

YES! THE DOUBLE-STACK
KIMBER 2K11 .45 IS HERE!

3D-PRINTED FOR CARRY:
FALCO CX02 OWB HOLSTER

PROOFHOUSE
SAVAGE 110 PPR

gunsandammo.com

GUNS & AMMO

JANUARY 2025

HK LOVES YOU

MEET THE CC9.

LESS THAN
1-INCH WIDE
AND 6-INCHES
LONG, THE 10-
AND 12+1 ROUND
CARRY PISTOL IS
HECKLER & KOCH'S
FIRST MICRO-COMPACT
EDC 9MM.

P. 40



+

IT'S DEER SEASON!

TRADITIONS
OUTFITTER G3 IN
.360 BUCKHAMMER!

P. 54



P. 31
BECKSTRAND
TESTED:
Federal 7mm PRC Loads



P. 21
NANCE
SPEED TRAP!
Caldwell VelociRadar



P. 23
TARR
Do compensators
help a carry pistol?



SECUREIT™

IT'S WHAT'S ON THE INSIDE THAT REALLY COUNTS

PROTECT AND ORGANIZE WHAT
MATTERS MOST WITH SECUREIT
CRADLEGRID SYSTEMS

Building armories for the DOD for 22 years... you learn a few things. Flexible modular storage for guns and gear is better than big old heavy safes.

**FAST ACCESS / SECURE
CUSTOMIZABLE / DISCREET**

SET YOUR OWN CODE
NO MASTER CODE
STORAGE

BIOMETRIC,
CODE & MANUAL
ACCESS



AGILE™ MODULAR GUN SAFE SYSTEMS

AGILE PRO QUAD STACK SHOWN

SECUREITGUNSTORAGE.COM

CHANGING THE WAY
AMERICA THINKS ABOUT
FIREARMS STORAGE





ED BROWN KOBRA CARRY

25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

*Celebrating 25 years of the Kobra Carry
the most popular custom 1911 of all time*



LIMITED EDITION - ONE YEAR ONLY
ED BROWN BOBTAIL®
ED BROWN SNAKESKIN
"25TH ANNIVERSARY" FRAME ENGRAVING
EB LOGO ON GRIPS
FLAT WIRE RECOIL SYSTEM



edbrown.com



CONTENTS

The subscriber cover features the Kimber 2K11, a double-stack with a modular grip, equipped with a Trijicon SRO and SureFire X300. P. 46



BY ERIC R. POOLE

HK INTRODUCES THE CC9 9MM DURING THE YEAR OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY.

40

FASHIONABLY LATE

COVER PHOTOS & ABOVE PHOTO: MICHAEL ANSCHUETZ

46

HIGH TIME

The Kimber 2K11 is the high-grade hi-cap we've been waiting for.

BY JAMES TARR

54

KING OF DEER

The Traditions Outfitter G3 gets a new straight-walled chambering: .360 Buckhammer!

BY RICHARD NANCE

64

COVERT COMMANDO

Produced in small numbers, Britain's De Lisle carbine proved to be one of the premier silenced small arms of World War II.

BY GARRY JAMES

Reader Blowback.....	8
Editorial by Eric R. Poole	13
Gun Room by Garry James.....	15
Gun Tech by Richard Nance	21
Handgunning by James Tarr.....	23
The Carry Rig Falco CX02 OWB.....	26

Rifles & Glass by Tom Beckstrand.....	31
Quiet Time Wilson Combat Quell Ultralight 9mm.....	34
Gun Notes by Joe Kurtenbach.....	37
Proofhouse Savage 110 PPR 6.5 Creedmoor.....	72
Connect by Antonio Acitelli	79
Spent Cases by Keith Wood.....	80

The Perfect Gift!

Available in a variety of prices, our holsters make great gifts!



If you're carrying concealed and want to be comfortable, then a holster needs to be the last item you put on in the morning, not the first. Sneaky Pete holsters fit into your lifestyle and you'll never have to dress around your firearm again. No matter how you make your way in the world, there's a Sneaky Pete Holster that's exactly right for you!

Holsters start at only:

\$39.95!

Prices vary based on color and material

SneakyPete.com

There's a holster to suit everyone!

Perfect Series

Leave the house with not just your concealed carry firearm, but all your other items conveniently stored in our **Perfect Series** of Holsters.

They're the PERFECT way to carry everything!



\$69.95!

Scan this QR Code to see our complete holster selection.
SneakyPete.com



Freedom Series

Distressed Leather with an embossed Eagle is about the coolest holster design we make.

With a Sneaky Pete **Freedom Series** you can carry concealed in our most handsome holster.



\$79.95!

Scan this QR Code to see our complete holster selection.
SneakyPete.com



Tactical Series

Imagine that you could change the look of your favorite concealed carry holster whenever you wanted. With the **Tactical Series** you can swap out the front Velcro Patch whenever you want!



\$92.95!

Scan this QR Code to see our complete holster selection.
SneakyPete.com



Xtra Mag Series

Carrying an extra magazine (or two) can be the difference between having the ammo you need in a sticky situation, or running out. Carry up to 2 extra magazines with our **Xtra Mag Holsters**!



\$84.95!

Scan this QR Code to see our complete holster selection.
SneakyPete.com



FREE SHIPPING with code: XMAS

EDITORIAL

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Eric R. Poole

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Joe Kurtenbach

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Antonio Acitelli

ART DIRECTOR
Michael Ulrich

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Michael Anschuetz

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
James Clark

SENIOR EDITOR
Garry James

FIELD EDITOR
Keith Wood

HANDGUN EDITOR
James Tarr

RIFLES & OPTICS EDITOR
Tom Beckstrand

TECHNOLOGY EDITOR
Richard Nance

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
Beth Farnam

CONTRIBUTORS

Craig Boddington, Donna Boddington,
A. F. Branco, Dave Emary, D. Faubion,
Mark Fingar, Brad Fitzpatrick,
Robert W. Hunnicutt, Alfredo Rico, Phil Schreier

ENDEMIC AD SALES

SVP, ENDEMIC SALES

Michael Savino mike.savino@outdoorsg.com

NATIONAL ENDEMIC SALES
Jim McConville (440) 791-7017

WESTERN REGION
Hutch Looney hutch@hlooney.com

EASTERN REGION
Pat Bentzel (717) 695-8095

MIDWESTERN REGION
Mark Thiffault (720) 630-9863

NATIONAL AD SALES

SENIOR DIRECTOR, NON-ENDEMIC SALES
Kevin Donley kevin.donley@outdoorsg.com

NATIONAL ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Carl Benson carl.benson@outdoorsg.com

DIRECT RESPONSE
ADVERTISING/NON-ENDEMIC
Anthony Smyth (914) 409-4202

SUBSCRIPTIONS INQUIRIES: Should you wish to change your address, order new subscriptions, or report a problem with your current subscription, you can do so by writing Guns & Ammo, P.O. Box 37539, Boone, IA 50037-0539, or e-mail us at amocustserv@cdsfulfillment.com, or call TOLL FREE 1-800-800-2666, Outside U.S. call 515-237-3699.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE for one year is \$24.94 (U.S., APO, FPO, and U.S. possessions). Canada add \$13 (U.S. funds) per year, includes sales tax and GST. Foreign add \$15 (U.S. funds) per year.

By subscribing to Guns & Ammo, you agree to our Terms of Service (<https://www.outdoorsg.com/about/terms-of-service/>) and acknowledge our Privacy Policy (<https://www.outdoorsg.com/about/privacy/>).

Occasionally, our subscriber list is made available to reputable firms offering goods and services that we believe would be of interest to our readers. If you prefer to be excluded, please send your current address label and a note requesting to be excluded from these promotions to: Outdoor Sportsman Group - P.O. Box 126640 Harrisburg PA 17112 - Attn: Privacy Coordinator or email your label information and note to privacy@outdoorsg.com.

BE AWARE THAT GUNS & AMMO ONLY ACCEPTS SUBSCRIPTION REQUESTS FROM AUTHORIZED AGENTS! WE MAY NOT HONOR REQUESTS FROM UNAUTHORIZED AGENTS, AND YOU THEREFORE MAY LOSE YOUR MONEY IF YOU BUY FROM AN UNAUTHORIZED AGENT. If you are offered a subscription to Guns & Ammo, please call 1-800-800-2666 to determine if the agent is authorized. For more information on subscription scams, please visit www.ftc.gov.

ALL-NEW M20S NULA

MINI ACTION BOLT-ACTION RIFLE

The Wilson Combat NULA Model 20S Mini Action bolt-action rifle is an impressive tool for the avid hunter. This rifle has exceptional accuracy and has a sub 1" MOA guarantee*. Weighing in at an incredible 4 to 5 pounds (without scope), it is also one of the lightest — perfect for extended hunts where firearm weight is a factor.



5+1
CAPACITY

MODEL 20S



CARBON
FIBER STOCK



TIMNEY ELITE
HUNTER TRIGGER



SUB 1"
MOA

MODEL
20S
SPECS

AVAILABLE CALIBER

.223 Wylde
300 Blackout
300 HAM'R
350 Legend

BARREL LENGTH



SCAN QR
TO LEARN
MORE

WILSONCOMBAT.COM

BUY ONE *SILENCER* GET ONE *FREE*

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!



CLAIM YOUR **FREE** BANISH 22K-V2

For a limited time, buy any qualifying BANISH suppressor, and receive a **FREE** BANISH 22K-V2 rimfire suppressor.

VALUED AT \$465!

Offer valid on BANISH® silencers valued \$849 and above. Buyer responsible for tax stamp. Valid while supplies last or until 12.31.24 on new purchases only. Cannot be combined with other offers. Must be age 21+ and a resident of a silencer-legal state. Full disclaimer at silencercentral.com/bogo.

GET STARTED TODAY



Call
866.471.6871

Buy Online
[SILENCERCENTRAL.COM/BOGO](https://silencercentral.com/bogo)



**SILENCER
CENTRAL.**

Throw Yourself a Bone

Full tang stainless steel blade with natural bone handle —now **ONLY \$79!**

If you're on the hunt for a knife that combines impeccable craftsmanship with a sense of wonder, the **\$79 Huntsman Blade** is the trophy you're looking for.

The blade is full tang, meaning it doesn't stop at the handle but extends to the length of the grip for the ultimate in strength. The blade is made from 420 surgical steel, famed for its sharpness and its resistance to corrosion.

The handle is made from genuine natural bone, and features decorative wood spacers and a hand-carved motif of two overlapping feathers—a reminder for you to respect and connect with the natural world.

This fusion of substance and style can garner a high price tag out in the marketplace. In fact, we found full tang, stainless steel blades with bone handles in excess of \$2,000. Well, that won't cut it around here. We have mastered the hunt for the best deal, and in turn pass the spoils on to our customers.

