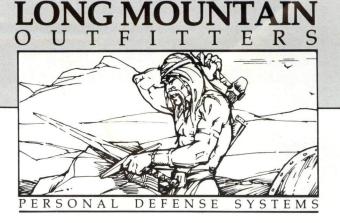
Machine Gun News

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> Publisher/Editor Vida Ford

> **Technical Editor**

Dan Shea

What's New Editor

Chris A. Choat

Contributing Writers

Robert Bruce

Ken Carter

Chris A. Choat

James Klodzinski

Al Paulson

Dan Shea

Contributing Artists

Mark Wallace

Cover Photo

Polly Walter

Production Manager

John Ford

Advertising Manager

Maria Myers

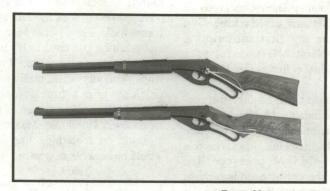
Circulation Manager

Lucy Bright

THE MAGAZINE FOR FULL-AUTO ENTHUSIASTS

Volume 5 Number 12

May 1992



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*Machine Gun News.** (ISSN# 1045068.) is published propublished propublished. The Polymore And Topics and Parameters. Polymore And Topics and Parameters.

On the Cover: Nexus .45 Caliber Pistol Suppressor. Photo: Polly Walter

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Mail



Hooked

Well, now that I have attended two successive North Country Shoots, received all available back issues of Machine Gun News, including my first subscription issue, and my first MG transfer as a Qualified Individual is in process, I'm really hooked!

This is meant to be an enquiry, but possibly a bit of admonishment. Nowhere am I able to find any annual indeces or a cumulative index for Machine Gun News. Has one been published by M.G.N., or anyone? The main reason for the crying need is perhaps typified by a person such as me, who is "coming late to the party". I should like to see what firearm specific articles, and other articles or columns of special interest, have been published so that I may commence a public search for specific back issues which are unavailable from the publisher. Can your office supply a cumulative index?

Paul E. J.

Editors Note: We have compiled an index of all the articles we have run since going to the magazine style format. The earlier newspaper editions are not indexed. The index is in the March 1992 issue which can be ordered as a back issue or you may send in a L.S.A.E. and we will send you a copy.

We only have the magazines that are listed in the back issue list. Look at it to see if you can order the entire magazine or if you need to order the reprint of the article. When going through the index and ordering reprints be careful not to list the same column or article twice. You will receive the entire column not just the specific topic.

1958 Guns Magazine Ad

Before we get too misty eyed over the 1958 Guns Magazine Ad. (I am an original subscriber) please remember most of us at that time had a hell of a hard time finding the 25 cents for an issue of the magazine. I was a junior in college at the time and had a hard time finding even a part-time job at 75 cents an hour!

Allan G. Skinner

Whoops! Rugs?!!

First, as a subscriber from your magazine's first issue, allow me to compliment you. I read each issue with great

interest.

Second, a little criticism; that ain't a Marlin Model 1917 on the Harley in the postcard on pg. 4 of the January '92 issue. It sure looks like a Benet Mercie' (our official machine gun until 1916) to me.

Third, more criticism. Rugs! Oriental Rugs! You guys must really be hurting for articles to print a three page story on rugs. How about more coverage of the old classics; Lewis, Hotchkiss, Maxim, etc. Even a write-up on something like the Chauchat would be better than wasting space on rugs.

Thanks, Terrence L. Rohrer

Seeking Info

I would appreciate it very much if you could place the following letter in the appropriate column in an early issue of MGN, as I need help from the fraternity:

I am currently seeking information of any type (manuals, documents, surviving specimens, etc) on guns made by the firm Dansk RejkylReyfl Syndikaat (Dansk Industrie Syndkiaat after 1936) for a book about the company and its products. Firearms may be known as the Madsen, Madsen-Saetter, Rexer, Bang, Hatcher-Bang, and possibly others. The most characteristic weapon is a magazine-fed LMG with a NONrecoiling breechblock (like a Martini), and these guns were sold as widely and as long (1890's - 1964) as the Mauser 98 rifles. Since no two orders were alike. I need information on as many different models as I can find. Records of trials in which it competed would also be valuable, since it competed against the Benet-Mercie, Hotchkiss, Lewis and Bren, among others. Infantry, vehicle and aircraft guns are known. There were also two semiautomatic rifles, a bolt rifle, a belt-fed MG and a series of SMGs marketed by the firm.

If you know of records (any country or language) in official archives which may help, specific referrals to them would also be appreciated. Since these guns are now being scrapped abroad and few of them made it to the US, I need any information anyone out there can supply.

E.M. Hogan Box 475 Hockessin, DE 19707 (302)239-9340

Hercules Unique Powder

Phillip Dater,

I thoroughly enjoyed your article concerning subsconic ammunition for the MP5. I try to consistently use Hercules Unique Powder when reloading for my MP5 and I would be most grateful for any suggestions you have that would use that powder. Please let me know if there is an equivalent load to 4.3 grains of AA no. 2 in the 147 grain bullet as to Unique.

Thank you very much for your consideration,

Laurence W.B. Cumberland

Response to Mr. Cumberland:

I had not initially attempted to develop a 147 gr. subsonic load for the MP5 utilizing Hercules Unique, because it is a powder that I do not normally use. My experience is that the ball powders meter more consistently in semi-automated reloading equipment than do the large flake powders. However, the burning rate of Unique consistent with excellent recoil impulse characteristics for the MP5.

In developing any load, one should determine the performance desired and review component manufacturers' recommendations. On request, Speer provides supplemental loading data for their 147 gr. TMJ .355" 9mm projectiles. Staying within published guidelines, various powder charges are tried and chronographed in the target weapon. In the case of the MP5, the desired performance is a muzzle velocity of 1,000 fps. For Unique, Speer suggests between 4.0 and 4.5 gr. I found that 4.1 gr. Unique produced a velocity of 1,006 fps. in the MP5 with the 147 gr. projectile.

Incidentally, the closest approximation to the projectiles we have been obtaining is the Hornady #3559 (9mm 147 gr. .355 FMJ/RNBT). The bullet should be seated to provide an overall loaded cartridge length of between 1.15" and 1.16".

Interestingly, I have yet to find any commercial 147 gr. 9mm ammunition which will remain subsonic in the MP5, including Winchester's Subsonic Mat (#X9MMTCM).

Philip H. Dater

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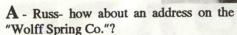
by Dan Shea

any questions from the Rafficarians on the phone out there, wanting to know what the MAC Stinger is. Apparently there have been some reaching the market lately. Well, Military Armament Corporation manufactured a .22 LR pen gun in the early 1970's. It came with two barrels, a small plastic box, and a leather snap on garter. The barrels were blocked with a red plastic disc that kept dirt out. The Stinger had a unique "squeeze" firing lever, and was cocked by unscrewing the back and pulling it back until it clicked. It had a rotating split ring safety that blocked the fall of the firing lever. Most of the Stingers were blued, with a small quantity having a gold finish - the "Lady Stingers". These are relatively rare, and desireable as collector pieces. Some custom barrels have been made by other manufacturers, threaded for a suppressor. These are not original. Stingers saw some clandestine operations in South East Asia, and Cold War Europe. They are Any Other Weapons, requiring a \$5 transfer tax, and several thousand were made - most purchased in quantity at the original MAC auction.

O I just purchased my first copy of MGN, enjoyed reading your column and was delighted with the wealth of information available. Hoping you can answer a couple of questions for me. What spare parts should I keep on hand to keep my vintage MP-40 and 1928A1 Thompson in top shooting condition. Which parts are most likely to break or wear out? Should I consider the purchase of one of the complete parts kits from Sarco? What kind of wear can I expect shooting either gun 300-500 rounds per month. Many thanks for any light you can shed. As a matter of interest the Wolff Spring Co. lists lots of replacement springs for subguns.

Russell D.





Smart shoppers would keep the following parts for their MP-40:

- 1 firing pin
- 2 buffer tube assembly
- 3 trigger/sear assembly
- 4 resting and retracting bar
- 5 barrels
- 6- front sight parts

That should just about cover you, but a complete parts set would include a lower group, which is made of bakelite and tends to break. Sarco has parts, and so does Landies.

1928 Thompson:

- 1 firing pin
- 2 firing pin spring
- 3 extractor
- 4 complete bolt

All of the small internal parts from the lower group are worth having around, especially the sear group. Parts are available from Sarco, Gunmachines, and Landies, as well as Gun Parts Corporation.

Q I'm trying to locate the fold down forward grip assembly used on Springfield M1A's with E2 type stock. I need the complete assembly. Maybe your readers can help.

Richard Thompson, Hill Pond, Farm Rd #3 Chestertown, MD 21620

A OK guys, write the answer to Richard, because I came up dry on this one. Let me know also, I might want one.

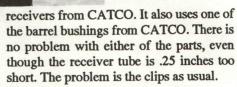
Q In regards to Bill's question in Vol. 5 No. 9 Feb '92 about Civil Defense Armaments here is the address: 504 "C" Spring St. Lake Elsimore CA 92330 Phone 714-674-0814 I've seen their belt fed conversion for the AR and am trying to acquire one also, but I am told that there are some production delays. However I still have hope!! He is also making a semi auto lower receiver for the British L85A1 (SA80) rifle. Just for your info.

Best wishes from the People's Republic of So. Calif.

Jerry

A Thanks for the info, Jerry. After testing Ciener's Belt fed M-16, I'd love to test the CDA unit. The L85A1 project sounds interesting also.

Q I have a STEN Mark II that I built from a parts kit and one of the template bonded



- 1. Most of the clips for my gun are too loose. I have read in several places about clips being too tight, but never too loose. Four of my 10 clips fit well and the magazine latch holds them in place. The others wobble in the magazine housing and the latch does not hold them at all. I know the simple solution is to buy new clips, which I am going to do, but I wonder if the magazine housing has been worn too big. I bent the magazine latch retainer out but the clips still wobble and appear to be too small. Do I need a new magazine housing?
- 2. Some of the clips have different type of follower. Instead of being curved as usual these are either flat or rounded. They do not appear to be bent, but appear to have been made that way. Do you have any idea why these followers are made that way? Do these function better or worse than the curved ones.?
- 3. I have read when a STEN Mark II is suppressed, that this can interfere with the functioning. I do not have part two of the article but sure would like a copy of it. Exactly where do you take the weight off the bolt?
- 4. What is the proper length of the spring inside of the magazine, as you can tell, I am new to this.

James T.

A Assuming that you are a Class 2 manufacturer will keep me from getting heartburn, assembling one of those "tubes" is asking for trouble if you're not. I'll answer considering that you filed a Form 2 after you manufactured it.

- 1 Try inserting a spacer into the mag well. This should tighten up the loose magazines. The position of the feed lips is critical to proper cartridge feeding, and you should set the spacer so that all magazines mimic the ones that work.
- 2 There are numerous followers from the different manufacturers, and even from caliber changes- is there a connection between what works and what doesn't? there is one follower that doesn't work, tryswitching them with successful followers-the magazines are cheap enough to "parts out".

3&4- Original suppressed Stens used a bolt that was reduced in weight to about 1 lb from approx. 1 3/8 lb., and the recoil spring was shortened. A correct recoil spring should be about 9" long.

In the December 1991 issue of MGN--in response to a question from Steve S. about the M72 LAW-- you have reference to the "New LAWS Rocket". Ever since the Dirty Harry movie, The Enforcer, people have been calling the LAW a "LAWS Rocket" it is not a "LAWS Rocket"!! LAW is an acronym for Light Anti Tank Weapon. It does indeed fire a 66MM HEAT (High Explosive Auto Tank) rocket, but the complete assembled weapon is called a LAW. Period. So can we please discontinue the use of unauthorized additions to the proper nomenclature?!

Stanley C.

A Lighten up, Stanley. I don't remember The Enforcer, although fessing up to missing one of Clint's movies is tantamount to sacrilege in some circles. I DO remember a big, ugly drill sergeant giving me an M-72A2 and saying it was the "Light Anti-Armor Weapon System", a LAWS rocket, and the various uncouth things that both Charlie and my own squad would do to me if I didn't learn how to use it correctly. His name was Drill Seargent Garcia, and e made Clint look like a serious wuss. If ou want to tell him he was wrong, I might try and find him, just for you. The other correct name for the system, aside from the M-72 A3, A4, or A5 is the "Light Assault Weapon System". This is from the manufacturer's literature. Your nomenclature is also correct, but not the only way to refer to the system. Let's have a little tolerance here, we're on the same side, and we could spend the rest of our lives fighting about what to call things, instead of learning the proper uses.

Q I have some questions concerning ammunition that I hope you can help me with. I recently purchased three different types, or brands, of .308 Win. 7.62 NATO Ammo. Are any of these brands corrosive And are they safe and reliable? As it seems awhile back you mentioned a certain brand of 7.62 NATO Ammo having brittle cases. The ammo is packaged as follows, Brown box w/Spanish lettering, 20 Cartuchos Nato Espanol Fabrica Palencia Cargados En 1978 (Headstamp 7.62 X 51SB78) the second is packed in what looks like standard U.S. Military brown cardboard box ith the lettering 20 Cartridges 7.62mm Nato Ball M80 Valcartier Industries Inc., (Headstamp 1V1 69) the third is packaged in a pale bluish green box, no (continues)

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6131-B Carnegie Dr. Sherwood, Arkansas 72117 NY (501) 771-4405 lettering whatsoever (Headstamped I'm not sure, its either ^Z OR ZV 7.62 69.) Any information you can give me would be greatly apppreciated. Also is PMC Ammo reliable, and non-corrosive? And one last question how does the CLP Break-Free and compare with the CLP that the military is currently using?

A.H.R.

A Your 1978 ammunition is probably non-corrosive, but no guarantees. I would assume that the pre-1970 non-U.S. ammo is corrosive, as is pre-1954 U.S. ammo. Perhaps you should try the "Bright Nail Test" that is in MGN Vol 5 #3, and the Machine Gun Dealers Bible. Break-Free is the same CLP as the military uses, as far as our needs and purposes go.

AMMUNITION WARNING: CBC 7.62X51 NATO (.308) Ammunition that is headstamped '75, is dangerous to shoot. There have been excessive pressures and several damaged firearms.

CBC has retained an attorney to refund purchasers of this ammunition. His name is Gary Fergus, and he can be reached at 415-442-0900. Century Arms sold significant quantities of this ammo, and you may also discuss it with them at 802-527-1252.

Q Regards the question in the March '92 issue concerning the optical sight mounting holes and grooves on the 1919A4 BMG rear sight base. Several years ago I gave Dolf Goldsmith, aka "Mr. Maxim" a copy of a pre WWII Army Field Manual on a U.S. Light Tank, there were several good photos of a 1919A4 mounted in the turret next to a 37MM gun and on the 1919A4 mounted on the 3 holes and groove was a long, about 2 in. direct fire scope!! The gunner could look through the scope and use it for either the 1919A4 or the 37MM. Perhaps if you jog Dolf's memory he will still have the manual in his collection - I hope this is of some help to you.

Ed Rydberg

A Dolf, if you're reading this, how about checking your files and letting us see those photos- Vida will return the book!

Q While I am a newcomer to full auto, my military arms collection has lead me to many bits of information. In this regard, I found an answer to "Dave" re: spring clips in the 1919A6 grip.

Army basic field manual FM 23-45 (April 12, 1943) states on page 8 (Par. 1-8)

"The mechanism is properly assembled to the gun when the offset points to the rear, thus permitting the mechanism to be folded to the rear and seated in its recess in the duralumin grip." I have seen but cannot

find a photo of the gun with the T&E in this position, and my 1919A4 will carry it this way.

On another note, I had all kinds of problems trying to belt 7.62 NATO ammo in new cloth belts. The solution is simple, first load the belt with 30-06 or 8mm ammo, which will stretch the pockets. Then push those rounds out and the 7.62 NATO rounds load easily. I may be new but I am learning--from RKI like you.

Seth Nadel

A Thanks much for the verification on the use of the spring clips on the 1919A6. It's all you RKI out there that make this column work.

Q Question: What is the bottom line (availability, reliability, quality, and specs) on the Bushmaster Select Fire .223 pistol? I have only seen one of these ever advertised and I assume it came from the factory in select fire configuration. It sounds like a good low cost candidate for us enthusiasts these days. Thanks for the fine journalism.

Tony Adessa

A The Bushmaster pistol was manufactured in semi and full auto modes in Rochester, New Hampshire and Portland, Maine. They used many M-16 parts, including the magazines, and were a "Bullpup" styled pistol. There are many of them in New England, and any gun show will turn up several semi autos. The full autos are somewhat harder to find. Parts are available from Quality Parts 1-800-556-7928.

Q Just a note to say thanks for sticking up for us down here in San Antonio. I'll try not to be too wordy. We were ambushed, it was a Class A political ambush. Texas State Senator Frank Madla had some relatives who were trying to shut down Villareal's Range for a long time. Senator Madla presented an emergency situation to get the bill acted upon. Lo and behold came the weekend of our shoot (which has never had a problem before) people from 3 miles away and 5 degrees to the right of the far boundaries are in the news claiming bullets from the shoot are landing in their yards. (Where's the bullet.) The rest is history and so is Villareal's Shooting Range.

So now the Hill Country Shoot needs a place to shoot. Kay & I have been somewhat diverted from the shooting events by the birth of our daughter Rheanna Louise.

I have invited Ken Carter to work with me on an update article about the machine gun shoot and when we have everything collated it should prove to be enlightening.

W.B. English

P.S.Kay wanted me to tell you no one

has ever produced a bullet and that Madla is a representative and not a Senator.

A Congrats to Woody and Kay on the new addition, the registered wedding pattern was .308, so do we assume that the christing pattern is also? Yo, Woody, what's wletting these FNGs ambush the shoot anyway? I guess it reminds us all that we can't take it for granted that the anti-gun forces are asleep. Good luck on getting another place to hold the Hill Country Shoot, and let us know how it's going. I'll try to come down to the next one.

Q I have a MKII Sten in 9mm and I enjoy it very much in 9mm. I read somewhere that the Chinese had Stens chambered in 30 Mauser (or 7.62 Tokarev) since there are barrels now offered in that caliber for easy conversion, inexpensive surplus ammo is avilable in 9mm, or 30 Mauser & 7.62 Tokarev. I had my Dad who is a machinist and works for a Class 3 dealer make a barrel out of an old stainless steel .30 cal target barrel. This new Sten barrel is 10" long as to what I read we ran into one problem, 30 Mauser ammo is too long for the 9mm Sten magazine. Only one round fits into the magazine. A rib that runs along the back of the magazine is there from when it was formed from sheet metal. If that rib was not there a second 30 Mauser cartridge would fit perfect. Would I have to modify a 9n Sten magazine by removing the rib a welding on a flat backing plate to accommodate the longer 30 Mauser Cartridge or search for a Chinese Mauser Sten magazine? The 30 Mauser cartridge gives my Sten a healthy bark but with the barrel it is now a single shot submachine gun.

