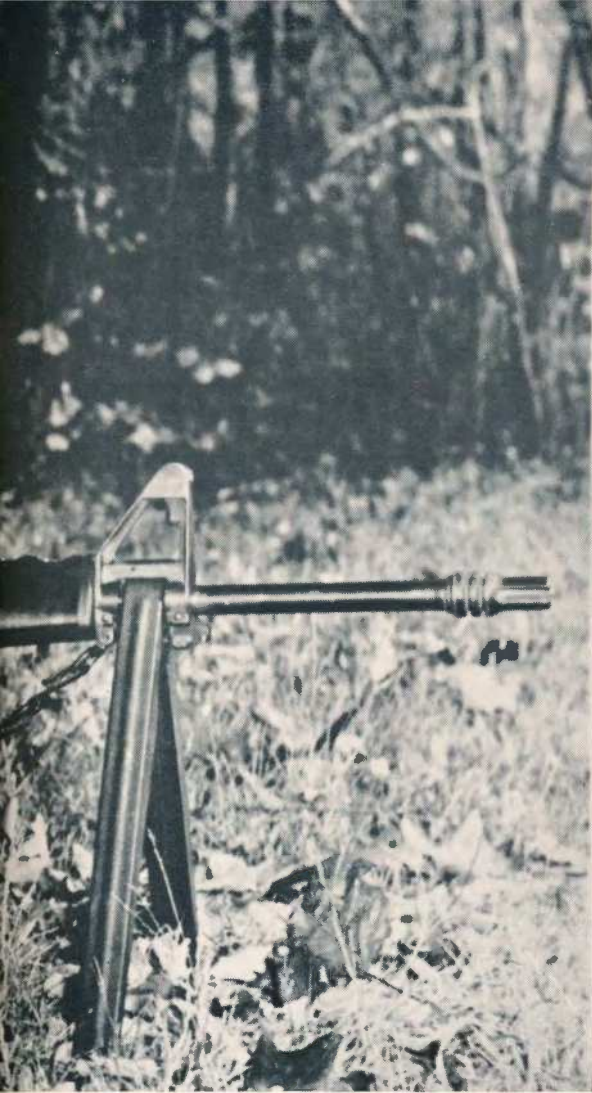
"The Air Force purchased AR-15 rifles several years ago and these weapons have been brought into Viet Nam by Air Force personnel. But the Air Force cannot get ammunition for these weapons. To get ammunition, Air Force officers collect captured Viet Cong weapons, trade them to other officers bound for the States, who in turn trade these weapons to Army supply sergeants, who eventually send AR-15 ammunition to Viet Nam via Army troops.

"Air Force officers must take their own sidearms (a virtual necessity), as issue sidearms cannot be obtained in Viet Nam. Likewise, there is an acute shortage of flying suits, gloves, and boots in Viet Nam, while these items pile up in warehouses at Clark (Air Force Base in the Philippines) and other bases in the area."

These are charges which, if true, should and probably would get a number of people court-martialed under charges involving (in the oft-quoted words of the Articles of War to which every soldier subscribes) "... death, or such other penalty as the court may proscribe."

No one familiar with the history of the AR-15 (which in military circles is known as the M-16) could think of it in connection with the





There aren't many places that require armed guards for garbage truck detail. Here two sergeants watch for attack from Viet Cong.

U. S. Air Force without thinking of "The Big Cigar," General Curtis LeMay. General LeMay liked that rifle, believed it would be a potent Air Force weapon, had much to do with its eventual Air Force adoption.

Immediately after reading the above statements, I wrote General LeMay, quoting the statements, and concluding my letter as follows:

"If these statements are true, it seems to me that they should be given publicity. If they are not true, it seems to me that they should be refuted. If you agree, could you and would you give me a statement

which I could quote in GUNS Magazine, either over your byline or in any other form you might designate?"

Very promptly, I received the following from the Office of the Chief of Staff, United States Air Force, Washington, D. C., over the signature "Curtis E. LeMay, General, USAF, Retired:"

"Thank you very much for your letter. With reference to the statement from The Chicago Tribune, I know this is not true. While I was Chief of Staff I was continually checking on the equipment used in Viet Nam, including the arms issued. Air Force per-



The AR-15 is the official Air Force weapon, is currently in production for U.S. Army.

Paratroopers stand watch round the world with AR-15's. Left: Viet Nam. Bottom: Santo Domingo.



sonnel in Viet Nam were issued either the AR-15 (now named the M-16) or the Smith and Wesson .38 caliber. Ammunition was available for both of these weapons.

"However, I am passing your letter on to the Air Force for the latest data on the weapons issued to Air Force personnel in Viet Nam. You should wait for their reply to run in your magazine in answer to the statement.

"Thank you for your interest, and I am sure that the Air Force answer will completely refute the allegation."

Following General LeMay's letter by a few days came the following letter from the Office of the Secretary, Department of The Air Force, Washington, D. C.:

"There were rumors during the early fall of 1964 to the effect that there were shortages of equipment in South Viet Nam. After a thorough investigation, the Secretary of the Air Force, Eugene M. Zuckert issued a statement on 21 September 1964 which said in part, 'there is no shortage in Southeast Asia of side arms, flying clothing, and AR-15 rifles and ammunition.'

"More recently Senator John Stennis, Chairman of the Preparedness Investigating Committee, issued a statement concerning Viet Nam after he had received a detailed report from a member of the Subcommittee staff who had made a special trip to Viet Nam for the purpose of inquiring into the military situation generally. The statement is inclosed for your perusal. It points out that 'at no time was there a critical shortage or deficiency in weapons or ammunition.'"

This letter was signed by a Colonel, USAF, Chief Public Information Division, Office of Information.

## M-16

The Senate Investigating Committee report accompanying the above letter is several pages in length. Drastically briefed, it refers to the letters of Captain Jerry Shanks and Captain John King which, when published after the deaths in action of those officers, "... caused national concern with respect to the adequacy of the maintenance of the weapons ... supplied the South Viet Namease." The report states that "although the unsatisfactory conditions and deficiencies cited in these letters and other reports were found to be either overstated or of an isolated nature, they were not without some basis in fact," and reports that jet aircraft with stronger weapons, longer air-time potential, and greater firepower were then introduced, as were more and better helicopters; and that changes in procedures were established to provide faster and more effective support of ground operations by aircraft.

The report (*Continued on page 42*)



NOW THERE ARE . . .

# ANTI-GUN ADS!

By E. B. MANN

IF YOU READ "The New York Times Magazine" or "The New Yorker," you may have seen one of the cute little advertisements running over the trademark of the Lionel Toy Corporation. One of these ads shows a microscope under the blackface headline, "No Boy Ever Held Up A Store With One Of These."

Seven such ads will appear in leading magazines, and the Arthur Godfrey radio show (CBS) will also plug the Lionel campaign, the theme of which is, "Nice toys don't kill." This advertising campaign is costing Lionel about \$250,000.

The Dodd band-wagon is getting a lot of hitchhikers. Not all of Lionel's campaign will be pitched at guns, but this lead-off headline is aimed pretty low. Suppose, in place of the microscope, we inserted a picture of the book (less than a dollar on revolving bookstands all over America) titled "Kama Sutra, The Long Suppressed Oriental Manual on the Art and Techniques of Love."

"No Boy Ever Held Up A Store With One of These," either. A non sequitur, to be sure; but so was the advertisement. Its only excuse—the nationwide unpaid political advertising publicity artfully built upon the current anti-gun hysteria. We're all for safe, educational toys; but let's keep it clean! No boy ever held up a store while he was out hunting with his dad, either; or while he was on a supervised range learning to hit targets. And we suspect that, over the years, more boys have learned more of character-building value from these two endeavors than have gained wisdom from toy microscopes.

J. Walter Thompson, working for "Reader's Digest," are still plugging Senator Dodd's article in that magazine. In their latest opus, the New York advertising agency propounds:



One of the ads from the series of Lionel advertisements reaching millions of people.

"In New York City when people get mad they hit or pull hair. In Western cities they're likely to shoot." (Punctuation and capitalization are theirs, not mine. JWT has outgrown commas, believes that adjectives denoting direction should be capitalized.) Hilda Burns, whose name appears at the top of these effusions, should read the New York papers. She should note the cute, gruesome little items about nice girls beaten and stabbed to death in the presence of witnesses who, if armed, *might* have helped her; about muggings, about boys who stomp old men to death for "kicks," about women arrested for using tiny knives or nail-files (the only weapons available to them) to defend themselves against street attacks. She should read also (and so should Senator Dodd) a book titled "Patterns In Criminal Homicide," by Dr. Marvin E. Wolfgang, one of the world's most honored criminologists.

Wolfgang reports, with scientific fairness, evidence presented by other studies purporting to show "that the high number of, or easy access to, firearms in this country is causally related to our relatively high homicide rate." But he says flatly, "Such a conclusion cannot be drawn" from the data compiled from his extensive studies. (Continued on page 50)



## History of a

# Whitney

# Revolver

THE .36 CALIBER WHITNEY revolver was one of several makes of civilian handguns purchased by the government to overcome the shortage of the regulation Colt revolver. The Whitneys were a sturdy and serviceable arm with a solid frame, not unlike the Remington revolver which was designed by the same man. During the early 1860's, the Whitney revolvers of this type were sold to the government for about \$17.00.

However, we are not concerned here with the Whitney revolvers in general, but with one in particular—a presentation piece belonging to a man whose history has been authenticated after long research.

On August 29 and 30, 1862, around and through the town of Richmond, Kentucky, a battle was fought which has been described as the most decisive Confederate victory of the Civil War. One of the Union regiments which was heavily engaged in this action was the newly formed 66th Indiana Volunteers, which had come south under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Roger Martin—his Whitney revolver is our subject.

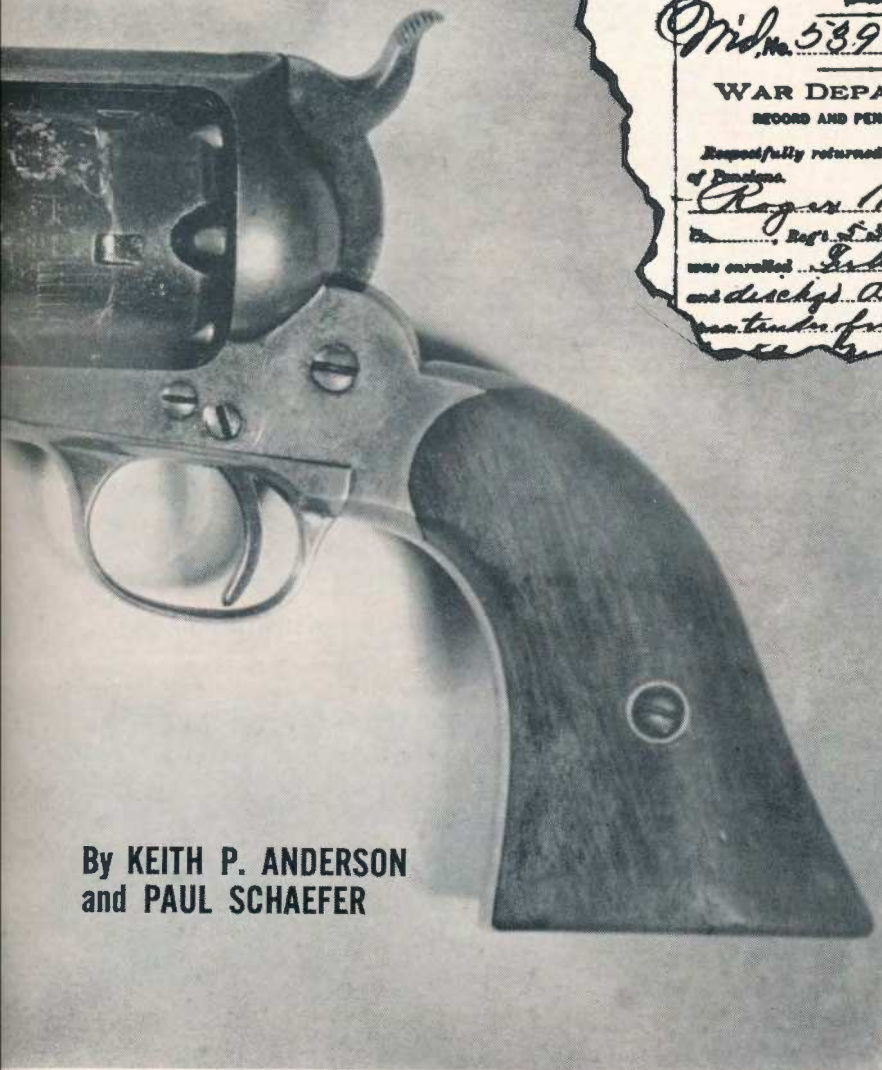
All reports indicate that the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky was a classic example of the folly of committing to battle untrained troops—no matter how well armed, how spirited, or how adequately supplied they may be. About



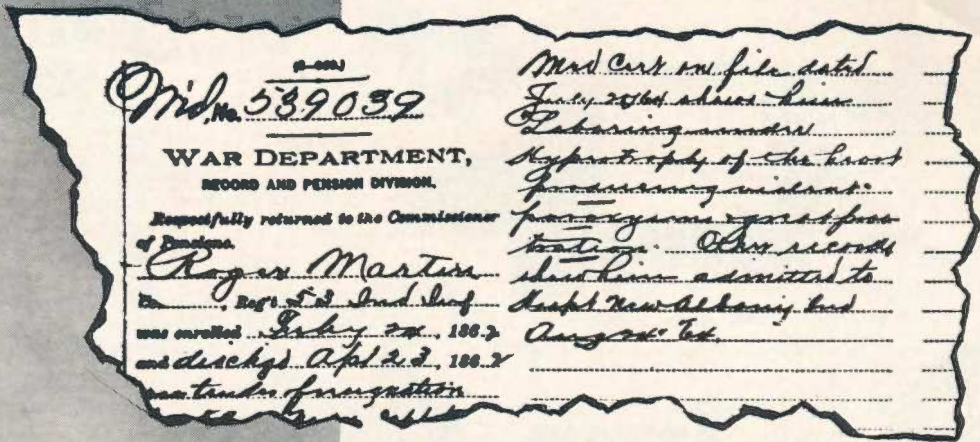
Record of Roger Martin's service, from the archives of the Indiana Adjutant General.

5,000 battle-seasoned but march-weary Confederate infantry supported by 850 cavalry, all under the command of General Kirby Smith, thoroughly defeated 6,500 Union infantry and artillery under the command of General William "Bull" Nelson in a series of well executed maneuvers. Out of the 6,500 Union troops engaged, most of whom were thrown into action piece-meal as their units came up, losses were 206 killed, 844 wounded, and 4,304 captured, along with nine pieces of artillery and a complete baggage train. The Union commander, General Nelson, was wounded in the leg by a ball, and one of his two brigadier generals, General Mahlon D. Manson, was





By KEITH P. ANDERSON  
and PAUL SCHAEFER



Additional information on service record of Lieutenant Colonel Roger Martin came from the War Department.



wounded and captured on the field. Confederate losses were 78 killed, 372 wounded, and one missing.

The 66th Indiana fought well, but the regiment was finally captured on a road outside the town after being cut off by cavalry and coming under artillery fire.

The performance of this and other untried regiments is remarkable when in the words of their Brigadier General Charles Cruft they were so green as to have "had no company drill, no batallion drill, no regular camps, were less than a fortnight from home, one company had no field officers yet appointed, and were a mere collection of citizens, hastily armed and thrown together without the least knowledge of military rules of discipline." Yet the 66th Indiana Volunteers fought, did not rout, inflicted casualties, and surrendered only when further action was hopeless. It lost two officers and 21 men killed, five officers and 63 men wounded, and 10 officers and 506 men captured for a total loss of 607. A Civil War infantry regiment at full strength numbered 1025 officers and men, and 845 at minimum strength. Assuming that the 66th had been at full strength before the battle, its casualty rate would have been about 60 per cent, and much higher than that had it not been at full strength.

