

\$5 U.S. \$6 Can.

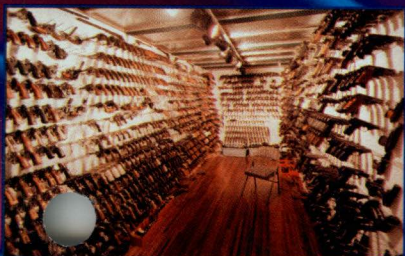
THE GUIDE TO MODERN SMALL ARMS

Vol. 10 No. 1

MACHINE GUN NEWS

JULY 1996

**MGN at the Movies:
Lights! Cameras!
Stembridge!**



**The Voere
.22 Caliber
Machine Gun**

**An Eclectic
Sniper
Rifle**

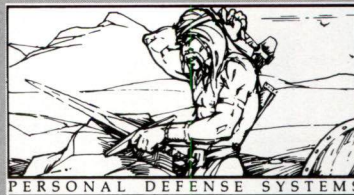
**STEN SMGs:
Affordable
& Fun to
Shoot**



**The AR-50AE
World's Most Powerful M16**

**The NFA
Registry:
How Accurate?**

LONG MOUNTAIN OUTFITTERS



SELLERS: GUNS, PARTS
& ACCESSORIES FOR SALE
CALL L.M.O.

BROKERED WEAPONS

These are RETAIL Prices! DEALERS Call For Discounts.

BUYERS: LOOKING FOR GUNS,
PARTS & ACCESSORIES?
CALL L.M.O.

S040 - Ruger 10/22 Ultra,
suppressed rifle\$950
S056 - Ruger Mark II, suppressed
pistol\$1,000
S062 - .22 cal. Browning rifle,
suppressed\$650
S073 - MK9 supr. for Uzi, MAC, Walt,
or Berretta\$495
S078 - Archangel II AWC THR,
suppressor\$495
MG039 - 1915 Chauchat in 8 mm,
reg. rec. gun\$1,000
MG065 - N Korean PPSH41
w/original drum\$2,800

MG067 - M78 Valmet w/bipod,
like new\$2,600
MG225 - Beretta AR-70, select fire,
good shape\$4,700
MG548 - Fleming G3, new,
reg. rec.\$2,800
MG805 - SAR 48, as new, w/mag
& bipod\$3,400
MG823 - Colt 1928 w/mag, drum
& sling\$5,700
MG825 - R.P.B. M1 carbine,
w/mag\$1,350
MG845 - Fleming G3, new,
w/fold stk. & extras ...\$2,800
MG846 - Fleming G3, NIB\$2,800
MG848 - Fleming FNC,
w/collapsing stk.\$1,750
MG853 - M16A1 Carbine, 98%,
14.5" bbl.\$3,450
MG860 - H&R Arms M14
in good shape\$5,700
MG893 - Colt M16A1 carbine in
95% condition\$3,400
MG894 - AK 47 in 7.62 x 39,
w/extra stk.\$2,950

MG904 - Ruger AC556,
95% cond.\$1,600
MG911 - Ruger AC556, full stk.
w/short bbl.\$1,550
MG971 - AR180 Sterling,
Flem conv.\$1,800
LMO291 - M203, new\$1,700
LMO306 - MKII, GEMTECH
suppressor\$3250

DEALER SAMPLES

MG074 - Madsen Model 50,
pre-86 DS\$2,100
MG071 - FN Model D, excellent ...\$2,600
MG077 - British MK 1 Lanchester,
pre-86 DS\$1,700
MG080 - English MK III Sten,
pre-86 DS\$1,050
MG561 - Steyr MPi-69,
pre-86 DS\$1,350
MG833 - Walther MPL,
pre-86 DS\$1,300
MG858 - Fabrique National FN G1,
pre-86 DS.\$3,100
MG987 - Australian L2A1 FAL,
pre-86 DS. Truly neat
gun, has been in
several books\$4,900

**SEVERAL NEW COLLECTIONS ARE
COMING IN SOON!
CALL FOR PRICES AND DETAILS.**

**WALTHER MPK FULLY TRANSFERABLE, NIB
AMERICAN 180'S - THREE OF THEM
MAC-10 - 45'S, 9 MM, & 380'S
POWDER SPRINGS
FN-MAG 58, FULLY TRANSFERABLE
AC-556 RUGERS - FOLDERS, USED, NIB,
TWENTY COMING!
REISING M50'S - FOUR
35 DIFFERENT M16'S FROM USED
AFTERMARKET TO NIB A2'S!**

All seller info remains confidential. BUYERS call with your needs; we'll cross with our list from dealers.
All weapons preinspected before final transfer from L.M.O. Dealers get FFL on file and call for prices.

WE WILL CONVERT YOUR REGISTERED M16 FROM .223 TO 9 MM SMG FOR ONLY \$950.00

STETCHKIN MACHINE PISTOLS!

The United States has stopped the importation of Russian material. Through a fluke circumstance, a small quantity of these ultra-rare machine pistols were allowed to come in. Because we had purchased and imported them initially in 1993, we only have a small quantity (less than 50). No more can come in! It seems that these are the only ones in the United States.

These are in NEW condition (some storage wear) with all matching parts.

They are available to law enforcement agencies and Class 3 dealers with a demonstration request letter as follows:

Stetchkin machine pistol (9 x 18 Makarov) with matching buttstock, 4 extra magazines, and leather sling.\$895

As a parts set, these are unrestricted and can be sold to individuals:

Stetchkin machine pistol parts set, complete with buttstock and sling, and receiver torch cut per NFA guidelines. (Magazines are only available to law enforcement agencies and dealers who are using them for resale to law enforcement.) . . . \$895



P.O. Box 45, Harmony, ME 04942

(207) 683-2169 ■ Fax (207) 683-2172 ■ Class 10 ■ LMO4MGS@AOL.com

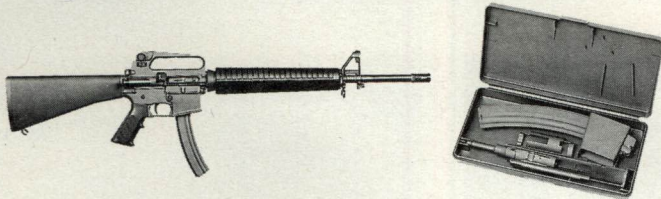


Jonathan Arthur Ciener, Inc.

Ammunition prices continue to rise. The government continues to try to restrict supply.

.22LR CONVERSION KITS

Save your valuable ammunition AND still enjoy your shooting sport AND do more for less money.



The "ATCHISSON" MKIII .22 LR Conversion Kit for

AR-15

\$139.00 w/10-rd. mag.
\$179.00 w/30-rd. mag.
Spare 10-rd. mag. \$23.00

M16

\$159.00 w/10-rd. mag.
\$199.00 w/30-rd. mag.
Spare 30-rd. mag. \$59.00

The "HOHREIN" .22 LR Conversion Kit for

Mini-14/AC556

\$119.00 w/10-rd. mag. **\$159.00** w/30-rd. mag.
Spare 10-rd. mag. \$23.00 Spare 30-rd. mag. \$59.00
Standard kit fits serial number prefix 181 thru 187.
Prefix number 188 kit, add \$10.00. AC556 uses standard 30-rd. mag. kit.



The "CIENER"

1911A1 .22LR CONVERSION KIT Patented

Models for full size, Combat Commander, and Officer's .45 ACP pistols (specify)

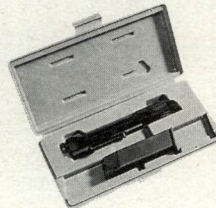


From .45 ACP to
.22LR in 10 seconds
for just
\$179.00
Spare 10-rd. mag. \$35.00



Kit on Series 80 Colt

Kit in Fitted Case



Kit in Fitted Case



From 9mm to .22LR
in 10 seconds for just
\$199.00
Spare 10-rd. mag. \$35.00

Kit on Beretta 92FS

Rifle kits consist of all the parts necessary to change your firearm to function with inexpensive .22LR in moments.

The pistol kits consist of a new slide, .22LR barrel, return spring and guide rod, recoil buffer and magazine in a fitted plastic case.

The pistol kits and magazines are offered in Gloss Black, Matte Black, and Silver finish at no additional charge.

They function **FLAWLESSLY** (guaranteed) using quality High Velocity ammunition. The pistol kits can even use Hyper and Standard Velocity.

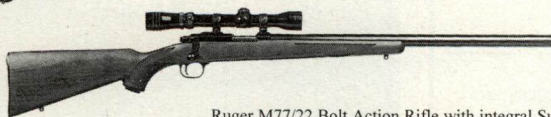
Order direct: No FFL required. Send Cash, Certified Check, Money Order or C.O.D. Personal check orders held two weeks to clear.
Include \$5.00 shipping per kit. Due to limited quantities, handgun kit orders are prepaid only.

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Manufacturer of the Finest in Suppressed Firearms
"The Standard For Comparison"



Ruger MKII Government Model Pistol
with "HIGH VOLUME" Suppressor
Parkerized or Stainless ONLY \$599.00



Ruger M77/22 Bolt Action Rifle with integral Suppressor
Blue ONLY \$725.00, Stainless Steel ONLY \$715.00

Shipping - \$5.00 per Pistol/Supp., \$10.00 per rifle. NFA Dealer's fee is included.
Does not include Federal Transfer Tax.

NFA Licensees send a copy of FFL with EIN number and Class for our illustrated
informative catalog and confidential dealer price list.
All others send \$5.00 for catalog or \$14.00 for catalog and distinctive logo T-shirt or
Baseball cap (specify).

CURRENT RETAIL PRICES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1996

RUGER MARK II Pistol with Suppressor.....	\$499.00
RUGER MARK II Stainless Steel Pistol with Suppressor.....	\$575.00
RUGER MARK II Pistol with 8" "High Volume" Supp. (Park. or S/S).....	\$599.00
RUGER MARK II 10" Barrel Stainless Steel Pistol with Suppressor.....	\$599.00
WALTHER TPH Stainless Steel Pistol with Suppressor.....	\$799.00
Suppressor fitted to your firearm.....	\$399.00
WALTHER PPK, PPK/S Pistol with Suppressor (Blue or S/S).....	\$889.00
RUGER 10/22 Deluxe Sporter Rifle with Suppressor.....	\$575.00
BROWNING BA22 .22LR Auto Rifle with Suppressor.....	\$679.00
RUGER M77/22 .22LR Bolt Action Rifle with Suppressor.....	\$725.00
RUGER K77/22 .22LR Stainless Steel Rifle with Suppressor.....	\$715.00
MARLIN 880 .22LR Bolt Action Rifle with Suppressor.....	\$549.00
REMINGTON 700 BDL Varmint Rifle w/Suppressor and Barrel cover.....	\$995.00
Suppressor and Barrel Cover fitted to your Heavy Barrel.....	\$495.00
RUGER M77V Heavy Barrel Rifle w/Suppressor and Barrel Cover.....	\$995.00
Suppressor and Barrel Cover fitted to your Heavy Barrel.....	\$495.00
AR-15/M16 Suppressor (Fits A1 & A2).....	\$375.00
M1A/M14 Suppressor.....	\$375.00
RUGER MINI-14 Suppressor (GB model only).....	\$375.00
MAC 10 (.45 or 9mm) MAC 11 (.380), or SWD M11/9 (9mm).....	\$375.00
UZI SMG or S&W M76 & MK760 Suppressor.....	\$399.00
BARREL/SUPPRESSOR ASSEMBLY for UZI semi, M3/M3A1 Grease Gun, or Sten MKII.....	\$449.00
BARREL/SUPPRESSOR ASSEMBLY for HI-STANDARD .22 Auto.....	\$399.00
BARREL/SUPPRESSOR ASSEMBLY for THOMPSON "CONTENDER" (.22 only).....	\$559.00

WANTED: PARTS FOR MINIGUN and MK19 Mod. 3 GRENADE LAUNCHER

8700 Commerce Street

Dept MGN.

Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

(407) 868-2200, Fax 2201

MACHINE GUN NEWS

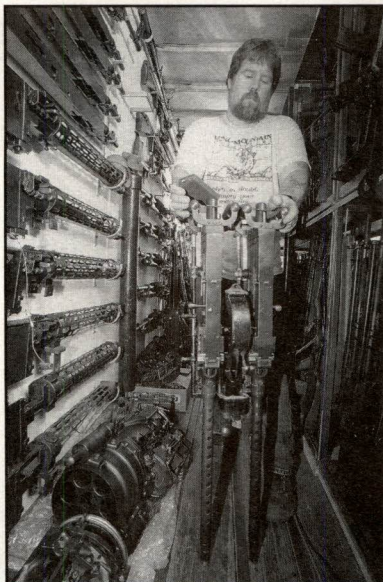
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Page 34: Two AN-M2 Brownings on an AN-M2 aircraft mount.

On the Cover: Arnold Schwarzenegger from the new movie "Eraser." Photo: Courtesy of Warner Bros. Inset Stenbridge Photo: Jim Bonis.

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Firearm Only

Superb Quality in Excellent Condition

\$2500.00

FN MOD. 30 LMG IN .308 CAL.

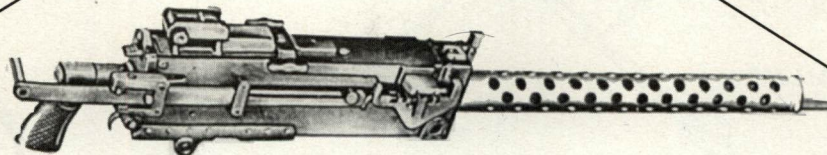


These Guns are
Like-New Condition

(no tripod)

\$350.00

THE BROWNING M37 LMG



\$950.00

FN-MOD D LMG IN .308 CAL.



Made on special contract from Israeli Gov't. New

\$550.00

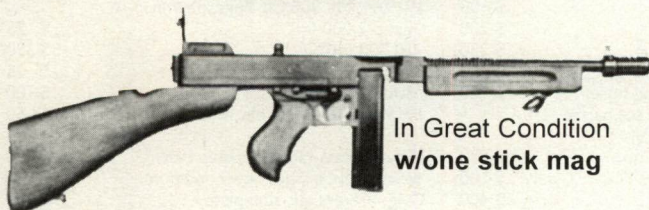
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CLASS III DEALERS &
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Must have letter of Purchase or
Demonstration for Government Agency.

All Firearms in Excellent
Functional Condition

ORIGINAL U.S. G.I. WWII 1928A1 THOMPSON SMG



In Great Condition
w/one stick mag

\$450.00

Original G.I. 50-rd. drum
available additional
\$300.00

ORIGINAL U.S. G.I. WWII M1 THOMPSON SMG



In VG+ Condition

\$250.00



\$250.00

SWEDISH K EXCELLENT CONDITION

Ohio Ordnance Works, Inc.

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Satisfaction Guaranteed
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BRITISH 2 INCH MORTAR



Airborne Version
(short or long)
\$150.00

Comes with orig.
shipping crate



ORIGINAL WWII MORTARS

Rendered unserviceable according to BATF specifications. However, they are still considered Title I firearms.

Must have standard FFL license.

Original WWII Russian 82 mm Model 37 complete with baseplate and bipod

\$450.00 + shipping

1919A6 CONVERSION

Buttstock, .308 barrel, barrel jacket, bipod,
flashhider, carry handle new condition \$350.00
W/.30-06 barrel \$250.00

ORIGINAL FN BELGIAN

M2 50 CAL.

Complete parts set with
registered sideplate
\$2500.00



FN BELGIAN M2

Complete with tripod
T&E pintle

\$4500.00

FN BELGIAN M2 50 CAL.

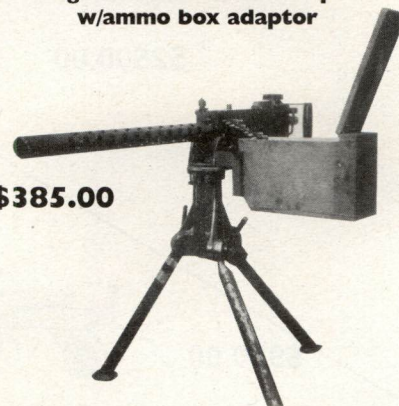
Complete parts set
no cut parts

\$1,550.00

WHY LAY IN THE DIRT?

Original WW II Vickers Tripod
w/ammo box adaptor

\$385.00



Original WW II Vickers Tripod w/ammo box adaptor for U.S. Browning BFMG 17A1, A4, M37. Includes one box.

Quality Machine Gun Complete Parts Sets

FN M2 .50 cal. HB less right side plate	\$1550
ANM2 .30 cal. in .308 Browning, orig. complete.	\$ 950
ANM2 .30 cal. parts set only	\$ 450
ANM2 .308 conversion parts set	\$ 550
M1A1 Thompson U.S., G.I.	\$ 200
MAT 49 (for dummy only)	\$ 125
MAS 38.	\$ 200
Italian WWII Breda Model 30 6.5.	\$ 550
Beretta Model 38/44	\$ 165
MAG 58	\$4500
PPS 43	\$ 150
Madsen Model 46, .30-06	\$ 225
FND BAR .308	\$ 625
1928A1 Thompson U.S., G.I.	\$ 350
1928A1 Thompson w/flnned barrel & Lyman sight U.S., G.I.	\$ 575
1928A1 Bolt compl. U.S., G.I., N.O.S.	\$ 150
1928A1 actuator U.S., G.I., N.O.S.	\$ 85
ZK383 excellent cond. with bipod	\$ 250
Less bipod.	\$ 200
Swedish K, excellent condition	\$ 250
MG15 orig. German WWII	\$1350
FN-30 in .308 comp. less right side plate, good serviceable condition	\$ 250
2 or more each	\$ 200

ORIGINAL WWII GERMAN MG42 BOLT HEAD

Complete with extractor assembly & rollers, new cond.

\$150

Magazines

M3 U.S. .45 cal.SMG 30-rd.	\$ 10	PPS 43 mags 30-rd. (ea)	\$ 35
12 for	\$100	PPSh-41 Mags 30-rd.	\$ 35
ZK383 30-rd	\$ 65	Lanchester-STEN 50-rd. mags	\$ 55
Madsen .30-06 30-rd. mag 5—each in original carrying can	\$ 75	MP40 mags 32-rd. orig WW II	
FND BAR .30-06	\$ 15	A (ea)	\$ 55
L2A1 30-rd., unissued cond	\$ 75	B (ea)	\$ 30
MP41 32-rd., very good	\$ 55	10 for	\$250
MP38/40 flat side mag	\$ 55	Reising 30-rd. new-made, guaranteed.	\$ 55
Thompson 30-rd. mags	\$ 10	Sterling 45-rd. exc. plus	\$ 55
Bren 8 mm 20-rd. mag.	\$ 65	10 for	\$500
		Orig. WWII Thompson 50-rd drum, vg	\$200

Accessories

FND Barrel .30-06	\$ 100	1919A4 IMI .308 cal. links, new in wrap 2,000 for	\$ 75
FND Barrel 8mm.	\$ 200	10,000 for	\$350
FND Barrel .308 cal. excellent	\$ 250	1919A4 .30-06 barrels, used.	\$ 25
1908 Maxim sled mount top strap	\$ 250	5 for	\$100
1908 Maxim steam condensing hose.	\$ 100	1919A4 .30-06 barrels, new	\$ 50
MG3 MG42 .308 Conversion set barrel, flashhider, top cover, feed tray, Rheinmetall Mfg.	\$ 850	3 for	\$100
MG3 100-rd. assault box	\$ 100	Vickers brass tab reloadable belts.	\$ 50
MG3 complete bolt	\$ 400	Vickers Mkl tripod, new condition	\$250
MG3/42 .308 barrel 4140 Steel H.T.	\$ 250	Orig. Vickers left-side plate	\$200
MG15 Gunner's Wallet-complete with 2 spare firing pins, 2 spare extractors, 2 complete firing pin holders, ruptured case broken shell extractor and oiler	\$450	P17 Bolts stripped	\$ 15
MG15 Bolt complete	\$350	Browning .308 broken shell ruptured case extracting tool	\$ 15
MG15 Barrels.	\$350	British 303 broken shell extractor for machine gun or rifle	\$ 15
MG15 75-rd drum loading tool.	\$350	MG34 feed trays	\$ 65
1919A4-A6-M37 IMI Mfg. .308 cal. new unissued barrels (ea)	\$ 100	MG34 bolt extract tool	\$ 35
2 for	\$170	U.S. G.I. M2 60 mm mortar canvas carrying slings new in wrap	\$ 20
3 for	\$250	U.S. G.I. M2 .50 cal. barrel new in wrap (ea)	\$250
		2 or more (plus shipping)	\$200

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ORIGINAL U.S. G.I. MFG. M1A1 PARTS SET



Minus Receiver
\$200.00

CZECH MOD ZK 383



Complete Parts Set 9mm Parabellum quick-change barrel w/bipod & 30-rd. mag. This is one of the finest quality SMGs ever produced.

Less Bipod
\$200.00

GREAT FOR NON-GUN

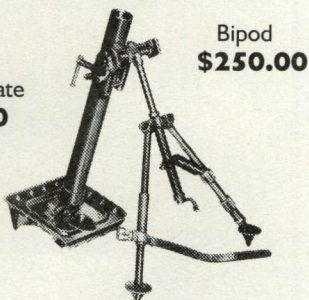
\$250.00

ORIG M2, 60MM WW II MORTAR

Complete. w/sight, bipod, base plate
& original. shipping crate

\$1250.00

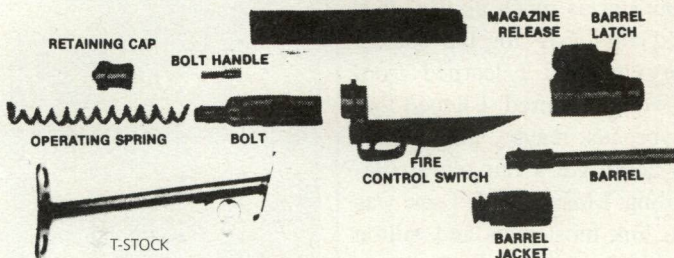
Shipping crate
\$65.00



Bipod
\$250.00

Fully transferable on Form 4
to FFL individual or dealer

ORIGINAL WWII BRITISH STEN MKII & MKV COMPLETE PARTS SET

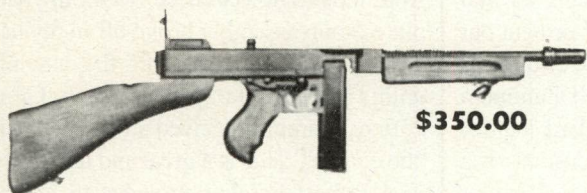


MKII.....\$150 MKV.....\$250

It comes with T-stock. If you want a Loop stock, it is \$15 extra.

ORIGINAL U.S. G.I. 1928A1 PARTS SET

Complete with lower trigger housing group, buttstock, smooth barrel & cutts compensator, stick mag., no drum



\$350.00

Original. WWII G.I. issue
50-rd. Drum
Exc. plus cond.

\$200.00

With Lyman sight & finned barrel
\$125.00 additional.

Orig. actuators, new-in-wrap. exc.
cond. **\$85.00**

Bolt complete with actuator
..... **\$125.00**

COMPLETE 1919A4 .308 CONVERSION SET

1. New unissued .308 IMI barrel.
2. Enlarged belt holding paw.
3. Front & rear cartridge guides.
4. Right rear cartridge stop.
5. .308 booster cap, muzzle bearing.
6. .308 bolt stripped.

\$350.00

Will modify your 1919A4 Top Cover
to use .308 Links **\$65.00**

Complete Top Cover modified to use
.308 Links **\$150.00**

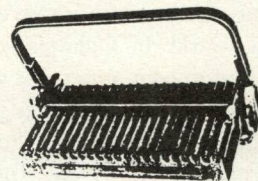
These still function in 8mm & .30-06

ORIGINAL WWII

MG 34 ACCESSORIES

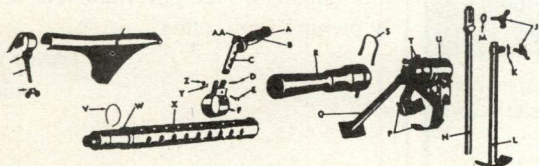
- .308 barrel \$250
- .308 feed tray \$150
- .308 feed slide assembly \$150
- .308 booster cone (hard chrome) \$ 50
- Flash hider soaking can \$ 50
- Orig. transit chest \$100
- .308 conversion set \$575

BROWNING M3A1 .308 CAL., LINK LOADING MACHINE



Complete with 2000
new-in-wrap IMI .308 Links
\$275.00

COMPLETE 1919A6 CONVERSION KIT



ORIGINAL WWII 1919A6 FLASHHIDER BOOSTER



\$75.00
Very Rare!!

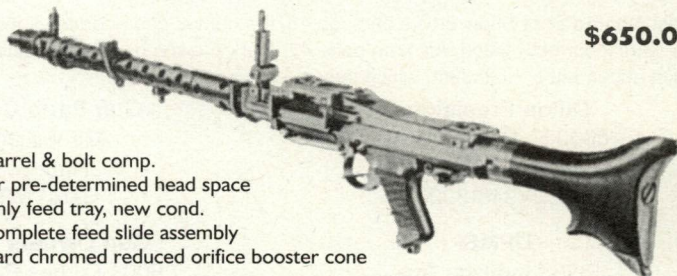
1919A6 conversion buttstock,
.308 barrel, barrel jacket,
bipod, flashhider, carry
handle new condition

\$350.00

With .30-06 Barrel

\$250.00

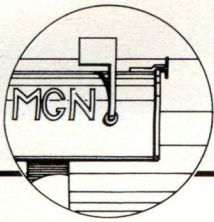
COMPLETE MG34 .308 CONVERSION KIT



\$650.00

- .308 barrel & bolt comp.
- Set for pre-determined head space
- .308 only feed tray, new cond.
- .308 complete feed slide assembly
- .308 hard chromed reduced orifice booster cone

Installed, Test Fired, and Guaranteed



Incoming

Discovery Channel Coverage

I just watched the three-part series on firearms in America that was aired on the Discovery Channel. The program turned out just like I predicted. It was presented with the typical liberal slant that plagues most of what we see about firearms on television. Sure, they gave the pro-gunners some time, but not as much as the other side. I waited anxiously for the special from the very moment I learned from *MGN* that it would be aired. I hoped that this time maybe, just maybe, gun owners and firearms could get a fair representation. I was wrong. Most of what I saw was an attempt to link most guns and militia groups to careless, illegal activity. If we hope to get some gun-friendly programs on television, we first must do a very basic, yet essential duty — defeat Bill Clinton. Once he is out of the White House, we can concentrate on the contributing factors such as very bad publicity. You folk at *MGN* continue the good work and the truthful coverage of the gun issues.