But we don't stop there. While supplies last, we'll include a pair of \$99 8x21 power compact binoculars *and* a genuine leather sheath **FREE** when you purchase the **Huntsman Blade**.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed. Feel the knife in your hands, wear it on your hip, inspect the impeccable craftsmanship. If you don't feel like we cut you a fair deal, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price.

Limited Reserves. A deal like this won't last long. We have only 1120 **Huntsman Blades** for this ad only. Don't let this beauty slip through your fingers. Call today!

Huntsman Blade ~~\$249*~~

Offer Code Price Only \$79 + S&P

Save \$170

1-800-333-2045

Your Insider Offer Code: HBK253-01

You must use the insider offer code to get our special price.

Stauer® 14091 Southcross Drive W., Dept. HBK253-01
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 www.stauer.com

*Discount is only for customers who use the offer code versus the listed original Stauer.com price.

California residents please call 1-800-333-2045 regarding Proposition 65 regulations before purchasing this product.

- 12" overall length; 6 ½" stainless steel full tang blade • Genuine bone handle with brass hand guard & bolsters • Includes genuine leather sheath

Stauer... *Afford the Extraordinary.®*



**EXCLUSIVE
FREE**

Stauer® 8x21
Compact
Binoculars
-a \$99 value-
with purchase of
Huntsman Blade



**OUTDOOR
SPORTSMAN**
GROUP®
INTEGRATED MEDIA

CORPORATE

PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mike Carney

EVP, OPERATIONS

Derek Sevcik

VP, CONSUMER MARKETING

Peter Watt

SENIOR DIRECTOR,
MANUFACTURING & TECHNOLOGY

Kyle Morgan

SENIOR DIRECTOR, PRODUCTION

Connie Mendoza

SENIOR CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Tim Neher

DIRECTOR, DIGITAL EDITORIAL

Darren Choate

DIRECTOR, SOCIAL MEDIA

James Clark

For questions regarding digital editions,
please contact digitalsupport@outdoorsg.com.

MEDIA

outdoorsg.com

TELEVISION

outdoorchannel.com
thesportsmanchannel.com
worldfishingnetwork.com

FISHING

bassfan.com
floridasportsman.com
flyfisherman.com
gameandfishmag.com
in-fisherman.com

HUNTING

bowhunter.com
bowhuntingmag.com
gundogmag.com
petersenshunting.com
northamericanwhitetail.com
wildfowlmag.com

SHOOTING

gunsandammo.com
handguns.com
rifleshooter.com
shootingtimes.com
firearmsnews.com

CONTRIBUTIONS: Manuscripts, photographs and artwork must be submitted to the editorial department with a SASE. The Publisher assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to unsolicited material. Please send to: Guns & Ammo, 2 News Plaza, Peoria, IL 61614, Attn: Editor

FOR REPRINTS: For Reprints/Eprints or Licensing/Permissions, please contact: Wright's Media — TOLL FREE 1 (877) 652-5295.

The Publisher and authors make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of the information contained in this publication. Any reliance or use of the information is solely at your own risk, and the authors and Publisher disclaim any and all liability relating thereto. Any prices given in this issue were suggested prices at the press time and are subject to change.

Some advertisements in this magazine may concern products that are not legally for sale to California residents or residents in other jurisdictions.

GUNS&AMMO® is a registered trademark of Outdoor Sportsman Group® in the United States.

Copyright 2024 by Outdoor Sportsman Group®

All Rights Reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced without written permission.

Guns & Ammo (ISSN# 0017-5684) January 2025, Volume 69, Number 1. Published monthly by Outdoor Sportsman Group, 1040 6th Ave., 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018. Periodical postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address change (Form 3579) to Guns & Ammo, P.O. Box 37539, Boone, IA 50037-0539. Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: 500 R. 46 East, Clifton, NJ 07011. Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement No. 41405030.



Printed in the U.S.A.



Rating of A+



SUPERIORITY

TRANSFORMED

MC9L

MeCANiK MO1

6.28" SLIDE

5.43" OVERALL HEIGHT

6.73" SLIDE

17+1 RD CAPACITY

1.18" WIDTH

MC9LS

CANiK

SUPERIOR FIREARMS

WRITE US! "Letters," Guns & Ammo, 2 News Plaza, 3rd Floor, Peoria, IL 61614, or email us at gaeditor@outdoorsg.com. Please include your city and state of residence. Letters may be edited for brevity and clarity.



SIMPLE MATH

I look forward to reading James Tarr's "Handgunning" column each month in Guns & Ammo. I agree with him that proper language usage is important, but I believe an oversight in his math calculations when he wrote that 1 pound is equal to 3.7 kilometers ("Micros & Subs," November 2024). He has confused kilometers, a unit of distance, with kilograms, a unit of weight. One pound equals .4535924 kilograms, while 3.7 kilometers equals 2.299073 miles. I hope this offers some clarification.

Tom Stuart
Ferrum, Virginia

In my column, "Micros & Subs," I bemoaned the lack of proper technical terminology in the firearms world, stating that manufacturers seemed to make up words and change definitions at a whim. I then explained to residents of the UK that "16 ounces equate to 3.7 kilometers." A significant number of readers contacted G&A's editors about my "error," apparently not recognizing that loud whoosh sound over their head as irony and sarcasm gave them a near miss.
— J. Tarr

HOT ROD AMMO

I've seen just about every caliber come and go, so I closely read Craig Boddington's two articles on car-

tridges designed for speed and accuracy: "Too Many, Too Fast" (Sept. 2024) and "Not Too Many, Not Too Fast" (Oct. 2024). They all seemed to be marketed as the "best." What might interest readers is knowing the cost of a box of each. For example, a box of 7mm WSM at a Tulsa gun show averaged \$150. If a person doesn't reload, he should stay outta that rat race. If you can't take game with a box of .30-'06, you're probably shooting from the moonroof of a stretch limousine on a private game reserve.

Bob Lopez
New Mexico

BUYING GUNS

I had to laugh at Eric

Poole's editorial discussing his magazine hoard, and needing to buy pistols to match. A friend gave me a plastic bag of .204 Ruger. Instead of trying to find a friend who owned a .204, I bought a scoped T/C Contender so I could fire them. I'm glad we live in a country where we can still do stuff like that.

Ken Lawler
St. Paris, Ohio

RED DOTS FOR SHOTGUNS

More is being written on shotguns with red-dot optics. I started experimenting with using red dots on shotguns a couple of years ago. I'd like to see an article on the characteristics of shotgun optics. Is a 3 MOA red dot best for stationary targets such as deer and turkey? Does a 5 MOA red dot with a 70 MOA circle work best for shooting clays? It would seem to me that a larger dot on a flying target would be easier to see. Should the first sight-in shot be with a slug on paper at 35 yards? How does the point of aim change with a shot load, i.e., lead versus steel? A thousand questions have gone unanswered.

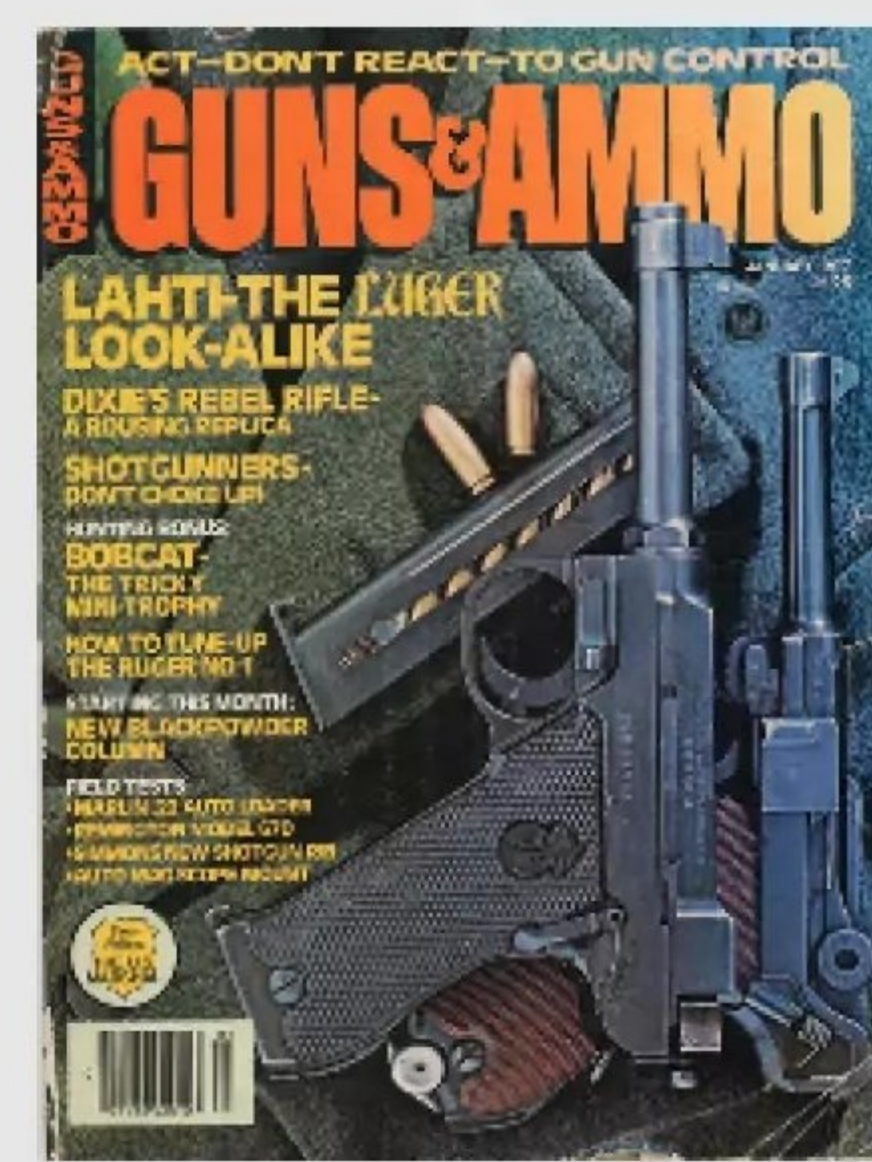
Bill Leppek
Youngsville, North Carolina

MORE, PLEASE

First, great magazine. I have been reading Guns & Ammo for 20 years. I would love to see a series like Dave Emary's articles on the Mauser K98k on the M1 Carbine, guns of World War II, and double rifles. I have been fascinated with

JANUARY '77

Associate Editor Phil Spangenberg introduced a new Black Powder column and authored two features. In "Dixie's Rebel Rifle," Spangenberg reviewed a replica Cook & Brother musketoon. The article "March into Mexico — 1916" was a historical piece on the U.S. Cavalry's last campaign. Spangenberg was regarded for the use of authentic firearms, uniforms and accoutrements to illustrate his writings.



