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THE GUIDE TO MODERN SMALL ARMS

Vol. 10 No. 5

MACHINE GUN

NEWS

NOVEMBER 1996

The
ADPA
Small Arms
Symposium
New MGs &
Technology

MGN
Visits
Belgrade,
Yugoslavia



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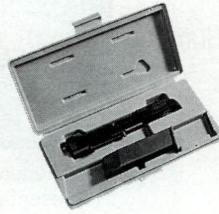
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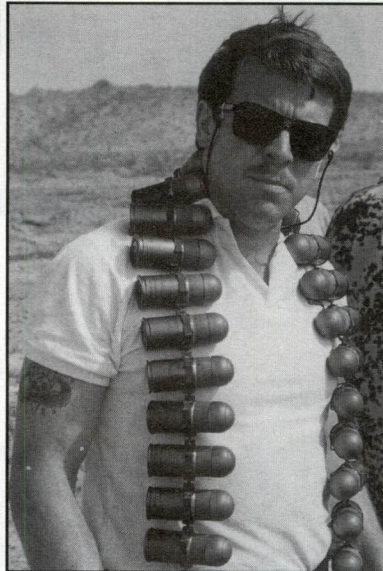
THE GUIDE TO MODERN SMALL ARMS

Volume 10 Number 5

November 1996

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Representative Jim Schatz (page 56).

On the Cover: The I.D.W. which premiered at this year's ADPA Convention. Photography and Digital Imaging by Jim Bonis.

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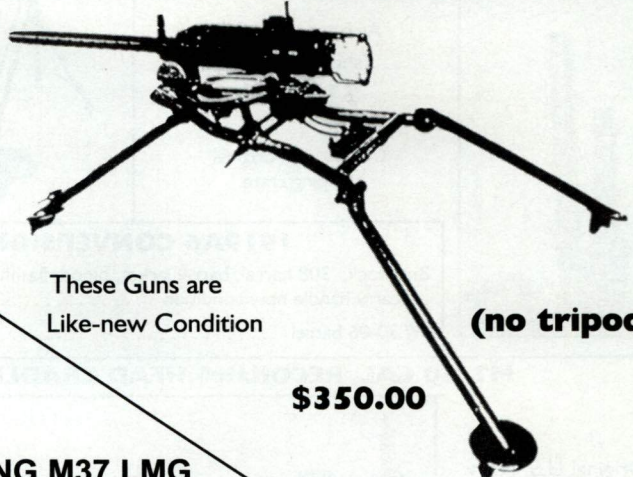


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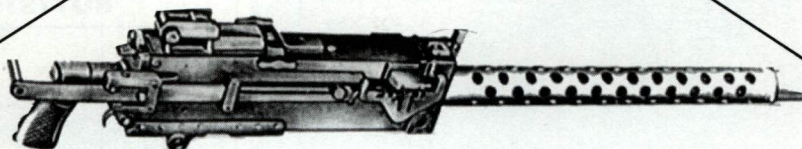


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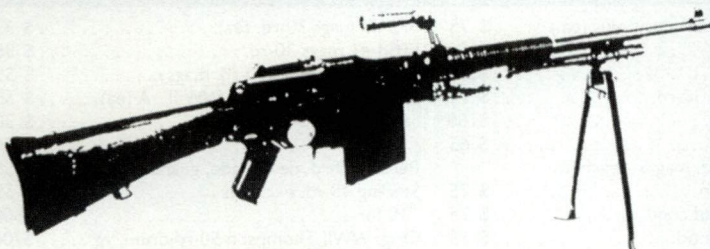
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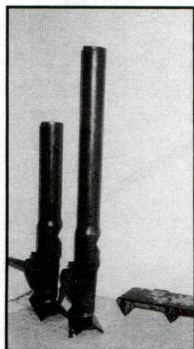
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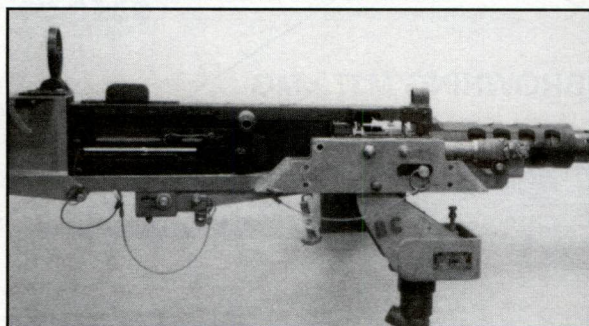
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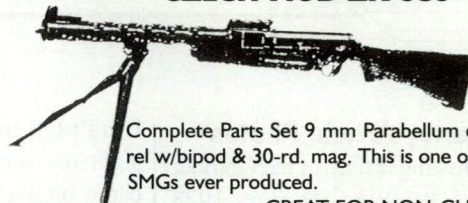
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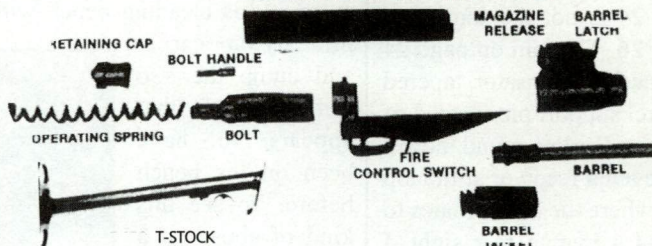
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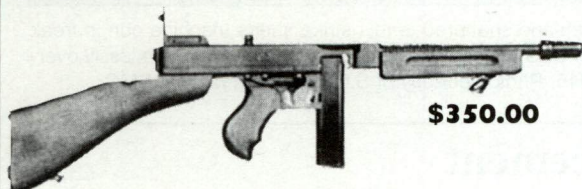


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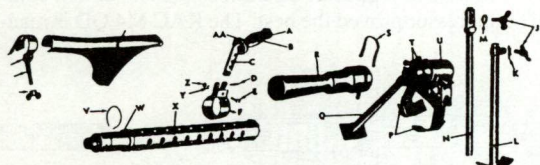
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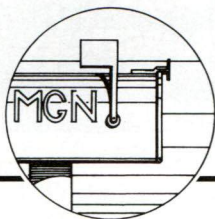


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Incoming

West Hurley Article Photos

Very interesting article in the October '96 issue ["The West Hurley 1928 Thompsons" by Frank Iannamico]. It answered some questions that I had about this Thompson.

I have some comments though. The photo on page 24 is not the same gun shown on page 26. The gun on page 24 has a cross-pinned compensator, tapered foregrip-to-barrel support pin instead of the normal West Hurley round dowel pin, possibly beveled receiver at the top of the receiver where the barrel mates to the receiver and a Lyman rear sight. I can't tell from the photo for sure, but the actuator knob appears to be knurled.

The photos on page 26 are from a completely different gun. The biggest giveaway is the rear sight.

Based from the details in the photo on page 24, I would say that this gun is a '28 Colt with a late war '28 A1 buttstock or a heavily modified West Hurley with original type Colt or Savage parts.

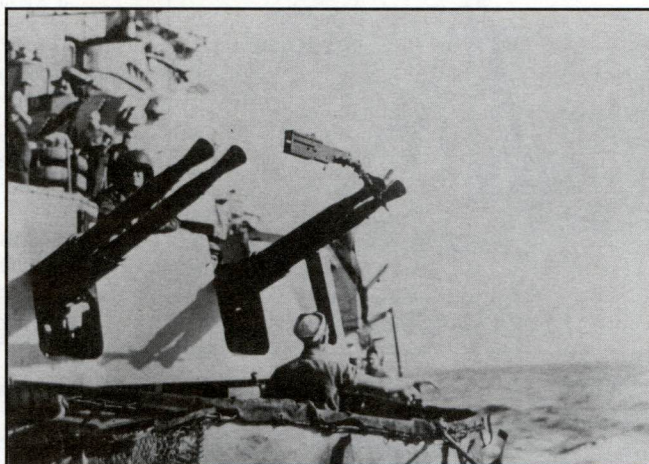
I can't tell from the photo if the Lyman sight has elevation only adjustment as came on West Hurley guns or original windage and elevation adjustment.

In any case, from looking at the photos on page 26, I recommend that the owner of this gun, or previous owner, re-cover his cleaning bench with close pile nylon carpet and dump the #36 grit sandpaper that appears to have been on his bench before. To see this kind of abuse on a 12-year-old gun is criminal. I have 100-year-old, well-used guns that don't have this kind of scratching on the receiver.

I have never understood the snobbery displayed

toward West Hurley guns by their Colt or Savage owning brethren, I have never had any problem with mine, and with a few part changes it is indistinguishable from a Colt until you look at the receiver.

This is not sour grapes, I do own a Colt manufactured '21. (This kind of



Kamikaze plane shattered in mis-strike sheds machine gun in freak fashion on USS *Missouri* (plane broke apart and fell harmlessly overboard) 1945. Photo courtesy of S.L. Suddreth, Major USMC.

Industry Announcement

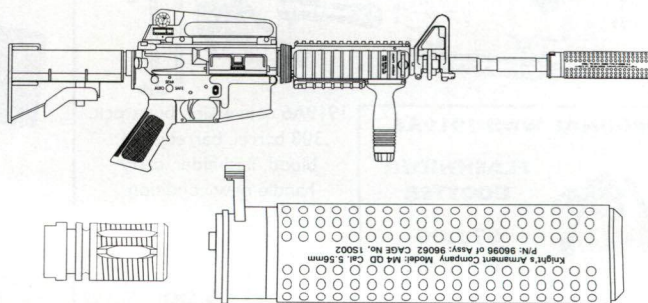
DATELINE Vero Beach, Florida, September 18, 1996.

Knight's Armament Company has been awarded a second major U.S. Government sound suppressor production contract. This latest contract award is for KAC's 5.56 mm M4A1 Quick Detachable (M4 QD) Sound Suppressor. The M4 QD government contract has provision for a maximum of 10,000 suppressors to be delivered over a five year period. Also included in this milestone contract are up to 20,000 replacement muzzle compensators which are necessary to achieve the very desirable and exclusive "quick detachable" characteristic of Knight's suppressors on the intended host weapons. With this KAC QD replacement muzzle compensator installed, the 5.56 mm M4 QD suppressor will perform equally well with either the M4/M4A1 carbine or the M16 series of rifles.

Elite Elements assigned to the United States Special Operations Command are the primary users for this item, and government officials have assigned the new suppressor a National Stock Number (NSN) of 1005-01-437-0324. The suppressor is supplied by Knight's in kit form under that NSN, complete with replacement QD compensator and an orientation shim set, using KAC's Part Number 96062.

The new suppressor met or exceeded a set of rigid performance goals set by USSOCOM's Special Operations personnel in a competitive "shoot out" which was open to all suppressor manufacturers. Knight's QD Suppressor proved the best. The KAC M4 QD is manufactured from special space-age stainless steels and utilizes proprietary state-of-the-art baffle designs. These characteristics helped the diminutive 6.6 inch long by 1.5 inch maximum diameter suppressor meet and survive the very severe full-automatic government extended firing requirements. The sound level reduction with standard M855 ball ammunition (which remains supersonic) is a minimum of 28 dB.

Qualified dealers may obtain additional information by contacting Knight's at 7750 9th Street SW, Vero Beach, FL 32968. However, commercial availability will be dependent on priority military delivery orders. The first fifty suppressors were delivered in October, approximately one month after the contract award.



reminds me of the Harley riders who won't acknowledge a guy riding a Honda; but all that really matters is that you ride, not what you ride.)

In any case keep the stories coming, they are enjoyed every month.

D.M.

Author's Response

Dear D.M.:

Thanks for your interest in the article about the West Hurley Thompsons. I knew as I was photographing that gun that someone was going to spot that pin in the compensator! You're correct, it isn't the same gun. The owner of that gun wouldn't let me photograph the serial number. I had to use the other one for the receiver markings. I didn't want to use too many photos of the second one because I felt it was not a true representative of a West Hurley '28. As you can see it has a stamped M1 rear sight, and what you can't see is it has no compensator. That gun was special ordered like that. That gun is a little rough, finish wise. The gun has had a lot of use as a shooter. Getting back to the '28 in question... That gun is a very early (one of the first made) model and featured many original parts including the Lyman rear sight. The compensator was pinned by the current owner. Most West Hurley guns I have examined have had some sort of upgrade by current or former owners. Ira Trast, the president of A.O., told me many original GI parts were used until their supply ran out on a few items, at which time they began to manufacture their own.

I also wrote an article on the West Hurley M1 Thompson. The article appeared in the June '95 issue of *MGN*. Two different West Hurley Thompsons were photographed in that article as well: the first one made s/n 100, and mine number 534.

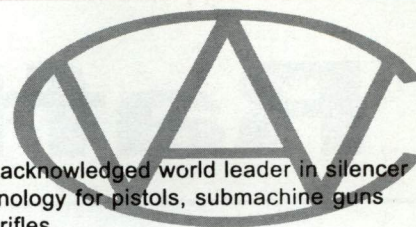
Frank Iannamico

Correction

The Gemini Technologies article that appeared in the October issue did not give photo credit. The photos were taken by Jim Bonis and Dan Shea.

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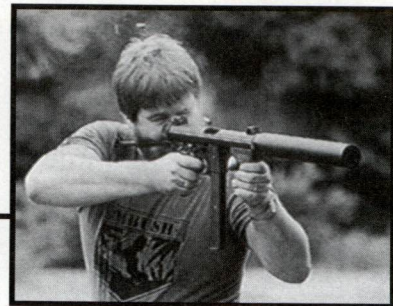
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Raffica

by Dan Shea



"When we got organized as a country and we wrote a fairly radical Constitution with a radical Bill of Rights, giving a radical amount of individual freedom to Americans.... And so a lot of people say there's too much personal freedom. When personal freedom's being abused, you have to move to limit it. That's what we did in the announcement I made last weekend on the public housing projects, about how we're going to have weapon sweeps and more things like that to try to make people safer in their communities."

—President Bill Clinton 3-22-94

I waited until the last minute after the elections to write *Raffica*, just to get a feel for what might be in the works. It's hard to see into the future, and any attempt to do so would probably fall short of reality. That said, here's a little of my take on things regarding firearms.

Clinton and company appear to be splitting up—rats fleeing a sinking ship seems an apt comparison. Yet, if you listen to the media, Clinton is strong; he has vanquished the Republicans and their revolution. The Republicans are caving in to his every whim. Not a chance, folks. What I see is Bill Clinton running as a fiscal Republican, and calling anti-Second Amendment behavior conservative. Our side is reeling from hundreds of millions of dollars and two solid years of negative, hateful publicity...but our guys won. **WE WON ALMOST EVERY RACE THAT COUNTED.** Bob Dole didn't excite the conservatives, in the same way that we didn't support George Bush in his re-election campaign.

Clinton and Company are going to try to pass Brady II. Anticipate that. They will go for ammo dump licenses, arsenal licenses, and a bunch of other intrusive laws that are designed to eventually identify all firearms and ammunition for rounding it up.... Look at England and Australia. In those countries, the government passed confiscation laws. They just happened to "have a little list," and they are going door to door picking up the guns.

Well, it won't fly here, under present

circumstances. My personal feeling is that Bill Clinton is probably headed for impeachment proceedings. We have the House and Senate, and he does not just have a "sense of impropriety" surrounding him. Even the folks that voted him in think he's dirty. Dole just wasn't an exciting alternative.

I expect more of the same underhanded back door banning that we have seen recently: executive orders banning importation of whatever item they demonize. I think surplus military ball ammo may be a target for becoming "nonsporting." ATF continues to change categories a la the Striker/USAS 12 shotguns going from regular firearms to Destructive Devices. Voluntary Restraint Agreements are already in the works in a number of countries, basically bribing the country not to send firearms or ammunition to the United States, then receiving money and aid from the Clinton administration in return.

Without some insane violent catalyst such as a massacre or riot that leads to Martial Law being declared, it is unlikely that we will face any sweeping changes.

There is always talk of an increase in the cost of the transfer tax: "It's going to \$1000!" "No, it's going to \$2000!" I discount this talk generally because NFA Branch produces about eight thousand transfers a year at the \$200 number which is \$1.6 million. Add in the twenty-five hundred Special Occupational taxpayers at an average of \$500 per which yields \$1.25 million... now we have \$2.85 million from transfers alone.

That is significant money, and moving the fees up might kill the goose that laid the NFA golden egg.

I actually anticipate loosening of the laws if Clinton proceeds into "lame duckhood" and the Republicans press the advantage. Other than that...situation normal.

Questions:

MY BROWNING A6 DEVELOPS a carbon scale in the booster cap and front barrel bearing as well as the mating surfaces of the muzzle end of the barrel itself. This I assume to be normal, and FM23-55 states that this deposit should be removed periodically, or the barrel will bind. This scale is metal-hard, and it's difficult to imagine GI's in the field laboriously clinking away at it the way I do. Is there any easier way to remove it, such as soaking in some magic solution, etc.? Should I worry about it at all? Keep up the great work on your great magazine!

Bob in Nevada

You need to get a "scale scraper" or "tool, carbon removal, #41-T-3081-35." It looks like a T-handle tap wrench and has fins that cut the scale out of the muzzle bearing. In front of the fins is a guide that goes out of the bullet port to keep you centered. There are several other versions of this tool, but this is the old military way, and it is the way I have always done it.

Firing the 1919 Browning, and any other machine gun that has the barrel move under recoil with a sheath around it, will require periodic cleaning of this carbon. The boosters are affected also. If the buildup starts to take up space, the machine gun will malfunction. Most of the guns have an equivalent tool. (Prepare yourselves for the avalanche of personal methods of cleaning scale to be sent in to "Raffica." As a matter of fact, we would like to hear them. Send in your recipes, guys!)

I AM A CURIOS AND RELICS licensee and I can't wait to get my MGN fix every month. I have two questions. First, are there any Type D BARs that are not dealer samples in the country? I have been looking sporadically for the past few years with no success. Every dealer that I have ever spoken with about Type Ds says the same thing, "Great gun. Never seen one that's transferable."

Second question, is there anyone out there with a 7.92 x 33 mm Kurz chambering reamer? I have several MP43 barrels that came out of dewats after I did Form Ones on the guns. All are new and would no doubt be repairable. The MP-43/44 is such a good shooter. O.K., O.K., everybody is entitled to an opinion, and good barrels are getting hard to find and damned expensive. Lastly I would like to see some articles contrasting older weapons against their newer descendants. For example: MG42 vs. M60 or MP40 vs. S&W 76, and please no "it's better because it's newer puff."

Chris C.

"Great gun, never seen one"...well, never a transferable one that is. Pre-86 dealer samples, post-86 dealer samples...but never a transferable one. They could exist, and probably do, but you will find that the FN-D owners rarely sell one. They are very reliable and smooth to shoot.

On the subject of MP44s we come smashing directly into the wonderful world of metallurgy. As much as we enthusiasts may like to get our old guns running, we have got to take into account the reality of what is and isn't safe. You haven't specified whether the barrels you want to ream out are leaded, brazed or welded. The first two really are not much of a problem. Leading is easy to remove (observe all safety rules for lead), and a professionally done reaming will yield a new barrel from a brazed one. I called Bob Landies, who has 30-plus-years experience with reactivating dewats, and he threw even more caution into the equation.

If the barrel is electric welded, where the plug is part of the chamber wall, you are, in effect, boring a new chamber into a material that is markedly different from the original. Stress from firing a cartridge is going to be treated differently by the new character-

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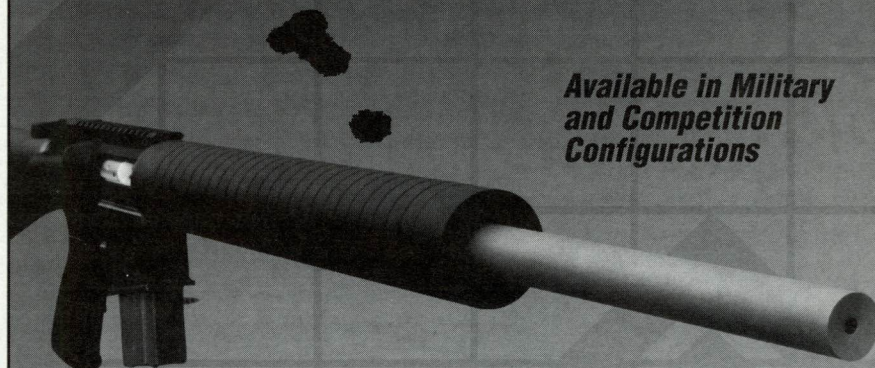
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istics, and the cooling process must be done correctly in order to maintain strength. The chamber section could easily shatter, with bodily damage resulting to the shooter. The other problem is that the hardness change may cause "divots" to chip out of the chamber. This is almost irreparable, and when a cartridge fires, the brass will expand to fill the divot. At the best, you have extraction problems and loss of brass; at worst, you start ruining the firearm. Reaming slightly oversize to "clean it up" has obvious problems and should not be done.

The suggestion in this case is to install a new barrel. MP44 barrels are pressed in, and there are a number of gunsmiths who can perform this. There are also a number of MP44 kits hitting the market, so there is an opportunity to obtain barrels. Ohio Ordnance, Bob's company, has the barrels for sale at \$185, and they do a complete installation including barrel for between \$250 and \$350, depending on the work involved. Ohio Ordnance Works Inc., P.O. Box 687, Chardon, OH 44024 phone (216) 285-3481, fax (216) 286-8571.

If you want to do the reaming yourself, please bear in mind the above warnings. One source for a 7.92 x 33 mm (8 mm Kurz) reamer would be Clymer. This will be a special order, and you should contact them directly for a quote. Clymer Manufacturing Co. Inc., 1645 W. Hamlin Rd, Rochester Hills, MI 48309 phone (313) 853-5555, fax (313) 853-1530.

We do comparisons of machine guns from time to time, and the writers have your list now...but I would HOPE that you would give us more credit than to think that we would write "newer is better" puff pieces. Many of the staff writers are absolutely in love with older machine guns and wouldn't give a nickel for a new one.

Questions to:

Dan Shea c/o MGN
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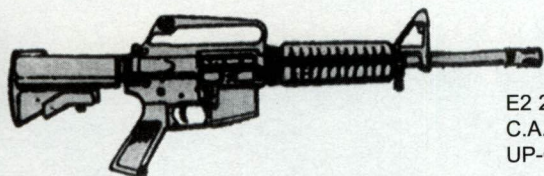


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The owners of suppressed .308 Winchester rifles are aware that, though these rifles are much quieter than their unsuppressed brothers, anyone standing within 50 yards will know that a shot was fired. A suppressed .308 Winchester sounds much like an unsuppressed high-velocity .22 LR pistol.

There is a simple way to avoid a gunshot's supersonic "crack." Many owners of suppressed .308 Winchesters have the means to do this but may not know it. With a little work, a suppressed .308 Winchester can be very stealthy indeed.

What Causes Gunshot Noise?

Gunshot noise is composed of three parts. The smallest portion is the mechanical noise. It is caused by the falling hammer/striker or the operation of the gun's self-loading mechanism.

In all common rifles, except .22 rimfire, the loudest component of a gunshot's noise is the "boom" caused by the high-velocity gases that are created by the burning propellant powder.

The final component of a gunshot's noise is the bullet's supersonic "crack." Like a jet plane flying faster than the speed of sound, a supersonic bullet

causes a "crack" along its path of flight.

Except in unusual circumstances, the manufacturers of suppressed firearms make no effort to prevent a gun's mechanical noise. Mechanical noise is only an insignificant part of the total noise made by a gunshot.

Bolt Locking Devices, Why?

Devices have been made that prevent a suppressed semi-automatic pistol from cycling. The purpose of these devices is not to reduce the noise but to avoid leaving a fired case at the scene. A gun's firing pin, bolt face and extractor all leave unique marks on every cartridge fired. A fired cartridge can be traced to a particular gun as easily as a recovered bullet.

Alan C. Paulson is the best civilian source of information regarding gunshot noise. When he tested a Nexus .45 ACP suppressor, he discovered that the Nexus was 1.3 dB louder when the pistol was fired with its slide locked. Paulson theorized that some of the gases' energy was dissipated by operating the pistol's action. For Paulson's review of the .45 ACP Nexus, see *Machine Gun News*, Volume 5, Number 12. This back issue is available as a photocopy from the publisher.

Supersonic Vs. Subsonic

Suppressors, in a variety of calibers, are available from many manufacturers. Most do an excellent job of quieting the "boom" caused by the escaping gases.

Suppressors quiet the "boom" by momentarily capturing the hot, fast moving gases that are produced by the burning propellant. These gases expand and cool inside the suppressor. This reduces their velocity. The gases then exit the suppressor subsonically. The noise is greatly reduced.

If a bullet exits the suppressor at a speed faster than the speed of sound, nothing can be done to silence the bullet's supersonic "crack." The bullet's supersonic noise does not originate at a single point. It is produced continuously from the moment that the bullet leaves the suppressor until the bullet's velocity slows below the speed of sound.

There are only three commonly suppressed cartridges that are normally subsonic. They are standard velocity .22 LR rimfire, .380 ACP and .45 ACP.

High-velocity .22 LR rimfire ammo is supersonic. Its supersonic "crack" is louder than the "boom" caused by its burning powder. An unsuppressed .22 rifle firing standard velocity subsonic

try a...

.300 Whisper — or — Subsonic .308 Winchester

by Capt. Monty Mendenhall

ammo is relatively quiet. When firing the same rifle with high-velocity ammo, it is much louder.

The effect of a .22 rifle's suppressor goes nearly unnoticed if its bullet is supersonic. The supersonic "crack" is the major component of a .22 LR rimfire's noise.

Suppressed Centerfire Rifles

Maxim suppressors were manufactured for .30-06 rifles before World War II. They did a good job of quieting the "boom" but not the "crack." General Julian Hatcher, a U.S. Army firearms expert, evaluated a suppressed .30-06, 1903 Springfield rifle. In one of his tests, he fired it down a railroad track. A distinctive echo was produced each time that the supersonic bullet passed a telegraph pole. Hatcher reported that the resulting series of echoes sounded like machine gun fire.

This is the lesson, "The 'boom' can be hidden. The 'crack' cannot."

J. D. Jones and the .300 Whisper

J. D. Jones developed a moderately powerful, yet quiet centerfire rifle cartridge. He called it the .300 Whisper. To overcome the bullet's supersonic "crack," the .300 Whisper launches a 220 grain bullet at 1050 fps. This veloc-

ity is just below the speed of sound at zero degrees Fahrenheit. It is well below the speed of sound at 100 degrees. With neither a "boom" nor a "crack," there is little to reveal the presence of a suppressed .300 Whisper rifle.

