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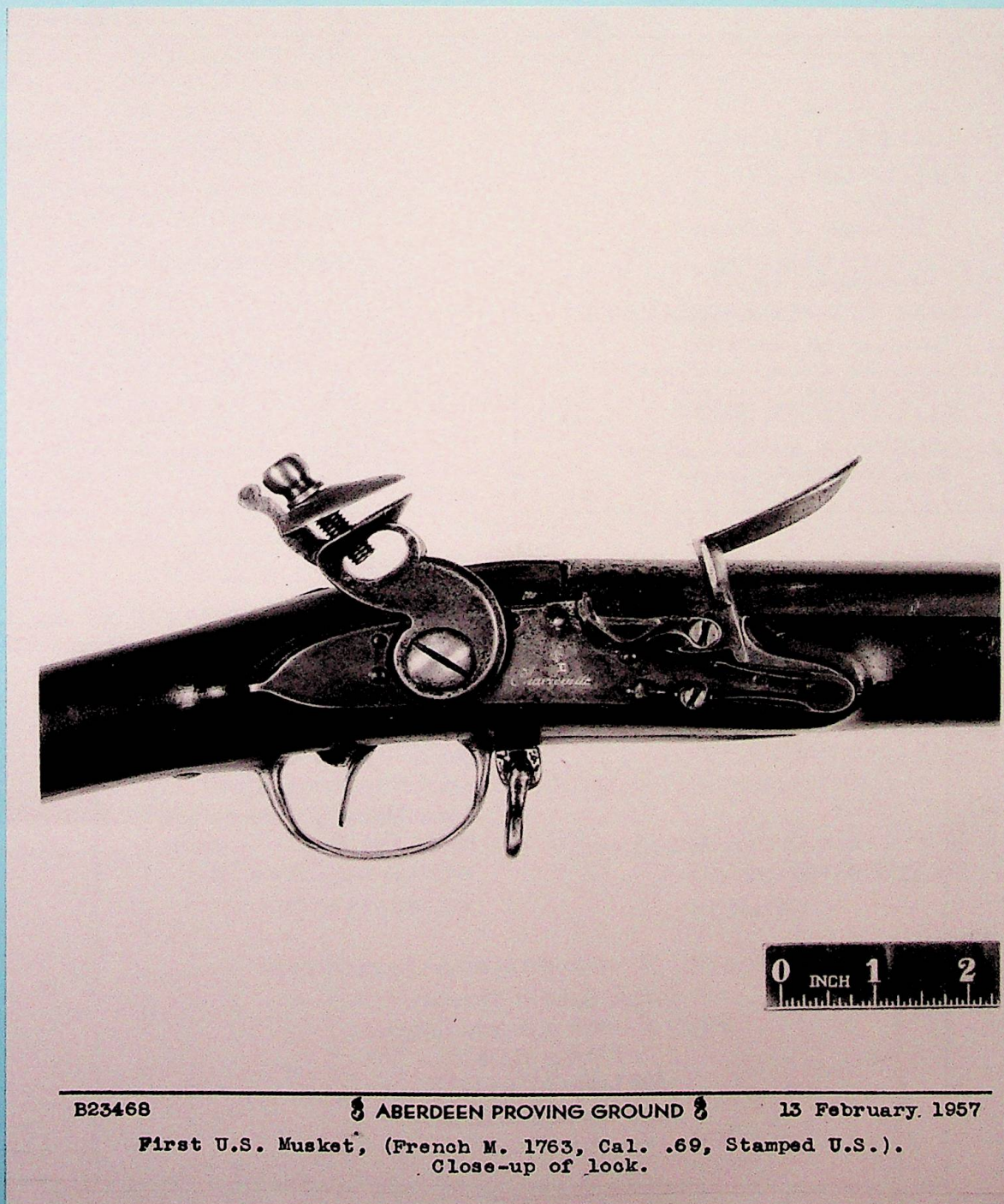
MARTIAL ARMS Collector

and *Springfield Research Newsletter*



Number 100 June 2004

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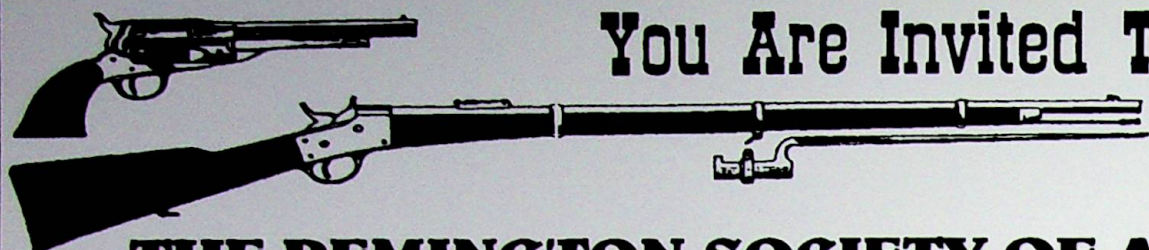


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8 ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND 8

13 February, 1957

First U.S. Musket, (French M. 1763, Cal. .69, Stamped U.S.).
Close-up of lock.



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STUDENT AND COLLECTOR

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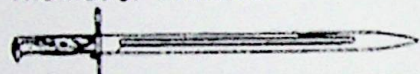
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U.S. MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR

Number 100

June 2004

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FRANKLIN B. MALLORY

It is with deep regret that I must advise that Frank Mallory, the Founder of Springfield Research Services, passed away during the evening of June 2, 2004. He will be greatly missed by all of the collecting community. Frank had prepared for his work to continue through his friends and family and the transition is on-going and will continue with all SRS products.

Miscellaneous News and Notes

Research During This Period

Research is continuing and includes very early manufacture and limited production weapons. The cover picture was provided by Bill Mook of Colorado Springs. It is the Aberdeen Proving Grounds photo dated 13 February 1957. "First U.S. Musket, (French M. 1763, Cal. 69, Stamped U.S.) Close-up of lock. The whereabouts of the gun is unknown. It was one of the patterns for the U.S. Model 1795 flintlock musket.

Data on CD and Web Page

Updated to 1st quarter 2004. Much disposal data has been added.

Springfield Target and Sporting Rifles Book

Work on this book continues with additional research and will cover subject rifle from 1908 to 1942 ("The '03 Era", to borrow a phrase from Clark Campbell). This will be a gun book like no other, containing articles from contemporary as well as modern sources, comprehensive notes and illustrations from Ordnance records, plus all the serial number data on target and sporting rifles that we have found.

Your suggestions and contributions are welcome.

Krag Rifle Story II going, going, ...

Only about 80 copies are left, no reprints.

Contributions

Nearly all the contributed material is being included or at least mentioned in the Letters Received & Sent column.

It would be greatly appreciated if contributions, including photos and other material, bear the

legible name of the contributor or source. The same for payments for subscriptions and other orders. I have several subscription orders or renewals on hand with no name or address.

Civilian Marksmanship Program

The CMP continues to sell 1903, 1903A3, and M1 Garand Rifles. Special provisions are available for World War II Veterans.

CMP also has 22 caliber target rifles available on a random basis. Phone number is 888 267 0796. Email-www.odcmp.com.

Staff Changes

Responsibility for the Martial Arms Collector magazine will be assumed by Wayne Gagner. Charlie Pate will assume responsibility for all serial number letters for SRS. His email address is SpringfieldResearchService@cox.net

Address Springfield Research Service P.O. Box 6322 Falls Church, VA 22040.

Please bear with us as we transition to new computer systems and SRS activities. We will continue to provide all previous services.

TRADING POST

The Trading Post is for non-commercial users only. There is no charge for ads, but they are run on a space-available basis.

● **Wanted** Johnson model 1941 Rifle Any Caliber with or without bayonet. Tom Mulligan PO box 306 Island Park, NY 11558 or Mulligun@aol.com

● **Wanted** Early solid top band for a M1892 Krag. Ron Jones, Box 351, Botsford, CT. 06404.....(203)426-8896

Letters Received & Sent

krohne@mindspring.com

Carbine sight graduations

Why are the rear sight leafs on Krag carbines graduated to greater yardage than those of rifles?

wrmkrag@aol.com

Due to its shorter barrel (hence line of sight), bullets from a Krag carbine have a greater angle of departure than those from a rifle; therefore, at any given position of the slide, the bullet from a carbine will travel farther, even though its muzzle velocity is somewhat lower.

Greater muzzle flip of the carbine due to its lighter weight also contributes to increased angle of departure.

