

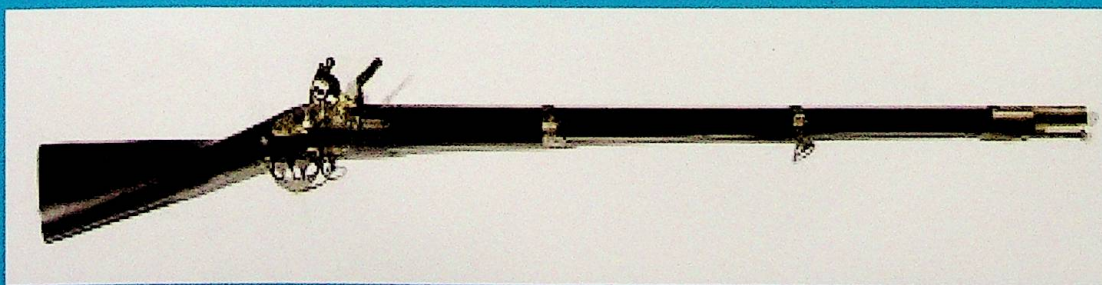
# U.S. MARTIAL ARMS Collector

and *Springfield Research Newsletter*



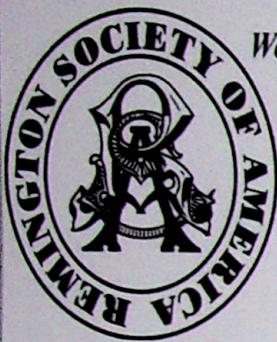
Number 166 March 2021

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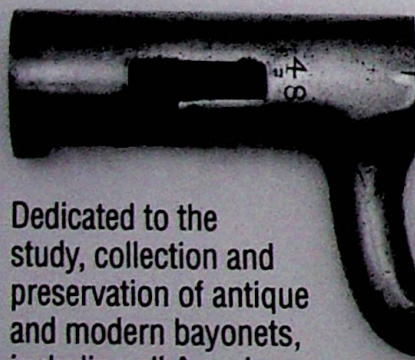
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CIRCULATION MANAGER

*Wayne P. Gagner*

# U.S. MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR

*And*

## *Springfield Research Service Newsletter*

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Cover: Harpers Ferry Flintlock 1837.

Number 166

March 2021

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*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-1*

## **SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH SERVICE DATA BASE STATUS**

SRS has started over with new software and computers. This will be a major effort to stay up with software improvements and capability to edit and change pages of each section or article. The requirements of our printer require an industry standard PDF format for drafts, review, and final printing. This is a major overhaul to ease the production of the magazine issue, proof, printing and mailing to our subscribers.

We are trying to make sure our subscribers receive each issue in a timely manner. We use First Class US Postal Office mailing for U.S. and foreign addresses. We are always plagued by address changes, no forwarding address notices, non-deliverable address notices, and foreign addresses that do not match U.S. formats.

Many of our readers use PAYPAL. It is an agreement between a subscriber and PAYPAL. If an incorrect box is checked by a subscriber there may be actions that are not wanted. Please use PAYPAL in the format that you want. We rely on PAYPAL notices for payment and addresses and react to their payments and notices but we cannot make changes or corrections. We can always cancel a subscription if a subscriber notifies us.

We reserve extra copies of each issue but cannot keep an unknown number needed for reserves. Lately, SRS runs out of many recent copies and we use current mailing lists for our subscribers. SRS will continue to show last issue numbers after each subscriber name. This will be reviewed to

use the best way to keep subscriptions up to date.

The Covis-19 crisis slows us down and creates other restrictions on our travel to post offices, banks for payments and supplies. This includes the major efforts to store data and photographs that may be of interest to subscribers' inquiries as well as generating articles. Conversion of articles from one software to Word and then to PDF for the printing always uses up days of publishing time.

Help from many of our subscribers providing photos and data on rare weapons is a great asset. We need a white background for a printable photo. SRS has many pictures but we always want more photos that can be used for articles.

The U.S. Archives is still not in full operation and we must wait for schedules to do extended research for detailed histories on serial number of documented weapons. We are fortunate to be able to provide Springfield sales letters and basic letters on many serial numbers attached to military units and battles. This includes major efforts in the past to examine weapon developments and histories. We expect to have more capability to provide research and review of existing information in our loose-leaf files.

Issue 166 dated March 2021 is current and set to be mailed the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2021.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-2***

Some SRS data has been restored from our water damage and we are trying to sort our massive loose- leaf files. We are putting extra efforts into document storage.

We receive daily emails for serial number look-ups and answer all as soon as possible. It appears that all of our deliverables have been made with the exception of detailed letters that require travel to government facilities for data confirmation. The slowest time is when we are finishing a new magazine issue and meeting our printing deadlines.

Please email if you have not received a document that was ordered.

Note: Please email us if you are expecting any data or letters. We have lost all original copies of issues 159 and 160 due to water damage.

Issue 96 with data on Military National Match .45 caliber pistols, USMC Unertl Scoped Rifles, Winchester Model 70 "Sniper Model" .30 caliber heavy barreled rifles, U.S. Springfield caliber .22 family of rifles, and Remington World War II Model 1903 rifles has been copied and is available.

We will continue to try a procedure to copy issues of old outdated issues for delivery. There may be major delays or costs if we use a copy company to do the work. We are now out of about six old issues.

Thanks for your emails, comments, and interests.

**Cover:** Courtesy of Jack Lewis.

## **U. S. MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR MAGAZINE**

There are some SRS products that are out of stock. It is not possible to reprint as the set up costs are very high.

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

### **CURRENT ISSUE**

Issue number 166 dated March 2021 is current. Mailing data is sent to our printing facility for March 2021 mailing. 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. Note: We can provide all sales letters and include copies of Springfield Arsenal cards showing weapon, serial number, special descriptions and special orders including custom features.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-3***

There are some instances where research requires us to spend days at U.S. Government buildings.

Documents have been found to be missing when SRS tries to check out a former research for a new effort. In some cases, the data is lost forever. The U.S. Archives is aware of this problem and is increasing security and identification processes. These efforts will require additional time and costs for information on rare or historic weapons.

SRS has located documents in as many as four different locations that have U.S. Government documentation. The documentation could have been transferred from any or all locations and there is no longer a copy at all facilities. This is a problem, and that happened over 40 years.

It may take a long time to find some old documents and some are impossible to find or to find an audit trail.

Research letters include USMC letters, OSS documents, 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5th, and 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Civil War and Spanish American War documents. Other unique units require special research. More time is spent to travel to government facilities and comply with their rules for searching, copying, and the actual handling of documents.

A request for a document is done only at certain times at the Archives and written requests must include Record Groups, location, and other data that is only available on subject knowledge and specific document names and categories. We have been cross-checking many pieces of data and using U.S.

Archives personnel and others to offer opinions on hard- to- read information. The Archives personnel have been very helpful in this area.

A basic letter is data recovered from our in-house files. It is limited, and there is no way for us to hold the thousands or millions of pages in the U.S. Archives.

A research letter requires travel to a government facility to request, search, and retrieve specific copies needed for research. This includes checking the U.S. Government files to make sure they exist and are available for review.

The size of government data files is overwhelming. We cannot duplicate all the pages. There are also rules on the type of copy, use of cameras, government copy machines and other restrictions. We try to copy the specifics and include them with SRS letters.

In many cases the data may have a peculiar size and must be handled, verified, and copied according to government regulations.

This may require working with armed guards, checking our identification, and using special stamps for security classification or other rules.

Special documents require more time and may have higher costs. We are always looking for way to enhance our records without losing any details. There are always special documents that do not have military units and military personnel names.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-4***

## **WEAPONS AND MILITARY COLLECTORS ISSUES**

SRS has received many inquiries concerning personal collections.

We set out to interview a source from the many auction houses that offer service, sales, and support.

We visited and discussed this issue with Mr. Pat Redding of Redding Auctions, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in January. He advised me that demand in all areas of weapons and collectables was very high and prices reflect higher sales. Reddings auctions are family run and have no buyers' fee. They are located in historic Gettysburg with a large number of local collectors. They are now supported by internet and sales bidding as well as live auctions in new facilities. We wanted to pass this on to our subscribers and to know if there is interest in commenting on this topic and if there is interest in providing this type of information in future magazine issues.

## **COMMENTS AND INPUTS**

Please send to:  
editor@usmartialarmscollector.com.  
An inquiry can be made by U.S. mail to SRS Box 126, Cabin John, MD 20818. Mail will take an extended time.

We 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 data on sightings of rare weapons.

## **LETTERS WRITTEN**

U.S. Colt Model 1911, National Match, Serial Number 709012. Shipped from Fort Dupont to Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts. September 8, 1927. Data was found in U. S. Archives Record Group 156.

U.S. Springfield Model 1903, Serial Number 821382. Issued to USS Betelgeuse, (AK28). October 19, 1942. This data was found in U.S. Archives Record Group 74, Washington, D.C.

USS Betelgeuse USS Betelgeuse (AK-28/AKA-11). She served as a commissioned ship for 4 years and 9 months and was acquired by the Navy on 29 May 1941 and renamed Betelgeuse on 3 June 1941. She was converted for naval service by the Brewer Dry Dock Company, Staten Island, N.Y.; and commissioned as AK-28 on 14 June commanded by Harry D. Power. She entered the Charleston Navy Yard for an overhaul and was there when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on 7 December, 1942 and joined Task Force 62 (TF 62) assembled for the invasion of Guadalcanal to face Japanese air attacks. On the day after the landings, she shot down two enemy planes with claims of eight enemy planes. She landed the first men of the Naval Construction Battalions ("Seabees") on Guadalcanal to improve Henderson Field.

Reclassified an attack cargo ship, AKA-11, the ship sailed for the Mediterranean to participate in the invasion of Sicily. (TF 81, codenamed "Dime" landed at Gela on 10 July in one of the most bitterly contested operations in Sicily.

*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-5*

The cargo ship departed the Mediterranean on 25 September 1944 and returned to the United States to have improved communications and radar gear installed.

On New Year's Day 1945, she got underway at Pearl Harbor and steamed to Guadalcanal for practice landings in preparation for the invasion of the Ryukyus. She then stopped at Ulithi for fuel and more provisions, before heading for Okinawa. The Japanese mounted a major kamikaze air attack and made two shuttle runs carrying ammunition to Pearl Harbor before the war ended. She was decommissioned at the New York Naval Shipyard on 15 March 1946. This data was obtained from various sources on the internet and U.S. Navy records.

**Editor's note:** 1903 Springfield rifles were locked in place by an iron bar in a rack that left marks on the underside of the fore-end. A tell tail sign of duty on a ship.

U.S. Sharps Carbine Serial Number 89813. Shipped From: Sharps Factory, Hartford, Connecticut to U.S. Army, Springfield, Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts. September 29, 1863. This data was found in U. S. Archives 74, U.S. Army records, Washington, D.C.