The 66th was not held in captivity by the Confederates

who had no facilities for handling prisoners in that area, for they were on a raid. Instead, the regiment was marched north under its own officers and was sworn to refrain from further fighting until a similar number of Confederate prisoners were sent south from Union prisoner of war camps. This genteel convention of warfare known as "exchanging" was practiced by both sides until May 25, 1863. General Grant declared that exchanging prisoners who could fight again would only prolong the War. After the exchange, the 66th was reorganized and retrained, and it fought throughout the rest of the War in a very creditable manner.

A .36 caliber Whitney percussion revolver in the possession of one of the authors is engraved on the left side of the barrel "Roger Martin. Lt. Col. 53 Ind. Vols." Apparently, Roger Martin had anticipated holding that rank with the 53d, in which he first served according to his service records. The same papers show that he resigned from the 53d as a major and immediately joined the 66th as a Lieutenant Colonel. The fact that a Major drew monthly pay of \$151 while a Lieutenant Colonel drew \$170 might help to account for the transfer. During the early years of the Civil War, officers of volunteer regiments were often politically appointed (Continued on page 54)



Production gun (top) and one of the prototypes.

Here is the Undercover revolver disassembled. Note the simplicity of the design, the relatively few screws and pins, and the absence of a side plate. Skeletonizing of hammer and frame helped to keep the gun's weight down. Right: Doug McClenahan, president of Charter Arms Co.



**ESPECIALLY DESIGNED TESTS PROVE  
THAT NEW GUN IS OK**

By MIKE PETERS

# Testing a NEW .38

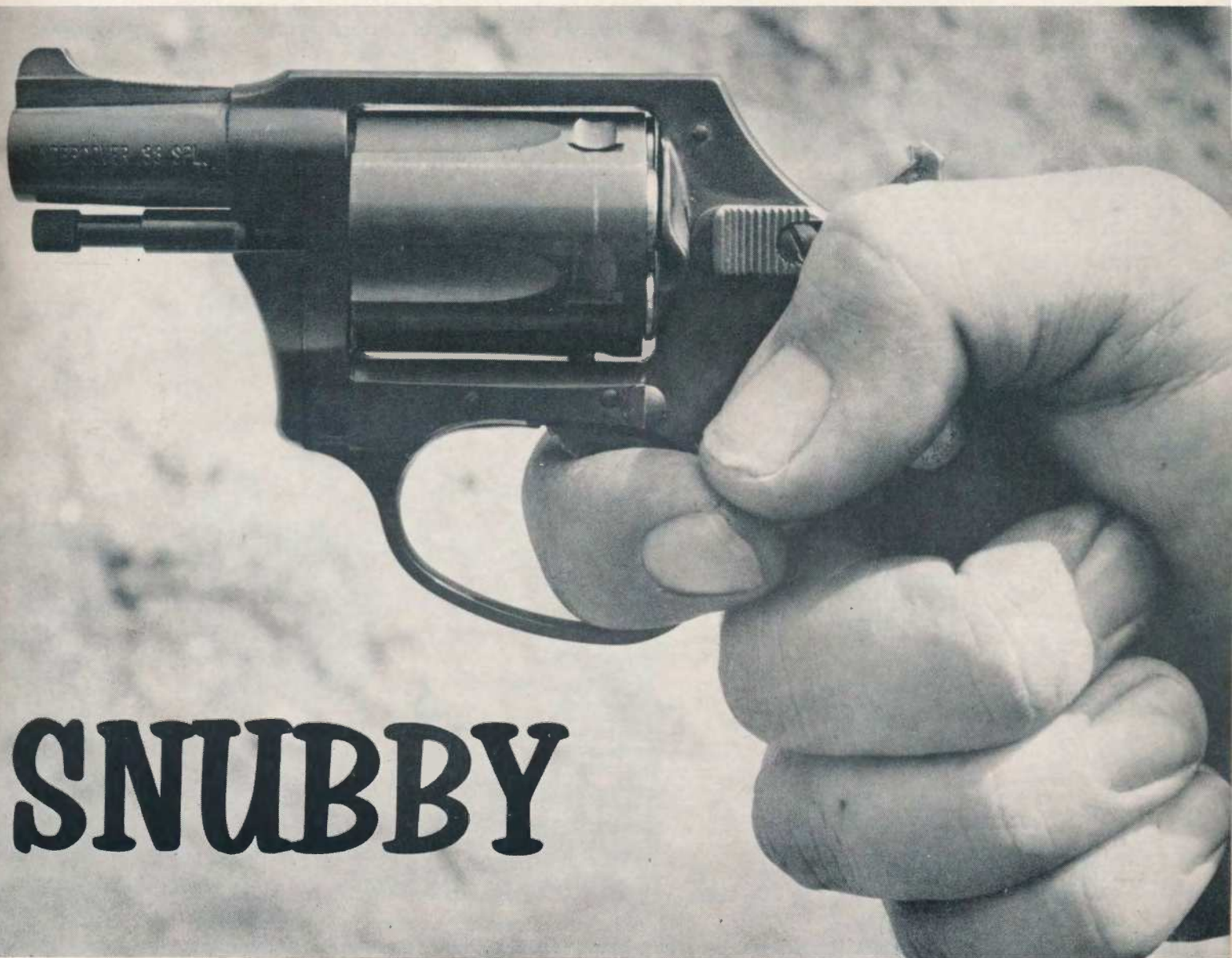
**A**LMOST a year ago I had an opportunity to examine—and shoot—the prototype of newly-formed Charter Arms Company's "Undercover" .38 Special revolver. The idea of a new company daring to compete with the long-established giants of the arms industry and the low-cost foreign producers was intriguing. Despite his quiet and unassuming way of speaking, Doug McClenahan, Charter Arms' 32 year old president and founder seemed to have some pretty big ideas as to how and why he could make a better gun and still more than meet competitive prices. But McClenahan backed his convictions with hard cash, and Charter Arms was the result.

Though I'm not especially partial to the two-inch barreled .38 Special, I had to admit that McClenahan had designed a sleek and sweet-shooting snubby. So far as I could judge from the handmade version, the Undercover effectively utilized many unique features of design and function, but what would production guns be like? The stern realities of gunmaking economics and competitive pricing

frequently dictate shortcuts in manufacture and modifications in design which, though in no way impairing utility, do result in a production gun distinctly different in handling qualities, accuracy, finish, and feel as compared to the precision-tooled prototype.

Charter experienced the usual birth pains before getting into production. Finally came the long-awaited call. "Come on over and pick out an Undercover off the production line," said Charter's vice-president Bill Henry. "Wring 'er out," was Bill's challenge as I chose a gun at random from that day's production.

The Undercover, nicknamed "A Pound of Prevention," weighs exactly 16 ounces on my postal scale. Overall length is a stubby  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches, height is a scant  $4\frac{3}{32}$  inches. The cylinder is bored for five shot capacity, while the two inch barrel carries eight button-rifled lands and grooves, the latter .003" deep, with a 1 in 16 right twist. Initial production is being limited to the two inch barrel and to the use of maximum-concealment *(Continued on page 46)*



# SNUBBY

# HOW TO GET

By FRANK J. FLOSS

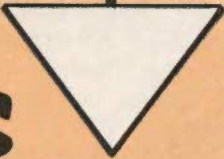
**M**ANY DEER HUNTERS tramp the hills with the impression that all that is required to get a deer is a rifle with an ultra-fast action. Logically, the speed of a rifle's action is not as important to a hunter as the accuracy of the first shot. If the initial shot misses, regardless of the number of remaining shots at his disposal, each succeeding shot at running deer becomes more difficult. It is before the first shot that the vital area of a deer is the easiest to hit, for the animal is usually moving through the woods at a leisurely pace, unaware of the hunter.

Once the crack of that first shot breaks the stillness, it frightens the deer into high-gear, so that succeeding shots must be touched off as it runs helter-skelter through brush or woods. Hence, follow-up shots, where the action must be worked between shots, cannot be as accurate as the first shot.

When shooting right-handed with a lever or bolt action rifle, the right hand and arm guides the rifle and tracks the target the eye sees through the sight, and also works the action. The left arm controls the elevation of the rifle. Because hand and arm must perform two different operations at the same time, this affects the hunter's aim. Momentarily, while the hand and arm work the rifle action, the tracking operation is slowed down. As a result, some corrective



It takes more to pull that deer down than just an ultra-fast action. Hitting vital area is essential.



## Guns HUNTING HOW-TO



### DEER Page 28



### SHEEP Page 30



### MT. LION Page 32



### BLACK BEAR Page 34

## AND MORE

# YOUR DEER!



Sights are put on a rifle to sight with; aim to hit. Fire power alone will not bag a running deer.



alignment of sighting is always required after each shot. A six-foot lead on a running deer may drop down to four feet, just enough to cause a miss, while the action is being worked.

Few hunters take the time to get the proper lead between shots. They may start shooting with the correct lead, but by the time they fire the last shot, they are probably six feet behind the deer. It follows, then, that a hunter's ability to work an action naturally and smoothly is more important than firing shots in rapid sequence. The fastest action rifle today is no better than an ancient single shot if the shooter isn't proficient enough to work the action smoothly and sight accurately while doing so.

Too many hunters shoot at a deer as a whole, instead of concentrating on putting the first shot in a vital area. They think that if they throw enough lead in the general direction of a running deer, one of the shots is bound to down it. Ironically, it's usually the other way around, for the more lead they throw at a running deer, the more they miss. If they cripple a deer, it usually means trailing the wounded animal for hours. *(Continued on page 52)*

# RECORD STONE SHEEP

By CHRIS KLINEBURGER

THE EYE, AND THE EGO, TOOK A BEATING BUT MY  
TROPHY STONE RAM WAS WORTH THE ABUSE

AS I DEPLANED AT the Vancouver International Airport, my wife greeted me.

"Ha, look at the scope cut," she grinned.

"Well, you see . . ."

"Who is it that always told me to keep my eye a safe distance?" she interrupted.

"Yes, but . . ."

"And to hold the gun firmly?"

"But, . . ."

"And to be especially cautious about up-hill and prone shots?"

"Oh, well . . ."

"By the way, did you get your ram?"

"I missed . . ."

"You *missed*?" she broke in again.

"Well, I . . ."

"You mean all the off-hand practice and those special handloads you made up for the .300, and the bragging you were doing about how nicely they grouped, and with all that you *missed* and got a scope cut *too*?" she kidded.



With battered eye, the author examines the graceful sweep of the record book horns on his Stone ram.



Author flew by Supercub up to Blue Sheep Lake (above), where Dalziel's main camp was located (near right). Looking off into the distance (far right), he ponders return.



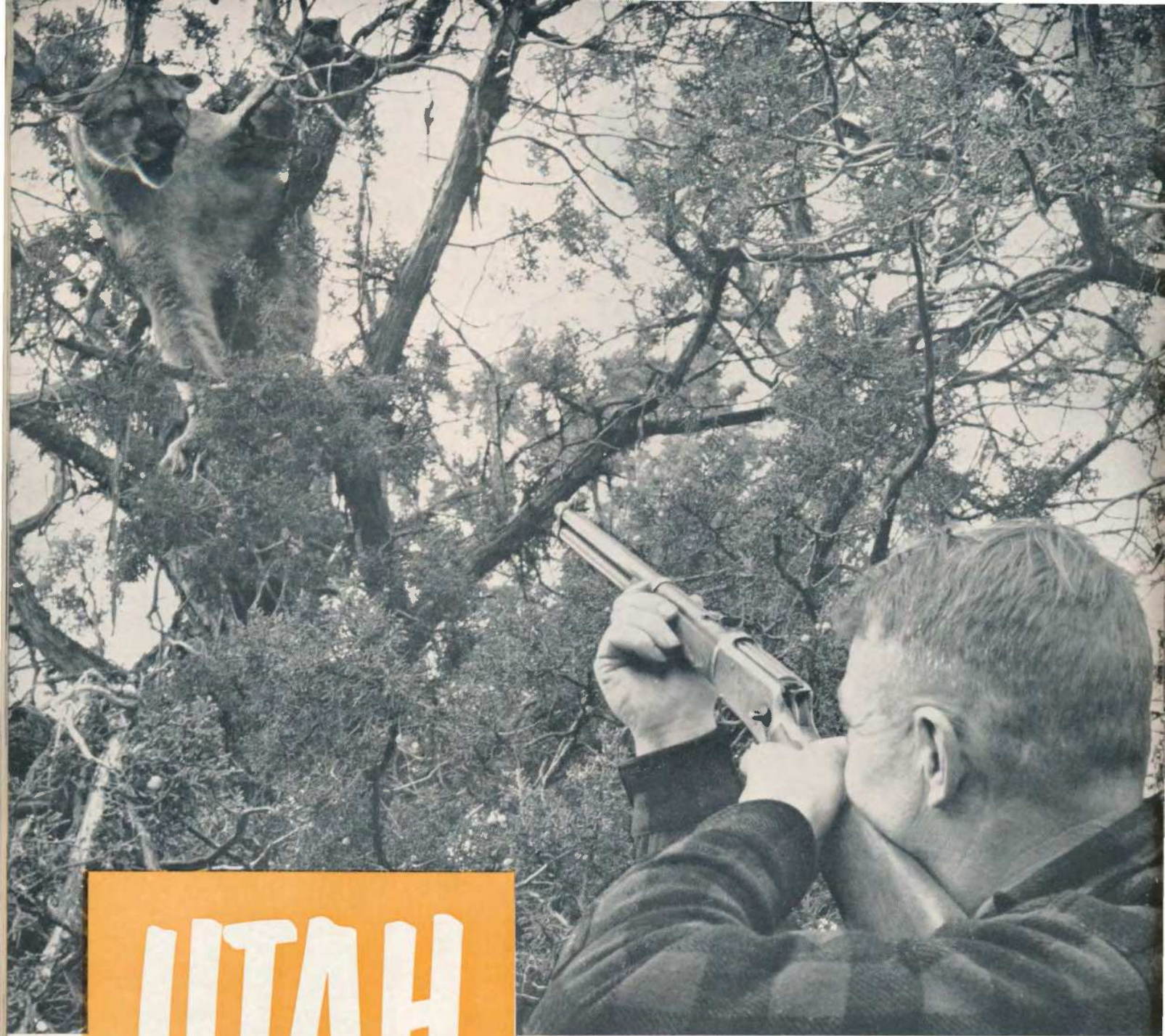
The planning for this Stone sheep trip began quite a few years ago. In September of 1954, our hunting party spent an evening with G.C.F. Dalziel and his wife June when our plane was forced down by darkness at their home on Dease Lake in British Columbia. During and after dinner the talk had turned to sheep, and Dal told me about some outstanding Stone rams that he had seen in the Cassiar Mountain range. In November of 1962 I had met Dal again who now operated as full-time outfitter after years of experience as bush pilot. Again Stone sheep were

the topic of our talks and Dal admitted that he knew where there were some trophy heads. The area had not been hunted before since it was too tough for horses and the nearest lake was too far away from the hunting area to be reached by foot. Back-packing in would be the only means to reach the sheep. This being my weakness, I asked, "When do we leave?"

On October 15, 1963, after Dal had his horses out of the mountains on their winter range, we headed into Blue Sheep Lake in the heart of the Cassiar Range by bush plane. At Watson Lake

in the Yukon Territory, where Dal has his winter home, we were joined by Gus Blagden of New York and Bob Scott of North Garden, Virginia. They had hunted widely in Alaska, Yukon, and British Columbia that fall and had volunteered their help.

With loaded back packs we headed north, picking a pace that would not tire us too much with our heavy loads. We packed in for two days, pitching our lean-to over a bed of boughs at night. We camped at as high as possible, but still within reach of firewood and water. *(Continued on page 44)*



# UTAH MT. LION HUNT

By **DON NEER**

At a range of about 15 feet, Bob Utter takes aim on the mountain lion with his Model 94 Winchester in .30-30.