When the vibrations of M1903 NM rifle barrels were being studied in the 1920s, an Ordnance officer remarked that the Krag carbine was inherently more accurate than the Krag rifle because its barrel was stiffer; however, better scores were made with the rifle because of its longer sight radius and sling.

Remington M1903 (Modified) S.N. 3365128

I just received this rifle from the CMP. It is a 1903 (modified) with a very high serial number, in the range of '03-A3s. Barrel date is 1-43 .R.A.

Style T Stock

I have a question about which many knowledgeable collectors have speculated, but I covet your learned opinion: Trophy notes (p.59-60) several consecutive stock drawing numbers for the style "T"; but, for some reason he jumps over mine. Please note, he lists SA6596, _____, SA6598, SA6599, SA6600, and SA6601. Mine (SA6597), however, is the one dropped from the above noted sequence.

I am sure you are familiar with that information and will remember that, on those pages, he was quoting from a 1934 articling AMERICAN RIFLEMAN. It does NOT seem to me that stock drawing number SA6597 followed SA6598, etc., etc, even if my rifle (S#1314144) was assembled after the 1934 article had been written/published -- but I may be wrong.

If you would be so kind, what are your thoughts on the matter?

I don't know. I have one of the last Ts made, and its stock is also stamped SA6597.

Drawing numbers were frequently changed to add dimensions or clarify something having nothing to do with the actual form/shape of the item.

tom.sciulli@verizon.net

M1855 Musician Sword Bayonet

Just a note to say that I received an interesting piece of news last evening. I had a call from a friend who told me that a musicians' sword bayonet was at the Gettysburg show, complete with slide. I understand that Neil Gutterman had it and it brought \$4,000.

J.P.L., Virginia

Thanks for the information. This is one of about 200 special bayonets made in 1855 for use with M1841 (Mississippi) rifles fitted with side stud. The photo shows the longer groove in the bayonet handle, and the "slide" used to extend the grip so that these bayonets can be conveniently used in place of Musician Swords.

USMC Target Rifle?

Enclosed are a few digital photos of what I believe is a Marine Match Target rifle made sometime around the end of the War in Philadelphia.

Notice the beautiful tiger stripes in the Springfield scant stock, oiled finish, and open grain. Notice A3 hand guard. Match receiver 1,386,011, dark crystalline packetized.

This rifle is very beautiful and unusual. It has not been fired much since it was made. Barrel star gauges perfectly.

What is your opinion?

C.C.S., Kansas

The photos reveal a Redfield 70 receiver sight,

"Model 1921 International" front sight base, Siddeley 7-44 barrel, all milled parts, unchecked buttplate and trigger, bolt marked BF ("Bonnie Forge") with enlarged gas escape hole, split front band.

All I can say is, I have no information on a USMC rifle like this.

Steamboat Guns

Enclosed is what they sent me from the Cincinnati Library along with another book reference to arsenal supplied weapons for Missouri River steamers. At least something solid finally turned up. I found a published photo of a party of people, including some boat crew, standing on a river shore in the Dakota or Montana Terr. ca. 1870s. Some of the guys are leaning on 3-band Springfield conversions. But those were never serial numbered, of course.

I was in the state archives in Helena, MT last month going through the T. C. Powers Co. business records. They operated stores and river boats out of Fort Benton in the 1860-90 era. There was a ton of material and I only had two days to search around through it. Some of his ledgers from the late 1860s indicated quantity purchases of "Colt Army revolvers" (percussions, I presume) and Winchester. If I ever get back out there I'll have to fine-tooth comb the records for serial numbers, if indeed they were recorded. Since I have a rough month/ year date for the Colts perhaps, for a fee, the Colt Factory would research the shipment and serial numbers? Any gun that went out to Montana in the 1860s would be interesting.

I would really like to get into the St. Louis Arsenal records, are you pretty sure that they have been "regionalized"? What an expensive nuisance.

J. K., Pennsylvania

Thanks for the copy of the original record on Spencer carbine no. 49646, John. I get a lot of numbers from collectors who have found them listed in books, published diaries, and other secondary sources; but as you know, I can't use them unless I have an authentic copy of the original document.

Good luck in your further research in those sources. There is a lot of data out there in the states. Call the Kansas City Regional Archives (one of two in Mis-

souri) at 816-926-6920 to see what they have on St. Louis Arsenal under Record Group 156. I have never been able to get any cooperation from the Colt Historian

Maltese Cross on Trapdoors

A collector wrote to my Powder Flask column in The Gun Report describing an 1888 rod-bayonet Trapdoor No. 536089, with a small Maltese Cross on the left side of the receiver. The Cross had the figure "9" inside it. There was also a large "9" on the right side of the buttstock, and on the comb was stamped 9 above C above 62 (9/C/62). The gun has an 1892 cartouche..

I have recently purchased a gun exactly like his with all the same markings except that mine is 9/C/20. My serial number is 553964. The "9" in my Maltese Cross must have been stamped upside down, because when the gun is in a normal horizontal position, it reads "6", but we know it is a "9" with our current information. If I had this gun with no other knowledge, I would be sure it was a "6". A user's name MOWER is carved in the forearm.

A rifle with serial number 552782 is mentioned in Trapdoor Newsletter Vol. 3, Issue 4, page 43. It has the Maltese Cross, but no number in the center of the Cross. The comb stamping is 9/A/19, but your SRS listing shows it issued to Company C of the 9th New York Volunteer Infantry.

Jim Supica has one in his latest catalog of Old Town Station Dispatch No. 36. It is serial number 553635 with the Maltese Cross without a number in the center. It has an 1892 cartouche and 9/G/65 stamped on the comb. It is in the SRS data base for Co. G, 9th NY Vol. Infantry.

As you know, when you check these serial numbers in the SRS list, these are in the series of the guns issued to the 9th New York National Guard..

Charles Kinglier, the collector who first wrote to me, found the following information from the State of NY, Division of Military and Naval Affairs: "The Maltese Cross commemorates the regiment's service as part of the Fifth Corps during the American Civil War. After the Civil War, the 9th NYNG was mustered into Federal Service. It embarked on May 17, 1898 to Camp George H. Thomas, Chickamauga Park, Geor-

gia, and became part of the 3rd Army Corps. On May 29, 1898 it was assigned to the 1st Brigade, 2nd Division, of the same Corps. The 1st Brigade consisted of the 1st Arkansas, the 2nd Kentucky, and the 9th NYNG. The 9th NYNG returned to New York City on September 16th, and was mustered out of Federal service on November 15, 1898."

It appears that the 9th NYNG spent its time at Chickamauga Park engaged in "the usual camp routine of drills, rifle practice and guard duties." (from "New York in the Spanish-American War 1898," Vol. II, Albany, NY 1900).

Well, it looks like the Maltese Cross marking is solved, and we now know it does date back to the Fifth Corps in the Civil War.

Michael E. Carrick

Thanks for the additional information, Michael; this came up in an earlier issue.

My only question is, what is the meaning of their Latin motto, "RATIONE AUT VI" -- "Reasonable Power"?

Navy Cartridge Box?

A few months ago I purchased a box with the following markings:

The top portion of the markings ("Navy Yard" and "Washington") and oval border are from a solid die, while the "1902" seems to have been stamped by hand. These are the only markings on the box.

The design of the box is similar to the design of Hitchcock's patented U.S. Navy cartridge box in which a box of 20 45/70 government cartridges was placed. Could my new purchase have been made for the .30/40 Krag, or line throwing cartridges or for fuses?

Sometimes, it is more interesting to buy something that you know nothing about. It seems to me that I have been doing that more often recently- then again- maybe that is just me.

If anyone knows what this box was used for, please write to the Research letter.

P.S. I have not received any responses to my request for information concerning a box marked U.S. for the 6mm Lee. I would appreciate information on that box as well.

Z. L., Virginia

The seven photos furnished were taken out-

doors and don't provide a clue as to whether this box is partitioned or not (presumably, not); also, the size of the box is not given.

Tool Room and Trophy Rifles

Thanks for papers on Sporter and M1922MI 19555.

Both of these rifles were purchased at an auction and both have tool room serial numbers, i.e., T8, T421.

Sporter has SA checkering like trophy rifles; also bedded with a hard gutta percha type material stamped and numbered by S.A. Also engraved William Wells/10802 & CV38xxxxxx on lower end of barrel.

M1922MI has a schnable wood and ring & heavy leather sling as well as coarse checkering, cap on pistol grip, and rubber (hard) buttplate -- all stamped SA + SN eagle.