Rifle, U.S., Cal. .45, Model 1884, Number 294337. Issued to Company E, 6th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, 1898 (Spanish American War. The Philippines). This data was found in U.S. Springfield Armory Records, U.S. Archives, Washington D.C. in Record Group 391.

Rifle, U.S., Cal. .30, Model 1903, National Match. Serial Number 1 262 561. Sold to B. H. Bryson, Fraser, Iowa. November 14,

1928. This data was found in U. S. Springfield Armory Records, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Carbine, U.S., Sharps, Serial Number 2437. Issued to Company F, 1st Maryland Potomac Home Brigade Cavalry. April 5, 1865. This data was found in U. S. Archives, Washington D.C., Record Group 94.

Rifle, U.S., Cal. .22, Model 1922MI. Serial Number 8572. Sold to Walter Van Curren, Estacada, Ore. March 14, 1930. This data was found in United States Springfield Armory records, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Rifle, U.S., Cal. .30, Model 1903. Sporting Model. Serial Number 1 366 526. Sold to H. L. Higgins Kirkwood, MO. March 11, 1932. This data was found in U. S. Springfield Armory Records, Springfield, Massachusetts.

## **US MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR MAGAZINES**

We have been asked many times about ordering old issues that are in storage. Some issues are out of stock and some in very limited supply. A list of sample copies has been generated. Subscribers may request a copy, but many are out of stock and issue 96 is a photo-copy only. We are unable to reprint originals, but we may try to copy or retrieve original PDF files. Any old copy that is available may be shipped. The others may require us to have copied at a local copy store. The following are articles that have most interest and do not include other data in each magazine.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-6***

**Issue 150** M1922 .30 caliber match, 1923 Olympics, Springfield 1883 trapdoor, 1903 Springfield Air service.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-6***

**Issue 165** M2 .22 caliber, Model 1917 USMC Sniper rifle.

**Issue 164** Springfield Model 1903 Special Target rifles.

**Issue 161** Springfield Sporter, Model; 1918 Springfield Warner Swasey Sniper rifle.

**Issue 160** Springfield M1922 .22 caliber production totals and 1924 Olympics. Model 1898 Krag .22 single shot rifles.

**Issue 156** Springfield USMA International Match Single Shot.

**Issue 154** U.S. Springfield 1905 Model Krag rifle.

**Issue 152** Model M2 shop mode.

**Issue 96** Springfield M1922 family of .22 caliber rifles from 1922 through all models. Winchester model 1903 Springfield sniper, USMC Unertl Scoped Rifles.

**Issue 131** Springfield Model 1922 Variants. Krag Model 1899 Altered to knife bayonet (Constabulary).

**Issue 84** Springfield M1903 International Match 1257678, 1924 Olympics used by (J. Hatcher Cover photo).

We will try to publish more old issues. Problems arise with storing and retrieving magazines subject to moisture.

## **FUTURE**

SRS expects more activity and sales of weapons and associated items. There are strong interests in all areas and more collections are being offered on the market from auction houses and individuals. There have been major show cancellations such as in Tulsa and Baltimore because of Covid-19. Clubs and auction houses are adjusting to this market and adjusting to Covid-19 regulations. It may be a long time before we return to days of plentiful shows all over the country. There are still shows and shops that operate on a smaller scale and with attention to regulations concerning Covid-19 requirements for commercial operation.

There is no doubt that demand for weapons and ammunition have soared and there are waits for many products.

The higher prices have made rare and collectors weapons scarce. More of these articles will be showing up from older collections that are being sold by the original owners, families and estates. There are many large collections that are being thinned out for many reasons including size, economics, storage.

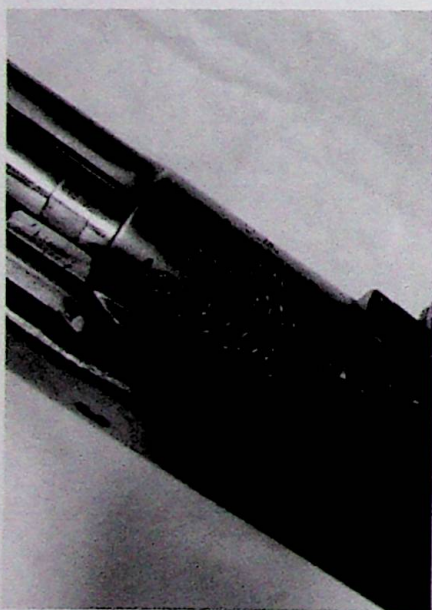
There will be an increase in requirements for values and sources to price collections as well as sources that can be used for sales and disposal.

The greater use of the internet has provided sources for data on all weapons and descriptions. Overall the market is very active and remains strong for the near future.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-7***

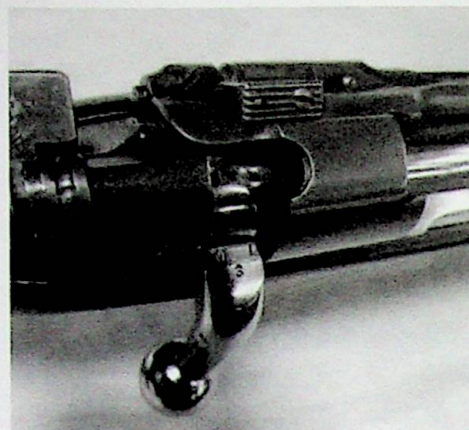
## 1903 SPRINGFIELD SERIAL NUMBER 1215925 NATIONAL MATCH

Early National Match rifle are among the most sought after and rare rifles. They are of the first type made by Springfield Armory with Star Gaged Barrel, 1921 or lower date, manufacture configuration. The quality is superior with match fit and finish. The national Match rifles are shown with a 1919 National Match serial number 1180073 and a 1921 in the same configuration.



*Above:* Serial number and Springfield Armory markings. Serial No. 1215925.

*Below:* NM heavy checkered Butt plate.

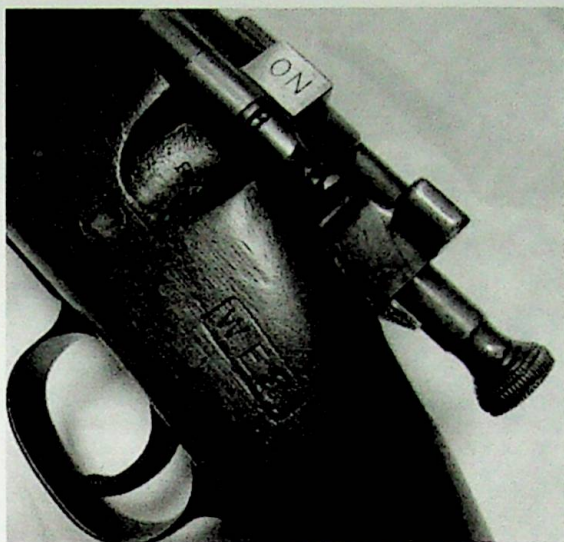


*Above:* Polished bolt marked WL3.



*Above:* The gage number for star gaged barrels is located on the top of the barrel under the hand guard. They are not visible without taking the hand guard off. This gage number It is marked 129 with what appears to be P or a similar letter. The barrel was not marked on the muzzle until later in production. There are also other places that are marked with the gage number depending on the 1903 Model types such as Sporters and Heavy Barreled Model 1903 rifles.

*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-8*

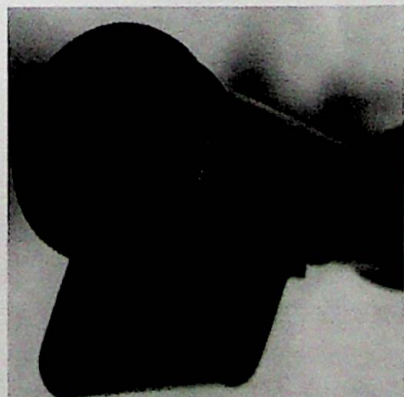


**Above:** Stock is marked WES (W.E.Strong) from approximately 1907 through 1921. These markings are on both rifles shown in this article.

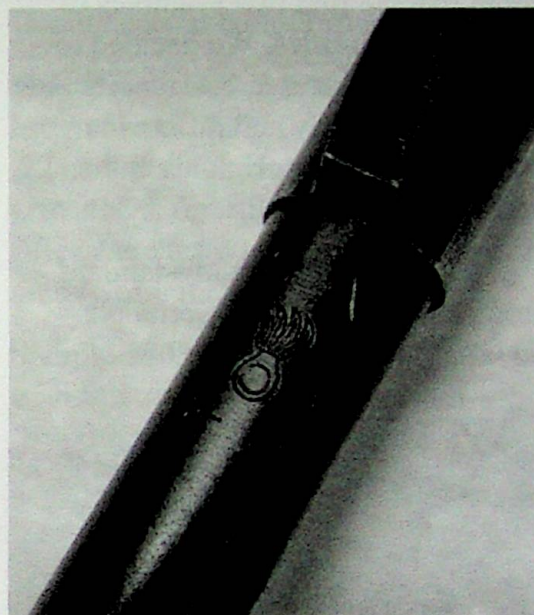
**Bellow:** National Match rifle shown with P.J. O'Hare rear sight cover.



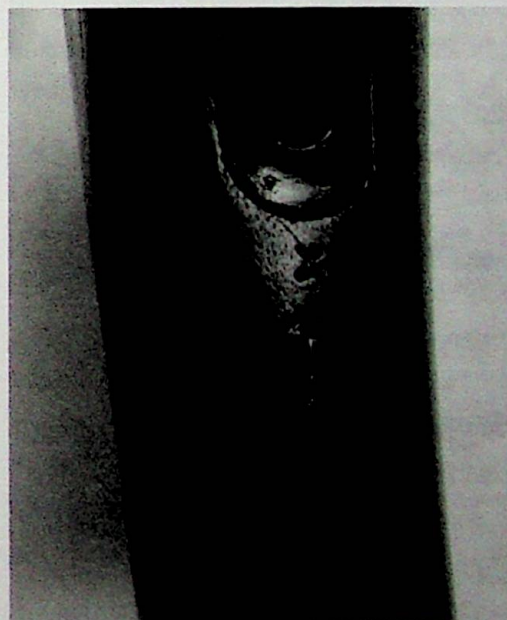
**Bellow:** National Match rifle shown with P.J. O'Hare front sight cover.



**Bellow:** Barrel marked 3-21 with SA and ordnance bomb.



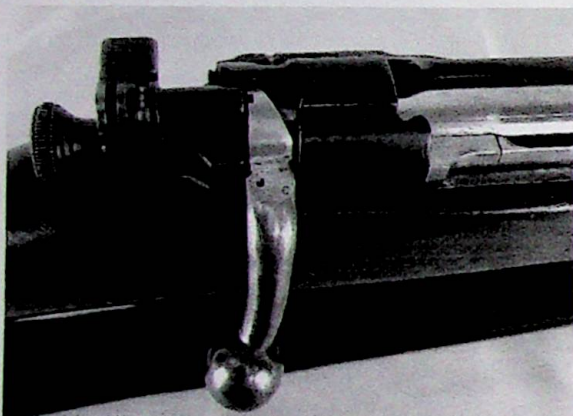
**Bellow:** Stock marked with P in circle for proof and small z for stock maker's mark.