**I**N FEBRUARY of 1964, Bob Utter, a systems engineer for Boeing Aircraft Co. of Seattle, competed in the 6th Annual National Industrial Recreation Association Rifle Championship, which is sponsored by the National Rifle Association. The match was held at the Boeing Aircraft Co. range in Seattle, and the entrants included some of the best shooters from industrial teams throughout the country.

Bob Utter won the match, with a Winchester 52C which carried Redfield International sights, scoring 197 out of 200, to become industry's top rifleman of the year. Ordinarily, Bob Utter's success story would end there, but this time it was different. The prize Bob won that day was an all-expenses paid cougar hunt at the Desert Inn Ranch, Motoqua, Utah. How did Bob react to this golden opportunity?



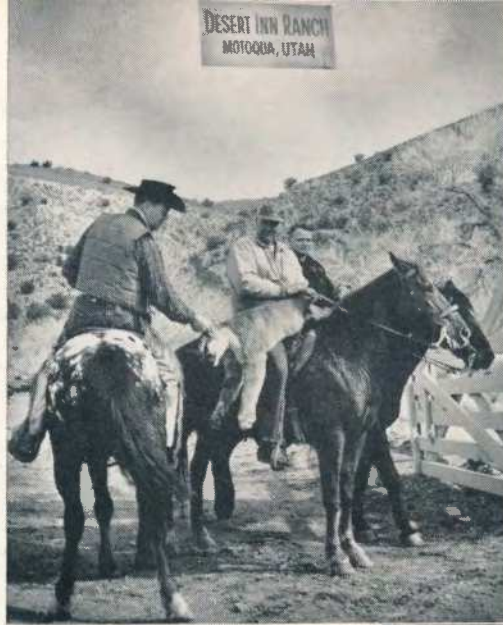
"My first reaction to winning a mountain lion hunt," Bob recalls, "was lukewarm. I had no experience with hunting in association with competent professionals, and only limited experience with horses. As the time for the hunt approached, my feelings changed to pleasant anticipation of the stay in Las Vegas, Nevada."

It was decided that Bob Utter, Mark Swain, of the Stardust Hotel, Al Labrie of the NRA and I would meet in Las Vegas. By 5:00 PM, on February 12th, we had all checked into the Stardust Hotel, and capped off the evening with a steak dinner and floor show.

Saturday morning found us packing Mark's station wagon for the 150 mile drive to the Desert Inn Ranch, and we soon found ourselves heading northeast out of Las Vegas on Highway 91. When we reached the ranch, we were greeted by Rod Leavitt, ranch foreman, who promptly announced that Jake Jones, one of the nation's top cougar guides, had nine horses saddled and was coming with his dogs.

In addition to Bob Utter, Mark Swain, Al Labrie, and myself, the hunt would also include Skip Glomb, owner of the Elk Horn Ranch in Cody, Wyoming; Bill Stambaugh, Skip's foreman; Tony King, photographer for the Stardust Hotel; Joanne Swain, Mark's wife and camp cook; and Bryant Seaman, Desert Inn account executive for Reach-McClinton Advertising Co. Plus, of course, Jake Jones and Rod Leavitt.

This activity was (Continued on page 40)



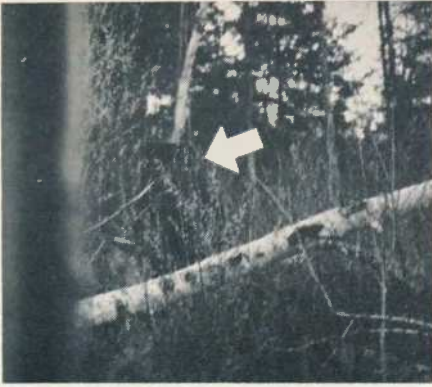
Above: Bob Utter's trophy makes a grand entrance to corral of Desert Inn Ranch. Cougar is astride horse of Jake Jones, who specializes in hunting mountain lion.



Right: Loading the cougar, which weighed 140 pounds, and measured 7½ feet long.



Left: Cougar got stuck in rocky crevice, and had to be yanked out by the tail. Above: Lucky rifle champ with his trophy cat.



Walking upright, the bruin stopped at slide to check air currents, and second later fell to C-I-L bullet.



## FIELD TEST OF C-I-L AMMO:

# THE WEEKEND BEAR

By R. A. STEINDLER

WE 'AVE MANY BEARS in and around the Park, but not many grow as big as the one I killed 'ere last year," Alphonse Lavoie declared, pointing to yet another black bear track that crossed the road. We were bouncing along a logging road of uncertain vintage near the Reservoir Basketong north of the tiny town of Grand Remus where Quebec's routes 11 and 58 meet. M. Lavoie knew the bear situation very well; this was not surprising since he is Inspector Game Warden for this area. Though deskbound much of the time, he manages to get into the field often enough to keep close tabs on

game and game movements, and he was certain that he'd get me a big bruin. The one he killed in September of 1964 set somewhat of a local record, and the boar had tipped the scales at over 500 pounds. Lavoie swears by his iron-sighted Model 81A Remington autoloader in .300 Savage, and, as usual with him, only one round was needed to drop the bear in his tracks.

Our official party consisted of Lavoie, who acted as my personal guide, M. Claude Carle, Game Warden in Charge of this area and Park de la Verendrye, and Les Morrow, public relations manager of C-I-L. It was Les who was



Lavoie and Carle planned bear hunt after Les Morrow found big tracks.



Jack Bowen of Air Canada and Les Morrow admire hide at Montreal.



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Gens Magazine Skobie Illness      Adresse — Address

est autorisé à exporter par lui-même      Nom — Name

en faveur de      Adresse — Address

Décrire l'espèce et la quantité Describe the species and quantity

Permis de pêche ou de chasse Fishing or hunting license No. 52681

Although bear had not been out of hibernation long, he was in excellent flesh and hide was perfect. Sizes of paw and the weight and measurements led us to believe that bear would go into book, but skull lacked ¼".



to blame for the whole crazy weekend hunt.

When Les had shown GUNS editors Bev Mann, Jerry Rakusan, and me the newest C-I-L bullet in the early part of 1964, we were intrigued but also somewhat skeptical. Would the nylon bullet tip of the Sabretip bullet expand the same way lead does? I had given the C-I-L ammo a thorough going over and found that the nylon bullet tips did not alter or affect bullet expansion in any way—at least not in the bullet recovery box. I had written Les, asking him to let me have either a picture or an expanded bullet that had been recovered from game to see if my method of testing bullet expansion was really indicative of a bullet's performance on game. Les never did come up with either the picture or the expanded bullet, but he did have a suggestion. "Come up for a spring bear. Sort of field test the Sabretip yourself. We'd sure like to have you, and I'm sure we can do the whole thing in just two days of hunting."

When Les called me about the big bears coming out of hibernation in early May '65, he added an extra inducement: "We'll make a movie while we are at it. Have a TV show here with CBC, and can use the film. Will give you chaps some good coverage here in Canada and you'll get your bear. Just bring an '06 and some hunting clothes. I'll have the ammo and I'll make all the arrangements. Fly in Friday night via Air Canada, and we'll have you back at your desk Monday."

When the Air Canada jet stopped rolling at the Montreal airport in the afternoon of (Continued on page 56)



**STOP the  
GAME . . .  
but SAVE  
the MEAT**

**TIPS ON BULLETS AND THEIR PLACEMENT FOR NEAT  
HARVESTING OF BIG GAME—FOR TROPHY AND TABLE**

By BERT POPOWSKI

**E**VERY YEAR the meat of thousands of head of assorted big game arrives at hunters' homes in deplorable condition—beyond salvage by any means that can then be employed. The gigantic loss begins with the hunters' choice of rifles and ammunition, coupled with ignorance of the vital areas of said game, and shooting game willy-nilly just as long as it comes crashing down.

The loss of fine edible game meat is monumental, and the disappointment of hunters, their families and friends is keen. Many housewives rapidly acquire a dim view of the field results which they

are expected to transform into fine food. They face an impossible problem which often sours them forevermore on the sport of hunting.

The fault lies with the hunters. Many of them don't know where game vitals are located and how they may be hit with deadly effect but with minimal meat damage. Others pay too little attention to the selection of rifles and ammunition used. Still others are simply such rotten shots or use such inaccurate rifles that they've no idea of where their bullets are likely to hit. If all three of these major shortcomings are combined in one hunter—the meat-producing results are frequently the cause of future distain of game meat.

During the past 25 years American hunters have gone positively wild in the matter of bullet velocity. The theory that the faster it can drive a bullet the better the rifle is as a meat-getter has, in my opinion, gone clear outside rational bounds.

Unthinking hunters no longer select a rifle and bullet combination on the basis of its ballistical excellence. Instead, they choose on the basis of muzzle velocity; then compound that error by loading lighter and lighter bullets, ahead of faster and faster powders, until they wring the last foot-second of speed out of the load. It's an idiotic trend that has nothing to commend it and much to condemn it for the average hunter.

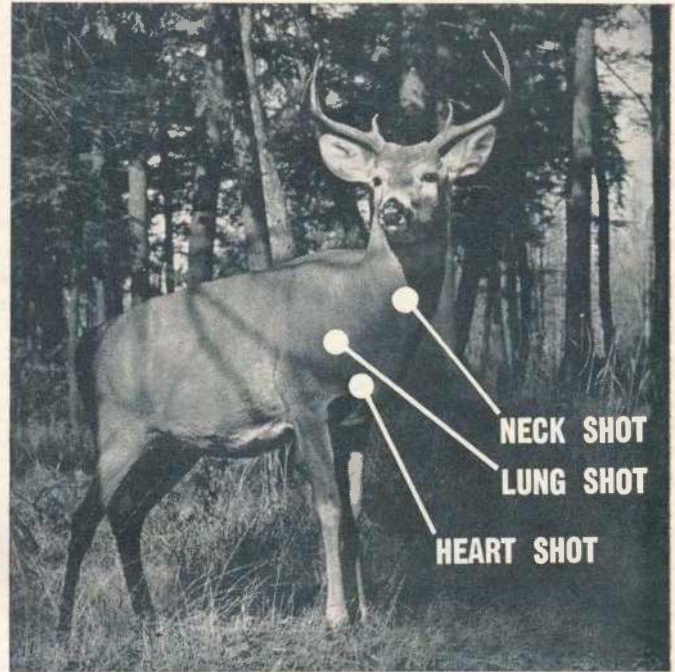
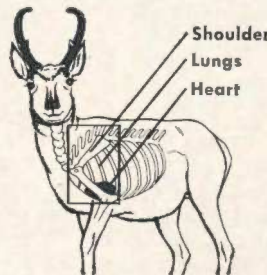
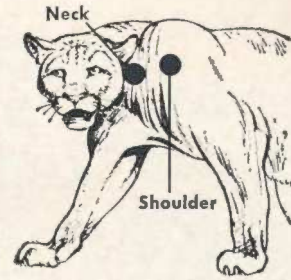
Let's go back to the most elemental fundamental of shooting game: you can't kill it without fatally injuring it. But that doesn't mean you have to bash the poor critter to a bloody pulp in order to reduce it to possession. One bullet, neatly slipped into the most convenient of several vital areas, will do a much neater job, without causing needless suffering or massive damage to edible meat tissues. A bullet of good functional weight for your caliber doesn't need to be lofted into the target like a lightning bolt to produce good functional results.

Where are these important animal vitals, and how may each of them be best employed for sure quick kills? Actually, even the greenest hunter can learn their locations in a matter of a few minutes of study; and even a fair marksman can score on them with a high degree of regularity. It's merely a matter of *not* shooting for the whole visible body bulk of the animal, but picking the handiest and largest vital area, then try to hit as near its vulnerable center as possible. Even if that exact center isn't hit, the adjacent bullet shock will produce quick, clean, meat-saving kills.

These vital areas, based on their size and exposure for even the most inept marksmen, are as follows:

First, the lung area—behind the shoulder, below the backbone, ahead of the diaphragm, and above the belly line. Even on the smallest of North American big game, the pronghorn antelope, this offers a generous 10" square on full broadside shots. On angling shots at antelope and small deer this area decreases in horizontal measurement but its vertical size remains constant. But on the larger species of big game it may expand to as much as 18" square on huge muley deer, caribou, bighorn sheep, mountain goats and elk; and over a 24" square on moose.

Second, the heart shot—a forward and downward prolongation of the lung shot, though much reduced in target size. Of the many, many hunters who annually claim to have made heart shots only a very few actually hit that vital organ; and virtually none of them who do so



It takes only a few minutes to learn the position of vital areas for quick, meat-saving kills on big game.

avoid creating considerable meat damage with it. The heart is located in the lower frontal portion of the chest cavity, midway between the front legs, and it is thus almost impossible to hit it without also damaging the meat of those legs. When fast-expanding bullets are used their impact often extends blood-clotting clear up into the shoulder meat.

Third, is the liver shot, which can be made without damaging any more meat than a first-class lung shot and is even more rapidly deadly. But the hunter who uses a fast-expanding bullet and makes a perfect liver shot may find that organ shattered into doll-rags, with portions of it driven into the paunch, through the diaphragm and into the lungs, and be faced with a first-class mess in dressing out his animal. (Continued on page 58)



# Pull!

BY DICK MILLER

ONE OF THE HOTTEST clay target shooting performances of the year has been turned in by a 13 year old, Johnny Davis, Jr., of Columbia, South Carolina. Johnny is no stranger to shooting excellence, having won the sub-junior trophies in the 1963 and 1964 NSSA World Championships, but his performance in the 1965 Cheatham Wilson Open Skeet tournament over the grounds of the 1965 World NSSA Championships must surely be one of his finest hours.

When the 12 ga. portion of the Cheatham Wilson event was concluded, eight shooters had broken 100 straight. Four 100-straighters fell by the wayside in three extra conventional rounds of 25 targets each. Then, shoot management decided that sudden death would hasten the process of selecting a champion. When the sudden death round of 25 targets eliminated only one competitor, leaving three shooters who didn't seem likely to miss, the remaining triumvirate locked horns in 100 more targets shooting doubles at all stations. Johnny dropped just one target of this century, which gave him the decision over Gerry Schuh of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida (who won the All-Around Trophy with 489x500) and Everett Chastain of Marietta, Georgia.

For a recap, Johnny's 299x300 was made up of 100 straight in regulation distance, 75 targets in conventional shoot-off, 25 targets under sudden death rules, and 99x100 of doubles from all stations. This is the hard way to win a trophy!

This summer's clay target tournament circuit produced a lot of colorful shooting stories. In Hawaii, The Honolulu Skeet Club concluded its third annual Lin Austin Memorial Open. Winner of every trophy was James W. Austin, son of Lin Austin.

At the Oconomowoc, Wisconsin Big Gun Shoot, no male shooters figured in the trophy distribution except in the junior division. When the smoke had cleared in the 12 gauge event, all that was left was a shoot-off between Mrs. Ann Ackart of Lake Forest, Illinois, and Mrs. Clarine Menzel of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, with Mrs. Ackart taking the trophy. Both ladies broke 99x100 over regulation distance. Mrs. Menzel won the 20 gauge portion of the program with a 98x100, also turning back the stronger sex.

Chester County won the 1965 running of the famous Penn-Del Twilight Target trapshooting league. Chester County (Pennsylvania) is also in the news, with word that Ray A. Mullin from Avondale won the county 16-yard championship at the West Chester

Gun Club. Mullin won the title in a shoot-off with R. B. Smith and Joe Whiteside in a storm. R. E. Crossan took the Chester County handicap crown on Saturday preceding Sunday's 16 yard championships, also in a shoot-off with Joe McDonough. Both shooters are from Kennett Square. Don Sundy from Shoemakersville was high out-of-county shooter, with a 97 in handicap firing, and 163 entries vied for the county title.

Milton H. Taylor of Vineland, New Jersey, turned back the great Howard Dilts from Ringoes, N. J., on the first day of Atlantic City Gun Club's car shoot. Results of the second day, for which 145 entries were recorded prior to the shoot, did not reach us in time for publication.

