

U.S.

# MARTIAL ARMS Collector

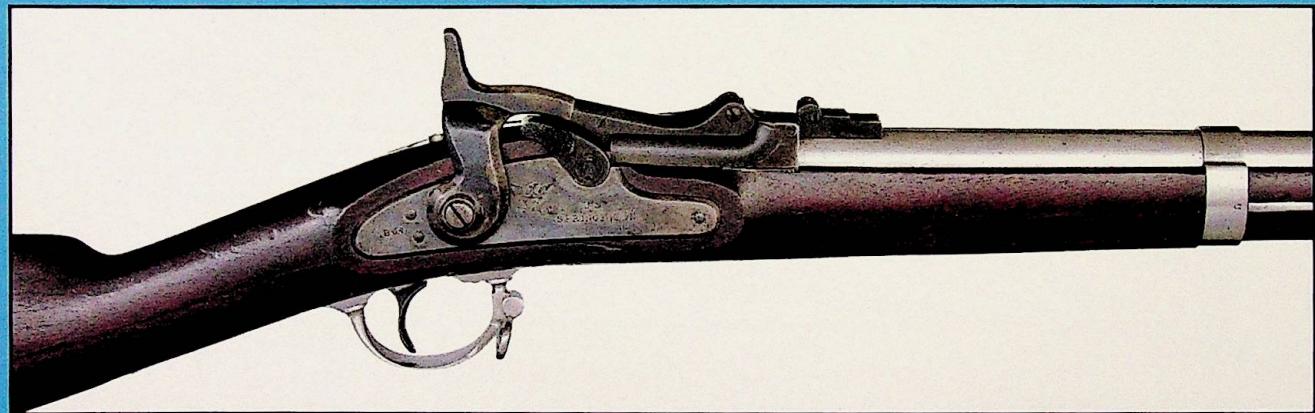
and *Springfield Research Newsletter*



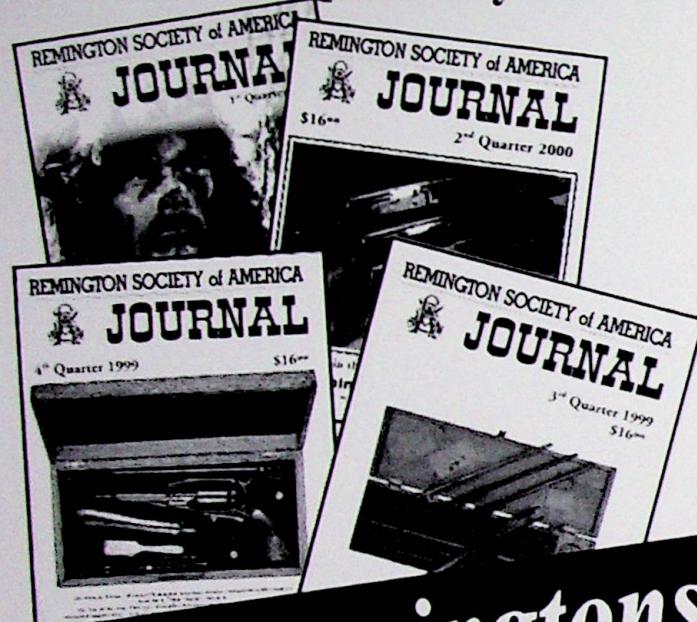
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Number 125 December 2010

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*Wayne P. Gagner*



# U.S. MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR

*And*

## *Springfield Research Service Newsletter*

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A quarterly publication of U.S. Martial Arms Collector Magazine and Springfield Research Newsletter, P.O. Box 126, Cabin John, MD 20818.(an arm of S&W Associates International, Inc.) Printed in U.S.A. Send changes of addresses and all other material to this address.

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**Cover: First Allin Conversion Rifle.**

Number 125

December 2010

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## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

One of the largest gun shows in the U.S. was held during the November 6-7 weekend in Tulsa, Oklahoma. There were many guns and related products in the 4000 plus tables manned by people from all over the country. As usual, western American weapons and associated items were in abundance, with Winchesters and Colts and other American weapons. All types of arms from military to commercial were in abundance. There were displays, sales tables, dealers, auction houses, magazines and collectors clubs from many areas.

The attendance seemed to be about the same as past semi annual shows with a few less tables. In general, if you could walk through the entire 11-acre building you would be sure to find something of interest. The odds are with you. The major issue is the cost, as the tables are now \$140 each.

### Cover

The cover photo is an excellent Springfield first Allin conversion. The condition is far better than most encountered. Photo is courtesy of Jack Lewis.

### *Current interests*

We continue to search for new data and to complete research on weapons that our subscribers have ordered. There are always new inquiries and we have a backlog for letters of all types. Current efforts include standard military weapons and very rare U.S. weapons. There has been a continual interest for Henry rifles, Colt SAA and percussion revolvers, 1903 rifles, 1911 pistols and others.

Our data includes extensive information on the special heavy barrel 1903 Springfield target rifles that were made for civilian users, U.S. Olympic teams, U.S. military rifle teams, and the limited production and development of these rifles and accessories. The data includes models from 1920, 1921, 1922, and the T model rifles made through the late 1930's. The entire production is not specifically known although we have production data from Springfield Armory for each year. There were many weapons cleaned and repaired (rebuilt to new condition), as well as the sale of used rifles and new rifles. The Springfield Armory rebuilt most weapons after their use in the Camp Perry, international, and other matches.

The Congress of the United States authorized funds for the development of match ammunition to give the quality needed for the U.S. to win Olympic matches. Special tests, designs, and custom work were done to make a heavy barrel match rifle. This was accompanied by custom work for key shooters for matches using 100 yard to 1000 yards shooting efforts. In some cases, more than one rifle was made to fit a single match shooter for the Olympics and other matches. The shooters would specialize in different ranges and had weapons made to perform at selected events.

National and Congressional interest went on from 1920 into the depression years. Weapons manufacture led to the sale of used rifles that were priced at approximately \$85. A great amount of money in depressed economic years. The cost of one of the quality rifles was an enormous amount of money for the ordinary worker or shooter. There were less than 1000 weapons made

through the Director of Marksmanship, and other sales.

We were successful in winning Olympic matches but did not continue some efforts through the depression years.

The quality was superb with an excellent design as Springfield personnel had fine machining. This led to a major interest in competitive shooting. The interest created a unique time in American history with target shooting as a major sporting event. Many of these quality rifles were specially made and many had unique features including double set triggers, special stocks, barrels of lengths from 24 to 32 inches, hooked butt plates, and special hardware.

It seems that none of these weapons were made during World War II and production was never resumed after the War. This weapon type was a great effort during the 1920's and 1930's and is unique in American history.

As far as is known, there were no military uses of heavy barrel Springfield rifles in combat.

### *Activities*

The number of inquiries continues and there are many requests concerning serial number inquiries. Our current list of research letters always has a wait list due to travel needed to government facilities and work with government people at the Archives.

There is no way, at this time, to work on telephone requests. The internet is the only way to work on serial number lookups and answer questions. We will continue to answer any current subscriber requests. This also includes letters from subscribers that do not have internet capabilities. As always, any GI with a green ID card will get a priority and lower costs if possible.

We have also been fortunate to have inputs from very qualified collectors that offer comments and data. These contributions give us more data sources to confirm many aspects of weapon usage and history.

### *Current Weapon Interest*

The most numerous interests continue to be in the area of World War II and the 1903A3 and M1 Garand rifles, accessories, markings, and dates. There have been a series of unique work and inquiries about Henry Rifles, Single Action Army revolvers, and historical weapons. There has been a continual interest in any weapon that has a serial number that can be traced to a military event or one that has been owned by or issued to famous people. We will continue to search and recover as much data as time permits.

The overall market is being affected, with wide swings in prices. Many areas of collecting show that there is a lowering of prices for many guns and edged weapons that were in very high demand in the 2007 time frame.

There are many ideas and speculation, but there are very few facts concerning what is happening. We receive comments from collectors and dealers and auction houses. There have been record prices for rare and scarce weapons in prime condition. Many others are selling at lower prices, and the current economy and the changes in demand may be causing the price changes.

The economic factor is now significant, and there are no rules that guide our interest.

We hope it is a good year and that it will be followed by better collecting interests.

The price of unique and quality condition weapons is very high and buyers should be well informed and be wary of buying on hearsay or questionable information.

### ***Serial Number Oddities***

Most military weapons are not in serial number sequence nor in an exact production schedule.

Handwritten ledgers at the Archives are often difficult to read. Our compilation of Col. Sam Colt letters is still very difficult to read and a single page may take a day to decipher.

### ***Springfield Research Letters***

We are continually writing letters for our subscribers. Our backup varies from month to month and we still run into a search that takes several months. It is a matter of searching all available sources and spending time to search as many documents as possible.

