

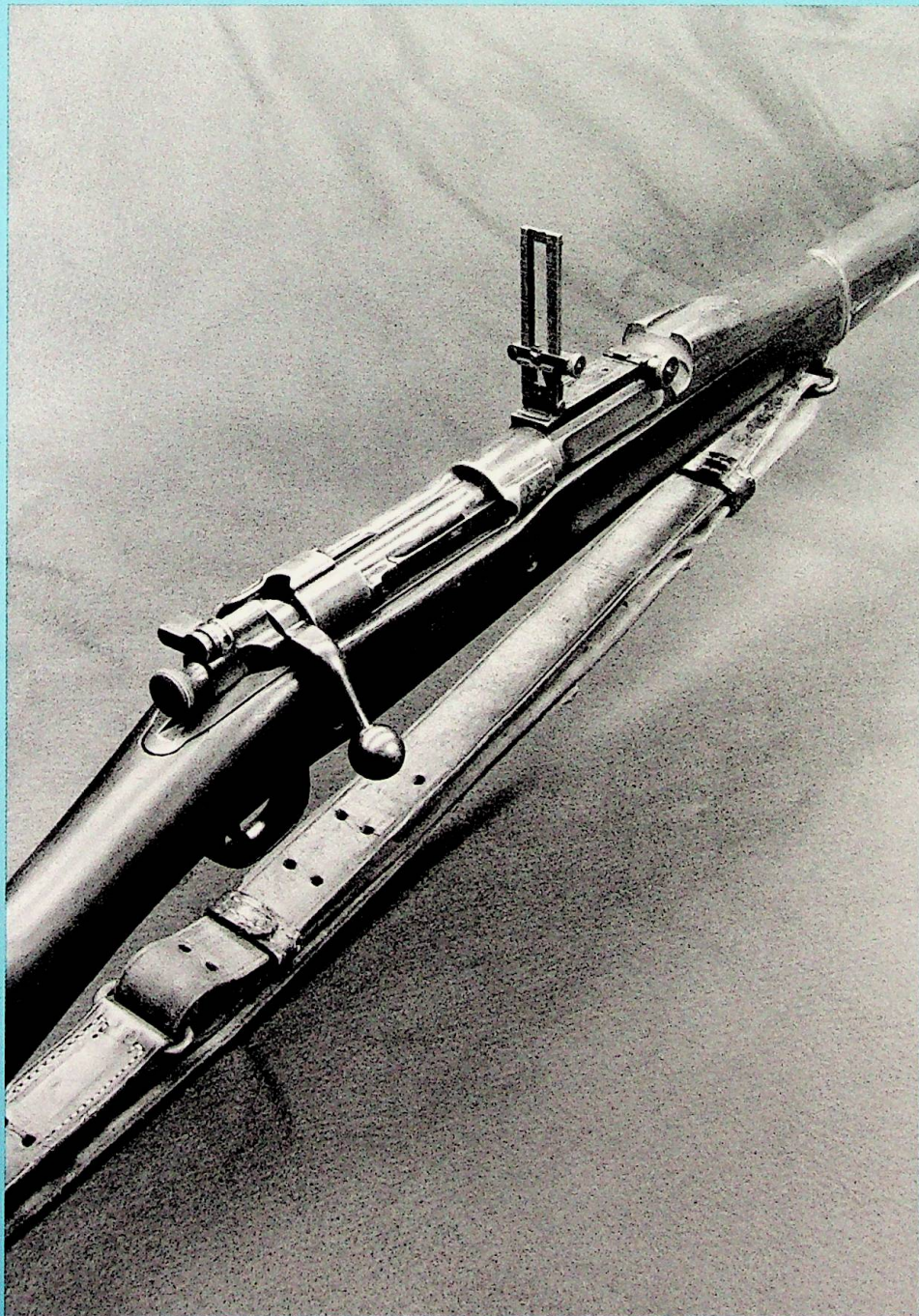
# U.S. MARTIAL ARMS Collector

and *Springfield Research Newsletter*

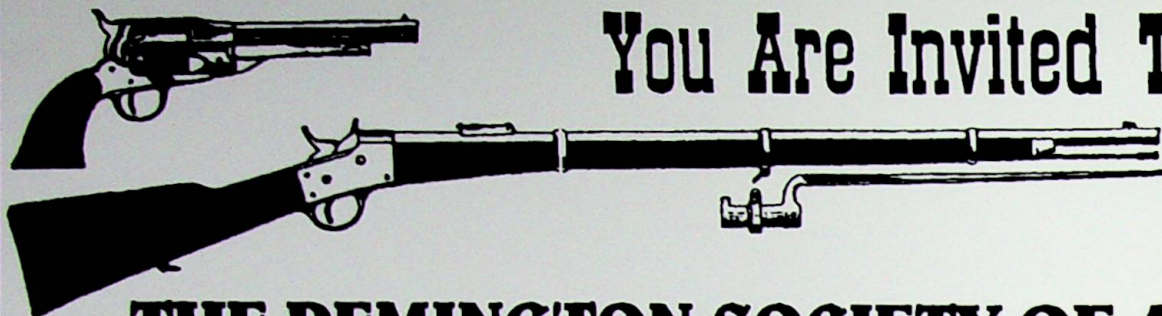


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# U.S. MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR

and *Springfield Research Newsletter*



Number 87

January 1999

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Cover: Rock Island Model 1903  
Service Rifle, Serial Number 255816,  
with "RIA/10-17" dated barrel. This  
rifle, still showing most of its origi-  
nal blue and casehardened finish,  
was one of less than 35,000 pro-  
duced at Rock Island Arsenal during  
World War I before production was  
temporarily suspended on March 2,  
1918.

2 MISCELLANEOUS NEWS AND NOTES

3 LETTERS RECEIVED & SENT

8 THE WORLD WAR I ROCK ISLAND MODEL 1903  
RIFLE  
by John Beard and C. S. Ferris

21 GUNS "LETTERED" DURING CURRENT PERIOD

22 SERIAL NUMBER DATA

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## Miscellaneous News and Notes

### Research During This Period

I finished up the one batch of Punitive Expedition to Mexico records that I had found, adding about 10,000 serial numbers to the database (mostly M1903 rifles, bringing our M1903 database to more than 77,000 entries). I am still trying to find the records of the 1st Aero Squadron on the Mexican border.

I resumed the review of WWI unit records, looking for serial numbers. Probably the most interesting being found are for Krag rifles used by Railway Engineer battalions in France. It appears that these were mostly M1898 rifles with M1896 rear sights. I haven't seen any accounts of use of these rifles in combat; however, some of these Engineer units came under fire, so combat use of the Krag rifle in WWI can't be ruled out.

As part of some private research, I have started going through the early military records of the Quartermaster Department.

### Legal Front

The Army was unable or unwilling to fulfill the terms of the mediation agreement we had reached, which would have returned the M1 sales & donation records to Government control; so we have filed for summary judgement in the case.

### Research Fee Increase

The cost of letters was raised effective 1/1/99 to better reflect the amount of effort that goes into retrieving the information and composing letters — see our Product List on inside back cover for new rates.

### Guns on the Web

They are out there on the Internet; in particular, on the Ebay auction site ([www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com)). I just missed a martial M1895 Winchester, and I succeeded in buying a Springfield M1851 Cadet musket through Ebay.

I'm trying to find somebody to set up a web site for SRS; in the meantime, I am responding to serial number inquiries via e-mail.

### Contributors

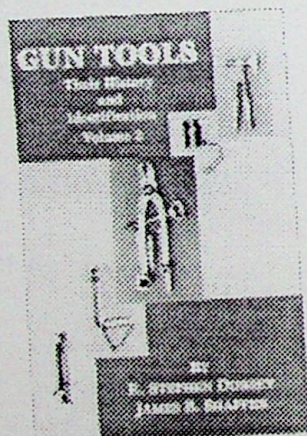
Thanks to Bev and Tom Lowry, Charlie Pate, Roy Jinks, Larry Byrd, and others who contributed data or other material. ♣

## 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:** S&W Triple Locks & 2nd Models in .44 or .455. Bud 843/871-0821.

• **Wanted:** Still looking for a converted M1892 stock, also the following: Cupped ramrod (41¾" long) for M1842 musket; Leaf spring (2.4" x 0.358") for M1855 long range rear sight; and Springfield M1870 rifle lower band. Frank Mallory, PO Box 4181, Silver Spring MD 20904. (301) 622-4103. [frank@mbz.org](mailto:frank@mbz.org).



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and

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## Letters Received & Sent

### '03 GP Rifle #1094109

I have a .22 cal. M1903 rifle s.n. #1094109, S.A. 5-20 barrel, "XXII" stamped under rear sight fixed base, front of (2-bolt) stock marked ".22" with what appears to be an Armory attempt to over-strike or obliterate this marking; S.A./S.P.G. cartouche, possibly over an early one, and circle P proof behind trigger guard. Everything in minty condition.

D.C.C., Delaware

*The barrel for this rifle is one of about 1,500 made in FY 1920; however, the SA production records show no Gallery Practice rifles corresponding to the serial number of this rifle.*

*You didn't mention "MARK I" or ".22" markings on the receiver, so I assume this rifle has a standard M1903 receiver.*

*My guess is that this rifle started life as either a cal. .30 1919 National Match, or one without Mk I cut made for sale to NRA members about the same time; then later it was returned to Springfield for rebarreling to cal. .22.*

*Possibly the serial number of this rifle will show up in the sales records for rifles from 1000000—*

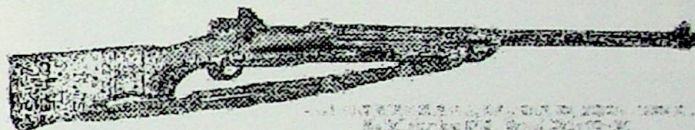
*1200000, when we are able to obtain them.*

### M1922 Finger Groove Stocks and Barrel Dates

Reference: Springfield Research Newsletter, Number 83, January 1998

I was reviewing the response to my recent article on the M1922 family of rifles, the other day, and noticed comments on very early barrel dates versus number of rifling grooves, as well as grasping grooves in the stocks. I thought that the data on one of my Model of 1922 MII rifles may be of interest to the database. This rifle, of course, was originally an M1 service issue rifle, and most probably was assembled in the first production lot of about 150 rifles in FY1925. This rifle was arsenal converted to an MII, at Benicia Arsenal CA, most likely sometime after 1935. The stock is marked "BA-JL" in a rectangle and is the original M1922 M1 "B" service issue type with full flat bottomed pistol grip and grasping grooves. MII rifles which retained the "B" stock at conversion are uncommon. Normal arsenal practice was to either replace

the stock with a new M2 type, or if the wood was really good, modify the contour of the pistol grip on the "B" stock to that of the M2 type. The serial number of this rifle is 94B and the barrel, which also appears original, is dated 12 - 24. The barrel has the standard M1922 M1 four inside diameter .2235" grooves and .2185" lands. It would seem that Springfield Armory's decision to increase the .22 caliber barrel bore dimensions by .0005, may have taken place prior to starting M1 production. This data, of course, would not help answer any questions on the "when" for service issue rifle .22 caliber six groove barrel dates. A photograph of this rifle is shown below.



The other early barrel dates for .22 rifles in my collection, are all for M1922s with 4 groove barrels. These dates are: for serial number 253: 5 - 22, serial number 1375: 12 - 22, and serial number 1465: 8 - 22. This latter rifle which I recently acquired, the one with the highest serial number, has the rare NRA M1922 full pistol grip type with grasping grooves. This would seem to indicate that serial numbers most likely did not have anything at all to do with the few M1922s that do have this stock. The rifle is also drilled and tapped on the barrel for scope blocks, and the quality of the work confirms it was not performed by a government arsenal. I have mounted a 12X Lyman Super Target Spot Scope on this rifle, and it shoots just about in the same hole, at 50 YDS. A photograph of this rifle is shown below.