A rumor alleges that the .300 Whisper and later the .500 Whisper were developed for a U.S. agency for clandestine purposes. There is a precedent for this. During World War II, a suppressed .45 ACP rifle was used by British Commandos.

The British Ordnance Department converted a .303 SMLE rifle to .45 ACP and fitted it with an integral suppressor. Named after its designer, William Gadfray De Lisle, it was called the "De Lisle Carbine."

One reference asserted that the .45 ACP De Lisle Carbine was effective up to 300 yards. Another claimed that it was effective at 400 yards. The following is a summary of the .45 ACP data that is provided in the accompanying tables.

If a .45 ACP rifle's sights are adjusted to hit dead center at 135 yards, the bullet will be one foot high at 75 yards and one foot low at 160 yards. At 300 yards it will be 13.5 feet low and 31 feet low at 400 yards. A well-hidden sniper

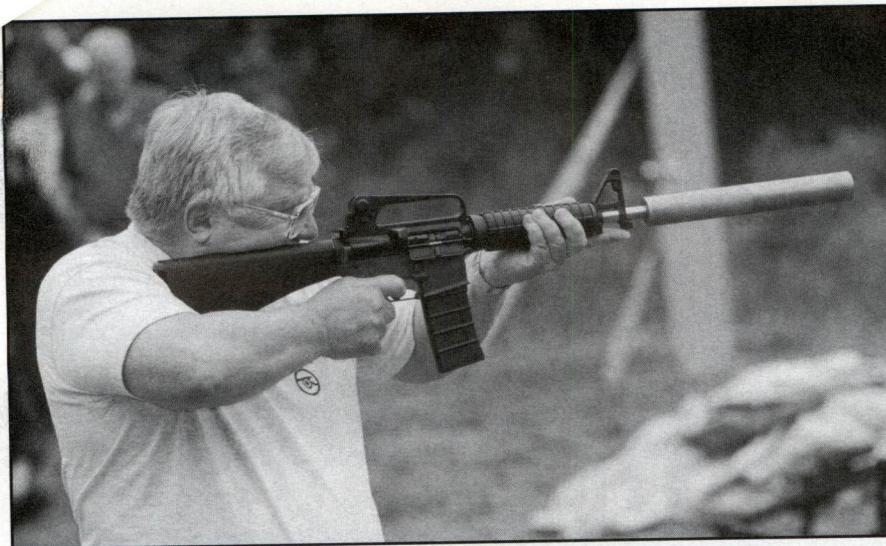
could have provided some harassment at these ranges, but neutralizing a sentry with one shot seems unlikely.

The De Lisle Carbine was very effective at close range. Sentries could be quietly neutralized with near certainty at ranges of up to 50 yards.

An average marksman using a .300 Whisper, could easily double the De Lisle Carbine's range of high killing probability. Not only is the .300 Whisper inherently more accurate than the .45 ACP, it is much more powerful. Due to its far superior ballistic coefficient (BC) and its higher initial energy, a .300 Whisper retains more foot pounds of energy at 400 yards than a .45 ACP has at its muzzle.

In addition to deeper penetration, like a 5.56 mm NATO bullet, a .300 Whisper's long bullet is likely to yaw shortly after impact. A yawing bullet inflicts far greater damage than a stable bullet. J. D. Jones states that game animals, taken with a .300 Whisper, reacts similar to being hit with a heavily loaded .44 magnum.

The .300 Whisper cartridge is commercially available from COR-BON dealers. Those who wish to make their own .300 Whisper ammo are in luck



J. D. Jones firing .300 Whisper modified M16 with suppressor attached.

too. It is a simple cartridge to make. The only tools required are a reloading press and a set of Hornady .300 Whisper reloading dies.

The .300 Whisper begins life as an empty .221 Remington Fireball case. The small neck of the .221 Remington Fireball is expanded to .30 caliber in the .300 Whisper's resizing die. It is a quick, one-step process.

Why Use Heavy Bullets?

Bullets weighing 150 grains are commonly used in .308 Winchester rifles. The .300 Whisper is usually loaded with a 220 grain or heavier bullet. This causes the trajectory of the slower .300 Whisper bullet to be flatter and to deliver more energy on impact.

A bullet's ballistic coefficient is a number that is derived from its section-

al density and aerodynamic drag. If two bullets are shaped identically, the heavier bullet will have the highest BC.

A bullet's BC can be used to accurately predict its trajectory, remaining velocity and energy at any point along its path of flight. Most BCs are less than one. For example, a 39 grain .22 LR bullet has a BC of .149. A .308 diameter, 220 grain, spire-point, boat-tail bullet has a BC of .608. If both bullets are launched at equal velocities, the former will lose velocity much quicker than the latter.

The M16 .300 Whisper

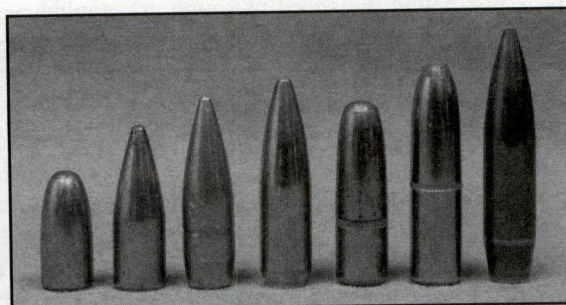
Though maximum long-range accuracy is more easily achieved when using a bolt-action rifle, the .300 Whisper is often seen in a rebarreled M16. The total length of a .300 Whisper cartridge is slightly less than that of a 5.56 mm NATO round. It will feed from an unmodified M16 magazine.

The .300 Whisper's case head is identical to that of a 5.56 mm NATO case. A new bolt is not needed. The .300 Whisper operates with a standard M16 5.56 mm bolt. Suppressed M16 .300 Whisper upper receivers are available from SSK Industries.

An M16, 5.56 mm upper receiver can be exchanged with an M16 .300 Whisper upper receiver in less than a minute. Since the sights are mounted on the upper receiver, no sight adjustment is needed after changing the M16 uppers.



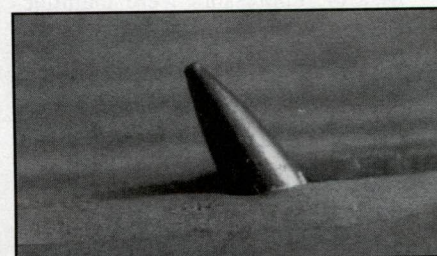
Left to right: .221 Remington Fireball case, .300 Whisper case, .308 Winchester case.



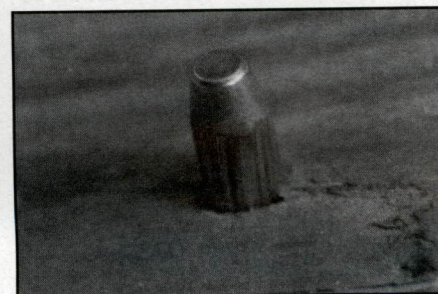
From left to right .308 diameter bullets: 110 grain round-nose, 130 grain spire-point, 145 grain spire-point boat-tail, 168 grain spire-point boat-tail, 180 grain round-nose, 220 grain round-nose, 220 grain spire-point boat-tail.



The 6.5 Whisper suppressed M16.



A .300 Whisper 220 grain spire-point after penetrating 10 inches of yellow pine 2 X 6s.



A .300 Whisper 200 grain boat-tail bullet after penetrating 10 inches of yellow pine 2 X 6s.

A suppressed M16 .300 Whisper has significantly greater accuracy and range than an H&K MP5-SD. At closer ranges, a suppressed .300 Whisper's advantage over a suppressed 9 mm is its deeper penetration. At twenty-five yards, a 220 grain Whisper bullet will pass completely through nine inches of yellow pine lumber.

A Subsonic 9 mm, 147 grain Failure

A California SWAT team had a disastrous confrontation with a street gang. The gang botched a bank holdup and took hostages. They held them in the vault. The bank's security cameras recorded the tragic outcome of the incident.

After hours of fruitless negotiations, the gang leader threatened to begin killing hostages if his demands were not soon met. The negotiators believed that he was not bluffing and that it was time to resolve the situation with deadly force.

When the gang leader came out of the vault, a SWAT sniper shot him with an H&K MP5-SD. The gang leader was hit in the chest with a 9 mm, 147 grain



Left to right: .300 Whisper 220 gr. spire-point, .300 Whisper 220 gr. round-nose, .45 ACP 230 gr., and 9 mm 147 gr. hollow-point.

subsonic bullet. He appeared to be unaware that he had been shot and began slapping at his chest. Apparently he thought that he had been stung by a bee or bitten by a spider. After a moment, the gang leader saw blood and realized that he was wounded. At that point, he rushed back into the vault and began shooting the hostages.

If a .300 Whisper had been used by the SWAT sniper, the hostages' lives might have been spared. With its deeper penetration and greater lethality, a chest shot probably would have disabled the



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My prices are based on individual condition and desirability and omitted prices here are due to individual differences in guns listed.

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gang leader. In another scenario, a SWAT sniper could have used the .300 Whisper's minute-of-angle accuracy to take a head shot. In either case, a well-placed shot from a .300 Whisper might have quickly ended the confrontation.

How Quiet Is It?

Gunshot noise is difficult to evaluate without the proper equipment. However, by comparison, a suppressed SSK .300 Whisper bolt-action rifle is louder than a suppressed Ceiner 77/22 rifle, but not by much. It is quieter than a Ceiner suppressed Ruger Mk II .22 LR pistol.

A standard .308 Winchester rifle pushes a 150 grain bullet supersonically at 2600 fps. Its "crack" cannot be hidden by a suppressor. With its "boom" suppressed, though, the .308 can easily be mistaken for a .22 rifle. Additionally, since the bullet's supersonic "crack" is continuously generated along its path of flight, the bullet's point of origin is not readily apparent. This is particularly true when the .308 Winchester is employed at the longer ranges that it is capable of.

The standard supersonic, 150 grain .308 Winchester cartridge totally out-classes the subsonic .300 Whisper as far as maximum range is concerned. If a rifleman accepts a trajectory of twelve inches above the line of bore, to twelve inches below it, the .300 Whisper is a 200-yard rifle. With the same limitations, the .308 Winchester is usable for 400 yards. Expert riflemen, using range finders, can increase the effective range of either cartridge by at least fifty percent.

COR-BON makes 125 grain supersonic .300 Whisper ammo. It has a loud supersonic "crack." Though somewhat less powerful than high-velocity .308 Winchester, it negates much of the .308 Winchester's long-range advantage.

.300 Whisper Advantages

The .300 Whisper has three advantages over the .308 Winchester. First, it has no supersonic "crack." It can be suppressed very effectively. Second, a .300 Whisper's cartridge case capacity is ideal for the small powder charges that it uses. Finally, most .300 Whisper rifles have a barrel that is rifled with a one-in-eight twist. Few .308 Winchesters have a twist that is faster than one-in-twelve.

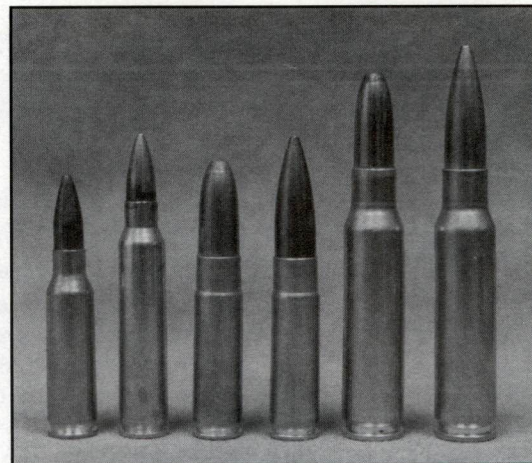
At 1050 feet per second, long heavy bullets are only marginally stable with

one-in-twelve rifling. When using long heavy bullets, it is easier to attain minute-of-angle accuracy with a .300 Whisper than with a .308 Winchester. Most of the .300 Whisper loads tested for this story would group five shots in 1.5 inches at one hundred yards. Many would group under one inch. No .308 Winchester, using a 220 bullet, grouped under 1.25 inches. Most did far worse. The .300 Whisper easily attains acceptable accuracy with heavy bullets. The .308 Winchester must be coaxed to do it.

Getting To The Point

The preceding descriptions, comparisons and anecdotes have brought us to the point of this story. Though the .300 Whisper cartridge has certain advantages, present owners of suppressed .308 Winchester's may not need to buy a new suppressed rifle to attain good, quiet performance.

Even though .300 Whisper ammo is commercially available, most .300 Whisper users probably will reload their own ammo. If reloaded ammo is going



Left to right: loaded rounds of .221 Remington Fireball, 5.56 mm NATO; .300 Whisper 220 gr. round-nose; .300 Whisper 220 gr. spire-point; .308 Winchester 220 gr. round-nose; and .308 Winchester 220 gr. spire-point.

and a Ceiner suppressed .308 Winchester. Both rifles used ammo with velocities of 1050 fps. There was no discernible difference in their noise levels. Both were quieter than a Ceiner suppressed Ruger Mk II .22 LR pistol.

The best .308 Winchester subsonic loads shot into 1.25 inch groups at 100 yards. It required some experimenting before finding a load that the rifle would shoot that well. Most loading data gave 2.0 inch groups or larger.

By contrast, nearly all .300 Whisper loads grouped in 1.5 inches, or less at 100 yards. Many loads would shoot .9 inch or smaller groups. The .300 Whisper is inherently more accurate than .308 Winchester subsonic. It is easy to achieve acceptable accuracy with it. Acceptable accuracy can be attained with the .308 Winchester subsonic too, but it requires more work. It is unlikely that a .308 Winchester subsonic will equal the best accuracy of a .300 Whisper.

The volume of a .300 Whisper cartridge is ideal for its purpose. With a 220 grain bullet and an appropriate charge of powder, its small case is nearly full. Full cases generally produce better accuracy.

The .308 cartridge has a much greater case capacity than the .300 Whisper. When reloading it to subsonic velocities, there is much empty space left inside after pouring in the correct charge of powder. For this reason an extra reloading step is necessary when loading .308 Winchester subsonic.



Whispers 6.5 mm — 155 Sierra, 7 mm — 168, .300 — 240. Note varying powder capacities when set up for subsonic use.

to be used anyway, why not reload a .308 Winchester to subsonic velocities? With heavy bullets, reduced powder charges and some experimenting, a subsonic .308 Winchester can be just as quiet as a .300 Whisper and approach its accuracy.

How Do They Compare?

Side-by-side tests were conducted with an SSK suppressed .300 Whisper

A light weight, bulky filler material must be placed on top of the powder before seating the bullet. It should fill the case to the base of its neck. When the bullet is seated, it should compress the filler slightly.

For many years, corn meal or Cream-of-Wheat has been used for this purpose. These fillers are not suitable for use with a suppressor. The suppressor will quickly fill up with the filler. A dangerous condition could result.

Do not despair. Modern homes have an adequate supply of suitable filler material. It is readily available in the bathroom—toilet paper. Single thickness sheets are preferred.

Why Use Filler?

The use of a filler is necessary for two reasons. Without it, the powder in a large .308 case will not be held uniformly near the primer. As a result, the ignition is irregular. This causes wide variations in velocity and a loss of accuracy.

The second reason for using a filler is much more important. It is unsafe to load small charges of powder into large cases without using a filler.

Developing .308 Winchester Subsonic Loading Data

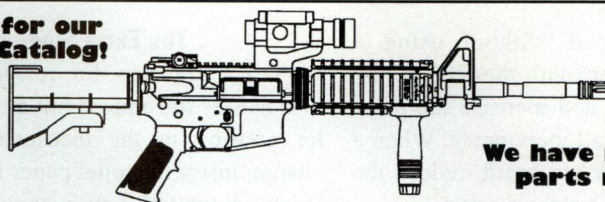
Subsonic reloading data has been published for the .300 Whisper. The .300 Whisper reloading tables are a good starting point when working up the load- ing data for .308 Winchester subsonic.

J.D. Jones graciously gave his permission to publish his proprietary .300 Whisper loading data. He cautions though, and the author agrees, that unstable subsonic .308 Winchester bullets can damage a suppressor. J.D. Jones strongly urges that all subsonic .308 Winchester loads be tested for stability before shooting them with the suppressor installed. If any bullets show signs of yawing, as evidenced by oval shaped holes in the target, do not fire them through a suppressor.

The published .300 Whisper loading data yields lower velocities when loaded in a .308 Winchester case. Powder charges that produced 1050 fps in a .300 Whisper often have thirty percent less velocity in a .308 Winchester. The larger volume of the .308 case reduces its pressure and causes the velocity loss.

The .308 Winchester subsonic loads

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Barrel, Colt A-2, 1 in 7	\$175.00
Barrel, 20" H-bar 1 in 9, chromed, new G.I.	\$150.00
Barrel 16" C.A.R. 1 in 9, chromed	\$150.00
Barrel, 10 1/2" 1 in 9, new	\$185.00
Barrel extension, new	\$20.00
Buttstock A-2 (with spacer)	\$45.00
Carrier assembly	\$100.00
Carrier assembly, AR-15 Colt	\$100.00
Carrier assembly, chromed	\$195.00
Charging handle	\$20.00
Handguards, A-2 (round)	\$25.00
Lower Kit (every part to complete YOUR lower receiver)	\$60.00
Upper receiver, Colt A-2, large hole, complete	\$175.00

M1 Carbine

Barrel, chrome-lined with bayonet lug, gas piston, new G.I. (Vietnam Era)	\$140.00
Bolt, round or flat, complete	\$50.00
Bolt tool, new, G.I.	\$35.00
Disconnecter block	\$15.00
Flash hider (U or S.A.) excellent, some pitting	\$85.00
as new	\$110.00
Gas piston wrench, new	\$10.00
Push safety, unmarked	\$12.00
Push safety, "EW," NS, EPB	\$28.00
Selector, new G.I.	\$25.00
Slide M2, G.I.	\$65.00
Slide M2, unmachined casting	\$6.00
Trigger housing M2, G.I.	\$75.00

M60

Assault pack, 100 rd.	\$22.00
Bipod, new	\$90.00
Bolt, stripped, new	\$45.00
Links, new (per box of 20)	\$1.50
Op Rod, new A-1	\$55.00
Sear, new	\$12.00
Forearm M60 E-3 (heat shield) new	\$75.00

M14

Bolt, new, complete	\$55.00
Front sight, N.M.	\$12.00
Gas cylinder, new	\$25.00
Front band	\$10.00
Hammer, H&R	\$25.00
Hand guard, walnut, new	\$35.00
Rear sight aperture, N.M.	\$28.00
Rear sight, complete	\$35.00
Rear sight, complete H&R or WRA	\$45.00
Receiver back ends	\$35.00
Trigger housing complete, H&R S.A. or Winchester	\$120.00

M1 Grande

Bolt, excellent, original finish, complete:	
S.A.	\$40.00
I.H.C.	\$70.00
H.R.A.	\$65.00
W.R.A.	\$55.00
Buttplate, new	\$18.00
Gas cylinder, new (YES, new)	\$85.00
Gas cylinder, excellent	\$40.00
Gas cylinder lock	\$10.00
Hammer, IHC	\$35.00
Op-rod, excellent, S.A.	\$40.00
I.H.C.	\$80.00
H.R.A.	\$80.00
W.R.A.	\$75.00
R.A.N.M.	\$55.00
Trigger guard, stamped new	\$16.00
Trigger guard, milled, excellent	\$25.00
Trigger housing, excellent, original finish, complete, S.A.	\$45.00
I.H.C., complete, S.A.	\$80.00
H.R.A.	\$80.00
W.R.A.	\$65.00
Trigger housing, S.A., new, stripped	\$20.00

.30 B.M.G.

Barrel extension	\$40.00
Bolt, .30-06 or .308, new stripped	\$80.00
Driving spring	\$10.00
Extractor	\$35.00
Flash hider, M7, for 1919 A-6, internally chromed .308	\$95.00
Front & rear spacers, .308, G.I. new (for pair)	\$60.00
Lock frame	\$45.00
Muzzle bearing, internally chromed, .308 or .30-06	\$50.00
Sear, new	\$10.00
Trigger, new	\$18.00

Magazines

AK-47, Soviet 40 rd., new	\$35.00
AR-15, 30 rd., new	\$12.00
AR-15, 30 rd., used	\$8.00
AR-15 Colt, 20 rd. used	\$10.00
BAR, 20 rd. new	\$20.00
H & K 91, 20 rd. steel, used	\$30.00
H & K 91, 20 rd. alum, new	\$35.00
H & K 93, .223, 40 rd., new	\$50.00
H & K 94, .9 mm, German, 30 rd.	\$75.00
M1 carbine, 15 rd., new G.I.	\$8.00
M3 Grease Gun, 32 rd., new	\$12.00
MP-40 original, 32 rd.	\$70.00
Sten, 9 mm, 30 rd.	\$9.00
S & W 76, MK 760, 36 rd.	\$80.00
Thompson, 30 rd., new G.I.	\$12.00
Thompson, 20 rd., used G.I.	\$20.00
Uzi .45 auto, new I.M.I., 16 rd.	\$80.00
Uzi 9 mm, I.M.I., 25 rd.	\$20.00

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can be developed without using a chronograph. Start with the .300 Whisper loading data and increase the powder charge in small increments. When a supersonic "crack" is heard, reduce the charge by approximately .5 grain.

Powder ignition in a subsonic .308 Winchester is more uniform and accuracy generally improves if the bullet is crimped tightly into the case. A tightly held bullet allows more powder to burn and the pressure increases uniformly before the bullet begins to move. This promotes better accuracy.

Accuracy is sometimes improved by increasing the overall length of the loaded cartridge. This is done by seating the bullet farther out in the case neck. When loading ammo for bolt-action rifles, try increasing the cartridge's length until the bullet touches the rifling in the barrel. This is indicated by a slight resistance as the bolt closes. An examination of a cartridge removed from the chamber will reveal short, equally spaced rifling marks on the bullet.

If the bullet is seated to touch the rifling, it may not be necessary to crimp it to achieve uniform ignition. The rifling resists the bullet's initial movement and lets the internal pressure build before the bullet moves. If the bullet is seated to touch the rifling, try deleting the crimp. The accuracy may improve even more.

Some rifles are more accurate if the bullet does not touch the rifling. Experiment with different overall lengths and see. Remember though, crimp the neck if the bullet does not touch the rifling.

More Cautions

Reloading ammunition must not be undertaken lightly. There is a potential to do serious harm to oneself. Reloading ammunition can be done very safely by those who are willing to study the available reloading manuals and follow their instructions.

Teaching basic reloading is beyond the scope of this article. Anyone who is unfamiliar with reloading techniques should buy an instruction manual. One of the best is *The ABCs of Reloading*, written by Dean Grennell. It is available from DBI Book Services.

Nearly every shooter knows someone who reloads. Ask them for advice, but remember that the friend may not always be correct. Use a respected reloading manual as the final authority.

The Extra Step

The extra step for reloading .308 Winchester subsonic is not difficult. After pouring in the measured powder charge, insert the toilet paper filler. This is best done with a two-step process. If the entire amount of toilet paper is placed in the .308 case at once, it often jams in the neck.

A full sheet of toilet paper is too much. Tear a sheet of toilet paper in half. Twist it into a tube-like shape and insert it into the .308 case neck. Tamp the filler down lightly with a 1/4 inch wooden dowel rod. Repeat the process with just enough paper to fill the case to the bottom of the neck. Seat the bullet in a normal manner.

It should lightly compress the toilet paper filler.

Cleaning the Suppressor

When firing .308 Winchester subsonic ammo, most of the toilet paper filler blows out of, or is burned up in, the suppressor. When firing into the wind, a fine confetti is often blown back into the shooter's face. Some lint-like material does remain in the suppressor. The rear expansion chamber collects most of it.

Some propellant powders burn up the

Ballistic Coefficients

Bullet Diameter	Bullet Weight	Bullet Shape	Ballistic Coefficient
.223	40g	Round Nose, Flat Base	.149
.308	150g	Spire Point, Flat Base	.212
.308	220g	Round Nose, Flat Base	.410
.308	220g	Spire Point, Boat Tail	.608
.355	147g	Round Nose, Flat Base	.180
.451	230g	Round Nose, Flat Base	.138

Trajectory Comparison Chart

Range Yds. 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 225 250 275 300 400

Subsonic .22LR 40 Grain Round-Nose Bullet

.149 BC Muzzle Velocity 1050 fps

Traj. In.	4.7	9.4	11.9	12.0	9.6	4.4	-3.5	-14	-28	-46	-66	-91	-226
Vel. FPS	1011	977	948	921	896	874	852	832	813	795	777	760	698
Foot Lbs.	88	83	77	73	70	66	64	60	57	55	52	50	42

.308 Winchester Supersonic 150 Grain Spire-Point Flat-Base Bullet

.212 BC Muzzle Vel. 2700 fps

Traj. In.	1.0	3.9	6.5	8.7	10.4	11.8	12.6	12.9	12.6	11.6	10.0	7.5	-12
Vel. FPS	2594	2491	2390	2291	2195	2101	2009	1919	1832	1749	1658	1590	1315
Foot Lbs.	2241	2066	1902	1748	1604	1470	1344	1226	1118	1018	927	842	576

.300 Whisper & Subsonic .308 Winchester 220 Grain Round-Nose Flat-Base Bullet

.410 BC Muzzle Vel. 1050 fps

Traj. In.	4.4	9.1	11.6	12.1	10.3	6.3	0.0	-9	-20	-33	-49	-68	-169
Vel. FPS	1035	1021	1009	995	983	972	961	950	940	931	921	912	878
Foot Lbs.	523	509	496	484	472	461	451	441	431	423	414	406	376

.300 Whisper & Subsonic .308 Winchester 220 Grain Spire-Point Boat-Tail bullet

.608 BC Muzzle Vel. 1050 fps

Traj. In.	4.3	8.8	11.3	11.7	10.0	6.1	0.0	-8	-19	-32	-47	-65	-159
Vel. FPS	1040	1030	1021	1012	1003	995	987	979	971	964	956	949	923
Foot Lbs.	528	518	509	500	491	483	475	468	461	455	447	440	416

9 mm Subsonic 147 Grain Round-Nose Bullet

.180 BC Muzzle Velocity 1050 fps

Traj. In.	4.7	9.6	12.2	12.6	10.4	5.7	-1.7	-12	-25	-41	-60	-83	-208
Vel. FPS	1017	988	963	939	918	897	878	860	843	827	811	769	740
Foot Lbs.	338	319	303	288	275	263	252	242	232	223	215	207	179

.45 ACP 230 Grain Round-Nose Flat-Base Bullet

.138BC Muzzle velocity 830 fps

Traj. Ins.	5.9	10.7	12.0	9.7	3.6	-7	-21	-40	-63	-91	-124	-163	-374
Velocity	809	790	771	753	736	716	702	687	671	656	642	627	573
Foot Lbs.	335	319	304	290	276	264	252	241	230	220	210	201	168

Speed of Sound vs. Temp. in Fahrenheit

Temperature Fahrenheit	Speed of Sound Feet per Second
-25	1022
0	1051
25	1079
50	1106
75	1134
100	1160

filler more completely than do others. Hogden H110 leaves very little lint in the suppressor. 2400 leaves a lot.

