

U.S.

MARTIAL ARMS Collector

and *Springfield Research Newsletter*



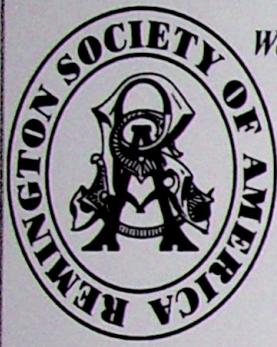
Number 134 March 2013

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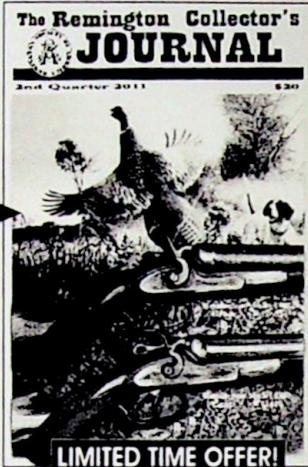
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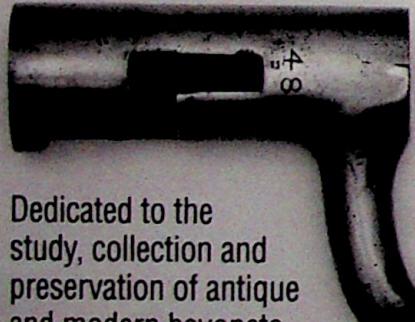
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Cover: 1903 Springfield 22 Caliber Hoffer Thompson Rifle.

And

Springfield Research Service Newsletter

Number 134

March 2013

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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

We started efforts to look at and view all aspects of the Second Amendment and the various State and Federal laws. There is an extraordinary amount of activity, and conversations by many different types of organizations, politicians, and individuals. There is no doubt that the wording is very clear (Amendment II. "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.") in the U.S. Constitution and the Bill Of Rights. There are many people that are using comments that appear to be outside of the original content and intent of the Second Amendment in our Bill Of Rights.

There are many writings, quotations, letters, and articles involving many American historical figures. They date from the Revolutionary War and many years after the early days of the United States government. Thomas Jefferson wrote and used the following quotations. "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance". "No freeman shall be debarred the use of arms". "The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves ...". (Notation used by Jefferson) "False idee di utilità". (Translation of very old text to English and used by Jefferson). "The laws of this nature are those which forbid to wear arms, disarming those only who are not disposed to commit the crime which the laws mean to prevent. It certainly makes the situation of the assaulted worse, and of the assailants better, and rather encourages than prevents murder, as it requires less courage to attack unarmed than armed persons". Sources: (There are many sources of Jefferson's quotes and letters to other founding fathers. The Jefferson Monticello web site is a comprehensive site containing a great amount of data historical documents, and cross references by scholars in

the entire Jefferson field). This area of history is one of the more easy to read and sort through. They can be reviewed by key word, quotes, and letters to and from Jefferson and other founding fathers.

Some of the sources used were: Papers of Thomas Jefferson Digital Edition, Monticello website, Ford's Works of Thomas Jefferson, UVA EText, Jefferson Digital Archive, Jeffersonian Cyclopædia, Thomas Jefferson on Politics and Government, Texts by or to Thomas Jefferson from the Modern English Collection, Jefferson Retirement Papers, and Quotable Jefferson, ed. Kaminski.

A key issue appears to be the definition of Infringement or Infringed. (Amendment II. "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed").

It seems clear that infringe (Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary has as an example) "to encroach upon in a way that violates law or the right of another".

The final review of the entire issue will be in the United States Congress and the Supreme Court.

Many commenters use polls as a gauge to replace the Second Amendment. This makes it imperative that any American should voice their opinion through correspondence to any and all of their Congressmen and Senators and the Office of the President of the United States.

GUN SHOWS

We have visited several gun shows and retail facilities that sell sporting goods. The answers are always the same when personnel are asked about their stocks of guns and ammunition. The shelves are almost bare and there is an uncertainty of when they will get re-supplied, with almost all calibers of ammunition, and all weapons are back-ordered and sold immediately. There is a great demand for these items, and prices have escalated due to the demand.

It would be difficult to determine market conditions based on production and commercial sales. There is little doubt that the demand will continue.

Most antiques are now available with a much smaller demand. We found this on the East Coast and do not have real information concerning other parts of the country.

Ammunition tables have very visible lines forming for all types of ammunition including the .22 caliber rimfire caliber and the .223 and .30 caliber cartridges. Pistol calibers are all in hard demand. We are trying to get information from production facilities at major U.S. Companies and the phone can get jammed. The general consensus is that companies are running three shifts on their production lines.

We would appreciate any of our readers' views.

CURRENT RESEARCH

Research continues with work on the 1903A3, Springfield trap doors, and other weapons that were in limited production. We have a continual effort in the examination of Col. Sam Colt's letters between the War Department and the Colt Company. Each letter is hand written and takes extensive time to read and review for any new data on many models from each military revolver. This

includes the 1846 and later era before and during the Civil War. We plan on sorting and selecting any data that will be of value to collectors. It may take more time as a single page is difficult to translate and put in a usable file. There seem to be extensive questions, policies, and requirements for each new model. Over the past year, we found many new pieces of data on all percussion revolvers, holsters, and comments from the U.S. military. Col. Colt was very active in the marketing and sale of all of his models. In some cases, we found information on the percussion rifles as well as pistols.

We find many entries of weapons transferred, purchased by the military, and cited as being sent to various units. The data is very perplexing, as it only refers to single items, multiple shipments, and transfers of weapons of all types without serial numbers. A short statement will show a group of guns sent to a military unit with no other description other than a manufacturer such as an arsenal or a private company. While the serial number is missing, it does indicate other data such as the existence of various models and the fact that they were used in various military uses.

An example is that of a Civil War unit being issued a specific cavalry carbine without a listing of serial numbers. It adds a piece of information that allows us to determine if specific units were issued equipment for various times and battle engagements. The best example has been the records of some units during the Battle of the Monocacy River. Some units specified Sharps or other manufacturers that can eliminate questions about specific units and their weapons.

Units such as the Maryland Volunteer Cavalry, the Loudon Volunteers, and others list the weapons that were issued.

This does not verify a specific serial number to a specific soldier but allows us to determine if a model was used by a specific unit.

This type of data has also been found for many other time frames, from the 1800's through World War II. The data also allows us to search to determine if items such as sniper rifles, the latest technology and small production items were used in various time frames.

It is well known that some serial numbers are in government records and the U. S Military will not release the records. We have tried to access this type of data on M1 Garands, Carbines, 1911 Pistols and others. There have been no reasons to hold back the data including privacy issues going back to the early 1900's.

We always keep an eye on this issue and hope to break the log jam at some time in the future.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We always face questions concerning addresses, lost issues, new policies with the post office and other accounting issues. Prices seem to be holding for the 2013 year for magazine production. Please contact us if you are having any problems.

NOTE. Please send an email if you receive any subscription data that is incorrect. We can also answer a mailed note but it takes longer to use the mail system. We appreciate comments and emails when they solve mistakes or problems.

Issue number 134 is current and is dated March 2013.

Number 134, 135, 136 and 137 will be sent in 2013. The projected dates are March, June, September, and December 2013.