Mark J.

Envy of the World

You guys in the states are the envy of the rest of the world. In Malaysia, we are not even allowed to own a gun, not to mention an MG. It is suicide to own a gun in my country illegally. I would like to shoot an MG next time I'm in LA. Keep up the good work *MGN* and you'll find a whole bunch of people around the world tuning into *MGN*.

K.L.

Malaysia



A subscriber sent us this photo of an M16 being used as a suppressed sniper rifle. This unique M16 included a Starlight system that coupled onto the gun's scope.

Unique Bayonet Mount

I saw an ad in a photography magazine that advertised transport camera cases made of space-age, lightweight G.E. Xenoy thermoplastic. It said that these tough, air and watertight cases can't be dented or bent out of alignment and are one-half to two-thirds lighter than the comparable-sized aluminum or vacuum-formed cases. Standard interior accessories enable the user to custom-fit a wide range of photo equipment. Two or more cases can be interconnected with a unique bayonet mount, then wheeled to the baggage area. A "unique bayonet mount!" Aren't those things dangerous? Somebody could get killed with one of those things. We should probably demand that it be ground off, or at least not imported anymore.

James Twombly

Kudos to Ohio Ordnance Works

I would like to voice my great admiration for the Ohio Ordnance Works Inc.

I had purchased an M37 in early 1995 from them. On March 16, 1996, my back-plate group assembly broke off in my hand while shooting. I sent off the assembly with a note on the 18th of March. On the 25th of March, I received a new one and at "no charge." This is a great and terrific service Robert Landies provides to his customers. I compliment this fine company to the fullest.

Vincent Oliva

Web Site Message from Australia

Great site. You are lucky to live in a country that lets you own machine guns. At the moment in the Land of Oz, we have a problem with the government as to legally owning semi-autos.

Trevor Bailey
Australia

Shot Show Address Corrections

In last month's Shot Show article on page 46, the names and addresses for the following companies were incorrectly listed. Also, on page 42, Mark Eliason is actually holding Bushmaster's .223 Match upper, not a 7.62x39m, which they did not have available.

Dillon Precision

8009 E. Dillon's Way
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
(602) 948-8009

DPMS

13983 Industry Ave.
Becker, MN 55308
(612) 261-5600

Gun Parts Corporation

226 Williams Lane
W. Hurley, NY 12491
(914) 679-2417

Gun Owners of America

8001 Forbes Place, Ste 102
Springfield, VA 22151
(703) 321-8585

Send comments and suggestions to:

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Lake Hamilton, AR 71951
E-mail: MGNews@aol.com

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6. N.J. residents must include 6% sales tax or copy of resale certificate.
7. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

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Sten sling \$ 9.95 (BS2000)
Sten MkII Bayonet \$49.95 (YB1002)

1928 THOMPSON VERTICAL GRIPS

IMA has found a small lot of vertical '28' foregrips. A highly desired accy. for your firing or display '28' Thompson; our grips come with the retaining screw. These are not the flatsided repro's on the market but are the classic smooth, rounded grips \$24.95 (XU1025)
(or) If purchased w/a Thompson kit
..... \$18.00 (XU1026)

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Extensively used by the Germans in WW2 with the designation VZ37(t) this machine gun saw service on every front. Here we have a limited quantity of just the substantial tripod mounts complete with the anti-aircraft extension mounts. Solid steel construction, these mounts can be used with many other machine guns after some modifications. A great opportunity while they last. Complete tripod and anti-aircraft extension set. \$149.95 + \$15.00 s&h (GG3700)

GERMAN WW2 MG13 PARTS SETS

The MG13, adopted by the German Army in 1932, was the principal light machine gun of the Wehrmacht until the adoption of the MG34 in 1936. Production of the MG13 continued through 1938 and this model saw extensive service in WW2. Somewhat similar to the MG34 in outward appearance, the MG13 was magazine-fed using a 25-round box magazine. However, it was also designed to accept the 75-round saddledrum. The bipod was virtually the same as the MG34 and the anti-aircraft sight was identical and therefore interchangeable. It had a folding buttstock and had a swiveling carrying handle on the ventilated barrel jacket. It was supplied with an optional flash hider of considerable length for use only under sensitive combat conditions. Our parts sets contain all parts EXCEPT THE RECEIVER and the flash hider (an optional extra). You receive the barrel w/barrel-jack assembly and carrying handle, the trigger group assembly, the buttstock assembly together with the bolt, recoil spring and all internal parts, sights, etc. You also receive the magazine housing which slots onto the receiver and one 25-round box magazine. This parts set which was disassembled and not cut is in excellent condition \$445.00 (GG1313)

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BRITISH WW2 ISSUE STEN MKV SMG PARTS SET

Never before available other than on a very limited basis, these are complete parts sets for the WW2 issue Mark V Sten submachine guns WITHOUT RECEIVER TUBE. All parts supplied including the detachable wood shoulder stock and magazine. Very scarce.
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RUSSIAN MAXIM SOKOLOV MOUNT

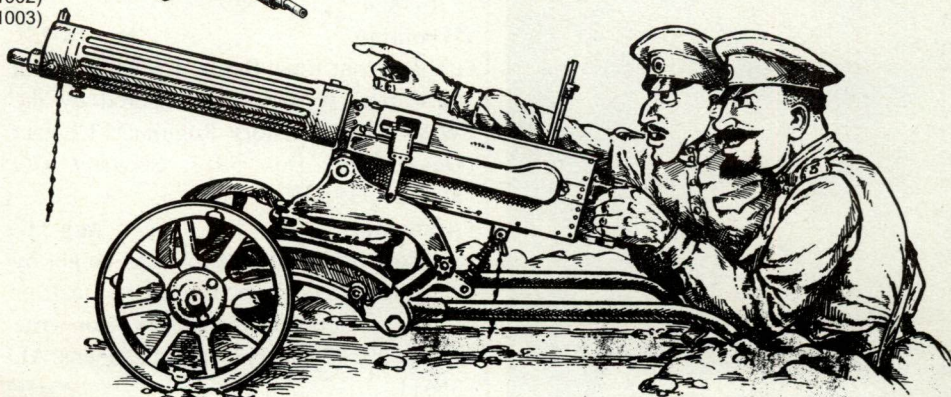
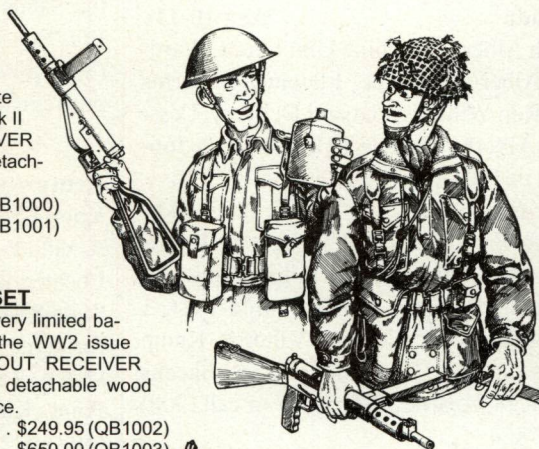
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

Maine

Jul 26-28

Hiram Maxim Historical Society presents the Northeast Military Firearms Shoot & Expo. Dover-Foxcroft, Town Gravel Pit, Rt 7, (Piscataquis County), Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. Take I-95 north to the Newport exit 39, take Rt. 7 north into Dexter - Dover-Foxcroft, Maine. Write: H.M.H.S., P.O. Box 1491, Waterville, ME 04901. Or call (207) 465-2336.

AUGUST

Oregon

Aug 3-4

Al Woodbridge Benefit & MG Fun Shoot, SMG/Assault Rifle/Belt-fed, Big Timber Gun Range. Siletz, Oregon (on the coast near Newport, OR). Contact Jim Ebert, P.O. Box 993, Oregon City, OR 97045 (503) 656-0210 (evenings).

Florida

Aug 4

Port Malabar Rifle & Pistol Club Class 3 Subgun "Beat the Heat." Richard Lengler, 2240 Duncil Lane, Malibar FL 32950 (407) 725-0282.

Canada

Aug 10-11

South Alberta Machine Gun Shoot, Wardlow, Alberta, Canada. Flatlands Firearms Co., Ron Williams General Delivery, Cessford, Alberta, Canada T1R1E2 (403) 566-2242 or (403) 566-2207.

Nebraska

Aug 9-11

Fun & Freedom Shoot. Roger Well's Rifle Range. Directions: 5 miles south I-80 exit #272 (Kearney, NE); 1 mile west, 1 mile back north. Contact Walter B. Kamp II or Christine E. Kamp, RR 6, Sheens Court #4, Kearney, NE 68847 or call (308) 236-7854.

Wyoming

Aug 24-25

Italian Front Town Battle. To be held north of Carter, Wyoming. Sponsored by the WWI Living History Regiment. Contact Dean Byne, Box 5813, Security, CO 80931. (719) 392-1300.

Alabama

Aug 31

Seminar on the 1919 Browning taught by Gary Reisenwitz. For information call or fax Tony Gooch (205) 233-2874 or write him at 20362 Kimzy Carr Rd., Athens, AL 35611.

SEPTEMBER

Florida

Sep 1

Port Malabar Rifle & Pistol Club Class 3 Subgun "Club Record Match." Richard Lengler, 2240 Duncil Lane, Malibar FL 32950 (407) 725-0282.

Idaho

Sep 14

The Ninth Annual Idaho State Championship Submachine Gun Competition. Parma Rod & Gun Club Range, Pearl Road (off U.S. 95) 3-1/2 miles north of Parma, Idaho. I.A.W.C.A., P.O. Box 7741, Boise, ID 83707-1741. Jon Carter (208) 888-2829.

Alabama

Sep 14

Alabama State Subgun Championship Finals, Swan Creek Range (Limestone County). NFA rules will apply. For information call or fax Tony Gooch (205) 233-2874 or write him at 20362 Kimzy Carr Rd., Athens, AL 35611.

Nevada

Sep 18-22

17th Annual Soldier of Fortune Convention/Expo & Military Vehicle Show. At the Sands Hotel/convention center. Write: P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306 or call (800) 800-7630 or fax (303) 444-5617 to pre-register.

OCTOBER

Kentucky

Oct 11-13

Knob Creek Fall '96 Machine Gun Shoot & Military Gun Show. The nation's largest. Located just south of Louisville. Take KY State Road 44 west about 11 miles. Watch for signs on left. For details write: Knob Creek Range, 690 Ritchey Lane, West Point, KY 40177 or call Kenny Sumner. (502) 922-4457.

Kentucky

Oct 12

(in conjunction with) Knob Creek Fall MG shoot. Knob Creek Open Subgun match. Interstate 65 to Sheppardsville, KY. Contact Dan Varner (812) 949-8364.

Alabama

Oct 26

Central Alabama Gun Club. Submachine Gun Match using NFA rules. Contact John Butterfield, 3520 Forest Brook Lane, Montgomery, AL 36116 or call (334) 270-9975 phone/fax.

Idaho**Oct 26**

The Annual Great Pumpkin Fun Shoot. Black's Creek Range, Black's Creek Road, 10 miles southwest of I-84 exit 64, east of Boise, Idaho. I.A.W.C.A., P.O. Box 7741, Boise, ID 83707-1741. Jon Carter (208) 888-2829.

DECEMBER**Tennessee****Dec 14-15**

Eastern Front Battle. To be held at Cedars of Lebanon St. Park/Forest (east of Nashville, TN). Sponsored by the Old Hickory Chapter of the TSG, Inc. Contact: Joe Cooper, 1500 Vultree Blvd., J-104, Nashville, TN 37215. (615) 360-6239.

MONTHLY EVENTS**Florida****1st & 3rd Sunday**

The Port Malabar Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc. conducts full-auto events on the 1st and 3rd Sunday. Unless otherwise specified, the 1st Sunday is a match and the 3rd Sunday is practice. Richard Lengler, 2240 Duncil Lane, Malibar FL 32950 (407) 725-0282.

North Carolina**1st Saturday**

Triad Action Shooters Klub (TASK). Submachine gun match, Modern, Classic, Open and Rapid Fire. Machine gun match held the 1st Saturday of every month, 12:00 p.m. Near High Point, N.C. I-85 exit 106. Go west one mile to Wildwood Trail. Ramsey Bear, 100 Wildwood Trail, Thomasville, NC 27360. Phone & fax (910) 475-4495.

Oregon**2nd Sunday**

The Albany Rifle & Pistol Club (Linn County) holds submachine gun (pistol calibers only) matches on 2nd Sunday of every month at 10 a.m. Non-members are welcome at all our events. Interstate 5—5 miles south of Albany, OR. Exit 228—1/4 mile east of freeway to blinking light, south 5 miles to club. Dick Thoma, 110 Cedar Dr. Lebanon, OR 97355. Or call Dick (541) 258-6811 fax (541) 451-1906.

Pennsylvania**Last Sunday**

Pennsylvania Class 3 competitors. March through September. Pistol caliber "Run and Shoot" Submachine Gun Match/\$15 entry fee. Schedule, map, directions and guidelines available on request. Write: P.O. Box 249, South Montrose, PA 18843. Mario Lozzi (717) 278-4419.

For your event to be listed in the Calendar of Events please contact us at Machine Gun News, P.O. Box 459, Lake Hamilton, AR 71951 or call us at (501) 525-7514 or fax us at (501) 525-7519.

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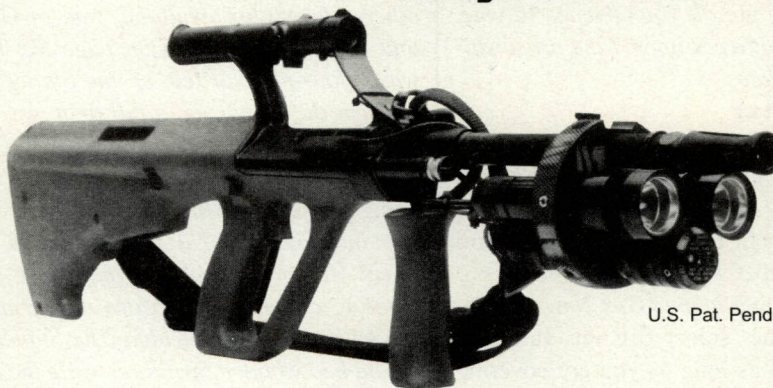


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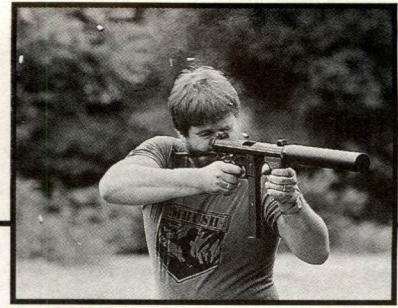
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Raffica

by Dan Shea



"Resolved; that personal protection not be regarded as a genuine reason for owning, possessing, or using a firearm."

—Resolution 3-a, Australasian Police Minister's Council Special Firearms Meeting, Canberra, 10 May 1996

I guess that when the truth is told, the agenda of the anti-Second Amendment lobbyists is pretty basic. There is no reason to own a firearm other than if you are part of the government, or live on a farm and have a special permit so that you can defend your livestock from predators. (PETA notwithstanding.) Once the idea that you do not have a right to defend yourself is accepted, what of the desires of the sports shooters, the designers and tinkers, the hunters, the collectors? Rest assured that the Australian police resolutions have the fingerprints of American anti-firearms people all over it. If it weren't for that "small" issue of our Bill of Rights, we would be seeing such legislation here in the USA. Raffica is being used as a channel for a public service message. Get out and vote, get all your friends to vote, hell, run for office! Support the proconstitution candidates.

Questions:

IN REGARDS TO YOUR VERY EXCELLENT and continuing chronicles on the Stoner family of weapons, I hope you will not forget about the lone "sporter" (semi auto) model that was called the Stoner 66.

I know that *Machine Gun News* is dedicated to the select-fire or full-auto weapons, but as long as you are covering the Stoner family, it would be nice to give some information on this lone sporter version that as far as I know never did make it out to the sporting world.

I have included an advertisement from a catalog I kept after my father passed away years ago. In the ad it said the Stoner 66 would be available August 1, but I haven't been able to find the year of the catalog although it was the 10th Anniversary issue for the Service Armament Company, 689 Bergen Blvd, Ridgefield, NJ.

Thank you very much, and please keep up the good work.

Richard N.

Through the help of Stoner Historians Reed Knight and Jerry Tarble, I have obtained the following information:

The 6 1/2 pound Stoner 66 sporting rifle was developed in 1966. It had an aluminum receiver, and could be fired either semi-automatic, or you could turn off the gas take-off and use it as a single shot. This resulted in groups of about half the size of the semi-automatic version. The advertisement you spoke of was done in late 1966, under the name of the Great American Arms Co, at the same address as the Service Armament Company. *Guns Annual 1967* had the Stoner 66 profiled on page 60, right after the Sears Model 43 DL. The other information available was in *Guns and Hunting July 1966* on page 50. This was a four-page article on the Stoner 66, wherein the author did a full field test.

Looking at the advertisements and articles from the period, the Stoner 66 was being touted as a varmint rifle. There is a four-inch picture of a prairie dog in the Great American ad, and the *Guns and Hunting* article concentrates on varminting with the .223 cartridge. The Stoner in the ad had wooden furniture, while the one in the article had standard black plastic. (Item of interest—the dreaded bayonet lug was still present on the civilian semi-automatic Stoner due to production cost increases to remove the lug.) The author of the article was very positive toward the Stoner 66, and I believe that would be understandable considering the quality of the workmanship in Gene Stoner's systems.

It appears that there were only one or two manufactured, and they were sent to the 1966 version of the ATF for evaluation.

The ruling from ATF was that these were machine guns, and the production run was never done. To the knowledge of all sources I could contact, the factory only listed one aluminum receiver manufactured, although there may have been two, but whatever was made is still in the possession of the ATF.

JUST A MINOR, OUTDATED QUIBBLE: In the September 1995 issue, the optical sight on the M4 with the RIS is not a C-More red-dot (re: "Raffica", Nov 95). It is the Trijicon ACOG Reflex 1 x 24, Model RX01 (there are two different mounting systems: X10, which is a bracket for ARs with existing carrying handles and another for flattops). Enclosed are copies of the literature. Mine is mounted on my AR15. Probably not enough for a Coveted RKI Award, but I'm trying....

Clayton L.

(Meekly sending out the RKI to Clayton.) Thank you for the full instruction sheets and brochure. You are correct, of course, and enjoy your "suitable for framing" "coveted" RKI award.

VERY FEW SUBMACHINE GUNS fire from the closed-bolt position although these are more accurate because there is no forward movement of the bolt to shift the balance of the weapon on the first shot. Specifically, is it possible to put the closed semi-auto Sterling carbine bolt into the Sterling SMG and have it fire from the closed-bolt position? Do any modifications have to be made to this bolt? Can the Sterling still fire in both semi- and full-auto modes?

J. R.

Well...anything is possible with enough work and ingenuity. I would say that making the semi-auto closed bolt function full auto would be "making a machine gun." Great care would have to be taken so that the bolt could not be placed in a semi-auto Sterling and make it full auto. I think if I wanted a closed-bolt Sterling, I

would make a floating firing pin in an original bolt, mill out a channel behind it, I make a hammer to take the place of the sear...this would mean some serious disconnecter work, also. You would end up with a straight blowback closed-bolt SMG; it wouldn't lock up in battery, but the bolt mass would probably make that fairly smooth.

RECENTLY, I BOUGHT A SET OF handy-looking dental type tools for cleaning out those hard-to-reach crevices so common in semi- and full-auto weapons. Since these tools are stainless steel, is there a potential for damaging any parts of an MP5, AR-15, or Steyr AUG (my personal favorites)?

Rob M.

There is DEFINITELY a problem here! Those dental tools are really handy, and my workbench has a stack of them. They are great for hooking and setting odd, hard-to-reach springs (try that AUG pistol grip cap without one), getting down inside receivers to pull out those stupid M16 takedown pin detents that have been launched twelve feet in the air, landing back in the bottom of the Maxim receiver the corner that was internally crusted with hard, sticky preservative, and no amount of reaching, stretching, or beating with a rubber mallet will break loose! (Whew, sorry folks, I'm STILL raging about that one.)

The problem starts when you take a material that is harder than the firearm and start scraping it over the surface, which is precisely what you are doing with the stainless steel picks. I would say it is fine to do, as long as you are taking great care—wrap a cleaning patch around the tip, and gently push the patch into those hard to reach places.

If you are real nervous about it, you might want to consider using an ultrasonic cleaning tank or a parts washer.

IHAVE WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE worlds only MAC-10 (45) that won't run reliably. It jams a fresh round at a steep angle going into the barrel, often the second round. It's a Powder Springs/RPB gun. I've swapped whole uppers and it still does it. Is the feed ramp a likely suspect? What's the definitive source for information on how to fix big MACs? This has become a challenge!

George B.

I hate to bring this up, but that steep angle jam would make me look at the magazines

first. It would be a mistake to assume you have a good magazine—even if you have two or three. The feed lips might be worn or improperly presenting the cartridge to the bolt.

Failing the quick fix of the magazine change, the second place I would look would be the feed ramp. Take a good look at how the bullet is jammed. Is the nose of the bullet stuck against the top of the barrel? Try polishing the feed ramp with jewelers rouge. If that doesn't help, you should take it to a gunsmith who can measure the angle and correct it if necessary.

HI, I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU. I have seen advertisements, and I have heard rumors that registered Glock auto sears may exist. If this is true, how would I be able to get one?

Scott C.

I have never seen a registered, transferable Glock machine gun sear. That doesn't mean it can't exist, but I do not believe that the Glock pistols had really been prevalent enough in 1986 to have attracted the attention of the Class 2 "tinkers." There are machine gun sears available today, but they are only available to police departments and Class 3 dealers.

BEING RELATIVELY NEW TO THE Class 3 world, I have a few questions regarding a registered Colt AR-15 lower receiver that I got about eight months ago. I have recently noticed that the hammer pin rotates with the hammer whenever the hammer cycles. After removing the hammer and pin, and installing the pin in the hammer (out of the gun), I found that the hammer won't rotate freely around the pin. I then took my AR hammer out of my semi auto (also a Colt) and found that it spins on the pin like it is on ball bearings. I'm afraid that the steel pin is working against the aluminum receiver, opening up the holes! The semi's pin holes seem to be a little tighter than the full auto's, but the hammer pin on the F/A doesn't have any noticeable play in the holes (as far as I can tell), yet! I am hoping that the receiver hasn't been damaged, as I've put about 200 rounds through it since I have had it. If, in fact, it has been damaged, is it possible to repair the holes back to original diameter, or do I have an expensive, registered paperweight? I would appreciate any information on the subject so I can start sleeping again!

I am having a Class 2 make up a 9 mm upper assembly for this gun to interchange with the .223 upper. What do I have to do regarding the Form 4 (barrel length, caliber), in order to remain within the law. It won't be a permanent change. Along the same lines, if my Form 4 says that the gun has a 20" barrel, can I put a .223 11.5" shorty on it without a change in the Form 4?

The last question that I have is about slowing down the cycling of the shorty. Have you had any experience with hydraulic buffers, and will they work in a collapsible stock? My shorty works great in semi, but when the switch is flipped, the hammer follows the bolt carrier without firing the next round. I figure that the bolt carrier is cycling too fast, and it is tripping the auto sear before the hammer can be caught by it (?). I have tried using a full-length buffer spring (with about two coils cut off). That worked for about two 20-rd magazines, and it started doing it again. I stretched the aforementioned spring a bit and tried it again, and it worked for about five mags, and then started acting up again. Do you think that the gas tube is too big (it is a Bushmaster barrel), and should I have it reduced in size? Or do you think that the hydraulic buffer will be the answer?

Glenn C.

There is a detent inside the hammer where the pin goes through. It would seem that the detent is too stiff. I would suggest trying a new pin in it to see if it still rotates, then try changing the hammer. The pin should not be rotating. I would say there is not any real danger of the hole enlarging at this point, although it does happen. That enlarging is a very difficult thing to fix and should be left to competent Class 2 gunsmiths.

You should send in a copy of your Form 4 to Washington, telling them in section H that you have added a caliber or changed the barrel length.

In a previous issue of MGN, we have attacked the "Shorty that JUST WON'T WORK." John Norrell wrote an outstanding article on that subject and I refer you to the back issue for more information (December 1993).

HOW DOES THE NEW ROUND IN a belt-feed machine gun get from the top of the gun, out of the linkage, down into the chamber? I understand how the feed system works by having the bolt slide in a

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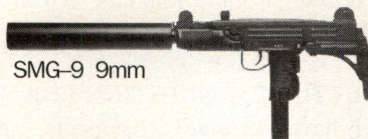
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curved groove that moves perpendicular to the sliding bolt. But, what grabs it and pulls it out of its linkage and down into chamber? Thanks, you have a great magazine.

J.K.

There are two basic kinds of feeds for the belt-fed guns. The first guns used a cartridge extractor that pulled the cartridge backwards from the belt, dropped it down to the level of the barrel for firing, then extracted the spent case for ejection (Maxim, Vickers, 1919A4). Later guns (MG34, MG42, M60) used a push-through design that was more standard to the understanding of the average semi-automatic firearms user. As the bolt comes forward on these machine guns, the front end of the bolt catches the base of the rim, and because the push-through types are a "half link," the round is pushed all the way forward, guided on a ramp into the chamber.

