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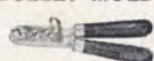
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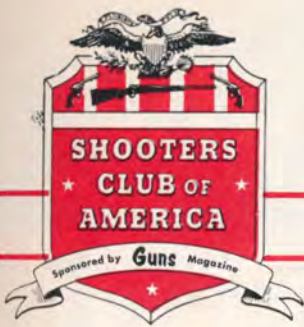
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News from the...

SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA

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

With more rigid control of firearms by Federal law certain to be hotly debated in the next session of Congress, and with domestic unrest and the rising crime rate already slated to be political issues during the 1972 campaigns, it may be wise to examine the dismal failure of the Sullivan Law, enacted by the New York State Legislature in 1911. This law requires a permit for the possession of a pistol in the home or in a place of business.

Argument in favor of the Sullivan Law at the time it was enacted was that a person who found it difficult to obtain a gun, might change his mind, or have time to come to his senses about robbing a grocery store or shooting his landlord.

In New York City, the Sullivan Law is enforced by the Police Department. The number of pistol permits has been gradually reduced over the years, particularly the type granted to store owners. In 1930, 6,363 premises permits were issued; this number was cut to 282 by 1966.

But the New York City crime rate has steadily increased during these same years. Murders went up by 237% from 1940 to 1966, while Police Department expenditures rose by 232% and the city's population increased by only 4%. Pistol seizures more than tripled during the same period. In New York City today, in spite of the strictest pistol law in the country, a well-trained and surprisingly efficient police department, and a steady reduction in the number of legally owned pistols—the crime rate has gone up tremendously and, judged by the seizure record, there are now many more illegal pistols actually in circulation. Clearly, the causes of crime lie elsewhere than in the legal ownership of firearms by New York State citizens.

Despite these facts, or perhaps not knowing them, President Richard M. Nixon recently urged Congress to enact stronger laws with which to fight crime and asked for the prompt enactment of a Federal law "similar to the Sullivan Law of New York." Members of the Shooters Club of America must see to it that their congressmen become familiar with the failure of the Sullivan Law during the more than half a century it was operative. Federal law in this field would pre-empt both State and City laws, and there is no reason to believe that Washington would have any more

success than city police departments, who are well aware of local conditions, in reducing crime through an ill-conceived national Sullivan Law operating in every state.

The experience of New York City shows that even strict enforcement of the Law cannot reduce crime, and is of no value whatever in denying criminals easy access to firearms. It is impossible to carry a rifle on the city streets without causing attention, and pistols have been used in 86% of the reported crimes. Criminals involved in a bank holdup will not be deterred by the fact that their firearms are carried without a permit from the Police, any more than they will be concerned with breaking a traffic law during their escape.

Homicide has been a crime going back before the days of recorded history, but it cannot be prevented by legislation of the Sullivan Law type. As the New York City Police Department itself has stated, "... homicides are most likely to be perpetrated by one's relations, friends, acquaintances or neighbors in a spur of the moment action, usually in a residence..." The use of firearms in homicides is not very great; knives and other sharp instruments, which can be purchased anywhere and are found in every kitchen, were used in more than 40% of the cases, and a blunt instrument or plain physical force were used in another 28% of all homicides, a total of 68%.

Since premeditated murders committed by criminals almost always involved pistols, the actual number of homicides done with permit-to-own pistols is infinitesimal. In fact, there is some validity to the viewpoint that the great reduction in premises permits may actually increase robberies and felony murders, because a holdup man can be fairly certain that retail establishments are unarmed. Of course, a trained police officer is more effective than a storekeeper with a pistol, but an officer may not be present at a crucial moment when the storekeeper's life is in danger.

Congressmen, who may be called to vote on legislation similar to New York's Sullivan Law must be made aware of these facts! Your best "collective voice" is the Shooters Club of America. If you are not already a member, use the handy postage-free envelope opposite this page now!

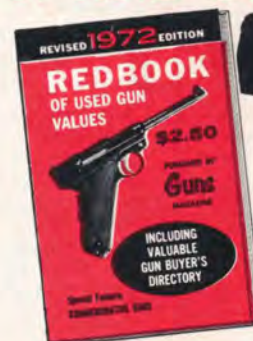
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I HAVE noticed that recently there are groups springing up around the country that hope to save everything. They are out to "Save Wildlife," "Save our Forests," "Save our Rivers," "Save our Deer," and on and on. This is all fine, except that they are all going about it the wrong way. If all of these organizations would get together, with one purpose in mind, they would more readily accomplish what they are after. They could save the deer, the rivers, the forests, the wildlife, and almost anything else, if they would only put forth a concerted effort to **SAVE OUR HUNTERS!**

Some day they will realize—and I hope that it's not too late—that only by preserving the sport of hunting can they preserve the very wildlife that the hunters hunt!

When hunters, and buyers of firearms, contribute money which goes to establish wildlife refuge areas, they help provide more game animals and birds for hunting, but at the same time they also provide cover and food for non-game animals and birds. If there is cover for quail, there is also cover for songbirds.

Each of these "Save the..." organizations brag about the thousands of dollars they collect for their causes. How these amounts pale when compared to the many millions hunters contribute through firearms excise taxes, by purchasing hunting licenses; by the purchase of duck stamps.

I know that it is difficult for most people to understand, but the truth of the matter is that the greatest single force for the preservation of our lands and our wildlife are the very hunters who harvest the game.

Theodore Roosevelt said it best: "... a proper love of sport, instead of being incompatible with a love of nature and wild things, offers the best guarantee for the preservation of wild things."

THE COVER

Stainless steel seems to be the "in" thing in firearms this year. Shown here is the new S&W Military & Police in stainless, along with a Kel-Lite loader. Photo by Walter Rickell.

NOVEMBER, 1972

Vol. XVIII, No. 2-11

George E. von Rosen
Publisher

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

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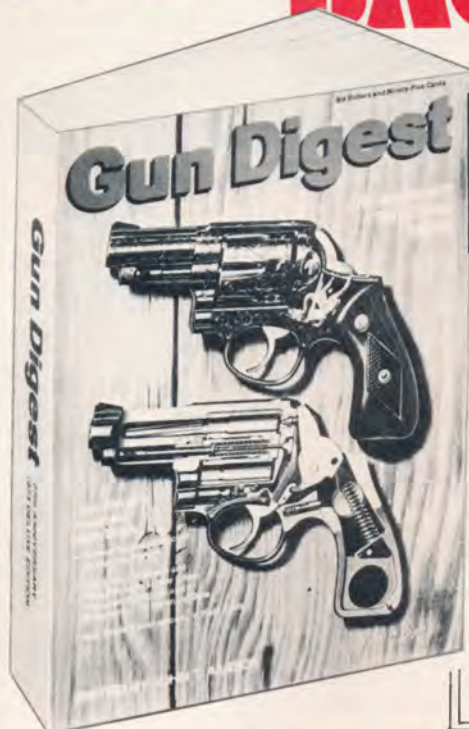


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JOHN T. AMBER—famed editor, renowned collector, hunter and noted arms

expert—comments on some of the stories and special articles that make **GUN DIGEST 1973** an experience you won't want to miss.

RIFLES OF JAMES PARIS LEE, Part II

by **Larry S. Sterett**
Sterett uncovers numerous contributions made by James Paris Lee to modern firearms design. A fascinating history of one of the most brilliant and prolific firearms inventors. Must-reading for every collector.

MUSKETS, POWDER and PATRIOTS by M. L. Brown

An authority on firearms used in the American Revolution describes the mixed ancestry of the many types of weapons used in the victorious struggle. Though not always the best available, in the hands of determined men the muskets performed brilliantly.

PRESSURES and the REVOLVER

by **Wm. M. Caldwell**
The author's new high-technology invention now permits monitoring revolvers in action for data on gas losses and pressures. This remarkable discovery will undoubtedly greatly improve insight on handgun ballistics and loading techniques.

THE KNIFE REVISITED

by **A.G. Russell**
The making of handmade knives—and the collecting of them—continues to grow at an amazing rate. Pictured are many fine creations, both plain & fancy, of the knifemaker's art.

J. M. SHOTS TWICE

by **Lucian Cary**
That inimitable yarn-teller, Lucian Cary, takes us over the long years with John Pyne during which John had taken 22 deer with a single shot rifle... one shot for each of the 22! His last stalk was doubly successful.

RELOADING THE 9mm LUGER by **Bob Steindler**
Know-how, not great skill—makes reloading the 9mm Luger easy, even with cast bullets. Steindler tells how to avoid pitfalls for 100% reliable cartridges.

RIFLES and CARTRIDGES FOR MULEYS

by **Norman E. Nelson, Jr.**
Take it from an expert—more depends on how you use your guns than where you hunt. Here's an appraisal on your choices with good handload data for a sweetener.

HIGH STANDARD'S NEW SUPERMATIC AUTOLOADER

by **Wallace Labisky**
The new auto shotgun came through the author's various tests with a near 4.0 rating—though certain loads and shot sizes patterned almost 80%. That's not all bad—especially if you've some long-range shooting in mind.

COLLECTING AUTOMATIC PISTOLS by J. B. Wood

Is it too late to begin collecting Automatic Pistols? Not according to Wood, who tells you how to begin collecting, what to guard against and provides a check list of 1972-1973 values.

GUNS OF JOHN BROWN

by **Louis W. Steinwedel**
Saint or sinner, "Osawatimie" Brown was certainly a fierce guerrilla leader, one who fought to abolish slavery before the Civil War—and paid with his life. Here's an account of the firearms he used in "bleeding Kansas" and at Harpers Ferry.

THE BEAUTIFUL BLAZERS

by **Bob Bell**
Remember the 22 Swift, the 250 Savage, the 257 Roberts, the 7x57 and the 300 H&H? Perhaps obsolete but certainly suitable for virtually everything from prairie dogs to crows to chucks, to deer and antelope, sheep and elk, even the big brown bears.

ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR

by **Roger Barlow**
Strange title for a shotgun article? No, not under the circumstances. That is exactly the number of barrels found in four of the guns the author uses for his birdshooting!

HIGH PERFORMANCE HANDGUN LOADS—HOW TO HANDLE 'EM

by **George C. Nonte, Jr.**
If you're going to duplicate today's light bullet, high velocity pistol and revolver cartridges, you'll have to forget some old rules. This is a new ball game!

LOCKED BREECH 380 AUTOS

by **Donald M. Simmons, Jr.**
Only a handful of recoil operated 380 pistols ever attained series production and some are rarely found today. Here they are—all eleven of them!

BRITISH SMALL BORE RIFLES by DeWitt Bailey II

The British 451 rifle, the small-bore of its day, grew out of a desire to improve the big-bore military rifle of the mid-1850's. The small-bore rifle—first as a muzzleloader and later as a breechloader—reached its developmental zenith in the 1880s, a period that also saw its decline and near-disappearance. The muzzle-loading 451s are reviewed here in a wealth of detail.

HANDGUN HUNTING

by **Bill R. Davidson**
Today's sporting revolver shows an accuracy equal to—and often better than—what a saddle carbine gave 25 years ago. Let some legislators—and Presidential hopefuls—consider this before buying the fable that handguns are not precision, sporting instruments.

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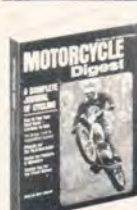
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Mann Your Battle Stations

Regarding E.B. Mann's "Why Not Tell The Truth About U.S. Military Materiel?" (Guns, June, 1972).

The Japanese battleships "Yamato" and "Musasi" (official spellings) weren't even close to being the largest or the most powerful Capital ships afloat. Their standard displacement was 46,000 tons, not the 75,000 tons stated. Their main guns were 16 inches, not 18.1 inches. Our largest battlewagons were the 5 ships of the "Iowa" series, displacing 52,000 tons and sporting 9-16 inch 50 caliber guns. E.B.'s 57,000 ton American battleships (Montana class-5 ships) are ghosts. They were ordered Sept. 9, 1940, but no progress was ever made in their construction and they were finally cancelled when the war ended.

E.B. Mann may know his artillery, tanks and small arms, but he's "all wet" when it comes to sea power.

Alan Silver
Las Vegas, Nev.

Interesting Article, But—

I saw Mr. Mann's article and thought it might be very interesting; it was—for its inaccuracies.

First of all, the Panther was never armed with an 88mm gun. It was armed with a high-velocity 75mm gun that was about as powerful as the 88mm. Next, Germans pioneered electric torpedoes, but the Japanese went for the oxygen-powered "Long Lance," the most powerful torpedo of the war. As to American torpedoes being inferior, they were, at first, until we copied Germany's electric designs. Then they were as good as Germany's. While the Germans had developed magnetic proximity fuses, they were not reliable and were easily countered by degaussing the ship, thus removing the magnetic field of the ship.

The Russians did give us a T-34

tank to evaluate, but it is not "rusting and forgotten in a corner of one of our Ordnance proving grounds." It is at Aberdeen and is in excellent condition. It and other tanks, along with other thousands of small arms in storage there, will shortly be housed in a museum building at Aberdeen built by public and private contributions. As to our under-gunned tanks, I refer Mr. Mann to the "Sherman Firefly," a Sherman armed with a 17 pounder able to defeat the Panthers and even the Tigers. Also, wide-tracked vehicles were not jointly the ideas of the Russians and the Germans; the Germans learned from the Russians after they watched their Mark II's, III's and IV's bog down on terrain that the T-34 went across on its wide tracks with no trouble at all.

It appears to me that Mr. Mann is downgrading American ordnance unnecessarily and that more thorough research would show that we learned from our mistakes.

Kevin J. Rice
Deer Park, N.Y.

E.B. Mann wrote and we published the article "Why Not Tell the Truth About U.S. Materiel" knowing full well that it would create controversy. Above are just a couple of the letters we received opposing Mr. Mann's thesis. Editor

.25 Autos

I've been waiting for years for an article like the one by James B. Stewart in your January issue. "Those Collectible .25 Auto Pistols" is great and rounds out the collecting "scene" very well. I've been dabbling with those little devils for quite a few years now and have been bugged by the lack of information on them. Stewart really knows his stuff; let's hear more from him!

Bill Murphy
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HANDLOADING BENCH

By C. GEORGE CHARLES

WE GET LETTERS by the dozens asking about loading data. There are thousands of thoroughly tested loads published in manuals by Speer, Hornady, Sierra, Lyman, and Hodgdon, and thousands more published in dozens of books and hundreds of magazine articles. These published loads cover every conceivable combination, every powder suitable for each case and bullet, and will meet every imaginable need or requirement. Any one of the better manuals will contain safe loads for any practical need. Even the powder makers furnish extensive loading data.

Just as a guess—it would take days to actually count—there are over 1000 loads published for each of the more popular rifle calibers. Yet, even with all this available, a typical letter might start out, "I have Lyman and Speer loading manuals, but I'm really not satisfied with any of the .270 (.30-30, 8mm, etc.) loads. Please tell me what will give best accuracy and killing power for elk (bear, deer, boar, etc.)." Or, it may go like this, "My Marsavchester won't do better than three inch groups with any load I try. Please give me your favorite accuracy load which will shoot at least one-inch groups."

NO WAY! Gun writers don't have any special secrets, no particular loads or combinations that haven't already been tried and published somewhere. If we didn't tell you everything we know in our writing, we'd have nothing to say, and our creditors would starve. So, if you've a good, recent loading manual at hand, you have exactly the same material we work from. To obtain maximum accuracy from *your* gun, you must begin with the same data we do, and go through the same steps. I can spend two or three days and \$150 worth of components to develop a load that performs the very best in my M700 Remington 6mm. Assuming both guns have the same mechanical accuracy

capability, the odds are that while it will perform acceptably in your identical gun, it will not do as well. There is even a chance it might do better, though mighty slim.

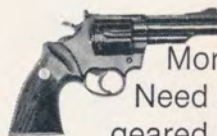
Like racing engines and swinging girls, they never perform the same, no matter how identical they might seem. This is the principal reason *my* pet load for a particular gun becomes (usually) just another load in your gun. If you use my load, it will serve only as a departure point for further development to fit your gun. And, any similar load from any good handbook will serve the purpose just as well. No, I'm not trying to get out of giving out the loads I use. Anyone who asks is welcome to them, but you can't expect the same results I get. Don't get uptight when my ½-minute load misses prairie dogs at 75 yards in your rifle.

Then there is the matter of velocity. An extremely high percentage of people who use loading manuals seem to be convinced that the data is deliberately downgraded to produce substandard velocities. A very common request is for a load that "will give more velocity than the Speer (Hornady, Lyman, etc.) listed maximum." First of all, loading manual publishers are not ultra-conservative—nor are they careless. They publish honest, practical maximum loads, approximating, but not exceeding industry-standard maximum chamber pressures, *as established under their specific test conditions*. Just like the ammunition manufacturers, they must remember that there are lots of creaky guns around.

And a writer has the same responsibility. If he recommends to you an over-hot load, and it winds up causing trouble in a poor gun, he's in trouble; he's responsible. No gun writer, least of all this scribe, is going to recommend you a load that produces excessive pressure (which is

(Continued on page 17)

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"Core-Lokt" bullet for 30-06 and 308.)

Pointed Soft-Point "Core-Lokt" bullets were designed for bringing down game at long range. If the terrain you're hunting in requires you to sight your rifle in at 200 yards or more, then this version of the Remington-Peters "Core-Lokt" bullet is the best choice you can make. Because of its pointed profile, it has a flatter trajectory. This means less air resistance, so the bullet retains maximum velocity and striking energy down range where it really counts. (The bullet shown is the 180 grain Pointed Soft-Point "Core-Lokt" bullet for 30-06 and 308.)

We also offer other bullet types to meet any game or situation a hunter might encounter. Here are some of the more popular: Hol-

(Continued from page 14)

the only way to get extra velocity from a given case/bullet combination). I might use such a load myself, where I have full control of all factors, but don't ask me to pass it along.

• • • • •

Pacific Tool Co. (formerly Pacific Gun Sight Co., and not part of Hornady) continues to revise and upgrade its entire line of handloading tools. It is particularly evident that activity has increased greatly at Pacific since its acquisition by Hornady.

The newest Pacific item is the DL-105 shotshell loader which is, incidentally, the lowest-price item of this type Pacific has ever produced, at \$39.95 list. Pacific emphasizes that this lower cost does not indicate any down-grading of quality or capabilities, but is the result of more efficient and economical production at the spanking-new Grand Island, Nebraska plant.