Nearly all the lint can be removed without disassembling the suppressor. Simply remove it from the gun and blow into the muzzle end. A coat hanger, with a short hook, can be inserted into the rear expansion chamber. Use it to break loose any lint that remains. When first shooting .308 Winchester subsonic ammo, users should check the suppressor for filler accumulation after firing only three rounds. This is a conservative number. With a little experience, users will soon determine their actual need for suppressor cleaning. Remember, the rate of filler accumulation will change with different types and weights of powder.

Acceptable accuracy was attained with a Ceiner suppressed .308 Winchester after experimenting with several subsonic load formulas.

The best loads gave 1.25 minute-of-angle performance. Some combinations of primers, bullets and powders did not work well and were quickly discarded.

If a reader's .308 Winchester subsonic does not yield acceptable accuracy, don't abandon the project. Long, heavy bullets with muzzle velocities below 800 fps are often inaccurate. When the velocity is increased to near the speed of sound, the group size usually decreases. Experiment with different weights of powder or different powders and bullets. All primer brands do not have the same performance. Try a different brand.

The Ceiner suppressed .308 Winchester rifle that was tested for this article had one-in-twelve twist rifling. After some experimenting, it yielded acceptable accuracy with 220 grain bullets. If acceptable accuracy can not be attained in the reader's rifle with 220 grain bullets, try a lighter bullet.

Silencers

.22 cal. black T6 Mod. "Assasin" \$225
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 Uzi, MAC-10/11 stainless suppressor \$295
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The wrong phone number appeared in the July 96 issue. The correct number is listed above.

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.300 Whisper Data

Courtesy of SSK Industries & J.D. Jones

All Loading Data are with 220 gr. Bullets and Remington 7 1/2 Primers

Powder	Weight	Velocity in fps	St. Deviation
Reloader #7	10.4 g	976	19
	10.8 g	1055	17
	11.0 g	1071	19
Accurate Arms #9	8.5 g	1013	27
	8.8 g	1071	14
Hogden H110	8.6 g	1003	35
	8.9 g	1012	—
	9.1g	1061	17

Subsonic .308 Winchester Loading Data

Sierra 220 grain Spire-Point Boat-Tail Bullet

Powder Type	Powder Wt. Weight	Velocity FPS	Standard Deviation	100 Yd. Range Group Size In In.
RL-7	13.0	1035	85.0	1.5
RL-7	14.0	1052	23.6	3.0
RL-7	14.2	1078	16.8	2.5
RL-7	14.5	1090	12.4	1.25

Sierra 220 Grain Round-Nose Flat-Base Bullet

RL-7	12.0	967	28.6	3.25
RL-7	12.5	1006	11.5	2.75
RL-7	13.3	1047	20.1	2.25
RL-7	13.6	1052	34.0	3.0
H110	12.0	984	20.0	1.75
H110	12.5	1012	34.7	1.5
H110	12.7	1051	35.8	1.25
H110	13.0	1079	44.9	2.5

175 Grain Spire-Point Boat-Tail Bullet

H4227	8.0	670	2.0
H4227	10.0	915	3.0
H4227	11.0	1013	2.3
H4227	11.5	1064	1.8

Abbreviations

H110	Hogden brand and type of gunpowder
H4227	Hercules brand and type of gunpowder
RL-7	Hercules brand and type of gunpowder

Before testing for accuracy, clean the copper fouling from the barrel. Copper fouling can easily double the size of the groups. While testing, don't allow enough copper to accumulate to affect the accuracy. Clean the barrel after firing forty rounds.

Every .308 Winchester subsonic rifle, with a good scope and no copper fouling in the barrel, should be capable of putting five bullets into a two-inch circle at 100 yards. This is the minimum acceptable accuracy. With some experimenting, most can cut the group size significantly under that.

The .300 Whisper is an elegant, practical solution to the problem of supersonic "crack" in a suppressed rifle. With a little work however, the owners of suppressed .308 Winchester rifles can equal a

.300 Whisper's quietness and nearly equal its accuracy.

Present owners of suppressed .308 Winchester rifles do not need to buy a second rifle to get good, quiet performance. Those without a suppressed centerfire rifle, can not go wrong by buying a .300 Whisper. But, before buying one though, they should consider the merits of a .308 Winchester. Even though the .300 Whisper is inherently more accurate than subsonic .308 Winchester, those who are willing to experiment can achieve acceptable performance with it. There is no discernable difference in their noise levels.

Whisper rifles available from:

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The ABCs of Reloading

DBI Book Program
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Greenwich, CT 06386-9885
(800) 241-7519

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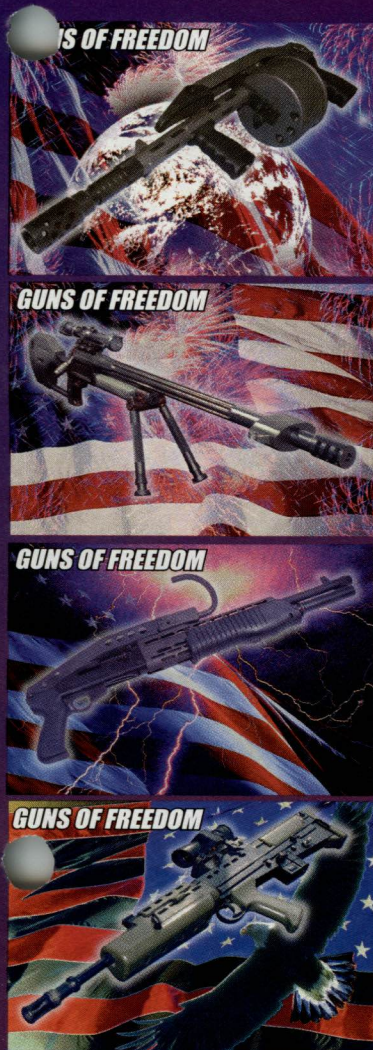
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**An uneasy
truce
prevails in the
seven
countries that
comprise the
former
Yugoslavia**

MGN *in* Yugoslavia (FRY)

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY DAN SHEA

Belgrade, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY)

An uneasy truce prevails in the seven countries that comprise the former Yugoslavia. The past four years have seen brutal fighting and fleeting alliances that seem to outsiders to shift in the wind, remaining senseless to those who do not take the time to investigate thoroughly. War has been a way of life in this region for thousands of years, and choosing "sides" in such a conflict can be hazardous and is frequently done too simplistically. This writer had business in Eastern Europe with Marstar Canada and when an invitation to trav-

el to FRY was given, I jumped at it. In the years before the latest war (usually referred to as "Bosnia"), I had some contacts in Bulgaria and Serbia regarding surplus and antique arms. When war broke out, that all ended, and the embargo of the Serbian regions put an economic lid on activities there. The FRY is composed of the regions of Serbia and Montenegro. Bosnia and Hercegovina make up the area called the same, and Macedonia, Slovenia and Croatia are all independent.

The Serbs, my hosts on this trip, are the recipients of a terrible reputation from the war. Many people say that is well deserved. My investigations were limited to looking at antique weapons, museums, and in the instance that you



are about to read about: an evaluation of the machine gunners of the Serbian Army. I did see evidence of atrocities committed by their enemies, and the argument becomes "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?" I was not there to find an answer to who shot whom first. Nor was I there to share any U.S. expertise or technology with the soldiers. Training foreign soldiers without U.S. State Department approval can be hazardous to your citizenship.

Serbia is a country with a rich history and almost all of it has to do with war. The Serbs are located at the crossroads of many cultures, who have rolled over them in their quests for world domination. The Nazis were not the first—the Romans, the Greeks, the Turks...the list stretches on. In future *Machine Gun News* issues, I hope to bring some of that history to these pages—from the museums at Kalemegdan, to the warehouses I was permitted to search through.

In the interim, while shooting with the FRY military, I have some observations relevant to today's news....

SERBIAN MACHINE GUN FIRING POSITIONS

One of the more interesting parts of my visit to Serbia was having the opportunity to shoot machine guns with the FRY Army. The U.N. embargo has been totally lifted, and the U.S. has also opened trading, so I was being considered as a potential customer for historical accessories. When the final U.S. embargo is lifted, I hope to import ammunition. In the meantime, testing the



Soldiers of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia prepare machine guns for the crazy American to try out: two ZB-26 machine guns. The center gun is a WWII German MG42.



My host's wife was very involved in shooting. Here Branca shoots a "Kingdom of Croatia" ZB-26.

guns seemed prudent. The ammunition was solid, reliable machine gun ammo, sure-fire every time, but it was corro-

sive. Not unusual for 8 mm Mauser and 7.62 Tokarev. The machine guns to be tested were old, out-of-service guns; most hadn't been used for over 25 years. I spoke with several older Colonels who had used these guns as young soldiers, and they had little patience with the young men who were unfamiliar with the Yugo 56 or the 49/57. Whenever one of the young men did something a little clumsy, I saw a frown cross the face of the Colonel in charge and wondered what their equivalent of "KP" was. One particular soldier is probably still peeling potatoes, only because it was the first Yugo 56 he had ever seen. They had a hard time believing that I owned one, or that Americans in general could



Serbian soldier firing Yugo 56 SMG from the prone position.



Author shooting "Kingdom of Croatia" ZB-26 in the field, about five clicks from the Romania border, North of Pancevo.

legally own their machine guns. We are looked on as crazy cowboys by most of Europe anyway, so I wasn't surprised at the reaction to private ownership of machine guns. This region of the world is renowned for hidden caches of weapons; they just aren't "supposed" to have them.

I asked them to show me their firing positions, as a means of evaluating the training levels and efficiency of the Army in general. Just an old soldier's habit—to watch and see what they can do...

I found them to be professional and well-trained. There were several different units represented there, from Special Forces types to what might be considered equivalent to our National Guard. The use of the arms was pretty consistent throughout. From the first firing, they all watched with interest to see if this crazy American could actually hit a target (of course, I out-performed their shooters in the first round). Once it was established that I "knew" the guns and how to use them, an atmosphere of camaraderie (similar to any group of firearms enthusiasts at the range) set in. We all had to try everything, and this gave me the opportunity to evaluate their abilities.

This writer was impressed with the efficiency and training of the soldiers, and my groups were not nearly as tight as the Serbians' were with the light machine guns. I did well enough to proudly represent my country...but would caution any politicians who think these are "not well-trained military personnel," as I have heard elsewhere in the press. I found them to be professionals and very proficient with arms, and they had a lot of battlefield savvy. Be advised.

Editor's note: Marstar Canada is an international wholesaler to the arms trade, and one of the suppli-



Yugoslavian MG34s were WWII German, which the Yugos confiscated as spoils of war when they threw off the Nazi yoke. These are packed two to the fitted crate, with four baskets, four ammo cans, two armor kits, two slings and two spare barrels.



WWII German MG42 as it came from the crate; each crate had two complete sets as in the photo. The tools and accessories all appeared to be original except the cloth tool pouch, which was Yugo manufacture.



These were the original packing crates for the ZB-26 machine guns. All accessories including the magazine loader were packed for each gun.

ers to many retail outlets of collectable militaria. Marstar Canada is the exclusive distributor for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as they dispose of some of their obsolete arms. Collectable firearms and accessories are now available from them. MGN was in FRY as Marstar's guest. Watch for more articles as we delve deeper into this history rich world.

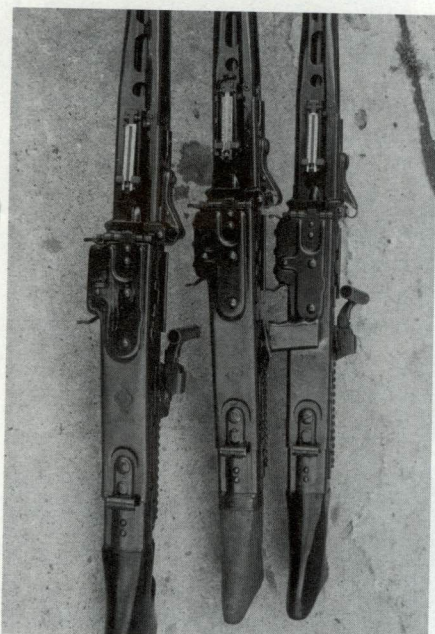
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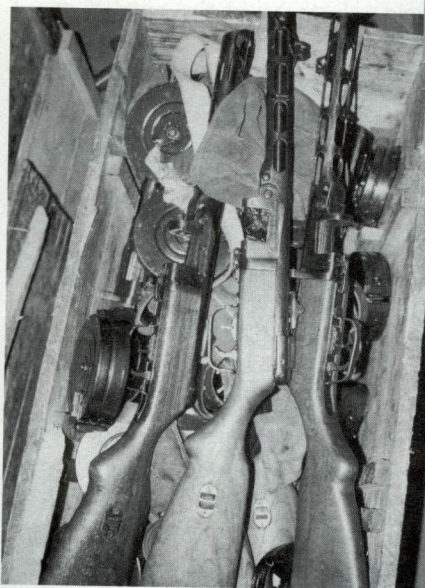
Yes, these are U.S. manufactured Thompson Submachine guns. The ones I found were either M1 or M1A1. Each had original accessory kits, as well as six magazines.



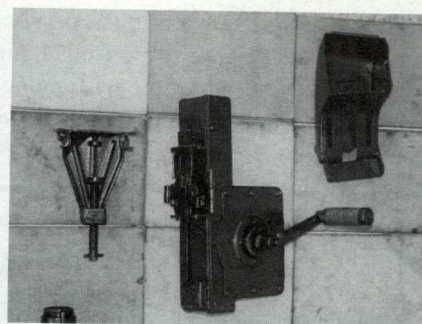
After sorting through a pile of virtually "new in the grease" MP44s, several of the barrels appeared to be "different." On further examination, two apparently unfired Mkb42h assault rifles were discovered. MP43 on the right for comparison.



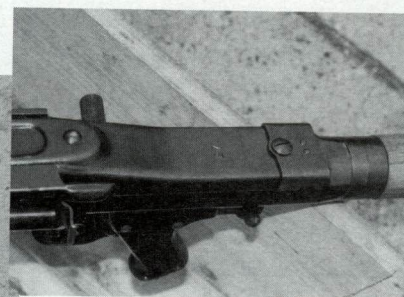
Left to right: Yugo M53 LMG, early WWII German MG42—note the cocking handle, and later model WWII German MG42. All are in 7.92 x 57 mm (8 mm Mauser).



Crawling through the tops of warehouses always pays off. In this case, the author leans down from the top of a stack of crates and records this "find": a case of Yugo 49/57 submachine guns in 7.62 Tokarev. These were packed with several drums for each SMG.



There were a few WWII German MG34/42 belt-loading machines. Each fit into an ammo can.

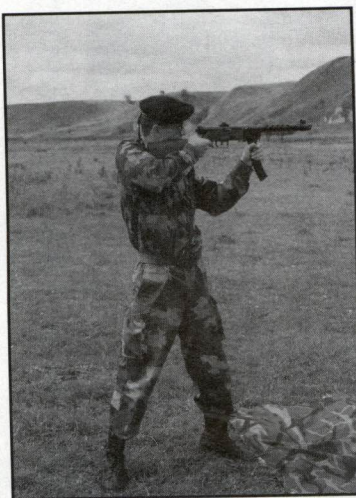


Above: This MG34 was flat out brand new in the grease, with all matching serial numbers—# 27!

Left: Kingdom of Croatia marked ZB-26 with accessories.

YUGOSLAVIAN FIRING POSITIONS

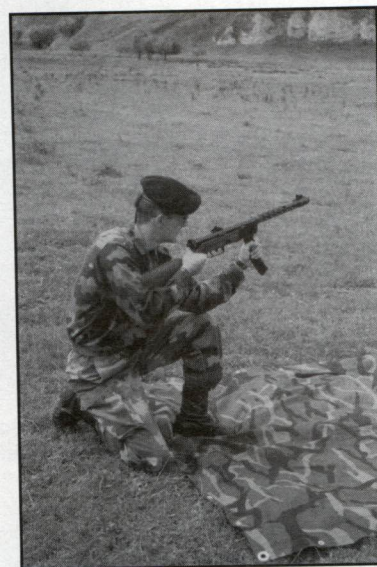
Standing Position



First was firing from the standing position with a submachine gun. These soldiers were used to the Kalashnikov family of arms manufactured at Zastava, and the folding-stock versions seemed very popular. I was curious to see how they would adapt to the early submachine guns. First up was a Yugo Model 49/57, very similar to the "Shpagin" or PPSH-41 submachine gun. The demonstrator placed his body in a classic three-quarter to front position, weight centered, and tucked the buttstock firmly into the well of his shoulder. His right arm was not quite in a "chicken wing," but it was not tucked in tight to his body. The left elbow was down, allowing

the arm to brace against the chest muscles and to further push the buttstock into the shoulder. Typical of these armies, the magazine was used as a forward grip. This is fine with a weapon like the 49/57 or Yugo 56, where the magazine mount is very sturdy. In a firearm with any play, bullet presentation can be affected causing jams. This was a very effective stance for submachine gun fire, evidenced by the accuracy the shooter attained. U.S. trainers might not like this position at all, but U.S. submachine gun training today is dominated by close-quarter battle and room-to-room training—the Serbs are soldiers fighting out in the open: different situations, different training applies. Two- and three-shot bursts using trigger finger control were the order of the day. That is the first sign of proper training: all of the Serbs that I saw were proficient with shoulder-fired automatic weapons. The groups were efficient and actually, quite impressive.

Kneeling Position



Kneeling position: the shooter compacted his body to make a rigid shooting platform. The right knee is on the ground, quartered to the rear. The left knee is up to make a brace for the left elbow. As the buttstock was raised into his shoulder well, the grip on the magazine pushed in to the rear. This was very effective.

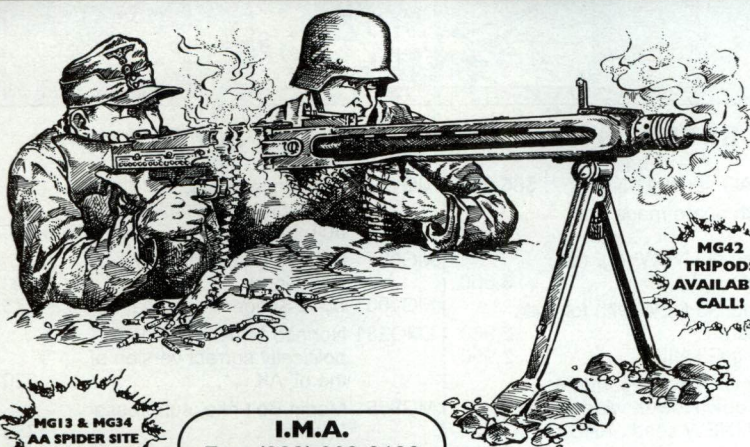
Prone Position



The prone position was with the body directly behind the weapon. The shooter had the magazine firmly against the ground and gripped the well with his left hand. Accuracy was impressive, I would have kept the magazine off of the ground. Monopods tend to decrease accuracy in SMGs, but the shooter was able to keep his profile low and maintain accuracy good enough for any battlefield.



The MG42 that was used in this demo was a WWII German gun, in absolutely mint condition. These two soldiers approached the gun with familiarity. It is essentially the same gun (Yugo M53) they have been trained on and used. The gunner lay down directly behind the machine gun, legs wide for stability, set the bipod and leaned into it. His assistant gunner took the same low profile position, stretched the ammo out for a smooth feed, and presented the belt. Just like clockwork, the machine gun was loaded and ready. The gunner placed his left hand in the correct position on the buttstock, holding it into his shoulder, and commenced fire on the command of the Range officer. His shooting was in four- to six-round bursts, and he was right on target.



Finally here! **GERMAN WW2 MG42 PARTS SET.**

Original German WW2 production, these are complete parts sets less RECEIVER of the 7.92 mm Nazi MG42 Light Machine Gun. Retaining heavy blue/black finish each set includes original bipod and ventilated barrel jacket (AA sight NOT included). Store since WW2, Nazi MG42 parts set. (Plus \$15.00 shipping.)
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Full fluted water jackets and magnificent wheeled "Sokolov" Mounts reminiscent of Dr. Zhivago. IMA is pleased to offer as follows:

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..... \$500.00 (RM1001)
- Russian M.1910 Maxim DUMMY GUN using one of our parts sets assembled on our BATF approved steel Dummy Receiver incorporating most internal parts. Carefully constructed so as NOT to be able to be converted into a working weapon. Totally unrestricted; complete with wheeled "Sokolov" mount. Ready to display, just fabulous. (Plus \$50. s&h 48 states.) \$995.00 (RM1002)

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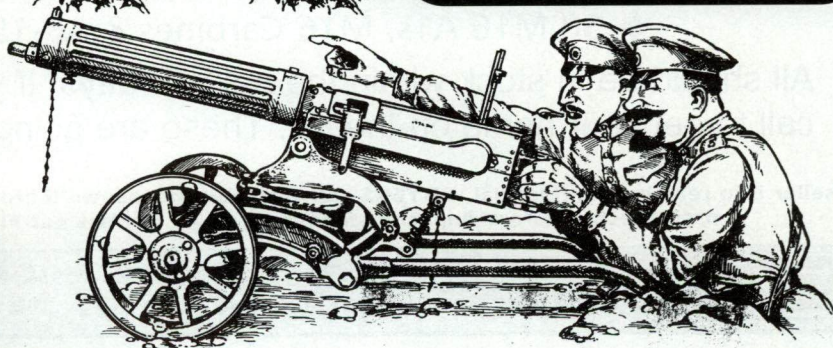
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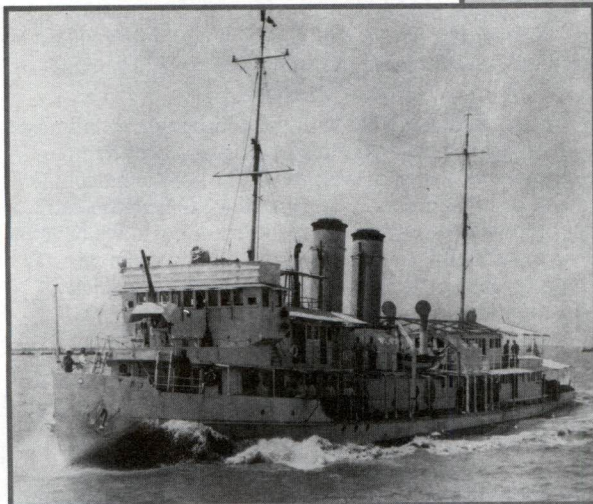
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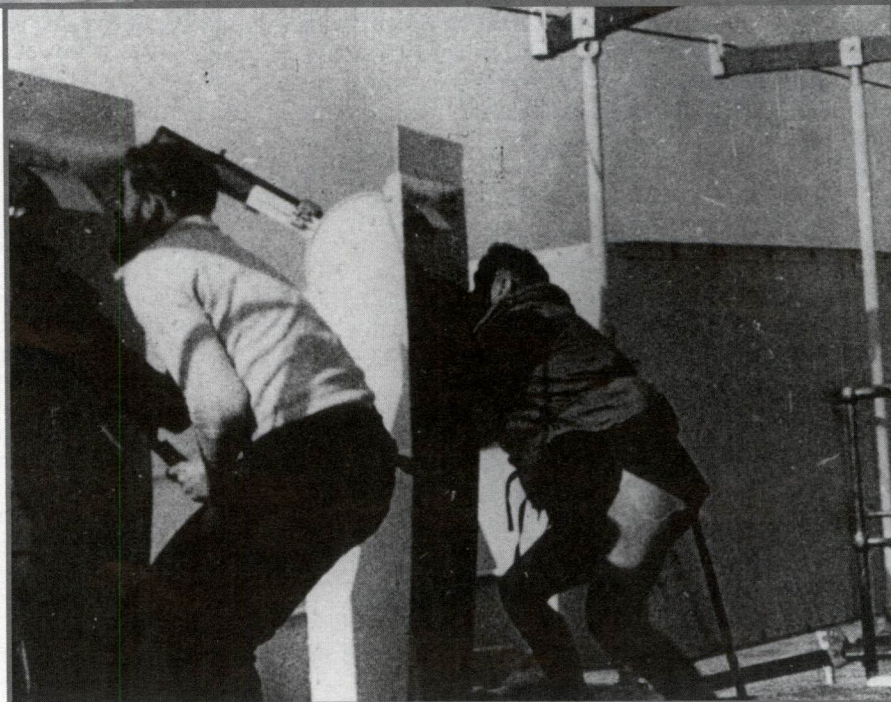
by Mack Barham, M.D.



The gunboat USS *Panay* on patrol in 1937.

In December of 1937, Japanese invaders were advancing rapidly into the interior of China along the Yangtze River. Although America remained neutral, the U.S. gunboat, the USS *Panay*, armed with two, 3-inch guns and a compliment of eight Lewis guns, was on patrol on the upper Yangtze to protect American interests in the area. As the fighting neared the capital of Nanking, 13 American nationals, including the three remaining American Embassy personnel, and two Italians boarded the *Panay* to evacuate the city shortly before it was overrun by the Japanese. The *Panay* steamed away from the fighting and anchored 27 miles up river at the Hohsien Cutoff in the company of three Standard Oil tankers, the SS *Mei Ping*, SS *Mei An* and SS *Hisa*.

Among the American civilians taken on board in Nanking were Norman Alley, a *Universal News* photographer, Eric Mayell, a *Fox Movietone* photographer, and a *New York Times* photographer, Norman Soong. Leaving Nanking, they were disappointed that they were missing the opportunity of a lifetime. They would not be able to document the Japanese sacking of the walled city. They did not realize that they were about to film and photograph an infa-



Chief Petty Officer Ernest "Swede" Mahlmann (sans pants) and a more completely clad sailor return fire at Japanese aircraft attacking the *Panay*.

mous incident that would push America to the brink of war with Japan.

