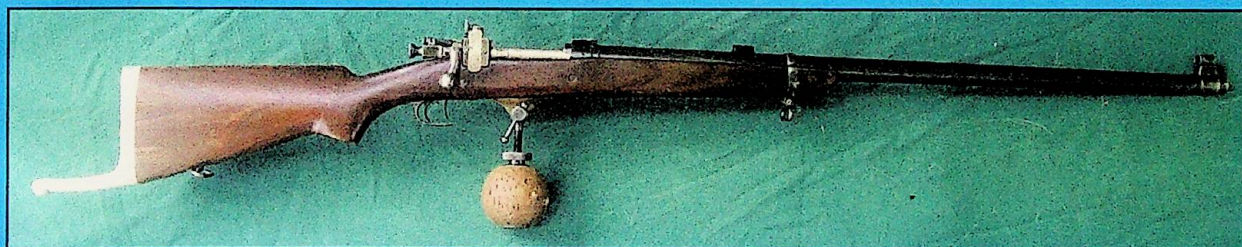


# U.S. MARTIAL ARMS Collector

and *Springfield Research Newsletter* 

Number 156 September 2018

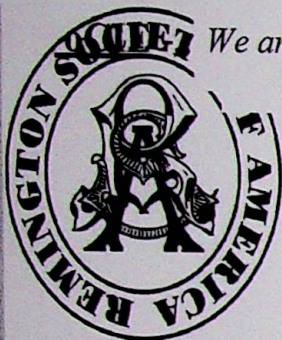
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EDITOR & PUBLISHER  
*Wayne P. Gagner*



# U.S. MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR

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## *Springfield Research Service Newsletter*

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**Cover:** U. S. USMC INTERNATIONAL MATCH.

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*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-1*



## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

SRS has accumulated an extensive amount of information on the M1 Garand and many tests and development history. John Garand's designs started early in 1920, or before, and his efforts produced many designs and research efforts. Basic work included the development of a new cartridge that was different than the standard 30/06 that was the U.S. main stay from 1906 though current military operations and target matches. The early .276 caliber was used in prototype Garand rifles.

There were tests for caliber 22/06 and .22 rim-fire weapons.

The decision to use the .30 caliber cartridge was based on large inventories of 30/06 munitions that were in storage after World War I. There were many stories concerning the deterioration of older ammunition and a major ammunition program went on for many years.

Almost any technical efforts were used in the development of a final design. The length of the barrel, number of rounds in the Garand clip, and the testing of straight line fed clips as well as staggered line were tried. The gas system was changed several times as well as many changes to individual parts, gages, and fixtures. Stocks and hand-guards were altered and made in wood and plastic models.

SRS has many of the documents authorizing many of the design efforts.

Recently we have reviewed some of the M1 Garand National Match designs and efforts. Most recent efforts were in the 1950's and we have just started. The following data shows an effort on 30 October 1957 on the National Match Maintenance Program. The

data include some additional information on the Model 1911 A1 pistol. The data is mixed in with that of the rifle.

Data includes the sights, finish, markings, and other features for the maintenance school, and the funds for FY 1958 though 1959. The document was signed off by J.W. Morgan.

Some of the official data provides more information for collectors to determine the exact characteristics of specific production years. It may assist in determining details of manufacture when examining a National Match rifle.

*The following Ordnance Letter of 30 October 1957 shows data on bedding the action in the stock in 1947 NM rifles and the :shuck: and wood filler blocks.*

HEADQUARTERS  
ORDNANCE WEAPONS COMMAND  
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS

30 October 1957

SUBJECT: National Match Maintenance Support Program for Fiscal Year 1958

TO: Chief of Ordnance  
Department of the Army  
Washington 25, D. C.  
ATTN: ORDN

1. User acceptance, performance, and observations of the National Match Rifle U. S. Caliber .30 M1 and Pistol U. S. Caliber .45 Model 1911A1, lead to the conclusion that a new standard of performance or accuracy has been set in the 1957 configurations delivered by Springfield Armory. What remains to be done is the consolidation of gains, resolution of remaining problems and recommended refinements, standardizing techniques, and documenting positive and negative information. No realistic cut-off date on product improvement can be predicted at this time. Lasting benefits are contingent upon responsiveness to engineering and production progress, field tests, developments, and requirements. Continuing developments may be anticipated on the basis of accomplishments to date and in process. It is essential to Ordnance prestige that this program be supported.

2. Continuing study objectives of the M1 Rifle program include, but are not limited to:

a. Bedding. The bedding of the action in the stock is of primary importance in a target rifle. In 1957 vintage M1's, "shuck" was minimized by fitting wood filler blocks in the magazine well area of the stock. Hand fitting of the stock to action then assures even bearing of the receiver rails on the mating surfaces. This method produces the desired results in available stocks which are already machined. However, since the necessity for procuring quality stock blanks is apparent, another approach is advisable. Studies of plastic bedding material are programed to determine adaptability, reliability, and ease of removing and replacement if required. The stock drawing is under review to determine if dimensions and tolerances may be tightened to provide "fit stock" in critical bearing surface areas in stock blanks specifically procured for the Match Rifle Program.

**U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-2**



**The following letter (30 October 1957) adds data on the NM sights and information on the National Match Maintenance School. Budget data (\$474,629) for rebuild and modification of 1726 NM rifles from November 1947 through April 1958 are included.**

ORDOW-FM 30 October 1957  
SUBJECT: National Match Maintenance Support Program for Fiscal Year 1958

e. **Sights.** A 5/16" maximum height front sight is to be developed and installed. The rear sight will continue to be a fixed sight of proper height to accommodate the 5/16" front sight and allow substitution in the field of movable rear sights available commercially. The development of an inexpensive movable rear sight or recommended type is still under study. Lightening the front sight blade to reduce mass; configuration and rigid attachment of front sight are undergoing further development.

f. **Miscellaneous.** Other developments will follow as a matter of course. Representatives of using services have been invited to submit to Springfield Armory for evaluation any positive or negative information or suggestions involving National Match weapons accuracy characteristics.

4. The National Match Weapons Maintenance School will be conducted by Springfield Armory for fifteen students each class, beginning 13 January and 24 February 1958. Additional demands are anticipated to meet the requirements of all services for self-support below the departmental level. At the departmental level, such as the Advanced Marksmanship Unit for the Army, and at the National Matches, the continuation of direct technical support by Springfield Armory is contemplated. Revisions to TS ORD 621, ORD 3-3, and OCS 340-3-57 will be effected and changes in AR 920-30 sought as required. MCEMA has been contacted with the view to formulating a procedure for direct exchange of unserviceable match quality pistols and rifles at the National Matches, Camp Perry, Ohio. Preparation of technical data for the 1958 National Match weapons brochure has been initiated. Frankford Arsenal has been queried relative to inclusion of match ammunition information of interest to the shooters.

5. Funds in the amount of \$474,629 have been allocated for the rebuild or modification of 1431 pistols and 1726 rifles for Fiscal Year 1958-1959 competitive matches. The production schedule is:

REPAIR	REPAIR	REPAIR	REPAIR	REPAIR
Rev	Rev	Rev	Rev	Rev
Nov 1957	185	250	187	250
Dec 1957	185	250	187	250
Jan 1958	185	250	187	250
Feb 1958	185	250	187	250
Mar 1958	51	55	187	250
Apr 1958	0	0	187	250

FOR THE COMMANDER:

*[Signature]*  
Major General  
U.S. Army

**The 30 October 1957 letter also includes stock sealant for NM rifles including plans for 1958 production. Accuracy fixtures are outlined and extensive data is included on operating rods. There were discussions on the markings for National Match rifles on the barrel and receivers; Operating rod data on Advanced Marksmanship Unit corrections; and Gas cylinders in regard to the alignment of the barrel.**

ORDOW-FM 30 October 1957  
SUBJECT: National Match Maintenance Support Program for Fiscal Year 1958

b. **Stock Sealant.** By request, some match quality rifle stocks have not been protected against moisture absorption and resultant swelling. Approximately 25 commercial sealing products have been tested to determine the degree of protection offered, the effective life, ease of reapplication, detrimental effects such as weight and unsightly appearance. Results of tests indicate that a silicone modified varnish should give an acceptable level of protection consistent with economical, weight, and appearance requirements. Springfield Armory anticipates formulation of a sealing agent of a non-proprietary nature and application of same to a portion of FY 58 production rifles.

c. **Accuracy Firing Fixtures.** A comparative test of three fixtures is in progress at Springfield Armory. The pneumatically operated fixture presently used for targeting is used as the control device in determining variables between it and the two remaining types which are of the cradle and V-block design. Results of this test will determine which fixture should be used as a standard. A cardinal requirement in the evaluation and selection of rifles having the required accuracy characteristics is test firing, in a proven fixture, of three or more 10-shot groups at 100 yards. Experience indicates that firing the three groups, plus the setting of suitable standards, has resulted in about 40% of the rifles being rejected for accuracy on the first trial. Progressive reduction in the number of initial rejects is made through subsequent re-working and re-testing. Adequate quantities of National Match ammunition must be made available for such testing. Results speak for themselves.

d. **Operating Rods.** Representatives of Springfield Armory and the USA Advanced Marksmanship Unit plan to explore, determine, and if possible correct alleged instances of deteriorating accuracy attributed to operating rod failures. Action to be taken by AMU is to first correct suspected failures by the selection and installation of operating rods producing the desired results. The sample rifles, together with the old and new operating rods, would then be sent to Springfield Armory to carry on operations from that point.

e. **Miscellaneous.** Consideration is being given to means of providing an identifying code on National Match rifle receivers and barrels whereby the year of assembly or rebuild may be determined. White markings on the rear sight graduations and serial numbers are contemplated. Consideration is being given to recommendations that the stock pistol grip be refined by the elimination of sharp shoulders on top left and right edges, and reduction of the grip size. No further action at Springfield Armory is contemplated on standard methods of roughening the butt plate surface. A test program is in process to

**Below: 3 December 1958, a requirement that National Match Rifles assembled in 1959 will have the barrels marked.**

DISPOSITION FORM			
FILE NO.	ORIGIN	SUBJECT	DATE
70	ORDOW-20	Rifle, U.S. Cal .30, M1, National Match	3 Dec 1958
TO: Chief, Amory Operations Div		FROM: Chief, Eng Div	DATE: 3 Dec 1958
Last for Inspection		REMARKS: National Match Conference held at Gales, 25 September 1958	
1. It is required that all 1959 National Match rifles assembled at the Amory be identified by means of a stamped code marking on the barrel. A steel stamp symbol .44x 1/6" high shall be used to signify 1959 "NM" rifles.			
2. The enclosed sketch dated 26 November 1958 designates the approximate location for applying the symbol to the barrel. Application of the symbol shall be accomplished after the rifle has been finally accepted.			
3. The symbol design, type 201 can be procured from the Heald and Restorick Manufacturing Company, Westbrook St., East Hartford 8, Connecticut.			
enc cc: Skelton, 26 Nov 58 <i>[Signature]</i> J. H. F. LEECH			

**U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-3**



**Below: The disposition form for marking and position for NM rifles. 28 October 1960.**

DISPOSITION FORM	
FILE NO.	SUBJECT
ORD-ENG	Rifle, U.S. Cal .30, M1, National Match
TO: Ch. Army Ordnance Div	FROM: Dep Ch. Eng Div
DATE: 27 DEC 61	COMMITTEE NO. 1
ASST: f/Inspection	RAILAW/ENG/6262
<p>1. It is required that all 1962 National Match Rifles assembled at the Armory be identified by means of a stamped code marking on the barrel. A steel band symbol stamp 1/8" high shall be used to signify 1962 "NM" Rifles.</p> <p>2. The inclosed sketch dated 28 October 1960 designates the approximate location for applying the symbol to the barrel. Application of the symbol should be accomplished after the rifle has been finally accepted.</p> <p>3. The symbol design, type #292 can be procured from the Noble and Westbrook Manufacturing Co., Westbrook St., East Hartford 8, Conn.</p>	
1 Incl	V. A. LUUKKONEN
1. Sketch, 28 Oct 60	Deputy Chief, Eng Div

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

U.S. Postal First Class Mail is used. Please send any corrections of addresses to us at any time. We are receiving more post office notices that mail cannot be delivered. We have no way to find a new address without a forwarding address.

Our policy of putting the number indicating the last issue of a subscription has had some mishaps that we are correcting. We want to correct any data that is overlooked or missing. Please send comments. There are some SRS products that are out of stock.

Please send us any corrections for address changes, holding subscriptions, or temporary addresses.

## CURRENT ISSUES

Issue number 156 dated September 2018 is

current. Mailing data is sent to our printing facility for September 1, 2018 and we rely on the Post Office to deliver first class mail as soon as they are able.