doubles since watching "The Snows of Kilimanjaro" (1952) starring Gregory Peck as "Harry Street." ("Street" used one to shoot a rhino.) I would also enjoy reading a history of African hunting by Garry James and Craig Boddington, perhaps with a modern Professional Hunter's (PH) point of view.
James Dodds
Norfolk, Arkansas

ABOUT DECIBELS

I believe Guns & Ammo missed an opportunity to answer Mr. Gary Charleville's question about suppressor value. I don't believe he realizes that the decibel scale is logarithmic, and each change of about 3 decibels either halves or doubles the sound energy.
John Van Houten, MD
Email

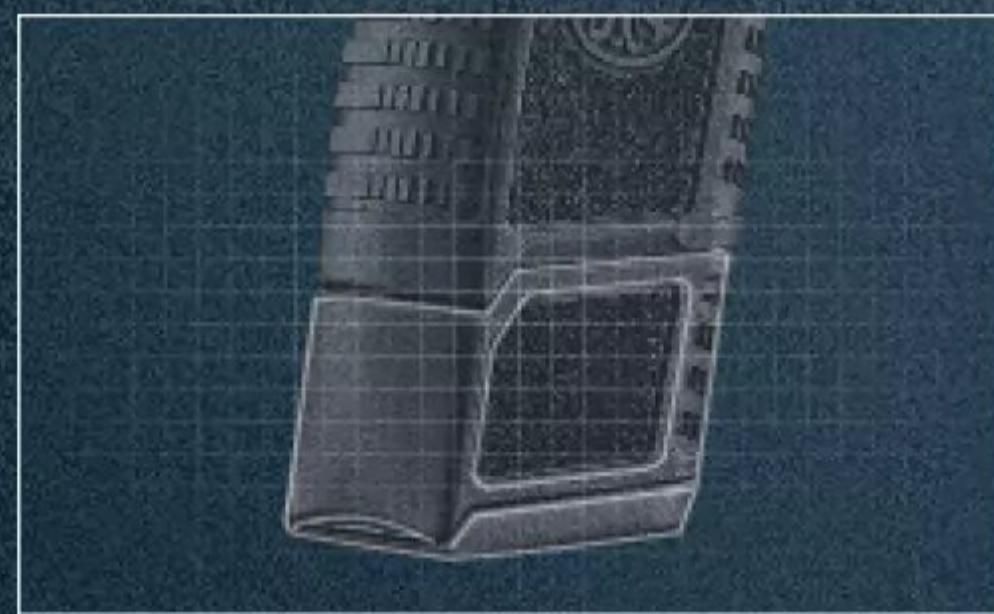
FN REFLEX™



NOW AVAILABLE
WITH MANUAL SAFETY



SMOOTH, CONSISTENT TRIGGER PULL



UP TO 15+1 ROUNDS OF 9MM



NONPROPRIETARY SLIMLINE RAIL



MRD MOUNTING SYSTEM



MORE INFORMATION

The next level in performance has arrived. The FN Reflex is engineered for deep concealment and extreme accuracy. It also achieves max capacity with an 11+1 and a 15+1 magazine, both of which come standard with the pistol. And with the addition of an IWB holster from FN, you can carry it from day one.

FNAMERICA.COM

NO THANKS

I know that compensators and ports on barrels are popular with carry pistols. Hence, manufacturers are going to make them and Guns & Ammo will feature them. It's only logical. I have zero interest in these types of carry guns and will certainly never consider purchasing one. I don't think I'm alone.

Jeff Percell
Email

SHE'S A KEEPER

I have subscribed for many years, but I have never written to Guns & Ammo. I truly enjoyed reading Donna Boddington's article on the Nighthawk Custom Lady Hawk 1911 (October 2024). I was skimming through the issue; a few lines into the piece and it made sense to me. Then I saw that she had written it, so I finished reading the article. She made many good

points. It was well-written, informative and fun to read.

Doug Roberts
Macomb, Michigan

COMPETITION ARTICLES

I think shooting sports are generally overlooked, and that High Power rifle competition — specifically Service Rifle competition — would make for a good article. I jokingly call it the "stock class" of High Power, since it is built on fundamentals rather than how big your wallet is. Organizations such as illinoishighpower.org offer lots of good information to help people get started.

Coty Greer
Email

DEAR HOLSTER MAKERS

This is an open letter to all manufacturers of appendix concealed-carry holsters, and those who advertise them. First, I am not against the development of more efficient ways to conceal-carry a handgun. I served in the U.S. Coast Guard, and later as a Florida deputy sheriff. In both capacities, I have been a firearm instructor for more than 50 years, training federal, state, county and local agencies — 14,000 students trained. I believe I know a thing or two about handgun safety. I express my concerns about appendix carry holsters with integrity. I have never seen anyone on duty or at a shooting range arrive with an appendix holster. I believe the appendix carry position is unsafe. My fellow instructors and I refer to it as the castration position. It goes against the first two rules that are taught in our handgun safety classes: First, always point the firearm in a safe direction. Second, never point your firearm at anything you would not shoot. So, I ask, "Would you ever want to shoot your private area?" I see advertisements and articles in shooting magazines that claim this position is safe to holster your handgun. With so many other options, why would anyone want to take a chance? If you consider the number of shooting accidents where a person discharged their firearm while improperly holstering or unholstering their pistol, most occur at the range.

INTRODUCING

TP2

THE NEXT GENERATION

HSM brings you an extraordinary new hunting cartridge: Tipping Point₂!

An Exciting NEW! Addition to the HSM Roster of Superior Hunting Cartridges! Accuracy is our Business.

The magic in this new cartridge is the Hornady® SST® (Super Shock Tip) bullet. Designed to deliver tremendous shock on impact while expanding quickly and reliably, particularly at higher velocities. Flat shooting and deadly accurate, it's an ideal bullet for whitetails, as well as most North American game animals. The SST® creates a devastatingly large wound channel.

TIPPING POINT₂ is available in the following calibers:

Caliber	Bullet Wgt.	Type	FPS
.243 Winchester	95 gr.	SST	3170
6.5mm Creedmoor	140 gr.	SST	2714
.270 Winchester	150 gr.	SST	2813
7mm-08 Remington	162 gr.	SST	2512
.308 Winchester	165 gr.	SST	2645
.30-06 Springfield	165 gr.	SST	2749

Now consider the stress of an actual defensive situation. Yes, people have shot themselves in the leg and foot with a hip holster, but shooting your testicles off is a worse result. I would ask manufacturers to reconsider producing this style of holster, and I would ask advertisers to reconsider their policies on creating such ads. There are safer ways to conceal carry a handgun.

James Mauth
Franklin, Tennessee

I don't disagree at all. I don't appendix carry, and don't recommend it. I understand why it's popular; it's the easiest and (usually) most comfortable way to carry a pistol of size inside the waistband — and it's the easiest to conceal. However,

it violates more than one of the gun safety rules.
— J. Tarr

PARTY OF GUN RIGHTS

For some of us older gun-owning citizens, it has been evident for a couple of generations that infringements on Second Amendment rights have been supported by one political party. From the rhetoric of "Saturday Night Specials" and the subsequent war on handguns and assault weapons, including the 1994 Assault Weapons Ban, only one political party pushes and funds these efforts. Independent thinkers can see that the Second Amendment is just as valid and important as the other nine that make up

the Bill of Rights. It's a pity that so many today believe gun rights is simply about MAGA right-wingers. Americans should acknowledge the party at the forefront of protecting all our gun rights.
Charles Hipple
Dewey, Arizona

2A VOTING

I am writing in response to Mr. DeLong's letter in the November 2024 "Reader Blowback." There is no such thing as being "independent," as far as Second Amendment issues are concerned. Guns & Ammo has a duty to discuss these issues. Without the Second Amendment, there would be no need for this publication or any discussions on the topic. Indeed, one party is against the Second

Amendment and our firearm freedoms. There can be no independent voting on this issue. Politicians are either for or against us. Our personal liberties depend on our votes.

Joseph Bell
Belmont, Michigan

COMPLIANT GUNS

Living in the extremely restrictive state of California, most new firearms reviewed in Guns & Ammo are not available for me to purchase. A note in the reviews indicating that the firearm (or a version of it) is legal in certain states would be much appreciated.

Gordon Linn
Email

Great suggestion!
— Editors 



C&G HOLSTERS

THE NEXT GENERATION OF HOLSTER EXCELLENCE

The first fully engineered holster from top to bottom, inside & out. Built to be precise, consistent & reliable to perform exactly the same every single draw, because your life may depend on it.

- + OPTIC CUT
- + ADJUSTABLE RETENTION
- + OPEN BOTTOM
- + STIFFENING RIBS
- + KICKRAMP



OWB (Outside the Waistband) Covert Kydex Holster



CandGHolsters.com



M&P[®] 9 M2.0[®] CARRY COMP[®]



RELIABILITY YOU CAN TRUST.

Elite Performance - PC[™] M&P[®] 9 M2.0[®] Metal Carry Comp[®]

Constantly pursuing excellence and performance, the new Performance Center[®] M&P[®] 9 M2.0[®] Metal Carry Comp[®] pistol enhances your shooting experience. Leveraging our Power Port[™], this handgun diverts gasses upwards when fired to help reduce felt recoil, meaning you can stay on target better. Additional modern features like an improved trigger, our C.O.R.E system for mounting red dots, and aggressive slide design all promote better shootability. Step up your game with the best from the Smith & Wesson[®] Performance Center[®].



Scan for
More Info



Smith & Wesson[®]

EMPOWERING AMERICANS[™]

smith-wesson.com

©2024 Smith & Wesson Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Remembering *Ed Brown* and his legacy.



ERIC R. POOLE

 @GUNSANDAMMOMAG

THE INNOVATOR

ED BROWN founded Brown's Gun Shop in 1968, operating as a gunsmith on the side while working as a tool-and-die maker. Brown built a reputation as a pistolsmith during the following 20 years while learning to be a CNC programmer and CAD/CAM designer. His professional engineering experience complemented his interest in firearms.

I first met Brown during a shop tour in Perry, Missouri. There was a framed picture in his office behind the desk. He handed it to me and pointed to his younger self among the group of shooters.

"We started this business," Brown said. Rob Leatham won his first IPSC championship that year. That's Brian Enos; he finished second. There's Mike Dalton, Bill Wilson, Chip McCormick, Ross Seyfried, Bill Rogers, and Mike Plaxco." The competitors of World Shoot VI may have accomplished more than any collection of champions.