The DL-105 appears almost identical mechanically to the long-favored DL-150 and 155. There are, to be sure, some differences, but functioning is essentially the same. The DL-105 features full-length case resizing, built-in wad guide, positive stop, and adjustable wad pressure. The final crimp die is adjustable and the crimp-start die is the floating, self-aligning type. Construction is generally of cast aluminum and steel, with plastics used only in the handle grip, hoppers, guide fingers, and crimp-starter insert.

Available in 12, 16, 20, 12/3" and 20/3" at the one price; with die sets for gauge conversion offered at modest cost. Another option is conversion of 2 3/4" 12 and 20 gauge to 3". If the dope on the DL-105 isn't available from your regular supplier, write Pacific Tool Co., Drawer 2048, Ordnance Plant Rd., Grand Island, Neb. 68801.

• • • • •

From time to time, the question of duplex loads (mixtures or layers of different powders) arises. I avoid it like a plague all such propositions involving two or more smokeless powders. Though increased velocities have been documented with some duplex loads, it generally involves a substantial increase in pressure—and that in itself would produce a comparable velocity rise without the added complexity of duplexing.

Black powder duplex loads are another matter, up to a point. Pressure and velocity tests, recently conducted, indicate black-powder pressures will not be increased significantly by the addition of up to 10% by weight of smokeless, even with fast-burning pis-

tol and shotshell powders.

Beyond that 10% smokeless/90% black mix, pressures do go up rapidly. Depending on the condition and design of the gun, as little as 20% smokeless may produce pressures high enough to cause damage. All this should be kept in mind when the old-time duplex loads for muzzle- and breech-loading rifles are being considered. Several references recom-

mend the use of a small charge of smokeless with black to provide cleaner shooting and better accuracy. Unfortunately those same references don't tell what happens if the recommendations are exceeded.

So, avoid mixing smokeless powders, and never, never exceed 10% smokeless in any black powder charge. That way, you'll not worry about a gun coming unglued.



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STEVENSON on Hand Guns

FUN AND GAMES MONTH

THOSE OF YOU (God bless you) who follow this column with undeviating regularity have doubtlessly noticed that it runs in cycles. The first few offerings were of the down-to-earth and practical variety: safety with handguns, autos vs. revolvers, and the historical background and practical usefulness of d.a. autos. Then, toward the end of 1971, we had a half-annum of light reading. There was the two-parter on plinking, the exchange of letters with Bill Jordan, and brief essays on such diverse topics as gun grease and French pistol books. Since the new year rang in, however, we've been diligently rubbing our noses in the drab nitty-gritty of semi-auto mechanics, and for some of you, I suppose, it has been pretty rough slogging, like crawling backwards twice around Sebastopol.

Relief is in sight! During the next few months we'll be running some test and evaluation pieces on several new handguns, and on some which are not quite new but which have, in my opinion, been inadequately treated by other writers. In the meantime—right now—we shall proclaim this one "Fun and Games Month."

I have spent an enjoyable morning ruffling through my file of some five thousand firearm photos, most of which have to do with pistols, and have plucked out 18 which struck me as teasers. Some, as you can see at a glance, are of guns, and some are of parts of guns (handguns, of course). Your task, if you choose to play, is to identify them as to the points called for in each caption.

Most of you will recognize some of the guns at a glance: I've included them because of their mechanical or historical significance. If you are not familiar with them, you should be. On the other extreme, I shall be astonished if anyone identifies a couple of these guns, because I have not succeeded in doing so myself. One is

tricky—it is not what it appears to be; another cannot be mistaken for anything else, but has been described previously only in a German text; a couple more have been illustrated only in the recently published book which Michel Josserand and I wrote (Pistols, Revolvers and Ammunition, Crown Pub., \$7.50), and yet others are well known to serious students of handguns, but quite unfamiliar to the casual pistol buff.

In short this is one heck of a rigorous exam. If you positively identify or guess closely on most of them you might well consider taking a night course in chemistry and the use of the microscope and then offering yourself to the state police as a firearms examiner. If you identify a bare majority, you may rightly consider yourself extremely knowledgeable on modern handguns. If you flunk dismally, rest assured that you have plenty of company, and console yourself with the following excuses:

(1) Maybe you are more interested in shooting than in the mechanical evolution of handguns; tune back in in a month or so.

(2) Maybe you are tremendously hip on American handguns, but weak on European pistols; most of these are of European provenance, for two reasons: first, most of the more interesting design work has either originated in Europe, or else been manufactured there from American designs which found inadequate backing here; second, most of my research has taken place in Europe, hence most of my photo file consists of Continental hardware.

Back to the Game. Like bar exams, this is an open book test. Use any reference materials you can get your hands on. Those few fanatics who fortuitously have a complete file of my old articles will have a slight edge, but not an overwhelming one. If a substantial number of you guys really

turn on to this sort of sport—professional league firearms identification—I'll run a bibliography of the most useful reference books in a future column.

Those of you who don't think your batting average warrants climbing off the bench, hang on to your answer sheet nonetheless. Next month I'll tell you most of what I know about these guns, and where I think you stand according to the number you got right.

We were saying it was an awfully stiff test. On the other hand it is not, I think, trivial or whimsical. I have a raft of photos of little known pistols of virtually no significance: unknown prototypes or arsenal modifications which have never seen the light of day and which have no particular significance. With one exception, which I couldn't resist, they don't figure here, and that one will not be graded. With that exception, or partial exception perhaps, the questions posed here are all legitimate identification problems. I know personally maybe five guys in the U.S. who could rack a perfect score at this game if they put their backs into it. There are another two in Britain, two in France, one in Italy, three or four in Switzerland, and three in Germany. These are not full time

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firearms examiners, but rather advanced students of the handgun who are called in by the police from time to time when their own identification people are stumped. If you take your handguns seriously, seeing how close you measure up to their level of expertise could prove an exhilarating experience. Give it a shot.

Here are 9 questions. The answers and 9 more questions will be given next month.



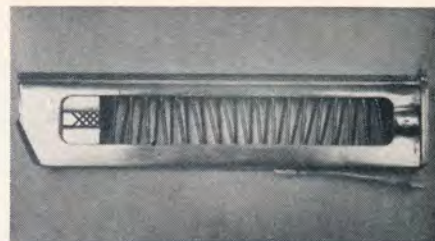
1. Identify this handgun as to: 1) nationality, 2) model, 3) mechanical type, 4) feed system, and 5) caliber.



2. The serial number 0001 is a dead giveaway that this Browning-type autopistol is out of the ordinary. Enumerate the visible mechanical features that distinguish this gun from the 1911 (I see six for starters) and then take a guess as to its nationality, manufacture and caliber.



3. The Arminius Head insignia was taken from an ancient Teutonic legend. Who uses it as a trademark now, and who used it before the war?



4. This will be viewed as a low blow in some quarters, but should intrigue the bedrock autopistol buffs. Very well. 1) What gun takes this magazine? An easier question: 2) What feature does this magazine share in common with that on the MAS M1949 and M1949/56 rifles?



5. This pistol was the sire of a long and distinguished line. Identify it as to 1) nationality, 2) caliber, 3) designer and model. 4) What characteristics distinguish it from its predecessor models?



6. Based on what little is in sight, identify this pistol as to 1) nationality, 2) manufacturer, 3) model, 4) designer. 5) What is the most distinctive feature of the holster?



7. Anyone who can identify this partly-cutaway curiosity will have the author's gratitude.

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THE DE HAAS-MILLER SINGLESHOT RIFLE



The de Haas-Miller Single Shot prototype #2 before it underwent custom engraving and before missing sling swivel studs were replaced by its creators.

By BOB TREMAINE

IN THIS MODERN day of the repeater, the single shot rifle is not only holding its own, it is very definitely making progress, steadily gaining more and more popularity, not only with target shooters and varmint hunters but also with big game hunters. Some of the newer single shots have not yet proved themselves, either in the hunting fields or as far as being commercially successful. However, these failures cannot be blamed on the guns—their early demise has been due to inadequate financing, inept engineering, or lack of production know-how.

On the successful side is the Ruger Single Shot, the H&R copy of the famous Springfield Trapdoor, and a number of relatively new single shot designs. One of these, fathered by Iowan Frank de Haas and South Dakota gunsmith Dean Miller, is, as far as I'm concerned, nearly the ideal single shot.

Why the "nearly" reservation? Although the guns will be produced on a larger than one-at-a-time custom basis, the cost is high—about \$660. This includes everything except the scope, however.

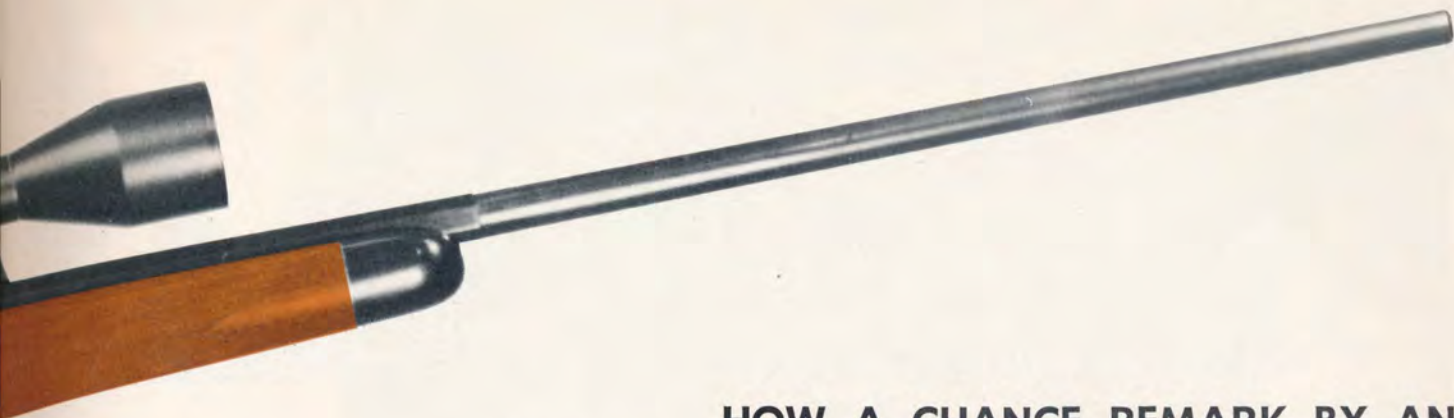
Like so many things, the evolution of the de Haas-Miller action was triggered by a chance remark. When de Haas shipped the manuscript for his first book on single shots to John Amber, editor of the *Gun Digest*, Chapter 52 had not been written, nor had it been contemplated. Amber, an acknowledged single shot expert, told Frank after the first reading of the manuscript, "You mention all the good

points and all the bad features of all the actions. Now, why don't you write a chapter that sets forth just what you would want to see in a single shot action? What features would you incorporate in that action that are not found in other actions, old or new?"

As Frank told me while we were sitting in his study, looking over the completed prototype #2, "I knew what I wanted, but had never spelled out the various features. Believe it or not, I had more trouble with that chapter than with any other section of the book." And that is saying something, since Frank has been not only a leading single shot gunsmith for many years, but also a gun writer of some note.

At the western edge of South Dakota sits a tiny village with the unlikely name of St. Onge (pronounced Onj) after the first French settler in the area. There Dean Miller, a gunsmith and single shot buff, has his shop. He and Frank had met at numerous gun shows throughout the mid-west. From these meetings and numerous bull sessions grew a lasting friendship, and eventually a business relationship. When Frank's *Single Shot Rifles and Actions* finally made its appearance, Dean was the first to call. "That's the action I have been dreaming about! That's the action I want to build," he told Frank in reference to the de Haas dream rifle.

Frank's concept of the rifle has not changed, but the three prototypes I fired while visiting de Haas in Iowa and Miller in South Dakota, showed very definite signs of having been created by two men, both savvy single shot men.



HOW A CHANCE REMARK BY AN EDITOR AND A MEETING OF TWO GUNSMITHS CREATED A NEW SINGLE SHOT ACTION



The de Haas-Miller escutcheon has been inletted into the bottom portion of the fore-end. An added bit of class.

DeHaas had set forth the following criteria for his action:

1. The action must be compact and must be without a tang.
2. The action must be large and strong enough to handle any rifle cartridge.
3. The action must be based on a falling block principle, the block being angled as in the Winchester Hi-Wall.
4. A through stock bolt would be used to secure the action to the butt stock.
5. The action had to be striker fired, with the striker located in line with the bore.
6. The trigger must be fully adjustable for pull, length of pull, and over-travel.
7. The extractor must be designed to handle all types of cartridge cases, namely rimmed, semi-rimmed, belted and rimless.
8. A minimum number of parts would be employed in the action.
9. An under finger lever would be used.
10. The safety would be completely silent and totally reliable.

With these points in mind, de Haas began to sketch action detail after action detail, until he had one drawing that appealed to him and to Dean. From this he made a working cardboard model which later was replaced by a wooden one. The completed de Haas-Miller action is a simple mechanical wonder. The safety locks the striker and is of the automatic type. Located at the right side near the rear of the action, the safety lever is a silently moving,



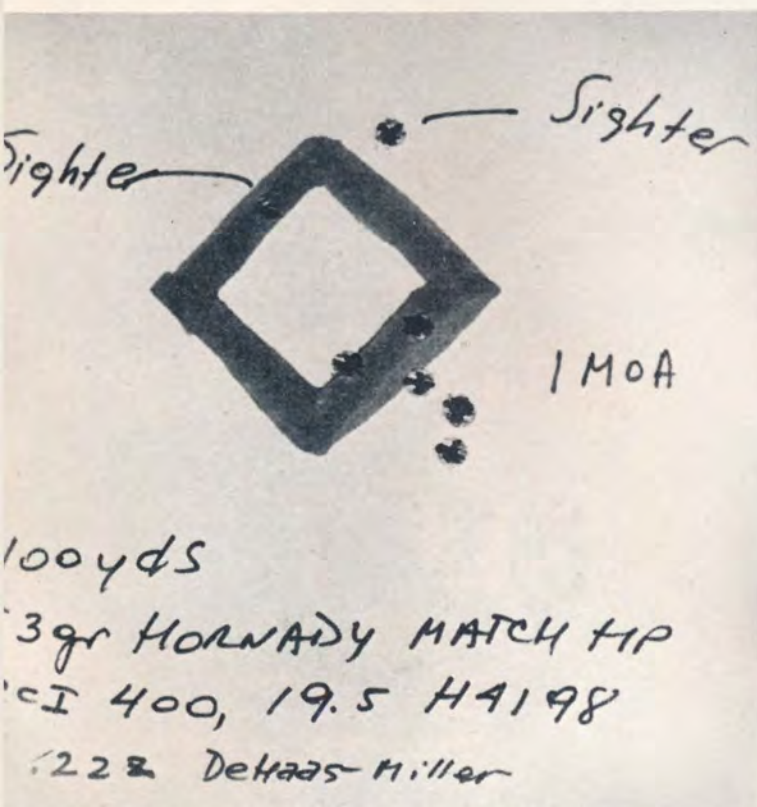
For take-down, simply depress the lever hinge pin with a bullet tip, then pull the pin out, remove the springloaded ball detent and then . . .

simply pull the engine-turned breechblock and the finger lever downward. This will allow cleaning of the block and also the inside of the receiver frame. It is recommended that the shooter take down this rifle no farther.





This close-up shot illustrates how the finger lever, when moved downward and forward, acts to depress the spring-loaded extractor.



Dean Miller, co-creator of the rifle, and the author grabbed this load out of one of the loading manuals—not bad for a grab-bag load!

heavily serrated bar. It slips forward from the safe position easily, and thanks to a re-designed safety detent spring, the lever can just as easily be moved back into the safe position.

A total of only 13 parts are used in the action, plus the extractor and extractor plunger in the receiver. The falling block inclines seven degrees as in the old Hi-Wall, and it is not necessary to insert the cartridge into the chamber—merely place the round onto the top of the shaped block, tilt the rifle forward, and the round will slide into the chamber. The extractor is activated by a spring loaded plunger that is depressed for extraction by the forward movement of the finger lever.

The take-down is simplicity itself. Cock the action and ascertain that the chamber is empty. Leave the automatic safety on safe. Depress the lever hinge pin with the bullet tip of a loaded cartridge, either from the left or right side of the action. The lever pin is the lower of the two pins in the forward part of the action. When that pin is removed, a spring-loaded ball detent is released and the breechblock and finger lever can now be removed through the bottom of the receiver. Further disassembly is neither required nor recommended. The disassembly kit for gunsmiths consists of three Allen wrenches and one drift punch.

The trigger over-travel and length of pull adjustment screws will be sealed and of a slightly smaller size so that accidental diddling with them is pretty well eliminated. The screw that adjusts trigger pull weight is readily accessible from below and can be reached without taking the action apart.

For \$660, you'll have your choice of calibers, barrel lengths and stock options. Also included is a Miller-designed and made scope base and rings, QD sling swivels and a Brownell Latigo sling. Barrels are made by Bill Hobaugh, a top-rated barrel

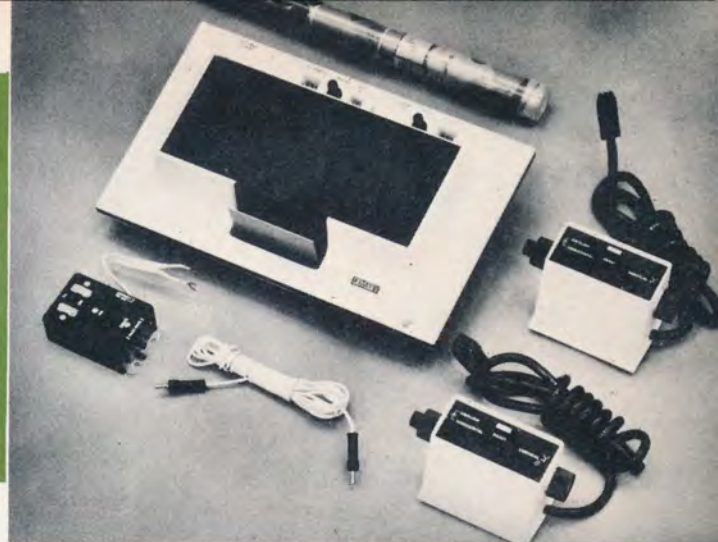
(Continued on page 62)

TV SHOOTING GALLERY

THE MAN took careful aim at the monster on his TV screen and pulled the trigger.