## ADVERTISING

Our advertising deadlines are usually the Friday two weeks before the date of a publication. The projected mailing dates are the first week of March, June, September, and December of each year. There are four quarterly issues each year.

## SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH LETTERS

The basic letters are \$50.00; sales letters with a document are \$65.00; and research letters run from \$175.00 and up. There are some instances where research requires us to spend days at U.S. Government buildings. These efforts may require additional costs for rare or historic weapons.

Research letters include USMC letters, OSS documents, 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5th, and 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, and Spanish American War. Other unique units may require special research. It requires time to travel to government facilities and comply with their rules for handling of documents. A basic letter is data from our in-house files. It is limited, and there is no way for us to hold the thousands or even millions of pages of data. A research letter requires us to travel to a government facility and request to search and retrieve the specific copies needed for research.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-4***



This includes checking the U.S. Government files to make sure they exist and are still available for review.

The size of government data files is overwhelming, and we cannot duplicate all of the millions of pages. We try to copy the specifics and include them with any SRS letter. In many cases the data may have a peculiar size and must be handled, verified, and copied according to government regulations. This may also require working with armed guards, checking our identification, and special stamps for security classification or other rules. Special documents require more time and may have higher costs. Recent efforts require special work to copy degraded original documents. Some papers are no longer available to copy and some documents have been moved to other government buildings.

## **COMMENTS AND INPUTS**

We always want comments.  
editor@usmartialarmscollector.com  
U.S. mail to SRS Box 126, Cabin John, MD 20818. This may take an extended time.

We may also print some data and ask for comments from our readers. There are a lot of very knowledgeable collectors with a wealth of information and sightings of rare weapons.

## **SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH DATA BASE**

Our efforts are based on data from United States documents in U.S. Archives and other

military sources. All serial number information comes from government documents. There are many weapon documents that come from sources that describe a weapon without a specific serial number.

More documents may exist and we continually look for information.

## **SHIPPING COMMENTS**

SRS uses the U.S. Post office for magazine delivery and delivery of most of our products.

If you use PAYPAL, Please check off the correct boxes for your specific instructions. We receive complaints from both subscriber and PAYPAL, a subscriber may accidentally check off the automatic payment box and does not want that service.

This problem can be corrected by the subscriber by contacting PAYPAL and correct their ordering status. SRS cannot change or start an automatic payment for a subscriber.

## **SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH SERVICE SUPPORT**

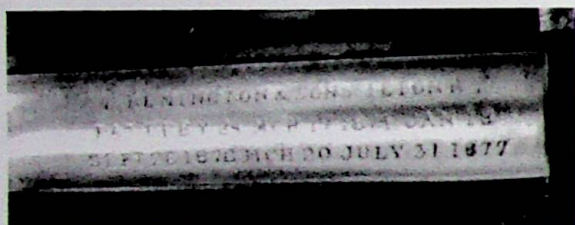
SRS uses RACKNER SOLUTIONS for our software support and protection of our database. <https://racknersolutions.com>  
More efforts continue and support is needed for software and other computer efforts.

*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-5*



**U. S. NAVY SPECIAL LINE  
THROWING RIFLE CALIBER  
45/70 MANUFACTURED BY  
REMINGTON. REMINGTON  
KEENE MODEL.**

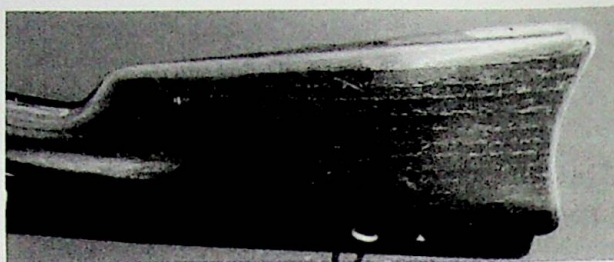
The following rifle was a special design line throwing weapon with a unique barrel assembly.



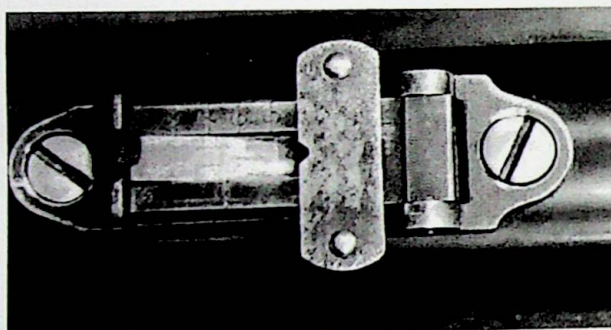
**Above:** Line throwing receiver marked E. Remington & SONS ILION NY PATENT PP By 24 MCH 17 1874 JAN 18 SEPT 26 1876 MCH 20 JULY 31 1877. Marked on top of receiver.



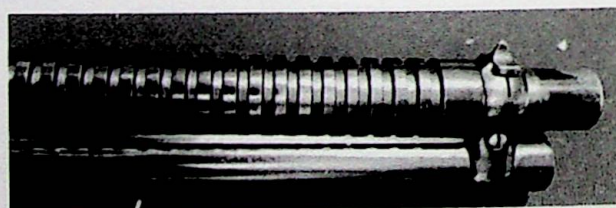
**Above:** Left side of Remington action with hammer, bolt, and stock.



**Below Left:** Remington butt stock with butt plate and rear swivel.



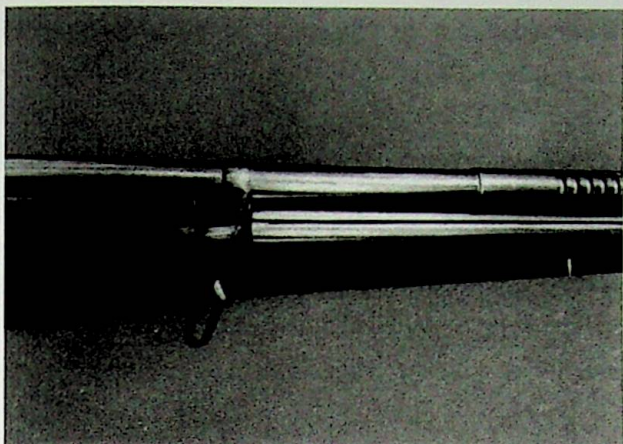
**Above:** Rear sight with V notch, mounting screws, and adjustments to 8.



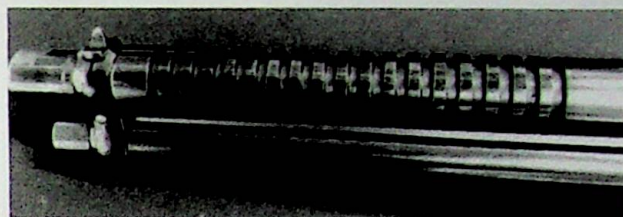
**Above:** Special carbine barrel with grooves, front sight, barrel band and screw. Design shows barrel with compensation design and Special band and swivel and magazine tube.

*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-6*

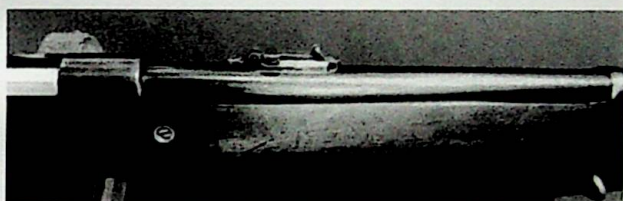




**Below:** Left side of barrel and front sight with barrel band for magazine and barrel held in place by special screw.



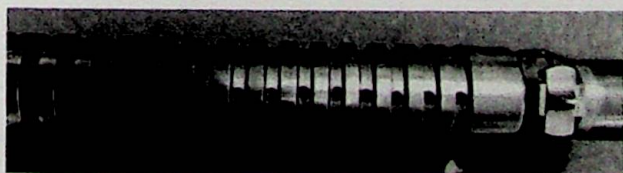
**Above:** Special band, special barrel, and magazine.



**Above:** Right side with rear sight mounted ahead of receiver.



**Below:** Top of special barrel with 9 holes in grooves on the barrel top behind the fixed front sight that is dovetailed to barrel.



**Above:** Left side of butt stock with butt plate and rear swivel.

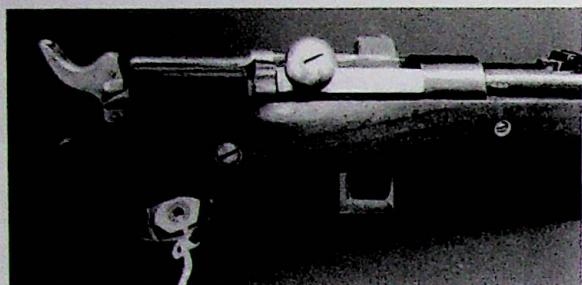


**Above:** Left side of butt stock with tag marked Navy Line throwing rifle.

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**Below:** Right side of action with bolt, hammer, trigger assembly, 2 stock reinforcement screws and trigger guard.

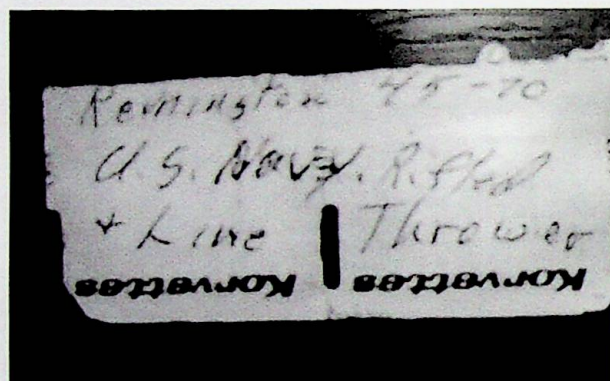


**Above:** CEC markings on barrel.



**Below Left** C.E.C. markings on stock.

**Below:** Markings on stock show KORVETTES (store name in the past). No other data has been found on the possible sale or display of the weapon at a local store.



This weapon is truly a rarity in U. S. military weapons. There were many weapons made into line throwing by several different companies and other weapons made or converted for U. S. Navy use. They include manufacturers such as Harrington and Richardson and others.

This weapon converted to line throwing seems to be a very unique example of a Naval item that has never been identified and written up in most of our research.

*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-8*



The actual use and perhaps identification with tests or an actual ship could be of great interest. The inspector marks are shown on the receiver and stock and may provide an indication of its history. Hopefully it can stir up some interest and we can fill in the Naval operations information. Information from our readers would be gratefully received.

The Remington Keene model was made in several variations including carbine and rifle and variants. The Remington effort started in 1868 and ended about 1881. The first effort as for a single shot made in caliber 45/70 and .43 Egyptian.

Carbine variations and use by both the Army and Navy as well as Civil Agencies were purchasers. There were military, Civil, and commercial or sporting weapons made.

The Department of interior marked the weapons on the side U.S.I.D.th serial number.

Carbines are known to exist with 22 inch and 29 1/2 inch barrels and different markings for Army and Navy/U.S. Marine Corps.

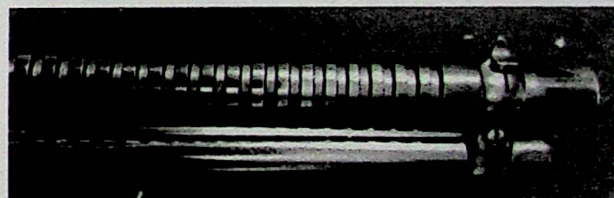
The U.S. Army model seems to be the scarcest model and estimates of total production seem to be about 1000 for all types. Some models may have only produced 10 to 50 in numbers estimated.

The U.S. patent number 86,690 is known but there may be many other identifying numbers as the development of this weapon line has unique bolts, stocks, barrels,

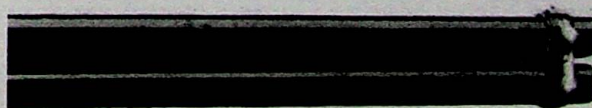
magazines, and actions. Any new ideas at the time in the 1870's is possible and it could be found that some of the unique features were used by Remington and others in weapon development.

The advanced testing of barrel metal that could withstand the shock of a line throwing load would require advanced knowledge in shock, durability and strength as well as design from very limited resources. It is possible the technology came from other companies that have not been identified. There were companies in New England that tested steel and advanced forge design. The source of iron and steel for these experiments is unknown but there were many companies producing steel tools, weapons, and machinery in New England.

**Below: Top:** Line throwing barrel with modifications, front sight, and magazine.



**Below: Bottom:** Standard Remington Keene carbine barrel and magazine.



*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-9*



## LETTERS WRITTEN

Rifle, U.S., 1922M1 Heavy Barrel, serial number 2010 was sold to L. H. Reynolds, Orlando, Florida. This rifle was in the group of serial numbers; 1984, 2002, 2008, 2020, and 2023.