Brown left his job on March 30, 1988, to enter the gun parts business. Months later, Brownells added Brown's Model 1911 beaver-tail grip safety, magazine well, and combat hammer to its catalog. In 1991, Brown was honored as the Pistolsmith of the Year by the American Pistolsmith Guild. As sales of parts increased, so did the demand for his gunsmithing.

In June 1992, Brown incorporated Ed Brown Products and turned his attention to manufacturing 1911 parts. In 1998, his sons Travis and Wade joined the business. The company changed again to design and manufacture complete firearms. When the Kobra Carry was released in 2000, Ed Brown Products had developed its own 1911 frame and slide, including the first available in stainless steel with Brown's trend-setting snakeskin pattern and Bobtail. Twenty-five years later, the Kobra Carry remains the brand's best-selling pistol.

Ed Brown passed away from cancer at home on September 15, 2024. He was 77 years old. He leaves behind

his wife of 59 years, three children and six grandchildren. A few weeks later, I reached out to Travis. His reflections inspired this column.

"[He taught us to have] a good work ethic," Travis said. "He was always working, which influenced my siblings and our upbringing. I remember packaging parts on the

living room floor while watching Saturday morning cartoons. That was during the Brown's Gunshop era when he was shooting and gunsmithing. Dad started to realize that he had to touch every single gun, and there was more gunsmith work than he had time to do. He was known for trigger jobs and installing comps, but the beaver-tail [grip safety] put him on the map. It eliminated hammer bite and reduced felt recoil because it dropped the centerline of the bore in the hand. He also created the Memory Groove, which he probably should have trademarked. It meant that people didn't have to ruin the frame or give up safety by pinning or welding the grip. As a tool-and-die maker, he understood how to manufacture quality parts

so he bought CNCs and set out to make components that other gunsmiths could fit."

Travis learned accounting from college and engineering from Ed. He started working immediately with his brother Wade, who continues to lead the company's production and operations. Both Travis and Wade have been a part of the growth and success of Ed Brown Products, embracing new technology and investing in the business. The company was the focus of Ed's life. "His name was the brand, and he lived it," Travis added. "We're going to keep doing that. This is all that we've ever done."

Though the Model 1911 is an amazing piece of engineering with history, Ed Brown Products made it better. Beginning with the EVO, the "evolution" of the 1911 — and continuing through 9mm polymer-framed pistols and parts — Ed Brown's legacy will live on. 



HELLCAT[®] PRO

COMP



“Without the maker’s name, that’s about as far as I can take the identification. At this period, there were a large number of gunmakers ...”

IDENTIFICATION & VALUES



GARRY JAMES

GARRY.JAMES@OUTDOORSG.COM



HIGH STANDARD MODEL 104 DOUBLE-NINE, 90%: \$550



HIGH STANDARD WESTERN DOUBLE-NINE

Q: I have a young friend who inherited a pistol from his father. He is not a gun guy but would like any information you can share, as well as a possible value. The pistol is a High Standard Double Nine revolver. The serial number is 22XXX57, and it is marked “W-104”. The gun has been shot, but it was cleaned nicely. The bore is pristine. Thanks in advance for any information you can share.

C. T.
Wilmington, North Carolina

A: Your friend’s High Standard is a Model 104 Double Nine. This is one variant of a Western-style series that was made from 1958 to the mid-1970s. The W-104 version first appeared in 1962, in both blued and nickel versions. The barrel length was 5½ inches. The photos you sent indicate the piece appears to be in excellent

condition. The original box is a plus! I’d value it at \$500 to \$550.

CONCENTRATION CAMP GUN?

Q: My father and I had a collection of about 70 World War I and World War II military rifles acquired in the late 1950s, ’60s and ’70s. One is a Steyr 1895

that has a German 98 8mm barrel on it. The man who sold it to my father said that it was a guard’s rifle from a concentration camp. I was watching a program on the Military History channel about escapes from these camps, and they told of making an exact replica of the guard’s weapon; it was a Steyr straight-pull 1895. I know it’s chambered in 8mm Mauser (7.92x57mm) because I remember shooting it. It will not chamber the 8x56R cartridge that the Steyr is chambered for. We had an 1895 carbine

and ammo for it. The rifle stock was cut down to use as a hunting rifle. When we distributed the collection at Dad’s passing, I got it. I am now thinking of passing my collection on. I have the idea that if there is any way it could be confirmed, and possibly restocked, I would like to donate it to a museum, especially if it could be tied to the Holocaust and one of its displays. Have you ran into this before? Do you have information about this rifle, or its restoration being done? The action has “BUDAPEST M95” on

AUCTION BLOCK

A rare and desirable Confederate Spiller & Burr revolver realized an impressive \$34,440 at the September 10, 2024, Morphy Auctions sale. The .36-caliber brass-framed percussion six-shot is in very good condition for a Rebel handgun. Its intrinsic value was further boosted by solid provenance avowing the gun was captured during the Civil War from the enemy by George A. Shuman of the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry. Included with the revolver was a selection of ammunition and accessories, also the original property of Shuman. For more information about this and future sales, visit Morphy Auctions at morphyauctions.com.



the top of the front ring of the receiver with serial number 88XXF. The barrel has a small double wing over a circle stamping with what appears to be two y's inside the wings. On top of the chamber area of the barrel "43 h 222" is stamped. The extractor on the bolt looks to the naked eye that it has been modified to capture rimless ammo. The bolt handle is stamped 22XX. The barrel and receiver have a slight index mark. What is left of the stock appears to have been hogged out to make the barrel and sights fit.

Q. M. C.
Victoria, Texas

A: Without actually examining the piece, I'll take a chance and opine you likely have a Model 95/24 Yugoslavian reworked Model 95 straight-pull Austrian Mannlicher. These guns were fitted with Yugoslavian Model 24 Mauser barrels and, unlike the standard Model 95 that uses an en-bloc clip, they are loaded with stripper clips. Model 95/24s worked well, though they were known to have rather fragile extractors. Austrian and Bulgarian reworks were



WINCHESTER MODEL 63, .22 LR

invariably rechambered to 8x50R. Yugoslavian guns are scarcer than the Austrian and Bulgarian guns, and are somewhat more sought after by collectors. Your rifle is unlikely to have been a Holocaust piece.

THE LAST WINCHESTER MODEL 63

Q: I own a Model 63 Winchester, serial number 176XXX manufactured in 1960. Could you tell me the serial of the last manufactured Model 63?

E. L.
Email

A: I have checked several sources. The latest number I can come up with is 175223, manufactured in 1960. (Model 63 autoloaders were introduced in 1934.) Interestingly, there was a limited production of 4,000 Grade 1 Model 63s

made in 1997 and 1998, and another 1,000 High Grades produced in 1997. They were made by Miroku in Japan. If any readers have information concerning original Model 63 serial numbers exceeding 175223, I would welcome hearing from them.

MARLIN 336 MIS-STAMPING

Q: This Marlin 336 rifle was purchased by my father in 1972 while stationed in Rota, Spain, with the U.S. Navy. He said he had bought it from a man who had bought it in 1969. This is the only information I have on the rifle. It appears that the word "Marlin" is a misprint. Is the rifle worth anything? Also, I would like to find a narrow rear sight elevator. As you can see, the one I purchased online is too wide. Any information you can give would be greatly appreciated.

D. P.
Email

A: The Marlin 336 RC Carbine was manufactured from 1948 to 1968. Calibers were .30-30 Winchester, .32 Special, and .35 Remington. I can perceive no misprint in any of your photos, but even if there is one, unlike coins and stamps where mis-strikes/misprints can add considerable value, generally such is not the

case with firearms. Your Marlin appears to be in about 90 percent condition and, as such, is worth \$550. I'd check Gunbroker (gunbroker.com) for the rear sight elevation insert.

BRING-BACK MAUSER

Q: My father brought this Mauser back from Europe. It's a Belgian 7.65x53mm Argentine made by the state armory, as much as I can tell. All serial numbers match but the stock has been replaced. A little info on this rifle would be nice. I've hit dead ends on my research. I do have the original swing plate front strap, which I understand is rare.

P. L.
Granbury, Texas

A: Unfortunately, your photos are a bit hard to decipher. The replacement stock rather throws things off. You mention it has a "swing front plate strap," which I interpret as a hinged style with stacking swivel. This would indicate you perhaps have a reworked Model 1935 Belgian Short Rifle, as the caliber is in 7.65x53mm. If you could please send some better pictures, especially of the receiver markings, I'll see if I can refine things a bit. A number of countries used FN Mausers chambered in 7.65x53.

HOLLYWOOD HARDWARE

Thanks to scads of World War II films, the M1 Garand has had more than its share of silver screen combat service. It has also seen some considerable time on the civvy street, most notably in the highly popular 2008 Clint Eastwood film, "Gran Torino." In this supremely entertaining and thoughtful film, Eastwood, playing Korean War veteran Walt Kowalski, employs this standard-issue M1 to intimidate some neighborhood gang members. (Loaned by Independent Studio Services, Sunland, California. Courtesy of the National Firearms Museum, Fairfax, Virginia.)



MOSSBERG | 590S® SERIES

**SHORT
SHELLS?
NO
BIGGIE.**



#51604 -
590S® Optic-Ready
12GA, 20" Barrel
(Optic not included)

#51601 - 590S®
Shockwave®
Bird's Head Grip
12GA, 14" Barrel
(Shockwave is a trademark of
Shockwave Technologies, Inc.)

SAFETY TIP

Store firearms securely, inaccessible to
children and unauthorized users.

Consult and comply with any and all applicable federal, state,
and local laws, regulations, requirements, and/or restrictions,
including but not limited to those regarding the purchase,
ownership, use, transport, and carrying of a firearm.
Not all products are available in all states and jurisdictions.

**CYCLES 1.75," 2.75," AND 3" SHELLS
INTERCHANGEABLY, RIGHT OUT-OF-THE-BOX.**

Short shell capability— No adaptor required. With the 590S, you can
cycle a range of 12GA shells interchangeably— in any combination—
gaining up to 13+1 capacity with 1.75" short shells. New optic-
ready models have an innovative cut receiver that allows direct
mounting of Shield-RMSc pattern micro dot sights, for improved
eye alignment and target acquisition.