### ***Basic letter***

This letter provides information from the SRS data base that was compiled over many years of research. This letter will include information on a weapon, use such as military unit, date, and possible secondary information. It will not include specific data on names or combat.

That data requires travel and research through visits at government facilities.

***Research letter*** -This letter requires travel to government facilities and research government records. It takes a minimum of one day of analysis and requires travel, research, and review at government facilities. These efforts will be limited in number and may take several months to accomplish. Completion of the search is based on time and availability to visit government facilities with regulations. It is possible that documents from the past are no longer available.

### ***Photographs***

We are always interested in receiving photos using the internet for unique

weapons. We add many more photos for our research and data base. It is an asset for the U.S. Martial Arms Magazine and SRS Newsletter.

### ***Springfield Research Data Base***

We are exploring all ideas on managing and expanding our data base. Our subscribers deserve the benefits of SRS and may email a request for a serial number. We will respond with a yes or no concerning whether we have data on that specific number. There is no charge for subscribers.

Mail requires extra time to answer requests. Please see our web site:

***usmartialarmscollector.com***

Please send inquiries and questions to:

***editor@usmartialarmscollector.com***

An inquiry can be made by mail to SRS Box 126 Cabin John, MD 20818. This may take an extended time.

### ***Data on Books***

All manuals and documents will be copies of original government documents.

### ***Krag Rifle Story***

Original new second editions are available. They are limited in the number and below commercial prices.

### ***Serial numbers***

The data base continues to grow and is well over 100,000 numbers.

### ***Back Issues***

We keep as many issues as we can. Subscribers can order a back issue for \$ 10 postpaid. We are running quite low on a few issues of the U.S. Martial Arms Collector Magazine and Springfield Research Newsletter. They can be ordered from ***U.S. Martial Arms Collector, Box 126, Cabin John, MD 20818.***

*A few issues of The U.S. Martial Arms Collector Magazines may be available as copies only.* We will continue to offer past issues as long as practical.

**Springfield Research Service**

The Springfield Research Service web site is open: [usmartialarmscollector.com](http://usmartialarmscollector.com).

**SRS Letters & Costs**

Basic letter \$ 50.

Research letter (requires more than one day of travel, access to government facility and research) \$ 175.

**Letters received and Answered**

Please notify me if there is any information on Colt 1873 Single Action Army 45 U.S. Serial #2802 made in 1873 first year of production. I would appreciate any help with this search for information.

Please also notify me of any copies of the newsletter that you have pertaining to model 1873 SAA 45's and their prices so I can order. Thanks.

*Sorry, no data on that number. We are always trying to set up data on past information. It is difficult and may take a long time. Editor.*

Please send me with a total cost for the following products/services: Back issue of Martial Arms Collector with article covering use of M1D 1 Inch mount and Weaver scope.

*The cost is \$ 10 postpaid. Editor.*

I'd like to inquire if S&W Schofield # 7654 are in the SRS Database.

*Sorry, no data. Editor.*

I recently purchased a Starr DA revolver. The seller provided me with a communication he got from Springfield Research. It was signed Frank Mallory. The seller said he had received this

communication quite a few years ago while researching the serial # of the revolver. I am a researcher of the 14th PA Cavalry and have a list of revolvers issued to the 14th. The lists I have are from Order Books from the Nat'l Archives. If I send you the document I got from the seller of the Starr, will you tell me if it appears authentic? The document states that the Starr was issued to Company C of the 14th but I don't see it among the issued serial numbers from the Order Books for Company C. You guys may have more information than I have about Starr's issued to Company C. I'm not looking for any free information. I'd just like to know if this communication from Frank Mallory is legit. Please let me know if you will look at the document and I will send it to you.

*Please send it and I will review and answer. If Frank had the data it may still be available. Editor.*

Reference subscriptions. Do you have life subscriptions. I'll have a check out as soon as I know how much to send. Thank you very much.

*We have never been asked for life subscriptions. I will need to check on this. Editor (no life subscriptions are available).*

I have my great-grandfather's Colt revolver and would like to find out a little about it. Perhaps, who owned it first.

Serial # 122193

Address on top: Col Sam Colt New York U.S. Used during the America War of 1843. Walnut handle, 6 cylinder.

*We have no charge serial number lookups for our subscribers only. Data has been sent to you separately. Editor.*

Wayne, I would like to see if Springfield Research Service has information on two general officer Colt 1903 .32cal pistols in my collection. The serial numbers are 570976 & 568413. If you do, I would be interested in your basic search service on both firearms and can have a check out to you for the fees involved. Thanks in advance - and great newsletter!

***We have data on both pistols. Data sent to you separately. Editor.***

Would like to know if your service could provide original owner of Colt 1860 .44-caliber revolver and what would the cost be to find out.

***We provide no charge look ups for our subscribers. Please reference our web site and the subscription costs. Editor.***

Although I believe my membership has remained paid current, the last U.S. Martial Arms Collector magazine I have is Issue #119; June 2009.

This date coincides with my office move to new address below. Can you send the missing issues? I will pay.

***I will send the back issues. There is no charge. We are having some problems with the Post Office and addresses. They dispose of magazines that they do not deliver and we have no way to tell if there is a problem. Editor.***

Could you please look up a number for me to see if it is in your data base. This is from a 1943 Union Switch & Signal M1911A1 that is numbered 1,090,365.

***Sorry, no data on that number. Editor.***

Do you have any information on a Remington percussion D.A. (Double-Action) handgun, serial number #98, .36 caliber, called, I believe, a Remington-Ryder New Model revolver?

***We searched and no serial number data on that one. Editor.***

At a local gun show I came across a Civil War Merrill Carbine serial #6865 that has the brass patch box plate inscribed "4th Ind. Cav. Co. D March 6, 1863". How would I find out if in fact the 4th Indiana Cavalry was issued the Merrill Carbine?

***That would require an extensive search at the U.S. National Archives. We have some Merrill numbers but not that one. Editor.***

Julia's extraordinary firearms auction of historic proportions October 5-6 produced "Bully" results. From the spectacular Teddy Roosevelt Fox F grade shotgun which sold for \$862,500 (second highest price for any firearm ever sold at auction) to a Russian MIG fighter plane that sold for \$23,000, strong and sometimes spectacular results were the norm for a great number of items. Condition, rarity, and historical significance helped contribute to this sale being one of the finest firearms auctions held over the last couple years. All told, the sale realized over \$10 Million making it the highest grossing firearms auction held anywhere in the world this year. And perhaps even more exciting is what the Roosevelt gun's purchaser plans to do with his new prize.

Thank you for your time.

***Thank you for the data. Editor.***

My M14, serial # 02407, has been stolen and the police want to know who manufactured the rifle. Any help will certainly be appreciated. Regards.

***The government manufactured the rifles at Springfield Armory; and under contract at the TRW corporation, Winchester, and Harrington & Richardson. There were also commercial and after market manufacture of weapons.***

*We do not have any serial numbers as the Army will not release the data. Editor.*

Looking forward to getting the information on the Army Colt. Would love to know how it got into the hands of a Confederate N.C. Capt.

*The letter and data was sent out. We have not found any new data that would be in addition to the issue information for the U.S. Provost Marshall. Editor.*

I am attempting to find a copy of Mallory and Olson's "The Krag Rifle and Carbine." Can you supply and if so at what price? Thanks.

*Subscribers to The U.S. Martial Arms Collector can order the Krag Rifle Story for \$ 100 postpaid. Supply is limited. Editor.*

#### **Recent Serial Number Requests**

**Springfield Model 1898 Krag Carbine serial number 118604 M1898 Saddle Ring Carbine issued to Private Robert Sweeney of the 5<sup>th</sup> US Volunteer Infantry.**

**U.S. Model 1903, NRA Sporter, caliber 30, serial number 1 266 991 Nov 23, 1925.**

**U.S. Model 1903, NRA Sporter, caliber 30, serial number 1 270 417, May 25, 1926.**

**U.S. Model 1903, NRA Sporter, caliber 30, serial number 1 270 424, May 24, 1926.**

**U.S. Springfield M1896 Krag Carbine, serial number 28,987. issued to Francis B. Crowninshield, Company K, 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Volunteer Cavalry. Enlisted on May 13, 1898 in San Antonio, Texas.**

**U.S. Springfield 1903 Rifle, serial number 1,270,994.**

**U.S. Rifle, Cal. 30, M1903, U.S. (Sport Model). Number 1 275 994. July 13, 1927.**

**Springfield 45/70 rifle issued to Private Hugh Martin, Company D, California Volunteer, Infantry in 1898. Serial number 84136.**

**Trap door 45/70, Serial number 562214 Co D 8<sup>th</sup> Mass Vol Infantry.**

**Trap door 45/70, Serial number 226677 Co D 3<sup>rd</sup> KY Vol Infantry.**

**Trap door 45/70, Serial number 84136 Co D 6<sup>th</sup> Calif Vol Infantry.**

**Model 1903, Sporting Model. Caliber .30, serial number 1 354645, October 12, 1930.**

**U.S. Model 1903, NRA Sporter, caliber 30, serial number, 1 354645.**

**U.S. Model 1903, NRA Sporter, caliber 30, serial number 1 275976, May 28, 1927.**

**U.S. Springfield 1903 Rifle, serial number 1,270,994.**

**U.S. Rifle, M1903, U.S. (Sport Model). Number 1 275 994. July 13, 1927.**

## Colt Model 1911 Pistol

U.S. Model 1911 Pistol, serial number 56644, has had an interesting history with documentation listed in 1916 as being used by the 10th Cavalry during the Pancho Villa Insurrection. It has also been traced as being reissued in World War II. The pistol has been in use from early manufacture, rebuilt with subsequent Army modifications and refinished to Army standards.