The Springfield Armory M1922 Family of Rifles are quite dear to me. I think if I ever had to reduce my extensive collection to just a single Springfield Rifle, I would choose a Model of 1922.

F.M.E., Connecticut



### "A" Mark on '03 Barrel and Stock

I have recently acquired a M1903 which has some markings with which I am unfamiliar and was wondering if you could help me with the identification of what these marks mean.

The receiver of this M1903 is marked on top in the usual manner U.S., Springfield Armory, Model 1903, and then serial # 949166. The barrel is marked behind the front sight SA, below that 8-18, and centered below that is the letter A. All of these markings appear to be of the same age and wear. The type "S" two bolt stock is marked on the foretip R I and has a circled script P under the straight grip. The only other mark on the stock is the capital letter A on the left side below the cutoff recess. All the furniture is correct as far as I can determine for a late WWI production rifle, the bolt handle is straight and not bent back as on later rifles, and all of the metal is blued, not parkerized. On the bottom of the bolt handle is stamped R 4.

I have not found the serial # in the first three volumes of your books. I am interested in what you can tell me about this rifle, if you have any record of the serial # or what the other marks mean. The stamping of the barrel with the A is new to me, as is the same letter stamped on the stock where the inspectors stamp usually is. Is there any significance to this? I remember reading somewhere years ago that a quantity of RI stocks were shipped to Springfield Armory during the war as they had a surplus of them and the Armory was in need, so it is not to unusual for a late WWI Springfield '03 to have an RI stock is it?

M.K.E., Virginia

*Sorry, nothing yet on this rifle.*

*The "A" barrel marking was explained in our Newsletter no. 7: it most likely means the old barrel was retained when the rifle was overhauled. The "A" mark on the stock is a further indication that this rifle was overhauled. It appears that the stock was changed at that time.*

*Here are some notes from material I recently found in the Ordnance records, that pertain to barrel and stock markings:*

5/4/18 "A" is stamped over "SA" on second class barrels.

7/5/21 At SA, C&R (Cleaned & Repaired) rifles re-

*ceive a small capital letter placed on the side of the stock above the guard, near the original final inspection mark. L for Leary, S for Strong, D for Donnally, etc. Full initials used on new rifles: JFC for Coyle, DAL for Leary, WES for Strong.*

7/11/21 Barrels proofed separately have a "P" stamped on them; those proofed on the rifle do not.

*From the records of the Inspection Division, I also learned that during WWI, SA was relieved from the duty of inspecting not only contract arms, but also their own arms; this became effective in January 1918. I have found some of the names of inspectors assigned by the Inspection Div.; hopefully, more will turn up in the records.*

### More Phoney Cartouches

You may be interested in publishing a "CAVEAT" concerning the 2 ads (from Gun List and Shotgun News, offering to stamp "correct" inspection cartouches on M1903 and M1 Garand stocks) I have highlighted and sent along.

I have contacted both publications concerning the ethics of accepting such material and they don't give a damn.

Looks like the start of another hobby gone to hell.

M. W., Alabama

*I share your anger and frustration over this practice; but short of organizing a boycott of any publications that carry such ads, I don't know what can be done to stop it. You can discount the value of any '03 or M1 (and probably some Krags) with a sharp cartouche, to account for the fact that it may be a fake; but this will effect the value of many guns in your own collection as well.*

*A similar practice that has come to light recently, is the stamping of ship names on the wooden grips of M1905 and M1917 bayonets. Knowledgeable collectors have some protection against this, because you can be assured that that USN ships never engaged in this practice (and that the identity of the person stamping these bayonets is known). ♣*



# The World War I Rock Island Model 1903 Rifle

by

John Beard and C. S. Ferris

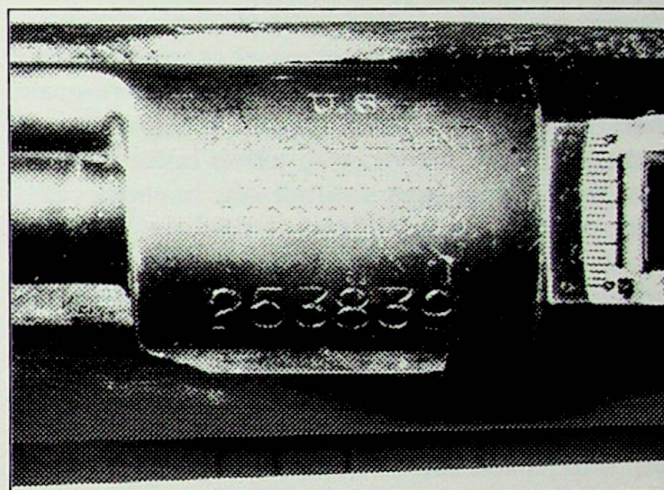
**A**nticipating America's entry into the Great War, the Ordnance Office issued an order to Rock Island Arsenal on September 17, 1916, to put their Model 1903 rifle-making shops back in operation<sup>1</sup>. By February 25, 1917, the workmen had been recruited and trained, the machines had been returned to working order, and Rock Island Arsenal was back in the Model 1903 rifle-making business<sup>2</sup>. Although records indicate rifle production officially started on February 25, 1917, component parts production apparently started earlier. Model 1903 rifle barrels made at Rock Island Arsenal have been observed with date stampings as early as "12-16."

## New Rifle Production During 1917

The first Model 1903 rifles made at Rock Island after resumption of production in 1917 were virtually identical to the last ones made in 1913 when production ended. Significant features included finger-groove straight-grip stocks; checkered buttplates; grooved triggers; seriffed letters on the magazine cutoff, receiver ring, and safety lock; an encircled script "P" proof mark beneath the stock; and a blued finish with a dark casehardened receiver. Three features, however, changed on the first rifles:

- a. The stock nose, which had previously been stamped with a large "S", was now stamped with a large "RI". The stamped letters were approximately 1/4" high.
- b. The method of inspection stamping on the left side of the buttstock changed from Conrad Nelson's script and dated initials enclosed in a cartouche, to a single alphabetical letter with no enclosure. Known alphabetical letters used for inspection stamps included "A", "F", "H", "J", and "L". The stamped letters were approximately 1/4" high.

- c. A second stock bolt was added in front of the rifle magazine.
- d. Serial numbers of the new rifles started at 238000 and continued through approximately 269506 when production was effectively suspended on March 2, 1918<sup>3</sup>.



*Early WWI receiver with letters having serifs.*



*Later WWI receiver with block letters.*



*Single-letter inspector mark "J".*



*Single-letter inspector mark "L".*



## Problems with Bolt and Receiver Heat Treatment

During calendar year 1917, the Army experienced increasing catastrophic failures of the Model 1903 rifle. The failures were ultimately traced to faulty heat treating of the bolt and receiver that was exacerbated by the poor quality wartime ammunition. Both Springfield and Rock Island rifles were affected. A special three-man team from the Army Ordnance Department was dispatched on January 14, 1918, to investigate heat treatment methods at Rock Island Arsenal. They reported on January 20, 1918, that, *"in general the present equipment is entirely inadequate, and out of date. This is one of the basic causes of trouble at Rock Island Arsenal, and must be remedied before any decided improvement can be made."*<sup>4</sup> Lug stripping tests given to current production bolts revealed that the locking lugs sheared off, in some cases, with as little as 4000 pounds of force.<sup>5</sup> Normal shearing forces should have exceeded 20,000 pounds.<sup>6</sup> Further experiments showed that, because of severe furnace temperature non-uniformities, some receivers and bolts were overheated and some were underheated. As a result, some receivers and bolts were either too hard or too soft and lacked sufficient strength or durability in each case. On January 26, 1918, General Wheeler of Army Ordnance sent a telegram to Rock Island Arsenal ordering them to *"...stop every operation on bolts and receivers."*<sup>7</sup> In a subsequent telegram, General Wheeler added, *"...receiver and bolt steel being used by you not proper composition. Safety requires every operation on bolts and receivers be stopped."*<sup>8</sup> In response to General Wheeler's orders, Rock Island suspended bolt and receiver production on January 30, 1918, with receiver serial number 285506.<sup>9</sup>

The impact of suspending bolt and receiver production at Rock Island was enormous. Some 450 workers were either laid off, reassigned, or transferred to other departments.<sup>10</sup> Rock Island began tearing out their old heat treatment furnaces and installing new replacement furnaces obtained from surplus inventory at the Eddystone Model 1917 Enfield rifle plant and from new purchases. Rock Island also began testing all bolt and receiver steel on hand and setting aside all steel that failed to meet specification.<sup>11</sup> Instructions were further issued on March 2, 1918, to

destroy all carbon steel receivers having the old heat treatment remaining on hand and to assemble only receivers having the new heat treatment after that date.<sup>12</sup> Some 5,846 receivers having the old heat treatment remaining on hand were destroyed.<sup>13</sup> The destroyed receivers were in the serial number range extending from approximately 269506 to 285506. The remaining receivers in this serial number range had apparently not been heat treated and were, therefore, held back to receive a newly-developed double heat treatment. Since the receivers had been machined from steel billets having questionable chemical composition, the receivers were tested during March and April of 1918 for chemical composition and for scleroscopic hardness following double heat treatment to detect and discard any receivers that were too hard or too soft. Rock Island reports indicate that most receivers passed the chemical composition and scleroscopic hardness tests and were eventually assembled to finished rifles.

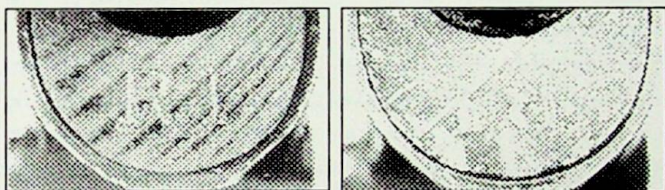
A few of these receivers were experimentally heat treated with the new double heat treatment process and used in subsequent follow-up testing at Rock Island to ensure that the process would correct bolt and receiver strength problems.<sup>14</sup> Two receivers, Rock Island serial numbers 281023 and 281636, were heat treated, assembled to finished rifles, and each fired 1000 shots using high pressure (70,000 lbs.) proof test ammunition. The rifles were then gauged for headspace. Gauge results showed that the headspace had increased only 0.003 inches and 0.001 inches, respectively.<sup>15</sup> Two rifles that had received the old casehardening heat treatment were each fired 50 shots using high pressure proof ammunition and, subsequently, showed headspace increases of 0.006 inches and 0.0085 inches, respectively.<sup>16</sup> Major R. P. Johnson, a member of the original team dispatched to investigate heat treatment methods at Rock Island, commented in response to these results that *"An increase of head space of less than 0.003 inches is remarkably good."*<sup>17</sup>

Rock Island reported resuming limited new bolt and receiver machining operations on April 8, 1918.<sup>18</sup> Receiver production quickly escalated after several weeks to approximately 500 receivers



per day.<sup>19</sup> New receiver serialization resumed on May 11, 1918, with receiver serial number 285507.<sup>20</sup> The new receivers were hardened using the new double heat treatment process that resulted in a substantially stronger bolt and receiver.

New rifle assembly resumed on April 29, 1918, using the leftover receivers having serial numbers below 285507 made before January 30, 1918, which had been hardened using the new double heat treatment process. Initially, new rifles were apparently assembled at an authorized rate of 50 rifles per day.<sup>21</sup> New rifle assembly gradually increased through the remainder of calendar year 1918, reaching a peak of 3,813 rifles assembled and inspected in September, 1918. The remaining excess rifle production was turned into stores as unassembled spare parts.<sup>22</sup>



"RI" on WWI RIA stock tip.

