



SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH SERVICE

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

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH DATA
ISSUE NUMBER 9
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Trapdoor serial data furnished in this issue consists almost entirely of those for arms on hand or issued to Indian scouts at Ft. Bowie, Arizona Territory, in 1881 and 1882. Although no model designation is furnished in the record book in which these serial numbers were found, all are stated to be caliber .45 arms, and it is safe to assume that they are Model 1873. Since the Ordnance Department evidently distinguished trapdoor models by type of rear sight fitted or some other physical characteristic rather than by serial number range, our practice is to omit the model designation from our listing unless it is explicitly stated in the source records.

Krag serial data found includes some interesting transition numbers between "1895" and "1896" receiver markings on Model 1896 carbines. There was an overlap here, just as there was between "1894" and "1895" markings. However, there is no difficulty telling which model a Krag is from its serial number, because production of Model 1892 rifles stopped before that of Cadet rifles and carbines commenced, and all Cadet rifles and early carbines were retroactively designated "Model 1896". Thereafter, Model 1896 arms were manufactured until the changeover to Model 1898 at almost exactly serial number 109000. As far as can be determined, there was no overlap between Model 1896 and Model 1898 serial numbers.

Model 1903 serial numbers include a number of arms used in early ammunition tests at Springfield and Frankford Arsenal (and in one case, at the Naval Torpedo Station in Newport, R. I.). It is interesting to note that the internal Ordnance Department correspondence refers to the prototype Model 1906 sharp-pointed bullet as "S-bullet", the German designation - obviously, there was no basis for their argument, used in fighting German pointed-bullet patent claims, that this bullet was based on Lt. Col. Farley's experiments of 1894.

Data furnished with this issue consists of Springfield and Rock Island production information for fiscal years 1910-1914. This data is very useful in helping to determine the authenticity of special work or modifications of arms made during this period. Future issues will contain equivalent data back to 1890, at least.

TRADING POST ITEM: Wanted, Firing pin retainer for Winchester-Lee; set trigger and palm rest for International Model '03. Thomas J. Mulligan, 222 Sunset Ave., Island Park, NY 11558

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1910

Fabricated

46,731 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
31 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted with Ely
fire-control device
31 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted with
Phillip's fire-control device
2 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted for Maxim
silencers, for model of 1903 ammunition
1 Magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903, incomplete, star-
gauged
1 Magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903, provided with
specially rifled barrel and special stock, butt plate, and
ramrod in accordance with Dr. Cole's design
2,000 Gallery practice rifles, cal. .22, model of 1903
1,600 Fencing muskets, model of 1906
349 Barrels and receivers, cal. .30, model of 1903, assembled
79 Barrels with receivers, cal. .22, model of 1903, assembled

42,989 Bayonets, model of 1905
2,600 Fencing bayonets, model of 1906
11,007 Bolos, model of 1909
220 Bolos, infantry, model of 1910
3,000 Hospital Corps knives
34 Officer's sabers, scabbards, and imitation leather cases
3 Scabbards, experimental, for officers' sabers

1,150 Aiming devices, Belgian
1 Sample board, containing component parts model 1903 rifle

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

Altered and Repaired

10 Gatling Guns, cal. .30, model of 1903, altered
19,113 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, altered for 1906
ammunition
7,681 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, Model of 1903, altered for knife
58,821 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, knife bayonet,
altered for model of 1906 ammunition
1,752 Magazine carbines, cal. .30, model of 1899, with model of
1901 sights, altered for knife bayonet and gun slings

321 Luger pistols, cal. 7.65 mm, repaired

3 Recording rifle rod outfits, repaired

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

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1910

Fabricated

27,812 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
17 Barrels, star gauged, for magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903
444 Receivers, for magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903
33,850 Bayonets, model of 1905
54 Rear sights, model of 1905, for gallery practice rifle, cal. .22, model of 1903
Various other appendages, accessories, and spare parts

Altered and Repaired

97 Bayonets for model of 1898 rifle, cleaned and repolished
Various rifles, gallery practice rifles, Springfield carbines, and revolvers repaired

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1911

Fabricated

22,442 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
1 Magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903, special
247 Barrels, complete, with receiver
6 Barrels, star gauged, with receiver, assembled, for magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903
22,352 Bayonets, model of 1905
10 Plates, butt, checkered
Various other appendages, accessories, and spare parts

Altered and Repaired

2 Savage automatic pistols, cal. .45, cleaned and repaired
2 Colt's " " " " " "
306 Luger " " " 7.65 mm " " "
25 " " " " 9 mm, " " "
35 Carbines, model of 1899, altered to take bayonet, model of 1898
Various Springfield rifles and carbines, repaired

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1911

Fabricated

48,872 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
1 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, with special barrel
401 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted for
telescopic musket sight, model of 1908
2 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, incomplete, star-
gauged
417 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, star gauged and
fitted with Maxim silencers
3 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, star gauged and
fitted with Maxim silencers and telescopic musket sights,
model of 1908
1,000 Fencing muskets, model of 1906