This is a seldom seen survival of an early 1911 used under the command of General

“Blackjack Pershing”, with the first airborne flying units in U.S. military history, and a young George Patton.

It is a Model 1911 that was shipped to the 10<sup>th</sup> US Cavalry and cited in records from the Mexican Expedition (also known as Mexican Punitive Expedition and Pancho Villa Punitive Expedition). The pistol was issued to the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry (the famous Buffalo soldiers) and one of the Black cavalry units that went to Cuba

General Pershing, by direction of President Woodrow Wilson, was sent with Army units to Mexico in 1916.





*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 125-9*

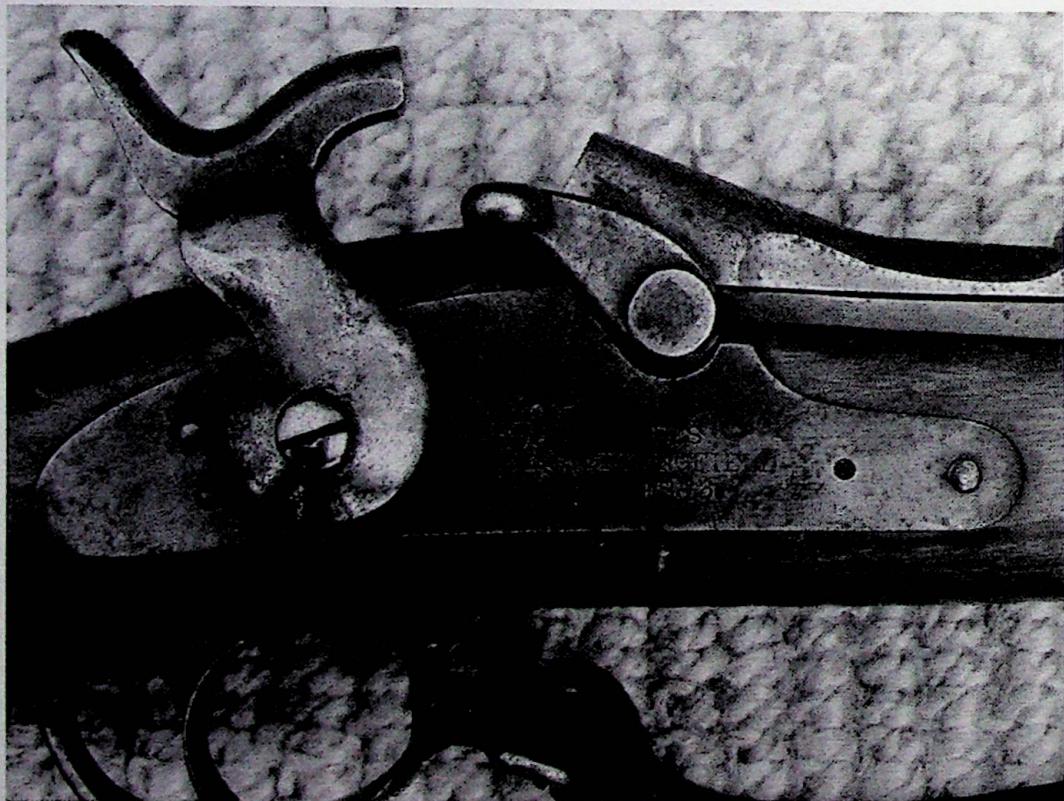
## 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry 1873 Springfield Carbine

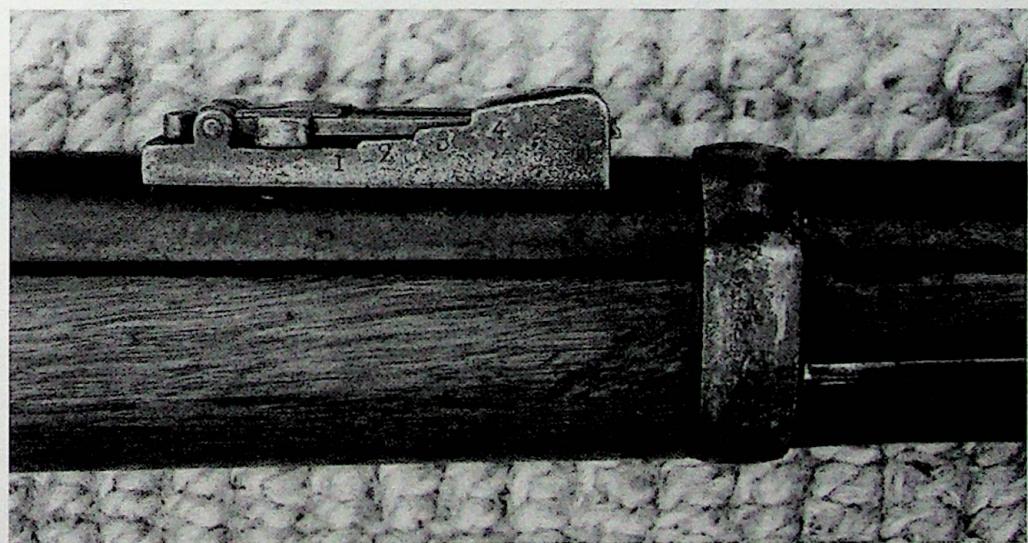
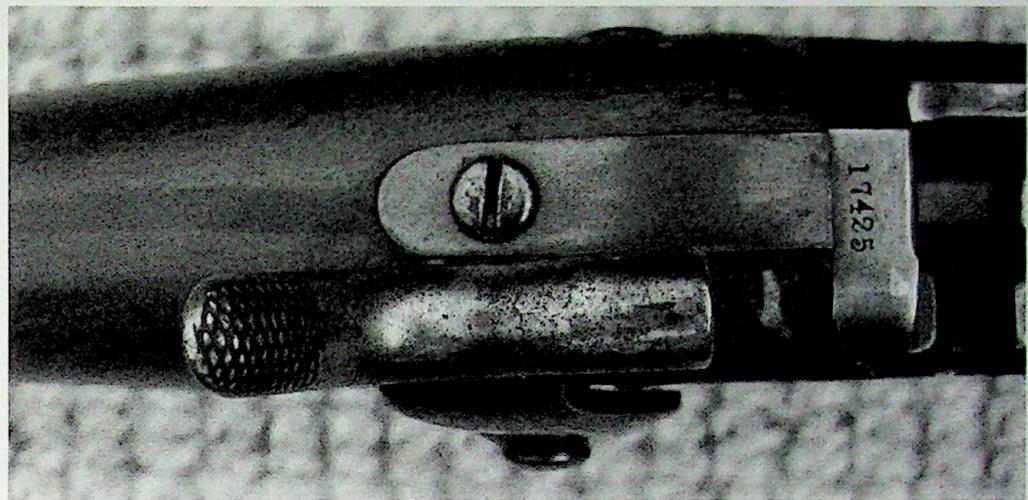
U.S. Model 1873 carbine, caliber 45, serial number 17425, was part of the Small Arms collected during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 1877. The weapon was received from Captain Jackson of the U. S. 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry. The documentation was found in the list of unserviceable small arms collected by the Chief of Ordnance Officer Department of Dakota during 1877. A Board of Survey for Fort Totten on March 21, 1877 met to determine the condition of 10 U.S. carbines that had been recovered from Amer Indians.

The carbine was the subject of discussion concerning the condition of ten 1873 Carbines, with 1 being capable of repair.