Bob

A I don't have much use for a single shot smg. The MK-760 threatened to be one, but I believe most of the kinks are worked out now. The original 30 Mauser mags are slightly deeper than the 9mm ones. I would look around for originals then attempt the adaptation. 7.62 x 25 Tokarev will fit the 9mm mags, and the conversion should be just a barrel and bolt change. The Chinese communists were blackballed after WWII and they started to use Soviet weapons and ammunition. They changed calibers on many machine guns so that they could take advantage of the Soviet ammunition. I have seen several Stens with mag wells that had Chinese markings on them. I believe that the current importer is Global Sales, or The Silver Bullet.

> Questions To: Dan Shea, c/o MGN P.O. Box 759 Hot Springs, AR 71902

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Scattered Shots

By Ken Carter

Talk about putting your money where your mouth is! I received a copy of Mike Dillon's mailout, *The Blue Press*, the other day, and believe me, if anyone ever deserved a pro-gun Medal of Honor, Mike does!

As an inducement to join the National Rifle Association, Mike is offering to dig into his own pocket and pay ten dollars of any first-timer's initial \$25 annual membership fee! That part is unconditional, as long as you're not already a member, and the only thing Mike stands to gain is perhaps another name for his mailing list.

But it doesn't end there; Dillon also offers the "joinees" an additional ten bucks discount on their first \$100 order of loading components from Dillon Precision Products, meaning that you can become a full-fledged NRA member, with all that implies in terms of benefits and "fighting the good fight", for a net outlay of only five dollars!

Dillon Precision, of course, is the home of the popular Dillon "blue presses" that rewrote the book on progressive reloaders, as well as a full line of handloading and other shooting supplies, and Mike, an avid full-auto buff, is also the guy who produced the excellent *Machine Gun Magic* video you've been hearing so much about.

To obtain a free copy of the entertaining and informative (Mike will tell you how he "solved" the JFK assassination) *Blue Press*, and full details of the NRA offer, call Dillon Precision toll-free at (800) 421-7632, FAX them at (602) 998-2786, or call (602) 948-8009.

Seems to me this should leave the gauntlet squarely across the toe-tops of some of the Big Boys in the shooting industry: Ruger, S&W, Taurus, Colt, Remington, Winchester, etc. How about it, guys? Who will be the first to offer a FREE

membership to anyone who buys one of their guns? Millions of new firearms are being sold each year, many to first-time buyers, virtually none of whom are NRA members. Can you think of a quicker way to boost membership and strengthen the cause?

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By the time you read this, most of the primaries will be history and the front-runners in the major parties will have been firmly established. As I write, Pat Buchanan is still putting consistent pressure on President Bush, and Bush is still trying to dilute Buchanan's support by telling Republicans, "Hey, folks, I've gotten the message."

But has he?

If the media could be believed, the only real issue sparking dissension in the GOP ranks is the economy. But us gunowners know better. Many ... maybe most ... of those pulling the Buchanan lever are doing so because ol' Read My Lips sold us out, bigtime!

After promising "no new gun laws", George Bush has personally been responsible for some of the most restrictive, unconstitutional gun policies to be foisted on the people of this country since the onerous Gun Control Act of 1968. But as bad as - and potentially more damaging than - his directive banning importation of a long list of firearms NEVER associated with crime (the streets are full of druggies with AUG's, Galils and FAL's, right?), is the message his actions sent to the anti-gun fanatics in Congress, and those within BATF, itself. Not only did he add credibility to the spurious and arbitrary

"sporting rifle" criteria used as a justification for our "need" to own a firearm, but he clearly signaled the enemy that here was a president who did not intend to stand tough on the Second Amendment. That set the dogs loose, and I fear that they'll be nipping at our heels as long as Bush is president.

That Gun Rights is a big issue in this election, despite the failure of Brokaw, Rather, et al, to acknowledge the fact, was evidenced by the large turnout for a political rally sponsored by Gun Owners of New Hampshire prior to that state's primaries Pat Buchanan showed up to speak, as d Libertarian candidate Andre Marrou.

The Bush camp was also represented, but not by the President or Vice President; Texas Senator Phil Gramm (who has been doing some furious back-peddling since voting for the failed waiting-period-bearing Senate Crime Bill) was there to wave the GOP banner. Despite this token showing, however, we have yet to hear George Bush's plan to right the wrong he has done American gunowners. And unless we do-and are convinced - a lot of us will have a hard time flipping his switch when we enter the voting booth next November.

In short, you're damned right it's a protest vote, George; you lied to us, and we're madder than hell about it!

0 0 0 0

On the topic of Gun Rights, both Pat Buchanan and Andre Marrou have come down solidly on the side of a nonrestrictive interpretation of the Secon Amendment. But I liked Marrou's rheto, best. If elected, he promised, he would name NRA President Dick Riley as Director of BATF ... the LAST director of BATF!

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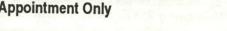


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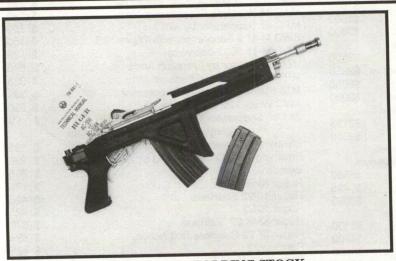
WHAT'S NEW

by Chris A. Choat



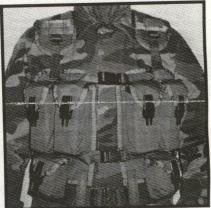
MP-5 K STOCK ADAPTER

Now owners of H&K MP-5 K's can install either the A-2 or A-3 MP-5 stocks on their guns. This is accomplished with the new MP-5 K stock adapter from S&H Arms of OK. The new adapter replaces the buttcap of the MP-5 K. Either stock can then be attached to the "K". The adapter is machined from a solid block of aluminum alloy. This allows great strength without excess weight. The adapter comes with a super high strength black polyurethane buffer already installed. The stock adapter is black anodized to match the finish of your MP-5 K perfectly. It is precision machined to fit perfectly without tedious fitting. The perfect addition to any MP-5 K whether used for competition or tactical situations. For more information contact S&H Arms of OK, Inc., Dept. MGN, P.O. Box 121, Owasso, OK 74055. Their phone number is 1-918-272-9898.



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hoate Machine and Tool introduces their new folding stock for the Ruger AC-556 machine gun. The new stock features the same positive locking latch/folding mechanism as their standard Mini- 14 stock but is made especially for the AC-556 model. The locking mechanism latches firmly in both the open and closed position. The AC-556 stock has been precision molded from high strength Zytel to allow the rifle to drop-in without fitting. Molded-in checkering on the forearm and pistol grip assure a positive grip even in wet environments. The buttstock has a built-in recoil pad that makes the stock about an inch longer than the Ruger folding stock. This provides the correct length for most shooters. The new stock comes complete with 1 inch sling swivels. For more information contact Choate Machine & Tool Company, Inc., Dept. MGN, P.O. Box 218, Highway 258 E., Bald Knob, AR 72010. Their phone number is 1-501-724-6193.



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new load carrying vest is now available from a company called FMCO. The new vest is made of 1000 denier DuPont Cordura nylon which is the most wear resistant nylon available. The webbing of the vest is BOX-X stitched for extra added strength. The Load Carrying Vest has pockets for eight rifle or submachine gun magazines and six grenades. A special model is available with pockets designed just for USAS-12 magazines. This is the only company that offers a vest for USAS-12 magazines. In addition to the magazine pouches there are also two small utility pockets for compasses, field dressings or spare ammunition in stripper clips. There are four additional webbing loops on the vest body and shoulder harness for any equipment that uses Alice clips. The back of the vest will carry a canteen, FMCO's butt pack and a collapsible shovel. The vest is fully adjustable so one size fits everyone from chest sizes 33 to 49. All pockets use nylon silent fasteners to keep things in place. FMCO markets two styles of vest along with a Recon Pack and other specialty nylon equipment. These products are first class with economy prices. All products are available in woodland camo, black, olive drab, and tan. For more information contact FMCO, Dept. MGN, 1525 Moon Terrace, Building 2, Medford, OR 97504. Send \$2 for catalog. Their phone number is 1-503-773-9644.

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Buying Your First Collector Thompson -A Personal Odyssey



By Rick Cartledge

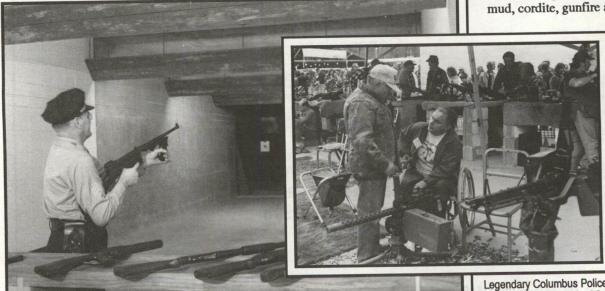
This is the story of how I came to purchase a famous old Colt, its special features, and some lessons learned that may be of benefit to others. Much has been chipped in stone about the Colt Thompson and the articles will surpass this one in technical detail and breadth. This is a personal odyssey and tells of some fine people I met along the way. To some, this may read like a who's who of Class 3. It is not meant to. This is an account of who I met, what they

said, and what they did. None of them at the time knew me personally or professionally and this is how they treated me. This journey hammers home one of my recurring themes, that Class 3 people are the best people on the planet.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK AND GO WHERE THE GUNS ARE

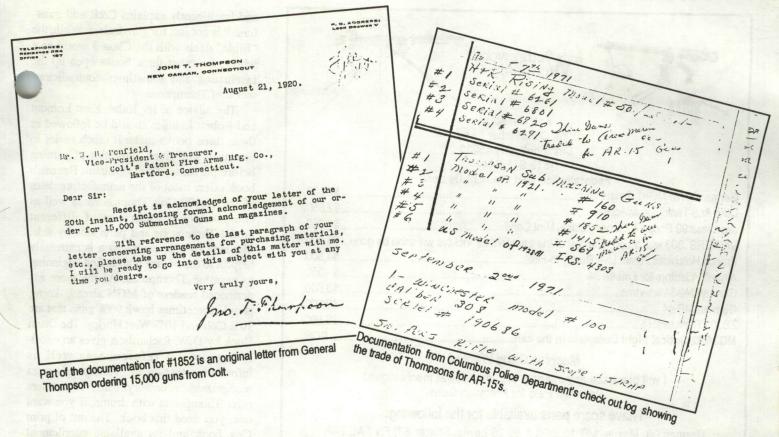
In the early part of 1988 I had heard of Knob Creek and I had a credit card, eighty bucks, and five days off. I pushed my old Chevelle out on I-75 and kicked it north out of Atlanta and began a great adventure. Shortly after crossing the one lane bridge and passing the old guard shack I met Holly Sumner who led me to the parking plathat has been my camp site every smonths to this day. This was the old days at Knob Creek when, as the "little fat boy" says "People threw clubs at the cars on the range." The place looked like a MASH unit, with huge hospital tents where the pole barn now stands. The roof on the range house was open on both ends and there was mud, cordite, gunfire and great people.

It was during a break in the shooting that I first encountered the noted Class 3 dealer Mr. Irv Kahn. Though I had known him by reputation, this was my first chance to talk with



Author talking Thompsons with Irv Kahn at Knob Creek.

Legendary Columbus Police Captain Milam Rand when he held the rank of Sargeant takes aim on the new Columbus Police indoor range (in 1959). Part of the extensive documentation for Colt Thompson #1852 supplied by L.J. Warren and Bruce Whitehead.



this most knowledgeable gentleman. During our conversation I asked what, for me, were two important questions. First, cause of a deep appreciation of things ell made, I asked what were the best machined Class 3 weapons. Mr. Kahn replied the 1921 Colt Thompson and the BREN gun. I then asked a question of value. I said if I were 65 and had to sell a gun because of ill health, what gun would it be. He said the '21 Colt Thompson, no question. In parting, Mr. Kahn strongly advised to learn before making a purchase. We have, in the intervening years, become fast friends and I have never talked with this man and not learned something. The same rings true of the others I was to meet.

I traversed the walkway into the main range house and stopped at the tables of Mr. Robert Landies and Mr. Kent Lomont which flanked each other. Mr. Landies showed me some of his quality parts for Thompsons, as well as other guns, that I have continued to purchase from him to this day. Mr. Kent Lomont kindly untied his Thompsons for examination and suggested that I get a Curio and Collectors license. He explained that this license was the only way to go because it allowed interstate purchase f covered weapons after complying with rm 4. The license I secured at Mr. Lomont's suggestion is the license on which I bought my Colt Thompson. While continuing to examine Mr. Lomont's fine

guns, another gentleman joined me at the table and kindly pointed out the interesting features of each Thompson. He turned out the be Mr. Mike Danvenport of Birmingham Pistol Parlor. Mike commented that the more Thompsons you look at, the better you get. All three echoed Mr. Kahn's advice of learning before buying.

The next spring I encountered Mr. Jim Klodzinski of GUNMACHINES and got a thorough education on the interior functioning of the Thompson receiver. Jim started my Thompson library by selling me "The GUNMACHINES Trouble Shooting Manual" and the entertaining "The Gun That Made the Twenties Roar". Luckily, I was still studying GUNMACHINES parts when Mr. Jim Bannan advanced to the GUNMACHINES table. He engaged Jim in a conversation about a British field modification to the Thompson and announced that he and Mr. Tracie Hill would soon be publishing their book "Notes on Auto Ordinance - The Thompson Submachine Gun". Through this chance encounter, I garnered another valuable reference book and met my valued friend Mr. Tracie Hill and the distinguished collector Mr. Jim Falter. I had by then subscribed to MGN and Shotgun News and became both a contributor and subscriber to Tracie Hill's "Thompson Collector News". I sought out stocking Class 3 dealers, traveled to gun shows with Class 3 exhibitors, and, as always, heated up the tail-pipes to Knob Creek twice a year. I examined several hundred Thompsons, including about 40 Colts, but nothing quite struck my fancy.

I had done the homework. I had saved the money. I even had acquired Dan Shea's old repo police case, but still no gun. Then, in the summer of 1991, lightning struck.

THE GUN AND WHAT MAKES IT SPECIAL

Sharp eyed readers of MGN have probably already recognized the gun and can quote its serial number. Before laying down the gun's chronology and talking about its special features, I would first like to list the books that were helpful in the search for the venerable old Colt. Each of the following books taught me a great deal and pushed me to learn more from the next one.

As of this writing, there are four books that I consider essential in the search for a collector Thompson. These books are The Machine Gun Dealers Bible by Dan Shea, The Drum Book by D.W. Richardson, Notes on Auto Ordinance - The Thompson Submachine Gun by Tracie Hill/Jim Bannan, and The Thompson Submachine Gun and its Supplement by Roger Cox. Though Dan Shea published The Machine Gun Dealers Bible after I bought the gun, it answers in print a number of questions that Mr. Shea has patiently answered in person for this writer over the years. He succinctly



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and intelligently explains C&R and transfers. It is not just for gun dealers. While the "Bible" deals with the Class 3 world as a whole, the other three books open up the fascinating and sometimes contradictor world of Thompsons.

The advice of Irv Kahn, Kent Lomont and Robert Landies should be followed as these three books make it much easier to heed their well given suggestion of learning before purchase. Tracie Hill/Jim Bannan's book offers most of the manufacture dates of the 15,000 Colt Thompsons as well as comparative photographs of different model Thompsons and parts side by side. The side by side comparison is extremely helpful to the novice who is first beginning to examine Thompsons. As the more experienced readers of MGN already know, people sometimes hawk 90% guns that are 90% Colt and 10% West Hurley. The Drum Book by D.W. Richardson gives an excellent pictorial reference as well as informative text on the Thompson's most recognizable accessory. Since few sellers offer Thompsons with drums, if you want one, you need this book. The out of print Cox book and its available supplement (from Sarco) contains a partial list of original purchasers of the 15,000 Colts. The Cox book also picture Colt Thompson #1852 full page in both the front and back of the book. #1852 is my gun and its history is as follows.

The gun is significant in that it contains all of the external features of an early Colt. The 21A is one of the oldest surviving police Thompsons in the country. Industry spurred by fear of labor violence bought most of the early guns. Sales to law enforcement were slow. New York City bought (and later destroyed most of) the first guns, followed by Boston MA, Columbus GA and Jacksonville FL. #1852 was bought on approximately March 12, 1922 by the Columbus, Georgia Police Department and served that progressive agency for the next half century. Columbus then retired the aging warrior and traded it to Arrow Marine in Birmingham for AR-15's. The gun made its way to Chuck's Guns in Buckhead (Atlanta, GA) where it was bought by Mr. Gordon Curtiss Jr. who was its first civilian owner. In 1983 Mr. Curtiss sold the gun to the noted Pennsylvania collector Mr. Andy Paskovitch. In the summer of 1991, Andy put ten Thompsons up for sale through The Thompson Collector News and Shotgun News. I bought #1852. This is the history of the gun from day one to present.

Research showed me that I wanted an early, low serial numbered gun. Though

any Colt is wonderful, the "earlys" represent the gun in its purest, unadulterated form. I wanted a gun of the configuration bought by DeBardeleben Coal, the early blice, and the IRA (they bought nearly 500 and are still using some of them today). I had hoped for a 21A with a serial number under 2000 and one that stood, as General Thompson so eloquently declared, "On the side of Law and Order". 1921A's with serial number under 2000 display all of the external characteristics of early Colts and, noting that with Thompsons there are exceptions to most rules, the early features and their serial numbers break as follows.

Colt stamped a bullet logo into the top of every Thompson receiver and in guns under 5000 the inside of the bullet read AUT-ORD-CO instead of Thompson. Colt squared the actuator slots of guns under 2900 instead of rounding them. On guns under 2400 Colt struck "Automatic" and "Semi Automatic" into the lowers and pointed the directional arrows down instead of horizontally. Finally, guns under 2000 are fitted with a slightly smaller and differently shaped rear grip. All uppers and lowers are stamped matching and all wood is Remington with a small anchor stamped into the butt.

The gun itself is an old police gun in pod condition and the internals show almost no wear. #1852 shoots very well and extremely fast. As Jim Klodzinski pointed

out in one of his helpful MGN articles, a high cycle Thompson is surprisingly easy to control. Tracie Hill thinks I shoot it too much, Irv Kahn disagrees. All I know is that from time to time the aging warrior demands exercise and I am obliging. As for buying a gun over the phone, I recall a conversation with J.D. Farmer at the Hard Times Armory in Smyrna, before the move to Kennesaw. J.D. said that in the old days a man in Ohio would describe a gun over the phone and the gun that arrived was the one described. It was so with #1852 but I knew Andy's reputation and had two pictures which made this purchase a typical. Unless you know the seller and his taste in guns, I would strongly recommend personal visual inspection, including internals, of any purchase.

