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News from the...

SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA

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

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DOES NOT LEARN FROM IT'S MISTAKES!

The Federal Government has been talking about a complete ban on the sale of firearms to the public. They have come to the mistaken conclusion that if there were a law against the sale of arms then the problem of crime in America would be solved.

If the government ever enacted a prohibition against the sale of guns then it would be repeating the same mistake it made back in 1921 when it enacted prohibition against alcohol. The ban on alcohol caused many more problems than it solved, and after spending millions of dollars, the Federal Government had to admit defeat and we, the American people, were left with the damage that was caused. A ban on the sale of guns would never work and would cause great and sustained harm to the American people, and here are the reasons why: (1) As of right now there are over 90,000,000 heavy caliber handguns and rifles in the hands of the public, and there are large quantities of hand-loading supplies and equipment. The underground and illegal sale of guns and ammunition could go on for the next 20 years with what is now already in the hands of the public. (2) With a ban on the sale of guns in the open market it would become profitable to manufacture firearms illegally. Most people automatically assume that the production of a gun is very complicated. The production of fine sporting shotguns and of hunting rifles does require precision craftsmen, but the fast production of military weapons (which are the kind criminals prefer) is very easy. Anyone with a few machine tools in his basement could produce an Israeli Uzi sub-machine gun or a Russian burp gun. These weapons were specifically designed to be manufactured with crude tools, and they are two of the most deadly weapons ever conceived. (3) With a ban on the sale of guns it would become profitable to manufacture illegal guns. And the easiest guns to manufacture are the modern automatic weapons now being used by many modern armies. (4) There would be just as many armed robberies as now, the difference being that many of them would be with heavy caliber automatic weapons instead of ordinary arms. (5) The police would not let themselves be outgunned by criminals who had machine guns when they only had pistols. In self-defense they would have to carry machine guns and/or automatic large clip shotguns. So when there was a shoot-out between police and criminals, as happens every day somewhere in this country, instead of them

shooting it out with pistols or rifles, they would shoot it out with rapid fire automatic weapons. This would produce the expected increase in police and innocent bystander deaths.

The end result of a ban on gun sales would in many ways be the same as the end result from the 1921 ban on alcohol. The prohibition costs we the people millions of dollars to support its cost, and all it really accomplished in the long run was to give the Mafia and criminals like Al Capon their financial start. They were then able to move on to all kinds of rackets, which to this day are causing the American people grievous financial and social harm. A prohibition on the sale of guns through ordinary channels would again cost we the people millions of dollars to support the Washington salaried bureaucrats who would ineptly try to enforce the system. It would drive all the thousands of little firearms retailers out of business. It would destroy all the companies that manufacture and distribute sporting firearms and accessories. Many of these companies are located in small towns so if they were forced out of business by the government, then the local economy would require that the government turn around and give them Federal aid to survive. It would destroy the American tradition of fine gun craftsmanship that is almost a form of art. It would give the crime syndicate (which would produce many of the machine guns) a new source of revenue. It would help corrupt the military people who are in positions to have guns stolen from the army. It would let groups like the SDS and the Black Panthers know about the possibility of producing arms. It would raise the level of violence and deaths between armed robbers and the police. We would have to have bigger local police forces and pay higher wages, which means that we would have to increase local taxes for the police to help correct the situation that our Federal taxes were producing.

The SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA is working to save the billions and billions of tax dollars that a ban on firearms sales would cost. The SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA wants to help save the lives of all the police who would die if the criminal world starts arming itself with automatic weapons. We are asking you to join today, and to send in the envelope on this page. We would like you to join not only as a gun owner, but as a concerned American who wants the best possible fortune for the country he loves.

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TRIGGER TALK

WE WOULD LIKE to thank the many readers who responded to our articles on the repeal of the Gun Control Act of 1968. We received support in many ways, especially in copies of letters sent to legislators. This sort of response was expected, though, and we would have been disappointed if it had not come. What was surprising was the number of readers who showed that they had drafted resolutions and attached them to petitions which were signed, not only by their shooting friends, but by many non-gun owners.

• • •

Just off the press, the new 1971 GUNS ANNUAL is bigger, and better than ever. All of the new firearms are shown and discussed, and there are articles of interest to all shooters. Again this year, the Annual will have a free gun contest, and the prizes are some of the best yet offered. There is a Weatherby rifle and scope; a new Replica Arms Kentucky flintlock rifle; a Parker-Hale 1200 Mauser rifle, and a .22 Harrington & Richardson revolver (winner's choice of 3 models). We may be prejudiced, but we think that the 1971 GUNS ANNUAL is the biggest \$2 bargain of the year.

• • •

"All firearms . . . must be registered and all persons required to obtain a license to possess or carry any such weapon. Other than in exceptional cases, a license to possess a handgun will be restricted to the police and to authorized security agencies. Capital punishment for all crimes shall be abolished."

The above quote is excerpted from a new book called, "The Honest Politician's guide to Crime Control," (University of Chicago Press). Thank heaven for the title, which should preclude its being read by a number of our legislators.

THE COVER

It had to happen, and we are sure that it will make a lot of people happy. The cover gun is a new double action revolver from Sturm Ruger. There is a preliminary article on this gun inside, and a test report will appear soon. Photo by Gene Lovitz.

OCTOBER, 1970

Vol. XVI, No. 0-10

George E. von Rosen
Publisher

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

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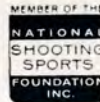
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CONTEST NEWS

A Word From The Winners

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of the Navy Arms gun won in your November drawing, and also my sincere appreciation. I received the gun on Jan. 10th and could not have been more pleased. It is even nicer than pictured! I am still not over the initial shock of being the lucky winner and my family and friends share my excitement. Thank you very much, this gun will have a special place in our home now and in years to come.

F. R. Fuller
Laurel, Delaware

I am the happy winner of the Remington model 700 rifle drawing sponsored by your magazine last fall. It's a great rifle, and I appreciate being able to add it to my collection—small but growing. Being a gun enthusiast, winning this rifle was a great thrill for me.

Many thanks to a fine magazine.
Jon J. Busack
Rainier, Oregon

I received my "Guns of the Year" Award today (Browning T-bolt 22 rifle) and I'd like to thank everybody connected with GUNS MAGAZINE and the contest.

In all my 45 years it has always been the other guy who won the prize—thanks for letting me know how it feels to win.

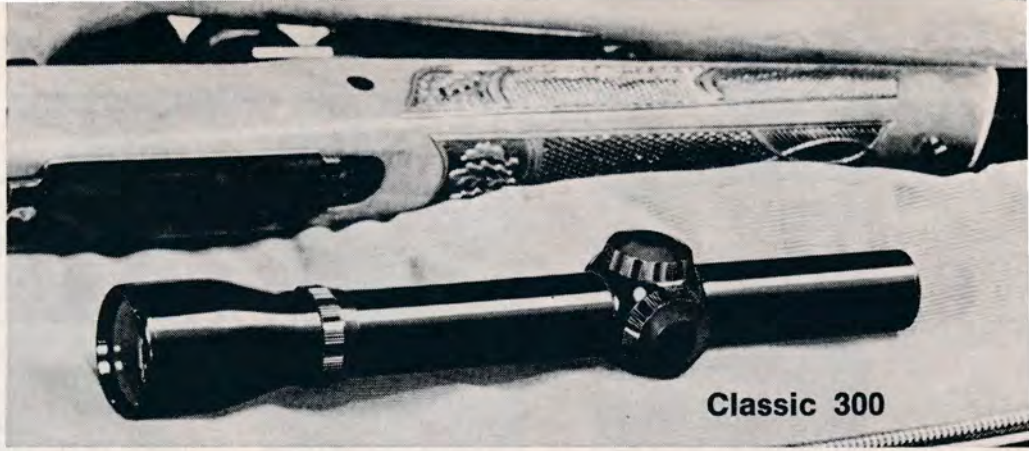
E. Kimbrel, Jr.
Winchester, Kentucky

Needless to say, I am overjoyed in being chosen the winner in the January "Gun of the Month" contest. I am looking forward to receiving my prize. I'd like to choose the "Buffalo Bill" carbine.

I'd like to take the time to thank the staff of GUNS for their fine articles. I am an avid reader of all the gun magazines, and I rate yours as one of the finest. With all the anti-gun factions raising such an uproar, it's nice to know you're taking the time to keep your readers informed of what's happening.

Thanks again for the fine work, I shall continue to be a loyal reader.

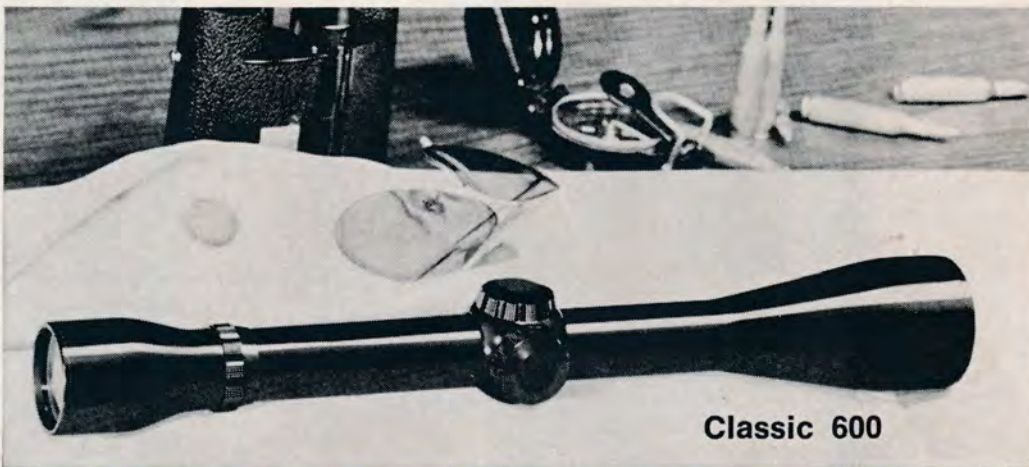
Robert E. Wagner
Prairie View, Ill.



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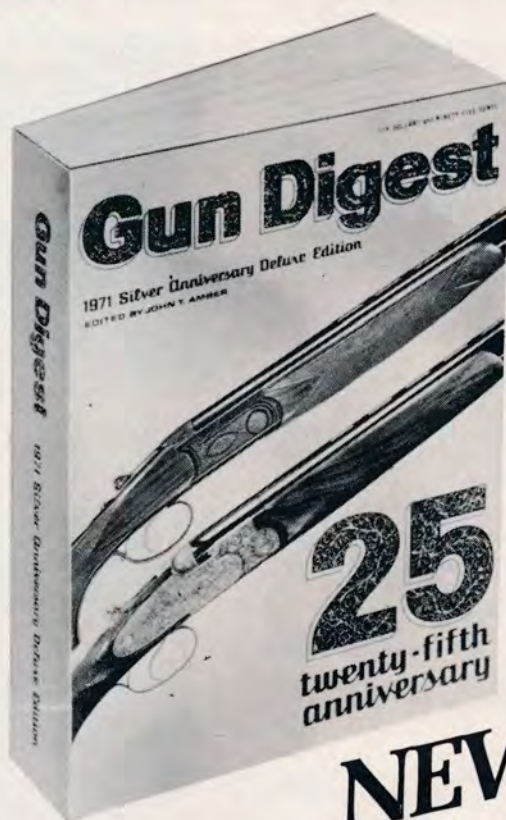
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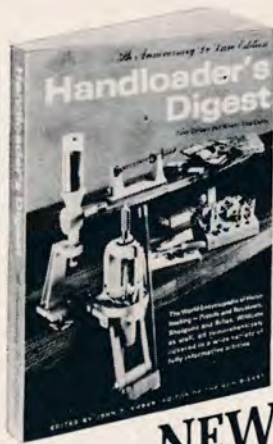
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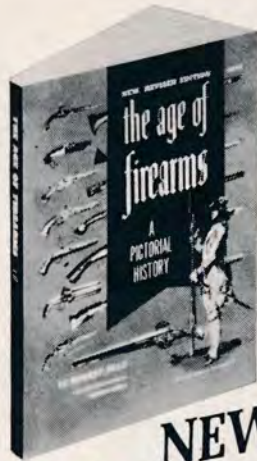
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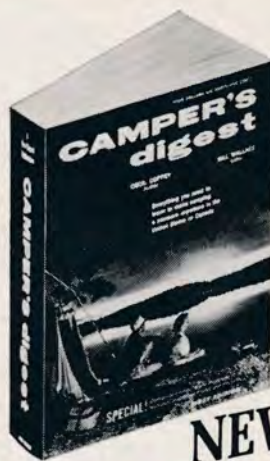
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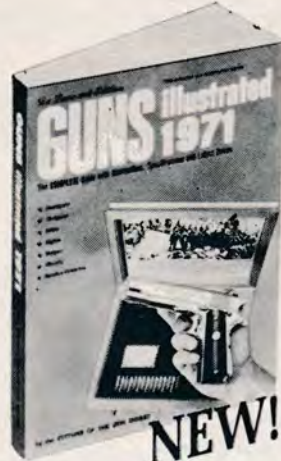
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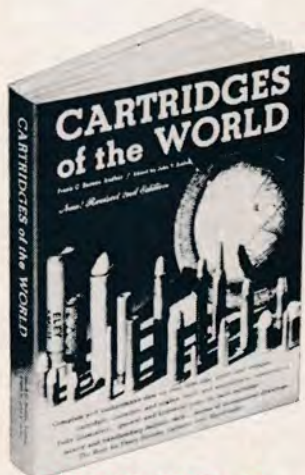
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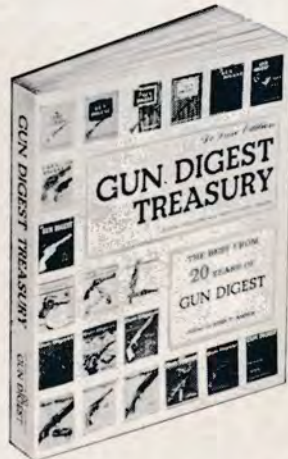
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HANDLOADING BENCH

By MAJ. GEO. C. NONTE

LATELY, we've been doing a good bit of shooting with the "hot" new .38 Special law enforcement loads now being offered by most domestic and some foreign manufacturers. Needless to say, some of those loads are real smashers, but, on the other hand, not all of them come up to their advertised velocity claims. That is really neither here nor there, for some claims are based on testing in solid pressure barrels, while others reflect standard 6" revolver barrels. Comparisons aren't too valid under those conditions—and few officers carry 6" guns anyway. Most carry 4" revolvers while on duty, and a very high percentage switch to 2" for after-hours carrying.

With all this in mind, it seemed appropriate to develop handloads which would match the new factory loads' performance in 2" and 4" guns, without regard to the longer barrels. This was done with *jacketed* hollow and/or soft point bullets in 110, 125, and 158 grains weight, as well as with *lead* 158 grain semiwadcutters to match the Winchester-Western and Super Vel loads of the same type.

The results were fairly predictable, since we were seeking goals previous experience had indicated were more or less attainable. Inasmuch as the powder used in factory loads can seldom be identified and is even then often not available to the home hull-stuffer, we started from scratch with the ever-reliable Hercules, Unique and #2400, also AL-8.

Private tests with the factory loads

in more than half-dozen 2" and 4" revolvers indicated in TABLE A general performance levels had to be met to duplicate store-bought velocity.

First look at that 2"-barrel column makes it clearly evident that with this new breed of cartridges, the oft-maligned snub-nose guns can deliver one hell of a punch. Comparison with the 4" column shows that many "guesstimates" of great velocity loss by the 2" tubes is way off base. In many instances no more than 50 fps difference was noted between individual 2" and 4" guns.

After much, much shooting, the loads in TABLE B were developed.

You'll note some of these loads produce just a hair more or less velocity than the factory product. Doubtless we could have secured a perfect match, but I defy the target to identify the difference between being struck by a 158-grain slug at 875 or 925 fps. Anyway, if you've been dolefully eyeing those expensive (nearly fifteen cents per round) new loads for hunting or defensive, use, relax; you can duplicate them without difficulty.

• • •

The Gun Digest Company has become pretty much a household word among shooters and gun buffs over the past quarter-century. Well on its way to achieving equal status among handloaders is the *Handloaders Digest*, by the same company just released in its 5th Edition and now available from your favorite bookstore or purveyor of shooting goods.

The new edition contains well over

TABLE A

Bullet	2" bbl.	4" bbl.
110 gr. JHP	1000-1050 fps	1150-1200 fps
125 gr. JHP	850- 950 fps	1050-1150 fps
158 gr. JHP	800- 850 fps	850- 950 fps
158 gr. Lead	825- 875 fps	900- 950 fps

TABLE B

Bullet	Powder	2"	4"
110 gr. Super Vel JHP	8.1 gr. Unique	1075 fps	1175 fps
125 gr. Speer JSP	14.0 gr. 2400	900 fps	1050 fps
158 gr. Hornady JSP	12.0 gr. 2400	800 fps	880 fps
158 gr. Speer SWC lead	9.0 gr. AL-8	850 fps	875 fps

(tested in same guns as factory loads)

300 pages, being at least twice as thick as the first of the line. Edited and compiled by our good friend John T. Amber, it contains something for everyone. For the inveterate wildcatter, there's a feature on the conception and birth of Harold Davidson's 7 x 42 mm based on the shortened .284 Winchester case—designed specifically to meet *one* man's needs and tastes. And there's a dissertation on the handgun wildcats of bygone days for those of historical bent. Muzzleloading (that's *real* handloading) comes in for its share of attention, and there's Ed Yard's extensive dissertation of loading the venerable .44 Special. Of special interest is a set of "Universal Ballistic Tables" from which you may determine the drop of your pet loads; and a learned discussion of producing maximum-accuracy, home-swaged, jacketed rifle bullets. Of course, there is the usual fine catalog section covering virtually all handloading items currently available, and excerpts from the recent Lyman shotshell loading manual.

All in all Handloaders Digest No. 5 is rather a must for any handloader who wants to expand his knowledge and proficiency. The price is \$4.95, the highest yet, but it's the biggest yet.

• • •

Several recent letters have inquired about brass suitable for use in .35 and .405 M-95 Winchesters. In the balance of original cases, there simply isn't any caliber that can be made to fit those two chambers perfectly. Best results are obtained by building up the rim of the 9.3x74R for proper headspace, then resizing and trimming to length. Unfortunately, that's too much trouble for many people, as is the process of swaging a separate rim to resized .30-06 cases. A quick and simple solution is found in .30-40 and .303 British cases. Prime them; charge with 10-12 grains of Bullseye pistol powder; fill the balance of the case with cornmeal (or similar soft granular material) held in place by grease or soap in the mouth; fire in your rifle. This load will fire form the case to the chamber, though some lots of brass may require a second treatment.

The resulting cases will be a bit over 1/8" shorter than originals, but function perfectly when bullets are seated to produce original overall cartridge length. They will be .010"-.015" undersize just ahead of the rim, but I've yet to see one made of fresh brass fail there with reasonable loads. John Browning's 80-year-old design was never intended for magnum type loads, anyway.



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
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CROSSFIRE

Mark Twain

The Mark Twain story in the August issue was an absolute delight to read. I can't tell you enough how both my wife and I enjoyed reading it. The illustrations fit in perfectly and the whole article was just suited for Guns, in general.

John Casell
Forest Lake, Minn.

Budget Shooter

I have just read your article in the July issue on "Rifles and Scopes for the Shooter on a Budget." I am very happy to see that somebody has taken the initiative to tell the people that good firearms are available to those people who cannot afford to spend more than \$150 for a gun and scope combination. I have a Herters J9 with a Bushnell scope and the total price of this fine gun came to \$131.25! Any way you cut it, this is a bargain for all new equipment. Thanks for the good material.

Peter J. Moore
Ft. Wayne, Ind.

"TE 56"?

Just skimming through "Panel of Experts", page 49, August GUNS. Bill Schumaker tells a fellow to go ahead and use 7.62mm Nato ammunition headstamped "TE 56." Also, states he doesn't know what this is. This headstamp indicates manufacture by Toyo Seiki in Tokyo, Japan, in 1956. Unless this ammunition also carries the cross within a circle 7.62mm Nato symbol on the case head, it may well be a reduced-charge loading intended for the Japanese Assault rifle and may very well not function in the M100 Winchester in question.

Maj. George Nonte

Autoloaders

I was especially happy to see your article in the August '70 issue concerning the autoloading shotgun. I am fairly new to this field and I certainly appreciate the understanding you have given me into these guns. It's impossible to figure them out without an informative article such as yours.

William Fremus
Willowick, Ohio

Needs Magazines

Czechoslovakia has turned out some very good competitive shooters in the not so distant past, as many people know. We also have excellent factories that produce good sporting and hunting arms but what we do not have are periodicals about guns.

We would be very grateful if you could help our shooting club's library with older gun journals. Anything will do, even damaged or dirty issues. We welcome back issues especially from the times of 1960 to 1967 which was a very stormy period. For you it is a trifle, I suppose, but for our love of Western arms, it is a valuable contribution.

Jar Ondricek
391 Na dlouh lanu 4
6 Prague, P.O. 065
Czechoslovakia

.222 XP-100

To: William Schumaker

In the April issue of GUNS Magazine I was interested in your response to the question of converting an XP-100—caliber .222 cartridge. I think you have a good answer and thought you would be interested to know that actually the first prototype was chambered for the 222 and we still have it.

Yes, there was considerable excess muzzle blast. Very likely we have the early data and am pretty certain that the ballistics suffered also because with the relatively short barrel there was still so much gas wasted. The 221 was redesigned with the load better matched to the barrel length.

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Fiala

I have a small .22 cal. pistol that was produced by Schall & Co. in New Haven, Conn. It is clip fed and fires one round at a time. The firer must then pull back on the slide and reload by pushing the slide forward. It has a 6½" barrel. Can you give me any information on this gun?

Richard L. Harris
Ft. Hood, Texas

Sometime circa 1920-25 a gun-kit was introduced, called the Fiala. It was designed by Major Anthony Fiala and comprised a magazine fed gun, extra barrels of various lengths and a shoulder stock. To load the gun it was necessary to retract and return the slide of the pistol for each shot—although the gun looked like a conventional automatic.

Schall & Company were either the original makers (for Major Fiala) or successors for the Fiala; during this period guns appeared that were similar (even identical in some respects) to the Fiala. Records are obscure as to the business arrangements, if any.

In good condition your Schall should be worth \$85-100.00 to a serious collector. S. B.

.303 Savage

I have an old take-down Model 99 Savage in .303. I purchased a set of dies for handloading but when I seat a size .311 bullet, it seems that it bulges the case. Do I use a .308 bullet? None of my handloading books spell out the size.

Harold L. Shearer
Spring Grove, Pa.