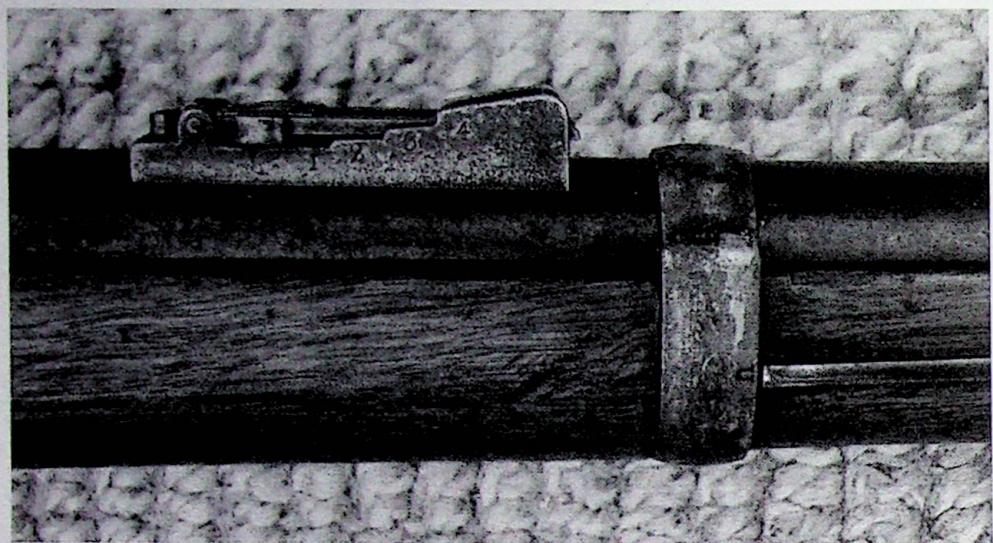
Documents found came from unit military records with names of officers involved and in attendance at Fort Totten at 11:00 AM on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

The carbine was repaired by the U.S. Army and was made in a rifle configuration. The weapon is an example of our history and activities in the American West.





*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 125-11*



*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 125-12*

Proceedings of a Board of Survey  
convened at Post Fetter D. S. pursuant  
to the following order:

Edgs P. Fetter D. S.

March 20<sup>th</sup> 1877.

Special Orders  
No. 22.

A Board of Survey will  
convene at this Post at 11 O'clock A. M.  
to-morrow, or as soon thereafter as practicable,  
to examine into and report upon the condition  
of 10 Carbines which have become unserv-  
icable and for which Capt. Henry Astor  
4<sup>th</sup> Cav. is responsible.

Detail for the Board

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Alfred Reynolds 20 Inf<sup>ty</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. H. J. Tickel Jr. 4<sup>th</sup> Cav

By order of Capt. C. T. Harbach  
(sgd) H. J. Tickel Jr.

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt 4<sup>th</sup> Cav

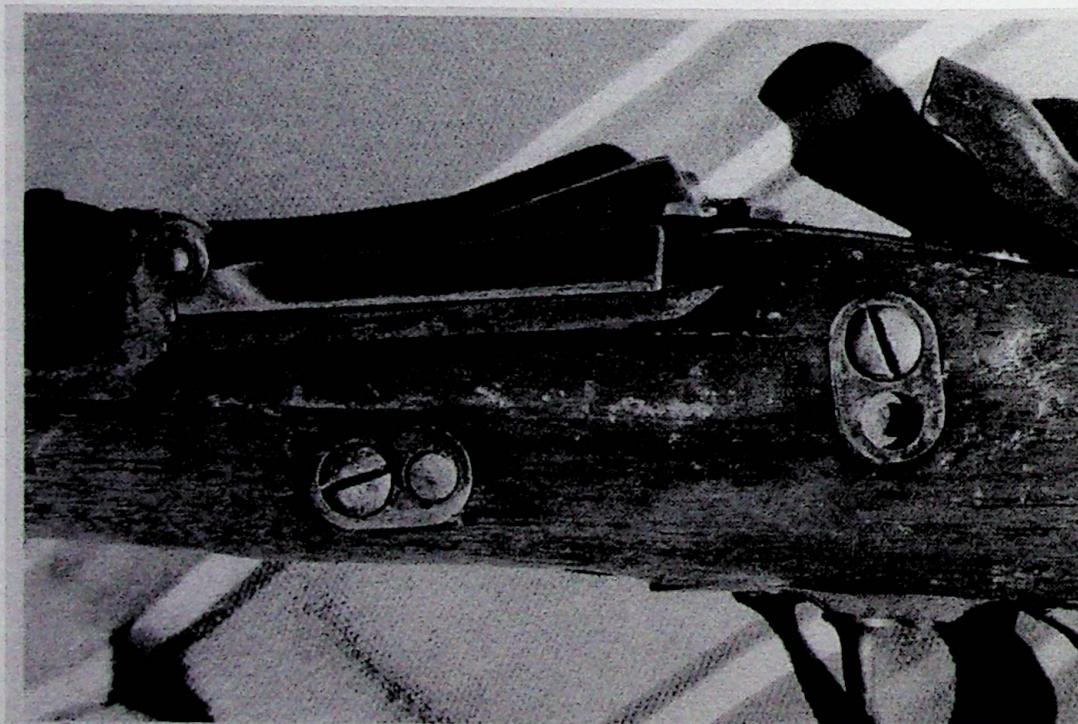
Post Adj'tant

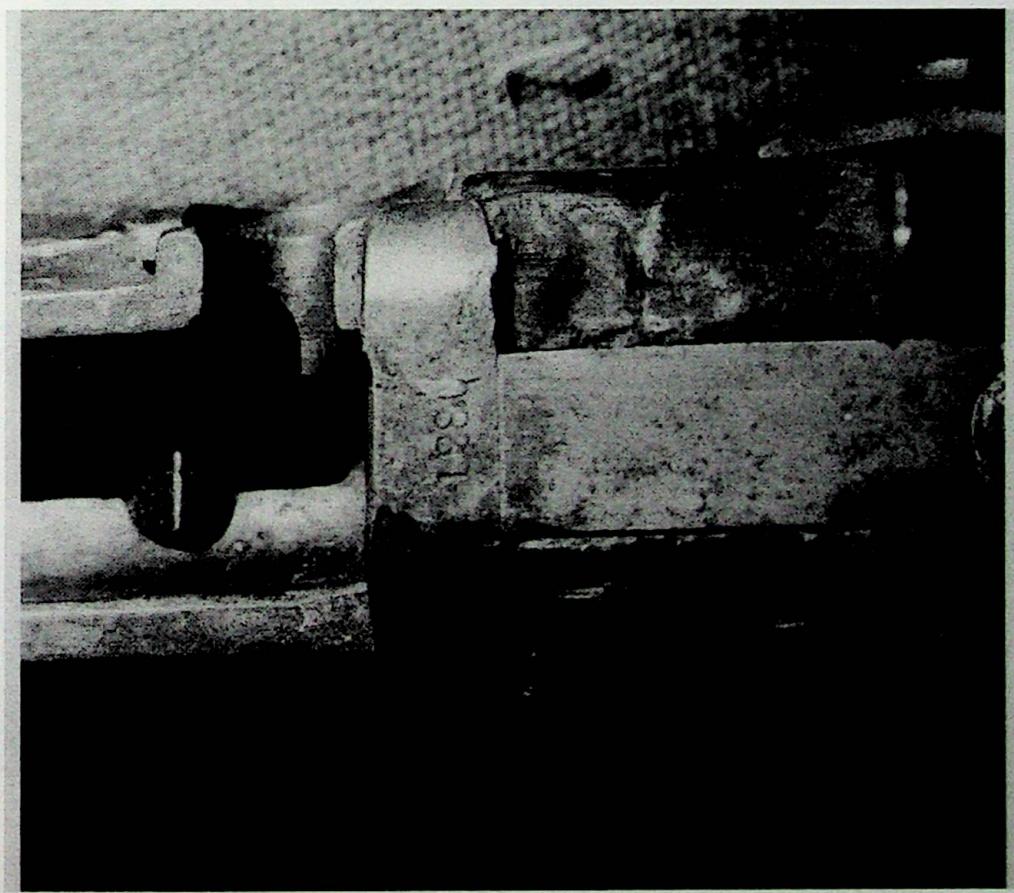
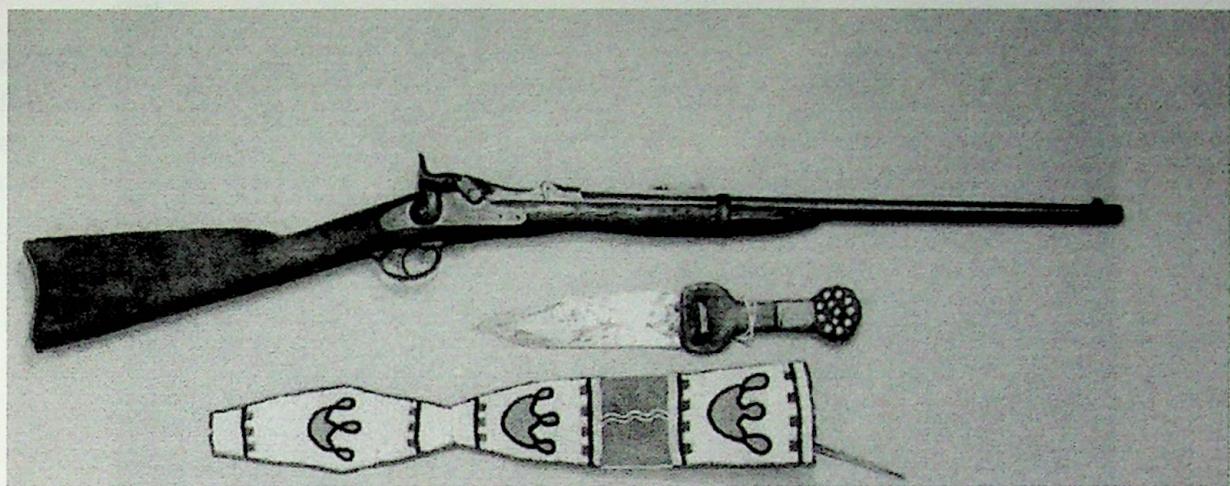
## *An American Indian Carbine*

This early 1873 Carbine has had a long journey from the 1<sup>st</sup> year production at Springfield Armory to a ranch in Arizona. The carbine serial #1280 was found in Canada during a hunting trip in 1936. It was bought from an American Indian by a hunter who was visiting and hunting. The hunter's son, Peter Winter, gave the weapon to Fred Fellows, and it has been in Mr. Fellows' collection since that time.