Inverted "RI".

### Spare Parts Production at Rock Island

The order from General Wheeler on January 26, 1918, to "...stop every operation on bolts and receivers..." had little apparent effect on production of the remaining Model 1903 rifle parts at Rock Island. Parts production continued with little, if any, apparent interruption. The parts were turned into stores as spare parts for use in overhaul at Ordnance facilities located in stateside arsenals (including Rock Island Arsenal) and at Forward Ordnance Repair Shops located overseas. By November 18, 1918, a memorandum bearing that date from the Industrial Engineering Section at Rock Island Arsenal stated that Rock Island "manufactured and either are assembled or furnished as repair parts an equivalent approximating 113670 rifles, Model 1903."<sup>23</sup>

Springfield Armory also experienced bolt and receiver heat treatment problems. Springfield Armory reported that they suspended new rifle assembly between February 7, 1918, and June 17,

1918, and shipped all Model 1903 rifle parts production during that interval as unassembled spares.<sup>24</sup> Ordnance Department Inspection Reports that cover much of the period cited, however, show that rifle assembly at Springfield was substantially curtailed, but not completely suspended.

### Changes in Rifle Production During 1918

In addition to manufacturing new Model 1903 rifles during World War I, Rock Island Arsenal was heavily engaged in overhauling older worn or damaged Model 1903 rifles turned in from various training camps and bases. During the period following January 30, 1918, while bolt and receiver production was suspended, we believe Rock Island used their new rifle assembly facilities and personnel to overhaul older worn Model 1903 rifles. When bolt and receiver production resumed during April and May of 1918, the new receivers were apparently assembled to finished rifles alongside overhauled rifles. Rock Island rifles were, therefore, no longer assembled exclusively from newly-manufactured parts, but were assembled from a mixture of newly-manufactured and older refinished parts.

The method of inspection stamping also changed about that time from a single alphabetical letter to a cartouche containing the inspector's initials (without periods) and year date enclosed in a rectangle. Known cartouches and inspectors include:

WMH 1918	William M. Halferty <sup>25</sup>
JLH 1918	John L. Hanssen <sup>26</sup>
OHA 1918	Otto H. Armstrong <sup>27</sup>



OEL  
1919

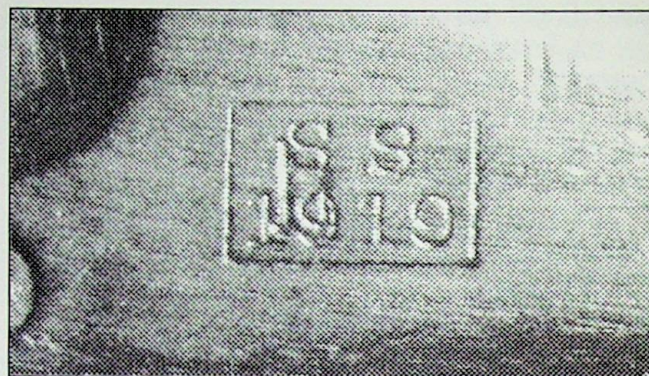
Ora E. Lindsay<sup>28</sup>

ELV  
1919

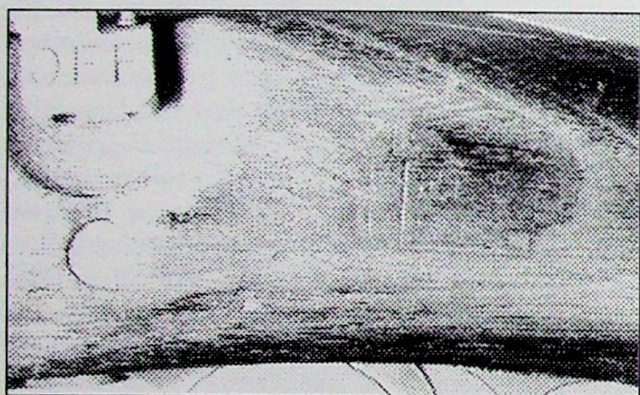
Edgar Vannier<sup>29</sup>

SS  
1919

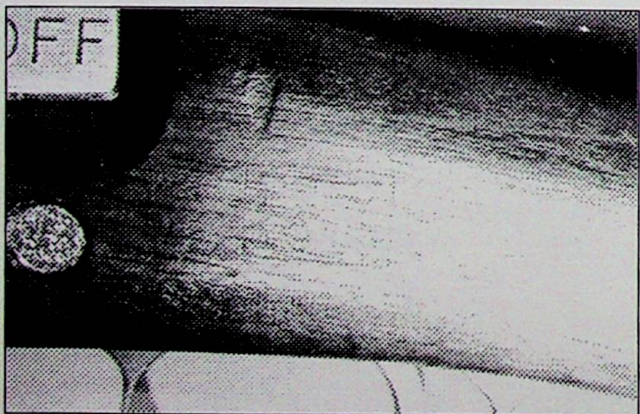
Samuel O. Spangler<sup>30</sup>



Samuel O. Spangler's "SS/1919" cartouche (middle initial omitted, perhaps to avoid "SOS" distress symbol).



Faint "WMH/1918" cartouche on a stock manufactured at Springfield Armory in 1905 or 1906.



Edgar Vannier's "ELV/1919" cartouche.

The cartouches and encircled script 'P' proof mark were applied to both repaired/refinished stocks having a previous cartouche and to newly-manufactured stocks. Because of this mixing of newly-manufactured parts with older refinished parts on rifles assembled after April,

1918, we have been unable to conclusively determine whether Rock Island implemented the wartime manufacturing simplifications devised at Springfield. Documents and extant specimens indicate Rock Island eliminated butt plate checkering. However, we have been unable to determine whether Rock Island eliminated trigger grooves or the 2850-yard notch in the rear sight leaf. Although late-war Rock Island rifles may frequently have some older refinished parts, examination of extant specimens clearly indicates the rifles were, nevertheless, assembled predominantly from newly-manufactured parts.

#### Rock Island Rifles Assembled at Springfield Armory

Most Model 1903 rifle receivers produced at Rock Island Arsenal were assembled there into finished rifles during and after World War I. However, complete Rock Island rifles bearing an Springfield Armory inspection cartouche and block 'P' proof mark enclosed in a circle dating from the WWI period are occasionally observed today. A record of Production Order Number 121.25/869-RIA dated November 1, 1918, states that Rock Island completed delivery of 8,001 Cal. .30 Rifles, M-1903, that were described as "Springfield Assembled." Apparently, some complete sets of rifle parts were shipped to Springfield Armory and assembled there into finished rifles. These



rifles were assembled from Rock Island parts and have Rock Island barrels, receivers, and stocks with RI stamped on the stock nose. The rifle stocks bear a single undated inspection cartouche (without overhaul marks) and give the misleading impression that the rifles were originally assembled at Rock Island Arsenal. Known cartouches include:

W.J.S.	Unknown* Springfield Armory	1917-1920
J.E.S.	Unknown	1918
E.H.D.	Elbert H. Dewey Springfield Armory	1919-1920
A.A.J.	Unknown Springfield Armory	1918-1920

\*Separate evidence suggests W.J.S. may have inspected rifles at Rock Island during 1909.

Government employment records from the World War I period fail to substantiate that the preceding inspectors worked at Rock Island Arsenal.

### Receiver Steels and Finishes

In their report of January 20, 1918, the special three-man team from the Ordnance Department dispatched to investigate heat treatment methods at Rock Island Arsenal noted that Springfield Class C steel (from which bolts and receivers were manufactured) was unusually sensitive to both chemical composition and to heat treatment temperature. They, therefore, strongly recommended that 3½% nickel steel "be adopted for the receiver and bolt of the Model 1903 rifle as soon as practicable."<sup>31</sup> Their recommendation was approved, and in mid-March, 1918, orders were placed with the Crucible Steel Company and the

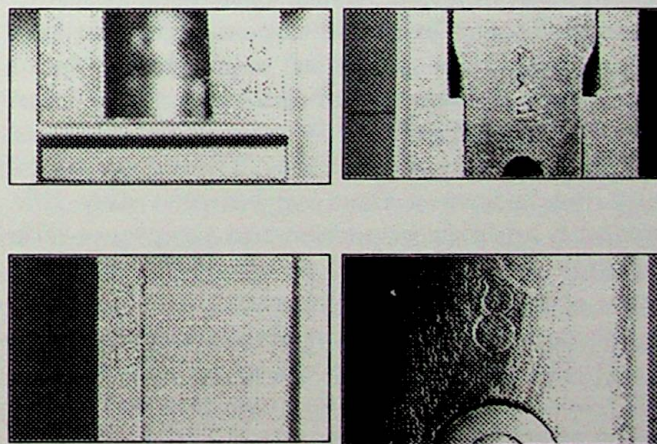
Illinois Steel Company for deliveries in six to eight weeks of nickel steel stock for bolts and receivers.<sup>32</sup>

With serial number 319921 produced on August 1, 1918, Rock Island began producing receivers from nickel steel in place of the double heat treated Springfield Class C steel. However, production of double heat treated receivers from Class C steel continued intermittently through July, 1919.<sup>33</sup>

Rock Island also began producing bolts from nickel steel in place of the double heat treated steel. Some Rock Island nickel steel bolts are marked N.S. on the safety lug. Interestingly, all Rock Island rifle bolt handles, including case-hardened, double heat treated, and nickel steel types, have the straight turned-down profile. Rock Island never adopted the curved swept-back bolt handle profile of the Springfield double heat treated and nickel steel bolts.<sup>34</sup>

Rock Island apparently began parkerizing major components of the Model 1903 rifle as early as March 12, 1918. A report from Rock Island bearing that date states that "six receivers and (six) bolts were heat treated... (and) were then Parkerized and assembled."<sup>35</sup> Springfield Armory did not adopt parkerizing for major components of the Model 1903 rifle until November, 1918.

### Subinspector Marks



Marks applied by Inspection Div. subinspectors at RIA.

Beginning in mid-1918, the practice of stamping a subinspector mark on selected parts of the Rock Island Model 1903 rifle began. Each



mark consisted of the ordnance "shell & flame" with a small number beneath it to identify the subinspector. The stampings were not applied consistently. They appear occasionally on late production rifles. Parts which have been observed bearing subinspector marks as described include the:

- Rear Sight Leaf
- Rear Sight Movable Base
- Rear Sight Base Spring
- Magazine Follower
- Trigger Guard
- Nickel Steel Bolt
- Stock ("shell & flame" only, with no number)

### Wartime Monthly Production

Beginning January 1, 1918, responsibility for new rifle inspection was moved from the rifle plants and armories to the Inspection Division of the Ordnance Department headquartered in Washington, D.C. Subsequently, rifle inspectors at the various plants and armories were required to report their rifle inspection and acceptance totals each day. The reports were tallied and presented to the Chief of Ordnance. The following monthly inspection and acceptance totals from Rock Island Arsenal were taken from these reports. The reports clearly referred to new rifle inspection and acceptance and excluded excess receivers that were turned into stores as unassembled spare parts. Report coverage for 1917 is not consistent with the Rock Island 1917 fiscal year report for the period ending June 30, 1917. The inconsistency may result from a time lag between new rifle assembly and rifle inspection and acceptance. The monthly totals, tabulated at top of the next column, correct minor tallying errors that appeared in the reports beginning in March, 1919.<sup>36</sup>

The available reports ended on May 3, 1919, and do not cover rifle inspection and acceptance after that date. Inspection and acceptance for the period November 1-9, 1918, was 808 rifles, giving a total wartime production of 47,251 rifles. This figure is frequently cited in various reports documenting World War I Rock Island Model

1917	Before August	1,680
	Aug. 1 - Dec. 31	22,330
1918	January	7,680
	February	2,460
	March	432
	April	-
	May	550
	June	619
	July	2,038
	August	1,597
	September	3,813
	October	3,256
	November	2,301
	December	2,144
1919	January	11,678
	February	7,633
	March	6,827
	April	7,196
	May 1-3	513
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>84,735<sup>36</sup></b>

1903 rifle production.<sup>37</sup>

### Rifles for the 1919 National Matches

In March, 1919, Rock Island Arsenal was ordered to furnish 3,000 rifles for use in the 1919 National Matches. As directed, the rifles were assembled using service rifle parts on hand that were carefully selected and gauged for accuracy. In addition to careful selection of parts, the rifle bolts were polished and the barrels were star-gauged for accuracy. The rifles were issued to various shooting teams, some of which criticized the wartime fit and finish and general lack of smoothness. Accuracy, however, compared favorably with pre-war National Match rifles made at Springfield. As a result of the criticisms and competitive pressure from Springfield, Rock Island was apparently never again given the opportunity to furnish Model 1903 rifles for the National Matches.