2,000 Fencing bayonets, model of 1906, without covering
3 Fencing bayonets, special design
2,050 Bolos, model of 1909
5,048 Bolos, infantry, model of 1910
79 Cavalry sabers, experimental, model of 1911
2,300 Hospital Corps knives
266 Officer's sabers, scabbards, and imitation leather cases

10 Barrels, rifle, cal. .30, for 2.24-in. 6-pounder gun
25 Barrels, rifle, for subcaliber cartridges, for 3-in. field
guns, models of 1902, 1904, and 1905
25 Barrels, rifle, for subcaliber cartridges, for 3-in. (15-
pounder) guns, models of 1898 and 1902

1,400 Telescopic sight brackets, model of 1903 rifle
8,081 Aiming devices, Belgian
750,000 Pasteboard targets for Hollifield target-practice rod
1 Sample board, containing component parts model 1903 rifle

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

Altered and Repaired

7 Maxim automatic machine guns, cal. .30, model of 1904,
altered
530 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, altered
1 Kjellman automatic shoulder rifle, repaired
277 Magazine rifles, cal. .30, Model of 1903, altered for knife
1 Magazine rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted for tele-
scopic musket sight, altered
4 Magazine carbines, cal. .30, model of 1899, altered for
3 Stocks, rifle, cal. .30, model of 1898, altered to stocks for
36 Micrometer sight adjusters for rifle, cal. .22, model of
1903, repaired
26 Luger pistols, cal. 9 mm, repaired
8 Colt's automatic pistols, repaired

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1912

Fabricated

35,124 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
5 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, incomplete
13 Receivers
140 Barrels with receivers, assembled, cal. .22, model 1903
2 Front sights, special, for Maxim silencer
1,582 Spare part containers

36,507 Knife bayonets, model of 1905
38 Bayonets for rifle with silencer attachment
52 Bayonets, with special guards
6 Fencing bayonets, special design
1,000 Bolos, model of 1909
18,000 Bolos, infantry, model of 1910
9 Sabers, experimental
1 Sword blade, 32 inches
11,000 Hospital Corps knives
50 Barrels, subcaliber cartridges, for 3-pounder guns
176 Barrels, subcaliber cartridges, for 6-pounder guns
2 Telescopic musket sights, model of 1908
1 Sample board, containing component parts automatic pistol, cal. .45, model of 1911

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

Altered and Repaired

1 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, Model of 1903, altered for knife
13 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted with new star
gauged barrels
2 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, fitted with Bassell & Blenkner
sights
40 U. S. magazine carbines, cal. .30, model of 1899, with 1898
sights, fitted for use with gun slings
3 Stocks, model 1898 carbine, altered for use with knife
bayonet
1 Barrel, receiver, and magazine for Mannlicher rifle,
1 Luger pistols, cal. 9 mm, repaired
3 " " " 7.65 mm, "
19 Colt's automatic pistols, repaired

Various Maxim, Colt's, and Gatling guns, rifles, shotguns,
appendages, accessories, parts, etc. repaired

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1912

Fabricated

20,341 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
454 Barrels and receivers, assembled

665 Pouches, model of 1911, for telescopic musket sights

12,375 Rods, cleaning, model of 1910

22,664 Knife bayonets, model of 1905

Various other appendages, accessories, and spare parts

Altered and Repaired

36 U. S. magazine carbines, cal. .30, model of 1898, altered
for knife bayonets and gun slings

Various model 1903 rifles, Springfield cadet rifles, and
model of 1905 bayonets repaired

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1913

Fabricated

19,713 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
325 Barrels and receivers, assembled
5 Receivers
1 Semiautomatic rifle with model of 1905 sights, for model
1906 ammunition

9,956 Containers, spare part
780 " " " , wood part

337 Pouches, model of 1911, for telescopic musket sights

18,855 Knife bayonets, model of 1905

Various other appendages, accessories, and spare parts

Altered and Repaired

21 U. S. magazine carbines, cal. .30, model of 1899, altered
for gun slings

Various model 1903 rifles, Springfield cadet rifles, model
of 1903 gallery practice rifles, and Colt revolvers repaired

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1913

Fabricated

37,618	U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903	
2	U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted with Lyman sights	
1	U. S. rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903, special, for testing ammunition for automatic pistol, cal. .45, model of 1911 silencers	45
2	U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, incomplete	
1,000	Gallery practice rifles, cal. .22, model of 1903	
1	Gallery practice rifle, cal. .22, model of 1903, incomplete	
883	Barrels and receivers, model of 1903, assembled	incomplete
290	Receivers, model of 1903	
140	Barrels with receivers, assembled, cal. .22, model 1903	
25,721	Spare part containers (wood part)	
40,159	Knife bayonets, model of 1905	
450	Knife bayonets, model of 1905, for use with silencer	
3,333	Bolos, model of 1909	
8,335	Bolos, infantry, model of 1910	
52	Bolo bayonets	
1	Saber, special	
100	Sabers, officers'	
8,471	Scabbards, Cavalry saber	
2	Swords, experimental	
3	Swords, Cavalry	
3,700	Hospital Corps knives	
4	Barrels, rifle, cal. .22, for subcaliber cartridges, for 15-pounder, model of 1903 dummy guns	
1	Cocking piece and firing-pin rod for subtarget gun machine	
21	Front sights with movable studs, special	
78	Rear sights, complete, special	
50	Rear sights, Bassell & Blenkner design	
2	Barrels, experimental, cal. .28	
Various other appendages, accessories, spare parts, arms chests, tools, gauges, etc.		