On Sunday, December 12th, Chief Petty Officer Ernest "Swede" Mahlmann arose and was sitting on the edge of his cot, which had been squeezed into the forward hold, next to the ship's magazine. He had given up his usual bunk for the use of the civilians taken on board the day before. As he sat on his cot at 1:38 p.m., about to

don his pants, he was unaware of Lt. Shigeharu Murata's formation of three Navy Type 96 Mitsubishi attack bombers 11,000 feet above him, nor was he aware that Murata's 120-pound bombs were already hurtling toward the *Panay*. He also knew nothing of the twelve Japanese dive bombers and nine fighters waiting their turn to attack.

Having just donned his shirt, Mahlmann was about to put on his pants

when the first bomb exploded just off the port bow. All hell broke loose. Water started to flood the compartment. Fearing the ship's magazine would explode, he fled up the ladder wearing a long woolen CPO shirt, a life jacket and nothing else. He immediately rushed to one of the deck-mounted Lewis Guns and began returning fire at the attacking airplanes. Mahlmann continued to fire at the attackers until the order to abandon ship was given. In so doing, he entered the annals of military history.

Aboard *Panay*, after the shock and confusion of the initial bomb blasts abated, Norman Alley rushed to his equipment and began filming the attack, as did the other photographers. Had these photojournalists not been on board, the incident would likely have gone uncovered and little noticed. As it was, stark, sensational images of Mahlmann firing his Lewis gun soon covered front pages of newspapers worldwide, and newsreels of the action flashed across movie screens in theaters across the globe.

For his heroic action on December 12th, Mahlmann was awarded the Navy Cross. The official citation reads "For distinguishing himself by his display of heroism on the occasion of the bombing and loss of the USS *Panay* on Dec. 12, 1937. Mahlmann manned three machine guns at different times. It was due to his efforts that the boats were successfully lowered and manned during the abandon-ship operations; he was continuously exposed to heavy bombing and machine gun fire from attacking planes. He made all of the trips in the sampan while abandoning ship and voluntarily returned to the sinking *Panay* for supplies after she had been abandoned."

The damage that would eventually sink the *Panay* later that day was inflicted by the initial high altitude attack. The Three-inch guns were disabled, the radios were ruined and the engine was wrecked. Fortunately, the dive bomber's ordnance fell wide of the *Panay*, or there would have been more loss of life. Floundering in the Yangtze, the disabled gunboat was repeatedly strafed by Japanese fighters and dive bombers. By the end of the day the three Standard Oil tankers were reduced to burning hulks and *Panay* lay on the bottom of the Yangtze. The *Panay* became the first

Mahlmann's exploits also inspired a poem written by Vaun Arnold that was widely circulated in newspapers and magazines of the day:

*Commend me to that noble soul
Who, in the battle's heat,
Rushed to his post without his pants,
The bombers dive to meet;*

*Who stood upon the rocking deck
In careless dissattire,
With shirt tail flaunting in the breeze,
To deal out fire for fire.*

*Old glory's color deepened
As she floated o'er this son
The man who had no time for pants
But plenty for his gun.*

*Come, name a million heros,
But to me there'll never be
A finer show of nerve and grit
On any land or sea.*

*Then dwell upon your epics
Should you feel an urge for chants
Recall the sinking *Panay*
And the gunner minus pants.*

American Navy ship to be sunk by an aircraft attack.

Ironically, the battle found both the Japanese aviators and the men of the *Panay* firing Lewis guns at one another. The three Mitsubishi G3M1 Type 96 attack bombers were each armed with three Type 92 Aircraft Lewis Guns. Despite expending thousands of rounds of ammunition at the attacking Japanese aircraft, the *Panay*'s gunners were not able to shoot any down, although observers on the *Panay* reported seeing tracers hitting some of the attacker's planes. The American gunners were hampered by the deck mountings of the Lewis guns. The mounts were primarily designed for responding to shore attacks. They were not able to swing within 15 degrees of the bow or stern. The attackers came from dead ahead, limiting the amount of time the gunners could bring their guns to bear. The strafing and bombing of the American vessels by the Japanese was more effective. Three men were killed and 74 were wounded, some when one of the lifeboats was badly damaged by strafing.

Eventually the Japanese apologized



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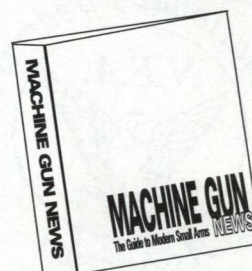
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A group of sailors on Yangtze patrol —note the Lewis gun.

for the *Panay* Incident and on April 22nd, 1938, paid reparations of \$2,214,007.36 to The United States. The unprovoked attack foreshadowed a more infamous attack on another Sun-

day morning in December four years later. On December 7th, 1941, a Japanese carrier strike force caught the defenders of the Pacific Fleet with their collective pants down. Ironically, the

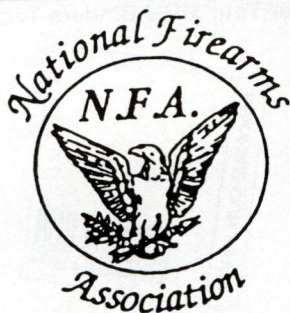
flight of 40 torpedo bombers from the carrier *Akagi* was commanded by the same Lt. Shigeharu Murata that led the attack on the *Panay*. For the twelve former crew members of the *Panay* who were then stationed at posts in and around Pearl Harbor, it must have been "like deja vue all over again."

Readers interested in a more complete history of this episode are directed to the excellent book *The Panay Incident* by Perry Hamilton Darby, published by McMillin and Co., New York, 1969, from which much of the information in this article was obtained.

The more visually inclined may want to watch the outstanding movie *The Sand Pebbles*, starring Steve McQueen and Candace Bergen. Set on an American gunboat in China in the late 1920s, it features some excellent footage of Lewis guns and BARs in action.

The author gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Ms. Dot Sappington of the U.S. Naval Institute in Annapolis, Maryland in obtaining the photographs accompanying this article.

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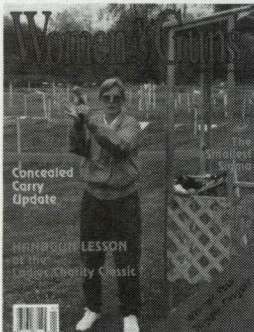
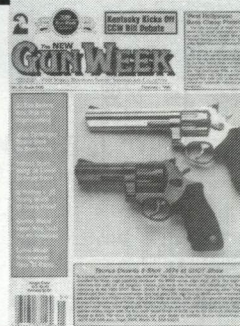
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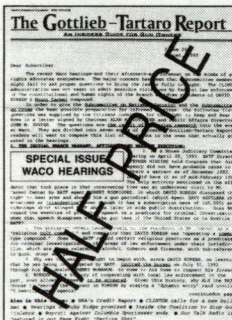
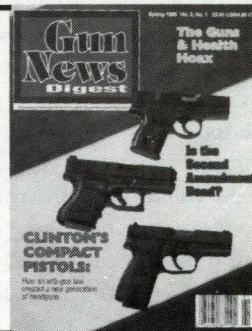
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How to

Make the 9 mm Grease Gun Run

by **FRANK IANNAMICO**

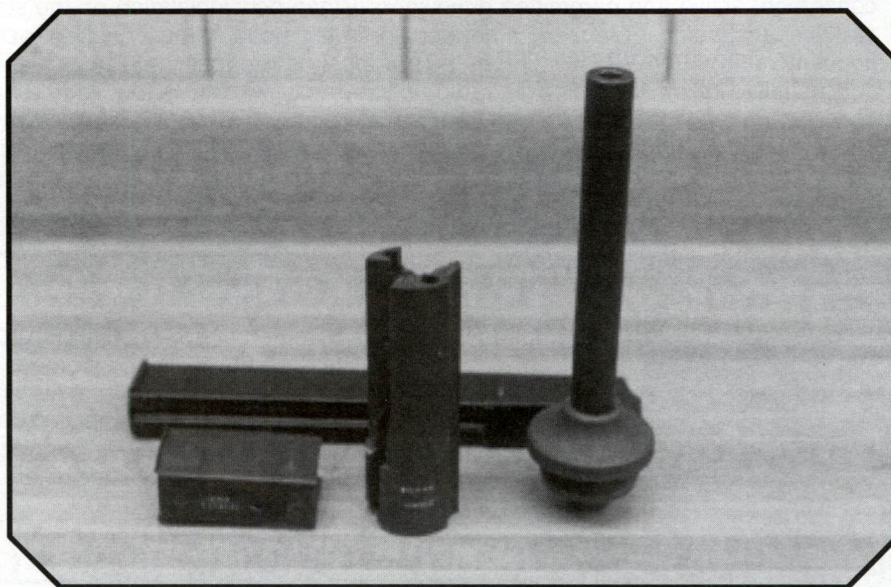
Since writing the article "OSS 9 mm Grease Gun" that appeared in *MGN* December 1994, I have received many negative comments about the 9 mm M3 Grease Gun conversion kits. Most of the comments I have heard, say that the conversions do not work properly; they often jam or mis-feed. If you have an unreliable conversion kit, this article may help solve your problems.

First, a quick review for those who are unfamiliar with the 9 mm M3 Grease Gun conversion.

During WWII when the U.S. .45 M3 submachine gun was under development, one of the requirements was that the gun would need to be easily converted to use 9 mm cartridges. The 9 mm cartridge was very common in Europe where the M3 would be used. A conversion kit was developed and put into limited production. The kit included a new 9 mm barrel, bolt, and an adapter that fit into the M3's magazine well. With the magazine adapter in place, the common British 9 mm Sten magazine could be used. The conversion kits were never issued to U.S. troops but were used by the OSS and resistance groups operating in Europe. The 9 mm kits are somewhat rare today.

If you have an original 9 mm conversion kit that has problems, I think I can help you. But check a few simple items before undertaking the project.

Millions of Sten magazines were made during WWII by many manufacturers. They are the cheapest magazines available on the Class 3 market today. They are also the least reliable. Sten magazines are probably the single major cause of malfunctions in Stens and converted 9 mm Grease Guns. When Sten magazines are loaded to their 32-round capacity, the feed lips have a tendency to spread apart under the magazines spring tension. This will cause the car-



The 9 mm Grease Gun conversion kit.

tridges to set at the wrong angle in the magazine. This problem is easily fixed by gently tapping the feed lips back into position with a brass hammer. When the lips are in the correct position, the cartridges should set in the magazine pointing slightly upward at an eight-degree angle.

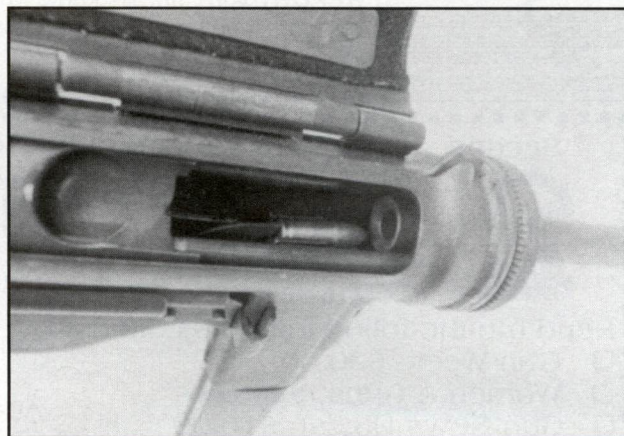
To work properly, the 9 mm Grease Gun conversion kit requires the use of a full-power 9 mm load. Under-loaded rounds will cause short cycling, run-aways, and/or other malfunctions. The 9 mm cartridges also need to be very close to a maximum overall length of 1.169" for proper feeding. *If none of this works, proceed to step 2.*

STEP 2

The main reason the 9 mm kits are sometimes unreliable in an M3 Grease Gun is simple: the barrel is located too far away from the magazine for reliable feeding of the cartridges. When the bolt moves forward to feed a round into the barrel, the round usually nose dives and

jams on the edge of the barrel. The solution? Move the barrel closer to the magazine by removing the barrel retaining pin and pressing the barrel further back into the barrel nut. Sounds easy enough, but there are a few complications.

When the 9 mm barrel is moved closer to the magazine, the bolt face will hit the barrel in the closed position if there is no round in the chamber. Since the M3's bolt closes on an empty chamber after the last round is fired, this can be a problem. The M3 doesn't have any provision to hold the bolt rearward after the last round is fired.



The 9 mm conversion is more reliable with the barrel located closer to the magazine.

The way the M3 is designed, the bolt's forward movement is stopped by the front guide plate. This keeps the bolt face a few thousandths of an inch away from hitting the barrel on an empty chamber. If there is a round in the chamber, it is close enough for the fixed firing pin to strike the primer with enough force to fire the round. If you use *two* front guide plates, it is possible to move the barrel rearward and keep the bolt face from hitting the barrel. You will be able to move the barrel rearward a distance equal to the thickness of the second guide plate (approximately 9/32"). This allows the barrel to be close enough to the magazine for reliable feeding.

THE PROCEDURE

If you have an original WWII 9 mm kit, you probably would not want to alter the original barrel assembly. These 9 mm kits are both valuable and rare. A new barrel assembly can be easily made by purchasing a 9 mm barrel blank and an M3 or M3A1 barrel nut.

The outside diameter of the barrel blank will need to be machined down so it can be press-fit into the new barrel nut. The inside diameter of the barrel nuts vary to some degree, so each barrel's outside diameter will be a little different. You will also need to cut the new barrel to the proper length.

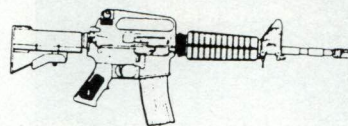
Press the new 9 mm barrel into the barrel nut with a hydraulic press. Push it into the barrel nut the same depth as the original, plus the thickness of the new additional guide plate. **DO NOT** drill the barrel retainer pin hole at this time.

You will need to obtain another M3 front guide plate. Cut the two tabs off of the new guide plate. Then redrill two existing 1/4" holes out to 19/32" approximately 3/4 of the way through the plate. **DO NOT** drill the holes completely through the guide plate! The holes in the plate only need to be drilled deep enough so it, and the original plate, will fit onto the guide rods (photo 3).

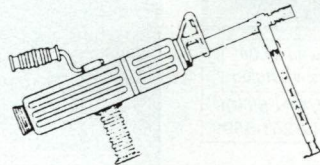
Assemble the two guide rods, springs and bolt. Place the new modified guide plate onto the end of the rods. Now place the original guide

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plate on the assembly and insert the snap ring (photo 4).

Place the new barrel assembly on the front of the assembled guide rods and plates. You should be able to see approximately how far the barrel will need to be adjusted in the barrel nut. It will need to be approximately .020" away from the bolt face when the bolt is in the forward position (photo 2).

NOTE: Due to manufacturing tolerances on M3 receivers, barrel nuts, and guide plates, each barrel will need to be individually fitted.

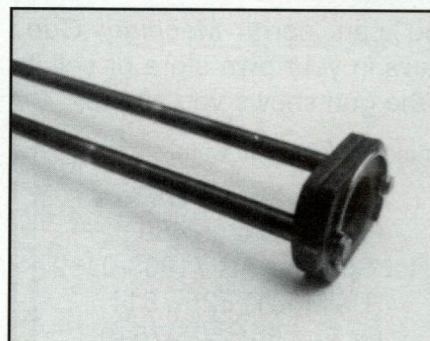
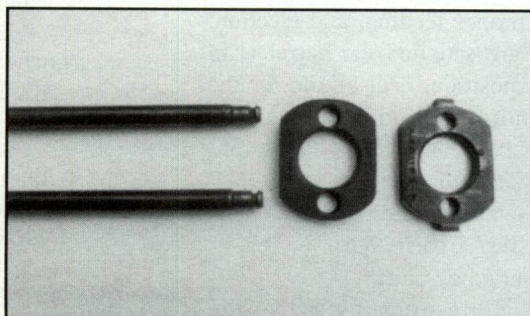
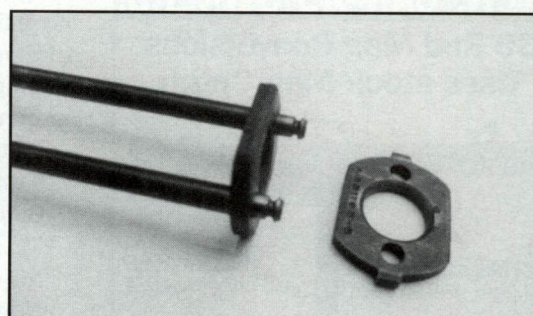


Photo 4: The guide rod assembly with two guide rod plates and snap ring installed.



Photos 3A and 3B: Countersink the existing holes on the new guide plates with a 19/32" drill. This will allow two guide rod plates to fit on the end of the guide rods. Do not drill completely through the plate. You will also need to trim the two locating tabs off of the new plate.



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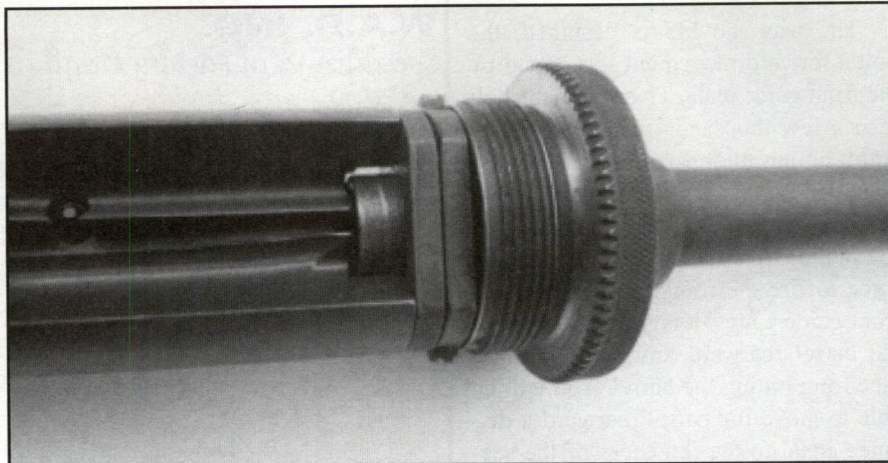
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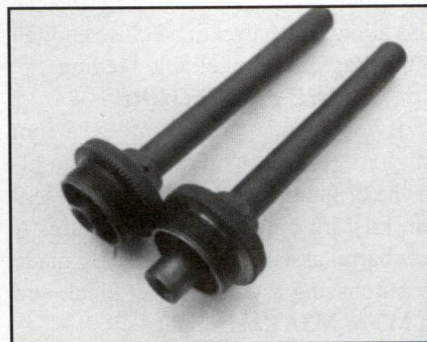


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Photos 2A and 2B: The addition of a second, modified guide rod plate will allow the barrel to be relocated rearward, the thickness of the added plate.



CAUTION...

All the above operations should be preformed only by a qualified gunsmith. This article is meant to be a guide to assist your gunsmith in altering your firearm to function with the 9 mm conversion.

MGN

PARTS

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Parts list:

- 9 mm barrel blank
- Barrel retaining pin
- M3 or M3A1 barrel nut
- M3 front guide plate

Now you are ready for a live fire test. If you performed each step correctly you should now have a 9 mm Grease Gun that is 100 percent reliable.

**New Show
at Knob Creek !!**

MACHINE GUN NEWS

Tenth Anniversary

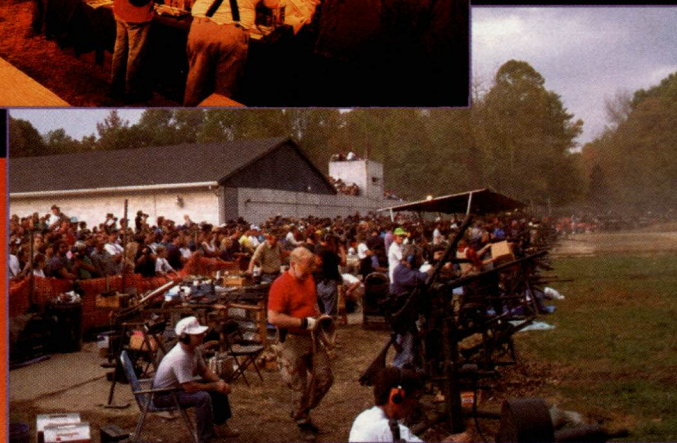
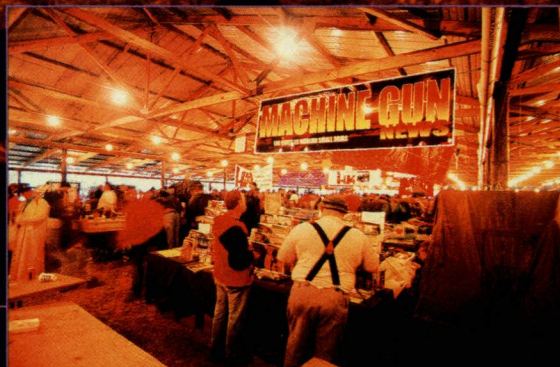
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ADPA CONVENTION



The American Defense Preparedness Association is no "new kid on the block." ADPA was organized in 1919 as a nonprofit, educational membership association devoted to the security of the United States. Under the auspices of the ADPA, industry and government come together to exchange ideas, to develop technology and to produce dependable, effective defense products. Today's objectives are the same as when ADPA was founded: the support of a strong national defense and the robust industrial base that our national security requires.

Education is one of the tools that ADPA uses in its mission. ADPA con-

ventions are well known in the defense industry. Perhaps the best known is the International Infantry and Small Arms Development Symposium, which was held this year at the Seasons Resort in McAfee, New Jersey, close to the Picatinny Arsenal. This was sponsored by ADPA's Picatinny Chapter.

Your faithful correspondent is a member of ADPA, and *Machine Gun News* was invited to cover the event. Gunsmith Stan Andrews and photographer Jim Bonis were also guests there, and when we arrived, many of the exhibitors were pleased to see us. It was a golden opportunity to do some serious handshaking and checking out what the newest items in the arsenals are.

The Infantry and Small Arms Development Symposium is composed of three basic parts: the trade show, the seminars, and the live fire demonstrations. The unofficial fourth part is found

in the after-hours dinners and meetings that can be every bit as interesting and productive as the official show. We did our best to spend as much time as possible meeting people and discussing the various directions their companies or units were headed in. This has also yielded invitations for *MGN* to visit companies and test new products at Knights Armament Company, Gemini Technologies (see Oct 96 issue), HK (we participated in the Yuma desert tests), and FNMI, to name a few.

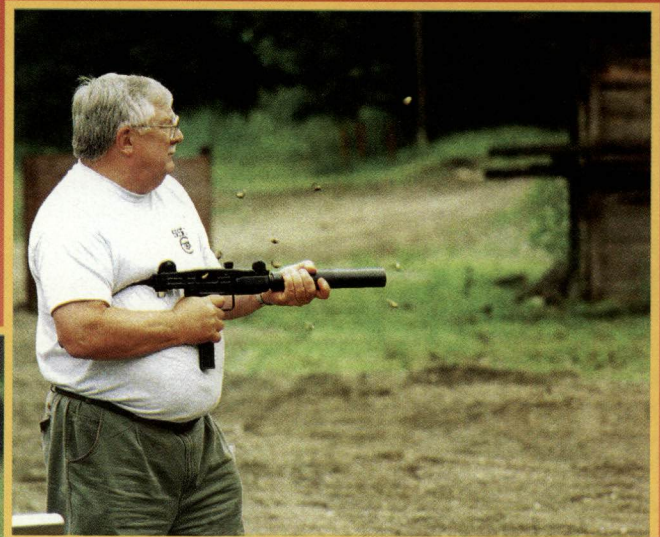
SEMINARS

The first part of the event was the seminars. While "Turreted Mortar Systems on the Light Armored Vehicle" and "Aeroballistic Enhancements for the Shoulder-Launched Multi-Purpose Assault Weapon—Disposable (SMAW-D)" might sound a little "techie," most of the presentations were quite interesting. ADPA made sure that there were

by DAN SHEA
photos JIM BONIS

Left: Hk Federal Operations representative Jim Schatz keeps the ammo boxes coming as Wayne Weber keeps the hammer down on the 40mm GMG.

Right: Sal Fanelli acts as A-gunner for Fabrique National's quick change barrel fifty-caliber machine gun demo.



Above: J. D. Jones from SSK Industries sprays brass with a Mini-Uzi with suppressor attached.

Above Left: Ealovega firing the M4 carbine with Rail Interface System and his new rate controlling device installed in it. This was possibly the most accurate M16 variant this author has seen demonstrated. The low cyclic rate kept the group tightly focused.

Left: The Colt MARS gun Miniature Assault Rifle System.

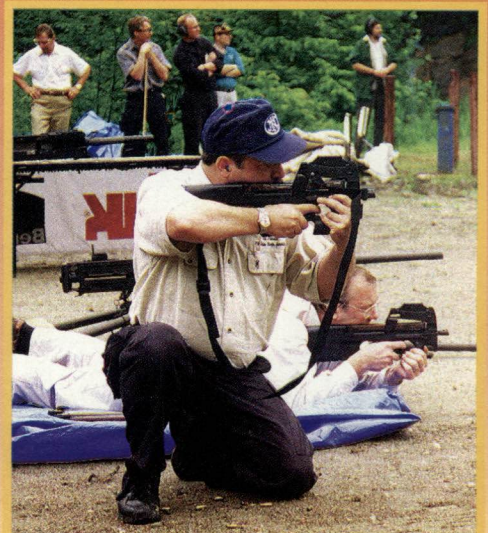
two different offerings at all times. Shoulder-fired weapons, fire control systems, small arms ammunition, mines and counter mines, were some of the categories. Experts from around the world presented their views of the arms situation and on new developments.

SMALL ARMS LIVE FIRE DEMONSTRATION

Those exhibitors who have active firearms or ammunition products get the opportunity to show them off in action at the demo. On Thursday morning, while some folks gathered up and went golfing, the serious students and buyers drove to Picatinny Arsenal and gathered for the bus trip out to the range. The mil-

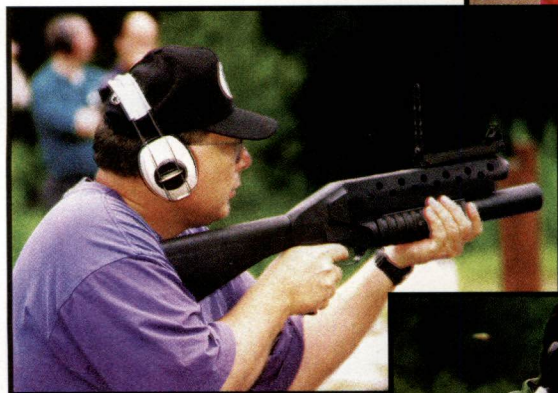
itary ferried us out to a remote range, where the demonstrators had already set up their targets. Live fire is where you "sink or swim," and anyone who has ever participated in a live fire knows that "the coolest of cool, is grace under fire." What I mean is, when your gun jams, or the mag falls out, you keep on going as if it was part of your plan. There were a few SNAFU's out there, but the demo people were pretty professional and kept on going. Therefore, I won't mention any of the incidents.... (Yes, I do expect to get some steak din-

Right: Sal Fanelli and Jean-Marie Monard firing the new FN P-90 with all tracer, full auto, made for one impressive demo.