No, he was not some drunk having hallucinations, he was playing a new game—a shooting gallery game—developed by Magnavox, called Odyssey.

This electronic game simulator uses any 18" or larger TV set as a game board. Each Odyssey unit consists of a master control unit, two player controls, Mylar overlays for the screen, an antenna/game switch, and complete



Moving clockwise, the Odyssey kit includes: game overlays, control units, game card, game/antenna switch and the master control unit.

instructions.

The master control unit produces, electronically, a self-moving image on the screen, programmed by the game card inserted into the master control unit.

There are 12 different "games" you can play, including tennis, hockey, football, a ski slalom course, and even roulette. However, the one that is of interest to us is the shooting gallery. Here's how it works.

With the master control unit installed, you place the Mylar overlay for the shooting gallery on the TV screen. A special electronic gun is plugged into the control unit, and the "shooting gallery" game card is inserted. Once the TV is turned on, you'll see a complete shooting gallery on the screen, complete with moving ducks, rabbits, etc. Hit one of the moving targets, and it disappears from the screen. Four different "shooting gallery" overlays are available.

We are not in a position at this time to evaluate the accuracy of the electronic rifle that comes with the Odyssey "shooting gallery", but doubt that it will achieve minute-of-angle groups. In spite of this, it appears that this may be an interesting diversion for the hunter on off-season days or the target shooter when the range is closed. It will surely be a great thing for the kids in the family.

Odyssey will sell for under \$100 at your nearby Magnavox TV dealer.



Once the overlay is in place, the shooting fun begins. Moving targets are shown on the television screen, making a complete electronic shooting gallery right in your own family den.



Pictured is the electronic rifle furnished with the Odyssey game kit. There are 12 different shooting games that can be played with this kit and should prove to be a fun investment.



Garcia-Beretta M-1934

BERETTA.

YESTERDAY

By COL. CHARLES ASKINS

DURING THE now famous Six Day War, when the Israelis taught the Arabs such an object lesson, it was common to see tank crewmen with two and three pistols strapped to their waists. This was not Jewish precaution, the extra sidearms were war booty. Now, ordinarily, troop commanders frown on their men using weapons of the other side. This practice leads to complications. In the first place there is no ammo supply and secondly, the enemy gun, if it is a quick-firer, will have a sound foreign to those around it and this is apt to draw friendly fire. Beyond this, the mere possession is dangerously apt to get the new owner liquidated by the opposition if he is captured.

In the case of the Israeli tankers, there wasn't anything the commanders could do about it.

For the Israeli service pistol is the same as the Egyptian. It is the Beretta 9 mm Model 1951 automatic. Made by the Pietro Beretta Co. of Brescia, Italy, it is one of the oldest arms companies in the world. The going-hell-for-leather Hebrew tankers gathered up Beretta pistols by the sack, but they shunned the Arab's ammo. Loaded by the Soviets, it possesses some very unimpressive ballistics. The bullet weighs 123 grains and is driven at barely 1,000 fps MV, and misfires and malfunctions are common.

The Israelis, on the other hand, shoot a hot load. It is assembled in their own plant and uses a 112-grain bullet which travels at 1275 fps MV. It is also fired in the Uzi, their standard submachine gun. Ask any Israeli ordnance officer and he will tell you there

are advantages to having the other side use the same weapons as your own. Spare parts are no problem.

On the score of interchangeability, and as a result of the 6 day bloodletting, the tiny little Jewish nation now has not only a pistol in common with the enemy but also tanks, personnel carriers, mortars, artillery and wheeled vehicles. All of these are of infinitely more importance than the pistols. The sidearm in war is the most insignificant of all weapons. After WW 2, a cry went up in the Army to cashier the old M1911 pistol. When a study was commenced to pin down what it had done, or had not done during shooting, it was found that there were no records. After-action reports, when scanned, were empty of any useable data. It may be that the score has been better maintained during the Vietnamese unpleasantness, but regardless, it is a most unimportant arm to the soldier.

For all that, the Beretta Model 1951, dubbed the Model 951 by its American importers, the Garcia Sporting Arms Corp., is one of the best military weapons. It has now been in almost continuous combat for two decades, with the likelihood that it will be involved for many decades to come. Jan Stevenson, our Pistol Editor, and the author of the new book, "Pistols, Revolvers and Ammunition" rates the Beretta as one of the fifteen most important handguns in history and I agree with him.

During WW 2, the Italian military forces were armed with the Model 1934 pistol. It was the forerunner of the Model 951 and fired the 9 mm Coto (.380 ACP) cartridge. It was replaced in 1952 by the larger pistol which is now the standard military sidearm. The Model 1934 is still favored by the

Italian carabinieri and the police. The Beretta is a sort of badge of office for the gendarmes and so is its holster. This scabbard is suspended by straps or chains from the belt and flops and swings at the flank, all the time firmly closed at the top with a flap and a button. The Italian law man has not the faintest intention of making a quick draw!

The Model 1934 is the really famous Beretta. The infinitely better 9 mm Model 951 is a mere upstart, now only some twenty years of age! The '34 is an evolutionary gun dating back to 1915 when the remarkable design engineer, Tulio Marengoni, whumped up the first one. It was a simple blowback design, in caliber 7.65 mm (.32 ACP), with a concealed hammer. During the same year Beretta also chambered the 1915 pistol for the 9 mm Glisenti cartridge. This is a low-powered number and should not be confused with the 9 mm Parabellum. In 1923, still another Beretta appeared. It was the first model with an outside hammer and was typical of all Beretta pistols since that time for the fact that the top of the slide is cut away exposing the barrel. A strap over the muzzle was incorporated at the forward end of the slide to retain the barrel at that point and to offer a place to affix the front sight.

In 1931, there was still another pistol. It differs little from the 1923 except that the stock was made at a straighter angle to the bore. It pointed badly, had a tendency to shoot low because of the poor stock-to-barrel angle. It was chambered for the 7.65 mm cartridge and was issued to the Italian Navy.

In 1934, the now famous pistol came along. It was chambered, as we have

AND TODAY



Garcia-Beretta M-951



Garcia-Beretta M-101



Garcia-Beretta M-90



Garcia-Beretta M-76

already noted, for the 9 mm Corto cartridge. In 1935, the same pistol was made for the 7.65 mm and it is sometimes referred to as the Model 1935. After WW 2, and up until the present moment, the Model 1934 has been imported. These days it is sometimes referred to as the Cougar Model and by Garcia as the Model 70S. There used to be an absolutely impossible safety on the left side of the frame just above the trigger. It was one of those 2 handed affairs. The current pistol has a safety (Continued on page 63)

SAUER DOUBLE ACTION SYSTEM

By MASON WILLIAMS



MANY SHOOTERS lose sight of the fact that there have been only three basic double action pistols put into world wide production prior to the last war. Since that time, just about all of our "modern" double action pistols have been based upon these three old timers; the Sauer, the Mauser and the Walther. The finest of the three—in my opinion, the Sauer, has been allowed to sink into oblivion. There have been others like the Wiener Waffenfabrik of Vienna known commonly as the "Little Tom," but it never made the big time nor did its design hold any great promise for the future.

Many people consider the double action pistol to be a postwar development, a design concept that grew out of the experiences and research of the Second World War. Not so! The three old timers go back many years. Walther engineers sprang the 32 ACP Model PP on the public way back in 1929—over forty years ago—to be followed by the 22 Long Rifle and the 380 ACP to give Walther one of the finest little pistols ever designed and, in those days, a terrific lead over competition. The smaller, detective version of the Model PP came out in 1931 and was designated the Model PPK.

The Mauser HSc appeared just before the start of the Second World War around 1938. This streamlined competitor of the Walther was made in caliber 32 ACP only. It was widely used during the war as a substitute for the Luger and the Walther 9 m/m pistols.

Sauer brought out its Model 38 (H) just about the same time as the HSc went into production. One of the great firearms manufacturers of Germany, Sauer brought out the Model 38 (H) in calibers 25, 32 and 380 ACP in direct competition to Walther's line.

All three pistols have one thing in common—when the trigger is pulled, it cocks the hammer the same way a double action revolver operates. Pulling all the way back on the trigger trips the hammer and allows it to fall, striking the firing pin and firing the pistol. At this point the slide comes back to eject the fired case and to cock the hammer, thus rendering all three pistols single action and



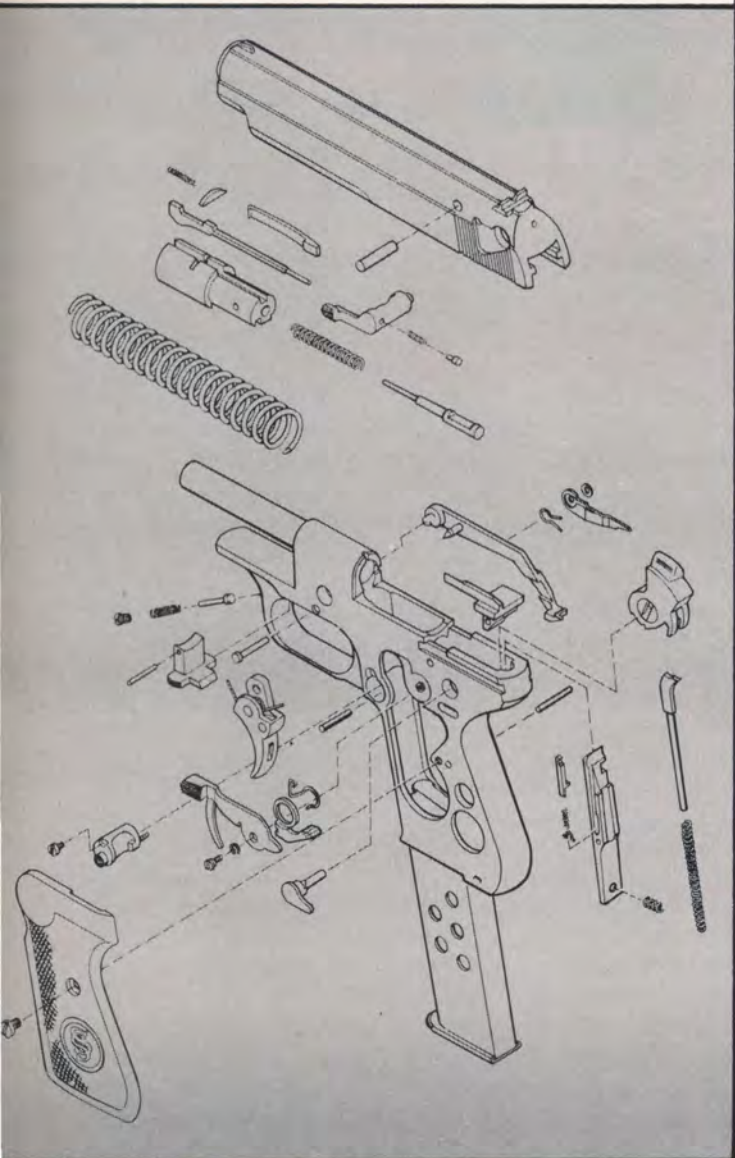
A close view of the Sauer lever with the grip removed. Note how the rear of the lever can engage the cocking cam of the hammer, above cocking lever.

ready for the next shot.

Now, let's assume that the shooter wishes to make the pistol safe. In order to do this, the hammer must be dropped. The Walther pistols have a lever on the left side of the slide, at the rear, that allows the shooter to thumb it down. As the lever is pushed downward, it cams a block of steel between the hammer face and the firing pin so that, as the hammer falls, it strikes this block of steel. The lever may be left in this position but, if this is done, the pistol cannot be fired. In order to again fire the pistol, the lever must be raised with the thumb, removing the block of steel from the face of the hammer and making the pistol again operative.

DISASSEMBLY—

Take the pistol in the right hand. Press the magazine catch, withdraw the magazine with the left hand. Make sure the barrel is empty. Still holding the pistol grip in the right hand, draw down the arresting catch as far as possible into the trigger guard space: the fingerpiece of the arresting catch is visible as a serrated block above and ahead of the trigger. Now pull back the slide as far as possible, lift the rear end of the slide above the level of the barrel and ease the slide forward. Other parts may be removed as desired—if you know what you're up to! Disassembly is the reverse of assembly: be sure to shove the arresting slide fully home after reassembly.



The Mauser HSc has a similar lever on the side of the slide. Pressing down on this lever raises the firing pin out of the way of the hammer. The pistol remains in a single action cycle with the trigger in the rearward position. If the trigger is pulled, the hammer falls to strike the rear of the breech block but misses the rear of the firing pin, passing well below it. At this point, with safety lever down and hammer down, the pistol has been rendered inoperative. Pull the trigger and nothing happens. It cannot be fired. The safety lever must be raised to make the pistol operational as is the case with the Walther.

Both pistols require a shift in the grip in order to work the safety lever. Both pistols are inoperative with the lever down. Neither pistol may be cocked without manually using the thumb of the right hand with corresponding shift in grip or by pushing back the hammer with the left hand. Quite often this has to be done, and without firing a shot, in order to make the pistol instantly ready for firing. Unfortunately, this method of cocking the pistols is slow and, at times, dangerous. Also, both pistols have exposed hammers that permit dirt and other miscellaneous to get into the mechanism.

The Sauer is a whole new ballgame! The original Sauer is fully enclosed, without any exposed hammers or levers on the slide, although the wartime modified Sauer does have a safety lever on the left side of the slide at the rear, similar to the Mauser and Walther. The original Sauer does not have a safety in the conventional sense of the word. The lever fitted to the left side of the receiver above the magazine release button has a serrated flat that lies directly to the rear of the trigger and ahead of the front of the grips. This lever makes the Sauer the most advanced double action pistol ever commercially produced. Pulling the trigger cams back the hammer and lets it fall to fire the cartridge. As the slide moves rearward to eject the fired case, the rear of the breech block cocks the hammer that then remains back at full cock with the trigger in the rearward position, ready for an instant, single action shot.

If the shooter decides not to fire, he may press down lightly upon the side lever (Continued on page 52)



Note the shortness of motion necessary to cock the hammer. The trigger has been moved to the rear or the single action position.



The Smith & Wesson M39-2 after it has been remodeled is a good deal more compact and much more concealable than the original pictured above it. The author states that a few ounces of excess weight can be saved as well.



BOBTAILING THE

NOW, THERE HAVE been times when I was accused of showing a bit of favoritism toward the Smith & Wesson M39 autoloading pistol. Well, I guess that might be true in a sense—but I figure a fellow has just as much right to a favorite among handguns as he has for a preference for a particular brand of scotch or a special girlfriend. I might even go so far as to say that one's choice of a favored handgun can probably be made more objectively and with a surer knowledge of the ultimate result than can a selection of either of these other two commodities.

The S&W M39 was actually developed nearly a quarter-century ago, primarily to meet a requirement of the day for a new, lightweight service pistol to replace the aging .45 M1911. Several other companies produced guns to the same requirement, but of them all, only the Colt Commander and the M39 survived to see series production when the requirement was cancelled. Considering that the Colt is merely a slightly shortened, aluminum-framed version of the M1911, the only truly modern gun to rise out of that series of developments is the M39. Further, it is the only truly modern autoloading pistol to arrive on the domestic scene in over half a century.

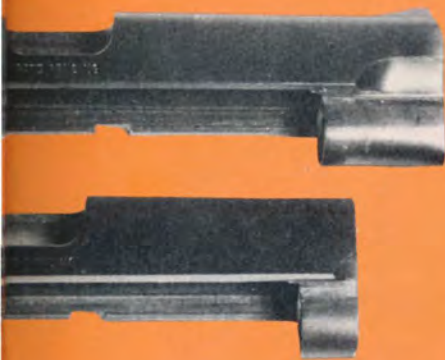
My personal enamored with the M39 dates back a score of years to when I first realized that in a single package, it offered an extremely good combination of compactness and concealment for the power of its cartridge,

excellent pointability, double-action first shot capability, superb reliability, top durability, and overall excellence of mechanical design.

In short, while it isn't my ideal of an autoloading pistol, it comes closer to that goal than any other handgun yet manufactured. About the only real objection I have to the gun is that it is offered only in 9mm Parabellum (Luger) caliber—I would have much preferred it in .38 Colt Super automatic, or some larger caliber (.40 or .41 would be ideal, though .45 would certainly be acceptable.)

Loaded with modern, high-performance ammunition, the M39 is the most potent, compact pistol produced by any manufacturer here or abroad. To be sure, there was a period of time in '70 and '71, when overall quality of this model deteriorated noticeably. I ran into many brand-new guns which required extensive tuning before they would function reliably, even with standard factory-loaded ammunition. Recent production, though, especially from around serial number 150,000 upward, show little or no evidence of the former problem, and also contain several improvements over the early guns.

In fact, somewhere shortly after number 150,000, barrel feed ramp design was greatly improved, and even farther back a more conventional and much more durable extractor was fitted. Early guns with the old extractor are marked simply "Model 39" on the left side of the frame



The first step in the operation is to saw off the front of the slide.



Cut pieces (right) as shown off of the original barrel bushing (left) to make the new bushing illustrated in the center of this photograph. This new bushing can be turned on a drill press with nothing more than a 1/4" drill and a couple of files.



Turn or file the new spring guide bushing as shown here on the guide.



Fit both bushings in slide muzzle, silver solder in place. A perfect joint is needed.

S&W M39

By C. GEORGE CHARLES

above the trigger, while those with the new extractor are marked "Model 39-2." No special marking identifies guns with the new barrel. The new feed ramp virtually eliminates problems previously reported with some high-performance factory loadings and handloads not always compatible with the original humped feed ramp.

In short, I would guess that I have made my point, that I do consider this the most versatile service-type autoloader currently available—though, of course, if you insist on a caliber larger than 9mm, you'll have to look elsewhere. That doesn't mean that the gun cannot be improved by judicious home gunsmithing for certain uses. There are more people legitimately carrying concealed or partially concealed handguns today than at any point in our history. No, I can't prove that, but it is well-founded conjecture based upon fairly sound knowledge.