**Mossberg — Makers of dependable, hardworking firearms
for more than a century.**

LEARN MORE AT
MOSSBERG.COM



SCAN CODE FOR MORE INFO

MOSSBERG
SINCE 1919



WILDEY (NEW MILFORD), .45 WIN. MAG, 95%: \$3,800

WILDEY PISTOL INFO

Q: I just read "Gun Room" in the November 2023 issue of Guns & Ammo on Wildey pistols. I acquired one last June and cannot find a lot of info on them. Would you be able to point me in the right direction?
R. C.
Email

A: The stainless-steel Wildey gas-operated semi-automatic pistol, designed by Wildey J. Moore, was originally manufactured in Cheshire, Connecticut, where it was offered from 1980 to 1982 by the Wildey Firearms Co. The company was purchased by Wildey Inc., which moved production to New Milford, Connecticut, where they were made until 2011. You have an example of one of the latter. Calibers were (and are) offered in a wide range of calibers, and with a large number of variations. Your .45 Win. Mag. piece with New Milford address and four-digit serial number is worth in the \$3,500 to \$3,800 range. Since 2015, Wildey Survivor pistols have been available from the U.S. Firearms Corp. of Winsted, Connecticut. Calibers available are .475 Wildey Mag., .45 Win. Mag., and .44 Auto

Mag. They come with 8-, 10- or 12-inch barrels. You learn more at usafirearmscorp.com. Wildeys have been seen in a number of films, most notably wielded by actor Charles Bronson in "Death Wish 3" (1985).

MYSTERY BRIT SHOTGUN

Q: Your name and email address have been provided to me for possible assistance in learning about a European-owned percussion shotgun. I am the Acquisitions Committee Chair for the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center. A gentleman in our town of Maysville, Kentucky, has donated his grandfather's 12-bore side-by-side gun, along with a leather gun strap and an old and much-used gun case that has no identifying information, to our local museum. The gentleman inherited the gun from his grandfather in the 1980s, and he brought the gun to the U.S. Our hope is to obtain as much information as possible about the gun, its maker, its dating, proofing, and anything else relevant to its origin. If a value could be estimated for insurance purposes, that would be a plus of course. I know that without examination this

could be difficult.

L. B.

Maysville, Kentucky

A: The shotgun in question is a nice English double 12-bore hammer gun manufactured in Birmingham around 1875 to 1880. It is not percussion, but cartridge, and appears to be a very nice piece with a considerable amount of engraving. Without the maker's name, that's about as far as I can take the identification. At this period, there were a large number of gunmakers working in the British Isles. Their wares ranged from very good to superb. Many top firms often contracted to supply guns to other dealers, so that may explain the apparent quality of this gun, despite the fact that it has no name or address. Unfortunately, the present mediocre condition of the piece — from what I can determine I'd rate it in the 20- to 40-percent range — goes against it considerably. Assuming it is in working order and the bores are decent, I'd value it between \$650 and \$800. The market on British hammer shotguns is experiencing something

of a downward trend.

WEBLEY REVOLVER?

Q: Attached for your review are photos of a Webley revolver my grandfather brought from Germany when the family emigrated to the U.S. in 1905. Note the photos of proofmarks on the cylinder and frame. Also, number "X" is stamped on the shell ejector, and not as clear on the frame below the ejector. Indication of original bluing is still visible on the frame. All parts appear to be in place, but it would need some gunsmithing work to fully function. I would appreciate your thoughts on its vintage and where it was manufactured.
B. F.
Email

A: Your "Webley" is actually a Belgian-made revolver loosely copied from the popular and versatile British-made Webley RIC (Royal Irish Constabulary) revolver. I would guess that it dates from the 1880s. The RIC was widely copied in Europe up to the turn of the 20th century. 



BELGIAN WEBLEY RIC REVOLVER COPY

BE A GUNSMITH AND CONTROL YOUR FUTURE GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF GUNSMITHING!

Make Money Working On Guns, **Part-Time, Full-Time or in Retirement!** **STUDY AT HOME WITH VIDEO INSTRUCTION!**



*"Your program changed my life for the better. **Hands down, the best I have seen.** The instructors are true Masters of their trade. I started CJ's Custom Shop in Lemon Grove, CA. Thank you again for your dedication and perseverance."*

James N. Woods, Gunsmith, CJ's Custom Shop

*"Words can't express how thankful I am that you put the time and effort into making these courses on video! This is such a wealth of knowledge that I can refer to long into the future when I get those tough jobs, and get in a bind and need help! **The fact that I have an AGI Instructor with me anytime I need him is worth more to me than you will ever know! What an incredible treasure!** Thank you so much!"*

For more student reviews go to: **James E. Legg**

AGiReviews.com

**Send for your FREE Information with six
FREE Introductory Gunsmithing Lessons!**

Name

Address

Email

Phone

Mail to:

AGI, 351 Second Street
Napa, CA 94559

or scan the QR code!



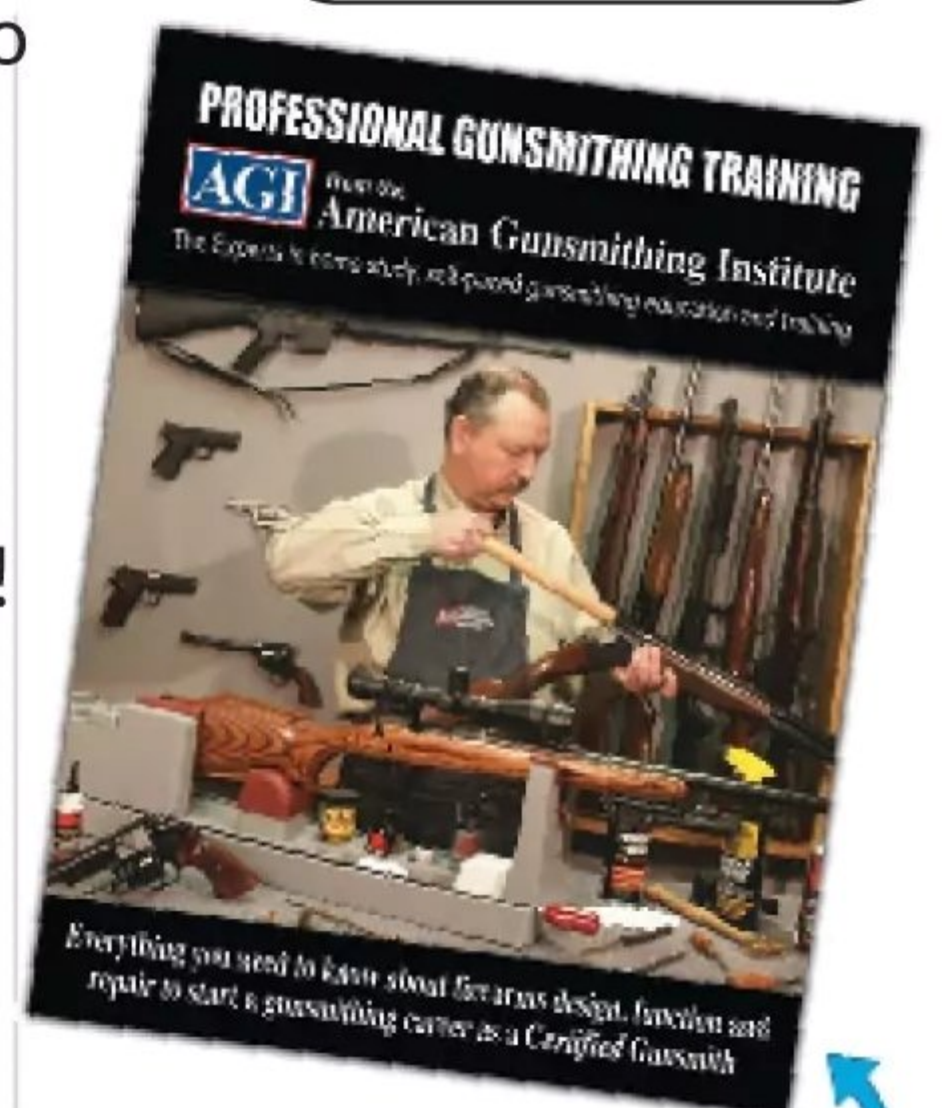
Study from home and become an AGI Certified Professional Gunsmith for as little as \$7 a day with this specialized video instruction available on DVD or through online streaming.

BE YOUR OWN BOSS AND IN CONTROL OF YOUR TIME AND INCOME! You can open a small shop or even work from your house! Anyone can learn this important and essential trade.

Through the American Gunsmithing Institute's study-at-home Virtual Campus™ Master Gunsmiths teach you gunsmithing step-by-step using video instruction with cutaway firearms to take you deep inside the guns. You will understand complete Design, Function, and Repair for all pistols and revolvers, shotguns, centerfire and rimfire rifles.

- Comprehensive how to instruction on video
- Complete training in Design, Function, and Repair Gunsmithing
- Step-by-step customizing of firearms
- Complete Machine Shop & Welding Courses - this knowledge will expand your ability to make repairs and bring in more money
- A step-by-step kit on how to get your FFL with all the necessary paperwork
- Business Success Training - learn how to run a gunsmithing business - priceless!
- Get started making money in as little as 90 days
- Support from Master Gunsmiths by phone and email

Scan the QR code to request your FREE Special Report on How To Get Started in Professional Gunsmithing and Six FREE Introductory Video Gunsmithing Lessons!



**Get a FREE Special Report on How To
Get Started in Professional Gunsmithing
and Six FREE Introductory Video
Gunsmithing Lessons!** 

1-800-797-0867

Go to **www.AmericanGunsmithingInstitute.com**

The American Gunsmithing Institute's approval to operate as a private postsecondary institution in the state of California is based on provisions of the California Private Postsecondary Education Act (CPPEA) of 2009 (California Education Code, Title 3, Division 10, Part 59, Chapter 8), which was effective January 1, 2010. The Bureau can be reached at 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95833, www.bppe.ca.gov, toll-free telephone number (888) 370-7589 or by fax (916) 263-1897. Professional Gunsmithing Courses not available to Oklahoma residents at this time.

NOW SHIPPING



THE MOST ICONIC FIREARM OF THE MODERN ERA



MAC 5



MAC 5K

ROLLER DELAYED BLOWBACK PISTOL IN 9MM.
BASED ON ORIGINAL HK® SPECS
DEAD RINGERS FOR THE ORIGINALS
PRICE POINT ANY SHOOTER CAN AFFORD.