Knight's offering for the M203 individual firing platform includes a slick collapsible stock.

Colt's new buttstock attachment for the M203 grenade launcher—making the M203 an independent 40 mm weapon.



ners at the next ADPA—silence has its rewards).

Just a few of the more visually impressive displays: Reed Knight doing the 200-round one-handed full-auto belt from the Stoner 86 Light Machine Gun is always impressive, as was his rapid-fire shooting of lollipop targets with a Stoner SR-25 rifle.

Wayne Weber quickly chopped down a concrete block wall with HK's new 40 mm GMG grenade machine gun, and punched some 55-gallon drums all around the range. We field-stripped the gun out on the range, trying for a good sequence of photos, but the three guys from Charter Industries in Singapore kept their cameras chattering.... I wonder how long it will be until Charter has an extruded aluminum receiver 40 mm.

FNMI had dueling P-90 submachine guns firing the new 5.7 mm ammunition in solid tracer—this was by far one of



Below: George Ealovega firing his new IDW 9 mm machine gun.



the best selling points they could come up with, as the twin solid lines of tracers looked like laser beams headed down-range—emphasizing the controllability.

Colt had their demo on the MARS gun, frangibles, rubber projos, and an M203 on a single mount.

Simunitions did a neat display using live target Rodney Cox. The hi-tech marking ammo fired at him impressed the crowd with its training potential.

G e m i n i Technologies achieved some serious "crowd murmur" with their M4 sup-

pressor demo—this baby was "quiet"!

Demonstrations of Longbow's frangible ammo from a pistol was done by emptying a magazine from point blank range into a steel target—no operator damage or splashback.

George Ealovega demonstrated two new devices: a "rate controller" that was installed in an M4 carbine, with the rate of fire dialed down to about 350 rpm. It was extremely accurate and seemed to fit the "harmonic" of the M16. Colt announced they plan to offer the "rate controller" as an accessory for the M4. His other piece, perhaps more interesting than the rate controller, was the new IDW machine pistol/submachine gun which incorporates the "rate controller" technology. Breaking with current dogma of real fast shooting SMGs, the rate of fire was very slow (350 rpm), and he was "dialed in" on almost every round fired—this one's worth watching.

JD Jones of SSK Industries had the crowd's interest with his very quiet and effective custom loads and suppressors.

THE TRADE SHOW

Held at the Seasons Resort and Conference Center at Great Gorge, in the convention center, this was small as far as trade shows go—about 65 participants. But it was a very select 65 com-



Simunition Ltd. demo: shooting FX marking cartridges at a live target to demonstrate how the training system is safe.



JSSAP's OCSW, the Objective Crew Served Weapon. This is a mock-up of the proposed system intended to replace the MK19 40 mm and M2HB .50 caliber machine gun. Prime contractor on the project is Olin Ordnance, Airburst Fuze development is Dayron (Orlando FL), and Lockheed Martin of Burlington, VT is Weapon/Mount development.

panies from Bofors to AAI to JSSAP—pretty much a “who’s who” of the serious arms industry. Even with three days to wander through the show, it was hard to digest all of the information. The following is a synopsis of the companies and new products we felt would be of special interest to *MGN*’s readers.

AAI DEFENSE SYSTEMS

I don’t wish to single out AAI for all the credit for their offering of the Objective Individual Combat Weapon System, but they were the prime contractor that I spoke with at ADPA (Dyna East, Olin,

Hughes, Omega, and FN all had a hand in this). This space age over/under has some real interesting potential. Basically it is a 5.56 caliber assault rifle with a special ammunition 20 mm “grenade” launcher above it. It looks like every boy’s dream of the ultimate “GI Joe” gun. At less than 12 pounds in weight, this dual-barreled weapon has more than just firepower. It is very portable, and the air bursting feature of the 20 mm ammunition is very interesting. The projected range of 1000 meters is pretty impressive as well. The laser ranging and sighting fire control system, which is integral to the OICW offering, allows the operator to



The Objective Individual Combat Weapon—sort of the ultimate over/under. On the bottom is a select-fire 5.56 mm rifle. On top, is a new 20 mm type launcher that has airburst arming out to 1000 meters.

program the munition to explode over the top of a target. This writer was somewhat skeptical on two points: first, how much damage could the airburst of a 20 mm projo produce? Is it worth the effort and cost here? Second, how fragile is the infrared technology of the sighting—the intense engineering and electronics would seem to limit the

OICW use to situations where the operator could not drop the unit—how likely is that scenario? I tried to get answers about these two things and was not given any answers at all, other than “This is just a prototype mock-up.” Excuse me, guys, some things are universal—soldiers drop guns, and if you are going to use explosives over a “soft” target—there has to be some significant shrapnel or shock effect. Your faithful correspondent is looking forward to the progress of this design, and I hope to bring you the test results firsthand when they get one publicly firing. AAI has a long history of superior weapon designs, and this promises to be interesting.

ALLIANTTECHSYSTEMS

Some of the most innovative munitions at the show were with Allianttech-systems out of Hopkins, Minnesota. This old combat engineer was suitably impressed with the demolition kits, but their XM150 PAM (Penetration Augmentation Munition) demolition munition was outstanding. This 35-pound shaped charge that easily straps to a soldier’s load-bearing equipment replaces 225 pounds of conventional explosive charge and cuts the personnel and time



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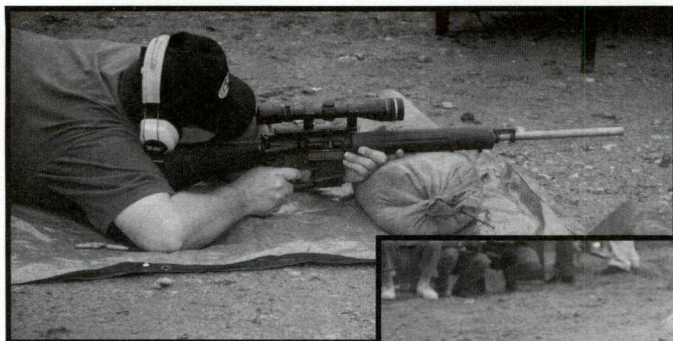
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.30 Mauser	Super clean, original .30 Mauser for Broomhandle pistols. Manufactured in Czechoslovakia by Sellier & Bellot. Packed 25 rds. per box. Last of the .30 Mauser - get it while you can. Mod. No. AMC30M. \$150.00 per lot of 1000 rds., Fgt. collect.
7.62 Tokarev	High quality, Bulgarian manufacture military ball ammunition for Tokarev pistol, CZ-52 pistol and PPSH41 submachine gun. Mod. No. AMB30T. \$10.00 per lot of 100 rds., Fgt. collect. \$75.00 per lot of 1,000 rds., Fgt. collect.
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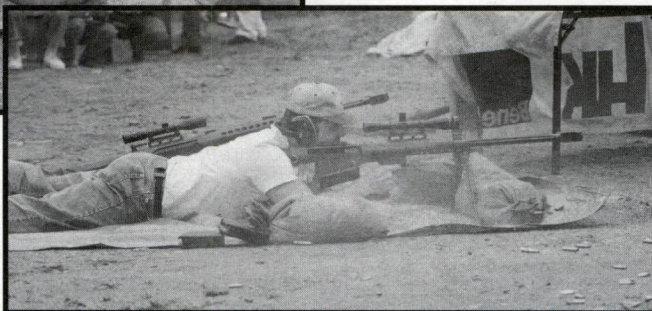
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(2% surcharge applies)



Colt factory technician fires Colt's new free floating, heavy-barrel, aluminum handguard version of the AR-15.



Barry Lambert fires the Barrett Model 95 bolt-action .50 cal.

to blow a concrete pier into about 10 percent of normal. The "Badger" system is a two-charge binary component foxhole tool: run the auger in twice, mix and connect the two charges, drop them in the hole, achieve a safe area, detonate, then clear the rubble for a nice neat 4-foot-deep, 6-foot-long, 2-foot-wide foxhole. All you old linedogs would appreciate that one. Alliant's series of timed, magnetic, and command detonation mines were state of the art, and worth a second look as well.

ARMALITE INC.

The AR-10 series of rifles was well represented by Armalite Inc. *MGN* read-

ers should be familiar with this new incarnation of Eugene Stoner's .308 caliber design from the recent article here by James Varner (*MGN* Vol 10 No. 3 September '96). These serious sniper grade rifles were presented for the military's review and received a positive response from everyone this writer saw looking at them. Of special interest to the military personnel that I spoke with was the AR-10(T), which is the Cadillac model—24" chrome-moly 1:10 twist heavy barrel, two stage trigger, "flat top" features with the removable carrying handle and front sight. Nice package, and it was definitely an eye-catcher.

BARRETT FIREARMS MANUFACTURING INC.

Ever since Gunnery Sgt. Carlos Hathcock performed his 2500-yard kills on a remote hill in Vietnam, the shooting community has been extending its bullet weight and range. Driving a 750 grain slug 1500 meters downrange is becoming more popular with civilian marksmen every day, and the military snipers have started giving serious credence to the re-

sults. Barrett has been at the forefront of this phenomena for the last decade, and their semi-automatic rifles have ruled the arena. Shorter lengths and lighter weights have been the areas that end users have been interested in, without

wanting to lose the accuracy and "punch" of the .50 BMG cartridge. Barrett's new offering, the Model 95, is a bolt-action magazine-fed bullpup model, that is just 22 pounds in its 45-inch length. Even in that compact size, Barrett still maintains the 29-inch barrel length that seems so effective for long range accuracy.

BERETTA USA

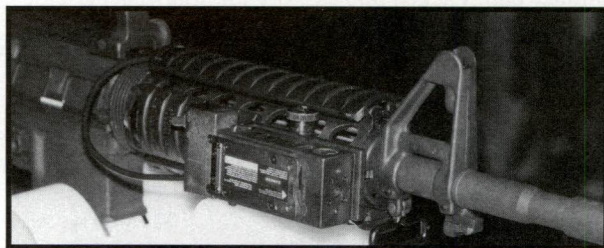
Beretta seemed to be making a bit of a change at the ADPA show. They have been downplaying their submachine gun and assault rifle lines for a number of years, to the point where most law enforcement dealers don't rep their fine full-auto products. The new sales rep—Marcel James, was a breath of fresh air. He spoke "machine gun" and knew the products. While there really wasn't any new Beretta product that would be specific to *Machine Gun News* readers' interests, the fact that they had a knowledgeable person there with the 93R and the PM12S lends us some hope that Beretta might turn their unspoken policies around and start actively servicing the tactical market with these fine products.

COLT MANUFACTURING

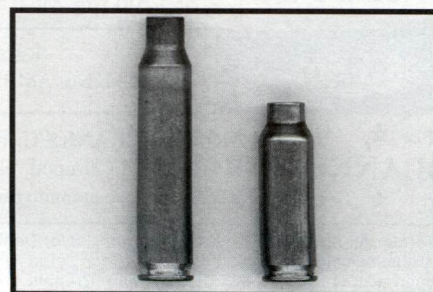
Colt's Manufacturing Company had their usual line of rifles, with the addition of the stand-alone buttstock for the M203 grenade launcher and a very interesting new rifle called the "MARS" rifle. MARS stands for "Miniature Assault Rifle System." The appearance is that of an M16 carbine with the odd



The Night Stalker integrated laser sighting system for SIG Sauer pistols manufactured by Wilcox Industries Corp. (formerly UIC Armament Corp.), pictured here with tactical flashlight. Laser sights are available in visible and infrared wavelengths (IR laser sights not available commercially). Flashlight module requires Night Stalker system for remote operation from custom grip. Control pad buttons preselect laser/flashlight and program laser pulse rate.



Wilcox Industries Corp.'s Night Stalker/SO laser sighting module attached to the RIS of an M4A1. Side control panels select laser/flashlight mode. Laser activation is via rear on-momentary switch, self-adhering activation pad or custom Night Stalker/M16 grip.



Colt MARS 5.56 x 30 mm right, standard 5.56 x 45 mm M16 cartridge left.



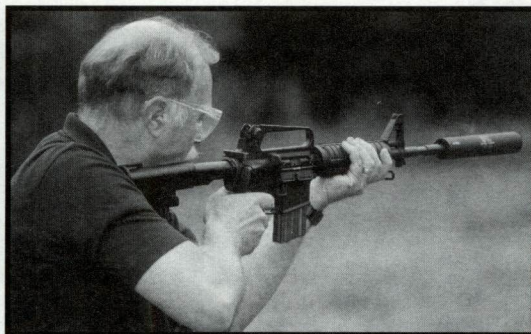
The FNMI FIRM—Floating Integrated Rail Mount with new 40 mm grenade launcher attached.

looking magazine catching your attention first. It looked somewhat like an MP44 magazine—and indeed the new cartridge (5.56 x 30 mm) gave the appearance of the German "Kurz" cartridge. A good performance during the firepower demo was evident by the response of the crowd to the new system, but it was "after hours" when a group of us retired to the 300-yard indoor firing range (up to 20 mm!) at Picatinny Arsenal that we really got to check it out. Colt let a number of industry people and writers test fire the gun, so I got into line. Virginia Ezell, President of the Institute for Research on Small Arms in International Security, fired the MARS right before this writer. I noted that it seemed relatively easy for her to control. When I fired it, with only one magazine, it was hard to say.... (Hint to the Colt people—*MGN* writers function a lot better if they get to shoot LOTS of magazines and have their PACT timers, etc along).

FN GROUP

Fabrique Nationale was represented by both their Belgian incarnation, FN Herstal and the U.S. group, FNMI. I spent quite a bit of time with Sal Fanel-

li of FNMI in South Carolina, and managed to get invited down there to do a little private tear-it-down-and-shoot-it-up on the P-90 submachine gun, the 5/7 pistol, and the new Para M249—watch for articles in an upcoming *MGN*. FN really had a nice display with their Quick Change Barrel .50 cal M2, and the M249, M240B (which just beat out



Dr. Philip Dater demonstrates Gemtech's new M4 suppressor candidate for the military tests.

Saco's M60E4 as the new GPMG) and the odd looking, yet very ergonomically pleasing P-90 SMG.

GEMINI TECHNOLOGIES

This was Gemini's third year at AD-PA, and that seemed to be the charm for them. With the new Gemtech designs (see *MGN* Vol. 10 No. 4 Oct. '96), their booth was pretty busy. I spoke with Phil Dater, and he had picked up a number of military and industry users who had a strong interest in the M4 suppressor, and the Aurora on a Glock 26 was really getting some reviews from Air Force types while I was there.

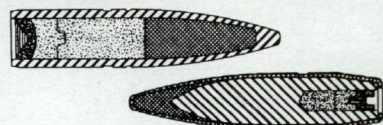
HK GmbH/HK USA INC.

In addition to HK's usual military arms, the new 40 mm GMG (see article on page 56 in this issue) was a hit for the



The FN M240B with prototype night vision sight. The sight is a new model derivative made by Litton.

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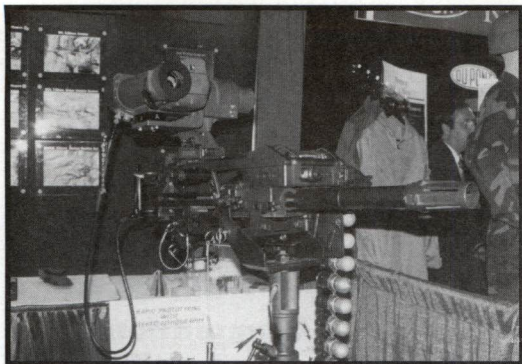
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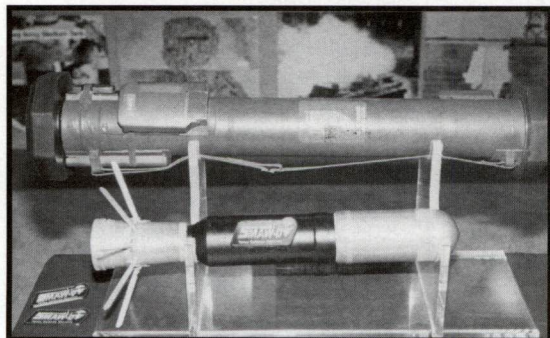
MK19 cutaway The sight bears no manufacturing information.

show. The new extruded aluminum receiver, light weight 40 mm grenade machine gun drew a lot of attention. *MGN* spent a lot of time looking it over, and we field-stripped it on the spot out at the shoot. The HK guys were amiable as usual, and we got the invite to take part in the Yuma desert torture tests while we were there. Military people should keep their eyes on this one.... HK seldom "plays around." This is a serious contender. HK also played a part in one of the OICW program guns—Alliant's side by side 5.56 mm and 20 mm munition OICW.

HUGHES AIRCRAFT COMPANY

The AN/PAS-13 Thermal Weapon Sight (TWS), while not available to the public, was an interesting unit to look at. The Thermal Imaging System collects infrared photons from the scene you are viewing, converts them into electrical signals, then processes the signals into a visible display. This is the next generation of weapon sight after the first gen Thermal imaging used on helicopters and aircraft. Hughes has models available for M16s, M249s, M60s, M2HB, MK19, and the Barrett 82A1. At a weight of around four pounds, this is a significant improvement

Two HE saped charge variations of projectiles for the venerable LAW. Note extended stabilization fins.



The Talley Defense System's new version of the LAW, the SMAW, shown with projectile.

over the aircraft units, and the image is clearer.

KNIGHT'S ARMAMENT COMPANY

Knight's booth was a beehive of activity, as usual. Whether it was regarding the SR-50 semi-auto 50-caliber rifle (LOTS of interested military) or the M4 suppressor, we spent a significant amount of time hanging around the KAC booth. Reed Knight was awarded the

Chinn Award (see page 45), and he was in pretty good spirits. Most of the crew from his main office was there, and they had all of their new technology out on the table. Knight was also recently awarded the suppressor contract for the M4 carbine.

OLIN

Olin and Olin Winchester were set up—*MGN* had the opportunity to look at all the new military rounds that were on display. There was quite an assortment of 20 mm rounds evident there, with state of the art fuzing.

SACO DEFENSE

Saco had their current production MK-19 with the new sighting system on display, and the Quick Detach Barrel M2 heavy barrel. Word is that Saco will introduce additional .50 cal. improvements in the near future.

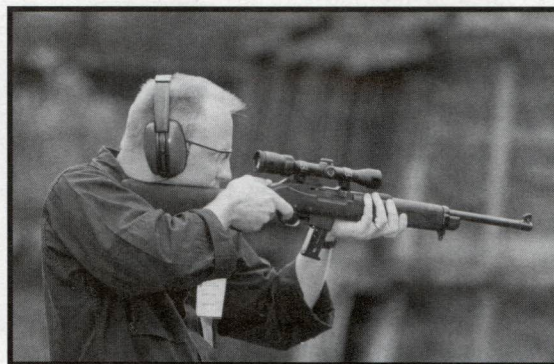
SSK INDUSTRIES

J.D. Jones had his systems of quiet sniper grade arms. The "Whisper" cartridges attracted a lot of interest, espe-

cially the sniper rifle system and the upper for making the M16 into a 300 Whisper suppressed machine gun.

STURM RUGER

Ruger had their new PC9 carbine: a 6.5 lb, 9 mm or .40 caliber. This is a semiautomatic rifle with a 16.5" barrel. Overall length is 34.75". The MP9 sub-machine gun was evident there, and Victoria Roberts seemed to be friendly towards setting up some law enforcement dealers...until the main LE sales rep came back around and reiterated Ruger's policy of not allowing the dealers to have samples. Once again, the ability to sell is related to being able to let the tactical officers actually shoot the gun, not just look at a photo and say, "Oh yeah, it works great." Maybe someday this will change.



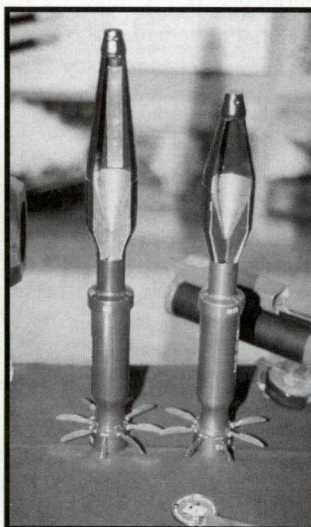
Ruger Carbine PC9 available in 9 x 19 or .40 caliber with the new high capacity pistol mag. It's designed to allow a police officer to use his issue pistol mags in a rifle if extra range were needed.

TALLEY

Talley Defense Systems had the M72A4 LAW display, and the new Shoulder-launched, Multipurpose Assault Weapon—Disposable (SMAW-D) in their display. This high explosive, dual-purpose rocket is considered the best "bunker buster" to come along in years. It is 83 mm caliber, 32-inches long, and weighs only 16 pounds.

JOINING ADPA

Joining ADPA is a good idea if you have a strong interest in the industry. There are few places where the innovators and tinkers come together and share ideas. Reed Knight shared a story with us during his acceptance speech for the Chinn Award. It seems that Eugene Stoner was in China, and he addressed the students at the small-arms college there. One of the students asked him where, in the United States, was a school he could go to in order to study



The George Chinn Award

The prestigious George Chinn Award was presented to C. Reed Knight, Jr., owner of Knight's Armament Company, and Knight's Manufacturing Company in Vero Beach, Florida during opening ceremonies of the June 1996 International Infantry and Small Arms Symposium. The George Chinn Award is presented annually by the Small Arms Division of the American Defense Preparedness Association to a government or industry individual, recognizing exceptional and significant contributions to the field of small arms and/or infantry weapons. The award recognizes KAC as a significant contributor and innovator in creative inventions, new designs, and the development of imaginative and clever small arms concepts, ammunition, accessories and equipment. Taken as a whole, Mr. Knight's small arms-related contributions have clearly advanced the state-of-the-art, and have significantly enhanced the security, peacekeeping, general military, and warfighting capabilities of the United States. In addition, many of these innovative products have demonstrated sporting applications through exposure via Knight's Manufacturing Company.



The Chinn Award is named in honor of the late Lt. Col. George M. Chinn, a career Marine Corps officer who dedicated his life to the study, development and refinement of machine gun mechanisms. He is most remembered for his world-renowned five-volume reference work entitled *The Machine Gun*. Some noteworthy former recipients of this distinguishing accolade have been the likes of Gene Stoner, designer of the AR-15/M16 rifle series; Edward C. Ezell, a prolific author and researcher on both U.S. and foreign weapons; William C. Davis, Jr., a former Program Manager for rifles at Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois.

Unique among former recipients, C. Reed Knight, Jr. owns and operates a small—but prolific—small arms research, engineering, development, testing, and manufacturing enterprise known as Knight's Armament Company. Known equally for both its military and commercial firearms products, KAC has been at the forefront of innovation in adapting their commercial products (marketed by its sister company, Knight's Manufacturing) into viable Non-Developmental Items (NDIs) for the government—especially U.S. Special Forces. Knight's Lawmen's and Shooters' Supply Inc., distributes these products to the law enforcement community. Characteristic of Knight's products are the clever use of space age materials and manufacturing technology in solving long-standing technical problems.

Examples of successful achievements in creating new concepts include KAC's:

- Snap-on 9 mm M9 Pistol Silencer
- H-53 Helo Door Gun Mount
- M4 Quick Detach Silencer
- SR-50 Caliber .50 Target Rifle
- MK23 MOD O Caliber .45 Silencer
- R² Silenced Revolver Rifle
- 7.62 mm SR-25 Target and Sporting Rifles
- M16 Quick Detach Silencer
- .50 Caliber Flash Suppressor
- 40 mm M203 Quick Detach Mount
- R² Silenced Revolver
- Special Purpose Ammunition
- 5.56 mm Reduced Ricochet Ammo
- Compact M16 Variant

M4 Carbine/M16 Rifle Rail Interface System and Modular Weapon System (MWS) Components:

- Forward Pistol Grip
- Flip-up Iron Sight System
- Laser Aiming Module Mount
- Integral Bipod/Handguard Assy.
- Rifle/Pistol Reflex Sight Mounts
- Night Vision Scope Mount
- Monopod Foregrip Assembly
- Masterkey Shotgun Module
- Stand-alone Buttstock Module for Shotgun or 40 mm M203 Launcher

KAC also provides engineering services and weapons/equipment testing support (including all forms of external ballistics, forensic and gelatine testing) for law enforcement elements and the U.S. Government. KAC continues to assist the government in maximizing the M16 rifle/M4 carbine's modularity, and thereby extending their tactical viability into the 21st century. Many of these innovative accessories are easily adaptable to commercial AR-15s as well (see page 18, *Machine Gun News*, September 1995) and are available commercially through KMC.

Ongoing as well is KAC's transition to full-scale production on their new .50 caliber SR-50, long range precision rifle, which was introduced earlier this year and continued production of the 7.62 mm NATO (.308 Win.) caliber, SR-25 target and sporting series, whose latest users include the FBI's elite Hostage Rescue Team.

small arms. Stoner told him there was none, and the student thought he was joking or hiding something. It took several minutes to get through to this young man who was part of a 10,000 member student body that studied small arms, that there is nothing equivalent in the United States.

I wonder where the next generations of Eugene Stoners, John Brownings, and Hiram Maxims are going to come from. I urge all of the readers of this magazine to take a kid shooting and explain the fundamentals and safety rules. Join or support the organizations that promote the tinkerers and inventors; ADPA is one such group. If you are in the industry, you should be a member. If you are a student of small arms, I suggest you at least go to one of the conferences.

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7.62x54r LIGHT BALL AM-0510-C320	German Military Arsenals			Core FMJ	20rds	320rds Plastic Sleeve	20 lbs			\$59.75 (*.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	\$59.75 (*.24rd)	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	\$47.25 (*.19rd)	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	\$19.90 (*.08/rd)	5.00	8.00	10.00	FN 65
30.06 Blank ON LINKS BELTS AM-0486-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	Star Crimp	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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\$50. ISBN 0-87364-909-5

Reviewed by J. David Truby, Ph.D.

EDITOR'S NOTE: IT IS

Fitting that Dr. Truby, who wrote the first of his technical histories of firearm suppressors in 1972, should review this important book. A man who saw original Maxim silencers used for hunting and sport shooting. He also used suppressed firearms in the military. He was a Class 3 dealer for 11 years and has been an expert witness in firearms cases in state and federal court. Dr. Truby has written four books and over 100 technical articles on firearm suppressors.