## Rifle Production Ends, 1919-22

The date when Rock Island ended new rifle assembly is not clear. Rock Island reported that, "On May 31, 1919 the manufacture of new rifles was discontinued...."<sup>38</sup> The report, however, apparently referred to production of most new rifle parts. Fiscal year reports clearly indicate that Rock Island continued new rifle assembly into the 1920 fiscal year that extended from July 1, 1919, to June 30, 1920. The new rifles were apparently assembled from receivers and parts that had been placed in stores during 1918 as spares, along with older refinished parts from overhaul.

Rock Island reported the highest receiver serial number struck was 430742 on July 31, 1919.<sup>39</sup> Major General Julian Hatcher in *Hatcher's Notebook* noted that Rock Island receiver serial number 445136 was reported to have burst during 1918. Hatcher, however, acknowledged that the serial number was out of range and had been reported in error.<sup>40</sup> No Rock Island receivers having serial numbers higher than 430742 have been observed or otherwise reliably reported.<sup>41</sup>

The total quantity of new rifles assembled at Rock Island during World War I is, likewise, not clear. The following table of rifles assembled at Rock Island is compiled from various fiscal year reports issued during the World War I period:

Fiscal Year	Rifles Assembled
1917	3,521 <sup>42</sup>
1918	37,508 <sup>43</sup>
1919	2,251 <sup>*44</sup> 51,831 <sup>**</sup>
1920	60,199 <sup>45</sup>
1921	19,590 <sup>***46</sup>
<b>Total</b>	174,900

\* "Caliber .30 Rifles"

\*\* "United States Rifles"

\*\*\* "Barrels & Receivers, assembled"

The preceding table of rifles assembled at Rock Island during World War I leaves ap-

proximately 3,996 new serialized receivers (excluding the 5,846 receivers destroyed in March, 1918, and the 8,001 rifles assembled at Springfield Armory) unaccounted for. Some of these receivers may have been spoiled in the final stages of manufacture or heat treatment and were, subsequently, discarded. The serial numbers were not re-used. An unknown quantity of these receivers just below serial number 285507 failed to pass the chemical composition and scleroscopic hardness tests conducted in March and April of 1918 and were discarded. Some were probably consumed in destructive tests to ensure quality of the steel and heat treatment. The 19,590 "Barrels & Receivers, assembled" between July 1, 1920 and June 30, 1921, were, most assuredly, assembled into finished rifles at some later date. The finished rifles may well have been assembled later at Springfield Armory and received single undated stock inspection cartouches and block 'P' proof marks enclosed in a circle that, again, present the misleading impression the rifles were assembled at Rock Island Arsenal.

Rock Island continued manufacturing new rifle barrels into calendar year 1922.<sup>47</sup> Barrels having date stampings as late as R.I.A./5-22 are known. When new rifle assembly ended in 1920, some 25,600 forged nickel steel billets and receivers in various stages of completion remained on hand. These were shipped to Springfield Armory in March, 1926.<sup>48</sup> We believe that some of the approximately 3,996 new serialized receivers previously unaccounted for were also included in this shipment.

When Springfield Armory took delivery of the unfinished receiver and forged billet shipment from Rock Island Arsenal, they had no production procedures and trained workmen in place to heat treat the nickel steel receivers and billets. The receivers and billets were, therefore, temporarily placed in storage.

## Post World War I Overhaul at Rock Island Arsenal

Rock Island Arsenal continued over-



hauling Model 1903 rifles during the period between the World Wars. By 1921, the procedure for inspection stamping overhauled Model 1903 rifles at Rock Island had changed again to a 5/16-inch high number & letter combination without a rectangle (observed specimens are only ¼-inch high). Known stampings include "2K", "7K", and "4B" (without quote marks).<sup>49</sup> This procedure for inspection stamping was soon replaced again with a stamping consisting of the inspector's initials above or below the identification letters, "RIA", all enclosed in a rectangle. The most common stamping was:

R.I.A. FK	Frank Krack 1941-1946 <sup>50</sup> Rock Island Arsenal
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Other known inspector s initials include EO, ICC, LAA, FLW, EAA, EB, FZ, and AHB.<sup>51</sup> EB stood for Elmer Bjerke.<sup>52</sup>

#### Springfield Armory Studies the Heat Treatment of Low-Numbered Rifles, 1923-27

During the early and mid-1920s, Springfield Armory conducted extensive research and numerous experiments in an effort to determine the extent of faulty heat treatment in the case-hardened low-numbered receivers and to discover a corrective action, if any. The research revealed that many casehardened low-numbered receivers were unacceptably brittle. In addition, no satisfactory corrective action was found to identify and recover the brittle receivers. During the course of this research in 1927, Springfield heat-treated and tested several of the unfinished receivers shipped from Rock Island. Tests showed that the Rock Island nickel steel receivers were stronger than the old casehardened receivers, but not as strong as the Springfield double heat treated receivers of recent manufacture.<sup>53</sup> Nevertheless, Springfield adopted nickel steel in receiver production on about April 1, 1927, beginning with receiver serial number 1275767.<sup>54</sup> These first nickel steel receivers were actually made from the forged billets that

had been shipped from Rock Island.<sup>55</sup>

#### Springfield Ends New Rifle Production and Begins Overhaul to Replace Low-Numbered Rifle Receivers, 1927

Receiver production and new rifle assembly at Springfield Armory declined sharply after WWI. In mid-1927, new rifle assembly for service use officially ended, and receiver production from that date was re-directed to support Model 1903 rifle overhaul operations at Springfield and other arsenals. The only new Model 1903 rifles assembled at Springfield Armory after mid-1927 were for sales and for the National Matches.<sup>56</sup>

Reports indicate that Springfield's Model 1903 rifle overhaul operations expanded dramatically beginning on July 1, 1927.<sup>57</sup> Rifles overhauled and spare receivers produced at Springfield Armory from fiscal year (FY) 1923 through 1930 are tabulated in the table at the top of the next column.

FY	# Overhauled	Spare Receivers Produced
1923	1,213	0 <sup>58</sup>
1924	4,872	0 <sup>59</sup>
1925	645	0 <sup>60</sup>
1926	2,742	0 <sup>61</sup>
1927	4,743	0 <sup>62</sup>
1928	24,245	16,161 <sup>63</sup>
1929	25,087	16,440 <sup>64</sup>
1930	26,918	32,338 <sup>65</sup>

The dramatic increase in rifle overhaul starting in the 1928 fiscal year probably resulted, in part, from resolution of the casehardened low-numbered receiver problem. On February 7, 1928, General Samuel Hof recommended to the Chief of Ordnance that "... when rifles are turned in from the troops for repair, the receivers having these low numbers should be scrapped."<sup>66</sup> The Chief of Ordnance approved General Hof's recommendation as policy.<sup>67</sup> Although Gener-



al Hof's recommendation was not approved as policy until February 7, 1928, Springfield Armory had already started in July, 1927, (at the beginning of the 1928 fiscal year) to expand their overhaul operations and replace the low-numbered receivers.<sup>68</sup>

Initially, Springfield Armory implemented General Hof's recommended policy by scrapping the receivers from all low-numbered rifles that were returned to the Armory for overhaul.<sup>69</sup> Thus, when a rifle was received and inspected at Springfield and found to have a low-numbered receiver, the receiver was scrapped and replaced with a new receiver made from the forged billets shipped from Rock Island. Since 91% of the rifles returned to Springfield for overhaul during this period had bad barrels, the new receivers were almost invariably mated with newly-manufactured Springfield barrels.<sup>70</sup>

Prior to implementation of General Hof's recommended policy, receivers were a very low failure rate item during overhaul. Very few receivers failed to pass inspection during overhaul. Springfield had no need to produce spare receivers to support rifle overhaul and, therefore, none were produced in the years immediately prior to fiscal year 1928. According to a statistical analysis performed at Springfield Armory in 1928, 85% of the rifles returned for overhaul had a low-numbered receiver that had to be scrapped and replaced.<sup>71</sup> With implementation of the receiver replacement program in July, 1927, Springfield had a substantial requirement for spare receivers to support rifle overhaul as shown in the preceding table; and the receivers and billets from the Rock Island shipment were used for that purpose.

#### **Last Use of Rock Island Model 1903 Rifle Production, 1928-30**

Reports indicate that the 1926 shipment from Rock Island consisted mostly of nickel steel receiver billets and a few receivers bearing the Rock Island Arsenal stamping, but no serial number, "... together, with a number of other unfinished parts."<sup>72</sup> As stated previously, we

believe the shipment also included a substantial quantity of finished, stamped, and serialized Rock Island receivers from the approximately 3,996 receivers previously unaccounted for. These receivers may have been blemished and/or lacking heat treatment. Serial number records confirm the last of the Rock Island receiver billets were used up during early 1929.<sup>73</sup> Some of the serialized receivers and "other unfinished parts," however, remained in storage at Springfield Armory and were not used until 1929 and/or 1930. According to the Springfield Armory annual report for the 1930 fiscal year that ended on June 30, 1930: "Some large quantities of completed or partly completed components produced during the World War at various places and later turned in here were known to be unreliable as to material, dimension and condition. Re-inspection during the year at a cost of \$13,000.00 (including some minor repair) has permitted about twenty times that value to be stocked as reliable goods. Of some 8000 stocks for M1903 rifle, eighty per cent passed and twenty per cent were rejected. Other items were receivers, bolts, sears and springs, various."<sup>74</sup> Since Rock Island was the only other place producing receivers during the World War, the statement in Springfield Armory's annual report clearly refers to the Rock Island shipment. As mentioned in the report, many of the receivers and other unfinished parts were recovered and "... stocked as reliable goods," to include an unspecified quantity of bolts and approximately 6,400 rifle stocks.

As a result of the preceding, new receivers bearing a Rock Island Arsenal stamping and serial number were assembled to newly-manufactured Springfield barrels beginning as early as 1928 and continuing through 1930. These Rock Island receivers having Springfield Armory 1928, 1929, or 1930-dated barrels are occasionally encountered today on overhauled Model 1903 rifles. Examination of Rock Island receivers having high serial numbers suggests that some receivers may not have been assembled to Springfield barrels until as late as 1933. The Rock Island receivers usually have high serial numbers near the end of production above 375000. As indicated, these rifles may also



have other Rock Island-produced parts including bolts and stocks. Interestingly, the stocks may bear the RI stamping on the stock nose, but have a Springfield inspection cartouche and block 'P' proof mark enclosed in a circle, which presents the misleading impression that the rifles were originally assembled at Rock Island.