The rifles had 30 inch .22 caliber heavy barrels. This rifle is one of the twelve rifles made that were similar to the 1924 .30 Rifle. The action was a Model 1922 with a 30 inch long caliber .22 barrel International model. The action was a Model 1922 with a 30 inch .22 inch barrel with a heavy front sight machined from a BAR front sight and had a new Winchester globe sight, and a Lyman 48 S rear sight. The walnut stock had a hooked butt plate, and a steel adjustable sling assembly. The barrel was machined down to fit the BAR front sight diameter. The rifle was drilled and tapped for scope blocks. There was a cork ball palm rest and the trigger guard was fitted with Rimkunas double set triggers.

Rifle, U.S., Cal. .22 short, Serial Number 614892. Sold from the Fairfield Air Intermediate Depot, Fairfield, Ohio. April, 1929.

Rifle, U.S., Cal. 30, Sporting Model, Serial Number 1 265 153. Sold to Herman C. Schwab, New York, N.Y. November 30, 1930.

Winchester, U.S., Model 1897 shotgun Rifle caliber .22, serial number 952021. Issued to United States Marine Corps, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. August 24, 1949. This data was found in USMC records in the United States Archives in Washington, D.C.

Rifle, U.S., Henry, Number 3954. Issued to John Jenkins, Company K 3rd Volunteer Infantry. May 13, 1865. John Jenkins was 40 years old, 5 ft 6 3/4 inches tall, with dark

complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. He was enlisted by Lt. Gray in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on March 22, 1865 for one year. He was a painter from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and was discharged upon completion of service. U.S Rifle, Henry, Number 3938 issued to Stephen Andersen, Company K 3rd Volunteer Infantry on May 13, 1865. Stephen Andersen was 33 years old, 5 ft 8 inches in height, dark complexion, blue eyes, black hair, born in Lroitzenland, and a tailor by trade. He enlisted on April 1, 1865 at Ft. Stoneman by Lt. Eckles for 1 year and was issued Henry rifle number 3938.

U.S., Cal. 30, M-1903, National Match Type C, Serial Number 1 257 940. Sold to Mrs. Julia E. Bean, Errol, N.H. April 17, 1930.

Rifle, U.S., Cal. 30, M-1903, Sporting Model, Serial Number 1 344 003, Sold to Fred N. Bean, Errol, N. H. on April 17, 1930.

Rifle, U.S., Cal. 30, M1903.A1, National Match, 1936, with target and star gauge record card. Serial Number 1 456 896. Sold to Commanding Officer, 107th Inf., New York National Guard, 643 Park Avenue, New York, New York on May 28, 1936.

Rifle, Cal. .22 M-1922 M1, Serial Number 19 409. Sold to William A. Misek Cicero, Ill. on August 9, 1930.

U.S., Cal. .22 short, Serial Number 614892. Sold from the Fairfield Air

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Intermediate Depot, Fairfield, Ohio. April, 1929.

Rifle, U.S., Cal. 30, Sporting Model, Serial Number 1 265 153. Sold to Herman C. Schwab, New York, N.Y. November 30, 1930.

Merrill Carbine, serial number 12732  
Issued to Company G, 7th Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, 1863. Civil War operations for the 7th Regiment. Union City, Tennessee, 1863  
Paris, Tennessee. December, 1863 action at Huntington, Tennessee. December 1864, expedition Trenton, Tennessee, Smith's Expedition Okolona, Mississippi. West Point February. April Sturgis' Expedition Ripley, Miss. Sturgis' Expedition Guntown, Miss. June Ripley, White's Station. July Action Port Gibson, Miss., Expedition to Oxford, Miss. August Tallahatchie River, Hurricane Creek, Oxford, Lamar, Colliersville, White Station. October, Memphis, Tennessee, Nonconah Creek. March Arkansas and Missouri in pursuit of Price. September Action at Little Blue, Mo. October Grierson's Expedition from Memphis to destroy Mobile & Ohio Railroad. December, 1864 Capture of Verona, Egypt Station. December, Expedition from Memphis to Marion, Ark. Expedition from Memphis into northern Mississippi. 1865 moved to Alexandria, La. June. marched to Hempstead, Texas. August Duty at Austin, Texas, until February 1866.

This data was found in the U. S. Archives, Washington, D. C. Record Group 74, Civil War Army records.

Starr Carbine, serial number 10875  
Company F, 13th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry.

May 18, 1864. Civil War battles and skirmishes for 13th Volunteers: April 2, 1864, Okolona, Ark., April 3, 1864, Little Missouri River, Ark. April 4, 1864, Prairie de Anne, Ark., April 10, 11 and 12, 1864; Camden, Ark., April 15, 1864, Jenken's Ferry, Ark., April 30, 1864, Cross Roads, Ark., September 11, 1864; Mount Elba, Ark., October 18, 1864, Douglas Landing, Ark., February 22, 1865; Monticello, Ark., March 28, 1865. This data was found in the U. S. Archives, Washington, D. C. Record Group 74, Civil War Army records.

Springfield 1903, International Match 1924, Serial Number 1 255 110. with an unknown number of spare complete barreled actions (less stocks and fittings) for emergency field replacement at the 1924 Matches. The front sight was a modified BAR front sight. The walnut stock had a hooked butt plate, and a steel adjustable sling assembly. The barrel was machined down to fit the BAR front sight diameter.

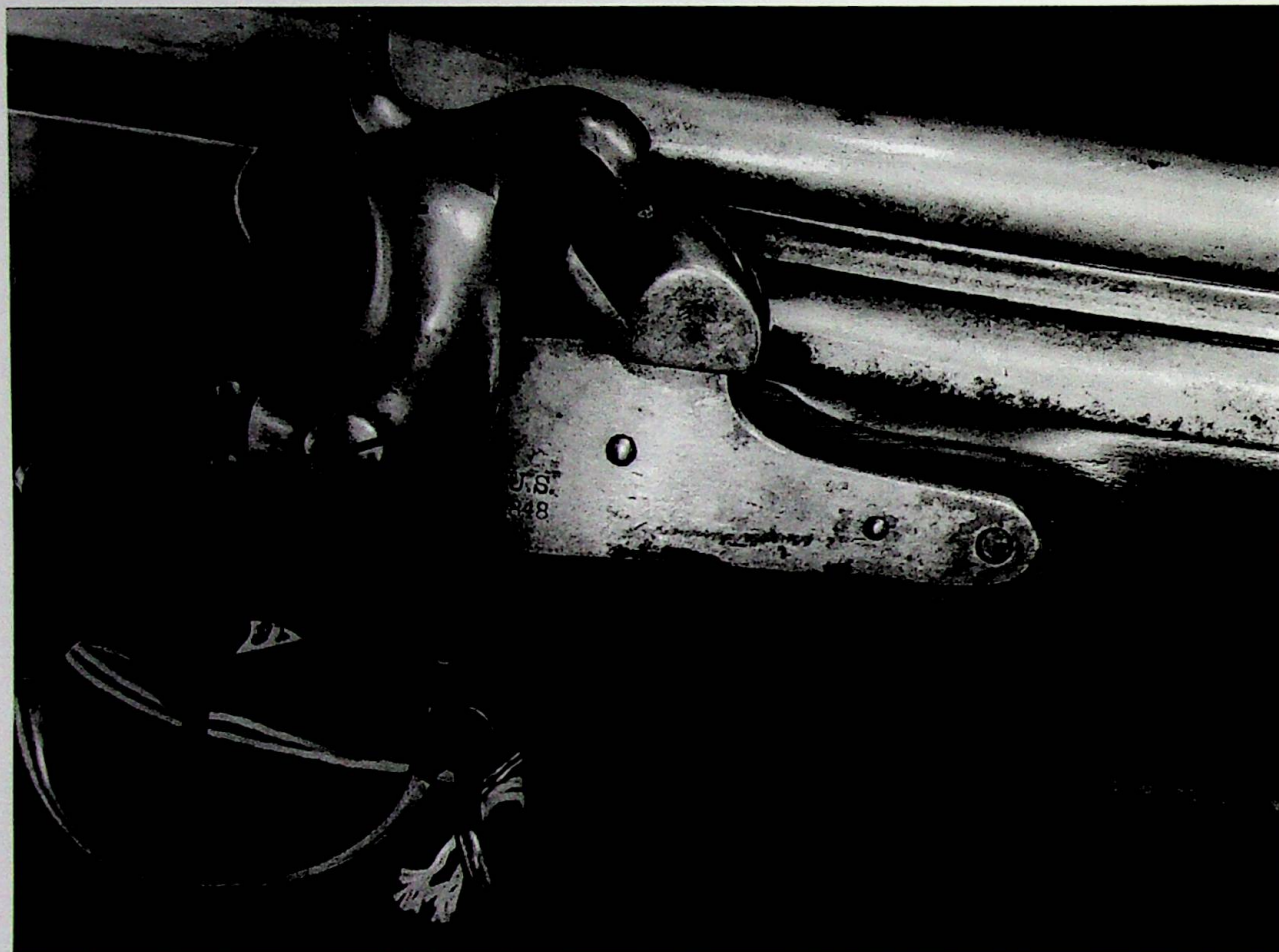
The rifle was drilled and tapped for scope blocks. There was a cork ball palm rest and the trigger guard was fitted with Rimkunas double set triggers. A Frankford Arsenal program developed accuracy testing with Congressional directed ammunition, for 1924 Olympics January 1924. Additional data was published in the February 1924 issue of the American Rifleman Magazine. Other data showed that IM rifles were in the process of being made.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-11***



## Model 1841 Mississippi Sniper Rifle With Telescope

A Remington contract Musket was manufactured with a completely unique telescope mounted on the barrel with extensive craftsmanship on the barrel, action, and bands.



**Above:** The right side of the musket is shown with Remington, Herkimer NY lock markings and U.S. 1848. The musket is shown with the basic scope tube, attached grooved rib, rear support brass fixture, standard lock and trigger guard. There is a standard production cap nipple and hammer.

The "Mississippi" rifle started in the Mexican-American War with Colonel Jefferson Davis the head of volunteer regiment from the state of Mississippi. Colonel Davis armed the regiment with the Model 1841 rifles with smoothbore barrels. The Model 1841 was replaced by the minie ball firing rifles. The Mississippi rifle was also called "yagger" after the German Jäger rifles.

The Mississippi rifle was the first standard U.S. rifle to use a percussion lock system.

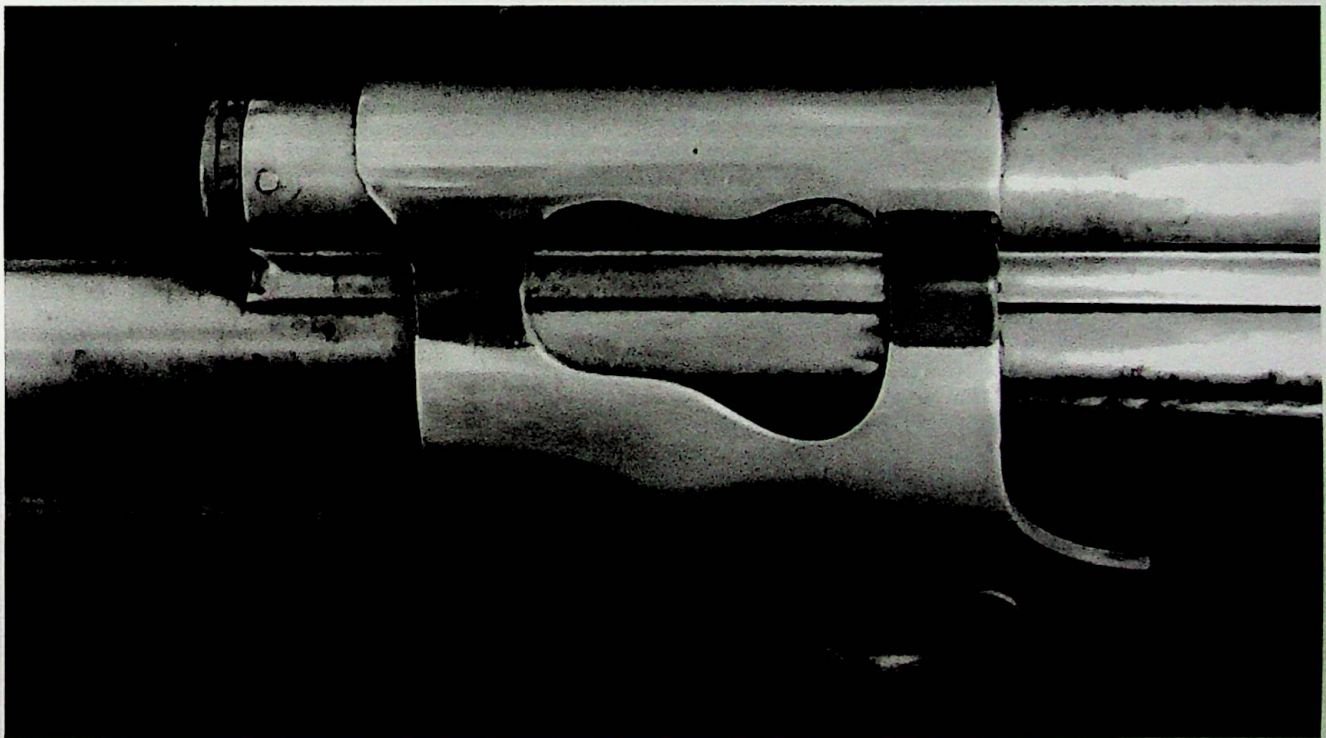


The Mississippi rifle was originally in .54 caliber. In 1855, the Mississippi rifle was changed to .58 caliber, so that it could use the .58 caliber Minie Ball. The Mississippi rifles had a v-notch sight and later a leaf sight with 100, 300, and 500 yard ranges and later a sight that went to 1100 yards in 100 yard increments.