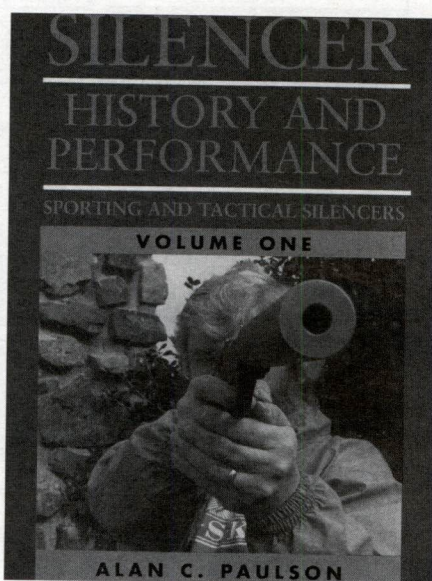
Obviously, you are a serious enthusiast or you wouldn't be reading *MGN* or this review. So, I will be direct. Buy, read and reference this first of a three-value research series on suppressors. I wrote the first real books on the topic many years ago, when most suppressor technology was still classified government property. Alan Paulson's book makes my early efforts appear like a Model A Ford waddling after a modern high-tech, high-performance vehicle. His book is very much laymen-interest readable. Yet, it also contains all the technical test comparisons and data demanded by scholars and scientists. It's a great read and an invaluable reference: the first of his benchmark research classics for years to come. When I wrote my first books, firearm silencers were just becoming suppressor technology. Experi-

ments in plastic, space-age alloys and components were just beginning. In the past 15 years, those experiments have become today's state of the quiet art. This book brings all of it to you, in clear, concise, very readable text, accompanied by charts, diagrams and photos. The publisher hails this book as "the most significant book on silencers to come out in years." More to the fact, it is the ONLY such book to come out in

years, since my last effort in 1983. It is both subjective and objective. If you're looking to buy a suppressor, to design one of your own, or just to read about the ones designed by the best designers, Al Paulson is the critical expert you need.

Specifics? His book is full of them: a historical review of all the silencers/suppressors designed created and/or produced. From one-of-a-kind to the latest government and sport uses, Al covers who did them, how, with what, and how successful each was. He backs his judgments not only with his own years of experience and expertise but also with objective, scientific comparisons. Al is a research scientist by education, training and work experience. He is a pilot and has been a college professor. And, he obviously knows his guns and suppressors very well and very expertly. In 1969 and 1970, I visited Hiram P Maxim's son in his home to begin my own silencer/suppressor research. I visited Aberdeen and Col. George Jarrett. I tested historic designs at H. R. White Labs. I shared time with some spooky silencer users courtesy of Don

Walsh in New Orleans. I shared drinks and more war stories with Mitch WerBell. Don Thomas brought me into Gordon Ingram's world. Phil Dater and I shot quietly in New Mexico. Wearing a tux and carrying a silenced H&K MP5, Tim Bixler parachuted out of an airplane for me. Al Paulson has done that and more. With his book, I revisited friends still tinkering with "can technology." This new technology boggled my mind, yet it was great to read about old pals like Phil Dater, Tim Bixler, Don Walsh, Jonathan Arthur Ciener, Gordon Ingram, John Norrell, Tim LaFrance, Reed Knight, Charles "Mickey" Finn, and Lynn McWilliams, the ultimate marketeer. As I did, you'll find new designers, men who've made significant strides in design and component technology with the target always being a smaller, lighter and quieter suppressor. You'll read about, see comparison charts and enjoy both static and action photos of the new designers, e.g., Mark White, Jim Ryan, Greg Latka, Ralph Seifert, Bill Ward and John Leasure. And yes, for those who like to tinker in their own workshop, Al Paulson's book has dozens of diagrams, plans and cut-aways, so you can see for yourself just how the experts, then and now, created their suppressors. Although two more volumes are already being written/edited, this book is more than just the seminal effort. In my professional opinion, this is the current class of its genre. It is the most thorough and highly competent benchmark in the literature of firearm suppressor technology. And as a bonus, unlike many technically and historically thorough books, this one is also highly entertaining and readable. When I asked Jon Ford, Senior Editor of Paladin Press, about that, he said that all of the credit goes to author Al Paulson. "The man is both a competent expert and a storyteller," Jon told me. The highest praise that an author can offer another is to say, "I wish I had written this book." After reading Alan Paulson's book carefully and very critically, I can go further. I wish I had the ability and knowledge



to have written his book. There is no higher praise. Read and see for yourself.

PROJECT 64: The MP5 Submachine Gun Story

BY FRANK JAMES

Charger Books

34249 Camino Capistrano

Capistrano Beach, CA 92624

(800) 767-1017; fax (714) 240-8680

208 pages, 64 pages of color photos,
(hardcover), \$44.95 plus \$2.50 S&H

Reviewed by Dan Shea

THERE HAS BEEN MUCH DISCUSSION over the years about the need for an MP5 book. Not a manual, not a pamphlet, but a book that covers history, use, accessories, model development, and all the little details. Frank James, one of *MGN's* contributing writers, is a prolific writer. He has been published in *Firepower*, *Peterson's Handguns*, *SWAT*, *Gun World*, *Combat Handguns*, *Handguns '90*, '91, '92, '93, '94, and '95. You should get the idea. Frank has been around the industry a long time. During most of that time, he has been talking about writing the definitive book on the

MP5 series of submachine guns. He has now done so.

Project 64 is loaded with information. The author starts at the beginning and takes the reader through the phases of the development of firearms. He lays the groundwork to make sure the reader has a good understanding of how firearms work, then has a short section on bullet development and ballistics. This is all coming to a point: the point where the German's decided to scale down their successful battle rifle design (the G3) and make it in 9 mm. Project 64 refers to the name given to the 9 mm HK submachine gun project by the German engineers.

Historically speaking, there has not

really been a good reference work on the development of this important submachine gun. Frank James spent considerable time in the fabled "back room" at HK GmbH in Oberndorf, Germany, and he had the full co-operation of the staff there; his book proves it. Rare prototype after exotic adaption is chronicled, and the "cut-away" photos are especially helpful in understanding the function of the delayed roller blowback action of the MP5. Some of the best photographers in the firearms industry were tapped to put together the 64 pages of color photos to augment the text. Examples of exotic customized MP5s, like the Shah of Iran's personal gun, are included to help the reader understand how prolific this submachine gun has been.

Close-up photography is prominent throughout the book and lends the reader a different perspective from the standard bland "military-speak" descriptions that usually have to suffice for a student of the MP5.

Frank James has a deep background for writing this

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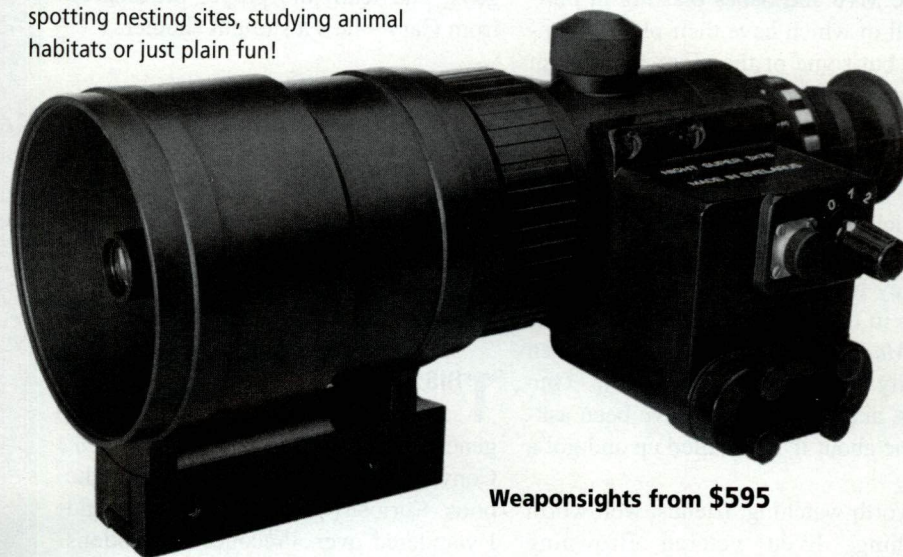
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book, from years as an owner of MP5s to professional training. He lays out how to take care of the guns, how to maintain them, how to perform general repairs (it's nice to have his help on replacing those annoying small parts), and interesting enough, training.

The R3/3 tactical sling and its use has been a mystery to most purchasers who haven't had the advantage of going through one of HK's training classes. Frank takes the reader through the hows and whys of the sling, then on to some basic tactics. Like most individuals who have been fortunate enough to go through HK's tactical submachine gun courses, he keeps the secret things secret. This may disappoint a few readers, but if you take a good look at what he does teach, there is some real good doctrine here.

Thumbs up or thumbs down on Project 64? A definite thumbs up! If you are interested in the MP5 series, this book should be on your shelf—after reading it, of course. If you are a dealer or in the general industry, there is no excuse for not having access to the information here.

The Browning Machine Gun Video

BY ALABAMA ARMS INC.

PO Box 55177

Birmingham, AL 35255

VHS format Video; 1 hour.

\$29.95 plus \$4.50 S&H

Reviewed by Dan Shea

INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS ON MACHINE

guns have pretty much been restricted to military training videos, a few done on the M16 and babes blasting in bikinis, all of which have their place, I suppose, but some of the older firearms in civilian hands suffer from a serious lack of good training information. Watching Bambi put the hammer down on an M60 really doesn't teach proper procedures.

Richard Sanders, Glenn Dortch, and Gary Reisenwitz have embarked on a journey to change all of that. The first video in their new series is *The Browning Machine Gun Video*. It has been heavily advertised in Machine Gun News, and a lot of folks have been asking me about it, so I called up and got a copy.

Worth watching, friends, well worth watching. Even veteran Browning shooters can learn from this hour-long

video. Gary Reisenwitz is the narrator and demonstrator. There is some history, but the lion's share of the show is spent "hands on" with Gary as he shares his expertise from years of building and repairing 1919 and 1917 series machine guns. The belt loader is covered. Let me repeat, he covers the belt loader extensively: close-up video of where, exactly, those needles are supposed to be. I personally spend a lot of time describing the proper use of this machine, and will recommend their video to 1919 users if only for this section!

Gary smoothly demonstrates disassembly, parts inspection, and reassembly. He times the gun, sets headspace, and points out the safe way to handle the parts, as well as giving shooting hints.

His professional appearance, as well as his technical knowledge, makes this a good instructional video. In their ads, there is a guarantee on the quality of the tape, and I would say the whole production was professional.

If you own a 1917 or 1919 series Browning machine gun, or are involved with the handling of these guns, you can't go wrong with this video. I am recommending, right here in *MGN*, that all Class 3 dealers who sell these machine guns include a copy of this tape with the gun they sell—at least offer to sell it in your shop. Just the end of phone calls from customers who bought a Browning but can't figure it out would pay for the tape! There are also many Browning owners out there who could use an instructional class to get over their "jitters" about shooting their gun. Get the tape, guys, and learn the proper procedures from Gary—he's a straight shooter!

The World's Most Dangerous Places

BY ROBERT YOUNG PELTON AND COSKUN ARAL

Fielding Worldwide Inc

308 South Catalina Ave

Redondo Beach, CA 90277 USA

Softcover; 980 pages, \$19.95 plus \$4 S&H

Reviewed by Dan Shea

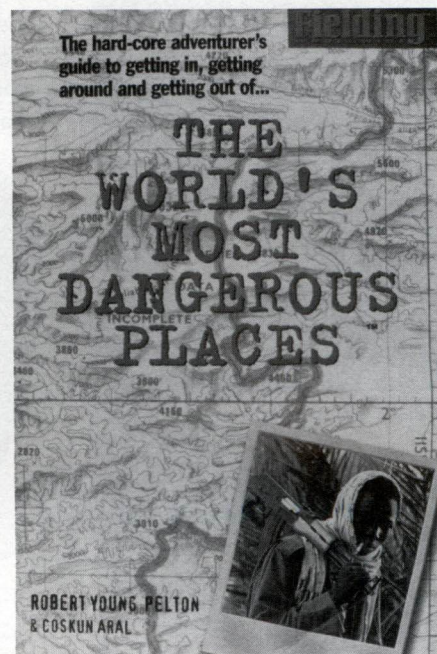
THIS BOOK IS SOMEWHAT OFF THE subject of machine guns or Class 3 in general. I was walking through the SOF Convention and saw the poster for the book. Curiosity got the better of me, and I wandered over. Preconceived notions abound when I see a book with a title

like *The World's Most Dangerous Places*; but I took a closer look anyway—real happy that I did.

This is not a "how to be a mercenary" book. It is a long, in-depth analysis of the world's hot spots. I had the opportunity to meet one of the authors, Robert Pelton. He seemed very real, and after reading the book, that judgment appears to be backed up. His bio includes a lifetime of world adventure. Coskun Aral, the co-author of the book, has similar credentials.

The information in this book cannot be gathered sitting in a bar in New York City, and it can't be gathered at the bar in a third world hotel hiding from the spotlight; I was seriously impressed with the depth of investigation. Bad guys, diseases, legal and cultural problems are covered for hundreds of "dangerous places" as well as personal stories interspersed for lively reading or to accentuate a point.

If you want to be an "eco-tourist" in Mexico, work for a building contractor in Saudi Arabia, save the elephants in Kenya, or work the gun business in the former Soviet Union, this book is indispensable. It is an entertaining read, and an in-depth resource as well. *Fielding's Guides* for travelers are well known, usually covering cruises and vacation spots. Some of their books have bordered on the dangerous edge, but with this piece of work, they have gone full-tilt boogie into the adventurer's world. More power to them.



If you want to know what to do, how to do it, and more importantly what NOT to do.... Pelton and Aral have written the best book by far.

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Dealer inquires are invited.

RUSSIAN MILITARY TRANSLATIONS announces the publication of a new series of manuals covering common Soviet and Russian machine guns and submachine guns.

The first offering is *The OFFICIAL PPSH-41 Submachine Gun Manual*, a carefully crafted translation of a manual published by the Ministry of Defense of the USSR in 1955. The translated manual contains all 79 line drawings that appeared in the original Russian version, along with about a dozen charts. The manual covers such topics as parts

nomenclature, functional descriptions, disassembly and assembly procedures, a troubleshooting chart, zeroing, description of shooting positions, and tactical employment. The translated manual contains 60 pages of valuable information on the most widely employed Soviet submachine gun of World War II in a large, easy-to-read 8 1/2 x 11 format.

The second manual in the series is *The OFFICIAL Stechkin Pistol Manual*. Stechkin automatic pistol, which fires the 9 mm Makarov round, is capable of semi- and full-automatic fire from a 20-round magazine. The original manual was published by the Ministry of Defense of the USSR in 1957. The translated manual contains all 76 line drawings that appeared in the original Russian version, along with about six charts. Like the PPSH-41 manual, the first half of this manual covers nomenclature, function, disassembly and assembly, and maintenance. The second half of the manual covers shooting positions and tactical employment. The translated manual contains 70 pages of valuable information on a unique sidearm of the Soviet Armed Forces and paramilitary

forces in the 1950s. Large, easy-to-read 8 1/2 x 11 format.

Upcoming titles: *The OFFICIAL Degtyarev Light Machine Gun, Manual (RPD)*, *The OFFICIAL PPS-43 Sudayev Submachine Gun Manual*, and *The Official Degtyarev Infantry Machine Gun Manual (DP)*. Other manuals will be translated and offered in this series as they become available.

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Eric M. Larson, PO Box 5497

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Soft cover pocket book, 64 pages, \$10 ppd.

Reviewed by Dan Shea

JUST A QUICK NOTE TO MGN's readers, especially the collectors and Class 3 dealers. We have reviewed this pamphlet before, in 1993. If you are a Class 3 dealer who might run into Handy-Guns in the course of business or a collector with an interest in them, this pamphlet is a must have. It is small, pocket-sized, and full of information. Every model is covered in-depth with black and white photos, model differ-

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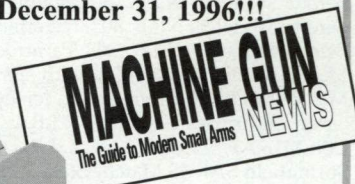
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ences, serial number ranges, etc. This is a "you need it" if you are around Class 3 or collectible firearms in general.

Small Arms World Report

Published by the Institute for Research on Small Arms in International Security (IRSAIS), 6320 Olde Towne Court, Alexandria, VA 22307-1227 USA

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Reviewed by Dan Shea

EVERY QUARTER I RECEIVE THE

Small Arms World Report and kick back in the easy chair; it's a serious 60 or so pages of reading. The IRSAIS's stated purpose is as "a not-for-profit organization generating useful information for professionals and serious lay persons concerned about the development, tactical use, and distribution of small arms." Each issue that I read educates me further. This is not for casual shooting enthusiasts. If you are in the industry, and want to be well informed at every level, the *Small Arms World Report* will keep you on the "inside" track.

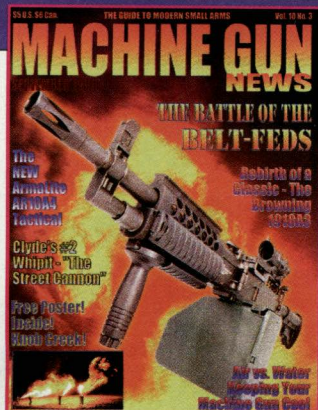
Standard format is about 56 pages, with three or four articles on new developments, a section on business news in the arms industry, "Info Bites" which are short sitreps from countries all around the world, and a section on "Publications of Interest." In the current issue there is a dissertation on "The Great Rifle Controversy" by the late Edward C. Ezell, an article on the South African Aeroteck NTW 20, 20 mm rifle, "Tactical Employment of the Shoulder-Fired Rocket," and an analysis of the new Russian 9 mm x 21 ammunition. The "Info Bites" section covers small arms news from 40-plus countries, and the eleven page "Publications of Interest" covers new books, periodicals and reports that are relevant to the industry.

Information is power. If you want to be truly informed, from one of the places that the professionals get their information (in addition to *MGN*, of course), consider IRSAIS membership. The membership is global and spans a who's who of the arms industry and academia.

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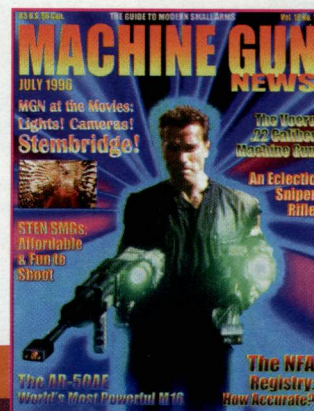
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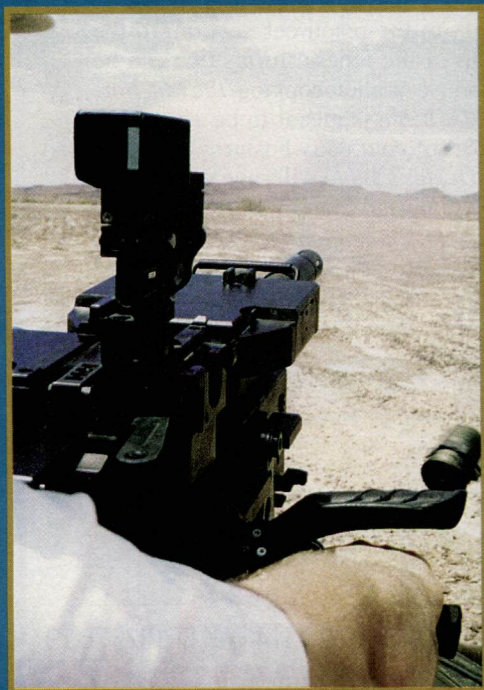
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THE CONTENDER:



Above: Volker Kurtz, HK GmbH demonstrates firing position. Note his right hand prepared to squeeze the bicycle grip trigger that is on the mount.



Above: At 32 rounds per case, 18 cases...yes, that's 576 rounds of M918 TP 40 mm ammo—explosive practice. This was for the start of the day session.

Left: Rounds in the air!

HK's 40 mm GMG

TORTURE TEST IN THE DESERT— MGN TAKES HK'S NEWEST GRENADE MACHINE GUN OUT FOR A SPIN

By Dan Shea

During a discussion at the ADPA show in June, the HK team suggested that this writer come out to their newest test of the 40 mm GMG, a select-fire grenade machine gun. Alluding to a "torture test," I never dreamed that they also had a torture test of the participants in mind. Yuma, Arizona in August is consistently above 110 degrees fahrenheit. So, camera and notebook in hand, I put on my desert hat, dropped into Phoenix, grabbed a car, and made ready for the appointed day...

Ever since the invention of explosives, men of war have been looking for new ways to throw "bombs" accurately from a distance. History is filled with tales of cannon,

catapult, mortar, sappers and grenadiers, and many of the stories are of the mishaps involved. Avoiding "short rounds," "fast fuses" and "tube bursts" has been a major preoccupation of those who design and use projected explosives. Mechanical fuses were an innovation that solved many of the problems, and the newer spin-armed types have allowed more security to the operators.

Modern armies have many types of weapons at hand. The grenadier of the 1960s had a dedicated weapon, the M79. In order to make every grenadier a rifleman as well (and vice versa), the M203 series of launcher was developed. In a parallel development, Honeywell worked on a crank-operated 40 mm launcher for tripod or patrol boat mount using the same low-pressure round as the M79. Then there was a helicopter pod-mounted unit that fired a newer, longer 40 mm x 53 round. This new round had a much longer

range than the old one, and it had too much recoil to be used as a shoulder-fired weapon. Ranges of 2000 meters were recorded. The U.S. Naval Ordnance project with Colonel George Chinn produced the MK 19 series of fully automatic grenade machine guns, and this fine weapon is still in use today, manufactured as the MK 19 Mod 3 by Saco Defense Inc. (See *MGN* Vol. 8 No. 12, May 1995.)

There is an old expression "close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades," which applies to most dual-purpose HE rounds. Machine guns were originally intended as "area" weapons, not "point" weapons. The art of machine gunning has suffered greatly with the recent emphasis on "point" use in the military, which can be traced to doctrine that is geared more for a belt-fed rifle use than a squad automatic weapon. With the introduction of the fully automatic grenade machine gun, and their extended ranges, we give new meaning to the term "area" use.

A grenadier needs to get his grenades within a certain distance of soldiers (soft targets) in order to inflict

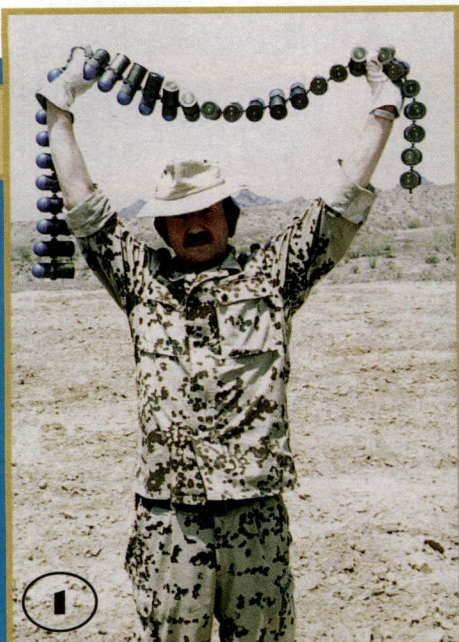


Six shovels full of desert sand are hurled into the air, coming down on top of the GMG, simulating field combat conditions.

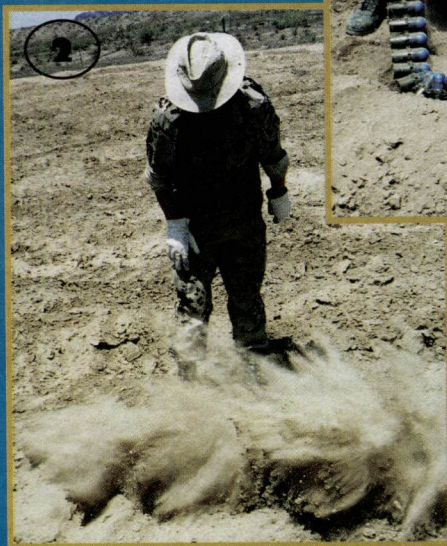


HK's 40 mm man, Wayne Weber, is a former U.S. Air Force MK-19 instructor. Because of the need to reverse the direction of feed on the belts, we had to take every belt out of the can and make sure the correct end was presented to the GMG. A new universal link developed by HK and submitted for NATO adoption will eliminate this procedure.

The Torture Test:



1. Volker Kurtz takes a full 32-round belt of M918 TP ammo and lofts it into the air....



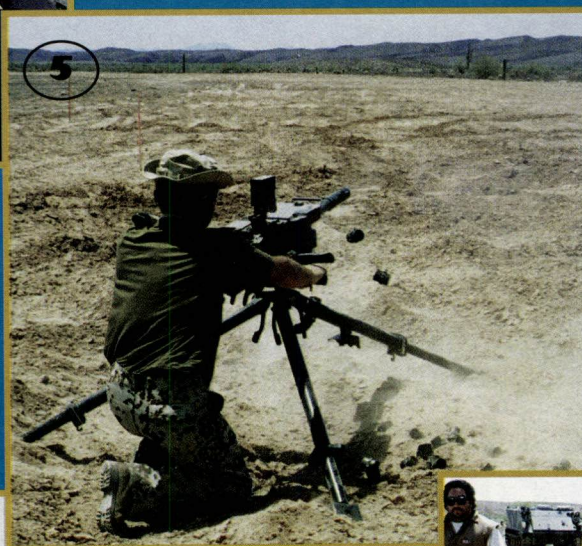
2. throws it to the ground....

3. then drags it all around the sandy test area, muttering that he is "a tired, tired soldier, dragging the ammo."

Six shovels full of desert sand are hurled into the air, coming down on top of the 40 mm GMG, simulating field combat conditions. (See pg. 56)



4. The belt that Volker has been abusing is dragged to the GMG, and inserted for firing.



5. It shoots the entire belt without any problems whatsoever.



6. Next, Robert Hirt opens the cover and dumps a 40 mm ammo can full of water into the mechanism, then they slap another 32-round belt into the GMG and shoot it—no problem.

7. The crew carries the tripod mounted GMG back in from this part of the torture test.



casualties. He must also hit directly on vehicles or bunkers (hard targets) when the shaped charge aspect of the ammunition is required to penetrate armor. It was with these two thoughts in mind that this individual participated in the Yuma tests. I wanted to find out if Heckler and Koch's newest weapon could perform in both of these diverse roles, while standing up to the desert environment.