Finally, Colt Thompsons are a fascinating world unto themselves. Roger Cox correctly states that he doubts that even Colt could build the gun today. It isn't a matter of money; it is a matter of craftsmen who are no longer with us and gun blue that is beyond dangerous. The pursuit of knowledge of these wonderful guns is almost as much fun as ownership. If you are interested in either I hope this article has been of some help to you.

MGN

Editors Note: Thompson Owners! Due to circumstances beyond our control, Tinkering With Thopsons is not in this issue. The column will be back next month,

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Send Stamped Envelope For Information Gary Storm, Sportsoutfitter P.O. Box 5211 Richardson, TX 75083 (214) 385-0862 The DeLisle carbine? Unknown outside of serious students of ordnance, the DeLisle carbine was a highly effective special mission weapon, the first such firearm designed integrally as a suppressed weapon.

When the British scrambled their ragged collection of survivors through Dunkirk's lethal funnel in 1940, the high command in London realized it had to slow a possible invasion by keeping German attention on securing their gains in Europe...all without much in the way of weapons or the men to use them.

Let "loose the commandos," became the battle cry that started Britain's first quick 'n dirty commando hits back across the channel. When the small boats and throttled back Lysander aircraft began dropping more agents, saboteurs and other commando nasties behind the lines in France, the Germans charged that assassins, gangsters, and killers were being used in war.

The commandos found their greatest need was to silence human and guard dog sentries quietly and quickly at ranges of 20 to 70 meters, beyond the range of a knife or garrote. Early attempts to put silencers on Sten subguns did not fit the mission need. However, the proficient, low key design of a quiet, dignified professional engineer named William Godfray DeLisle, did. long time British civil servant, DeLisle designed the most effective and efficient quiet killer of that era, a firearm so lethal, accurate, compact and quiet that it is still in use today, over a half century later.

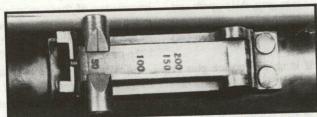
DeLisle carbines were smuggled into Germany, according to the European journalist Allen Knorrs, to be used against high ranking Nazi officials in 1944.

"De Lisle? NEVER HEARD OF IT!"

By J. David Truby



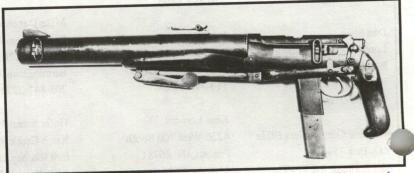
Inventor DeLisle in his later years designed a .22 caliber lightweight version of his suppressed rifle for jungle warfare.



Graduated sights for the DeLisle. lan Skennerton



Production model of the DeLisle from the Sterling Arms plant. Imperial War Museum



An interesting variation of the original DeLisle design was the folding stock Airborne mode, of which 50 were ordered. By war's end only four had been produced. None of these prototypes saw action. Infantry Trial Board



"This was not one of those dramatic 'get Hitler' plots, but at least two of the silenced British carbines (DeLisle) were brought into Germany by deep cover couriers to be used by trained assassins against top level German officers and officials in an effort to shorten the war by killing the heads of the government and military," Knorrs reports.

There was another story of an OSS Jedburgh team in France falling heir to a DeLisle left by an SOE colleague who had been extracted because of wounds. According to a former Jedburgh leader, the late Mike Burke, this weapon was used in two successful hits against field grade Nazi officers early in 1944.

However, the majority of the DeLisle ase in Europe was in myriad commando raids that led to D-Day. After that, almost all military operations were standard land warfare, and there were only a few operations for which the DeLisle was suited.

The war in the Pacific was another matter and numbers of DeLisle carbines were airlifted to Burma for use against the Japanese in behind the line operations.

DeLisle's biographer, Ian Skennerton, noted that British snipers equipped with DeLisle carbines used them to quietly kill Japanese security troops in the back of supply lorries in Burma so that native troops could then conduct a safe ambush. The drivers never heard the shots that killed their security troops in the back.

"It was not uncommon for snipers to bag three or four soldiers in each lorry while the unsuspecting drivers drove on. By the time the convoy knew something was amiss the ambush was upon them. Those SOE men loved their DeLisle guns," Skennerton reported.

In another WWII account, former OSS Capt., the late Mitchell L. Werbell III, later to become a premier suppressor designer, told me about his use of the British DeLisle carbines in Burma, saying, "We used a couple against sentries before raids and they were better than the ordnance we had. Both our people and the British used them in Indochina... Merrill's boys used them to terrorize, and scare the sh— out of the Japs at night and in ambush."

WerBell thought so much of the De-Lisle that years later, when he was head of his own special weapons company, he tried reinventing his version of the DeLisle, which he called the Destroyer carbine. He attempted to sell it to the U.S. Military for use in Vietnam, but production problems halted the venture.

To date, no copy or replication has bettered DeLisle's original design, i.e., a modification of existing equipment with a highly efficient suppressor built into the unit. Essentially, the DeLisle carbine consists of the action of an Enfield service rifle fitted with a .45 caliber Thompson SMG barrel, a 1911A1 Colt pistol magazine and the DeLisle suppressor. The .45 ACP round,

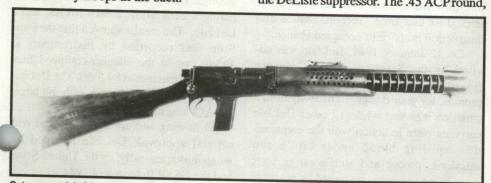
which met the ballistic requirements for a silenced weapon, was already in the British supply system and had the exact case diameter as the standard .303 round used by the Enfield.

Delisle cut a standard Enfield service rifle where the barrel met the receiver, then bored out the receiver end to accept a turned down Thompson submachine gun barrel. He also shortened the bolt by 50 mm. Additional machining of the barrel permitted a full seating of the cartridge and the use of the Enfield extractor. The charger bridge was removed and the issue box magazine was replaced by a modified housing to accept the M1911A1 pistol magazine.

The suppressor itself was DeLisle's modification of the basic Maxim design, with two expansion chambers and an ingeniously simple spiral diffusion system in which the 13 duraluminum baffles are mounted and spaced on two threaded rods running parallel to the barrel. The system created perfect alignment with (continues)



British planter with hid DeLisle carbine in a Kual Lumpur bar in 1951. John A. Minnery



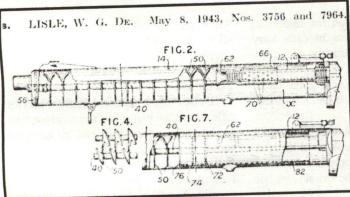
Cutaway model of the Sterling-produced DeLisle carbine shows gas bleed holes and baffling system... amost efficient sound suppressor, even by today's standards. Infantry Trial Board

the bore and served as a rigid support for the baffles. The outer casing for this suppressor is a large, excellent design which contains a lot of gases inside the unit, thus permitting maximum quieting.

One of his improvements on the Maxim design is the baffling arrangement. DeLisle says he designed his suppressor so that the bullet path is above the center of the baffling system as this "tends to disturb the gases a lot less, making for more effective quieting."



The DeLisle stripped to show the suppressor baffling, outer tube, dis filler, end cap and barrel unit that attached to the receiver.



A copy of the original patent sketch filed by William G. DeLisle for his silenced commando carbine in 1943. British Patent Office

The DeLisle approach was to build the weapon around the suppressor, instead of the usual modification of an existing weapon to be used with a suppressor. Or, as one WWII British ordnance report noted, "This weapon represents a new approach. It is essentially designed as a silent carbine and not a carbine that has been fitted with a silencer."

Combined Operations officials in London were quite impressed with the design and asked DeLisle to fabricate a 9mm version for special missions. Because of the ballistic problems of quieting a 9mm cartridge, DeLisle advised against this.

DeLisle built his prototype .45 caliber suppressed carbine at the Bapty and Co. Arms Works in London. DeLisle reasoned that the .45 ACP cartridge was already subsonic and the heavier slug had remarkable stopping power at the short range of operations planned for this weapon. He submitted his prototype for testing in May of 1943 and the first unofficial test were carried out at a 50 yard range. According to DeLisle, "the sound was totally unlike that of a firearm being discharged and was paid scant attention. Even on a dark night no muzzle flash could be observed."

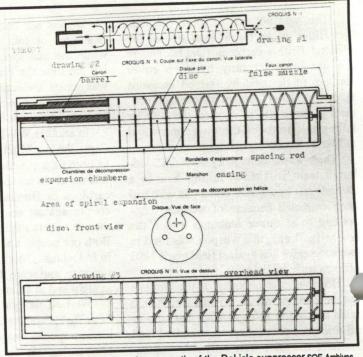
Range officers reported an accuracy of a 2 inch group at 50 yards for the .45 caliber weapon. They reported the flash was "nil" and that the sound level was "inaudible" at 50 yards.

The next step was field testing under combat conditions, so Whitehall officials asked De-Lisle to deliver 17 carbines for commando raids on the French coast that summer.

Each weapon was 8 pounds, 4 3/4 ounces unloaded with an overall length of 37.2 inches. The sighting radius was 13.6 inches and each weapon held 7 rounds of .45 ACP ammunition in an M1911A1 pistol magazine. The suppressor unit was 15 inches long and 2 1/2 inches in diameter.

These 17 handmade DeLisles were moved from London directly to specially trained commando experts where they were put into immediate use on what were termed at that time "reconnaissance and destruction raids" into occupied France.

On 12 January 1944, DeLisle was advised by the Secretary of the Ordnance Board that "trials to date have shown promise for your design." The irony of this situation was that while 17 other DeLisle carbines were in action with the commandos, spilling blood under hit 'n run missions, proper and sterile range tests were being properly conducted by properly starched officers on two other of his weapons.



French coast that Wartime French manual showing scematic of the DeLisle suppressor. SOE Archives.

The official report of the Trial Board shows that the DeLisle carbine functioned perfectly in all positions and attitudes. Its accuracy was rated as "not up to standard," although this objection was quickly corrected with a change of sights. The penetration test were well beyond what was anticipated, according to the official report.

However, the sound reduction of the DeLisle is where the weapon really came through. Firing tests were conducted comparing a Sten MkII, a Sten MkIIS, and a DeLisle. The results showed that the issue Sten was recorded by instruments at 125dB, while the silencer-equipped Sten was fired semiauto at 89.5 dB. The DeLisle carbine tested at 85.5 even with the larger .45 ACP round being fired.

Following additional testing, and with official approval, DeLisle patented h weapon domestically, in the United States and the USSR in March of 1944.

By August, the DeLisle was in production by Sterling Engineering Co. under a

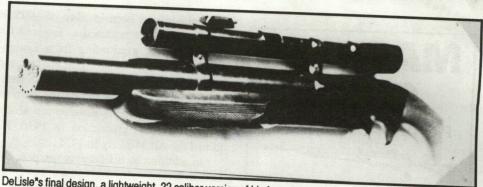
Machine Gun News - May 1992

Combined Operations HQ contract outside the normal ordnance channels. Although this contract was for 500 weapons, the total production run was about 230, with 206 being delivered to Combined Operations orm the Sterling factory.

The Sterling production models differ from DeLisle's handmade models in that a sporting type fore-end is fitted under the suppressor's outer tube. The outer tube was made of aluminum alloy, while the original DeLisle model was made of steel. There is also no projection of the muzzle beyond the suppressor housing in the production models. Finally, a leaf back sight similar to the Sterling-produced Lanchester was added.

The Sterling model had a barrel length of an overall length of 35 .75 inches, weighed just over 8 pounds unloaded and had a 7.25 inch barrel. The standard magazine held seven rounds of .45 ACP, although an 11-round model was produced as an accessory.

A series of ordnance tests late in 1944 compared various silenced weapons for accuracy, penetration and dependability. In the final report, the DeLisle came up the



DeLisle"s final design, a lightweight .22 caliber version of his famed carbine. He produced this model for jungle warfare use.

winner in all categories.

According to Skennerton, "The best allaround performance was given by the DeLisle which combined...accuracy with true bullet flight and good penetration...The DeLisle was most efficient as regards silencing, and the Board noted 'the superiority of the .45 inch DeLisle design."

The weapons tested included the De-Lisle, Sten MkIIS, A U.S. .30 caliber carbine with suppressor, and two German K98 Mauser rifles with suppressors.

Skennerton, who has had some experience with suppressor-equipped weapons, reports that he recently fired a

DeLisle in a built-up urban area, saying, "It was very impressive...very quiet. I know this description is over used, but the discharge really did sound no louder to me than the spring noise from an air gun. Of course, the impact of the .45 slug down range was quite a thump."

Like many veterans who serve, few see combat. So it is with weapons. Many are designed, some are tested, few are chosen and combat is rare. William DeLisle's design was a combat blooded combat veteran, assuring William DeLisle his honored place in the quiet killers' hall of (continues)

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DeLisle was born in May of 1905 in South Africa. He returned to England for his education, graduating from Loughborough College in a five year engineering course. A graduate electrical and mechanical engineer, DeLisle joined the firm of Sieman Brothers as a developmental engineer upon his graduation in 1926. He joined the Air Ministry in 1935.

In addition to his famous weapon, the British inventor also suggested a .22 caliber machine carbine with suppressor to both the Ordnance Board and the Combined Operations people back in 1943.

"It would be of great value in jungle warfare where a large number of rounds may be required to spray an area. It is a light, quiet weapon with very light ammunition," DeLisle noted.

His unique idea was for a mechanism using a waxed paper belt loaded at the factory with .22 ammunition to be used in a sealed-box attachment for weapon..." perfect to defeat the muck, moisture and rot of the jungles," he noted.

No official action was taken to adopt this weapon and according to most sources, DeLisle never went beyond sketches for the design stage and mocking up a few examples of ammunition packaging and feed. Viewed today, of course, it was a splendid idea; not so a half century ago.

The majority of the WWII DeLisle carbines issued had been sent to the Far East. With the Japanese capitulation in 1945, the carbines went into cosmoline. While a few were unpacked for British commando style operations in Korea, most notably some quiet pre-invasion clearing of key enemy personnel before the Inchon landings, the next and major field service of these weapons was during the Emergency in Malaya where the Gordon Highlanders made effective use of DeLisles against the Communist Terrorists during infiltration and interdiction operations.

In 1951 through 1958, when terrorists were mucking about in Malaya, British authorities issued military weapons, including both automatic weapons and a few silenced DeLisles, to selected planter and other civilians.

"It was not uncommon to venture into a club in Kauala Lumpur and see our chaps with Stens and the DeLisle here and there," Geoff Heath, a retired British journalist who covered the Far East, recalled.

Heath added that the more adventuresome plantation owners, men who had dirty war experience from just a few years back, when on evening ambush patrols. He noted, "anywhere beyond your own fence

and lights was terrorist country after dark. Our chaps staked out those areas, like their old special mission days in the last war, and killed terrorists, ambush with the silenced weapons-beat them at their own game of terror. Some of our people were SOE, yo know, and had used the DeLisle before."

As far as DeLisle was concerned all of this was academic, as he had no further involvement with his silenced carbine or other ordnance designs after WWII. In 1946, he transferred from the Ministry of Aircraft Production to the totally peacetime venture of the Ministry of Works, where he stayed until he retired from government service.

As the DeLisle carbine was a private venture, the administrative need for royalty payments came up in 1946, and DeLisle was awarded 3 shillings each for the projected order figure of 500 weapons. This was a grand total of 75 pounds, or about \$300 in those days. He paid half of this back to his government in taxes, so his work on the DeLisle carbine was hardly done for profit.

Ian Skennerton notes, that William DeLisle's real profit from the development of his carbine was, "the satisfaction of contributing to the war effort in addition to his government service."

William DeLisle passed away quietly in the early '80s.

And, what of the DeLisle carbine? Ian Skennerton says, "as far as I know, few have ever come out of the system. That is, the British military still carry them on the rolls and, I suspect, still use them."

One very good source in Ireland told a National New Service reporter there, "The Brit's SAS have some of those old WWII silenced sniper rifles here... the DeLizzills (sic) or whatever. I saw two of them on the streets here in the hands of SAS men coming out of a van."

Skennerton agreed, saying, "Oh, I am sure the SAS has them in Ireland just as I'm certain the Delisle was used in some of that commando activity in the Falklands, as well. Some of those Falklands' missions were tailor made for the DeLisle."

Of the DeLisle carbine itself, John Minnery, the Canadian ordnance expert writes, "Given the trusted Enfield basics, the stopping power of the .45, a smidgen of the almost sexual elan of the Thompson, al united with the pleasing anonymity of the silencer in combat...the DeLisle comes very close to the perfect special mission MGN weapon."

Machine Gun News - May 1992



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Lofficially adopted in 1919, there has been a small group of shooters interested in developing the round's potential as a longrange precision cartridge. Most of this interest was in the military, and usually involved single-shot sniping with the M2 machine gun, or conversions of such early antitank weapons as the Boys, the Polish wz 35, and the Mauser 1918.

While the wartime experiences during World War II, the Korean conflict, and the Vietnam war demonstrated the ability of the .50 BMG to hit things "way out there," the heavy recoil of the cartridge, plus the limited availability of suitable guns and ammunition, prevented .50 caliber shooting from achieving broad popularity—or even recognition—among the general shooting population.



Ronnie Barrett, the inventor of both Barrett .50s and the President of Barrett Firearms Manufacturing, Inc., firing the M82A1 from the bipod. The gun's ground blast is evident. Note the proper firing position: body directly behind the gun, left hand strongly pulling the buttstock into the shoulder.

BARRETT'S LIGHT FIFTY

by Stanton L. Wormley, Jr.

All that has changed in the past 15 or so years. Since the mid-1970s, many civilian shooters have taken up .50 BMG shooting, at ranges of 1,000 yards and more. This trend has been spurred on by the availability of new guns, ammunition, a handloading components, as well as by the creation of an international organization, the Fifty Caliber Shooters' Association. At the present time there are about a dozen or

so commercially available .50 rifles, almost all of the bolt action variety. Perhaps the most recognized big fifty, however, is also the only semi-auto produced in volume: the Barrett M82A1, also known as the Barrett

"Light Fifty."