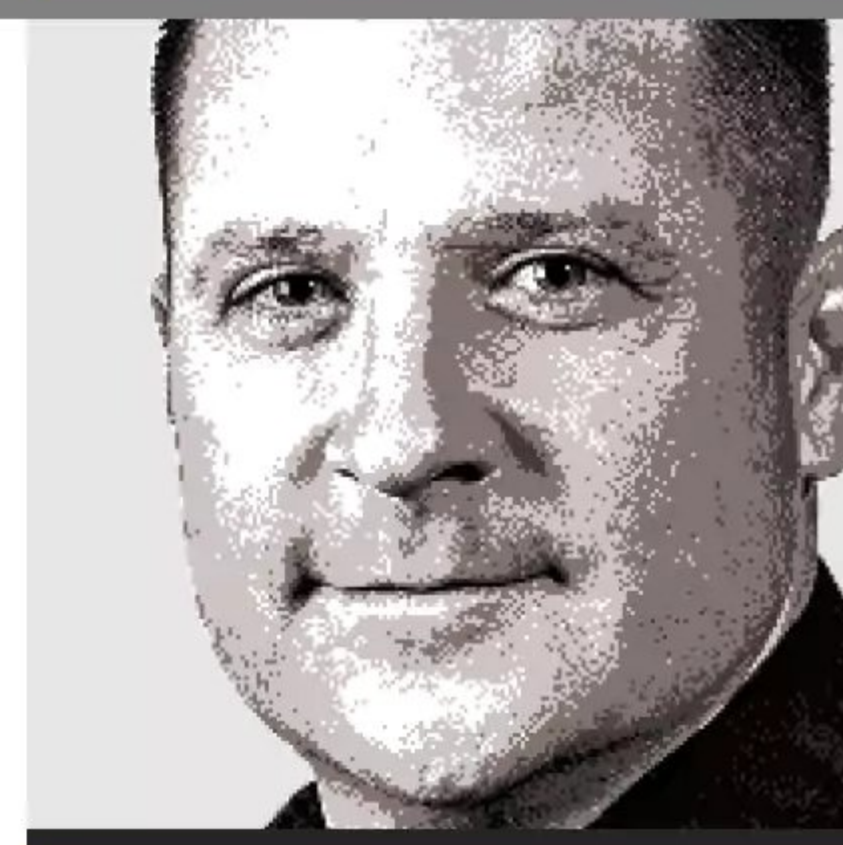


MILITARY
ARMAMENT
CORPORATION

MAC FIREARMS

WWW.MILARMAMENTCORP.COM

Caldwell VelociRadar



RICHARD NANCE

CHIRP RADAR

GONE ARE THE DAYS of new chronographs featuring optical screens positioned in front of the muzzle, connected by wires. Wireless, radar-operated chronographs positioned adjacent to or behind the muzzle have replaced them. Being able to set a chronograph alongside or behind the gun eliminates the possibility of striking the chronograph with a bullet, and it facilitates a more convenient means to obtain bullet velocity and ballistic data. However, there are different types of radar.

LabRadar products and Garmin's Xero C1 Pro use Doppler radar. Caldwell's VelociRadar uses Chirp radar. While Doppler detects the bullet in flight at a specific distance — usually near the muzzle — Chirp radar detects multiple readings at set distances starting at the muzzle out to 100 yards, providing a clear picture of a bullet's external ballistics. Caldwell's design goal was to give VelociRadar a more precise report on bullet performance. The data is not only used to calculate velocity, extreme spread (ES), and standard deviation (SD), but also a bullet's ballistic coefficient (BC), something LabRadar and the Garmin units can't do.

Although smaller than the LabRadar, the VelociRadar is significantly larger than the GoPro-sized Xero C1 Pro. The reason is that Chirp radar requires a large antenna and a large housing.

To track a bullet, VelociRadar must be aimed at the target using an integrated alignment sight on the housing. The provided ball-head tripod enables the user to make fine adjustments, aligning the target's center within the slot quickly and easily.

VelociRadar can be paired with a smart device through the free Caldwell Brand app. The app enables users to control the unit from their smartphone. Here's how it works: Mount the unit to the tripod and position it on the shooting bench. Then, pair VelociRadar with a smart device

with Bluetooth. If you use the app, download it from the Apple App Store or Google Play. Create a profile, selecting the rifle, pistol, or shotgun icon, then add bullet diameter and weight. Finally, select "Strings" and begin firing. Each round fired is recorded and the data is logged and calculated.

For each string, the minimum, maximum, and average velocity is listed, as well as ES, SD, G1 and G7 BCs. (The G1 and G7 profiles are used to calculate a bullet's BC).

In addition to the acoustic trigger, VelociRadar includes an optional recoil trigger, which is ideal for public ranges where others shooting in proximity could skew your results. The recoil trigger plugs into the base

of the unit and secures to a firearm with a hook-and-loop strap that contains the sensor. The sensor is secured to a non-moving firearm component. For a rifle, it can be strapped to the stock, barrel, or scope. For handguns, it can be strapped to the grip — just remember to switch to "Recoil" activation in the settings menu.

Rubberized padding gives VelociRadar a level of protection. Rubberized buttons provide tactile feedback when pressed. On the left side of the 3-inch color display are up, down, left, and right arrows used to navigate menus. To the right side of the screen from top to bottom are the

power button, the select button, the back button, and the arm button. Arming the unit enables or disables the radar during a shot string.

Though the VelociRadar was easy enough to operate from the unit's controls, I found it even easier to manage from my smartphone. While testing several firearms, I saved the data from each string to the unit's on-board memory and in the app. Data can be exported from the app as a comma-delineated file to an email or cloud storage. For more information, visit caldwellshooting.com. 



VelociRadar uses Chirp radar to measure velocity at multiple set distances, initiated by acoustic or recoil triggers rather than Doppler or optical sensors. VelociRadar can be used as a standalone chronograph or paired with the free Caldwell app. **\$550**

PRODIGY™

COMP



INTEGRAL
COMPENSATOR



SPRINGFIELD ARMORY

SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM

The fall and rise of the carry comp.

JAMES TARR

ON THE RISE

SOMETIMES IT FEELS like I'm back in the '80s. Not only is the 10mm popular, but so are carry comps. To this day, I have not adequately explained to myself exactly why the 10mm is more successful now than ever. However, I do know why compensators on carry guns became so popular, seemingly overnight.

In addition to aftermarket barrel and compensator manufacturers, nearly every gun maker offers a factory ported or compensated pistol. Within weeks of my writing this column, even, Smith & Wesson introduced its Carry Comp line of Performance Center pistols, and Walther has brought out two new models of the PDP with factory-mounted compensators, one with a Parker Mountain Machine (PMM) comp. And I just tested the Springfield Armory 4.5F Echelon Comp.

Before I review the reason for the interest in carry comps, let me explain what they are and how they work. Even though Smith & Wesson managed to secure a copyright on the its Carry Comp® name, the term dates back to the 1980s. It was used to indicate a compensated pistol that was built and intended for personal defense, as opposed to competition where size and weight aren't a factor. Ported barrels have been available since Larry Kelly started cutting trapezoidal ports into the muzzle of magnum revolvers by EDM in the late 1960s, which became Mag-na-port around 1974. A true "carry comp" is different because the compensator is attached to the end of the barrel. That compensator usually has an expansion chamber, and then ports in the top and/or sides to redirect the expanding gases, reducing muzzle rise.

Remember Newton's Third Law of Motion? For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. With an unported/comp'd barrel, expanding gases exit out the front, pushing the gun backward. That gun then pivots in the fulcrum of your hand, and the muzzle rises. With a compensator or ported barrel, some of the gases are diverted up, pushing down against the muzzle.

It is more than possible to design pistol compensators that nearly eliminates all muzzle rise; that's what we see on dedicated USPSA "race guns." Competitors use three- and four-port compensators that can measure 2 inches or more. However, those big comps are not suitable for a concealed carry pistol.

A compensator meant for a carry gun has to balance size and performance. It must be big enough to provide some recoil reduction, while not so big that it compromises concealability and reliability. Reliability? If too much of those gases are vented up through the comp, there is less force pushing straight back to work the slide. (Hence, you would need a lighter — sometimes much lighter — recoil spring.)

Though Col. Richard Cutts claimed to have invented the concept in the mid-1920s, the modern carry comp came into prominence during the 1980s when proponents of Jeff Cooper's Modern Technique were seen running customized 1911s. Most were built on Commander-length slides, and the compensators were usually profiled to match the slide length of a 5-inch Government Model. Though they added recoil reduction, they fell out of fashion for many reasons; they had to be gunsmith-installed, adding expense, and comps could make the gun unreliable. They were almost always on .45s, so comps didn't help enough.

Compensators work on pressure, and the .45 ACP is a low-pressure cartridge. The 9mm runs at a higher pressure. Everything else being equal, the 9mm compensator provides greater potential for muzzle rise reduction.

Most modern carry comps are not much more than an inch long; many are less. To a certain extent, a compensator's performance is subjective. It's based on the shooter, how they hold the gun and the pace of fire. Generally, most manufacturers of compensators and comps tell us that its products reduce muzzle rise between 15 and 25 percent — and not all ammunition performs the same out of a comp'd or ported barrel. The higher the pressure, the better the vents work at reducing muzzle rise. Plus-P loads



with light bullets see more recoil reduction out of a comp than slow, heavy bullets.

It's not all good news, though. Compensated guns tend to sound louder for shooters and bystanders. If you're considering a comp on a carry gun that may be used indoors, that already loud gunshot may be shocking, distracting, and abusive to your hearing. And, because compensators redirect the gases exiting your gun, they may affect reliability.

So, why are compensated carry guns suddenly so popular? The answer is red dots. Red-dot sights are made small and durable enough for mounting on everyday carry guns.

Whether running a standard or comp'd pistol, the muzzle will fall down out of recoil before your finger is off the trigger or ready to fire a second shot. The purpose of a comp is to reduce disturbance to your sight picture, but there is a disadvantage that all proponents of red dots on carry guns ignore: Most shooters are not faster when using a red-dot-sighted pistol at realistic defensive distances. Many people are slower, in large part because they lose sight of the red dot, either before firing or after. Perhaps even more than electronics and mount failures, this is the biggest issue with running a red dot on a defensive pistol: Losing the dot in the optic window, thus slowing you down. How can I make such an assumption? I see all these compensators on factory carry guns with red-dot sights on the slides. If losing the dot wasn't a widespread issue, the professional proponents of red dots wouldn't have started running comps on their carry guns, too. Comps reduce the muzzle rise and disturbance to a shooter's grip, thereby reducing the chance that he will lose sight of the dot. The first group of shooters I saw running modern carry comps were firearm instructors pushing students to try shooting red-dot-sighted carry guns. Even many of those pros lost their dots, and they saw comps as a way to address that issue with students.

Fifteen years ago, nobody put a red-dot sight on a carry gun, and no company offered factory-comp'd guns or comps for carry guns. Red dots on carry guns are everywhere, and a number of those pistols have compensators. Coincidence? No. It is simply "cause and effect." Comp'd guns are the new hotness, and everyone wants them. So, gun companies make them. They're cool and reduce the effects of recoil. Putting red dots on carry guns is why comps suddenly became popular.