The .303 Savage cartridge should be loaded with bullets of .308-.309" diameter. Since you do not say anything about it, I assume that you are not encountering any difficulty in chambering the loaded cartridges in the rifle.

It might be advisable to slug the barrel of your particular gun. While nominal bullet diameter is .308", it is possible that the groove diameter of your particular barrel may be larger—even as much as the .311" of the bullets you are presently using. When exact groove diameter of the barrel is known, it is considered best to use jacketed bullets of that diameter.

The slight bulging of the case neck that you describe merely indicates that the expander plug or ball being
(Continued on page 16)

The Guns Magazine

Panel of Experts

1. Each question should be sent directly to the panel member best suited to solve your problem. Mail questions directly to the expert at the address shown below.
2. Each question—only one question per letter, please—must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope and \$1.00.
3. You will receive the answer to your question directly from the expert. Our panel will select the most interesting questions for publication in this column, but you don't have to wait for the magazine to get your answer.
4. Letters with questions which do not have \$1.00 will be disregarded; those without a self-addressed envelope will be answered in the magazine, and not directly.

We have enlarged the staff of our Panel of Experts to give you the best possible service on your questions. Remember, write directly to the expert at the address below—do not send questions to GUNS Magazine—and be sure to include the \$1.00 and the self addressed envelope.

Robert Mandel—Antique Arms

P.O. Box 499, Wilmette, Ill. 60091

Shelley Braverman—Modern Arms; Forensic ballistics

Dept. Q, Athens, New York 12015

William Schumaker—Gunsmithing

208 W. Fifth, Dept. Q, Colville, Washington 99114

Les Bowman—Hunting

Box 286, Bountiful, Utah 84010

Maj. George C. Nonte—Handloading

P.O. Box 3302, Dept. Q, Peoria, Illinois 61614

George E. Virgines—Fast Draw

P.O. Box 2014, Northlake, Illinois 60614

Maj. R. O. Ackerman—Black Powder Shooting

9627 Arvada Ave. NE, Dept. Q, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112

Dick Miller—Trap & Skeet

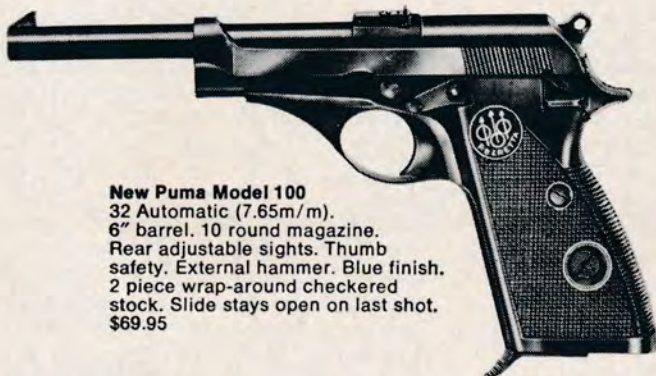
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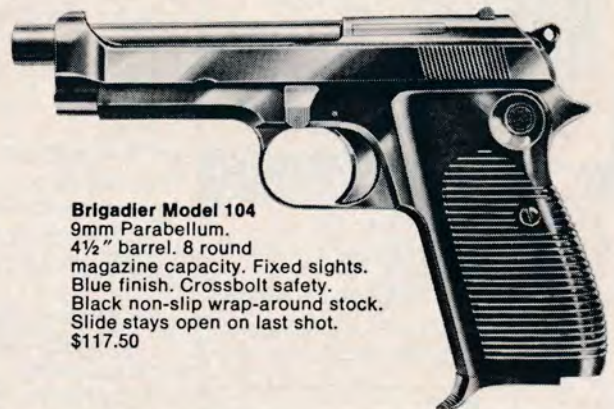
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(Continued from page 14)

used is undersize for the bullets in question. If you determine that .311" are correct for your barrel, then obtain an expander plug of that size. G. N.

Birch?

Can you give me any information and the value of this firearm: On the right side is the word "London" with some engraving around it. On the left side is the word "Birch" and the trigger guard acts as the safety. The gun measures approximately 9 inches in length.

Charles M. Pearson
 Dermott, Ark.

I can find no gun maker of the 1880 period by the name of Birch listed in any of my volumes of English gun makers... so the only thing I can do is date your arm which would be approximately 1840 and it's value approximately \$90.00 to \$125.00 depending upon it's overall condition. Looks to be one of a pair, the type of arm carried by gentlemen of the period when out for an evening stroll. R. M.

Early K-22

I recently bought a K-22 S & W and it is different from others I have seen. It has a 6" barrel, adjustable rear sight, a floating firing pin and it is recessed where the cartridges seat in the cylinder. There is no rib on the barrel, the hammer isn't knurled as coarsely as others. Serial number is 645488. I paid \$70 for the gun and a gunsmith offered me \$125.00 for it. In general, the gun is like new. What does this gunsmith know that I don't?

Wayne Bodily
 Bountiful, Utah

The serial number indicates that your gun is a K-22, FIRST MODEL, made several years before WW II; in the excellent condition you describe it certainly should be prized by collectors.

Early Smith & Wessons are scarce in excellent condition (in the market place) and target guns seldom turn up in this condition as they are subject to more use. S. B.

Hi-Power Dates

I would like to know the years of manufacture in relation to serial numbers on the Browning Hi-Power pistol. I am particularly interested in the 20, 30, and 40,000 series.

F. D. Ansell
 Clearwater, Fla.

If your interest is in Canadian made M/35s, the numbers indicate manufacture during the early part of WW

II as Inglis made more than 200,000 for the Chinese Army.

If your interest is in Fabrique Nationale manufacture, I would estimate that the series you indicate were made circa 1936-1938. S. B.

.45-70 load

I would like to know if there is a handload using Hodgdon's H380 powder and Lyman 300 grain cast bullet in a .45-70 Winchester. I would like to use this combination in a Remington Rolling Block rifle.

Donald Dailey
 Kirkwood, N.Y.

None of the loading data I have obtained from B. E. Hodgdon Co. includes a H380 load for the .45-70 cartridge. However, I have long used a charge of 48 grains of IMR 3031 with the 100 grain bullet in this caliber. Considering the fact that H380 burns more slowly than 3031, you would be entirely safe in utilizing the same charge weight. Velocity produced will be somewhat less, but I suspect not appreciably so. This load would definitely be safe in your Remington Rolling Block rifle. G. N.

Semi-Autos Barred

Can you tell me in just which states the use of a semi-automatic rifle is not legal for hunting. I just bought a rifle for deer hunting and was told that there are many states that prohibit the use of such a weapon.

L. W. Isaacs
 Kokomo, Ind.

I have never paid too much attention to this interesting subject, though I knew that some states did bar their use. Two states, Vermont and Michigan prohibit a semi-automatic or autoloader that holds more than 6 rounds in the clip and gun. Oregon, North Dakota, New Hampshire, Maine and Arizona limit this to 5 rounds. L.B.

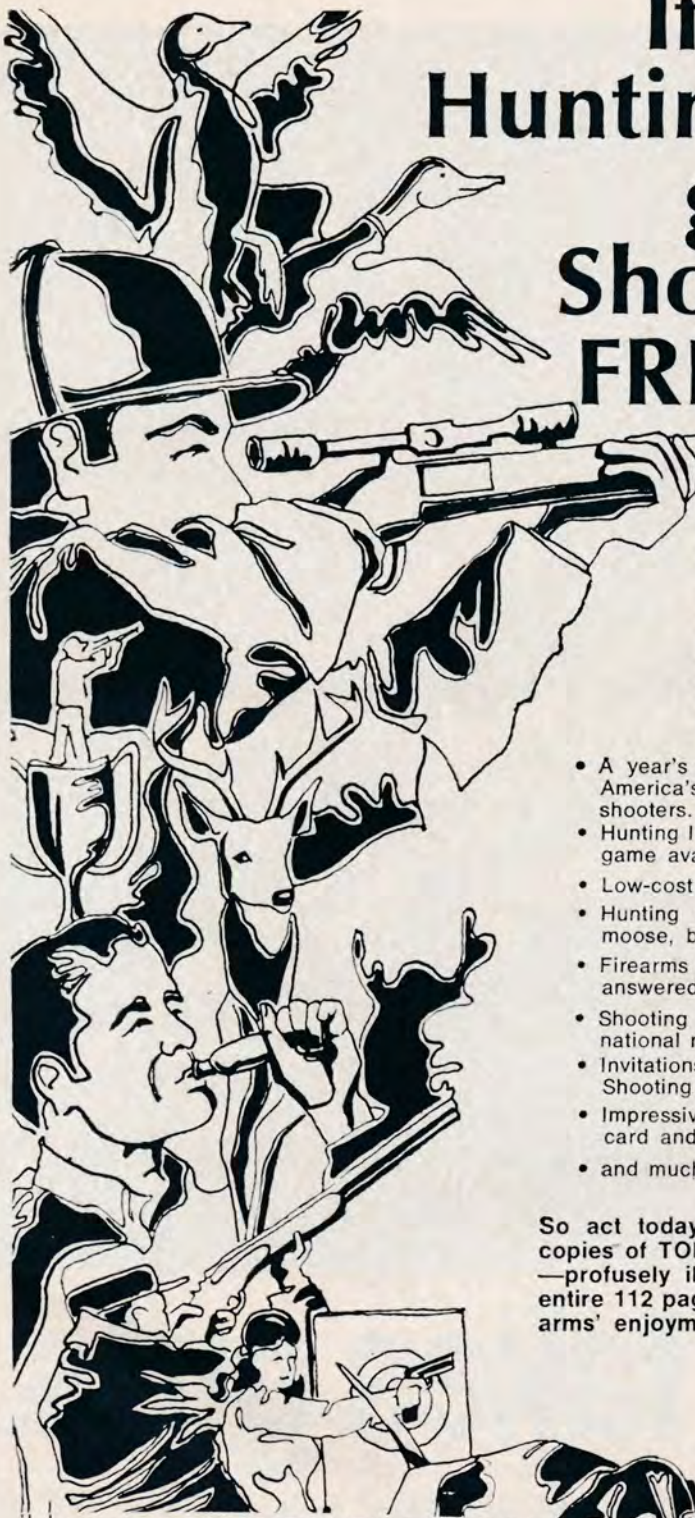
Canadian Lodges

I would like to go moose hunting in Ontario, Canada and would like to have your recommendations for a lodge and guide in the Chapleau area.

D. D. Metzger
 Oregon, Ohio

In the Chapleau area of Ontario there are three lodges that I recommend. They are: Camp Namegosenda, 1 mile south of town on highway #129; Five Mile Lake Lodge, 28 miles south on highway #129; and Five Mile Lake, 23 miles south on highway #129 (no pets allowed). All can furnish guides and have facilities for everything you need. L.B.

(Continued on page 19)



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(Continued from page 16)

Longines Pistol

I have recently acquired an auto pistol that I cannot identify. On the left side of the slide is "LONGINES, Cal. 7.65 Model Automatic Pistol." On the right side of the frame is stamped "Made in Spain." There are some proof marks on the frame showing a crown and what appears to be a lion.

Gene Royer
Taylor, Texas

The Longines was made in Eibar, Spain by Cooperativa Obrera; my records indicate that it is no longer manufactured.

Spanish pocket pistols are not valued very highly by most American collectors; if in very nice condition, your Longines might go for \$20-25.00 in the market place.—s.b.

Ball Diameter

What exact diameter ball am I supposed to be using in my .45 caliber H. and A. Buggy Rifle? I wrote the factory and they replied that a .445 ball and pillow ticking are the proper components. However, this combination has to be literally hammered down the bore. I realize that individual rifles vary in what they like to have fired from them, however, I would like to know that I am at least close.

Robert G. Scott
Royal Oak, Mich.

In reply to your question about the proper ball and patching for your H & A buggy rifle, I must say that I use a .445 ball and pillow ticking in one of that company's .45 rifles without having to hammer it down. This is a fine shooting rifle. However, my favorite patch for this one is a denim which mikes .015. This is still close to the same thickness.

There is some confusion caused, I believe, by the fact that Numrich's

early production of .45 muzzle loaders did use a .437 ball, and that was the size mould they supplied at that time. Now rifling and everything has been improved and they advise a .445. Each rifle is an individual anyway, so no harm done. The proper approach is to mike your bore—land to land. The ball you order should be this diameter less ONE thickness of patching you intend to use. The shallower the grooves the thinner the patch, as long as it is tough. This gives you a reasonable starting point. You can still try various thicknesses of patch until you get accuracy with ease of loading. No one can tell you what is right for YOUR rifle.—R.O.A.

Remington 760 Trigger

Where can I get an adjustable trigger for my Remington Model 760. Also, how effective is the stock mounted recoil reducer such as the Edward's or Rec-O-Chek.

Louis Overbo
Wrangell, Alaska

I know of no adjustable triggers which are made for the M-706 Remington. A gun smith can however, safely lighten the pull of these triggers. I find that shortening the engaging surface, plus stoning and slightly reducing the angle of the engagement will work out fine. This will take some careful work,—and is not advised for the triggers of the M-740 and 742 autoloaders.

The inside stock-mounted recoil reducers are quite effective I'm told. I personally have never had the opportunity to test them, but have reviewed the reports of both users and other writers. They seem to be especially worthwhile for shooters who are sensitive to recoil, or who may do a great amount of shooting and thereby become bothered by recoil. For average use a good recoil pad properly installed will be very adequate and much lower priced.—w.s.

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Super Vel GETS



Lee Jurras shooting first boar of the hunt. Photo was taken at the instant boar was hit. Note gun recoiling.

By GENE LOVITZ

THREE NEW Super Vel cartridges (.38 Super Auto, .45 ACP, and .41 Magnum) had been tested every way in the lab. They expanded nicely in Duceal clay, as well as in water. Their ballistics could only be classed as 'exotic' when compared with standard ammo in these calibers. But Lee Jurras, head of Super Vel Cartridge Corporation, needed to know what these rounds would do on game. As Lee told me: "What expands in clay doesn't necessarily expand in flesh." He felt the thick-skinned wild boar offered the best possible tests for these rounds. I was invited along to witness the first test of this ammo on game.

I also wanted to investigate the rumor that Super Vel is 'too hot to handle' and that it blows up guns. GUNS magazine wanted to find out whether Super Vel was guilty or innocent of these charges. Lee Jurras, the counsel for the defense, as it were, welcomed this with open arms.

"Tabby" Brooks and Joe Meeks, the owners and guides of the Tellico Junction Hunting Preserve (Hog Hollow Rd., Englewood, Tenn.), headed us up a steep hill, bringing

along two dogs. I was to test the first .41 Super Vels on game; Lee would test the first .38 Supers; and John Stafford, Super Vel's Plant superintendent, would test the first .45s.

The dogs caught 8-10 hogs in bed, and took off after a big one. Lee moved in with his .38 Super. Finally the dogs let go of the boar and Lee fired at 30 feet. The .38 Super 107 gr. hollow-point struck too far back to be instantly fatal, entering the back of the rib cage. The boar broke loose and made a half-circle sweep at us. Lee fired again, this time at 15 feet. The shot hit the right shoulder, steam puffed from the wound and the boar dropped.

The first bullet cut out a bottom rib going in and creased both lungs, breaking a rib on the off side and lodged under the hide. The first shot would have proven fatal in time. The second, and killing shot, broke the right shoulder, doing considerable damage to the lungs, and punctured a half-dollar size hole where the slug exited the lung. The bullet also lodged in the hide. Both of these new .38 Supers

THE GAME

A report on the first official hunt where Super Vel ammunition was used. Expansion and stopping power were more than enough to stop the wild boar.

(JHP) hollow-points showed considerable expansion, and stayed intact.

This was the first game taken with the Super Vel .38 Super Auto 107 gr. hollow-point (1460 fps/5" bbl.). Jurras is credited with the kill; 200 lb. Feral Hog at 15 feet with a Colt "Commander" semi-auto pistol.

In comparing the Super Vel 107 gr. .38 Super Auto high velocity loads with standard velocity specifications established by the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute (1275 fps via a 5" barrel), we find that the Super Vel .38 Supers clock 20-25% faster. The standard velocity .38 Supers with their fully jacketed slugs (the times I've used them to hunt) seldom stayed inside game at 15 feet as was the case with the Super Vel hollow-points. Tests show that the S.V. .38 Supers, with their high velocity half-jacketed hollow-point bullets, have superior knockdown and 'stop' when compared with the standard velocity full-jacketed round-nose .38 Supers.

I checked both the Remington and Winchester .38 Super Auto breech pressures at 33,000 psi, while the Super Vel's held at 29,500. Yet, the Super Vels travel 185 fps faster. Too many people err in their assumptions that high velocity cartridges mean high breech pressures.

The next day I spotted some mountain sheep with a large Mouflon ram in the middle. Some ewes were milling in front of him, along with some lambs and goats. It wasn't just a case of 'separating the sheep from the goats', but also of separating the sheep from the sheep. I didn't want to take a chance of dropping some other animal in a near-miss on the ram.

I knew I couldn't get any closer when they were still at least 65 yards off. I drew my .41 S&W Mag. A muscle in the ram's shoulder twitched and I knew he was getting ready to cut. The sights moved up under the ram, and then behind the shoulder, on target. Then . . . ZAP.

Lee opened him up and found the 170 gr. Super Vel .41 Magnum hollow-point slug lodged in the off side in some cartilage and bone, after going thru the center of the heart. The .41 Super Vel showed maximum expansion, and was completely intact.

This 1-shot kill at 65 yds. was the first game taken with the Super Vel .41 Magnum 170 gr. hollow-point (1750 fps/6" bbl.). Gene Lovitz credited with kill/175 lb. Mouflon ram with a S&W "Model 57" revolver.

Only Remington and Super Vel make .41 Magnum cartridges in factory loads. I find the Super Vel slug more effective with its hollow-point and extra velocity. (Both are high velocity). Ballistically the 210 gr. Remington .41 Mag soft-point travels at 1500 fps out of an 8 $\frac{3}{8}$ " barrel. The Super Vel 170 gr. travels at 1750 fps out of a 6" barrel. Since hardly no one uses an 8 $\frac{3}{8}$ " barrel, I didn't bother to chronograph the Super Vel .41 from that length barrel. But I did test the Remington at the muzzle of a 6" barrel and found it averaged 1450 fps. Therefore the Super Vel is



Lee Jurras with the 275 pound boar shot with the Super Vel .45 ACP.



Lee Jurras, Super Vel's President and R&D Engineer in the ballistic lab. A large variety of firearms of all types is needed to extensively test the hot rounds brewed-up here.

300 fps faster. My own chronograph averages on these two rounds show the Super Vel hitting the road a good 25% faster than its Remington cousin.

The trajectory of both the Remington and Super Vel .41s are superbly flat. Both rounds can hold at six o'clock at 150 yards. Both are excellent 'stoppers' which deliver nearly as much relative stopping power as do their big brother the .44 Magnum, but with only a little over half its recoil.

The .41 Super Vel hollow-point darn near has as much 'stop' as the Remington and Winchester .44 Magnum soft-points. Actual stopping power is best measured in the field on game, via autopsies, than in the old-fashioned 'paper' ft. lbs. method. Energies calculated in 'paper' ft. lbs. are, at best, X-factors to mathematical equations; while, at worst, such 'paper' ft. lb. energies are deceiving, since they give a heavy jacketed, round-nose bullet the same 'stop' as a soft-nose hollow-point. This is why I seldom report ft. lb. energies.

When Remington came out with the .41 Magnum 210 gr. soft-point cartridge, they also introduced a light duty .210 gr. lead .41 Mag. slug of less velocity. The light duty round was designed for police work in urban areas where ricochets can be problematic; whereas the heavy duty .41 was made mostly for rural police and/or for hunting. The lighter duty .41 Mag. (1035 fps/8³/₈" bbl.), with its lighter recoil than the heavy duty .41 (1500 fps/8³/₈" bbl.), is the target .41 Magnum offered by Remington. Obviously, the Super Vel .41 Magnum, with has better knockdown and less recoil of the heavy duty Remington, and in being more ricochet proof than the light duty Remington, make the Super Vel two rounds in one. The heavy duty Super Vel can be used safely in the city because it is ricochet proof, while its high knockdown performance is ideal for the state police. Yet, its recoil and muzzle blast are tolerable.

The Remington (lead bullet), however, is still my preference for target work. It does have less recoil than either the heavy duty Super Vel or the heavy duty Remington .41s.

(Continued on page 51)

Lovitz firing his stainless steel S & W Chief through the port of the indoor Super Vel range.





GERMAN GUN LAWS

By VIVIAN BIRD

AS IN THE U.S.A., regulations and laws relating to firearms purchase and ownership vary from "Land" to "Land" in Western Germany and often with considerable discrepancies.

For example, the police in Hannover grant certificates and licences for purchase and possession of pistols "only very reluctantly and with restrictions," while a Hamburger receives permission for purchase of a tear gas pistol only if and when he can prove, "that he does not lack good reasons for feeling in danger." Yet it is common knowledge that any Hamburg citizen need only go to the main railway station and approach a foreigner, if he wants to buy a firearm.

Paradoxically, every German over 18 may equip himself with a 98 K Wehrmacht carbine, as long as this weapon "which awakens memories" (so it is advertized by Heinz Trolle, a mail order weapons dealer in Gelnhausen) has no bayonet socket and no sight adjustment for longer ranges.

In the four German coastal "Lands" (a term roughly equivalent to the U.S. "States") even experienced huntsmen can only buy small-arms if the usually reluctant police and other authorities provide them with a certificate for purchase of a firearm.

By contrast, in the Lands of Bavaria and Hessen, the possessor of a hunting licence can now, as in the past, buy as many pistols and revolvers as he wishes. The "Waffen Franconia" mail order company in Bavarian Würzburg therefore advises its North German customers: "If you instruct us to send the weapon in your name and at your expense ... by post, rail or transit agent, the taking possession of it occurs in Würzburg, thus in Bavaria, and does not fall under the new regulations operating in your Federal Land."

In spite of their strictness, they work as well as any others—could this be a message of some sort to our lawmakers?



Following an old custom, German Jagers (hunters) line up for the town's annual hunting festival.

Weapons regulations which are ineffective because they do not exist in all Federal German Lands; the universal obligation of a purchasing certificate (except in Bavaria) for so-called irritant weapons such as tear gas pistols along with a general freedom from certificates for purchasing rifles such as the 98 K carbine; in addition, a multitude of possibilities to buy forbidden arms on the black markets;—all these aspects of a confused state of affairs, ministers of the interior in the various German Lands now wish to end through a more rigorous disarming of the German people.

The proposed firearms law covering all German Lands, drawn up by the ministers of the interior, provides among other things, for:

1. The obligation to obtain a firearms purchasing certificate, which hitherto held only for small-arms, will be ex-

tended to longer barrelled weapons; the license enforcement will then exist for hunting rifles and small caliber guns as well as most air rifle products. A certificate of purchase will also have to be shown for buying cartridges and rocket ammunition.