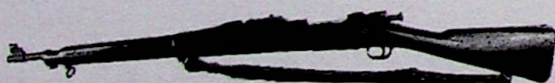
**MODEL 1903 SPRINGFIELD  
NATIONAL MATCH SERIAL  
NUMBER 1180073.**

It is seldom that we find two examples of rare National Match rifles. We decided to show both for collector interests that include markings, finish, quality and difference between National Match originals and standard issue rifles.

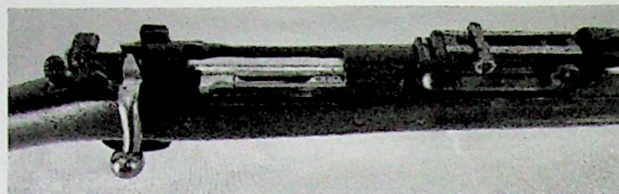
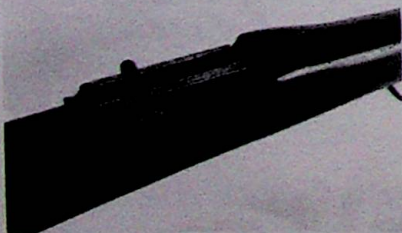
**Below:** WL3 polished bolt with standard safety and polished extractor. Serial No. 1180073.



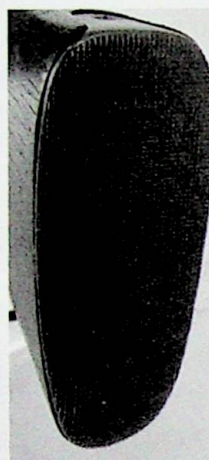
**Below:** National Match rifle with finger groove straight stock and NM rear sights.



**Below:** NM rear sight with polished leaf and no notch on top of leaf.

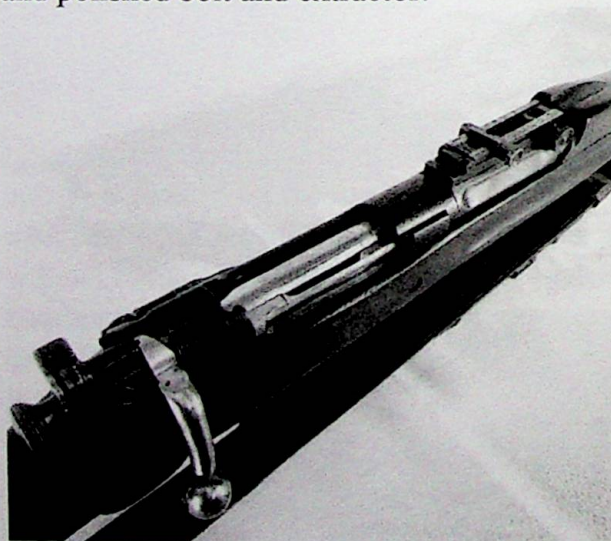


**Above:** Action, bolt, and rear sight.



**Above;** Heavy checkered National Match butt plate.

**Below:** Complete action, safety, rear sight, and polished bolt and extractor.



**Below:** WES stock markings.



**Below:** Muzzle not marked with a star. Star marking added at later date.



SRS has data on pre-1921 national match rifles. Some rifles have documentation with serial numbers. They appear to have been manufactured to match quality specifications. There were quite a few changes to produce high quality fit and finish as well as smoothness of operation and precision sighting systems. There were also many tests to develop new sights, and different stocks. The production of match grade weapons was for the military and

commercial sales by Springfield Armory to the American public. All Model 1903 products had to conform to U.S. Army regulations and plans, and budgets with Congressional budget approval.

This effort also led to the development of International Target rifles in caliber .30 and .22 calibers. The introduction of full pistol grip stocks for military, sporting, and target rifles were tested and manufactured for many years through World War II.

Sample 1903 NM Springfield serial numbers with Star gage barrels and match configurations are shown below.

353915, 417062, 417153, 418042, 418,042, 418241, 418635, 424177, 452382, 470727 1916 NM, 470836 with A5scope, 598271 April, 1914 sales, 603111-603120 1916NM, 636189IM, 837830 .276Cal.

Many NM rifles were made for the military and for sale. Many were sold long after their manufacture dates. This area of collecting is not well known and varies in a wide range of serial numbers.

SRS will resume searching as soon as the U.S. Archives is re-opened. The Covid-19 is causing many delays. It will take quite a while to recover.

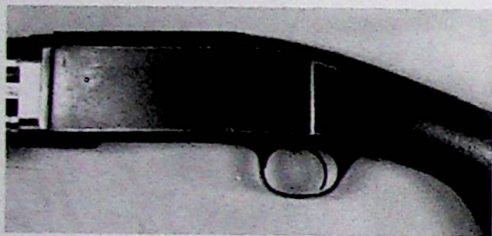
**NOTE. Photos and data are courtesy of Marc Lasky (serial number 1215925) and Andrew Stolinski for (serial number 1180073). Both rifles are rare and unaltered.**

The early National Match rifles were developed over years with tests, trials, sights, barrel, and other efforts. We intend to follow this effort as we have time and research capability.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-11***

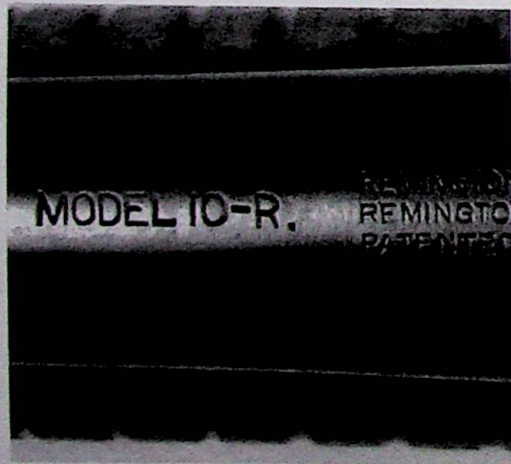
## **REMINGTON Model 10-R U.S. Military Shotgun**

Remington produced shotguns for the U.S. Forces in many varieties. The following shotgun is a Remington Model 10-R blued commercial model with U.S. Markings. The military shotguns were made from 1913 to 1929. They were used in World War I, II, Korea and later U.S. operations.



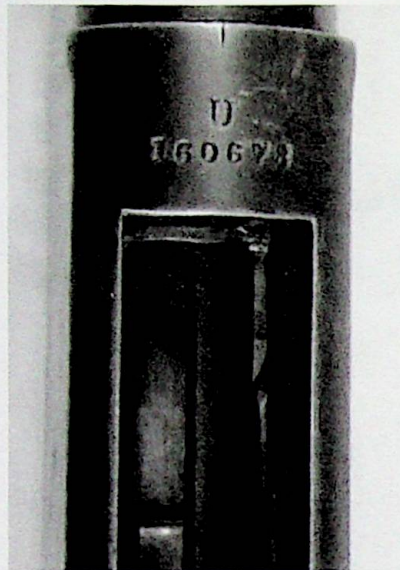
*Above:* Left side of receiver with Remington blued finish.

*Below:* Model 10-R Barrel markings.

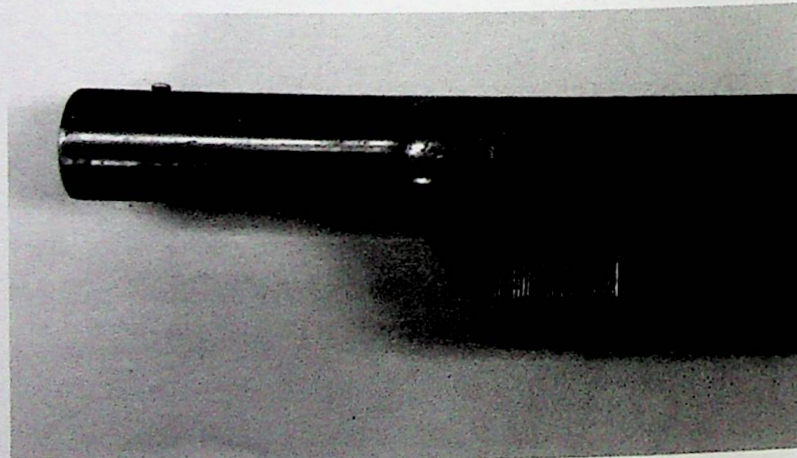


*Below:* Receiver marked U.S. 160678.

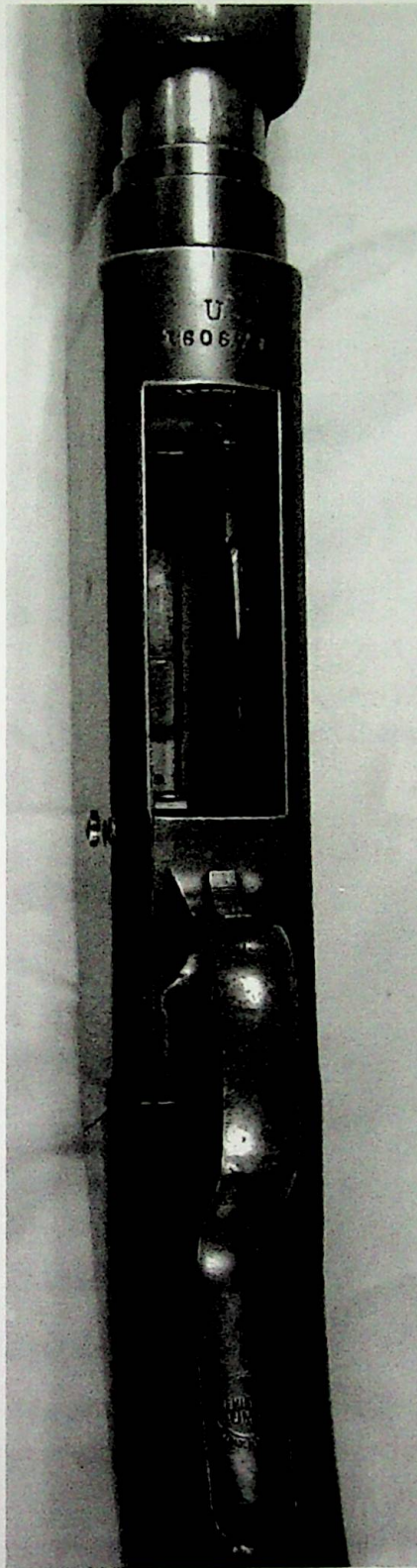
*Below:* U.S. and serial number 160678 on bottom of frame.