Questions to:

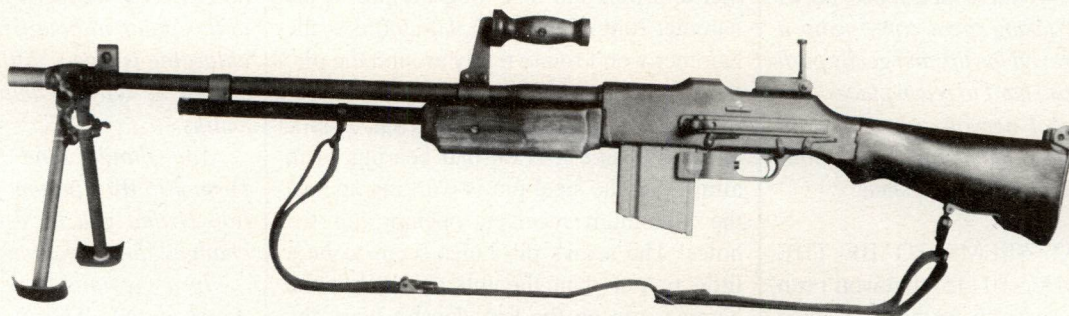
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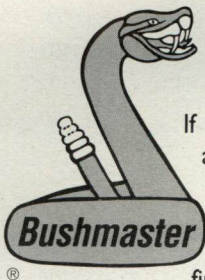
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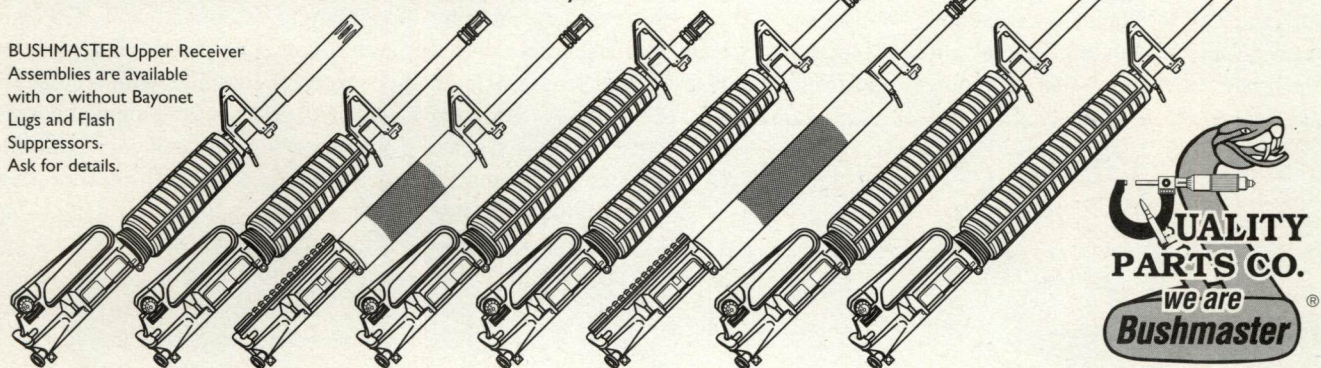
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by Chris A. Choat

.50 Caliber Conversion for the "Black Rifle"

I centered the sights of the M16 on an 8-inch-thick section of a "telephone" pole and with some apprehension touched the trigger. Instead of the familiar "crack" of the standard .223 round, the gun produced a resounding "boom" and the rifle produced a recoil that felt more

like a .12 gauge shotgun. Splinters flew from the wooden pole and I thought that I had hit the edge of it. I walked down to inspect the target and as I got closer saw that the bullet had hit very close to the centerline of the pole. A single half-inch hole dotted the front side of the 8-foot length of pole we had set into the ground. As I looked at the back side I was amazed to see that the bullet had EXITED the pole leaving a jagged half-dollar-sized exit hole. This was my

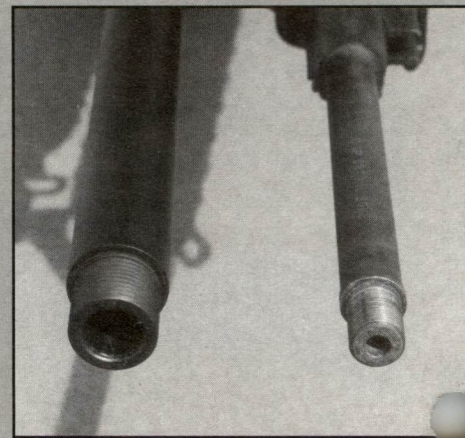
first experience with a new caliber conversion for the AR-15/M16. It was also my first experience with a relatively new round originally designed for handguns—THE .50 ACTION EXPRESS.

THE CONVERSION

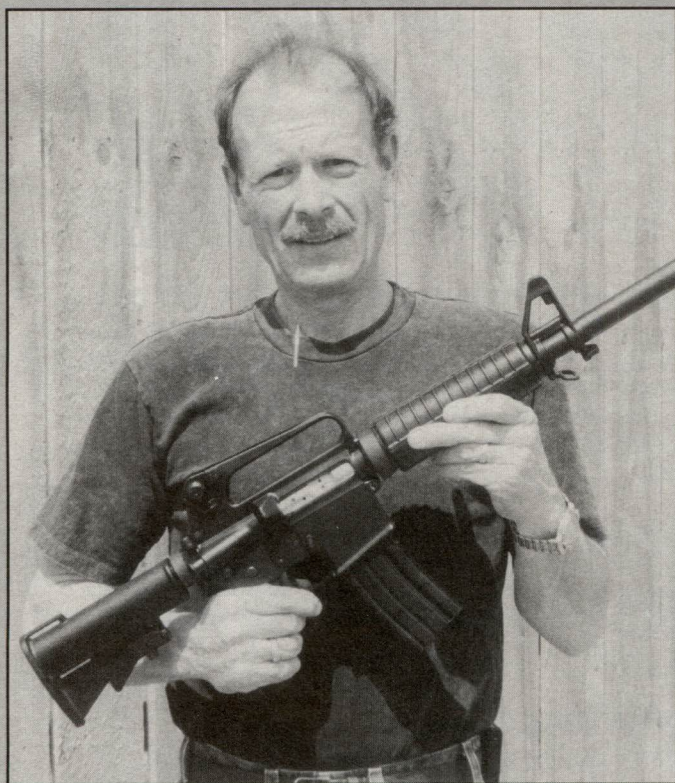
The new conversion is the product of a Colorado company called American Firearms LLC. They also produce the unique AK-2/47 (see *MGN* March 1996) in addition to other AR-

15/M16 high performance accessories. Their new conversion is called the AR-50AE, and it is definitely a powerhouse.

The AR-50AE is available only as a completely assembled unit. The standard conversion consists of a barreled A-1 upper receiver complete with bolt and charging handle. The conversion unit comes with one magazine. The unit can be installed on an AR-15 or M16 with no modifications to the upper receiver. All that is required is to replace the existing upper and bolt assembly with the conversions upper and bolt. Substitute the .50AE magazine and the conversion is complete.



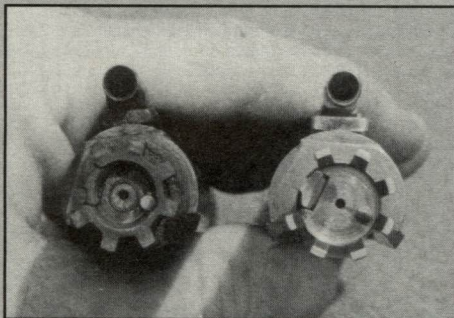
The barrel and bore of the .50AE conversion dwarfs the standard .223 barrel. The barrel is made by Lothar Walther and features 8 land and grooves with a twist rate of 1 in 15. The barrel on the test conversion was an 18-inch bull configuration, which is optional.



The author holds an M16 equipped with the AR-.50AE conversion. The conversion turns an AR-15/M16 into a pistol caliber powerhouse.



The conversion is chambered for the very potent .50AE round. It uses modified M16 magazines and exhibits first-rate workmanship throughout.



This photo shows some of the modifications done to the M16 bolt. The face of the bolt head is opened up to accept the larger .50AE round. The extractor and ejector are also modified.



The .50AE is a monster. It is shown here with (from left to right) a 9 mm, a .45 acp, the .50 AE and the .223 rounds.

The barrels used in the standard conversions are domestically manufactured and feature 6 land and groove rifling with a twist rate of 1 in 15. They are of the heavy barrel configuration with a diameter of 1 inch under the handguards and .750 of an inch in front of the sight base. Bull barrels are available as an option. The bull barrels are made by Lothar Walther and are 1 inch under the handguards and .935 of an inch

in front of the sight base. The Lothar Walther barrels feature 8 land and groove rifling with a twist rate of 1 in 15. Both styles of barrels feature a target crown and the bull barrels can be ordered with muzzle threads as an option. Barrel lengths are available in either 11", 16.5" or 18". Flat-top or A-2 uppers are also available as upgrades.

The upper receivers used on the con-

AR-50AE Specifications

System of Operation Receiver

(Optional Extra)

Caliber

Magazine Capacity

(Optional Extra)

Barrel Length

Finish

(Optional Extra)

Weight (Unloaded)

Loaded 10-round mag.

Rate Of Fire (Full-Auto Version)

Gas-operated Locking Breech

A1 Standard

A2 or A3 Flat-top

50 Action Express NATO or SAMMI Spec. ammunition only

10-round box standard

5-round box or 22-rnd. drum

16.5 inch (11.0 inch or 18 inch optional)

DuPont Teflon "S"TM Matte Black

Camo Teflon or Electroless Nickel

Dependent on bbl. configuration

1 pound

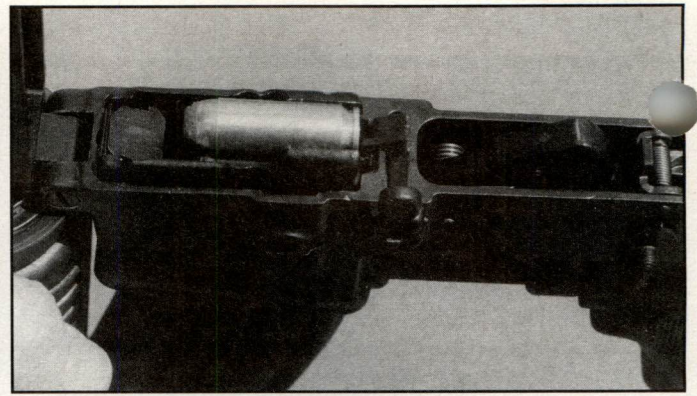
750 to 800 r.p.m.

versions are modified slightly for use with the .50AE round. Because the round is so "fat," the ejection port has to be opened up slightly. Due to this modification, the ejection port door assembly and mounting tabs are removed from the upper. These modifications are done very nicely and the receiver and barrel assembly are then refinished with DuPont Teflon "S"TM in a matte black. Other colors as well as camo patterns and an electroless nickel finish are also available. Workmanship on the finished product is first rate. The bolts used in the conversions start out as standard hard-chromed .223 bolts. They are then modified extensively. The bolt head is opened up to accept the .50AE round, and the ejector and extractor are also reshaped. Once these modifications are done, the parts are heat treated and re-hard chromed. Full-auto units are also available. The test and evaluation unit used for this article was a full-auto conversion. The conversion units are also available with or without bayonet lugs for pre- or post-ban guns.

The gas system of the rifle is basically unchanged except for the size of the gas port. The unit still uses the standard CAR type gas tube. The unit also uses standard

CAR type handguards. There are several variations of barrels, uppers and handguard configurations available as upgrades. This way the user can configure the conversion to their own specifications. The conversion also is available with a one-piece free-floating aluminum handguard and a custom two-piece gas block assembly.

Magazines used for the conversion are either 20-, 30- or 40-round M16 magazines. The converted magazines hold either 5, 10 or 14 rounds respectively. Conversions of MWG 90-round drums can also be supplied. The feed lips of the magazines are reshaped to handle the .50AE round and a high density plastic spacer block is added to the inside of the front of the magazine. This spacer block allows the shorter .50AE round to feed from the longer .223 magazine. The spacer block is sloped at the top and also functions as a built-in feed ramp.



The .50AE rounds are singly fed from the M16 magazine. The modified magazines have a plastic spacer block in the front to take up the space left by the shorter round. This spacer block also serves as an integral feed ramp. Because of the follower modification, the bolt does not hold open after the last round.

This spacer block is permanently riveted to the magazine body and will not fall out when the mags are disassembled for cleaning. Both the magazine and bolt conversions have patents pending.

No modifications are needed to the host lower receiver. The conversion works with the standard buffer and buffer spring as well as all other lower receiver parts.

THE TEST

When I was first contacted by American Firearms LLC to set up the test

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be used as .303 conversion sets for U.S. guns in .30-06. Over the years many shooters have converted .303 guns to shoot 7.62 x 54R. Barrels are excellent with bright and shiny bores. Kits come with bolt, barrel and barrel extension, barrel muzzle bearing, lock frame, back plate, top cover, and small parts.

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Kit with sights and aircraft cradle as used during WWII . . . \$249.95

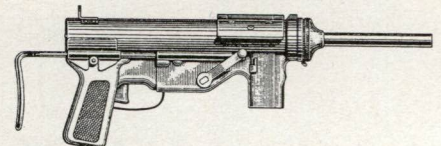
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Tom Simpson fires the test gun on semi-auto. Semi-auto fire produces excellent accuracy even out to 100 yards. Recoil is similar to a 12 gauge shotgun.

their new conversion, I was very excited. Not only would I be working with a new conversion but also a new cartridge. I had basically no working knowledge of the .50AE cartridge other than I knew it was a very potent handgun round and that there were only two or three handguns out there that were chambered for it. Of these the Desert Eagle being the most well known. Mario Palombo heads up American Firearms LLC. When he told me that the .50AE round had more muzzle energy than a .308 rifle round and still had more energy at 300 yards than a .44 magnum cartridge did at the muzzle, he definitely got my interest! The .50AE round, fired from the AR-50AE conversion with an 18 inch barrel, produces velocities in the 1800 *fps* range. With the 300 grain bullet, loading this computes out to slightly over 2100 ft-lb of muzzle energy! More on velocities later.

For our test I opted for the full-auto version of the .50AE conversion. After all, this is a magazine dedicated to machine guns. Mario had told me that he wasn't sure that I would want to fire the gun full-auto as the recoil was, in his words, substantial. This, coupled with the fact that I was going to install the conversion on a collapsible stock lower, might make the gun uncomfortable to shoot.

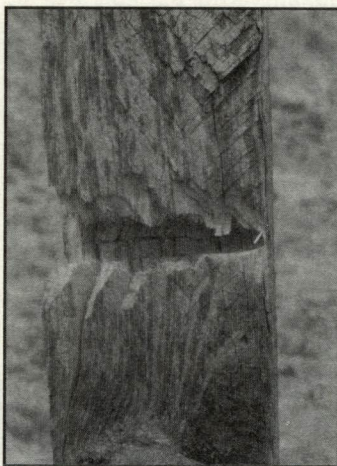
The test unit was equipped with an 18" Lothar Walther bull barrel complete with a threaded muzzle. This barrel assembly makes for a true heavyweight gun. The complete gun, with collapsible stock lower, weighs in at 9 lbs. unloaded. Loaded 10-round magazines add another pound. This weight helps tame down felt recoil. As stated earlier, the recoil feels comparable to a 12 gauge shotgun. The lighter weight barrel units produce a bit more felt recoil. Ammunition used in the test included Hanson 300 grain Soft Point and Speer Gold Dot 325 grain Hollow Points. At this time Hanson, Speer and Samson are the

only companies that manufacture loaded ammo for the .50AE.

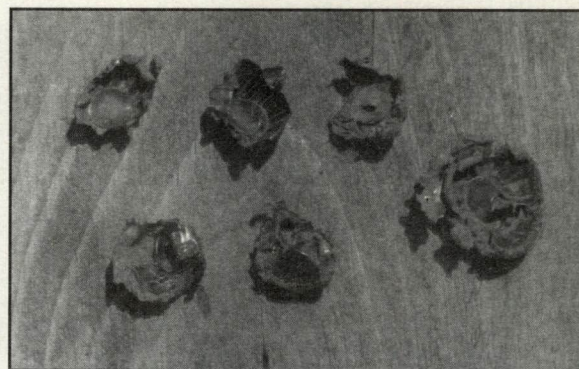
The first tests were done semi-auto, just to make sure that the unit was functioning properly. The first magazine fired from the gun yielded two failures to feed on the first two rounds. The last eight rounds fed and fired with no problems. The second magazine (different mag) produced one failure to feed on the second round. This happened half a dozen more times with each magazine, then things smoothed out and the unit fed and fired flawlessly. I initially attributed the failures to feed to either slightly rough magazine feed lips or a sharp edge in the mouth of the chamber. Mario had informed me, in advance, that it usually took about 100 rounds to "break in" the conversion. Failures to feed were later traced down to the Hanson soft-point ammo. This ammo was

loaded with a very flat, soft point bullet. The massive amount of exposed lead on the bullet tip was catching the mouth of the chamber and jamming the gun. When we switched to the Speer ammo, which is a fully jacketed hollow point, the feeding failures were eliminated.

Firing the gun semi-auto, we did some accuracy testing. The targets were set at 50 yards mainly because the .50AE is a handgun cartridge. At this range, firing from a rest with the A2 open sights, the gun printed 3- and 5-shot groups under three inches. Mounting a 4X scope on the gun yielded a very pleasant surprise. All ammo fired from the gun will print under one inch at fifty yards! In fact, several 3-round groups produced one ragged .75 inch hole. This is definitely an accurate gun and cartridge combination. The .50AE cartridge is very flat shooting and even at 100 yards will



This 4 x 4 wood post shows a good cross section of the "wound channel" created by the Speer 325 grain hollow point ammo.



Because of the high velocity generated by the longer barrel of the rifle conversion, the .50AE ammo expands tremendously. The five rounds on the left are Hanson 300 grain soft points which were recovered from hard packed soil. Penetration depth was anywhere from 8 to 12 inches. The bullet on the far right is a Speer 325 grain hollow point recovered after it penetrated a 4 x 4 wood post and still went 6 inches into the dirt backstop.



All loads were chronographed using a PACT Mark III timer with chrono and rate of fire option installed.

print groups of one inch! Velocities were measured with a PACT Mark III timer. The Hanson 300 grain soft point loading was clocked at a average of 1805 fps. The Speer 325 grain hollow passed the sky-screens at 1720 fps. Samson ammo has been chronographed at slightly over 1850 fps out of the conversion but was not available at the time of our test. By the way, firing the gun from a rest really transmits the recoil right to the shoulder i.e. it is painful.

FULL-AUTO

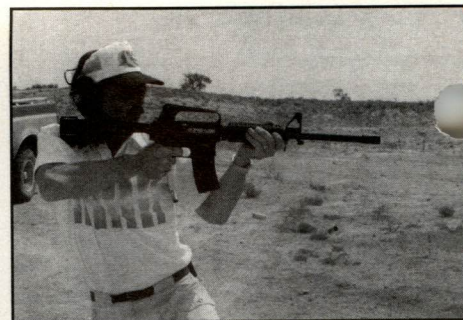
We then switched to full-auto mode. Mario's warnings proved to be true. The gun will really hammer you. Three-round groups can be put on a milpark type target at thirty yards but it takes practice. Bullet impacts are 6 to 8 inches apart at this range. With the selector set for rock and roll you better hang on. Firing the gun full-auto requires a full-size stock, not a collapsible CAR type stock.

CYCLIC RATE

The cyclic rate was measured with a PACT MARK III timer with rate-of-fire option installed. Rates with all ammunition averaged 750- to 800-rounds per minute. At this rate of fire (13-rounds per second), you can put over 1 lb. of lead-on a target with a 2-second burst!

CONCLUSIONS

After shooting the .50AE in a rifle, I'm not sure that I would want to shoot it in a handgun. The recoil must be wild. Right now the only loading data produced is for handguns. In time, as more of these conversions are sold, I'm sure that someone will come up with a load for rifles. Velocities for these rifle loads will probably exceed the 2000 fps mark. Even with the pistol load, the AR-50AE conversion can be used in a hunting role to take most, if not all, North American game including elk and bear. It is definitely a "brush buster." For someone wanting a compact rifle with these capabilities, the AR-.50AE is the way to go. It's been touted that this conversion would turn the AR-15/M16 into the ultimate entry gun. In fact, several units have been sold to military and police agencies. The entry gun role will remain to be seen. Extensive training with the gun will be needed if it is to be used in this role. Recoil is heavy and therefore accuracy will suffer in the full-auto mode. Semi-auto is a different story. The gun can be controlled and will produce excellent accuracy with phenomenal knockdown power. For the recreational shooter/competitor, the gun will take down any steel target. In fact, it will



The author, shown here at the end of a three-round burst, was not ready for the pronounced recoil generated by full-auto fire. The gun can be fired effectively full-auto, but it takes some practice.

probably damage most of them. The .50AE ammo is not cheap, with a retail price of over a dollar a round. If you want the most potent conversion you can buy for the AR-15/M16 the AR-50AE is definitely the unit for you. The inventors have done their homework and come up with an outstanding conversion. It is very well made, functions well and is a **BLAST** to shoot.

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7.62x54r LIGHT BALL AM-0510-C320	German Military Arsenals	1980s	Steel	Steel Core FMJ	20rds	320rds Plastic Sleeve	20 lbs	No	No	\$44.50 (\$.14rd)	5.75	9.00	12.00	(85 72)
30.06 Steel Core G.I. BLACK TIP AM-0485-C250	F.N. Belgium	1960s	Brass	Steel Core FMJ	250rds	250rds .30 Cal Can	20 lbs	YES	No	\$87.50 (\$.35rd)	5.75	9.00	12.00	(FN 67)
30.06 Ball AM-0447-C250	F.N. Belgium	1960s	Brass	Lead Core FMJ	250rds	250rds .30 Cal Can	20 lbs	YES	No	\$72.50 (\$.29rd)	5.75	9.00	12.00	(FN 67)
30.06 Blank ON LINKS BELTS AM-0480-C250	F.N. Belgium	1970s & 60s	Brass	Star Crimp	250rds	250rds .30 Cal Can	16 lbs	YES	No	\$12.50 (\$.08/rd)	5.00	8.00	10.00	(FN 65)
30.06 Blank ON LINKS BELTS AM-0482-C250	I.M.I. Israel	1990s	Brass	Star Crimp	250rds	250rds .30 Cal Can	16 lbs	YES	YES	\$34.50 (\$.138/rd)	5.00	8.00	10.00	(IMI 30 91)
30.06 Blank, Star Crimp Bulleted AM-0482-C400	I.M.I. Israel	1990s	Brass	N.A.	20rds	400 rds .50 Cal Can	35 lbs	YES	YES	\$49.00 (\$.125/rd)	7.50	13.00	18.75	(IMI 30 91)
7.65 Argentine 7.65x54 AM-0326-C1500	Argentine Military Arsenals	1980s	Brass	N.A.	15rds	1500 rds	90 lbs	YES	No	\$172.50 (\$.115/rd)	33.00	35.00	38.00	(7.65 SF 81)

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How ACCURATE is the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record?

by ERIC M. LARSON

If you legally own a Title II firearm and lose the registration or other transfer document and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) can't find any record of it, you're likely to experience some life-altering events—up to 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine—if an ATF agent ever checks to see if you legally own the firearm.

The legal consequences of errors in the ATF registration data base, such as not being able to find a current registration or other transfer document, or that the firearm is registered at all, are well understood to be very serious. I have determined that there are errors in the ATF registration data base, but the information I need to be able to characterize the nature of these errors and their consequences cannot be legally released to me for study. Moreover, the nature of some error, such as that of a person claiming a "lost" registration form and ATF having no record of the registration, appears to be a fight that ATF will win every time—even if ATF is wrong.

I recently had the opportunity to testify about my concerns about the accuracy of the NFA registration data base at a Congressional Appropriation Subcommittee hearing regarding ATF's fiscal year 1997 budget appropriation¹. I decided to write this article to try and obtain more information about possible errors in the data base from people who currently own, or once owned, a Title II firearm, as well as from attorneys who may have handled such cases. In this article, I have also added more details than I had time to prepare or present in my Congressional testimony.

Recent statements by ATF employees Thomas Busey and Gary N. Schaible regarding the accuracy of the registration data base were published in the May 1996 issue of *Machine Gun News*. On October 18, 1995, Thomas Busey, then Chief of the National Firearms Act Branch of ATF, stated during a training session that the error rate was 8 percent, down from 49-50 percent a year earlier. A subsequent "correction" to Mr. Busey's statements made under penalty of perjury by another ATF employee, Gary N. Schaible, shed no light

on what the error rate actually was, or its consequences. Mr. Schaible stated that the data base was not 100 percent accurate, but that "by using a variety of search techniques, evidence of nonregistration introduced at criminal trial is reliable beyond a reasonable doubt."

Since NFA registration data are protected taxpayer information and are apparently available for detailed analysis only to ATF personnel, how can any outsider objectively determine how valid and reliable these data are? At this time, the only data ATF has publicly released are various crosstabulations of "NFA Registration Activity" that cover the years from approximately 1990 to 1995. After analyzing some of these data, I found there is reasonable evidence to conclude that there are errors in the NFA registration data base, but still lack sufficient information to be able to characterize the precise nature and extent of these errors. Nevertheless, I believe that the results of my analysis constitute valid and reliable evidence to justify a formal inquiry into the nature and extent of these errors.

The National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record (which I'll refer to hereafter as the Registry) is, as its name indicates, where the records of registrations and transfers of NFA firearms are kept. It is located at ATF headquarters in Washington, D.C. The limited information that I've learned about the Registry has come from analyzing ATF's data on "Annual Registration Activity," various ATF memorandums and documents about the Registry, comments by attorneys and other persons who said they have had experiences with error problems in the Registry, and talking with Gary N. Schaible, an ATF employee who oversees the Registry. I will review these materials here.

Types of Errors in the Registry

There are at least three types of potential errors in the Registry: (1) a registration or other form which has been misfiled, (2) a valid registration or other form that was issued to a person who registered or received an NFA weapon by transfer, of which no record can be found in the Reg-

istry, and (3) invalid registrations, i.e., a registration to a person who is probably deceased. There is anecdotal evidence that some current owners of registered Title II firearms are, if they are still alive, more than 100 years old. If these people are dead, what has happened to their registered firearms? There appears to be no way to determine how many owners of registered Title II firearms are still alive, unless ATF searches for them to determine the validity of their registrations. While the outcomes of the first two types of errors is identical (that is, a record of a registration or other document cannot be located), they mean very different things. The third type of error—an invalid registration—raises questions about the current location of the NFA firearm in question, and whether its current owner is aware that it has to be registered (for some "any other weapon" firearms, such as animal trap guns, an hunter who wasn't a gun collector may not know about the registration requirement).

The first type of error is one in which a registration or other document has not been filed under a correct name, serial number, or other identifier. To the extent that the document or registration can be located by using several combinations of identifiers, I don't believe this type of error is necessarily serious. I don't know the extent to which a registration or other document that is actually filed in the Registry cannot be located.

The second type of error is not so easily ascertained or understood. It becomes evident only when a transfer is attempted or the registration of a firearm is checked, and ATF cannot find a record indicating that the firearm is registered to the possessor or transferor (or, perhaps, registered at all).² In such an instance, the possessor or transferor may or may not be able to produce a valid document. I have been unable to determine the extent—if any—to which either of these events have occurred.