Where such people once were content to carry a two-inch barrel .38 Special "Snubnose" revolver or a small-caliber, pocket-type autoloader, many now want more power and more fire power. And, they must have it in as compact a package as possible. Many have chosen the Model 39 for this purpose, because of its many advantages, but would still like a little less bulk and weight. And, an enthusiastic pistolero possessed of average or better skills with hacksaw and file—and a modest list of other tools common around the house—can shave a couple or three

ounces off the M39 and reduce its length substantially in the process.

The first step in this conversion project is to make damn certain that the gun functions with 100 percent reliability with the ammunition you intend to use. If your gun is brand-new or little-used, this means shooting it enough with full-charge ammunition to insure that it is well broken in. No less than 200 rounds should be fired, and if marginal functioning is noted, even more firing is in order. An autoloading handgun is no different than an automobile or other fairly sophisticated mechanical device in that a short period of initial use is required to smooth up working parts so that 100 percent reliability can be obtained. Many is the time I've had someone come by with a brand new gun which produced a malfunction or two in the first few magazine loads, making the owner very unhappy. In most instances, running another 100 to 200 rounds through the gun eliminated the problems without any gunsmithing.

Tuning the gun to obtain this type of functional reliability is beyond the scope of this piece. Needless to say, there are several books and magazine articles which cover the subject fairly well. Dig them out if you need help in this area, but, to save trouble later, do it before performing the alterations we'll describe here.

Make sure you have a hacksaw with a *new*, high-speed

steel blade, about 22 teeth to the inch. Add to that a good six or eight inch smooth-cut bastard file, successively finer grades of aluminum oxide cloth abrasive, a couple of small needle files, a propane torch and silver soldering materials, screwdrivers and punches, and if possible, a hand grinder (such as the Dremel Moto-tool) with assorted stones and cutoff wheels. Of course, you'll need the usual assortment of close-fitting screwdrivers and punches.

To begin with, strip the gun completely. If you don't have a guide for this purpose, pick up a copy of Volume I of the NRA Illustrated Firearms Assembly Handbook—it contains detailed instructions and parts drawings. Do not, however, attempt to remove the stud against which the slidestop plunger rides, or the stock screw bushings. Also, leave the spring and plunger in place in the slide stop. Everything else comes off or out.

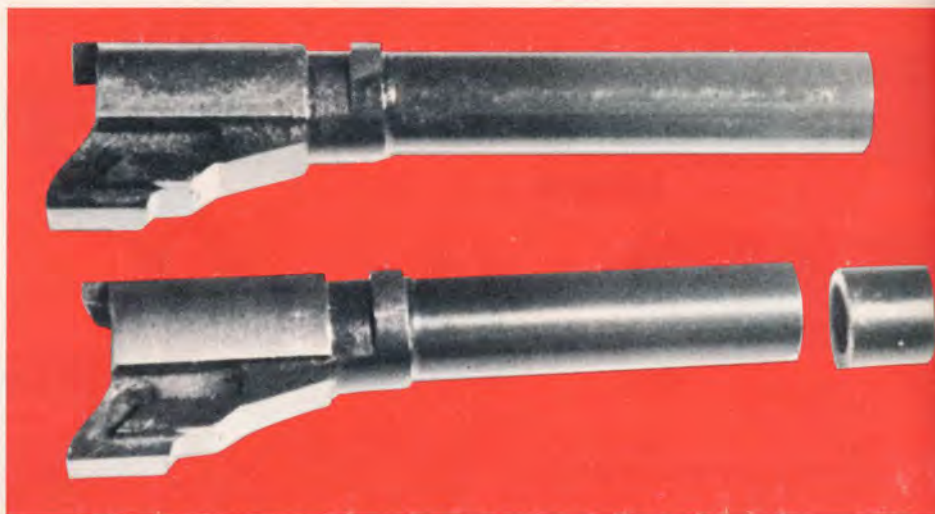
Scribe a line around the muzzle of the slide 0.645" back from its front face. Get this line as square and straight as possible. Put the slide in your trusty bench vise, and saw off the muzzle just ahead of the line. Leave just enough extra stock so that you can file the muzzle back perfectly flat and square to the scribed line. Bevel the edges of both sides and the top of the surface, then polish all the cut surfaces smooth.

File off any remnants of the original front sight, and file a new sight according to the sketch from $\frac{1}{8}$ " flat steel. Then, scribe the location of the new front sight on the top of the slide and then scribe a center line down its middle. Mark the location of the sight tenon on the slide, then drill a row of overlapping $\frac{3}{32}$ " bit holes inside the tenon's outline. Use your needle file to open up the holes to a rectangular slot that will just barely accept the sight tenon. Polish the top of the slide around the hole smooth and file the base of the sight so that a very close fit is obtained all around. Set aside for the moment. Take the original barrel bushing and saw and file it to an overall

length of $\frac{5}{16}$ " as shown. Finish by filing the locking lug off the bushing body so it will enter the slide—and scrape the bluing off the tube and the rear face of the flange. Finish the bushing up by sawing and filing off the lower extension as shown.

A new bushing will be needed in the front of the recoil spring housing under the forward portion of the slide. While this is most easily made upon a lathe, it can be turned on a drill press with nothing more than a $\frac{1}{4}$ " drill and a couple files. Simply drill a $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole centered through an inch of $\frac{1}{2}$ " drill rod, then chuck this piece in the drill press and use files to bring it to the shape shown. The flange should be the same thickness as the flange on the barrel bushing, and the body should enter the slide $\frac{1}{8}$ ".

The two new bushings must now be silver-soldered into the muzzle of the slide—along with the front sight—and if you haven't had at least a little bit of practice at this game, I suggest you take the job to your local gunsmith. If you have everything fitted up and properly cleaned, he shouldn't charge more than a couple or three dollars for the soldering job. First, make sure the slide is clean and bright and grease free where the two bushings are inserted. The same goes for the bushings. Coat the inside of the slide muzzle and the outer surfaces of the bushings well with flux. Seat the bushings fully in the slide, squeezing the bodies slightly out of round, if necessary to make them tight enough to not fall out. Flux the sight and its seat on the slide, and seat the sight carefully. Wrap two or three



Saw off and file the barrel back to match the slide length. Leave just enough stock so that you can file the muzzle back perfectly flat. Bevel the edges of both sides and the top of the surface.



The remodeled M-39 at test firing stage. All the cutting and the fitting has been completed.



Next, drill a row of holes on the top of the slide, then file to the shape needed to accept the sight. Rough cut the sight from $\frac{1}{8}$ " steel and fit into slide. Silver solder sight into place.

turns of soft iron wire around sight and slide and twist them up tightly, making certain that the sight is properly aligned, both vertically and longitudinally.

Now, with a good grade of silver solder wire available, install the largest tip on your propane torch, and with the rear end of the slide clamped between pads in your vise, apply heat uniformly around the muzzle of the slide. It takes quite a while to bring a heavy piece of metal such as the slide up to proper heat with the average home-style propane torch. Nevertheless, it can be done—the secret is to simply keep the flame on the work and don't keep pulling it off to look and see how much the color has changed. When the slide—not necessarily the bushings or the sight—has been brought to a dull red heat, pull the torch away and feed the wire solder into all three joints. Apply more heat until the solder flows like water into the joints and fills all gaps completely. Let the solder harden, then pluck the slide out of the vise. To speed up cooling and reduce heat transfer to the breech area, immerse it (slowly) butt-first into water.

When the slide is cold, it will look a mess. The muzzle will be discolored by heat, partially covered inside and out with scale, and you'll probably have blobs of solder scattered here and there. Remove the solder with scrapers ground from pieces of an old hacksaw blade. Take considerable care to remove *all* the visible solder from exposed steel surfaces. It won't blue, so it will spoil the new finish you'll eventually want. Detailed polishing for a com-

plete reblued job is something we don't have space to go into here. It's been covered in the past in the pages of this magazine, and many well-known gunsmithing books cover it.

More to improve appearance and to reduce sharp edges and snag possibilities, we can remove a bit more metal here and there from the slide. Begin by rounding off those sharp rear corners as shown. This is a quick and simple file job, after which the radius should be smoothly polished. Then, file a 45 degree bevel on the lower outer edges of the slide, producing a flat slightly more than $\frac{1}{16}$ " in width. File another substantial 45 degree bevel around the sides and top of the butt of the slide, making the flat about $\frac{3}{32}$ " at the top, spreading to $\frac{1}{8}$ " in width on the sides.

No, we're not quite yet finished with the slide—try to put the barrel in. It won't go, will it? Well, first of all, it must be shortened. Simply saw off approximately .625" of the muzzle and lightly bevel the outer edge. There's no need to true up the face of the new muzzle until after the barrel has been completely fitted to the slide. Now, try to insert the barrel in the normal fashion, and you will find that its muzzle bumps into the lower rear portion of the new barrel bushing. Take a $\frac{1}{4}$ " diameter fine cut round file inserted through the muzzle at approximately the angle shown, and file out a U-shaped channel in the lower rear portion of the bushing *without* marring the front $\frac{1}{16}$ " of the inner surface of the bushing. If you question your ability to keep (Continued on page 66)



Cut off the hammer spur and then grind the cut in order to match the rear of the slide.



If you shorten and round the magazine floor plate, handling of the magazine will be improved considerably.

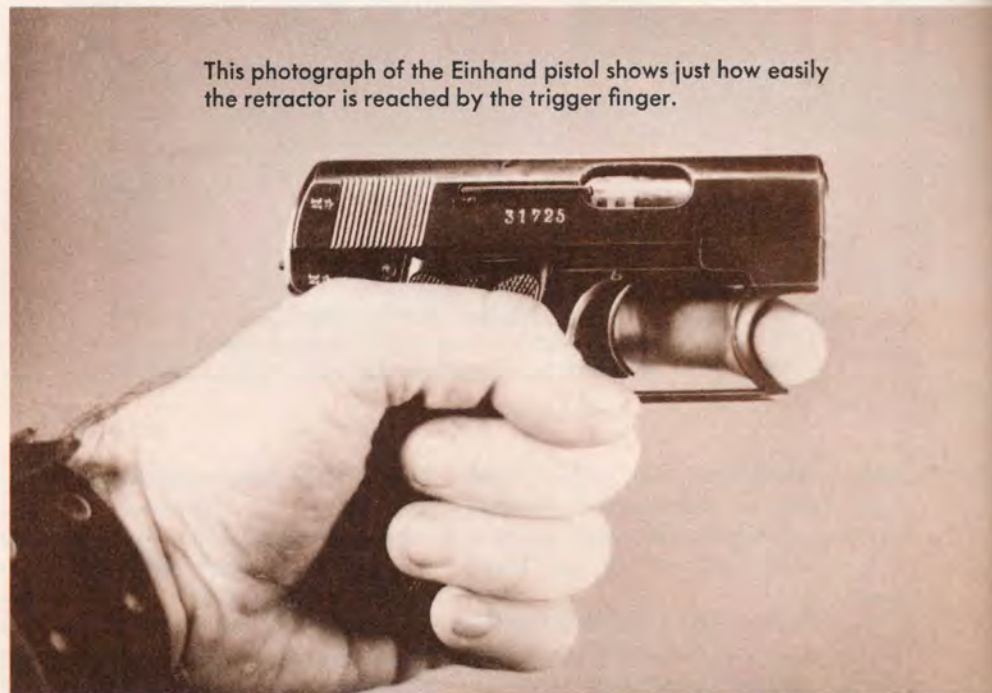
THE LIGNOSE

By J. B. WOOD

IN EUROPE, after the end of World War I, the time of the small pocket automatic really began. Prewar success of small pistols by Walther, Browning and others brought the attention of many arms makers who previously had concentrated on larger pistols intended for military applications.

Master designer Theodor Bergmann, whose Model 1896 was one of the earliest successful self-loaders, entered the small pocket pistol field about 1919. By this time, there was already a wide variety of 6.35 m/m (.25 ACP) automatics on the market. They ranged from the weird, thin little Mann pistol to the first double-action, the Wiener "Little Tom." In this complex market, something different was required to interest the discriminating buyer, and Herr Bergmann met the challenge well with the Einhand pistol.

A direct translation from the German is *one-hand*, an apt description of an automatic pistol in which the slide can be cycled manually by the single hand holding the gun. I can think of only a few previous applications of this idea: The Spanish Jo Lo Ar, the Cheylewski and the White-Merrill, developed in the U. S. for our Ordnance tests of 1907. The Jo Lo Ar used a pivoting bar attached to the right center of the slide for retraction, while



This photograph of the Einhand pistol shows just how easily the retractor is reached by the trigger finger.

the White-Merrill retractor was an extension below the trigger guard. It was the Cheylewski, though that was the ancestor of the Einhand. There were probably other experimental pistols which had a one-hand operation, but these three, and the Einhand, are the only ones commercially produced.

In the Einhand pistol, Bergmann cleverly adopted the Cheylewski slide retracting system into the forward strap of the trigger guard. This sliding portion of the guard has an inward curve,

matching the trigger, which it meets when fully retracted. The curved retractor is keyed into grooves running along each side of the forward portion of the frame, and its rear upper shoulders bear against steps in the forward lower edges of the slide.

The retractor can be reached by the trigger finger, and drawing it straight toward the rear will bring the slide to full open position. If the magazine is loaded, releasing the retractor will allow the slide to go forward, chamber-

1

The 6.35 m/m Lignose "Einhand" pistol, sporting the shorter grips.

2

The center photograph illustrates the 6.35 m/m Lignose in the long grip style. Einhand means "one hand" in German and is an apt description of the pocket auto.

3

Left, the 6.35 m/m Lignose in short grips minus retractor.



EINHAND PISTOLS

ing a cartridge and leaving the pistol cocked and ready to fire.

The recoil spring is fairly light, and no great effort is required to operate the retractor. Inside the forward frame extension is a flat spring bearing with two small studs which extend downward through holes. The forward stud, the longest, retains the retractor on the frame. The other stud has only slight projection, and matches a shallow well inside the retractor, to keep it in forward position when the pistol is fired.

The firing system of the Einhand utilizes a pivoting hammer and sear mounted in the frame. The disconnecter is directly attached to the trigger bar, which passes the magazine well inside the left grip. The safety lever is well located, and its large, concentrically ringed head makes it easy to operate. A twin-fingered, screw-retained flat spring beneath the right grip clasps the tip of the safety shaft for both positioning and retention of the safety. A word of criticism at this point: When the safety is snapped down and forward to the "off" position, its only stop is against the hard rubber grip, which is centrally unsupported and relatively fragile.

An interesting feature of the Einhand pistols, and also present on a model which lacks the slide-retracting system, is the hammer indicator. When the internal hammer is cocked, a small

bronze pin protrudes from an aperture in the upper rear of the frame, making it easy by sight or touch to know when the pistol is ready to fire. There is, however, no system to indicate when the chamber is loaded.

In keeping with the pistol's intended use as a pocket piece for personal protection, sights are almost non-existent. There is a shallow, U-shaped groove running the length of the slide top, and a small inverted-V post raised at its forward end. Hardly a target arrangement, but adequate for the probable short-range use. Fit and finish of these pistols is superb, the blue being the dull, even type found on many European automatics of this period.

Takedown of the Einhand pistol is similar to others having a general Browning-style slide, barrel and frame relationship, but there are several in-

teresting departures. Here is the takedown sequence:

With the magazine removed, chamber empty, and safety in the "off" (down) position, use the retractor to bring the slide fully to the rear. Grasping the barrel by its neatly knurled band, exert a *clockwise* turning pressure, and let the slide move very slightly forward until the barrel may be turned out of its lug recesses in the frame. The direction of barrel rotation is opposite to the takedown system in most pistols having this type of barrel retention.

Next, allow the slide to move about halfway forward, hold it there, and move the retractor back to the front.

With a small tool, depress the retaining stud and slide the retractor off the frame. Slide and barrel may now be moved (Continued on page 60)

SPECIFICATIONS

	Weight Ounces:	Length Inches:	Height Inches:	Barrel Length, Inches:	Magazine Capacity, Rounds:
EINHAND LONG GRIP	15½	4 11/16	4	2½	9
EINHAND SHORT GRIP	14	4 11/16	3	2½	6
NON-EINHAND	13¼	4 11/16	3	2½	6

2

1





A New Look in **.22 .45** **Conversions**

**Three new .22 conversion units
that will fit most .45 auto frames and match the
accuracy of many of the fine target pistols of today**

By WALTER RICKELL

HOW MANY TIMES have you wished you had a .22 to shoot in the rimfire aggregate that felt like a big gun? Every time it is fired you hear complaints about the grips and feel of the high-priced target grade .22 autos. A few years ago, Herretts introduced the Military Grip for the Model 41 Smith and Wesson. This had a feel close to the 1911, but still not quite the same, although it came in simulated flat or arched mainspring housing styles. High-Standard brought out the Military frame, copying the Colt receiver angle. It had the feel and the dimension of the Government Model with a flat housing, but it lacked the arch-type. Short and long triggers were offered on these models.

The two basic problems that the grip didn't solve dealt with the trigger and the sights. The trigger linkage, although perfectly satisfactory on the top quality .22s, still didn't feel like the "Old Warhorse" and its sights weren't quite the same. In appearance, the Model 41 sights were integral with the barrel, while on the High-Standard, it was tried just about everywhere. First it was on the slide and later, the sights were on a bridge on the frame. Somewhere between came the "Fishing Pole," with both sights on the ten inch barrel.

Now, finally, the "Victor" Model has its sights on a rib attached to the barrel. Each model had its own interpretation of what the shooter wanted in the way of adjustable sights. None, however, had the sights that shooters used, for two out of every three shooters used the original design patterned by Elliason.

The gun coming closest to what the shooter wanted was a custom job by Clarke of Shreveport, La. It was a High-Standard Military frame with a custom Douglas barrel and a deluxe Bo-Mar rib and adjustable sights which extended back over the flattened slide. We should mention the Colt .22 Conversion Kit with the floating chamber. It looks nice, is very well made and is quite an advancement for its time, but the kit still doesn't come up to the accuracy of a .22 target pistol costing half the price.

For the past several years, Bob Day, President of Day Arms Corp., has been working on a simple, yet practical conversion to .22 rimfire for the .45 auto. Day made several prototypes, one of which was a combination of target grade .22 and .45 parts, which included a Model 41 S&W barrel, a Government Model frame and a Colt Ace slide milled to the configuration of the Model 41. All the things a competi-

tive shooter could want were incorporated into this unit, but the drawbacks were soon evident in the production costs and lack of available parts.