ADVERTISING

Our advertising deadlines are the Friday two weeks before the date of a publication. Our standard is March, June, September, and December for each year.

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH LETTERS

We are writing more letters for our subscribers. The basic letters are \$ 50.00, sales letters with a document are \$ 65.00 and research letters run from \$ 175.00 and up depending on travel and extended times. We are always behind on research letters because of long delays at government offices, government policies, and access to federal buildings. The copying of documents is always a problem and can be helped by using a camera but it is always a time factor and government approval is required.

There may be additional costs for most early Colts used in the Civil War and by the 1st Cavalry (Spanish American War), 2nd, 5th, 7th and other unique units.

COMMENTS AND INPUTS

Please send inquiries and questions to: editor@usmartialarmscollector.com
An inquiry can be made by mail to SRS Box 126, Cabin John, MD 20818. This may take an extended time to look up the number and send a letter by mail.

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH DATA BASE

We are always looking for and finding data. It will be never ending and we will try to publish new information as it is found. Our subscribers can email or send to:
U.S. Martial Arms Collector, Box 126, Cabin John, MD 20818.

BACK ISSUES OF THE U.S. MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR MAGAZINES.

The older newsletters (number 1 through 54) must be obtained by special request. Issues number 55 through 133 are available for \$ 10 each postpaid and there are several issues that have run out. Copies can be made on request. Order from U.S. Martial Arms Collector Box 126, Cabin John, MD 20818.

KRAG RIFLE STORY

Original new (1999 updated) editions with serial numbers are available for \$ 100.

LETTERS WRITTEN DURING THIS PERIOD

Spencer Rifle, serial number 2470, 5th Independent Company, Ohio Volunteers, Sharpshooters. August 16, 1863. Regiment records of the Civil War in the U.S. National Archives.

U.S. Model 1922M1 Rifle, Cal. 22, serial number 19447. Sold To W B Curtis, Greenwich, CT. April 14, 1931.

U.S. 1911 COLT Automatic Pistol, serial number 39033, Colt Pistol, Caliber .45. Model 1911. Manufactured by Colt Firearms Co. for the United States Military and shipped to the Navy Ship Yard in New York on July 30, 1913. Shipped for issue to United States Naval Forces for issue to personnel prior to World War I. The original finish was the standard blue finish of the 1913 time. Colt 1911 pistols of this era are very much sought after and are rare in original condition. Full production of the 1911 was just starting and was very slow through 1916, 1917 and 1918, and finally caught up with World War I requirements.

U.S. Model 1903 Rifle, Cal. 30, U.S. Sporting Model, serial number 1 366 615. Rifle, Cal. 30, M1903, U.S. (Sporting Model). Number 1 366 615. Sold to James Bell, Cambridge, NY.

October 28, 1931.

U.S. Model 1896 Carbine, Cal. 30, Krag Model, serial number 33671, Carbine, Cal. 30, M1896, Serial Number 33671. Sold To Mr. F.E. Pratt, 21 W 52nd St, New York, NY. June 14, 1899.

The Carbine also had release approval on July 7, 1899.

LETTERS AND EMAILS RECEIVED AND ANSWERED

Good morning. I live in England and have a small collection of Civil War-era guns, to which I am hoping to add when I come to the Julia auction and the Baltimore fair in March. These guns are principally military-issued carbines, by various manufacturers. I have been directed toward you by Mowbray Publishing as they suggest that you know how best to trace serial numbers and possible information arising from those serial numbers as they appear on these guns, such as dates of delivery to the Govt, or maybe dates of issue to regiments or to depots or similar information.

Any information you can give as to how best to go about this sort of research would be very welcome. I am hoping to come over in March and would like to do some research then; but I want to try and gather as much information as possible before I come.

Many thanks and regards

Peter

We can hook up at my table in Baltimore. Thanks, Editor.

I am mainly a Civil War historian who does displays in Libraries to National Museums. Recently I got a 1903 Rock Island Arsenal rifle # 410577.

Do you have any articles or write-ups on this type gun since I'm interested in researching the history more, like every item I come across and acquire from documents to artefacts.

Please refer to the data from our web site on Springfield Research Service. Thanks, Editor.

Reference my 1903 Springfield Mark I. Thanks for your reply, although I didn't understand "Special cutoff and Trigger."

The Mark I had a special trigger, sear, cut off, pin assembly, and stock modification for ejection. They had a parkerized finish covered with a black oil dye. The guns with original finish, stock, markings and matching barrel date is quite rare. Editor.

I have an 1863 Springfield 50/70 and the s.n. is 13841. I would like to know more about the gun and what it might be worth as to insure it. Thank you.

I believe your gun is a converted Civil War musket with modifications to a 50/70 breech loader. Please let me know if you identified the serial number on the left side of the barrel as the number you sent.

Thanks, Editor.

I have recently been handed down a family 1860 Spencer Repeating Rifle with a serial number 12494. I am interested in any information you may have regarding this. Thank you ahead of time for your consideration in my quest for family history.

Please refer to the attached information from Springfield Research. Editor.

I wrote a biography on a Civil War soldier, Col. B. L. Farinholt CSA, who was in charge at the battle of Staunton River Bridge. He retrieved from the field after the battle a significant number of Spencer Carbines. He

sent one to a Col. Withers in Danville, Virginia. I would like to learn more about the history of these weapons. I have some data about the northern units that left the weapons on the field. Secondly, I have an 1849 Colt pocket pistol, the same model carried by Farinholt. If possible I would like to learn more about that particular weapon.

Finally I would like to subscribe to your magazine. Thanks for any assistance you can offer.

Thanks, we sent data on subscriptions. The only way to confirm our data and that of the military records and The National Archives by serial number. Editor.

My son and I bought our first m1903 recently at our local Gun Shop, intending it to be a shooter. He posted on Gunboards.com, trying to find out if we just had a mix master or something original. Evidently, it may be worth more than we paid for it. Can you give me some advice on what we should do to establish its authenticity? What could I expect from an SRS search?

I called the seller last week and he didn't seem to know much about it, but said he would check with his sister in NJ. The seller, Robert P. is 71, so his brother is probably not WWII. I believe his brother might be Anthony P. I'm reluctant to seem too eager and am waiting to call again, hoping he will respond. Here's what John Beard (John Beard is a great researcher with a mass of contract knowledge) -Editor- sent to my son. Thanks for your interest and inquiry! (Attached is data from a great researcher that has put together a large information base). I examined the photos of your rifle and posted a message yesterday on

the Jouster Springfield forum expressing my firm conviction that you have a USMC rifle. I have worked for 13 years as a volunteer M1903 armorer at the CMP and have examined literally hundreds of USMC rifles still in government inventory, plus I have amassed a data base containing many hundreds of USMC rifles by serial number, barrel date, and characteristics. I think I know by now what a USMC rifle looks like. After examining your rifle's photos, I was convinced enough to enter your rifle in my data base. You have the only USMC Mark I rifle that I have seen to date. Your rifle is quite unique in that regard. I am not quite certain, however, how your rifle managed to end up in USMC inventory.