It is unique in that the carbine is still intact with original sights, stock, and all configurations except the saddle ring. The brass tacks and possibly other ornaments have been removed and the carbine has had extensive use.

It appears that the American Indian traveled from the United States to Canada. The weapon was probably issued to one of the U.S. Cavalry units during the first year of production, and U. S. Army use. Photos and history: courtesy of Fred Fellows ( western artist).





*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 125-15*

Proceedings of a Board of Survey  
convened at York Fort on D. S. Garrison  
to the following order:

Adj'tg P. Totten D. S.  
March 20th, 1877.

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No. 22.

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to examine into and report upon the condition  
of 10 Carbines which have become unserv-  
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2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. A. J. Tielke Jr 7<sup>th</sup> Cav.

By order of Capt. C. C. Harbach  
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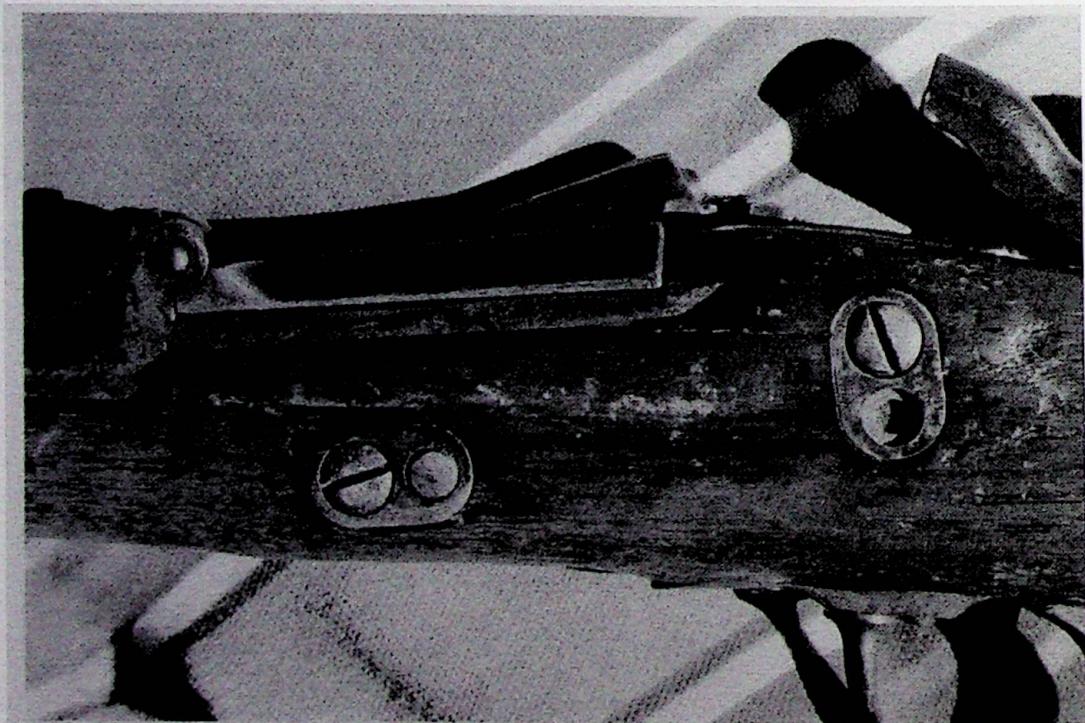
Post Adj'tant