Day soon came up with the "30-X" Conversion Kit. His first unit didn't look like the 30-X of today. It appeared to be nothing more than the standard .45 auto with Bo-Mar target sights, but with no ejection port on the right side of the slide, which was in two pieces and made of aluminum. The front portion, starting slightly behind the slide stop pin to the muzzle, was solid and was held stationary to the frame with a steel barrel insert or liner. The rear section, behind the barrel, was free to move to the rear on the frame rails. The slide was returned into battery by the re-

coil spring, located under the barrel and forward of the breech. The barrel and slide assembly stayed together when off of the frame, and could be slipped on and off in seconds.

The whole unit featured a three-point bedding system. One was the eccentric force-fit pin which utilized the slide stop pin hole through the barrel lug. Secondly, when the pin was in contact with the lug, it pulled the barrel downward against the upper portion of the frame rails and to the rear, against the receiver, creating a solid, metal to metal fit. Thirdly, the forward underside of the barrel section was secured by a small clamp which held the barrel housing to the matching radius in the front portion of the frame. This gave a

(Continued on page 58)

Three conversions made by Day Arms, top to bottom: The 30X with 6" barrel; same with 5" barrel; and the "El Macho," a plinker version for fun shooting.



WHETHER IT BE automobiles, radios, men or even guns, in evolution of any item, it must yield to progress. The Thompson sub-machine gun was to the late 20's and early 30's what the Gatling gun was to the later part of the 1880's and early 1900's. But just like everything else, the "Chicago Piano, Typewriter, Tommygun, or Chopper," was set aside by others that made it obsolete, and is now a desirable collector's item. Who can argue that the Thompson was, and is, an effective weapon—but here again, it has had its day. It has been replaced by many like the little Steyr 9 mm, with a total length of 18" when stock is folded and has a weight of 6 lbs., and a firing rate of 550 rounds per minute, or the UZI sub-machine gun with its 9 mm cal., 8.9 lbs., total length of 17.9" with stock folded and having a firing rate of 650 rounds per minute.

**Designed as a "Trench Broom,"
the Thompson is probably best
remembered as the background
sound of the "Roaring 20's."**

The Thompson will always be a symbol of an era connected with bank robbing and bootlegging, spitting its poison from big wooden-wheeled Cadillacs and old Lincolns, rounding the corners of the streets of Chicago, Detroit or New York, and blasting out windows or anything that happened to be in the way of its path. Some say these were the "good old days," others, the depression was a "hell on earth." But regardless, the Thompson is appreciated by many who used it in World War II. Many veterans become nostalgic when they speak of it, almost as reverent as a Confederate who was lucky enough to obtain an 1860 Army Colt or an 1851 Navy during the Civil War.

By way of background, the Thompson sub-machine gun was invented by John Taliferro Thompson. John Thompson was born in Newport, Kentucky on December 31, 1860. He graduated from West Point in 1882 and was assigned to the Ordnance Division in 1890. After the Spanish-American conflict, he promoted the acceptance of the Colt 1911 automatic .45 caliber handgun. He retired from the service in 1914. He diligently pursued the possibility of a completely automatic weapon that would utilize the .45 caliber ammunition and thus would be a valuable weapon to the U.S. Army. In August of 1916 his efforts were completed and the first "trench broom" (as he called it) was born. John Thompson was recalled into the service in 1917 and released as a Brigadier General in 1918. The Ordnance Division accepted the Thompson sub-machine gun in 1919. Thompson had high hopes for the weapon and its use by the United States forces. Ordnance orders were very slow in coming and in view of this, the arm was marketed as a protection weapon for almost anyone with the price. Police were

(Continued on page 56)

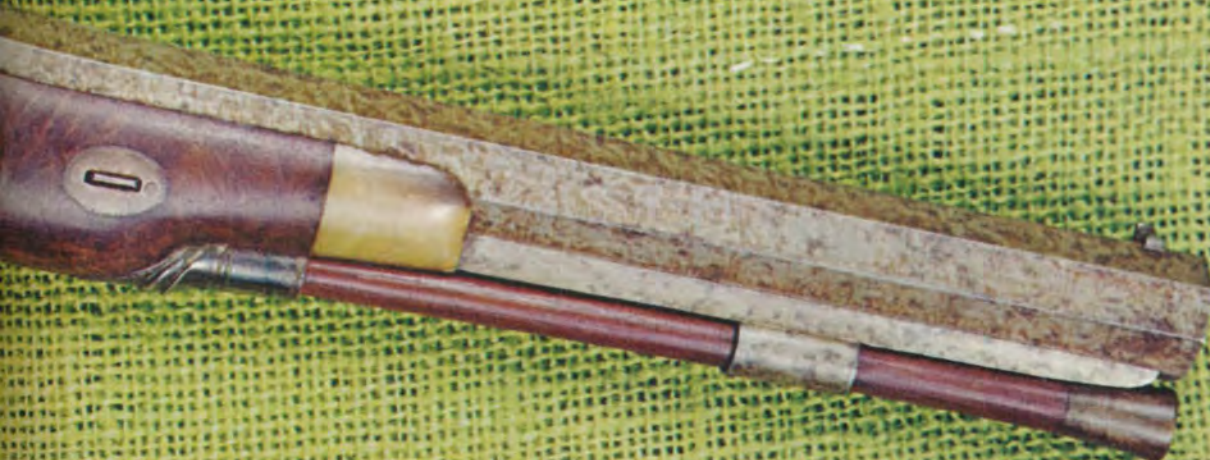


The Godfather Gun

By E. DIXON LARSON







Guns Color Gallery

Simeon North is perhaps most famous for the pistols he produced for the U.S. Government. His first contract, March 9, 1799, called for 500 horse pistols at \$6.50 each. His last pistol contract was in 1826. These pistols, however, are not military. They are duellers; one of two pair known today. Note the double neck hammer; horn tipped stock and ramrod; safety lock and single set trigger. From the Wm. Locke collection; photo by Harry Knode.

If you appreciate quality features like machined chrome molybdenum steel, three position safeties, smooth anti-bind bolts, custom styled stocks, and price options that let you pick and choose, you'll know the 1972 Model 70 family is made for men who know their Winchesters.

A new Model 70A and a redesigned Model 670 join the new 70s.



Model 70

Let's start at the top.

Model 70 Super Grade: Every feature speaks of Winchester's dedication to superlative quality: Satin finished, fancy American walnut stock, with cut checkering, high comb Monte Carlo, fluted comb, and cheek piece. Ebony pistol grip and forend tip, with white spacers. Non slip rubber butt pad with white spacer. Super Grade hinged steel floor plate, special matted finish on receiver bridge. Plus all the standard Model 70 features. Standard caliber is 30-06 Springfield. 243, 270 Winchester, 300 Winchester Magnum on special order.

New Model 70 Standard: This is the Model 70 that will make "Pre-64" a part of history. The 1972 Model 70 is made with no shortcuts. Check these features:

Real, cut checkering: You get cut checkering on the 1972 Model 70 that you can really feel, not a design stamped into the wood . . . and the pattern is classic.

Winchester Proof Steel barrels: Forged from cold chrome molybdenum steel blanks on precision machines that exert 200 tons of pressure. Bore, rifling, and chamber are forged into shape, not cut or machined. Available in 243, 270, 308 Winchester, 30-06 Springfield, 22-250, and 222, 25-06 Rem. **Magnums:** 264, 300, 338, 458 Winchester, plus 7mm Rem., and 375 H & H.

Re-designed stock: Made from solid, American walnut, the forend is slimmer, with a flatter bottom. The pistol grip is slimmer,



longer and capped with black. Quick detachable sling swivels are standard. From black forend tip to Monte Carlo, the handsome dark wood tones say Winchester quality, the way you want it.

Wimbledon Cup accuracy: Only one rifle has won the Wimbledon Cup 1000 yard event more times than all others combined. The Winchester Model 70.

Knurled bolt handle: Extra confidence if you have to reload in a hurry. Exclusive three position safety is standard, plus red cocking indicator, and a crisp, wide, serrated trigger.

Hinged floor plate: Made from steel, the magazine floor plate on the Model 70 snaps open at the touch of a button to empty the magazine without opening the bolt.

Stainless steel magazine follower: A final touch of quality on the Model 70 is a magazine follower made of heavy stainless steel. There's no way we're going to cut corners on the 1972 Model 70. Find out for yourself.





Model 70A

Next in line — the New Model 70A.

Real cut checkering: Yes, the new Model 70A is basically a Model 70 at a lower price. But the chrome molybdenum steel barrel and receiver, and redesigned American walnut stock are still there. Including real cut checkering. Many experienced hunters prefer the reserved, understated appearance of the new Winchester Model 70A. Why not. It's Winchester just the way you want it.



Three position safety, one of many features: Exclusive three-position safety, and red cocking indicator. Engine turned bolt. Winchester Proof Steel barrel. Sling swivels of blued steel. Monte Carlo cheek piece. And a wide, serrated trigger with a clean, crisp release.



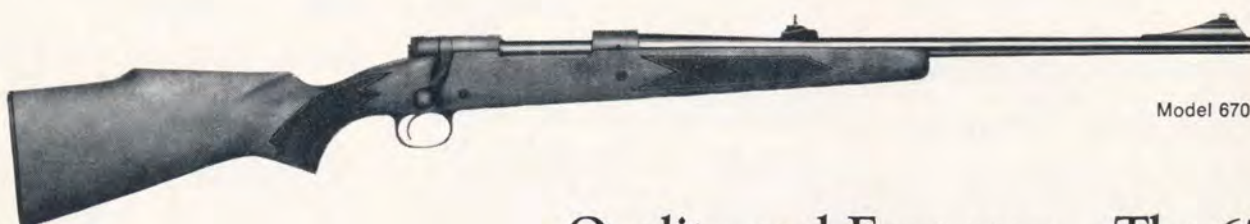
Enclosed bolt head: The chrome molybdenum Model 70A bolt has two oversize locking lugs for superior bolt-to-breech locking strength, fully recessed bolt face for 50% better head support. Gas vent and steel safety cap are standard, along with the exclusive anti-bind bolt device.



New stock: The Model 70A features the same styling of the Model 70 Standard, including a slim, handsome stock made from solid American walnut. Satin finish is standard. Forend is flattened on the bottom and the slender pistol grip is much slimmer. Real cut checkering and sling swivels are included.



Magnums too: 22-250, 222 Rem., 243, 270, 308 Winchester, 25-06 Rem., and 30-06 Springfield calibers. **Plus** Magnum models in 264 and 300 Winchester Magnums, and 7mm Rem. Magnum. Some choice. Some new Winchester.



Model 670

Quality and Economy — The 670.

Genuine bolt action value: You get three position safety, chrome molybdenum steel barrel and receiver, fully adjustable rear sight, and ramped front sight on the 670. You get a wide trigger with clean crisp release. The stock is a tough grade of American hardwood, walnut finished, and with a new checkering pattern. You get a whole lot of performance, at a very attractive price. You'll take pride in owning an honest rifle with a quality finish, made in the U.S.A., that's every bit as accurate as you are.



New stock: The economical Model 670 has a handsome new stock that features a trim, slim pistol grip, Monte Carlo, cheekpiece, reshaped forend and new checkering pattern. The result is a look and feel of quality at your kind of price.



Cold forged barrels: The 670 barrel is cold forged from chrome molybdenum steel on the same machines and in exactly the same way as the 70 Super Grade and Target rifles for maximum uniformity and accuracy. **WINCHESTER.** 275 Winchester Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut 06504.

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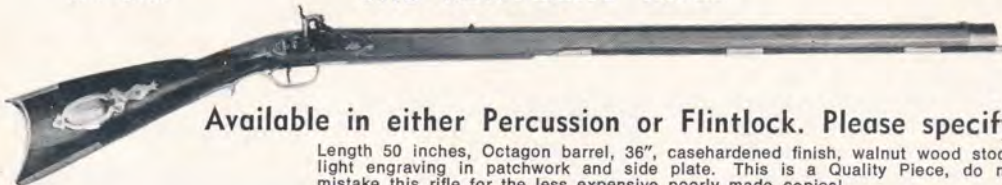
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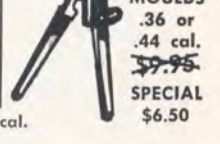
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HANDGUNNING

(Continued from page 18)



8. The serial number 29 correctly suggests that this is another prototype. You should nonetheless have little difficulty identifying 1) the nationality, 2) the manufacturer, and 3) the design antecedent.



9. Identify this charming curiosity as to 1) mechanical type, 2) nationality, 3) model.



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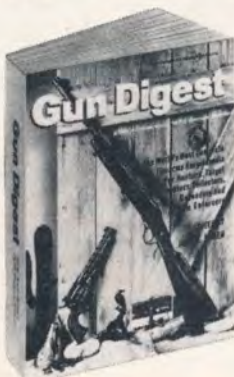
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RELOADING DIVISION

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SHOPPING WITH Guns

Gun Digest, the world's biggest selling and most popular book about arms, hunting and collecting is now ready in an all-new, 480 page edition for 1973. Edited by firearms authority, John T. Amber, the book is extensively illustrated and loaded with facts and feature



stories by leading experts for hunters, reloaders, collectors, students of history and even black powder fans. Testfire reports on new equipment, scope and mount reviews, the "Shooters Showcase." Digest Books, Inc. 540 Frontage Rd., Northfield, Ill. Dept. G-11, 60093.

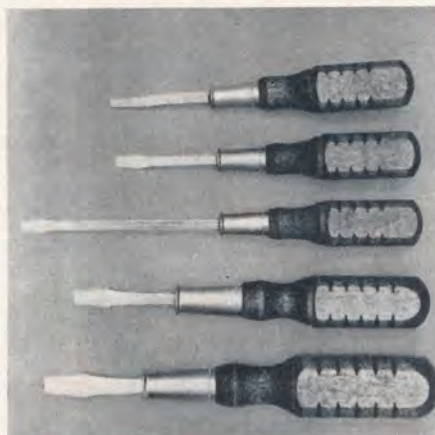
Harrington & Richardson, Inc. has introduced a traditional cap lock, muzzle-loading sporting rifle for black powder enthusiasts. Called the Springfield Stalker, it is patterned after the famous Springfield rifles of the Civil War period. Modern manufacturing technology and the use of quality steel assure accurate, reliable performance. This muzzle loader



is available in 45 or 58 calibers, weighing 8 lbs. and 7½ lbs., respectively. Stock is American Walnut and barrel length is 28", giving an overall length of 43". The nipple takes a #11 percussion cap. Accessories supplied with the rifle consist of a solid brass ramrod with hardwood handle, spare nipple and a nipple wrench. Write for complete information to Harrington & Richardson, Inc., 320 Park Avenue, Dept. G-11, Worcester, Massachusetts 01610.

Pistol shooters now have their own hand-loading guide in a new book of pistol reloading data produced by Hornady Manufacturing Company, Grand Island, Nebraska. According to Hornady, it is the first time that a truly comprehensive guide of scientifically developed pistol reloading data has been published. "Hornady Pistol Loading Data" contains more than 1,000 loads in 17 pistol cartridges. "Hornady Pistol Reloading Data," which retails for \$1, is available at dealers or may be ordered directly from Hornady Manufacturing Co., P. O. Box 1848, Dept. G-11, Grand Island, Nebraska 68801.

Professionally designed screw drivers for the gun owner are now available from Bellco. The set of five is packed in a handy plastic pouch, complete with instructions on use and fitting for precision



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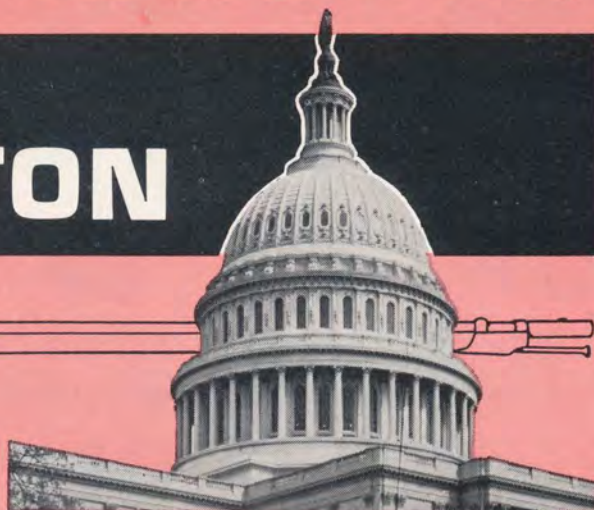
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OUR MAN IN WASHINGTON



By CARL WOLFF



A LOOK AT THE HOUSE GUNS HEARINGS

The real damage being done by Congressman Emanuel Celler (D., N.Y.) and company is in the propaganda field. I have sat through witness after witness, each supporting wild restrictive measures. There has been misinformation, distortion, and outright fakery that has gone unchallenged. Yet, for those opposing sweeping restrictions, their views undergo probing examination by members of the committee and its staff.

On the surface, the gun hearings before the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee #5 as part of the legislative process is all to the advantage of anti-gun forces. Outside the room, however, political forces unrelated to gun legislation stack up strongly for pro-gun forces.

Advantage Number One for anti-gun forces: In charge, Congressman Emanuel Celler (D., N.Y.) who also chairs the full Judiciary Committee. The ranking minority party member, Congressman William McCulloch (R., Ohio), equals Celler in his anti-gun viewpoint. In fact, Subcommittee #5, with its members selected by Celler, is a hot-bed of anti-gun ownership sentiment. This is the same group that ramrodded the 1968 Gun Control Act through the House. Its membership includes Congressman Abner Mivka (D., Ill., of handgun confiscation fame) and Congressman Andrew Jacobs, Jr. (D., Ind.)

Advantage Number Two: Under consideration are more than 25 different bills. With this many different concepts, it is not possible for pro-gun forces to spell out specific objections to each measure. Yet, the Subcommittee

can say, "We held hearings."

Advantage Number Three: The Subcommittee has the Option of waiting on the Senate to take action on the so-called "Saturday Night Special bill," S. 2507. The Celler Committee can use this measure as a vehicle to move forward any kind of restrictive concept it chooses. At the minimum, this could include a federal mandatory waiting period for the purchase of any handgun, and the registration of all short barreled handguns that do not meet the "sporting purposes" test listed in S. 2507. This provision would, in effect, put personal defense type handguns under the same controls now covering machine guns and other military weapons. Any sale would have to be to the federal government.