Your rifle has the following USMC characteristics, some of which are distinct:

- (1) A Hatcher Hole,
- (2) A serialized bolt (matching),
- (3) A B2 bolt,
- (4) A stippled buttplate,
- (5) An unmarked scant stock,

While no single characteristic is convincing, the combination is quite convincing.

Hope this helps. Thanks again for your interest and inquiry!

Great data exchange on a Mark I. Editor.

Recently, a Springfield model 1873 of unknown caliber with serial number 2656 was put on donation to our local museum. I was told by Buffalo Bill Historical Society Fire Arms Curator, Warren Newman, to contact you in regards to this firearm. I have multiple pictures I can forward, and was wondering if there is any information we can deduce from this.

Please refer to the data in our message.

Sorry, we do not have data on this serial number, Editor.

Good day from Marquette, Michigan. I inherited a Spencer carbine from my father, a long-time gun collector. I was advised that your organization may be of value in determining the history and value of my firearm. Would my first step be to join your group?

Our data on subscriptions and response is attached. Editor.

Have been studying on your article and Brophy, and confused, as usual. Article and Brophy identify the 40-S/Ns as Model 1924IMs. Brophy page 130, column 2, top paragraph mentions that Style Ts on hand were made into IMs. Is your 1266203 in your article one of those (1929-1932 time frame)? No checkered pistol grip. If so, would it be called a Model 1924IM?

The 1903 records from the Commanding officer show that 50 International Match assemblies were manufactured. Other records show how many were overhauled and had special characteristics. Later data showed that more rifles were made, overhauled with available parts, and sold and used in later years. The rifle detailed is one of the extra 1928 rifles made by Remington. The original American Rifleman magazine had only 40 of the original rifles. It appears that as many as 60 were made including some made by Springfield with their barrels.

The Remington shown was made without the checkering. Editor.

Hi: I would like your services in documenting my 1903 Springfield NRA Sporter, sn1366615. Please advise how to proceed. Thank You.

We have data on that rifle and can produce the data with your authorization. Editor.

I just learned about your service from Ranger Richard T. Colon at the Springfield Armory Museum, who I had called in my attempt to obtain documentation on a revolver that has caught my interest.

I have made out a \$35 check, which I will mail today, for a subscription to your publication. As soon as you are able, I would be grateful to know whether there is any information on a certain revolver in your database. If there is, I intend to purchase a letter on this revolver. There is a time-sensitive element to this inquiry, as I am currently considering purchasing the revolver.

The firearm is Smith & Wesson M&P model revolver SN 291132. The revolver has target sights and a six-inch barrel. I have confirmed with S&W that it was part of a shipment to Springfield Armory in June, 1919. There is an inscription on the right side of the frame (this inscription was NOT made at the S&W factory), which reads as follows:

Presented by YMCA to Orion B. Stauffer 306th Engineers US Pistol Team Inter-Allied Match France 1919. Thank you.

Thank you. We started and checked several times. Sorry, we do not have military serial numbers for civilian sponsored weapons. We could find no data on that weapon. Perhaps some of our readers can help. Editor.

I was hoping that you could confirm if information is available for a CAC Martially-Marked Henry rifle that I own. The serial

number is 3169. It appears that most of the Henry's in this serial range were issued to the First D.C. Cavalry. Thank you for your assistance.

We do not have data on that weapon. Several attempts were made to cross- check the number with no results. Editor.

Does the article link specific Remington's to specific units? If it does, could you send me a typical page from the article so I could review it and see if I wanted to purchase a copy of the article? Also I would be interested in an updated article on the Remington New Model.

We will look at this data but there is no way to correlate the data with units. We are looking at new data for the future. Editor.

Sorry about that, hit wrong button. Anyway would you have any back issues for purchase that covers the Colt Artillery?

We must manually search for this data and so far, no results. Editor.

I am not a big collector of military arms, but I have acquired an early Colt 1911 Navy pistol serial number 982. I would like to know if you have any information in your research files concerning this pistol. I would gladly pay a research fee for your services. Please advise.

Thank you.

Sorry, we have no data and cannot search for additional information. Editor.

U.S. Army Model 1917 Revolver Serial number 112811

The large-frame 1917 Revolvers were manufactured by Smith and Wesson in Springfield, Massachusetts during World War I. They were known by several names including United States Revolver, Caliber .45, M1917 and "The Government Model" by S&W and Springfield factory workers. It was a U.S. six-shot revolver caliber .45 ACP. The U.S. Army adopted the Model 1917 in 1917 to supplement the standard M1911 .45 ACP semi-automatic pistol. The 1917 continued in use during World War II, Korea, and Viet Nam. It was used as a secondary handgun by many troops and also agencies outside of the military.

S&W and Springfield Armory began a joint project to develop a "half-moon" steel clip for the large-frame Second Model that would hold three of the rimless .45 ACP cartridges, held by the extractor. S&W "step" machined the cylinder chambers to maintain head space allowing .45 ACPs to be fired without clips. Two clips completed the 6 round capacity.

S&W 1917's began with serial number 1, and by the end of the war 163,476 Model 1917s (some records show a production of 169,595) were made. The first guns were shipped on Sept. 6, 1917, and had a 5 1/2-inch barrel, polished blued finish, casehardened hammers and triggers, fixed sights, and two-piece smooth walnut stocks with lanyard rings attached to the butt. After Sept. 13, 1918, S&W factory production came under the control of Springfield Armory, and most guns were shipped to Springfield Armory or army depots.

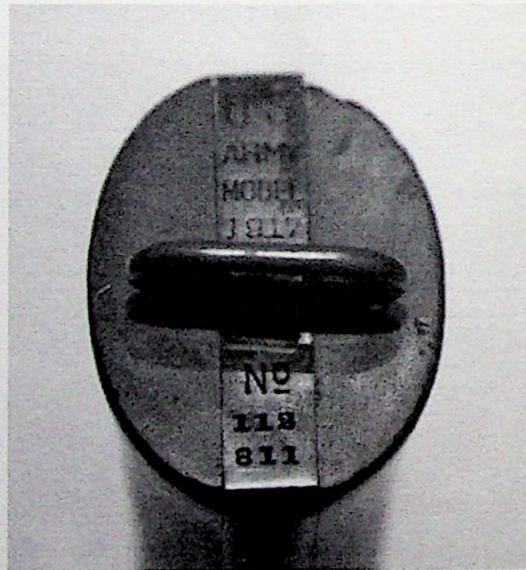


Left Side S&W Model 1917 Caliber 45 ACP.

Right Side of Serial Number 119811



Above. Upper Left Side with Flaming Bomb Ordnance Mark.



Above. Butt Markings US Army 1917

MODEL SUMMARY

Caliber:	.45 ACP
Barrel Length:	5½ inch
Finish:	Bright polish blue with color case hardened hammer and trigger.
Stocks:	Smooth walnut.
Variations:	Early production to approximately 2/18 and serial number 25,000 have the sides of the hammer grooved. Few occurrences with higher serial numbers; believed to be from leftover parts.
	Early production to approx. 3/18 and serial number 30,000 have milled stock circles at the tops of the grips. Few occurrences with higher serial numbers. Afterwards the grip tops were rounded.