*Below:* Muzzle area of barrel and end of slide fixture.



*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-12*



Sample serial numbers are shown below of documented Remington 10-R shotguns issued to U.S. forces:

Serial number 160134 October 24, 1917

Serial number 160212 August 27, 1935

Serial number 160129 August 19, 1935

Serial number 160448 October 24, 1917

Serial number 160457 October 24, 1917

Serial number 160745 March 14, 1925

Serial number 161305 April 17, 1924

Serial number 16115 November 8, 1926

The serial numbers are in a very wide area and many were used after the manufacture date. They were reissued to other government agencies and show that there was a long historic use of the Remington shotguns. Remington Model 10-R shotguns were used in WWI, WWII, Korea, Viet Nam and were used by police forces and other United States agencies. There are cases where a shotgun was used in several wars and law enforcement activities.

The shotgun shown has what appears to be the original blue finish and may have some stock variations.

***Photos Courtesy of:*** Bob Wolfes, Frederick, MD.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-13***

## Holsters

The following data contains a summary of the Colt revolver holsters used on the various models and dates of U.S. military six inch barrel Double Action revolvers.

*The photos and data are: Courtesy of Dr. Zachary Leiner.*



Fig 1. Colt Army and Navy Holsters for M1889 .38 Caliber Double action Army and Navy revolvers. Made from 1892-1909, five main variations are shown. Manufactured in leather and web configurations.



Fig 2- Navy model 1889 leather holster for the Navy M1889 Revolver made 1889-1911.



Fig 3- Mills tan Navy web holster made 1905-1911.



Fig 4- Mills blue Navy web holster made 1905-1911.

**U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-14**



Fig 5- Mills tan Army web holster just made to see if the Army liked them, they were never ordered.

### **Colt Cartridge Double Action Revolvers Model 1889, 1892, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1901, and 1903.**

Colt manufactured over 290,000 revolvers from 1889 through 1907. Most were made for United States Military services and marked with military markings and inspectors' initials. The revolvers were in use long after production stopped and were adopted by police forces and foreign units. They were converted with many upgrades and an original model 1889 is rare.

The following revolver is an Army marked model 1889 that was sent to the U.S. Naval Academy and upgraded to an 1896 model configuration, but it retains the U.S. model 1892 butt markings. The revolver was chosen to be photographed with the article showing many holsters used by all services.

Serial number 5040 is marked on the no-swivel butt U.S. Army Model 1892 No.

5040. It has matching numbers on the latch, frame, yoke, barrel and cylinder. The last barrel date is 1888. There are no assembly numbers on any part and there is an RAC on the frame and walnut grip.

Research is being done by SRS to determine what holsters were used by the Navy for revolvers that were marked U.S. Army and converted by the Navy and the Annapolis Naval Academy.

This includes holsters for training, parades, target practice and other functions. Other sections of the Navy and United States Marines may have had similar weapons that were originally made for Army units or inventory for Army facilities.

This area of collecting may be expanded to all variations of tools, cleaning items, storage, spare parts. There may be many different accessories.

SRS would welcome any comments on the holsters and revolvers. There are still many examples of these weapons for sale and many opportunities to gather subscribers' interests in all aspects of the collecting area.

***Editor, US MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR.***



**U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-15**

## Of Legend and Legacy

By William R. Hansen

The sharpshooter was stretched out on rock-strewn ground atop a small hill. He was alone and partially hidden among field daisies and golden rod. The task he faced was challenging. As he studied the target across the valley before him, he made some initial sight settings. It was about 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon, with a variable and troubling wind up to 22 mph was kicking dust all around him. Finally, he pulled the stock snug to his cheek and squinted through the scope for what seemed like an eternity. When the inevitable bark came from the muzzle, 180 grains of lead was launched to its destination 1760 yards distant. Yes...you read right...a mile away! Witnesses positioned 760 yards closer... 1000 yards behind the objective testified the shot struck the target.....

With the new sighting dope, the rifleman made a deliberate elevation adjustment that included 7 ½ points of wind. Then came another squeeze of the trigger. But, this time finding its mark, the lead pellet was "...good for a close 4 at 7:00 o'clock". After just two sighting shots, what happened after that can only be described as the stuff from which legends are made. Once more upon judiciously "...shifting position and range...", after which there were no further adjustments or interruptions, the rifleman proceeded with each bolt throw to pump the next 18 rounds dead into the kill zone! It was as daring and magnificent a shooting demonstration as anyone at the time had ever personally witnessed. When the results finally reached the sharpshooter's personal spotter, he exclaimed: "...if an army had been where that objective point was ... God help that

army!" Such mastery with a rifle had seldom been witnessed by the human eye. It literally astounded everyone present and became the talk of the shooting community for many years thereafter. The question is who was this man and what was he doing that eventful day on October 2, 1908?

The rifleman's name was Kellogg Kenyon Venable Casey, aka K.K.V. Casey. E.C. Crossman, who had become a good friend and happened to be his spotter on this auspicious occasion, described Casey as the "...best known rifle shot in the United States". The occasion was formal testing of the Army's newly adopted Warner and Swasey Telescopic Musket Sight, Model of 1908. The test course was the rifle range of the National Guard of the District of Columbia located on Congress Heights. Casey was a Spanish American War veteran and National Guard Captain at the time (...later, promoted to Major). He was also an employee of the E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company (DuPont) in their powder division.

*"In the belief that nowhere in the country could a better opportunity be found for testing out the merits of the new sight under actual target and service conditions than right in the District of Columbia, and that there did not exist a better man to make the tests than Capt. K.K.V. Casey...", a grand entourage assembled on Congress Heights this October day.*

Literally, the implications of this particular testing exploit had caused "...an exodus from the town on the part of all concerned...", including numerous military and civilian celebrities of the day.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-16***

The meeting place was at the standard 1000 yard range, with Casey being handed an off-the-shelf Springfield M1903,

Serial Number **207211** containing the new M1908 Telescope, Serial Number 452. The rifle was standard issue equipped with a stargauged barrel "...with no special appurtenances other than the telescope sight...".

One of many amazing facts documented about this historic occasion is that **Casey had never seen or held either this rifle or the scope** "...until the evening before over a range where he had never previous to that day fired a shot, a range with as tricky wind currents and light changes as any seeker for difficult conditions would want...".

In closing this introduction to a notable K.K.V. Casey, let it also be said the scope test held that fall day on Congress Heights 113 years ago turned out to be as boring as it was exciting for those in attendance. The test had begun much earlier in the day at the 1000-yard mark. But, in spite of the wind blowing, shot after shot, i.e. "...time and time again the target (a standard 36 inch bull, "C"- target) went down 1000 yards away and time and again up came the white disc. In fact, it came up so often as to become a matter of monotonous regularity" (parenthesis added).

To Casey, hitting a one thousand yard target was not a particularly big deal whether using iron sights or a scope. It really made no difference to him, in fact he commented later in his official report on the scope: "*The grouping of shots with the telescope sight at known distances was no better than with the regular service sight...*". Indeed, under the pretense of further "...testing of the range finding and distance viewing powers of the telescope..." this became the dominant motive after the initial test to seek out the rock and flora covered hill another 760 yards distant... and **without**

**changing target size!** But, the officials present weren't so sure about the whole idea. In fact they were just hoping "...in the course of a 20-shot string Casey would cause the target to be sashed at least once."

Well, you now know as the world learned then what was to happen, even at a mile distant. Not only did it not produce a different result, there was nowhere else to go. The test was over...there was no more to prove. But, as fate would have it, all that was really proved that eventful day was the exceptional shooting genius of K.K.V. Casey. As we also now know, the scope wasn't to have much of a future. As a matter of fact, in Casey's lengthy technical report regarding the scope test dated the next day, October 3, 1908, he really wasn't much impressed with it. But, that's another story for another time.

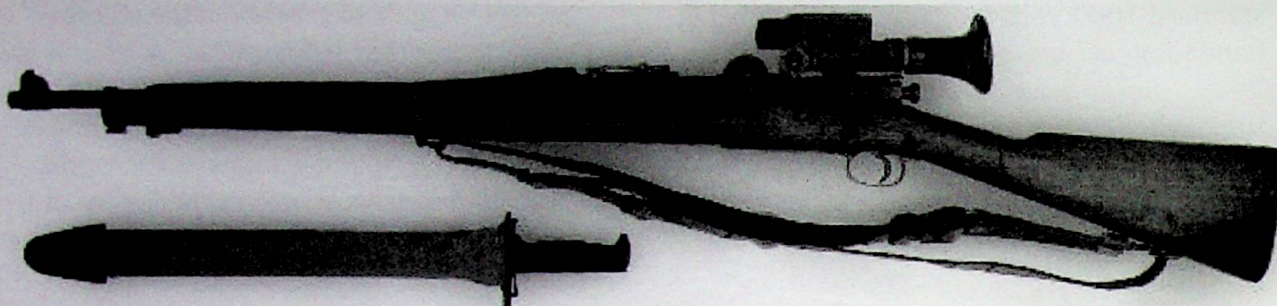
In closing, for those interested in trivia, the M1903 SN **207211** rifle is listed on page 68 of Frank Mallory's (SRS) "*SERIAL NUMBERS of US. Martial Arms*", Volume 1.

***The following photos and information are from US Martial Arms Collector magazine issue 161 dated December 2009. It was published in a detailed article on serial number 690554.***

### **U.S. Army Model 1918 Warner Swasey Sniper Model Rifle.**

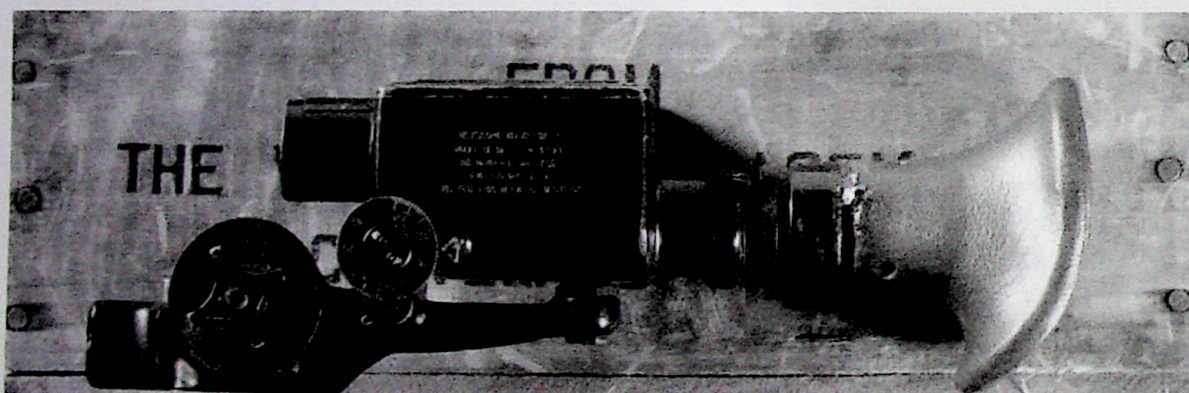
The early Warner and Swasey 1908 optic had 6 power magnification and later the 1913 version had a 5.2x power with larger field of view and better light gathering. The scope was made of steel and brass and painted black.