The design is the brainchild of Ronnie Barrett, a Tennessee commercial photographer and gun enthusiast. In January 1981, a chance discussion with E.R. Maples, whose company, RAMO, built thousands of .50 M2 machine guns, convinced Barrett of the need for a quality semi-auto .50 rifle. Within only two months, he had

developed a set of plans; and in only a few months more he had produced a working prototype. He subsequently founded his own company to manufacture the guns, and a chieved full production in 1982. Remarkably, Barrett accomplished all the without any formal training in firear design. Since its introduction, the Barrett M82A1 has come to be one of the most popular and best-known .50 rifles, and his company, Barrett Firearms Manufacturing, Inc., of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, has be-



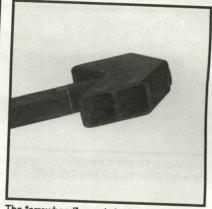
One of many racks of M82A1s being assembled at Barrett's Murfreesboro factory.



The Barrett Rifles: the M82A1 Light Fifty (foreground) and the bolt-action Model 90 (rear). Both guns use many of the same parts, such as barrels, muzzle brakes, bipods, grips and magazines.



The Barrett M82A1, broken down into its basic subassemblies. From top: upper receiver and barrel, bolt carrier and bolt, and lower receiver. The gun's two disassembly pins are at the bottom, on either side of the magazine.

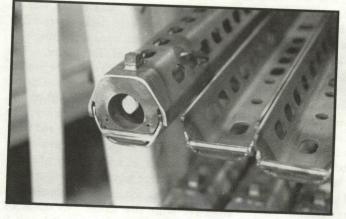


The "arrowhead" muzzle brake used on current model M82A1 and Model 90 rifles. In H.P. White tests, this muzzle brake reduced recoil by 65%. Military evaluators have likened the recoil of the M82A1 to that of a 12-gauge combat shotgun.

come perhaps the most successful of .50 rifle manufacturers, with some 1,500 units sold worldwide.

The M82A1 is a short-recoil, magazine-fed, air-cooled semi-auto design made of a combination of machined, investment cast and precision stamped steel parts. The gun weighs 28.5 pounds, is 57 inches long, and has a magazine capacity of ten rounds. Cartridge ignition is achieved via a ilitary-style two-stage trigger with a pull about seven pounds. Both telescopic and iron sights are provided with the weapon. The Light Fifty is easily broken down into three major groups: the upper receiver group, lower receiver group, and bolt carrier group [see photo].

The upper and lower receivers form the basic structure of the gun and are stamped from heavy-gauge, high-carbon steel chosen for its strength and wear-resistance. The lower receiver houses the trigger components and main spring assembly, and also serves as the mounting point for the magazine guide lips, bipod assembly, buttplate, and pistol grip (which, by the way, is interchangeable with M16 and M60 grips). The upper receiver contains the barrel group (barrel, barrel springs, barrel key and impact bumpers). Welded to the outside of the upper receiver are the front and rear iron sights, telescope sight base, and the carrying handle bracket, while inside are welded the front barrel bushing and the barrel stop. Toward the rear of the gun, where the shooter's face would be positioned, the oper receiver is reinforced by a second eet of steel attached to the lower receiver, giving a total steel thickness in that area of about .250 inch.



M82A1 receivers in the assembly process. At left, a matched upper and lower receiver, showing the barrel bushing, front sling loop, and mounting block for the folding front sight.

The bolt carrier group, which consists of the bolt and carrier, is sandwiched between the upper and lower receivers. The one-piece bolt consists of a three-lobed head and a cylindrical body. The head contains a claw-type extractor and a spring-loaded plunger ejector. The bolt body fits precisely into the bolt carrier, which, like the barrel extension, is machined from hexagonal 4140 barstock. A hardened steel pin in the carrier fits into an angled cam track in the bolt body, controlling the rotation of the bolt and thus the engagement of the bolt's lugs in the barrel extension. The bolt carrier also contains the striker and the accelerator operating

The M82A1's 29-inch fluted barrel is made for Barrett by Krieger, one of the best-known .50 caliber barrelmakers. Rifled in a 1 in 15-inch twist, the barrel is threaded at its muzzle, allowing it to take a muzzle brake—provided as standard equipment on the M82A1—or a sound suppressor. The chamber end of the barrel terminates in a hexagonal barrel extension,

which fits between the upper and lower receivers, and which is machined out to form the locking seats for the gun's three-lobed bolt head. When the gun is assembled, the barrel is located in the upper receiver by the barrel stop and the barrel bushing, and is free to move about three inches in a fore-and-aft direction. A pair of springs, attached to both the barrel bushing and the barrel key, keep the barrel in its forward position.

Upon firing, gas pressure drives the barrel, bolt and bolt carrier rearward, the bolt lugs being locked into the barrel extension. After traveling approximately three inches, the barrel hits the barrel stop, which halts its rearward motion. The bolt also stops, since it is still locked into the barrel extension. The bolt carrier, however, continues to move rearward. As it does so, the cam pin in the carrier engages the cam track in the bolt, turning the bolt and unlocking its lugs from the barrel extension.

At the same time, the bolt carrier's rearward motion activates the accelerator, which in turn causes the (continues)



Side view of the bolt of the M82A1, showing the helical cam track in the bolt body [see text].

accelerator rod to push against the face of the barrel extension. This gives the bolt carrier a little extra rearward "oomph" at the point at which its momentum is most likely to stall.

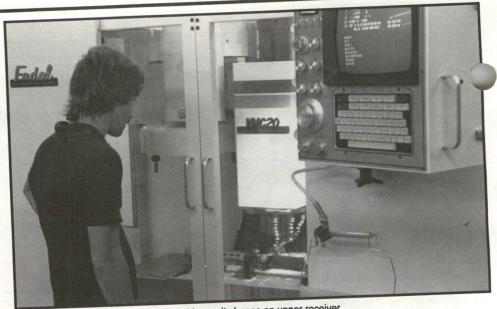
As the bolt carrier and bolt continue to move to the rear, the empty cartridge case is extracted and ejected, and the recoil spring is compressed. The rearward motion of the carrier is halted by a thick polyurethane recoil buffer. On the return trip, the bolt and bolt carrier strip a round from the magazine and guide it into the chamber, the bolt head entering the barrel extension and traveling forward until the round is fully seated. Even after the bolt stops, the carrier continues to move forward; and as it does so, its cam pin engages the cam track in the bolt body, turning it and locking the lugs into the barrel extension. The firing pin is also held back by the sear; and the gun is ready to fire again.

It is important to note that neither the barrel nor bolt are ever locked to the receiver during the firing cycle. As a result, the stresses imposed on the Barrett's stamped-steel receiver halves are quite low—well below the strength limits of the Light Fifty's design.

Disassembly of the Barrett M82A1 is simplicity itself. First, the magazine is removed and the chamber cleared of any ammunition. Then, two disassembly pins-one just forward of the magazine well, and the other just forward of the buttplate-are pulled out. The charging handle is then pulled back until the bolt head withdraws from and clears the barrel extension. At this point the upper receiver can be pivoted upwards, and the bolt carrier group returned to its forward position. Further lifting of the upper receiver causes it to separate from the lower receiver. The bolt carrier group can then be removed from the lower receiver. This is all the disassembly needed for general cleaning and maintenance. Reassembly is accomplished by simply reversing the above steps.

Fifty-caliber rifles such as the Barrett

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A Barrett employee tending a CNC machine as it shapes an upper receiver.

require something special in the way of riflescopes. Obviously, the heavy recoil of such rifles mandates optical sighting systems of exceptional durability. The extreme ranges that such rifles are used at also impose certain requirements. Optical clarity and freedom from distortion are much more critical at 1,000 yards, say, than at 100. Furthermore, bullet drop and wind drift can assume staggering dimensions at extended ranges, so a wide range of elevation and windage adjustment is necessary. At the present time, Barrett supplies its M82A1s with 10x riflescopes made by Leupold & Stevens, Nickel, or Schmidt & Bender. Two different reticles are available. For long-range infantry support, a reticle calibrated for the drop of the .50 BMG from 500 to 1800 yards is employed. For EOD (explosive ordnance disposal) use, a standard crosshair is used, as most firing for this purpose occurs between 50 and 200 yards.

While firing any .50 is definitely not for the recoil-sensitive, compared to some bolt-action or falling-block .50s, the Barrett is relatively pleasant to shoot. For one thing, part of the recoil energy is used to move the barrel, bolt and bolt carrier, and to compress the recoil spring. Some recoil is also absorbed by its 28.5 pounds of gun weight. Additionally, recoil is reduced by the gun's highly efficient muzzle brake, which the H.P. White laboratory found to cut recoil by some 65%. Overall, the sensation is more like a hard push than a sharp blow. Anyone capable of firing a standardweight .300, .338 or .375 Magnum should be able to handle the M82A1.

Low recoil influences more than just shooter comfort; it may also contribute to

practical accuracy as well. Some may argue that a closely toleranced single-shot bolt gun will be theoretically more accurate than any semi-auto; and, with guns fired from machine rests, that may be the case. According to the folks at Barrett, however, the sharper kick of a bolt gun can cause flinch to develop in *human shooters* after only ten to fifteen rounds. They feel that the Barrett's softer recoil will help a shooter to maintain concentration and a controlle trigger squeeze for a much longer time.

Accuracy-wise, the Barrett performs quite satisfactorily, when fed the proper ammo. This is not to say that the M82A1 is more ammo-sensitive than other .50s; it's just a recognition of the fact that the limiting factor in achieving really tiny groups with any .50 rifle has been the ammo available. For example, government issue ball and armor-piercing .50 ammo is only required to group into about three to four minutes of angle-hardly impressive by today's standards. Of course, such accuracy can easily be exceeded by handloaded ammo. As the majority of the M82A1s produced are sold to military markets, however, the main focus at Barrett is on achieving optimal accuracy with standard-issue ammo. The M82A1 achieves two-minute-of-angle accuracy or better with such fodder.

Still not impressed? Then how about one-minute-of-angle accuracy—out to a thousand yards? Using custom matchgrade bullets, newly-manufactured commercial cases, and appropriate charges of slow-burning powders such as Accur Arms 8700, IMR 5010, and Winchester RVO 57, such accuracy has been achieved with sufficient regularity to support the no-

tion that the Barrett is a true minute-ofangle gun. This level of precision can also be approached using PMC ball ammo, probably the most accurate factory .50

MG currently made. Given that .50 BMG development is still in its infancy, it's hard to say what the Barrett's absolute level of accuracy actually is.

The Barrett's accuracy and power earned it a prominent place in the recent Persian Gulf fighting. Barrett Light Fifties were used in Kuwait and Iraq by the United States Marine Corps, United States Army, U.S. Navy SEALs, and other American military units, as well as some other Coalition forces, to engage personnel, bunkers, vehicles and similar targets at long range. Hits on targets at 1800+ yards were documented, with far longer shots being claimed. The real strength of the Barrettand the other .50 rifles used in the Persian Gulf war-lay in the effectiveness of the .50 BMG round on "soft" material targets such as trucks, parked airplanes, radar dishes, and so forth. A variety of ammo types were available for such purposes, including M33 Ball, M8 API (Armor Piercing Incendiary), and M20 APIT (Armor Piercing Incendiary Tracer) rounds. Also used was the Raufoss Multi-Purpose round, a specialized cartridge originally from Norly whose projectile contains a hardened tungsten penetrator and an explosive charge of RDX.

Interestingly, the Barrett's other role, explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), has gone relatively unnoticed by the general public. Both during and after hostilities, staggering quanitities of mines, unexploded shells and bombs, grenades and the like menaced both Coalition troops and innocent civilians. Of the various methods of disposal used, destruction by small arms fire was found to be the simplest and most cost-effective. For safety and intelligence reasons, EOD personnel generally prefer to dispose of munitions without actually exploding them; and the .50 BMG was found to have a much higher rate of "destruction without detonation" than other small-arms ammunition available, especially when the Raufoss Multi-Purpose round was used. The Barrett's accuracy and firepower have made it the preferred tool for EOD teams in various branches of service. Countermine units in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who have the job of neutralizing mines as ell as unexploded ordnance, have also dopted the rifle.

At the present time, the Barrett M82A1 is in use with various units of the U.S.

Navy, Army, and Air Force, most federal law enforcement agencies, and military and governmental units in at least 16 foreign countries. The different roles the rifle is expected to play sometimes require it to be fitted with specialized equipment. For example, a wide range of night vision devices can be accommodated by the rifle's Weaver/STANAG style base. The rifle is also suitable for the Simrad attachment, which allows the use of a night vision device in conjunction with the rifle's standard optics. A baffle-type (wipeless) suppressor is also available, though to governmental and military purchasers only. While a suppressed .50 BMG is not exactly as quiet as a Ruger Mark II with a Ciener can, it does have certain advantages. For one thing, the suppressor substantially reduces both the muzzle sound signature and ground blast, either of which can give away a shooter's location. Additionally, the suppressor has a muzzle-braking effect. A third option is the Barrett Soft Mount, a lightweight (8 pounds), recoil-absorbing gun mount that allows the Barrett to be used on a variety of tripods, or land and water vehicles. Also available are a magazine bandolier and a double-compartmented backpack that allows a single person to easily carry the broken-down M82A1.

To sum up, the Barrett is a useful, flexible .50 BMG weapon comprising a good combination of shootability, accuracy and firepower. From the standpoint of the average shooter, perhaps its only undesirable feature is its price-a bit over \$6,000 at the time of this writing. While this may seem a bit steep, keep in mind that all .50 BMG rifles currently being marketed bear four-figure price tags. For those wanting a less expensive .50 alternative, however, Barrett also makes a repeater, the Model 90, that uses a five round magazine and uses many of the same design features-and even some of the same parts—as its semi-auto big brother, but sells for around \$3,300. For either rifle, delivery time for civilian purchasers depends upon the military and governmental demand, so prospective buyers are advised to call the company in advance for availability.

Barrett Firearms Manufacturing, Inc. can be reached at P.O. Box 1077, Murfreesboro, TN 37130, (615) 896-2938.

And for those interested in knowing more about .50 caliber shooting in general, contact the Fifty Caliber Shooters' Association (FCSA), 11469 Olive St. Rd., Suite 50, St. Louis, MO 63141, (314) 298-9858.





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Nexus .45 Caliber Pistol Suppressor

by Al Paulson



The AWC Nexus suppressor permits reliable semiautomatic functioning on the .45 caliber Colt Model 1911 pistol thanks to the can's built-in recoil regulator.

The U.S. Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) recently issued contracts to Colt and Heckler and Koch for a new, suppressed .45 caliber offensive pistol. (JSOC includes such special operations forces as the Navy SEALs; the Army's Delta Force, Special Forces, and 75th Ranger Regiment; and the Air Force Special Operations Wing.) The new pistol will be used as the primary weapon for engaging hostiles, whether conventional military or terrorists, at extremely close range. This concept has civilian applications as well.

SRT and SWAT teams could use such a suppressed pistol as an entry weapon, as well as for hostage rescue and other scenarios. Animal control personnel would find this system much more effective on feral dogs than the traditional .22 rifle. Homeowners could use the system as a home-defense weapon that wouldn't deafen them when fired indoors. And sport shooters could exploit additional safe places to shoot if they could eliminate the socially offensive noise pollution of an unsuppressed .45 pistol.

Until recently, the concept of suppressing a .45 pistol in anything remotely resembling a practical package remained pure Fantasy Land. The problem was twofold. It seemed disproportionately more difficult to design an effective suppressor with a .45 caliber hole in the front than with a .38 caliber (9 millimeter) hole. And any suppressor big enough to do the job was too big and heavy to be practical.

An early attempt to suppress a .45 caliber pistol used a modified barrel bushing that was designed to mate the Military

Armament Corporation M10 submachine gun suppressor to the Colt Model 1911 and its clones. But the can obscured the pistol's sights and was far too heavy to allow the normal semiautomatic functioning of the pistol. Furthermore, the adapter was badly designed and tended to kill pistol slides after a surprisingly small number of rounds had been fired.

Then Don Walsh designed an eccentric suppressor for the .45 caliber Model 1911 and H&K P9S pistols which allowed the use of the pistols' iron sights. While the Model 1911 would not cycle with these Larand suppressors, the fixed-barrel P9S would. The Larand suppressor was still too bulky for practical employment as a tactical tool, however. Oy Vaimennin Metalli Ab (Vaime) in Finland developed a smaller, lighter .45 pistol suppressor that functioned on the P9S. The Vaime can was suitable for tactical employment. But by this time, Heckler and Koch had discontinued the P9S pistol.

Until recently, the venerable old Colt and its clones remained the only practical .45 caliber pistol for the tactical environment. But no one could design a suppressor for the Model 1911 that would permit the gun to cycle reliably, since the weight of the suppressor would retard the rearward movement of the barrel, which provided energy to cycle the slide.

Then AWC applied two very different technologies to the problem. A new can was developed that used a small number of intricate thick, flat baffles plus a lithium grease to create "special environment" cells which could cool and slow combus-

tion gases in a much smaller, lighter package than traditional baffle technology. And a recoil regulator device was developed to briefly counter the inertial effect of the suppressor's weight on the barrel when the gun was fired.

Upon firing, combustion gases leaving the barrel drive the main suppressor body and the recoil regulator's outer collar away from the barrel, giving the barrel a momentary relief from the suppressor's burden. Meanwhile, the same pressure drives the barrel and the recoil regulator's piston in the opposite direction, which applies enough energy to the barrel assembly to initiate proper slide movement for reliable semiautomatic cycling. The rearward piston travel compresses the regulator's spring, which then returns the piston for firing the next round. Unlike the Warp 6 suppressor (evaluated in the September 1991 issue of MGN), the recoil regulator forms an integral part of the suppressor at the rear of the can. Furthermore, an interesting feature of the Nexus regulator is that the device can be turned on and off at will Turning the regulator on or off takes les than 4 seconds.

This gives the operator two interesting tactical choices. The recoil regulator can be turned on to allow multiple hits in semi-automatic mode, where body armor or multiple targets may be encountered. Or the regulator can be turned off to eliminate action noise or to facilitate the recovery of spent brass on those covert missions where shell casings must not be left behind in the operational area.

Using the regulator in the off position as a de facto slide lock warrants further discussion. Using a slide lock on a 9mm pistol with one of Reed Knight's Hush Puppy or Snap-On suppressors dramatically lowers the weapon's sound signature. A slide lock has the same effect on any suppressor using wipes, for this setup significantly increases the residence time of combustion gases in the suppressor, which decreases the amount of energy (sound) escaping from the system per unit time. Turning the Nexus regulator off when using the Colt Model 1911 does not lower the sound signature significantly While this procedure does eliminate the Colt's modest action noise, turning the regulator off actually increases the muzzle signature by slightly more than 1 decibel

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(see Table 1). Worse, pulling the slide back to eject the spent case is very difficult (much more difficult than a 9mm pistol with a slide lock), and the case tends to jam in the action unless the pistol is held upside lown as the slide is pulled back. This was quite frustrating during the sound testing. It would be entirely unacceptable in the tactical environment. I strongly believe that the recoil regulator must be left on by tactical users when firing the Nexus on the Colt Model 1911.