MILITARY PRODUCTION DATA

Number Bought by the U.S.:	Approximately 163,635
SN Range of U.S. Pistols:	1 to 169,959
Period of U.S. Shipments:	(Regular production deliveries) 10/17-1/25/19

MARKINGS

Factory

Serial Numbering:	Butt, back of cylinder, underside of barrel, inside right grip (in pencil), underside of extractor star and rear of the crane or yoke (must be removed to see marking).
Factory Inspector:	Letter/number inspector code under grips and sometimes on frame under yoke.
Caliber:	Left side of barrel — "S. & W. D.A. 45"
Model:	Butt — "U.S. ARMY MODEL 1917" No. (serial number)
Other:	Top of barrel — "SMITH & WESSON SPRINGFIELD MASS, U.S.A. PATENTED DEC. 17, 1901 FEB. 6, 1906, SEP. 14, 1909"
	Cylinder — A Plant Protection inspection letter dated December 24, 1918, stated that cylinders were marked to indicate they had been hardened. The author has not observed such marks.

Military

Property:	Underside of barrel — "UNITED STATES PROPERTY" Stamp includes the quotation marks. Early marking is $\frac{3}{8}$ " long and later is $\frac{1}{4}$ " including quotation marks.
Proof:	None
Inspection:	Provisional inspection until approximately 5/18 — "S" on frame under yoke, back of cylinder and underside of barrel near serial number. Provisional inspection after approximately 5/18 — eaglehead with inspector code on frame under yoke, back of cylinder and underside of barrel near serial number. Codes noted: S2, S3, S4, 21, S21, S23, 24, S24, and S34. Final inspection — no separate mark until approx. 6/18. Afterwards, eaglehead with inspector code on left frame above rear triggerguard web. Codes noted: S1, S2, S6, S7, S9 and S21.
Acceptance:	Until approx. 4/18 — "GHS" superimposed in circle on upper left frame. Afterwards, Ordnance insignia on upper left frame.
Shipping Box:	At least some revolvers were delivered in individual cardboard boxes but no details are available on the description. Large shipments are believed to have been made in wooden crates of 25 revolvers.

The Chart Shown is a Complete Analysis of The S&W 1917 Revolver. Provided by: Charles Pate, author of the U.S. Handguns of World War II.

11268	011635	DISPOSAL RECORD
11268	011635	KY NG (RECOVERED)
11288	032218	SA TO PATERSON OD
11288	032518	SA TO PATERSON OD
11288	040932	INQUIRY FROM OO
11288	051132	DISPOSAL RECORD
11298	100741	DISPOSAL RECORD
11328	080323	DISPOSAL RECORD
11353		DISPOSAL RECORD
11370	040935	DISPOSAL RECORD
11446	061532	NY NG
11455	010626	DISPOSAL RECORD
11512	081026	POST OFFICE DEPT
11546	061518	2ND CORP ART PARK CAMP JACKSON
11555	071458	DISPOSAL RECORD
11560	060137	KENTUCKY
11560	060337	DISPOSAL RECORD
11577	081626	POST OFFICE DEPT
11613	041336	POST OFFICE DEPT
11613	043136	DISPOSAL RECORD
11648	061818	CAMP UPTON NY (RECD)
11671	030326	DISPOSAL RECORD
11725	112539	DISPOSAL RECORD
11736	030134	DISPOSAL RECORD
11776	010628	POST OFFICE DEPT
11805	093042	DISPOSAL RECORD
11904	033127	DISPOSAL RECORD
11925		DISPOSAL RECORD
11983	020345	POST OFFICE DEPT
12028	061818	CAMP UPTON NY (RECD)
12129	022722	POST OFFICE DEPT
12157	123127	TRP C 51ST MG SQDN NY NG
12172	121845	DISPOSAL RECORD
12181	021918	SA TO CAMP DEVENS
12181	110137	DISPOSAL RECORD
12181	110137	INQUIRY FROM OO
12190	071933	DISPOSAL RECORD
12263	123125	DISPOSAL RECORD
12263	072647	FT SILL
12263	081547	DISPOSAL RECORD
12264	030633	NY NG
12265	030228	DISPOSAL RECORD
12297	101639	DISPOSAL RECORD
12316	010626	DISPOSAL RECORD
12326	010626	DISPOSAL RECORD
12332	020330	POST OFFICE DEPT
12381	061518	2ND CORP ART PARK CAMP JACKSON

Serial Numbers of Selected 1917 S&W Revolvers Showing Various Agency use.

(Note: In the mid-1930s, Brazil ordered many thousands of M1917s for their military. Now out of service, surplus examples can be identified by the large Brazilian crest stamped on their side plates. They are sometimes referred to as the M1937 or the Brazilian-contract M1917.)

The U.S. Army requested information on disposal of 1917 Smith and Wesson revolvers that were supplied at an earlier date. Quite often we find documents of this type without serial numbers. This is an excellent example of specific serial numbers used by a civilian agency. They were still in use in 1951. *Courtesy of Charles Pate Author of U.S. Handguns of World War II.*

Veterans Administration

36

December 7, 1951

11BABB

Department of the Army
National Defense Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Chief of Ordnance - ORD-FQ

Dear Sir:

It is requested that this office be furnished disposition instructions on thirteen (13) each Revolver, Smith and Wesson, .45 Caliber, Serial Nos. 122072, 140208, 101977, 113733, 89312, 141310, 107648, 42233, 96373, 117770, 117273, 121434, and 162208, with Holsters, which are excess at the Veterans Administration Supply Depot, Hines, Illinois.

Our records indicate that these weapons, which have been in the possession of various field stations of the Veterans Administration, were transferred on a loan basis to the Veterans Administration by the Department of the Army in accordance with an agreement between the two agencies.

Very truly yours,

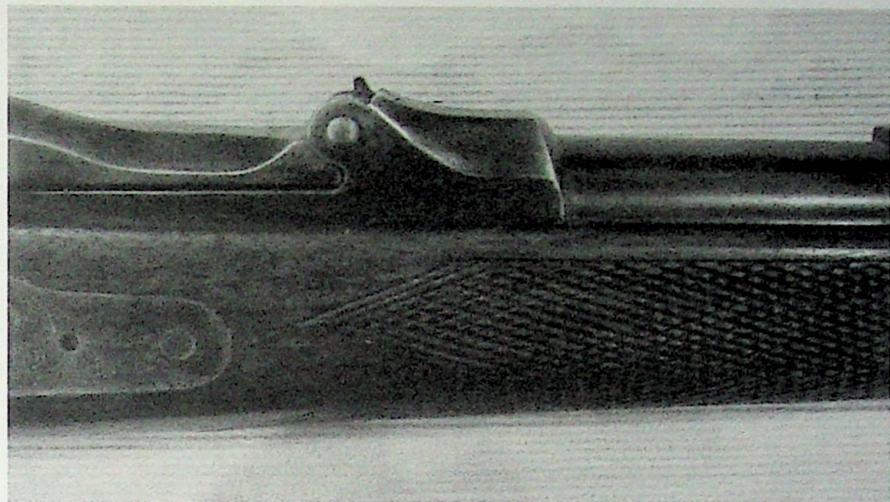
GLENN C. PARMELEE
Chief, Supply Control Division
Supply Service