Documentations of Known Errors in the Registry

The history of allegations that the Registry contains significant errors goes back more than 20 years. One of the earliest sys-

tematic discussions was based on internal ATF memorandums, which researcher Roger A. Cox used, among other evidence, to conclude in 1982 there were serious flaws in the Registry.³ While records for the past decade (i.e., 1973 to 1982) are "pretty accurate," he stated, registration records prior to 1968 "are basically a shambles." The evidence he cited was an apparent documentation of "discrepancies and inaccuracies in the registration file" described in a 1975 ATF internal memorandum.⁴ Another internal ATF memorandum Cox quotes reported instances which include "no registration to support registered status" although the serial number and registered owner of the firearm was recorded on an index card; "records missing as evidenced by registered owner producing registration form when no form or index card was located in NFA record"; and dual registration of firearms.⁵ Cox concluded: "It is obvious from these communications generated within the administration of the ATF that a great many registration records have been misfiled."

Cox reported only one case of an inaccuracy. He stated that the Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, Police Department attempted to transfer a 1921 Thompson submachine gun bearing serial number 6659 to Cox's company, Law Enforcement Ordinance Company, and the Form 5 transfer "was rejected by the ATF because the firearm was not registered." Cox said the department found their copy of the registration "and forwarded it to Washington." "Then, of course," Cox states, "the government said it was all a mistake."

If the pre-1968 records are as bad as Cox alleges, the errors identified in this discussion may be expected to increase in the near future, because the owners of these firearms may die or seek to transfer their firearms to relatives, or sell them. In 1991 ATF contended that these conditions, while apparently true at the time the criticisms were made, "had largely been corrected" by 1980.⁶

Current Errors in the Registry

The expression "had largely been corrected" seems to be relative, based on recent evidence that indicates there may be significant errors in the Registry data base. On October 18, 1995, Thomas Busey, Chief of the National Firearms Act Branch, made several remarks about the accuracy of the Registry via closed-circuit television at ATF headquarters, in a "Roll

Call Training" session⁷. He said, in part:

"Let me say that when we testify in court, we testify that the data base is 100 percent accurate. That's what we testify to, and we will always testify to that. As you probably well know, that may not be 100 percent true. . . . We're hoping [that numerous cross-checks using multiple identifiers] eliminates the possibility that anything goes out erroneous because we know you're basing your warrants on it, you're basing your entries on it, and you certainly don't want a Form 4 waved in your face when you go in there to show that the guy does have a legally-registered Title 2 weapon. I've heard that's happened. I'm not sure. . . when I first came in a year ago, our error rate was between 49 and 50 percent, so you can imagine what the accuracy of the [Registry] could be, if your error rate's 49 to 50 percent. The error rate now is down to below 8 percent, and that's total. That's common errors and critical errors."

Gary N. Schaible, a specialist in the NFA Branch who is "custodian of NFA records" made the following "corrections" to Mr. Busey's remarks under penalty of perjury:

"Mr. Busey's statement that NFA specialists testify that the data base is 100 percent accurate was a misstatement of the facts. I have never testified that the data base is 100 percent accurate nor, to the best of my knowledge, has any other of the NFA Branch personnel, including Mr. Busey. Mr. Busey's inference that the integrity of the [Registry] is dependent on the data base being 100 percent accurate is erroneous. By using a variety of search techniques, evidence of nonregistration introduced at criminal trial is reliable beyond a reasonable doubt. The reference to an error rate of 49-50 percent is based on an informal, undocumented estimate by personnel from the Firearms and Explosives Regulatory Division. It is unknown how the error rate was calculated. As Mr. Busey stated, the estimate resulted in a number of changes in the NFA Branch to improve data entry and the procedures for performing a search of the [Registry]. The Quality Review Team, a group of Firearms and Explosives Division employees who review data into the [Registry], was formed, in part, as a response to the estimated error rate."

Analyses of Recent Selected "NFA Registration Activity"

These remarks concerned me, and I made a Freedom of Information Act request to obtain NFA registration data for the years 1992 to 1995, the most recent year available. I've reproduced the overall 1995 data tabulation as I received it from ATF in Table 1—the numbers are kind of small (as in the original), and no explanation was included as to what the data mean. Briefly, the "F1" through "F10" columns refer to transactions such as the lawful registration, making, transfer, and importation of NFA firearms.⁸ "LTR" means a transfer or registration that was done by letter, apparently mostly by agencies before forms were available or if forms weren't available. The "4467" column contains registrations on Form 4467 ("Registration of Certain Firearms During November 1968"), which refers to the amnesty period from November 2, 1968, to December 1, 1968.

The "OTHER" column refers to transactions which Mr. Schaible told me apparently are errors of some type; that is, somebody entered the wrong form number into the computer, and the computer automatically routed the transaction to "OTHER." Footnotes in various issues of *Machine Gun News* for this category state that the "OTHER" data include "special arrangement transfers," although it is unclear what this description means. That apparent errors in the "OTHER" column remain uncorrected for several years (totals of 8,435 in 1995; 8,252 in 1994; 8,908 in 1993; and 8,671 in 1992) is probably valid reason for concern.

I didn't analyze all of the data ATF sent me, which included type of NFA firearm by year of current ownership, registration activity by state of applicant, and NFA weapons inventory by state of current owner. The reason is that I'm not sure much would be gained by analyzing these other data, because I was able to learn much by looking at the annual changes in registration for the Form 4467 and Form 4 data. These two forms are probably most likely to be used by private individuals. On the other hand, it is important to note that limiting my analysis only to Forms 4 and 4467 says nothing about the extent to which dealer-to-dealer and other transfer or registration data may be in error.

I started my analysis with the Form 4467 registration data, because it seemed

TABLE 1

Reproduction of Data Table Entitled
 "NFA REGISTRATION ACTIVITY - ANNUAL COMPARISON"
 Issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, 1996,
 for "DATA THROUGH 12/31/95"

Year	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F9	F10	LTR	4467	OTHER	TOTAL
1995	1,124	95,645	17,277	8,059	66,367	2	31,503	1,492	19			221,488
1994	1,272	104,601	22,794	7,870	62,350		35,384	2,865	2			237,138
1993	300	108,282	27,694	7,837	67,741		28,117	406	11		18	240,406
1992	358	76,134	26,883	6,573	46,593	2	20,364	290	40		21	177,258
1991	225	78,255	21,028	5,420	42,246	1	36,804	262			25	184,266
1990	691	89,266	22,902	6,835	56,070	4	27,497	289	44		130	203,728
1989	271	69,568	23,761	8,181	31,138	12	18,128	281	51		94	151,485
1988	341	25,129	39,798	7,712	8,388	2	1,473	403	66	1	445	83,758
1987	412	17,101	34,546	8,330	9,441	2	745	320	144	1	707	71,749
1986	939	70,501	22,976	5,174	4,909		527	381	183	3	735	106,328
1985	645	14,750	15,540	3,532	6,293	1	1,306	334	45	1	720	43,167
1984	535	14,850	14,737	3,916	5,437	1	1,506	294	3	3	336	41,618
1983	455	11,136	11,150	3,207	3,087	27	248	367	4	1	25	29,707
1982	326	7,751	11,421	2,770	2,674	9	1	481	2	3	35	25,473
1981	270	7,132	8,157	3,741	2,721	23	1	342	10	1	18	22,416
1980	162	3,076	6,827	3,046	1,638	6	1	330	7	4	20	15,117
1979	108	3,285	6,988	2,151	1,516	13	6	354	5	1	18	14,445
1978	80	1,430	5,498	1,878	1,258	7	1	730	4	6	16	10,908
1977	77	1,987	6,010	1,537	1,737	2	1	590	14	1	22	11,978
1976	30	880	10,948	983	1,757	19	5	458	3	39	26	15,148
1975	79	1,402	3,280	568	1,835	18	3	614	10		48	7,857
1974	29	1,018	2,962	579	1,690	9	3	507	15	5	7	6,824
1973	16	1,353	2,033	353	1,781	5	7	513	9	18	13	6,101
1972	30	4,021	1,964	262	1,511	14	11	638	33	84	19	8,587
1971	24	2,242	209	36	251	10		311	1,965	26	18	5,092
1970	38	192	18	10	23	16		1	1,567	271	32	2,168
1969	36	761	43	13	42	8	1		1,141	2,017	17	4,079
1968	1,510	1,292	368	194	935	7		4	29	54,503	35	58,877
1967	909	1,141	306	181	844	2			5	64	9	3,461
1966	902	1,293	437	136	1,059	2				8	20	3,857
1965	843	1,246	429	142	1,047	7		1	2	2	20	3,739
1964	744	934	276	139	698	6		1		3	4	2,805
1963	709	720	291	126	808	3	4		1	2	8	2,672
1962	734	1,115	277	205	787	3			1	14	7	3,143
1961	811	1,463	548	153	1,329	5		1	4	2	4	4,320
1960	792	657	314	148	656	20			2	6	1	2,596
1950 to 1959	6,633	5,961	2,165	1,152	2,916	859	16	2	6	23	45	19,778
1940 to 1949	6,574	7,231	4,695	363	4,917	8,452	5	2	4	9	55	32,307
1930 to 1939	11,427	198	547	17	710	22	1	14	26	27	1,263	14,252
1920 to 1929	12	4	12	2	8	1				6	9	54
Prior to 1920	1	36	21	2	38	1	2	1	1	4	13	120
Unknown	60	349	32	25	334	6	24	1	9	57	3,377	4,274
Total	41,534	835,388	378,162	103,558	447,580	9,609	203,695	13,880	5,487	57,216	8,435	2,104,544

Source: Letter and enclosure from Eric A. O'Neal, Disclosure Specialist, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to Eric M. Larson dated March 25, 1996, bearing symbols LPI:D:EAO 96-363.

to me that nearly all of these data should be classified only in the year 1968. Because the amnesty period from November 2, 1968, to December 1, 1968, occurred only during 1968, Form 4467 registrations should not have occurred during other years. In Table 2, I have listed the number of Form 4467 registrations by calendar year during 1992 to 1995, showing changes in original yearly registrations. I listed the data for each year, and highlighted changes in the numbers from the previous year using boldface type. Some data entries seemed unexplainable; for example, Form 4467 registrations in years before and after 1968, as well as 29 apparent additional total registrations during 1992 to 1995 for years before 1988. How could the number of Form 4467 registrations increase during 1992 to 1995, more than 20 years after the 1968 amnesty period expired?

While on their face the data may appear flawed, I already had reason to believe that some data entries shown in Table 2 were legitimate. For example, I bought an amnesty gun in 1994 from its original owner, who sent me the original Form 4467 registration as part of the transaction. A stamp on the back of the form indicates it was received by ATF on November 27, 1968, while the firearm was apparently not registered until January 30, 1969, according to the date stamped on the front of the form. With more than 50,000 forms coming in, it seemed reasonable that some of them might not have been entered into the Registry until early 1969. Consequently, the 2,017 Form 4467 registrations in 1969 does not seem out of line.

I performed identical calculations using the Form 4 data. As Table 3 shows, there were similar patterns of apparent additions to the Registry each year; specifically, there were 339 additional Form 4 registrations during 1992 to 1995 for years before 1995. As was the case with the Form 4467 data, the original ATF data (see Table 1) had entries for the years 1920 to 1929, and prior to 1920. Since the NFA wasn't enacted until 1934, these pre-1934 data entries seemed particularly strange. As with the Form 4467 data, I didn't see how the Form 4 data could be accurate since the yearly totals changed. It seemed to me that if the registration data were accurate for a given year, these data would not (by definition) change from year to year.

TABLE 2

Year(s) of original registration	Number of Form 4467 (amnesty) registrations by calendar year, 1992-1995, showing changes in original yearly registrations						
	1992	1993	Annual change	1994	Annual change	1995	Annual change
1995							
1994							
1993							
1992							
1991							
1990							
1989							
1988				1	+1	1	0
1987	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
1986	3	3	0	3	0	3	0
1985	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
1984	3	3	0	3	0	3	0
1983	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
1982	3	3	0	3	0	3	0
1981	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
1980	4	4	0	4	0	4	0
1979	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
1978	6	6	0	6	0	6	0
1977	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
1976	39	39	0	39	0	39	0
1975							
1974	5	5	0	5	0	5	0
1973	17	17	0	18	+1	18	0
1972	84	84	0	84	0	84	0
1971	26	26	0	26	0	26	0
1970	272	272	0	271	-1	271	0
1969	2,006	2,010	+4	2,016	+6	2,017	+1
1968	54,487	54,485	-2	54,485	0	54,503	+18
prior to 1968	168	168	0	169	+1	170	+1
Unknown	58	58	0	57	-1	57	0
TOTALS	57,187	57,189	+2	57,196	+7	57,216	+20

Source: Letter from Eric A. O'Neal, Disclosure Specialist, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to Eric M. Larson dated March 25, 1996, bearing symbols LPI:D:EAO 96-363, and enclosures entitled "NFA Registration Activity - Annual Comparison" with data for years ending December 31. The "Annual change" columns were calculated by Eric M. Larson.

Because Form 1 was used to voluntarily register NFA firearms from July 26, 1934, to October 31, 1968, I examined Form 1 registrations that ATF reported had occurred in or before 1968, to see if there were any changes during 1992 to 1995. The number of such registrations increased by 17 during 1992 to 1995 (detailed data not shown). These registrations were added for the years 1930 to 1939 (5 registrations); 1950 to 1959 (4 registrations); and 2 registrations during each of the years 1960, 1961, 1965, and 1966. Another 48 registrations were added during 1992 to 1995 for an "unknown" year—apparently ATF doesn't know when any of these firearms were actually registered.

Thus, the data ATF has released indicates that ATF apparently has added at least 17 validly registered NFA firearms to the Registry that were registered before 1968, and that ATF apparently had no

record of their registration until the period from 1992 to 1995. These firearms probably were added to the Registry during the course of an applications to transfer ownership of these firearms. I think it is safe to conclude that each of the 17 people who transferred the ownership of one of these firearms is mighty grateful that he or she still possessed the original approved Form 1 registration.

ATF's Responses to Questions About Current Errors in the Registry

About two weeks before the Congressional hearing at which I testified, I called Gary N. Schaible to ask him about these patterns in the data. During a return telephone call he told me that the apparent discrepancies probably were cataloging or data entry errors. He said he could offer no other ready explanation for most of the instances that I cited, except that the Reg-

istry data are constantly being updated and corrected as errors are encountered. Some errors occurred, he said, because a computer record had not been updated after a transfer had been processed manually.⁹ In such an instance, a registered Title II firearm would not be shown in the computerized version of the Registry as being registered to its current lawful owner. Mr. Schaible told me that only the last three transfers were shown on the current computerized NFA records, and that earlier transfers would have to be looked up manually.

The pre-1934 data entries were, Mr. Schaible said, "obviously errors"; that he didn't know how such errors could have been allowed to occur; and that the pre-1934 classifications had been programmed into the system by whoever wrote the program.

Regarding the appearance that firearms are being added to the Registry, Mr. Schaible said that if an error was detected on a form and it was misclassified, it would be reclassified as a Form 4, a Form 4467, or whatever form was correct, and that it would be re-entered in the year that the transaction actually occurred. The apparent additions of Form 4467 registrations in some of the years after 1968 could, therefore, represent classification errors. Mr. Schaible told me he could not explain the reason for 39 apparent Form 4467 registrations having occurred in 1976, except that they probably represented some kind of an error or errors. He said: "This is a system that was made by humans, is run by humans, and humans make mistakes."

I asked Mr. Schaible if he had personal knowledge of any cases where ATF had added an NFA firearm to the Registry, in the course of a person attempting to transfer a legally registered NFA firearm for which ATF had no record of the registration. Mr. Schaible told me he assumed there had been cases where a person possessed a valid NFA firearm registration form that was not in the Registry, and that "in such a case, ATF would definitely add the firearm to the Registry." It appears to me as though this has "definitely" been done during 1992 to 1995 for at least 17 Form 1 registrations for NFA firearms that were originally registered before 1968.

Mr. Schaible explained the apparent discrepancies I pointed out in what I thought was sufficient detail to be reasonable. In some cases he volunteered obscure

Year(s) of original registration	1992	1993	Annual change	1994	Annual change	1995	Annual change
1995						8,059	N/A
1994				7,838	N/A	7,870	+32
1993		7,749	N/A	7,819	+70	7,837	+18
1992	6,527	6,556	+29	6,568	+12	6,573	+5
1991	5,390	5,400	+10	5,411	+11	5,420	+9
1990	6,807	6,821	+14	6,830	+9	6,835	+5
1989	8,165	8,176	+11	8,176	0	8,181	+5
1988	7,699	7,703	+4	7,707	+4	7,712	+5
1987	8,311	8,318	+7	8,321	+3	8,330	+9
1986	5,158	5,162	+4	5,172	+10	5,174	+2
1985	3,524	3,526	+2	3,529	+3	3,532	+4
1984	3,911	3,913	+2	3,915	+2	3,916	+1
1983	3,203	3,204	+1	3,207	+3	3,207	0
1982	2,770	2,771	+1	2,770	-1	2,770	0
1981	3,734	3,735	+1	3,737	+2	3,741	+4
1980	3,040	3,040	0	3,044	+4	3,046	+2
1979	2,150	2,150	0	2,151	+1	2,151	0
1978	1,879	1,878	-1	1,879	+1	1,878	-1
1977	1,535	1,535	0	1,537	+2	1,537	0
1976	979	979	0	983	+4	983	0
1975	567	567	0	567	0	568	+1
1974	579	579	0	579	0	579	0
1973	353	353	0	353	0	353	0
1972	261	261	0	261	0	262	+1
1971	36	36	0	36	0	36	0
1970	10	10	0	10	0	10	0
1969	13	13	0	13	0	13	0
1968	192	193	+1	193	0	194	+1
prior to 1968	2,758	2,762	+4	2,766	+4	2,766	0
Unknown	22	23	+1	26	+3	25	-1
CHANGES			+92		+147		+102
Totals	79,573	87,413	N/A	95,398	N/A	103,558	N/A

Source: Letter from Eric A. O'Neal, Disclosure Specialist, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to Eric M. Larson dated March 25, 1996, bearing symbols LPI:D:EAO 96-363, and enclosures entitled "NFA Registration Activity - Annual Comparison" with data for years ending December 31. The "Annual change" columns were calculated by Eric M. Larson.

information that I already knew to be true (namely, that ATF had accepted Form 4467 registrations from returning overseas U.S. servicemen until about 1971, since they hadn't been in the United States and able to use the amnesty period). Consequently, I believe that Mr. Schaible was being candid and truthful. I once purchased an NFA firearm that I was told was registered in 1971 by such a serviceman, and it was interesting to hear the story independently confirmed by an ATF employee.

Conclusion: The Registry Should be Independently Audited

The fact that two ATF employees have said they have heard or assumed that validly registered or transferred NFA firearms are not recorded in the Registry is reason for concern. This type of error is especial-

ly troubling, because of the potentially severe penalties for possessing an unregistered NFA firearm—up to 10 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and other penalties. It seems to me there should be zero tolerance for error in the Registry. I think that the apparent errors I have identified in the Registry and Mr. Busey's statements justify an independent audit of the Registry. He said: "The error rate now is down to below 8 percent, and that's total. That's common errors and critical errors." What are the consequences of these errors?

I believe, in one sense, that talk of "errors" in the Registry can be misleading, to the extent that a record of a registration or other transaction can be located by doing multiple runs using multiple identifiers. It may not be cost-effective, or even necessary, to eliminate all of these "errors" in the Registry, if the records can be located.

On the other hand, maintaining clearly inappropriate classifications (such as firearms that appear to have been registered or transferred under the NFA before 1934, and Form 4467 registrations that appear to have occurred after 1971) year after year seems inexcusable, and suggests inattention. The column of "OTHER" data, which apparently represents error, also does not inspire confidence—there have been more than 8,000 errors during *each* of the years 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995.

No amount of "purifying" a data base will shed any light on how extensive the second type of error is—the error of a valid registration or other document missing from the Registry. This error appears to be detectable *only* when a transfer is attempted or an ATF agent attempts to verify the registration of an NFA firearm (for example, during a compliance inspection). This appears to have happened at least 17 times during 1992 to 1995, because, as we have seen, 17 NFA firearms registered on Form 1 were added to the Registry. Apparently, if a person who owns a validly registered NFA firearm loses his or her form, and ATF has no record of the registration or other document, that person is in considerable legal peril. I don't know how many times, if any, this has occurred (and the nature of prosecution by ATF), but I think this is a valid area for inquiry.

There also does not appear to be a straightforward solution to this error or problem. A person who is caught possessing an unregistered NFA firearm, who claims it is actually registered and he or she lost the registration document, may or may not be telling the truth.

It seems highly unlikely to me that any person would attempt to transfer ownership of an NFA firearm that he or she knew was not registered to him or her. The reason is that Form 4 contains spaces that the transferor must fill out, and the transferor must attest to the truthfulness of the information on the form under penalties of perjury. I don't believe that very many—indeed, any—people would knowingly attest, in a document sent to ATF, to facts they knew were false and which they knew that ATF could prove were false. In this case, the law is on the side of ATF. Moreover, if the firearm in question is a machinegun, ATF is not required to prove the firearm was not registered for the possessor to be charged with a felony for violating Title 18, U.S.C., 922(o).

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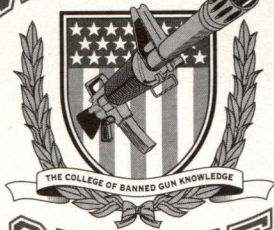


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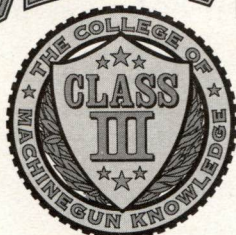
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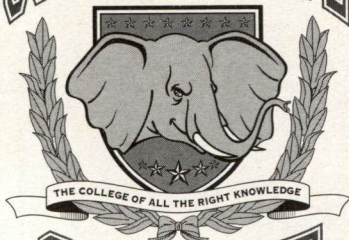
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As the generations of people who voluntarily registered NFA firearms on Form 1 during 1934 to 1968 begin to die or sell or transfer the ownership of their firearms, it is relevant to question how many cases will result in which an original registration form cannot be located, even though the firearm was legally registered. If you don't have the paperwork and it isn't in ATF's records, and you try to transfer ownership of what you know is a legally registered NFA firearm, you can have a serious problem. As of 1995, according to ATF's data, 32,601 NFA firearms were registered on Form 1 during 1934 to 1968 (not counting the 60 "unknown") firearms. How many *more* NFA firearms are legally registered, for which ATF has no record of their registration?

To be able to better characterize the extent of serious errors in the Registry, if any, I suggested that the Appropriations Subcommittee consider making a written inquiry to ATF regarding the accuracy of the Registry. I suggested that the following questions be asked:

1. During each of the past 10 years, how many transfers of NFA firearms has ATF declined to approve, if any, because according to the Registry there was no record of the firearm having been registered to the transferor?

A. In how many of these cases, if any, was the transferor prosecuted for a violation of the NFA or the GCA, or both, with respect to the attempted transfer?

2. During each of the past 10 years, how many unregistered NFA firearms has ATF added to the Registry, if any, because the possessor or transferor produced a valid registration or other document which entitled him or her to possess or transfer the firearm, for which a record could not be found in the Registry?

A. In how many of these cases, if any, did producing such a document result in criminal charges against the possessor or transferor being dropped?

3. During each of the past 10 years, how many NFA firearms have been seized by, abandoned or forfeited to ATF, if any, because the possessor or transferor was unable to produce a valid registration or other document which entitled him or her to possess the firearm?

A. In how many of these cases, if any, was an NFA firearm that was seized by, abandoned, or forfeited to ATF returned to the possessor or transferor because he or

she produced a valid registration or other document which entitled him or her to possess or transfer the firearm?

Questions about the accuracy of the Registry probably cannot be satisfactorily resolved without an audit which is performed independently from ATF. This is standard practice, since no agency with the responsibility for maintaining any types of records, be they financial or of firearms registrations, can be assumed to be objective in its accounting. While Registry data are protected from disclosure by law, it seems to me that it would be possible for some independent entity, with qualified audit personnel who possess appropriate security clearances, to audit the Registry. Such an audit should include an evaluation of the validity of all current registrations, including those for persons who apparently are deceased.

Some errors in the Registry seem to me to be very difficult to know about or document, particularly cases where ATF may have made an error and its disclosure would be embarrassing. On the other hand, any person who legally owned a Title II firearm who was accused by ATF of illegally possessing it because ATF couldn't find a record of it in the Registry and later had those charges dropped because he or she had a valid registration or other document, would probably never forget that experience.

I don't know the extent to which persons who produced valid registration forms or other documents, of which ATF had no record, has caused ATF to add NFA firearms to the Registry, but I'd like to try and find out. Therefore, I would greatly appreciate it if anyone who can document such cases would let me know about it (letters from attorneys are welcome).

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Takoma Park, Maryland 20913
Telephone (301) 270-3450

Editors' Note: Copies of Mr. Larson's written testimony (Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997, Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations House of Representatives, Part 5) are available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Sales Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Phone (202) 512-1800. Fax (202) 512-2250. The cost is \$19 for Part 5. ISBN number 0-16-052877-9.

FOOTNOTES

1. Statement on "Curio or Relic" Firearms Manufactured in or Before 1934 Which Are Also Classified in the "Any Other Weapon" Category Under the National Firearms Act (NFA) of 1934, as Amended, by Eric M. Larson, for the Collectors Arms Dealers Association, before the Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government of the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., April 30, 1996. This article is largely based on this testimony.

2. An attorney told me that sometimes ATF will refuse to approve a transfer because ATF has no record that the firearm is registered, moves to seize the firearm and to prosecute the transferor, but is forced to halt the prosecution when the transferor produces a valid registration. ATF, the attorney said, "is then forced to add the firearm to the Registry."

3. See "The ATF Registration Record," in The Thompson Submachine Gun, by Roger A. Cox. Athens, Georgia: Law Enforcement Ordinance Co, 1982, pp. 73-75.

4. Memorandum to Assistant Director, Technical and Scientific Services, from Reginald T. West, Chief, NFA Branch, dated April 3, 1975, bearing symbols T:T:N:RTW.

5. Memorandum from William A. Boone, Special Agent, and James A. Fowler, Inspector, to the Assistant Director (Inspection), dated May 22, 1975, bearing symbols I:O:WAB/JAF.

6. Memorandum to Chief, Firearms Division, from Wayne Miller, Chief, National Firearms Act Branch, dated April 30, 1991, bearing symbols CC-39,594 FE:CLK.

7. "Roll Call Training/10-95/Tom Busey." Obtained by a Freedom of Information Request. See letter from Eric A. Neil, Senior Disclosure Specialist, to Eric M. Larson dated April 1, 1996, bearing symbols LPI:D:EAO 96-405. This Request also contains a document entitled "Corrections by Gary N. Schaible Concerning Transcript of Roll Call Training by Tom Busey, Chief, National Firearms Act Branch October 18, 1995," which is also partially quoted here.