The regulator must be turned off, however, when using the Nexus on fixed-barreled pistols like the H&K P9S to avoid damaging the pistol.

Circumstantial evidence suggests that a 9mm predecessor to the Nexus may have been used in the covert and SpecOps world for some time before AWC brought out the Nexus, but no one at AWC would either confirm or deny this hypothesis. An author of best-selling technothriller novels - who is known to have access to a lot of relatively inaccessible information about the military and clandestine worlds - described a remarkably similar can in .22 rimfire in a recent novel, but the suppressed system in his book could not function as described because the suppressor was mounted on a small pistol of necessarily fixed-barrel design. Thus the Navy SEAL in the novel could not have turned off the can's recoil regulator to eliminate the pistol's action noise. A fixed-barrel pistol would have cycled whether the regulator was turned on or off.

I suspect the inspiration for this passage was a 9mm pistol suppressed with a system very similar to the Nexus. Independent hints of hints and rumors of rumors tend to support the view that a 9mm Nexus-like suppressor has been in the U.S. inventory for some time now, at least in limited num-



The Nexus recoil regulator must be turned off when the suppressor is mounted on the H&K P9S.

bers

The Nexus suppressor is constructed of 304 stainless steel, and it's available in a matt stainless or black chrome sulfide finish. The Nexus is 8.0 inches (20.3 cm) long, 1.4 inches (3.5 cm) in diameter, and weighs 16.0 ounces (450 grams).

The Nexus comes with a threaded 5.5 inch (14.0 cm) barrel, which should be fitted to the gun by a competent gunsmith. I'd also recommend that the gunsmith throat the barrel for improved feeding. The barrel includes a nice thread protector.

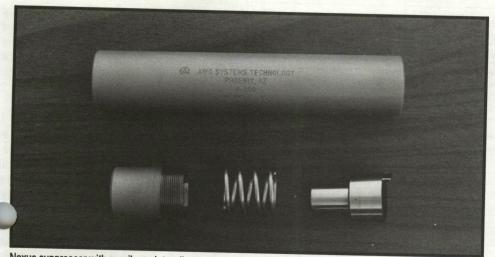
Before firing the suppressor, the rear of the can needs to be charged with a lithium-based grease. A large tube of lithium grease is supplied with the suppressor, and it is readily available locally from any Mobil outlet. Or more can be purchased from AWC. The Nexus manual suggests that more grease should be added after firing three magazines. The only potential tactical liability of this particular grease is that it produces smoke when a round is fired through the Nexus. A nonsmoking lubricant of some sort would be desirable for those applications where disclosure of the operator's location could be disastrous.

Jim Ballou reports that the shaving cream Barbasol works well.

To add grease, grasp the main suppressor tube with the weak hand, and unscrew the collar of the recoil regulator (at the rear of the suppressor) in a counterclockwise direction. Separate the recoil regulator from the main suppressor assembly. Use a wooden pencil, disposable chopstick, or similar implement to coat the inner surfaces of the suppressor with about a tablespoon of lithium grease. Do not block the bullet passage itself, as this might increase back pressure.

Now disassemble the recoil regulator, which consists of the outer collar plus a piston and spring. Wipe the parts clean with a cloth or paper towel. Then smear the piston and the inside of the collar with grease. Insert the protruding tang from the piston into one of the two slots cut into the baffle-retention ring, which is the rearmost fitting inside the suppressor tube. Place the spring over the piston shaft. Then place the regulator collar over the spring. Push down on the collar until it touches the threads inside the suppressor, and turn clockwise until fully seated. It is quite important to make sure the piston remains centered in the collar (it should be flush or extend slightly from the rear of the collar), or the recoil regulator could be damaged when the gun is fired. Now the suppressor can be screwed onto the special barrel as tightly as possible using hand pressure only.

From time to time, the user will want to thoroughly clean the Nexus. Disassemble the Nexus into its four main components as just described. Wipe off as much grease as possible, and soak for several days in a solvent such as Varsol or Kroil or other suitable solvent. Since there are no aluminum components, Hoppe's No. 9 can also be used. After draining, the components can then be washed in hot soapy water. Flush with very hot water, and allow



Nexus suppressor with recoil regulator disassembled into its components: outer collar, spring and piston. The regulator can be turned off in seconds to act as a de facto slide lock.

to drain or blow dry with compressed air. Lubricate and reassemble as already described.

The Nexus, configured as it is after reassembly, will allow the Colt Model 1911 pistol to function reliably in semiautomatic mode. The regulator may be turned off, as previously mentioned, to simulate a slide lock on the Colt or to safely use the can on a fixed-barrel design like the H&K P9S. Before attempting to turn the regulator off, be sure to remove the magazine and clear the weapon first. Close the Colt's slide and lower the hammer on the empty chamber. Check to see if the suppressor is cool enough to handle.

Hold the pistol in the strong hand, and use the weak hand to pull the suppressor away from the gun about 3/16 inch, while twisting the can clockwise as if trying to tighten the suppressor on the barrel. Pulling the can away from the gun will take a lot of effort. Twist the can about 1/4 turn. The recoil regulator is now in the off position. Twisting the can another quarter turn will return the regulator to its normal on position (semiauto operation on the Colt). It is not necessary to pull the can away from the pistol to select the on position; merely twist the can clockwise until a click is heard.

Some suppressors of the complex flat baffle and exotic spacer variety provide excellent sound suppression at the expense of accuracy. This phenomenon occurs because some flat-baffle designs create strong gas jets and turbulence that can impact the bullet as it passes through the suppressor. Therefore, I was most interested in testing the accuracy potential as well as the sound signature of the NexusI measured sound

Sound signature (dB	und signatures in decibels of suppressor tests	Gun
164.	None	Colt Model 1911 w/Colt barrel
163.	None	
135	AWC Nexus, first 7 rounds, regulator on	Colt Model 1911 w/AWC barrel Colt Model 1911
136.	AWC Nexus, first 7 rounds, regulator off	Colt Model 1911
164	None	H&K P9S w/AWC barrel
133	AWC Nexus, first 7 rounds, regulator off	H&K P9S W/AVVC barrer

Sound signature (dB	ole 2 . Net sound reductions in decibels. Suppressor	ALLEY THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE PERSON OF THE
28.		Gun
	AWC Nexus, first 7 rounds, regulator on	Colt Model 1911
27.	AWC Nexus, first 7 rounds, regulator off	Colt Model 1911
30.	AWC Nexus, first 7 rounds, regulator off	H&K P9S

signatures using a Bruel and Kjaer Type 2209 Impulse Precision Sound Pressure Meter (set on A weighting) with a B&K Type 4136 1/4-inch condenser microphone. The microphone was placed 1.00 meter away from the front of the suppressor or muzzle, at an 90 degree angle from the bullet flight path. The meter was calibrated just before and just after the tests with a B&K 4230 calibrator. No instrument drift was observed. The ambient temperature during the tests was 45 degrees Fahrenheit. While I normally test pistol-caliber suppressors with Winchester USA ammunition, none was available at the time of the testing. So I used Fiocchi 230 grain FMJ ammunition. Each mean (average) value represents a minimum of ten rounds, except as noted. Some tests used seven rounds (a full magazine) to get a handle on how many magazine reloads could be fired before the suppressor needed to be repacked with lithium grease.

The test results can be found in Tables 1-4. In a break with tradition, the data are reported to the nearest tenth of a decibel. I

normally report data to the nearest whole decibel for several reasons. The nominal accuracy of the B&K meter is 1 decibel (even though the meter's scale can be easily interpolated to the nearest tenth of decibel). Day-to-day variation due to temperature, altitude, humidity and othe imponderables can exceed 1 decibel. And shot-to-shot variation in suppressed sound signatures far exceeds 0.1 db. So comparing data from different days to the nearest 0.1 dB would not be meaningful.

But I always record data to the nearest 0.1 dB, since I believe the tenths are meaningful on the same day under the same conditions. I use the tenths as a sort of quality control on the testing of uns pressed sound signatures, especially when someone is helping me with the testing. If the unsuppressed signatures vary over a small range, then the quality of the testing is going to be as good as possible when testing the suppressed signatures as well. I'm reporting the Nexus data to the nearest 0.1 dB, since I think this extra detail suggests some trends which may be both real and interesting. I'll return to reporting to the nearest whole decibel in subsequent articles.

The first thing I learned is that Fiocchi ball ammo may be louder than Winchester USA ball. While I was unable to compare their sound signatures under the same test conditions, a variety of prior tests suggest that Winchester ammo may be about 2 decibels quieter than Fiocchi.

The sound signatures listed in Table 1 show some things one would expect, as well as some surprises. The Nexus performed well. And the Colt pistol with Colt 5-inch (12.7 cm) barrel was a bit louder (0.6 dB) than the Colt pistol with 5.5-inch (14.0 cm) AWC barrel. No surprises here.

But here are some things that surprise. me. The Colt pistol with AWC 5.5-inch barrel was 0.5 dB louder than the H&K pistol with AWC 5.5-inch barrel. The

d) sound pressure level.	pressed as fractions of original (unsuppressed	T. L. D. Not sound reductions av
Sound signature (dB)	Suppressor	Table 3. Net sound reductions ex
1/800	AWC Nexus, first 7 rounds, regulator on	Colt Model 1911
1/550	- 1 11 4	Colt Model 1911
1/1,200		

	On Coll Model 1911 M	vithout repacking suppl		Cut Man
1st Mag	2nd Mag	3rd Mag	4th Mag	5th Mag
135.5	138.6	140.5	139.2	143.1
132.2	135.9	141.1	141.6	142.5
133.4	134.4	139.2	141.1	141.8
136.4	137.1	140.1	140.0	140.7
135.3	137.7	140.4	141.9	141.
136.5	134.9	142.1	144.1	140.
136.1	138.9	143.1	141.6	141.
MEAN	MEAN	MEAN	MEAN	MEA
135.1	136.8	140.9	141.4	141.

Nexus was 1.4 dB quieter on the P9S with both pistols firing in semiautomatic mode. And perhaps the biggest surprise was that the sound signature of the Nexus on the Colt was actually 1.3 dB louder with the ecoil regulator turned off. This contrasts with AWC's Warp 6 suppressor, which was 3-4 db quieter without its recoil regulator.

Perhaps the following may explain these surprises. It appears that the "delayed blowback" P9S (H&K doesn't like this term) may absorb more gas energy during the action cycle than the "short recoil" Colt. Less remaining energy means the gas produces less sound as it leaves the pistol barrel. So the P9S is quieter than the Colt. If the Nexus suppressor is slightly more efficient with lower velocity gas, then the suppressed P9S would be quieter than the Colt in semiautomatic mode.

The Colt may be quieter with the regulator turned on (semiautomatic mode) because the work performed in cycling the action absorbs a significant amount of energy from the combustion gases. But the more likely explanation is that operating in semiautomatic mode allows some gas to escape from the ejection port, so less gas escapes from the muzzle of the suppressor as sound.

The net sound reductions shown in Table 2 show excellent performance for a small .45 caliber suppressor. A .45 caliber Cobray M10 suppressor with virgin wipe provides a 17 dB reduction. A Maxim Model 1910 silencer gives a 22 dB reduction, and a Precision Arms SO45 suppressor provides a 26 dB reduction.

For those folks more comfortable with expressing sound reduction as the fraction of the original, unsuppressed sound pressure level as shown in Table 3 - the Cobray reduced the sound pressure level to 1/50 of the unsuppressed level. The Maxim reduced the sound pressure level to 1/150, and the SO45 reduced the pressure to 1/400. The Nexus is clearly the quietest suppressor, reducing the sound pressure level (when in semiautomatic mode) to 1/800 on the Colt Model 1911 and 1/1,200 on the H&K P9S.

There remains the question of how frequently the suppressor should be repacked with lithium grease. In a sense, this is a purely academic question for the professional operator, since all surprise on a mission would have been lost before the first magazine was emptied. If action coninued after seven or eight rounds, the professional would want to remove the suppressor at the earliest possible moment to improve the speed of target acquisition.

PARTS!	PARTS!	PARTS!	PARTS!		PARTS!	PARTS!	PARTS!	PARTS!	PARTS!	PARTS!
Ann	37M	M Flare	Launche	er!			M-	1 Garano	41	
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M-10 OF A	VH-15, h	andguard in	ncluded. N	ot to be		Trigger Hou	sing: New	Stripped	SAFO	10.00
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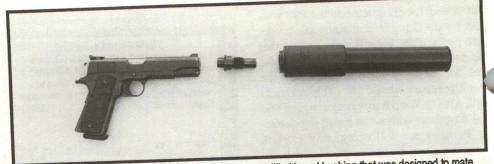
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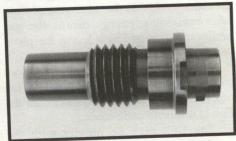
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An early attempt to suppress a .45 caliber pistol used a modified barrel bushing that was designed to mate the Military Armament Corporation M10 submachine gun suppressor to the Colt Model 1911 and its clones.



Maxim Model 1910 and Cobray M10 suppressors. The Maxim is about the same size as the Nexus.



Close-up view of a special Cobray barrel bushing.

This question is relevant, however, for training and sporting applications. Table 4 shows the sound signatures of 35 rounds fired consecutively (without repacking a freshly packed can), with 1 minute of rest between each 7-round magazine. These data show that AWC's recommended repacking after 3 magazines is probably conservative at that rate of fire (about 1 round every 45 seconds).

Adult shooters standing a meter from the suppressor could barely tell the difference between 140.9 dB (the mean sound signature of the third magazine) and 141.7 dB (the mean signature of the fifth magazine). So adding grease after five magazines instead of three is probably acceptable from a suppression point of view. I'm not sure if this would accelerate wear of the regulator's piston and collar, however, since no grease remained in the rearmost chamber of the can or on the piston after 35 rounds.

Furthermore, the slide did not cycle as positively during the fourth and fifth magazines. While there were no failures to feed, the slide barely cycled on several occasions during the course of firing the last two magazines. So AWC's recommendation of repacking the Nexus with grease after three magazines is probably good advice. The Nexus would function flawlessly for the first three magazines, and continued to perform reliably and quietly for another two magazines without repacking. Following the guidelines in the suppressor's excellent manual should maximize the performance and lifespan of the system.

The final question to be resolved is ac-

curacy. Frank Smith of Bob's Tactical and Jim Ballou conducted the accuracy testing. They used a Series 70 Colt with King Tappen sights that had tritium inserts. The sights were tall enough to clear the suppressor's profile. Smith was able to consistently obtain 1-inch five-shot groups at 25 yards. Clearly the exotic baffle design of the Nexus does not degrade accuracy.

The accuracy exhibited by the Nexus with its AWC barrel exceeds the JSOC requirement that the new offensive pistol must deliver groups no larger than 2.5 inches at 25 yards. The Colt Model 1911 with Nexus suppressor could provide the law-enforcement community and qualified civilians with a system that could function well in the tactical environment envisioned by JSOC. An accessory "active aiming module" (a flashlight for target identification and illumination for iron sights, or a laser) could be added to the receiver in front of the trigger guard. Tritium iron sights and an optical sight could be added. And magazine capacity could be increased to 13 rounds by replacing the Colt frame with one from Para-Ordnance. Thus, one could build a pistol with capabilities similar to the JSOC offensive pistol with off-the-shelf components. The key ingredient is the outstanding Nexus suppressor.

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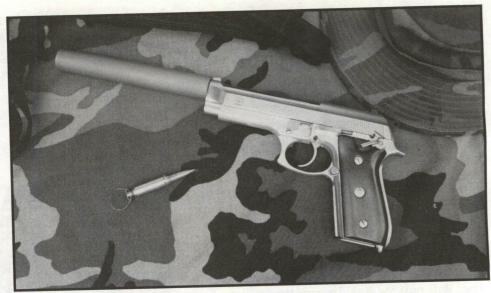
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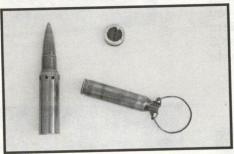
had just received one of AWC's wipeless Warp 6 9mm suppressors for a customer, and I was impressed. By utilizing what is becoming known as "wet technology", AWC has managed to achieve sound reduction heretofore unobtainable in a tube approaching in size the dinky so-called "silencers" of movie lore.

Wet technology notwithstanding, there are several advantages to be had by going with a wipeless design, like the Warp 6, over older "wiped" suppressors, such as the Hush Puppy. Accuracy is vastly improved, since the bullet doesn't touch anything on its flight to freedom; silencing is actually enhanced by eliminating the sound of the slug striking the wipes (a factor often overlooked); and - important to those of us who own suppressors for recreational purposes the unit doesn't have to be returned to the manufacturer every 25-50 rounds to have the shot-out wipes replaced!

The Warp-series suppressors do have one idiosyncrasy: for them to operate at peak efficiency, their innards need to be kept moist. This helps the propellent gases to cool more quickly - and is a key to achieving such a high degree of suppression in such a small package. The end certainly justifies the means, but it requires that, after 15 to 20 shots, the interior of the device be treated to a little "liquid refreshment".

You can "wet" the inside of your silencer with any number of noncombustible substances (as Al Paulson so graphically illustrated in "Warp 3", MGN, Oct. '91), but AWC advises spraying the interior with a Teflon-treated lubricant like Break Free, then filling the chamber immediately in front of the threaded end (where the suppressor attaches to the muzzle) with lithium





(Clockwise, from top)
Case head, 5.56mm "plunger", 7.62mm "syringe".

base grease. They even supply a large container of the latter. However, the Warp 6 is a sealed unit, so you can't unscrew the end-cap to perform this task, and poking the suggested tablespoonful of the slippery stuff into the small opening at the rear of the tube, then packing it into the chamber, is not the world's easiest (or tidiest) job!

The suppressor came packed with grease, but considerable test-firing had pretty much blown it dry, and it was in need of a fresh "lube job" before heading out to the range for another session.

After surveying the tube of lubricant (which has a slightly heavier consistency than Vasoline), and contemplating the messy task of smearing it down inside the can, it seemed that there should be a better instrument for the job than a popsicle stick or a No. 2 pencil. What was needed here was some type of syringe that could be inserted to a precise depth, and, with a stroke of the thumb, would apply the proper amount of grease to the proper place.

Not having anything ready-made at hand, I was sitting at my workbench mulling over the problem. Looking around for something the correct size, I idly picked up a loaded .308 cartridge and dropped it, bullet first, into the hole at the rear of the can. It went in approximately two inches, stopping when the shoulder of the case contacted the rear-most internal baffle, which comprised the forward wall of the



To use, lube-filled .308 case is inserted into rear of suppressor...



...where a stroke of .223 "plunger" neatly applies lubrication to grease chamber.

chamber that needed filling. Eureka! It hit me that I had just found the "body" for my "syringe".