Pine Valley Gun Club, Berlin, New Jersey, held a 200 target handicap contest the week before Atlantic City's big event, as a warm-up for the unusual handicap program. R. C. Brzezicki from Bordentown won a new trap gun in the Pine Valley warm-up event, by breaking 193 of 200 targets from the 23 yard line.

In my native Hoosier state a long-time friend broke 494x500 targets in a 16-yard marathon preceding the 71st Annual Indiana State Trap Championships, at the Kingen Gun Club, McCordsville. Pull! salutes Edgar Kuhlenschmidt on the marathon victory.

• • •

Because of the continuing discussions among shooters concerning the various fields of interest and responsibility in the clay target world of such organizations as National Rifle Association, International Shooting Union, etc., I quote portions of a letter from Mr. Louis Arnett Benton of Middlesex, New Jersey.

Mr. Benton is the U. S. Olympic Committee representative of the U. S. Revolver Association, and if the reader wonders how revolvers and rifles (NRA) got into a discussion of the clay target sports, read on.

"I was most interested in your article on International Trap in August GUNS.

"I, as the U. S. Olympic Committee representative of the U. S. Revolver Association, wonder if you should not amplify a little known but most important facet of the International Olympic Committee Rules that national associations must live by: An olympic games committee must be controlled by the national organization recognized by that sport's international organization. In shooting the IOC member is the International Shooting Union (IUI or ISU). They, in turn, recognize the NRA as the only U. S.

shooting organization since 1958 when the ISU voted to reject the USRA's membership application. The USRA had been members since the early 1900's.

"The Olympic pistol committee was then set up with joint representation by the NRA, USRA, and the Armed Forces. This year the USOC voted to combine all shooting into one committee. This committee will be set up with NRA as the international member, and representation by USRA, ATA, NSSA, and the Armed Forces.

"This, then, is the reason you hear the NRA talking trap and skeet. They are the international member coordinating U. S. representation in international competition. They have the responsibility for selecting and certifying that international team members are our best shooters and meet the ISU standards as amateurs. This responsibility of selection can, of course, be delegated to the specialists organizations comprising the committee, but each person selected must be certified by the NRA as a bona fide amateur. (Editor's note—the definition of an amateur in trap and skeet, where cash prizes are at stake has always been a thorny one—more on that later.)

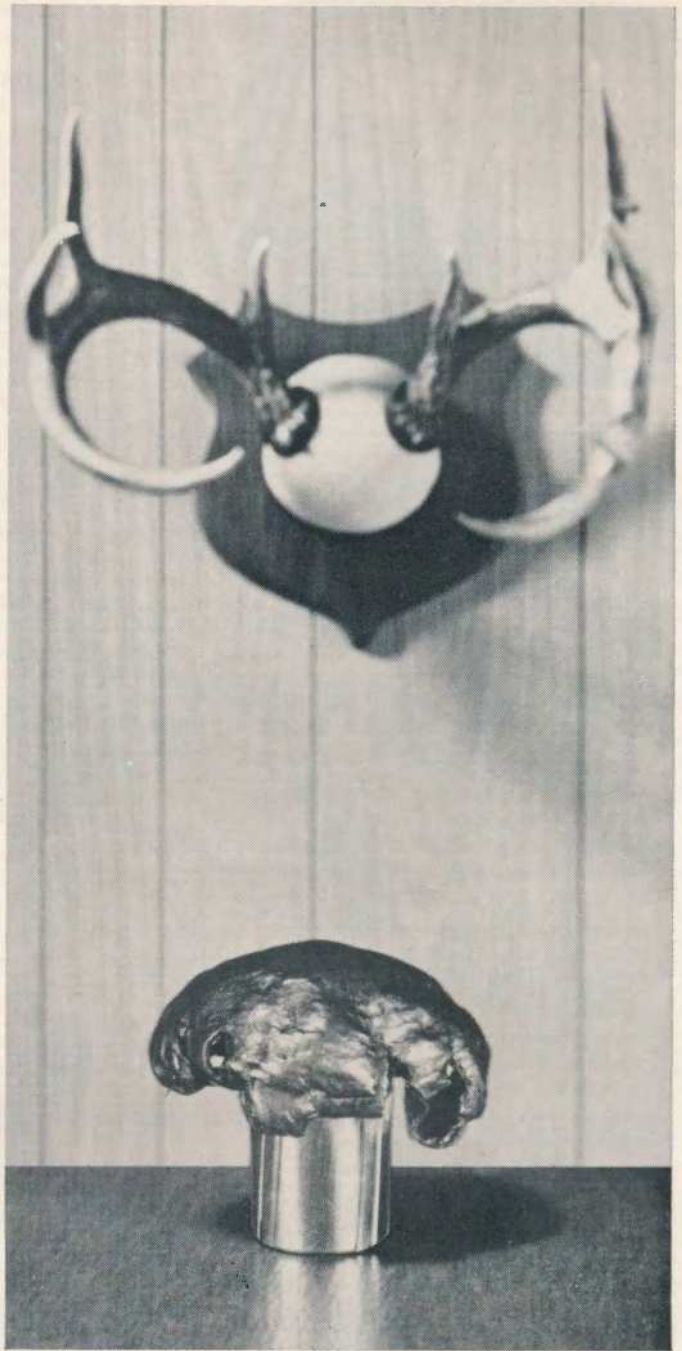
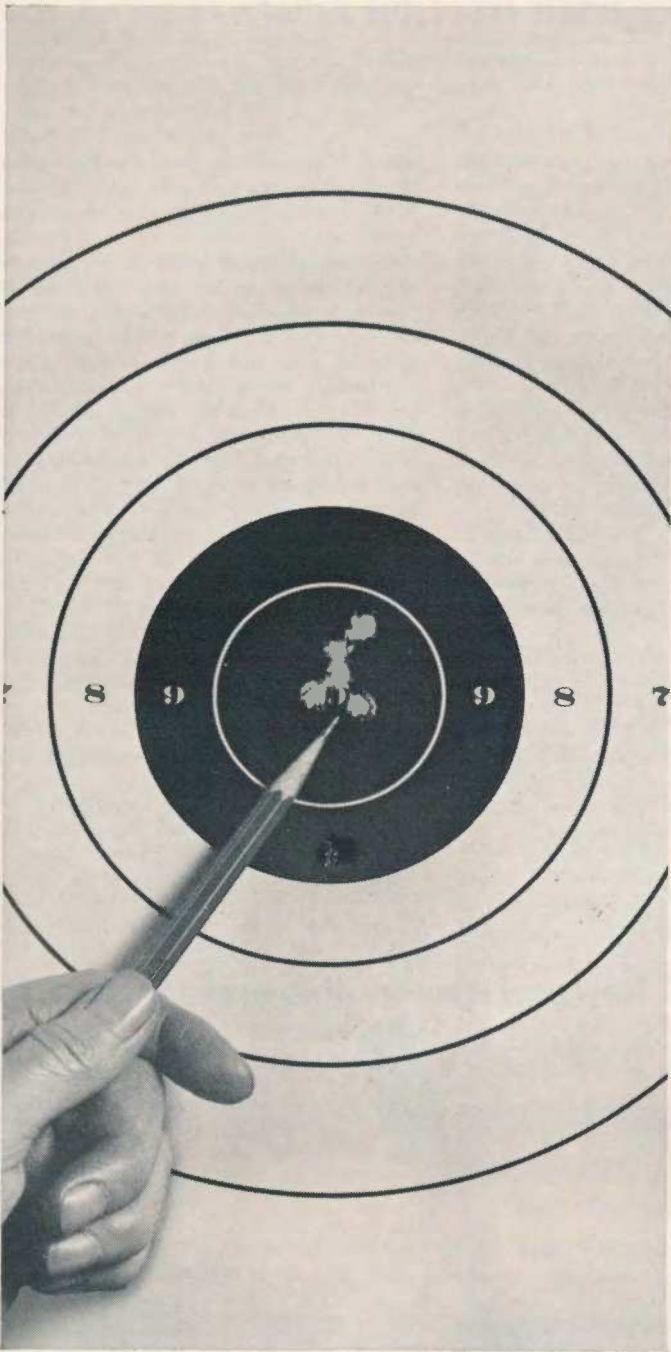
"Let me assure you that the USRA was not happy to lose its traditional position internationally, but since the international game is played by international rules, we went along as being best for the shooting game in the United States. We were and we are international specialists in slow fire pistol. I believe you will find the shotgun shooters are also taking advantage of the extensive international staff and services the NRA affords.

"L. A. Benton—Vice President, United States Revolver Association."

Mr. Benton's thoughtful and concise letter should clear much of the mystery concerning governing bodies, selection, etc., for international clay target sports. It also saves the writer the task of writing more letters and columns on the subject.

To avoid any further confusion or misunderstanding, I will add that none of the foregoing refers to conduct of the clay target sports here in the United States. Our home grown varieties are governed in the case of trap by the Amateur Trapshooting Association with headquarters at Vandalia, Ohio, where the national tournament is held annually, and for skeet by the National Skeet Shooting Association, with headquarters in Dallas, Texas. At one time it was planned to hold all of the national championships of skeet in Dallas, but in recent years the tournament has been rotated about the country and even into Canada. This year's NSSA national championships (billed as World Championships) were held at the Forest City Gun Club, Savannah, Georgia, and we hope to report those results in our next issue.

And, speaking of Canada, in line with the formula described in Mr. Benton's letter, the Canadian Skeet Shooting Association was recently organized at a meeting held at the Montreal Skeet Club "designed expressly to organize Canadian championships and to take over the responsibility for selection and participation of Canadian teams in international competition." John McManman of Ottawa, Ont., was elected provisional president, and Hugh S. Garland of Westmount, P.Q., secretary.



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## UTAH MT. LION HUNT

(Continued from page 33)

in preparation for a training ride which was to get the hunters used to the horses, and to warm up the dogs for the coming hunt. Bob Utter recalls, "The training expedition relieved my apprehensions regarding horseback riding. The mount I was given (or I should say which was stuck with me) was a tractable and sure-footed mare. A ride of some 15 miles over awe-inspiring terrain gave me confidence in the horse."

The next morning we were on our way to cougar territory, and after several hours, and at a time when we had dismounted for a rest, the hounds gave tongue. As Bob Utter tells it, "For the first time in my life I witnessed by eye and ear a live performance of hunts I had seen in moving pictures and on television. Like any other live performance, this one had a power that never quite comes through on the screen."

Rod shouted, "They got a cat on the run," and hit the leather. Mark was already headed over the crest at a full gallop, and Utter was in hot pursuit on his black mare. Nine horses and nine men unscrambled in less than 30 seconds, and we were in full chase. Still, we weren't quick enough as the dogs were already out of sight and sound.

Someone hollered, "Down by the water hole," and off we galloped down the jagged rocks. At the water hole, Jake and Rod fanned out, and in less than a minute Rod

yelled, "They're down by the ravine." About the same time we heard the cry of the pack as they circled around a rocky crevice about a mile away.

Getting to a treed or caved cougar as fast as you can is mighty important, and the trained horses responded to the challenge and converged headlong on the jagged rock pinnacle. The cougar was literally pinned in the rocky crevice, and it was decided that the only way to get the cougar out into the open was to get hold of his tail and yank!

Big Rod said, "Get the horses back and hold the dogs, I'll give it a try." Cautiously, he approached the crevice and waited his chance to grab the cougar's tail. He braced himself, and with all his 250 pounds, he hauled on the cougar's tail. Out he flipped with a vicious growl. Rod broke all ten yard records getting around the base of the rock while the cougar dodged the dogs and cut to the right. In great loping strides the cat headed across open country with the hounds howling on his trail. All hands were again in the saddle racing madly after the dogs.

With the smallest lung capacity of any animal its size, the cougar had to rest, and soon found a 20 foot high juniper. When we reached the tree, the dogs were already clawing their way from limb to limb to get at the snarling cat. Rod and Jake encour-

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aged the dogs with cries of, "Get 'em Buck", "Grab 'em Bones."

Buck, however, got too brave and about 15 feet off the ground, the cat's right paw struck out and grabbed him by the neck, pulling him out of his perch. Just as the big tom was set to take a bite out of Buck's jowl, the other dog sunk his teeth in the cat's tail and he dropped the yowling Buck.

As we moved in closer, the wise old cougar made his way higher in the juniper and out on the biggest limb. At the strategic moment, he gave a mighty leap over the heads of the dogs and doubled back up hill toward the rocky crevice.

Bob Utter remembers vividly this part of the hunt. "It was here," he said, "that I viewed a somewhat irate cougar at a much closer distance than I had ever seen one behind bars and glass at the Seattle Zoo."

Off we went again, and this time the dogs cornered the game animal on a rock shelf close to where he had been before. The hounds closed in from both ends of the rock shelf and kept the cougar at bay. Just when we thought we had him, he did a back flip and came bounding out of his hideaway as men and horses beat a lightning retreat. Utter had his .30-30 Winchester, Model 94, unlimbered ready for action, but not used to shooting off a moving horse, didn't get a shot.

The cougar, by this time, had disappeared from sight over a short knoll to the south. The hounds lost little time picking up the trail and once again disappeared from sight. By the time we reached the point where the dogs were last seen, we ran smack into the pack as they came circling back to find the cougar tracks.

The cougar had again found a rocky ledge

not over a thousand yards from his previous perch, and the dogs had overrun his trail. By back tracking, they again picked up the scent and discovered his hiding place.

But this is Bob Utter's story, and from here on, I'll let him tell it in his own words. He recalls:

"We came upon the hounds and cat on a rocky ledge. Skip was at my elbow and remarked that it was time to finish him. I dismounted, approached to something less than 15 feet, and cocked the rifle. I asked Skip where I should hit him and he replied, 'At about 4 inches below 6 o'clock to his chin, and the junction of the light and dark fur.' I aimed carefully, relieved that the rifle was not performing the gyrations that I see more often than not on the target range. There was an explosive exclamation as my finger tightened on the trigger. My second apprehension disappeared, although I had a bad moment when Jake remarked with dry humor, 'He's only grazed,' from a point within a foot of the animal. My first impulse—to reload and fire again as soon as Jake cleared the area—died as I realized Jake was having a quiet joke.

"Prior to the hunt, I had been dimly aware that cougars were predators. Jake's response to my query regarding how many deer a cougar kills brought home to me just how predatory these animals are. He stated that a cat of the age and size I had shot (2½ years old and 145 pounds) would kill about a deer a week—if he didn't get the urge to kill for fun.

"In retrospect, I find it hard to believe that a three day weekend can be packed with so much fun and action. Given the opportunity, would I do it again? Try me and see!"

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## GI ARMS IN VIET WAR

(Continued from page 22)

continues: "An extensive inquiry was made into the general military situation. Particular attention was given to the adequacy of weapons and equipment . . . Only very minor and isolated discrepancies were found . . . It appears that American personnel are being furnished modern and adequate type weapons and ammunition. At no time in recent months has this presented a problem, although there might have been some widely separated and unconnected instance where an individual soldier, either through his own neglect or circumstances beyond his control, found it necessary to use equipment which he did not personally prefer. The incidence of such circumstances is much fewer in Viet Nam than is ordinarily found in situations of combat.

"The staff investigator discussed with one reporter the circumstances involved in a story reporting complaints of inadequate clothing, equipment, and ammunition. The story was obtained from casual conversations with individuals and was not based on any widespread accumulation of complaints. The reporter had not made any further investigation of the circumstances lying behind the complaints of these few individuals. The reporter and the staff investigator went through the area mentioned in the story as a black market, and found it represented relatively small scale pilferage, a typical

Oriental thieves market. The shortages of equipment, where it existed at all, were local and temporary in nature, usually reflecting hostile interruptions of transport, and in all cases adequate substitutes were available. At no time was there a critical shortage or deficiency in weapons or ammunition."

