



SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH SERVICE

P.O. Box 4181 • Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH DATA
ISSUE NUMBER 10
October, 1979

Included in this issue are tabulations of items pertaining to small arms produced at Springfield Armory and Rock Island Arsenal during fiscal years 1905 through 1909.

Serial number data included consist mainly of numbers on Model 1873 rifles reported by the 5th U. S. Infantry in 1879. Although the specific model designation is not stated in the records, these are definitely cal. .45 arms and based on the date of the report can only be Model 1873. One puzzling fact is that the 5th Infantry reported that many of these arms had been in use since 1872. This data comes from Ordnance Note No. 122, and it was furnished through the courtesy of Bill Brophy.

Model 1903 serial numbers enclosed are those of worn or otherwise defective rifles reported to the Chief of Ordnance by Companies D and I of the 21st Infantry in 1913. Springfield in turn reported the disposition of arms of their manufacture bearing those serial numbers. Although the report is not resolved in the correspondence, it can be surmised that most of the rifles in question were of RIA rather than SA manufacture. These records were found in the National Archives.

Krag serial numbers furnished are those which will appear as Appendix 9 in our forthcoming book, The Krag Rifle Story. Parts of this book have already been sent to the printer, and the rest should go in the next few weeks; however, we welcome any data for this list that anyone would care to provide up to the last minute.

On the subject of Krag books, it appears that the arms collecting fraternity is going from famine to feast. The Krag Rifle, written by Bill Brophy and published by Beinfeld, has just been published; The Krag Rifle Story, by Frank Mallory with Ludwig Olson, will soon appear; and we understand that one more is in preparation. The Krag Rifle Story we feel is unique among them because it is based on the internal notes and correspondence of developers and users of the arms; thus, the word "story" in the title. We are really hoping to dispel a lot of "collector lore" which has arisen about the Krag, and hopefully we have succeeded. Following our association with Lud Olson, who is best known for his work as an NRA technical editor and as author of Mauser Bolt Rifles, the book has expanded considerably in size and scope to include Danish and Norwegian models, as well as a "mystery" model (the only known Krag having dual opposed locking lugs). Presently it stands at 225 pages (8 1/2 x 11) with about 400 illustrations, many based on original drawings, prints, and photos found in the National Archives. Among the photos there are very few "atmosphere shots", but we couldn't resist including photos such as

West Point cadets armed with the Model 1896 Cadet rifle, which even the West Point Museum doesn't have (come to think of it, we also show a Cadet rifle they no longer have); the 25th Infantry Bicycle Corps; and a really wild Philippine Constabulary trooper. The book is also full of data: production figures on nearly everything, tabulations of rifles on hand in various configurations, numbers of Gallery Practice and other limited production arms issued and to whom, etc. Altogether this is a very significant effort in the field of arms books, and we hope to have it out before this Christmas.

Based on preliminary printing cost estimates, we expect to be able to hold the retail price of The Krag Rifle Story to \$20, and to offer a 20% discount during the first three months after publication. Also, the first hundred volumes will be serially numbered and autographed. Please return the form below if you would like us to reserve one of these for you, and we will drop you a card when they are ready for shipment.

Next issue will continue the publication of Springfield and Rock Island production tabulations.

(date)

To: Springfield Research Service
Box 4181
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Please reserve ____ copy(s) of The Krag Rifle Story for the undersigned, and notify me when they are ready to be shipped.

(name)

(address)

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1905

Fabricated

43,905 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, Mod. 1903
1 Magazine rifle, cal. .22, Mod. 1903 special

2,705 Hospital Corps knives
377 Officers sabres
500 Fencing bayonets

5 Barrels, special
10,286 Bronze firing pins
738 Drill cartridge barrels
3 Firing mechanisms for sub cal. attachments

Various screw drivers, sight & muzzle covers, brushes &
cases, small arm oilers, sabre scabbards & parts, spare parts