The first step was to empty out the powder charge and deaden the primer. The afest way to do this is to carefully pull the bullet, dump the powder, then, pointing the muzzle in a safe direction, fire the primed case in a suitable firearm.

After accomplishing this, I measured the inside of the case to determine the depth of the powder chamber, and marked the outside to show where the chamber ends and the case head begins. After reseating and crimping the bullet, I put a cutting disk in my Dremel tool and sliced the head from the case at the place I had marked.

I discovered that the head of a .223 cartridge fit fairly snugly into the body cavity of the .308 case I had just chopped in two; this would be my "plunger". I drilled a small hole in the case neck and inserted a wire ring, so that the smaller case would be easier to hold onto when covered with the slippery lube.

Next, I reinserted the .308 case as deeply as it would go into the rear of the suppressor, and scribed the brass at the point where it protruded. With this as a reference, I used an inside-measuring caliper to determine, and mark, the points where the front and rear walls of the grease chamber lined up on the body of my improvised syringe.

Clamping the case horizontically in the vise on my drill press table, and using a fine, 3/32" bit, I drilled a series of eight small holes around the circumference of the case, staying within the marks delineating the limits of the silencer's rear chamber. That was all there was to it.

The lubricant can be scooped into the body of the home-made syringe, or the open end pushed slowly down into the grease until the case is filled, then the outside wiped clean with a paper towel. (The grease is a little too thick, and the plunger's fit too loose, to simply draw lubricant into the case by pulling back on the plunger.) When ready for use, the bullet-end is dropped into the suppressor, the head of the .223 case inserted, and with two or three quick strokes, the chamber is filled by eight simultaneous streams of lube squirting exactly where they need to go. If required, it would be a fairly simple matter to make up a half-dozen or more of these applicators and take them into the field in a zip-lock ag, ready for instant use. If nothing else, the gadget was easy to make, and the price was right ... about a dime, the cost of a single loaded round of Pakistani 7.62. MGN

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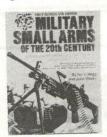
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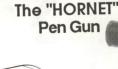


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Class 10



Wisconsin Practical Pistol League 1st Annual Submachine Gun Match

Text by Rich Morey and Dan Varner Photos by Dan Varner

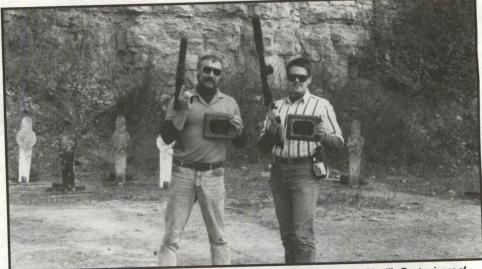
The idea for a submachine gun match had been on the back burner at the Wisconsin Practical Pistol League for quite a while. There are a surprising number of SMG owners and full-auto enthusiasts in Wisconsin. When the news of an SMG only match was circulated via the southern Wisconsin IPSC and USPSA club newsletters the response was pleasurably surprising. Almost twenty shooters had preregistered, with a total of twenty-four competing. Course designer Rich Morey shot but was not included in the placings. The course was scored by IPSC rules.

The first stage consisted of SMG basics, accuracy, control, and speed. The first string was one full IPSC silhouette at thirty-something yards. The shooter had ten seconds to engage the target with ten rounds. Five points were deducted for each overtime shot.

The next string was fired from the same spot. Control was measured, starting with ten rounds on signal fire one continuous burst at the fifteen yard target. The shooter fired until empty or until the gun climbed off target. Some otherwise competent shooters found out that on full throttle they couldn't hit beans. No penalty was given for misses but a shooter scored zero if more than one burst was fired.

The last string was speed. Starting with a full magazine loaded, gun at port arms. On signal the shooter engaged the five targets at seven yards with a minimum of two rounds each. Time stopped with the last shot. Part of the reasoning behind keeping the first stage vanilla simple was to ensure everyone was familiar with the gun they would be using, because the next two stages weren't simple.

Stage two was Hostage Rescue with swingers and clankers. On the signal the shooter moved into a doorway engaging the shoot targets in any order. The swinging target was activated by a pepper popper. The time was stopped by knocking down an eight inch diameter stop plate at about forty feet. Dropping the stop plate became the undoing of several shooters who ran out of ammo before it fell. The last stage is a WPPL classic, its a Riot. Your facing



Left: Rich Wisch winner of Top Mac Trophy. Right: Deputy Jay Smith - Sauk Co. Sheriffs Dept. winner of Top Open Bolt Trophy.



Dodge Co. SWAT Team: Walter Orlandi, Steve Allerman winner of Top Closed bolt Trophy, Jim Rohr and Tony Soblewskii.

eighteen enraged and threatening pepper poppers, gun at port arms eigar elenched in your teeth (optional), how fast can you take em down? A penalty of ten seconds for each target left standing, no time limit. Nobody ran out of ammo on this stage. One shooter scored zero when his borrowed UZI with a suppressor began to disassemble itself, no points were awarded for launching the suppressor packing twenty feet downrange. But the owner of the gun gave him a big E

for effort, for breaking an UZI.

Steve Allerman dominated the event, posting high score on four of five strings. Steve has been there, having served in the Marines in Vietnam, and most recently with the Marine Reserve in Iraq. Steve is a Dodge County Sheriffs Deputy, and charge of firearm training for the department. Another deputy, this time from Sauk County, finished third overall and won top open bolt class on a borrowed gun he fired

Machine Gun News - May 1992

The Shoot List

by Seth R. Nadel

s there anyone among us who has ever gone to a big shoot without forgetting something? Not me! It seems that I can't go to a shoot without leaving something important on my workbench. One time I drove all the way to a shoot out in the boonies, only to discover that all my magazines were still at home. Frustration with these mental lapses (brain fade??) lead me to start keeping lists.

One other step is to bag my gear by use. One bag always has eye and ear protection, elbow guards, PACT Mark III, brass bags, staples and tape. This bag goes with me for any kind of shooting. Another bag has some food, a small stove, wet towels, T.P., and other incidentals for a shoot away from creature comforts.

This is my general machine gun shoot list, which I check off prior to leaving. So far, my frustration level is down, and my fun meter gets pegged at each shoot. I hope it proves as useful to you. Heck, if you like it, perhaps I'll get to run a belt or so through your pet MG.

Machinegun Shoot Checklist. **Personal Material** ☐ Bore brushes ☐ Ear protection ☐ T.P. and Shovel Patches □ Eye protection □ Medicine Solvent sunglasses ☐ Bug Juice Lubricant clear (for night shoot) □ Sun Screen ☐ Rags Clothing ☐ Flashlight + Batteries **PACT MG timer** ☐ Boots Lightsticks ☐ Timer ☐ Cool/Cold weather jacket First Aid Kit □ Batteries ☐ Rain gear ☐ Fire Extinguisher Ammo ☐ Hat Coleman Lamp □ .45 Reloads & Factory ☐ Gloves ☐ Garbage Bags 9mm Reloads & Factory ☐ Elbow guards Guns 7.62mm belted & loose Food O A 8mm belted & loose ☐ Meals + snacks 1. Drum 30.06 loose ☐ Coleman stove + fuel 2. Stick mags ☐ 303 loose □ Eating/cleanup tools ☐ 5.56 Reloads and Factory Drink 1.Mags ☐ Tracers ☐ Water O C ☐ Brass box or bags Cool drinks in cooler 1.Belting Machine **Pyrotechnics** Hot drinks & way to heat 1a. C clamp Trip Flares Shelter 2.Other barrel & Parts Pop Flares ☐ Ground Cloth (for brass) **Smoke Grenades** Shade OE **Road Flares** ☐ Tent **Cleaning Gear** □ Bright Tape □ Sleeping Bag ☐ Cleaning Rod

Notes: Always take more water than you think you might need! Make sure your first aid kit can handle any major emergency - band aids will not help a major puncture wound. Learn how to use what is in your first aid kit. Reloads are fired in my

guns ONLY. Factory ammo will repay the kindness of those who let me try their guns. Are your pyrotechnics safe, and do you really know how to use them?

Have Fun!

Overall	Name	Basics 1	Basics 2	Basics 3	consin SMG Cha	Riot	Total	Place	SMG
01	Steve Allermann	47	20	50.00	50.00	90.00	257.00	1st Closed Bolt	MP5
02	Richard Morey	39	44	43.87	34.97	83.70	245.54	Tot Global Box	Sten
03	Tony Soblewski	27	36	40.72	34.04	82.17	219.93	FELD systems & U	MP5
04	Jay Smith	34	41	28.90	40.14	71.39	215.70	1st Open Bolt	Sten
05	Rob Arntzen	33	44	34.48	23.93	53.47	188.88	ald we cahe and a C.	Sten
06	Erik Bruce	35	45	33.46	22.62	51.57	187.65	TO BE THE PERSON OF THE PERSON	THE LITTLE
07	Ken Wagner	34	39	25.03	34.38	53.91	186.32		UZI
08	Dave Bruce	35	43	30.51	0	74.79	183.30	Management of the State of the	MP40
09	Jim Rohr	39	26	45.10	0	72.27	182.37		UZI
10	Walter Orlandoni	39	31	34.39	21.37	48.87	174.63		MP5

for the first time at the match. It was decided well beforehand that due to the depth of some of the strings, some targets at thirty plus yards that MACs would have their own top award, as well as competing in the open bolt class. Local IPSC/USPSA fast guy Rich Wisch did quite well in some strings with what is probably one of the most difficult SMGs to shoot well. The 92 match to be held in the spring on March 28th. For information on the next shoot contact Rich Morey 408 Blueview Dr. Mt. Horeb, WI 53572.





ard Machine's Red Ryder rifle is the stealthiest, zaniest suppressed .22 I've ever seen. Bill Ward takes the classic Daisy Red Ryder BB gun (which was first introduced in 1938) and builds a single-shot suppressed rifle into the BB gun's mechanism, so you can't tell from the outside that this is anything other than what it appears to be... a BB gun.

Even the weights are so similar that the rifle still appears to be a BB gun. The empty air rifle weighs 38.2 ounces (1,083 grams), while the .22 suppressed rifle weighs 50.7 ounces (1,437 grams). While that may seem like a lot more weight for the suppressed rifle on paper, the rifle only weighs 3.2 pounds, which seems way too light to be anything but an air rifle when you heft it. You can even hear BBs rattling around inside the suppressed rifle. That's a

really nice touch! The original safety works too.

To load the rifle, push the safety button (just behind the trigger) from left to right so the red band disappears. Open the lever as if cocking the gun. Turn the rifle upside down, with the muzzle pointed down about 15 degrees, and drop in a cartridge between the front of the lever and the barrel. Shorts and longs normally plop partially into the chamber, and then they can be fully chambered with the lever. Sometimes long rifle cartridges will hang up and require a bit of jiggling, but that's no big deal. Upon rare occasion, the cartridge may end up backwards. Just turn the rifle rightside up, catch the cartridge in your free hand, and try again.

An idiosyncrasy of the Red Ryder suppressed rifle is that the lever must be held tightly against the stock when firing, since this is necessary to lock the bolt closed during ignition. My natural hold placed the knuckle of my middle finger too close to the trigger guard portion of the handle, which painfully stung the knuckle. I soon learned to modify my grip to place plenty of space between my middle finger and th trigger guard. Only the CB longs did not produce this problem. The rifle shot pretty close to the point of aim with the gun's original sights.

The only real liability with the rifle's design is that you can't get at the chamber with a cleaning brush from the rear. But then, the Red Ryder suppressed rifle was designed to be a nifty toy, not a serious shootin' iron digesting hundreds of rounds in an afternoon. And this rifle is indeed nifty. It's too bad Ward has only built six of these wonderful toys.

Bill Ward has been building Title 2 toys for several decades. He built a drum-fed, full-auto shotgun 18 years ago, and a variety of interesting toys since then. Ward is now making a suppressed .22 rifle based on a patent to his friend Gary Richardson that uses a hidden suppressor in the stock. The original barrel, barrel contour and markings are kept. The system uses a single port to vent combustion gases into the suppressor. His submachine gun cans are used by police departments in Huntsville, Alabama, and Corpus Christi Texas, among others. But Ward builds suppressors as a hobby, not as a business. He actually makes his living building flowmeasurement equipment for the oil



Right side of Red Ryder silenced .22 rifle (top) and unmodified BB gun (bottom). The most conspicuous difference is the color of the medallions inletted into the walnut stock.

industry, with clients in the Middle East and Far East. (He owns Richardson Machine.) Bill builds suppressors at his home's 1,400 square foot machine shop just for grins.

I measured sound signatures of the Red yder suppressed rifle using a Bruel and Kjaer Type 2209 Impulse Precision Sound Pressure Meter (set on A weighting) with a B&K Type 4136 1/4-inch condenser microphone. The microphone was placed 1.00 meter away from the front of the suppressor or muzzle, at an 90 degree angle from the bullet flight path. The meter was calibrated just before and just after the tests with a B&K 4230 calibrator. No instrument drift was observed. The ambient temperature during the tests was 60 degrees Fahrenheit. I used a Ruger 77/22 to obtain unsuppressed data for comparison. Five kinds of ammunition were tested: Federal high velocity LR, Hansen standard velocity target LR, RWS subsonic LR, Federal CB longs, and CCI Mini Mag short hollowpoints. The shorts would not feed from the Ruger rotary magazine and so were fed into the chamber by hand. A standard Red Ryder BB gun was also shot for comparison. Velocities were measured using a P.A.C.T. MKIII timer/chronograph with MKV skyscreens set 24.0 inches apart and the start screen 8.0 feet from the muze. At least ten shots were fired in each test obtain a valid statistical sample.

The Red Ryder BB gun produced a sound signature of 101 decibels and a

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Both the pivot point of the cocking lever and its length of throw are different on the Ward Red Ryder suppressed rifle (top) than the original Daisy BB gun (bottom).

	Section Comments	1. Sound Sig	natures in Deci	bels Of Suppr	ressor Tests.		of a single
Gun	Suppressor	Federal HV	Hansen SV	RWS SS	Federal CB Longs	CCI Shorts	Temperature
Ruger 77/22	None	141	137	136	130	135	60
Red Ryder	Ward	130	126	125	118	126	60
Marlin 780	None	143	140	140	134		83

1712017	NAME OF THE PARTY	Table 2	Net Sound Re	ductions In De	ecibels.		- Fudique
Gun	Suppressor	Federal HV	Hansen SV	RWS SS	Federal CB Longs	CCI Shorts	Temperature
Red Ryder	Ward	11	11	11	12	9	60
Marlin 780	Ciener	19	19	25	23	KDARE YEL	83

	Miles Control of the	With the state of	sed As Fraction	STATE OF STATE OF		y ooulid Ficas	ure Level.
Gun	Suppressor	Federal HV	Hansen SV	RWS SS	Federal CB Longs	CCI Shorts	Temperature
Red Ryder	Ward	1/13	1/13	1/13	1/16	1/8	66
Marlin 780	Ciener	1/80	1/80	1/300	1/200		

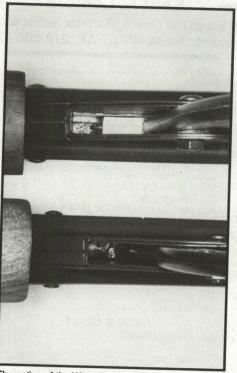
projectile velocity of 246 feet per second. That signature is only 1/10,000 of the sound pressure level produced by Federal high velocity ammunition fired in a Ruger 77/22. The OSS silenced HD military pistol used by spooks during World War II has been frequently reported to sound like a BB gun. It has a sound signature of 132 decibels with Federal high velocity ammunition, which is only 1/8 the sound pressure level produced by Federal ammo fired in a Ruger 77/22. That OSS pistol produces a thousand times the sound pressure

sure level of a BB gun! (If you ever doubted that the ear functions in a logarithmic rather than linear fashion — there's the proof.)

I mention this thousand-fold discrepancy as a frame of reference when you read anecdotal descriptions of suppressed firearms. Many suppressed firearms have been described as sounding like a BB gun. While they may have been excellent suppressors, chances are they were a lot louder than a BB gun. One's recollection of sound levels tends to be less than perfect. Who of us has not turned on their car's ignition to discover that the radio was left on at an impossibly high volume? Clearly, measuring sound signatures with appropriate equipment provides the most reliable comparisons.

Tables 1-3 compare the sound data from tests of the Red Ryder suppressed rifle with an earlier test of the Marlin 780 bolt-action rifle with Ciener integral suppressor. Tables 4 and 5 compare velocity data. The Ward suppressor in the Red Ryder is significantly louder than the Marlin 780 with Ciener suppressor. The Red Ryder does not deliver good sound reduction according to modern standards, but the sound signatures and amount of sound reduction are similar to tests with a Maxim Model 1921 suppressor (which will be evaluated in a forthcoming issue of MGN). Thus, the performance of the Red Ryder's suppressor could be called "barely adequate" in terms of cold, hard facts. One's subjective opinion with RWS subsonic LR and Federal CB longs, however, is kinder than the numbers might suggest.

The velocities produced by the Red



The action of the Ward Red Ryder suppressed rifle (top) is widened and reinforced. Note the bolt and powder residue in the modified action. And unmodified action is shown for comparison.

Ryder rifle are higher than the suppressed Marlin. If the Ward integral suppressor had dropped the velocities as much as the Ciener suppressor, chances are the Red Ryder rifle would have been quieter.

Nevertheless, shooting the Red Ryder rifle was a delicious experience with CB longs and RWS subsonic long rifle ammunition. Shooting the other ammunition was fun too, but not nearly as impressive. Furthermore, the thin, but reinforced sheetmetal receiver and somewhat delicate two-stage collapsible firing pin suggest that high velocity ammo should be avoided. Ward agrees.

Another reason to stick with the milder ammo is that I experienced about a 20 percent failure to eject spent cases with the Federal high velocity ammunition. I only experienced one other failure to eject with lower-velocity ammunition. These failures were easily cleared with a cleaning rod.

I'd recommend using only CB longs and subsonic long rifles when you want to impress your friends and neighbors. Personally, I'd stick with CB longs.

The Daisy Red Ryder suppressed rifle is not a robust rifle for serious field use. It's a rifle inside a BB gun. It's a zany toy. It's the perfect grown-up toy for someone who cherished a Red Ryder BB gun as a child. Certainly, the best Christmas I ever had as

The state of	Suppressor	Federal HV	And Unsuppre	RWS SS	Federal CB Longs		Temperature
Ruger 77/22		1,256	1,129	988	643	1,192	60
Red Ryder		1,082	982	823	542	1,052	
Marlin 780		1,297	1,172	1,044	707	-	8

		Table 5. Pe	ercent Reduct	ons Of Bullet \	elocities.		
Gun	Suppressor	Federal HV	Hansen SV	RWS SS	Federal CB Longs	CCI Shorts	Temperature
Red Ryder	Ward	14	13	17	16	12	60
Marlin 780	Ciener	18	16	18	20	A THE CO. SI-	and a deal

a youngster was the year I got a Red Ryder BB gun. The Red Ryder was the most glamorous, adventurous toy I could imagine. More than that, the responsibility of receiving the first gun that shot something other than water meant that I had reached the second major benchmark in growing up. (The first major achievement was the day I got my first pocket knife.) I remember both days as if they were yesterday.