It is too bad, of course, that any U. S. fighting man should ever find it "necessary to use equipment which he did not personally prefer." But the sublime ideal of giving every GI exactly what he wants becomes ridiculous when you consider how many different makes, calibers, types of guns, how many variations of loads, our "gun nuts in uniform" might want. Extend this to shirts, boots, underwear, and other items of equipment and the problems of logistics become fantastic! It is the time-honored prerogative of all soldiers everywhere to gripe—about their guns, their equipment, their food, their officers, the climate and terrain in which they are cast. But it is the time-honored duty of reporters to investigate the circumstances behind the complaints of a few individuals before telling the American public that their "boys" are being sent into combat without guns, without ammunition.

Not long ago I saw in Washington pictures of the effect these little .223 bullets on enemy targets in Viet Nam. These were not pretty pictures; not photos likely to be

released for publication. But they left no doubt in my mind that the U. S. fighting man armed with this weapon was better equipped for battle than any soldier of any nation had ever been before.

Many will disagree with this appraisal, insisting that no such small bullet can ever achieve true combat effectiveness. But proof of the in-combat success of the M-16, as appraised by those who have actually seen it and used it in combat, is inherent in the following facts:

1. Already the official Air Force weapon, the M-16 is now in production for the U. S. Army, and is the only military rifle of any caliber now in production in this country.

2. The M-16 has been and is being purchased, for field use or for tests, by 50 foreign governments whose observers have been impressed by its Viet Nam effectiveness.

3. The Russians, similarly impressed by reports from Viet Nam, are reported to have a .223 caliber rifle and cartridge of their own nearing readiness for production.

Detractors of the small caliber say, "But it's strictly a short-range weapon." Not so. When the AR-15 was strictly a police weapon, Colt was offering it with scope sight and mounts as optional equipment; and this was no mere gimmick. The .223 cartridge has the high-velocity, low-trajectory accuracy potential of a very fair "varmint"—and Air Force tests have shown that it has sufficient remaining energy to shoot through both sides of a typical military steel helmet at 500 yards.

Colt engineers, working constantly since well before their capture of the Air Force contract in 1962, have developed the original AR-15 into a complete Infantry Weapons System of seven models, and into a Machine Gun System of four models. These include the rifle (with grenade-launching attachment), the carbine, the survival pack gun, the submachine gun, a heavy assault rifle, a heavy grenade launcher to span the range between ordinary rifle grenades and mortars, and four weight-and-use variations of machineguns. All use the same 5.56 mm. (.223 caliber) ammunition, thus vastly simplifying the logistics of ammunition supply.

The Air Force M-16 weighs 6.3 pounds, empty. It has an overall length of 39 inches (barrel length, 20 inches). Its cyclic rate is from 700 to 900 shots per minute. The little bullets have a muzzle velocity of 3250 fps, with a muzzle energy of 1285 ft./lbs.

These are not particularly impressive figures by magnum-rifle standards. But hit a man with five of these bullets in half a second—which is easy to do, thanks to the M-16's light recoil and handling characteristics—and you have delivered a cumulative impact effect equivalent to a muzzle energy of 6425 ft./lbs. Only one cartridge listed in U. S. production today promises more muzzle energy than that, and that is the .460 Weatherby Magnum with its 500-grain bullet, made for the world's heaviest game.

The people with combat experience in Viet Nam are not saying that the M-16 is inadequate. The Viet Cong are not calling it a pipsqueak. And the people who should know say the little rifles are in good supply, with ample ammo to keep them firing.



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## RECORD STONE SHEEP

(Continued from page 31)

We decided to make the second camp our base, striking out from there to scout for my trophy ram.

The next day Dal and I saw quite a few ewes and lambs. We also spotted a small Stone ram that seemed to be on the move, probably toward the ewes. His horns had slightly less than a full curl, and I was content to watch him for a while. I wanted a head that would make the Boone and Crockett book, and nothing smaller.

Gus and Bob covered a lot of country with their binoculars and spotted one sheep about 5 miles away. It appeared that the animal was alone, and a lone ram is very often a big one.

All four of us set out in that direction the next morning and I was finally getting used to the thin air of this elevation. We took to the ridges and covered a lot of territory. Basin after basin were glassed on both sides. We dropped into the saddle near where Gus and Bob had seen the sheep the day before. While we rested, Dal slipped over a small hogs-back to glass the area ahead of us. He spotted three young rams, about the size of the one we had seen the day before, and also figured out our procedure for hunting the next day. We would come down the next ridge, cross over to the same ridge that we were now on, except a few miles further and

look into what he thought should be some good ram country.

Before daybreak we were again on our way, stopping only long enough to glass every basin and ridge. There seemed to be a complete lack of fresh signs on the ridge we were hunting. As we topped out, Dal was slightly in the lead. He suddenly stepped back and dropped to his knees. I joined him and we both moved forward to take a look. There was a ram about 500 yards away feeding among the scrub balsam at the timberline. Dal thought the horns would go about 40 inches. We also saw another ram a short distance away, a little smaller, but still a good ram. Both were working their way down into the heavier timber. We decided not to wait too long. The big one looked good to me and I decided to try for him.

As soon as the rams were behind trees, we worked our way toward them rapidly. Dal and I checked a basin just to our right to make sure there wasn't anything better there. It was empty. The wind was right as we moved swiftly down to an opening near where we had last seen the rams. If we could get down below them, they would at least hesitate before running up. But if we were above them and they saw us, a few leaps would put them in the protection of the forests below.

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As we moved through the timber our visibility was poor. No signs or sound of the sheep. We dared not even whisper. We traversed a little knoll, knowing any bush might conceal my ram. We stared at one another. We had waited too long, and the rams had probably passed us. We worked our way over to a little point for a breather. As we reached the crest, we looked up at the same time—standing out in the open about 200 yards above us was one single ram looking at us. It was a good one. I was puffing and unsteady. I couldn't sit down because of the brush in front of me. I took a step over to a tree but couldn't steady the rifle against it because it was literally covered with limbs. I had to shoot off-hand. I squeezed the trigger as the reticle of my Leupold variable crossed the shoulder. A complete miss. One jump and the ram was out of sight. I had my chance and had muffed it!

We were silent as we headed back to camp. We came to the place where Dal had spotted the three young rams the day before, and they were still there. Higher up I saw yet another ram. We studied him. Decidedly bigger than the other three, he was equally as big as the one I shot at earlier. The ram was in the open and three small draws away from us. Dal and I dropped back and down so that we could get past the three small rams. When we topped out, we were obviously as close as we would ever get to the ram—over 300 yards. Two very steep draws separated us, but conditions were good—the ram didn't see us and he was in the open.

I screwed my variable scope to 9X and looked the ram over once more. A nice

trophy. Only one problem—because of the curvature of the hill that I was on in relation to the ram, I could not use the sitting position. An off-hand shot was out of the question because of distance. A prone shot would put me below the crown of the hill. The only answer was to crawl to the crown and try a prone shot. I made like a snake trying to conceal my bulky form behind six inches of clump grass, and finally I was in position. The only way I could get a perfect, steady rest was to place the fore-end of my rifle on my clenched fist, putting the butt under my armpit. I peered through the scope, the crosshair was lying just right—about  $\frac{3}{8}$  of the way up the shoulder. I knew what would happen, but decided to risk the inevitable scope cut. I squeezed the trigger, and Dal had to tell me what happened next. The ram collapsed and tumbled down out of sight.

We worked our way down to the ram and found that the Remington 180 grain bullet, pushed along by 82 gr. of 4831 from my Improved 300 H & H Magnum hit right in the center of the shoulder. Preliminary taping with a dollar bill (six inches long) indicated horns about 40 inches long. I had my record head after the disappointment of the earlier miss. Later measurements, after the necessary 60 day drying period, placed my Stone ram in the Boone and Crockett record list. This gives me a much improved grand slam—three of them in the book.

I was kidded about the scope cut for a while, but when the head was finally mounted and the story was told, everybody agreed that the trophy was well worth the beating I took to get my Stone ram. 

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**TESTING NEW .38 SNUBBY**

(Continued from page 27)

rounded-butt grips; subsequent production will include three inch barrels and also square-butt grips interchangeable with the rounded-butt factory standard. Sighting equipment consists of a ramped, semi-square 1/8 inch front blade, and a milled channel square-notch rear. Chrome-molybdenum steel is used throughout, except for the butt and trigger-guard frame; the latter one-piece assembly is a high-tensile lightweight alloy.

Charter claims that the Undercover achieves minimum weight with no sacrifice of strength. I undertook to test this objectively, and also comparatively by running identical trials with another American-made snubby and one of Spanish manufacture. For this test a special fixture was made which comprised a box made of two-inch oak lined with 1/4 inch lead sheeting, means of clamping a gun within the box, and an external remote trigger. This assembly was bolted in turn to a heavy bench-rest table. The special loads employed for these tests cannot be disclosed, but their computed pressure approximated 26,000 psi, which is considerably higher than that of the factory metal-piercing ammunition produced for use in heavy-frame revolvers. It should be noted that because the guns were rigidly clamped, they absorbed the full recoil of these heavy loads, in contrast to the situation which obtains when the shooter's arm and body

provide a significant degree of shock-absorbing action. The test consisted of 25 shots fired double-action, rapid-fire in strings of five in each gun, or until malfunction occurred, whichever happened first. Criteria of performance included ease of cylinder rotation, ease of extraction, tightness of action and/or signs of stress or failure of frame, cylinder, or barrel, including dimensional changes.

The results of this experiment were extremely interesting. The Spanish revolver bound up on the eighth round and could not be cocked or fired in the testing box. Examination revealed that the cylinder spindle was misaligned so that rotation was impossible when double-action firing was attempted, although the cylinder could be advanced with some effort by hand.

The American snubby fired all 25 rounds without trouble, ejected easily, and was assumed to have passed the tests in all other respects without a hitch. However, upon close inspection, considerable lead wash was found to have accumulated externally at the point of union of the barrel and frame. This resulted, of course, from the tremendous pressures generated by the test loads. This gun, as is the case with many American-made revolvers, is constructed with a relatively loose threaded engagement of the barrel and frame, the two components being aligned and secured by a transverse pin. In some cases barrel and frame are joined by frictional engagement and secured with a pin. Although perhaps not indicative of failure as such, continued stresses and consequent loosening of the barrel-frame union would sooner or later produce a significant impairment of accuracy, and might ultimately prove dangerous.

In the light of these results with the Spanish and American-made competitive revolvers, more than ordinary interest attached to the trial of the lightweight Undercover, especially since its manufacture employs a new system of precision threading of the barrel and frame, thereby excluding the need for pinning.

The first five shots in the Undercover went off smoothly, but when the gun was re-

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moved from the test box for reloading, considerable difficulty was encountered in ejecting the empties. Detailed examination of the gun disclosed no obvious reason for this. Finally, a dry patch was run through each chamber and it was observed to be covered with fine grayish particles. At first these were thought to be powder residue, but upon closer examination they proved to be the remains of the polishing compound used in finishing the chambers after boring. As a result of the heavy pressures developed by the test loads, the abrasive particles had become embedded in the cartridge cases, thus creating the extraction problem by heavy frictional engagement between the cartridge cases on one side and the cylinder walls on the other. The chambers were then scrubbed thoroughly with a brass brush followed by several dry patches, and the tests started over again. The Undercover digested all 25 test loads as rapidly as the gun could be fired, emptied, reloaded and refired. No extraction difficulties were encountered, nor, upon examination with a toolmaker's microscope and micrometer, could any signs of dimensional or structural stress or failure be detected. Despite every effort to find fault, the only possible conclusion is that Charter Arms' claims as to the Undercover's strength and ruggedness are entirely justified.

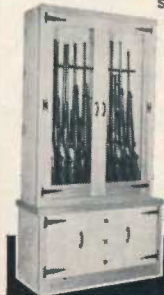
A test of the Undercover's accuracy using factory 158 gr. Police Service loads was undertaken next. For this purpose two types of targets were used, first the standard NRA 50 foot slow-fire match target with a 1 1/16" 10 ring, and second, one of Chic Gaylord's combat targets which is so scaled that at 15 feet the silhouette presented is proportional to that of a six foot man at 60 feet. My indoor range is only 40 feet long; on the other hand I'm used to a full-size match .38 Special revolver with adjustable sights. My experience with shortbarreled concealment revolvers has been extremely limited. Nevertheless, firing in match single-action style, I was able consistently to shoot scores of 74 to 77 with the little Undercover and factory service loads. I consider this excellent performance for a gun so light and with such a short sighting radius.

Having fudged a bit by using the slow-fire 50 foot target at 40 feet, I decided to try the Gaylord target at 25 feet, thereby making the silhouette equivalent to that of a six footer at 100 feet. For this test I fired

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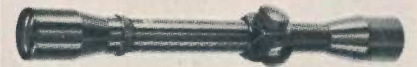
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double action against a 10 second timer. As soon as the timer went off I fired five rounds. This sequence was repeated three times in all for a total of 15 shots. Despite virtually no experience with double-action shooting beyond tin-can plinking, I found that out of 15 shots one had missed the silhouette completely, one went into the forearm area, and the remaining 13 were distributed in vital areas from the base of the skull to the abdominal region.

I consider the Undercover's accuracy to be quite remarkable and attributable to five features inherent in its design and manufacture. First, though equipped only with a simple milled channel for a rear sight, this channel is sufficiently wide and deep so that a very clear sighting picture emerges when the 1/8" front blade is aligned with it. Secondly, the gun I pulled at random from the production line had a crisp, creepless let-off; other guns I tried at the plant were comparable, and it is evident that Charter is going to considerable pains to achieve this. Thirdly, crisp let-off is combined with what seems like unusually fast lock time. Inquiry disclosed that my impression was indeed correct. Whereas many other revolvers of this type have a hammer arc approximately 60 degrees, the Undercover employs one of only 55 degrees, and the difference in quicker lock time is quite perceptible as well as contributing materially to target accuracy. Fourth, though I cannot at this time substantiate it, the accuracy of the Undercover may in no small degree be attributable to its eight lands and grooves. Almost all other American .38's use either five or six lands and grooves. The final feature contributing to the Undercover's accuracy—at least for me—is the design of its grips. Though the gun and the grips have minimal bulk, and while I have a fairly large hand,

I found that the subtle design of the grips was such that I had just enough wood to grip firmly and reasonably comfortably.

The Undercover's strength and accuracy are combined with a simplicity of design which belies the highly skilled engineering behind it. Complete disassembly and re-assembly can be achieved in about six minutes. This is due to an unusually high fitability of components, and, in even greater measure, the basic design and configuration of the gun. Thus, the Undercover lacks an intricately shaped and milled side plate. Where other revolvers employ as many as 10 screws and upwards of a dozen pins, the Undercover has only 4 screws and 3 pins which must be removed for complete disassembly. To the shooter this simplicity of design and consequent ease of assembly spells trouble-free maintenance and freedom from malfunction—both vital considerations in a gun intended primarily for combat use.

The practical use of the Undercover has been still further advanced by the close collaboration between Charter Arms and Chic Gaylord, well-known combat shooting instructor and equipment designer. Chic has adapted his original pocket holster to provide maximum concealment of the Undercover, and has also designed an ultra-fast belt scabbard for the little gun. Additionally, Gaylord has developed a series of special grips for the Undercover to cope with every possible requirement of concealment, holding style, hand size, and recoil sensitivity.

The Undercover carries a list price of \$55, and viewed from any angle, the gun is worth every cent of it. When combined with properly loaded ammunition, the Undercover will fulfill every demand for power, accuracy, dependability, and easy concealment.

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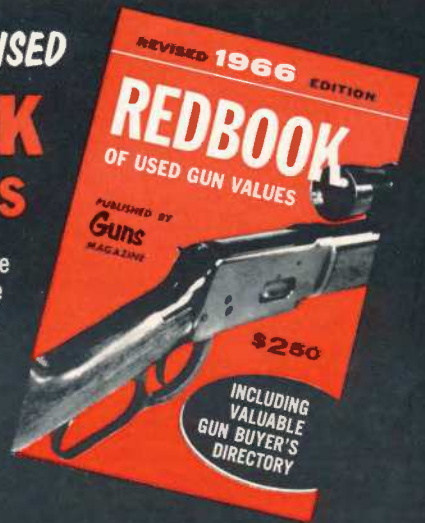


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## ANTI-GUN ADS

(Continued from page 23)

Hitting and hair-pulling are pretty deadly, too. From a study of 588 criminal deaths in one grouping, Wolfgang tabulates "39 per cent . . . due to stabbings, 33 per cent to shootings, 22 per cent to beatings, and 6 per cent to other miscellaneous methods." He goes on to say, "The leading method experienced by Negro victims was stabbing (47 per cent), while that experienced by white victims was beating (42 per cent)."