U.S. Martial Arms Collector 134-13

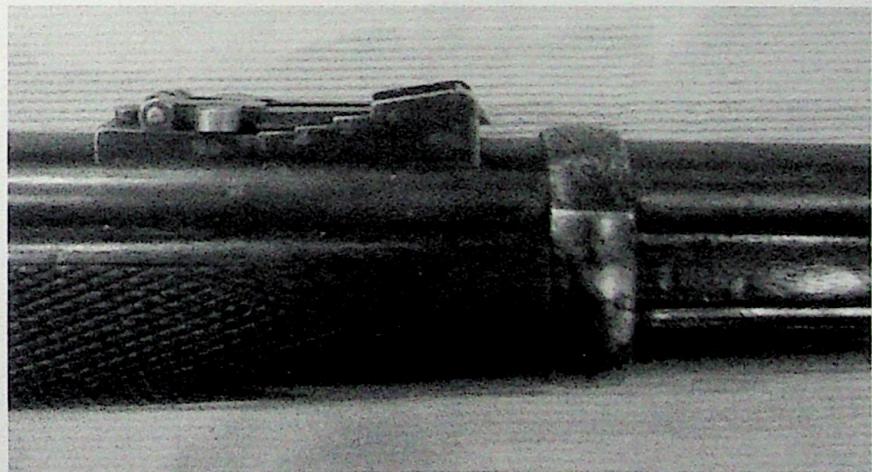
SPRINGFIELD 45/70 OFFICERS MODEL



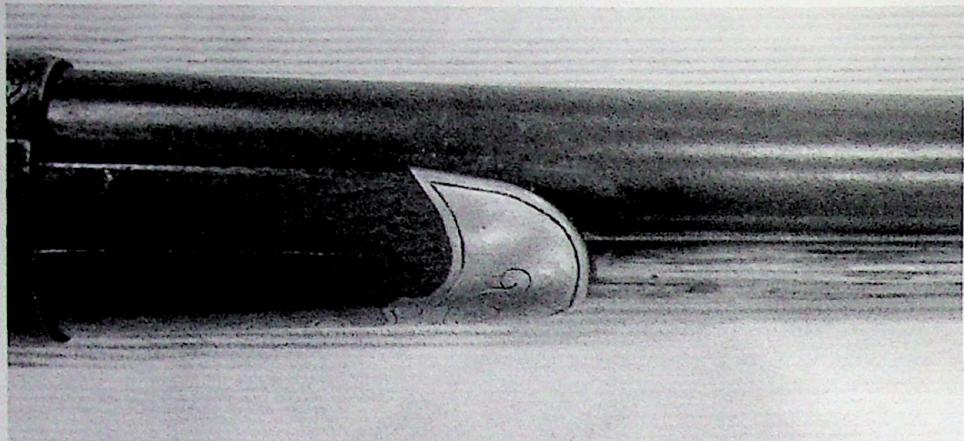
The Trap Door caliber 45/70 Officers Model is one of the most sought after cartridge rifles from Springfield Armory. The rifles had a superb hand finish with engraving on many parts and a high quality stock with brass tipped ramrod and pewter engraved stock tip. There are a few slightly different styles but only approximately 500 rifles produced. The engraved lock and hammer are shown with the tang rear sight.



Forend checkering with finely finished receiver that is color hardened.

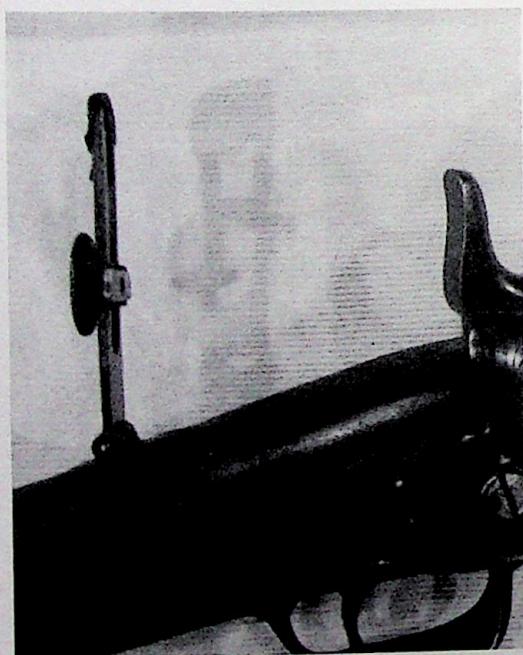


Early style 1873 rear sight mounted on barrel with engraved barrel band.

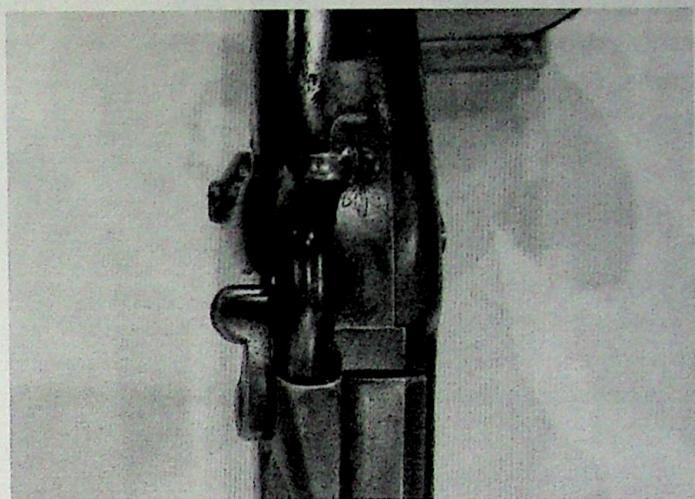


Pewter stock tip with engraved barrel band, band spring, and wooden ramrod under barrel.

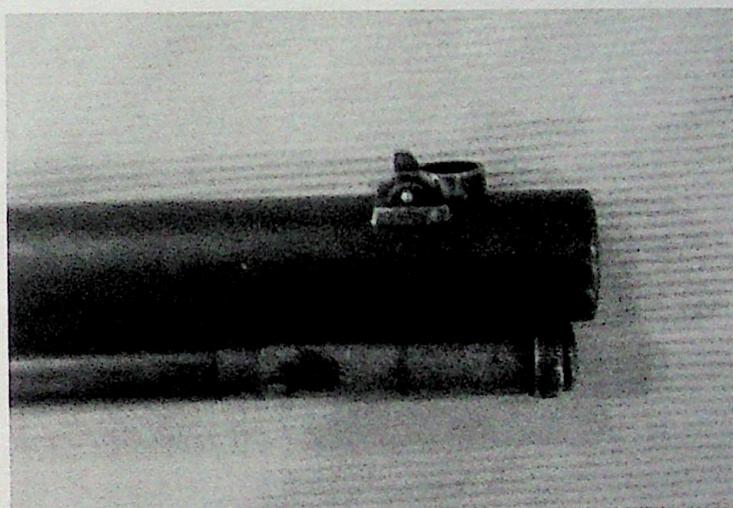
Tang type rear sight in shooting position with nicely checkered stock grip.



Top view of hammer, engraved tang and top of breech block with thumb latch.



Front sight in folded position with brass tipped ramrod.



The Officers Model shown was shown *courtesy of Frank Pagano*.
The data came from SRS.