I hadn't thought about those momentous occasions until the Red Ryder suppressed rifle arrived from Bill Ward. Playing with the suppressed Red Ryder brought a flood of rich and wonderful memories that I had lost. Ward had built the rifle for Capt. Monty Mendenhall, who

had Bill transfer the gun to me for testing. After waiting nearly a year, with all the building anticipation of boyhood, Monty let me play with the new Red Ryder before he even saw it. If that's not friendship, I don't know what is.

So my thanks to Bill Ward and Monty Mendenhall for the experience. The suppressed Red Ryder rifle proved to be a delicious toy that conjured up wonderful boyhood memories as well. I'll bask in that glow for a long, long time. MGN

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The Forms

by Dan Shea



t's hard to follow up an issue like last month, where The Forms did the the Form 5 and all of the BATF statistics, but I think I can with just one chart. I've finally gotten the total breakdown on Special Occupational Taxpayers from NFA Branch. I'm sure you all have wondered how many competitors or comrades in arms you have in the Class 3 business. This state by state breakdown includes the importers and manufacturers, even showing which category they pay tax in, the \$1000 per year for companies that gross over \$500,000 per year and the Reduced Rate (RR) so that companies with a gross less than \$500,000 per year pay only \$500 per year. I would venture to guess that some of the Class 2 manufacturers are over paying, and should review before the July 1 tax is due. It is interesting to note that there are only 415 Class 2 manufacturers, and 2259 Class 3 dealers. Before the jump in the tax rate to \$500 per year, there were typically over 4000 class 3's each year - I'll try and get the exact figures - but remember that the ATF four digit I.D. numbers had gone to five digits in 1988!

Next month we're going to review the yearly tax process for Special Occupational Taxpayers, and include the form that most Class 2's don't know that they are required to file - the Form 4587.

Q Recently, a friend of mine became deceased. Just prior to his death he told me the location of a Lahti 20 mm rifle. I've known this guy for years, never knew of this weapon. I also, never was able to find out whether it was ever papered. As a newcomer to the world of Class 3 & 10 and a reader of your magazine my question is:

Do you know of any avenues that I could take as to finding the status of this rifle without "you know who" breaking down my door? And also should this DD be papered, what steps are necessary to take ownership. My friend was a stand up guy and I don't really think he would have kept an unregistered weapon, but I'm just not sure. What do I do? Any options: Re-Chambering to 50 Cal, Dewatting??

Frustrated.

A It's not a tough call when you find an unregistered NFA weapon-the law requires

you to turn it in to BATF. The best bet is to call BATF from a payphone at 202-927-8330 and ask if it is in the registry, or get some friend in a Police department to call for you. Have the trustee of the estate call, or a savy lawyer. If it is registered, you can have it transfered out of the estate by the trustee to you, on a Form 4 or 5 depending if you can be considered an heir. Please take care of the widow financially on this, it is worth \$1500-\$3200 depending on the condition and accessories. Half that is a reasonable offer, and your friend probably paid \$79.95 for it way back. Look for ammo too, it's hard to find and expensive. If it is not registered, it may be that your friend had separated the 20mm barrel from the receiver, in which case you could put a 50 cal barrel on it and it would be a regular Title I firearm, treated as a rifle. If the 20mm barrel is with the gun, it must be turned in to BATF. You can file a Form 1 to manufacture it as a Destructive Device, then find a 20mm barrel for it at a show, but possession of the unregistered receiver and a 20mm barrel is illegal possession of an unregistered Destructive Device, which is worth 10 years in jail, and/or \$10,000 in fines. I would advise keeping whatever you do within the law.

Q Perhaps you can help explain a minor SNAFU at the BATF/NFA Branch. This problem is an old one in that it is of the time required to transfer weapons from Dealer to Dealer and also to individuals on a tax paid Form 4. One example is a tax paid transfer submitted on or about Oct. 25, 1991. I called BATF on Jan. 24, 1992 and they stated they were waiting on the FBI fingerprint cards which were sent out on Dec. 4, 1991. They also stated they would continue to wait until this application had sat dormant for a period of 90 days before they would even follow up on resubmitting the second set of prints.

Is this being understaffed or simply procrastination at its finest? Also, you don't believe that just because an examiner sometimes does not come in on Mondays and leaves early on Fridays would contribute to a slowdown do you?

Thanks, Bill A Naw, I'd never believe that had anything to do with it. I've explained the transfer process many times in this column, and in the Machine Gun Dealers Bible, so I won't bore the readers with it. Suffice it to say there are some examiners that are radiant jewels in the triple crown of courtesy, professionalism, and efficiency. Then there are some world class boneheads. If you have some serious complaints about your transfer times, contact Wayne Miller at 202-927-8330, he's in charge of NFA Branch, and his name is on the bottom of every transfer that leaves there. He may be annoyed at all of the calls he's about to get, but every executive should be aware of inefficiency in his organization, it is ultimately his reputation on the line. Ask George Bush. Please remember to point out any good personnel or actions, working for us can be very demanding. If your examiner is totally incompetent, they may assign you a totally new one.

Interesting anecdote regarding weird things that can happen in transfers:

A fellow Class 3 dealer called me up last May, and in a rather stunned voice described how he had called NFA Branch in Washington to check on a transfer, and the man who was his examiner all of a sudden started to laugh and said "O-my-God, the buildings on fire!" then hung up. Three days later he called and was talking to a woman examiner who all of a sudden shouted "I think there's a fire!" then laughed and hung up.

My friend was feeling unwanted, uncared for, and unloved. He wanted to know if I'd ever heard of this response to a request for transfer information, to which I had to reply in the negative.

I consoled him with the explanation that it couldn't have been his breath over the phone, it was probably a psychological phenomena on either their part or his.

If it was NFA Branch's problem, we can attribute it to stress similar to shell shock, for this was around the period when they moved, and were training personel. If it wasn't them, I reminded my friend tha wore his headband awful tight back in the 60's.

If anyone either went through the same

or similar "Twilight Zone" adventures with NFA, we'd love to hear them, as long as you can convince us that it really happened. Q With regard to S & W'S Model 270 Line rower (Feb.'92 - The Forms) I recall ding BATF'S guidelines to except powder actuated tools (Line throwers, stud drivers, explosion welding etc.) because they really are not weapons. Having seen line throwers used in heavy weather on ships at sea, there really isn't any other practical way to do the job. According to this, the line thrower is not a firearm under GCA. Correct me if I'm wrong.

Respectfully, Mark W.

A Mark, the defining problem here is that the 270 will chamber a 12 gauge shell, and Technology Branch is calling it an AOW. How it was let out without being classified is a mystery to me, but not that unusual. Technology is full of "monday morning quarterbacks", who make some very bizarre calls. One of the pet projects right now is that a suppressed rifle with a barrel under 16" in length is actually two NFA firearms - a suppressor and a Short Barreled Rifle, needing two \$200 tax stamps. Up until a short while ago, if the barrel was ported it was considered part of the suppressor. Are all of the suppressed rifles out there

ing to be retro-actively assessed another stamp? I can only pass on what the

regulatory agency tells me.

Q A local Class 3 dealer told me that some non-machine gun states allow you to own a Class 3 weapon as personal property when you move there from another state. I purchased the Machine Gun Dealers Bible in hope to find an answer to this question, but didn't see this issue addressed. Is this personal property issue true and which states would allow a Class 3 type weapon possession under this condition.

Thanks, R. K.

A Was the Class 3 dealer trying to sell you a gun at the time that he told you that? Seriously, there is no grandfathering of private ownership the way things are right now. There are some interesting court cases coming up that will address whether the government can regulate your private property, and even (hopefully) some constitutional challenges on the Second Ammendment grounds. BATF will not approve a Form 5320 into the controlled nes, but try and remember that exactly o has Title II firearms is privileged tax information, and the Feds are not authorized to go and hand it out. Some slip through, but most get caught as (continues)

STATE	IMPORT CLASS I	IMPORT CLASS I (RR)	MFG. CLASS II	MFG. CLASS II(RR)	DEALER CLASS III	TOTAL
ALABAMA	2	0	1	0	34	
ALASKA	0	0	0	2	31	
ARIZONA	4	1	10	13	91	1
ARKANSAS	1	0	3	2	19	
CALIFORNIA	11	1	15	16	82	1
COLORADO	0	184 WO1	2	4	39	
CONNECTICUT	1	2	6	5	77	DE QUAN
DELAWARE	1	0	hasa 1	0	0	aved
D.C.	0	0	0	0	2	garden
FLORIDA	8	3	11	22	203	2
GEORGIA	2	1	5	9	82	
HAWAII	0	0	0	0	0	
IDAHO	0	0	0	8	9	
ILLINOIS	4	1	8	11	89	Salar I
INDIANA	0	0	0	5	60	. west
IOWA	0	0	insw 1	miscion 1	16	ol cains
KANSAS	2	0	2	1	19	Sunds ?
KENTUCKY	0	as leading	0	3	23	al Pus
LOUISIANA	0	0	1	2	59	of their
MAINE	1	0	5	1	9	-M Vide
MARYLAND	4	0	3	10	49	
MASSACHUSSETS	1	1	7	7	40	THE STATE OF
MICHIGAN	6	1	2	7	57	
MINNESSOTA	0	0	0	6	17	
MISSISSIPPI	0	0	0	1	21	
MISSOURI	3	0	4	7	57	
MONTANA	0	2	0	1	10	
NEBRASKA	0	0	0	1	13	
NEVADA	0	2	3	5	38	
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1	0	- 2	4	21	
NEW JERSEY	1	0	0	1	21	
NEW MEXICO	0	0	3	3	16	
NEW YORK	0	1	3	5	22	
NORTH CAROLINA	0	1	1	7	79	
NORTH DAKOTA	0	0	0	2	4	
OHIO	2	0	7	16	134	1
OKLAHOMA	0	0	1	7	47	
OREGON	0	0	1	8	47	
PENNSYLVANIA	6	2	12	13	109	1
RHODE ISLAND	0	0	0	0		1
SOUTH CAROLINA	1		0		6	
SOUTH DAKOTA	0	0	0	0	5	
TENNESSEE	0	1	9			
TEXAS	4	1		33	39	9
UTAH	0	0	6		291	3:
VERMONT	2	0	2	2	13	
VIRGINIA	8		1	0	9	
WASHINGTON	0	1	3	7	77	
WEST VIRGINIA		0	2	2	9	
	1	0	0	1	17	
WISCONSIN	0	0	2	1	32	
WYOMING TOTAL	0	0	2	0	10	1

soon as the forms get filed.

One of the more interesting concepts is that a recent Supreme Court ruling forbids the States to interfere with interstate commerce - follow this logic and you will see that a Class 3 dealer, although the state may forbid private ownership of machine guns, is involved in interstate commerce, and thus should be allowed to conduct his business from whatever state he may desire. As this challenge moves through the courts, I'll keep you posted.

Q I have recently become confused regarding the legality of vertical foregrips on pistols, most notably on SP89'S.

In your Aug. 1991 "The Forms" column, you stated that installing a vertical foregrip on an HK SP89 makes it an AOW because a handgun means "intended to be fired from one hand".

I have seen advertisements for vertical foregrips for the SP89. Some include warnings about NFA & BATF approval. Some do not. I have also seen advertisements for vertical foregrips for other pistols (most notably M-11), and on these ads about other pistols, no mention of NFA or BATF warnings were included. It is interesting to note that the only warnings about installing vertical foregrips on pistols are only on ads

regarding the SP89, and even then they are not on all the ads. This leads me to consider the possibility that this is an advertisement gimmick—to allure the "BAD BOYS" type of thing.

Another point of confusion is the Thompson 1927-A5. While it is classed as a pistol (13" barrel and no buttstock), it comes equipped with vertical foregrips. According to your article, that makes it an AOW, yet, I have never seen or heard of this gun in the AOW context. In addition, I have never seen warnings regarding this gun and AOW registration. To my knowledge this weapon is transferred like the SP89 as a pistol. If this were not the case I would have expected the BATF to say so before and there to be warnings/statements of AOW status on the advertisements for the Thompson. Another thought, just because you can fire a gun two-handed doesn't negate that it was designed/intended to be fired from one hand. What is the real story? P.S. I enjoy your magazine, one suggestion-have your advertisers change their ads every couple of months, I would read their ads every month if they weren't always the same.

Wondering, John Willie A For some reason, the SP-89 is bearing the brunt of this AOW determination. The Thompson pistols were exempted for "historical" accuracy reasons, and the rest you mention all become AOW's if you put front grip on them. If you put on a buttstochey are Short Barrelled Rifles, with a \$200 tax stamp. It seems that the SP-89 pistol is the most closely watched because of the import ban on the HK-94.

Your advice on changing advertisements has been passed on, hopefully the advertisers will take the hint and "Punch up" their ads. Long Mountain was going to do one once with Class 2 manufacturer Rob Vranorsey dressed as PeeWee Herman with a suppressed Steyr Aug as part of their "Life on the Cutting Edge" series, then PeeWee went to the Adult movies and Vida (the editor) nixed the "revised" ideas that were submitted. Heh-heh. It would have been fun.

Q I recently purchased an AR-15 "Drop In" Auto Sear. It was manufactured prior to November 1981 according to the retailer and their ad. Enclosed is a copy of the advertisement.

Is this Auto Sear legal to own and use? I was informed by the retailer that as long as I retained the sales receipt with the Auto

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Sear it would be legal to own and use, is this true? Any assistance you can give me would be most appreciated.

Thanks, Russ

A No, No, and once again, no. These unregistered sears are not legal to possess at the same time as a semi auto AR-15. Some of these that were manufactured before Nov. 1981 are legal to own, and are being sold with paper showing they were made prior to the Nov. 81 ban. If they were manufactured after that date, they must be registered as machine gun sears. The ones you are referring to are NOT registered, ARE legal to own, but are ILLEGAL to place in an AR-15!!!! If you own a sear and have an AR-15, you are in possession of an illegal machine gun!! I cannot emphasize this enough. I don't care what the guy selling it to you says, and neither will the Federal Prosecutor as he advises the judge what a vicious criminal you are. Stay away from this stuff, if you own an AR-15!!

Q On September 20, 1991, I mailed in my SOT application with a check for \$500.00 to the lock box in Pittsburgh. After a month, and having heard nothing from BATF, I wrote NFA Branch in Washington on December 19, 1991. I explained that I had not received my SOT, and enclosed: 1) a copy of our FFL, 2) a copy of the canceled check which was deposited Sept. 23, 1991, and 3) a copy of the completed SOT registration.

Now two more months have passed and we still do not have our SOT. Who do I call or write to foll by through on this delay. The FFL is in the 1 ame of a corporation, not an individual.

Thanks, Gene F.

A I would suggest having a friend who is Class 3 transfer one firearm to you, something inexpensive, maybe a pengun, a cheap silencer or an M-11 smg. If you are not in the system, the problems will show up, and you can get their attention to make sure that they straighten it out. We call this "flushing the system". BATF is remiss on getting those stamps out, and there is no reason you should have to wait to do business since you already paid the tax. I would consider filing a Form 2635 for a pro-rated refund of taxes for the months you could not do business. I figure you should be due about \$333.25 in cash, which is enough to pay for a two year subscription to MGN, donate \$25 to a pro gun rights organization, ake your wife to dinner and still buy a case of 9mm! There's a copy in the Machine Gun Dealers Bible if your local BATF can't find one. Enjoy.

Q From the semi-free (so far) State of Arizona, I've got to congratulate MGN for telling it like it is. We've got a lot of full-autos out here and have some good shoots, so how about a story on Arizona Rattle Gunners? Also it seems we need a National Organization (NMGA?) to schedule shoot dates, set up competition guidelines, and to spread the word, FULL AUTO IS FUN, SAFE, AND LEGAL!

Anyway, as a new Class 3 dealer if I purchase a registered auto sear and put it in a semi-auto rifle, what does BATF need paperwork wise? Can I sell the sear gun together or am I a manufacturer now? How about the same question as it relates to registered receiver--sideplates and the MG kits out there? Thanks for the help! May your hoses never run dry!

Sincerely, Esteban

A There already is a national organization for Class 3 enthusiasts, it's called the NFA-National Firearms Association, P.O. Box 160038, Austin, TX 78716-0038.

Machine Gun News does a pretty good job letting everyone know about up-coming shoots and shows, but people have got to let us know ahead of time about their events.

To your question; you can do anything you want with the registered AR-15 sear, make the AR a shorty, sell it etc. but you are not a manufacturer. If you assemble a sideplate or tube gun for yourself, you are not a manufacturer. You can sell one or more guns like this out of your private collection. At some point you will cross the invisible line and be considered a manufacturer. If you do not have the appropriate licenses, you will be prosecuted. Don't listen to buddies who say not to worry about it. If you are making guns and selling them, get the appropriate FFL and SOT. Besides, manufacturers have more fun.

Q After owning semi auto guns for many years, it was only natural that I would gravitate to full auto. My first gun was naturally a Ruger 556, controllable and cheap. I can tell you it won't be my last as full auto is great!

How do you guys survive 3-4 months waiting for a gun you have already paid for? My dealer told me that an NFA employee stated to him that I could buy another full auto gun by filling out a Form 4 and I did not need to get my prints done as long as I have previously been approved for a previous gun already within a one to two year period. They also stated it would only take a couple of weeks.

Stupid questions maybe but (continues)

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I'm just getting started and don't know half of what I need to know. I don't want to get disgusted and quit now because full auto is too much fun.

> Thanks, Mike T.

A You can submit a Form 4 with only one fingerprint card if you have been approved for another Form 4 within the past 12 months. I usually have my customers get extra prints each time they go, so they don't have to put up with doing it for a subsequent purchase. NFA will still do the NCIC check so the reduction in time is 4-6 weeks. They must have a fingerprint card on file with each transfer to an individual. This is an internal ruling, not law.

Q In regards to the man in Michigan buying a MG08-15 on a C&R License, when I received my C&R License I got the 19th Edition of Dept. of Treasury, BATF State Laws and Published Ordinances on Firearms--ATF P5300.5 (12/89) under Michigan Law Page 58, Penal Code Firearms and Weapons Act 328, 1931 as amended 28.419 Selling, etc. Machine Gun Silencers, *** etc., exceptions (1) a person shall not manufacture, sell, offer for sale, or posses a machine gun or firearm which shoots or is designed to shoot automatically more than one shot without manual reloading by a single function of the trigger; muffler, silencer, or device for deadening of muffling the sound of a discharged firearm; a bomb, or bombshell. *** A person who violates this section is guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment for not more than five years or a fine of not more than \$2500.00 or both.