Outside the hearing room, things look bright for the gun owner who wishes to still have access to quality handguns that are smaller than a breadbox. Chairman Celler has made it clear he and his committee will push for as much restrictive legislation as they can put through Congress.

How much he can get depends upon the political strength of his supporters and it is here that he falls short. Celler himself has been unseated in the Democratic primary and he is now trying to run on a "Liberal Ticket." Whether or not he is re-elected to the next Congress, he loses seniority in the Democratic party when this Congress expires. It is through party seniority that he, like all other committee chairmen, has advanced in positions of power. As a (Continued on next page)

member of the "Liberal party," he will be unthroned. The ranking member on the Republican side, Congressman McCulloch, is retiring. He, too, is losing his political clout.

The question is: how much political arm-twisting can you do when you can't return the favor next year? Congressmen Celler and McCulloch are likely to find out just how few their legislative supporters are, once their efforts clear this committee.

The first stop for any measure leaving the House Judiciary Committee is the House Rules Committee. The Rules Committee sets rules under which bills are to be considered by the full House. Here, while it is not likely any anti-gun bill will be sent back to Judiciary for additional hearings, it is likely that it will be held until it is too late to clear both Houses of Congress. Once a bill reaches the House floor, all Hell could break loose. It can be safely assumed that an attack on any gun bill will include charges that the supporters have not given proper airing to specific objectives of the measure. This GUNS contributor is of the opinion that there is a good chance of removing any far-reaching, restrictive provisions at this point. All members of the House are up for reelection.

Unless the House-passed version is identical to that passing the Senate, the measure will go back to the Senate for reconsideration. Here is the best chance for public hearings on specific legislation. Whether the Senate considers the measure or holds additional hearings is largely up to one man, Senator James Eastland (D., Miss.). He chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee, out of which came the "Saturday Night Special bill." When the measure was reported out of committee this summer, both Sen. Eastland and the second-ranking majority member, John McClellan (D., Ark.), voted against the measure. Both are up for reelection and both did not want any misunderstanding about their positions on gun control.

As Congress draws to a close the elections come to a head. A recent Gallup Poll shows that a majority of U.S. citizens, both gun owners and non-gun owners, say they would favor a law which would require a person to obtain a police permit before he or she can buy a gun, any gun. The survey shows 71 percent say they would favor such legislation while 25 percent express opposition and four percent have no opinion. However, look where Gallup takes his polls. And, he is asking about a police permit, not a federal permit.

Now is the time to express your views at the ballot box! The following

are quotes taken directly from the House Guns hearings:

CONGRESSMAN ABNER MIKVA (D., Ill.)—"Handguns and crime have a direct and longstanding relationship: they are partners . . . Some people contend that a ban on the sale and manufacture of handguns would discriminate against the sportsman. It probably would—although, under my proposal, people could still shoot handguns at licensed gun clubs. It is a matter of balance: the convenience and pleasure of the relatively few people who like to play with handguns against the safety and well-being of the country."



Senator Edward Moore Kennedy (D., Mass.)—"Those who find happiness in guns will just have to subordinate that pleasure to the right of all Americans to live free from the death and violence that the American gun mania has brought us . . . Future observers of this era in America's history will probably be puzzled by our nation's distorted passion for firearms. They will wonder why, with all our statistics and all our studies, we have failed to rid our communities of these destructive devices of death?"

MARYLAND GOVERNOR MARYVIN MANDELL (D.)—"You can imagine the frustration and anger I felt when evidence developed by the FBI showed that the suspect in the shooting of Governor Wallace had purchased his handgun in Milwaukee, Wisconsin—as easily as if he were purchasing peppermint sticks at the corner candy store—and transported it through any number of states before the sights finally pointed at Governor Wallace . . . If the suspect had tried to purchase a handgun in Maryland, his application would have been turned down because of a previous conviction. You are all aware, I'm sure, that the suspect had been

charged with carrying a concealed weapon in October of last year. But the charge was reduced to disorderly conduct, and the suspect was fined. And yet he was allowed to purchase another handgun, presumably two."



Chicago Mayor Richard Daley filled the hearing room and invented a new name for the snub-nose or "Saturday Night Special," calling them "Specials over the weekend."

EUGENE ROSSIDES, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement, Tariff and Trade Affairs, and Operations—"We believe that concepts of registration of firearms and licensing of their users would be better left to the determination of state and local governments. In this way, the pattern of laws dealing with this subject can better accommodate the great differences that obtain among the several states."

RICHARD BURKE, Deputy Assistant Attorney General—"It has been the experience of the Department of Justice that many of the felons we have convicted and many of those engaged in selling blackmarket guns have been serious felons with long records, who have been a menace to their communities."

CARL V. GOODIN, Police Chief for the City of Cincinnati—"I propose that the regulations (Federal Law) be amended to provide for a delay of 10-14 days between the purchase and delivery of the firearm. During the interim a copy of the purchase order would be sent to the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of the political subdivision in which the purchaser resides."

CONGRESSMAN JOHN S. MONAGHAN (D., Conn.)—"We must take decisive corrective action to curb the illegal use of firearms . . . At the same time, the action we take should not impair the right of law abiding citizens to possess arms and use them in legitimate activities. H.H. 12786 (by

(Continued next page)

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MAN IN WASHINGTON: HOUSE GUNS HEARINGS

(Continued from page 49)

Monagan) would fulfill these requirements by concentrating on the criminal use of a firearm."

ROBERT D. GORDON, Executive Director of the International Conference of Police Associations—"Legislation should provide for strict licensing procedures to insure that any individual receiving a Federal license to procure and carry a handgun is qualified. When the established occupational necessity no longer exists, this privilege of possession should be revoked."

NEW YORK CITY POLICE COMMISSIONER PATRIC V. MURPHY—"As long as it is possible anywhere in this country to purchase a pistol across the counter, there will be no effective way to keep the instruments of death out of the hands of killers. "Congress must set a national firearms policy and establish a control structure based on one simple and all important premises: There is no personal right to own or carry a concealable handgun."

CONGRESSMAN JOHN RARICK (D., La.)—"If the proposed legislation is allowed to become law without any consideration of the serious Constitutional question involved—how long will it be before free speech and free press are no longer considered necessary as individual liberties. . . . For this Committee to report this legislation to the House, is an infringement on the individual liberties which have served as the basis of the American way of life. The Committee, in my humble judgment, would better serve freedom by considering proposed legislation affecting jurisdiction and tenure of Federal judges who have extended Federal questions to protect the individual rights of criminals rather than to use the violence of criminals as a vehicle to abrogate the people's Constitutionally secured rights to keep and bear arms."

CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM RYAN "Democrat-Liberal" (as he calls himself)—"My bill . . . would further require a license to possess a firearm or ammunition. It would require a photograph and fingerprints of an applicant for a license and would provide a \$10,000 fine and/or ten years imprisonment for the unlawful pos-

session or use of a firearms license."

CONGRESSMAN JOHN MURPHY (D., N.Y.)—"I am not being overly critical when I say that the Administration from 1969 on has been opposed to additional gun controls and even opposed to the controls that were already on the books. Spokesmen for the Administration have said this publicly. They have testified to this before Congressional committees and indeed the magazines of the gun lobby blatantly advertise the fact that they are in charge in the White House."

Committee Member, **CONGRESSMAN ROBERT McGLORY** (R., Ill.)—"I am confident that both the House and Senate would give speedy approval to a measure designed to require small arms registration, and I am certain that such action would have enthusiastic support of the law-abiding public, which is so deserving of prompt and effective action by this Congress on gun control legislation."

CARL E. LIND, National Merchandise Manager for sporting goods of Sears, Roebuck and Co.—"Our decision (to stop selling handguns) had been under consideration for some time prior to President Kennedy's tragic death, which obviously contributed to our decision, but was not solely responsible for it.

We concluded that, unlike the case of rifles or shotguns where there is a well recognized sporting market, handguns had only minor recreational value. We decided at our very top management levels, that maybe this was a business we didn't want to be in and we got out of it. We took handguns out of our catalogs and out of our stores and just stopped buying."

House Judiciary Committee and Subcommittee #5 Chairman, **EMANUEL CELLER** (D., N.Y.)—"Over the past several years a number of distinguished Presidential Commissions have studied crime and violence and the adequacy of law enforcement in the United States. Each of these commissions have called for more stringent Federal gun controls. The present hearings constitute an effort to formulate needed improvements in the Gun Control Act and thereby promote peace and security."



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DOUBLE ACTION AUTOS: THE SAUER

(Continued from page 29)

with his thumb. This activates a cam that drops the hammer, but the hammer may only fall as fast as the cam permits it to fall so that, in reality, the hammer is lowered slowly upon the rear of the breech block. I have tried time and time again to beat this cam, but it cannot be done. This motion of the thumb requires almost no pressure and no changing of the grip.

We now have the trigger in the forward double action position ready for another double action shot. But we also have the hammer face resting solidly against the rear of the breech. Sauer used a "floating" firing pin, one

that is considerably shorter in length than the breech block and which is held to the rear by a spring. This design has been widely used in many automatic pistols for over half a century. Because of this design, the hammer cannot activate the firing pin unless it falls with a full stroke from the full cock position, thus imparting sufficient force to the firing pin to send it forward to strike the primer.

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down upon the side lever with a short, light motion and cock the hammer, which also places the trigger in the rearward or single action position. All this is accomplished without moving the hand or changing the grip in any way. This all adds up to a superbly conceived and designed pistol that gives the shooter the ability to control the mechanism at will. It is too bad that this pistol was never put back into production because it is so far ahead of the other double action pistols on the market today that it would have tremendous potential sales. As far as I know, the Sauer double action pistol as originally built

has not been commercially produced since the last war. I talked at some length to the executives of Interarms, Ltd. in Alexandria, Virginia and they told me that they knew of no plans to again manufacture the Sauer 38 (H). Because they import both the Walther and the Mauser and are intimately involved with firearms development and production throughout Europe, Interarms Ltd. would know.

I urge anyone who owns one of these pistols to treasure it and not shoot it. Clean it, oil it well and put it away as an example of one of the finest, limited production D.A. pistols ever produced.



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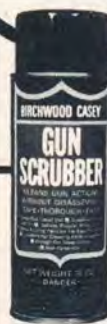
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THE GODFATHER OF SUB-MACHINE GUNS

(Continued from page 39)

reluctant to change from their favored sawed-off 10-gage shotguns; however, the lawless were quick to recognize the arm as an ideal tool of their trade. The Chicago gangsters clamored for the arm. Thompson called his creation, "The Model of 1921 Thompson Sub-Machine Gun." By late in the 20's, everyone knew the arm as "The Chicago Piano," with other nicknames to follow. John, himself, was dismayed over such unfavorable association and bad publicity that associated his name to the use by the underworld.

During prohibition, the weapon flourished and was associated with such personages and events as the infamous St. Valentine's Day massacre, February 14, 1929, the Newton Gang, composed of the four brothers, Willie, Willis, Joe and Jess, who with the Thompson combined with their nerve, placed the Newtons in bulletins with records that made the Daltons and the James look like simple delinquents. They are credited with the most bank robberies by number ever committed in the United States. Their reign of terror was from 1921 to 1925. The Capone organization was quick to catch onto the use of the "Chicago Piano." The Volstead Act of 1932 was repealed which eliminated the lucrative rum-running income. Also, during 1932, the U. S. Army fully accepted the "trench broom." Public indignation over the use of the arm by the lawless brought about the National Firearms Act of 1934 which made it mandatory to register all concealable automatic weapons and pay a \$200 tax on each to the Treasury Department. Unfortunately, not too many of the lawless trade was affected or impressed, as its use continued. Many were stolen from the Army and Police arsenals and showed up with personages such as Harvey Bailey, who led the Memorial Day, Kansas State Prison breakout, May 30, 1933.

Another derived his nickname of his prowess with the mechanics of the arm and its use, George "Machine Gun" Kelly, who along with the bank robber, Mathew Kimes created havoc during 1932. They were apprehended by "tommy" totting Federal Agents, Ralph Colvin and Gus Jones, in October 30, 1933. During this period others such as: John Dillinger, who met his demise in Chicago, July 22, 1934; Harry Pierpont, Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker, Ray Hamilton, and

others were gradually being phased out by law enforcement agencies.

Specifications of the Model 1921 and 28 were as follows:

Rate of Fire: 600 to 700 per minute

Selective Firing, single shot or full auto.

Range: 300 Yards

Safety: Left side of trigger

Barrell Length: 10 1/2", with comp., 12 1/2"

Weight of Bullet: 230 grains

Muzzle velocity: 950 ft./sec.

Muzzle Energy: 440 lbs.

Length Overall: 31"

Overall weight: 9 lbs.

Sights: Front fixed, rear graduated to 600 yards with lateral adjustment to allow windage and drift

Cooling: Air (cooling fins on barrel)

In 1953 the Federal Firearms Act was modified to permit ownership of deactivated fully automatic military trophies. This provided for the welding of a stellite steel plug in the chamber, welded closed and to the barrel with a hydrogen torch. Plug was pointed on the end toward the muzzle which would eliminate any thoughts of attempting to drill it out. Basically, a weapon deactivated in this manner cannot be rehabilitated without destruction of the weapon. Live machine guns could be registered until December 1968 during an amnesty period but cannot change ownership without a complicated series of forms and payment of a \$200 transfer tax. This of course is permissible only in states where it is not conflicting with their legislation.

Sale of deactivated weapons does not involve transfer tax. Inasmuch as the amnesty period has passed, there is no provision in the legislation for deactivation of operable weapons or registration. Ownership of an automatic weapon, not previously deactivated or registered, can lead to serious problems.

The Thompson Sub-Machine Gun Models of 1921 and 1928 have now graduated with time and progress to become collector's items and perhaps more symbolic of the "Prohibition Era" than as a weapon of World War II.



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45 Auto, 230 grain patch (50)	8.75	6.55	5.25	52.50	25#
22-250, 55 grain soft point (20)	4.65	3.48	1.99	49.75	20#
6m/m Rem., 80 grain soft point (20)	5.85	4.40	2.10	52.50	26#
270 Win., 130 grain soft point (20)	6.40	4.79	2.65	66.25	28#
30-30 Win., 150 grain soft point (20)	5.00	3.75	2.25	56.25	26#
32 Win. Spec., 170 gr. soft point (20)	5.15	3.86	1.95	48.75	26#
44 Mag., 240 grain lead (50)	10.95	8.23	5.25	52.50	28#
38 S & W, 146 grain lead (50)	6.15	4.60	2.00	20.00	16#

	Retail per box	Wholesale per box	OUR PRICE per box	OUR PRICE per case 1000 rds.	Approx. Wt. per 1000 rds.
32 S & W, 85 grain lead (50)	\$ 5.00	\$3.74	\$1.95	\$39.00	20#
9m/m, 115 grain full metal jacket (50)	8.10	6.09	4.65	93.00	25#
222, 50 grain soft point (20)	4.25	3.18	1.65	82.50	26#
32 S & W Long, 98 gr. lead (50)	5.20	3.90	2.25	45.00	24#
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THE DAY ARMS CONVERSION KITS

(Continued from page 37)

solid three-point bedding for the bar-
rel mounting, which could be installed
without modifications to the receiver.
The first model, the basis for the 30-X,
utilized a modified Colt Ace magazine
with a horizontal ear that acted as the
ejector.

It was soon updated to a target
version with a six inch barrel. A
heavy Bo-Mar rib was extended back
over the slide, a new steel breech
block was used and a new spring
loaded barrel mounting system to-
gether with a new five shot magazine
adapter insert, which was slipped in
and out of the .45 magazine, was uti-
lized. A brand new name was needed
too, so the "30-X" was born.

The first units were completely
hand-built, so new methods had to
be found to construct this unit as a
quality piece and still keep the price
down. The two basic parts, the barrel
housing and the slide, are made of
aluminum alloy extrusions (6061-T6),
similar to the cross section of the
Gold Cup, and with the heavy rib on
top, it becomes a target model.

The breech block is milled from
E-4130 steel, but will soon be made
from 4140 investment cast steel. The
barrel is turned to 7/16 of an inch
from basic blank of Douglas premium
stock. All other parts are of steel,
including the sights and the rib which
Day also makes. Why not an all steel
barrel and slide? There are two good
reasons: first, is the matching costs
and secondly, the weight would be
overwhelming. The standard weight
of the accurized .45 is about 40 ounces
and the .38 is a little more, but the
Day Arms six inch 30-X on a steel
frame is approximately 44 ounces—
which is just about the same as the
.45 heavy slide.

After going through the Day Arms
plant in San Antonio, I received three
units, the 30-X with a six inch barrel,
a five inch version of the same and a
new model, the "El Macho," for field
testing. This last one is a holster
model and looks just like the Gold
Cup, complete with adjustable sights.
It, too, comes with the five shot mag-
azine adapters which fit .45 ACP mag-
azines. An optional "10 Plus" capacity
replacement type should be ready in
the near future.

Even though Day says they will fit
most, but not all, .45 and .38 frames,
I rounded up all the 1911 autos that I

could lay my hands on to see. The
frames tried were the .45 Gold Cup,
two commercial .45 Government Mod-
els, five 1911-A1 Military, three of
which were accurized, one old 1911,
one .38 Super, one .38 Special Gold
Cup, one A.R. Sales light weight
frame version and one Argentine. All
passed with flying colors, even though
the manufacturer says that he will not
guarantee it to fit foreign copies,
forgeries or re-welds.

The new units were well constructed
and finished with a deep black anodiz-
ing, while all the steel parts were
blued, except for the barrel liner,
which is polished and left in the white.
They come packaged in individual
boxes with two magazine adapters,
the two piece slide stop pin, plus in-
structions.

After trying on the various frames,
I settled for putting the 30-X on my
favorite wadcutter. After removing
the top half of the pistol, I then slipped
on the unit. Once in place, I checked
to see if the slide could clear the
ejector. It did with no problems.