***U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-17***



**Above:** Complete 1903 Sniper with scope, rifle, mount, and bayonet. The following photos and data detail the use and manufacture of the Model 1903 Springfield Sniper for World War 1.

**Below:** Mounting bracket with 1903 Serial number and complete scope assembly.



**Note:** These photos and data are from issue 161 US Martial Arms Collectors Magazine.

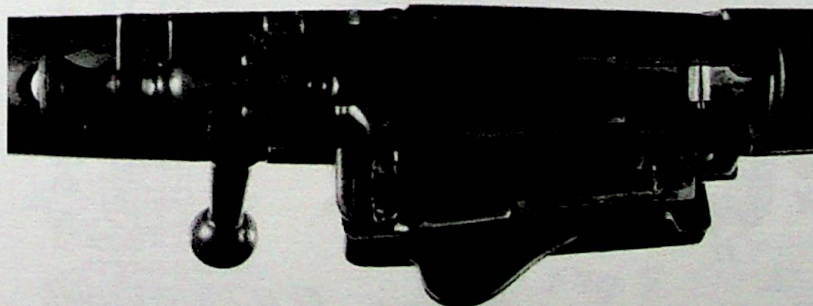
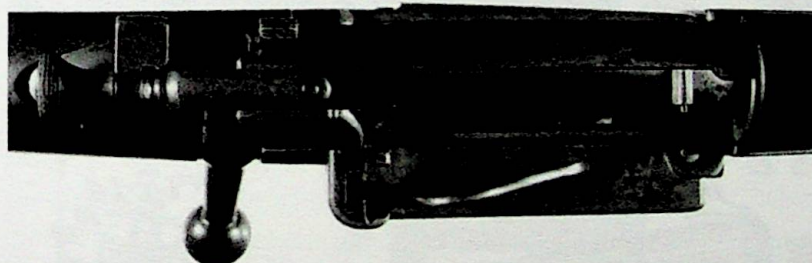
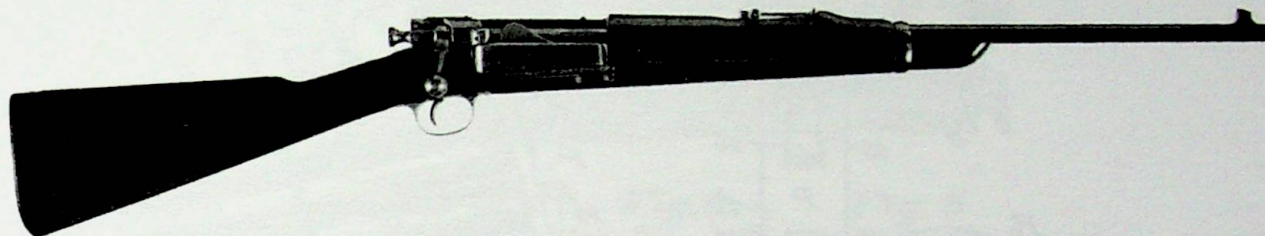


*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-18*

## U.S. Krag PARKHURST CARBINE

There were approximately one hundred 1899 Krag Carbines made with Model 1899 Krag actions.

The following pictures show a Parkhurst Carbine. It is followed by the Parkhurst conversion left side of the action with the loading gate closed. The lower picture shows the same device with the loading gate open.



The following pages show the Parkhurst Patent prints from the U.S. Patent Office in Washington, D.C.

*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-19*

No. 719,254.

PATENTED JAN. 27, 1903.

E. G. PARKHURST, DEC'D.

J. E. PARKHURST, EXEOUTRIX.

MAGAZINE BOLT GUN.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 2, 1898.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

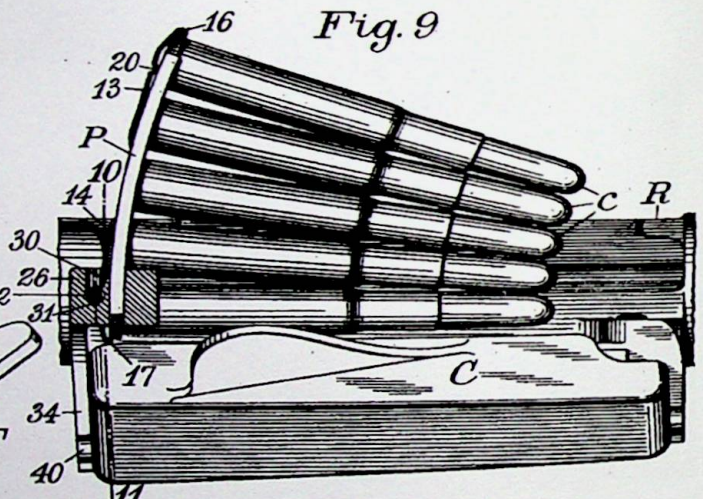
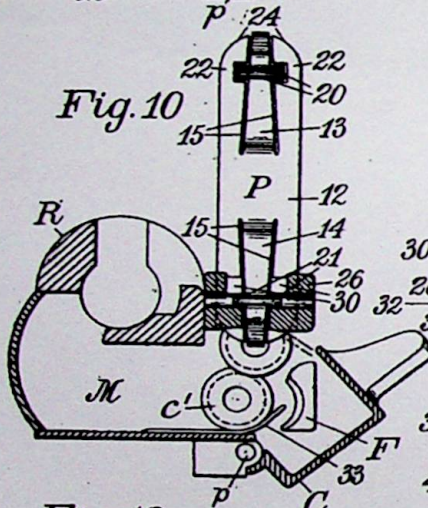
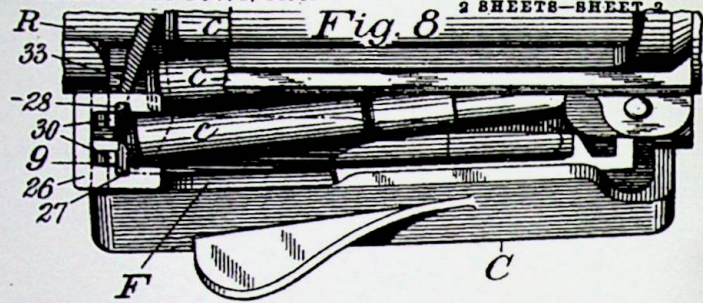
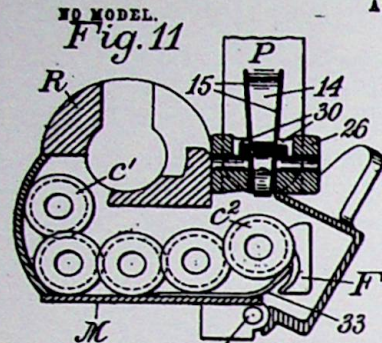


Fig. 12

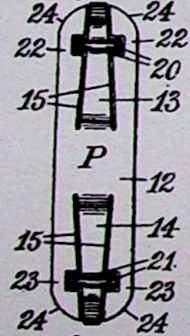


Fig. 13

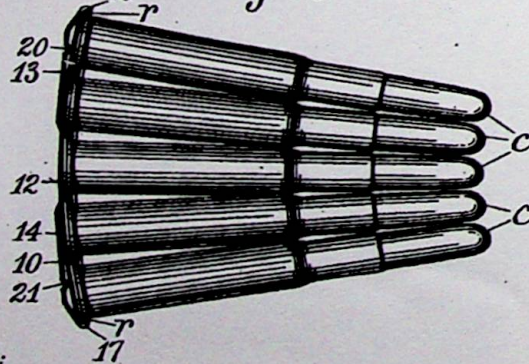
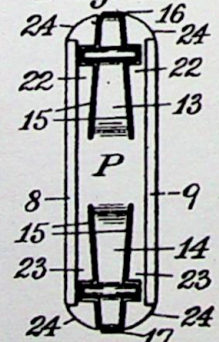


Fig. 14



Witnesses:  
H. Mallner  
H. L. Rickard-

Inventor  
E. G. Parkhurst  
By his Atty.  
W. H. Boniss.

No. 794,680.

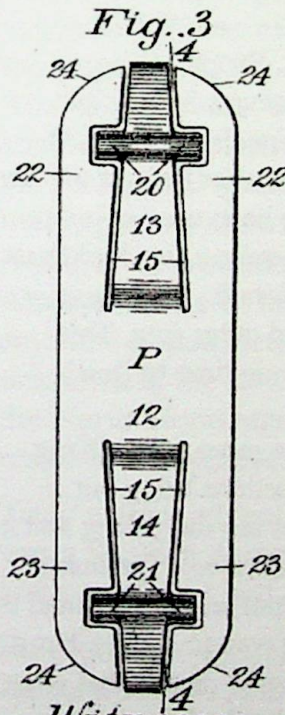
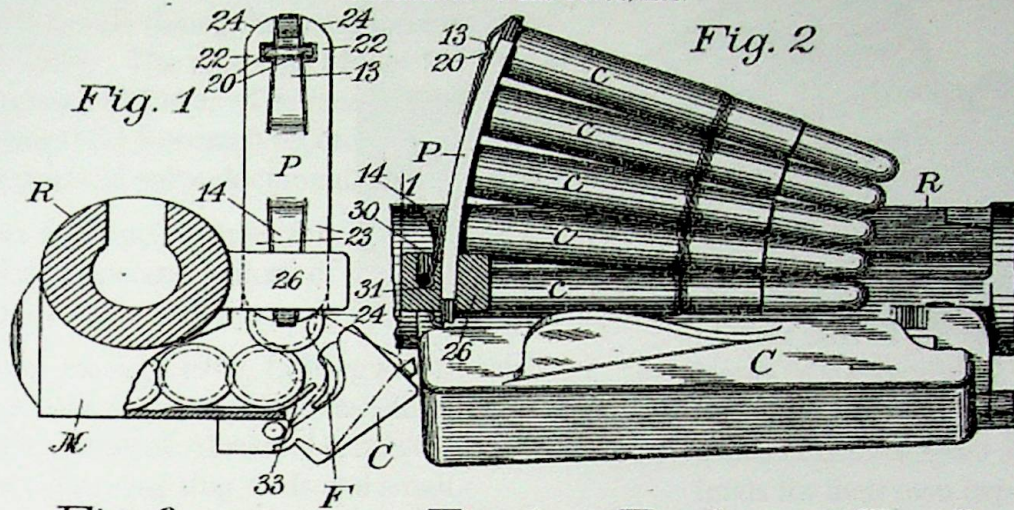
PATENTED JULY 11, 1905.