2. An "obligation to allow examination" will apply to the owner of firearms as well as ammunition, obliging him to lay these for inspection before the authority granting permission "within a period to be determined by the latter." This regulation will particularly affect weapon collectors as the authorities take the view that a "firearms collector represents a danger if he is burgled and if, for example, 100 weapons are stolen from him, then so many more will arrive on the black market."

Above all, their concern that firearms might (Continued on page 56)



**Airborne blockbusters
are nothing new as
they got their
start right along with
war planes.**

By MAJ. GEORGE C. NONTE

Right: Navy A4 jet making firing run over a tank. Note three 20mm gun pods under jet, empty cases falling around tank. Below: Guns can fire 12,600 rounds per minute.



ARTILLERY WITH WINGS



THE IDEA OF mounting small caliber cannons on war-planes seems to be just as old as the use of machine guns or, for that matter, aircraft. It appears to have originated in France—probably the most artillery-oriented country in the World at the beginning of WWI. However, the British Navy may have been the first to actually fire a test-cannon from the air.

What appealed to aeronautical armament engineers was the fact that a single explosive cannon shell fired in a split-second could destroy any known aircraft. A cannon hit on any vital part of the craft would almost always destroy a plane. On the other hand, planes often survived hundreds of machine gun hits. To insure destruction required several machine guns firing hundreds of rifle-caliber

rounds. This might require numerous firing passes by the attacking craft. It was reasoned that a proficient pilot would find many more opportunities for firing one or two cannon shells than several long bursts of machine gun fire. A pilot might well have to hit an enemy craft hundreds of times with bullets before destroying it—only once with a well placed cannon shot.

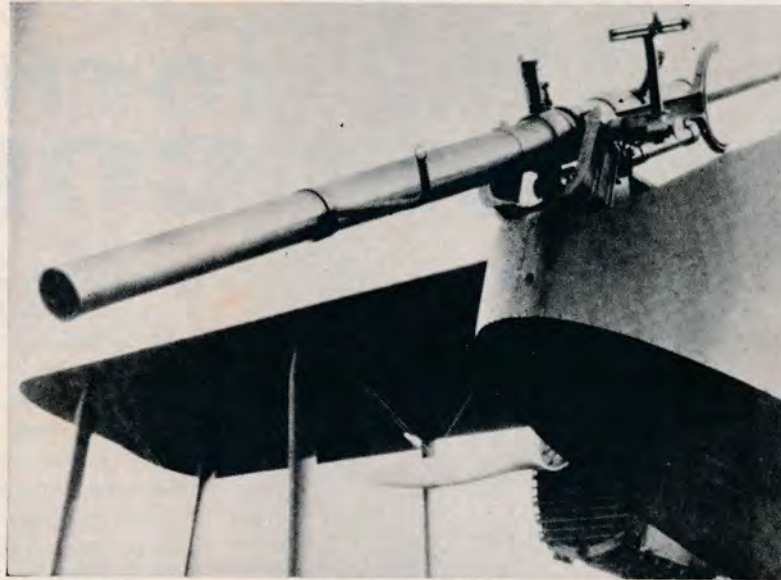
One particular approach was taken in the American Davis Non-Recoiling cannon. Being a single-shot weapon, it was loaded in the middle with a special cartridge that fired a recoil weight to the rear, a conventional projectile forward. Tested a number of times, in 37mm to 75mm sizes, it was generally unsuccessful, partly because of its very slow rate of fire, the limitations placed upon its installation and firing by the rearward-fired recoil weight, and its relatively great bulk. It was, I believe, used to some extent by the U.S. Navy as a flexible anti-submarine gun mounted on seaplanes. In this installation, it was coupled with a Lewis which fired tracers to get on target so that the first Davis H. E. round could be properly placed. Dropped here after the War, the principle was picked up by Germany for the next war. Davis-type guns as large as 15-inch, using 1500 lb. projectiles were tested (but not adopted) in the early '40's.

Since the turn of the Century, arms inventors had striven to build reliable *automatic* cannons of 20mm to 40mm caliber, and many attempts were made to install them both as fixed and flexible aircraft guns. The first really successful firings of such caliber guns from aircraft were accomplished by Britain in 1913. A modified 11½-pounder naval gun was fired from a Short Brothers pusher aircraft by R. C. Hall. The aircraft survived, but the clumsy, single-shot deck gun had no value in aerial combat. Nor did it appear to be useful against surface targets.

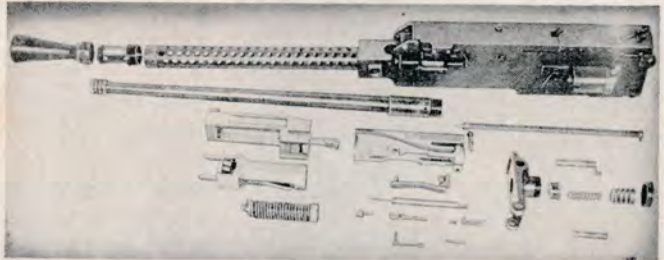
Other attempts with both fixed and flexible repeating guns of around 37mm produced various undesirable results, among them the occasional complete destruction of the craft in mid-air. The wood, canvas, and wire planes of the day couldn't stand the recoil impact of multiple discharges of such heavy ordnance.

In 1915, Americans Norman Prince and Robert Scanlon (volunteers in the Lafayette Escadrille), scored history's first reported aerial cannon kill. Scanlon fired a 37mm gun from the observer's cockpit of a French plane piloted by Prince and downed the attacking German with a single shot. French aircraft had carried cannon of this size and type operationally as early as 1914 in defense of Paris.

Not until 1917, however, did a practical cannon system evolve again in France. With a *(Continued on page 64)*



One of the first attempts to use airborne cannons was this U.S. Davis 75mm recoilless, 1917-18.



The Japanese did what we couldn't do; this is the Model HO-5, Browning .50 MG scaled up to 20mm.



Prototype of 37mm cannon used in the Air Cobras.



French DEFA 30mm revolver type cannon.

The 20mm Vulcan cannon in a gun pod. At far left is ram air turbine generator that supplies the electric power to the gun system.



Mel Torme's COLT COLLECTION

By ROBERT MANDEL

STRANGE things have been happening since the anti-gun hue and cry went up around the nation. Many of the movie stars, politicians, and jet-setters who, in the past, were proud of their association with the shooting sports or gun collecting, seemed to have crawled under a rug. Therefore, it was refreshing when I approached Mel Tormé, asked him if he had any objections to our publishing an article on his gun collection, and he replied that he would be pleased.

Mel Tormé, for those who have their heads stuck inside of gun barrels, is a singer. It is not the purpose of this article to comment on his career as a performer, but his reputation as a master of his art—even among other singers—will give us a hint as to his outlook toward things that he does outside of his profession—"do it right, or don't do it at all."

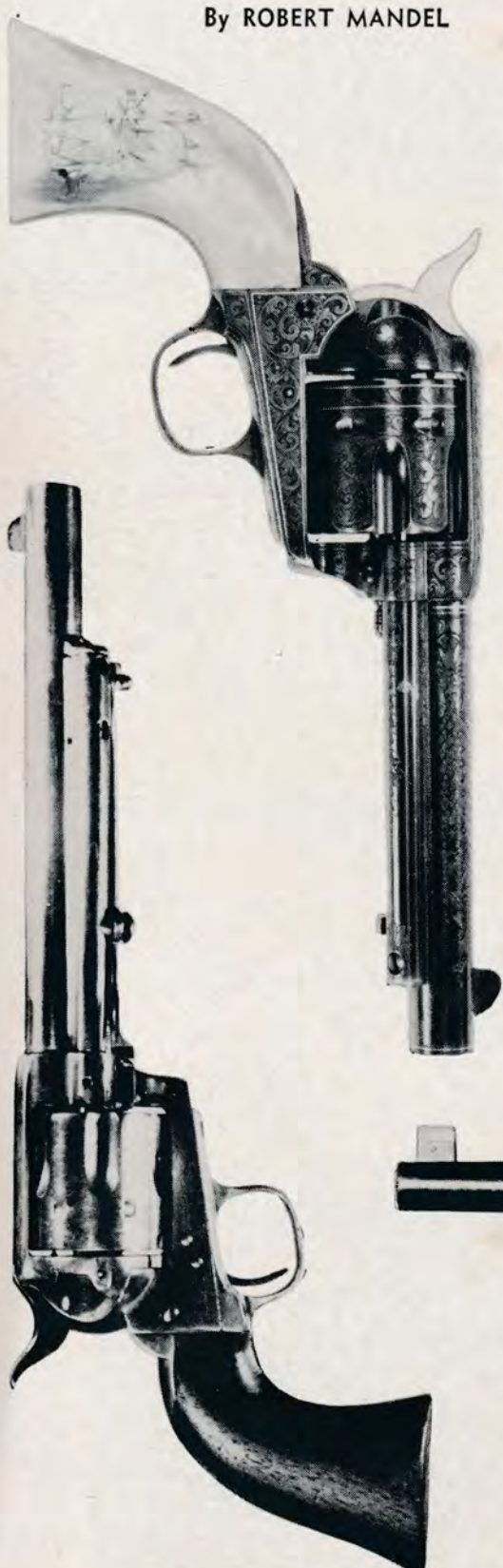
When I met him in London at the National Exhibition Show, where we kicked around the idea of doing the article on his collection, I began to realize that this was a man who was not an "accumulator" because he was in the public eye and because he had a few dollars to spend, but because he had a true love and understanding and desire to be a collector. So, when he appeared here in Chicago at "Mr. Kelly's," I made it a point to stop up and catch his act. We spent over an hour and a-half between shows, discussing collecting in general, how he

started, why he still collects today.

As we finished our discussion about his collection and his collecting over the years, he said one thing, that a lot of people do not understand at all, and many collectors have lost sight of. He said, "Bob, with all that I am doing and all that is going on, this collecting is a funny thing. I never seem to have enough time for it and yet I always make the time. I think I know why; it keeps me young. It brings me away from my work-a-day world and brings me back into something that I love dearly and I can turn to. It never hurts me in too many ways. It's always there, the love and desire to collect is always there, and I am sure that in many ways it does help to keep me active and younger than I really am."

Mel Tormé, I found, is an intense, dedicated collector, and a knowledgeable one. In addition, he is easy to listen to. The rest of the story, then, is Mel's. Here is how he answered my questions on how he got started; his feelings about collecting today; his collection in particular, etc.

I was born in Chicago, and I think that for every kid in my neighborhood in those days—as a matter of fact, most kids in Chicago—the essential entertainment was radio and movies. There was Gangbuster's, Tom Mix, you know, those kind of shows. I have always been an avid moviegoer since I was a tiny child and I think that early on, the fascination for guns grew with-



Upper left: Engraved, inlaid model with carved pearl grips. Left: SAA with an experimental ejector system, serial number 13947. Right: Colt Flat-Top Target Bisley Model in caliber .44 S & W, serial #161901.

Even though occupied with the full time job of being a star, Torme has time for his first love, the Colt Single Action.

in me because of seeing all the movies of the thirty's. They were preoccupied with violence; that is why I was never as attracted to the Thompson sub-machine gun or the .45 automatic or the snub as I was to the single action Colt. I felt that there was a little more romance about that.

You know, it's funny, you talk about the romantic West. In 1950, I was playing in Tucson, Arizona and my pianist and I drove up to Tombstone, where I made the acquaintance of a very lovely

woman named Rose Masea, who owned the Rose Tree Inn in Tombstone. I would assume that she has probably passed on now, although she could still be living, she'd be 99 years old. She is one of the most beautiful women I have ever seen in my life, beautifully boned, she remained very thin, tall and erect, really stately, you could see she was a beauty when she was a child. We asked her if she had lived her life in Tombstone and she said yes, that she came to (Continued on page 68)

Mel Torme is shown with Ken Liggett of Gun Report. Although this is not the most complete collection of Colt firearms, Torme has a most interesting variety. By keeping an album of photos and important information on the guns (center) Torme avoids handling them when questions come up.



WEATHERBY'S REGENCY...



**The latest addition to the Weatherby line
is a fitting companion to the Mark V rifles.
It is traditionally Weatherby in design and quality.**

THE NEW Weatherby Regency shotgun is an over & under, made in 12 and 20 gauges, with an exceptionally shallow action. The less depth of the O/U action the better. The shotgun locks up in the face of the standing breech which permits a fine lack of depth to the receiver. It closes with a Greener crossbolt and two side clips. The single trigger is mechanically operated, not depending on recoil to set the second trigger, and for this reason should the first barrel misfire the gunner may still fire his second.

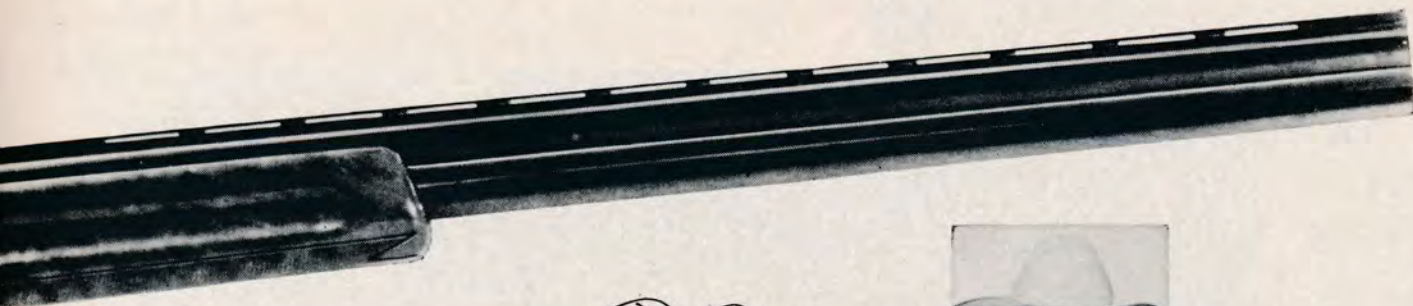
The Regency is made by Antonio Zoli, Gardone, Italy, but the wood is added in the Weatherby plant at South Gate, California. It is selected American walnut of high quality and pleasing figure. The finish is the hard epoxy,

with 20-lines-to-the-inch checkering. There is a comfortable pistol grip with Rosewood cap and the traditional Weatherby diamond. The recoil pad has a white line spacer.

Twenty-eight inch barrels are common to both gauges and both are topped with a one-quarter inch raised vent rib with a single bead front sight. There are various borings, these to include full and mod; mod and imp cyl; and skeet & skeet. The test gun shipped to me, a 12, is marked full and imp, modified. The plug gage shows the over barrel (marked full) goes .690" at the muzzle; while the under tube (marked imp. mod) measures .710-inch. The bore accepts a .718" gage as true diameter. This is tight for a twelve gauge gun which usually goes .729

The sideplates are actually dummies for engraving and to add to the racy appearance. Shotgun is really of the box-lock design.





Charles
Askins

By **CHARLES ASKINS**



or .730-inch.

The trigger is gold-plated, in easy reach, and just ahead of it is a handy switch which regulates which barrel will be fired first. It is marked O and U. The first pull is clean, sweet and sharply breaking. It goes at 3½ lb. The second pull is equally sharp and breaks at 4 pounds. The trigger pull does credit to a fine target rifle.

The action is a boxlock with dummy sideplates. These latter are to add good looks as they provide a good deal more surface for extensive scroll engraving. The action is left in the white and the scroll covers both the sides and the bottom. On the bottom side of the receiver, at the hinge, inlaid in gold are the words, "Weatherby Regency." This adds a nice touch of distinction.

The shotgun opens easily and readily. No effort is required to break it. The action closes with a snap which has a nice sound to the critical ear. The hammers are brought to a full stand by the swinging motion of the barrels. A cocking stirrup on the forend engages thrust bars which cam the hammers into full engagement with the sears. All springs are coiled and tempered steel. The automatic selective ejectors are self-contained. The system is completely incorporated in the sides of the barrel-breech. A sear is released by the fall of the firing pin and this unlatches the ejector which kicks out the empty casing quite smartly. When the chambers are filled with two loaded shells the extractors lift the cartridges about one-quarter inch, but the ejection system is not activated unless the hammer has fallen.

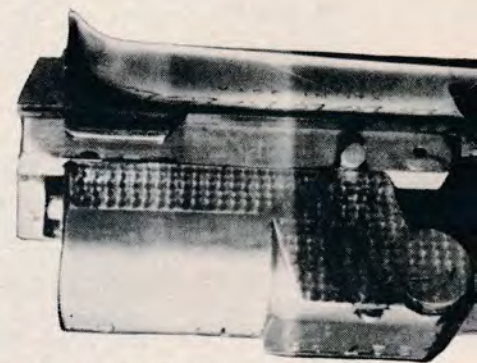
The stock, a handsome piece, was designed by Roy Weatherby himself. It has a length of pull of 14 inches, drop at comb of 1¼ inches, and drop at heel of 2⅛ inches. The pistol grip is moderate in contour and in size and reach will ideally fit the average shooter. It is checkered and the forend is grooved and checkered and held in place with a snap latch. The gun has a down pitch

This is what gives the Regency its shallow receiver. The gun locks up into the recesses in the standing breech. Note quality of finishing.

of 1½ inches, which is none too much, and because of this together with the exceedingly straight stock it shoots 18 inches high at 40 yards from the upper barrel and 14 inches high from the lower. The 1¼" drop at comb together with the 2⅛" drop at heel suits this gun for the trap field. It would shoot too high for any hunting unless possibly for ducks. The straightness of the stock was discussed with Weatherby who says that the drop at comb was supposed to be 1½ inches and at heel, 2½ inches. He had shot one of the first of the Regency models to be delivered from Italy and found one was too straight but a second was okay. Undoubtedly this overly straight stock hangup will shortly be licked.

Test fired at the pattern board, the over barrel, marked as I have said, full choke, went 60%. This with Remington trap loads, 3 drams equivalent 1¼ oz. No. 7½. The under barrel, marked improved modified (65%), showed an average for ten cartridges of 40%. It is likely these percentages, which are lower than should be expected, can be accounted for by the

(Continued on page 54)



Ejection system is completely contained in the sides of the barrel breech. Note jewelings.



By RICHARD L. BAKER

COLT'S MYSTERY

AMONG THE .25 caliber automatic pistols probably none is better known than the Colt .25 Pocket Model Hammerless. Long a favorite of collectors and shooters it was introduced to the market in 1908 and produced until 1947. Total production was approximately 421,000 pistols.

Designed by the famous John Browning, this little pistol was also produced by Fabrique Nationale of Belgium in large quantities for sale in Europe. It became so popular there that it was copied in countless numbers by various Belgium and Spanish manufacturers. In fact its external appearance is probably the most imitated of any pistol ever made.

Although the Colt basic design was not patented in the United States all pistols produced had various patent dates stamped on the slide. These dates are Aug. 25, 1896, Apr. 20, 1897, Dec. 22, 1903, Jan. 25, 1910, and July 31, 1917. Collectors classify the Colt .25 according to the patent dates so, of course, those dates listed do not appear on every Colt .25 auto. The first variation had only the first three dates and the other dates were added as the patents were granted over the years for different safety features.

Automatic pistol collectors have researched these patent dates many times and have always been puzzled by the Aug. 25, 1896 patent date. Although some of the other

dates listed appear on other Colt automatic models this particular date appears only on the .25 Pocket Model. Many researchers have uncovered the fact that no patent was issued on Aug. 25, 1896 that pertains to the Colt .25 or even to automatic pistols! The only gun patent granted on that date was to A. C. Wright of Worcester, Mass. and pertained to an unusual "magazine pistol." This pistol bore absolutely no resemblance to an automatic pistol in appearance or operation. Consequently, several theories have been formed.

Some researchers believe that Colt put this date on their .25 pistol for simple business reasons. They had no patent protection on the design but a date on the slide might make a potential imitator think that they did. Others believe basically the same except that Colt went so far as to acquire the Wright patent in order to back up the date stamped on the slide. One puzzling fact remains however. Why would Colt choose to stamp an unimportant patent date of 1896 on a pistol produced in 1908? To the best of my knowledge no proof has ever been presented to even tie in the Wright patent with the Colt company. The patent was listed only to Wright and was not assigned to anyone else.

Strangely enough, the Colt .25 had only one U.S. pro-

duced competitor during its lifetime. This rival pistol was the H & R (Harrington and Richardson) .25 "Self-Loading" produced in Worcester, Mass. Although manufactured in this country the design of this little automatic was based upon patents owned by Webley and Scott of England.

The gun pictured is an H & R .25 auto, serial number 20 in new condition. The gun came in the box (which is a Colt .25 box) together with the handwritten note. The old pencilled note reads:

Ap. 20, 1912

The new H & R Pistol, No. 20, self-loading, Cal. 25 submitted to us Ap. 18, 1912 infringes two claims of Co.'s pat. No. 566,367 of Aug. 25, 1896, which does not expire until Aug. 1913.

The validity of this patent was acknowledged in Court by other infringers, who when suit was brought upon the patent against them, changed their pistol to avoid infringing our patent.

The dates of Pat. Aug. 20, '07 & April 13, 1909 are correct, but April 9 is wrong as no U.S. pat. was issued on that date.

C.J.E.

The signature "CJE" is that of Carl J. Ehbets and the handwriting has been authenticated as his.

Carl J. Ehbets was Colt's patent attorney and legal expert for almost 45 years. He was also a designer and held many gun patents assigned to the Colt company. In the

PATENT

course of his career he also handled most of the famous John M. Browning patents that were connected with Colt.

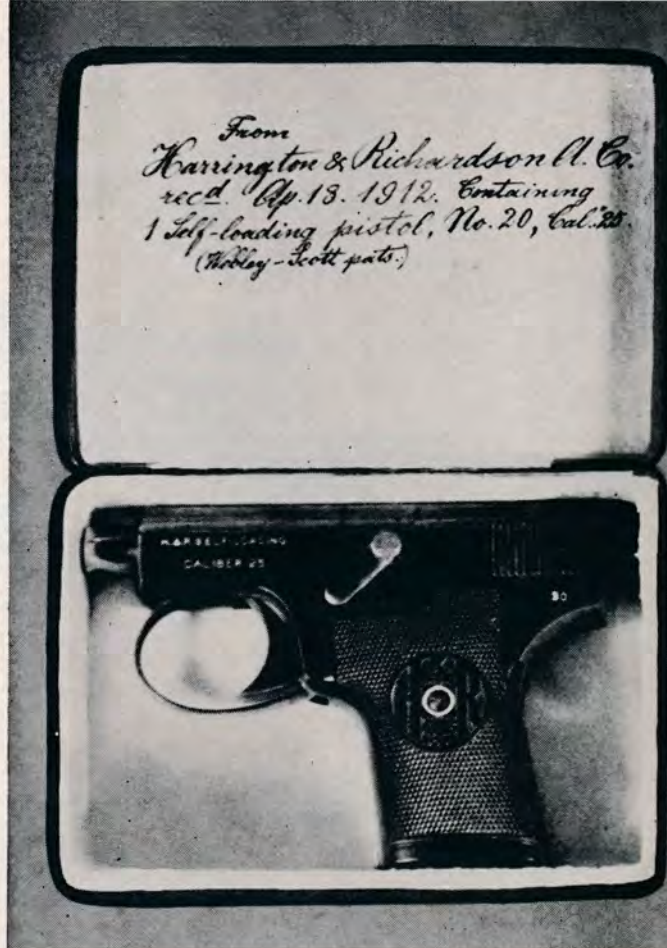
Here at last is proof that Colt did acquire the Wright patent. More importantly, it seems that this patent was much more important than anybody has imagined.