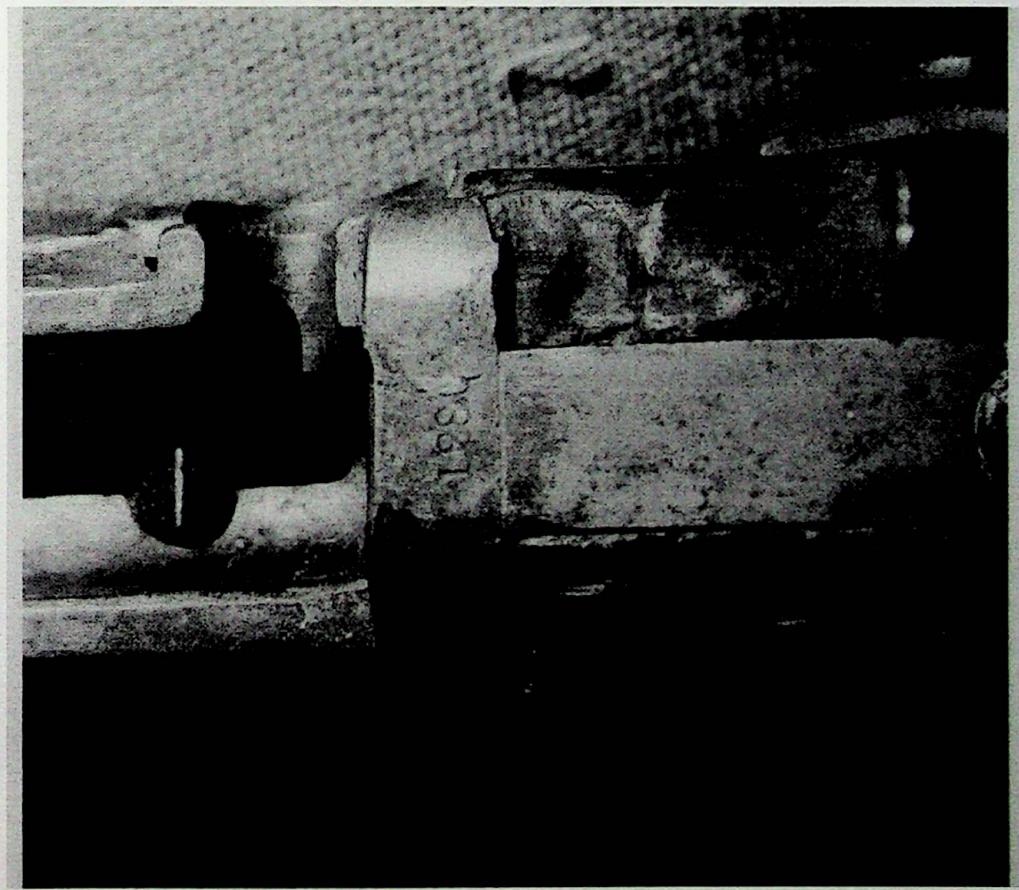
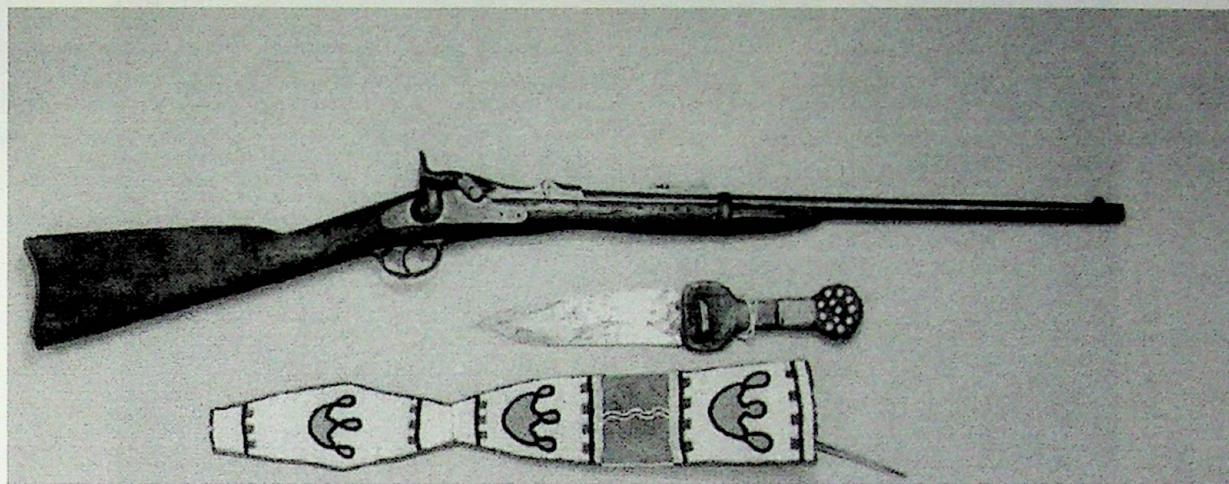
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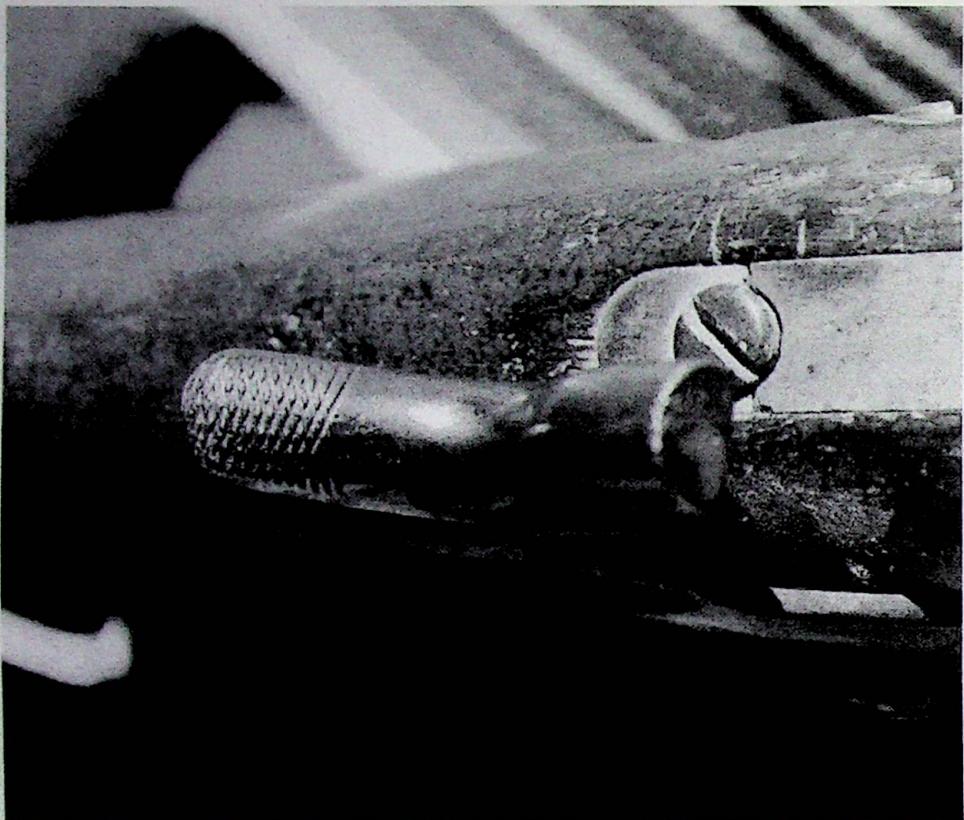
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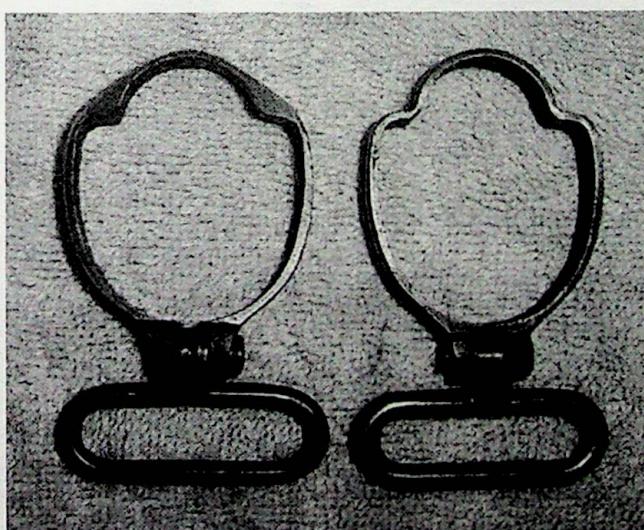


*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 125-16*

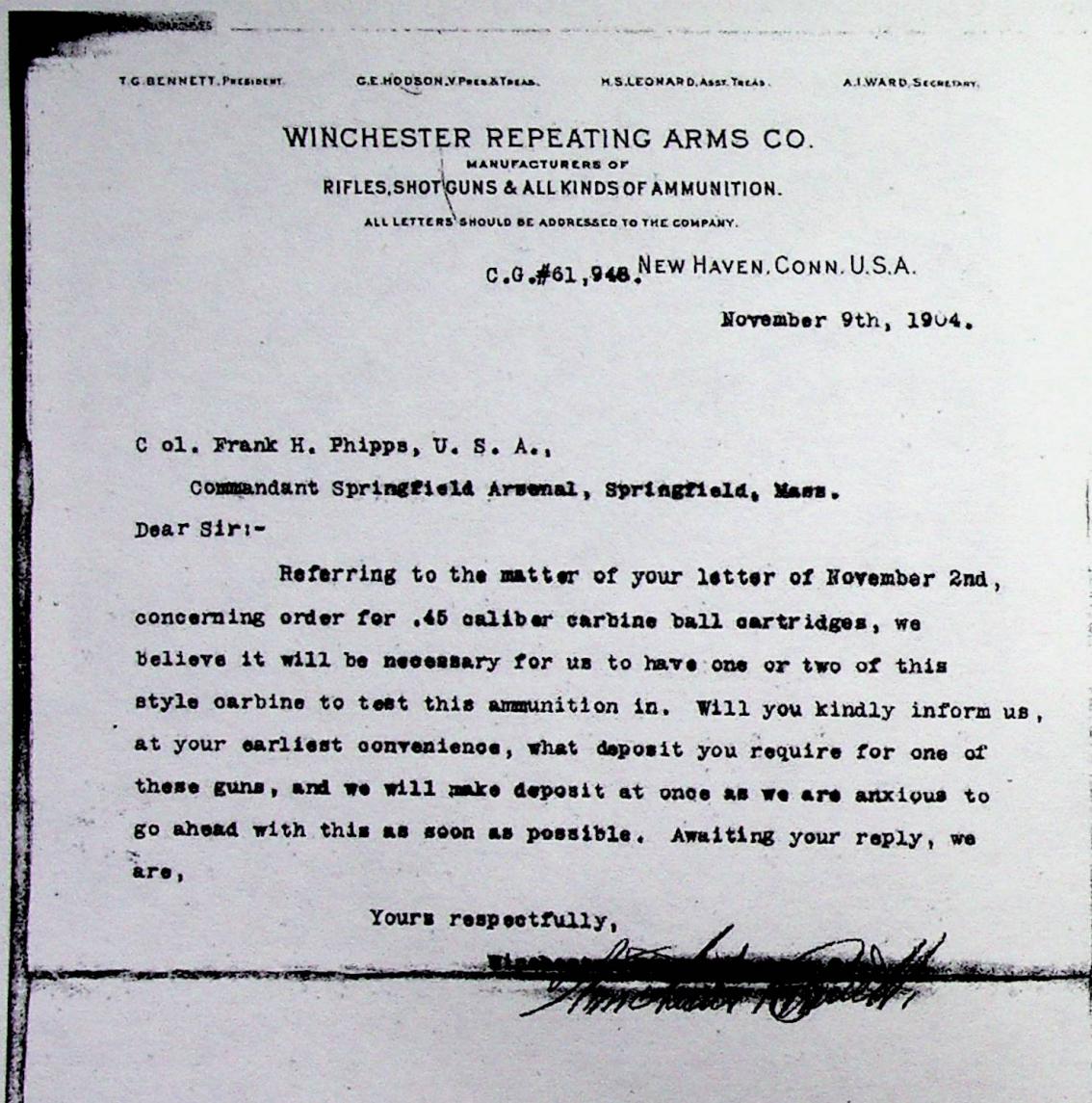
## Collectors Notes

### UNKNOWN SPRINGFIELD BAND

The following is an unknown band for a M1922 or M 1903 Sporter. Does anyone have any data on this,  
Thanks. Editor.