Butch Eyberg's article in Man at Arms in 1982 or so shows an M2 with identical appearance - SN 20xxxB. I wonder if these were made as duplicates for trophy rifles in case they didn't turn out right. Art Tuttle says this was the practice at S.A. for special rifles.

Will send photos if you are interested.

J. M., M.D., Arkansas

The sales records give no clue as to how these rifles came to be modified. One was sold to a civilian in Vermont, the other to a civilian in Hawaii, both in 1931.

I have seen no documentation to indicate that duplicate Trophy rifles were made as backups.

Unusual Enfields and '03s

a) Receiver -- Remington M1917 rifle s.n. 668406 -- this is higher than the one listed in your serial numbers of Remington M1917. I have a new condition receiver never barreled as the ribs are perfect -- no blue missing or nicks. It seems that it wouldn't have a serial no. unless part of a complete weapon.

b) Barreled receiver Eddystone M1917, no ears on front sight -- all parts have Springfield inspector eagle heads, almost too many to count. Could this be a M1919 Sniper candidate that was never completed?

c) 1903 NM -1925 vintage -- has NRA Sporter barrel but receiver is not shaped like Sporter, barrel is 1932 with 2 star gauge nos. on bottom of barrel. Stock = 1910 RIA '03 st. stock with grooves --

top wood is '03A3, perfect fit-- Lyman 57 receiver sight and aperture front sight. Wood is highly shiny with heavy poly finish put on wood by service armorers to water proof.

d) 1903 SN 775551 -- presented by state of California to M. I. (or F.?) King in 1925 (silver plaque inlayed). JSA cartouche, Lyman 48 short slide plus headless cocking piece and reverse safety. Bolt not polished or numbered. Bbl date SA 1-18 - marked NM.

J. M., M.D., Arkansas

Sorry, we have no information on any of these.

ADDITIONAL DATA

We have found extensive data on 1903 Springfield match rifles and other weapons. Some of the Match rifles include weapons made by Springfield before 1920 including at least one single shot 1903. It appears that there were many different attempts and successes in manufacturing a wide array of rifles made for International and National matches as well as military rifle teams. We will answer all letters that we have information that is pertinent.

There appears to be a great deal of unanswered questions on Krag, and Trapdoors. The long span of useage from 1865 through 1904 and later will open up many areas of collecting for those interested in may of these weapons. There is no doubt that Krag include rifles cartouched 1894 through 1904 and also those that have 1903 type stock markings as well as unusual cartouches in unusual positions. These will be of interest to current owners and those seeking new variations. The volume of this data and documents is very large.

Documents on weapons prior to 1860 are somewhat difficult to copy and read because of their handwritten sources. We will try as hard as we can to put data in the best useable form.

The Martial Arms Collector will continue to upgrade as many documents as possible and provide as many answers as we are able to provide.

During the next few months, additional personnel will support research based on extensive experience and the use of U.S. Government and military documents.

More and more data is being discovered that brings new information and confirms many findings from past research. The collector will always have

more inquiries to study and understand Martial Weapons and their development.

Please send letters to P.O. Box 126 Cabin John, MD 20818.

The Remington M1903 ... No Trivial Pursuit

By: William R. Hansen

Introduction:

As Phil Sharpe astutely observed in his 1947 edition of *"Rifle in America"*, the M1903 rifle had been all but declared dead when resurrected for WWII by an arms starved Western World. Then after a credible second life, it was buried officially and finally in July 1947... only to be stirred from latent rigor mortis by arms collectors purposing to revive it. Woe be unto the arms collector!

Driving much of present day collector interest in the Remington Arms Company (RA) made M1903 series is a strong yearning for more reliable facts and information about how the rifle was originally configured and changed over time. To especially the purist and his interminable quest for truth, it just doesn't seem to be enough to know the rifle experienced a confounding evolutionary metamorphosis over a 28 month production life. Woe be unto the arms collector!

It is said the primary difference between a classic historian and a bio-scientist is the former studies death to bring it back to life, while the latter studies life to death. Yes, while one goes where few before have dared to tread, the other trudges o'er trails both old 'n cold. Such is the lament of an arms historian. So, whether conducting a simple post-mortem, or attempting to breathe life into a rifle long ago discarded, the search for truth becomes ever more formidable. Woe be unto the arms collector!

It is also said the last hope of the diehard artifact hunter lies in a thorough examination of body remnants. But, in this case that has proven incredibly problematic. The unfortunate reality is that most RA made M1903 remains strewn about the cemetery are unreliable, particularly the first edition known as the *M1903 Modified*. With few exceptions, the collector-historian is hard pressed to find undisturbed examples still extant due largely to the scavenger's curse. Yes, and what government armory and depots through their

multiple rebuild programs didn't manage to decimate, misguided tampering by previous owners has pretty much finished off. And since most original factory records were destroyed after a mandatory holding period, all that really remains today within a widely scattered archeological dig is what can be carefully assimilated and deciphered from a few diary fragments. And while the diary has seemingly survived the corpse, it doesn't seem to be far behind. Penetrating the archival morgue has become an arduous chore. Most of those who either helped write it or could help remember what really happened have likewise gone on to an eternal rest. Indeed, as the enormous manufacturing challenges faced by RA 60 years ago became *"no trivial pursuit"*, neither has the rifle's rediscovery 60 years later. Woe be unto the arms collector!

In concluding this portion, if you're not a Remington M1903 fanatic, you'll likely not find anything below worth your time nor reading. However, if you enjoy factual study and the pursuit of learning about the unsolved mysteries of this W.W.II phenomenon as much as this author does, then please read on.

Trifling with Trivia:

Most aficionados know that after the December 7, 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, there was no possible way RA was going to be limited by an anxious War Department in just meeting their original contract commitment of 1000 rifles per day. In a dramatic address given before the Congress on January 6, 1942, President Roosevelt proclaimed, *"This production of ours...must be raised far above present levels.... We must raise our sights all along the production line. Let no man say it cannot be done. It must be done - and we have undertaken to do it"*.

Remington was virtually mandated to not only increase production to 2000 rifles per day,

but pressured not long thereafter to agree to another increase up to 3000!

It became unquestionably obvious that extraordinary manufacturing measures must be found to massively increase production without sacrifice to existing rifle function, reliability and delivery schedules. Fortunately for the Ordnance Department, they had chosen well; there was no arms company in the entire nation better suited or equipped to meet this challenge than the engineers and production team working at RA.

Within days after the call came to pull out all the stops, the most experienced arms genius within the RA organization were mobilized to make recommendations for revamping their M1903 program. And by the time they were finished, an entirely reconfigured bolt rifle had been birthed. While perhaps uncultured and ugly compared with its US Armory and bench-made predecessor, it was to mature into a first rate "battle" rifle, one whose inherent accuracy has proven no less capable than the average peacetime National Match rifle produced just a few years before. Some might argue such an allegation based on dated myth, but with more than a half century of documented shooting evidence available since WWII, most now realize that quality isn't always outwardly visual. Indeed, with the radical new techniques employed by RA, particularly in barrel making towards the end of the War, only the best hand selected, pre-WW II star gauged barrels can stay on a target range with a properly stock-tuned M1903A3. But, that's another story.

Digging Up a Diary

Literally, from the beginning of production of the *M1903 Modified*, RA engineers were clamoring for approval from a reluctant bureaucracy to make increasingly radical changes to this revered old relic. But, it wasn't until the RA emphatically made it a condition for accepting a formal contract increase to 2000 copies per day did a final break-through occur with the Chief of Ordnance (C/O) to go along with many of the

revolutionary proposals coming out of the Ilion plant. Before US entry into the War, RA requests for significant alterations beyond relatively minor tolerance and finish concessions were often met with resistance. It took the momentous pressure of that infamous incident at "*Pearl Harbor*" to effect real change within entrenched government attitude. Subsequently, by the end of February 1942, the RA had almost completed a mock-up prototype of a substantially altered rifle with fewer parts. It promised to save high priority steel reserves, critical machine tools and a ton of labor and time. Many of these changes have not been historically appreciated by today's collector in terms of how the RA proposed to manufacture the new rifle, and simultaneously make its moving parts functionally interchangeable with the M1903 of previous manufacture. It was a daunting task, but not impossible.