8. The other forms are: Form 1 ("Application to Make and Register a Firearm"). From July 26, 1934, to October 31, 1968, Form 1 was used to voluntarily register unregistered NFA firearms; Form 1A, which is no longer in use, was for a tax-paid "making" of an NFA firearm, during that same period. Form 2 ("Notice of Firearms Manufactured or Imported"). Form 3 ("Application for Tax Exempt Transfer of Firearm and Registration to Special (Occupational) Taxpayer"). Form 4 ("Application for Tax Paid Transfer and Registration of Firearm"). Form 5 ("Application for Tax Exempt Transfer and Registration of a Firearm"). Form 6 (Part I—"Application and Permit for Importation of Firearms, Ammunition and Implements of War"; Part II—"Application and Permit for importation of Firearms (Military)"); and Form 6A ("Release and Receipt of Imported Firearms, Ammunition, and Implements of War"). Form 9 ("Application and Permit for Permanent Exportation of Firearms"). Form 10 ("Application for Registration of Firearms Acquired by Certain Governmental Entities").

9. A lack of up-to-date record-keeping may have contributed to the fact that during a 1977 compliance audit of J. Curtis Earl, ATF apparently had no record of 425 NFA firearms which Earl proved were legally registered in his business. See "Oversight Hearings on Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms." Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate, 96th Congress, 1st Session, July 9-11, 1979. Special Hearing, Department of the Treasury, Non-departmental Witnesses. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1979, p. 40. **MGN**

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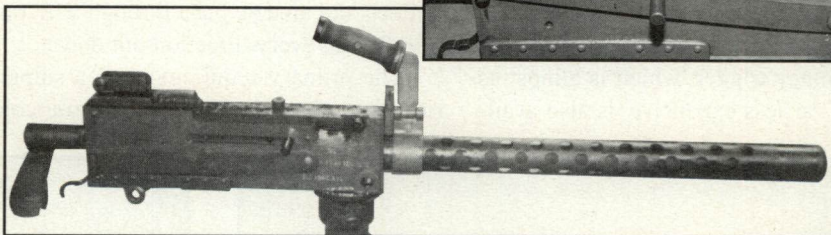
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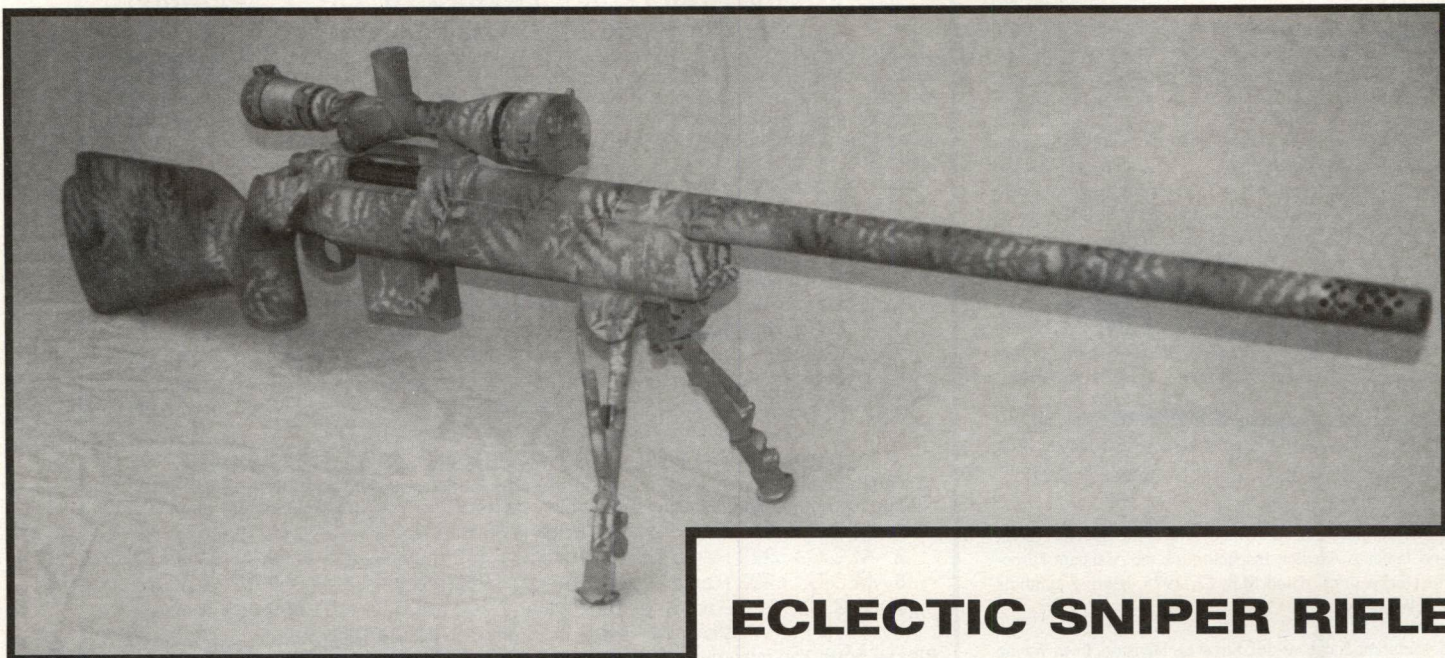
Hard chrome trunnions altered to feed links or belts.

Other Models: 1919A5 - 7.62 or .30-06; 1919A6 - 7.62 or .30-06; 1917 com. .30-06; 1917A1 - .30-06; M37 - .30-06; AN-M2 .30

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Precision Shooting



ECLECTIC SNIPER RIFLE

**from Georgia Precision
Shooter's Supply**

by **MARK WHITE**

A great deal of knowledge and experience went into the collection of components that make up this completed package. I've handled it and shot it. It feels good, is rock solid, and handles exceptionally well. I like it.

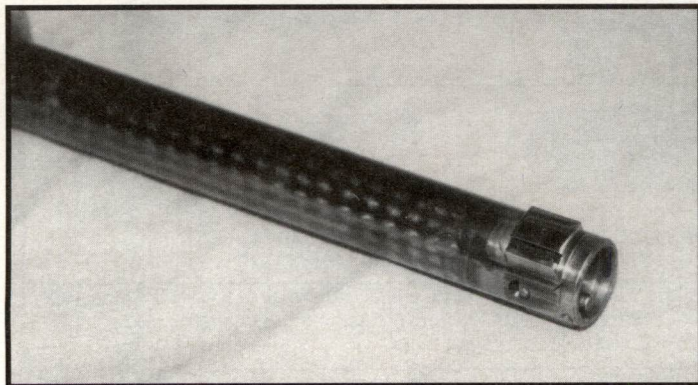
Starting with the action, we have a standard Remington Model 700 in .300 Win Mag. The trued action is the only thing that is standard. The trigger is made by Arnold Jewell of New Braunfels, Texas. It may be set to trip at any reasonable pressure, is very crisp, and many say it is the very best. This particular trigger was set at 2 1/2 pounds, which has become the standard for very accurate rifles in the U.S. A Timney trigger, which is almost as good, and far less expensive, is also avail-

able as an option. It should be mentioned that there is absolutely nothing wrong with the stock Remington trigger either. I have one on my Remington 700P, and it is all I could ever desire in a trigger.

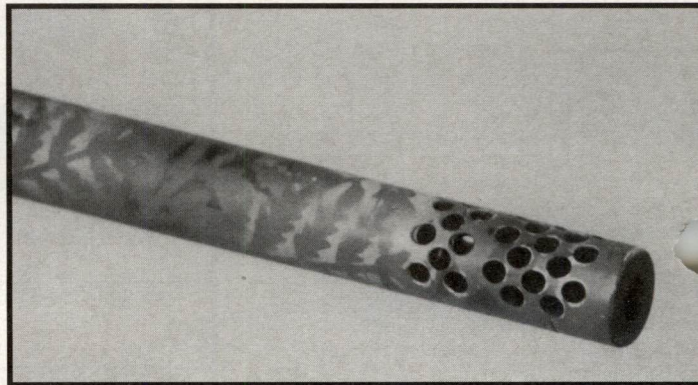
The .30 caliber, 1-in-10-inch twist, cut rifled barrel is made by Ken Johnson of K & P Barrels in New Rockford, North Dakota. The barrel is 26 inches long and is fitted with a sniper style muzzle brake, which deflects the muzzle blast through a myriad of holes, in every direction but down.

The primary requirement of a sniping rifle is to place the first shot from a cold,

dry bore, exactly on the center of the target. Some rifles put their first shot of the day in a place somewhat removed from where the rest of the group will fall thereafter. This is especially so if a suppressor or muzzle brake starts to loosen during firing, and that can walk a group all over the target face. The barrel in this rifle was definitely not so affected. The first shot went right on the money. Subsequent shots entered the same hole at 200 yards, providing



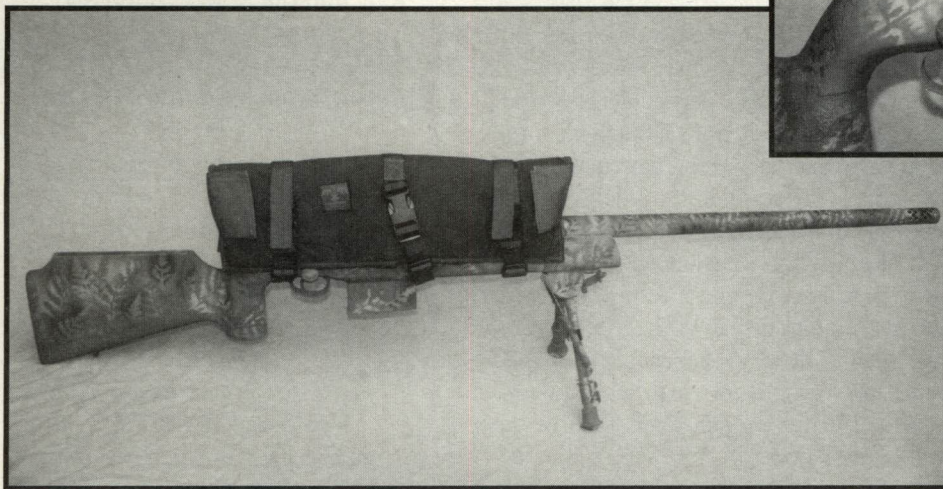
Bolt lugs are trued and lapped for precision engagement.



Sniper style muzzle brake does not allow propellant gas to exit downward.

Right: The rugged, custom Marine Mil Dot scope made by Premier Reticle is held on by a Leopold scope mount. The scope features flip-open lense covers by Butler Creek Corp., available in opaque or clear plastic. These covers have become the standard in the industry.

Below: Custom battle cover by Black Hawk Industries, Inc. protects optics on way to deployment. The cover can double as a pad or rest in the field.



a three-shot group with a center to center spread of about 5/16 inch. It should be mentioned that the owner of the rifle, a police sniper, was pulling the trigger for this group. While a five-shot group is the industry standard, for most sniping situations three shots will provide an indication of accuracy which is more than sufficient.

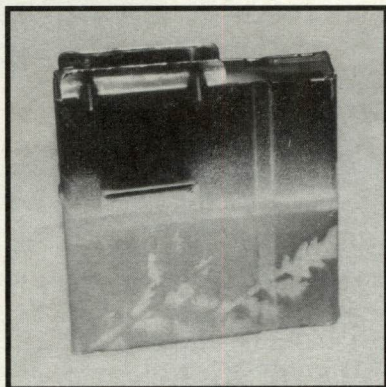
For those new to the science of police sniping, it should again be mentioned that it is essential that the officer actually see his shot strike, and the only practical way to accomplish this is with a proper muzzle brake. Since most shots will be fired from prone, on the ground, a sniper brake should have no holes in the bottom sector, for that would allow gas to blow mud, dust and sand around violently — obscuring vision and revealing one's position. More on brakes later.

The eight-shot, detachable box magazine is made by Kwik Klip. It is a standard, bolt-in item, works well, and is reasonably priced.

A careful sniper will feed his cartridges singly, by hand, but it is nice to know that the bolt may also be worked rapidly over a full magazine, if ever a larger volume of fire were required.

The composite Anschutz style stock is made by McMillan Fiberglass Stocks of Phoenix, Arizona. It is light, strong, very stable, ample and comfortable. The action is bedded, along with an inch of the barrel. The rest of the barrel is free floated. Between the muzzle brake, the stock and the recoil pad, the kick from the heavily loaded .300 Win Mag cartridge is notably mild.

Attached to the forearm of the stock is a rather conventional Harris bipod. A carrying sling is attached to the stock at the rear, and to the center of the bipod near the front.



The Kwik Klip holds eight rounds of .300 Win Mag or ten rounds in .308.

The scope mount is made by Leopold. The base is both glued and screwed to the top of the receiver. The rings are detachable, meaning that the scope may easily be taken off, and then quickly replaced without losing zero.

The scope itself is a custom Marine Mil Dot, with crosshairs which are able to glow in darkness or twilight. The scope has a large elevation turret and was made by Premier Reticle of

Winchester, Virginia. Premier Reticle specializes in high-end military scopes which are unusually rugged. The lenses on this scope are protected by inexpensive flip-open covers by Butler Creek Corp. As an

aside, about half of these covers are opaque, and half are clear. Those which are clear allow use in a hurry, when there may not be time to remove or open them. In many cases the clear covers are preferred.

Rather than be finished in gleaming, stainless steel, the entire firearm, including the scope, was sprayed with a durable polymer camouflage pattern, as befits its intended use. Whether used in wood or field, the camo blends in well. Some Urban uses might call for a mottled gray, but in most cities there is some foliage, somewhere, and this pattern choice is a good one.

There are several things about muzzle brakes which should be mentioned. They are easy to make, and currently popular. Brownells, for instance, carries no fewer than three pages of them. Most brake manufacturers build theirs with a slender profile, equal to the muzzle diameter. This, in my view, is a mistake, as it forces one to turn and thread the barrel's muzzle down to a much smaller diameter. This leads to a structural weakness which does not enhance accuracy. I have seen muzzle brakes which either broke clean off, or stripped their threads during firing. If this happens during a critical shot, the zero will be seriously affected. It is imperative that a sniper rifle be able to deliver its first shot right on the money, from a cold, dry bore.

A muzzle brake should be of a significantly larger diameter than its barrel. If threads are used in attachment, they should not reduce the barrel's diameter any more than absolutely necessary. A brake should be fairly short, quite robust, and should have a reservoir of sorts to hold enough gas to prolong the power impulse. A brake should be semipermanently mounted, using both threads and Loctite or soft solder. One does not want the accuracy and zero problems caused by a slowly turning, or unstable brake. Finally, a sniper's brake

should have a single vent, positioned near the 2 o'clock angle for a right-handed shooter, and at 10 o'clock for a left-handed shooter. The vent can be regulated a bit in size and position with a Dremel tool and a burr. It should be adjusted to the shooter, the rifle, and the load. Multiple vents dump gas and move foliage in all directions about the muzzle. A single vent confines the sniper's foliage concern to only one sector.

It should be mentioned that the use of a brake will increase the sound level coming to the shooter's ear by roughly 8 decibels. That may not sound like much, but it represents a straight-line increase of over sixty fold. Ear protectors or radio headphones are mandatory.

The standard police sniping cartridge in this country is the .308 Win round. The .300 Win Mag round uses a greatly increased powder charge, providing a long range capability of roughly 1,000 yards. While a military engagement might take place at that distance, a police action is typically under 100 yards. When moly-coated bullets are used, the .308 barrel should remain accurate after firing as many as 8,000 rounds, good for years of weekly rifle practice. The service life of the hotter .300 Win

Mag is roughly one-quarter of this, or 2,000 rounds. The efficient .308 is an inexpensive workhorse. The .300 Win Mag may provide a flatter trajectory, and slightly greater range, but at an increased price all across the board. The choice of caliber is up to each department, but in good conscience I have to recommend the .308 over the .300 Win Mag for most departmental, law enforcement and military duties.

In summary, this particular rifle from Georgia Precision Shooter's Supply is more expensive than the best bargain in the market today, the Remington Model 700 P. It has a custom trigger, a custom stock, a custom barrel with a fire-lapped bore, a custom muzzle brake, and a lot of handwork and attention to detail. While more expensive than a factory package, it performs better than most factory packages, and represents a better bargain than some of the high-end systems in the marketplace today. If a great deal is resting on a single shot, this or a similar rifle from GPSS would be a good system from which to launch that single shot.

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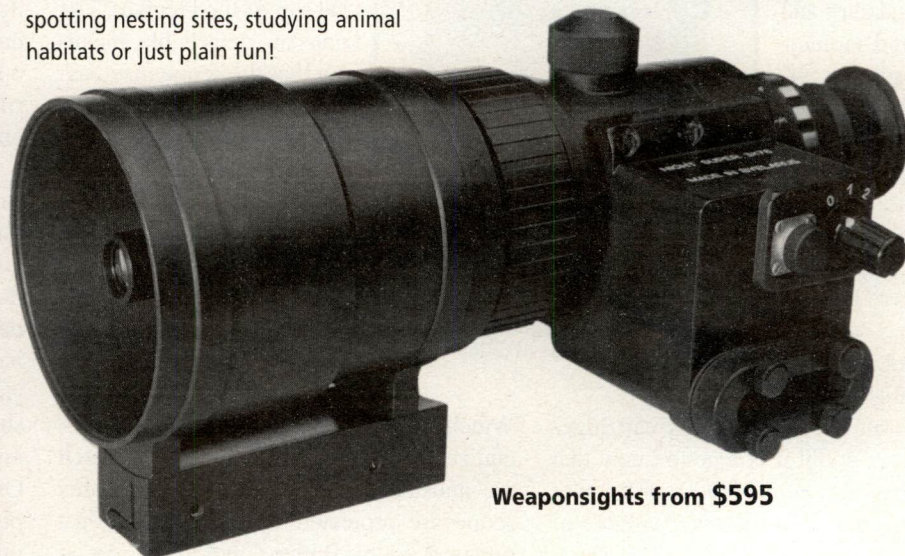
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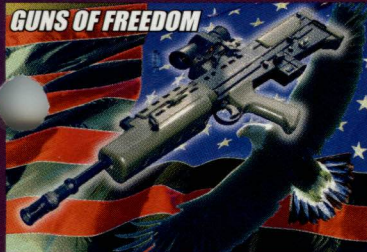
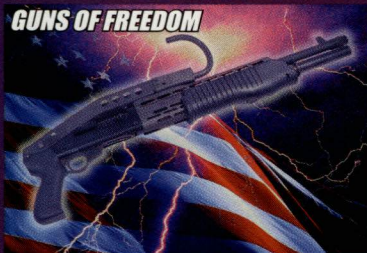
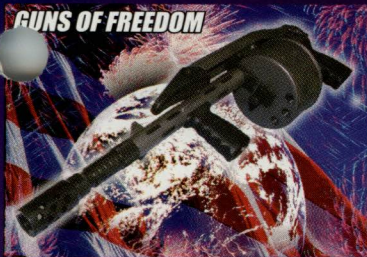
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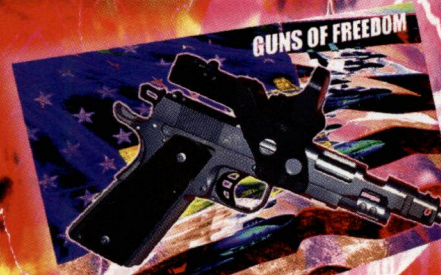


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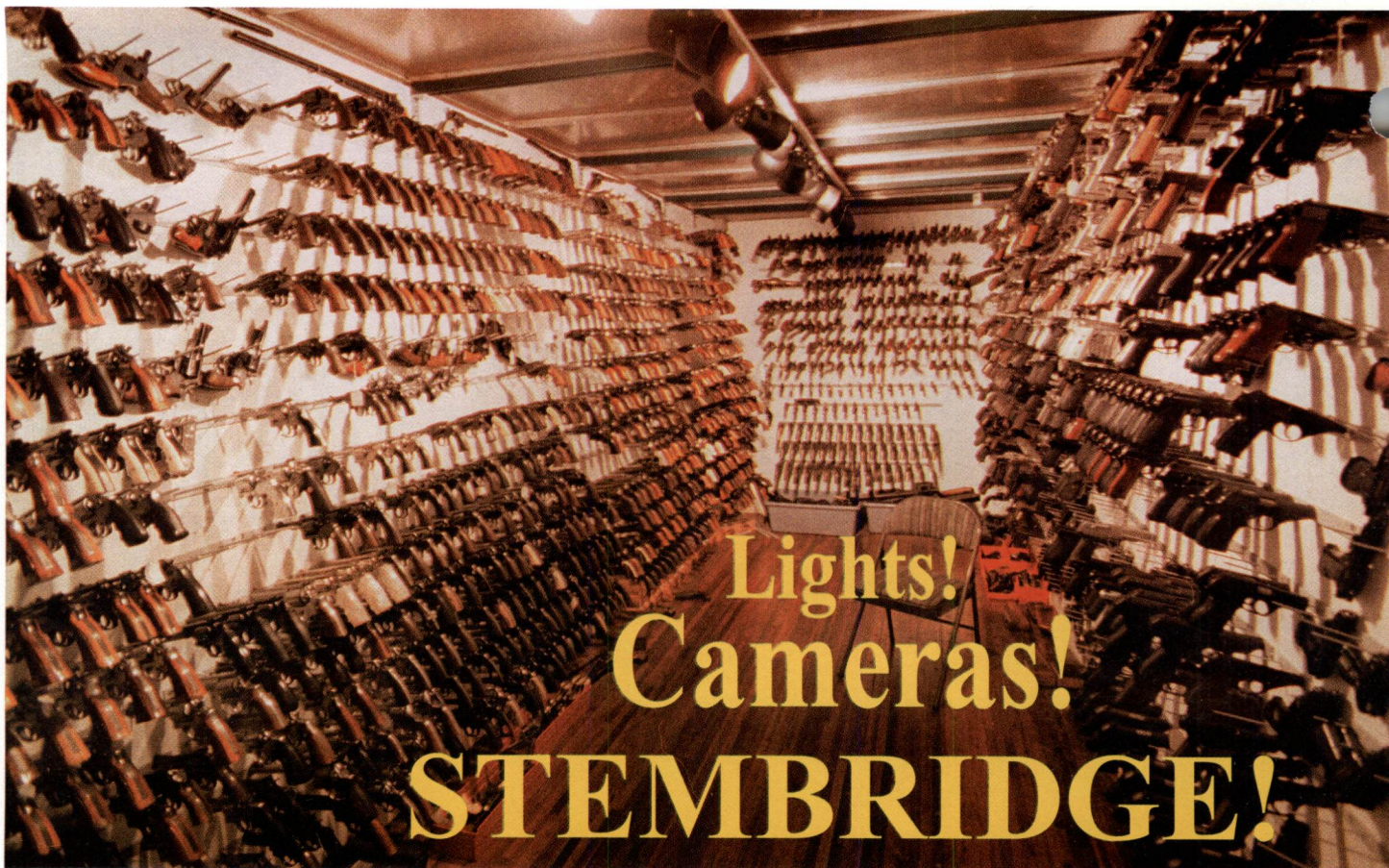
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Lights! Cameras! STEMBRIDGE!

Longtime MGN reader Larry Merrill called and extended an invitation to come to California and do a feature on Stemberidge Gun Rentals, Inc.—I just had to go! Stemberidge is the oldest movie gun rental company there is, with a rich history and LOTS of major films to their credit. MGN hopes you enjoy this glimpse of the men who make the movies roar.

—Dan

When Spanish American War veteran James Sydney Stemberidge heard opportunity knock in 1916, he answered quickly and left a legacy that continues

Transferable GE Mini-gun (M134) set up with the carrying handles from the movie "Terminator 2."

through to the modern day. James was a bit-part actor in Cecil B. De Mille's silent films. Legend has it that during the first full-

length motion picture "The Squawman" (1914), James was asked if he knew how to operate some of the firearms that were being used as props. Army veteran and avid sports shooter that he was, Stemberidge immediately volunteered that he did. Within three years, Stemberidge Gun Rentals, Inc. was born in the old "Hollywood Barn." The official starting date of the company was 1919.

Stemberidge's new company was strategically poised to grow with the fledgling movie industry. He had located right at the heart of the action and was in a part of the business that almost guaranteed him success, if he worked hard. So much of modern world history as well as fiction revolves around war, survival, and the use of firearms.

Rubber Minigun from the "Terminator 2" movie set—even the Terminator needs a break from lugging around the real gun.

Satisfying audiences who had been through the Great War took more than pretending that you had a machine gun; many of the

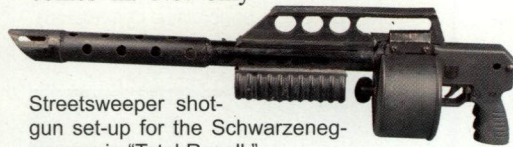


Part of the machine gun room at Stemberidge—note the third and fourth guns down are Lewis Mk3 H camera guns, and underneath them are the Lewis guns that were used in the original King Kong movie (1932).

Text by Dan Shea • Photos by Jim Bonis

viewers had an intimate familiarity with the arms. It took away from the validity of movie if the audience sensed something "wrong" in a scene. This is one of the obstacles that the modern director must also overcome. There are so many WWII, Korean, Vietnam, and Gulf War veterans out there that wrong uniforms, aircraft, slang, and especially weapons will "throw" an audience.

This is where Stembridge Gun Rentals comes in. Not only



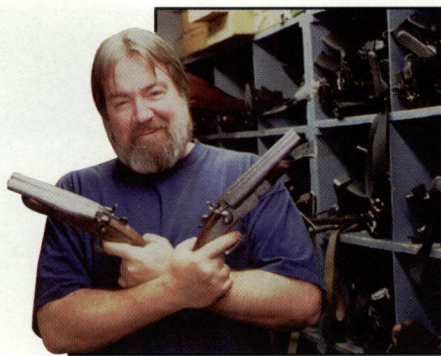
Streetsweeper shotgun set-up for the Schwarzenegger movie "Total Recall."



One of the "Total Recall" Streetsweepers that was revamped for the movie "Solar Crisis," then upgraded one more time with even stranger accessories for "Batman Returns."

do the employees have to be licensed gun handlers in all five of California's categories (machine guns, short-barreled firearms, destructive devices, assault weapons, and tear gas weapons), they must also have a level of proficiency in HOW the weapons were utilized in order to ensure that the actors use them realistically.