So don't smile quite so smugly, Miss Burns, about your New Yorker's not-quite-nice but comparatively harmless tendency to "hit or pull hair." Much more is involved in homicide than any mere availability of a weapon, Wolfgang tells us. Preference for, or common use of, certain methods and weapons for homicide, are apparently inbred in certain cultural groups, varying by race, sex, age, social class, and other gross social attributes.

"The use of a pen-knife or switchblade knife is five times more frequent among Negroes than among whites . . . (whereas) . . . "whites tend to choose beating by fists, feet, or blunt instruments as their principal means of inflicting death. A direct physical assault with fists or feet is over three times more frequent among whites than among Negroes." There is no doubt that the United States, with more guns in private ownership,

more general use of guns in sport, records a higher incidence of guns in homicide than do other countries having few guns and little cultural background of gun usage. This exactly parallels the fact that the United States, having more automobiles and more miles of highway than any other country, records more automobile fatalities than any other country.

There is little doubt, either, that Arizona and other western areas, with more guns per thousand population, with a greater percentage of people culturally conditioned to the use of guns, record higher percentages of firearms homicides than do cities and communities where guns are few and where even fewer people (percentage-wise) have ever fired a gun. But the over-all number of homicides per thousand population is not affected by the presence or absence of guns. Endless studies prove that, given the same cultural groupings (by race, sex, age, social class, and economic structure), the incidence of crime—by type of crime and by choice of weapon—will be startlingly identical. In other words, to repeat a truth stated so often, proved so often, and so obvious that we wonder how it can be so often ignored—crimes are committed by people, not by instruments. Certain people, under certain stresses, kill. They don't kill because a weapon is there—if so, housewives, daily users of edged and pointed weapons, would be the deadliest humans. They kill because, temporarily or otherwise, they want to kill—with whatever tool is most convenient or best adapted to the purpose.

Of course, if anyone expecting murder is fussy about how he (or she) is done in, he can increase the possibility of getting the kind of demise he prefers by choosing his race, sex, age, social class, economic status—even his geographic location—with that in mind. If he has a particular horror of guns, he'd better pick a situation where switchblades out-number guns and are preferred by the people. He must always remember, however, that he still may unluckily be hit over the head with a blunt instrument, strangled, stomped to death, poisoned, or crushed by a carefully driven motor vehicle. It's an unpredictable world!

But, if a killer gets you, you'll be just as dead, one way as the other. Maybe we should let up on guns for a while, and concentrate on law enforcement and court procedures that would put, and keep, more killers behind bars. Maybe, if we did that, more of us could live . . . and let live.

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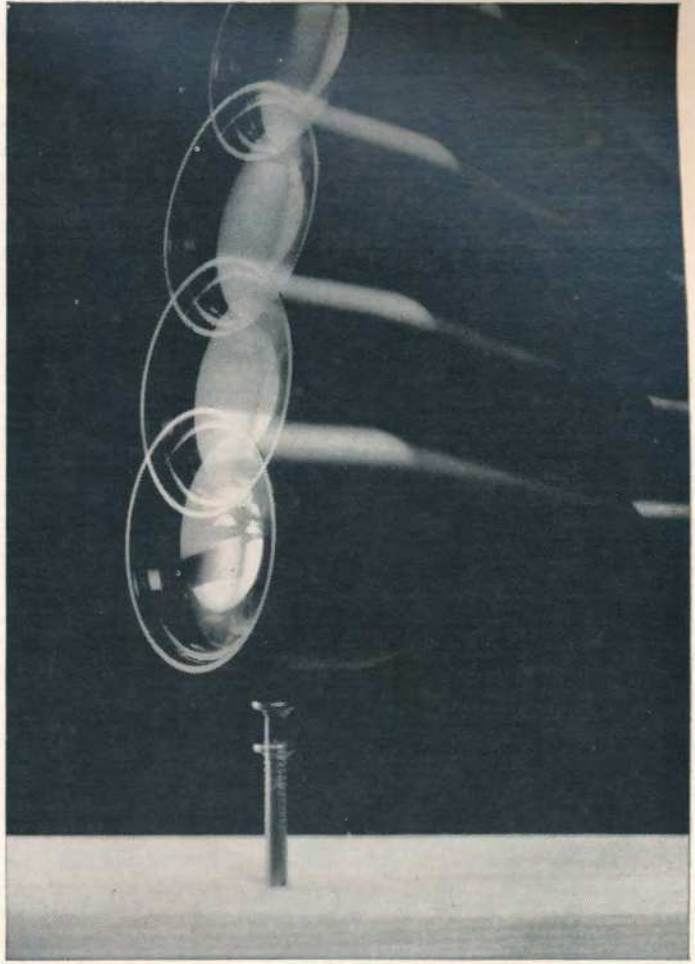
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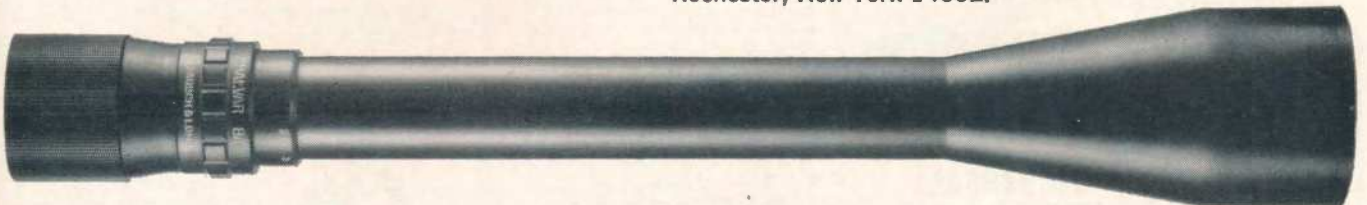
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## HOW TO GET YOUR DEER

(Continued from page 29)

Few of the average deer hunters are capable of accurate shooting while working a rifle action at top speed. Time must be taken to aim between each shot, for the difference between accurate aiming and trigger-squeezing determines the success or failure of a hunt which may have taken months of planning and preparation.

Of course, deer are downed with a second, third—and even a sixth shot—but not solely because the hunter has a fast-action rifle. Many hunters, when they see their first or second shot miss, realize that they are shooting too fast. They slow down and take a more deliberate aim instead of just feeding slugs through the barrel.

For more than a quarter century, I have hunted and shot mule deer, whitetail deer, red deer, fallow deer, and several other European species. I have used lever action, bolt action, and pump action rifles and have found that the combination of a fast trigger finger and a fast action accounts for few hits on deer. I missed deer, not because I shot too slowly, but because I was trying to shoot too fast.

The deer hunter who shoots only when he has the correct lead on a running deer has an advantage over the hasty shooter who attempts to empty his rifle at a deer without sighting properly.

Have you ever wondered when you hear three or four quick shots, then a long pause, and then a final shot? Most deer hunters, sighting a deer, start shooting very fast, but when they see the deer getting farther and farther away they take time to aim properly for a now-or-never final shot. And it is this last shot that usually gets the deer.

Shooting from the offhand position is difficult enough, even on a stationary target, if it is any distance from a shooter. How much more difficult is it to hit a running target, while working the action at top speed, if a hunter is the least bit careless with his aiming? You can't aim at the middle of a running deer and expect venison on the table, even with an autoloader. A hunter fools only himself when he shoots with the idea that the more frequently he fires at a running deer, the greater his chances of hitting it.

Certainly, a smooth fast-shooting rifle is a must for deer hunting, but it must be used properly to take advantage of its ability to deliver fast repeat shots. Sights are put on a rifle to sight with, not for decorative purposes. You must aim to hit. You can't depend on fire power alone to bag a deer.

Famous big game hunters, such as Jack O'Connor, Clyde Ormond, Warren Page, and others, wouldn't be famous if they attempted only to shoot in the general direction of the target instead of aiming to kill with each shot. As sportsmen, they shoot at a vital area to kill, not to cripple. Regardless of how big the caliber, it will not kill humanely if the bullet hits a deer in a non-vital area. Hastily and poorly-placed shots—even with a magnum caliber rifle—do not kill cleanly. I have seen badly hit deer, shot with a .250 Magnum rifle, run for a half mile before dropping. This, of course, cannot be blamed on the rifle, for I have seen the .250 Magnum drop deer in their tracks when hit in or near a vital area. Such shots are the fault of the shooter who does not care where he hits a deer as long as he hits it.

Many hunters only cripple on angle shots because they never lead enough to compensate for the distance the animal travels during the time it takes to pull the trigger and the bullet travels the distance to the target. To hit a running deer in the heart-lung area, the hunter must sight at least six feet ahead of the deer. Shots aimed at the shoulder either land behind a deer or in the gut, resulting in a miss or a cripple.

There are two ways to get the correct lead quickly on a running deer: the sustained-lead and the quick-swing.

In the sustained-lead shot, the rifle is swung ahead of a deer at shoulder height while holding a lead of six feet, keeping the rifle moving at the same speed the deer is running. The rifle must also be kept moving during and after the trigger pull.

In the quick-swing shot, the rifle is brought from behind the running deer and swung rapidly ahead. The trigger is pulled as the sight passes the deer's nose.

Most successful hunters use either of these two systems to bag their deer. Very few use the snap-shot in which the rifle is raised and aimed without benefit of swing far enough ahead of a deer to allow for its running speed and the mechanical operation of the rifle. This is about two and a half times the lead required when the rifle is swung with the target.

While lever, bolt, and pump action rifles make repeat shots at deer possible, if gunners concentrated more on placing the first shot in the heart-lung area, there would be fewer cripples to trail.

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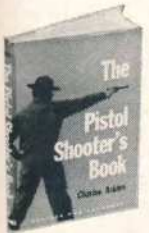
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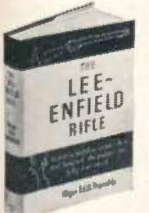
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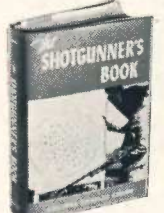
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## HISTORY OF A WHITNEY REVOLVER

(Continued from page 25)

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by state governors or even elected from the ranks. Transfer from one unit to another in search of advancement was common. This practice may have been democratic but abuses did result in poor performance in the field.

Roger Martin's revolver has the matching serial number 6789K on its major parts; is in fine condition; and has every appearance of being a "presentation" piece. Pistols as well as swords were often presented to officers by their commands or by their families or friends. Such arms were engraved with names, dates, regiments, places, and such sentiments as space and money permitted.

Roger Martin, in all probability, carried this Whitney during the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky. If he was among those captured, and this seems likely in view of the large number of officers captured from the 66th, then the revolver could have seen Confederate service. However, the fine condition of the revolver would indicate that Roger Martin was permitted to retain his sidearms as a military courtesy.

Little can be learned of the life of Roger Martin. His date of birth is not recorded, but according to his service records, he was born in Ireland and was a "railroad man." A book of regimental histories states that the 66th was organized under his direction

and that he commanded its march south to Richmond, Kentucky. According to his widow's pension application, dated 1891, Roger Martin died in 1873 from the effects of his wartime service. His medical papers show that he suffered from "hypertrophy of the heart." In the application, his wife gave her marriage date as being 1831. Assuming that he married young, this would indicate that Roger Martin was born about 1810, was in his early fifties while serving in the Civil War, and that he was in his early sixties when he died. To have served throughout the Civil War in an infantry regiment with a cardiac condition while in one's fifties was no small achievement. Disease was a greater killer andcrippler of the Civil War than the Minié ball.

A test firing of Roger Martin's .36 Whitney revolver proved it to be an accurate and pleasant weapon to shoot. The fine condition of this solid frame, 7 $\frac{5}{8}$ " barreled revolver was an important factor in this. The bore is free of pits, and the action is quite tight. Indexing of the chambers with the bore is positive.

Using a six o'clock hold, the revolver grouped well, but high and left. Aside from the inevitable flyers caused by shooter error, groups measured from three to four inches toward the end of the test.

One of the pleasures of collecting and owning presentation arms is documenting the original owner and the background of the piece. This process also dispels any doubts concerning a piece's authenticity. Documentation is not as difficult as it may sound, especially with Civil War arms. The method used to document Roger Martin and his pistol could be applied to any presentation piece.

The search started with a letter to the Indiana State Historical Society, which was able to supply copies of Roger Martin's commission, service, and medical records as well as extracts from a book of regimental histories. The public library can give you the address of such historical societies, and it is a good idea to include a few dollars with any letter of inquiry sent to pay for searching and photocopying.

The next step was to exhaust the resources of the public library. An article in the "Encyclopedia Americana" on the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky, gave several other sources. Among these was the "Official Records of the War of the Rebellion," the largest known compilation of first hand reports of the Civil War. Here were found all the battle reports and casualty returns of individual company commanders of the 66th Indiana Volunteers, filed after the battle, plus letters by various generals of both sides commenting on the

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battle and the troops involved. Reading those battle reports, which contained personal expressions of pride and despair, really brought the episode alive for us.

A search was made through such standard biographical tools as "Who Was Who In America" and "National Cyclopaedia of American Biography" for mentions of Roger Martin, but there were none. There were no references in such a more specialized tool as Powell's "List of Officers of the Army of the U. S." Other titles were consulted, but those given are representative.

A further search was conducted through the genealogical department of the public library. Books listing prominent men of Indiana of the period, pension records issued by the federal government, and such a detailed tool as Dyer's "Compendium of the Rebellion" yielded background material but no further specific mention of Roger Martin.

We finally surmised that further information could only come from family papers or a detailed regimental history of the 66th, neither of which are known to exist. Roger Martin appears to have been one of those innumerable figures who emerged from private life to play their brief roles in America's most tragic war and return to their anonymity.

Of greater assistance to the researcher are the courteous well-informed librarians met in each department of the public library. Their knowledge and years of experience are invaluable. Another aid is the availability of economical photocopiers. These machines relieve the researcher of the tedious task of copying documents in longhand as well as avoiding the danger of miscopying.

The sales record of a presentation arm adds to its pedigree. Roger Martin's Whitney revolver came to its present owner from the Frontier Gunshop in San Diego, Calif. in 1963. The Frontier Gunshop acquired it from the estate of William Miller of San Diego. His papers show that he bought it from the noted dealer-collector James Serven of Santa Ana, Calif. in 1945.

*(Mr. Serven, who was vacationing in Canada at the time this was being readied for print could not recall his source of this gun. If any further backtracking is successful, we'll report to the authors and our readers. —Editor)*

This, then, is the history of one Whitney revolver, and the man who carried it through a great war. But this is not the end of the searching, for there are still many questions to be answered. If the gun is a presentation piece, who presented it to Roger Martin—on what occasion? What of the lost years between 1945 and Roger Martin's death—who owned the gun during that time? These, and many more questions are still unanswered, and with diligent searching, and a lot of luck, perhaps the complete history of Roger Martin's Whitney revolver will be brought to light.



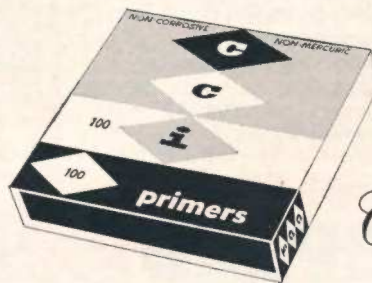
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## THE WEEKEND BEAR

(Continued from page 35)

May 21, I spotted Les right away—still in his business suit. "Have to make a TV show before we can push off," were his first words and when we got through with this and collected his gear, we were caught right in the middle of the rush hour traffic. At one o'clock in the morning we finally checked into the motel in Mont-Laurier where we met Lavoie. I had brought my Griffin & Howe custom '06, the same gun that I had used to test the C-I-L ammo. From my shooting records, I knew that the 180 grain Sabretip bullet would print dead-on at 100 yards, and Lavoie insisted that I should only shoot when I could be certain of a heart or lung shot. The timber is very thick and he did not feel inclined to track down a wounded bear in the brush.