This article addresses a portion of the foregoing RA challenge through dissection of a document recently disinterred from the Ilion, NY museum archives of the Remington Arms Co. and now shared for the first time ever through the US Martial Arms Collector. The document is "**Figuring Book for Engineers and Draftsmen - No. 257**". Such a *Figuring Book* was an integral part of the RA regimen to document all job assignments and proposals introduced into design/redesign/manufacturing process. As an embedded RA shop practice, it required all computations and sketches be made for permanent record. It was issued to an authorized design employee upon job assignment, each of whom was responsible for the book until directed to turn it in.

The rules for use of a *Figuring Book* were stringent, and the assignee had to live with whatever was put into it. All entries made had to be readable and legible, including drawings. Errors couldn't be erased...only crossed off. The nature of the work/calculation/proposal had to be clearly identified and dated. Work of writing or sketch was to be printed, well organized and not crowded on each page. Indeed, the "*Instructions*" admonish that "*Paper costs less than the time which*

would be expended in attempting to economize space or in making erasures". Curves drawn on section paper necessary to detail an illustration or computation had to be pasted in the book. Further, the engineer or technician had to index all computations in the back of the book. Upon completion, it was then turned over to the Head of the Division who would approve and card-index it. Finally, the book was placed in permanent file for future reference.

Figuring Book No. 257 was assigned to Mr. G. H. Hart, a Remington Arms Company employee from at least February 19, 1942 to its last entry dated March 22, 1943. Mr. Hart's exact title and employment status is unknown at this time, but he was obviously a key employee in RA design and development of both the *M1903 Modified* and *M1903A3*. A summary of a complete list of the individual M1903 components and the date he worked on them are enclosed as Exhibit 1 for reader viewing. What Mr. Hart left for posterity now becomes one of the fragmentary bits of the lost diary that can be pieced into ongoing research and comprehension of the Remington made M1903 series.

Deciphering a Diary:

As this author began to digest the 26 pages of drawings and calculations performed by Mr. Hart, many revelations became apparent in correlating known time frames for tracking evolutionary changes in the rifle. By the way, it is an ongoing effort that remains incomplete as of this writing.

First of all, it is noted that Mr. Hart's initial entries into *Book #257* were dated February 19, 1942. This happened to be the same day the Chief of Ordnance (C/O) sought approval from Robert P. Patterson, Under Secretary of War for an approval of \$2.58 million dollars "...to expand facilities of the Remington Arms Company ... for the production of U.S. Rifles, Cal. .30 M1903", thus enabling RA's capability to increase production to 2000 rifles per day. Indeed, the date is curiously coincidental with many events in the course of pursuing M1903 simplification changes.

It was February 19th, for example, the C/O approved drilling completely through the rear tang of the receiver to avoid the expense of using a bottom tap for the rear stock bolt. Also, the bolt stop mechanism was deemed an unnecessary feature on that day and ordered eliminated. The letter written by A. E. "Buck" Buchanan, Division Production Manager at RA to Col. Guy Drewry, Office of C/O that two models of a "*new rifle*" would be "...ready in approximately two weeks..." was dated on the 19th of February. In this letter, by the way, Mr. Buchanan confirmed his agreement with Lt. Castle, Contracting Officer's representative from the Rochester Ordnance District (ROD), the two new models would contain "...a newly-designed simplified rear sight", along with numerous other changes "...which may be sufficiently unconventional to require, in the opinion of the Ordnance Department, certain test evaluation". Buchanan went on to say the estimated changes "...in product cost, machine time and tool consumption..." would result in a "...reduction in cost of the rifle of \$1.85 per gun..."; and that he hoped to "...obtain immediate authorization on a large number of the proposed modifications".

Nine days later, on the 28th, Mr. L. R. Crittendon, Remington's preeminent small arms genius had completed a comprehensive, 6 page critique/analysis of the initial 26 major revisions that would ultimately transform the M1903 forever. This summary analysis included an estimate of how much each individual change would reduce in "*product cost per gun*", as well as a comparative analysis of the savings in the "...number of machines..." required for both a production rate of 1000 and 2000 rifles per day.

Yes, February 1942 launched an eventful transition period in RA's manufacturing contract that continued through March and much of April 1942. The M1903 was about to grow up into the battle rifle it never previously was, and G. H. Hart was unquestionably integral to the process. Whereas, the previous month was significant for its conceptual development in searching for ways and means to add velocity to M1903 rifle produc-

tion, February is noted for the hands-on action necessary to eventually turn the *M1903 "Modified"* into an early prototype of the *M1903A3*. The revolutionary new world of "*blanking, forming and welding*" component metal parts was about to begin!

Before continuing, the following general observations and conclusions are noted about Mr. Hart's work within *Book #257*:

(1) Hart's work covered both the post-early edition of the *M1903 Modified* as well as *M1903A3* development between 19 February 1942 and 22 March 1943, a period of approximately 13 months. This was the period of great change in the design and manufacturing process at RA. It is also noted that Mr. Hart referred to the "*Modified*" version as the "*A1*", which was not uncommon at the time.

(2) Within the 26 pages available from *Book #257*, 28 separate component/assembly details were covered, some more than once as the rifle evolved. Each hand sketched component was precisely dimensioned as drawn, with some pieces incorporating mating or connecting parts also. The dimensions were most often carried out to the nearest ten-thousandths of an inch (4 decimal places), with many to the nearest one hundred thousandths!

(3) Fully 16 of the 28 entries dealt with critical component design issues during the 3 month period immediately before the final version of the first Ordnance acceptable *M1903A3* was assembled in December 1942.

(4) There are no entries between 13 March and 29 August 1942, a period exceeding 5 and one-half months. This is curiously coincidental with the production mobilization period and parts manufacture for the initial *M1903A3*.

(5) Of the rifle's component metal parts, only those having key functional, friction surfaces and/or moving parts manufactured by the RA were generally involved with assignments in this particular *Figuring Book*. This often included fixed mating components. The subcontract stamped parts originally designed by RA engineers consist-

ing of the lower band, butt swivel, extractor collar, follower, trigger guard, upper swivel, upper band, stacking swivel, et. al. are generally conspicuous by their absence, except where certain revisions were later made pertaining to rifle accuracy or function. It would be reasonable to conclude that *Figuring Books* were also assigned other RA technicians and engineering designers.

(6) Each entry seemed focused on recording precise design/finish dimensions for each piece, including plus or minus tolerances. Many even detailed the before and after dimensions, presumably in the interests of interchangeability assurance. It is unknown at this point whether Mr. Hart's assignments were specifically design related, or perhaps had a tooling set up/change and/or inspection gage objective also. Not every entry appears to be exclusively design related. Having said that, however, most of the entry dates bear a close proximity to time-frames preceding known parts production changes. It is quite likely that *Book #257* was an integral part of foundational work preceding all of the foregoing.

(7) All *M1903A3* entries are presumed to have also been on behalf of the Smith-Corona Company (S-C) since the RA was not only the principal design agency for the rifle, but charged under a formal contract "Supplement" dating from 20 May 1942 to maintain and distribute all design drawings on behalf of the Ordnance Department. Each of the parts involving the *M1903A3* would have affected production operations at both agencies and their vendors. While the S-C participated in all design change decision-making after April 1942 through joint actions of the Rifle Integration Committee (RIC), it was RA who provided both leadership to this "Committee" and all engineering and drafting support to Ordnance.

(8) The precise dimensioning shown on each rifle component when compared with the excellent 1917 dated reference of "Colvin and Viall", seems to validate one of the underlying RA precepts in altering the *M1903* to increase the production rate. In other words, it was deemed both reasonable and crucial to the success of

improving the entire production process that all milled parts be subject to having their non-critical dimensions undercut (undersized) while increasing tolerance allowances for those same dimensions. In so doing, interchangeability could be reasonably achieved or maintained while assuring a correct fit, thereby reducing the need for hand filing, grinding and hand fitting. When carefully and selectively accomplished, the RA believed this approach offered maximum promise for reducing the number of operations, machine tool requirements and labor and time savings without any sacrifice to essential quality.

(9) Some of the entries focus on specific improvements that the SA allegedly had always wanted to make after WWI, but after redirection of attention to the Garand, never had the time nor budget to accomplish. An example was a more positive cartridge extraction process when operating the bolt.

Dabbling in Detail:

The various component entries in *Book #257* reveal far more detail about the subtleties of the evolving design and manufacturing changes over time than space can accommodate in this writing. While some were relatively obvious and minor, others allude to a far more profound story. So, without unduly boring the reader, only a sampling will be elaborated on at this time.