The small quantity of unfinished receivers that had the Rock Island Arsenal stamping, but no serial number, was finished in 1928 and serialized in the Springfield Armory serial number sequence. The exact quantity of these receivers bearing the Rock Island Arsenal stamping and Springfield serial number is unknown, but is believed to be small. Serial numbers of known specimens include:

<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Barrel Mfr./Date</u>
1292690	SA/9-28
1292970	Unknown
1292986	Unknown <sup>75</sup>
1293154	Unknown <sup>76</sup>
1293156	Unknown <sup>77</sup>
1293193	Unknown <sup>78</sup>
1296927	SA/11-28
1296991	SA/9-28
1297053	SA/9-21 (blue)

Interestingly, the preceding table of known serial numbers suggests that the receivers were serialized in a batch of something more than 504 receivers (but less than 1,871 receivers) followed shortly thereafter by a batch of something more than 127 receivers (but less than 728 receivers).<sup>79</sup> Whether all receivers in the two batches bore Rock Island stampings, whether the batches were contiguous, or whether other batches exist, is not known. This observation is, therefore, inconclusive.

### Final Summary

When Springfield assembled the remaining Rock Island serialized receivers, bolts, stocks, and other small parts in 1930 and succeeding years, the last of the Rock Island World War I Model 1903 service rifle production was finally used up. Out of 192,742 total serialized

receivers produced during World War I, more than 5,846 were destroyed and another 8,001 were assembled to finished rifles at Springfield Armory. These rifles bear undated Springfield Armory inspection cartouches and encircled block 'P' proof marks. Much of Rock Island's Model 1903 rifle production after March, 1918, had a parkerized finish and was turned into stores as spare parts that were not assembled to finished rifles until 1919. Less than 35,000 rifles were assembled at Rock Island Arsenal in 1917 and early 1918 having a blued finish with dark casehardened receivers.

### Epilogue

Although the last of Rock Island Arsenal's World War I Model 1903 rifle production was not used up until the early 1930's at Springfield Armory, the story of the Rock Island Model 1903 rifle did not end there. In March, 1941, the Remington Arms Company leased the "heavily greased machinery" and other tooling and fixtures used to manufacture the Model 1903 rifle at Rock Island Arsenal and freighted the machinery, tooling, and fixtures to their plant in Ilion, New York.<sup>80</sup> Remington also arranged to secure walnut blanks for 600,000 handguards and straight-grip stocks that they found in storage at Rock Island.<sup>81</sup> Remington further received a shipment on January 22, 1942, of 40 boxes of firearms parts and 120 boxes of bayonets totaling 20,900 lbs. from Rock Island Arsenal.<sup>82</sup> Remington installed the machinery, tooling, and fixtures from Rock Island in their Ilion plant, and the Model 1903 rifle was reborn. During the course of World War II, Remington manufactured more than one million Model 1903, Model 1903 Modified, Model 1903-A3, and Model 1903-A4 complete rifles plus spare parts using, in part, the Rock Island machinery, tooling, fixtures, and leftover walnut stock blanks.<sup>83</sup>

### Acknowledgments

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Arsenal Museum for providing valuable information, assistance, exhaustive research, and review comments in the preparation of this report. We further gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Mr. William D. Bassman and his staff at the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, MO, for providing copies of the employment records identifying the inspectors at Rock Island Arsenal and to Mr. Frank Mallory of the Springfield Research Service for providing valuable copies of historical documents from the National Archives. And, finally, we acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Clark S. Campbell for providing serial numbers of Rock Island receivers having Springfield Armory serial numbers.

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*In the Endnotes beginning on the following page, attributions of "Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service" refer to documentation from the records of the Chief of Ordnance and subsidiary offices, primarily the Inspection Division, which are presently stored in National Archives Record Group 156, Entry 553. — Ed.*



## Endnotes

1. C. S. Ferris, *The Rock Island '03* (Colorado: C. S. Ferris, 1992), p. 29.
2. Clark S. Campbell, *The '03 Era* (Canada: Collector Grade Publications, Inc., 1994), p. 17.
3. Col. Geo. W. Burr, Commanding, Telegram (Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Illinois: To Chief of Ordnance, Washington, D.C., April 25, 1917), p. 1. The telegram stated that "*Rifle receivers manufactured here until armory closed several years ago (were) stamped from one to 237553. First one (receiver) stamped under existing manufacturing order (was) 238000. Slight gap in series due to possible inaccuracy of record of last receiver manufactured before armory was shut down.*"
4. Captain R. P. Johnson, Captain R. L. Penney, and Captain F. H. Schoenfuss, Memorandum: Heat Treatment of Rifle Components at Rock Island Arsenal. (Rock Island Arsenal: To Col. John T. Thompson, U.S.A. Ret., and Major W. P. Barba, Ord. R.C., January 20, 1918), p. 4. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
5. Ibid, p. 2.
6. Col. L. T. Hillman, Commanding, Memorandum: Bolts and Receivers, Fourth Weekly Progress Report (Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois: From Commanding Officer To Engineering Division, Ordnance Office, Washington, D.C., Atten. Lt. Col. W. P. Barba, April 16, 1918), p. 2. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
7. General Wheeler, Telegram: R.I.A. File No. 474.8/79 (Washington, D.C.: To Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., Jan. 26, 1918), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
8. General Wheeler, Telegram: R.I.A. File No. 474.8/80 (Washington, D.C.: To Commander Officer, Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., Jan. 29, 1918), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
9. Maj. Gen. Julian S. Hatcher, *Hatcher's Notebook* (Pennsylvania: The Stackpole Company), p. 221.
10. Col. Geo. W. Burr, Commanding, Telegram: Replying (Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois: To Small Arms Division, Ordnance Office, Washington, D.C., January 28, 1918), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
11. Capt. F. H. Schoenfuss, Memorandum: Receivers and Bolts at Rock Island Arsenal (Production Division, Seventh & B Sts., To Major R. P. Johnson, February 25, 1918), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
12. Hatcher, p. 221.
13. Col. L. T. Hillman, Commanding, Weekly report of progress made in armory shops (Third Weekly Progress Report) (Rock Island Arsenal: From Commanding Officer To Office Chief of Ordnance, Control Bureau, Atten. Col. W. P. Barba, April 10, 1918), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service. This report from Rock Island Arsenal states that "*All case-hardened receivers have been scrapped the total amounting to 5,846. This quantity is discrepant with the quantity reported by Rock Island in 1926 as recorded in Hatcher's Notebook, p. 221: "Some 16,000 receivers were destroyed."* Whether Rock Island discovered additional casehardened receivers subsequent to issuance of the weekly report in 1918 is not known. In all probability, the 16,000 quantity represented the total number of serialized receivers remaining in inventory that had not been assembled to finished rifles when production was suspended on January 30, 1918. Rock Island rifle, serial number 268019 with R.I.A./1-18 barrel date has been reported and is believed to be among the last assembled before production was suspended. We believe Rock Island erroneously reported in 1926 that all 16,000 receivers remaining in inventory had been casehardened and were subsequently destroyed. Of the 16,000 serialized receivers in inventory, we believe only 5,846 as reported had been casehardened (and were subsequently destroyed), leaving 10,154 receivers with serial numbers below 285507 to receive the new double heat treatment and be assembled to finished rifles after April, 1918.



14. Major Rupert L. Penney, Memorandum Concerning Bolts and Receivers of Class C Steel Now in Process (Rock Island Arsenal, March 12, 1918), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
15. Col. L. T. Hillman, Commanding, Memorandum: Report on Bolts and Receivers, 1st Indorsement (Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois: From Commanding Officer To Production Division, Gun Section, Ordnance Office, Washington, D.C., May 4, 1918), p. 2. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
16. Captain R. P. Johnson, Captain R. L. Penney, and Captain F. H. Schoenfuss, p. 2.
17. Maj. R. P. Johnson, Intraoffice Memorandum: 4 Subjects (listed), 1st Indorsement (Washington, D.C.: From Maj. R. P. Johnson to Lt. Col. W. P. Barba, 4/29/18), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
18. Col. L. T. Hillman, Commanding, Memorandum: Bolts and Receivers, Fourth Weekly Progress Report (April 16, 1918), p. 1.
19. Col. L. T. Hillman, Commanding, Memorandum: Bolts and Receivers, Sixth Weekly Progress Report (Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.: From Commanding Officer To Engineering Bureau, Ordnance Office, Washington, D.C., Atten. Col. W. P. Barba, April 29, 1918), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
20. Hatcher, p. 221.
21. Col. L. T. Hillman, Commanding, Memorandum: Bolts and Receivers, Fifth Weekly Progress Report (Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.: From Commanding Officer To Engineering Bureau, Ordnance Office, Washington, D.C., Atten. Col. W. P. Barba, April 23, 1918), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
22. Col. Harry B. Jordan, Commanding, Telegram (Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois: To Chief of Ordnance, Washington, D.C., January 22, 1919), p. 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service. The telegram reported that, as of that date (January 22, 1919), "...complete Model 1903 rifles manufactured by this arsenal since November 17, 1913, is 57,582. This does not include parts turned into store instead of assembled rifles. On one order for 90,000 rifles, only 8,000 were assembled and balance turned in as spare parts."
23. Major R. L. Messimer, Memorandum: Some items manufactured at the Arsenal since the declaration of war (Rock Island Arsenal: From Industrial Engineering Section To the Commanding Officer, November 18, 1918), p. 1.
24. Lt. Col. William S. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom* (Rhode Island: Andrew Mowbray, Inc., 1991), p. 194.
25. *Rock Island City Directory*, 1918, p. 225. Wm. M. Halferty's occupation and residence was listed as "insp Arsenal, bds 643 40<sup>th</sup>." Mr. Halferty did not appear in the *Rock Island City Directory* for 1917 or 1919. Mr. Halferty's Original Appointment Rate Card in his employment records from the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, MO, shows that he worked at RIA as a Laborer from 2-13-17 to 1-8-18, as a Temperer from 1-8-18 to 5-1-18, as an Inspector from 5-1-18 to 1-15-19, and as a Tr.-Inspector from 1-15-19 to 2-8-19, at which time he separated from RIA. Mr. Halferty was re-employed at RIA as a Laborer from 12-22-19 to 3-24-20, at which time he again separated from RIA. Courtesy Kris Gayman Leinicke, Rock Island Arsenal Museum. Wm. Halferty was further listed in the Official Register: Persons in the *Civil, Military, and Naval Service of the United States, and List of Vessels*, Directory, 1917, as a "laborer, RIA, \$2.25/day."
26. *Davenport City Directory*, 1918, p. 413. John L. Hanssen's occupation and residence was listed as "insp Arsenal, bds 2322 Harrison." Mr. Hanssen's occupation was listed as a "student" in the *Davenport City Directory* for 1917 (p. 362) and 1919 (p. 402). Mr. Hanssen's *Employee's Civil Service Record* and his *Efficiency Record* in his employment records from the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, MO, show that he was born on July 22, 1894, and attended the University of Wisconsin from Sept., 1914, to June, 1917. He worked at RIA as a Laborer from 6-4-17 through 1-10-18, as a Skilled Laborer from 1-11-18 to 5-1-18, and as an Inspector from 5-1-18. His records further show that he was discharged on 3/26/19 to go back to school and that he resigned on 4-5-19. Courtesy Kris Gayman Leinicke, Rock Island Arsenal Museum.