E. G. PARKHURST, DEC'D.

J. E. PARKHURST, EXECUTRIX.

CARTRIDGE PACKET.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 2, 1898.



Witnesses:  
H. Mallner  
H. L. Reckard.

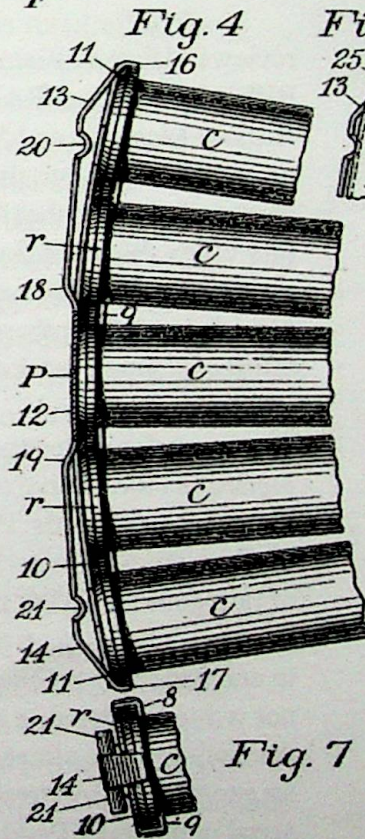
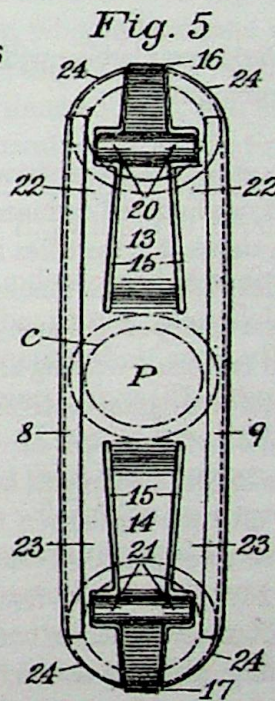
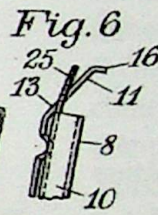
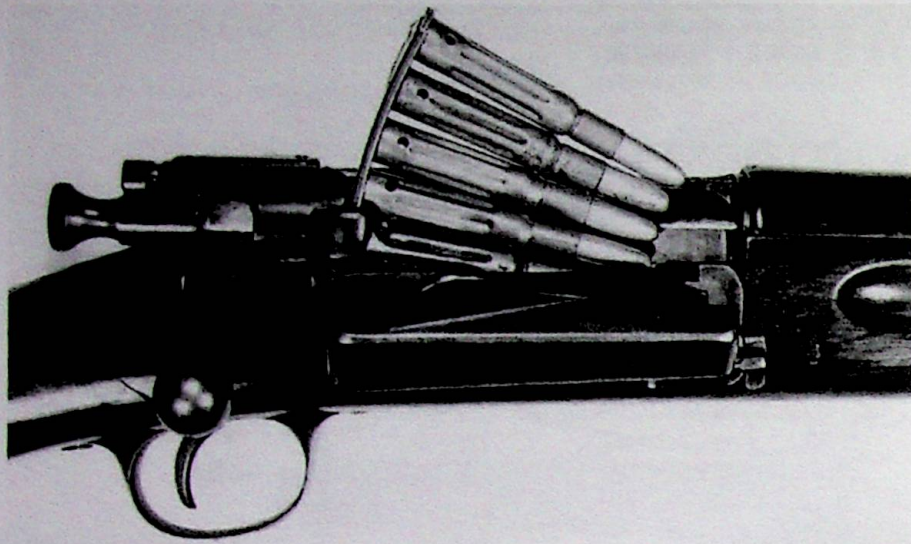


Fig. 7



Inventor  
E. G. Parkhurst  
By his Atty. H. H. Thomas.



**Above:** Model 1899 Parkhurst Carbine with special clip and test ammunition.

A review of the Parkhurst conversions show that one hundred rifles and one hundred carbines were converted. Data shows that the rifles have receivers marked Model 1898 and carbines have model 1899. Most were scrapped and many known today have had extensive welding and machine work to restore an original receiver to a complete carbine or rifle. Model codes of Parkhurst rifles shown in SRS documents have serial numbers with P after the number. Samples of documented rifles include 279848, 288274, 299145, and 289172. We have found brief data that some rifles were noted as both 98 and 99 models. This requires more research. Over the years, there have been many discussions with Bill Brophy, Frank Mallory, the Krag Collectors Association, Bill Mook, and many Krag experts and collectors. We have traded information and data on many models and unique parts. Unfortunately some of our friends and discussions have left us. The days of discussing this data at shows, dinners, home visits, and parties are gone.

We will continue to search Archives data to bring more data to our files. SRS has also

reviewed Historic Firearms, Brophy (Krag Rifle), Bing.com, NRA museum, Springfield Armory Museum, and Wikipedia articles. All provided insight into the program and are the source of pictures that have been used in many references. We have found quite a few Parkhurst guns that were sold or auctioned. They have provided serial numbers and other data. This effort is planned to take a long time to finish.

The future for collecting the more scarce Krag models is more active as auctions bring out many old collections. Prices are increasing and it looks as though they will continue. The number of rare guns surviving is small and the demand is growing. There was a great way to show a Krag to another collector and discuss details that were not written in detail in any book. Those discussions have slowed down and it would take an enormous effort to collect the information on serial numbers of Parkhurst conversions.

*U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-22*

## **Ernest de Koven Leffingwell**

Springfield Armory sales records show that a special sale was made to E. DeK.

Leffingwell famed Artic explorer on May 28, 1926. The rifle was Model 1903 serial number 1267466. The record is in the Springfield Research records with copies of the original sales document.

This data and pictures follow the information and history of the Alaskan pioneer map maker.

From 1906 to 1914, Leffingwell traveled nine summers and six winters throughout the Arctic coast of Alaska. He made thirty- one journeys using dog sleds and small watercraft. These efforts resulted in the development of the first maps of the Alaskan coastline. Scientifically the efforts enabled a complete understanding of the permafrost system that started investigations showing the research of Alaskan oil production that exists today. The Alaskan oil fields now produce large amounts of petroleum products that were unknown at the time. The oil resources of the North Slope region of Alaska are the result of his achievements.

Truly a great adventurer and explorer, he was a Spanish American War veteran and arctic geologist and explorer.

Ernest de Koven Leffingwell was born January 13, 1875, in Knoxville, Illinois, to Charles and Elizabeth (née Francis) Leffingwell. He went to Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, where he was captain of the track team in his senior year, graduated with the AB degree in 1895 and was awarded an MA in 1900. He studied physics and geology at the University of Chicago from 1896 to 1906. He also played on the Chicago Maroons football team. Leffingwell had his preliminary examination as a doctoral candidate and left for Alaska in 1906 without completing his degree.

During the Spanish American War he served as a Seaman on the US battleship *Oregon* which made the daring travel around Cape Horn during the Battle of Santiago.

During the 1906 Anglo-American Polar Expedition he traveled with Captain Ejnar Mikkelsen, G. P. Howe, and Ejnar Ditlevsen.

His other achievements included leading the science staff in the 1901 Baldwin-Ziegler North Pole Expedition, but he did not reach the North Pole. He became friends with Danish explorer Ejnar Mikkelsen and raised funds for their own expedition. Leffingwell's father, who had become wealthy from his ownership of a fruit ranch in California, contributed \$5000, and Mikkelsen raised a comparable amount in England and New York. The effort was the Anglo-American Polar Expedition of 1906-1908.

The underfunded expedition achieved some positive results. They delineated part of the continental shelf and Leffingwell resumed mapping efforts. The ship *Duchess of Bedford*, was locked in ice and destroyed. Wood from the ship was used to build a cabin which was used through 1914. Mikkelsen returned to the US in 1907, and Leffingwell remained on the Arctic for another year. He returned to the North Slope 1909-1914, working with one assistant to map 250 km of the Arctic, and the Canning River valley.

After spending a year and a half writing up his results at the United States Geological Survey in Washington, Leffingwell retired to Whittier, California, listing his occupation in 1917 as citriculturist. He moved to Carmel, California about 20 years later.

**U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-23**

When he died in 1971, fourteen days after his 96th birthday, he was believed to have been the oldest surviving polar explorer.

Leffingwell was awarded the Patron's Medal by the Royal Geographical Society and the Charles P. Daly Medal by the American Geographical Society, both in 1922. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science

degree by Trinity College in 1923. Leffingwell Fork, a stream on Alaska's North Slope, Leffingwell Ridge (Brooks Range) in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Leffingwell Glacier in the Romanzoff Mountains of the Brooks Range, Leffingwell Crags in Canada's Northwest Territories, and Leffingwell Nunatak in Greenland are named for him.



**Above:** The Model 1903 Rifle sold to Ernest Leffingwell. Springfield Arsenal sold a Model 1903 .30 caliber, M03 serial number 1267 466 to E. DeK. Leffingwell, Whittier, California on May 26, 1926. The rifle had no other description and Leffingwell was an avid target shooter that had many modifications done by Springfield and possibly other gunsmiths. The rifle shown is a T model 1903 Springfield with a 26 inch heavy barrel with receiver rear sight and Lyman front sight in the modified BAR front sight base. It is still in perfect shooting condition.