For example, *Entry #9* dated 13 March 1942 (See Exhibit 1), shows the spacing allowed between the rear safety lug of the bolt when closed and rear of the receiver ring was only a relatively minor tolerance change from the original SA specifications. But, at this stage of the redesign process, all changes were specifically for the *M1903 Modified* and a 2000 rifle per day objective. However, it's counterpart 5 months later on 29 August 1942 (*Entry #11*) increased those same tolerances from the previous 0.005" min. / 0.0215" max. to 0.0540" min / 0.0625" max. for the *M1903A3* rifle pursuant to a 3000 copy per day production objective. Relatively speaking, this was a consid-

erable increase, but deemed entirely safe for the strength of steels then being used.

As it turns out, the RA was authorized to make a number of incremental changes in dimensions/tolerances to the same components repeatedly (more than once) throughout the duration of their contract. Some of them are so minuscule as to almost defy measurement, nevertheless, each represents a deliberate action for a specific product change objective.

Other examples deal with changes in the length of the plunger and compressed spring for wear/ease in lever turning of both the safety lock and cut-off as detent depths and/or raceways were being altered or omitted. Another deals with improvements in the finished breeching space from the bolt face and cartridge shoulder depth within the rifle chamber, and so on. Such minor changes aren't particularly exciting or noticeable, therefore have escaped general collector recognition.

However, two of the *entry* details which this author found most fascinating are discussed as follows. The first relates to inconsistencies that began to show up in rifle targeting in the first months after the 'A3 and 'A4 came out. RA eventually ended up taking a number of corrective actions to better bed the action, including altering the front of the trigger guard tang for an improved bearing surface against the stock when tightening down the stock bolts. But, in addition they established a new set of fabrication tolerances for both the stock and bayonet stud band assembly near the end of March 1943 (*Entries Nos. 27 and 28*). These new tolerances were intended to provide better assurance of sufficient upward pressure on the end of the barrel while assuring adequate clearance between the upper half of the barrel and the band. (**Note:** At the time, this pressure was not to be less than 3 pounds nor to exceed 10). It apparently worked since improvements in overall accuracy were reported thereafter. As it turned out, the bayonet stud band was the only stamped and welded part RA didn't routinely accept ready for assembly as delivered from their various contract vendors. In other words, after arrival at

Ilion, "...it was machined to specifications at the plant" to assure barrel pressure and clearance. Mr. Hart's work figured prominently into this accuracy improvement.

The second has to do with necessary changes made to the rear sight, which precipitated a significant delay to initial release of the M1903A3 from October to December 1942. But, first a little background is in order.

Many collectors think the Smith-Corona Company (S-C) beat the RA to M1903A3 production since they've either seen early S-C rifles bearing barrels dating from September, 1942, or perhaps read somewhere that "...a pilot lot of 20 rifles of M1903A3 type was finished on 24 October 1942". While the latter is true, it is also the origin of one of many myths that still abound today. The truth is S-C was primarily an assembly plant operation with most of its engineering and technical dependency coming from elsewhere, including RA and the Dixwell Co. Except for a few parts, they literally weren't able to assemble a finished rifle until the various components were designed, manufactured and delivered by one of many vendors. This included the new rear peep sight, which was developed and perfected by RA engineers.

As test targeting proceeded in early October 1942, it was decided the new rifle's performance at the 200 yard sighting standard was unacceptable! *"The originally designed Rear Sight caused Rifles to shoot more than the permissible (sic) tolerance above the point of aim when used in conjunction with the highest front sight blade"*. Actually, there were other problems related to smooth and proper sight adjusting function, as well as component strength. But, the primary challenge at this time became one of making hasty changes as "...necessary to lower the Rear Sight"! The Ordnance Dept. then decided the aggregate problems were significant enough to order making all the changes "...mandatory and **all present sights scrapped**" (bolding added). Not only did S-C have to temporarily cease assembly of completed rifles, but RA had to go back to the

drawing boards. Indeed, the Contracting Officer for the ROD was instructed on behalf of their rear sight subcontractor, Remington-Rand, Inc. "...to supplement the L.C. Smith and Corona Typewriters, Inc., contract to cover cost of retooling..." At this juncture it was woe be unto RA!

It was a most unfortunate and untimely occurrence that ended up postponing the M1903A3 for nearly two months. But, unlike S-C who couldn't fully assemble anymore rifles for lack of a rear sight, the RA simply continued making the M1903 Modified by milling down the bridge of the newly forged 'A3 receivers that were phasing out the "Modified" edition. As the archive records clearly indicate, the first official production of the M1903A3 was delayed at both the RA and S-C facilities until December 1942.

Until Mr. Hart's Book #257 became available, this author had sought additional evidence regarding the extent to which the rear sight had to be redesigned, including when it started and how many iterations it came through. The revelation came beginning with Mr. Hart's Entry # 20, dated 21 October 1942! It was the apparent first attempt in a series of multiple redesign efforts. Work continued throughout the remainder of the month and into November to correct one of many deficiencies in the original 'A3 peep sight design. But, as clearly stated by Mr. Hart, the first attempt was rejected in favor of changes that superseded it on 3 November 1942 (Entry #21). Then on 12 November 1942, even further changes were addressed dealing with the sight's yoke; and again on 18 November 1942 (Entry #23), wherein the elevation slide was redesigned to lower the peep's center-line to center-line distance to the barrel from 1.173 inches to 1.143 inches, among other changes. (**Note:** a copy of Entry #23 is attached for reader viewing as a sample of Mr. Hart's work in Book #257- see Exhibit No. 2).

As it turns out, the sight still wasn't acceptable and was again rejected "...although previous verbal approval had been granted." What a debacle! The sight once again underwent further redesign that included lowering the peep

even more, strengthening the slide aperture spring, certain dimensional and tolerance changes plus still other function/ fabrication improvements. Finally, in a letter dated 7 December 1942 to the C/O from the interagency "Rifle Committee", formal approval was requested for a new final design having again been granted tentative approval "...in order that production of these parts could progress immediately". Time had become of the essence, and it appears they finally had a winner even though the final rear sight edition had grown from 10 component parts to 12. And, just as he had to do the month previous, the ROD Contracting Officer was again instructed to "...supplement the L.C. Smith and Corona Typewriters, Inc., contract to cover cost of the original retooling **as well as retooling necessary for this latest change**" (bolding added).

The rest of the story is well documented history since both agencies began delivering the new M1903A3 rifle shortly thereafter (**Note:** In the month of December, 1942, the total rifles accredited RA is 1909 and 5540 for S-C).

In closing, one still has to wonder after 60 years whether the M1903A3 rear sight targeting problem was ever fully resolved to the degree that it could have? There are many present day shooters who may not be convinced. One of the most frequent complaints heard today is not about its inherent accuracy, but that it tends to shoot high... even with the highest front blade installed. Woe be unto the arms collector!

Acknowledgments:

Let it once again be said that breathing life back into such as the Remington M1903 series rifles on behalf of the collector is "no trivial pursuit". Days and weeks are frequently spent probing around in some arms morgue or archival tomb without unearthing anything of value. Often a promising lead only turns out to be another elusive ghost.

What is more than often required in this field of resuscitating old arms is the collaborative efforts of many credible people sharing what they may independently stumble upon within a vast pit

of study. For that reason, and on behalf of the US Martial Arms Collector, this author wants to thank Mr. Eugene Myszkowski for supplying a copy of **G. H. Hart's Figuring Book No. 257** to the Springfield Research Service. Gene is one of the members of a special Remington Society of America (RSA) research team lead by Roy Marcot who twice a year is allowed into the Remington Archives at Ilion, New York and elsewhere. He is also the author of two fine books on the Remington-Lee and Winchester-Lee rifles. Gene is one of many fine grave-diggers engaged in a labor of love on behalf of this hobby who along with Frank Mallory and Clark Campbell are dutifully acknowledged.

Woe be unto the arms collector!