Thomas Warner a master armorer at Springfield Armory headed up the Springfield Armory with advanced machines and gauging.

The rifle shown is an extremely rare conversion of a Mississippi rifle converted to a sniper variation.

**Below** is the forward part of the telescope with a band to hold the telescope and the barrel together. It also shows the fixture for a ram rod and sling swivel. The design is overly sturdy with a fixed steel rib between the scope and barrel.



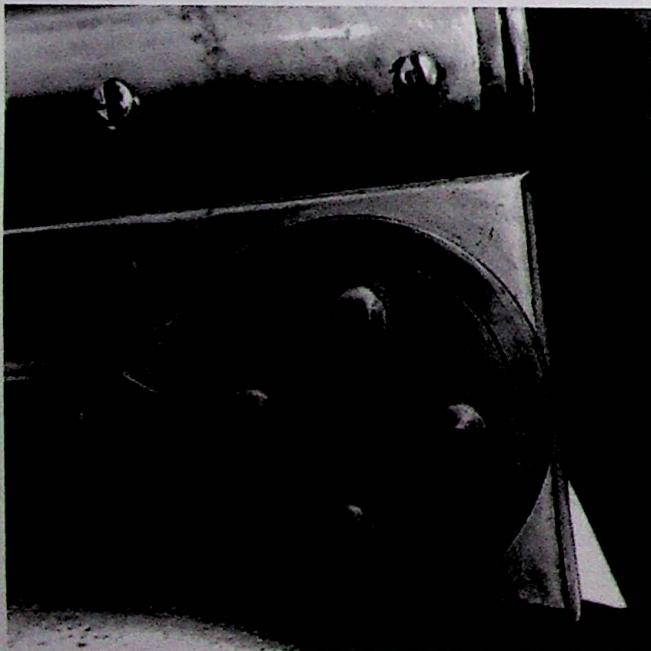
*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-13*





**Above:** The eyepiece is shown with optics and a brass back mount over the grip of the stock. Back mount is rugged brass fixture that also holds the scope adjustment.

**Below:** Scope adjustment on left side of telescope and mount.

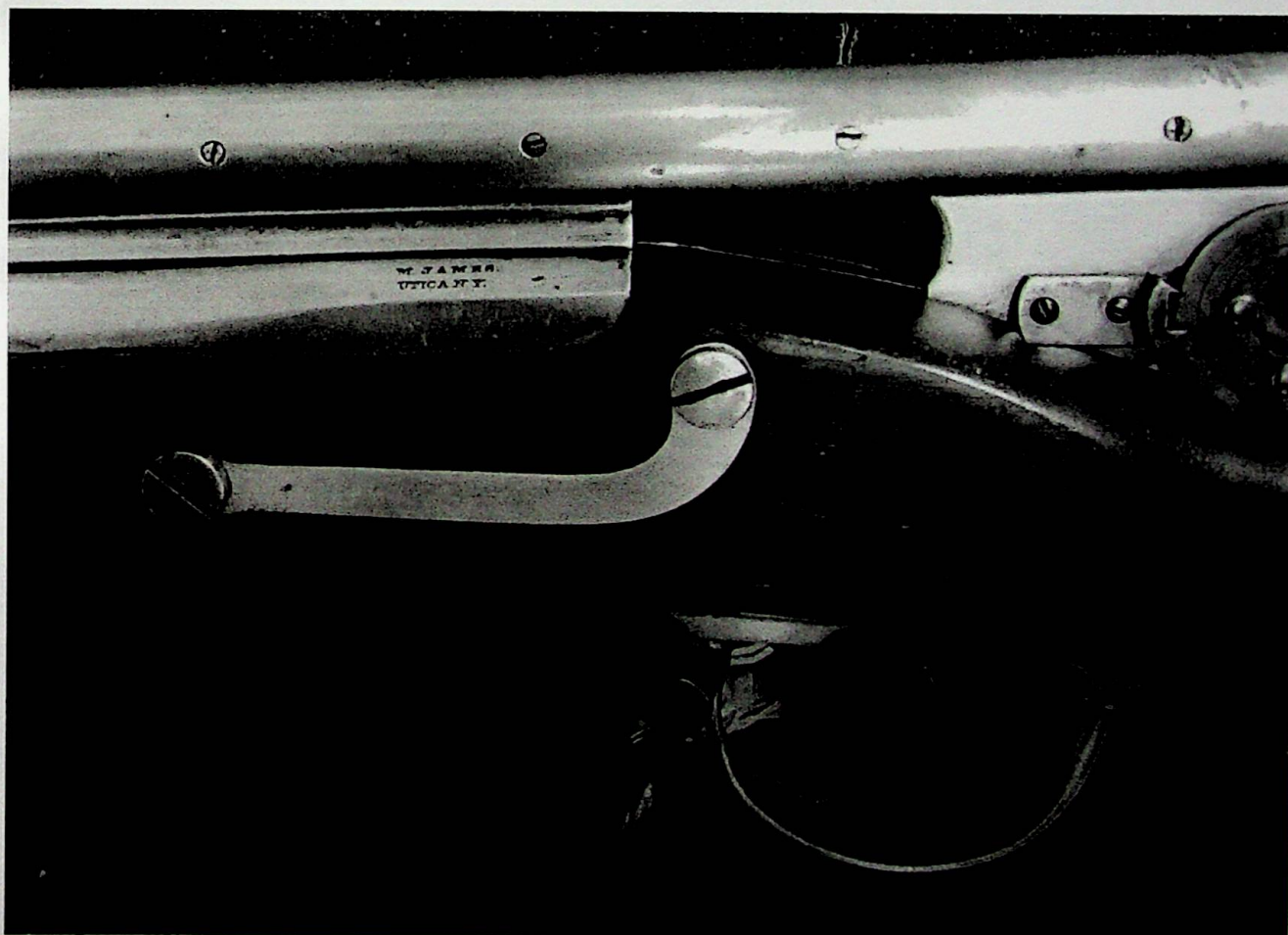




**Below:** The steel telescope is marked M. James, Utica, N.Y. The scope tube shows the screws that hold the optics and crosshairs in alignment. The left side of the stock and the brass side plate is shown with the brass trigger guard. The steel circular scope adjustment is shown in the brass housing that is attached to the scope tube and the grip area of the stock.

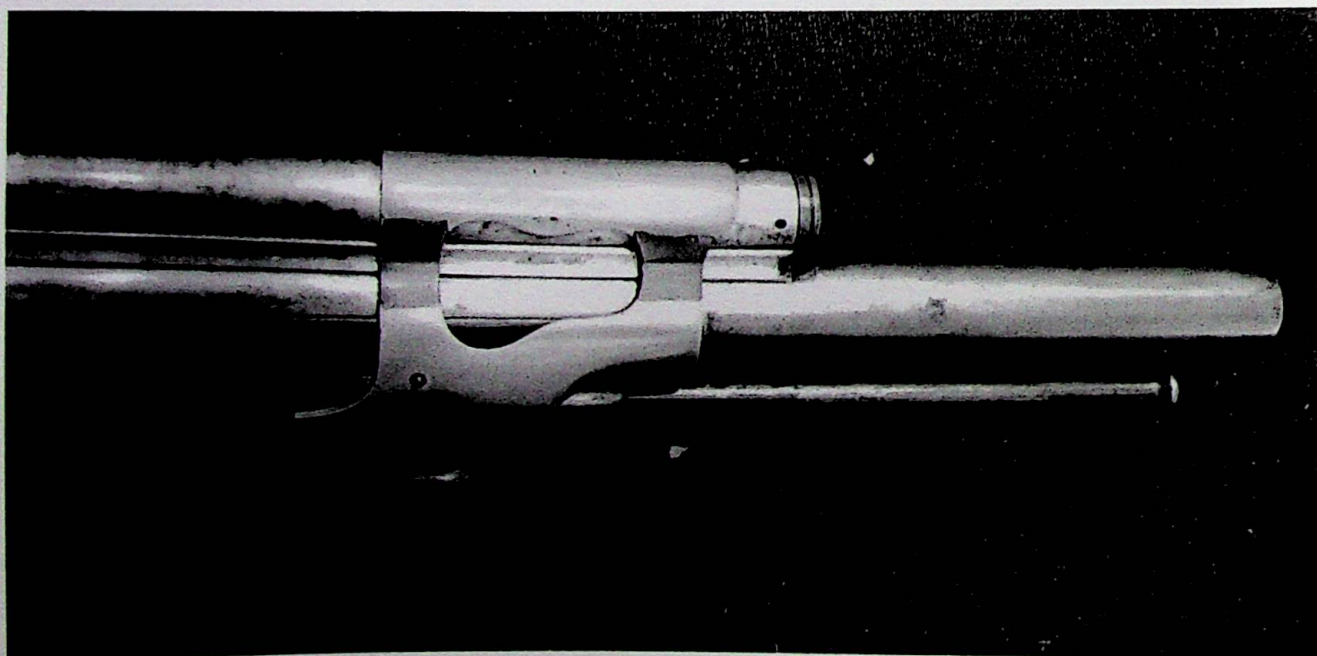
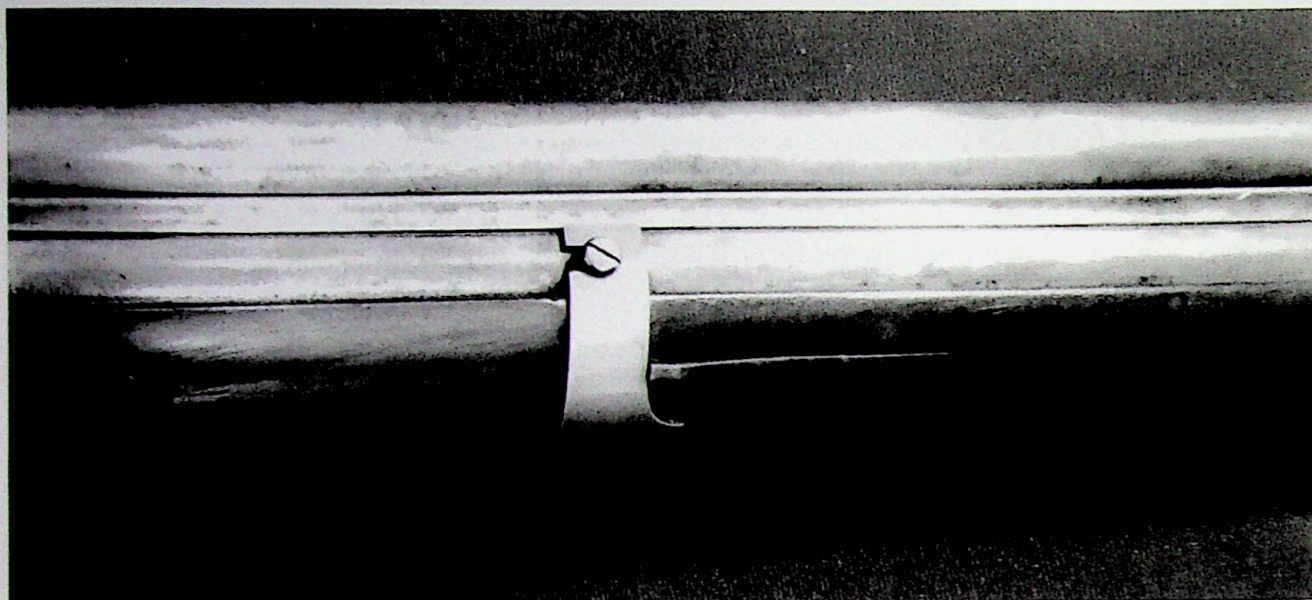
The Mississippi musket was used in the Civil War and some Union troops had them until 1863. The state of New York used Mississippi muskets ( 45th New York Infantry ) as late as the battle of Gettysburg. Confederate cavalry and sharpshooter units used them during Civil War and there are records in Confederate requisitions.