27. List of Employees having Perfect Attendance, Rock Island Arsenal, 1918. Mr. Armstrong was listed under DA on page 9 on 7-9-18 and on page 12 on 10-22-18. Courtesy Kris Gayman Leinicke, Rock Island Arsenal Museum. Mr. Otto H. Armstrong was further listed in the *Official Register: Persons in the Civil, Military, and Naval Service of the United States, and List of Vessels, Directory, 1919*, as an "Ord. Dept. Inspector, RIA, \$5.36/day."
28. C. S. Ferris, *The Rock Island '03* (Colorado: C. S. Ferris, 1992), p. 35.
29. C. S. Ferris, *The Rock Island '03* (Colorado: C. S. Ferris, 1992), p. 35.
30. *Davenport City Directory, 1918*, p. 928. Samuel O. Spangler's occupation and residence was listed as "insp Arsenal, r 1815 ½ Brady (Mary E)." Mr. Spangler's occupation was listed as a "mach opr Arsenal" in the *Davenport City Directory* for 1919 (p. 914). Mr. Spangler's *Efficiency Record* in his employment records from the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, MO, shows that he was born on July 13, 1874, and was self-employed as a Repairman in Philadelphia, PA, from 1911 to 1917. He worked at RIA as a Skilled Laborer from 9-4-17 to 12-1-17, as a Miller from 12-1-17 to 8-1-18, as an Inspector/Adjuster from 8-1-18 to 5-1-19, as a Mach. Opr. (machine operator) from 5-1-19 to 5-26-19, and as a Skilled Laborer from 5-26-19. His records further show that he was discharged on 4-8-20 to accept better employment. Courtesy Kris Gayman Leinicke, Rock Island Arsenal Museum. Mr. Spangler was further listed in the *Official Register: Persons in the Civil, Military, and Naval Service of the United States, and List of Vessels, Directory, 1919*, as a "Sk. Laborer, RIA, \$3.68/day."
31. Captain R. P. Johnson, Captain R. L. Penney, and Captain F. H. Schoenfuss, p. 9.
32. Col. L. T. Hillman, Commanding, Memorandum: Receivers and Bolts, First Weekly Progress Report (Rock Island Arsenal: From The Commanding Officer To Control Bureau, Ordnance Office, Attention: Col. W. P. Barba, March 27, 1918), p. 2. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
33. Hatcher, pp. 220-221.
34. Ferris, p. 50.
35. Major Rupert L. Penney, p. 1.
36. Various Authors, Rifles Inspected and Accepted at the Various Arsenals and Manufacturing Plants, Weekly reports prepared for the Chief of Ordnance (Washington, D.C.: Ordnance Department, 1918-1919), p. 1 of 1. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
37. Benedict Crowell, *America's Munitions 1917-1918* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1919), p. 186.
38. Col. Harry B. Jordan, Commanding, Report of principal operations for the period of April 7, 1917 to June 30, 1919, (Rock Island Arsenal: From the Commanding Officer To the Chief of Ordnance, U.S. Army, July 12, 1919), p. 11. Courtesy Frank Mallory, Springfield Research Service.
39. Lt. Col. William S. Brophy, *The Springfield Model 1903 Rifles* (Pennsylvania: Stackpole Books, 1985), p. 605.
40. Hatcher, pp. 223, 442, and 443.
41. The Springfield Research Service, in their *Serial Numbers of U.S. Martial Arms* series of publications, lists Rock Island Rifles having serial numbers higher than 430742. However, wide gaps in those serial numbers are inconsistent with continuous production at Rock Island and indicate the numbers were reported in error in the original government documents.
42. Letter from the Secretary of War, Cost of Arms, Etc., Springfield (Mass.) Armory and Rock Island (Ill.) Arsenal, Fiscal Year 1917, House of Representatives Document 707, Serial Set 7447.



43. Letter from the Secretary of War, Cost of Manufacture of Guns, Etc., in Government Arsenals, Fiscal Year 1918, House of Representatives Document 1373, Serial Set 7582.
44. Springfield Research Service, Newsletter No. 36 (Maryland: Springfield Research Service), p. 8.
45. Springfield Research Service, Newsletter No. 37 (Maryland: Springfield Research Service), p. 13.
46. Springfield Research Service, Newsletter No. 37 (Maryland: Springfield Research Service), p. 13.
47. Campbell, p. 58.
48. Hatcher, p. 224.
49. Ferris, p. 38.
50. Frank Krack worked at Rock Island Arsenal in 1916 as a machinist. He returned to Rock Island Arsenal on 23 December 1919 working as an inspector. In 1923, he was re-classified as a machinist working mainly in artillery. He continued as a sub-inspector machinist from 9 May 1923 to 1 July 1935, at which time he was promoted to Assistant Inspector, Ordnance Material, working with artillery vehicles. On 24 May 1941, he was transferred into Inspection Division AK and, on 17 September 1941, became Assistant Foreman of the Inspection Division, Small Arms Section. For the remainder of World War II, he was responsible for all small arms inspection. He retired 19 July 1946. Courtesy Kris Gayman Leinicke, Rock Island Arsenal Museum.
51. Ferris, p. 35.
52. Elmer Milton Bjerke started work at Rock Island Arsenal in Feb., 1939, as a laborer assembling small arms. A year later, he was upgraded to armorer and, in September, 1940, became a shop inspector directly under supervision of Frank Krack, which position he held until June, 1946. During this period, he performed final inspection acceptance of small arms. From June, 1946 to 6 January 1947, he was inspection leader, and then became Foreman of Small Arms Inspection until 1958. Courtesy Kris Gayman Leinicke, Rock Island Arsenal Museum.
53. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 243.
54. Hatcher, p. 224.
55. Edward C. Crossman, *The Book of the Springfield* (Arizona: Wolfe Publishing Co., 1989), p. 25.
56. Campbell, p. 98.
57. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 241.
58. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 215.
59. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 222.
60. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 229.
61. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 232.
62. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 236.
63. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 241.



64. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, pp. 247-248. Total includes 1,300 new Barrels and Receivers, assembly.
65. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, pp. 252-253. Total includes 176 new Barrels and Receivers, assembly.
66. Hatcher, p. 223.
67. Hatcher, p. 223.
68. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 241.
69. Lt. J. E. McInerney, *Overhauling the Service Rifle*, Army Ordnance Magazine, Vol. IX, No. 49, July-August, 1928, p. 38.
70. McInerney, p. 37.
71. McInerney, p. 37
72. Hatcher, p. 224..
73. Crossman, p. 25.
74. Brophy, *Arsenal of Freedom*, p. 253.
75. Franklin B. Mallory, *Summary of D.C.M. Rifle Sales, 1922-1942* (Maryland, Springfield Research Service, 1976), p. 31.
76. Ibid, p. 32.
77. Ibid, p. 32.
78. Ibid, p. 32.
79. Ibid, pp. 32, 35. Serial numbers of D.C.M. rifle sales records confirm that rifles outside the larger quantity of receivers did not have Rock Island receivers.
80. Campbell, p. 101.
81. Ibid, p. 101.
82. Clark S. Campbell, personal letter to C. S. Ferris, dated February 17, 1995, citing his review of the Plant Manager's file at Remington Arms.
83. Ibid, p. 116.



## 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. THIS OFFER, FOR GUNS IN THIS ISSUE, EXPIRES ON APRIL 1, 1999.

### DCM RIFLE & PISTOL SALES

|         |                       |                    |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1273355 | M1903 SPT             | C. J. Cutz         |
| 1294971 | M1903 SPT             | S. J. Cannon       |
| 1351731 | M1903 SPT             | P. Emerson         |
| 1367818 | M1903 SPT             | Maj. W. E. Trull   |
| 1367901 | M1903 SPT             | F. W. Miller       |
| 1406917 | M1903 SPT             | D. M. Branneman    |
| 1526131 | M1903A1 1939 NM rifle | C. H. Austin       |
| 566487  | Colt .32 pistol       | BG L. V. Hightower |
| 568237  | Colt .32 pistol       | BG W. B. Hamilton  |
| 571827  | Colt .32 pistol       | T. W. Mattingly    |

### Civil War

|       |                 |                                  |
|-------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 7278  | Henry rifle     | Co. B 3rd U.S. Veteran Vol. Inf. |
| 7315  | Henry rifle     | Co. B 3rd U.S. Veteran Vol. Inf. |
| 7419  | Henry rifle     | Co. B 3rd U.S. Veteran Vol. Inf. |
| 50657 | Spencer carbine | Co. F 2nd Wisconsin Vol. Cav.    |

### Spanish-American War

|        |               |                                 |
|--------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| 345299 | M1884 carbine | Trp. A 1st Nevada Vol. Cav.     |
| 400801 | M1884 rifle   | Co. G., 2nd Oregon Vol. Inf.    |
| 114669 | M1898 rifle   | Co. M 1st Territorial Vol. Inf. |
| 165849 | M1898 rifle   | Co. C 33rd U.S. Vol. Inf.       |



## Guns "Lettered" During Current Period (cont'd)

## U.S. Army, Navy, and Marine Corps

|         |                |                                  |
|---------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 231319  | RI M1903 rifle | Hq Co. 165th Inf. New York NG    |
| 1010789 | M1903 rifle    | Co. G U. S. Military Academy     |
| 216192  | M1911 pistol   | Procured for U.S. Marine Corps   |
| 976207  | M1911A1 pistol | USS Cabot (CVL 28) - lost at sea |

**Caution!**

While we take reasonable measures to ensure the accuracy of serial number data reported here and in our other publications, there is a certain error rate associated with the transcription and entry of the large amount of data we are handling. Therefore, you are advised against paying premium prices for firearms based on a listing alone, without a supporting letter. In all cases before furnishing letters, we go back to the original records and confirm the data in the listing.

Miscellaneous Colt DA .38 Revolvers  
Cited in Ordnance Dept. and Other Records

| Serial | Model | MMDDYY | Usage                           | Serial | Model | MMDDYY | Usage                            |
|--------|-------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|----------------------------------|
| 1      | AF    | 060651 | ORDNANCE OFFICE                 | 371    |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT           |
| thru   |       |        |                                 | 382    |       | 101826 | USCG STA BELLPORT (ON HAND)      |
| 20     | AF    | 060651 | ORDNANCE OFFICE                 | 395    | NAV   | 101119 | CAPT F C LORING                  |
| 24     |       | 010923 | USCG STA BOIS BLANC (ON HAND)   | 422    |       | 032221 | USCG STA ROCKAWAY PT (LOST)      |
| 28     |       | 101799 | TRP I 1ST CAV                   | 454    |       | 082637 | SA TO PHILIPPINE DEPT            |
| 65     |       | 101626 | USCG STA MECEX (TURNED IN)      | "      |       | 081039 | PHILIPPINE ARMY                  |
| 72     |       | 100224 | TREASURY DEPT                   | 505    |       | 120920 | USCG STA MICHIGAN CITY (ON HAND) |
| 74     |       | 030520 | ZONE SUPPLY OFFICER BALTO       | 520    |       | 100027 | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH   |
| 75     |       | 030520 | ZONE SUPPLY OFFICER BALTO       | 528    |       | 011225 | POST OFFICE DEPT                 |
| 76     |       | 032133 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 619    |       | 041424 | TREASURY DEPT                    |
| 77     |       | 030520 | ZONE SUPPLY OFFICER BALTO       | 642    |       | 052622 | USCG STA 131 (DAMAGED)           |
| 83     |       | 102835 | CLEVELAND PD                    | "      |       | 051535 | US CUSTOMS SERVICE TO RIA        |
| 111    |       | 103034 | FED CORRECTION CAMP FT EUSTIS   | 656    | NAV   | 100933 | AUGUSTA OD                       |
| 115    |       | 010722 | USCG STA 194 (FROM NAS JACKSONV | 700    | NAV   | 100933 | AUGUSTA OD                       |
| 132    |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | 734    |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT           |
| 138    |       | 010722 | USCG STA 194 (FROM NAS JACKSONV | 785    |       | 101726 | USCG STA ROCKAWAY PT (ON HAND)   |
| 185    |       | 101626 | USCG STA MECEX (TURNED IN)      | 787    |       | 010522 | USCG STA NO 314 TO STA NO 324    |
| 206    | NAV   | 100933 | AUGUSTA OD                      | "      |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 324 (ON HAND)        |
| 309    |       | 061418 | USCG STA 141                    | 790    |       | 061418 | USCG STA 140                     |
| 313    |       | 100027 | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  | 848    |       | 101799 | TRP H 1ST CAV                    |
| 316    |       | 062731 | JUSTICE DEPT                    | 852    |       | 092021 | USCG STA NO 44 (ON HAND)         |
| 325    |       | 061418 | USCG STA 145                    | 869    |       | 071326 | USCG STA COBB ISLAND (ON HAND)   |
| 368    |       | 101626 | USCG STA MECEX (TURNED IN)      | 884    |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT           |
| 371    |       | 030926 | USCG STA WILDWOOD (ON HAND)     | 887    |       | 013128 | USCG STA ZACHS INLET (TO DEPOT)  |