References and Bibliography:

- (1) *The Rifle in America*, Phillip B. Sharpe, 1947
- (2) Record Group 156: Miscellaneous Files and Documents, Chief of Ordnance, 1940-1945, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
- (3) Various Letters, Memos, Drawings and Documents From Correspondence Files - Remington Arms Co., Clark S. Campbell, Circa 1955
- (4) *The '03 Era*, Clark S. Campbell, 1994
- (5) *Figuring Book for Engineers and Draftsman*, No. 257, Remington Archives, Ilion, N.Y.
- (6) *Global Logistics and Strategy*, 1940-1943; Richard M. Leighton; US Army, Center of Military History, 1955
- (7) *In Abundance and On Time*, 1940-1943; Remington Arms Co., 1944
- (8) *D.F. Carpenter Notebook*, USMAC #92, April 2000
- (9) *United States Rifles and Machine Guns*, Colvin and Viall; McGraw-Hill Co., 1917

Revision date: 9/02/03

LIST OF ENTRIES
Remington Arms and Ammunition Company
Figuring Book for Engineers and Draftsman
No. 257
By G. H. Hart, Dept. #22

19 February 1942 to 22 March 1943

No.	Rifle Involved	Description of Entry	Date of Entry
1.	M1903A1	Barrel and Fixed Base	2/19/42
2.	M1903A1	Fixed Base and Moveable Base	2/19/42
3.	M1903A1	Sear Pin, Sear, Receiver and Trigger	2/19/42
4.	M1903A1	Bolt and Striker	2/19/42
5.	M1903A1	Striker and Firing Pin Rod	2/19/42
6.	M1903A1	Firing Pin Rod and Sleeve	2/19/42
7.	M1903A1	Extractor-Bolt -Barrel	2/26/42
8.	M1903A1	Bolt Lock Sleeve and Receiver	2/17/42
9.	M1903A1	Receiver and Bolt	3/13/42
10.	M1903A3	Rear Guard Screw - Bushing	8/29/42
11.	M1903A1, A3	Receiver and Bolt	8/29/42
12.	M1903A3	Magazine Spring and Follower	8/29/42
13.	M1903A1, A3	Safety Lock Thumb Piece Assembly	9/05/42
14.	M1903A3	Safety Lock Thumb Piece Assembly	9/08/42
15.	M1903A1	Bolt Sleeve and Bolt	9/11/42
16.	M1903A3	Bolt Sleeve, Lock and Bolt	9/22/42
17.	M1903A3	Bolt	10/06/42
18.	M1903A3	Rear Sight Alterations (Not used)	10/21/42
19.	M1903A3	Bayonet Band Stud and Bayonet Blade	10/22/42
20.	M1903A3	Receiver, Bolt and Barrel	10/23/42
21.	M1903A3	Rear Sight	11/03/42
22.	M1903A3	Rear Sight Windage Yoke	11/12/42
23.	M1903A3	Rear Sight	11/18/42
24.	M1903A3	Bolt and Extractor	11/20/42
25.	M1903A3	Cutoff Plunger and Cutoff	11/21/42
26.	M1903A3	Bolt Sleeve, Safety Lock Spindle and Bolt	1/26/43
27.	M1903A3	Stock, Barrel Guard and Barrel	3/22/43
28.	M1903A3	Barrel, Stock and Bayonet Stud Band	3/22/43

Exhibit 1

PHOTO ALBUM CAPTIONS

(1) Photo of 3000543 and 4205796

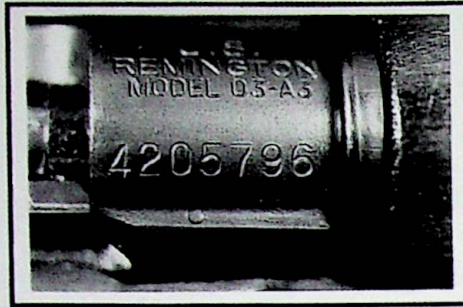
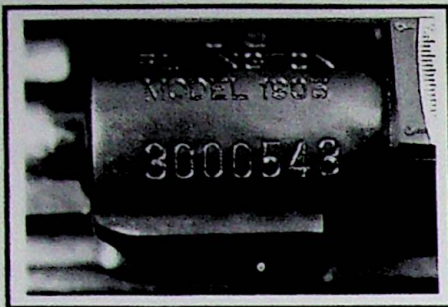
Perhaps at no time in the annals of U.S. history has an arms maker been any more challenged than was Remington Arms Company (RA) during WW II. Driven by a spirit of extraordinary patriotism and innovation from the very beginning to the end of production, their vigorous pursuit of product simplification, increased production velocity and improved rifle function overcame near impossible odds. The ultimate payoff was transformation of an essentially, bench made target rifle into the "battle rifle" the M1903 had always pained to be.

(2) Photo of Iona Stairs with 25 foot Hand Carved M1903A3 Replica

Ms. Iona Stairs and her workmate were just two of the Remington Arms Company (RA) employees at the Ilion, New York plant. They were part of an operation having grown from just 900 employees at the beginning of mobilization to approximately 9000 at the end of RA's WW II rifle contract. They were justly prideful of their immense contribution as they were proud of the Army-Navy "E" Award for Excellence awarded the Plant on November 9, 1942. As the photo clearly shows, the object of their labors had become bigger than life!

(3) Letter from Col. F. J. Atwood to C. K. Davis

Right up until the end of production, Remington Arms Company (RA) was still proposing M1903A3 changes and improvements. And just when rifle production had finally reached the 3000 rifle per day objective on given days, the M1903 era came to an end. The destiny of the M1 Garand had finally been realized, but not before Col. Frank J. Atwood, Chief of the Rochester Ordnance District could formally acknowledge RA's immense stop-gap contribution of small arms to the WW II effort



Perhaps at no time in the annals of U.S. history has an arms maker been any more challenged than was Remington Arms Company (RA) during W.W. II. Driven by a spirit of extraordinary patriotism and innovation from the very beginning to the end of production, their vigorous pursuit of product simplification, increased production velocity and improved rifle function overcame near impossible odds. The ultimate payoff was transformation of an essentially, bench made target rifle into the "battle rifle" the M1903 had always pained to be.



From **TRIAL**
To **TRIBUTE**

Ms. Iona Stairs and her workmate were just two of the Remington Arms Company (RA) employees at the Ilion, New York plant. They were part of an operation having grown from just 900 employees at the beginning of mobilization to approximately 9000 at the end of RA's W.W. II rifle contract. They were justly prideful of their immense contribution as they were proud of the Army-Navy "E" Award for Excellence awarded the plant on November 9, 1942. As the photo clearly shows, the object of their labors had become bigger than life !

STOLEN PROPERTY: Antique Arms, Accouterments, Parts, Edged Weapons, and Misc.

FROM the VAN of: Albert Frasca (937-389-5002)

TIME & LOCATION: Hotel in Denver, Colorado, about 1:00 pm Thursday, 9/13/04

POLICE REPORT NUMBER: 2004 198 84

DENVER DETECTIVE in CHARGE of INVESTIGATION: Det. John Haney, Dist. 2 Burglary

Office: 303-331-4096, Home: 303-477-7134

DENVER POLICE DISPATCHER: 720-913-2000

PHOTO IMAGES on (WWW.TRAPDOORCOLLECTOR.COM)

ANTIQUE FIREARMS

Make/Model	Serial Number	Caliber	Photo Images on Site
U.S. Spfd Model 1855 Musket	None	.58	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1869 Cadet Rifle	423	.50	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1869 Cadet Rifle	2204	.50	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1873 Rifle	44402	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1888 RRB Rifle	130743	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1873 Rifle	175269	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1873 Rifle	220361	.45	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1873 Rifle	243690	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1873 Rifle	252615	.45	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1884 Exp. RRB Rifle	320332	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1884 Rifle	349904	.45	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1873 Rifle	372766	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1884 Rifle	445637	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1884 Carbine	452417	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1884 Rifle	453996	.45	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1884 Rifle	464545	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1884 Rifle	474080	.45	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1884 Cadet Rifle	480021	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1888 RRB Rifle	503832	.45	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1888 RRB Rifle	509102	.45	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1888 RRB Rifle	510986	.45	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1888 RRB Rifle	519036	.45	Yes
U.S. Spfd Model 1888 RRB Rifle	523615	.45	No
U.S. Spfd Model 1888 RRB Rifle	529477	.45	Yes

ANTIQUE FIREARMS

Make/Model	Serial Number	Caliber	Photo Images on Site
Spencer CW Carbine	10084		No
Spencer CW Carbine	32857		Yes
Burnside CW Carbine	14814		No
Burnside CW Carbine	Mixed Numbers		No
Rem. Navy Conv. Revolver	None		No