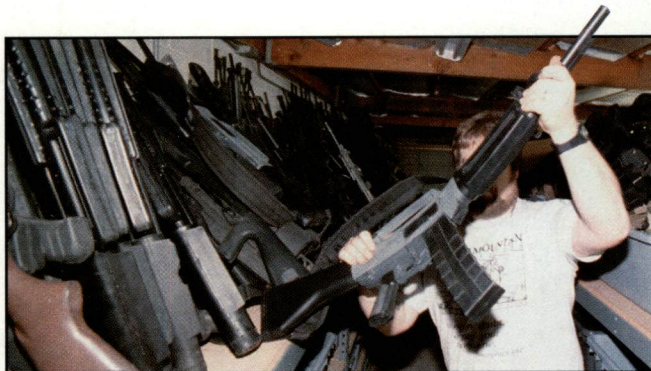
James died in 1942 and passed on the torch to his nephew Ed Stembridge, who had been with the company since 1933. Ed was a 2nd Lieutenant in U.S. Army Ordnance for the five years



Stembridge gun handler Larry "Antonio" Merrill with the two cut-down Rossi 12 gauge shotguns from the movie "Desperado."

of the Second World War, serving in Panama, Hawaii, and Okinawa. On his return, he resumed duties with Stembridge as the president.

Syd Stembridge, whose great-uncle James Sydney started the company, has been involved in the company his whole life. Syd remembers going to the Paramount Studios sets with his father when he was five years old. The studios only operated a half day on Saturdays, so Syd and his brother could play cowboys and indians on the same "Old West" street that "Gunsmoke" and "Bonanza" were filmed on. He served in the U.S. Air Force 1966-70 and came to the company full time in 1973. When Stembridge



USAS-12 rubber gun.

"The Wild Bunch"

One very interesting gun that we found was the 1917A1 Browning water-cooled (serial number 693798) on the back wall that had some paper attached to it. In the 1969 movie "The Wild Bunch," William Holden used this particular gun in the battle scene at the end.



From the photo wall: Ed Stembridge, William Holden, and Stembridge gun handler Fritz during the movie "The Wild Bunch."

Some of the classic films that Stembridge has supplied firearms for:

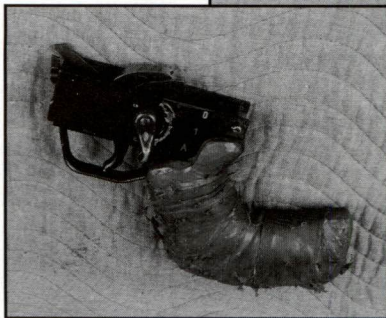
A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court
All Quiet on the Western Front
Big Jake
Bob Hope's movies and road shows
Bridge Over the River Kwai
For Whom the Bell Tolls
Gone With the Wind
Gunga Din
Hell's Angels
High Noon
King Kong (1932)
Little Caesar
Northwest Mounted Police
Shane
Stagecoach
The Alamo
The Guns of Navarone
The Longest Day
The Sand Pebbles
The Unconquered
The Wild Bunch
True Grit
Union Pacific
Vera Cruz

A few of the current films that Stembridge has supplied firearms for:

1941
Above the Law
Batavia 2, 3 and 4
Batman Returns
Big Bad Momma
Charlie Chaplin
Clear & Present Danger
Commando
Cobra
Desperado
Dick Tracy
Die Hard 1 and 2
Eraser
Extreme Prejudice
Farewell to the King
First Blood (all Rambo movies)
Flight of the Intruder
Heartbreak Ridge
Heat
Legends of the Fall
Lethal Weapon
Licensed to Kill
Marked for Death
Pale Rider
Patriot Games
Predator 1 and 2
Raiders of the Lost Ark
Scarface
Terminator
Terminator 2 - Judgement Day
The Outlaw Josey Wales
The Rocketeer
The Wind and the Lion
Total Recall
True Lies
Waterworld

was incorporated in 1979, he became Vice President, and he is currently the President of Stenbridge Gun Rentals, Inc. Harry Lu is the Master Gunsmith/Armorer and spends much of his time out on location, as does Dan Sprague. Mike Wetherell manufactures the ammo, Nat Sherrill is the in-house man, and Larry Merrill is the purchasing agent. All of them are gun handlers and are available for location work. It shouldn't surprise the readers of *MGN* that the employees of Stenbridge are all historically oriented, as well as technical gun buffs.

During the 1920's, when the gangster movie genre was born, the



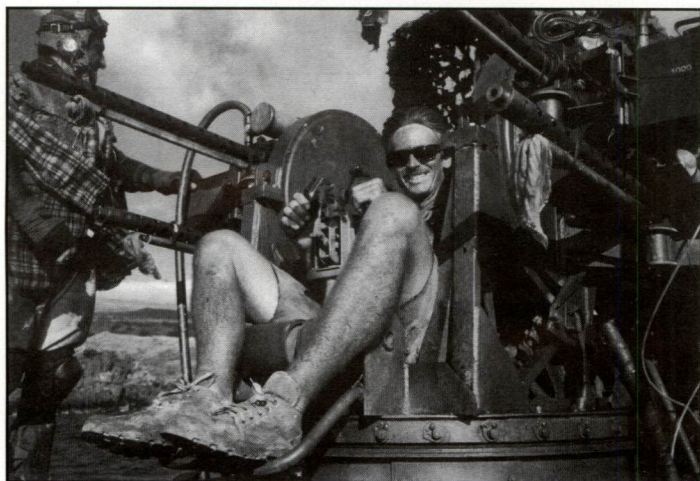
The rarest HK accessory—the "Waterworld Lower."



Dennis Hopper dropped Kevin Costner's character in the movie "Waterworld," using this dressed-up MP5-K (a LaFrance Specialties conversion). Just enough of the "stage makeup" has been removed to clearly see the HK.

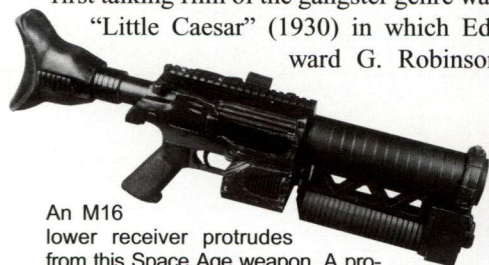


Three of the "Waterworld" pistols.



Left: Gun handler Dan Sprague on location with the hottest blank gun in the business—the Quad .50 M2 for the movie "Waterworld."

Thompson gun was king. According to Keith White's section (Chapter 20) of *Thompson: The American Legend*, the first appearance of a Thompson in film was in the 1927 silent movie "Underworld." The first talking film of the gangster genre was "Little Caesar" (1930) in which Edward G. Robinson



An M16 lower receiver protrudes from this Space Age weapon. A prototype from the new movie "Escape from L.A." starring Kurt Russell.

had a 1921A Thompson used on him—a Thompson that is still in the working inventory of over 70 original Thompson guns that Stenbridge uses. Other famous Thompson users that Stenbridge has sup-

Hanging on the walls of Stenbridge Gun Rentals are several official letters from the Harbor Defenses of Los Angeles, dated 3 September 1944. They recognize Stenbridge's patriotism for lending a number of automatic weapons to the Coast Guard for defense of the California coast against invasion by the Japanese during World War II. Their long history of service to the country is also evident in an older photograph of founder James Sydney Stenbridge with a Colt Potato Digger, as a member of the Paramount Home Guard. This guard group was apparently a citizen's militia around the time of the first World War.

plied include Michael Jackson in his "Moonwalker" video, the good guys in "The Rocketeer," and of course, Warren Beatty as "Dick Tracy."

Stenbridge's talents are not limited to Thompson guns. Gary Cooper's character in "For Whom the Bell Tolls," died with one of Stenbridge's Lewis guns in his arms. Steve McQueen carried a Stenbridge 1918A2 BAR in "The Sand Pebbles." Modern television's "Tour of Duty" starred Stenbridge's M60's, among other machine guns. "Waterworld" fans will remember the Quad Fifties in the assault scene.



Dressed-up Micro-Uzi from "Total Recall."

The Benefits of Being a Gun Handler:

Stembridge has a general policy of not letting their gun handlers work as extras on the movie sets. The men have other responsibilities on the set—firearms safety, training, and keeping the guns operational can be a handful. However, some of the more complex machine guns require a lot of training, and it is not uncommon for directors to ask the gun handlers to work as "extras" operating the guns. On the set of "Legends of the Fall," the producer asked two of the Stembridge gun handlers to work the MG08/15. Due to timing and training schedules, they agreed, and were quickly suited up in WWI German uniforms. Dan Sprague describes the scene: "Imagine yourself sitting in a trench, staring across 200 yards of barbed wire and muddy field...the whistles of the enemy officers start, then the wail of the bagpipes floats over the mist. You and your 100 fellow soldiers nervously watch, and suddenly 400 enemy soldiers start yelling battle cries and burst out of the trench in front of you, firing rifles.... Your line fires its Mausers, and a few of the enemy drop...they charge through the mud amid bursting shells, and the light from rockets flying overhead casts eerie moving shadows. The explosions are deafening, and the constant chatter of the beltfeeds provides a backdrop for the rifle fire. Suddenly, a squad of enemy soldiers is stopped at the barbed wire to your left—you bear down on them with the Maxim, and they start dropping. To the right, another squad is at the preordained place, and you aim your withering fire and stop their advance. The battle keeps on until the director cuts the scene and the field lights are brought back on.... What a cool scene!"



Stembridge gun handlers Tony Didio (left) and Dan Sprague (right) worked as extras in "Legends of the Fall."

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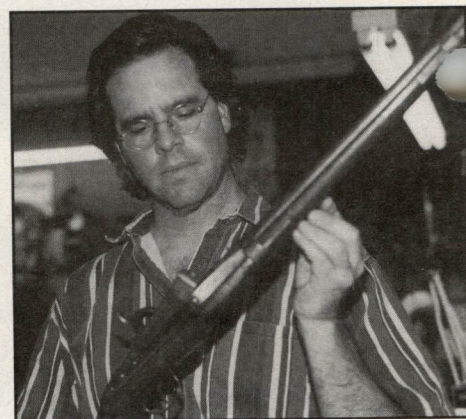
"Cry Havoc! and loose the dogs of war"...
26.5 mm Manville gas gun
like the one used in the movie "Dogs of War."



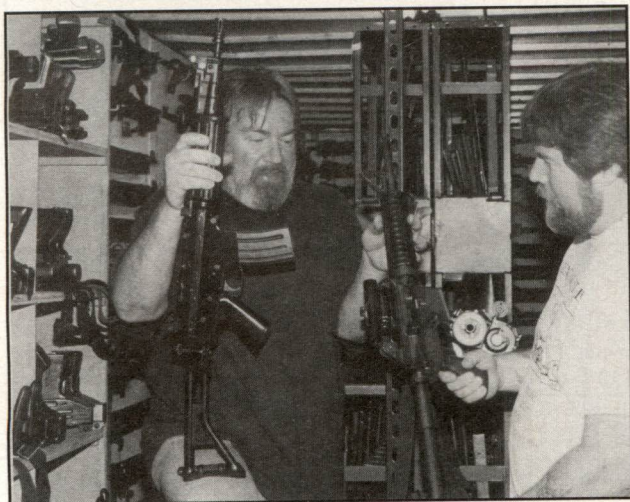
The folks at Stembridge keep a display of posters from the movies they work on: the Winchester shotgun from the Terminator 2 motorcycle scene in foreground, poster above it.



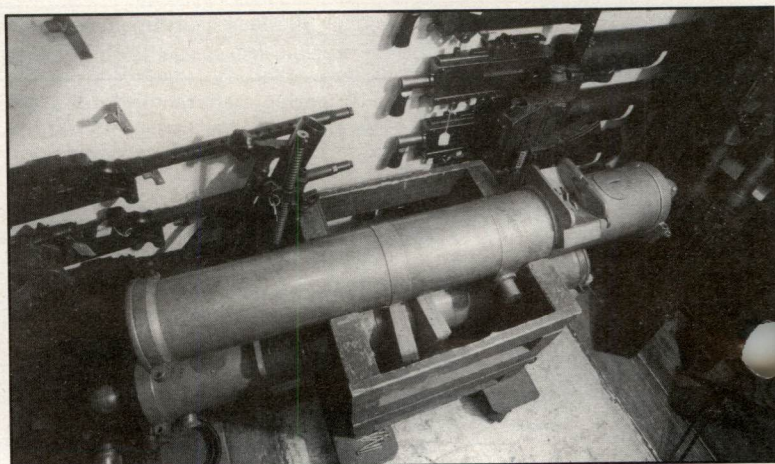
From Bazookas to belt-feds, Stembridge's back room is a treat to the Class 3 devotee. Note the M60E3's on the right wall from Stallone's movie "Rambo II."



Nat Sherrill, a Stembridge gun handler, examines an 1838 Hall's U.S. Army. This is an original Flintlock breechloader—taken from a SHELF full of them!



Larry Merrill showing Dan Shea two guns from the recent Michael Mann movie "Heat" starring Robert DeNiro and Al Pacino. (Left: FNC, Right: Colt Model 733 submachine gun.)



Colt's Gatling Model 1883, serial number 353, caliber .45 is the top gun; the bottom is also an original Colt! At the very end of the movie "Gunga Din," the elephants carried these two Gatlings into the battle.

The walls are covered in posters of the movies that they have worked on. One of particular interest has autographed pictures of stars using the firearms in the movies or out shooting with the Stembridge crew. Many of these pictures date back to the 1940's and 50's. Such luminaries as John Milius shooting a 1919A4 and Sophia Loren cleaning rifles at the old "Hollywood Barn" location are real eye-openers.

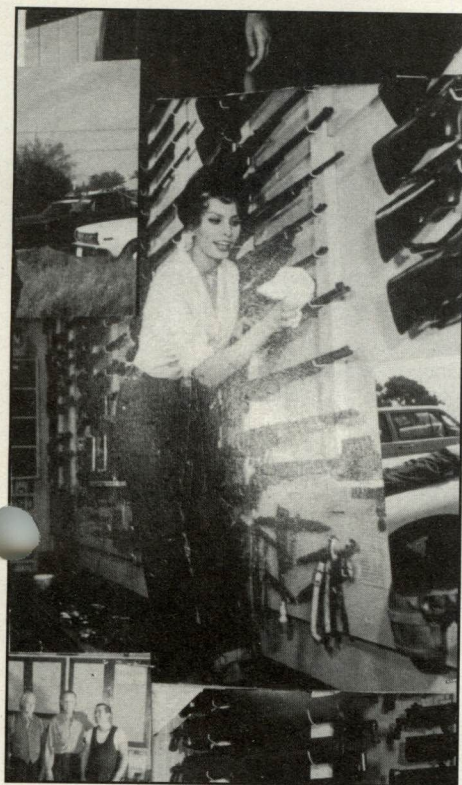
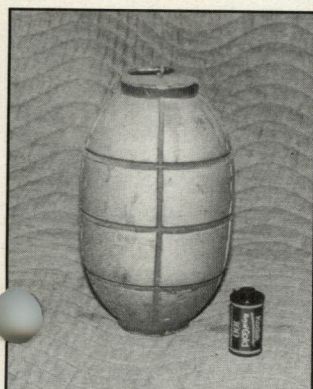


Photo from Stembridge's celebrity photo wall. How about Sophia Loren cleaning guns?

In the past, many of the major studios have kept their own arsenals. In recent years, they have all auctioned off or depleted their stock because of increasing gov-



Candidate for a "Mystery Photo"? This is one of the gas grenades from the original 1932 movie "King Kong." It is carved from wood.

ernment regulation and liability. It is now the policy of all the majors to hire out the gun work. This fits right into Stembridge's plans.

continued on page 42

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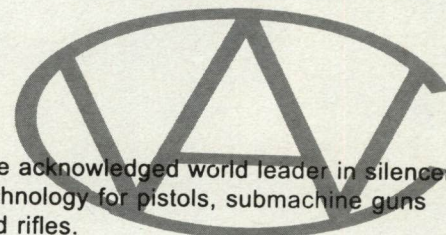
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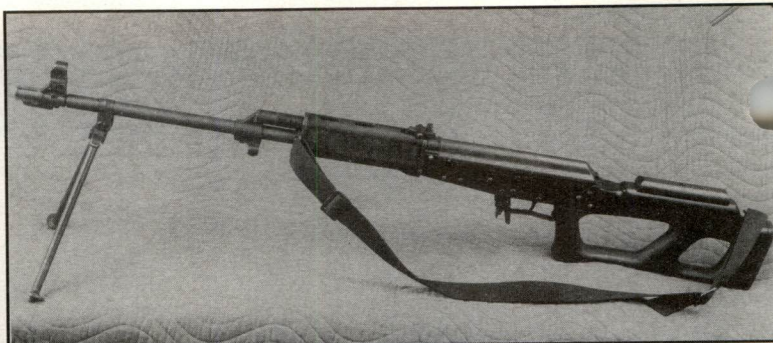
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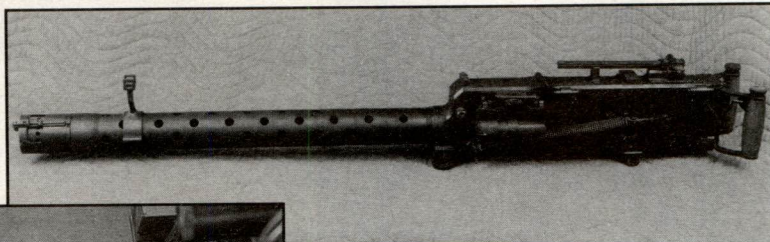
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Mini bike, Minigun—Dan Sprague having a little fun at base camp on the set of Iron Eagle III.



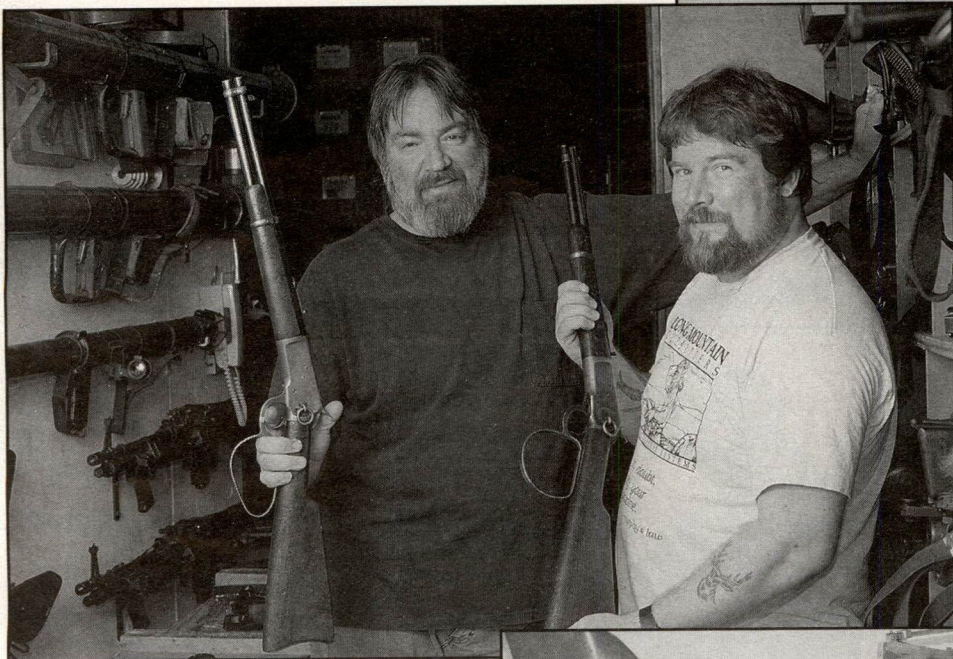
"Somewhere, somehow, someone's going to pay"; the special stock Valmet in 7.62 x 39 that was used in the Schwarzenegger movie "Commando." It was first used in John Milius's "Red Dawn."



Above: An absolutely cherry Japanese Vickers, possibly a "Type E."

Left: Larry Merrill and Dan Shea holding John Wayne's two rifles from "Stagecoach" and "True Grit." The one that Larry is holding is a Winchester Model 92 in 34/40, and the other is a Winchester Model 92 in 32/20.

Below: Hotchkiss Model 1914.



Your faithful correspondent wishing he had a belt for the Terminator Minigun, while photographer Jim Bonis models the Hawk 12-shot 37 mm gas launcher from the same movie. After holding that Minigun up for a few minutes, it's hard to keep from wondering exactly what would happen if you tried a 50- or 100-round belt of live ammo....

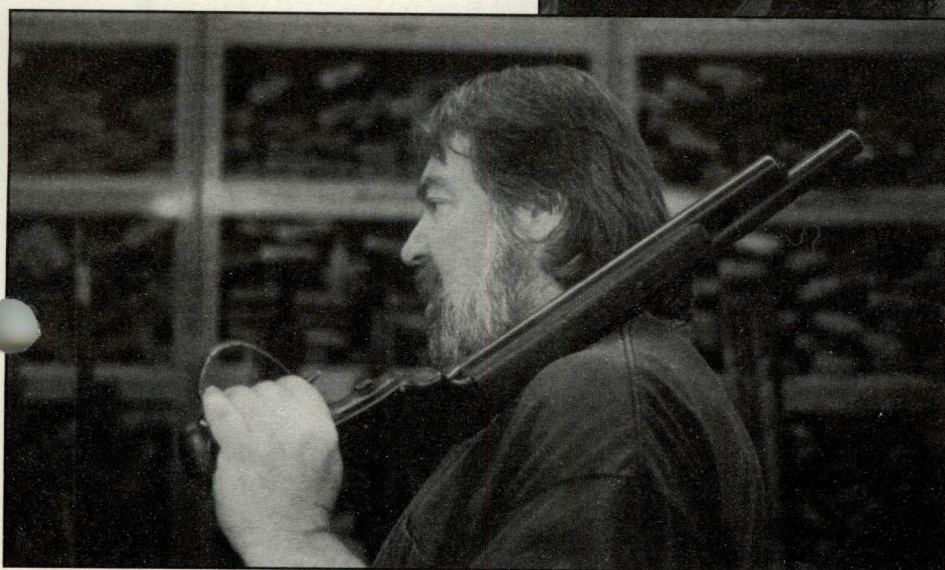




A wall display showing the handguns from "Bat Masterson" and Paladin in "Have Gun, Will Travel."



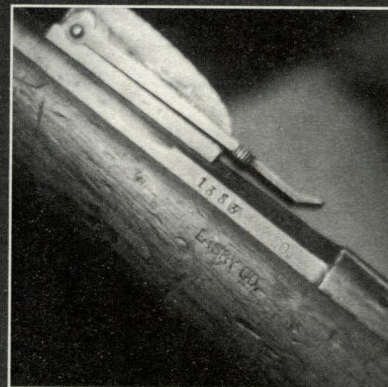
Above: Stembridge's semi-auto and higher value gun vault.



Left: Modified Winchester 1887 12 gauge shotgun, being modeled by Larry Merrill. There were extensive modifications to the gun to make it "move perfectly" for the Terminator to flip one-handed in "T-2." This is the actual gun, with an 18" barrel and 27 1/2" overall length. Note the pallet racks full of rifles in the background

The Chaplin Film:

When the producers of the film about Charlie Chaplin's life were preparing for the set, they made a call to Stembridge for rifles. In 1918, Laskey, the silent film studio, had produced Chaplin's film "Shoulder Arms." It was about life in the trenches of World War I, and in the new film "Charlie Chaplin" starring Robert Downey Jr., there was going to be a sequence on the filming of "Shoulder Arms." Stembridge was asked if they could supply some rifles approximately like the Dutch Beaumonts that were in the original film. Larry Merrill went to work on it, and in a rack in the back, he found some 11 mm Dutch Beaumonts. On further examination, the "Laskey" imprint was found on the side of the guns—it turns out that these were the original rifles used in Chaplin's movie. Stembridge immediately signed them out to the studio for use in the "Shoulder Arms" sequence in the new movie.



Laskey marking on a Dutch Beaumont (8 mm) from the original 1918 Charlie Chaplin film "Shoulder Arms" that was also used in the Robert Downey Jr. film "Charlie Chaplin."

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Renting firearms to the movies is not a simple business to get into. It takes massive resources: availability of the proper firearms, skilled personnel to keep them operational and train the actors, and the proper connections to get the contracts. Machine shop skills are a must, as well as an expert grounding in general gunsmithing to deal with all of the problems inherent with such a vast inventory of firearms that must function in a blanked-up condition.

Reputation is very key to getting the work, and Stembridge's seventy-odd years in the business provide sterling credentials. One final note on "what it takes"—you have to have the people skills to gently talk directors and screen writers out of giving silenced AK-47's to small-town cops in Iowa...and to let them use .357 mags and Ruger bolt actions like they would probably have in real life! The knowledgeable professionals at Stembridge have those skills, and considering their track record, should be supplying the movies that we will enjoy well into the next century.

MGN

The Machine Gun Dealer's Bible

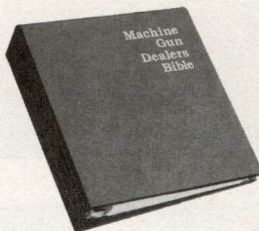
The newly revised Machine Gun Dealer's Bible is a hands-on reference guide that is available anytime you need it. If you're already a dealer or an FFL, who is contemplating becoming a machine gun dealer, you will have an easy step-by-step guide to refer to. From getting a license to actually doing business, the Machine Gun Dealer's Bible will provide you with the information you need. This book will save you a lot of aggravation, time and money.

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3. They do sell theatrical blanks to other companies.

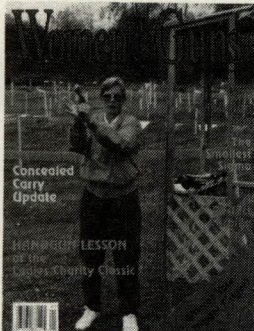
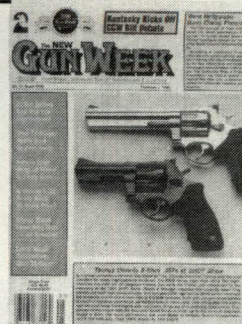
For all the readers of MGN who have been wondering where to go for a reliable source for blanks for shows, demos, etc., you can contact Stembridge at (818) 246-4333 or fax at (818) 246-3990. (Tell them you read it in MGN.)