But it says police may own them, but I think this means I can't own one even with a C&R License, right? If not I'm buying one too. Enjoy your magazine.

Thanks, Dan in Michigan

A There is no C&R section that I have seen in Michigan law, except pertaining to Short Barreled Rifles and Shotguns, which, if on the C&R list, may be owned by Michigan residents. However, there is an exception that federally licensed firearms manufacturers may possess machine guns. I know what I would do. There are also a lot of Class 3 dealers in Michigan - 57 to be exact. I haven't located the proper subsection that allows that, although it would seem that it has to do with law enforcement business. Individual officers may possess machinguns, also.

Q Does installing an Explorer II barrel on an AR-7 receiver make it a SBR or does it have to be permanently attached? Why would any one especially BATF care if this was done? Just what is the problem with SBRs, any way. Are there restrictions on them? I love the magazine columns!

I know that it is illegal to become a der just to enhance ones personal collection of firearms, but isn't that just the reason most people obtain a license, to be able to buy (usually modern) firearms at the dealer price rather than retail? If you had to document sales in order to keep the Class I License, probably most of the licenses would be voided. I know that there are not as many "dealers" out there as there are Class 1 Licenses! Does it make a difference whether you are a Class 1 or 3 where intent is concerned?

Thanks, James T.

A Yes, the AR-7 with the short barrel is a restricted firearm - a Short Barrelled Rifle with a \$200 tax stamp. Why do they care? It's their job. Imagine if they were told to restrict the ownership of certain types of hedgeclippers, because they were a danger to someone or something (bear with me-I'm stretching for this). The mentality of the bureaucrat is that everyone must obey the regulations, regardless of whether they make sense. If the hedgeclipper is proven to not be a danger or not likely to be one won't

atter unless someone changes the lawd that's not the bureau's job. The bureau is there to enforce and oversee the regulations that the people's "representatives" have codified into law, no matter how useful or useless. Some enthusiastic individuals have over extended their power, as always happens. Who cares if your AR-7 has a short barrel? Not me, but the Federal Prosecutor who needs some scalps in his belt may think illegal possession of a Short Barrel Rifle is felony enough to chase. Personally, I think that anyone who undermines the Constitution of the United States by infringing on a free citizens right, duty and obligation to own military firearms is guilty of a felony, and should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Regarding the "hobby" dealer, please re-read the end of the last paragraph for my opinion. And, no, Type 01 or Class 3 makes no difference regarding intent, it's just that Class 3's are higher profile with the tax due each year, and the small quantity of us.

Questions To: Dan Shea c/o MGN P.O. Box 759 Hot Springs, AR 71902





Archive Photo of the Month

From the Robert Bruce Collection



Hollywood, 1960's. Robert Vaughn — the "Man from U.N.C.L.E." in the popular television series — at his action/adventure best with a WW2 vintage MP40 submachine gun.

Credit: Robert Bruce Collection. Negative ID: UNCLE/MP40.

Copyright © 1992 Robert Bruce Photography

Editor's Note: Prints of this and many other historical auto weapons action photos are available for publication by special arrangement with Robert Bruce Photography, P.O. Box 482M, Sandston, VA 23150. Send SASE for details. (Robert also buys foreign-language manuals, sales brochures, etc. for auto weapons from 1900 to 1970.)

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW CAN HURT YOU!

ack of information can be dangerous to you and your gun rights.

If you didn't know that the House version of the "Brady Bill" is different from the Senate version, and that neither has been enacted and signed into law, you haven't been reading *Gun Week*. The general media has not given an accurate description of these measures, nor have they made it clear that the votes they reported were only steps in a long process.

If you don't know what guns are banned by the semi-auto language included in the Senate Crime Bill, you're also behind the knowledge curve. The same goes for the new semi-auto bill which cleared a House subcommittee.

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AK47 poly tech legend full stock \$649.00. MAC 10 Texas 45acp \$299.00. Striker 12 18" BBL folding stock \$577.00. All NIB unfired, all semi auto. I pay shipping, Kansas Class 1 Dealer Call John (913) 441-0612(jun) Exotic Ammo. Looking for 40mm ammo in flash band, illuminator parachute except white, cluster rounds all colors, ammo wanted is 30.06, .308, 5.56, 8mm etc. Please send pictures and photo to Brian R.Busch, Sr. 328 E.1200 N., Chesterton, IN 46304.(xfeb93)

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Need an M2HB 50 Cal or Aircraft or Thompson replica for your vehicle or plane? Higher quality and lower price than the competition. Also have Jeep pedestal mounts @ \$235 incl. shipping. John's Replicas, 817 E. Birch Ave, Whitefish Bay, WI 53217 (414) 964-6978. (xdec92)

Special Purpose Ammo and Munitions. Reload your own: Tracers, A.P., Icendiary, H.E. Ammo, 12 Ga. Flares, Thermite/Smoke Grenades and many others. SASE for free list. T. Tyler, Box 2700 Dept M, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 (xjuly)

Browning 1919A4 .308 by DLO unfired with tripod, pintle, T&E, belts, belt loader \$2500. Street Sweeper 12ga 12" with folding stock \$250, SWD M11 .380 with suppressor \$550. SGW CAR15 \$1100. All ATF rules apply. Call Dave evenings 208-362-2934.(xjun)

Original Pre-Auction Military Armament Corporation M-10's .45 ACP, Consecutive Serial # set (1-3007739, 1-3007740) 100% NIB \$650 each or \$1250 for set. Call 409-962-2722.(xmay)

Wanted: "Bring Back" items from Desert Shield - Desert Storm -Viet Nahm, Viet Cong, NVA, PRC Chinese & Soviet areas. Weapons, knives, badges and field gear...need Soviet and Block Makarov pistols.. Best cash paid.. RJP, P.O. Box 151, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068 Toll Free—1-800-345-0930 Welcome home!!!(xsep)

Annual Utah State Championship Submachine Gun Shoot. Saturday, May 16, Salt Lake City. Course of fire will cover a wide range of shooting skills and tactics with moving targets, pop-up targets and lots of steel. A, B, and C classes with awards and prizes plus Top Cop awards. Spectators welcome. Send for details and entry form to: A.C.A.U., Box 514, Centerville, UT 84014 or call Chuck Hinson at (801)566-8998 (may)

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Mail to: MGN, Classifieds PO Box 759 Hot Springs, AR 71902

Closing Date - 7th of the month for the following month's issue.

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Colt/Armalite AR15-01 - \$2500. M-11 9mm \$450. Steyr Aug \$3000. Sten MKII \$495. H&K 93/33 \$2100. H&K 91/G3 \$2100. American 180 \$1800. P.A.W.S. 2x7 (Sterling) 45acp \$1900. Colt 1921 Thompson \$4200. Auto Ordnance Savage 1928A1 \$3500. Wanted Pre-86 MP5 H&K21 Dianeco 1-800-582-9180 (xjul)

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Thompsons: Am interested in buying, borrowing, or copying Roger A. Cox's April 1982 publication of The Thompson Submachine Gup-Write: William C. Murr, P.O. B 8840, Incline Village NV 89452-8840with price and conditions.(xjun)

MGN magazines wanted. Will pay top price for MGN back issues from 1987 Vol.1 #1 April thru #7, 1988 Vol.1 #10 Jan., Vol.2 #8 Nov. 1989 Vol.2#10 Jan thru #12 Mar., Vol.3 #2 May. Datal Industries, 1646 Nineteenth St. Santa Monica, CA 90404-3887. (213)829-4421 (xjun)

2 AR-180's (Howa) both with Armalite scopes and many accessories one with bol. Will sell or use as trade for semi-auto belt fed machine gun or Barrnett .50 cal. Walt 1(518)279-4097.(xsep)

Machineguns and silencers finest condition, some one of a kind. Colt M16's, HK-MP5, HK-21, Thompson's, UZI's, Dater suppresors, Rock Island SAR-48 para #SF1000 (first gun), Pre86 samples. Getting out 30 June, no give aways or junk! 512-698-1385 or 512-525-6949 leave message.(xjul)

Machine guns: Belt linkers \$125 each, 308 - 223 - 30-06 - 8m/m - 7m/m 303. We can match your needs, custom linkers- call M-1919-1917 postage please. Handachine Co. 3101 Sussex, St. Charles, MO 63301 (314)946-9567 (xoct).

Classified Advertising

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S&W "Hush Puppy" Suppressed Model 39, 9mm w/slide lock. collector's item \$1500.00; S&W 2214 w/Silent Option suppressor \$495.00; Walther TPH w/S.O. suppressof \$550.00; S&W 422 satin w/S.O. suppressor used 95% \$425.00; Glock 17 w/extended threaded barrel and our new S.O. Titanium suppressor \$1050.00; Glock 21 w/ extended threaded Bbl and our new S.O. Titanium suppressor \$1200.00; Stealth Intergrally suppressed ramline .22 (featured in April 92 SOF magazine) the quietest, lightest, high capacity suppressed .22 pistol available, new in stock, \$595.00 (dealers POR); Steyr SSG .308 integrally suppressed w/10 rnd mag, Harris bipod, Kkahles 6 x 42 scope w/ quick detach mounts \$1800.00; M11 9mm SMG w/operational briefcase \$1200.00; Beretta Model 100 7.65 Cal w/alpha suppressor \$500.00; Barrett Model 90 Bolt 50 cal w/Leupold ultra, hardcase, integrally suppressed, 48DB reduction, zero muzzle flash NIB \$4,700.00; MAC ingers NIB \$400.00 each; All NFA es apply: P.A.I. Inc, Rt 17 Box 456. Saluda, VA 23149, (804) 758-5233 FAX 758-2690; Suppressor Catalog

\$5.00, Free to Class 3 dealers. (x)

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eves 303-674-1760. (xauq92)

Machine Gun Belt Linkers. 1919, M-60, RPD, MG42 and others \$125.00 small and large units available. Call for quote. Hahn Machine, 3101 Sussex, ST. Charles, MO 63301. 314-946-9567(xjune)

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9 Full Auto New \$680, Polytech, rxinkov 7.62 x 39 \$2000, Valmet M78 7.62 x 39 w/drum \$2500, AWC U.S.S.S. rifle can .308 \$400. (719) 473-3140 after 6 pm M.T.(x)

Virginia Residents - Class III stocking dealer. We buy and sell all types of machineguns. Will handle and/or special order any NFA weapon transfer. Need to buy weapons now. Call or fax with make, model and asking price. (703) 385-6402 FAX(703)385-4655.(x)

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Wanted M-60, M2 .50, Mini-gun and stoner parts and sub-assemblies top dollar paid, call John (703) 385-6402(x)

12 GAUGE Barricade Penetrating Ferret Brand CS shells. Normal LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY price is \$5.00 per round, with quantity discount. In stock now and available in factory boxes containing 5 round in Mil-Spec foil-sealed packages at \$19.95 per box. Quantity discount buyers pay \$300.00 per 100 rounds or \$2500.00 per 1000 rounds. Shipped COD, actual shipping costs. Don Austin Wagenknecht, Class II Mfg, P.O. Box 15203, Minneapolis, MN 55415. 612-559-2263 or FAX 612-550-2997. Will trade for class III weapons. (x)

Lets first amendment BATF out of business, lets bring humility back to police, sheriff's, highway patrols. If you have been charged with a firearms violation like carrying in vehicle for self defense, even a bad traffic ticket, fight back, send S.A.L.S.E. and \$1.00 to Suite #303 Eustis Tower 252 Ardice, Eustis, FL 32726. Boycott Canada, they imported British Gun Control into North America. P.S. State your problem, Police, Sheriff Department, Highway Patrol. (x)

West River Arsenal is the only Class III dealer in 40,000 square miles handling transfers and supplying law enforcement and qualified private buyers. West River Arsenal. P.O. Box 9246, Rapid City, SD 57702 (xjun)

Exotic & Hard to find .22 cal. rimfire ammunition: Tracer, Spotter, Incendiary, and more. Also Eley and Dynamit Nobel (RWS) rimfire ammunitions, & other brands from around the world. Catalog \$1. Outland Sales, P.O. Box 965332 Marietta, GA 30066 (xjul)

Wanted ammo, brass for 20mm Lahti and Solothurn. Also literature and manuals. Call Jim (203) 375-2875

Centurian Suppressed Carbine as described in March 1992 MGN. Very rare, one of only about 12 in private hands. Test fired only. Excellent condition with history tape and two original magazines. Only \$6000. Call John at (701) 772-1347.

Connecticut Residents: | will process transfers for qualified individuals. Reising M50 with hard case, sling and extra mags. Like new \$750.00. U.S. M3A1 Grease Gun extra mags, mint \$1,450.00. M2 Carbine 98% \$995.00. M11 SMG with barrel extension and handle includes SWD silencer \$700.00. Sten MK-II black park. excellent, extra mags \$695.00. Semi AK-47 NIB many extras \$595.00. SKS para with folding stock, 30 around mag, bayonet, sling, and cleaning kit, also includes wood stock \$225.00. Hansen Bros. Arms. Call 203-265-2557 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm or Sat. 9am- 12pm or leave message (x)

Thompsons: truly nice units in inventory. Too many to list in this ad. Call for info or send business size sase for current list and prices. Frank/F.D.S. (214) 539-8096 P.O. Box 292156, Lewisville, Texas 75029-2156. NFA/BATF rules apply. (xSept92)

50 Cal Tracers - GI surplus 84-85 issue. Shipped in free ammo can. \$2.50 each. Nights 1-314-275-8840.

Wanted: Depot or higher repair or maintenance manual/reprint for the 1917 Browning Water Cooled MG. Also buying 30.06 military once fired brass. See Bob at "Hawkeye's" at Knob Creek or call (615) 588-3604 after 6:00 p.m.

MGN Back Issues. All twelve issues from 1990 \$75 postpaid. Frinholt Supply Co. P.O. Box 3441, Richmond, VA 23235.

Voere 22 LR SMG parts set \$300, Voere xtra Mags \$20 each, 8 for \$100. H & K manufactured 40 rd mags for HK93 223 cal \$55 each. Full Auto paintball gun \$150. Call Dave 907-474-4704. Transferable: Group 1919A4 with Saganaw side plate, .308 with 30.06 8mm conversions, belt loader, 10 belts, 500 links. Mossberg 12 guage pump 12.5" BBL. Will do tranfers for qualified Arizona residents. All NFA rules apply (602) 987-0472.

For Sale: Browning 1919A4 quality T-shirts, white 50-50 2X-XL-L \$12.00 + \$3.00 S&H M.O., BK CK, Joe Kasparian, 42 Rhude St. Quincy, MA 02169 1-617-328-3711(x)

For Sale: M14 Rifle stocks with hardware, U.S. Walnut Org. \$100. each plus S&H Ltd. supply. Joe Kasparian, 42 Rhude St., Quincy, MA 02169 1-617-328-3711(x)

For Sale: Sten MKII by DLO Exc. Cond. \$600.00, Colt M-16A1 Like New \$1900.00 also Ohio transfers handled. Call Daivd 513-695-1209.

Massachusetts Machine Gunners, Class III stocking dealer, buying, selling, transfers. Machine guns, unusual weapons, parts and accessories. Good prices and service. Please call, Wayne Pleasant 413-863-2796. (xoct)

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Ruger 10.22 RR Bare \$1500, Mac 10 .45 with can NIB \$650, Ithaca Stakeout 12 ga. new \$400, others (719) 473-3140 after 6 M.T. (x)

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Wanted, .22 cal. sub calibre unit for M1919 A1. Call after 5:00 pm CST 414-682-2465.

Classified Advertising

Suppressor for sale. Knights Armament Co. Screw on Hush puppies. New Consecutive serial #'s Navy & Air Force Issue \$500 each. Call 205-271-5197.

Connecticut Residents: UZI reg rec Group Industries NIB \$1250.00, AKM47s 7.62 x 39 under folder 6 mags exe \$1900.00, AK47 .223 Poly Tech under folder as new \$1575.00, MP40 DLO mfg 6 mags \$1350, Ramo 1919A4 w/tripod and accessories just parkerized exc. \$2195.00 SWD M11 exc. \$525.00, M11 supressor wipeless exc. \$250. 203-442-1830.

C&R Licensees Class III transferable machine guns, all NFA rules apply: Beretta 38A-2nd Model Mint \$2650. Beretta 38A - 3rd Model excellent \$2150. Beretta 38/42 very good \$1350. Italian WWII canvas paratrooper carry bags mint for 38A-38/42 - \$250. Breda Model 1930 LMG excellent plus \$2800. RPB MAC 10 9mm \$700. Sten MKII Wilson receiver \$700. Group Industries UZI \$1250. Call after 5 pm Ronald 203-386-1192 conn. Hermann 718-278-3708 NY (xjuly)

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Group Ind. - UZI - NIB w/ accessories, 9mm, fully transferable, \$1175.00 plus SIH, all NFA(Act) rules apply. Will handle special or-ders/transfers for Virginia residents. Call Gene 9-5 ET M-F, (804)846-6003.(xjuly)

"Wanted" All nuts, bolts, springs, rivets, used in the manufacture of USM-60. need a constant source. For A full production run. Prefer direct manufacturers of these, material list available. Chuck Boyer 718-746-1300.

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HK Sale: MP5K suppressed with F/A group plastic SEF housing, \$1995; HK51 like new short barrel .308 MG with F/A group plastic SEF housing, \$1995; HK94 like new with A3 stock, box, manual, barrel shroud, new mags, \$1650; steel G3 housings \$15; S/A trigger group with MP5k housing, \$50; F/A trigger groups with housings, \$700; HK91 black forend with bipod, \$90; new HK93 std. barrel rear sight, \$20; S/A HK91 carrier bolt, \$40; HK91 wood buttsotck, \$35; Jeff (602)392-4232 msg svc (602) 951-5756 FAX. NFA rules apply. (x)

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Wanted affordable Lahti ammo or brass manual coffin armours kit etc. Also looking for rough restorable 25, 37 etc. cannon priced accordingly. Also need Demil M8-C spotter rifle kit or parts. 50 cal shot ammo. Call Chris 313-664-3863.

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Machine Gun News - May 1992

UZI

● MAC10

UZI

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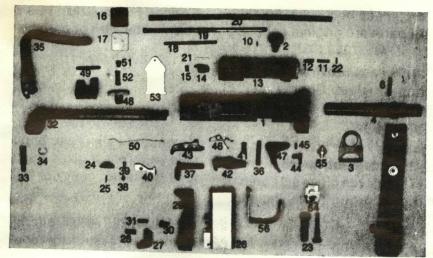
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52. Compression Spring, Stock Latch	1 75
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