1. Remington serial number	1 257 699
2. Pope serial number	1 257 679
3. Remington serial number	1 257 722
4. Remington serial number	1 257 678
5. Remington serial number	1 257 719
6. Winchester serial number	1 257 688
7. Pope serial number	1 257 694
8. Remington serial number	1 257 691
9. Remington serial number	1 257 708
10. Winchester serial number	1 247 717
11. Remington serial number	1 257 692
12. Remington serial number	1 257 677
13. Winchester serial number	1 257 691
14. Winchester serial number	1 257 676
15. Winchester serial number	1 257 686
16. Winchester serial number	12 57 721
17. Winchester serial number	12 55 110
18. Remington serial number	1 257 713
19. Winchester serial number	1 257 718
20. Winchester serial number	1 257 720
21. Remington serial number	1 257 689
22. Remington serial number	1 257 680
23. Remington serial number	1 257 716
24. Remington serial number	1 257 701
25. Winchester serial number	1 257 697
26. Remington serial number	1 257 712
27. Winchester serial number	1 257 681
28. Remington serial number	1 257 711
29. Remington serial number	1 257 702
30. Pope serial number	1 257 706
31. Winchester serial number	1 257 082
32. Winchester serial number	1 257 675
33. Pope serial number	1 257 698
34. Pope serial number	1 257 704
35. Winchester serial number	1 257 687
36. Remington serial number	1 257 705
37. Winchester serial number	1 257 682
38. Remington serial number	1 257 714
39. Remington serial number	1 257 693
40. Remington serial number	1 257 695

This chart is a revision of the 40 known International Match Rifles made by Springfield Armory.

It is estimated that approximately 60 rifles in various configurations were made. This includes the rifles assembled with Remington, Winchester, Pope, and Springfield barrels.

The barrels were from 26 to 32 inches long and were used on new and refurbished rifles.

SRS is continuing to search for other numbers and will publish them if available.

All rifles had selected Model 1903 Springfield actions, but other work such as Arsenal made stocks would vary according to sales, special match fitting, and rebuilds by the arsenal.

COLLECTORS NOTES

1903A4 Remington with 3/4 inch front ring and Redfield mount.

The punch mark indicates a Rockwell hardness test.

Serial number 3424677.

1903A4's were used in World

War II, Korea, and Viet Nam.

Scopes included Weaver 330's,

440's, Lyman Alaskans, M84's,

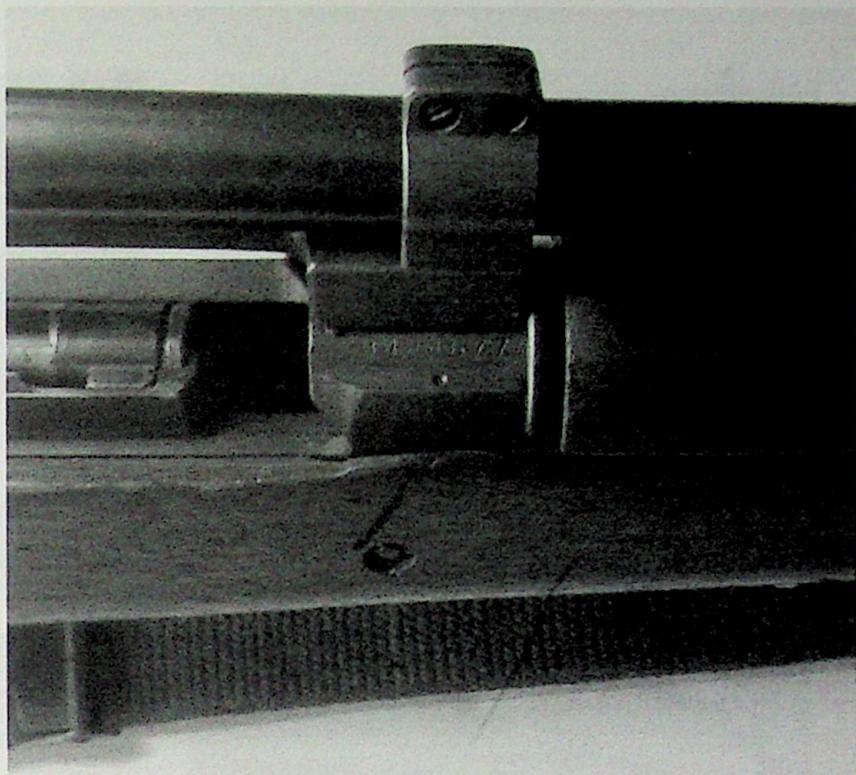
and many commercial scopes for

Viet Nam. Weaver K4 scopes and

Unertl 1 inch scopes were used for

special operations. (Many of the

same scopes were also used on the M1D.)



1903A4 Remington
Modified Bolt With Weaver 330 Scope.

(There were 100 1903A3 rifles converted by Springfield Armory for Korea.)

They had A4 parts and stocks but had conventional A3 markings.

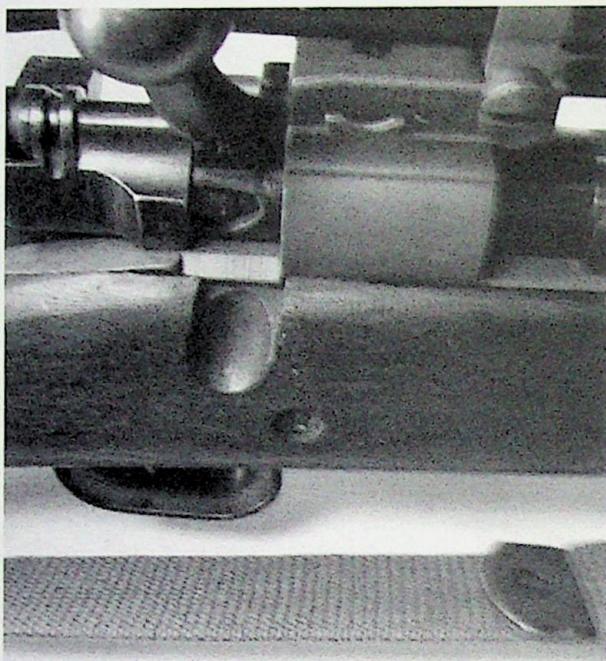
The 1903A4 receivers had the Remington markings moved to the left of the receiver ring to show the markings when the scope mount was on the center ring of the receiver.



1903A4 Showing Lowered Bolt Cut and Receiver modification for the low bolt.

(The receiver was milled out to accept the altered bolt handle). The stock on 1903A4's had a milled cut made in the wood to accept the altered bolt handle.

(A second downward cut was made showing a circular area for a deeper clearance). The second cut was not made on the first C type stocks. Remington received the first C stocks from the Army until they started the production of scant stocks.



1903A4 With Weaver 330 3/4 Inch Rings and Lowered Bolt.

(Observations have been made of 1903A4 rifles with 8X Unertl scopes with modified hand guards).