I then placed the slide stop portion
of the lock-up on the left side of the
frame, and took the cross pin and
pushed it into place with a soft-faced
mallet. At the same time, I struck it
at an angle from the bottom to help
flex the "U"-shaped spring that is the
heart of the unit's lock-up. It should
be noted that the slide stop does not
lock the slide open on the last stop,
but this can be achieved manually by
pushing the slide stop upward with
the thumb when the slide is pulled to
the rear. Another point making man-
ual operation of the slide easy, is that
the forward section, where the recoil
spring is housed, is also serrated like
the rear sides of the slide, so it can
be easily grasped by the fingers and
pushed to the rear.

Next, the barrel was checked for a
firm fit. Additionally, the rib is solidly
attached to the barrel by three Allen
head screws, housing the sights on a
rigid, non-moving plane. The slide is
allowed to function freely under this
arrangement, assuring proper func-
tioning and feeding. The next step
was to push the insert into the mag-
azine. It latched into place on the op-
ening for the magazine catch with an
audible click and was now ready to
fire.

Shooting the unit gives the feeling
of almost no recoil. This is achieved

by the lightness of the moving parts, for when it recoils, the light slide cycles extremely fast. Since the slide does not have the mass of heavy steel, the common, rolling bounce of a .22 auto is not present. Also helping is a new recoil buffer that dampens it even further and affords a longer life of the unit.

So, packing up my pistol box, a trip to the range was in order. Before I left, I put the five inch version on my hardball gun and the El Macho on a new .38 Super. The El Macho is the same length as the five inch target version, but looks similar to the original prototype with a Gold Cup rib. The rear sight is mounted on the slide and the open breech system makes jamming almost impossible. Various brands of ammo were fired through the 30-X with no malfunctions. The accuracy was excellent, with 10 ring and X ring possibles—a consistent happening with the six inch version. The five inch version performed just as well at 25 yards with all 10 ring possibilities.

Now the El Macho was tested. The trigger wasn't as good on the .38 Super frame, but the little unit performed very well, keeping all the shots in the black at 25 yards with high velocity ammo. The recoil was minimal with
(Continued on page 60)



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(Continued from page 59)

the steel frame, so I removed the unit and put it on an A.R. Sales aluminum frame, making a real light weight unit, weighing only 28 ounces. All of the pointing qualities of the big gun were still there and to my surprise, the recoil was the same, although the lightness tends to let you wander off of the target.

The name "El Macho" means "He Mule" in Spanish, but down around the San Antonio area, it means "real man among men." After shooting it, I'm sure that you'll add "just plain fun" to these interpretations. For competitive shooters who like the old 1911, they can now have a full range of pistols and calibers all built on the same frame, which should help to improve scores.

After shooting over 1,000 rounds through these units, I took them home to see if there was any wear. There was no visible wear on the El Macho and the same was true on the other target versions. Next came complete disassembly of the units. This was achieved by removing the unit from the frame, taking the barrel in your left hand and pulling the slide to the rear about 1/2 inch to clear the feed ramp on the barrel. Now, I pulled it downward until the recoil spring was pulled off of the lug. This leaves all of the parts open for cleaning. Further disassembly is not recommended, but can be achieved with the help of an Allen wrench and a 3/32" punch. The barrel liner can be replaced at the

factory, but the chances are that this won't ever need replacement.

The new Day Arms 30-X units are quite popular with competitive pistol shooters. The price of the 30-X standard or shortened 5 inch version is \$99.50 and is shipped postage paid. Most .45 buffs will like the five inch version, but in order to gain the "master's edge," the six inch model is the ticket. The inherent accuracy of the .22 standard velocity ammo is more to your favor in the long barrel, but that's not saying that the shorter model won't shoot just as well.

The El Macho sells for \$89.50 and also comes with two five shot magazine adapters, bringing a lot of old GI models out of hiding. Incidentally, this little unit will hold the same accuracy as the target version, but since the rear sight is moving, the sight picture will vary some over a period of time. For the guy who doesn't shoot much, the hardball round is brutal, but this unit will convert it to a more palatable version and will give it a new lease on life.

Completed pistols are available from the Day Arms Corp. for \$165 on a custom basis for the 30-X or the El Macho. They are built on aluminum alloy frames with a black anodized finish, offering a choice of long or short triggers, adjustable trigger stop, and flat or arched mainspring housings. For full information, write: Day Arms Corp., Dept. G, 7515 Stagecoach Lane, San Antonio, Texas 78227.

THE LIGNOSE EINHAND PISTOLS

(Continued from page 35)

forward, then lifted straight up until they clear the frame. The height of the frame-mounted ejector prevents the slide from being run straight forward off the frame. Remove the barrel through the lower slide opening, and the recoil spring and guide from the frame. This completes the simple disassembly. For reassembly, reverse the process, keeping in mind that the retractor retaining stud cannot be depressed unless the slide is pulled back.

One puzzling aspect of the later Einhand pistols is the absence of any markings which connect them with Bergmann, with the exception of first few thousand. It would seem that the name of such a well-known

designer might have been retained as a good selling point. On all pistols made after 1922, the markings on the left forward slide flat are the same. In two lines, "AKT. - GES. LIGNOSE, BERLIN", and below this, in slightly smaller letters, "ABTEILUNG SUHL-CAL. 6.35 - D.R.P." At the center of both grips, a wide slanting bar bearing "LIGNOSE." On safe position marked with a large "S" on left rear frame flat. Serial number appears on right center of the slide, just below the extractor. German crown-over-"N" smokeless powder proof mark is on the right rear slide and frame flats.

According to Col. Robert Gardner's "Small Arms Makers", the Lignose

firm is listed as "Cartridge makers of Schonberg and 1 Moltkestrasse, Berlin, 1922-1939". There is no mention of the pistols, and I have been unable to find further information on the Lignose name.

For those unfamiliar with German markings, the abbreviation "AKT.-GES." stands for "Aktiengesellschaft," which translates as "Joint-Stock Company," or, in our terminology, "Corporation." In the second line, "Abteilung Suhl" is "Suhl Division," indicating that the pistols were produced at neither Shonberg nor Berlin, the business address, but rather at Suhl, one of the main centers of handgun manufacturing.

There are two principal models of the Einhand pistol, differing only in the length of the grip frame, and the resulting variance in magazine capacity. The short-handled type has a six-round magazine, the longer type holds nine rounds. Also produced by Lignose was a short-grip version almost identical with the Einhand pistols, but *without* the slide-retracting system. It has the cocked-indicator and an internal hammer, but is otherwise unremarkable. I have heard of experimental Einhand models in 7.65 m/m (.32 ACP), and of one having an external hammer, but the existence of these has not been verified. With the Einhand system, I can see no valid reason for an external hammer, but the 7.65 m/m might have made sense, if recoil spring tension was light enough for one-finger retraction of the slide.

I have no precise production figures, but in the short grip type I have seen five-digit numbers above 29 thousand. In the long grip type, above 31 thousand, and in the non-Einhand type, above nine thousand. Most of the non-Einhand types I have seen have only four digit numbers, so perhaps fewer of these were made. I have been unable to determine whether there were separate number sequences for the three types, but even if this were true, total production was probably less than a hundred thousand pistols. An example of each would make an interesting, and potentially valuable, addition to any collection of self-loaders.

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THE DE HAAS-MILLER SINGLE SHOT RIFLE

(Continued from page 24)

maker from Montana. The half-round octagonal barrel is fully octagonal for 11 inches nearest the receiver, with this section bedded in the fore-end. This stiffens the barrel and reduces bedding problems. For those not conversant with single shots, this is the standard barrel configuration.

The fore-end is held against the barrel by one double-duty, threaded stud that anchors the barrel to the fore-end, with the head of the stud also serving as base for the QD sling swivel. The fore-end somewhat resembles that of the old Model 70, and pistol grip and butt plate are Niedner-type steel furniture.

Because of the relatively short action, a gun with a 26 inch barrel is neither cumbersome nor does it appear unduly long. Dean will offer the varmint class rifles with 24 inch tubes, while the Magnum chambering will be equipped with 26 inch tubes. Of course, you can specify whatever barrel length suits you best. The hunting barrels will be tapered to .600", the heavy-barrel varmint barrel will have an OD at the muzzle of around .800".

On the bottom of the fore-end, just ahead of the finger lever, is the de Haas-Miller escutcheon. Checkering will run between 20 and 22 lines per inch, with the actual number not yet determined. Two of the prototype guns I tested have 22 line checkering, while Frank's highly engraved prototype #2 gun carries 22 and 24 lines-to-the-inch checkering.

Dean Miller has managed to snare a good supply of beautifully figured Missouri walnut blanks. An expert stock maker, Dean declines the use of any stain on the wood and has developed a special epoxy finish that is non-hardening and neither cracks nor peels. One of the prototype guns that has seen extensive field use — the #1 gun was made by Dean for his own use on an elk hunt — was examined closely for any signs of faulty finish. While there were unavoidable small dents in the wood,

nowhere could I find either a chipping or cracking of the finish. The epoxy that Dean uses leaves a dull sheen rather than a high gloss on the wood.

Although the customer will be able to request several options, the basic de Haas-Miller rifle will be offered in two styles. The classic stock will have a cheek piece, straight comb, and a schnabel fore-end. The other style incorporates a slight Monte Carlo feature, no cheek piece, and a very straight stock. Having fired guns in both stock styles — gun #1 is in .300



Winchester Magnum, #2 in .22-250, and #3 is chambered for .222 Remington — I found the stock styles not only very pleasing but also very comfortable for all types of shooting, including prone, sitting, and shooting from a bench.

While the basic action was co-designed by de Haas and Miller, some of the new changes have come from Miller. A few of these changes, such as re-designing the safety, were dictated by extensive testing, while other changes were incorporated for the sake of better production methods. Canjar considers the trigger de-

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sign in this rifle so outstanding that he, with all his trigger experience, was unable to contribute anything further in the way of suggestions.

All pins in the action are hardened and ground, and should serve a lifetime. Especially noteworthy is the finish and fit of the action block. The receiver and action block, the latter is engine turned, fit within 0.001" all around, as verified by a feeler gauge in Dean's shop.

Although the three prototype rifles have been completed and tested for some time, neither de Haas nor Miller ever found time to develop special handloads for any of the guns. Frank's #2 prototype in .22-250 has been fed a charge of 34.5 grains of 4895 and Remington 9½ primers with either the Sierra 52 grain BTHP or the 53 grain Sierra Match bullet. With the latter bullet, groups average between ½ and ¾ MOA. The load with the lighter bullet averages .685" at 100 yards, all of these being five-shot groups fired from Frank's shooting bench in his shooting shack.

Miller's .222 with a very mild 19.5 grain load of 4198, CCI 400 primer and the 53 grain Hornady bullet shoots five-shot groups that average between 0.75 and 1.15 inches. Unfortunately, editorial deadlines precluded any chance of trying some of my pet .222 loads which I've found especially accurate in my 40X benchrest rifle.

The .300 Winchester Magnum Single Shot grouped with two of Dean's handloads around 1.25 inches, and although it is the oldest of the de Haas-Miller guns, neither Dean nor Frank ever took the time to work up spe-

cific loads for this gun. This prototype #1 was started on August 14 of 1970, was finished 46 days later, in time for an elk hunt on which Dean, for the first time in years, was skunked.

I was somewhat surprised by the fact that operating the lever in a not too vigorous fashion didn't eject the case into the waiting hand. If brass tossing is desired, a smart and sharp movement of the lever is essential. Both Dean and Frank maintain that their experience has led them to design the extractor in this fashion, and both feel that violent ejection is neither needed nor called for. Since both of them have been hunting big game and varmints for a good many years with single shots, I have to take their word for it.

Maybe \$660 sounds steep for a single shot. Frankly, I was staggered by the price at first. But after seeing and studying the de Haas-Miller rifle, shooting the three prototypes, taking them apart and putting them back together again, the price no longer seems exorbitant. It costs no more than a customized and wildcatted Hi-Wall cost me some six or seven years ago. Since your rifle will reach you already targeted, you'll know that you are getting a gun that is capable of MOA or better.

In the three days I worked with Frank and Dean, I fired almost 300 rounds without encountering a single malfunction of any kind. When you combine accuracy potential, superb craftsmanship, and the many custom features you get in the de Haas-Miller rifle, that price tag of \$660 isn't that steep!

THOSE BERETTAS— YESTERDAY AND TODAY

(Continued from page 27)

handily situated like the Colt .45 auto, and has a big set of plastic stocks which completely cover the backstrap which gives the stock a very good angle for quick, sure pointing. The magazine, holding 7 cartridges, has a spur on it which in effect lengthens the grip for hombres with big hands.

The pistol weighs 23¼ ounces, has a barrel 3½" in length, some exceedingly crude service-type sights, the front .09" in width of patridge profile, the rear a squared notch. The rear sight is movable for windage with a

hammer and brass drift. The front sight is only ¾" and is immobile.

Test fired with Remington, Winchester, Super-Vel and FI cartridges, the pistol shot 7 inches low and 5 inches to the left. I corrected the deflection with a brass drift and hammer, but there was nothing that could be done about the tendency to group below the mark. The gun had a trigger pull which measured 5 pounds, 9 ounces. It was fairly clean. Some 372 shots were fired and the pistol never missed a stutter. It functioned per-



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fectly. A fine recommendation for a service weapon. When you run through a variety of cartridges from different manufacturers you invite trouble, but none occurred.

The Beretta Model 70T in 7.65 mm and the Model 101 in .22 caliber are both like the original, except for different barrel lengths and improved sights. These are sporting pistols, for plinking and small game hunting.

The original Beretta, the Model 1934, with the safety just above the trigger, was a mite unsafe. With the safety on, you could draw the hammer back to full cock. In other words, the safety locked the trigger; but not the hammer and this is poor insurance. The new pistol, the number now sold by Garcia, has the Model 1911 Colt safety which not only secures the trigger but also locks the hammer and the slide. The gun has always had an excellent disconnecter. When the trigger is pressed the disconnecter rises through the left grip on that side of the receiver and, while rising, slides backward in a groove in the slide. If the slide does not happen to be completely forward the disconnecter cannot rise but can only move backward. This separates the trigger from the sear and the hammer cannot fall. The pistol has an inertia type firing pin. It is perfectly safe to pack it with the hammer completely forward. Another excellent safety feature.

The best of the Beretta pistols is the Model 951. The 9 mm Parabellum cartridge which it fires is the best of all handgun loads. It is the most widely used pistol cartridge world-wide and, besides having great popularity as a handgun loading, it is also the most commonly fired round in the submachine gun. This gives it wide distribution and makes resupply relatively simple. Although, as in the case of the Israelis, they may not think very highly of the ammo quality captured, at least it is available! The Model 951 shows a marked insensitivity to variations in loads which is an admired virtue.

The pistol was designed about 1950 by that hardy, old perennial, Maren-goni, and represented his first locked-breech model. Jan Stevenson says the old inventor was always given to following the lines of least resistance. In the case of the 951 he simply incorporated the Walther P-38 lock-up, which goes to substantiate Stevenson's contentions. At any rate, it has proven a sound and practical system and certainly after 20 years in the sands of the Sinai Desert, it has been thoroughly field tested.

Beretta has made the big pistol in both an all-steel and an alloyed version. The aluminum alloy included

only the receiver. The all-steel model weighs 31 ounces, the big Browning HiPower goes 32 ounces, I consider this very close to ideal weight for the 9 mm service pistol. The 951 has a barrel of 4.51" length, six lands and grooves, RH twist, one turn in 9.77 inches. The magazine holds 8 rounds and a 9th may be carried up the spout. The pistol can be fired without the magazine which is a most worthwhile feature.

The 951 is 7 $\frac{7}{8}$ " in length and 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ " in depth. It is a big gun and has a man-sized stock made in a wrap-around fashion of plastic. The barrel-to-stock angle is 17 degrees, precisely like the Model 1911 Colt. This is not enough for the gun to point well but it is conducive to better performance on the score of feeding up out of the magazine. The closer the stock-to-bore angle comes to 90 degrees the more surefire the gun will feed.

The sear and trigger assembly are of excellent design. It is a straightforward system, uncomplicated and conducive to a good pull. The disconnecter functions precisely as it does on the original Model 1934 pistol, and is exceedingly reliable. The trigger has some over-travel which is to be expected on a service pistol. The weight of pull was 5 pounds, 3 ounces, and was clean and sharp-breaking. The safety is a push-through type, locking both hammer and trigger. The slide can be operated while the safety is engaged. This safety, located in the top of the stock, is slow and awkward, requiring two hands to work it.

The magazine latch is a real honey. It, too, is located in the lefthand stock. It is a big button, inset, and impossible to trip accidentally. The magazine latch on the Model 1911 service pistol is poorly located and it is altogether too easy to trip it and spill a clip on the ground. Not so with this Italian.

The sights are typically military. The front sight is .09" in width and only $\frac{1}{16}$ " in height. The outline is partridge. The rear sight is a square notch, movable for windage. There is no elevation adjustment in either sight. Test-fired at 25 yards the M951 shot 5 inches low and 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches right. The rear notch was tapped over with a brass drift, but there was nothing that could be done about the elevation. With only $\frac{1}{16}$ " of front sight to play on you cannot file it down to make it shoot higher!

The pistol was tested with Remington-Peters and Winchester-Western loads. The Rem-Peters was with a 124-grain full metal patch bullet at 1120 fps MV. The Win-Western loading was standard factory with a 115-grain fmp bullet at 1140 fps MV. A total of 240 rounds were burned up. The

pistol performed perfectly.

I then fired Norma-Precision 116-grain fmp at 1165 fps MV for a total of 96 rounds, and again the pistol ran through the full test with a perfect score.

After that, I shot 120 rounds of Super-Vel, 90-grain jacketed hollow point bullet at 1485 fps MV, and 100 rounds of 112-grain jacketed hollow point at 1325 fps MV. The pistol shot higher with both these loads falling only 3¼ inches below point of aim. Groups were good, averaging 3.4" at 25 yards. I wound up the test with 50 rounds of Browning 115 grain and 75 rounds of S&W-Fiocchi, 100 grain jacketed hollow point. The latter loading does 1325 fps MV. The Browning 1140 fps with its full metal patch. The pistol digested this full array of loads with a display of versatility which was impressive. It is a rare automatic that will go through several hundred shots and not show some preference for one make of cartridge over another. The Beretta indicated it could handle all of them. The composite of all groups fired measured 5.3 inches. This is the size, approximately, of the 9-ring on the standard American target. All firing was at 25 yards, offhand, with a 2-fisted grip.