M. Carle, in his Warden's car, arrived early the next morning and we needed him. Les' car had got stuck in the mud—the all night rain had made unpaved roads and the logging trails miserably muddy—and it took our combined efforts to dig the car out. In short order, Lavoie had decided on a strategy that should put me within range of a black bear. We would cruise the logging trails, and when we found a good sized bear track, we would try to figure out where the bear denned up during the day and his main route of travel during the night. Then I

would be on a stand during the early morning hours and again during the late afternoon and early evening.

Along those roads it is not at all unusual to see moose, foxes, and deer, and bears like to travel them too. I never did get a glimpse of the big timber wolves which are plentiful in this area that is only a few hours away from Montreal. M. Carle pointed out several spots where he had killed these big predators during the last winter. He had downed 20 wolves during a control hunt, and I was wondering what he had done with the pelts. Since my French is best described as "terrible" and M. Carle's English was not much better than my French, I asked Les to translate. "The pelts are nothing. Can't do anything with them, so these chaps burn them. Use the wolves themselves as bait for other wolves. Got lots of them here, but they are tough hunting on snowshoes. Sitting on a stand is no good here in the dense timber, can't see far enough. Great fun that stuff—if you can move on 'shoes," was Les' translation.

At an abandoned lumber camp we stopped for lunch. M. Carle cooked up a mess of Walleye filets, and we were so hungry that we cleaned up five pounds of fish in one sitting. Then we started to look for bear tracks. There had been reports that a

couple of big bears had been bothering some of the surrounding camps, especially one of the occupied ones, and since there were kids in that camp, the Wardens were interested in either eliminating the bears or making things uncomfortable enough for them to convince them to move.

M. Lavoie found the track in some sand around the old mess hall. It was the track of the hind foot, and it measured just under eight inches. From the tracks and the droppings it was easy to see that this was one of the bear's most frequently used routes of nocturnal travel. The rest of the afternoon was taken up with setting up the movie camera and picking good concealment spots for everybody. We skipped dinner and by five o'clock we were well hidden. I had my Contaflex camera around my neck, all set and ready to go, and my rifle was leaning next to me with one C-I-L round in the chamber and the safety on. As dusk approached, loons cried and ducks began trading back and forth and the chill of the northern woods began to eat into us. As it grew darker, I kept checking the crosshairs of my 4X Nickel scope, and when I could just barely make out a piece of lumber on the road, I was going to give up for the evening. The light conditions had just about reached that point when a dark shape loomed up around the edge of a tumbled down shack. The range was about 50 yards, but I could not tell anything about the size or where to hold. "That is a big one, can you hit him?" someone wanted to know. Apparently even the whisper was enough to alarm the bear, for he went into high gear, and remembering Lavoie's admonishment about an instant kill, I held my fire. We looked at the tracks in the car's headlights and decided that although this was a good bear, it was not the big one that had left the tracks we had measured.

One day gone, one to go. Sunday, long before the Northern Lights had faded, we were inhaling hot coffee at an all-night restaurant. We found another couple of tracks, but they went through the worst brush tangle imaginable, and tracking and then getting a shot at a bruin would have been nearly impossible under those conditions. Noon found us camped at the edge of a small lake. Les and the Wardens had fishing rods, and M. Carle once more acted as chef. Poking around the edge of the lake, I found bear tracks—and they were big! Lavoie and Carle felt that this was the bear for me—but would the bear cooperate and show up when I still had enough light to shoot? We followed the trail away from the lake, and found an abandoned trapper's cabin located in a small clearing. This would make a good hiding place for us and would give me a clear line of fire for about 40 yards all around. At the left of the cabin's front door was a slight rise over-grown with birch saplings. The bear, judging by the signs, delighted in sliding down the 12 foot drop of the rise.

Les set up his movie camera and M. Carle circled the clearing to take up a spot from where he could watch the bear's probable approach to the cabin. Squirrels were chattering in the nearby woods, Whiskey Jacks carried on noisy arguments, and for the umpteenth time I checked my Contaflex that bung around my neck. None of us dared move since we did not want to alarm

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the bear and I could feel, rather than see, Les and Lavoie crane their necks. I had just glanced over to Carle's position, when Lavoie said under his breath: "Un ours extraordinaire." And was he big!

The bear had come around the side of the hill and was not along his usual path, and my first glimpse of him at 25 yards was when he approached the slide on all fours. Despite the fading light and the second growth birch, there was no doubt about it—this was the one I had been hoping for. As the bear approached the dirt slide, he kept swinging his head from side to side. The birds had stopped their noises, and behind me I could hear Les' movie camera grinding away. The bear sat down at the top of the slide, and I kept shooting black and white stills. The bear was suspicious and rather than have him disappear in a flash, I dropped the camera onto the neck strap, grabbed the G&H and centered the bear's neck in the scope. Holding slightly to the right, I completed the trigger squeeze until the gun bucked against my shoulder. The bear simply disappeared from my field of view, and as I ejected the case and fed a fresh round into the chamber, I could feel someone pound me on the back. "Tremendous shooting," yelled Les, and Lavoie kept pumping my hand. I never had a chance to get the picture I had been hoping for—the bullet's effect and the fall of the bruin. The bear was all balled up at the bottom of the slide, and Carle yelled that a smaller bear, probably a sow, had taken off at the sound of the shot. The hunt was ended—I had my weekend bear.


By lantern light we were able to recon-

struct what had happened. The big bear, a fine boar in excellent pelt, must have scented the other bear that had usurped the usual bear run, and had decided to waylay the other bruin in the clearing. Had I waited another minute or two, we might have had ringside stands for a dramatic bear meeting, but this chance was now gone. Field measurement showed that the bear was well over six feet in length, from the tip of the lower jaw to the root of the tail. We struggled to get the bear into the station wagon after dragging the bear to where we could bring the car without bogging it down.

I was most anxious to see what the C-I-L Sabretip bullet had done, and so was Les, who felt that his company's reputation depended on that one shot I had fired. Lavoie and Carle wanted to get some data on the bear, and Lavoie kept repeating that this was a big bear, even bigger, much bigger, than his trophy of the year before. At close-to-midnight we pulled into the driveway of yet another Warden's house who had a garage where I could hang up the bear for dressing and skinning. The three Wardens decided that the live weight of the bruin was probably close to 600 lbs., and that the boar was between 10 to 12 years old. Recalling Clyde Ormond's formula for determining actual size of the bear, I measured the pads of my trophy: 5¼ inches across meant that the bear stood 6¼ feet high, a figure that was confirmed during the first field measuring and later by Ray Nienhaus, the taxidermist of Trevor, Wisconsin, who is making a rug out of the hide. A few quick measurements further indicated that I might have broken my jinx—there was a strong

possibility that my bear would make the B&C book.

The C-I-L bullet had ranged into the lung cavity and hydrostatic shock had pulped the lungs completely. The bullet or bullet fragments had gone on to the spinal column, for the surrounding tissues were completely bloodshot, not only on the inside of the chest cavity but also underneath the pelt on the back, the damaged area extending from between the shoulder blades downward for about five or six inches. Despite three hours of diligent searching, we never found the bullet, and the only fragment of the jacket that we did manage to recover from the animal measured about ¾ inch in length and less than ¼ inch in width.

Les made arrangements to get some bear meat smoked, and the meat, hide, and skull were shipped out that same night to Montreal. When I caught up with the package that contained the hide and the skull at the airport, there were TV cameras and newsmen waiting for me. Nothing else would do, I had to unpack the salted hide, display it, and then repack it. I went through the same routine at the Air Canada counter when I arrived at O'Hare airport, and then once again when I got home at 2 AM—everybody had to see that big bear. Ray Nienhaus took one look at the green skull and got out the tape—unfortunately after the 60 day curing period, the tape showed that the skull missed the minimum measure by ⅛ of an inch! Although the bear did not make the book, it still is a big one and I am convinced that the C-I-L Sabretip bullets do the job they were designed for—down game cleanly and quickly. 

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## HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 14)

Varmint job. Factory ammo is carefully loaded for fine accuracy, and I like the semi-rim case better than the .220 Swift. The new M70 is less expensive to make than the old model, but I like the new barrel and bolt that encloses the case head better.

We settled on 31.0 gr. RelodeR No. 11 and CCI 200 primers with 55 gr. Speer spitzers at 3636 fps in our M70. With a Weaver K-10 scope we got 4 and sometimes 5 shots in .5" at 100 yards! That in a standard rifle after firing 80 factory rounds, with cases full length resized in RCBS dies. The rifle, scope, bullets, powder, primers, and dies were all working perfectly as a team. That is the secret of real "bragging accuracy."

Ballistician Dave Andrews worked up my identical load for Speer's top load and marked it "Accurate." Dave got 3623 fps in the 2" longer varmint tube. You get more variation in shells from the same box, so both figures are correct. I wrote about loading this and other new calibers in the new GUNS ANNUAL, now on the newsstands and at gun dealers.

For super .44 Special or Magnum shot loads use .444 Marlin cases trimmed to cylinder length. Ream chamber throats to chamber diameter. Seat a thin .425 card wad and  $\frac{3}{16}$ " felt wad over 7.5 gr. Unique. Make a punch to cut wads. Fill shells nearly full of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  Illinois Copper Plated shot, necessary in rifled bores. Seat a .429 gas check skirt down and crimp in a Pistol Shot Die. The only good die is made by Merwin Co., Box 414G, Hurst, Texas, at \$5.95.

Efficiency in rifled bores is twice as good as standard cases. In my smooth bore Har-

vey Shot Revolver (registered with the Treasury, and not now available) loads nearly equal to .410 shotguns with  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " shells! A rifled bore shoots standard bullet loads nearly as well as before reaming the chambers. You can't load bullets in the .444 cases as the brass is some .008 thicker than normal. Remington .444 Marlin ammo chambers in .410 shotguns, but should never be fired in one. Shells could be used for shot loads.

• • •

The new \$3.95 "Reloader's Guide," by R. A. Steindler, is a "must." Well written and understandable, this large  $8\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $10\frac{1}{4}$ " book is slanted to the novice or man with limited knowledge of reloading. It covers nearly everything one needs to know so well that "old hands" will all enjoy it and keep it for reference. It has many good tips and over 100 helpful photos. It covers most reloading problems, tools and equipment, loading for rifles, shotguns and pistols, working up loads, loading systems, powder, bullets, primers, shotshell components, patterns, bullet casting and swaging, ballistics, tables and good starting loads. I haven't found any errors in this fine book, that is the only modern one and without competition. R. A. Steindler is editor of this magazine because he is an expert on guns and reloading. He can write boiled-down facts so you can understand them, without a lot of confusing window dressing. The book makes a fine gift that will be long appreciated. Your dealer has it, or send \$3.95 to Stoeger Arms, 55 Ruta Court, South Hackensack, New Jersey.



## STOP GAME BUT SAVE MEAT

(Continued from page 37)

A hunter using a slower and less frangible bullet will almost invariably have a much easier field-dressing job on his hands.

The liver hangs in the forward and upper portion of the gut cavity, above and ahead of the paunch and just behind the diaphragm. Thus it is no unusual thing for a hunter to make a raking liver shot, catching that organ on entry (or exit) of his bullet and also nipping the rear end of the lung on the opposite side. Naturally, the rupture of two such vital organs simply makes for a quicker kill and a more rapid bleed-out.

Fourth, are the several portions of the central nervous system. Since they, through the brain, issue commands to the animal's muscular system, bullet strikes on them result in on-the-spot kills. A lot of hunters like them because of their instant anchoring effect. The prime targets for bullet hits on the central nervous system are head or neck shots. But I don't like them. I have seen several hunters put that last half-ounce of squeeze on the trigger just as their target animals commenced to swing their heads, or lift or lower them. The last shot I blew on a whitetailed buck was just such a case. He

was standing a mere 60 yards away, facing me dead on. So, since his rack was nothing to get excited about, I planned to hit betwixt the eyes. But, just as the trigger went beyond recall, he ducked his head for another sniff of the enticing doe tracks he'd been following. A good many intended head shots wind up in the same well-intentioned but frustrating fashion.

In the case of mountable trophy animals a bullet-shattered or blood-smearing cape gives the taxidermist an impossible task in complete restoration. Finally, if the skull-plate connecting the two horns or antlers is fractured, an outstanding trophy may be ruled out of entry in Boone and Crockett Club competition, just as in the case of such a trophy being sawed or hacked into two portions for easier transportation out of the wilderness or home-bound carrying.

The neck is another portion of the central nervous system's series of targets. It is somewhat easier to surely hit simply because the animal can't suddenly snake it into motion quite so rapidly or fully. But, if the head is to be mounted, the taxidermist may be called on to do some very skillful patching

to produce an attractive trophy. Any hunter who goes for a neck-shot kill should also know that the neck vertebrae do not run through the middle of the neck's muscular structure except for the first few inches behind the head. Thereafter they range approximately two-thirds of the way up in the broadside silhouette of the whole neck.

If I were to choose my favorite of the central nervous system target areas I would unhesitatingly go for the junction of neck and shoulder. This is another on-the-spot killer because it hits the concentration of nerves at the base of the neck. Since it is almost invariably taken at somewhere near a 45-degree angle to the critter's body length, the bullet can be placed so that it will also rake the upper lungs and exit behind the opposite shoulder without driving into the gut cavity.

If the hunter using this aiming point is shooting uphill at his game he can hold fairly low so the upward angling bullet doesn't slant into the backbone and waste some of the choice eating meat of the backstrap. If he is shooting downhill he can hold about midway of body depth and will then probably also sever one of the main blood-vessels leading to the heart, inducing tremendous hemorrhage. The trick on this shot is to always remember those messy digestive organs in the rear half of the critter's body and avoid bullet impact on them.

If properly used, with bullets that don't own ultra-velocity and are inclined to hold together during their full penetration, the only distasteful blood-clotting will be between the shoulder and the rib cage on the side of the bullet's entry. However, if high velocity is combined with fragile bullet

construction, the shower of resulting lead fragments may ricochet off the ribs on one or both sides and really mess up the abdominal cavity. The hunter using this shot really has his work cut out for him in avoiding having a horrid field-dressing job on his hands.

The remainder of the central nervous system consists of the full length of the backbone, from shoulders to tailbone. Because some of the finest eating meat on the entire carcass consists of the prized backstraps, the only time I would deliberately use this shot is if that was all the target the animal presented.

Any serious hunter should know what to expect inside the animal after only a superficial examination of the line connecting entry and exit bullet holes. By guessing first, then proving up on his guess during the field-dressing operations, he will rapidly learn the value of more precise placement of his bullets on subsequent targets. The hunter who shoots wily-nilly, merely to put the animal down with some kind of a hit, isn't apt to improve much from one season to the next. But if he's really serious about getting home with the bulk of his eating meat intact there's nothing that beats knowing where to shoot his game, and why. From that springboard he will gradually improve his marksmanship—with saving most of the edible meat as his primary objective. When he does, he'll also find that his field-dressing chores have become simpler.

Meat-wise, lung, liver and heart shots bleed the animals out very cleanly so that no sticking or throat-cutting is needed. On lung and heart shots the drained blood will be found in the chest cavity, except for as

much of it as has drained out through the bullet wounds. Since the chest organs aren't difficult to handle, and knife-nicking them is no catastrophe, that makes for an ideal field-dressing situation.

A clean shot through the liver bleeds the animal out into the abdominal cavity. Knife work there has to be held to a minimum lest the paunch or intestines be ripped to compound the field-dressing chores. So, on a liver-shot critter, the best thing to do is to carefully slit the abdominal wall and carefully work out pauch and intestines, along with the blood which half-conceals those organs.