Don't try and convince me about how comp'd guns are inherently faster. "Just look at USPSA results," some might say. Compensated race guns with zero recoil used in



Available through Lyman, Vantage Port Armory rail-mounted compensators attach directly to a pistol's dustcover rail. **\$150**

high-round-count stages are not the same as a carry comp because the dot never leaves the window when running a race gun. Even then, I've seen national and world champions lose the dot due to a bad grip — and these are the best in the world! Locally, we've got a term for an action pistol shooter frantically twisting his racegun around to try and find the dot: "The IPSC Wobble." If you've ever been at a range watching regular people shoot red-dot-equipped pistols, or if you have ever shot one yourself, you've seen it or done it.

This increased interest in comps and comp'd guns has sparked a lot of ingenuity. There are new and unique designs for carry comps and barrel porting. In part, this has to do with laws. Threaded barrels are illegal in some states, so some companies have designed comps that do not attach to the barrel by traditional threads. The 3.1-inch barrel on the SIG Sauer P365-

XMACRO Comp, for instance, ends within the slide; the slide features an integral ported compensator machined ahead of the barrel's muzzle. In contrast, the barrel and slide of the Springfield Armory 4.5F Echelon Comp have been cut at an angle, and the ported barrel vents against the slide, ingeniously turning the slide into a sort of ersatz blast baffle; it is surprisingly effective.

For this column, I tested the new Vantage Port Armory compensators — marketed by Lyman (\$150, lymanproducts.com) — which attach to the frame rail of various pistols. I mounted it to a Langdon Tactical Technologies (LTT) Beretta PX4 G-SD (\$1,045, langdontactical.com). VPA's comps attach directly to the rail. Certain models accommodate a white light and use the light's mount to attach to the rail. The VP Armory comp has a forcing cone to divert gases up through two ports.

The direct-mount comp I tested on the PX4 weighed 2.1 ounces. That weight alone mounted near the muzzle helps to reduce felt recoil, but not as much as those gas-diverting ports. Depending on the ammo — again, light bullets traveling fast make comps work better — the VP Armory comp reduced muzzle rise by about 25 percent. As a bonus, it changed the appearance of the PX4, giving it a cool "John Wick" vibe.

Compensated guns are the latest trend, but they are popular because they help to reduce muzzle rise. With modern engineering, I have found that they are just as reliable as we need them to be. If you're running an optic atop your carry gun, you'll definitely appreciate the benefits of a muzzle that doesn't flip, and it can shorten the amount of time you spend trying to find a lost dot. **G&A**

THE ULTIMATE DIY GUN BUILDER SHOW



Get an inside look at the world of gun building on an all-new season of *Build Box*. Every week, host Ryan Gresham brings Chris Cerino and Kevin "KJ" Jarnagin a new firearm to tinker with — and build into something special. You'll see incredible custom builds, pick up valuable tips and tricks, and get great ideas on how to upgrade your own gun.

ALL NEW
BUILD BOX
WEDNESDAYS 6P ET
SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Outdoor
CHANNEL

30 YEARS
OF ADVENTURE

THE CARRY RIG

A rigid, 3D-printed OWB holster with wings.



The Falco CX02 is a one-piece, 3D-printed outside-the-waistband (OWB) holster that is optics ready and features 2-inch, fixed-position belt loops. An adjustable screw in front of the triggerguard allows users to personalize retention. **\$140**

FALCO CX02

PEOPLE OFTEN SPECULATE about the future. On the topic of three-dimensional (3D) printing, our understanding of material science, engineering and precision manufacturing is developing rapidly. Combine this with human ingenuity, resourcefulness and freedom, and any idea that was once considered impossible to an engineer can be reconsidered. Advancements in 3D printing allow experimentation with less-expensive prototypes made from either polymer or metal granules and powders. Firearm components, suppressors with complex baffle arrangements, and 3D-printed holsters are now possible.

Falco Holsters expanded its commercial product line to include a 3D-printed holster. The CX02 is an outside-the-waistband (OWB) design featuring a single shell made of a proprietary polymer formula with wings that support integral 2-inch belt loops. The belt loops are fixed to orient the pistol vertically, but you can imagine the possibilities: Do you prefer a holster with a forward cant? Do you need a holster with 1½-inch belt loops? Do you want a holster to accommodate a light?



The CX02 features an open muzzle, accommodating pistols with quarter-inch front sights, extended barrels and compensators.

For now, the CX02 is only available from Falco as an OWB holster that supports the Glock 17/19/26, the G43/43X, the SIG Sauer P365-XMacro and the Smith & Wesson M&P Shield. Each is priced the same — \$139.95 — and can be purchased online at falcoholsters.com. The price is \$30 more when compared to a Kydex equivalent. The Falco C901, for example, a Kydex holster, retails for \$109.95.

60-DAY CARRY

Kydex is a proven material used to make hard-sided holsters. Though the polymer formula Falco is using to 3D print the CX02 is a secret, the holster showed durability through Guns & Ammo's 60-day testing protocol. A sample was ordered to support a G19 Gen5 MOS with an Aimpoint ACRO mounted to the slide. A Philips-head fastener below the triggerguard allows retention adjustments.



THE NEXT GENERATION OF AMERICA'S FAVORITE HUNTING RIFLE

The Ruger American® Rifle Generation II is an update to the American-made rifle that has been the benchmark for accuracy, durability, and performance in bolt-action rifles for over a decade. Designed with customer feedback in mind, the Ruger American Rifle Generation II is available in a variety of calibers and is sure to become the first choice for hunters and firearms enthusiasts.



**LEARN
MORE**



The acquisition, ownership, possession and use of firearms are heavily regulated. Some models may not be legally available in your state or locale. Whatever your purpose for lawfully acquiring a firearm – know the law, get trained and shoot safely.



FALCO CX02	
MATERIALS	Polymer (shell), steel (fastener)
CARRY TYPE	Outside the waistband (OWB)
RETENTION TYPE	Level 1; adjustable tension
ADJUSTABILITY	Yes (retention only)
MSRP	\$140
HANDGUN FIT	Glock 17/19/26 (tested), G43/43X, SIG Sauer P365-XMacro, S&W Shield
ACCESSORY RAIL ACCOMMODATIONS	No
POSITIONS TO CARRY	OWB; 3 o'clock (right hand)
AVERAGE TIME TO ATTACH	40 seconds
COMFORT RATING	5/5
CONCEALMENT CLOTHING	Untucked, button-down shirt or jacket
AVERAGE DRAW-TO-FIRE TIME	1.29 seconds
MANUFACTURER	Falco Holsters, 800-490-7147, falcoholsters.com

Draw-to-fire time is the average of five clean draws producing an A-zone hit on a stationary target positioned at 21 feet.

The curved contour makes it comfortable for 3-o'clock hip carry, and a sweatguard protects most of the slide. The rigid holster features polyshot surfacing that resists scratches. The Falco logo repetitively appears across the face of the holster along an angled pattern. G&A's sample looks the same as it did when new. The CX02 includes a 30-day buyback guarantee and a limited lifetime warranty. The CX02 carried well, almost unnoticeably, while worn every day for 2 months. Until other configurations become available, be sure you want a vertical holster with 2-inch

belt loops if you carry one of the select guns. At the range, it was as fast and unrestrictive as any open-top Level 1 Kydex holster tested from concealment. Are 3D-printed holsters the future? Given people's dissimilar preferences, maybe. **G&A** — E. Poole



CONTROL

YOU'LL NEVER NEED UNTIL YOU DO.

IF YOU MEASURE ONLY TWICE TO CUT ONCE, CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'RE NOT OBSESSED LIKE WE ARE. HERE AT OUR BALLISTIC LAB WE STOP AT NOTHING TO TEST EVERY CONCEIVABLE REAL-WORLD CONDITION UNTIL WE REACH PERFECTION.

BLACK HILLS
The Power of Performance
Ammunition

WWW.BLACK-HILLS.COM

TO LOCATE A DEALER NEAR YOU, PLEASE CALL 800.568.6625

Howa

SUPERLITE

THE LIGHTEST CENTERFIRE RIFLE ON THE MARKET

IN THE BACKCOUNTRY LIGHTWEIGHT IS EVERYTHING!
MY HOWA SUPERLITE IS THE PERFECT TOOL FOR
BACKCOUNTRY SUCCESS AT AN AMAZING 4LBS 7OZ!

4LBS 7OZ **vs** 400LBS



**RANDY
NEWBERG**
HUNTER

FRESH TRACKS
with Randy Newberg

Randy Newberg

RIFLE SHOWN
HOWA SUPERLITE .308

20" BARREL
264 YRDS, 165 GR BULLET

NEW

SUPERLITE SHORT 16.25" THREADED BARREL
PERFECT FOR SUPPRESSORS

4LBS 3OZ

RIFLE ONLY

SUB-MOA
GUARANTEE



FEATURING

Stocky's
America's Gunstock Specialist

Accublock®

LIMBSAVER
by SVL

- ▶ 6.5 Creedmoor, .308, .243 & 7mm 08 Calibers
- ▶ 20" Blue Barrel Threaded / 16.25" Threaded
- ▶ Suppressor ready (1/2 " -28)
- ▶ 1 Piece Pic Rail
- ▶ Flush Detachable Mag
- ▶ Large Integral front barrel lug
- ▶ Reliable M-16 Style extractor/ejector
- ▶ Lifetime Warranty
- ▶ SUB-MOA Guarantee
- ▶ Available in Kryptek Altitude, Kryptek Obskura & Gray, Green and Tan
- ▶ 3 Position Safety
- ▶ 2 Stage Match Trigger
- ▶ Tool-less Firing Pin removal
- ▶ Machined Receiver and Forged bolt
- ▶ Stocky's Carbon Fiber Stock
- ▶ ACCUBLOCK® Superior Lug Bed
- ▶ LIMBSAVER Buttpad

MSRP STARTING AT \$1,039 RIFLE ONLY

H.A.C.T. TWO-STAGE TRIGGER **LIFETIME WARRANTY**

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: LEGACYSPORTS.COM

CATALOG OUT NOW - REQUEST YOUR FREE COPY TODAY: 1.800.553.4229



LegacySportsIntl



LegacySportsInternational



LegacySportsInt

**LEGACY
SPORTS**
INTERNATIONAL®

RAISING THE BAR

An ultra-compact carbine optic, the new AIMPOINT® ACRO® C-2 prioritizes accuracy and premium mount configurations. The ACRO advantage is unmatched in proven durability from patrol to personal protection use. Standard Aimpoint® ruggedness – minimalist approved.



Federal Premium 7mm PRC



TOM BECKSTRAND

TO A POINT

ABOUT SIX MONTHS after the announcement of the 7mm PRC, I started asking rifle manufacturers what the hottest-selling new(ish) cartridge was. The answer: 7mm PRC. “No one thought it was going to be this big,” most brands responded. I also directed that question at rifle manufacturers. (It’s easy to get an unbiased response from gun makers about cartridges that sell.) Another data point about the cartridge’s popularity was the almost immediate introductory loads from Federal. Federal is deliberate about loading new cartridges, especially when the cartridges were developed by its competitor. Still, no time was wasted with the 7mm PRC. Rifle shooters who like high ballistic coefficients (BC) and reduced recoil — compared to .30-caliber magnums — should rejoice because of these options.