MGN photographer Jim Bonis, gunsmith Stan Andrews and I had torn the 40 mm GMG down to its basic parts at the ADPA show, so I had some familiarity with the weapon. Heading out to Yuma to go one-on-one with the actual designers was a special treat, unfortunately, security only allowed one person to go. (Guess who drew the "short" straw. Being Technical Editor has its benefits.)

The 40 mm GMG was developed at HK GmbH over the last four years, the one we tested was prototype serial number 011. It is a blowback-operated gun. It uses the same feed system as that on the MG42 and fires from an open breech. The round is stripped from the belt and moved forward into the cham-

ber. Because of the method of feeding, the belts of ammunition must be reversed from the U.S. MK19 use—the male end of the link must be presented first. HK has designed a link that will work in both grenade launchers, and it is waiting for approval from the manufacturers of ammunition as well as a blessing from the other end users. Until that point is realized, and all of the ammunition is standardized, every can that gets opened must have the belt pulled and reinstalled in reverse.

The Germans had scheduled the test at Yuma Proving Grounds on the Mexican border in Arizona, where the U.S. Army has extensive testing facilities. HK had hired the YPG as a sight for their final environmental testing to meet the German Army's criteria. Winter testing is done in Northern Europe, of course, but the best desert facility in the world is at Yuma. Hot, dry, and dusty, YPG is able to assist military testers in actually putting their products through controlled desert testing, not merely a simulation. (Unfortunately the testers also achieve the same reality check. In the 116 degree fahrenheit heat, we

grilled lunch on a wood fire out in the desert—I was thinking about cold cuts and ice water, but the hot chicken was excellent!)

Ten thousand rounds of exploding target practice ammo needed to be fired in order to complete the test—at \$38 per round, that adds up fairly quickly. I personally fired over 300 rounds. Ranges varied from 500 to 1500 meters. By choice, I did most of my firing at 1000 meters. As much fun as this sounds like, if you ask any "tester" he will tell you the same thing. After a hundred rounds or so, it becomes work—and this was serious work. HK needed answers on how well their 40 mm GMG would work.

At 1000 meters the 10' x 10' plywood target looked extremely small. It was the kind of target you might use to sight a scoped rifle to center, then check the group and start getting serious on smaller targets. After my first couple of rounds dropped short, I got the feel of it and started seeing white flashes on target every time! This was pretty impressive—first time on the launcher and dropping them right in! Volker Kurtz,

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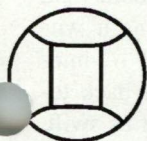
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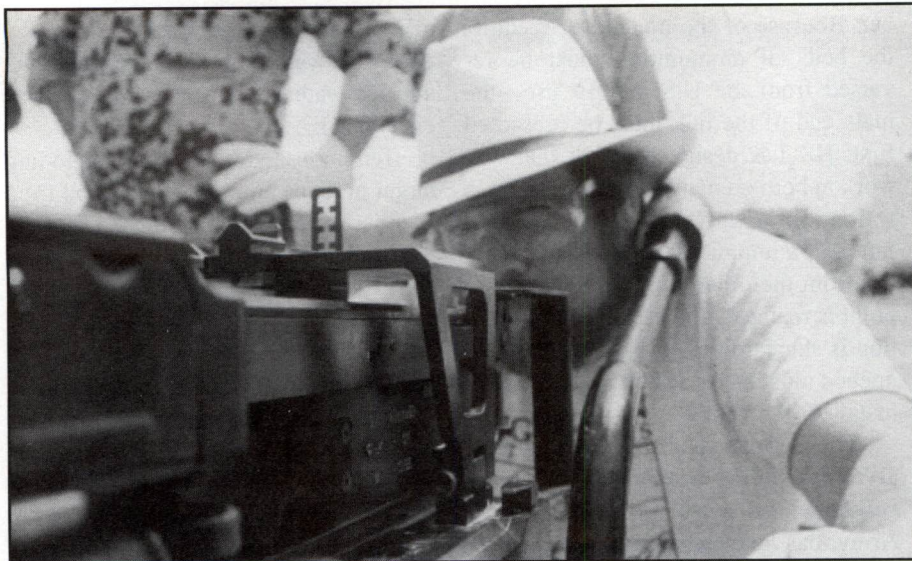
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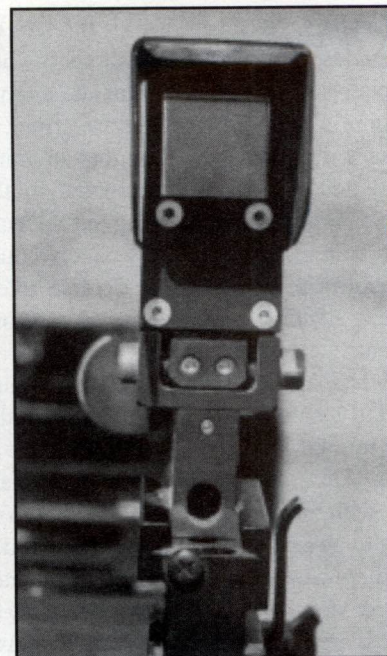
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Above: Note the position of the shoulder brace as it is used in firing the 40 mm GMG.
Left: Reflex sight that works really well. It's like watching television in real time.



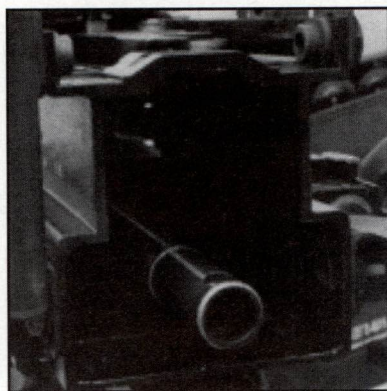
from HK GmbH remarked that it was a wonderful thing that a novice such as myself, who had little experience with machine guns and grenade launchers, could learn so quickly...but, honestly, this weapon was right on target. Almost every shot I fired from it, using the reflex sight, went right into the kill zone. With some more practice, I was pretty confident that I could place rounds consistently inside a normal window-sized area. That's not a brag; I was really impressed with the accuracy of the 40 mm GMG. At 1000 yards it was accurate; at 500 yards it was absolutely zeroed!

Area fire was a little trickier. Every automatic weapon has a natural cyclic rate—the recoil of the gun, its return, and the bolt travel, combined with the effect on the operator. With a grenade launcher firing sustained fire (it's not usually referred to as automatic on these launchers), being out of sync with that rate can have a drastic effect on where the grenades land, and the size of the group. We do not speak of 4 inch groups at 800 meters. We think more in terms of 16 meter groups. Once I had figured out how to "ride" the 40 mm GMG, I was very impressed with how tight the groups were. I could pick an area of brush on the 750 meter mark and cover it with a 3-second burst. I was done be-

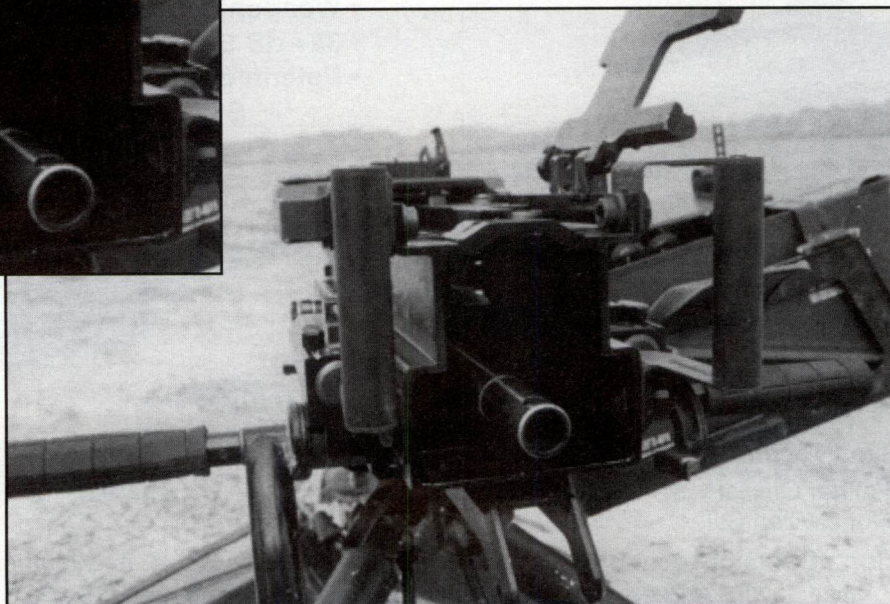
fore the first rounds hit and could sit back and watch the bright flashes of light saturate the area. These groups were pretty impressive. Again, the objective is to "cover" an area, not put them all in the same spot. Keeping the group fairly tight was easy. Indirect fire with a good spotter would be better than any mortar could dream of being.

The 40 mm GMG is significantly lighter than the MK19 Mod 3. At 29 kg., it is 7.5 kg. lighter. As long as the strength and accuracy is there, lighter is usually better. One of the methods of lightening the design is through the simplicity of design and manufacture. The receiver is cut from a one-piece aluminum extrusion instead of being made from welded steel plates. The bolt is much simpler than the MK19 as well.

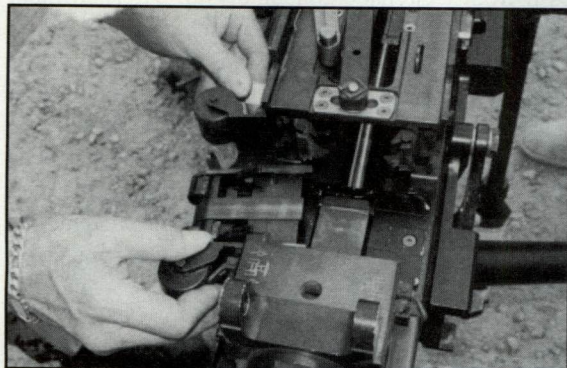
The ease of switching from a left feed to a right feed is illustrated in the photo sequence, but the 40 mm GMG always ejects to the right. Disassembly can be done (and was with me as a witness) in about 1 1/2 minutes. Putting it back together was just as swift, and no tools were used other than some of the pins that were taken from the 40 mm GMG as part of disassembly.



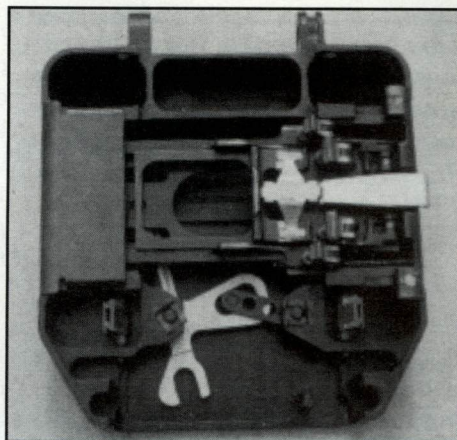
The 40 mm GMG with backplate removed. Note the highlighted outline of the receiver body. It is a piece of extruded aluminum.



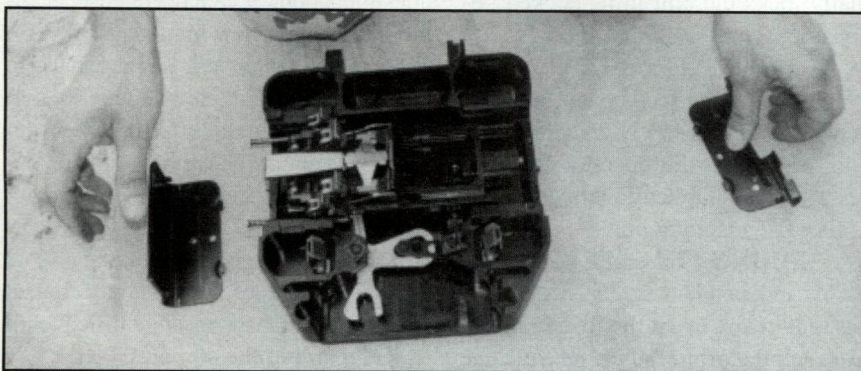
Changing the Feed from Left to Right



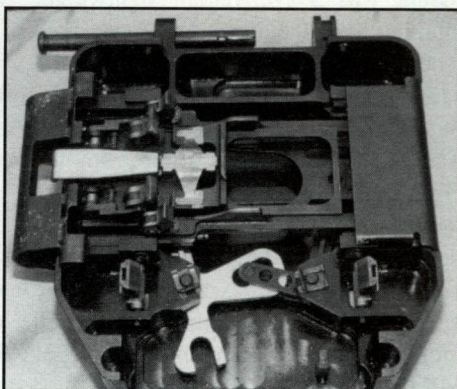
Left: Changing from left feed to right feed is a fairly simple operation, accomplished in the field. The cover does not have to be removed to change the feed direction. Left and right feed parts are exchanged on the receiver....



Above: Top cover set up for left-hand feed.
Below: Top cover set up for right-hand feed.
Photo Jim Bonis.



Parts are totally reversible on the top cover. Simply pull them out to the sides, and swing them around, then install on opposite side of cover....



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This was a much more secure mount, and dialing in fire with the traverse and elevation mechanism was a cinch—with the reflex sight it was like watching TV!

There were two methods of firing the unit when it was tripod-mounted. The operator can choose to use the spade grips and a thumb trigger, which is similar to the M2HBs, or to use the "motorcycle" type grips that were on the soft mount. I preferred the "motorcycle" grips in both of the mounts that were available for us to use. The ground mount was a Norwegian lightweight aluminum unit that worked quite well when extended properly. The first time I saw it used there was a lot of "flex" to it, but it had not been properly secured. The other mount was firing from the Humvee. This was a much more secure mount, and dialing in fire with the traverse and elevation mechanism was a cinch—with the reflex sight it was like watching TV! The 40 mm GMG will mount anywhere that the M2HB or MK19 will.

Safety features are important on

most firearms; on a fully automatic grenade launcher they are absolutely critical. Imagine a round stuck in the bore, and another round strikes it from behind. Even considering the spin arm fuze, you have more than a "belled" barrel. HK built in a number of safety features:

SAFETY/FIRE SELECTOR LEVER

The safety/fire selector lever features the settings "Safe," "Single Fire" and "Sustained Fire." Setting the safety/fire selector lever at "Safe" not only blocks the trigger mechanism but additionally locks the bolt in its cocked position.

LOADING SAFETY

By opening the feed cover, the open bolt will automatically be locked in position, protecting the operator from injuries from an unintentionally released and forward snapping bolt.

FIRING PIN SAFETY

This independent safety system ensures that in any event the firing pin can only reach the primer after the cartridge has been chambered so far that the cartridge case is fully supported by the chamber.

BOLT LOCK

Mechanically locks the bolt in position and permits the operator to clear the Grenade Machine Gun safely without fear of bolt movement.

COCKING SAFETY

In case the gunner fails to pull back the bolt completely and releases the cocking handle before the bolt has been engaged in its cocked position, and integral automatic mechanism prevents the bolt from traveling forward and accidentally firing.

All things considered, the HK 40 mm GMG is now "the contender"; no question about it. Saco Defense is rumored to have a new lightweight MK19, but this author has not had a chance to look it over. The lightweight 40 mm GMG is an accurate, effective, well-designed weapon. The innovation of design should help to keep the manufacturing costs down and make this a very competitive design.

Note: HK does not want any contact from non-military or unqualified end-users regarding the 40 mm GMG.

Military Procurement may contact: Wayne Weber, HK Inc. Sterling, VA. (703) 450-1900.

MGN

Grenade Machine Gun 40 mm x 53

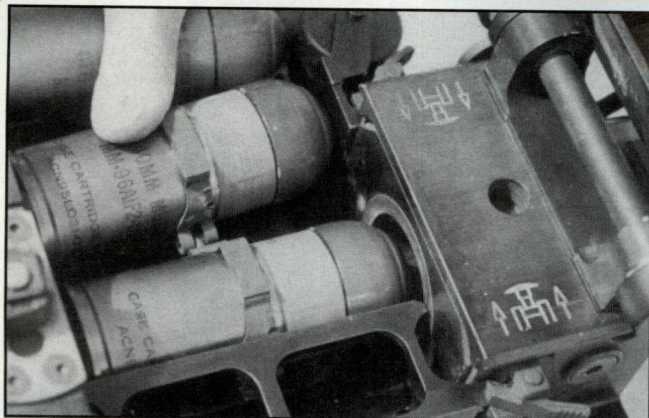
DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS

Operating system:	Blowback-operated
Type of bolt:	Inertia bolt
	Main reasons:
	Good reliability
	Simplicity of design
Feed system:	Pawl operated
	Advantages:
	Operating dependability
	Smaller size
	Lower feeding velocity
	Production costs are lower
Feeding direction:	From either side
	Provisions have been made for conversion from right to left feed in the field, by the operator. Straightforward repositioning of existing components without the use of additional components.
Modes of Fire:	Single fire and continuous fire
Mounting facility:	Cradle includes integral soft mount. Compatible with U.S. M3 tripod and vehicle pedestal mounts.

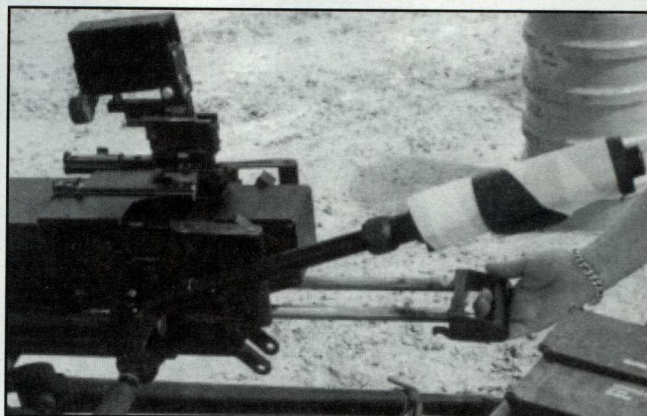
TECHNICAL DATA

Calibre	40 mm x 53
Weight gun	29 kg
Weight tripod	19.5 kg
	with cradle soft mount
Muzzle velocity	241 m/s
Max. range	2,200 m
Length	1,100 mm
Width	140 mm
Height	208 mm
Barrel length	584 mm w/flash hider
Rate of fire	330 rounds per min.
Operating system	Blowback-operated
Feeding direction	left or right
Modes of fire	Single or continuous
Charging	From the rear
Belt-container	14 kg
weight	(with 32 rounds)
Sighting system	Optical Sight
	Night Sight
	Back-up iron sights

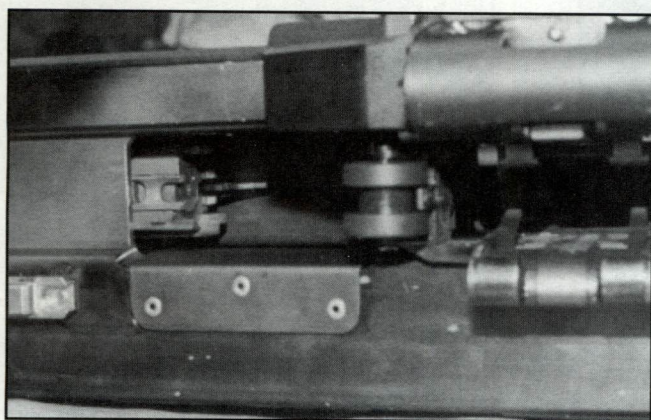
Loading Sequence:



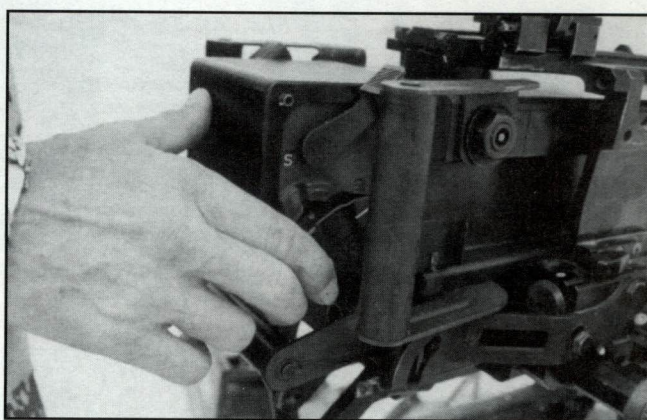
Belt of 40 mm ammo is placed in the tray (note how the first round is not quite in line with the bore) until it reaches battery. This is a safety feature.



Cocking handle is pulled to the rear with either hand.



The 40 mm GMG fires from the open bolt. Photo Jim Bonis.



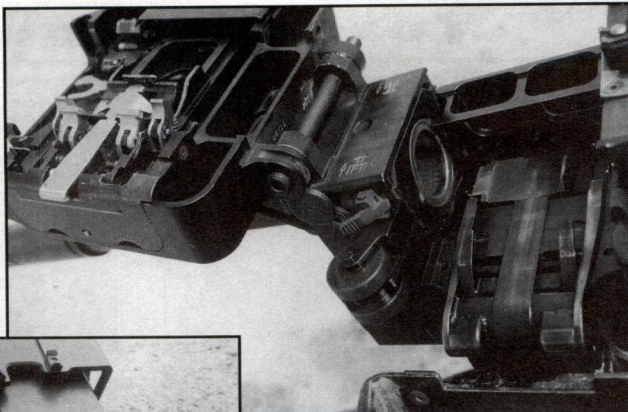
The weapon is now placed on fire. This is a select fire grenade machine gun. Position in the photo is semiauto. "E" is for "Ein"—one; and the "D" is "Duelfuer"—Sustained fire.

System Comparison

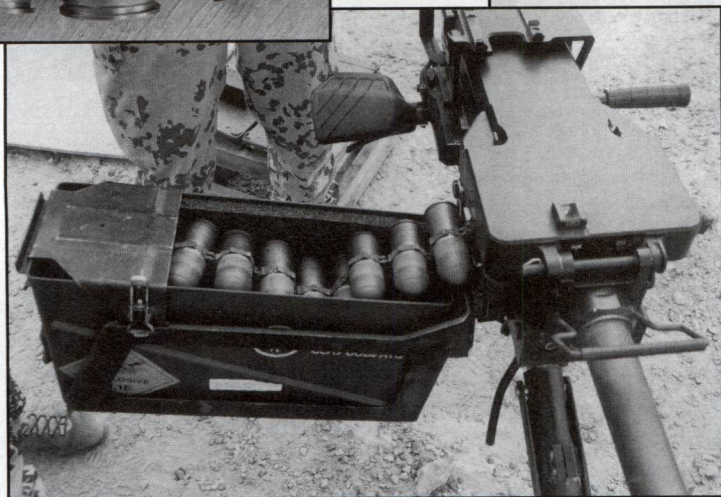
System	Mark 19	HK 40 GMG
Weight weapon	34.5 kg	29 kg
Weight cradle	9.5 kg	9.5 kg
Height	230 mm + cradle	208 mm
Width	330 mm	140 mm
Housing	welded steel	extruded aluminum
Charger handle	on both sides	one at the back
Charging	pull charger handle, press trigger, pull charger handle again	one pull on the charger handle
Mode of fire	only sustained	single and continuous
Rate of fire	325-375 rounds	330 rounds
Cycle of operation	delinking, round cammed down, firing unloading with tools	forward movement delinks the round and fires it. The empty case is ejected during recoil. No tools required
Disassembly groups	21	10
Feeding mechanism	slide fed, camming curves	pawl fed, only horizontal
Feeding direction	left side only	left or right side
Mounts with mount	needs a cradle to be mounted	cradle includes soft mount. Compatible with U.S. M3 tripod and vehicle mounts.



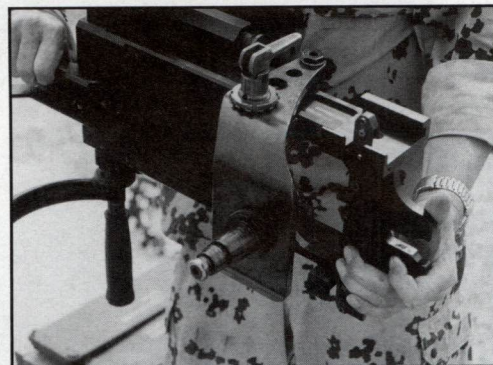
M918 TP 40 mm x 53 ammunition that was used in the test. On impact, it produces a bright flash, a report, and a puff of smoke.



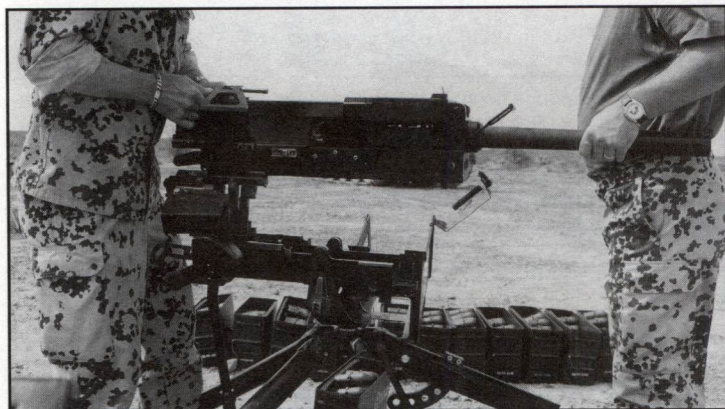
Inside the feed mechanism.



The ammo can support mounts readily on either side, and supports a 32-round can of 40 mm ammo.



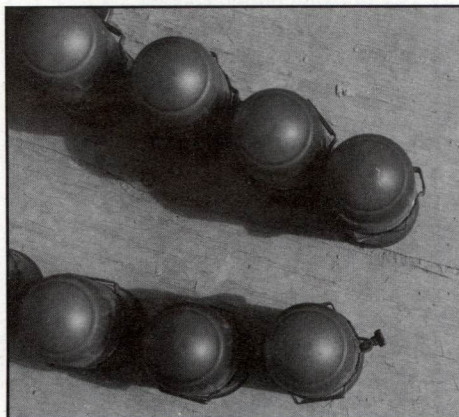
Pintle of the 40 mm GMG cradle is standard service mount.



The 40 mm GMG being removed from tripod.



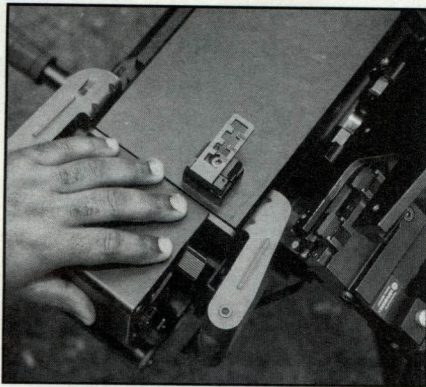
Barrel is removed by one pin that comes out after the top cover is removed.