A copy of patent #566,367 was obtained from the Patent Office and the claims gone over in detail. The note from Ehbets definitely states that two claims were violated by this H & R .25. After examining the mechanisms of both the H & R and the Colt only one similar feature was found. Each had a pivoting trigger. Working back and forth between both guns and the patent copy, two claims were found that could be applied to each.

Claims 9 and 11 cover the combination of a pivoting trigger and a sear trip connection, between the trigger and sear, that passes the magazine in the grip. Both the Colt .25 and the H & R .25 have these features.

In the Colt, a separate connecting yoke is used to pass both sides of the magazine. In the H & R, a long arm of the sear passes one side of the magazine. Although they appear completely different both mechanisms could be described by claims 9 and 11.

If these are the claims referred to, and they were so upheld in court, it is little wonder that Colt had this patent. The features described are the heart of many automatic pistol designs! A quick (Continued on page 59)



The new H & R. Pistol, No. 20, Ap. 20, 1912, self loading, Cal. 25, submitted to us Ap. 18, 1912 infringes two claims of Co.'s pat. No. 566,367 of Aug. 25, 1896, which does not expire until Aug. 1913. The validity of this patent was acknowledged by other infringers, who when suit was brought upon the patent against them, changed their pistol to avoid infringing our patent. The dates of pat. Aug. 20, '07 & April 13, 1909 are correct, but April 9 is wrong as no U.S. pat. was issued on that date.
C.J.E.

Top: H & R .25 auto serial #20 in a Colt box with inscription on the lid. It was examined by Colt's "CJE" in search of patent infringements. Above: Copy of the letter packed with the gun. "CJE" was one of Colt's attorneys.



H & R's .25 auto sent to Colt for examination. Note patent dates on the slide

WHICH ONE



MACHINE MADE

By MASON WILLIAMS

MANY YEARS AGO, further back than I like to think, the entertainment business thrived on presenting Jazz vs. Opera. And it was a big deal in those days. Today, we have pretty much the same thing in rifle stocks, pitting the superb hand crafted stocks of Keith Stegall and Carl Swanson against the excellent production, machine-made stocks of Reinhart Fajen and Bishop. Like Jazz and Opera, each class of stock has its place in the shooting world placing the shooter in an enviable position.

A few years ago, the modern, streamlined stock appeared in the now-famous showrooms of Swanson Custom Firearms in Denver, Colorado. Crafted by Carl Swanson, these stocks incorporated the finest hand work and the finest selected woods to

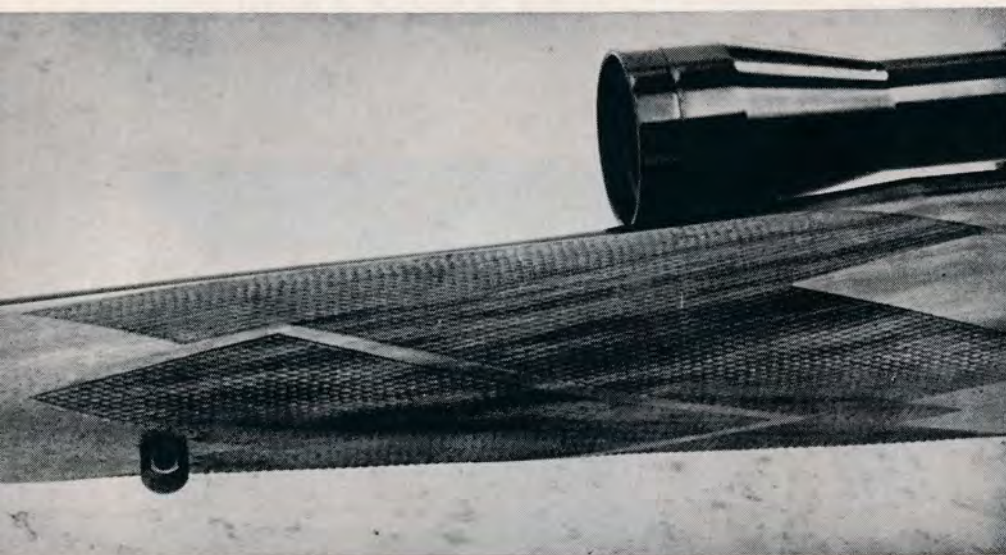
place Carl Swanson among the top custom stock makers in the country.

In contrast, Keith Stegall remains one of the select few who continue to turn out superb classic rifles and rifle stocks. Both men are perfectionists and Keith Stegall in his Gunnison, Colorado home continues to be a classic traditionalist refusing to basically alter the functionalism of his fast handling stocks. His feeling is that the simpler the design, the better the design with resulting ease of carrying, handling and firing. I doubt if anyone can seriously fault his stock designs. His rifles are deadly, functional, hunting weapons created and crafted for the chase for the man who is not just "hunting something" but who has his eye on trophy game. The easier a rifle carries and the more naturally it

handles the easier it is for the trophy hunter to stalk his prey.

Using his Gunnison home as a base, Keith has spent his life in the woods and mountains raising his family in the hunting fields so that he knows from experience what a rifle should do. It is not enough to put metal and wood together. A classic rifle must also give the shooter beauty, eye appeal and bedding that will remain constant throughout a couple of lifetimes. I believe that the classic rifle design may be summed up best by stating that beauty and functionalism are its two main assets. Because both are part and parcel of Keith Stegall's life he has continued to produce this type of rifle.

Functionalism covers many things from light weight to correct bedding. Regardless of its looks or weight a rifle stock must be crafted from the right wood and the metal must be correctly imbedded into that wood to ensure that the hunter may have complete and permanent confidence in his weapon. This rifle must hold its zero under all conditions. These are details that, in my opinion, can only be obtained by



Details of a Keith Stegall custom rifle. Note the perfection of each line and diamond. Machining cannot match this checkering. Each border, line and diamond is re-cut at least nine times to produce these results.

FOR YOU?

CUSTOM MADE



literally hand crafting the rifle. And these are the silent, unseen, qualities that distinguish the Stegall and Swanson stocks from machine-made stocks. I mention these two men and Reinhart Fajen and Bishop, not because I wish to ignore other good stock firms, but simply because there is not room in this article to deal with all of them.

Keith Stegall uses only French walnut for his stocks and this hard to get wood is seen less and less frequently so that its rare, elegant beauty can be unknown to many readers. Keith claims that it is the only wood that should be used in a fine rifle stock. Its dense, hard texture allows him to produce checkering with 24 lines to the inch and the final surface of his stocks is as hard and smooth as polished stone. These characteristics of French walnut allow him to bed his rifles so precisely that they may be fired with the guard screws removed.

Another seen but seldom appreciated advantage of fine custom stocks is their ability to handle recoil—to so soften the slam of recoil as to permit the shooter to fire his rifles more often

with more pleasure. The subtleties of design that do this come only at high cost to the shooter. Both Stegall and Swanson can give the shooter this advantage.

Carl Swanson in his Denver shop at 1051 Broadway comes close to matching the superb craftsmanship of the old maestro Keith Stegall and his bedding and craftsmanship are tops. He can turn out classic stock designs but he leans towards the modern, modified versions of the traditional classic with an occasional fling at crafting a

streamline, thumb hole modern rifle stock. He will use special Fajen blanks to produce special order jobs that have helped to set him apart from the strict traditionalists like Stegall.

Carl is fundamentally a shotgun man ranking high in the shotgun shooting game and he has taken the traditional rifle stock and designed it to allow him to fire the rifle like a shotgun. He handles rifles like shotguns. The combination of knowing what he wants in a rifle stock and his ability to create such (Continued on page 75)

Carl Swanson is shown at the rear of his enlarged store roughing-out a blank. He uses machines whenever possible if their use will not jeopardize the quality of the firearm. Swanson Custom Firearms in Denver.





GIVE YOUR GAME "TLC"

By BERT POPOWSKI

Meat flavor and goodness depends on how you handle your downed game.

SO YOU HAD a great hunt and bagged game that actually exceeded your fondest expectations? The buck, bull, ram, or whatever, had horns yeah wide and so high, which are now hanging in the garage workshop. How was the meat? Well, good, you guess; you really didn't eat much of it. It was mostly given away.

That's the story of far too many hunters. They spend a lot of dough on a long-planned-for hunting trip but, because they aren't forearmed with basic information on the "tender loving care" which game meat and trophies require, they get only cursory returns on the money invested. Meat that isn't properly tended in the field and enroute home, trophy capes that are mangled and blood-stained by ill-advised throat cutting, result in a series of roof-raising wrangles between meat and hunters and their wives, and between trophy hunters and their taxidermists. A few such sour sessions, and the luckless nimrods come under constant pressure to give their game away, or even give up hunting altogether. They may even get some support from disgruntled taxidermists, who would much rather work on capes and heads that have been properly cared for while enroute from the field to their shops.

If you are included in that unhappy coterie, pull up a log. Professor Popowski is about to blast off on his favorite subject: the common sense care of game and trophies in the field.

Although deer represent the most avidly sought form of North American big game, there are a dozen other species in that category, and over a score of upland small game and water fowl. And, an uninformed hunter can make as many mistakes in the proper field care of a brace of tiny teal as he can on a mighty moose. It just depends on the extent of his hunting horizons. Since it is impossible to take each hunter by the hand and guide him through the myriad intricacies of caring for all forms of furred and feathered game, the best I can do is hit the high spots of sensible game-meat and trophy handling.

It is equally impossible to advise all hunters as to how they should shoot their game,—except in a very general way. For even the best of marksmen will, because of unforeseen circumstances, sometimes down game with shots which are far from ideal.

But, good shots or bad, there are certain post-mortem steps which should be observed in neatly salvaging the resulting meat and trophies. For, just as no trout is quite as good

as the one which is hauled out of cold water, immediately cleaned and popped into a sizzling frying pan, so warm-blooded game is only as good as the manner in which it has been cared for. Fish deteriorate far faster than game but there is a proportionate similarity that the game hunter can use to his great advantage.

Speed in field-dressing is highly important in all game, and all-important in big game. There are two basic reasons for this; first, to rid the carcass of a considerable portion of its inedible chest—and abdominal-cavity contents—excepting only the heart and liver. Second, to give the red-meat carcass an early opportunity to start cooling its animal heat. If that heat is long enclosed it will simmer away a sizeable portion of the original fine game flavor. Continued too long, whether the animal is taken in warm weather or on snow, the carcass rapidly bloats, and simmers on into the first stages of carrion.

There are other, interrelated reasons for prompt field care. If the bullet or shot pattern has penetrated any portion of the digestive tract, its juices spill out into the body cavities and immediately commence fermenting—against any meat they contact. Finally, since most edible game feeds,

wholly or in part, on vegetative foods, the stoppage of natural body processes induces quick bloat. That, in turn, puts gas pressure and digestive juices where they do the least good, in direct contact with the best edible meat.

I am reminded of a happening of the late 1940's, when South Dakota's Custer State Park invited some dignitaries to participate in a "buffalo hunt." The meat of these animals was to go to the nearby Pine Ridge reservation for an annual celebration. VIP's were to do the shooting, primarily for the sake of the publicity, and the Indians were to butcher out and salvage everything they wanted of the six to eight animals bagged.

For a time all went just dandy. The VIP hunters dropped the animals one by one, the medicine men and chiefs sanctified each carcass with a proper dance and some incantations, and then the squaws moved in with butchering and skinning knives. Everthing went fine until the last old bull, when the VIP chosen as executioner proved quite unequal to his task. He fired seven shots at that bull, yet the critter got away in a herd stampede finale. Search as they might they couldn't locate that shot-up bull.

A few hours later I took my guests—hunting partner "Red" Watt and his wife Catherine, of Omaha—on a combination sightseeing and fishing trip. We wanted a creelful of trout for the next morning's breakfast. On the way we came upon the bull, now down and out from his multiple wounds. He was so bloated that his drum-tight carcass rose breast-high, his legs sticking out horizontally from the tension. I reported him to the Park officials and then we went fishing. The next morning he had vanished and I don't know whether the Indians got him as a bonus or whether he was used to feed the carnivores at Custer State Park's zoo. At any rate, he provided an object lesson in how rapidly any grass eater will bloat and its meat commence to deteriorate. Any game animal will do exactly the same thing, speeded according to exposure to a hot sun and warm weather.

While it is quite true that a full-bodied animal provides more natural looking pictures, such photography should be hustled through in the interests of good meat. And, if the critter has trophy value, the faster you can release gas and digestive juice pressures, the better the hair will stay in the pelt throughout the taxidermy tanning and mounting.

Among strictly game animals, the pernicious effect of bloating is best illustrated by the pronghorn antelope. Every experienced "goat" hunter has

come upon at least one carcass of a cripple, lost and abandoned in the field. If it has been dead by as little as two hours, the belly is distended drum-tight by bloat; and, if by a day or two, the horn-shells of bucks have loosened so they can be easily removed by a hand.

Another big bugaboo in field dressing is blood. This is particularly bad in such light-colored animals as mountain goats, white Dall sheep, caribou and antelope. In the first two species, blood can readily set in their white pelts and become exceedingly tough to remove without leaving rusty brownish stains. In caribou and antelope, both of which have hollow and quite brittle hair, any careless handling will break this hair, whereupon it draws blood into its tubular interior past any cure. All four species require careful handling of trophy capes to avoid getting them blood-stained, though early washing with a mild soap and water will help considerably in the case of goats and white sheep.

Now, what about scent patches as an odious part of the field-dressing and later skinning of big game? Perhaps the worst of the lot is the navel-like and skunky-smelling scent gland carried by the javelina, the small native pig of the Southwest and Old Mexico. This is located on the rear of the back, ahead of the tailbone and directly above the hind legs. Great care must be taken so that neither knife nor hand get fouled by its scent, else that may readily be transmitted to the pork-like meat. Nonetheless, it should be removed first and thrown away, so that subsequent field dressing can be conducted without that hazard.

Javelinas are also one of two animals whose meat greatly profits from prompt skinning in the field. The other is the pronghorn antelope. Their meat flavor is so delicate that much delay in skinning results in considerable loss of the fine eating they can otherwise provide. Once the animals are skinned and cooled—a half-hour or more, preferably in the shade—their carcasses can be dropped into meat sacks to protect them against dust and other field and vehicle fouling.

The scent glands which attract the bulk of hunters' attention are those worn by all members of the deer family, from the tiny Coues or Arizona whitetail up to the mighty moose. These consist of comparatively small shaggy-haired patches on the hind legs, the means of advertising deer whereabouts to others of their kind. But they are by no means the only scent glands worn by the deer family. Many untutored hunters, remembering ill-advised writings, insist on their prompt removal, before commencing any other field-dressing; they claim that unless this is done, instantly if not sooner, the whole meat carcass will be fouled beyond recall. That's one of the hunting myths which has been kept alive through endless repetition.

I ignore them, except that I don't touch them, with hand or knife, before, during and after the field-dressing operation. But, in order to make the final carcass somewhat easier to handle, I frequently cut off the scent-bearing hind legs some three inches below the natural hock joint and throw them into the brush. This solves the double problem of inad-

(Continued on page 72)



Dragging on level ground or snow is okay, but don't bounce the critter!

RUGER

SECURITY SIX

The long awaited double-action pistol from the Ruger factory has now come to light in the form of the Security-Six with a host of original features.

WHILE THE NAME of Bill Ruger is not new to anyone in the firearms field, he has announced another new gun that is sure to be a big hit. The new Ruger Double Action Security-Six is just what the doctor and the gunsmith ordered for clean lines, reliability and ease of maintenance.

The new number weighs but 28 ounces with the 4" barrel and will be available in either .38 Special or .357 Magnum. Both fixed and adjustable sights will be offered with barrel lengths of 2¾", 4" or 6". One of the new design features not to be found on any other handgun of the type is the cylinder release latch. It is on the left side just behind the recoil plate and instead of being pushed back and forth, as with other revolvers, it is depressed at the rear edge by the thumb. The cylinder holds six rounds and swings out to the left.

To keep bumbling and curious fingers out of the mechanism, Ruger has designed the gun in a way that eliminates the conventional sideplate. Both sides of the frame are solid metal. Also, continuous use and shooting oftentimes results in side plate screws working loose; not this time!

During dis-assembly and/or assembly, all internal parts of the mechanism must pass through the bottom of the


With trim and functional lines like these, the Ruger will be an instant hit with all types of shooters.



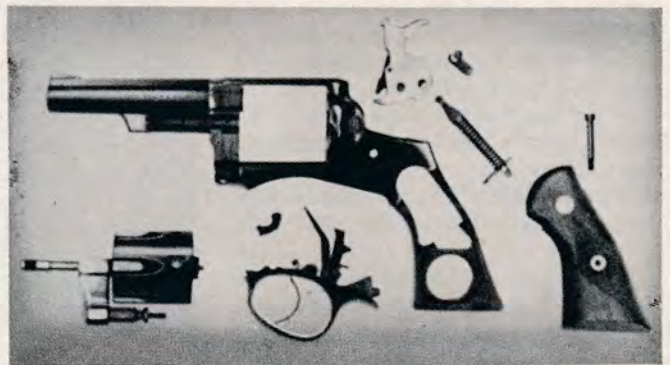
receiver. The trigger assembly is of the one piece type, basically, and comes out of the frame in one unit.

One of the designers of this new gun, Harry Sefried, pulled the gun down in about 30 seconds and put it back together again in about the same time. The best part about all this is that you don't even need a screwdriver! The grips come off with a coin and a pin is provided that is carried in the grips for the rest of the take-down. All very easy.

Although it is rather difficult to design a revolver to look like no other on the market, Ruger has given his new number lots of eye appeal with the shape of the trigger and the grip-backstrap-frame configuration. The ejector rod has been housed and all corners that may catch on clothing or holster have been nicely taken care of and rounded. Presently, the guns are to be offered only in a high luster blue finish, but this may change.

Although the Security-Six has just been announced, you can expect it to be on the dealer's shelves within the next few months. It's not often that we see an entirely new concept in handguns of this type. The new Ruger is a fine piece of firearms design that combines ruggedness, dependability, and easy maintenance into one finely-tuned unit. 

Completely disassembled, the Ruger displays a lot of original design and simplicity to make it reliable.





HUNTING the *Trophy* *Pronghorn*

The wily proghorn is hard enough to hit under normal conditions, but with bad weather ever present we were lucky to even see them.

By RICHARD H. STANSFIELD

DUST AND SAND swirled thickly over three cold, grimy antelope hunters crouched low behind the meager shelter of the cab. As the pick-up truck lurched across rough, sage-covered prairie, occasional gusts of wind slammed like solid walls against the laboring vehicle. We were feeling the effect of a savage mid-October storm. Weather bureau instruments clocked the wind at a steady 40-45 m.p.h., with gusts which upped the figure considerably.

The hunt meant a lot to the four of us—Steve Salisbury, my hunting partner of a decade and a half, and our two friends, Max Cutter and Guy Dobbin. This was a tightly timetabled trip with no days to spare. Both Steve and I had to be back on the job on Thursday, so our schedule called for a three day hunt, with one day each way for the 1200 mile drive. After work Friday we blasted off from the Chicago suburbs and arrived at Gillette, “antelope capital of



the world," late Saturday afternoon. We picked up deer licenses and I bought a two-deer ticket. I wanted to see what my Remington 7mm Magnum could do. My partners wanted to try for a buck only.

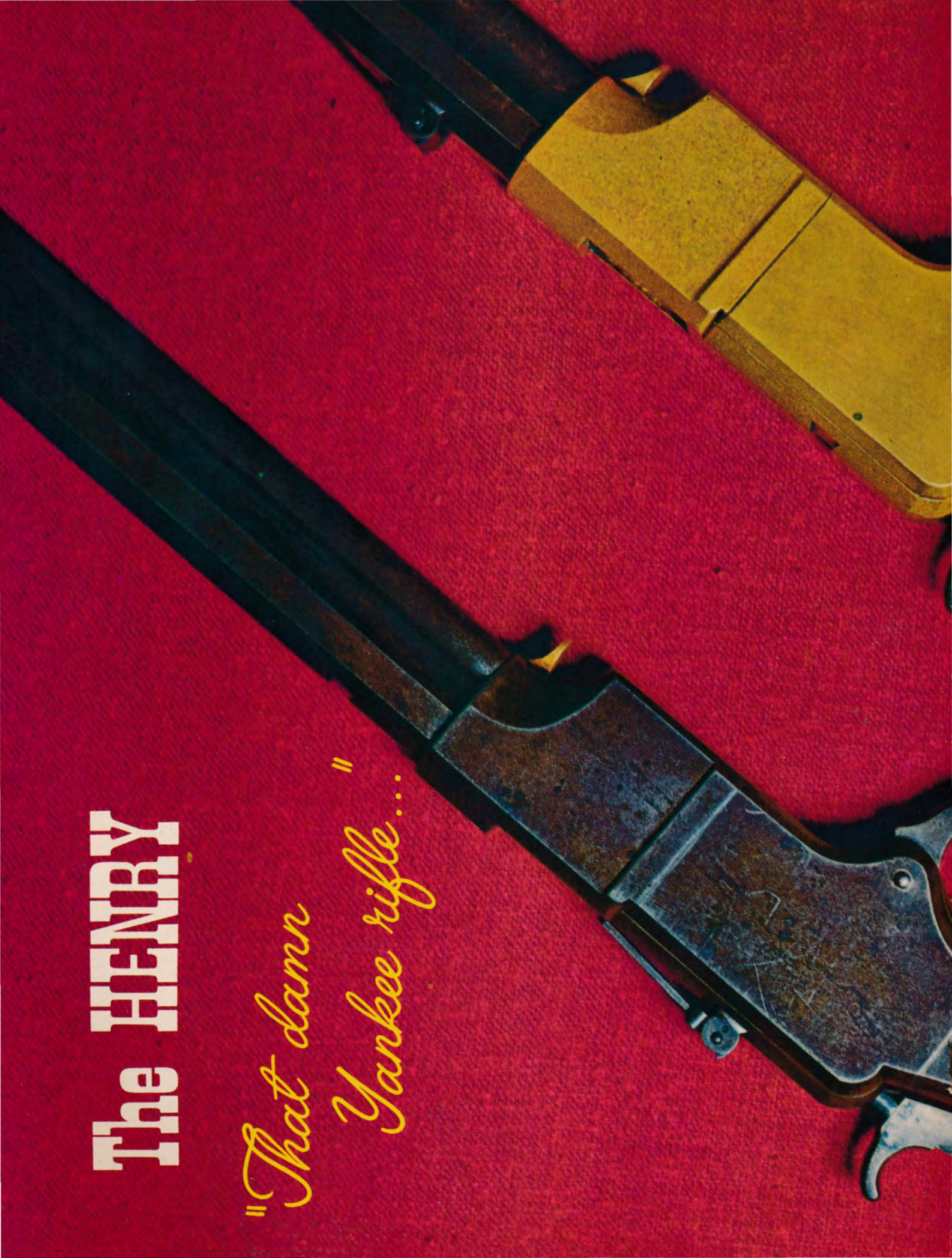
During the morning we'd had several shots at better than average buck antelope. Our guide-outfitter, Guy

"Bud" Edwards of Gillete, is a top man at putting visiting dudes onto boasting-size bucks. And the 200,000 acre Keeline Ranch, on which he has hunting rights, abounds in game. You couldn't ask for a better combination. Our shots that morning were typical of those the average *(Continued on page 60)*



The HENRY

*"That damn
Yankee rifle..."*





During the Civil War, these rifles were known as "That damn Yankee rifle than can be loaded on Sunday and fired all week." And, to those who were used to the single shot Springfield, the 16-round magazine of the Henry must have seemed the ultimate in fire power.