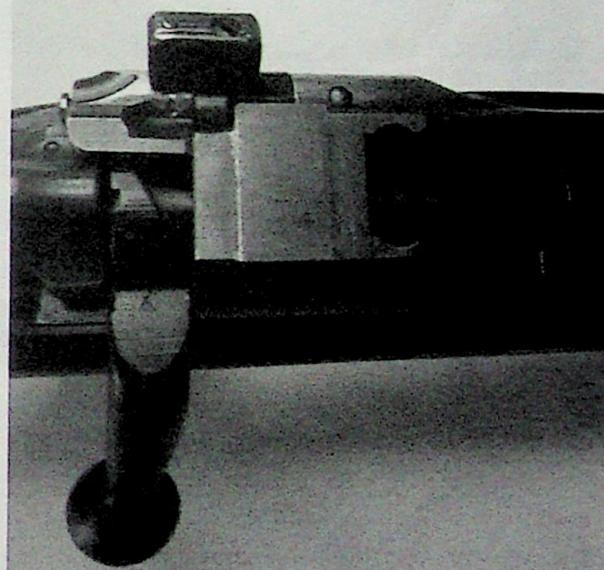
Smith Corona 1903A3
Serial Number 3608304
Very Early Production.

It appears that there were several slight differences in the first production. They can be seen when shown side by side with a later production 1903A3 rifle



Smith Corona 1903A3
X Marked Bolt Handle.

This is one of many slight differences in markings between Remington, sub contractors, and Smith Corona.



There were quite a few differences during the production of both the 1903A3 and the 1903A4. Many were made during the early production changes after the manufacture of the 1903 Remington. Many others were made for production efficiencies and design improvements. The two contractors had different markings as well as the of sub- contractors. Observations have been made of 1903A3 rifles with 22 caliber barrels, bolt, and magazines.

Smith Corona Serial Number C 3712181. An excellent example of the Smith Corona C to identify a serial number that overlapped numbers assigned to Remington.



Smith Corona 1903A3 Serial Number 3709593. Another scarce example of a C prefix serial number.



Remington 1903A3 National Match Rifle with Olympic rear sight and combination 1903 and 1903A3 front sight. Polished NS bolt and straight S style 1903A3 stock.

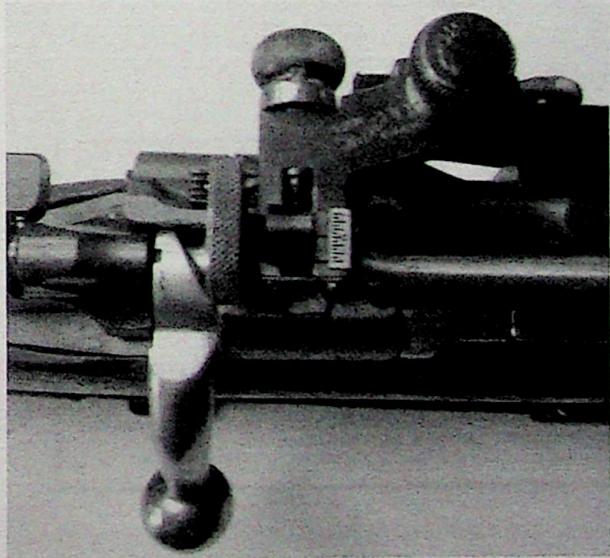


Redfield Olympic receiver sight mounted on the left side of the receiver with 5 adjustment positions. Standard 1903A3 rear sight was removed. Other 1903A3 fittings were normally used.

There have been observations of milled trigger guards on some rifles. The NM milled butt plate with coarse checkering was used.

Top of 1903A3 National Match rifle. Olympic Receiver sight position eliminated the capability to use stripper clips. This and other features found the limited run of weapons undesirable. The front sight was made from a 1903 base with 1903A3 blade.

The subject rifles were courtesy of Larry Byrd. The data and photographs were provided by SRS and added to with the in dept expertise of Larry Byrd.



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11268	011635	DISPOSAL RECORD
11268	011635	KY NG (RECOVERED)
11288	032218	SA TO PATERSON OD
11288	032518	SA TO PATERSON OD
11288	040932	INQUIRY FROM OO
11288	051132	DISPOSAL RECORD
11298	100741	DISPOSAL RECORD
11328	080323	DISPOSAL RECORD
11353		DISPOSAL RECORD
11370	040935	DISPOSAL RECORD
11446	061532	NY NG
11455	010626	DISPOSAL RECORD
11512	081026	POST OFFICE DEPT
11546	061518	2ND CORP ART PARK CAMP JACKSON
11555	071458	DISPOSAL RECORD
11560	060137	KENTUCKY
11560	060337	DISPOSAL RECORD
11577	081626	POST OFFICE DEPT
11613	041336	POST OFFICE DEPT
11613	043136	DISPOSAL RECORD
11648	061818	CAMP UPTON NY (RECD)
11671	030326	DISPOSAL RECORD
11725	112539	DISPOSAL RECORD
11736	030134	DISPOSAL RECORD
11776	010628	POST OFFICE DEPT
11805	093042	DISPOSAL RECORD
11904	033127	DISPOSAL RECORD
11925		DISPOSAL RECORD
11983	020345	POST OFFICE DEPT
12028	061818	CAMP UPTON NY (RECD)
12129	022722	POST OFFICE DEPT
12157	123127	TRP C 51ST MG SQDN NY NG
12172	121845	DISPOSAL RECORD
12181	021918	SA TO CAMP DEVENS
12181	110137	DISPOSAL RECORD
12181	110137	INQUIRY FROM OO
12190	071933	DISPOSAL RECORD
12263	123125	DISPOSAL RECORD
12263	072647	FT SILL
12263	081547	DISPOSAL RECORD
12264	030633	NY NG
12265	030228	DISPOSAL RECORD
12297	101639	DISPOSAL RECORD
12316	010625	DISPOSAL RECORD
12326	010626	DISPOSAL RECORD
12332	020330	POST OFFICE DEPT
12381	061518	2ND CORP ART PARK CAMP JACKSON

This table shows sample serial numbers of 1903A4 rifles. The 1903A4 rifles were sold through the Civilian Marksmanship program (CMP).

Numbers were listed as manufactured and not necessarily in numeric order. They were made with 1903 A3 serial numbers.

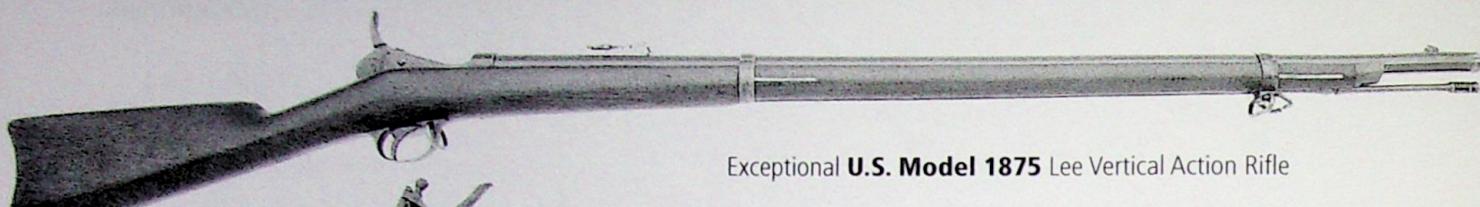
The rifles were sold, and usually not with modifications.

It appears that some receivers were made back or restored to 1903A4 configuration by non military sources.