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1905

Experiments and Investigations

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>
<u>1904</u>	
Dec. 2	Determination of most efficient form of service cubic parabolic rifling curve for the U. S. magazine rifle model 1903.
Dec. 24	Measurement of U. S. magazine rifles from the State of Maryland, complained of as having defective rifling.
Dec. 28	Complaint that the tightness of the bands of the U. S. magazine rifle, model 1898, affected the accuracy of the arm.
Dec. 28	Complaint of arms issued to the National Guard, State of New York.
<u>1905</u>	
Jan. 12	Targeting of the U. S. magazine rifles, mod. 1903
Feb. 4,	Comparative tests of different makes and forms of bullets,
March 29,	including those of four private manufacturers, and different forms from Frankford Arsenal
June 3	Examination of "Sketch of Muffler" for decreasing report of discharge of firearms.
April 1	Test of Smith-Condit selfloading gas operated rifle.
April 18	Examination of combination bayonet and telescopic sight, submitted by Col. F. W. Stillworth, N. G. P.
April 22	Calculations on the action of semi-automatic rifle, designed at Springfield Armory.
April 24	Test of selfloading magazine rifle, model 1904. Lieut. Jans Schoubu, inventor.
April 26	Various designs submitted by S. A. Owen in connection with the model 1903 rifle.
May 3	Competitive firing between gallery practice ammunition for the models of 1898 and 1903 rifles, and various kinds of revolver ball cartridges requiring sub caliber devices.
May 3	Effect of bore deposits on accuracy of the service rifle.
May 26	Increasing the barrel life of the model 1903 rifle.
June 5	Blank firing and drill attachments for Vickers Sons and Maxims automatic machine gun, cal. .30, model of 1904.
June 5	Warner & Swazeys telescopic sight.
June 8	Accuracy and waterproofing of Frankford vs. private ammo.
June 10	Headless shell extractors for the model of 1903 rifle.

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1906

Fabricated

1 Magazine rifle, cal. .30, model 1898
66,573 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, Mod. 1903
1 Magazine rifle, cal. .22, Mod. 1903

1,500 Hospital Corps knives
100 Officers' sabers with scabbards
97 Officers' sabers without scabbards
2,176 Bayonets, complete
500 Fencing muskets
800 Fencing bayonets

7 Barrels, special
2 Barrels, complete with firing attachment
1,355 Bronze firing pins
522 Drill cartridge barrels
3 Firing mechanisms for sub cal. attachments
196 Front sights, movable

Various screw drivers, sight & muzzle covers, brushes & thongs, oilers & thong cases, barrack cleaning rods, sabre cases, small arm oilers, sabre scabbards & parts, spare parts, and tools

Altered and Repaired

3,126 Carbines altered and repaired
341 Cadet rifles repaired
34,325 Bayonet scabbards altered and repaired
1,765 Cavalry saber scabbards browned

Various repairs to curb bits and chains, swords and sabers, Gatling guns, Vicker-Maxim guns, Winchester shotguns, small-arms oilers, subcaliber attachments, and magazine rifles

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1906

Fabricated

36,375 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, Mod. 1903 (w/o Mod. 1905 sights, bayonets, and related parts) (for storage for issue in time of war). New model sights, bayonets, and related parts for these rifles are in various stages of completion.

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1907

Fabricated

36,875 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, with model of 1905 sights, for 1903 ammunition
40,140 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, without rear sights, for 1906 ammunition
25,087 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, without front or rear sights, for 1906 ammunition
16 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903 (Special)

341 Gallery Practice rifles, cal. .22, model 1898
3,002 Gallery Practice rifles, cal. .22, model 1903

154,467 Bayonets, model of 1905
186 Officers sabers
450 Hospital Corps knives

15,360 Movable front sights, rifle
1,000 Barrack cleaning rods, cal. .30, M.1903, for model of 1898
124 Barrels and receivers, cal. .22, model 1898
1,118 Barrack cleaning rods, cal. .22, model 1898
6,470 Holders, cal. .22, model of 1903

Various screw drivers, sight & muzzle covers, brushes & thongs, oilers & thong cases, barrack cleaning rods, saber cases, small arm oilers, saber scabbards & parts, spare parts, and tools

Altered and Repaired

2 Colt Automatic guns, cal. 6 mm, altered to cal. .30
3 Gatling guns, repaired

20,000 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, altered from rod bayonet

Various carriages, tripods, limbers, magazine rifles and carbines, Colt's revolvers, and bayonets and scabbards repaired

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1907

Fabricated

33,465 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, adapted for model 1906 ammunition, except rear sight leaf