About 10,000 Henry rifles were produced from 1860 to 1863, and of these, less than 200 of the iron-frame models were made;

all in the first 400 serial numbers. Above are #267 and #1918.

Only about 1,700 Henry rifles were purchased by the Army, many of the rest being purchased by individual soldiers at about \$40. A lot of money, to be sure, but then didn't the advertisements say that a man armed with one of these would never be captured?

The Henry Rifles shown in this photo are from the collection of the photographer, Dr. R. L. Moore, Jr.

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OUR MAN IN WASHINGTON



By CARL WOLFF

GOOD NEWS—This summer, Senator Richard S. Schweiker (R., Pa.) introduced legislation to exempt gunpowder used in sport shooting from proposed federal restrictions on explosives. The Schweiker proposal, co-sponsored by Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott (R., Pa.) is an amendment to a pending Senate Bill, S. 3650, which tightens up federal legislation concerning the illegal use, transportation and possession of explosives.

The amendment exempts "possession by any person of not to exceed 25 pounds of smokeless powder and not to exceed 6 pounds of black powder for use for lawful sporting purposes," from the controls of the pending bill. The original bill, S. 3650, was introduced at the request of the Nixon Administration.

In our August issue of GUNS we pointed out, "Each time a self-styled revolutionary sets off a bomb the outlawing of handloading becomes more probable. Not only would the supply of powder be cut off, but since all ammunition contains powder, an oversight could outlaw all shooting sports." We further stated, "any shooting sportsman has to agree with the intent of the President's request. However, legitimate objection can be made."

The Schweiker amendment was introduced shortly after the August issue of GUNS went on sale. (Need we say more?) In introducing the amendment, Sen. Schweiker said, "The broad scope of the bill would result in needlessly penalizing law-abiding sportsmen who, because of the expense involved in purchasing ammunition, hand-load their own shells to be used for legitimate

sporting purposes."

Senator Scott said he was concerned about federal legislation to regulate the transportation and illegal use of explosives, as it would also include regulation of the black powder and other reloading components "our Pennsylvania sportsmen use everyday."

Scott said, "These sportsmen favor the crime control aspects of this legislation, but are afraid that their use of black powder and other reloading components for hunting and target shooting would be severely restricted." This is the same Scott that voted for the 1968 Gun Control Act. Has he changed?

Since that vote, Sen. Scott, as a powerful member of the Senate Judiciary Committee which will pass on this amendment and the bill to which it is attached, and because of his influence as Senate Republican Leader, will have the chance to significantly add to the chances of success of the Schweiker amendment.

Scott has already played a role in the passage of the so-called Bennett Bill to exempt various center-fire, long gun ammunition from registration provisions of the same Gun Control Act of 1968. Let us hope he will play a significant role on behalf of outdoorsmen to insure passage of this amendment.

He has told this GUNS contributor he supports the concern of reloaders and muzzle loading enthusiasts, and is "most pleased to join with Dick Schweiker in working to obtain passage of an amendment to specifically exclude such sporting components from the coverage of regulatory legislation."

The Schweiker- (Continued on next page)

Scott amendment, as was the original bill, is at this writing, pending before the John L. McClellan Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary. The staff is at work trying to report back to the full committee this legislation, with the Schweiker-Scott amendment.

Also pending before the Dodd Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary is a bill by Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D., Conn.). The Dodd measure, S. 3653, as introduced, amends the Gun Control Act of 1968. Some informed sources say anything containing powder, pellet or black, would be subject to the same laws as are machine guns and other weapons of war.

Which bill will the committee approve?

Members of the Committee are: Democrats: James O. Eastland, Mississippi; John L. McClellan, Arkansas; Sam Erving, Jr., North Carolina; Thomas Dodd, Connecticut; Philip Hart, Michigan; Edward Kennedy, Massachusetts; Birch Bayh, Indiana; Quentin Burdick, North Dakota; Joseph Tydings, Maryland; Robert Byrd, West Virginia.

Republicans: Roman Hruska, Nebraska; Hiram Fong, Hawaii; Hugh Scott, Pennsylvania; Strom Thurmond, South Carolina; Marlow Cook, Kentucky; Charles Mathias, Jr., Maryland; Robert Giffin, Michigan.



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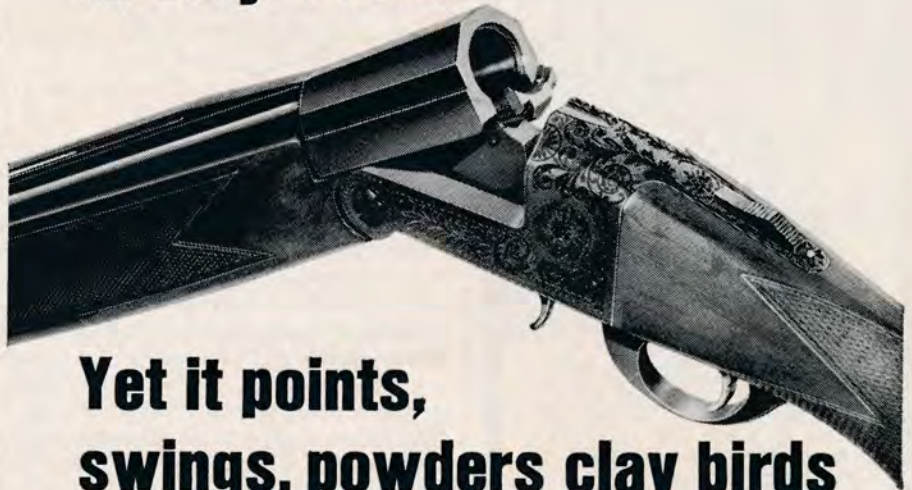
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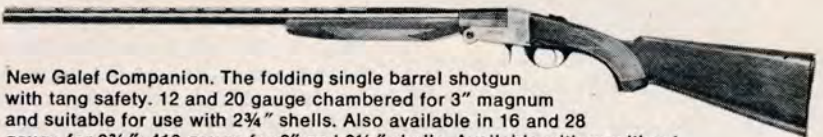
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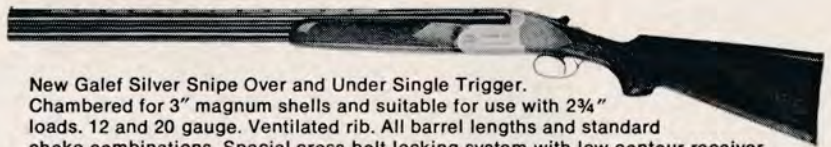


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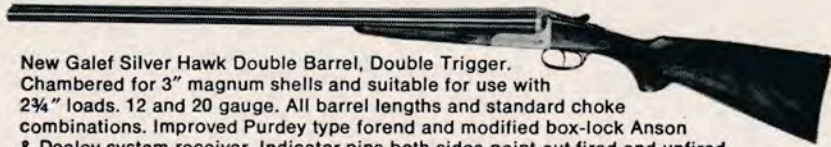
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By DICK MILLER

WHAT RESULTS would you predict if the nation's college and university students were polled regarding their personal preferences for recreational activity? Would there be a mini-boom in construction of tennis courts, swimming pools, ball diamonds, gymnasiums, bowling alleys, etc.? One of the chief gripes of today's college youth is that neither the curricula nor the recreational opportunities offered them by adults are relevant to their needs or desires. We are often greatly surprised when we take the time and trouble to learn what the kids want for themselves, at all age levels.

In this connection, I am reminded of an experience I had when I was with the Sportsmen's Service Bureau shooting development program of SAAMI, about twelve years ago. While working with the outdoor campus program of Southern Illinois University, one of the administrators told me that when the summer camp program was initially set up, it offered those recreational programs that adults usually figure kids want. The results were less than spectacular, and it was difficult to get the kids to participate. One of the counselors came up with the brilliant and innovative idea of asking the kids what they would like to do.

The results were in almost inverse ratio to what the adults had offered. Shooting was the most often requested program, by both boys and girls. Boating was next, followed by riding and fishing. The softball, baseball, arts and crafts etc., offered by the camp program were far down the list, ranking less than five per cent as compared with eighty five per cent for shooting and eighty per cent for boating. This experience of mine from twelve years ago seems to have been upgraded and validated by a poll of college students conducted two years ago at the University of Iowa.

When the students were polled on what recreational programs they wanted, trap and skeet ranked so high on the list that results of the survey were communicated to the Recreation

Committee of The Association of College Unions which then authorized a pilot program in the Iowa area.

This program resulted in the first annual International Association of College Unions Skeet and Trap Championships, held in 1969, and reported in this column. The second annual College Unions skeet and trap championships held at the same site this year resulted in a tripling of entries in just one year. Two bids have been received for hosting next year's clay target championships, and it appears that the mushrooming growth rate will continue. Information concerning the present program can be had from Robert Froeschle, Recreation Manager, Iowa Memorial Union, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.

One event at the College Unions clay target championships raised some interesting possibilities for clay target shooting. World and regional contests, such as the Olympics and Pan-American Games, usually find a majority of the contestants products of organized collegiate athletic programs. On the other hand, most of the medal winners of the shooting events in the clay target programs of the Olympics, Pan-Am Games, and the prestigious ISU World Championship tournaments have been from the military. It should not be easy for the millions of clay target shooters in the United States to accept the fact that were it not for the military, the Star Spangled Banner would not have been played many times in world events. This is, of course, because the games of trap and skeet which are so tremendously popular in the United States are not the same versions of trap and skeet which are popular in most of the rest of the world. It has been left almost solely to the military services to devote the time and energy needed to preserve our national prestige in world clay target championships.

The one happening at the Iowa College Unions championships which could foreshadow the shape of things to come was the enthusiastic recep-

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So stated Mr. Steve Mento of Fremont, California, after his standard .308 rifle and the Hornady 168 gr. Boat Tail Match bullet captured the May 1969 Iron Hunter Rifle Match of the California Rifle & Pistol Association.

Mr. Mento continued... "I get a tremendous 'kick' out of taking home the 'gold' using the Hornady bullet. It lends itself well to 200 yd. & 300 meter shooting. I think this is largely due to its shape."



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tion for both International skeet and a modified International trap event. Almost half the total entry list of one hundred and fifty contestants shot the modified International trap game in a torrential downpour which made shooting anything but pleasurable.

Incidentally, Jim Poindexter, a Business Administration junior from the University of Southern California, who hails from Bradbury, California, broke a perfect fifty straight to win this event in 1970 at Iowa City.

This nation has had sore need over the last forty years of shooters who could go straight in the International trap game. My well-over-thirty generation has not been able to do this, and we have donated a lot of medals to other nations, especially Iron Curtain nations, by default because we have not been able to hold our own, except in the case of a few of the military products. If a member of the well-over-thirty generation can be forgiven a little more day-dreaming, let's just suppose that a number of events might take place in sequence.

Let's say, for example, that some organization would undertake a national poll of college students concerning their recreational likes. Let us assume that the Iowa students were reasonably typical of today's college students, and clay target shooting ranked high on their list of preferences.

Let us over-thirties take cognizance of the fact that many students seem to have a real aversion for ROTC programs, and having taken cognizance of this fact of today's life, communicate to the college students that a substantial segment of this nation's prestige, and image in the eyes of the world is left to the military. We could then make quite clear that one of their own, such as a Jim Poindexter, could stand on the winner's platform, under the Stars and Stripes, and receive a gold medal to the strains of our national anthem, especially if the fledgeling program at the University of Iowa burgeoned in scope.

This is not such a far-out dream as it might appear at first glance. After all, when an athlete wins the 100 yard dash in the Olympics, his college affiliation is given world press coverage. If John Jones of Yale, Harvard, or Cornell wins the hundred yard dash, and if Jim Smith of Yale, Harvard, or Cornell wins the International Trap gold medal, do not the schools share equally in the glory?

Neither is a strong intercollegiate clay target shooting program the pipe dream that it might seem. Much of the ground work is already in place, beginning with the College Unions program at Iowa which tripled in one

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year. Indiana University has a trap and skeet program which is one of the most popular events on the Bloomington, Indiana campus, and which must be limited to five hundred students even though several times that number apply, because of the lack of enough facilities. Leadership and guidance in shooting programs for the educational field is an established fact, in the form of the Life-Time Sports Education Program of the National Education Association. Further information on this program can be had by writing NEA, AAHPER, 1201 16th Street, Washington, D.C. 20036.

And, for a very practical approach to collegiate clay target shooting programs, the matter of equipment has been taken care of. Winchester-Western sponsors an equipment lease program which is available to both community and four-year schools. Equipment for one trap field and one skeet field, plus twelve guns can be leased by the school for five years, after which they become school property upon payment of a nominal fee. Complete information on this program can be had by writing Jim Dee, Manager, Shooting Development, Winchester-Western, 275 Winchester Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut 06504.

So, my clay target shooting friends, of both under thirty and over thirty, you have the idea, the source for personnel and program guidance, and an extremely attractive source for the physical equipment. The rest is up to you. Does your school or alma mater offer the "in" program, clay target shooting? If they don't, why don't they?

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SUPER VEL TESTS

(Continued from page 22)

Be assured that the Remington and Super Vel .41 Mags won't blow up any gun. There are no old and/or questionable 'junk' .41 Magnum revolvers. As a matter of fact, the .41 Mags are all barreled on .44 Magnum frames.

Back to the hunt. Some boar were sighted. It was now John's turn to try his hand with the new Super Vel .45 ACP. At about 25 yards he fired at a large, black male. The bullet entered at the rear of the rib cage and ranged forward, creasing the lung. He fell and got up; but John zapped him again, this time in the shoulder. The boar managed 10 feet and then collapsed.

The second, and fatal shot, was made at nearly 35 yards. The autopsy showed that this shot had broken the shoulder, sending secondary bone projectiles every which way, with the .45 Super Vel ripping thru the lungs causing great tissue damage. This .45 Super Vel slug has a very thin jacket of only .012 to .008 for expansion. Both slugs lodged in the off side.

This was the first game taken with the Super Vel .45 ACP 190 gr. hollow-point (1060 fps/5" bbl.). John Stafford credited with kill/225 lb. European Black Boar at 35 yds. with an Armand Swenson accurized Colt Gov't Mod. .45 ACP semi-auto pistol.

Shortly, thereafter, Lee shouted: "Watch out, they're coming at you!" And they sure as hell were—boar were all around us. I grabbed an over-head branch to make way for a large, reddish male "going like 60." I couldn't fire for fear of hitting one of our group. Lee was in a better position and fired his .45 Colt Auto at a very huge, brownish boar in full flight, quartering away, galloping downhill. The shot hit the fore-leg, dropping the animal. But he jumped up immediately and ran downhill and out of sight.

It took an hour to track down the wounded boar. He was cornered by a fence, and went wild trying to get away, darting and stopping. The giant boar, all of a sudden, broke cover, coming at Lee like the California Zephyr. Lee hit him in the right shoulder at about 18 yards with his .45, dropping him in his tracks.

The autopsy revealed that the first .45 Super Vel hollow-point had broken the fore-leg, and exited at the base of the neck on the off side. It is amazing that the boar had travelled a mile or so in this condition. The second, and killing shot, entered the

right front part of the shoulder, demolishing the lungs, with the bullet wedged under the skin on the off side, after penetrating both shoulders. The boar weighed 275 pounds.

In both kills with the .45, the Super Vels showed considerable expansion. They stayed intact. Three out of four stayed inside the target at close distances. The one that got away couldn't be expected to stay inside the animal by hitting the fore-leg and nicking the neck.

I have never been enthralled by the .45 ACP round, but this Super Vel .45 impressed me. This is because the Super Vel .45 is really in the Magnum class. The 190 gr. .45 clocks at 1050 fps out of a 5" barrel, while the Remington and Winchester .45's clock at the old 850 with their 230 gr. slugs. I chronographed some old Army surplus ammo at 790. Again we find the Super Vels moving 20-25% faster. The 40 gr. lighter Super Vel bullet means less recoil. The .45 Super Vel displayed much more expansion than any other .45 ACP ammo I have used.

Since I had some of the new Norma .45 ACP 230 gr. hollow-points, I fired some into the treed carcass at 18, 25, and 35 yards (the same distances the hogs were zapped with the Super Vel .45s.) I also fired a few Remingtons and Winchester. True, I couldn't compare knockdown very well on a dead animal, but I could compare penetration and expansion.

The Remington and Winchester .45s went thru the chest at 18 yards, leaving holes you could put your thumb into. At 25 and 35 yards they lodged on the off side, showing little expansion. The Winchester shattered the spine in the process. The new Norma hollow-points had better expansion, but not as good as the Super Vels. The Super Vel's 'smack' harder; in ballistics, hitting faster means hitting harder! Especially where hollow-points are concerned. A .45 hollow-point needs at least 1000 fps to expand properly. The Norma clocks at about 890.

The half-jacket on the Super Vel is thinner than that on the Norma, which is another reason for the superior expansion of Super Vel. The Super Vel has a cylindrically shaped hollow-point as opposed to the conventionally shaped oval sported by the Norma .45. The cylindrically shaped indentation helps the Super Vel mushroom. This is done to the corners at the bottom of the well of the hollow-point. Not being radiused as with

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an oval, these 'corners' accentuate the cracking, collapse and/or 'cave in' potential. It is the initial 'cave in' which triggers the mushroom expansion that follows.

In testing the Norma .45 hollow-point's breech pressures I found it producing 20,000 psi as compared to the 17,500 psi of the Super Vel .45 ACP.

Lee spotted a boar and stalked it for ¼ mile. After several aborted efforts to shoot, because of heavy brush, a 60-65 yard shot with a Super Vel .38 Super Auto soft-point was taken at the hog running downhill. Lee was at about 30 degrees to the boar. But he hit the sprinting boar at that distance, with brush in-between. The hog dropped when hit, thrashed for 5 seconds, and then jumped up, ran for about 20 yards and expired.

Obviously, this was the best shot of the trip. The autopsy showed the shot hit slightly forward of the shoulders, severing the aorta to exit with a ¾" wound. The unique thing about the 112 gr. Super Vel .38 Super (JSP) soft-point is its .005 concave nose. Aside from aiding expansion, this concave nose prevents 'drag' in the feed ramp.

This 1-shot running kill at 60 yds. was the first game taken with the 112 gr. concave nose Super Vel .38 Super Auto soft-point (1450 fps/5" bbl.). Lee Jurras credited with kill/180 lb. Swamp Hog with a .38 Super Colt Gov't Mod. semi-auto pistol.

These three new Super Vel cartridges proved to me that high velocity, which produces hydrostatic shock, is where knockdown and 'stop' are at. Also, that almost always, energies rise when velocities rise, even if bullet weights are somewhat reduced. Remember that reduction of bullet weight doesn't reduce entry diameters, and that reduced weight hollow-points, generally, when mushroomed by super velocities, have greater internal and exit diameters than the heavier soft-points and/or fully jacketed bullets. Most of the tested Super Vels stayed inside the game to expend their energies inside the respective animals, even at close distances. Staying inside the target is more a matter of bullet design than one of bullet weight. The smallest Super Vel tested, the 107 gr. .38 Super Auto, stayed inside the hog at close distances of 15 and 30 feet.

When it comes to the question of whether or not these new Super Vel cartridges, or any other Super Vel cartridges, will blow up guns, I am convinced that answer is NO. This is because Super Vel rounds mainly have reduced breech pressures. The only exception to be found is with re-

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gard to the .380 Super Vels. This is why the .380 Super Vel boxes are marked "... recommended for Walther PP, PPK, PPK/S" pistols only. There are just too many old .32 frame 'junkers' chambered for the .380 cartridge. The old S&W Model 51 has a breech too weak for the .380 Super Vels. Then there are those old Spanish .380 'village guns' replete with 'air bubble metals'. The .380 is the only round in which Jurras has raised breech pressures appreciably. Even so, most modern .380's handle Super Vels easily. I have, to date, fired over 5,000 Super Vels thru the tiny 14½ oz. alloy frame "Starfire" sans any malfunction. But as to other Super Vel cartridges, you need have no fear that they might be too hot for your gun. Of course, as with all modern ammo, only new and/or excellent condition guns should be chambered.

Now it's a different ballgame if some idiot forgets to say "When" as he adventurously handloads. If a handloader decides to make a hydrogen bomb out of a handgun cartridge, that's not Super Vel's fault; not even if the 'gun nut' selects to make it out of Super Vel components.

In the several blown-up guns I have examined that the owners claimed were split by Super Vel, the guns were usually defective. One revolver blew because the cylinder well didn't have radiused corners. In another instance the forcing cone hadn't been annealed. (Such manufacturing defects are found mostly in guns produced in the 1940s.) In another instance, the owner admitted having fired super pressure loads prior to firing Super Vel. Since a cracked breech will usually go unnoticed, and not open up completely, for about 6 additional firings, Super Vel was blamed for a breech which was actually cracked by a "blue pill."