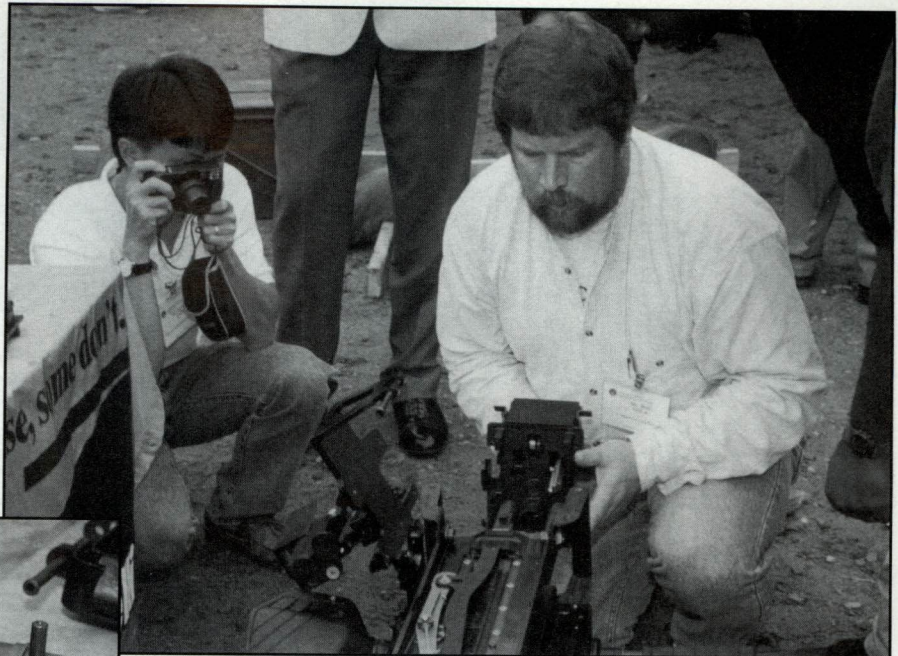
Differences of the belt on current 40 mm links. Top: female end. Bottom: male end.



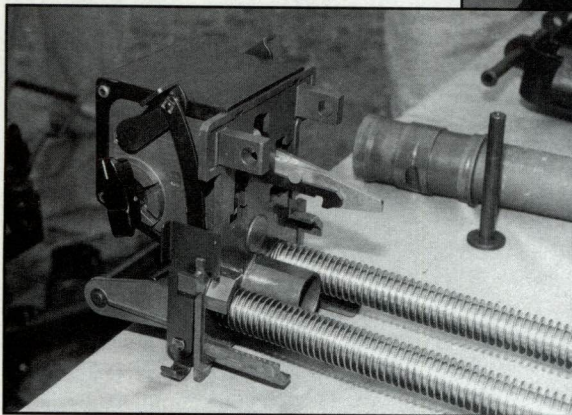
HK's new tripod mount—works for the M2 HB and MK 19 as well.



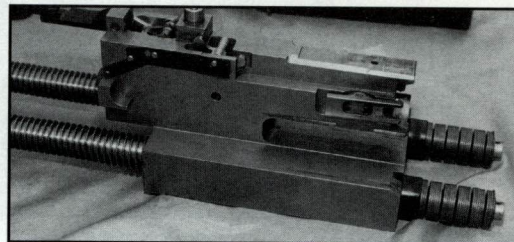
Note standard rear sight, trigger inside hand grip area. Wayne Weber starts the take down process at ADPA. Rear plate is released. Photo Jim Bonis.



The author removes bolt/recoil assembly from the 40 mm GMG. (Note Charter Industries of Singapore photographing every detail.) Photo Jim Bonis.



The 40 mm GMG back plate and sear mechanism.



The 40 mm GMG Bolt assembly—"Robust" would be a good word to describe it—milled from a solid block. Photo Jim Bonis.

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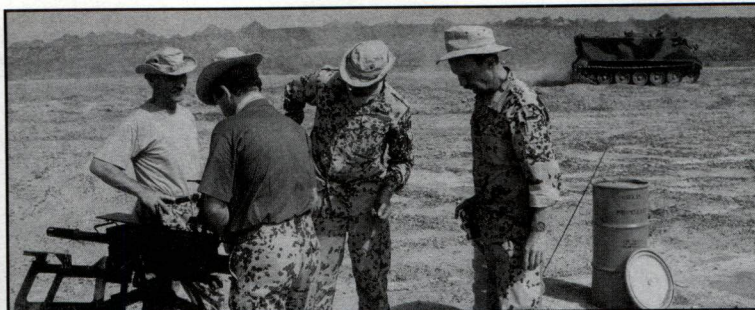
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Above: The 40 mm GMG mounted on the Humvee. Note that the shoulder brace is not used in this application.



The Germans work on setting up another test, while an M113 APC is used in the background to churn up the desert for the vehicle/dust test.

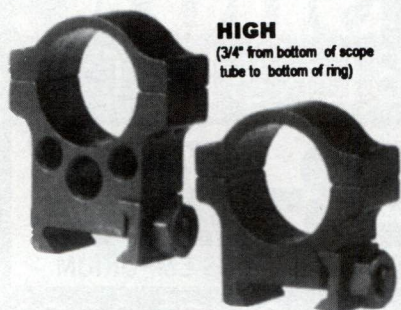
Right: "The Wild Bunch?" The testers take a break. *Front row:* John Meloy, HK USA; Helmut Weldle, HK GmbH; Berthold Weichert, HK GmbH; Volker Kurtz, HK GmbH; Dan Shea, MGN. *On Humvee left to right:* Eddie Pierson, Yuma Test, Robert Hirt, HK GmbH. Gary Womack, Yuma test. *Missing:* Jim Schatz, HK USA, Wayne Weber, HK USA.

Photo Wayne Weber.



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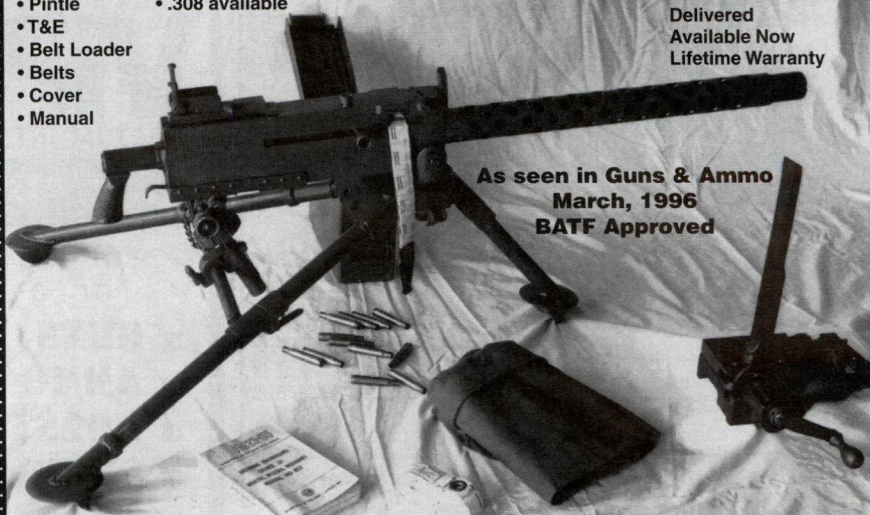
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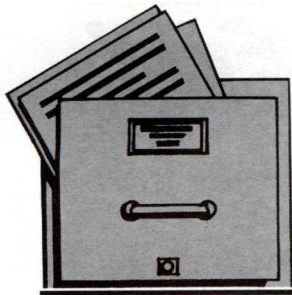
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The Forms

by Dan Shea

Some of our recent conversations here in "The Forms" have related to ATF rulings and court cases on "borderline" situations. Your faithful correspondent is occasionally berated for "taking sides with ATF," or "not supporting the gun people." Wrong. My job is to try to tell it like it IS, not like I WANT it to be. The firearms world can be a real mine field of technical violations. Those charged with administering the laws passed by our public servants have a very difficult job due to the complexity of those laws.

The best situation we could have, which is also the correct situation constitutionally, is that if you commit a crime, you are punished for it (i.e., no gun laws other than the criminal ones: murder, assault, disorderly conduct, etc.). The fact that a firearm is involved is really irrelevant. The laws we have now are really thinly disguised surrogates for confiscation of firearms and banning ownership. If they were really "crime suppression" laws, they not only would make sense, they would punish criminal behavior; not criminalize ownership of certain categories of firearms. I say this not to "preach to the choir" but to lead into several cases we have been discussing.

The ATF personnel that I have been in contact with have almost without exception been professional in their behavior. There are instances that would lead one to believe otherwise, notably the Ruby Ridge, Waco, and Katona incidents. What we need to remember is, that in each case, there were allegations of violations of firearms laws—sometimes arcane and difficult to understand laws. There were also personalities involved that would invariably lead to confrontations—from both sides (Louis Katona excepted). It is not my intention to dissect these incidents either. What IS my intention, is to point out a couple of

the mines that are sitting out there... because the readers of this magazine in the U.S. need to be aware of them. Whether you are in law enforcement, or are an enthusiast of exotic firearms, these two items should impact on your attention.

First, in *U.S. v. Webb*, - F.3d - (10th Cir. 1996) No. 95-3393 in the Tenth Circuit an appeal Filed 10/21/96 was in regard to convictions of one Edgar Webb's sentencing. Mr Webb had been convicted of marijuana possession and among some other things, four counts of violations of the National Firearms Act. Mr. Webb lost his appeal, and is apparently serving time. The NFA violations were in regard to unserialized, unregistered suppressors. He had taken toilet paper cardboard tubes, stuffed with taxidermist's stuffing he had removed from several stuffed animals and attached them to a Marlin Model 60 .22 caliber tube magazine-fed rifle. These unserialized firearms, untaxed and therefore not registered, have contributed to Mr. Webb's time in prison.

My point? Only that the act of producing ANY device to reduce the sound of a firearm can get you in beaucoup trouble. As long as you live in a state that allows suppressor (silencer) ownership, and you qualify under federal law, you should file a Form 1 to manufacture the suppressor, waiting for the approved form to come back before you build it, or purchase a registered suppressor and have it transferred to you on a Form 4.

The second relevant item this month is an answer to one of our on-going controversies: the wallet pistol. Read on....

Questions:

I AM A RETIRED MECHANICAL Engineer and hobby machinist. I subscribed to your great magazine for one year before venturing into the ownership of a Class 3 firearm. It is as much

fun as my race cars.

Several months ago you had an article about wallet holsters. I showed it to my friend and local gun dealer; he sold the holsters, and carried one. He read the article and said something like "bull shirt." My comment was I will visit him in prison. So he inquired about the holster from Technology Branch of ATF. A copy of ATF's answer is included for your use if you want. How many thousands of people and police are criminals just waiting to be busted? Why not notify or announce to the shooting/caring public when a change in policy comes along.

Keep up the wonderful work. Your magazine is full of excellent information and is one bright spot I look to every month.

R.W. of Oregon

P.S. What has happened to Fleming? I cannot contact him.

Thank you for sending this letter in. This should help illuminate the debate on wallet holsters. I tend to agree with several of the lawyers out there who feel the wallet holster and pistol is NOT an Any Other Weapon, but it is NOT my call. Mr. Owen, as Chief of Firearms Technology Branch, has to take into account many things. The ramifications of each and every determination or decision may affect ongoing cases, or convictions in the past. If you combine the fact that the definition of an "Any Other Weapon" most certainly includes the "concealed on his person" phrase (pistols and revolvers are excepted), the determination makes more sense. Some of the readers who have suggested that a "pistol in a paper bag" is now an AOW will certainly object to this interpretation. Mr. Owen's strict interpretation of the law here is, in fact, going to be how all of the ATF and other federal agents treat the cases where they find the wallet holsters in combination with a pistol.



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20226

E: CE: F: TE: MJC
3311

Mr. xxx xxxxx
xxx xxxxx Gun Sales
xxxx xxx. xxxx St.
xxxxxxxxxx, Oregon xxxxx

Dear Mr. Xxxxx:

This refers to your letter of August 1, 1996, in which you request information on the legality of wallet type holsters. You specifically ask about the wallet holster made by Galco for the Beretta .25 ACP pistol. The wallet holster is designed so the pistol can be fired while installed in the wallet.

As defined in 26 U.S.C., Chapter 53, Section 5845(e) of the National Firearms Act (NFA), the term "Any Other Weapon" includes certain weapons capable of being concealed on the person. It is unlawful to make, possess, or transfer such weapons which are not registered in accordance with NFA controls. Further, a maker of such firearms who has not paid the appropriate Special (Occupational) Tax is liable for \$200 making tax for each weapon produced and \$5 for each weapon transferred.

ATF has previously determined that firearms installed in various types of wallets, briefcases, canes, etc., may be NFA firearms as defined. We have previously determined that a rectangular wallet holster with a pistol installed which can be fired from openings in the holster is an NFA firearm and is required to be registered in accordance with the provisions of the NFA.

A pistol in and of itself, is a firearm subject to the provisions of the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) and is not subject to the NFA controls. The leather wallet by itself is not subject to control as a firearm. However, we have also determined that any person who might possess such a pistol in combination with the wallet holster would be in possession of a firearm subject to the purview of the NFA.

Any person who possesses the combination would be in possession of a firearm as defined in 26 U.S.C., Section 5845 (a) (5) of the NFA. Such firearm is subject to the tax imposed under Section 5821, and the making provisions of Section 5822 of the act.

Should the wallet holsters, as provided, be sold or transferred separately from the pistols, we strongly recommend that you advise customers regarding the status of these items.

We trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your inquiry. If we may be of any further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,
Edward M. Owen, Jr.
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

We should all consider ourselves "advised," and please make sure that you get copies of this out to all gun shops and information outlets you have.

I'VE WONDERED ABOUT SOMETHING in terms of post samples and the registry. Can a Class 2 make a Post-86 DS and then, at some point in the future, reverse the conversion and remove it from the registry? Like if he wanted to make a conversion of an Uzi or TEC-9 using an open bolt, but otherwise leaving the receiver untouched. Would he just register the conversion parts he manufactured? What if he didn't manufacture any parts? Suppose he just bought an M1 carbine and put M2 parts in it? Could that gun be reversed, or does it have to be permanently marked and registered?

Just curious...

J.D.

If you do something permanent to the receiver, that is considered to be a "conversion," then you have a problem. Most of the Class 2s that want to make a basic MG for the shop (M16, Uzi, M2, etc.), easily make a drop in unit and then



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register it. There is a precedent to taking a semiauto, making a registered machine gun, then returning it to semiauto configuration and removing it from the registry: Vollmer vs U.S. wherein Fred Vollmer had permission from the regional ATF Chief to take HK-94s and drill the front swing-down hole, then install the registered sear in the trigger pack. He did 175 of them!! Then Technology Branch pulled the plug saying that now the RECEIVERS were machine guns, and they were post-86 dealer samples. Fred didn't sit still for this. It took him about six years, but he finally won; the judge ruled that Fred could fill the holes, returning the firearms to semiauto, and then either sell them as semi's, or install registered sears in the clip-on lowers. That was last winter. What this means to me is that the old "once a machine gun, always a machine gun" no longer stands, if the firearm started out its life as a semiauto, it could be returned to semiauto configuration, then removed from the registry. This is my opinion, NOT written in stone. By the way, possession of enough of the seven M2 carbine full-auto parts to make an M1 carbine fire full auto, is in fact possession of a machine gun—even if you don't have an M1. ATF has not issued a guideline of which parts these are either, but the hammer seems to be a big no-no, and five parts seems to be the magic number. I would advise against having any of the parts, and Class 2s should be cautious as to what they assemble before registering a conversion.

A MUSEUM WANTS ME TO MAKE good MGs useless for "public safety." They will pay the price on a matching 08 Maxim and MG34, a Jap Lewis and a Vickers. Can this be done so they will go on a Form 5? Or will they just be live, but very dead, used-to-be collector guns.

Steve
You may deactivate a live registered machine gun by rendering it inoperable according to ATF standards. It will then be transferable on a Form 5, tax exempt.

On instruction 6a of your Form 5 it defines "unserviceable firearm" as "One which is incapable of discharging a shot by means of an explosive and

incapable of being readily restored to a firing condition. An acceptable method of rendering most firearms unserviceable is to fusion-weld the chamber closed and fusion-weld the barrel solidly to the frame. Certain unusual firearms require other methods to render the firearm unserviceable. Contact ATF for instructions when in doubt."

My suggestions by model:

The 08 Maxim—weld the barrel closed on the chamber end. Weld the barrel to the extension, then weld the extension to the inside rail. This should make the outward appearance OK, and meet the criteria for unserviceable.

Jap Lewis—fill the chamber with weld, then neatly weld the barrel to the receiver. No way out on this one as far as appearance goes—just do it neatly, and touch it up when you are done. The radiator and cover should hide the work.

Vickers—same as the 08, I would say....

MG-34—this one is a little tougher, since it has a quick-change barrel and a quick-change front end! In all probability, you will have to fill the chamber end of the barrel with weld, weld the barrel into the support/housing, close that up, then weld that shut as well. Have a pro do it and it will look alright. But if you only tack it shut, then someone could cut it with a dremel in two seconds, throw a new front end and barrel on, and shoot it. It has to be firmly welded shut to meet the criteria of "unserviceable."

Once this is done, the already registered machine gun is STILL a registered machine gun; it just doesn't need a tax to transfer. It can also go to places like New York. For collectors and museums that do not require a shooting firearm, this can be a very handy method of saving money. (It had

to be a registered machine gun to begin with. You can't take an unregistered machine gun and put it on a Form 5.) The registered "dewat" may be "rewatted" or reactivated and used as a machine gun, if the owner files a Form 1, pays the \$200 tax to reactivate it and waits until the Form 1 comes back approved. This requires the fingerprints and LEO signature also. A Class 2 manufacturer can rewatt this gun on a Form 2, no tax needed. Once it is live, it will require a regular transfer out of his shop, Form 4 tax paid to an individual, Form 3 tax exempt to a Class 3 dealer. Yes, that means a Class 3 dealer can take a registered dewat, transfer it to a Class 2 manufacturer to rewatt it, then have it transferred back on a Form 3, tax exempt, skipping the \$200 making tax. There might be a Federal Excise Tax on this, but I have never seen it addressed, and the ATF personnel that I have discussed it with over the years did not have the answer to what formula might be used to figure what "might" be owed.

Questions to:

Dan Shea c/o MGN

PO Box 20459

Hot Springs, AR 71903-0459



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY ATF OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION INDUSTRY NEWS

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For Immediate Release
Contact: Vickie Saunders

FY-97-6
Date: November 7, 1996

HAZARDOUS AMMUNITION

Washington - The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has been advised by Hirtenberger AG, Hirtenberg, Austria, that certain 9X19 mm caliber ammunition produced by Hirtenberger is unsafe for use in any handgun.

The ammunition, designated L7A1 and produced in the years 1990 through 1992, was produced for the British Ministry of Defense specifically for use in submachineguns under adverse conditions. The ammunition was loaded to produce pressures far in excess of that intended for use in handguns.

The manufacturer advises that up to 12 million rounds of this ammunition has recently been sold on the world surplus market. The ammunition can be identified by the following headstamp located on the bottom of the cartridge case:

- 12 o'clock position: HP
- 3 o'clock position: 90, 91, or 92
- 6 o'clock position: L7A1
- 9 o'clock position: the marking of a cross within a circle

This ammunition should not be fired.

We are not aware of any of this ammunition being imported into the United States. ATF will take action to prevent the commercial importation of this ammunition.

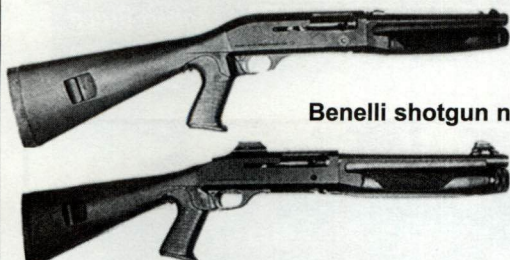
For additional information, contact, Mary Jo Hughes, Chief, Firearms and Explosives Imports, (202) 927-8320.

-end-

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The **M1K "HAMMER"** is registered as a short-barreled shotgun and may only be transferred to individuals on ATF FORM 4. The transfer is taxed \$200.00 and must be approved by BATF prior to delivery of the firearm.

M1K "HAMMER" conversion on customer's shotgun; shipping, insurance, sales tax and transfer tax additional.

Note: The M1K "HAMMER" conversion is only available on otherwise stock shotguns. CTS Inc., may refuse any firearm that is deemed unfit. Price and specifications are subject to change without notice.

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C0050	Bolt assembly	50.00
C0051	Return spring	10.00
C0052	Barrel Support	20.00
C0053	Magazine housing (removable type)	10.00
C0054	Retainer for magazine housing	5.00
C0055	Buttstock assembly	20.00
C0058	Trigger	10.00
C0059	Sear	10.00
C0060	Ejector	10.00
C0061	Cocking handle	20.00
C0062	Front sight	10.00
K0008	Port Said complete parts set with magazine	225.00

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1023000	Top cover assy., parkerized	90
1030111	Bolt	125
1031000	Bolt/extractor/pin assy.	170
K35	Extractor/pin	45
1060120	Return spring assy.	30
1120400	Grip body black	100
1074000	Grip assy.	395
1060471	Split bushing	15
1000411	Sear	65
1060420	Trigger/interrupter assy.	75
060431	Change lever	25
1000212	Ejector	15
K37	Grip panels/screws	40
K58	Grip/handguard panels/screws/nuts	85
1360000	QD buttstock wood	165
U1360000U	Used QD buttstock wood	100
1401500	Folding buttstock black	165

*FN parts for Uzi SMG

1010101	10.2" barrel	130
1013000	Top cover assy., black	75
1010111	Bolt	125
1010400	Grip body, black	75
1040400	Grip body, parkerized	65

*IMI parts for Mini Uzi SMG

463000	Top cover assy., OB	150
K29	Bolt assy CB	495
460120	Return spring assy. OB	40
910120	Return spring assy., CB	40
1120400	Grip body	100
464000	Grip assy., OB	450
504000	Grip assy., CB	495
K77	Buttstock assy.	300

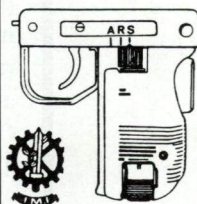
*IMI parts for Micro Uzi SMG

960101	5.2" compensated barrel	165
K23	Buttstock assy.	300

Many other IMI parts available; call for information. Deduct 10% if your Uzi parts order exceeds \$1,000. additional discounts to FFL dealers with FFL on

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0504000	Grip assembly for Mini Uzi closed bolt SMG	\$495.00
0464000	Grip assembly for Mini Uzi open bolt SMG	\$450.00
1074000	Grip assembly for Uzi SMG	\$395.00

Prices subject to change without notice. Dealers should send FFL/SOT for dealer discount.

Archive Photo

from the
**Robert Bruce
Collection**



China Possibly late 1930s

A Japanese three-man machine gun crew with full equipment. Judging from its distinctive crooked butt stock, the weapon is a 6.5 mm TAISHO 11 light machine gun, introduced in 1922. Among its unusual features is a hopper feed system into which 5-round rifle ammunition clips were placed. The rounds were automatically oiled upon entering the mechanism to ease extraction, but even this didn't prevent rim separation so a reduced loading was required, negating the advantage of using the same ammunition as the Arisaka rifle. Credit: U.S. Army Ordnance Corps/National Archives. 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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THIS IS **NOT** COLLECTOR'S AMMO OR FOR LOOKING AT - THIS AMMO IS FOR SHOOTING **AND** PRICED RIGHT! - *but being surplus expect misfires now and again as well as about 20% no lites on the tracer! Please, no snivelers!*

CALIBER:	500 rds	1000 rds	5000 rds	10,000 rds
9mm Para	.35 rd	.30 rd	.25 rd	.20 rd
8mm Mauser	.35 rd	.30 rd	.25 rd	.20 rd
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Wanted: Fleming .22 cal. conversion kit for MAC series SMG. (414) 468-5553 after 5 p.m.

Wanted: .22LR conversion kit for Cobray M11 9 mm SMG, or info. Also Uzi .22LR kit. Will pay phone charges. Call Jason at (702) 438-7786.

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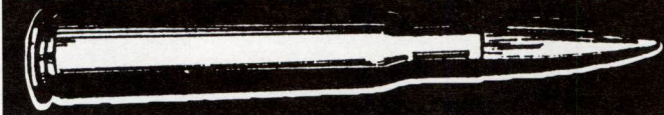
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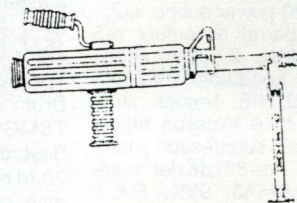


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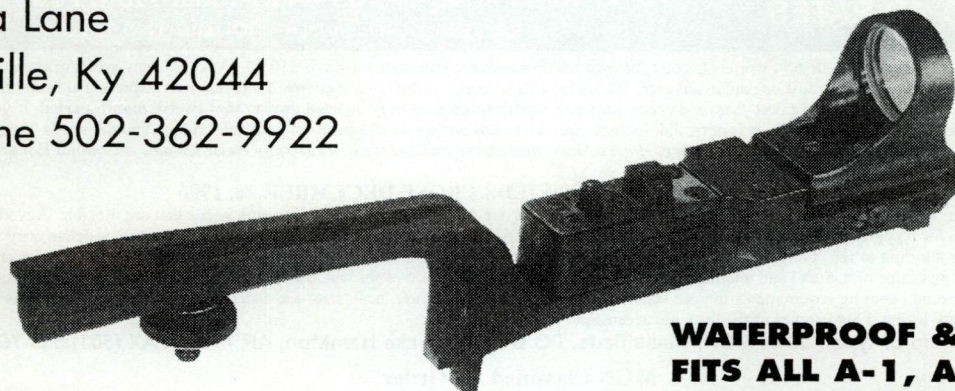
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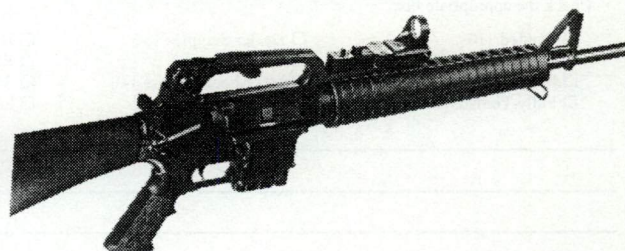
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MISCELLANEOUS 180

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