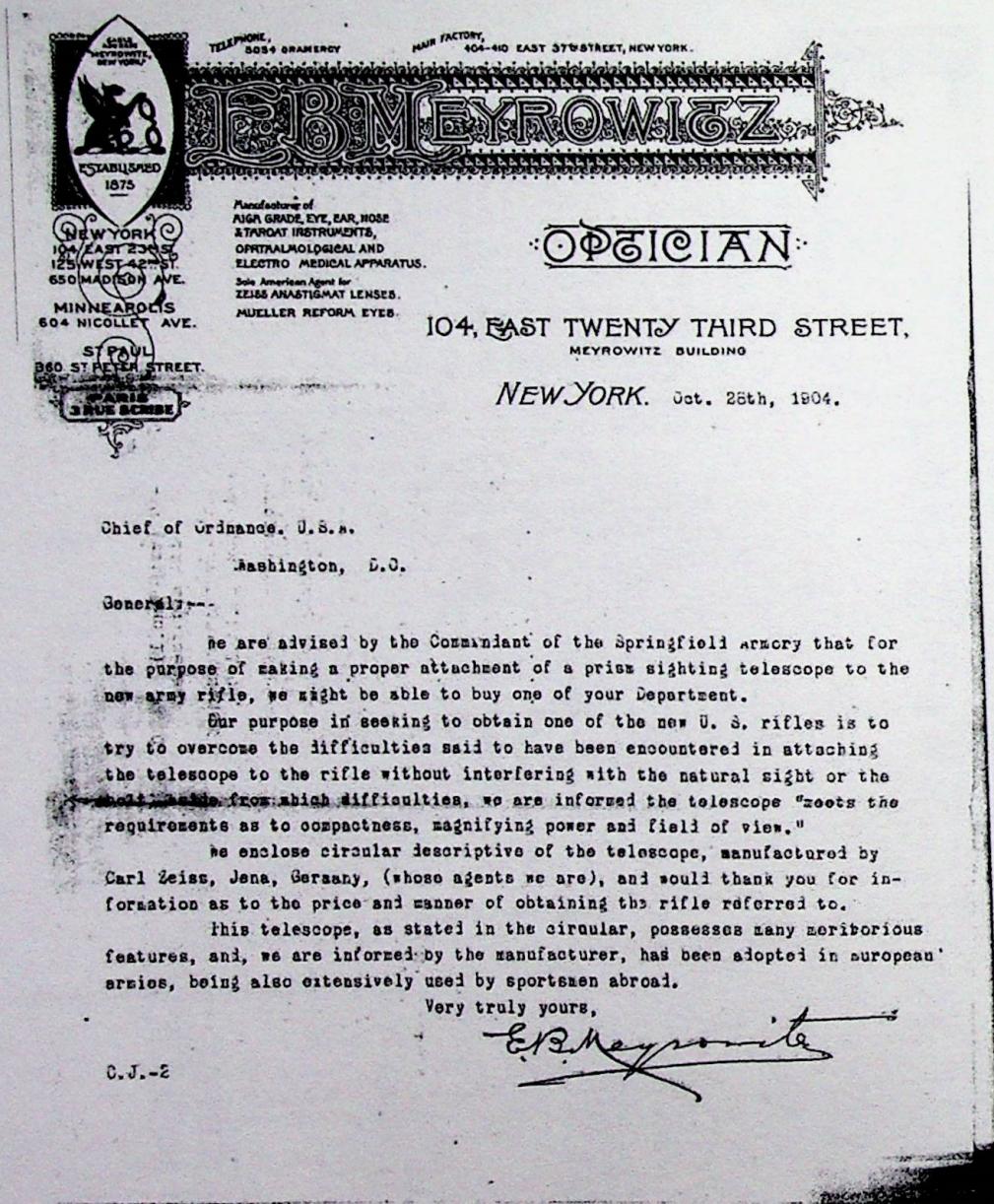
## Winchester Springfield 45 Caliber Carbine



## Springfield Experimental Scope

<b>OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ORDNANCE</b> <b>Washington, Oct 31, 1904.</b>	
38544-40 (with Inc. 1)      #140 1st Endorsement      (Enc. 1 accompanying.) 2nd Endorsement.	
<b>SPRINGFIELD ARMORY, MASS.</b> November 4, 1904.	
<p>Respectfully referred to          to the Commanding Officer of the Springfield Armory with instructions to make a copy of a magazine rifle to Mr. E. B. Meyrowitz as an American design. The designer under contract of the Armory approved April 23, 1904. By order of the Chief of Ordnance.</p> <p><i>George Huntington</i></p> <p>MEM 204K 091 899 15</p>	
<p>38544-40 (with Inc. 1)      #140          1st Endorsement</p> <p>OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ORDNANCE</p> <p>Washington, Oct 31, 1904.</p> <p>Respectfully referred to          to the Commanding Officer of the Springfield Armory with instructions to make a copy of a magazine rifle to Mr. E. B. Meyrowitz as an American design. The designer under contract of the Armory approved April 23, 1904. By order of the Chief of Ordnance.</p> <p><i>George Huntington</i></p> <p>MEM 204K 091 899 15</p>	
<p>New York, N.Y. 26, 1904.</p> <p>E. B. Meyrowitz,</p> <p>Would like to purchase one or the new rifles for the purpose of making a proper attachment of a prism sighting telescope to same.</p> <p><i>Enclosed Circular</i></p>	
<p>W          Capt. Ord. Dep., U.S.A.,          Colonel, Ord. Dep., U.S.A.,          Commanding.</p> <p><i>W</i></p> <p><i>W</i></p> <p><i>W</i></p> <p><i>W</i></p> <p><i>W</i></p>	
<p>SPRINGFIELD ARMORY          RECEIVED          140 NOV 1 1904</p>	

## Experimental Scope



## Sedgely Springfield Rifles

Memorandum for: Colonel G. H. Drewry  
Small Arms Division, Ordnance Department

Subject: Procurement of rifles from Sedgely

1. You are authorized to purchase 700 modified rifles with slings, bayonets and scabbards from the Sedgely Arms Company, Philadelphia, and ship to the Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Virginia, for the use of units in their training.

2. For this procurement you are authorized to use funds that are available to the Ordnance Department.

4-1-4  
SP 474.1 (3-27-42)

War Department, Services of Supply, Washington, D. C., April 2, 1942.  
To: Office, Chief of Ordnance.

1. For investigation and report. These are probably the rifles recently purchased by Colonel Drewry for Virginia Military Institute.