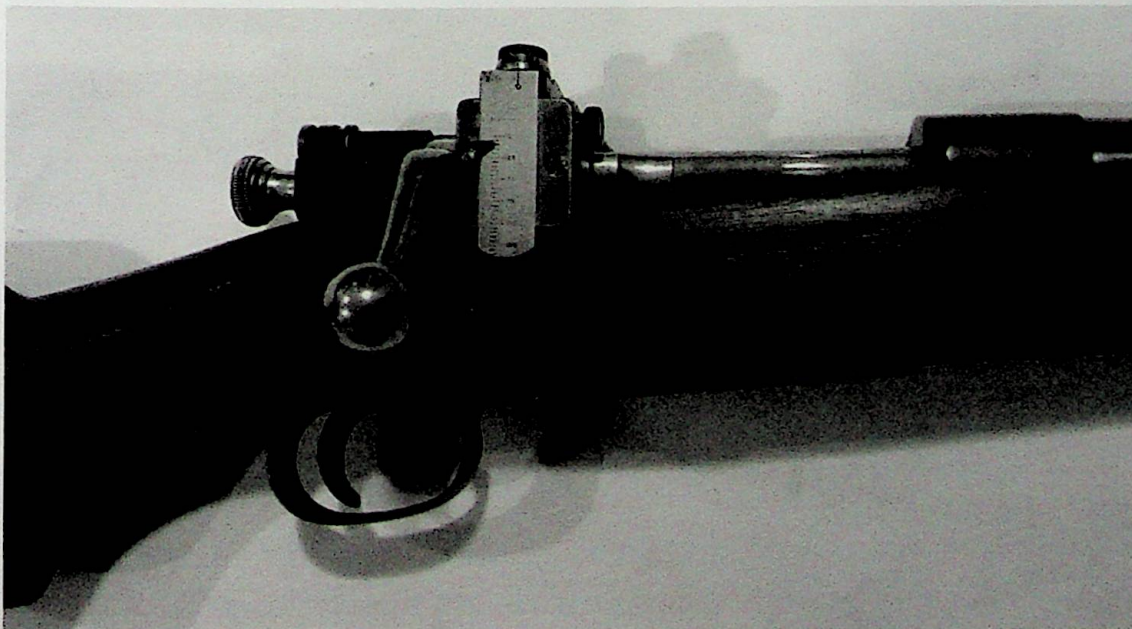
The following data is from the U.S. Government records and in the original format. As shown above, the reserve was established because there was some evidence of the presence of a large oil field in this northern region. In 1914 E. deK. Leffingwell reported to the Geological Survey the occurrence of a petroleum seepage near the Arctic coast, 50 miles southeast of Point Barrow. A sample of the material from this seepage, obtained from C. D. Brower, of Point Barrow, proved to be a petroleum residue. In 1921 this locality was examined by the representatives of two oil companies, who confirmed the presence of petroleum and reported the presence of two large seepages. Rather vague reports of other seepages in the northern region were obtained from other sources, but none of these have been definitely located. The most significant of these localities is one reported on the authority of natives, 300 miles east of Point Barrow, near the international boundary. This meager evidence and what was known of the geology justified the hope that there might be a large oil field in this fairly accessible region. As the bedrock source of the oil was unknown, the boundaries of the reserve were so drawn as to include the complete geologic section from the Arctic Mountain watershed on the south to the shores of the Polar Sea on the north, a distance of some 200 miles. East and West it measures nearly 300 miles.

**PLANS FOR SURVEY.** Shortly after the establishment of the reserve the

Department of the Navy made a request to the Department of the Interior for the Geological Survey to undertake a topographic and geologic survey of the entire area withdrawn for the purpose of determining its petroleum resources. On March 17, 1923, a plan was submitted by Alfred H. Brooks for this project, which may be outlined as follows: 1. The general topographic and geologic map of the reserve was to be on a scale of 4 miles to the inch. 2. More detailed maps were to be made of the areas where geologic features were found to be most favorable to the presence of petroleum.

FIELD WORK. The larger topographic and geologic features of the region were to be determined by a network of reconnaissance surveys, traversing the entire reserve. The areas lying between the network of ground surveys were to be covered by aerial surveys. As a result of the surveys of these two classes a fairly complete map of the entire reserve would be obtained. When this plan was made, it was too late to undertake any winter exploration; it was therefore recommended that the first year's work should be confined to the region accessible from the Arctic coast during the short summer season. The total cost of the ground surveys was estimated to be \$500,000, and the time required about five years. The cost of the surveys of the first year, 1923, was estimated at \$75,000. This plan was approved by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Navy. As the Geological Survey had no funds to carry it out, an allotment of \$75,000 was made for the first year's work from the appropriation for engineering of the Department of the Navy, on March 27, 1923. Mr. Brooks also prepared a summary of all the available information about the geography and geology of Petroleum Reserve No. 4 and adjacent regions. This summary has been drawn upon in the preparation of this report.

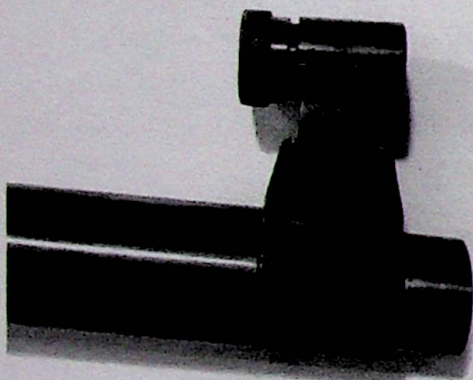
Below: Right side of serial number 1267466.



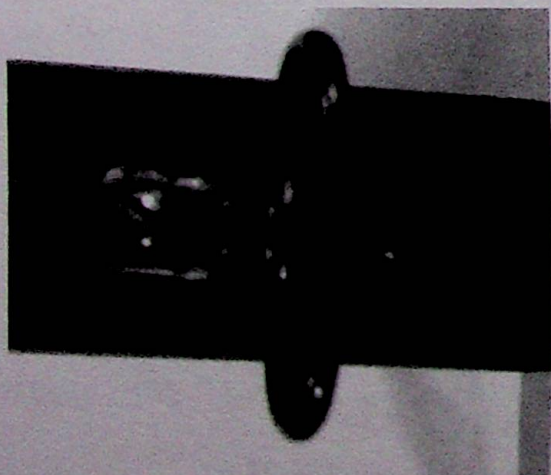
***Below:*** T Model middle band made from two 1917 bands for heavy barrel.



***Below:*** BAR modified base with Lyman target sight using changeable sight inserts.



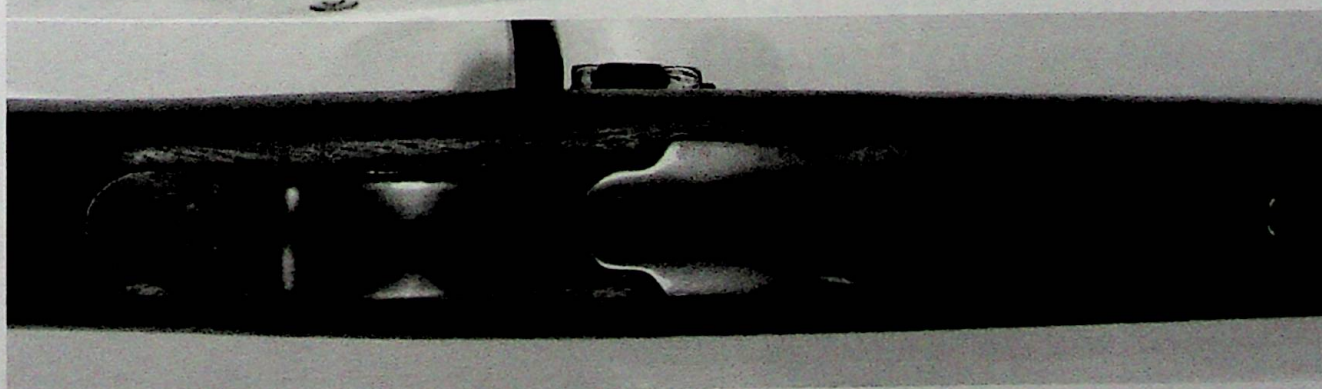
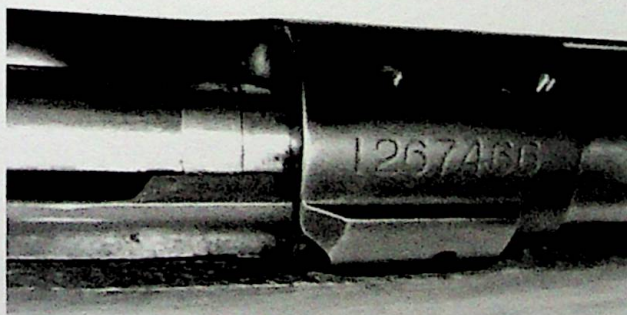
***Below:*** Model 1903 Springfield standard lower butt swivel.



***Below:*** Left side of stock and action. The T Model rifle serial number 1267466 has the T Model butt plate and stock. The rifle was sold as a Model M' 03.

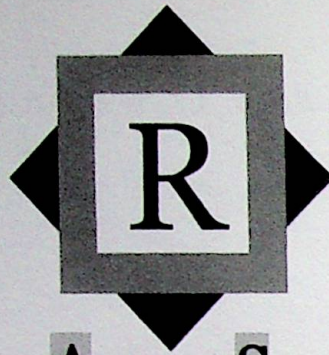


***Below:*** Serial number 1267466. Shown with rear scope base holes open.



***Above:*** The bottom of the T model 1903 Springfield.

**U.S. Martial Arms Collector 166-27**



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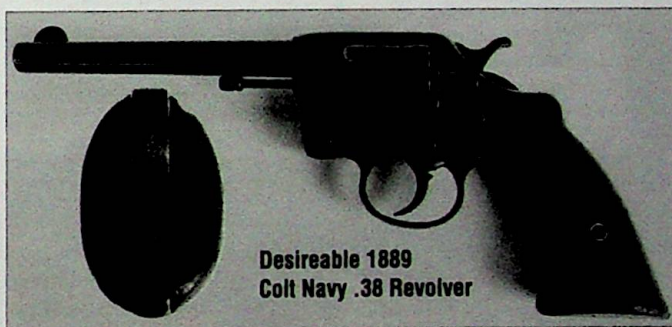
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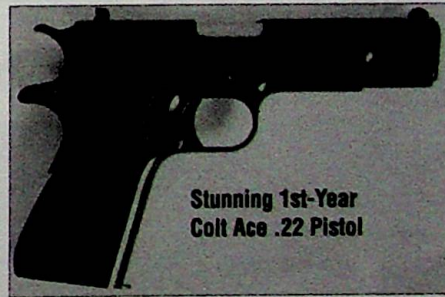
Desireable 1889  
Colt Navy .38 Revolver



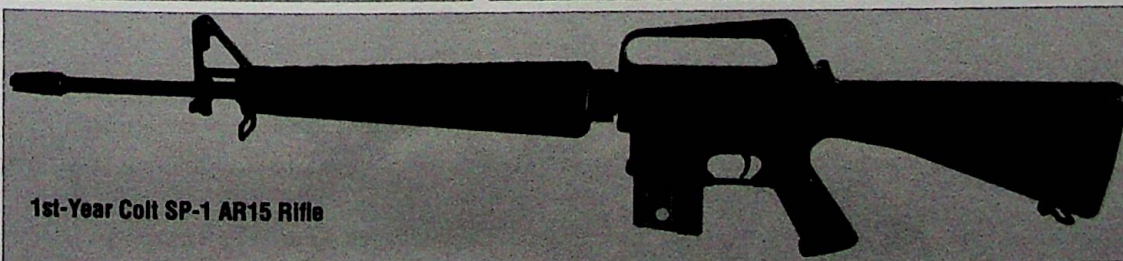
Prime 1918  
Colt 1911 Pistol



Documented  
USMC-Issued Colt 1911



Stunning 1st-Year  
Colt Ace .22 Pistol



1st-Year Colt SP-1 AR15 Rifle

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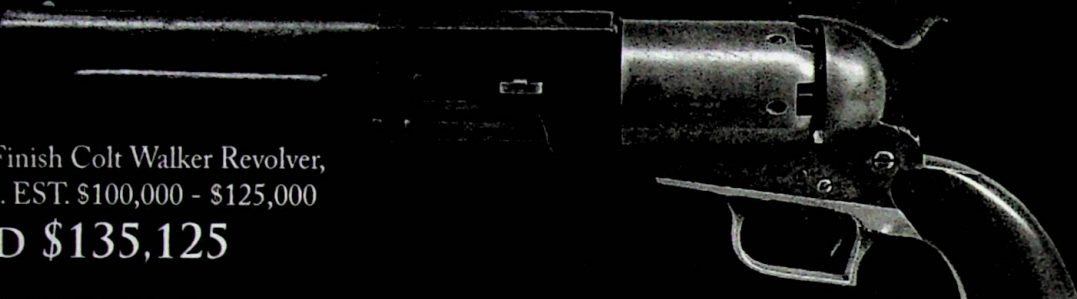
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(1 Of Only 2 Examples  
Known To Exist) Confederate  
Cofer Patent Cartridge Percussion Revolver.