Before a gun leaves the factory they are tested with excessively high pressure rounds. One maker's .357s are tested with 55,000 psi rounds, while the standard factory cartridge is about 35,000 psi. The 110 gr. Super Vel .357 produces only 29,000 psi. Quite obviously, there is no way on earth for this Super Vel to damage a .357 revolver. And, aside from the mentioned .380 Super Vel, these pressure proportions hold true for the various Super Vel factory loads.

At the Super Vel range I fired 1000 Super Vel 137 gr. .357s thru a Colt Trooper within several hours. I believe the 137 gr. Super Vel, because of its heavier slug, hits around 35,000 psi. Because the gun became hot, you may be sure the velocities and energies increased. (They rise when a weapon

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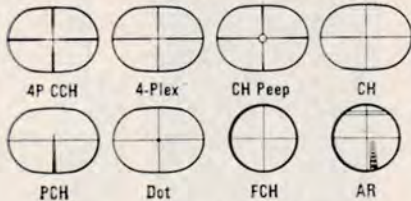
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becomes heated.) But there wasn't the slightest malfunction. The safety margins of modern handguns allow easily for 10-15% increase in breech pressures.

Super Vel does not blow up guns! Just the same, it is wisdom to use a heavy frame gun if one intends to give the gun heavy duty; and to pick a lightweight gun if the intent is light duty. This is why the gun makers make different weights. Many do just the opposite. That is, if one must carry the gun a lot, meaning usually that the gun is used often, a lightweight gun is selected . . . as per being lighter to carry. On the other hand, many select heavy duty guns to tuck in drawers, because they don't have to lug them around. Ergo, we find the heavy duty gun gathering dust in a drawer, never being fired once in twenty years; while the lightweight gun is being subjected to heavy duty. It is ridiculous!

No, sir, using lightweight guns for heavy usage with "max" loads won't blow up guns, otherwise these lightweight .38 snubs would be blowing every day from the heavy handloads some kick thru them. But you can assuredly run into headspace problems after 20,000 maximum loads. My thinking is that Super Vel, as well as Remington and Winchester and Norma, et al. are innocent as per wear and tear on a lightweight gun being used (or abused) via heavyweight work.

. . . So, The Super Vel trial came to an end. The Verdict: Super Vel is innocent of blowing up guns . . . but guilty in the first degree of making some of the most efficient handgun ammo the world has ever seen, and for building a fire under the other ammo makers.

What is your verdict???



REGENCY

(Continued from page 29)

slightly under standard diameter of the bore. The bore is .718" and this in effect, reduces the amount of choke. The upper tube indicating only .028" of constriction, while the under tube has but .008-inch. This amount of reduction can be expected to deliver about the patterns which were shot. Pattern distribution was even, uniform, and of good killing density.

It is highly desirable in an over/under shotgun to have an action that is just as shallow as possible. This, in effect, brings the hands higher and thus closer to the bore line. A deep receiver, to the contrary, places the hands much lower and this oftentimes

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creates a high shooting piece. The closer we can get the two supporting members to the center line of the barrels the more easily, effortlessly, and accurately the gun will point. In other words the gunner simply hits more with a shotgun so designed.

The over/under has been designed around a number of different lockups. The Merkel, one of the oldest of the superposed actions, latches up with a series of bolts below the under barrel. This creates an action with a lot of depth to it. Such shotguns as the English Woodward, Boss, Purdey and Westley Richards lock up by passing lumps on the breech end of the barrels into mortises in the face of the standing breech. As does the Weatherby. This is the ideal system for the achievement of a very shallow receiver.

A comparison of O/U receivers for depth indicates the following:

Weatherby Regency	2-16/32"
Beretta	2-13/16"
Browning	2-20/32"
Winchester 101	2-19/32"
Ithaca SKB	2-13/32"
Krieghoff	2-16/32"
Perazzi	2-14/32"

This shows the new Regency is sufficiently flat to perform well, placing the hands quite high and providing good pointability. The action with a lack of depth tends to reduce the recoil, too, for the turning action of the muzzles is dampened. The shooter does not get the blow to the chops that he suffers when the action and barrels are well above the hands.

This shotgun is a fitting companion piece to the high quality Mark V Weatherby rifle as it too, is high quality. The measure of an over/under shotgun, so far as I am concerned, is how it opens and closes. If it must be broken over the knee, I want none of it. The Regency breaks as smooth as silk. It closes with a sweet sounding snap like the old Purdey. The fit of metal to metal and metal to wood is superb. The bluing, the chromium finished receiver, the checkering and the finish of the high quality stock and forend commend the piece to the discerning. It has a weight which is not featherlight; neither is it too heavy. It is about right for fast handling. The gun balances well, handles smoothly, and comes to the shoulder quietly and steadily. At \$596.00 it is expensive but with all the obvious care and refinement which has gone into the manufacture it is obviously worth the price. Weatherby guarantees the gun against breakdown through its normal life or until the original owner passes it on.



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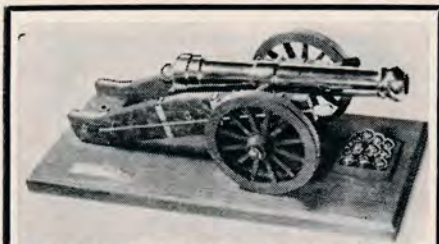
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GERMAN LAWS

(Continued from page 23)

reach the hands of criminals has influenced the sponsors of the new law to make such restrictions because they claim that if such restrictions result only in one or more lives being saved, then their efforts will be worthwhile.

According to the proposed law, the police and other authorities could refuse permission for sale of firearms and ammunition if "circumstances allow it to be concluded that the applicant does not possess the necessary reliability, expertise or physical suitability," or (only those applying for bird-scaring, tear-gas and signal guns are excluded) the would-be purchaser cannot produce "proof of need."

What strict standards the authorities apply is shown by experience in the granting of purchasing certificates for pistols and revolvers which for many years have been subject to restriction. In order to prove a need for protection, the applicant must "arrive virtually with his head under his arm," according to the Frankfurt jurist, Erich Panitz.

The legislators have so far only earned applause from West Germany's 210,000 huntsmen, who feel themselves chosen as the sole civilian weapon bearers of the nation and whose national organization, the Deutsche Jagdschutz-Verband, has campaigned for years that an obligation to obtain a firearms certificate for all lethal weapons be applied to non-huntsmen; whereas every bona fide huntsmen with a hunting license should, they assert, still be allowed in the future to purchase his rifles and shotguns, his shot and bullets, without restriction.

The non-privileged sport shooters, as well as trade and industry, have protested against this:

The German Schutzenbund (Marksmen clubs) have accused the Jagd Schutz Verein of attempting to gain a monopoly and claimed on behalf of its 670,300 members organized in 10,213 clubs, that air and small caliber weapons represent sporting equipment, "whose acquisition must be subject to the same liberal regulations as is the case with other branches of sport. The Schutzenbund regards as especially harmful to sport, that permission for obtaining sporting equipment "should be placed at the discretion of minor officials, "who often lack a subtle knowledge of the matter."

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Hebsacker, owner of the firm of Hege hunting and sporting weapons in Schwäbisch Hall, Swabia, sees in the proposed law so much as a "sentence of death for one of the oldest and most respected professions."

Sales losses of 40 per cent alone with air guns (yearly sales at present total approximately 250,000) are prophesied by the Association of Manufacturers of hunting and sporting weapons and ammunition, a realistic forecast, for when between 1965 and 1967 ten West German Lands introduced the obligation of a purchasing certificate for tear gas weapons, the sales of gas pistols declined in these Lands by 95 per cent.

The Associations of German shotgun manufacturers and firearms trade dealers, an official organization comprising 250 of the total of about 1000 West German firearms dealers, asserts that "personal dignity" would be particularly degraded by having to establish proof of need when applying for a firearms purchasing certificate and thus make this "into an object of speculative assessment by officials."

Finally, the opponents of the new law see it as an "intrusion into the realm of personal freedom" (Association of manufacturers of hunting and sporting weapons and ammunition) as well as a proof of the "terrifying . . . lack of confidence by our government in our people."

In fact, other democracies of Central Europe seem to trust their citizens more: in Austria, for example, every respectable citizen has a legal claim to a firearms purchasing certificate even for small arms.

In Switzerland, where trading with sporting and hunting guns as well as ammunition is free of restriction. Everone liable to military service keeps his army rifle with 24 rounds in his home. He may also use his service weapon for sport shooting on the shooting stand and when his obligation to military service ends at the age of 48, he has a claim to a carbine from military stores. And only rarely are the weapons put to ill usage for poaching, crime or mischief. "If there are a dozen such cases in a year," says Colonel Hans Rudolf of the Swiss military department, "then that is a lot."

German firearms manufacturers have, however, provided the legislators with ample opportunities to press their efforts for alteration in the law. According to the government undersecretary, Schiller, "they have been more and more provocative, so that legislators cannot abandon their efforts."

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the market, above all among German young people, weapons which—as the president of the shotgun manufacturers, Herr Plett, admits, “having nothing to do with hunting or sporting weapons.”

There are dealers such as the Gelnhausen dealer Trolle, who at present offers the Wehrmacht 98 K carbine at a price of 148 Marks (about \$40.00, supplied by the West German surplus property disposer) and orders come, according to Trolle, mostly from Bundeswehr reservists, but a large number also from among the nobility, from counts and barons. Then there is the Preetz firm of Landmann who two years ago brought a semi-automatic small calibre machine-pistol type gun onto the market which according to critics can be re-built in a matter of moments into an automatic weapon.

The president of the West German Marksman's club, Georg von Opel, called upon the government to ban firearms of this type, “since in the realm of sport . . . there is absolutely no need for them.” In fact, they were “ideally suited for robberies, terror, indeed even for civil war.”

When in 1968 the new Federal German weapons law forbade the manufacture of firearms which could be dismantled, manufacturer Landmann so arranged the bolts on his small calibre machine pistols, that it was no longer possible for a layman to take them apart. But as in the past, Landmann's semi-automatic firearms are still offered, among others, by the mail order dealer Eckhard G. Damaschke in Weickartshain and the Imex mail order firm in Hamm/Sieg.

Whether the hitherto unrestricted trade with such firearms has aided terror and crime in Western Germany, is questionable. In West Germany, firearms are so rarely used in crimes, that in the Federal German criminal records office at Wiesbaden, no special statistics about this have been kept since 1962. Among the total of 2.1 million registered crimes of that year there were only 1894 cases in which the offenders had shot with intent or even carried a weapon.

Crime records also reveal that: bank and street robbers as well as other armed criminals do not as a rule arm themselves with noticeable and clumsy larger guns but with revolvers and pistols which have already for a long time been subject to certificates and licences or with tear gas pistols or even with short-barrelled bird-scaring guns; German gangsters as a rule obtain their weapons not from the licensed trade but mostly through breaking into firearms shops and ammunition depots or from the black market.

The black market flourishes in the Hamburg district of St. Pauli, just as in the Frankfurt railway quarter, where Italian Berettas or Belgian FN pistols (shop price 200 to 250 Marks) can be had at a current price of 800 to 900 Marks (approximately \$200-\$250). Illegal trading with weapons is carried on in the dives of Hannover or Cologne as well as in underworld circles of the Saar where the police, during investigations of the attack on an army barracks at Lebach, discovered 125 forbidden small-arms alone.

But West German firearms connoisseurs do not need to make overtures to criminals in their hideouts in order to buy weapons. For example, they can purchase their shooting irons as tourists in Belgium. And in Italy, a foreigner needs only to enter personal details and passport number on a police form in order to buy a pistol.

The illegal weapons stocks, estimated by experts to lie at several million, is also swollen by West Germany's American allies. G.I.'s on German soil can buy weapons in “Rod and Gun” clubs and PX stores. Government minister Eugen Sauer, director of the police department in the Rhineland-Palatinate ministry of the interior, asserts that U.S. soldiers frequently “turn their weapons into cash” before they return to the States.

Whether they be criminals who wish to go on a bank robbery with a “Ballermann” (underworld jargon), whether honest citizens who would like to have a carbine as a memento of lost campaigns—all such possessors of firearms are regarded by legislators like Schiller as fundamentally a social menace, “because anyone can suddenly fly into a rage and might then possibly make use of his weapon.”

Schiller cites the case of a married man from the Kohlenpott area of North Germany, who, furious at the defeat of his football team, picked a quarrel with his wife and shot her—a conflict which could certainly also have been carried out with all kinds of other murder instruments.

Such accidents with weapons can, however, also not be completely excluded by the planned legal regulations which in the future will only approve the right of unrestricted acquisition of weapons to proven hunters.

Two years ago the Hamburg gardener Erich Koop, 55, (“Something seemed to snap within me”) shot a policeman with a revolver and seriously wounded a second official. Koop—already deprived of rights 30 years before—possessed a firearms certificate because he had passed his hunters test with distinction in 1960.



COLT .25 AUTO MYSTERY

(Continued from page 31)

review of U.S. automatic pistol history only tends to strengthen the theory that Colt actually controlled these basic features in the U.S. until 1913.

In 1897 John Browning was granted his basic automatic pistol patents that Colt quickly acquired. These patents launched Colt into the automatic pistol field and are credited by the Apr. 20, 1897 date that is stamped on all old Colt locked breech automatics. These patents picture a *pivoting* trigger and a sear trip connector that passes the magazine in the grip. But the production Colts did not use this construction. All Colt automatics preceeding the .25 model, introduced in 1908, utilized a *sliding* trigger! Coincidence perhaps? Unfortunately, we do not know when Colt acquired the Wright patent. Could they have purchased this 1896 patent because it blocked the manufacture of Browning's pistols as pictured in his patents of 1897?

The only other production U.S. automatic pistol in the period prior to 1912 was the Savage. Patented in 1905, it first appeared in .45 caliber in the service pistol Army trials of 1907. It did not appear as a production gun until 1908 when it was offered in a .32 caliber pocket pistol that held 10 shots. The Savage's firing mechanism was quite unlike any Colt. It consisted of a sliding trigger, a sear trip connected forward of the magazine in the grip, and a sear mounted on the front of the moving breechblock. In short, quite different from the Wright patent claims.

There were some other automatic pistols on the U.S. market during this period but they were of foreign design and manufacture. These include such well known names as the Luger, Mauser, Webley & Scott, and Schwarzlose. It is unfortunate that Ehbets did not mention specific names

and models in regard to his statement that some infringers had to change their pistols design. What interest that would have been to automatic buffs!

Let us not forget the H & R .25 which came with the note, for it too is quite unique. Ehbets made note of the incorrect date of April 9 which this pistol has in its slide legend. No other similar specimen has been observed by any collector consulted! All H & R .25's observed have a gap between "April" and "13" in the slide legend. The figure "9" must have been ground off the stamping die as soon as the incorrect date was discovered.

It has often been stated that the H & R .25 pistol was made from 1912 to 1915 for a total production of approximately 20,000. The pictured specimen definitely authenticates the 1912 introduction date but also poses a question. What did Colt do about it?

The note states that this patent did not expire until 1913 and that previous infringers had to change their pistols. I have not been able to find any indication that H & R changed their design from the sample pictured or that they took it off the market until 1913. Consequently, we do not know if Colt even pursued the matter any further in the short time left. It is conceivable that a quiet licensing arrangement might have been worked out.

Of course these theories are still simply that. However, the note is real and Ehbets was far too busy a man to sit around drafting false statements. Thanks to his note an entirely new light has been thrown on the Aug. 25, 1896 date that has long puzzled serious Colt automatic collectors. It will be interesting to observe the new theories and comments that will emerge relative to this new information.

We have had an overwhelming response to the GUNS Assault Rifle Contest. The correct identity of the weapons is:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) German Stg-45 | 6) Swiss Model 57 |
| 2) U.S. T-25 | 7) British Model EM-2 |
| 3) Spanish CETME | 8) Danish Madsen-Ljungman |
| 4) British L1-A1 | 9) West German G-3 |
| 5) Czech Model 58 | 10) Swiss Model 43 |

The winning names are:

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 TSgt Gerald E. Rose, U.S. Forces, Japan
 Terence C. Lee, San Francisco, Calif.
 Fred O'Hern, Jacksonville, Ark.
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TROPHY PRONGHORN

(Continued from page 39)

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hunter gets at antelope. They demanded precision gunnery at long range. Having stalked the wily pronghorn for years, we were well aware of the type of shooting called for, and under normal conditions were equal to it. But you had to stretch your imagination more than I was capable of to call this weather "weather." The wind battered us, shoved us around, made shooting impossible.

I couldn't keep the crosshairs steady on the heart-lung area of a horn-heavy old buck three or four football fields away in that would-be gale. For that matter, I couldn't hold the crosshairs on the antelope! Pinpoint accuracy on standing targets was out of the question.

After the few shots we'd touched off—all clean misses—we'd found it impossible to chamber a cartridge. Dirt in the actions made our rifles single-shot guns. Either the succeeding round wouldn't rise because the follower was jammed with sand, or if the shell did feed, it refused to chamber. It was necessary every half hour to trot around to the lee side of the truck, remove rifle bolts, then dig down into magazines and chambers with a bandana to remove dirt—enough, Max swore, for a fair-to-middlin' truck garden.

Pronghorn hunting calls for a specialized rifle. Among the flat-shooting calibers with enough "oomph" at the long antelope ranges, there are two standouts: the .264 Winchester Magnum and the 7mm Remington Magnum.

Of these, Remington's Big 7 is clearly superior in flatness of trajectory; according to published figures, the midrange trajectory at 500 yards of the .264 is 16.5", of the 7mm Mag., 14.5". For all practical purposes this is a standoff, and two inches are meaningless under hunting conditions at a quarter-mile.

Energy, however, is a different story, and here the Big 7 comes into its own. At 500 yards the .264 delivers 1370 ft./lbs. with the factory 140 gr. bullet, while the Remington 7mm 150 gr. bullet puts out 1790 ft./lbs.—almost one-fourth more.

Too much emphasis on energy for light animals? Could be. But I've seen heart-shot antelope shovel on the coal and scoot off at top speed for the better part of a mile before collapsing. And that's with a well placed shot. When, through miscalculation of wind or range, the bullet strikes behind the diaphragm or is not in the

vital area, the amount of lead a pronghorn can soak up and keep right on going is amazing.

Right after these two belted jobs I'd pick the following calibers to push pronghorn pills: the venerable .270 Winchester with the 130 gr. bullet at 3140 fps, the .280 Remington driving the 150 gr. soft point Core-Lokt at 2890, or the .30-06 shoving the 150 gr. Silvertip at a peppy 2970 fps. These three time-tested calibers are all up to the job, particularly if the range is not much more than 400 yards; all have acceptable trajectories when sighted in to put the point of impact 3 inches high at 100 yards, and all deliver ample energy.

Far from a recommended choice, although certainly adequate, are the big belted .30's—the .300 H&H, .308 Norma Magnum, the .300 Weatherby and the .300 Winchester. No question about their being able to do the job—they can. No question, either, that too few hunters practice enough with the rifle they use to be able to tolerate the inlay-loosening recoil of these miniature cannons. All drive 150 gr. pills in the 3200-3500 fps class, deliver awesome energy even when the point of impact is 1500 feet away.

I'm not ignoring the 6mm's. They're varmint calibers, not antelope calibers, and they just don't put out enough "oomph." Take the .243, for example; as loaded by the factory, the 100 gr. bullet produces 1190 ft./lbs. of energy at 300 yards. The 6mm's are suitable for pronghorns if the hunter confines himself to shots at 250 yards or less, but few such close shots are encountered.

The antelope rifle must be scoped. At the distances involved in taking antelope, any good 4X, 6X or even an 8X fills the bill. Best choice is a good variable such as the Bausch & Lomb Balvar 8, the Redfield 3X-9X variable, or the variable V-8 put out by Weaver.

I had added the 7mm to my battery primarily because I wanted it for my mainstay rifle on a forthcoming Yukon hunt. Belted 7's cooked up by Ackley, Mashburn, Huntington, and others have been around for many years, have earned enviable reputations on everything on four legs from jackrabbits to Alaska brown bear. They're in a class by themselves when it comes to high velocity, flat trajectory, and delivering maximum energy at the target. The 7mm Mag's 150 gr. factory bullet sizzles right along at 2320 fps at 500 yards, and in

doing so delivers 1790 ft./lbs. of energy.

Not only does the Big 7 shoot considerably flatter, it also packs less recoil, only about 3 ft./lbs. more than the .30-06. This is a factor the hunter—particularly the novice—cannot afford to ignore. It's safe to assume that more game has been wounded and lost, and more trophies missed completely, because the hunter was afraid of the wallop his ultra-powerful rifle produced.

As a handloader, I'm not limited to factory fodder. The Big 7 digests one and all loads with aplomb, and shoots bullets of widely varying weights remarkably close to the same point of impact. The group in the target illustrated—large though it is—was made at 100 yards by three-shot groups from bullets of 130, 145, 160 and 175 grs. Considering differences in bullet weights and shapes, and that velocities varied from 3020 to 3384 fps, I feel that the 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ " group is outstanding. The three lowest holes (in the center of the black) were made by 175 gr. factory round nose bullets. Disregard them and the nine shots with Speer spitzers of 130, 145 and 160 grs. punched out a group only 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ " overall, with individual groups of the same weight bullets grouping 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ " and 1 $\frac{3}{16}$ ". Averaged that's 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ ", and that a lot better than any of us can shoot under hunting conditions.

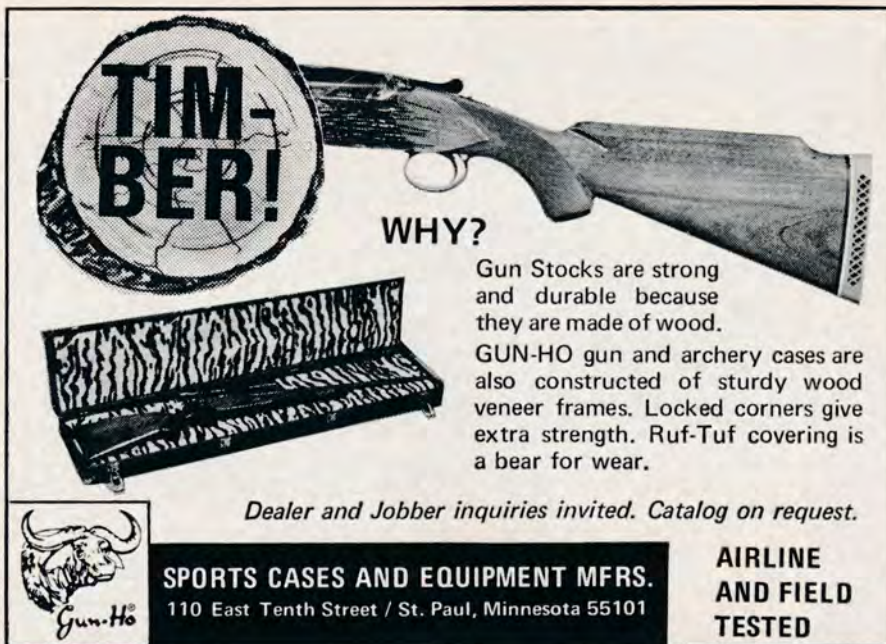
For the antelope hunt I brewed up loads based on necked-up .264 Winchester brass with Winchester 120 primers, 4831 and Speer's 145 gr. soft point spitzer. With 73 gr. of 4831, velocity was 3254 fps, this is Speer's maximum load and should be approached with caution.