But a bullet which hits only the central nervous system—the brain or the spinal cord all the way back to the animal's tailbone—is quite another matter. While such a hit often knocks down an animal in its tracks it seldom contributes to a full bleed-out, except in those very rare instances when the jugular veins are bullet severed. Throat cutting, or sticking, is indicated in such cases, if the hunter can get to the animal very promptly.

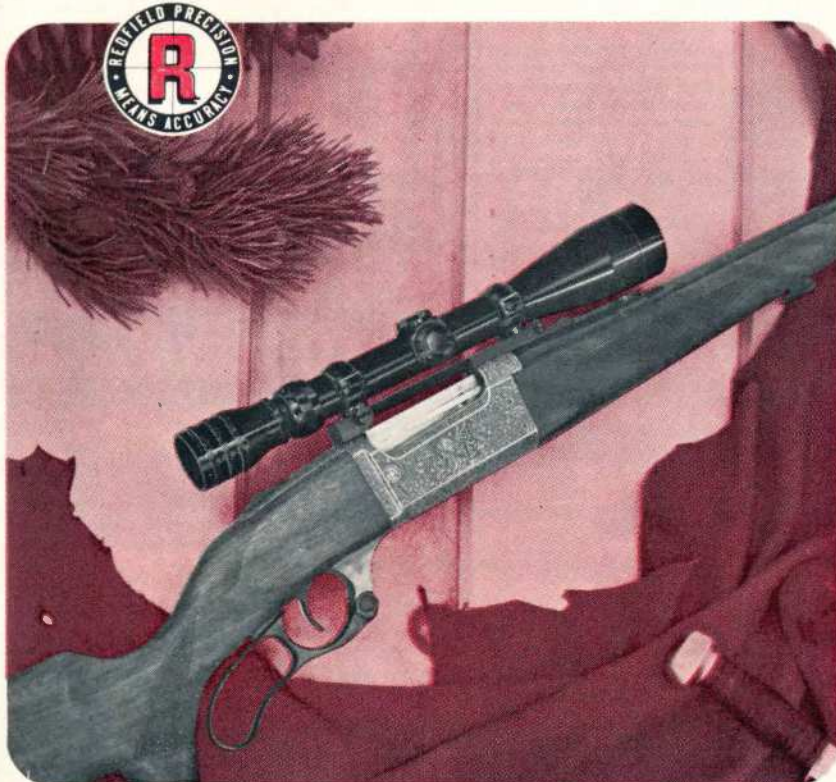
The heart continues to beat for some time on brain or spine shot animals and, if proper release of the blood isn't effected, the net result is to retain much of the blood in the smaller blood vessels of the eating meat. A well-bled carcass furnishes meat that is twice as tasty as one where only 25 per cent of the blood remains in the edible tissues.

In those cases where the animal's head is not to be mounted the throat is cut just under the hinge of the jaw. Where the trophy cape is to be saved, sticking is resorted to and may be done in either of two ways:

*(Continued on page 62)*

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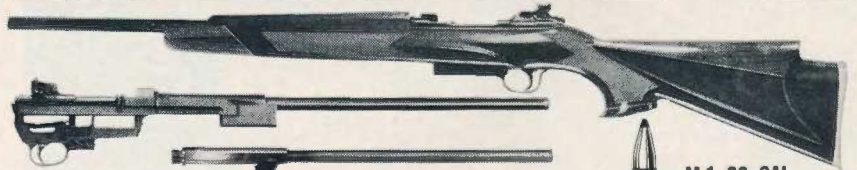
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(Continued from page 59)

first, by driving the knife-blade into the lower edge of the brisket; second, by inserting the blade inside the fore-leg. In both cases the idea is to sever the main veins and arteries at the front of the chest cavity, where they connect into the heart. If bleeding out wasn't so important the butchers of domestic meat animals wouldn't be in such an all-fired hurry to thoroughly bleed the carcasses they slaughter. That's the main reason why the average American housewife finds semi-dry—that is, relatively bloodless—cuts of meat at her favorite butcher's counter.

If today's hunter took full cognizance of the above-mentioned facts he would bring home sweet meat that his Little Woman would accept with glee and cook with gusto. But when he messes up his game with poorly placed hits of ultra-velocity and fast-disintegrating bullets, and then doesn't promptly tend his downed animal, it is small wonder that his favorite cook takes a dim view of the meat he brings home.

My personal recommendations for proper bullets or big game are based on their velocity at the point of impact on that game. If hunting whitetail deer, which are only occa-


sionally shot at ranges over 100 yards, then a 100 yard impact will suffice. For western muley deer and antelope, where the range is often around 200 yards, that should be the guide on how hot the bullets should be loaded. Mountain goats and sheep fall pretty much into the same category as muleys and pronghorns. Elk, moose and bear, which are generally hunted in middling thick cover, will require reasonable velocities at 100 yard ranges.

As far as velocities at point of impact go I don't want any of my big game hunting bullets to be traveling over 3,000 fps when they hit game, and around 2,500 to 2,700 fps suits me much better. They will then hold together long enough to achieve full penetration, expand enough to cut a good wound channel, and stop the wasteful business of destroying excellent game meat.

Construction of suitable big game bullets, especially the amount of lead exposed at their tips, is important. A bullet with a lot of lead showing is going to rupture more rapidly than one with minimum lead exposed, simply because the softer core will be more vulnerable to the smashing impact on hide, meat, and bones. The durability of bullets under such conditions can be achieved by the hardness of the core, the

thickness of the jacket, or both. But I firmly believe thin-jacketed bullets, enclosing pure lead cores, have no place in the big game hunting field.

Far too many of our modern game bullets, especially those intended for ultra-velocities, are made so thin-jacketed and soft-cored that they don't hold up for substantial penetration. Their fragile construction permits them only an inch or so of entry, barely enough to get through the outside rib cage, where they shatter into bits of lead and jacketing. In some cases, especially when they still have virtually all of their original velocity at short ranges, the bits go through the offside hide of the animal like a load of birdshot. A clean meat-saving kill is virtually impossible with such varmint-type bullets, which were really intended to provide sensational explosive effects on critters of the size of crows, prairie dogs and woodchucks, where salvage of the carcass is unimportant.

As I mentioned previously, you have to fatally injure game in order to reduce it to possession. But one well-placed bullet of moderate velocity and stout construction will do the job with neatness and despatch and, in the event the hold isn't 100 per cent perfect, it will save a lot of meat for the table. 

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from page 13)

and barrel length of the rifle in which these loads were tested.

Robert G. McDonald  
Springerville, Ariz.

In 24" barrels a .280 Remington starts a 140 gr. Speer bullet at 3046 fps with 59.0 gr. 4831, and CCI 250 Magnum primers. The .280 Improved averages 74 fps higher velocity with 2.0 grains more powder in one rifle. The velocity spread may run higher than the listed higher velocity, and velocity in a particular rifle may vary more than

that. Therefore it's hard to make an exact comparison. Still, chances are you can get a little extra velocity with the wildcat, if you want every fps possible.—K.B.

### Mausser Alteration

I have a 98K 8mm Mauser in very good condition. If I bought a barrel threaded for the 98K in .30-06 cal. or .308 Norma Magnum and ready-chambered, would the action need altering or the bolt face, and if so,

would it be expensive? Where would you advise I have it done?

John M. Uarey  
Jasper, Ala.

If you fit the .30-06 barrel to your action, nothing needs to be done to the bolt face, but if you use the magnum barrel the bolt face will have to be opened up. On either caliber the magazine will have to be re-worked to insure proper feeding.—P.T.H.

### Dangerous Gun!

I have a 10 gauge double-barreled shotgun marked between the barrels NEW MODEL. On the lock is written O. G. BONEHILL-LONDON, and one barrel is marked LAMINATED STEEL. What do you make of this gun?

William Bly  
Billings, Mont.

Your gun is almost certainly a product of O. G. Bonehill—but quite likely of "twist" or "Damascus" barrel construction and therefore SHOULD NOT BE FIRED. Laminated barrel manufacture was widely used with the then low-powered ammunition. Not only is modern ammunition COMPLETELY UNSUITED for use in such—but also the effects of time alter the structure of the metals to a great degree.—S.B.

### Krag Carbines

I would like some information about my .30-40 Krag. It's marked U.S. Springfield Armory 1894, serial no. 717., 23" barrel, and it may have been cut off and crowned. Is it a carbine? Is it worth restoring?

Harold D. Payne  
Bentonville, Ark.

The Krag-Jorgensen Carbine was marked on the left side of the receiver "U.S. Model 1896 Springfield Armory." Barrell length 22", overall length 40 7/8 inches. A sling ring

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and rod are on the left side of the stock, behind magazine cover plate. Jointed 3-piece cleaning rod is in the butt, covered by a sliding butt plate trap.

There were two other Krag carbines, the 1898 and the 1899 models, which were similar to the 1896 but with some minor changes. 19,133 Model 1896 Krag Carbines were made at the Springfield Armory from 1896 to 1898.—R.M.

### Pressures

I have a .219 Savage single shot rifle, and wondered how strong this action is. Could I convert this to a more powerful .22 such as the .22-250?

I also have a Model 95 Winchester in .30-40 Krag caliber. This rifle is in excellent condition, and I have been handloading maximum with 4895 and the 180 gr. Hornady bullet. Can I increase this any? I know that the action is made for the .30-06 and pressures are around 50,000 psi.

Bud Freidel  
Salinas, Calif.

Your Savage action is not strong enough to take rechambering; the .219 is the limit for this action.

I would advise nothing heavier in your Model 95 than you are now using. This rifle, in .30-06, develops excessive headspace after a few rounds of hot loads. Keep it low and you'll use your rifle longer.—P.T.H.

### Webley with .45 ACP

Will a Model VI Webley .455 be safe to shoot and accurate with .45 ACP loads and clips to hold them? What would you suggest for a plinking load and a hunting load?

Eugene Stolberg  
Kotzebue, Alaska

The Webley handles the .45 ACP very well after conversion. The Lyman Handbook on reloading gives you all types of loads.—P.T.H.

### Rechambering

I recently traded for a heavy barrel Model 70 target grade Winchester in .257 caliber. It is in excellent condition, but I am having some problems with my brass stretching after full length re-sizing. Do you think I would be wise to send this rifle to P. O. Ackley and rechamber it to Improved .257?

Robt. Fells  
Brighton, Va.

A .257 Roberts doesn't stretch cases excessively with good dies and good loading practice. Once fired, brass should be trimmed and neck reamed. Minimum length is best determined with a Forster Case Length & Headspace Gauge. After that, as with other calibers, occasional trimming and reaming is

necessary as indicated by the gauge and reamer. Size a bit less than full length.

If your dies are well made, excessive stretching is due to a dry expander plug. You can eliminate it in various ways. The easiest is to use the RCBS Case Neck Brush as directed. Some lots of brass are better than others. For one .257 Roberts we sorted 60 cases out of 80, and kept a record of 2100 rounds fired before the rifle was sold with 56 cases. There is no advantage in chambering to .257 Improved unless you want to burn more powder for shorter bore life and a slight velocity increase. For my use, I'd rather spend the money on extra practice.—K.B.

### Parker Shotgun

Could you please tell me the Model and possible value of a Parker Double Barrel, Hammerless, 12 gauge shotgun? It has Damascus barrels, two triggers and identification marks "Vulcan Steel, Jan. 12, 1887, May 7, 1889", and Serial No. V-102991. Condition "good."

Carl R. Liese  
Minneapolis, Minn.

You appear to have a "V" grade Parker and the Damascus barrels make this a non-shooter. Value is about \$30.—P.T.H.

### Custom Conversion

I would like to rebarrel a B.S.A. .270 W. rifle to a .243 caliber based on a .30-06 case blown out or fire formed. Which one of the following would best be suited to this conversion?: .240 Gebby, Page Super Pooper,

or Super Varminter?; .243 Mashburn, R.C.B.S., or Super Rock Chucker (.30-06); .244 Ackley, .244 Mashburn, 6mm-.270, or 6mm-.06? And where could I buy samples of the above cartridges?

C. W. Rottocker  
Alberta, Canada

All the hot 6mm wildcats are good, or at least all we have worked with. My choice is the .243 Super Rock Chucker (.30-06), but if you ask 5 people you may get 5 different answers. My next custom rifle will be the standard 6mm Remington, which is highly satisfactory for my use with handloads. I do not have any idea where you can purchase sample 6mm wildcat cartridges.—K.B.

### Loads For Ruger .44 Magnum

I have some questions concerning ammunition for Ruger's .44 Magnum revolver. What is the best combination of powder and bullet weight for greatest accuracy at 75 yards?

What is the best combination to kill moose in the bush up to 75 yards with accuracy?

Dennis Kaye  
Oakville, Ontario

For the most accurate load in your excellent .44 Ruger you'll have to test charges of 8 to 10 grains Unique for your particular gun with bullets in the 225 to 240 grain range. A fine bullet is Lyman's 431244 gas check, weighing 245 grains, backed with 9.0 grains Unique, for 960 fps.

For very large game I'd use Speer's 240 gr. Soft point with 23.0 grains 2400 and CCI 350 Magnum primers, for 1590 fps. For smaller game I'd use Speer's 225 gr. H.P. with the same charge.—K.B.

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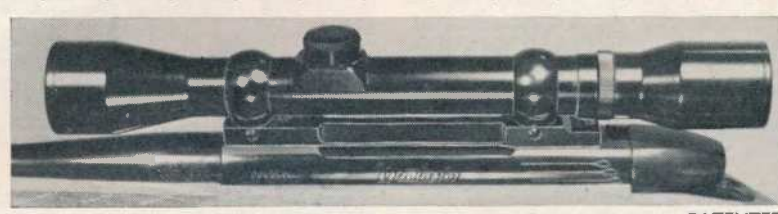
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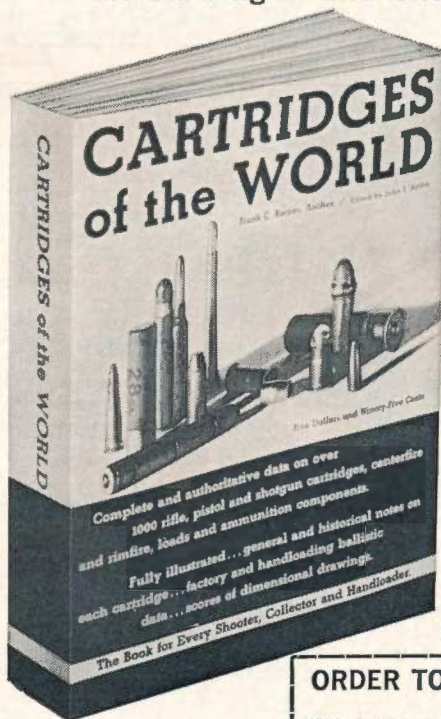
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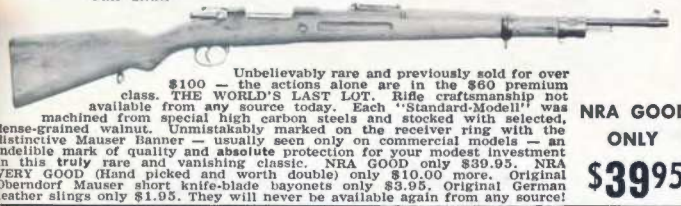
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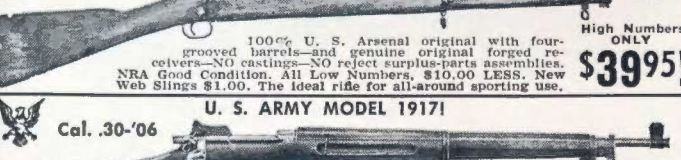


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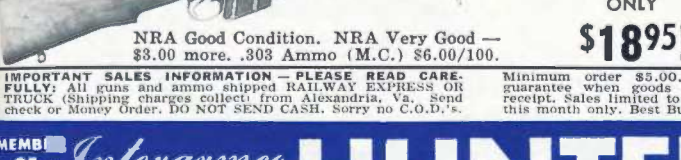


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