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1908

Fabricated

62,565 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, with model of 1905 sights, chambered for 1906 ammunition
31,030 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, chambered for 1906 ammunition, previously manufactured, equipped with model of 1905 sights
2,300 Gallery practice rifles, cal. .22, model of 1903

15 Barrels, model of 1903, with receivers
6 " " " " " and bolt stops
3 " " " " breech mechanism, complete
1 Receiver, " " " bolt stop
37 Receiver, cal. .22, model of 1898

114,960 Bayonets, complete, model of 1905
1,420 Hospital Corps knives
240 Officer's sabers, scabbards, and imitation leather cases

652 Barrels, rifle, cal. .45, for drill cartridges
175 Barrels, rifle, cal. .30, for subcaliber cartridges
1 Pressure barrel, cal. .45, with firing attachment
226,958 Front sight covers
5,350 Ramrods, cal. .22
1 Sample board of various rear sights
6 Display boards of various parts

Various screw drivers, sight & muzzle covers, brushes & thongs, oilers & thong cases, barrack cleaning rods, saber cases, small arm oilers, saber scabbards & parts, spare parts, and tools

Altered and Repaired

15 Gatling Guns, cal. .30, repaired

23,000 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, Model of 1903, altered for knife
24,266 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, with sights, altered for model of 1906 ammunition
83,129 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, for 1906 ammunition, equipped with sights
61 Magazine carbines, cal. .30, model of 1899, altered for knife bayonet
1,700 Stocks, rod bayonet, model of 1903, altered for knife bay.

1 Colt automatic pistol, cal. .38, repaired
31 Luger pistols, cal. 7.65 mm, repaired

50 Cavalry saber scabbards, altered and repaired
155,727 Bayonets, model of 1905, altered and equipped with new model catch

Various automatic guns, rifles, carbines, revolvers, and edged weapons repaired

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1908

Fabricated

33,114 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903

24,702 Bayonets, model 1905

101,850 Bayonet scabbards, model 1905

1 Model scabbard for machete
1 Experimental saber scabbard

Various appendages and accessories, spare parts, and arms
chests

Altered and Repaired

56,976 Magazine rifles, model 1903, modified and assembled

2,610 Magazine rifles, model 1903, repaired and modified

30,096 Bayonets, browned

105,815 Bayonets, altered

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1909

Fabricated

47,797 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, without bayonets

153 Barrels and receivers for cal. .30 rifle

2 Receivers for magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903

26,267 Bayonets, model of 1905

505 Pouches for telescopic sights for model of 1903 rifle

1 Case (model) for carrying telescopic sight for model of 1903
rifle

Various other appendages, accessories, spare parts, and arms
chests

Altered and Repaired

52,445 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, assembled

37,500 Stocks equipped with stock screws and nuts

154 Bayonets, model of 1905, dismounted for modification and
repair

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1909

Fabricated

24,631 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
1,000 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted for telescopic sights
1 Magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903, with Roscoe sights
30 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted for Maxim silencers
1 Magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903, skeleton
3,000 Magazine rifles, cal. .22, model of 1903
1,300 Fencing muskets, model of 1906

180 Barrels and receivers, model of 1903, assembled
1 Receiver, model of 1903

94,542 Bayonets, model of 1905
4,900 Fencing bayonets, model of 1906
13 Bolos
5,938 Hospital Corps knives
200 Officer's sabers, scabbards, and imitation leather cases
2 Scabbards, experimental, for cavalry sabers

5 Front sights, Roscoe
5 Rear sights, special
3,850 Aiming devices, Belgian
20 Company repair kits, model of 1898 rifle
1,100 " " " " 1903 "
1 Sample board, containing component parts model 1903 rifle

Various other appendages, accessories, spare parts, arms
chests, tools, gauges, etc.

Altered and Repaired

23 Gatling Guns, cal. .30, model of 1903, altered and repaired
1,079 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, altered for 1906
ammunition
21,601 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, Model of 1903, altered for knife
58,821 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, knife bayonet,
altered for model of 1906 ammunition
325 Magazine carbines, cal. .30, model of 1899, altered for
knife bayonet and gun slings

21 Luger pistols, cal. 7.65 mm, repaired

Various automatic guns, rifles, carbines, revolvers, and
edged weapons repaired