EDGED WEAPONS

Make/Model	Condition	Photo Images on Site
Spfd Made M60 Staff & Field Sword & Scab.	Minty Blade & Scab	No
Spfd Made M60 Staff & Field Sword & Scab.	Minty Scab, Dull Blade	No
Lilly Made M60 Staff & Field Sword & Scab.	Minty	No
Ft. Lincoln Exp. Trapdoor Scab.	Very Good	Yes
5 Standard Trapdoor Bayts and Scabs	Good	Some
2 Loose Scabbards	Good	No
Cadet Bayonet without Scabbard	Very Good	Yes
M69 Trowel Bayt (SN 8) & Scab	Minty	Yes
Model 1869 Trowel Scab	Minty	No
M73 Trowel Bayt & Scab (Tip missing)	Excellent	Yes
Iron Mounted M80 Knife & Varney Scab	Excellent	Yes
M90 Hunting Knife & Scab	Excellent	Yes
M80 Repro Hunting Knife and Scab	Used	No
3- Krag Rifle Bayts, 1897, 1897, and 1901	Excellent	Yes
2 Cadet Krag Bayt Scabs	Like New	Yes
2 - Trapdoor Cadet Bayonets and Scabs	Excellent	Yes
Bayt & Hoffman Scab	Used	Yes

RIFLE CLEANING RODS

Make/Model	Condition	Photo Images on Site
1- U.S. Spfd M68 Rifle Cleaning Rod	Minty	No
2 - U.S. Spfd M80 Cleaning Rods	Good	Yes
4 - U.S. Spfd M73 Cleaning Rods	Good to minty	Yes
6 - U.S. Spfd M88 Rods	Minty	Yes

RIFLE / CARBINE SLINGS

Make/Model	Condition	Photo Images on Site
4 - Krag/Trapdoor Rifle Slings	Minty	Yes
1 - Trapdoor Carbine sling	Good	Yes

RIFLE / CARBINE CARTRIDGE POUCHES

Make/Model	Condition	Photo Images on Site
1- Dyer Pouch	Like New	Yes
3 - McKeever .45-70 Pouches	Good	Yes
1 - .45-70 Conversion Pouch	Good to minty	Yes
1 - .45-70 Conversion Pouch	Good to minty	No
1 - CW Cap Box	Minty	No
NG Cartridge Box (.45-70)	Good	Yes
1 - McKeever Box (Krag)	Excellent	Yes
CW Musket Ammo Pouch	Excellent	No

RIFLE / CARBINE CARTRIDGE BELTS

Make/Model	Condition	Photo Images on Site
Mills Belt with U.S. Plate	Like New	Yes
Eagle Plate & Belt in Black Box	Minty	Yes
Eagle Belt & Plate	Used	Yes
2 - Hagner Belts & Buckles	Used	Yes
2 - Hagner Plates in Riker Mounts	Excellent	Yes
Prairie Belt "2 nd GA	Excellent	Yes
IDed Belt Buckle and Scab :CRABBS"	Excellent	Yes
GAR Belt and Buckle	Fragile	Yes

TRAPDOOR PARTS

Make/Model	Condition	Photo Images on Site
Container with 8 Early B. Blocks	Mixed	All the blocks
Container with Firing Pins	Mixed	Some Pins
Container with 20 F.S. Covers	Minty	Some covers
Container with Screws, Springs, B. Bands,...	Mixed	No
Container with Rear Sights	Mixed	Some Sights
M76 & M79 Tools	Excellent	Some Tools
Type I and Type II Headless Shell Ext.	Excellent	Yes
Two Early Complete barrellled Actions	Used	Yes

ACCOUTERMENTS

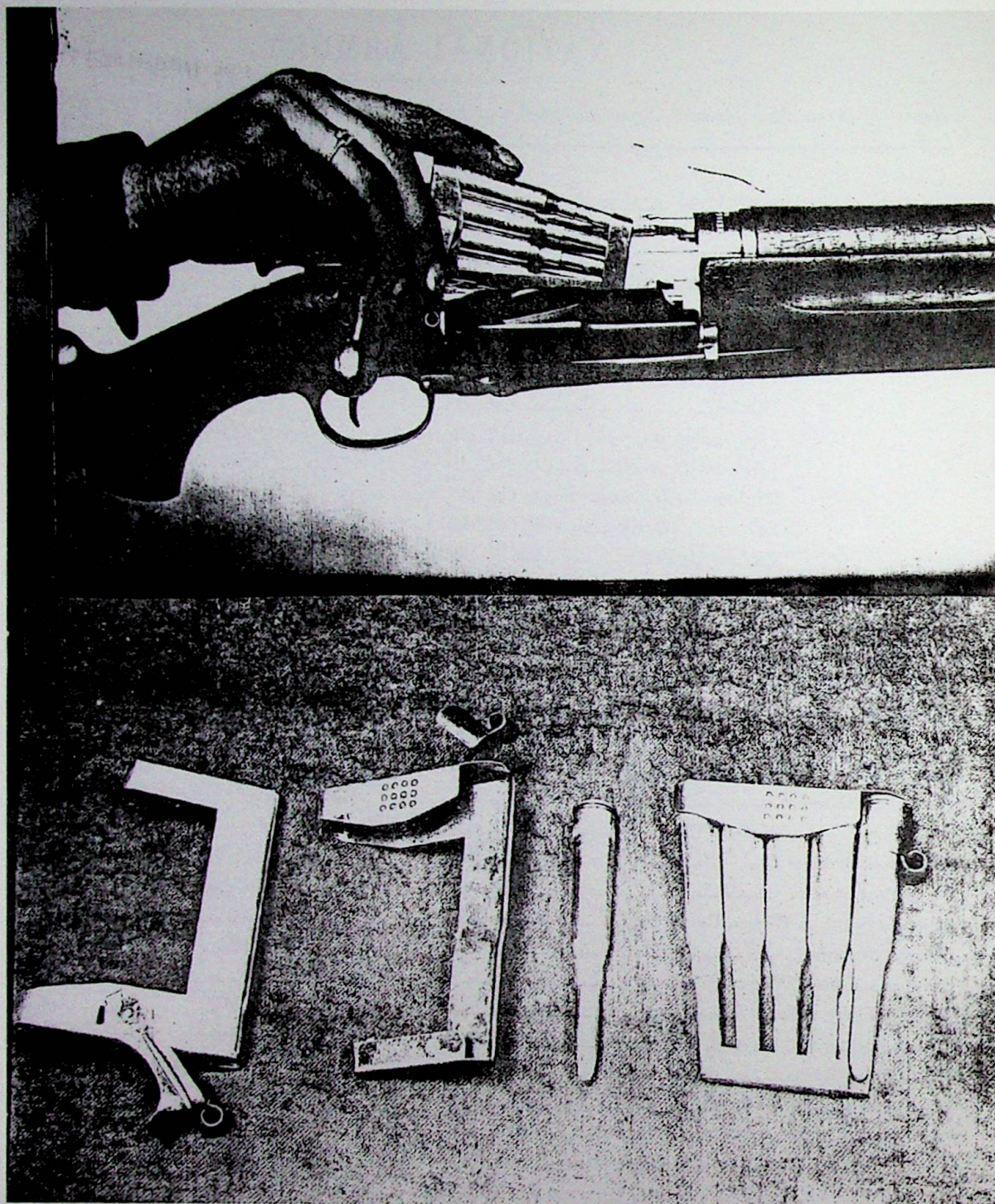
Make/Model	Condition	Photo Images on Site
Riker Mt with Krag Oilers and Rods	New	Yes
Indian Wars Canteen	used	Yes
Springfield Silver Spoon with '04 on Stock	New	Yes
Indian Wars Knife and Fork	New	Yes

NATIONAL ARMORY.