Model Code(s): AF = Aircrewman NAV = Navy Model



## Colt DA .38 Revolvers (cont'd)

| Serial | Model | MMDDYY | Usage                           | Serial | Model | MMDDYY                          | Usage                           |
|--------|-------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 908    |       | 010722 | USCG STA 208 (FROM NAS JACKSONV | 2968   |       | 010923                          | USCG STA NO MANITOU ISL (ON HAN |
| 926    |       | 101799 | TRP G 1ST CAV                   | "      |       | 082735                          | US IND REFORMATORY CHILLICOTHE  |
| 927    |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | 2972   |       | 010923                          | USCG STA NO MANITOU ISL (ON HAN |
| 955    |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | 3014   |       | 100827                          | USCG STA ATLANTIC CITY (LOST)   |
| 981    | NAV   | 100933 | AUGUSTA OD                      | 3015   |       | 123127                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 1062   |       | 061824 | USCG STA GLOUCESTER (LOST)      | 3127   |       | 051430                          | TREASURY DEPT                   |
| 1065   |       | 051625 | USCG STA DAM NECK MILLS (DAMAGD | "      |       | 070230                          | TREASURY DEPT                   |
| 1130   |       | 101626 | USCG STA MECEX (TURNED IN)      | 3188   |       | 010722                          | USCG STA 206 (FROM NAS JACKSONV |
| 1144   |       | 010722 | USCG STA 193 (FROM NAS JACKSONV | 100224 |       | USCG STA INDIAN R INL (ON HAND) |                                 |
| 1167   |       | 052035 | IRS                             | 3228   |       | 070622                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 1249   |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | 3251   |       | 061418                          | USCG STA 139                    |
| 1267   |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | 3374   |       | 090732                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 1278   |       | 020827 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 3397   |       | 051222                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 1291   | 1889N | 121919 | USCGC PATROL (LOST)             | 3573   |       | 051535                          | US PEN ATLANTA                  |
| 1302   | X     | 042049 | INDIANA                         | 3647   |       | 011618                          | SA TO BTRY D 4TH FA             |
| 1347   |       | 030526 | USCGC GUTHRIE (ON HAND)         | "      |       | 122326                          | PHILIPPINES OD                  |
| "      |       | 030826 | USCGC GUTHRIE (LOST)            | 3756   |       | 030520                          | ZONE SUPPLY OFFICER BALTO       |
| 1375   | X     | 082242 | US CONSULATE CASABLANCA         | 3757   |       | 030520                          | ZONE SUPPLY OFFICER BALTO       |
| 1420   | NAV   | 062630 | US PEN LEAVENWORTH TO RIA       | 3802   |       | 030520                          | ZONE SUPPLY OFFICER BALTO       |
| 1426   |       | 010923 | USCG STA BOIS BLANC (ON HAND)   | 3804   |       | 030520                          | ZONE SUPPLY OFFICER BALTO       |
| 1428   |       | 061418 | USCG STA 142                    | 3897   |       | 072527                          | LABOR DEPT                      |
| 1440   | 1889N | 110619 | USCGC PATROL (ON HAND)          | 4007   |       | 020827                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| "      | 1889N | 121919 | USCGC PATROL (LOST)             | 4161   |       | 010722                          | USCG 5TH DIST (RECOVERED)       |
| 1457   |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | "      |       | 100027                          | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  |
| 1473   |       | 071916 | USCGC TUSCARORA (LOST)          | 4232   |       | 031623                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 1475   |       | 051535 | US CUSTOMS SERVICE TO RIA       | 4248   |       | 102127                          | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 1512   |       | 042721 | USCG STA CUTTYHUNK (ON HAND)    | 4280   |       | 061418                          | USCG STA 144                    |
| 1561   |       | 022822 | USCG STA 156 (DAMAGED)          | 4285   |       | 010522                          | USCG STA NO 314 TO STA NO 324   |
| 1572   |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | "      |       | 011622                          | USCG STA NO 324 (ON HAND)       |
| 1647   |       | 062922 | USCG STA 190 (DEFECTIVE)        | 4288   |       | 041235                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| "      |       | 122723 | USCG STA BONDS (TO DEPOT)       | 4327   |       | 110422                          | USCG STA 31 (DEFECTIVE)         |
| 1650   |       | 061022 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 4341   |       | 052135                          | INDIANAPOLIS (RECOV)            |
| 1681   |       | 010922 | USCG STA 115 FROM STA 112       | 4364   |       | 080138                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 1699   |       | 101526 | USCG CG-2332 (MISSING)          | "      |       | 021639                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 1706   |       | 042340 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | "      |       | 030839                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 1781   |       | 103034 | FED CORRECTION CAMP FT EUSTIS   | 4409   |       | 051222                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 1813   |       | 061418 | USCG STA 140                    | 4414   |       | 102127                          | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 1825   |       | 061418 | USCG STA 143                    | 4444   |       | 010722                          | USCG STA 204 (FROM NAS JACKSONV |
| 1891   | 1889N | 110619 | USCGC PATROL (ON HAND)          | "      |       | 043026                          | USCG STA MOSQUITO LAGOON (ON HA |
| 1921   |       | 111421 | USCG STA NO 80 (LOST)           | 4469   |       | 061418                          | USCG STA 139                    |
| 1975   |       | 061418 | USCG STA 140                    | 4472   |       | 061418                          | USCG STA 140                    |
| 1981   |       | 070622 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 4488   |       | 061418                          | USCG STA 141                    |
| 1992   |       | 061418 | USCG STA 141                    | 4580   |       | 061418                          | USCG STA 141                    |
| 1994   |       | 011922 | USCG STA 154 (DAMAGED)          | 4686   |       | 040722                          | USCGC PAMLICO TO DEPOT          |
| 2001   | 1889N | 120920 | USCG STA MICHIGAN CITY (ON HAND | 4692   |       | 040722                          | USCGC PAMLICO TO DEPOT          |
| "      |       | 010923 | USCG STA MACINAC ISL (ON HAND)  | 4702   | 1889N | 030926                          | USCGC CHULAHOMA (ON HAND)       |
| 2002   |       | 012836 | USCG STA MARQUETTE              | 4734   |       | 012638                          | CUSTOMS                         |
| 2005   |       | 010923 | USCG STA MACINAC ISL (ON HAND)  | 4762   |       | 061418                          | USCG STA 144                    |
| 2028   |       | 010923 | USCG STA LOUISVILLE (ON HAND)   | 4943   |       | 061418                          | USCG STA 143                    |
| 2029   | 1889N | 030713 | USCGC YAMACRAW (DEFECTIVE)      | 5033   |       | 102127                          | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 2033   |       | 012522 | USCGC CHULAHOMA (RECEIVED)      | 5088   |       | 010722                          | USCG STA 203 (FROM NAS JACKSONV |
| "      |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | "      |       | 100523                          | USCG SEVENTH DIST (LOST)        |
| 2034   | 1889N | 030926 | USCGC CHULAHOMA (ON HAND)       | "      |       | 043026                          | USCG STA CHESTER SHOAL (ON HAND |
| 2037   | 1889N | 110619 | USCGC PATROL (ON HAND)          | 5113   |       | 011225                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 2039   |       | 012522 | USCGC CHULAHOMA (RECEIVED)      | 5298   |       | 102127                          | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| "      |       | 031226 | USCG STA RYE BEACH (ON HAND)    | 5309   |       | 030427                          | USCG STA BARATARIA (LOST)       |
| 2042   | 1889N | 120920 | USCG STA MICHIGAN CITY (ON HAND | 5313   |       | 010922                          | USCG STA 115 FROM STA 112       |
| "      |       | 010923 | USCG STA CHARLEVOIX (ON HAND)   | 5330   |       | 100027                          | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  |
| 2044   |       | 010923 | USCG STA CHARLEVOIX (ON HAND)   | 5337   |       | 061418                          | USCG STA 142                    |
| 2048   | 1889N | 110619 | USCGC PATROL (ON HAND)          | 5339   |       | 102127                          | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| "      | 1889N | 121919 | USCGC PATROL (LOST)             | 5342   |       | 111221                          | USCG STA 79 (DAMAGED)           |
| 2246   |       | 052836 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 5346   |       | 111225                          | USCG STA WALLOPS ISL (REPAIRED) |
| 2248   |       | 031428 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 5348   |       | 082735                          | US IND REFORMATORY CHILLICOTHE  |
| 2275   |       | 022526 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 5396   |       | 010722                          | USCG STA 196 (FROM NAS JACKSONV |
| 2291   |       | 010722 | USCG STA 193 (FROM NAS JACKSONV | 5415   |       | 092021                          | USCG STA NO 44 (ON HAND)        |
| 2346   |       | 082839 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 5419   |       | 100027                          | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  |
| 2378   |       | 061418 | USCG STA 142                    | 5434   |       | 052622                          | USCG STA 131 (DAMAGED)          |
| 2391   | CMDO  | 082643 | PROOF AMMO TESTING              | "      |       | 102127                          | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 2393   |       | 061032 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 5465   |       | 010722                          | USCG STA 205 (FROM NAS JACKSONV |
| 2424   |       | 111423 | USCG STA NARRAGANSETT PIER (REC | "      |       | 102127                          | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 2442   |       | 121521 | USCG STA NO 314 TO CG SUPT      | 5604   |       | 113027                          | USCG STA ISL OF SHOALS (LOST)   |
| 2474   |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | 5611   |       | 020328                          | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 2501   |       | 061418 | USCG STA 139                    | 5662   |       | 010722                          | USCG STA 204 (FROM NAS JACKSONV |
| 2507   |       | 061418 | USCG STA 142                    | 5664   |       | 030826                          | USCGC GUTHRIE (LOST)            |
| 2584   |       | 061493 | 8TH CAV                         | "      |       | 071328                          | USCGC GUTHRIE (RECOVERED)       |
| 2587   |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | 5851   |       | 011622                          | USCG STA NO 323 (ON HAND)       |
| "      |       | 051535 | US PEN ATLANTA                  | 6126   | OM22  | 121641                          | HILO ELECTRIC LIGHT CO TH       |
| 2592   |       | 102639 | LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE              | 6152   |       | 011622                          | USCG STA NO 312 (ON HAND)       |
| 2647   |       | 060322 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | "      |       | 063029                          | USCG STA TILLAMOOK BAY (ON HAND |
| 2917   |       | 091438 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 6166   |       | 101726                          | USCG STA ROCKAWAY PT (ON HAND)  |
| 2948   |       | 031023 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | "      |       | 102127                          | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| "      |       | 070224 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | "      |       | 111227                          | USCG STA MONMOUTH BCH (ON HAND) |
| 2950   |       | 112031 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 6213   |       | 100027                          | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  |
| 2968   | 1889N | 120920 | USCG STA MICHIGAN CITY (ON HAND | 6258   |       | 063026                          | USCG STA QUONOCONTAUG (ON HAND  |