L. J. Dillon  
Colonel, Ordnance Department  
Executive Officer  
Procurement & Distribution Division

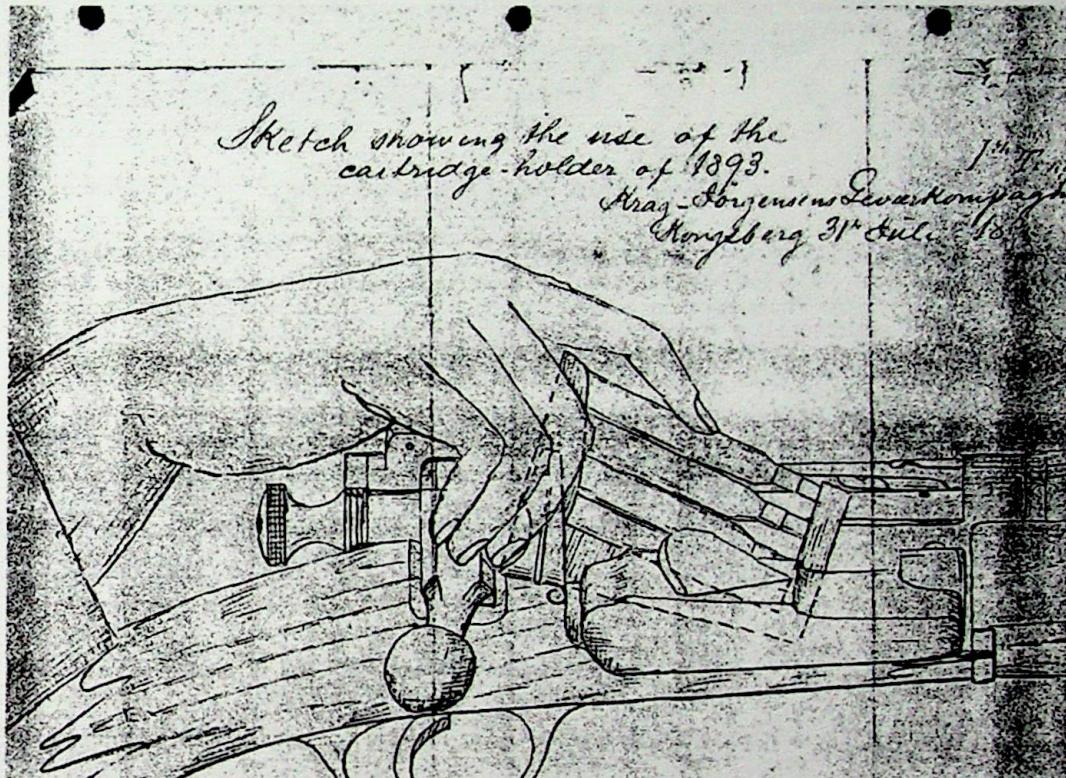
1919 Experimental Work

PROGRESS REPORT OF EXPERIMENTAL WORK  
ORDERS

Nov. 10, 1919.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE OF ORDER	PERCENTAGE OF COMPL.
2708 MS6067	Manufacture and develop 5 Semi Auto. Rifles. Supervision of Maj. Barrett	2/5/19	2-100% 1-50%
2710 MS6048	2 - 22 Cal. Gallery Practise Rifles with Eng. Bolt Action	4/5/19	4%
2719 MS6047	Eng. work on rear sights for shoulder rifles	4/5/19	95%
2788 OMR23099	1 Bullet Pushing Mach. for Cal. .45 Auto. Pistol	9/17/19	75%
2789 OMR23099	1 Bullet Pulling Mach. for Cal. .30 Rifle	"	75%
2788 OMR23099	1 Covered Front Sight for U.S. Rifle Model 1903. Sup. Maj. Wise	10/7/19	100%
2788 MS25075-C	50 Spring for 40 round magazine for Browning Machine Gun	9/6/19	4%
2802 OMR23099	Rear Sights for Model 1903	9/28/19	90%
OMR23099 OMR23110	Necessary Rifling Cutters and Index Heads for Rifling sub Cal. Tubes only	9/28/19	0%
2803 OMR23113	Sectionalize 25 each of the following arms: Browning, Lewis and Marlin Aircraft and Vickers Mach. Gun Auto. Rifle 10 - 37 M/M Semi Auto. Cannons	9/28/19	0%
2815 OMR23077	Received 25 Browning Mach. Guns and sectionalized Browning Heavy & Browning Light Guns. 1 Georgia wind gauge sight for Model 1917 Rifle	10/9/19	0%
	(New design forwarded Washington for approval Sept. 1, 1919- No word since.)		

## Krag Clip Loading Experiment



*Indian Arms Powder Valley*

322

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE.

and that the inspections and reports of Indian arms above recommended be made annually.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. POPE,  
Second Lieutenant Fifth Infantry, A. O. O.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA,  
OFFICE CHIEF ORDNANCE OFFICER,  
Saint Paul, Minn., February 9, 1870.

To the CHIEF OF ORDNANCE,

*Through Chief Ordnance Officer, Military Division of Missouri:*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that I omitted to state, in my report on Indian arms of January 22, the following pertinent circumstance of which I have personal knowledge. In July or August, 1876, a Sioux warrior was killed near Powder River after a very determined resistance.

The arm was found to be a Seventh Cavalry carbine, caliber .45 (taken in the Little Big Horn fight, as I was informed by the officers of the regiment), and which, judging from its elaborate Indian ornamentation, had evidently been considered "very good medicine." In other words, the buck had evidently been very glad indeed to get it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. E. MICHAELIS,  
Captain of Ordnance, Chief Ordnance Officer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA,  
OFFICE CHIEF ORDNANCE OFFICER,  
Saint Paul, Minn., January 22, 1870.

To the ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

*Department of Dakota:*

SIR: I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of the department commander, the following report, in connection with eight guns received from the District of the Yellowstone, under the following instructions:

ORDNANCE OFFICE, WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, October 10, 1870.

The CHIEF ORDNANCE OFFICER,  
*Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.:*

SIR: At various times during the last few years, complaints have been made that the service carbine was inferior in range and accuracy to the arms commonly used by the hostile Indians, and within the last few days the fact has been stated that such an opinion was prevalent in the cavalry troops now operating in the Departments of the Missouri and Platte. The Chief of Ordnance wishes to examine thoroughly into this subject, and to that end requests you to procure a sample of the best arms the Indians are known to use, if possible one that has been used by them, and a small quantity of their ammunition.

If you succeed in getting an arm that you are satisfied can be considered a fair sample of the best in use, of course excluding any of the United States service arms that may be in their possession, taken from our troops or otherwise procured, he desires you to send it to this office for examination and comparison.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. C. LYFORD,  
Major of Ordnance.



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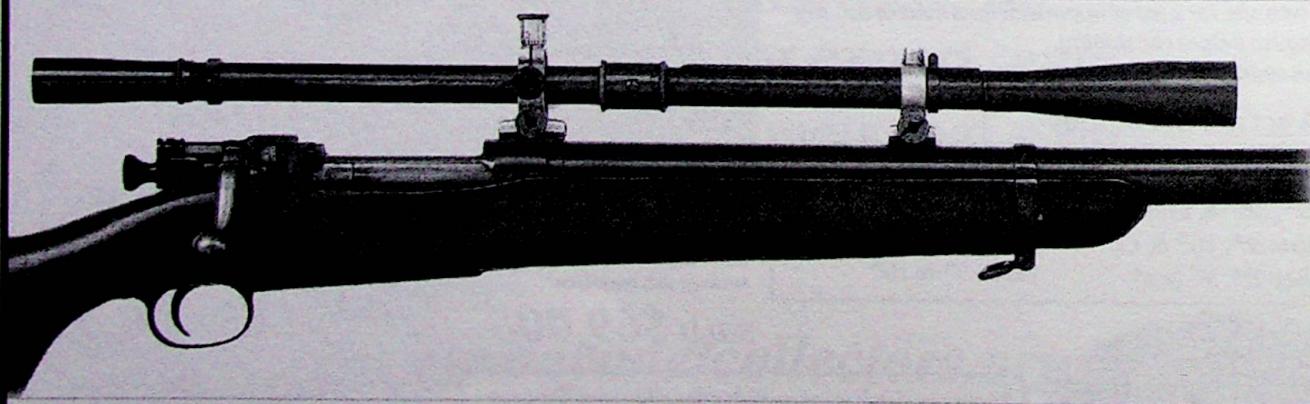
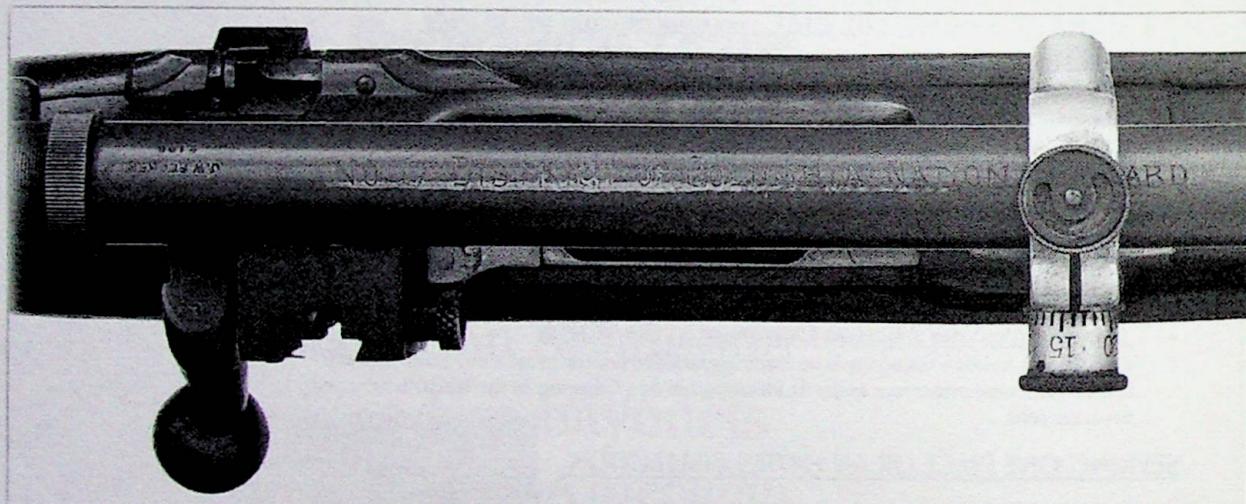
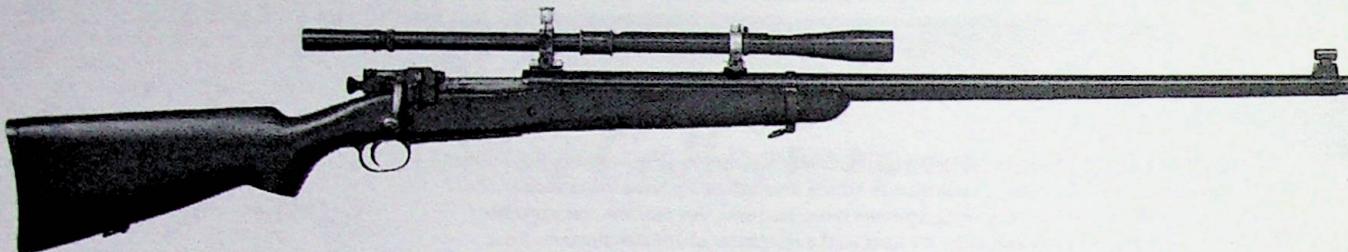
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