**SOLD \$105,750**



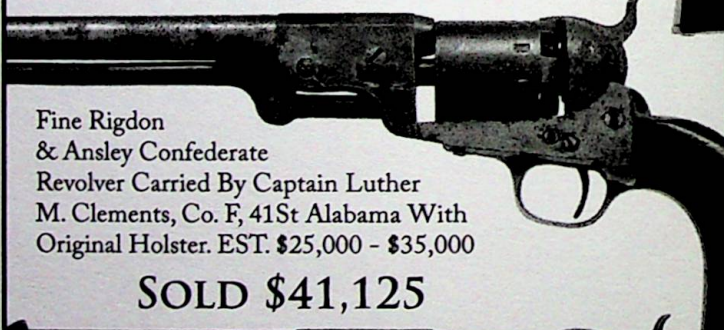
Unique  
And Fine "C.H.  
Rigdon" Confederate  
Revolver. EST. \$25,000 - \$35,000

**SOLD \$65,800**



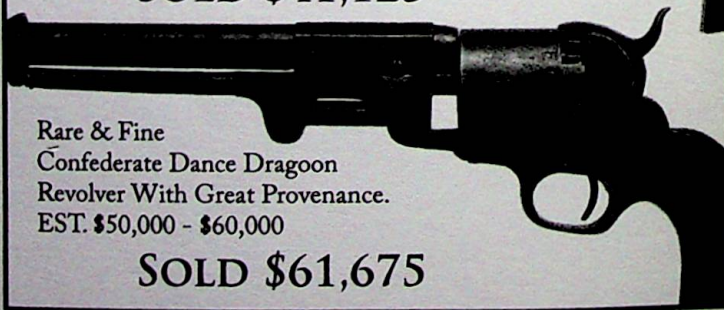
Exceptional  
Confederate Griswold  
Revolver. EST. \$25,000 - \$30,000

**SOLD \$42,300**



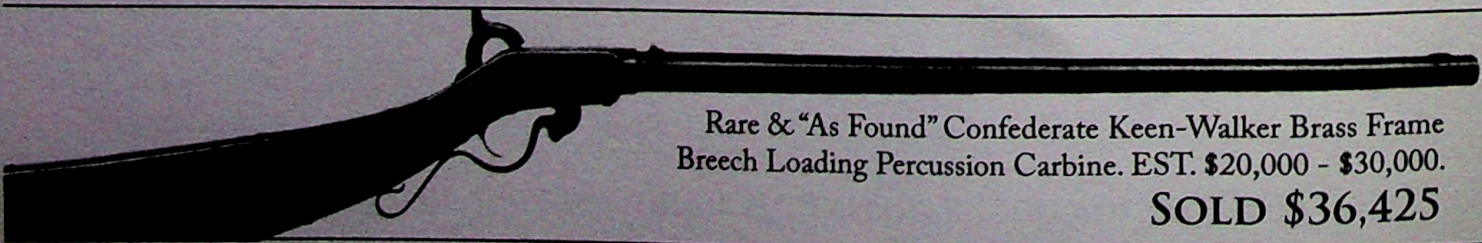
Fine Rigdon  
& Ansley Confederate  
Revolver Carried By Captain Luther  
M. Clements, Co. F, 41st Alabama With  
Original Holster. EST. \$25,000 - \$35,000

**SOLD \$41,125**



Rare & Fine  
Confederate Dance Dragoon  
Revolver With Great Provenance.  
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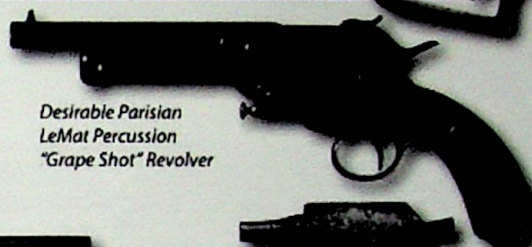
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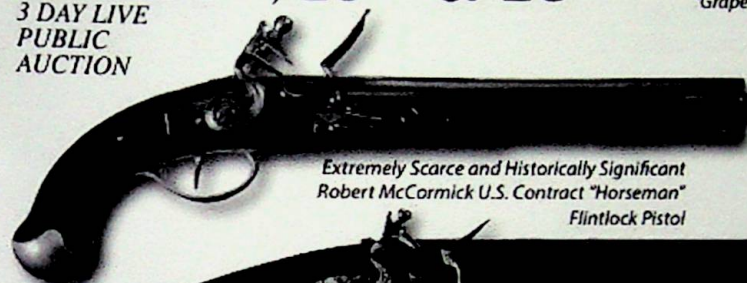
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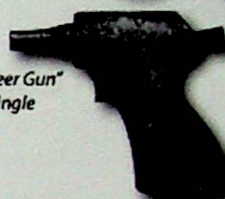
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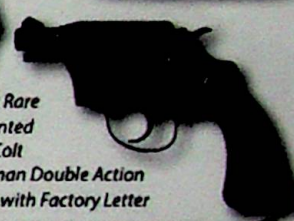
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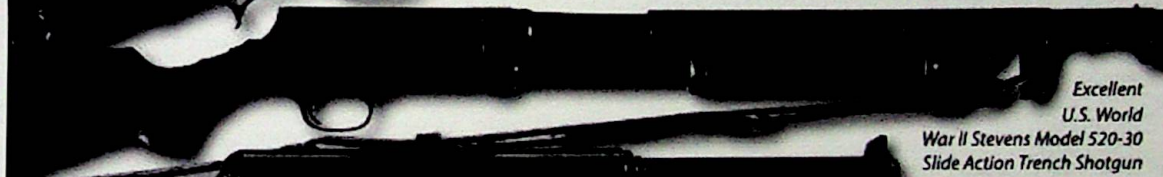
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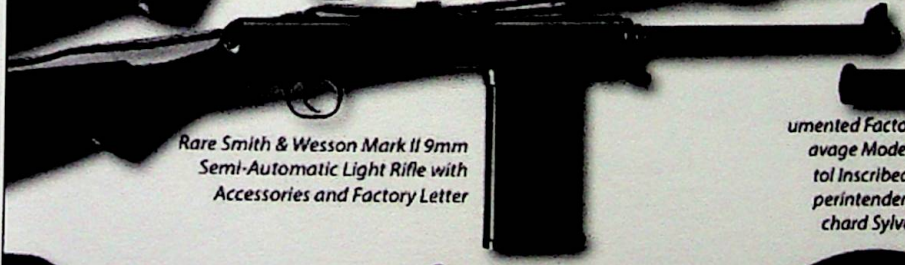
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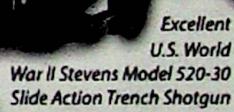
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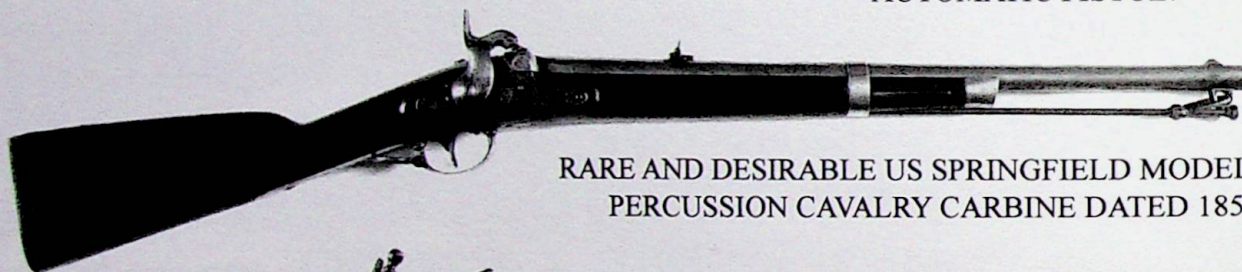
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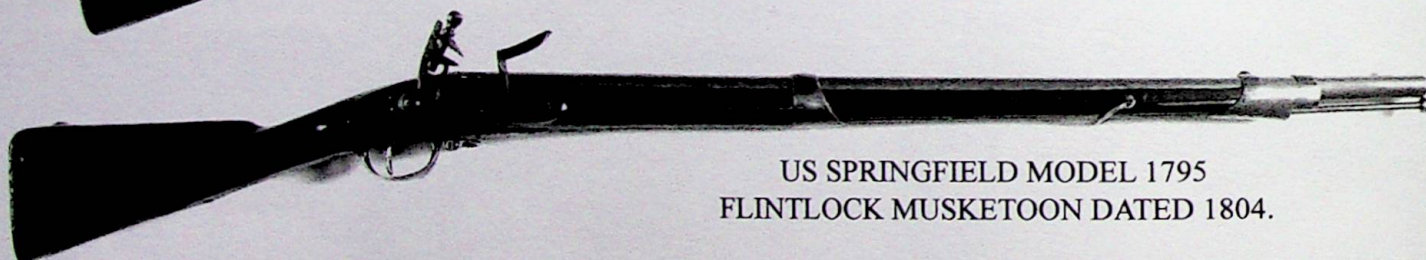
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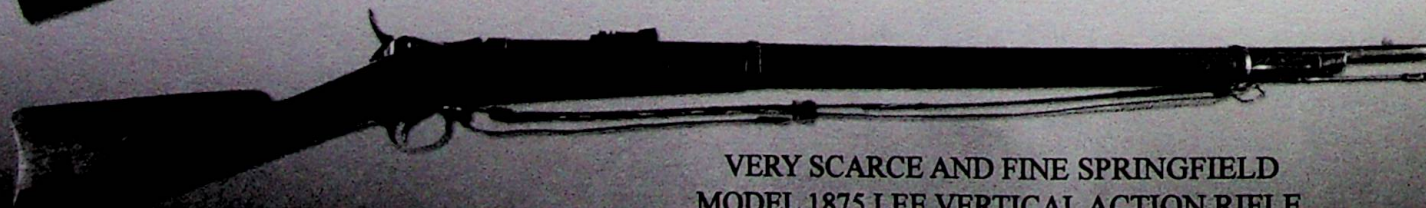
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