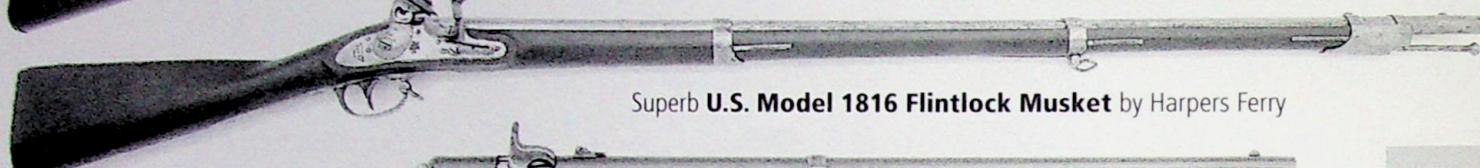
The U.S. military historically stored and shipped rifles without scopes.

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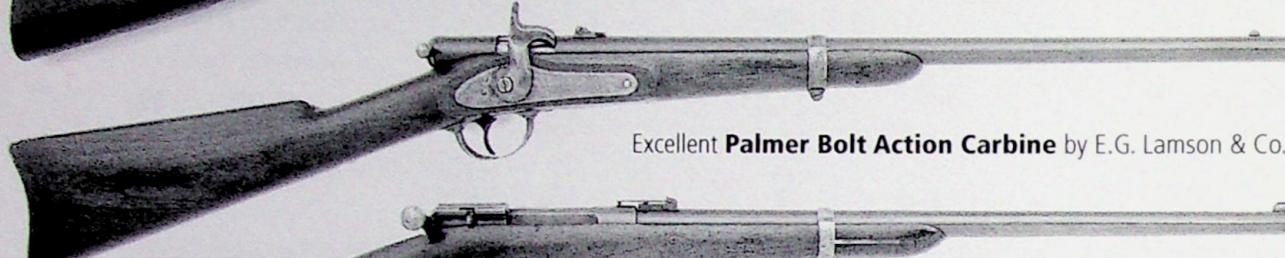
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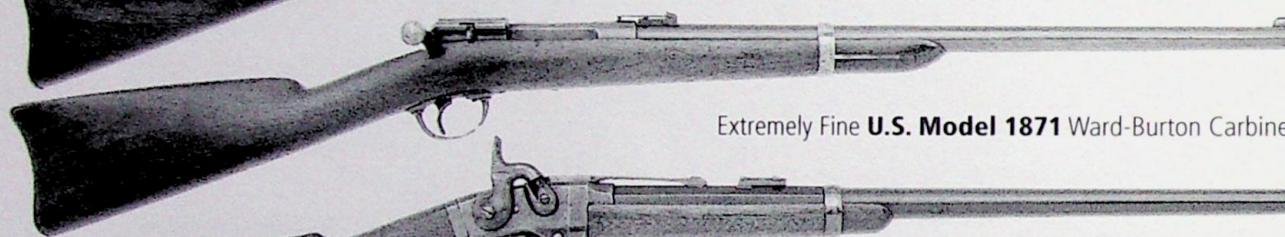
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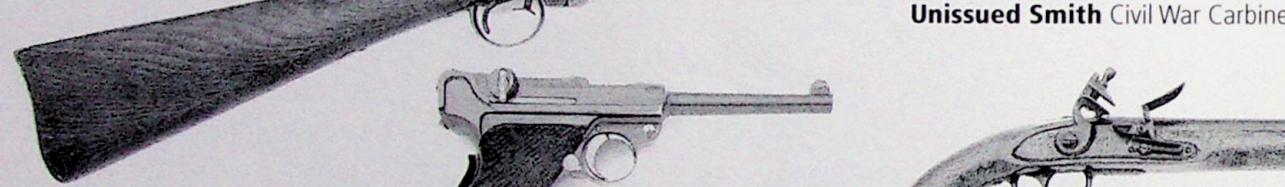
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Unissued Smith Civil War Carbine



Rare DWM Model
1900 American Eagle
U.S. Trials Test Luger



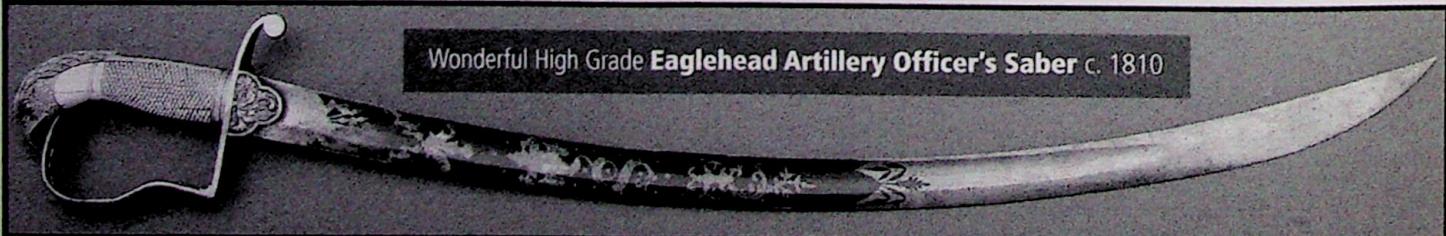
Fine **U.S. Model 1817 Flintlock**
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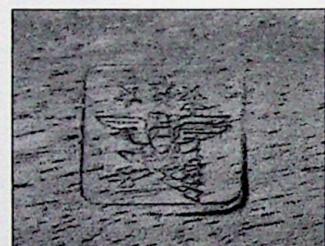
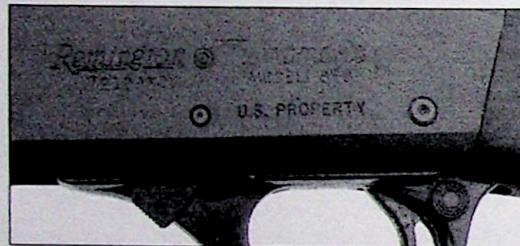
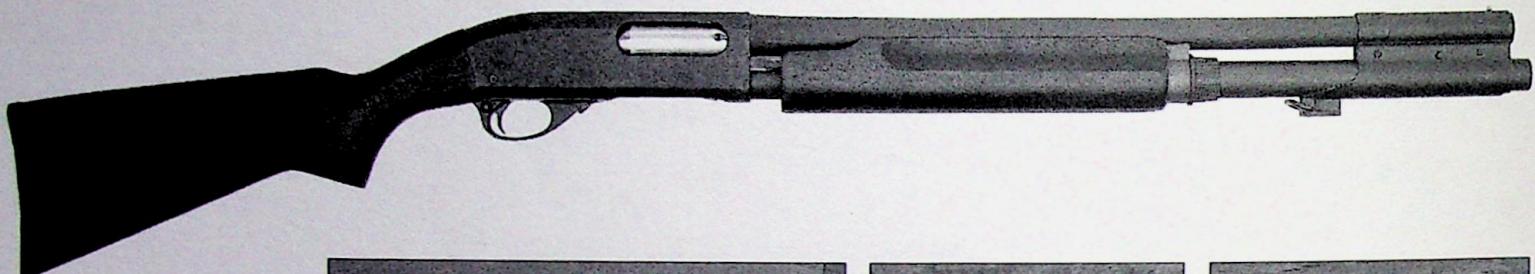
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