That night it was a pretty discouraged quartet of pronghorn hunters who climbed wearily into bed. But the next day presented us with better hunting conditions. After breakfast, we piled into Bud's battered pickup before dawn cracked. During the night the temperature had plunged, and creeks and ponds were solidly frozen over. The wind that plagued us the day before was still with us, but not nearly as strong. The combination of the wind and low temperature made me appreciate my down-filled parka.

Shortly after daylight and maybe twenty miles from Bud's ranch house, I jumped down, opened a barbed-wire "gate" and closed it again after the truck was on the other side of the fence. Bud shut off the engine, got out and stretched, then reached into the cab and hauled out his binoculars.

"Let's take a little walk," he said, beckoning to me.

Stooped over, then on hands and



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knees, and finally crawling, we made our way to the top of a hill. Below us, in a big basin a couple of miles wide, a herd of antelope grazed quietly. We cautiously glassed the herd, searching for trophy-size heads.

"Twenty-six of them, Bud," I said.

"Yeah, and three or four good heads. I've got a feeling we're going to have some luck for a change."

Backtracking carefully, we rejoined Steve, Max, and Guy at the truck. Bud outlined his campaign plan.

"Some good ones down in that basin, fellows. But they're hard to get at. Too far from any cover. What I think we'd better do is go down and spook the herd so it runs through this little valley here."

"How?" I asked.

"There's rough country on three sides of this basin," Bud explained, "and antelope don't like it. They want to stay out in the open. I'll take two



of you in the truck and drop you off at the end of a canyon over there. All you have to do is climb down, walk along the bottom for a quarter-mile and you'll come out about 350-400 yards from the prongies. If you can get one or two good ones, fine. If you can't get a decent shot, spook the herd and the two who stay here will get some shooting."

"Sounds good to me," I said, and the others agreed.

After flipping coins to see who went where, Max and Guy climbed into the pickup with Bud. Steve and I selected shooting sites below the crest of the hill, shielded from wind, and hidden from the antelope's line of approach by sagebrush. With the sun-

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behind us we sat down to wait. A half hour later came the muted booms of several far-off shots.

Minutes later the herd, in single file with the does leading, ran up the valley just where we hoped they would. However, instead of coming down the middle in the lowest part as anticipated, they were on the far side where the ground started to slope up. The wind was at their backs.

"Must be 300 yards, Steve," I muttered, "maybe a little more."

Since Steve had taken a better head than I had on our last Wyoming jaunt, he'd generously suggested I take first shot. When the entire herd was in view I settled on a huge, heavy-horned old buck who brought up the rear.

I'd already set the BALvar 8 on 3X for a wide field of view, so I centered the tapered crosshairs mid-way up and down the big buck's body, swung with him—and with the wind—and squeezed off the shot. A split-second later I heard the meaty thump of the bullet striking and the buck nose-dived into a clump of sage and never moved again.

Immediately afterwards Steve's .30-06 FN Mauser blasted and another good buck near the end of the procession hit the dirt. Two shots, two bucks down. We stood up and grinned at each other.

The bullet took my buck high in the lungs, and the exit hole was soft-ball sized, indicating perfect bullet expansion. The right horn measured 15 1/4" with the steel tape I hastily dug out, the left one a shade under 15"—a bragging-size head. The horns were thick, with long, well-developed prongs and a wide, flaring curve.

This was the fine trophy head I'd yearned for, and it fell cleanly to my new 7mm Remington Magnum.

Steve's buck, although not quite as big, was nonetheless an excellent head with horns pushing the 14" mark.

As luck would have it, Max and Guy hadn't got shots when they spooked the herd. Their firing was done to give the antelope a scare so they would unthinkingly head for their natural escape route—the valley where Steve and I waited. Later on that day, though, both men succeeded in taking 12 inch or better heads.

I was happy. I'd collected the great specimen of the graceful pronghorn antelope I wanted. And I'd proved to myself that the 7mm Remington Magnum is an outstanding long range cartridge, that my handloads performed perfectly and despite adverse conditions, that I could place a bullet properly on running game 'way out there. I was ready for my Yukon trip.

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AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY

(Continued from page 25)

fairly light, compact, and reliable semi-automatic gun available in the 37mm Puteaux, Marc Birkigt, engineer for the French Hispano-Suiza aircraft engine firm, decided to combine the two. By placing the cannon low between the cylinder banks of the upright V-type engine, he was able to align its bore with the hub of the propeller and reduction gear housing. By simply hollowing the housing and shaft, he was able to fire the gun through the center of the hub. This had not only the advantage of doing away with synchronization; but, it placed the recoil forces very near the longitudinal axis of the plane where they could best be withstood. Various SPAD aircraft were fitted with this combination and a number of them saw combat in late 1917 and 1918. France's premier Aces, Georges Guynemer and Rene Fonck, both flew "Cannon-SPADS" extensively, destroying several enemy planes, but reverted to machine guns by personal choice. Guynemer was, in fact, responsible for development of smooth-bore barrels and companion "canister" (shotshell) ammunition for the Puteaux to increase single-shot hit probability. He preferred this to explosive shells. Full-automatic Puteaux cannon were eventually developed for this same type of installation, but not produced until after the Armistice.

In Germany, the Becker (Reinhold Becker, Krefeld, Germany, 1914 patent) 20mm automatic cannon was experimentally mounted as a flexible gun late in the war, but little is known of the results. One aircraft so equipped was shot down inside Allied lines and stirred up much interest. The Becker was quite similar in principle to the Puteaux, but simpler and lighter. Allied tests after the War rated the Becker highly—and rightly so, for it became the basis for the later development which resulted as the Oerlikon which armed half the world in the next war.

In the decade following the end of WW1, little development took place. The vanquished certainly couldn't rearm, and the victors found themselves vastly overstocked with the wartime weapons. Inventors, of course, continued their efforts, but the government money so vital to turning ideas and drawings into operational hardware was conspicuous by its absence. Rifle-caliber machine guns remained the dominant aircraft weapons.

Cannon development that had be-

gun in the U.S. late in the War proved quite disappointing, so in 1920, John Browning was again called. With his usual aplomb, he produced, in a matter of months, a basically sound 37mm design that performed superbly right off the drawing board. On a limited scale, both it and the ammunition were upgraded. By 1929, it had been thoroughly proven, though never produced. But, like the .40, it was to be ready some years later when urgent need arose. It was produced in limited numbers under license by Vickers. Those guns in 20mm and 37mm were sold primarily to Spain in the early 1930's. Oddly enough, Spaniards referred to them as "Colts," completely ignoring both the designer and the manufacturer.

In Germany, Becker's excellent adaptation of the Puteaux design was passed along to the Swiss SEMAG company for further development. In spite of the Armistice terms, this work was under nominal German control and showed considerable promise. SEMAG sold guns commercially for both air and ground use; it failed financially and was taken over by the Swiss Oerlikon Machine Tool Company. By the mid-'20's, Oerlikon had developed a successful series of guns with the help of an ex-WWI Italian pilot named Gazda. He roamed the world promoting sales and was anything but modest.

German Me 109 fighters of the Legion Kondor arrived to fight in Spain, armed with the lightweight "FF" 20mm Oerlikon automatic cannon firing through the propeller hub. The gun was mounted between the cylinder banks of the inverted-V Daimler-Benz engine. While problems were encountered, which resulted in temporary replacement of the cannon with a machine gun, the results seem to have convinced German authorities this was the route to take. Throughout WWII, nearly all fighter aircraft with suitable engines were fitted with various and ever-improved automatic cannon firing through the propeller hub.

By 1935, France had been sufficiently impressed with the Oerlikon to obtain manufacturing licenses for its Hispano-Suiza aircraft engine factories. The 20mm Oerlikon was assembled to the "Hisso" upright-V engine to fire through the propeller hub as had been done earlier with the Puteaux. By 1938, France had 400 first-line aircraft equipped with this combination. Due to the short life of

France's Armee d'air, these guns contributed little to the War as a whole, though they did prove both effective and reliable.

By 1938, both the U.S.A. and Britain had tested and tentatively adopted the Oerlikon 20mm gun for shipboard use. By 1935, Japan had adopted the Oerlikon and had obtained manufacturing licenses and designated the home-produced version "Type 99." As early as 1936, Nipponese fighters carried the Type 99 into combat in China.

As becomes clearly evident, the Puteaux/Becker/SEMAG/Oerlikon had suddenly become the standard aircraft cannon of many nations soon to be embroiled in the greatest war in history.

When the U.S.A.A.C. issued a specification for a cannon-armed interceptor-fighter in the early '30's, John Browning's 37mm automatic cannon was dusted off and installed in the Bell Aircoobra. In final form, it was designated M-9, (first operational as M-4) weighed 405 pounds, and produced a velocity of 3050 fps. It fired through the propeller hub and was mounted ahead of both pilot and engine, the latter driving the prop by means of a long extension shaft and a reduction-gear system. The majority of these guns and aircraft were utilized by the Russians who were quite pleased with performance in the ground attack role. It was extremely effective against German tanks. Relatively few Browning cannons saw service in either the Aircoobra or other Allied aircraft except for those that went to Russia.

In France, disagreement soon cropped up between Hispano-Suiza and Oerlikon in regard to the Oerlikon cannon being manufactured under license. Marc Birkigt of H-S, who had originated one "through-the-prop-hub" installation, solved this problem by designing a new Hispano-Suiza cannon. It was of gas-unlocked, delayed-blowback operation and utilized existing basic Scotti and Swebeilius patents slightly modified. Compared to contemporary designs (1933-34), it provided an unusually high rate of fire and excellent reliability. In typical fashion, France demanded tight security measures and prohibited outside sale of the H-S cannon except with government approval.

Not until 1936, had British observers finally been allowed to examine the gun; both Czechoslovakia and Russia had been refused permission to purchase it. By the end of 1938, England was producing its first H-S Type 404 20mm cannon near Grantham. Though many troubles were encountered with early British H-S guns, they were ironed out. In various

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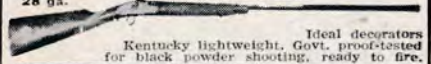
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modifications, the H-S became the standard British aircraft cannon. Late British fighters carried four of them in place of the '39-'40 battery of 8 to 12 .303 MG's.

The U.S.A. was greatly disappointed in progress of its own .9" automatic gun program. This isn't surprising since it appears that most known successful features were deliberately avoided. Consequently, H-S guns were procured for test in 1938, along with British test data. The H-S was determined to be more suitable than Oerlikons already tested. Eventually, Eclipse Division, Bendix Aviation, tooled to produce the Type 404 H-S under the U.S. designation M-2. Deliveries began early in 1942. In time, Oldsmobile, International Harvester, and IBM produced the H-S gun in the scores of thousands. Numerous changes and improvements were made during production and the gun remained the U.S. standard throughout the War. In its final form, it was considerably lighter, carried a shorter barrel, and was fitted with a new disintegrating-link feed mechanism, and was designated T31. The Hispano variants remained in U.S. service until replaced in the mid-1950's by the revolver-type M39 series described later. Nearly all H-S cannons were installed on Naval aircraft; the Army preferring to stick with multiple .50 MG's—except in the case of the P-38 Lightning.

Germany probably developed more successful aircraft cannon during WWII than any other nation. This is in direct contradiction to policy regarding the aircraft that carried them. Germany fought the entire War with only two basic fighter aircraft and two machine gun models to arm them. To that was added a half-dozen or more 15mm to 30mm cannons.

In the early 1930's, Mauserwerke utilized the basic principles of its fine MG-34 ground machine gun to develop its MG-151 20mm cannon. Originally intended to be of 15mm caliber, that size offered little improvement over the existing 13.2mm MG round, so it was increased to 20mm. Its light weight and compactness made it ideal for wing installations, and it was so used until late in the War.

The ring-locking principle (Strange) used by Rheinmetall-Borsig in the MG-131 was so highly thought of that the firm was asked to design a 30mm cannon around it. The result was the MK (Maschinen Kanon) 101. This gun utilized an unusually large cartridge compared to its contemporaries and produced very high velocities, giving it effective range not possessed by earlier guns. It was employed both in prop hub and

wing installations. Germany went early to the big 30mm bores because of the relatively little effect large-caliber MG's and 20mm cannon were producing against heavy bombers. Where U.S. and British fighter armament was intended primarily for use against other fighters, Germany's main target was the heavy bomber, with fighter-to-fighter combat being secondary.

The MK 101 was followed by another 30mm R-B design, the MK-103. This was an entirely different design utilizing gas operation and swinging locking flaps inside the bolt. It produced 450 rounds-per-minute rate of fire with electric-primed cartridges and disintegrating-link belt feed. It saw extensive use in all manner of fighter installations, including the first operational jet, the Me. 262, which carried four in its nose. It was even employed in powerless glider fighters.

Yet another 30mm gun was brought about by the bomber threat; the Rheinmetall-Borsig MK-108. Since it was intended that fighters close to very short range in attacking bombers, less emphasis was placed on velocity than rate of fire, ease of installation, and destructive power. The Becker-Oerlikon system was brought up to date, using a stamped metal receiver, unusually short barrel, and very heavy bolt. It utilized electrically-primed ammunition and fired well out of battery so the heavy bolt's inertia substituted for a locking system. This also reduced recoil forces. It used an unusual disintegrating metallic link feed system. Empty cases were returned to the link after firing, then ejected from the gun as a unit. The MK-108 performed its mission quite well; its light weight and reliability made it ideal for fighter installation, either through the hub or in the wings. Its heavy HE projectile could destroy almost any existing aircraft with a single, well-placed hit. The new generation of jet and rocket aircraft starting into service at the end of the War all carried two or more MK-108's.

At the end of the War, Germany had several high-rate automatic aircraft cannon under development, including revolver types similar to the later U.S. M-39. Nearly all were of 30mm or larger caliber, reflecting the bomber problem. None of these guns reached operational status, though some of their features will be found in later designs.

Little is known of Soviet aircraft cannon development during the War. However, the Soviet Air Force did employ large-caliber automatic cannon extensively in both ground support and air-to-air roles. The prin-

cial guns were the SHVAK 20mm and VIA 23mm in both free and synchronized installations. Prior to the advent of the U.S. Aircobra with its 37mm Browning, most Soviet aircraft appear to have been armed primarily with both large and rifle-caliber MG's. By the end of the War, all first-line fighters carried at least one 20mm cannon, plus MG's. By 1950, though, Soviet jet aircraft employed in the Korean War were armed exclusively with two or more automatic cannons of at least 23mm bore. Cannon armament since then has followed the same general pattern: several automatic cannons of 23mm or larger (usually 30mm, occasionally 37mm) caliber; moderate rates of fire; and moderate velocities. Those of the 1950's, may be generally compared with the German MK 108 insofar as size, weight, and performance are concerned and were produced in both 30mm and 37mm. Apparently, the U.S.S.R. concentrated on missile weaponry from the mid-'50's onward and cannon have fallen into limbo, at least temporarily.

As already mentioned, Japan produced Oerlikon cannons and fitted them to aircraft in the 1930's. However, after being exposed to the highly reliable Browning MG's early in WWII, Japanese engineers promptly scaled the design up to 20mm, 30mm, and, eventually, 37mm. All were satisfactory, though the 20mm HO-5 was the most successful. While our own engineers voiced countless reasons why the Browning couldn't be reworked to 20mm, the Japanese simply went ahead and did it. During the latter part of the War, the 20mm and 30mm Brownings were the basic heavy-caliber armament for virtually all fighter aircraft. Japan also produced a 47mm version of the Hispano-Suiza in 1945, but it never reached operational status. However, before Germany became so pressed, Mauser MG-151 20mm cannons were supplied to Japan.

Britain managed to produce enough H-S cannons to get through WWII, but recognized the need for improvements to cope with the "Jet Age." The major result of extensive development was the Aden 30mm automatic cannon that became operational in the early 1950's. It has proven a highly satisfactory weapon and is in use by several other Nations and on foreign-designed aircraft as well. It remains in extensive service throughout the world.

Post-war development in France followed the British pattern. The end result was the basic DEFA series of automatic cannon. It is not only the standard French weapon, but is sup-

plied to the many countries that have purchased French aircraft, principally of Dassault manufacture. It is interesting to note that in the Arab-Israeli War of 1967, this 30mm gun was responsible for all but one of the Arab planes destroyed in the air, as well as a large percentage of those wrecked on the ground. Its reputation is, for all practical purposes, comparable to that of the British Aden.

The U.S.A., never entirely satisfied with the Hispano-Suiza and other cannons, launched an extensive development program intended to produce guns with unusually high rates of fire. The reciprocating breech bolts of conventional designs, combined with the necessary length of sufficiently powerful cartridges, placed severe limitations on rates of fire. Revolving-cylinder and revolving-barrel designs were chosen to bypass this limitation.

The first successful product was the M39, gas-operated, revolving-cylinder gun with a rate of fire in the vicinity of 1600 rounds per minute. It went into service in the mid-1950's on the "Century-Series" jet fighters. It utilized a revolver-type cylinder or feed drum containing multiple chambers and fired electrically primed ammunition. The feed drum eliminated most reciprocating motion. Its rotary motion allowed chambering, firing, and extraction to take place simultaneously in different chambers. As many as four M39 guns are employed on several U.S. and a few foreign aircraft. The result is nearly four times the weight of metal that the most heavily armed WWII aircraft could throw in a given period of time. Four guns firing simultaneously put out in excess of 100 projectiles per second.

A product of long and painful development is the M-61 "Vulcan" 20mm rotating-barrel gun. It is essentially a highly refined development of the 19th Century Gatling, containing six complete barrel and breech assemblies around a central axle upon which they revolve. During rotation, cams actuate the conventional reciprocating breech mechanisms, each step in the functioning cycle taking place during a different portion of a complete revolution. In standard service form, driven by an external hydraulic or electric motor, the M-61 fires at a rate of approximately 6000 rounds per minute—the equivalent of four M-39's firing simultaneously, but with much less weight and bulk. Also, it can be made to fire considerably faster!

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combat. For a number of years, new U.S. aircraft were more often than not fitted out exclusively with missiles for aerial combat and heavy ordnance for ground targets. Current requirements have changed. New aircraft are now coming off the line fitted with one M-61 internally and with the capability of carrying two more in external packages. The M-61's tremendous rate of fire and unusually high degree of accuracy make it the most devastating aircraft cannon yet developed. Where many authorities had previously felt gun armament was ineffective in supersonic aerial combat, they now recognize that this weapon can do the job. In addition, it has

proven to be the most effective weapon available against ground targets up to and including tanks. In this role, as many as four M-61's are currently installed in cargo aircraft to provide massive fire against ground targets. This type of installation is used currently in Vietnam and a single "gunship" so equipped can actually hurl over a ton of projectiles in a handful of seconds.

So, at the present time, the M-39 and M-61 represent the epitome of adopted aircraft armament, a field only a bit over a half-century old. We don't know what the future holds, but the boys have done rather well up to now.

MEL TORMÉ'S COLTS

(Continued from page 27)

Tombstone when she was seven years old. I asked if she had ever seen Wyatt Earp? She said "Yes, I saw them all. I saw Wyatt Earp, Doc Holiday, and I saw the Earp Brothers and they were no better than the Clantons and the McLourey's and Curly Bill. They were all a bunch of bandits. Bandits from the standpoint of being saloon hangers-oners and gamblers, our-day hippies."

Getting back to how I started. One of the greatest thrills of my life was seeing the movie "The Plainsman", with Gary Cooper. He wore a pair of single actions with stag handles, and he had a very tricky way of putting them back in the holsters—boy, it was the talk of the neighborhood. From then on, my favorite gun was the single action and when I went on the road with a band in 1942—I was sixteen—my burning ambition was to own a Colt Single Action Army revolver.

I started collecting guns when I moved out to Hollywood. I moved there in 1943. The war was on, and there was great interest in military arms. The W.H.B. Smith book, "Man-

ual of Small Arms" came out in paperback about that time and so I got sidetracked. The first gun I ever owned was not the single action, but a Luger. All the gun shops in town were selling Lugers, P-38's, Nambus, Mausers and .45 automatics, so I had a fairly good representative automatic collection with a few revolvers thrown in. But when the war was over, the desire to own a military weapon died and I phased out all those guns and went back to my first love, the Colt single action.

The first single action was given to me just after the war by Sidney Miller. He's the guy who works with Donald O'Connor. Sidney had gotten it originally from Jackie Cooper. It was Cooper's gun and in all fairness to Sidney, he wasn't being disloyal to Cooper, I think he bought the gun from Jackie Cooper and he gave it to me because he knew I had a gun collection. It was a .45, 7 1/2" barrel, in the smokeless powder series. It had almost no finish at all, only faint traces of blue, and worn rubber handles. I still have that gun in my collection today, and I have always treasured it. The fascination of this gun, and Colts in general, got to me so that I went into "phase 2" in my collecting. I started collecting single actions primarily but I also went in for Colt percussion guns. The field seemed so enormous that I did not feel I could cut the mustard on it, and, at that time, I let go of a lot of single actions. Looking back, I could kick myself for disposing of some of them. I had one nickel flat top single action that had a cut-off barrel. With the restoration that's done these days, and a letter on it, I could have had it restored to its former glory. It was sold to a guy who

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was a Negro cowboy named Glines and his name was engraved on the back-strap. I let it go because it didn't have an original barrel and, of course, you couldn't replace barrels in those days. So that was phase No. 2. In "phase 3, I disposed of almost all of the percussion revolvers and really began to concentrate on just single actions. That's a chronology of it as far as how I started.

I think that Colt collectors, in general, are essentially preoccupied not with the gun, but with history; and the gun is an artifact of history, a secondary kind of tool of history.

I have always found it difficult to understand why so many people put their guns in vaults, although I suppose it's done for security reasons. I think that part of the fun is taking them to gun shows, having them at home, and being able to enjoy them. I think they are decorative; I think that they are historic. I also enjoy the mechanical beauty. I became involved and interested in obscure elements of the gun; the various shades of blue to be found on different single actions, and the methods of bluing. They started with the old charcoal bone blue, going to gas or fire blue and then finally to chemical blue. That, to me, is also part of the chronology.