There is another very worthy Beretta pistol. This is the .22 caliber Model 76. It is a target gun, although it lends itself ideally to all-around useage. It has a 6 inch barrel, an adjustable rear sight, movable for both elevation and deflection, a front Partridge-type post in front, 1/10" in width, and a full length raised solid rib some .5312" in width and grooved to break up reflection. The barrel is covered with a shroud which not only provides a mounting for the sights and the raised rib, but also adds needed weight. It is Parkerized in an attractive black crackle finish. This is a very high quality pistol and undoubtedly, at the time it was designed, the Beretta engineers were aiming at the target fraternity as potential buyers.

Unfortunately, the gun is too light for really serious target work. It weighs but 26 ounces. It needs very nearly twice that heft to be a serious contender. The pistol has an outside hammer, a recessed bolt face and in common with all Berettas, an inertia-type firing pin. There is no safety

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half-cock notch on the hammer, it may be let down completely and carried that way, it won't fire if the pistol is dropped accidentally.

The stock is plastic, checkered, and with the customary spur extension on the magazine. It is a grip for a man with a big hand. It is comfortable and secure. Barrel-to-grip angle is 20 degrees. It ought to be 25.

The trigger pull on a dead weight lift broke at 3 pounds, 2 ounces. It was an excellent let-off, clean and crisp. There is some over-travel which is objectionable. There are no adjustments for either weight of pull nor backlash. The breechblock has a countersunk face—an excellent feature—and is quite heavy due to a design which incorporates both the breechbolt and the slide in the one piece. The slide stop and safety, both of the Model 1911 type, are on the left side of the receiver. The magazine, holding 10 long rifle cartridges, has an inset release button in the left-hand grip. The slide stop rises and locks the slide open after the last shot. The trigger is not checkered and is too narrow for serious target panning. The stock-to-trigger reach is short, a boon to the gunner with a small hand and stubby trigger finger.

I fired a total of 420 shots with the Model 76. All the shooting was at 25 yards on the standard American target. The firing was divided between standard velocity and high velocity .22 long rifle ammo. I fired Eley Match, Federal Monarch and Hi-Power, Remington Match, Western Super-X and Super-Match, Herter High Velocity and CCI/Omark standard velocity cartridges in the Beretta.

The pistol is a first-water plinking

gun. It is not a target arm. It is too light in weight, the rear sight, while adjustable for windage and elevation is far too crude in these movements for serious target work. The front sight is only 1/10" in width. It should be 1/8 inch. The pistol functioned superbly. It ate up the many varieties of cartridges fed it and did not malfunction a single time. A most remarkable demonstration. Interestingly, at 25 yards there were differences of only 1.5 inch in elevation between the standard velocity and the high velocity cartridges. All shot to the same centers. Accuracy was good, but scores were what you would expect from a good plinking pistol.

The Beretta Models 70T and 101, are plinking guns. The 70T is chambered for the .32 ACP and the 101 is for the .22 long rifle. Neither of these models can remotely touch the Model 76 as a top choice for extemporaneous shooting. The idea that anyone would go plinking with the .32 ACP is pretty ridiculous. The cost of the ammo alone, not to mention the sorry accuracy of the cartridge, would preclude and sane choice of the 70T as a knockabout handgun. The M101 in .22 caliber is an infinitely better selection, but not in any case, nearly so sanguine as to settle on the Model 76.

Beretta pistols are made at Gardone, Italy. The company now has a second plant in Rome. Here the Model 90 double action .32 ACP is under manufacture. There is also a Model 20 in .22 long rifle caliber, a double action, made there. These pistols were not available from Garcia Sporting Arms at the time of these field tests. We shall try them later and give a report.

BOB-TAILING THE S&W M-39

(Continued from page 33)

the sharp file off that thin ring, stick a couple layers of masking tape over it.

The file position photograph shows approximately the angle and depth to which this channel must be cut to allow the barrel to be assembled to the slide. Don't try to do this all at once. File a bit, then try the barrel—then repeat until you have produced just barely enough clearance to allow easy full insertion of the barrel. Finish the groove by polishing with abrasive swapped around the

file, or perhaps a dowel, then with the barrel installed, file the muzzle back flush with the bushing.

Just in case the bushing might not be perfectly square with the bore centerline, check the muzzle with a small machinist square from several angles and file it true. Radius the outer edges of the muzzle, and finish the job by crowning in the traditional style, or by chamfering the inner edges of the muzzle lightly with a 45 degree countersink. At this point, it's a good idea to check the slide on the

frame and make certain solder hasn't flown into the guide grooves or you haven't produced any burrs there which would interfere with free functioning. If the slide does bind on the frame, scrape out any solder and finish by a dab of fine grinding compound in the grooves, running the slide back and forth by hand until it moves freely. Next, cut the recoil spring back to 15 coils. Stretch it a bit so that its free length is approximately 3 1/4 inches.

Now, assemble the slide, barrel, and recoil spring and guide, to the frame and replace the slide stop. Retract the slide as far as it will go, making certain that it is stopped by metal to metal contact of slide on frame and not by full compression of the spring. If the slide won't come back far enough for the slide stop to engage, it means the spring is still too long—so clip another half-coil off and try again. Repeat until the slide will move through its full travel, but do not reduce the spring below 13 1/2 coils, and a free length of 3 inches.

Now, with all that established, mark the protruding recoil spring guide flush with the mouth of the bushing when the slide is fully forward. Saw off the excess and file back flush with the bushing. Finishing by radiusing or beveling the edges, and polishing smooth. At this point, the gun may—if you like—be fully assembled and fired. If it functioned correctly and reliably before the work, it should do so now. And, if this much shortening and lightening meets your requirements, you can reblue the slide and the job will be finished. However, the gun can still be made a bit more compact and improved a wee bit more for fast use.

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(Continued from page 67)

and scribing the profile of the rear of the slide on both sides. Follow this by using the cutoff wheel, (the hammer is quite hard, and you'll not be able to cut it with a hacksaw) to remove the surplus to the rear of the scribe mark. Lacking this type of tool, the job can be done on a bench grinder. However, in either case, work slowly and keep the hammer cool by frequently dunking it in water. If it is allowed to overheat, the sear notches and striking surface may become too soft for proper functioning. Polish the cut surface smooth and finish by very lightly radiusing or beveling the edges of the cut. If you like the bright appearance, you might also polish the sides of the hammer bright at the same time.

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(Continued on page 70)

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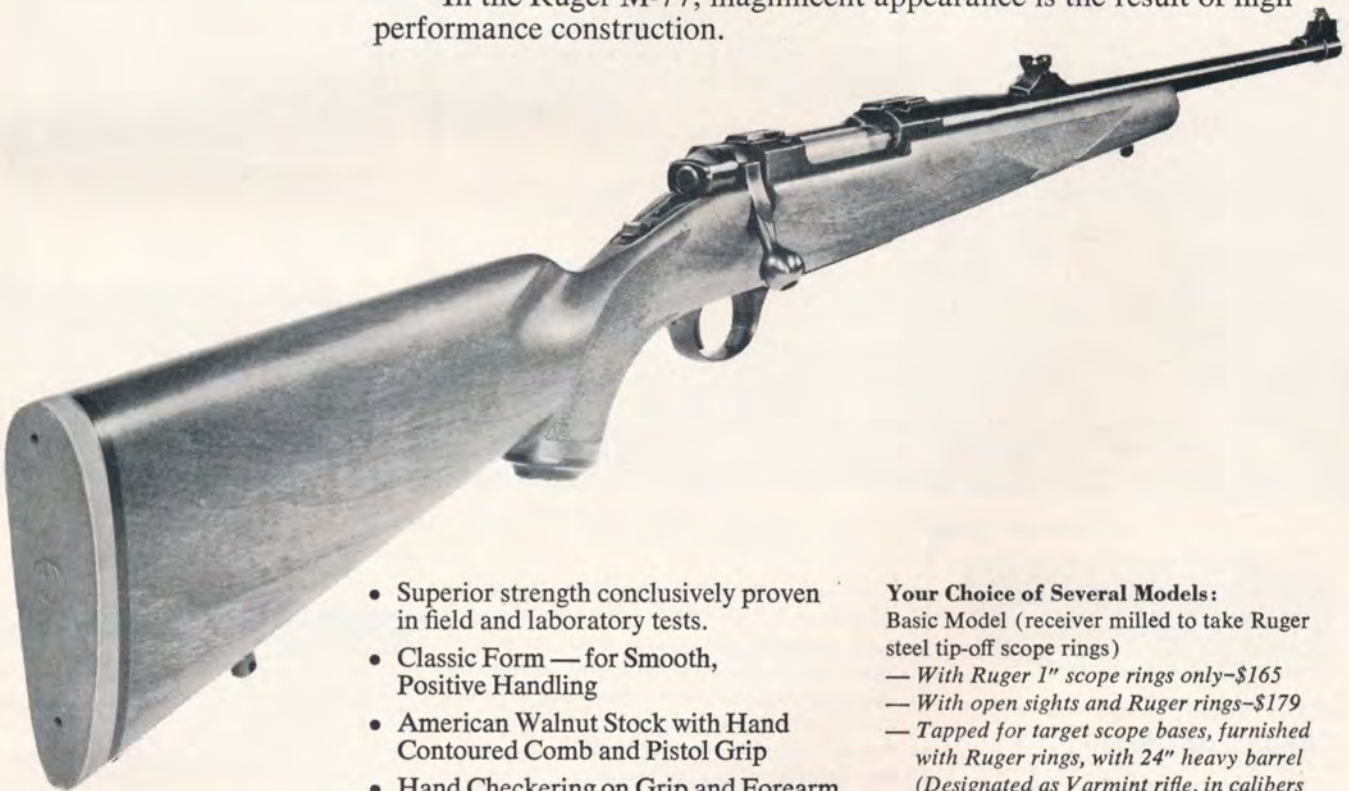
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(Continued from page 68)

mer spur from which it protected the web of your hand has been removed. I guarantee that even with the frame completely dehorned, that smooth bob-tailed hammer is not going to hurt your hand. File the saw cuts to a pleasing radius and polish smooth. Leaving the cut flat and vertical with slightly beveled edges and curving in a horizontal plane is the simplest — though you might prefer to develop a more graceful compound curve.

On to the trigger guard. If you are right-handed, file away half the guard width at the front, and then round the edges smoothly. This doesn't reduce weight or bulk enough to measure, but it makes it a bit easier — particularly if you've large, thick fingers or long nails — to get your finger on the trigger in a hurry. Finish the cut by polishing smooth with narrow strips of abrasive cloth, used boot-black fashion, through the guard. Don't make the mistake of cutting away the entire front of the guard. This leaves the underportion unsupported so that it may easily be bent upward to jam the trigger. That could be embarrassingly fatal. Drop down to the bottom of the front strap and file the forward-sweeping curve flush with the balance of the strap. In other words, make the front strap straight from top to bottom. Follow by filing a tapered groove in the strap which will allow easy removal of the magazine. Polish smooth, of course.

To ease magazine insertion, file and polish a bevel inside the magazine well mouth, producing a funnel effect. Don't overdo this and weaken the walls excessively. Move on to the insert, which I prefer to call the main-spring housing or backstrap. Simply cut off the lanyard loop at the bottom, and then file off the checkering on the surface. This checkering is unnecessarily high and sharp, but if you don't like a smooth backstrap, use a sharp punch to stipple the surface slightly. Shallow but sharp stippling will provide fully as good a non-skid

(Continued on page 72)



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(Continued from page 70)
surface without all the fuss and bother of that raised sharp checkering. You might also round off the bottom edge of the insert a bit to suit your taste.

Take a look at your magazines. Those large flat floorplates with sharp edges get to be a bore. The edges abrade your clothing and sometimes your skin, and the forward extension sticks out a lot farther than is necessary, now that the front strap has been altered. Grind or file the front extension back flush with the front strap. The groove you cut there will allow plenty of purchase to pull a tight magazine out—and you won't need that floor plate extension. File all floor plate edges to smooth radiuses in both directions and polish.

Finished? No, not quite. Some benefits, not much, but some, can be gained by dressing down the lower edges of the stocks. This is more easily seen in the photographs than described here. If you've smaller-than-usual hands, you'll also probably find it worthwhile to reduce stock thickness by 1/16 to 1/8". This amount of reduction will leave the stock screws—at least the lower pair—protruding above the surface. This is easily corrected by filing the stock screw bushings down an equal amount, then using a bit of 5-minute epoxy or fiberglass bedding compound to fit the stocks more closely over the bushings. Then, shorten the screws a comparable amount, deepen the counterbores for the heads, and turn them into place.

Partially sanded-off checkering doesn't look too good, so you may want to either remove it completely, or deepen it with a lining tool. After all this has been accomplished, it's best to completely assemble the gun and work out with it a bit before proceeding with refinishing. During assembly, you may well want to leave out the magazine safety—that plunger and spring riding in the slide underneath the rear sight. It may be simply

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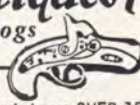
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thrown away and operation of the gun will not suffer in the least. The only change will be that without it, the gun may be fired with the magazine removed.

As for the rear sight, the original item is adequately adjustable for windage, and you may file down the new front sight to target initially for the load you'll be using. After that, though, if different ammunition is used, you'll have to hold high or low for precise shooting at any great range. Consequently, you may want to give consideration to fitting the MMC (Miniature Machine Company, 212 E. Spruce St., Deming, N.M. 88030) fully adjustable replacement sight. This is a special model made particularly for the M39, and it fits easily and properly into the existing slide cuts. It possesses adequate windage and elevation adjustment to cover the entire spectrum of high performance and standard factory and arsenal loads available today.

I particularly recommend firing a couple hundred rounds through the altered gun before doing any work on refinishing. This is due primarily to the fact that you may discover a few other minor shape changes that will make the gun more to your liking. If you've gone ahead with refinishing before these are discovered, then you're stuck, unless you want to do it all over again. Any gunsmith capable of a decent bluing job can re-finish the slide economically. You can even do a pretty decent job at home with a good Cold Blue such as Numrich's 44-40 solution. The key to success with this stuff is a very careful and precise polishing job, complete removal of all grease and fingerprints, and uniform application of the solution with the metal slightly heated. Just follow the instructions and you can't lose. You might want to blue the outer surface of the barrel as well, though I prefer to leave it bright. Personally, I prefer to have auto barrels bright chrome plated so that I need not worry about rusty fingerprints. Of course, the other steel parts—hammer, magazine floorplate, etc.—

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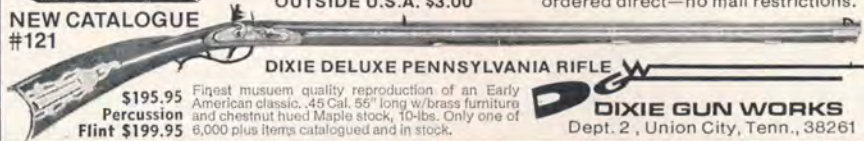
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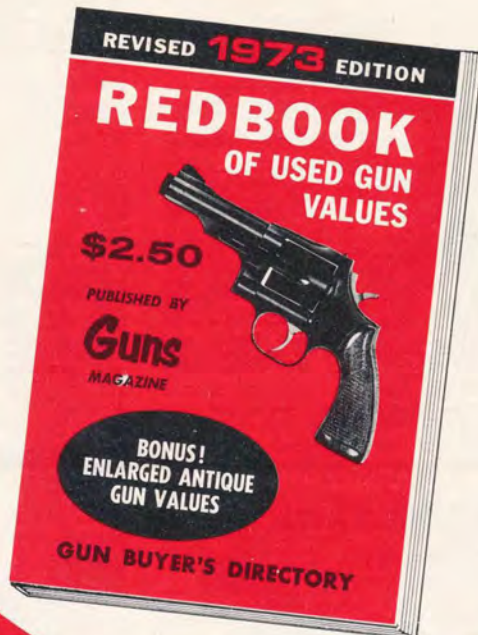
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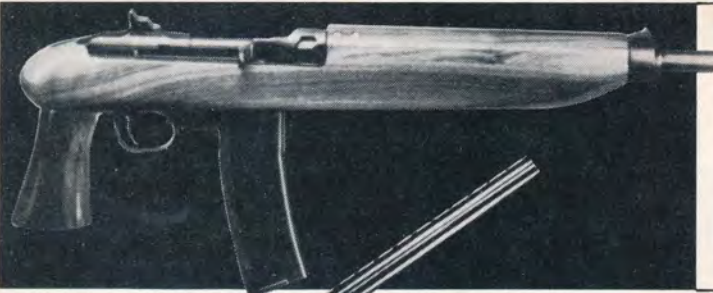
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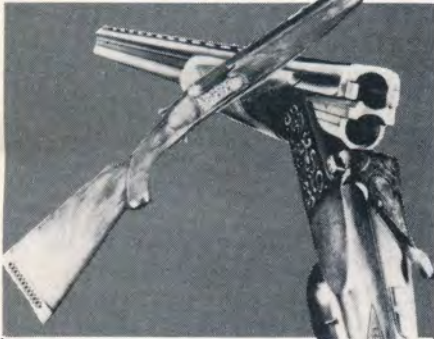
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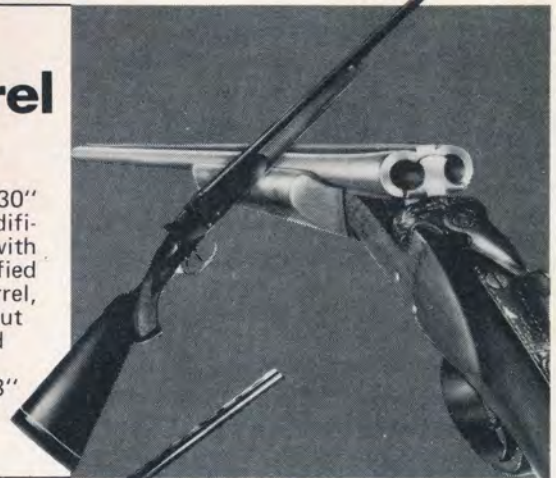
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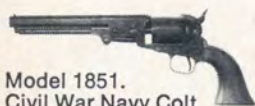
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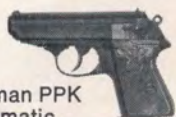
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