1880

Report of Arms Manufactured, Repaired, Issued, and Ready for Issue, for the week ended November 24 1880

KIND OF ARMS.	MANUFACTURED DURING THE WEEK.	CLEANED AND REPAIRED DURING THE WEEK.	TOTAL MANUFACTURED.	ISSUED DURING THE WEEK.	READY FOR ISSUE.	
					New.	Cleaned & Repaired
Springfield Rifles, Model 1866.....Cal. 50					27	133
" " " " (Short).....Cal. 50					11	101
" " " 1868.....Cal. 50						
" " " 1870.....Cal. 50						
" " " " Cadet".....Cal. 50					1	2
" " " (Triangular Bayonets).....Cal. 45	720		171804	84	60035	953
" " " (Ramrod Bayonets).....Cal. 45			1014		10	
" " " 28" Barrels (Triangular Bay'ts) Cal. 45			26		1	
" " " 28" " (Ramrod Bayonets) Cal. 45			26		1	
" " " Officers' Model.....Cal. 45			50		5	
" " " " Cadet".....Cal. 45			1021		402	47
" " " Long Range.....Cal. 45			183			
" " " Marksman's.....Cal. 45			9			
Springfield shot guns.....No. 20			870		1	
Hotchkiss Rifles.....Cal. 45					1	
" Navy Rifles.....Cal. 45						
Chaffee-Reece Magazine Rifles.....Cal. 45					557	3
Springfield Carbines.....Cal. 45					6032	709
" " " Model 1877.....Cal. 45			20065			
Hotchkiss Carbines.....Cal. 45			572			
Colt's Revolvers.....Cal. 45			6000	1	1488	
Schofield Smith & Wesson Revolvers.....Cal. 45			1000			
Officers' Swords.....			161		2	
Cavalry and Field Officers' Sabres.....			100		65	
Light Artillery Officers' Sabres.....			50		5	
Cleaning Materials, Boxes of, Complete.....			210		4	
Intrenching Tools.....					73	
Hunting Knives.....			5846		4747	
Steel Bayonet-saboard Bodies, for Rifles.....Cal. 45			82293			
" " " " for Cadet Rifles.....Cal. 45			2665		165	
" " " " Cavalry Curb-bits, No. 1.....			1001			
" " " " No. 2.....			3500			
" " " " No. 3.....			500			



All communications should be addressed to "The Supply Division, Office of the Chief of Ordnance, U. S. Army, 1330 F Street NW., Washington, D. C."

File
28

WAR DEPARTMENT
SUPPLY DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
1330 F STREET NW.
WASHINGTON

BBB/mx

In replying refer to No.

Oct. 24, 1918

From: Ordnance Office, Supply Division,
To: Engineering Division, Small Arms Section,
Machine Gun Unit, Attention Captain Dodge.
Subject: Stripped Springfield Rifles Model 1903 with
25 round magazines, shipped overseas.

1. One hundred eight Stripped Springfield Rifles Model 1903 with an equal number of 25 round extension magazines, were ordered overseas on OS-SP 3192. They were freighted by Springfield Armory on the 25th of June and were floated on the S S Munaries on or about July 12th.

T.J. Ames,
Colonel, Ord. Dept., U.S.A.

By: (O.F. Park) 19686
Captain, Ord. Dept., U.S.A.

25th Oct 18-18
107
CLK
Return to
MAIL AND RECORD
DIVISION
1330 F STREET NW
WASHINGTON

✓ Shipments - Overseas
✓ Rifles 1903 - Shipments

Capt Park states that
shipment was of 908 Rifles instead
of 108 as stated above
(See Original.)

Department
S. 4741
Oct 25 1918
400.21
14449

Guns Lettered" During Current Period

The following firearms were documented during the period covered by this issue. If you would like to get in touch with the person a letter was written for, send us your message together with a stamped envelope with blank address. We will affix a label and forward your message. There is no guarantee that you will receive a reply, of course; but we write quite a few letters for dealers, who would no doubt like to hear from someone interested in a particular gun. Make sure that your message contains the serial number and model of the gun you are interested in, and that you furnish separate messages and envelopes if you are interested in more than one.

DCM RIFLE & PISTOL SALES

1264852	M1903 NMP	B. A. Fleming
1273286	M1903 Spt	B. F. Knox
1318300	M1903 Spt	W. H. Smith
1344309	M1903 Spt	J. E. Wingard
1369049	M1903 A1 NM	1st Batt., New York Naval Militia
1402708	M1903 ST	F. E. Mosher
1498093	M1903 A1 NM	J. J. Madden
6515	M1922 M2NRAP	E. Lavoie

Civil War

13227	Burnside carbine	Co. D, 14th Pennsylvania Vol. Cav
2670	Spencer carbine	6th Indep. Co. Ohio Sharp Shooters
3706	Spencer carbine	Co. B, 9th Michigan Vol. Cav.
20134	Spencer carbine	Co. G, 12th Illinois Vol. Cav.
20221	Spencer carbine	Co. G, 12th Illinois Vol. Cav.

Spanish-American War

92930	Colt SAA revolver	Co E, 32nd U. S. Vol. Inf.
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U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, etc.

482951	M1 rifle	Marine Detachment U.S.S Lexington
5311648	M1 NM rifle	Phoenix Rifle & Pistol Club
122192	M1884 Cadet rifle	University of Minnesota
944501	M1903 rifle	USMC San Diego

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH PRODUCT LIST

BOOKS, CD, OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Serial Numbers of US Martial Arms

Vol. 1, 1983, 103 pp. \$15.00

Vol. 2, 1986, 209 pp. 20.00

Vol. 3, 1990, 198 pp. 20.00

Vol. 4, 1999, 470 pp. 40.00

The Krag Rifle Story 2nd Edition 80.00

U.S. Martial Arms Collector (per year) 25.00

Back issues

Springfield Research Newsletter (3 - 55) (Index to 1st 40 issues: SASE) 5.00 ea

U.S. Martial Arms Collector (Issue 56 to current issue) 10.00 ea.

Cumulative Summary of Serial Numbers

CD-ROM 75.00

CD-ROM Updates (per year, updated quarterly) 50.00

SERIAL NUMBER LETTERS

1) Sales records (M1903 1922-42, M1922, M1, Win. .22 rifles, M1911NM & GO pistols) \$30.00

2) Disposal Records (M1909, M1917, .38 revolvers; M1903 1950s) \$15.00

3) Service records (Civil War and Span-Am War Volunteers, General Officers) \$20.00

4) All others (including copy of documentation and service record where applicable) \$100.00

COPIES OF ORDNANCE MATERIAL

These are simply copies of material of interest from the Ordnance files, priced at the approximate cost of Archives reproduction (currently 30¢ per page).

1) Reports on Custer's Battles of the Yellowstone, Aug., 1873 7.50

2) "The First U. S. Small Caliber Rifle - History of the Models of 1892, 1896, 1898 and 1899 Caliber .30 Rifles and Carbines" (12 August 1943) 9.00

3) Standard Nomenclature List No. B-3, U.S. Rifle, Cal. .30, M1903 - Parts Accessories and Appendages (April 14, 1923) 7.50

4) "History of the Development of Small Arms Conducted by the Rifle Branch During World War II", by Maj. E. G. Cooper

a) Experimental Designs Applied to the M1 Rifle 7.00

b) Shotguns 3.00

5) "Shotguns - Development, Procurement and Production — 1917-1945" — Project Supporting Paper No. 42, October 1945 7.00

6) "History of Small Arms Procurement, 1939 -1945", written and compiled by S. H. Beach, 1st Lt., Ord. Dept. — M1903 Rifle, M1 Carbine, M1 Rifle, and Rifle Grenade Launchers 6.50

7) Official USMC correspondence on Sniper Rifles (incl. Ord. Maint. Bulletin) 25.50

8) "Rifle, U.S. Caliber .30 M1917 — Development and Production — 1917 - 1945" — Project Supporting Paper No. 37, August 1945 16.00

9) Small Arms Data Book, 1939 — Section A, Weapons; Section B, Ammunition 6.50

10) "U.S. Rifle, Cal. .30, M1 — History of Design, Dev., Procurement, and Prod., 1936 — 1945" .. 36.00

11) "Historical Notes Rel. to Rifles, Cal. .22" 6.00

12) Project Supporting Paper — Misc. Pistol and Revolvers — 15 Aug. '45 24.00

13) Project Supporting Paper, Pistol, Auto., cal. .45, M1911A1, 1917 - Aug., 1945 13.50

14) "Summary of Issues of the Pistol, Auto., Cal. .380, Colt to General Officers" 36.00

15) Project Supporting Paper — Bayonets, Knives, and Scabbards — 1917 - August 1945 35.00

16) Project Supporting Paper — U.S. Carbine, cal. .30 — Narrative & Exhibits, July 1945 37.00

17) Ordnance Field Service BASE SHOP DATA, U.S. RIFLE, M1903A1, Jan. 1943 16.50

18) Desc. & Instr. for the Use and Care of the Winchester S. S. Rifle Cal. .22 4.00

19) Notes on Cal. .30 Model of 1918 Pistol (Pedersen Device) by Capt. S.G. Green 13.50

20) Ord. Note 115, Oct. 1, 1879. Arms Captured from Hostile Indians 7.50

21) List of Infantry Board reports, 1916-40 10.00

22) Checklist of Ord. Dept. Docs, 1822-1909 ... 8.50

Note: All prices include shipping by surface mail within the U. S.; prices subject to change without notice.

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