I am very grateful that this is a capitalistic country. I am essentially a capitalist. I believe in the right of every guy to pull himself up by his bootstraps, wherever he may come from, and be a millionaire. But, there are certain real millionaire types who have knocked the value of guns up to such an extent that the serious gun collector—who maybe makes anywhere from fair money to good money—cannot begin to compete from the standpoint of procuring guns. Maybe it's because guns have accelerated in price so much in the past ten or fifteen years. But, it seems now that money has lost meaning to a lot of people. There are a lot of collectors I know who will purposely pay an exorbitant price for a gun. I mean a gun that's worth, let's say \$1,000 on today's market, a guy would think nothing of paying \$5,000 to keep it off the market and to acquire it. This destroys actual values. There are certain dealers who are flagrant about this. The people of whom I am speaking are few but there are some.

I think that collecting has gotten into a very strange phase. Many collectors that I knew during the war and immediately after the war are completely discouraged now and have completely gone off the guns that are out of their reach; not that they can't afford to buy expensive guns but because the guns have been escalated all

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out of proportion to their actual current value.

When I started collecting single actions just after the war, one of the great fascinations was; "It's over team, it's done with—there will be no more single actions." The story went around a great deal that all of the tooling was lost. They destroyed it. This put them in the category of antiques, and I began to collect it because I felt the value must rise. In 1952, when I first met B. F. Conner, who was at that time the President of Colt, he told me "You can forget the single action." You can imagine how I felt when I met Fred Roth, who then took over from B. F. Conner and he said, "Hey, we are bringing out the single action and we are going to turn the factory back into Colt's Firearms Mfg. Company." This was very worrisome to many people. But it hasn't done a thing to the value of single actions.

We now get to gun fakes vs. gun restoration. I used to be stiff-backed about restoring a gun. I am still very stiff-backed about a gun with no finish on it and no original bluing on it being made into a new gun because you want to see it glitter and gleam. I have owned some guns that were desperately junk guns and I wouldn't own them if they were not good guns. One is a .32-44 Smith & Wesson; another is a .38 Smith & Wesson, both flat tops.

I located Tom Haas in Spencer, Indiana, and was told that he was the only guy in this country who could charcoal blue a gun like they did in the old days. I then proceeded to see a couple of examples of his work. I had long talks with a few fellows about Tom and he is really very good. I talked to Tom and told him about two guns of mine. On one, the flat top sight had been completely wacked off. There was only a semblance of it left. I said I wanted the gun restored, but I had never had this done before and I felt funny about it. I didn't want anybody to suspect my guns. About 98% of my guns don't have to be touched but sometimes you can only get an odd caliber or a variation, in less than desirable condition. He restored 4 guns of mine and he did an absolutely beautiful job. He charcoal blued both of my full flutes and I then sent the guns to Colt to have them case hardened. Colt's case hardening is very much the same today as it was when those guns were originally made.

I look at every single action I get. I think it's important to know serial numbers. I made it a penchant to remember serial numbers. I know that my .22 R. F. standard is No. 1734. I know that my Class C engraved sin-

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gle action with carved ivory grips is No. 354900. I know that my Buntline is No. 28822. Now take the long fluted variations. I know my single action with the long fluted cylinder is serial number 331188. Just for the record, in 1913, the Colt factory had on hand a surplus of cylinders for the double action army Model of 1878. As it has always been a practice of the Colt factory to utilize everything they have in parts, they decided to mill in the bolt locking cuts of the 1,380 odd cylinders and use them in the production of single action revolvers. The diligent collector knows that these long fluted cylinders were used in revolvers 330001 to 331380.

During one of my guest appearances on a Lucille Ball show, we had to do a mock riot. For the scene, they handed me an old single action that had been left in the props department from the old RKO days. As I took the gun in hand, I automatically noticed the serial number. It was 331187 which was the consecutive mate to my long fluted variation, although it didn't have the long fluted cylinder in it. I immediately asked to see the rest of the single actions on hand in the RKO prop department, and after going through all of the thirty some odd pieces, they had, I found every component part of the original long-fluted gun. Had I not been familiar with serial numbers, I would not have noticed that the gun should have had the long-fluted cylinder in it and would have passed it by. As it turned out, I now have the mate to my gun reunited after all these long years.

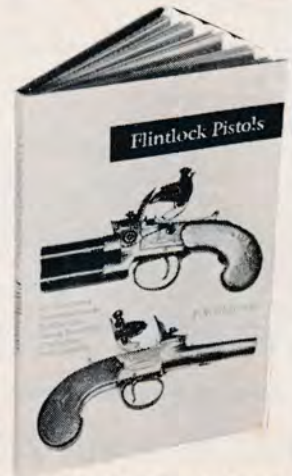
The next phase in gun collecting is fakes. Regarding these, I am the first one to say, "here, here." I am sure the readers who do collect antique guns are all cognizant of the fact that there are a lot of foreign imports brought into this country which follow the general dimensions and outline of some rather well known and quite valuable antique Colt revolvers. These, are marked replicas, and rightly so. And this is fine for the shooter who enjoys handling and using a gun that looks and feels like its antique counterpart without actually using up or wearing out an original antique. Also, these are fine for the collector that feels he doesn't wish to invest the large amount necessary to own the original and wishes to fill a space in his evolution of Colt revolvers inserting the modern replica as a respective model.

I was in England some time ago, and met Peter Dale, a well known collector. He said he knew of a man who had a single action, a .476 Eley flat top—one of only two made. I have a .476 Eley, but it is the standard

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model. So, I met the man and in the course of events he showed it to me. It was reblued but, a genuine flat top. The 7 1/2" barrel was marked ".476 Cal." The serial number was 127739. I already owned 127737 and 127741. The 127741 is a .45 Boxer and the 127737 is a .44 Russian. So, I agree to the possibility that this gun could be a .476. But, since other flat-tops I've seen had 5 1/2" barrels, it was unlikely that it did not go out as a 7 1/2" barrel. So, I sent a letter to the factory and found

that the gun was shipped with one of my 5 1/2" barrel guns. Somebody had faked the gun. This is the advantage to knowing barrel designations and caliber designations.

That is pretty much of what Mel Torme and I covered in our discussion. If you ever get the opportunity to see his collection at one of the big gun shows, I am sure that you will be impressed, not only with the guns, but also with the man—may his tribe increase.

HUNTERS NOTEBOOK

(Continued from page 35)

vertently handling them, and also removes the lesser-known scent glands which are located in the hoofs of all terrestrial animals. None of these should be alternately handled with edible meat portions of the critter.

Most animals have several areas of scent glands. Knowing their locations helps tremendously in avoiding contact with them in the interests of better eating meat. The more delicate the flavor of that meat the more easily it can be fouled. Aside from glands between their split hoofs, antelope, for instance, have one atop the rump, ahead of the tail. And the bucks also have a major one in the black cheek patches. Thus, when skinning them out, which is highly advisable during the warm weather which usually marks pronghorn hunting seasons, the hunter should continually roll the hide away from the meat as he proceeds, then definitely keep hide and meat separated in transit.

Mountain goat billies have black lip-like scent glands adjacent to their stiletto-like horns. Both goats and pronghorns, which are distantly related, thus leave their male calling cards when they rub their horns on bushes during the rutting seasons.

Big game is by no means the only game that should be given understanding care in the field. Except in the coldest weather, and often then because of the confined space in which it is transported, all small game meats will profit by the addition of a goodly dollop of thoughtful care. Some of the procedures are astonishingly simple yet enormously effective.

All birds, for example, are cased in an overlapping sheath of wind- and moisture-shedding feathers. These are lapped, like the shingles on a roof, so that if the birds face into the weather the feathers will foil any attempts to disrupt the plumage and thus cause loss of body heat or wetting of the warm under-feathers.

Obviously, then, the best way to rapidly cool a game bird is to hang it by its feet. The skin muscles, which hold the feathers neatly in place during life, are relaxed in death. So, when foot hung, the feathers loosen and fall away from the body, animal heat finds it easier to escape, and the bird will cool four times as rapidly as if it were hung by the head.

In warm weather, after suitable pictures are taken and tall tales told, I frequently tear handfuls of feathers off pheasants, grouse and other upland birds; off the ribs and breast especially. Then I separate the birds so no two touch each other, either while hanging or being conveyed, belly up, in a vehicle. Finally, immediately on arrival home, I finish the plucking or skin them, dress them out, cut them up in suitable pieces for cooking, wash away all blood and other defilement, then pop them into a refrigerator to drain and cool. If this isn't done promptly, all upland birds acquire a clinging slimy coating between their skins and meat, which certainly doesn't improve their table qualities.

Upside-down hanging of upland game birds works just fine for quick cooling. But ducks and geese don't loosen their feathers much in such heels-up hanging, except that their wings droop away from their bodies. So, as soon as I've taken the needful pictures of bagged waterfowl, I generally pluck them in the field; if shooting action permits, of course, or bag limits are already filled.

While they retain much of their original body temperatures, their feathers come out much easier, even the underlying down then rubs off much more easily. Such denuding of the carcass then gives them far greater opportunity to cool more rapidly, which certainly does no harm in preserving their true game flavor. It also avoids the somewhat laborious process of doing all of that messy job at home, no insignificant factor after a

long day afield. All that remains is a final touch-up job, along with removing their innards; at home, where plenty of rinsing water is available.

The general tendency to hang ducks and geese by their necks presents another problem. Some shot pellets invariably pierce their digestive tracts, loosing the juices thereof. When hung by the neck, the first spoilage is sure to occur at the thin and flabby abdominal tissues. Ducks aren't quite so touchy about this, but geese won't tolerate much delay.

So, I generally lay waterfowl on their backs if gutting is to be delayed. But, if the prospects are for long delay, I simply cut around the anus, then forward through the belly, and haul out the innards, saving only the gizzards, hearts and livers.

Frankly, the tendency of most hunters to bring home small game, just as it was picked up in the field, is a sop to sophomore pride. They want to show off, to give friends and family a chance to see the evidence of their prowess. To me, it's enough that hunting companions and I have seen game in its full natural beauty and that my cameras have pictured game and hunters. From then on, my basic goal is preserving the full flavor of its meat for a secondary dining enjoyment of a successful hunt.

The same criticism can be leveled at breast-beating big-game hunters who insist on arriving home with gutted but otherwise intact carcasses.

There's nothing particularly new or different about such game handling as I've described. Hunters who like to eat game, as the natural result of their pleasure in being afield, have been practicing such methods for generations. I learned my basics from my father, back in the days when duck limits were 75 per day; and in those days any capable gunner could bag that many. Season, or as they're known nowadays, possession limits were then unknown. Though we shot hundreds of them every year, we ate every duck and goose that was bagged, though we might discard badly shot-up birds.

A piece of game was then considered in its true light—fine eating—and I've never outgrown the basic idea that it still is. But if my hunting Dad had ever caught me wasting game through my own negligence that would have put a screeching stop to my free use of his firearms.

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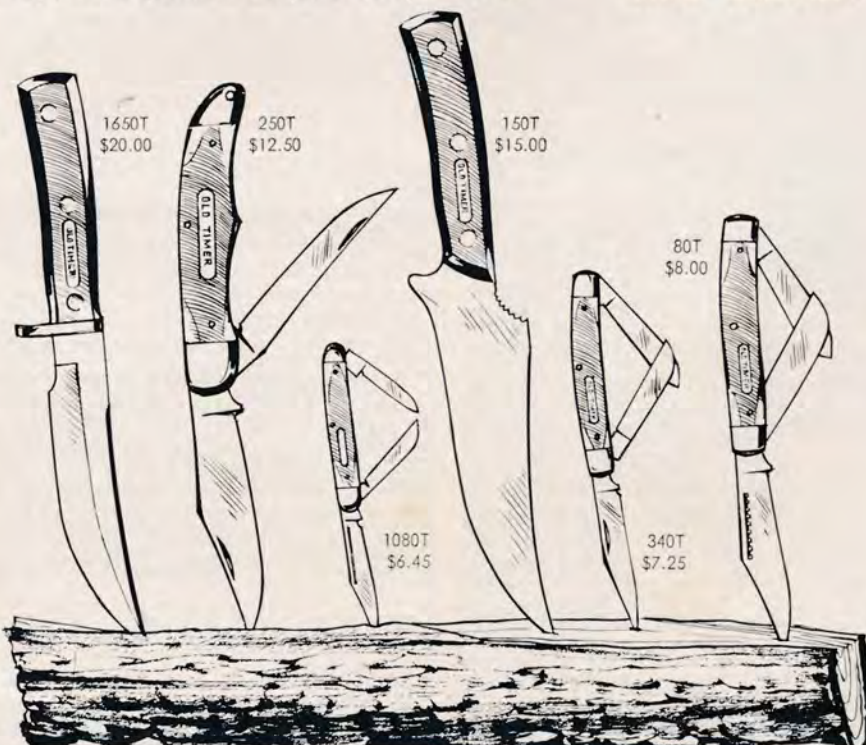
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CUSTOM VS. MAN-MADE

(Continued from page 33)

a stock from a wood blank gives his stocks a definite appeal to many knowledgeable shooters. When I visited his new and expanded store in Denver he had only one stock on hand. He does not keep his special stocks long because each is created for a specific individual and each stock varies from all of the others. Like Keith Stegall, his work is commissioned by and executed for specific shooters. Naturally, he does keep one or two classic stocks on hand for the walk-in customer who wants an exceptionally fine custom rifle.

Up until recently, factory rifle stocks have remained spartan and utilitarian. As a result, these "fit the average guy" stocks have spawned a flood of machine made stocks that are generally superior in design and handling. They give the shooter a tremendous value for his dollar. Fajen, in particular, has produced an all-encompassing line of stocks and has moved deeply into the modern, streamline stock design in addition to continuing to produce varying styles of stocks in the classic manner. His basic wood is American walnut that, while walnut, unfortunately cannot commence to rival the European walnut. American walnut grows relatively fast and lacks the dense hard characteristics of the European variety but Fajen is forced to use this wood because of its relatively low cost. His business is founded upon volume sales. In order to obtain volume production, he has had to install special, modern, high speed machinery to rough out, finish, sand, smooth, inlet and complete the rough wood blanks.

Because he must cater to the public's taste, his supply of wood will run from American walnut through Claro Walnut to Mesquite and Birds Eye Maple to mention only a few. Public demand controls his purchases of woods. Many of these woods have eye catching appeal with tremendous visual contrasts but they lack the texture and denseness that both Stegall and Swanson must have to turn out a fine custom stock.

Nor can these firms afford to hand inlet a stock to provide the perfect fit that both Stegall and Swanson give their customers. As a result, the pur-

chaser must be satisfied with a basically good metal to wood job. Today, the widespread use of Glass Bedding, which Stegall will not use, has enabled the average shooter to obtain excellent bedding from an otherwise production routed and inletted stock. But I am not saying that a good Fajen stock will not shoot accurately or that it will shoot loose or change the point of impact. I have several Fajen stocked rifles that have given me years of reliable service under all field conditions and I have tremendous respect for Fajen's ability to furnish such excellent stocks to the average shooter. Nevertheless neither Fajen nor any other manufacturer of machine-made stocks will pretend to offer the purchaser the quality inherent in a Stegall or Swanson stock.

These machine-made stocks give the purchaser a chance to work with wood and perhaps realize a long standing dream of owning a truly personalized rifle that may be far superior to a factory stock. The shooter may, at modest cost, either purchase a completely finished stock for his barrelled action or he may buy, perhaps, a fully inletted, semi-finished stock or one of the other types that will enable him to spend many relaxing and enjoyable hours working on it. When he has completed the job he can sit back with pride and point to his handywork. This appreciation of hand work has often guided shooters into ordering a Stegall or Swanson stock.

The low cost and wide range of styles and types of machine-made stocks has filled a gap that existed for many years and this stock has its place. So has the hand crafted stock. Today's shooter can literally write his own ticket as to specifications and cost. He can invest in an heirloom that will appreciate in value as time passes or he can obtain a machine-made stock that will give him lots of relaxation and pleasure.

Because the hand crafted, custom stock depends upon the declining quantity of fine European walnut, there is some question as to how much longer men like Swanson and Stegall can continue to obtain this wood. When it is gone, that will be the end.

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We at Guns Magazine would like to ask your help with this current survey. So that Guns Magazine can provide you with the best information during the coming year.

After each name there are numbers from 1 to 5, they represent your degree of knowledge about each of the products.

1. I have excellent knowledge of this product and its manufacturing company.
2. My knowledge of this product is good.
3. My knowledge of this product is fair.
4. My knowledge of this product is poor.
5. I know absolutely nothing about this product and its manufacturing company.

(A) What is your familiarity with each of these Rifles? (circle your choice)

Browning Arms	1	2	3	4	5	Ithaca	1	2	3	4	5
Colt	1	2	3	4	5	Marlin	1	2	3	4	5
Galef	1	2	3	4	5	Mossberg	1	2	3	4	5
H. & R.	1	2	3	4	5	Parker-Hale	1	2	3	4	5
High Standard	1	2	3	4	5	Remington	1	2	3	4	5
Interarms	1	2	3	4	5	Savage	1	2	3	4	5

Smith & Wesson	1	2	3	4	5
Stoeger	1	2	3	4	5
Sturm Ruger	1	2	3	4	5
Universal	1	2	3	4	5
Weatherby	1	2	3	4	5
Winchester	1	2	3	4	5

(B) What is your familiarity with each of these Shotguns? (circle your choice)

Browning	1	2	3	4	5	Galef	1	2	3	4	5
Bushnell	1	2	3	4	5	H. & R.	1	2	3	4	5
Charles Daly	1	2	3	4	5	High Standard	1	2	3	4	5
Crosman	1	2	3	4	5	Ithaca	1	2	3	4	5
Colt	1	2	3	4	5	Iver Johnson	1	2	3	4	5
Europa	1	2	3	4	5	Marlin	1	2	3	4	5
Garcia	1	2	3	4	5	Mossberg	1	2	3	4	5

Parker-Hale	1	2	3	4	5
Premier	1	2	3	4	5
Remington	1	2	3	4	5
Savage	1	2	3	4	5
Stoeger Arms	1	2	3	4	5
Universal	1	2	3	4	5
Winchester	1	2	3	4	5

(C) What is your familiarity with each of these Handguns? (circle your choice)

Century Arms	1	2	3	4	5	Iver Johnson	1	2	3	4	5
Colt	1	2	3	4	5	Mershon	1	2	3	4	5
Dan Wesson	1	2	3	4	5	Navy Arms	1	2	3	4	5
Galef	1	2	3	4	5	Numrich	1	2	3	4	5
H. & R.	1	2	3	4	5	Pachmayr	1	2	3	4	5
Hawes	1	2	3	4	5	Remington	1	2	3	4	5
Interarms	1	2	3	4	5	Replica	1	2	3	4	5

Sturm Ruger	1	2	3	4	5
Savage	1	2	3	4	5
Smith & Wesson	1	2	3	4	5
Sterling	1	2	3	4	5
Stoeger	1	2	3	4	5
Thompson-Center	1	2	3	4	5
Universal	1	2	3	4	5

(D) What is your familiarity with each of these Air Rifles & Air Pistols? (circle your choice)

Benjamin	1	2	3	4	5	Hy Score	1	2	3	4	5
Crosman	1	2	3	4	5	Interarms	1	2	3	4	5
Daisy	1	2	3	4	5	Mathews & Boucher	1	2	3	4	5
Galef	1	2	3	4	5	Savage/Anschutz	1	2	3	4	5
Heathways	1	2	3	4	5	Service Armament	1	2	3	4	5

Sheridan	1	2	3	4	5
Smith & Wesson	1	2	3	4	5
Webley	1	2	3	4	5
Walther	1	2	3	4	5
Winchester	1	2	3	4	5

(E) What is your familiarity with each of these Scopes? (circle your choice)

Bausch & Lomb	1	2	3	4	5	Leupold Stevens	1	2	3	4	5
Bo-Mar Tool	1	2	3	4	5	Lyman	1	2	3	4	5
Bushnell	1	2	3	4	5	Pecar-Tucson	1	2	3	4	5
Edmund Scientific	1	2	3	4	5	Realist	1	2	3	4	5
Kallimar	1	2	3	4	5	Redfield	1	2	3	4	5

Scope Instrument	1	2	3	4	5
Southern Precision	1	2	3	4	5
Tasco	1	2	3	4	5
Universal	1	2	3	4	5
Weaver	1	2	3	4	5

(F) What is your familiarity with each of these Reloaders & Suppliers? (circle your choice)

Badger Supply	1	2	3	4	5	Lee Loaders	1	2	3	4	5
Bair	1	2	3	4	5	Lyman	1	2	3	4	5
Belding Mull	1	2	3	4	5	Mayville	1	2	3	4	5
Birchwood	1	2	3	4	5	National Lead	1	2	3	4	5
C & H Tool	1	2	3	4	5	Norma Precision	1	2	3	4	5
Gander Mountain	1	2	3	4	5	O'Haus Scale	1	2	3	4	5
Herters	1	2	3	4	5	Pacific Gun Sight	1	2	3	4	5
Hodgdon	1	2	3	4	5	Parker-Hale	1	2	3	4	5

Ponsness	1	2	3	4	5
RCBS	1	2	3	4	5
Remington	1	2	3	4	5
Savage	1	2	3	4	5
Stoeger	1	2	3	4	5
Super Vel	1	2	3	4	5
Texas Reloaders	1	2	3	4	5
Winchester	1	2	3	4	5

(G) What is your familiarity with each of these Gun Cases and Leather Goods? (circle your choice)

Bianchi	1	2	3	4	5	Galef	1	2	3	4	5
Cathey Ent.	1	2	3	4	5	Hettrick	1	2	3	4	5
Challenger Mfg.	1	2	3	4	5	Ithaca	1	2	3	4	5
Don Hume	1	2	3	4	5	Kolpin	1	2	3	4	5
Gun-Ho Cases	1	2	3	4	5	Lawrence	1	2	3	4	5

Penguin	1	2	3	4	5
Precise Imports	1	2	3	4	5
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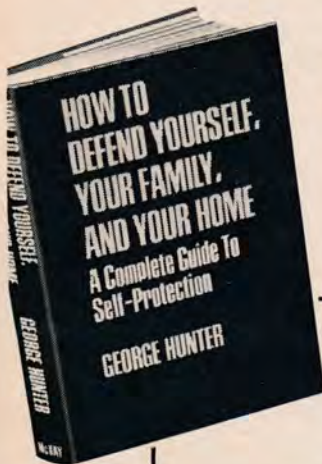
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FBI, Police, Army Information

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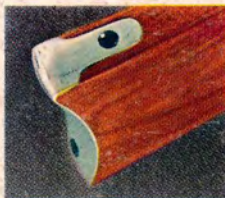
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receiver, left side



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