Model Code(s): 1889N = Model 1889 Navy CMDO = Commando NAV = Navy Model OM22  
 = Officers Model Target .22  
 X = renumbered



## Colt DA .38 Revolvers (cont'd)

| Serial   | Model | MMDDYY | Usage                           | Serial    | Model  | MMDDYY                     | Usage                           |
|----------|-------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|--------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 6258     |       | 081227 | USCG STA QUONCHONTAUG (ON HAND  | 9405      |        | 070927                     | USCG STA SHARK RIVER (LOST)     |
| 6272     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 312 (ON HAND)       | 9419      |        | 010722                     | USCG STA 207 (FROM NAS JACKSONV |
| "        |       | 063029 | USCG STA TILLAMOOK BAY (ON HAND | 9434      |        | 110126                     | USCG STA MONMOUTH BCH (ON HAND) |
| 6356     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 318 (ON HAND)       | 9436      |        | 032726                     | USCG STA N SCITUATE (LOST)      |
| 6426     |       | 031623 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 9500      |        | 011622                     | USCG STA NO 311 (ON HAND)       |
| 6438     |       | 050910 | USCGC MORRILL (DEFECTIVE)       | 9575      |        | 100027                     | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  |
| 6440     |       | 010722 | USCG STA 208 (FROM NAS JACKSONV | 9618      |        | 060722                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 6454     |       | 063026 | USCG STA TAWAS (ON HAND)        | 9633      |        | 011622                     | USCG STA NO 313 (ON HAND)       |
| 6592     |       | 060426 | USCG STA N SCITUATE (ON HAND)   | "         |        | 010723                     | USCG STA YAQUINA BAY (ON HAND)  |
| 6669     |       | 063027 | USCG STA SHINNECOCK (ON HAND)   | 9648      |        | 072435                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 6725     |       | 040440 | CUSTOMS SVC TO HAWAIIAN OD      | 9663      |        | 051535                     | US PEN ATLANTA                  |
| 6743     |       | 020547 | MIL DIST HAWAII (CONFISCATED)   | " NAV     | 101835 | US PEN ATLANTA TO ALCATRAZ |                                 |
| 6801     |       | 111421 | USCG STA NO 80 (LOST)           | " NAV     | 120536 | US PEN ALCATRAZ TO BA      |                                 |
| 6803     |       | 040722 | USCGC PAMLICO TO DEPOT          | 9664      |        | 060950                     | IRS BURLINGTON VT               |
| 6839     |       | 012727 | USCG STA SHORT BEACH TO DEPOT   | 9669      |        | 011622                     | USCG STA NO 307 (ON HAND)       |
| "        |       | 040527 | USCG DEPOT TO SHORT BEACH STA   | 9760      |        | 011622                     | USCG STA NO 318 (ON HAND)       |
| 6885     |       | 061418 | USCG STA 147                    | 9825      |        | 031026                     | F M HARRIS (SALE)               |
| 6887     |       | 061418 | USCG STA 146                    | 9859      |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 6914     |       | 061418 | USCG STA 147                    | 9885      |        | 121521                     | USCG STA NO 314 TO CG SUPT      |
| 6916     |       | 061418 | USCG STA 145                    | 9939      |        | 101224                     | USCGC RARITAN (LOST)            |
| 6929     |       | 061418 | USCG STA 148                    | 9957      |        | 091724                     | USCG CG-2205 (LOST)             |
| 6959     |       | 062626 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | "         |        | 091724                     | USCG STA BUFFALO (LOST)         |
| 6965     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 316 (ON HAND)       | 10020     |        | 061322                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 6973     |       | 100027 | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  | 10068     |        | 040722                     | USCGC PAMLICO TO DEPOT          |
| 6992     |       | 061418 | USCG STA 146                    | "         |        | 111622                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 7009     |       | 061418 | USCG STA 148                    | 10096     |        | 042622                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 7012     |       | 061418 | USCG STA 149                    | 10137     |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 7018     |       | 061418 | USCG STA 150                    | 10139     |        | 120827                     | USCG STA RYE BEACH (LOST)       |
| 7062     |       | 120821 | USCG STA 109 (ON HAND)          | 10222     |        | 110126                     | USCG STA BRIGANTINE (ON HAND)   |
| 7082     |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | "         |        | 100027                     | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  |
| 7089 NAV |       | 0722 3 | USS MASSACHUSETTS               | 10285     |        | 092925                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 7090     |       | 050620 | USCG STA 97 (LOSS REIMBURSED)   | 10291     |        | 051535                     | US PEN ATLANTA                  |
| "        |       | 050620 | USCG STA SANDY HOOK (LOST)      | 10299     |        | 082735                     | US IND REFORMATORY CHILLICOTHE  |
| 7096     |       | 102323 | USCG STA OCEAN CITY NJ (LOST)   | 10301 NAV |        | 062630                     | US PEN LEAVENWORTH TO RIA       |
| "        |       | 110723 | USCG STA OCEAN CITY NJ (LOST)   | 10357     |        | 110635                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 7162     |       | 110227 | USCG SECT BASE 6 (CHARGED)      | 10371     |        | 011022                     | USCG STA 120 (ON HAND)          |
| 7197     |       | 110126 | USCG STA BRIGANTINE (ON HAND)   | "         |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| "        |       | 100027 | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  | 10520     |        | 040924                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 7258     |       | 123118 | USCG DEPOT (LOST)               | 10569     |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 7261     |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | 10608     |        | 110631                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 7377     |       | 081227 | USCG STA SANDY PT (ON HAND)     | 10650     |        | 041233                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 7415     |       | 060826 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 10747     |        | 010318                     | SA TO 3RD FA FT SAM HOUSTON     |
| 7424     |       | 063033 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | "         |        | 090732                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 7663     |       | 050637 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 10750     |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 7694     |       | 022324 | TREASURY DEPT                   | 10782     |        | 100027                     | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  |
| 8086     |       | 032121 | USCG STA 89 (MISSING)           | 10791     |        | 091538                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| "        |       | 032121 | USCG STA NO 89 (LOST)           | 10832     |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 8089     |       | 010722 | USCG STA 205 (FROM NAS JACKSONV | 10863     |        | 110126                     | USCG STA MONMOUTH BCH (LOST)    |
| 8179     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 322 (ON HAND)       | "         |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 8189     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 308 (ON HAND)       | 10873     |        | 011622                     | USCG STA NO 311 (ON HAND)       |
| 8209     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 321 (ON HAND)       | "         |        | 063029                     | USCG STA POINT ADAMS (ON HAND)  |
| 8230     |       | 111732 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 10909     |        | 061418                     | USCG STA 148                    |
| 8257     |       | 110937 | POD                             | 10910     |        | 061418                     | USCG STA 145                    |
| 8294     |       | 052938 | POST OFFICE DEPT (STOLEN)       | 10918     |        | 061418                     | USCG STA 144                    |
| 8301     |       | 063027 | USCG STA INDIAN R INL (ON HAND) | 10929     |        | 061418                     | USCG STA 146                    |
| 8330     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 308 (ON HAND)       | 11052     |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 8333     |       | 063026 | USCG STA FT MACON (SURVEYED)    | 11078     |        | 022618                     | 53RD INF                        |
| 8343     |       | 032323 | USCG STA DEAL (TO DEPOT)        | 11094     |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 8375     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 321 (ON HAND)       | 11117     | OP22   | 033138                     | USCG GM1 C L DICKERSON          |
| 8394     |       | 080725 | USCG FREEPORT (LOST)            | " OP22    |        | 071938                     | USCG BUR ENGR & PRNTG RANGE     |
| 8402     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 320 (ON HAND)       | 11124     | OP22   | 033139                     | USCG CGM H B RODMAN             |
| 8485     |       | 031226 | USCG STA CRANBERRT ISL (ON HAND | 11133     |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 8499     |       | 010522 | USCG STA 212 TO NAS JACKSONVILL | 11176     |        | 042340                     | POST OFFICE DEPT                |
| 8534     |       | 112627 | LABOR DEPT                      | 11182     |        | 061418                     | USCG STA 149                    |
| 8588     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 322 (ON HAND)       | 11317     |        | 061418                     | USCG STA 147                    |
| 8651     |       | 070625 | USCG STA PECKS BEACH (LOST)     | 11332     |        | 061418                     | USCG STA 149                    |
| 8690     |       | 060834 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 11408     |        | 070621                     | USCG STA NO 309 (LOST)          |
| 8697     |       | 030826 | USCGC GUTHRIE (LOST)            | 11412     |        | 030324                     | USCG STA SQUAN BEACH (TO DEPOT) |
| 8737     |       | 010722 | USCG STA 207 (FROM NAS JACKSONV | 11415     |        | 011622                     | USCG STA NO 320 (ON HAND)       |
| 8789     |       | 122617 | SA TO 18TH FA                   | 11455     |        | 011622                     | USCG STA NO 313 (ON HAND)       |
| 8793     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 315 (ON HAND)       | "         |        | 010723                     | USCG STA YAQUINA BAY (ON HAND)  |
| 8854     |       | 031426 | USCG STA GURNET (ON HAND)       | 11478     | OP22   | 062940                     | USCG BUR ENGR & PRNTG RANGE     |
| "        |       | 012327 | USCG GURNET STA (ON HAND)       | 11506     | OP22   | 062940                     | USCG BUR ENGR & PRNTG RANGE     |
| 8866     | OM22  | 081942 | HAWAII MIL DEPT (RELEASED)      | 11581     | OP22   | 033139                     | USCG CGM H B RODMAN             |
| 8871     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 316 (ON HAND)       | " OP22    |        | 033040                     | USCG CBM E D MURRAY             |
| 8889     |       | 042527 | LABOR DEPT                      | 11599     |        | 042721                     | USCG STA CUTTYHUNK (ON HAND)    |
| 8892     |       | 102127 | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          | "         |        | 020827                     | LABOR DEPT                      |
| 9187     |       | 022739 | POST OFFICE DEPT                | 11635     |        | 042721                     | USCG STA CUTTYHUNK (ON HAND)    |
| 9192     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 310 (ON HAND)       | 11661     |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| "        |       | 010923 | USCG STA CP DISAPPOINTMENT      | 11666     |        | 102127                     | USCG 5TH DIST TO DEPOT          |
| 9215     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 309 (ON HAND)       | 11687     |        | 041127                     | USCG FIRST DIST CMDR (ON HAND)  |
| "        |       | 010923 | USCG STA NO 328 (ON HAND)       | 11717     |        | 100027                     | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  |
| 9251     |       | 011622 | USCG STA NO 307 (ON HAND)       | 11794     |        | 100027                     | USCG DEPOT FROM MONMOUTH BEACH  |
| 9405     |       | 092526 | USCG STA SHARK RIVER (LOST)     | 11805     | OP22   | 033138                     | USCG GM1 C L DICKERSON          |

Model Code(s): NAV = Navy Model OM22 = Officers Model Target .22 OP22 = Official Police .22



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