Altered and Repaired

1,000	Stocks altered from U. S. rifle, model 1898, to U. S. carbine, model 1899, for use with bayonets	
3	Stocks altered from U. S. rifle, model 1898, to U. S. carbine, model 1898, for use with bayonets	
52	Bolo bayonets, altered	
Various Maxim, Colt's, and Gatling guns, rifles, revolvers, appendages, accessories, parts, etc. repaired		

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1914

Fabricated

26,210 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
134 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted with telescopic musket sights
199 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted for Maxim silencers
1 U. S. rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903, fitted for Maxim silencer and telescopic musket sight, model of 1913
1 U. S. rifle, cal. .30, model of 1903, incomplete
1,000 Gallery practice rifles, cal. .22, model of 1903
3 Gallery practice rifles, cal. .22, model of 1903, incomplete
3,030 Automatic pistols, cal. .45, model of 1911
2,100 Fencing muskets, model of 1906
7 Fencing muskets, English model
3 Fencing muskets experimental
1 Searchlight, for automatic pistol, cal. .45, model of 1911
27 Barrels, with link pins, cal. .22, for automatic pistol
637 Cartridge holders, cal. .22, for automatic pistol
1,257 Barrels and receivers, model of 1903, assembled
8 Receivers, model of 1903
200 Barrels with receivers, assembled, cal. .22, model 1903
17,977 Spare part containers (wood part)

31,639 Knife bayonets, model of 1905
4,000 Fencing bayonets, model of 1906
5,600 Bolos, model of 1910
100 Sabers, officers'
50 Cadet swords
24,799 Cavalry sabers, model of 1913
1,998 Cavalry saber scabbards, officer's model
4,700 Hospital Corps knives

5 Barrels, rifle, cal. .22, for subcaliber and drill cartridges, for 15-pounder, model of 1903 dummy guns
8 Sets subcaliber equipment, complete, for 7-inch howitzer
1 Board, display, for U. S. rifle, model 1903, and appendages
Various other appendages, accessories, spare parts, arms chests, tools, gauges, etc.

Altered and Repaired

500 Stocks altered from U. S. rifle, model 1898, to U. S. carbine, model 1899, for use with bayonets
32 Telescopic musket sights, altered and repaired
Various Maxim, Colt's, and Gatling guns, rifles, revolvers, shotguns, appendages, accessories, parts, etc. repaired

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL PRODUCTION

Fiscal Year 1914

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3,375 U. S. rifles, cal. .30, model of 1903
2 Barrels, with and receivers, assembled, for gallery
practice rifles, model 1903
2 Receivers

Various other appendages, accessories, and spare parts

Altered and Repaired

521 U. S. magazine rifles, cal. .30, model of 1898, altered to
U. S. carbines for use with knife bayonets and gun slings

Information is not stated in the report which are definitely certain, but based on the date of the report can only be fiscal 1873. One possibility is that the 5th Infantry reported that any of these arms had been in use since 1872. This date was the issuance date No. 122, and it was maintained through the courtesy of Bill Brophy.

Most of the serial numbers enclosed are those of arms as otherwise defined, rifles reported to the Chief of Ordnance by Companies D and E of the 2nd Infantry in 1913. Some serials are reported the disposition of arms of the manufacture being those mentioned. Although the report is not resolved in the correspondence, it can be surmised that most of the rifles in question were of the rather than SA manufacture. These records were found in the National Archives.

These serial numbers furnished are those which will appear as Appendix B to our forthcoming book, The Krag Affife Story. Parts of this book have already been sent to the printer, and the rest should go in the next few weeks. However, we welcome any data or facts listed that anyone would care to provide up to the last minute.

On the subject of Krag books, it appears that the arm collecting fraternity is going from fading to robust. The Krag Rifle, written by Bill Brophy and published by Painters, has just been published; the Krag Affife Story by Frank Mallory with Ludwig Olson, will soon appear; and it is understood that one more is in preparation. The Krag Affife Story we feel is unique among them because it is based on the records, notes and correspondence of developers and users of the arms; thus, the word "Story" is the title. We are really hoping to dispel a lot of "collector lore" about the Krag, and hopefully we have succeeded. Bill Brophy has association with Lud Olson, who is best known for his work as an ASA technical editor and as author of Reuser Bolt Rifles. The book has been printed only in sets and costs 25. The side bands and Morristown models as well as a "mystery" model (the only known Krag having dual op-bridges on the base). Presently it stands at 225 pages (8 1/2 x 11) with 200 black and white illustrations, many based on original drawings, prints, and photos found in the Redford Archives. Among the photos there are very fine atmospheric shots, but we couldn't resist including photos such as