The Remington company was in the forefront of using the Mississippi in an advanced telescope sniper musket.



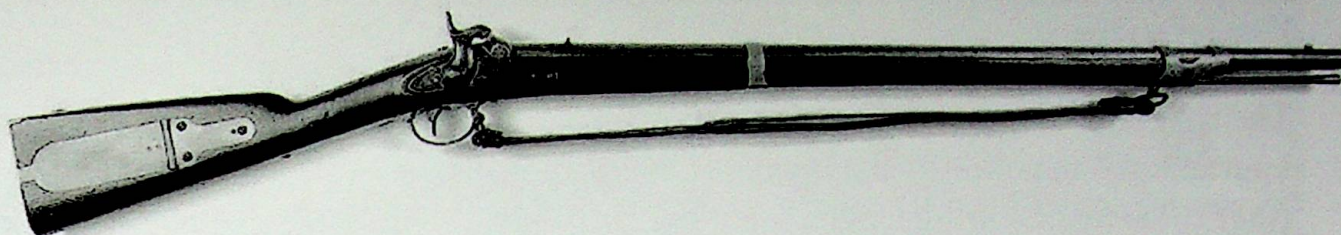


**Below:** The special brass middle band is shown with a screw in the barrel and a notch in the brass middle band. The band also had a spring forward of band. In back of the middle band towards the lock is a steel retaining pin. The steel barrel rib is fixed between barrel and scope.



**Above:** The forward brass band is held in place by a spring to the rear. It is made to go over the scope and the stock and barrel. It is fitted around the rib.





**Above:** A standard Mississippi musket with patch box, brass bands, ramrod and cap lock.



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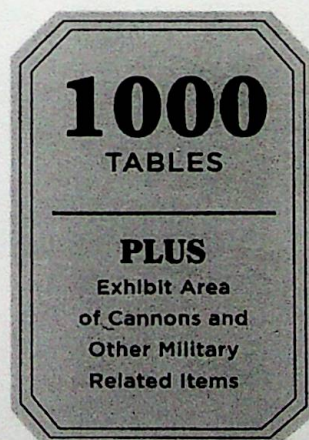
**March 19th & 20th, 2022 • March 18th & 19th, 2023**

**DIRECTIONS:** The Fairgrounds are located on York Road (State Route 45), 5 miles north of the Baltimore City line. Use the North Gate entrance on York Road. York Road runs parallel to, and about 1 mile east, of I-83. Use I-83 exits 16A or 17. Exit 17 is roughly 2 1/2 miles north of I-695, the Baltimore Beltway. See Map on reverse side.

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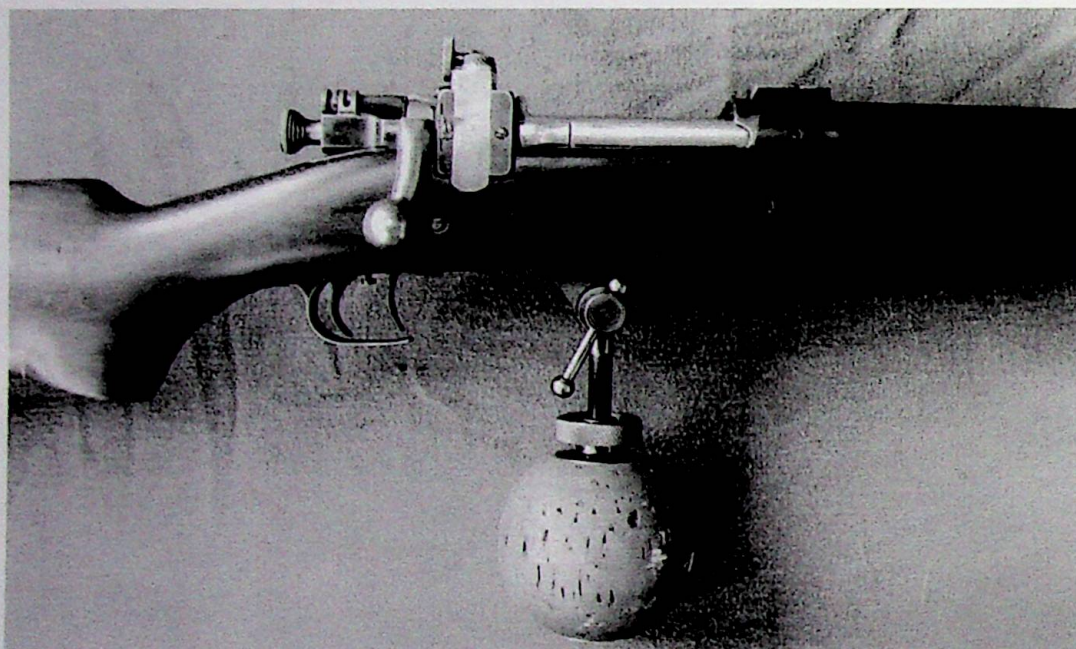
*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-17*





## SPRINGFIELD HEAVY 30 INCH BARREL INTERNATIONAL MATCH USMC RIFLE

The rifle shown is a very rare single shot 1903 used in the 1930 and other international matches. Serial number 1 341 965 is one of 11 International Match (IM) rifles made for the United States Marine Corps. They were overhauled at The Springfield Armory in accordance with instructions in O.O. 353.2/2018-S.A. 353.2/292. The rifles were shipped to U.S. Marine Corps Quantico, Virginia, to the international team Captain on February 11, 1930.

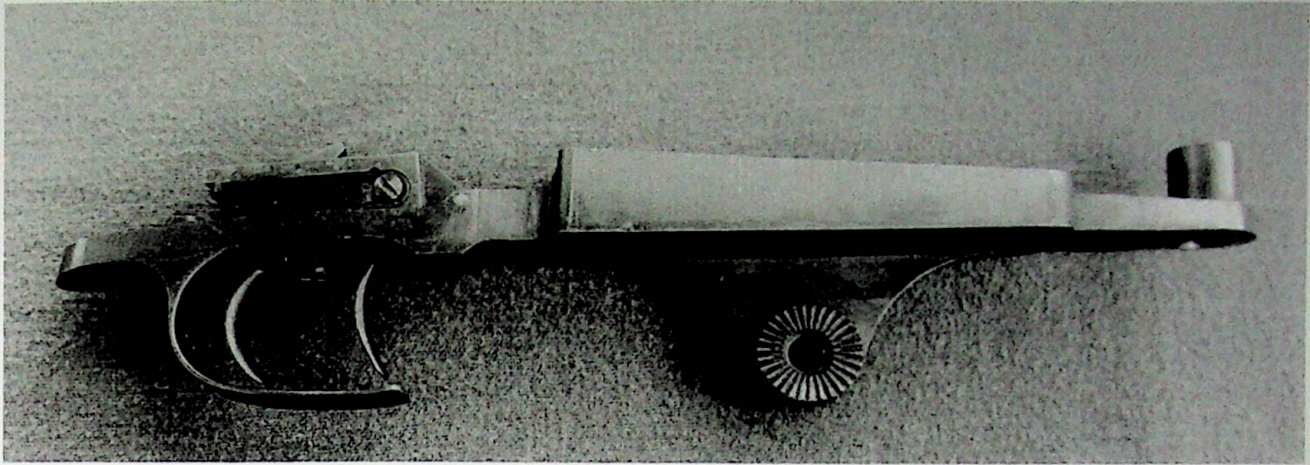


**Above:** Rifle is shown with polished bolt, Lyman 48 rear sight, double set triggers, brass insert in the magazine area, with adjustable cork palm rest. The front of the trigger guard was modified for the shooter.

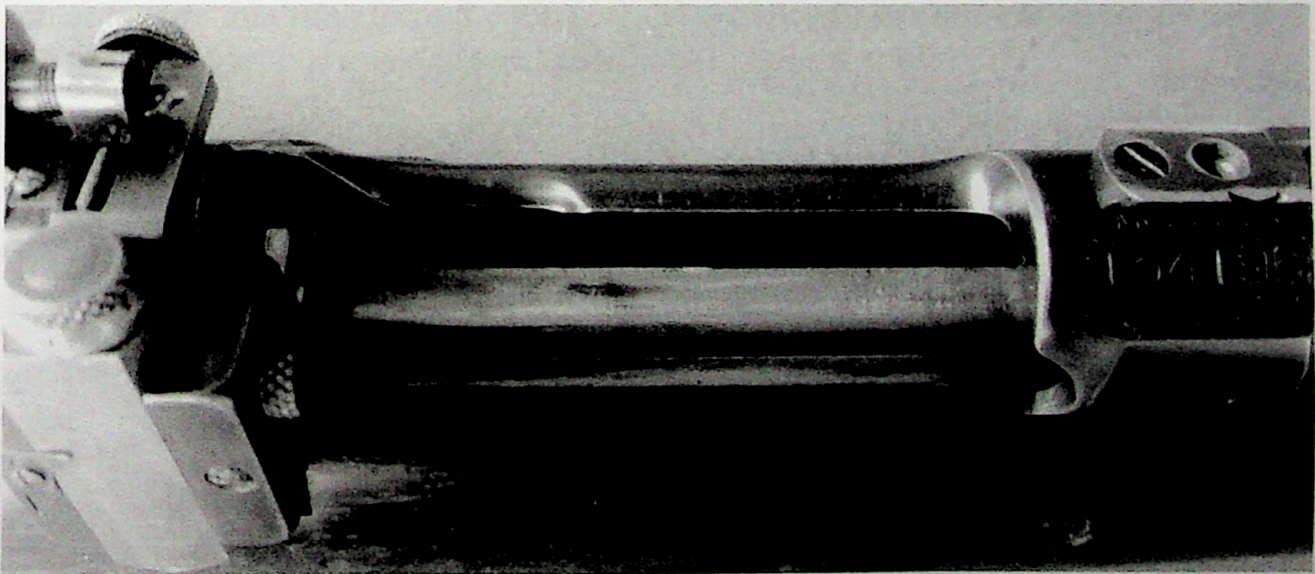
The special receiver was manufactured with no opening on the bottom for a standard magazine. A solid design allowed only single shot operation. The rear receiver is drilled and tapped for scope blocks with the forward block drilled and tapped on the barrel. The spacing is 7.2 inches center to center.

The original receiver that was on the IM rifle was replaced by Springfield Armory with a special design and manufactured "solid bottom."