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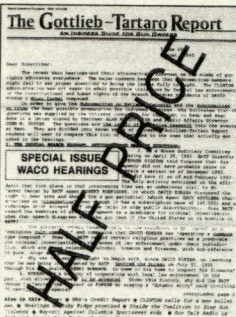
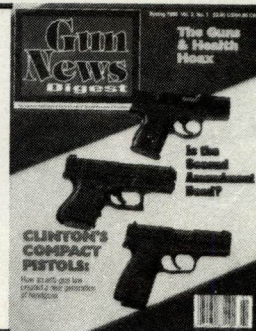
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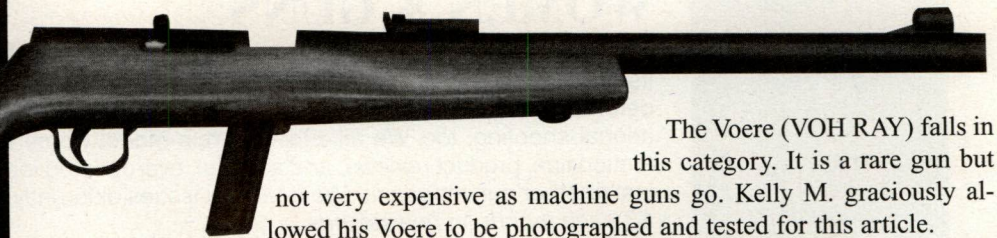
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What's a Voere?

A Rare,
But Not Expensive
.22LR Stealth
Machine Gun

by CAPT. MONTY MENDENHALL



The Voere (VOH RAY) falls in this category. It is a rare gun but not very expensive as machine guns go. Kelly M. graciously allowed his Voere to be photographed and tested for this article.

Originally, the Voere machine gun was manufactured as an open-bolt, semi-auto .22 caliber rifle. It was made in Voehenbach, Germany. The semi-auto Voere .22 rifle was imported into the USA by Kleinguenther of Seguin (SEE GEEN), Texas. The specimen examined for this article was converted to full auto by JGS of Port Richey, Florida. Other Class 2 manufacturers may have made Voere full-auto conversions as well.

Manufactures of .22LR machine guns must overcome many problems. Successful .22LR machine gun designs are few. Among them are the following:

1. John Norrell's Ruger 10/22 full-auto conversion
2. J.D. Farmer's AK-22
3. Max Atchison's .22LR kit for M16 (marketed by Ciener)
4. Jonathan Ciener's Ruger AC-556 .22LR conversion kit
5. The American 180
6. The Group Industries .22LR Uzi conversion kit
7. The Fleming Firearms .22LR conversion for the MAC-10 and M11
8. To this short list, add the little known, seldom seen Voere

Problems with the .22 Machine Gun

In spite of the economy of its operation, the .22LR cartridge is a poor choice for use in a machine gun: it is rimmed. This increases the likelihood of feeding problems.

The .22LR is not very powerful. This means that it has little excess energy above that which is needed to cycle the action. Just a little fouling often interrupts its firing.

All .22LR machine guns fire from an unlocked breech. If a .22LR machine gun fires from a closed bolt, special precautions must be taken to prevent it from firing out of battery.

The first four guns in the above list fire from closed bolts. The last four guns, including the Voere, fire from open bolts. Firing from an open bolt bypasses the "firing out of battery" problem. (For a fuller description of the "closed bolt firing out of battery problem," read *Machine Gun News* back issues Volume 7, #4 "J.D. Farmer's AK-22"; Volume 6, #4, "Twenty Tuzi" or Volume 9, #3, "Ruger AC-556." Back issues are available from the publisher.)

Many firing pins of open bolt guns are permanently fixed to the bolt face. When the gun is ready to fire, the bolt is held open by the trigger sear. The chamber is empty and the top cartridge in the magazine may be seen by looking into the ejection port. When the shooter pulls the trigger, the sear releases the bolt. It moves forward, strips a round from the magazine and pushes it into the chamber. As the round stops, the bolt moves

forward a fraction of an inch. Its fixed firing pin crushes the primer-filled cartridge and the .22LR cartridge fires. The recoil spring pushes the bolt rearward. The cycle continues until the trigger is released or until the magazine is empty.

Converting a Voere to fire in full auto is very simple. The conversion of ANY open-bolt, semi-auto gun to full auto is very simple. It is so simple, in fact, that the BATF has banned the importation or the domestic manufacture of open-bolt, semi-auto guns.

An open-bolt, semi-auto operates exactly like a machine gun does when its fire control selector is set to position. Making an open-bolt gun fire in semi auto requires more parts than needed to make it fire full auto.

During open-bolt, full-auto fire, pulling the trigger simply moves the sear away from the bolt. The gun will fire until the trigger is released, allowing the sear to stop the bolt.

Firing an open-bolt gun in semi auto is more complicated. It can be compared to firing a revolver in the double-action mode. Think of the revolver's hammer as a machine gun sear and the cylinder as the machine gun's bolt. When the trigger is pulled, the bolt is released (the cylinder turns). It strips a round out of the magazine and fires. Before the bolt can cycle again, the hammer/sear falls. It engages the bolt and prevents a second shot.

If an Uzi owner removes the top cover and the bolt from his gun, he can watch this happen. Set the fire control selector to semi auto and pull the trigger. Watch the sear move down to release the bolt. After reaching the point of bolt release, the spring-loaded sear quickly pops back up to stop the bolt and prevent firing a second shot.

Kelly M.'s Voere may be a unique gun among all other Voeres. At first glance, nothing seems unusual. The rear sight, adjustable to 200 meters appears to be attached to a 3/4 inch diameter heavy barrel. That is an illusion. Kelly M.'s Voere is internally suppressed. Its suppressor is so skillfully made, that it seems to be the Voere's barrel.

Adding to its uniqueness, this suppressed Voere machine gun transfers with only one \$200 tax stamp. The suppressor is permanently attached to the receiver; it cannot be removed.

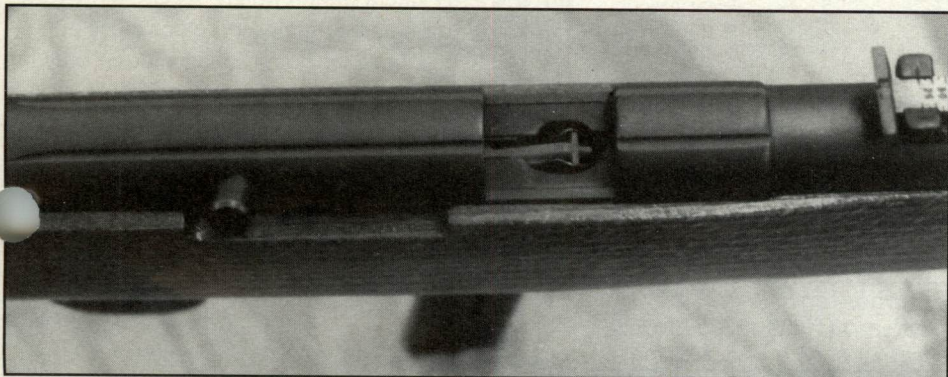
The BATF has changed the rules since this suppressed Voere was made. They will no longer allow a "one tax stamp transfer" of new suppressed machine guns. A new machine gun, with a suppressor, requires two tax stamps. Older machine guns, with nonremovable suppressors, made during the BATF's more lenient period, will still transfer with only one \$200 stamp.

Kelly M.'s full-auto Voere conversion, was extremely easy to make. The J.G.S. company simply removed the Voere's semi-auto parts. The Voere's trigger now acts only as a sear in the same manner as a Swedish K's. Neither this Voere, nor a Swedish K, have a semi-auto fire selector. Both guns fire only in full auto.

The Swedish K's rate of fire is 550 rpm. With just a little practice, a Swedish

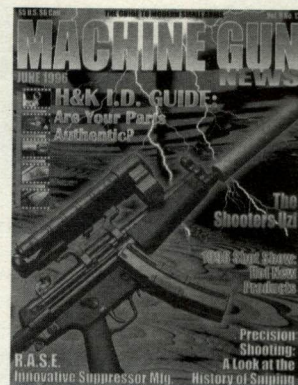


Side view of the Voere with bolt open.



Top view of Voere with bolt open.

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K user can fire a single round at will. Users of Voeres cannot. With a rate of fire of 1400+ rpm, three or four shots is about the shortest burst possible.

The Voere's magazine only holds fifteen rounds. Its high rate of fire empties the magazine quickly.

Kelly M.'s suppressed Voere will not operate reliably with standard velocity ammo. When firing high velocity ammo, there is no supersonic "crack." The high velocity ammo is exiting the suppressor at a subsonic velocity. To accomplish this, the suppressed Voere's barrel must be less than five inches long or, if it is longer, it is ported to reduce the velocity.

It is not possible to disassemble the Voere's suppressor for inspection. To be a "one tax stamp transferable" gun, its suppressor must be permanently attached. This Voere's method of velocity reduction must remain a secret.

Subjective evaluations of suppressors are unreliable. Alan Paulson is one of only two private citizens in the USA who have the proper equipment for testing suppressors. Unfortunately, Alan was busy in Alaska gathering information and pictures for a new book. He was unavailable to test the suppressed Voere.

Subjectively, Kelly M.'s suppressed Voere seems a little louder than a John Norrell suppressed 10/22 machine gun, but not much. It is noticeably quieter than a first generation suppressed Ciener MK II Ruger pistol.

Kelly M.'s Voere is a stealth machine gun. Outwardly it appears to be a common .22LR sporter. There is no fire control selector to reveal the Voere's secret.

The Voere's receiver is grooved for a "tips off" scope mount. A telescopic sight makes it look even more "unmachine gun like."

The Voere's integral suppressor fooled an RKI for several minutes. It looks exactly like a middleweight .22LR sporter barrel. The one-inch suppressor tubes of Norrell and Ciener suppressors look a little big on a .22LR sporter. Though bigger, they are not significantly quieter than the 3/4 inch Voere suppressor.

Add the Voere to the short list of successful .22LR machine guns. Also add Voere to the even shorter list of rare, but affordable machine guns.

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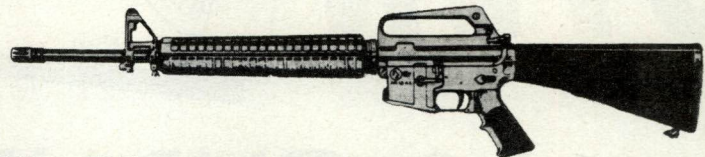
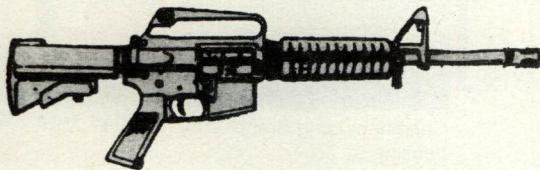


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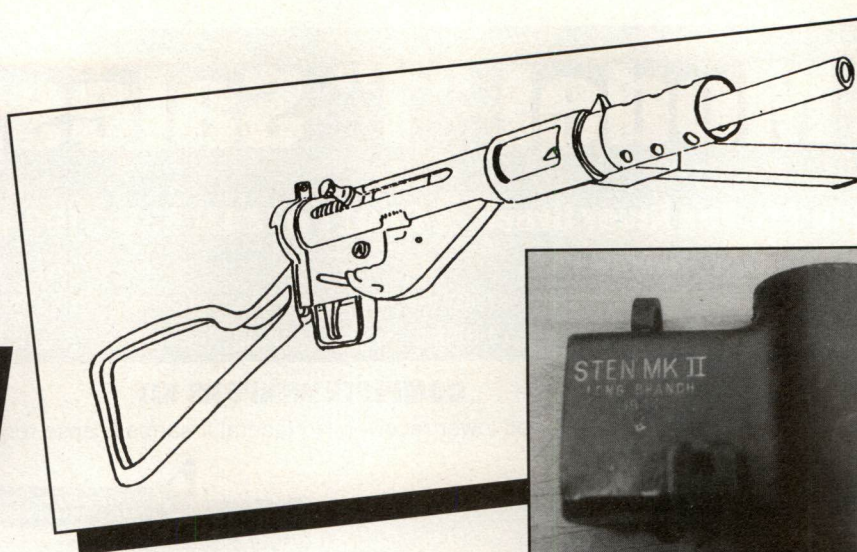
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STEN

ADDENDUM

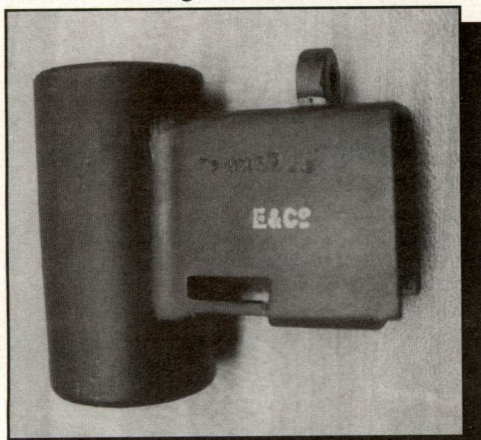
BY FRANK IANNAMICO



Canadian, Long Branch Arsenal 1944, MKII housing.

England was ill prepared, in the 1940's, for the formidable enemy it was to face in WWII—Nazi Germany. England relied greatly on the lend-lease program of the United States, for weapons and supplies. The U.S. supply line to England was under constant German U-Boat threat. The U-Boats sent many supply ships to the bottom of the Atlantic, along with their crews and tons of badly needed war supplies.

The Sten series of submachine guns originated from a dire need to get a lot of indigenous weapons to the British troops fast, always a priority in wartime. The Sten went through several models, or marks, as they were referenced to in England by Roman numeral. The Sten marks went from the early MKI to the silenced version of the MKV, the MKVI. The most prolific of series was the MKII's. Over four million of the Sten series were manufactured in England. Over two million



Bottom of MKII housing made by Elkington & Co. (E & C^o). The top is marked Sten MKII.

were MKII's produced from 1941-1945.

The Sten was copied verbatim by other countries, including Nazi Germany. The German Sten was known as the Gerat Potsdam. One version of the German clone had a vertical magazine housing, as opposed to the awkward original version, and used MP 40 magazines. This German version was the Model MP3008. Many WWII Stens are probably still seeing service somewhere in the world today.

The second largest production of Stens was probably in the United States prior to 1986, by Class 2 manufacturers, and individuals (on a Form 1). The Sten kits were abundant, and cheap in the "good old days," and receivers were easily produced out of the correct length and diameter tubing. A person could buy or build a Sten for around \$150.00, not including the transfer tax.

There were a lot of different manufacturers of the Sten parts; it is very difficult to say any specific manufacturer made a Sten. Virtually all Stens produced contained various parts from any of over 300 different manufacturers. The many sub-contractors who produced the parts shipped them to ordnance factories for as-

sembly. The Royal Ordnance factories that assembled the guns also made some components.

The factories that assembled Stens, (English) were as follows:

- Singer Manufacturing
- Lines Brothers
- BSA Firearms
- Theale ROF
- Fazakerly ROF
- Enfield ROF
- Long Branch Arsenal (Canada)

The Long Branch Arsenal in Canada made Stens for allied use and produced them for the Chinese Government as well.



Israeli-marked MKII housing.

PROOFS AND MARKINGS

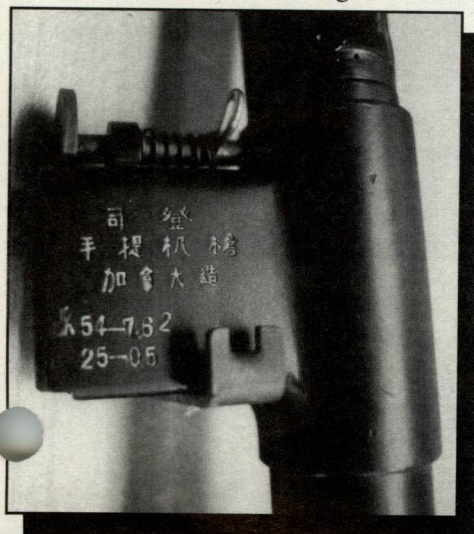
The Sten series had a lot of interesting proofs and markings on them. Not much has ever been documented on the Stens, I suppose, because they are always thought of as shooters, rather than having any real collector interest.

However, I find the Sten very intriguing, although I confess, after being a Class 3 enthusiast since 1979, I only recently acquired two Stens, and have since become fond of them. They make great inexpensive additions to collections.

Very few transferable Stens out there today are 100 percent original. Most will have a new receiver tube. The markings I have documented have been mainly on the magazine housings, or other parts. The magazine housings and other parts are usually marked with the subcontractor's name or initials. Many Sten magazine housings have had their markings obliterated for some reason, possibly to conceal their origin, or perhaps for the same reason WWII Japanese rifles had their Mum markings removed.

The Canadian Stens were the highest quality of the manufacturers, and the most expensive (\$13.00). The Long Branch markings on the magazine housings are nicely done. The Long Branch Canadian Sten is probably the only manufacturer/assembler of the gun that has their name on the mag housing.

The Canadian-produced Chinese Stens have characters stamped in Chinese on the top of the mag housing and are marked with the Long Branch, Canada Arsenal logo on the bottom. The other Long Branch Arsenal markings on non-



Chinese marked housing. Translates to "Sten, hand carry machine gun, Canada manufactured, Conversion to 7.62."



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Buttstocks from top: Pistol grip, loop type, "T" type.

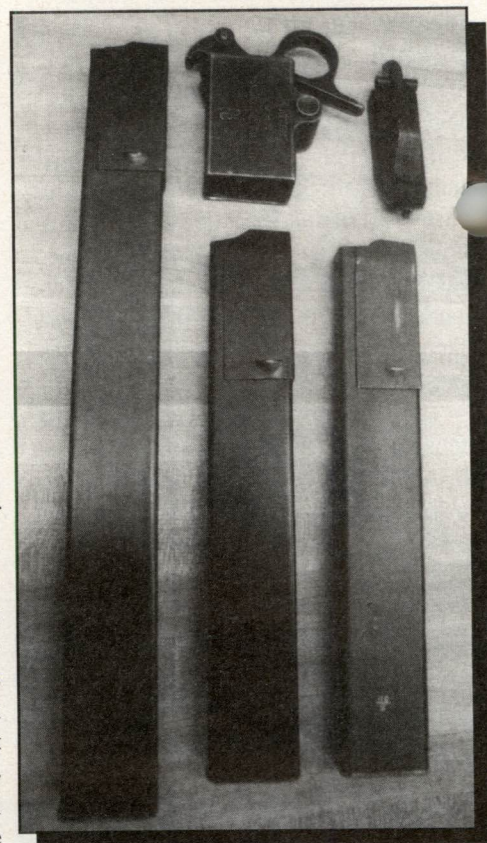
Chinese guns are on the top of the housing. The Chinese made chrome-lined .30 Tokarev barrels to convert their Stens to that caliber, most likely during the Korean war. Some of their converted .30 Stens used PPS-43 double-feed magazines. The Chinese arsenals welded an adapter on the original 9 mm housing to utilize the PPS magazine. The bolt was also altered to work with the double-feed magazine. What remains a mystery to me is that some of the 9 mm magazine housings are marked "Conversion 54-7.62 25-05." The problem is, a .30 Tokarev round is too long to fit in a 9 mm magazine! Perhaps the Chinese produced a short version of the Tokarev round. A 7.62x25 Kurz?

The Israeli-marked Sten MKII housings are in Hebrew, and the barrel bushing has an index pin to align the barrel for accuracy. English and Canadian MKII's needed, but didn't have, the barrel index pin. Most wartime Sten barrels were not concentric in relation to the outside diameter of the barrel, and each time the barrel was installed in a different position the gun would shoot to a different point of im-

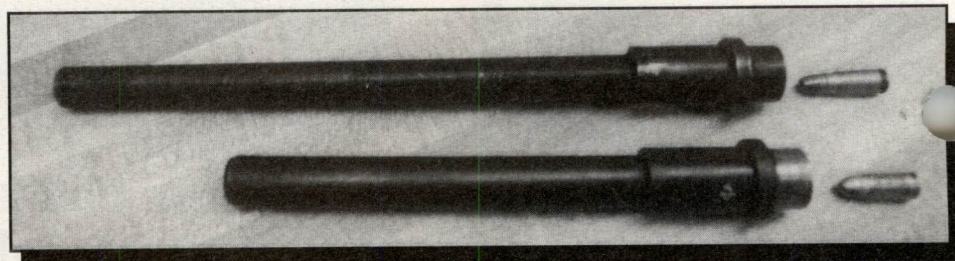
pact. A Sten that shot to the right may, after a barrel removal and reinstallation, shoot left. Later English Stens in the series (MKV) did incorporate a barrel index pin. There are no indications that the Israeli-marked Stens were made anywhere other than Israel. All the different manufactured Sten parts interchange with very minor or no problems.

MAGAZINES

Magazines for the Sten are very common. Most are either painted black or are parkerized. The most common mag markings are "BG." The parkerized mag-



Magazines and loaders



Sten barrels: .30 Tokarev barrel (top). Standard 9 mm barrel (bottom).

azines, for the most part, are unmarked. The 50-round mag, originally produced for the British Lanchester submachine gun will fit and function in the Sten. They are time-consuming to load but fun to empty.

Magazine loaders come in a couple of different styles: the box type, and the snap on, lever type. The box type is often referred to as the best; however, one functions as well as the other. There are some box loaders marked for the Austen (the Australian version of the Sten).

BUTTSTOCKS

There were several types of buttstocks made. The MKV used a wooden stock, while the other marks used metal ones, in a variety of configurations. The most awkward to use was the pistol grip version. This most likely was produced for a more concealable or "paratrooper" Sten.

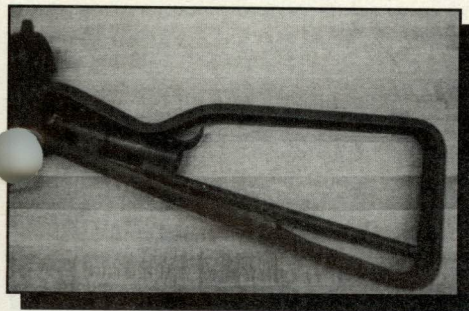
The most common, and uncomfortable, is the "T" type stock. The "T" stock was simply a round metal tube with a butt plate welded to it. The loop style butt stock, that mimics the outline of a conventional rifle stock, is perhaps the best of the metal stocks. Some of the loop stocks had a cleaning rod, while others were configured to house the Sten bayonet.

PARTS SETS

Sten MKII parts sets that have been hard to find in recent years are starting to reappear, along with some MKV sets. The MKV is, in my opinion, a big improvement over the MKII. The sights and ergonomics are much better on the MKV. (For a gun of its type.)

The Sten MKI was the first in a long lineage of submachine guns and inspired many others. The Sten line extends from the MKI Sten to the modern Sterling submachine gun. The Stens are inexpensive, and most of all, fun to shoot. They DO have collector value and historical interest. The Sten successfully fulfilled its mission in a desperate WWII England over 50 years ago.

MGN



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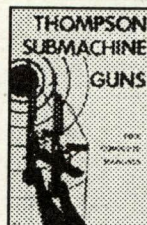
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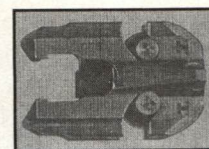
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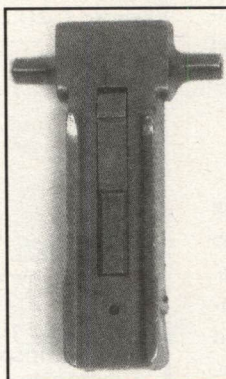


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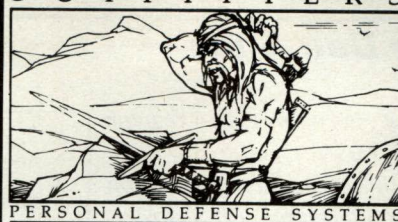
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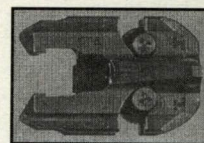
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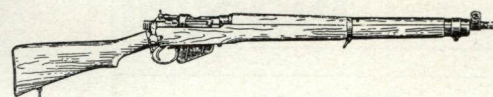
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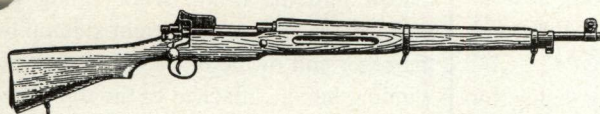
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Mystery Photo

by Dan Shea

Mystery Photo is a regular MGN feature. Each month we present a photograph of an interesting part or accessory—we promise not to put ridiculous screws or nuts in here. Each will be something of interest to the Class 3 community. You can send in your answers to Mystery Photo P.O. Box 459, Lake Hamilton, AR 71951 or fax them to (501) 525-7519, or E-mail them to MGNews@aol.com. We will accept interesting photos from the readers, as long as they are

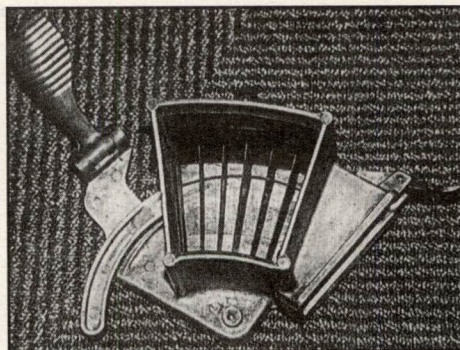


July 1996 Mystery Photo.

accompanied with a full description of the parts in the photo. Those of you who answer correctly will be awarded the "Order of the RKI," a certificate that proclaims you to be a "Reasonably Knowledgeable Individual." This certificate is suitable for framing and will make a nice conversation piece on the wall next to your other accolades and honors. Besides, it gives you bragging rights!

Warren L. Wahrmond: Many thanks for the RKI Certificate. When framed, it will occupy a prominent position over the safes. Your May Mystery Photos seem to be on the same general subject as the February one. However, in attempting to identify the device, I must go way out on a limb. You see, I believe that the photo on the right has been inadvertently reversed. Taking that into consideration and using *The Bren Gun Saga*, by Dugelby for backup, I submit that it is a Czech-manufactured, hopper-fed loader for the .303 30-round Bren magazine.

100 percent correct and an RKI to you!



May 1996 Mystery Photo Answer.

Especially since you caught us with a reversed photo. It is indeed the Czech loader.

Fergus Adkins: The February 1996 Mystery Photo is that of a Bren .303 100-round drum magazine loading and spring-winding bracket. The drum is placed upside down on one end and rounds are loaded into the drum. After filling the mag, the drum is placed right side up on the other end of the bracket and with the winding handle attached to the top of the drum, the spring is tensioned ready for use. Happy shooting.

Australia

After accounting for the lag in the mails from the U.S. to Australia, I am conferring the RKI award on you Fergus. This photo was indeed of the Bren 100-round drum loader.