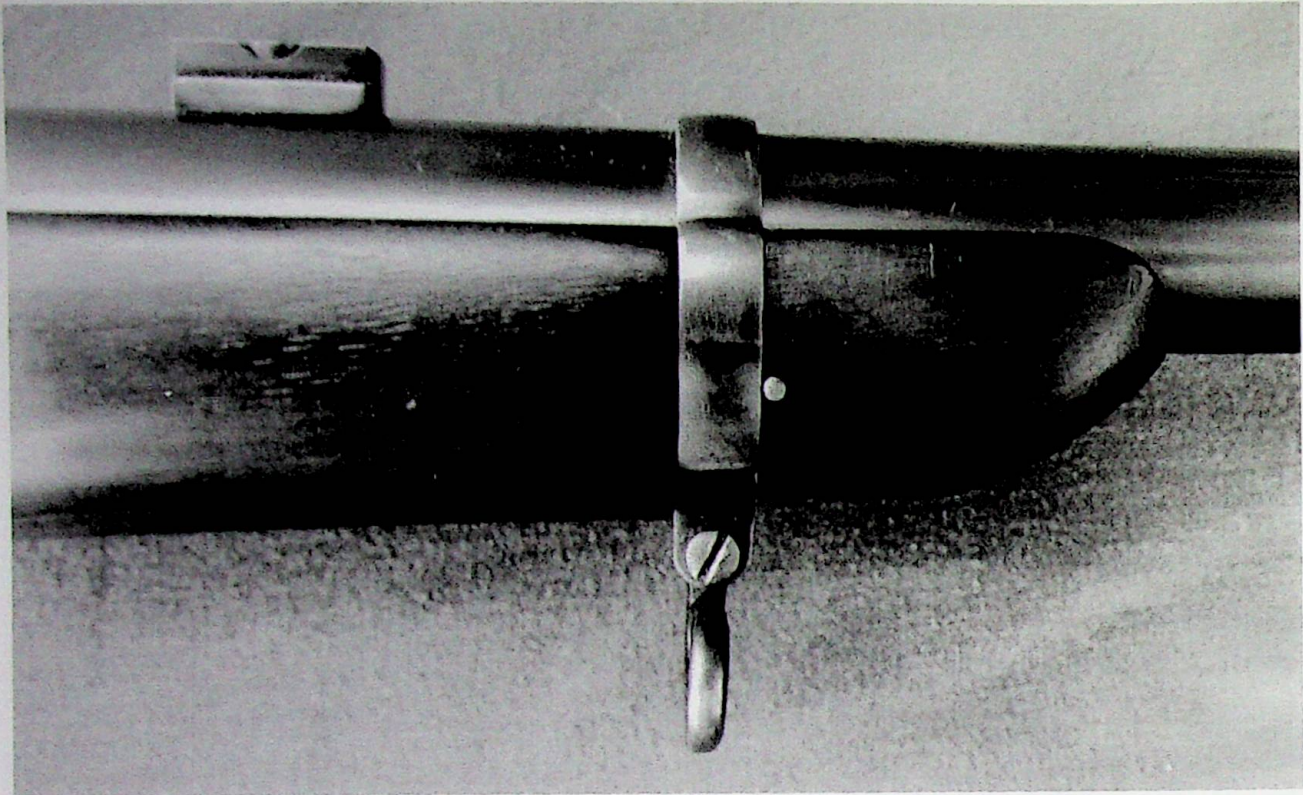


**Above:** Side view of trigger guard with double set trigger configuration and modified trigger guard. The adjustment screw is located between the triggers. The brass mounted insert is in the lower trigger guard housing and has a shorter size compared to the double set triggers on receivers that have a magazine opening. The brass part is threaded to hold the cork hand assembly and adjustment with a secure steel knob with threaded screw. The trigger guard does not fit into the receiver the same way as a standard 1903. Two guard screws hold the assembly on the receiver. The new stock does not have a complete cut for a full trigger guard.



**Above:** The solid bottom receiver with rounded contour for bolt and no provision for magazine or follower assembly. The bolt head is shown with ejector.





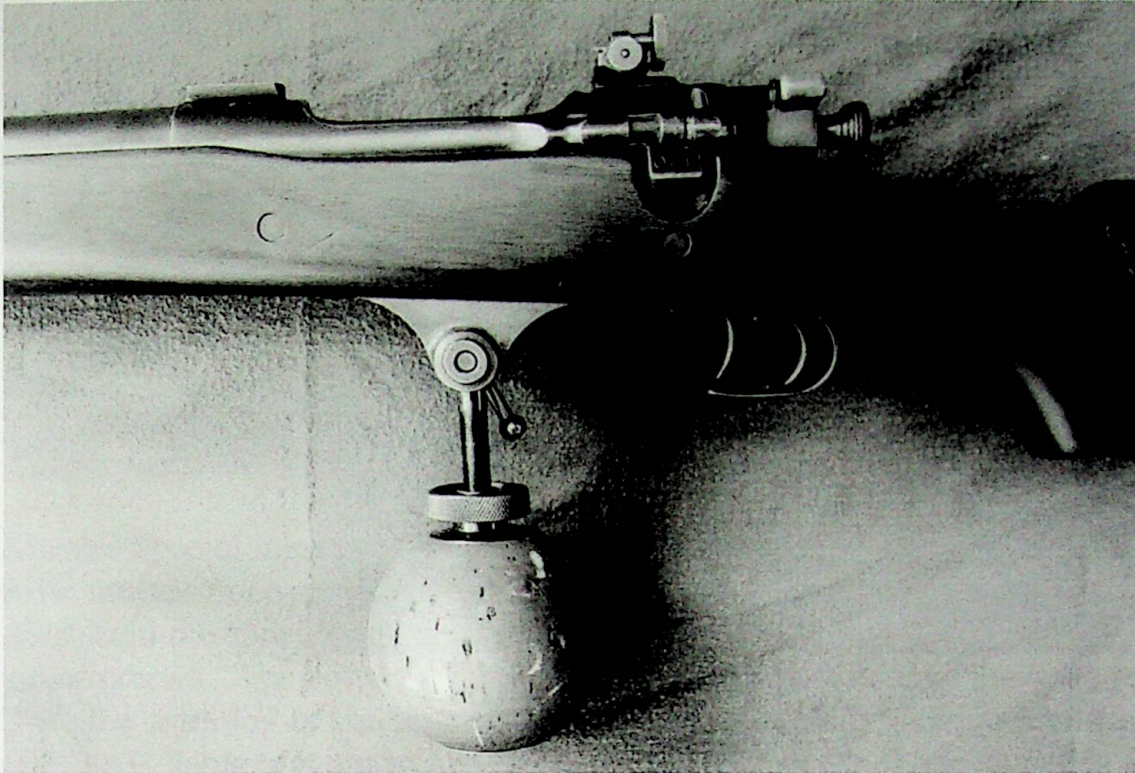
**Above:** Forend of stock with special band made from two 1917 bands welded together and fitted for barrel and stock. There is a straight pin positioned to hold the band that has a standard 1903 screw. The Springfield workmanship is superb.

**Below Left:** The proof mark ( P ) is shown on the pistol grip of the stock.

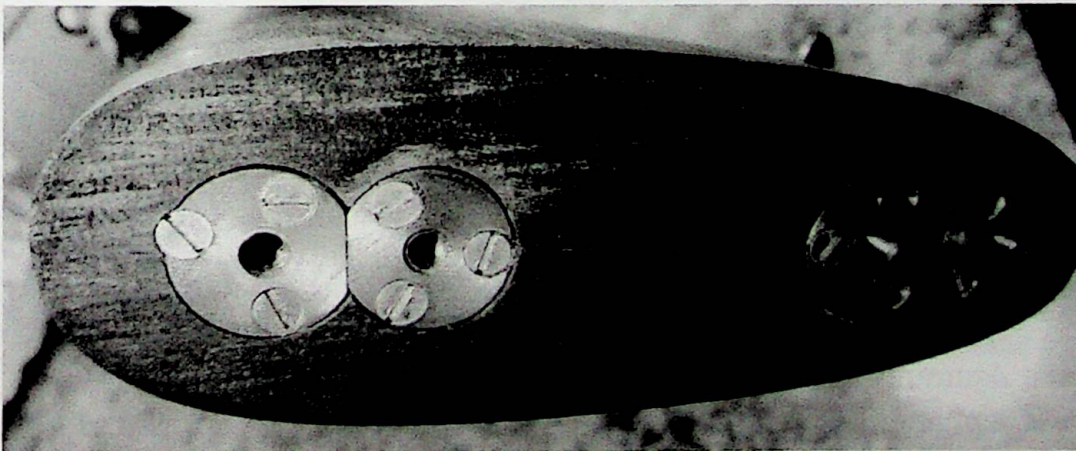


*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-20*





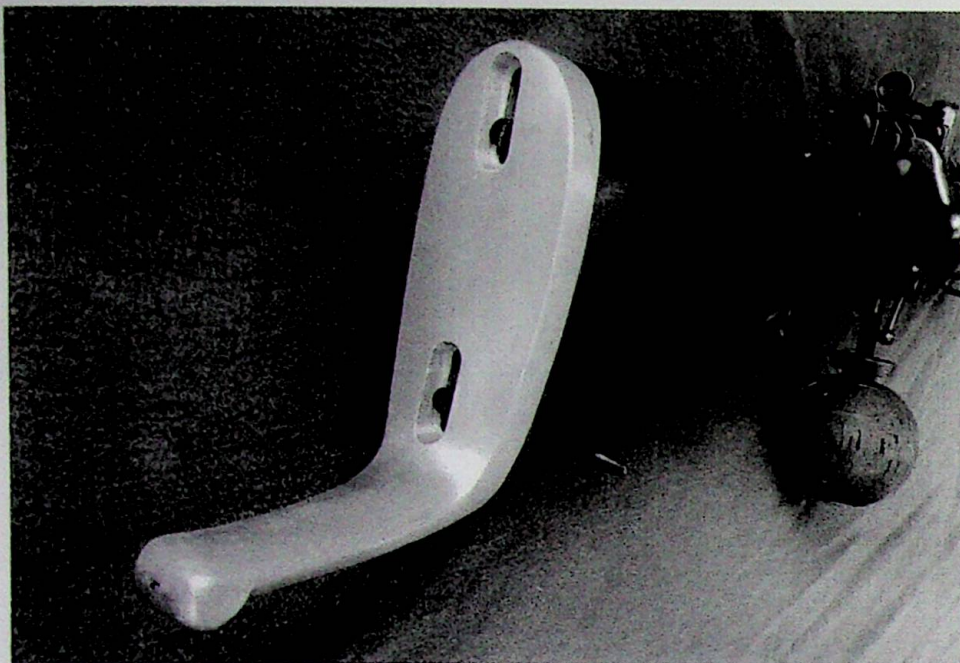
**Above:** Left side of number 1341965 IM rifle with stock, trigger guard, brass insert with adjustment screw and palm rest. The cork round ball is fitted with a metal fixture that runs from the top rounded steel cap and screw through the cork to the bottom with a rounded steel cap fixed to hold it in place.



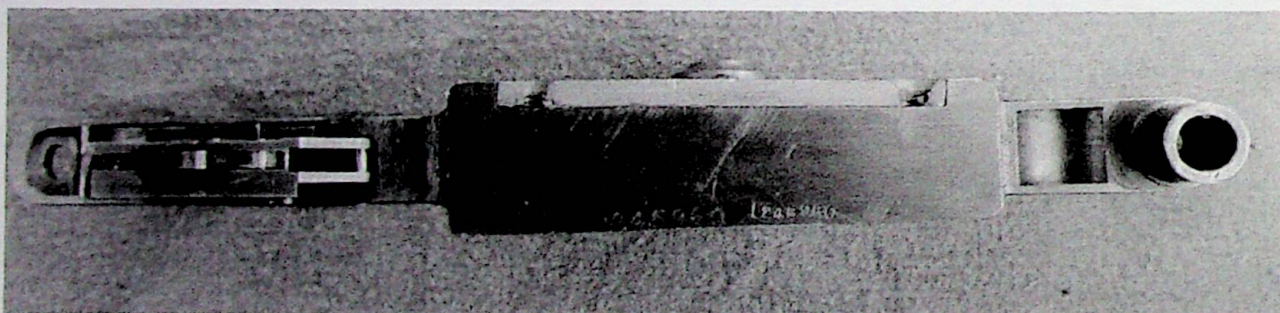
**Above:** Butt stock fittings to secure hooked aluminum butt plate to stock. The four intricate round fittings allow screws to be used to secure the butt plate and allow adjustments for the shooter.

*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-21*



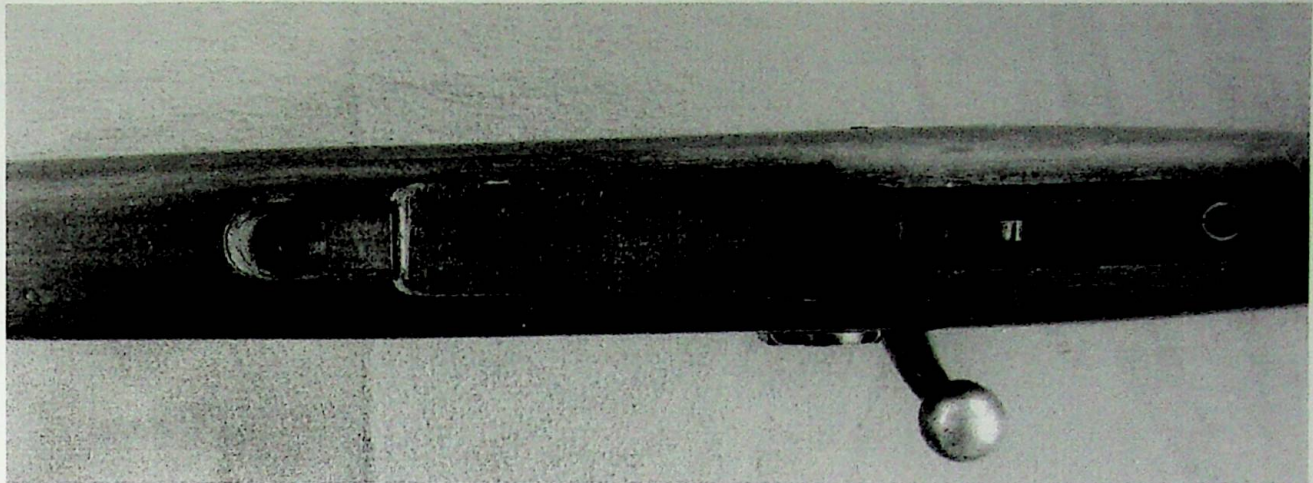


**Above:** The aluminum butt plate is shown in a fixed position held by two screws that are tightened in the round fixtures in the end of the butt stock. The screws could be set in two places and additional adjustment could be made.

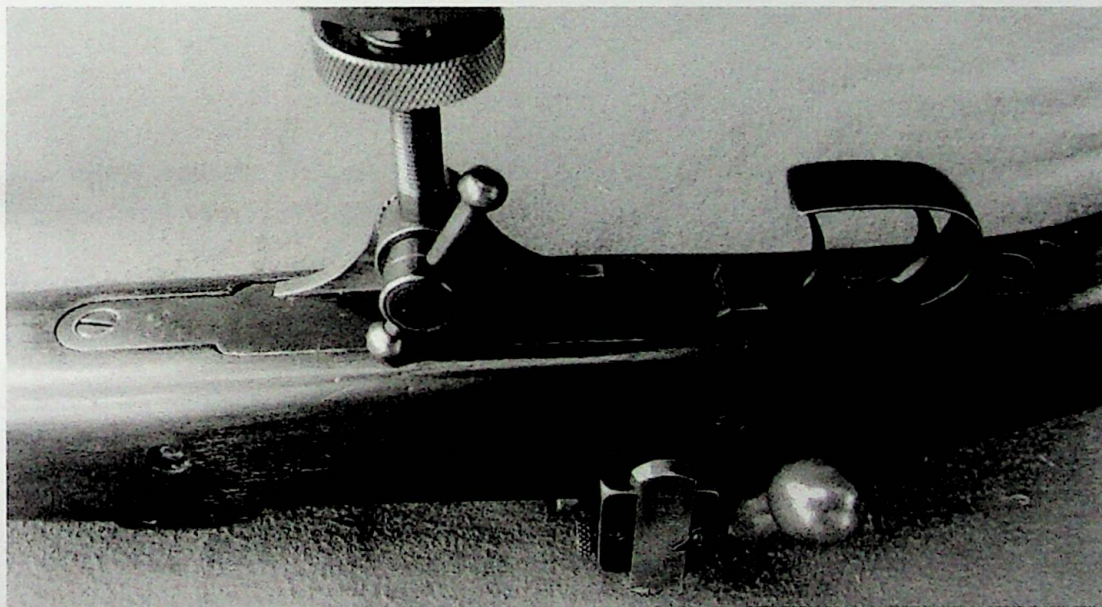


**Above:** Inside bottom of trigger guard with special one piece steel trigger guard. The plate is numbered with machine stamp and electric 1245960 . The trigger guard was installed by the Springfield Armory on number 1341965. Springfield Research records show that serial number 1245960 was tested with the special Frankford Arsenal Ammunition March 18, 1927; tested at Frankford Arsenal for the International Team and targeted on May 5, 1927; and shipped to Springfield Armory on October 30, 1929. Records show the rifle in the National Board of Rifle Practice (NBPRP ) on March 26, 1929. Congressional action supported international and Olympics shooting programs in Feb. 1903.





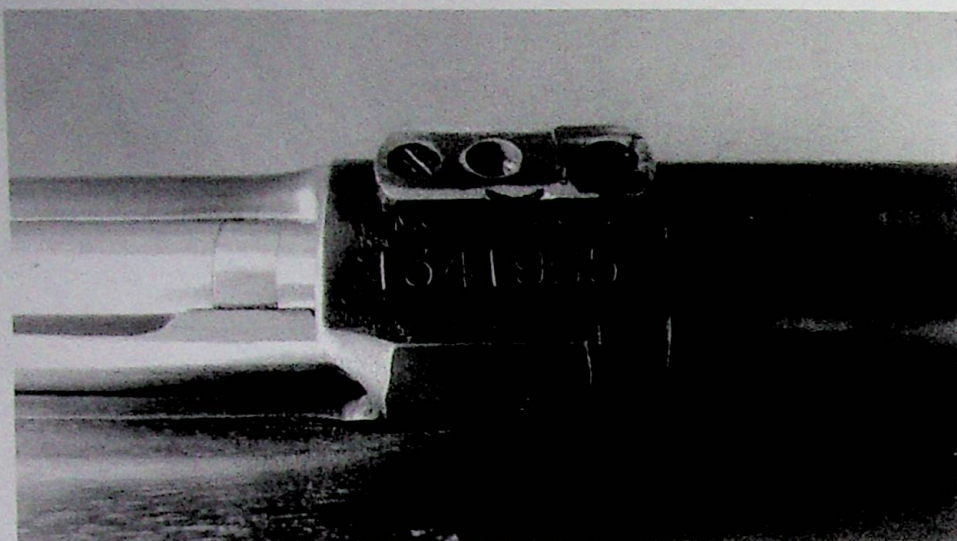
**Above:** Special inletting of USMC serial number 1341965 International National Rifle unique floor plate with a shallow inlet and no cut out for magazine. The stock held the special double set triggers in place and was secured by two trigger guard screws. The bottom of the trigger guard did not contact the solid receiver. Only the front lug of the receiver was in contact.



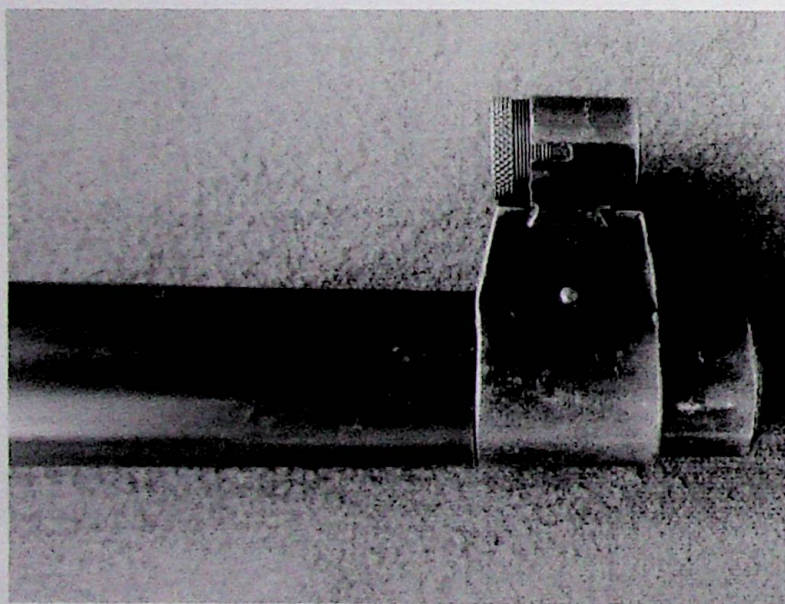
**Above:** The bottom of the rifle is shown with the special trigger adjustment screw with cross slots. The floor plate is solid one piece with no detachable parts.

*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 156-23*





**Above:** The serial number of one of the 11 manufactured USMC International Match rifles. The rear sight base is shown with two mounting screws.



**Above:** The front sight had the barrel turned down to fit a BAR rifle front sight base. The end of the barrel was machined to allow the base to be put on with a pin and key. A new sight with changeable inserts was installed.

**Photos:** Courtesy of Tom Meyers. Mr. Meyers would be interested in comments and discussions on these rifles. [tsmeyers03@aol.com](mailto:tsmeyers03@aol.com)



O.O. 353.2/2377 1st Ind. WJH/ste  
 Springfield Armory, Mass., November 25, 1930. To: The Chief of  
 Ordnance, Washington, D. C.

1. The eleven (11) rifles referred to herein were overhauled  
 at this armory in accordance with instructions contained in O.O.  
 353.2/2018--D.A. 353.2/292.

2. The receivers of these rifles were replaced with new,  
 having cut for magazine well omitted as mentioned in 1st indorsement  
 on the above JSAQA dated February 11, 1930.

3. The assembled rifles, serial numbers as follows:

1341958 GA.	1341958 GA.
1341959	1341959
1341961	1341961
1341963	1341963
1341965	1341965
1341968	1341968

and the two (2) special chests were shipped to the Captain, Inter-  
 national Rifle Team, Care of the U. S. Marine Corps, Quantico, Va.,  
 May 21, 1930, as directed by Shipping Order CS 162372. The follow-  
 ing extra parts remain on hand at this armory:

4 Palm Rests.  
 6 Butt Plates, aluminum.

The remaining butt plates and the butt plate screws were unservice-  
 able and not fit for use. They have accordingly been scrapped.

J. W. JOYES.  
 Colonel, Ordnance Department,  
 Commanding.

JWH/em  
 November 20, 1930.

Subject: International Match Equipment.

To: The Commanding Officer, Springfield Armory,  
 Springfield, Mass.

1. On October 31, 1929, there was transferred to  
 Springfield Armory by Memorandum Transfer (your receiving  
 voucher No. V-488) the following material:

11 Rifles, U. S., cal..30, heavy barrel,  
 International type.  
 #1244341 #1237608 #1274844 #1243960  
 #1287712 #900631 #1274840 #1287712  
 #1287701 #1244436 #1244367

4 Palm rests.  
 6 Butt Plates, aluminum, with hook.  
 6 Butt Plates, aluminum, without hook.  
 20 Screws for Butt Plates.  
 2 Chests, arm, special, for U.S. rifles, cal..30,  
 M-1903, M.B., equipped with detachable interior  
 supports for holding rifles stationary.

2. All of this material is the property of the  
 Executive Officer of the National Board for the Promotion of  
 Rifle Practice, and information is requested as to whether or  
 not the material is still on hand at Springfield Armory.

By order of the Chief of Ordnance.

J. S. Hatcher,  
 Major, Ord. Dept.,  
 Assistant.

The letters from the Ordnance Department confirm the serial numbers of the 11 USMC International Match rifle by serial number. They show the delivery to Springfield Armory.

The rifles were overhauled and the receivers were replaced with new receivers that had no cut at the bottom for a magazine. They were solid and rounded for a 1903 bolt.

There were extra butt plates including aluminum with a hook and aluminum with no hook, screws and special shipping crates with provisions to hold the Match rifles securely.

The rifles were the property of the Executive Officer of the National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice (NBPRP).

The documents provide information on extra parts and were signed by Colonel Julian Hatcher and Colonel J. W. Joyes on November 25, 1930 and November 20, 1930.



The sales information for International Match rifle Serial number 1341965 is shown below and the IM rifle was sold from Springfield Armory on April 22, 1936. Springfield Armory sold the rifle to Mr. William N. Gridley, Candor, N. Y. A copy of the Springfield Armory sales card is attached.



# SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH SERVICE

P. O. Box 4181 • Silver Spring, Maryland 20904  
Phones: 301/622-4103 (voice); 301/622-2247 (data)

December 4, 1992

Peter Cardone  
Antique & Collectors Arms  
P. O. Box 74 Old Rt. 52  
Stormville, NY 12582

Dear Mr. Cardone:

Pursuant to your request for information on Springfield Model 1903 rifle serial no. 1341965, please be advised that the records of the U. S. Ordnance Dept. contain the data shown below on this arm. A copy of the original sales record is enclosed.

Type: Rifle, U. S. Cal. .30, M1903, Heavy bbl., International Type, Springfield Manufacture, 30" barrel  
Sold By: Springfield Armory, Mass.  
To: William N. Gridley  
Candor, N. Y.  
Date: April 22, 1936

We trust the information furnished above has been of interest.

Very respectfully,

Franklin B. Mallory  
Chief Researcher

Serial No. 1341965

Mfg. By: Springfield Armory

RIFLE, U. S. CAL. .30, M1903. Heavy barrel, international type, Springfield, manufacture, 30 inch barrel

Sold By: Grade A, used

To: (Name) Springfield Armory, Mass.

(Address) Wm. N. Gridley  
Candor  
New York

8288

Date Apr 22, 1936

Voucher No. S-1583

S. A. Form M-46

S. A. 10-1-35 1500



# COLLECTORS NOTE 156-1

The following report shows a series of very collectable Model 1903 Springfield rifles. They include telescope, cutts compensator, Stevens, Lyman, Nash, Barringer, Harkom, Warner, (sights), and other equipment such as silencers and aiming devices. Dated December 23, 1932.

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

CLASSIFIED BY 3  
BRIEFED ARMORY  
SPRINGFIELD MASS.  
SPRINGFIELD MASS.

4741/6159  
502

December 23, 1932.