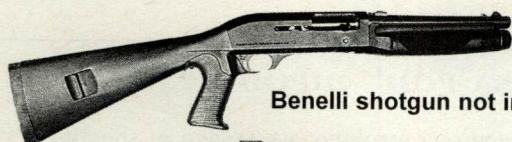
Irv Kahn: May 1996 - left bottom corner, your Mystery Photo appears to be a Bren gun magazine loader that attaches to vehicles (fenders, etc.). This is a somewhat rare loader and was sparsely issued. Could I be right? The coveted RKI Award is on a par with Pulitzer.

That is a positive ID on the other loader in the May Mystery Photo, Irv. Technically it was called a magazine "charger," and they were both adopted in August of 1940, just in time for wartime use. It beat the heck out of loading by hand from strippers. I don't know if you could compare an RKI to a Pulitzer; it might be more like a "Techie" in the movie industry, or maybe the proverbial "Attaboy," but an RKI Award is suitable for framing. **MGN**

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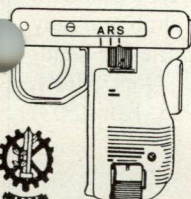
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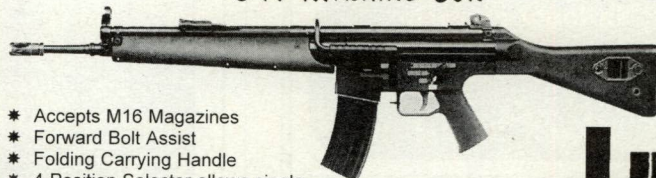


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RUGER AC556 PARTS KITS



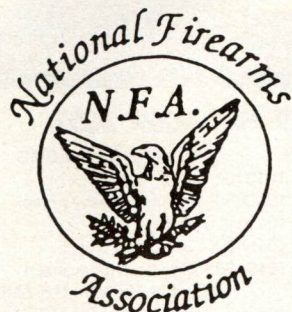
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CLASS THREE SUPPLY, INC. has acquired a number of RUGER AC556 Fully Automatic Rifles. These rifles, in the form of kits, are being made available to all NFA dealers and other qualified individuals. These kits consist of the following: stock, barrel, complete 3-rd./full-automatic trigger mechanism and all other parts—except the receiver. (No magazine is included.) Replacement parts only. All NFA rules apply.

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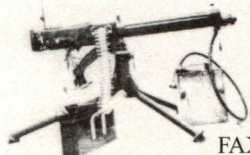
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What's New

by **CHRIS A. CHOAT**

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The new VERSA-POD bipod is a revolutionary system of shooting rests and mounting adapters that offers amazing versatility and utility. The unique modular design enables the shooter to share a single shooting rest among a host of mounting adapters for different rifles. The VERSA-POD is a Parker-Hale style bipod that features a multi-pivot head that provides a wide range of pan, tilt and elevation. It is available in three models of different heights and either metal or rubber foot styles. The VERSA-POD also has an integrated handrest that will attach to either a sling swivel stud or a track slot. Mounting adapters are currently available for a wide range of rifles and shotguns. For more information contact KFS, Inc., Dept. MGN, 875 Wharton Drive, S.W., P.O. Box 44405, Atlanta, GA 30336-1405. Phone: (404) 691-7611. Fax: (404) 505-8445.



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A new waterproof rifle sleeve is now available from CANDOO AMERICAN INC. The sleeve is fabricated from heavyweight 18 ounces per yard, 1000 denier, vinyl-coated polyester. The fabric is UV resistant and designed for excellent retention of physical properties under sun, wind, rain and other abuses of nature on shore or at sea. The operational range is from extremely hot (150 degrees F) to forty below. Weatherproof closure is accomplished by rolling the end several times as with other military waterproof gear bags. The rolled end is securely retained by a full four inch overlap of one inch wide Velcro™. Standard colors are black or white with yellow, green, navy blue, red, olive drab and gray available by special order. Several sizes are available to fit most rifles or handguns. For more information contact CANDOO AMERICAN INC., Dept. MGN, 1635 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97303. Phone: (503) 363-8933. Fax: (503) 363-8924.

MINI-AK

Now you can have that Mini-AK that you always wanted. D.A.W., a Minnesota company, is now making a 10-inch barreled AK that they call the MINI-AK. The gun uses an M16 flash hider which produces an 11-inch complete barrel assembly. The overall length is just 20 inches. The MINI-AK is registered as a short-barreled rifle which permits ownership by private individuals and FFL holders in most states. Class 3 dealers and Class 2 manufacturers may also order it in select-fire, as a post-May sample. Dealer pricing is available. For further information contact Don Austin Wagenknecht, Class 2 manufacturer, Dept. MGN, 300 Ford Centre, 420 No. 5th St., Minneapolis, MN 55401. Phone: (612) 860-3435.

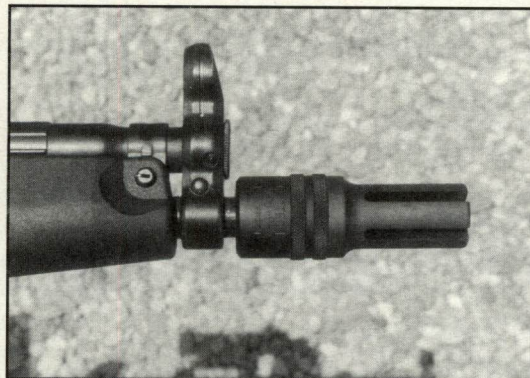


.50 CAL. BMG API AND APIT

Talon Manufacturing Company is now offering .50 cal API (M-8) and APIT (M-20) ammo. The cartridges are manufactured from unfired U.S. military ammunition components with new noncorrosive type primers. Both rounds have muzzle velocities of 2910 fps. The ammo comes linked in M9 links, 4 API and 1 APIT, 100 cartridges per M2A1 ammo can. For prices and to place an order contact TALON Manufacturing Comp., Dept. MGN, 621 West King St., Martinsburg, WV 25401. Phone: (304) 264-9714. Fax: (304) 264-9725.

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Gemtech is proud to introduce our high-efficiency, Vortex-type flash hider for use on the Heckler & Koch MP5 and MP5K-PDW 9 mm submachine guns. The new flash hider features their new TRI-LOCK™ (patent pending) muzzle coupling device and is quickly and easily installed or removed on the three-lug barrel in less than two seconds with a simple push-and-twist action. Although efficiency exceeds that of the original MP5 flash hider, the Gemtech flash suppressor is available at less than 2/3 the cost of the H&K unit. Contact Gemtech, Dept. MGN, P.O. Box 3538, Boise, ID 83703. Phone: (208) 939-7222.



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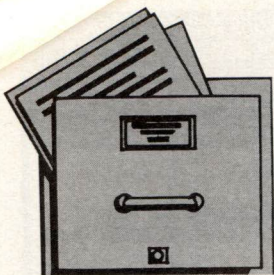
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The Forms

by Dan Shea

Your faithful correspondent has been closely following the travails of one Hank Frank, a longtime Class 3 dealer and RKI who has been pressing the ATF for a full procedure on what, exactly, an FFL holder may and may not do. His most burning question:

"May two licensed FFL dealers of the same state, and within that state, conduct a firearms transaction between themselves on the licensed premises of one of the dealers; whereby a firearm is transferred from each to the other, and any difference in value is compensated for by check or cash?"

The critical part of this is that two FFL dealers in their licensed state may meet at a

gun show, and since their licensed premises are legally extended to that show, may exchange firearms without having to go back to their respective licensed premises to do so. It would seem to make sense that two dealers could do the same at either one's licensed premises, but there have been several prosecutions regarding this.

The ATF response (4-22-96) clarifies their position:

"ATF interprets the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) to preclude Federal Firearms Licensees from consummating firearms sales at other than their licensed premises. The only exception is for sales at gun shows within the state where the licensed premises are

located. For sales at any other location, any firearms sold must be returned to the licensed premises and delivered from that location. Licensees may purchase firearms at any location. Sales of firearms and simultaneous delivery away from the seller's licensed premises, whether to other licensees or non-licensees, violate the law, since the seller would be engaging in business at an unlicensed location. The law would permit a licensee to take a telephone order for firearms at the licensed premises and deliver the firearms away from the premises."

In the interest of clarity, we must assume that the last sentence in this paragraph is regarding a sale to other FFL holders. At the AFI Firearms Trade Expo in Atlantic City this last March, I obtained a letter from ATF that clarifies what a licensee may or may not do (see left).

THE CHINA MACHINE GUNS

There have been a lot of calls and faxes regarding the arrest of 14 people and seizure of 2000 AK-47's. Everyone wants to know what really happened there — were these really machine guns?

From all accounts that I have been able to gather, yes, they were real machine guns. I did a lot of calling around on this, gathering newspaper clippings, trying to get information from the principles, and here is what I have.

Undercover federal agents approached some Chinese in the California area after hearing that "AK's" might be available. Money was offered, and it was implicit that the undercover agents were going to resell these to street gangs and drug dealers. Money was set up, and the deal was made — 2000 select-fire AK-47's were smuggled into the U.S. (they were converted from semi-auto's and had the serial numbers ground off). Apparently the sting was well done, with the exception of losing the ability to prosecute the top members of the smuggling operation.

Now, there remain several questions. First, were these semi-automatic AK's actually MAK-90's that were left in someone's warehouse, and they were sold out of U.S. inventory and converted? Second, where did the street value of \$4 million come from — that would be \$2000 for each gun. Registered, transferable AK's sell for that. Is there

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND FIREARMS

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO DEALERS AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS AT GUN SHOWS

■ ALL DEALERS MUST DISPLAY LICENSES ■

This notice applies to activities permitted at bona fide gun shows, as defined in Title 27 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 178.100. A flea market is NOT a gun show.

DEALERS LICENSED IN THE STATE WHERE THE SHOW IS BEING HELD:

- MUST comply with all recordkeeping requirements of ATF regulations concerning acquisitions and dispositions of firearms, including the recording of the place of sale.
- MAY dispose of handguns to in state residents only, provided all provisions of the Brady Law are met.
- MAY dispose of longguns to nonlicensees residing in any State, provided the laws of both States are complied with.
- MAY dispose of firearms to any Federal firearms licensee (FFL).
- MAY acquire firearms from any FFL licensed in the State, or from any nonlicensee.

DEALERS NOT LICENSED IN THE STATE WHERE THE SHOW IS BEING HELD:

- MUST comply with all ATF requirements concerning acquisitions of firearms.
- MAY acquire firearms from any FFL licensed in the State and from any nonlicensed individual.
- CANNOT make sales of firearms to anyone, even to or through an FFL licensed in the State.
- CAN display and take orders.

NONLICENSED RESIDENTS OF THE STATE WHERE THE SHOW IS BEING HELD:

- MAY acquire longguns from FFLs licensed in the State.
- MAY acquire handguns from FFLs licensed in the State, provided all provisions of the Brady Law are met.
- MAY dispose of firearms to any FFL.
- MAY acquire from and dispose of personal firearms to nonlicensed residents of the State.
- CANNOT acquire from or dispose of firearms to nonlicensed residents of any other State.

NONLICENSED RESIDENTS OF ANOTHER STATE:

- MAY dispose of firearms to any FFL.
- MAY acquire longguns only from FFLs licensed in the State, provided the laws of both States are complied with.
- CANNOT acquire handguns.
- CANNOT dispose of firearms to nonlicensed individuals.

really a market for hot guns that brings that much — I would be very surprised.

Last, but not least, this writer is happy to see the prosecution of people who would willfully deliver machine guns to drug dealers and street gangs, but I am puzzled by several comments and wonder if the problem really existed before the sting.... I have NEVER seen a police report or any other item that would lead me to believe that there is a group of gang creeps and drug dealers who have fully automatic AK-47's and use them for drive-by shootings. Yet, that is how this has been reported — that these AK's were the machine gun of choice of the criminal element, and that there was a regular flow of smuggled guns. Is it possible that this was a case of finding some people who had no moral blocks to supplying these guns, and convincing them to do so, as opposed to finding criminals engaged in an activity and arresting them? I hope this wasn't another "publicity stunt" to show how dangerous and readily available illegal guns are....

If anyone has the real story on this, please send the information to me care of MGN.

AN INTERESTING CASE IN OHIO

Robert Joe Campbell Sr. of Blue Creek, Ohio was charged with illegally modifying an SKS to fully automatic. "Illegally" because it was not registered with the NFA Branch of ATF. Mr. Campbell was convicted on this, as well as charges relating to several unregistered silencers and some pipe bombs. On his appeal, the Court upheld his conviction on the silencers and pipe bombs, but overturned his conviction on the "possession of an unregistered machine gun" charge because the federal government has refused to accept the making tax since 1986. This happened in January of 1996. Mr. Campbell is apparently headed to prison on the other charges, but Reasonably Knowledgeable Individuals should note this in their files — this is the sixth case that I am aware of where the federal government has been told that because of the 1986 ban on further manufacture of machine guns for private ownership, they no longer have the authority to regulate them.

The authority to regulate machine guns is based in collecting the making or transfer tax, and maintaining a registry in the collection thereof. Since the federal government voluntarily gave up collecting that tax in 1986, machine guns manufactured after that point are outside of their jurisdiction. DO NOT GO OUT AND MAKE A MACHINE GUN ON THIS NOTE! This is an academic issue — and it is being brought to your attention so that you, the reader of Machine Gun News, understand that the 1986 machine gun ban is on shaky ground. Coupling

the above logic with the Busey Roll Call Record that we recently ran excerpts from, I would say that Congress is going to have to do some upkeep on these laws and regulations fairly soon. Whether it will be "good" (returning us to more constitutionality) or "bad" (becoming more restrictive) is going to be related to what you, the reader, do at the voting booth.

Questions:

HEARD SOME VERY DISTURBING news this morning on the radio. Australia is planning to immediately implement a national ban on ownership of all semiautomatic pistols, rifles and shotguns. If I heard correctly, only farmers would be exempted after undergoing very restrictive licensing procedures.

Until this time, if I understand correctly, the laws governing these items were implemented and enforced by each individual state and territory as deemed necessary. Apparently the Australian Federal Government has coerced the individual states and territories into giving up their rights. It sounds like gun grabbing and wholesale banishment to me.

If you, Dan, the MGN readers, or any other person out there has more information, I would like to hear from you. If they can grab the guns that easily in Australia, how much longer will it be before the next big push to ban all guns in the U.S. occurs?

John R.

Actually, the Australians, like many other citizens of other countries, are not protected by an instrument as specific as our Bill of Rights. Gun banners run into problems in the U.S. because of the clarity of the language in our Constitution. All gun banning must be done in a round-the-corner manner; i.e., machine guns are restricted by "taxing them," dealers are licensed because of "interstate commerce."

In Australia on the 10th of May 1996, the Australasian Police Minister's Council had a Special Firearms Meeting in Canberra. They produced a number of resolutions. Following are the first three of six total resolutions:

1. Bans of Specific Types of Firearms

RESOLUTION

Council resolved:

(a) that all jurisdictions ban the sale, resale, transfer, ownership, possession, manufacture and use of those firearms banned or proposed to be banned from import other than in the exceptional circumstances listed in paragraph 1.2 (see below).

para 1.2 The only need for the use of an automatic or semi-automatic longarm would be:

*military;

*police or other government purposes; and

*occupational categories of shooters who have been licensed for a specified purpose (e.g. extermination of feral animals).

(b) that all jurisdictions ban competitive shooting involv-

ing these firearms banned or proposed to be banned from import.

Council agreed to implement its resolution via the following action plan:

1. All jurisdictions to ban the sale, resale, transfer, ownership, possession, manufacture and use of those firearms banned or to be banned from import other than in the following exceptional circumstances:

*military use;

*police or other government purposes; and

*occupational categories of shooters who have been licensed for a specified purpose (e.g. extermination of feral animals).

2. All jurisdictions to ban competitive shooting involving those firearms banned or proposed to be banned from import.

3. The Commonwealth to ban the importation of all semi-automatic self-loading and pump action longarms, and all parts, including magazines, for such firearms, included in License Category D, and control the importation of those firearms included in License Category C.

2. Effective Nationwide Registration of All Firearms

RESOLUTION

Council resolved:

(a) that New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania immediately establish an integrated license and firearms registration system and that all other jurisdictions review their existing registration systems to ensure that all systems are compatible.

(b) that these databases be linked through the National Exchange of Police Information (NEPI) to ensure effective nationwide registration of all firearms.

Council noted that there is an urgent need for funds to upgrade NEPI and for additional recurrent funding.

Council resolved to implement its resolution via the following action plan:

1. New South Wales, Queensland, and Tasmania to immediately establish a registration system for all firearms in consultation with NEPI.

2. Victoria, ACT, South Australia, Western Australia and Northern Territory to work with NEPI in reviewing existing systems to ensure compatibility.

3. All jurisdictions to link their registration systems to NEPI.

4. New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia to immediately place the names of all firearms license holders in their States on NEPI's Police Reference System.

3. Genuine Reason for Owning, Possessing or Using a Firearm

RESOLUTION

Council resolved:

(a) that personal protection not be regarded as a genuine reason for owning, possessing or using a firearm.

(b) that the following classifications be used to define the "genuine reason" an applicant must show for owning, possessing or using a firearm:

*sporting shooters with valid membership of an approved club (defined as participants in shooting sports recognized in the charters of such major sporting events as the Commonwealth Games, Olympic Games of World Championships);

*recreational shooters/hunters who produce proof of permission from a landowner;

*persons with an occupational requirement, eg primary producers, other rural purposes, security employees and professional shooters for nominated purposes;

*bona fide collectors of lawful firearms; and

*persons having other limited purposes authorized by legislation or Ministerial approval in writing (for exam-

ple, firearms used in film production).

(c) that over and above satisfaction of the "genuine reason" test, an applicant for a license for the categories B, C, D, and H must demonstrate a genuine need for the particular type of firearm.

For License Category C:

*application will be limited to primary producers;

*the applicant must satisfy the licensing authority that there is a genuine need for the use of the firearms that pertains to the applicant's occupation, which cannot be achieved by some other means, and that the need cannot be satisfied by a firearms under Category A or B;

*a Category C license holder will be limited to the maximum of one rifle and one shotgun of the types covered by Category C;

*the application is to be approved by the Commissioner of the Police, who may impose conditions as to the use of the firearm, including as to the geographical location of its use; and

*licensing authorities will develop uniform guidelines to

be approved by Council.

(d) that firearms collectors should be regulated by means of a license and permit system designed to test their bona fides.

I think you will find the operative sentences in the above are "Personal protection not be regarded as a genuine reason for owning, possessing or using a firearm"; "All jurisdictions ban competitive shooting involving those firearms banned or proposed to be banned from import." The readers of MGN should also be aware that several heads of police in Australia recently attended a symposium on police methods and gun control that was held in that bastion of freedom, Havana. That's in Cuba for all you products of the modern educational system.

Rest assured that if we did not have the Second Amendment, these very same laws would be shoved down our throats here in the U.S. of A.

I AM AN FFL AND CLASS 3 TAX STAMP holder. Recently, a Beretta 950 in a wallet type holster was confiscated from me. ATF has tested this combo which will fire from inside the wallet. They have declared this an "Any Other Weapon." I can surrender my license and keep my guns or wait to see if they prosecute. Then it may be too late, and I could end up with a felony conviction. ATF says I have about a month before deciding. I am supposed to know ALL about guns, so I "should" have known this holster-pistol combo should be registered. I have had an FFL for about eight years and have never seen any information on this item, other than the vague, very general definition of AOW. What do you think. If I go to court, the only defense I see is ignorance, but this may be unacceptable from a "knowledgeable" firearms dealer. Going to court, I stand a good chance of losing all guns and gun rights and possibly doing time. Giving up the FFL puts me out of business. If you can be of any help with information, etc., please let me know. *Machine Gun Dealers Bible* is helpful, but still not specific on this.

S. T. G.

I hate things like this. Those holsters are readily available on the market, and the definition of an Any Other Weapon would not lead even a Reasonably Knowledgeable Individual to think that there is danger of a violation here. Let's get this clear — the Pager holsters that conceal a small pistol are considered AOW's (by the ATF) if there is a pistol in them.... "Wallet holsters" that change the form of the pistol and allow you to fire the pistol from inside are considered AOW's (by the ATF)... even though both are just concealment rigs for legal pistols.

I don't buy it. A pistol is still a pistol, and pistols are exempt from the AOW definition. I think that you should get the best lawyer you can find — Steve Halbrook and James Jeffries come to mind — and challenge it. It is going to cost a lot of money to go to court, take a lot of your time, and of course, there is the risk of going to jail. You are going to have to weigh the possible risks and possible benefits. I wouldn't blame you if you bow to it and give up the FFL, but if it's wrongful, and you are put out of business... how many more times is it going to happen?

Good luck to you.

Questions to:

Dan Shea, C/O MGN

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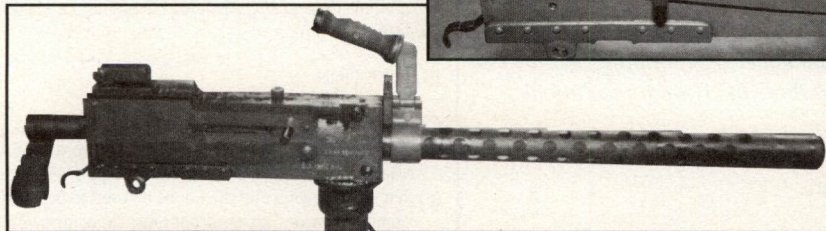
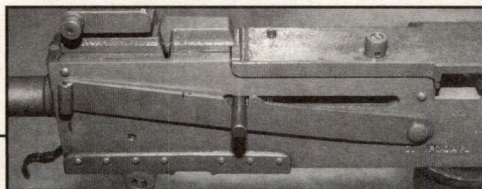
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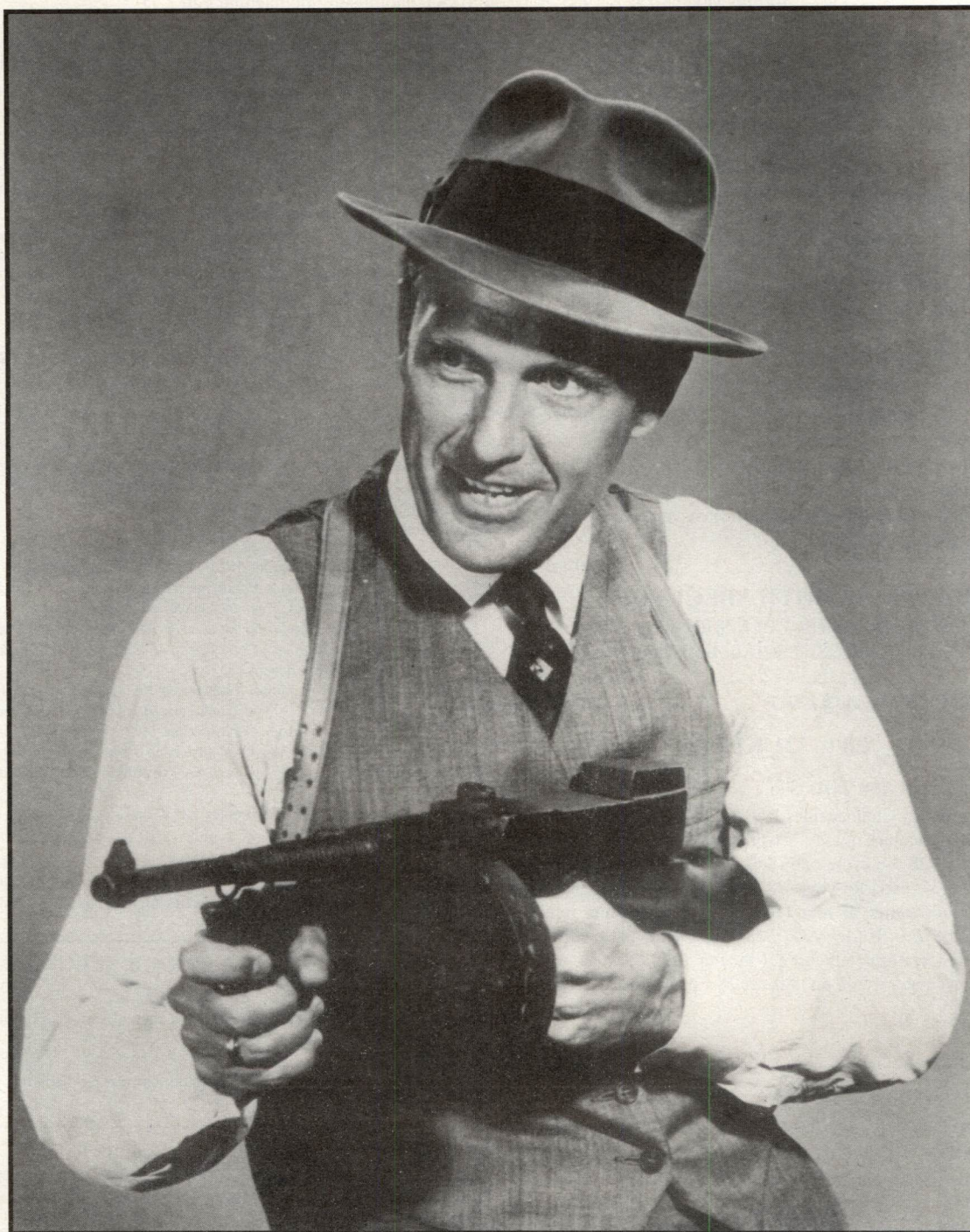


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Archive Photo of the Month

From the Robert Bruce Collection



HOLLYWOOD, circa 1960's. Series star Robert Stack as G-Man Eliot Ness poses in a publicity still for the hit television series "The Untouchables." Close inspection reveals the 1928 Thompson submachine gun to be a wooden prop gun. Copyright © 1996 ROBERT BRUCE PHOTOGRAPHY *Note: Robert regrets that he cannot handle individual requests for photographs. However, publishers and documentary film makers, etc., are encouraged to contact him for information on use of archive images. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope and details on intended use to ROBERT BRUCE PHOTO, P.O. Box 482 MGN, SANDSTON, VA 23150.*

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110

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FN M249 Minimi Belgium, prefer later gun south import. Post sample o.k. Letter already in hand. Contact: John Higgs, Louisiana Special Weapons. Work# K&B Drug (318) 688-2160 or 2168. Home# (318) 932-4868.

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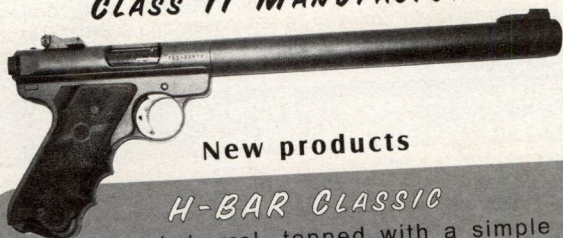
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