**SUBJECT:** Miscellaneous non-standard types of U. S. Rifles, Caliber .30, M1903 on hand at Springfield Armory.

**TO:** Chief of Ordnance, War Department, Washington, D. C.

1. In connection with Ordnance Department Bulletin No. 37, September 27, 1932, the following miscellaneous non-standard types of U. S. Rifles, Cal. .30, M1903, are on hand at this Armory:-

Serviceable	Unserviceable	
77		Fitted for telescope musket sight
38		with "SE" stocks
1		with Cutts compensator
1		with Experimental recoil check
6		fitted for Stevens sight
8		with laminated stocks
17	3	with Lyman receiver sights
16	10	with Nash receiver sights
147	22	with winder tube sight
23		with battle sights
	1	with Barringer sight
	1	with Harkom sight
	21	with Lyman-Warner battle sight
	6	with Lyman receiver sights and hooded front sight
	2	with special sights
133	4	with Warner objective sight
911	4	with Maxim silencers
	3450	Mark I

2. One or more of each of these types of rifles are now in the Museum at this Armory and disposition instructions are requested.

3. It is thought that all of these rifles could be overhauled on our regular Overhaul order, Ord. 9033.

J. W. JOYNS,  
Colonel, Ordnance Department,  
Commanding.

4741/6159  
502

12-28-32-348



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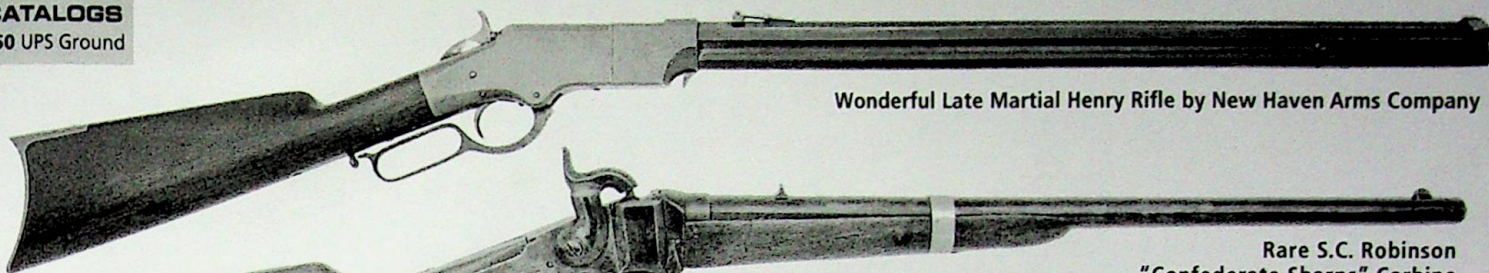


# FINE MILITARY COLLECTIBLES AT AUCTION

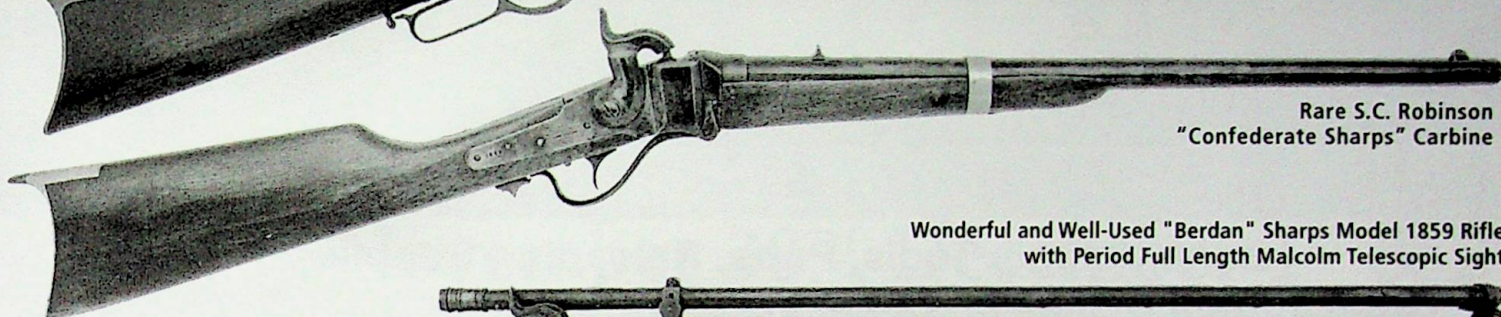
AUGUST 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 • 9:00am EST

## CATALOGS

\$50 UPS Ground

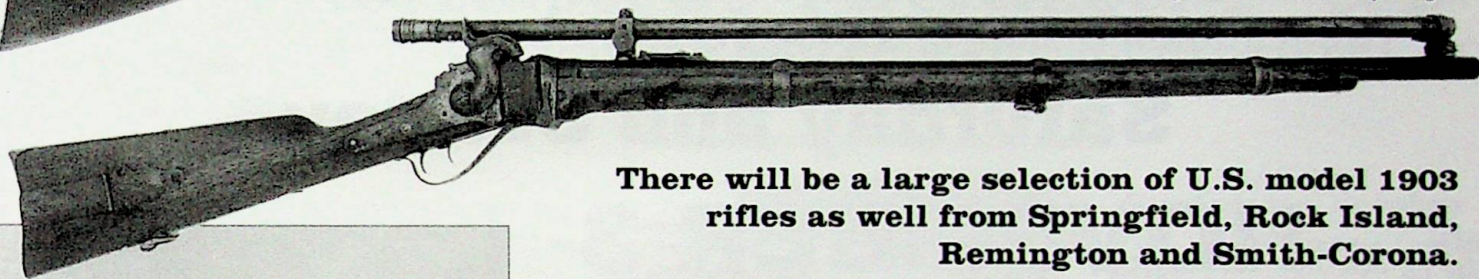


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Rare S.C. Robinson  
"Confederate Sharps" Carbine

Wonderful and Well-Used "Berdan" Sharps Model 1859 Rifle  
with Period Full Length Malcolm Telescopic Sight



There will be a large selection of U.S. model 1903  
rifles as well from Springfield, Rock Island,  
Remington and Smith-Corona.

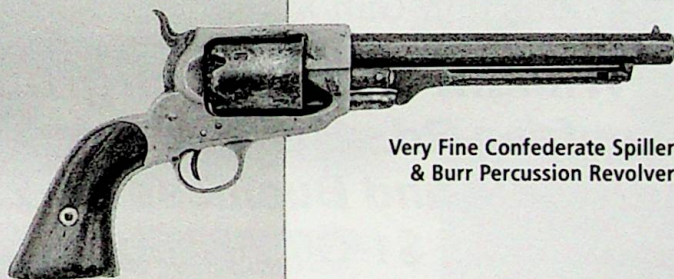
*Actively Seeking Consignments for...*

## AUCTION NO.120

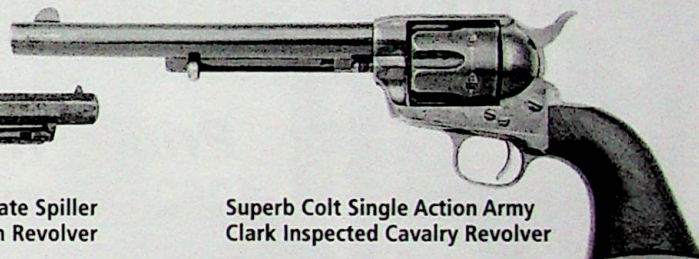
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17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

Consignment  
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Call the office today to include your items in  
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Very Fine Confederate Spiller  
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Excellent U.S. Smith & Wesson  
First Model American Revolver



Rare Confederate Griswold &  
Gunnison Navy Type Percussion Revolver

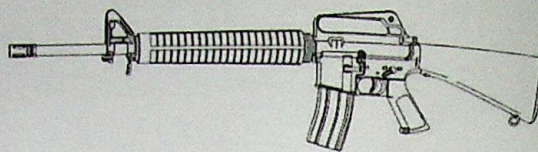
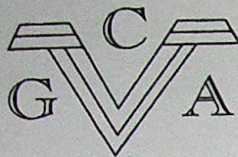
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tol Serial Number "73"

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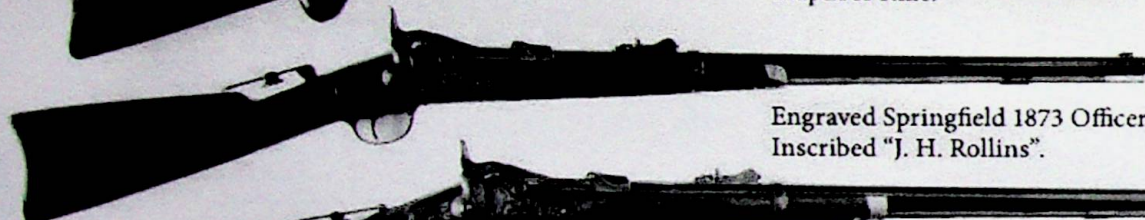
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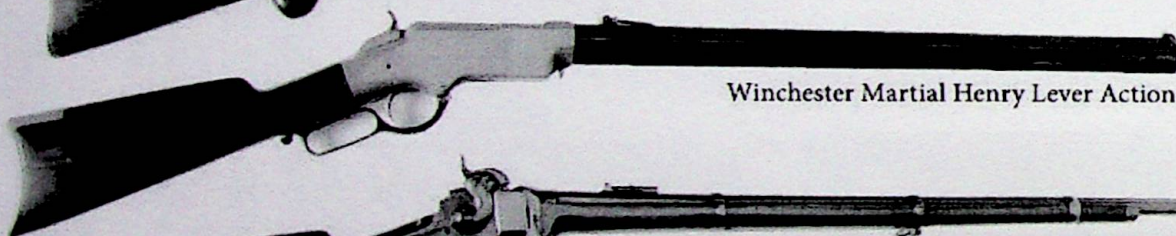
Engraved Springfield Model 1873 Officers Model Trapdoor Rifle.



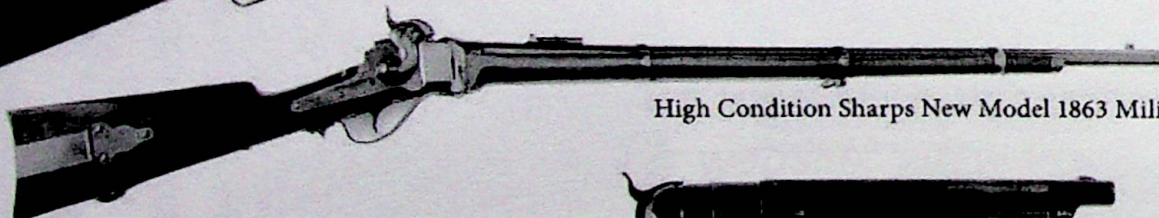
Engraved Springfield 1873 Officer's Model Trapdoor Rifle Inscribed "J. H. Rollins".



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Winchester Martial Henry Lever Action Rifle (1863).



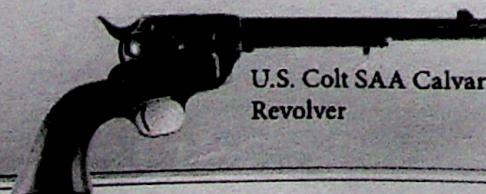
High Condition Sharps New Model 1863 Military Rifle.



Colt Model 1860 Army Percussion Revolver with Detachable Shoulder Stock (1863).



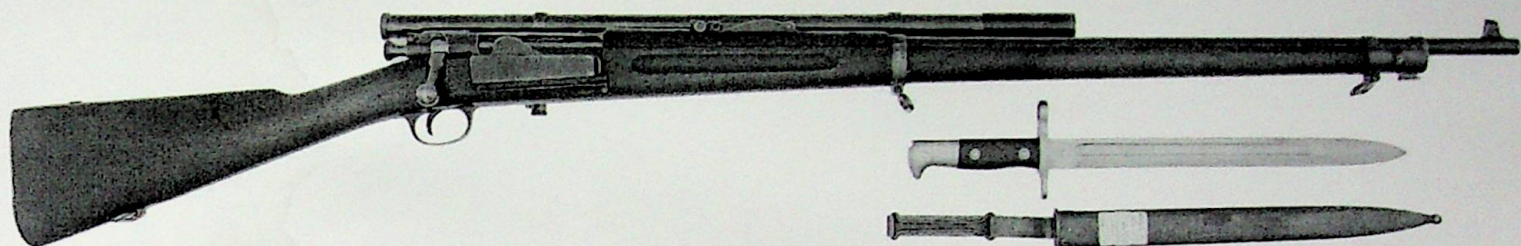
Colt Single Action Army  
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Pictured: U.S. Model 1898 Krag Sniper Rifle with Cataract  
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