What makes Federal’s 7mm PRC loading special is the combination of the match standards they hold with the projectiles they offer. All of Federal’s 7mm PRC loads comply with Gold Medal Match (GMM) standards. Those standards touch every ammunition component. Dimension-wise, the brass is the same as standard 7mm PRC brass. However, the specifications and standards for neck concentricity and neck thickness are a lot tighter. Controlling the brass’ neck concentricity ensures that bullets seated in the case point straight down the center of the barrel, and are not angled to the side. Bullets that are crooked when they enter the rifling don’t get more accurate as they move down the barrel. If it starts bad, it stays bad. Neck thickness is also tightly controlled. Variations in neck thickness create variations in how tightly the neck holds the bullet, and that creates variations in chamber pressure at the moment the bullet releases from the case. Changes in chamber pressure can be measured as an increased extreme spread (ES) and standard deviation (SD) on a chronograph.

Federal’s GMM standard with its 7mm PRC loads is a comprehensive brass manufacturing process. Most 7mm

PRC brass cases have a single case-head forming process where the heads are stamped once to create the primer pocket. Federal uses a multi-hit process that forms the primer pocket and work-hardens it, too. For those that handload, this means the primer pocket will maintain its shape and retain a primer longer. Each brass case is annealed multiple times during the forming process. The annealing is focused on the case neck and shoulder. The finished case that’s ready for loading has a carefully annealed neck and shoulder with a hard case head. These are ideal pieces of premium brass.

Next in the creation of these loads is the primer and powder. Federal uses its Gold Medal primers for these rounds, applying sealant to each primer pocket. I like the sealant application because it keeps moisture from penetrating the case, even in really wet weather or an accidental dip in a river.

The powder Federal selected is one of the reasons this 7mm PRC ammunition needs to be on every PRC-lover’s radar. Powder has been hard to come by the past few years, especially powders from Alliant, a company that Federal owns. The 7mm PRC was developed around a family of powders that include RL-26, H1000, and Retumbo. However, the advertised velocity of 3,000 feet per second (fps) for a 175-grain bullet, and 2,950 fps for a 180-grain bullet is only possible with RL-26, if staying under max pressure is a constraint. All other powders — even when loaded to maximum pressure — are about 125 fps slower when loaded to the same pressure. RL-26 is one of the most temp-stable double-base powders. The presence of nitroglycerine in

the powder is what gives it the added velocity boost versus all the single-base powders, it’s just the folks in Switzerland who figured out how to make it temperature stable.

If a guy went to the gun shop and bought every factory 7mm PRC load from every ammunition manufacturer, there is a high probability that only these Federal loads will hit the velocity advertised.





Federal's 170-grain Terminal Ascent load for the 7mm PRC features a bonded, lead-core bullet. The tip enhances accuracy and initiates expansion, even at slow speeds. A box of 20 rounds retails for \$79.



Federal loads Hornady's ELD-X bullet in 7mm PRC, which is a heavy-for-caliber design sheathed in a concentric copper jacket. The heat-resistant tip resists deformation caused by friction during flight, and initiates expansion. A box of 20 rounds retails for \$76.



The Federal 155-grain Terminal Ascent load features a thinner jacket than the 170 grainer, and it sports AccuChannel grooves near the boattail. The polymer tip is also the same, used to initiate expansion, but the tip is sharply pointed. A box of 20 rounds retails for \$78.

RL-26 isn't for sale publicly anymore, and it appears that it isn't being sold to another ammunition manufacturer besides Federal, at least according to my chronograph. This could always change. Of course, Federal also applies its thorough GMM standards to the powder quality-control process and conducts burn tests on each lot prior to loading to ensure each lot of ammunition is loaded to exactly the same pressure.

The most obvious unique feature of the Federal loads is the use of the Terminal Ascent bullet. I've killed lots of game with it and can attest to its performance across a broad spectrum of applications. It is bonded, so it stays together and penetrates well, even when shot at close range into heavy bone and muscle. I took a large kudu in Africa with the 170-grain Terminal Ascent, and the only reason I recovered the bullet was because it traversed the entire body and crushed a joint on the far side, lodging just inside the skin. All other Terminal Ascent bullets I've fired have broken bones, passed through the body and exited. I've never seen one fragment to the point of destruction. Bullets that fragment violently can fail to penetrate deep enough to be instantly fatal, especially quartering shots on large animals.

Federal offers both 155-grain and 170-grain Terminal Ascent projectiles. These bullets start out as copper slugs

PERFORMANCE

LOAD	VEL. (FPS)	ES	SD	BEST GROUP (IN.)	AVG. GROUP (IN.)
Federal 155-gr. Terminal Ascent	3,246	40.5	13.8	.24	.46
Federal 175-gr. ELD-X	3,011	36.4	14.1	.45	.53
Federal 170-gr. Terminal Ascent	2,996	22.8	8.2	.68	.83

Notes: Accuracy is the result of five, three-shot groups at 100 yards; barrel length was 26 inches. Velocity is the result of five shots recorded by a Garmin Xero C1 Pro.

that are formed into shape using specialized machinery. The next step is to insert the lead core with the addition of some flux to bond it to the copper. Then, relief grooves are cut into the bearing surface to help control pressure and velocity. Then the ogive and boattail are formed. Finally, Federal inserts the polymer tip. Terminal Ascent bullets are the most complex bullets Federal makes, which is why they are expensive. However, you'd be hard-pressed to find a bullet that performs as well at short range and high velocity as at long range and low velocity.

Federal also loads Hornady's 175-grain ELD-X bullet in 7mm PRC ammunition. I think highly of the ELD-X bullet, and I recommend it without reservation. It is one of the most accurate hunting bullets ever created. The consumer wins by having this bullet offered by two manufacturers because the factory ammunition from each will be loaded with different powder. Since just about every rifle will have a preference for powder it shoots the most accurately, lovers of the ELD-X now have a source for 7mm PRC loaded with this bullet and RL-26 from Federal.

The 7mm PRC is currently my favorite big-game hunting cartridge due to its excellent ballistics and low recoil. I think 95 percent of most .30-caliber magnum shooters would be better served with the 7mm PRC, especially when chambering these loads from Federal.



WHERE COMPACT DESIGN MEETS UNRIVALED PERFORMANCE

WORK HARD. LEAVE A LEGACY.



COLT VIPER

The Colt Viper is the ultimate carry revolver, boasting a half lug design for enhanced concealability and reduced weight. Crafted with precision from forged stainless steel and chambered in 357 Magnum for unparalleled performance. Available in both 3" and 4.25".

COLT VIPER (VIPER-SP3WRR, VIPER-SP4WRR)

COLT.COM

Wilson Combat Quell Ultralight 9mm



WILSON COMBAT QUELL ULTRALIGHT	
CALIBER	.358/9mm
LENGTH	6.63 in.
DIAMETER	1.5 in.
WEIGHT	9.2 oz
MATERIALS	6Al-4V titanium
FINISH	Armor-Tuff (Black)
K-MOUNT THREAD PITCHES	1/2x28 and 5/8x24
MSRP	\$1,140
MANUFACTURER	Wilson Combat, 800-955-4856, wilsoncombat.com

Material selection enables Wilson Combat's Quell to suppress even magnum cartridges. A K-Mount muzzle device is included with every Quell-series suppressor, which sports caliber-appropriate threads at the muzzle. **\$1,140**

THWARTING NOISE

BEST KNOWN for premium handguns, rifles and ammunition, Wilson Combat has been manufacturing suppressors since 2011 in Berryville, Arkansas, suppressing calibers from .22 LR to .458 HAM'R. Wilson offers three purpose-driven families of suppressors: WCR for rimfire, the Whisper, and the Quell. Quell-series suppressors are obtainable in four models for calibers 5.56mm, 6.8mm, 7.62mm and 9mm (.358). Each is available in stainless-steel or Ultralight versions constructed of titanium. Guns & Ammo evaluated a Quell Ultralight in 9mm (.358) for this review.

Quell Ultralights are constructed of Grade 5 titanium (Ti-6Al-4V), weighing 9 ounces. All Quell Ultralight suppressors measure 6.625 inches and have an 1½-inch diameter. The six K-type baffles, blast baffle, endcap and blast chamber are precision-machined by five-axis CNCs. Threaded ends on each section provide precise alignment of the bore when the sections are assembled. Finally, each section is permanently sealed by circumferential welds. This approach is credited for the minimal impact shift when the suppressor is installed. There was little-to-no point-of-impact shift when the suppressor heated up. The end cap features a cupped recess to steer blast and energy forward, also improving sound mitigation. All Wilson suppressors are finished in Wilson's own Armor-Tuff coating.

A K-Mount muzzle device is provided with the Quell.

The K-Mount has an aggressive thread-interface, allowing quick installation and seating of any Quell suppressor. A tapered shoulder, just forward of the threads, seats against a collar, which is machined inside the suppressor. This aligns the suppressor and allows a decent return to zero when reinstalled. The taper also seals-off gas and carbon from reaching the threads, making it easier to remove. Smartly, K-Mounts can be easily installed using a 7/8-inch 12-point socket.

Weighing 9.2 ounces is impressive; it's hard to feel this suppressor at the end of a barrel. For comparison, my smartphone weighs 9.8 ounces. I evaluated the Quell on an ultra-compact WC AR-9 with an 8-inch 9mm barrel. Complete with suppressor, optic and magazine, it weighed 7¼ pounds. It was an absolute pleasure to shoot.

The 115-grain +P hollowpoints were the most accurate, but produced a supersonic crack. Subsonic 115-grain loads produced a pleasing *thud* downrange. Loads were hearing-safe, controllable, and produced little recoil. Overall, Wilson Combat has a home run with its Quell-series of suppressors. Attention to detail and quality are present throughout. I loved shooting it on the AR-9, but it proved equally suited for use on just about every 9mm PCC I could put my hands on. Great job, Wilson.

— M. Fingar



 **UTG PRO®**
PROUDLY MADE IN USA

MODERNIZING A CLASSIC

For those looking to keep things classy and made in the USA, but with just the right touch of modernity and functionality, UTG PRO® presents our new lightweight and low-profile Picatinny claw mount and M-LOK® light mount for the MP5®.



▲ **CLAW MOUNT** ┘
for MP5® & MP5K



▲ **LIGHT MOUNT** ┘
for MP5®





A MATCH-READY REVOLVER THAT DOMINATES THE COMPETITION.

RADICAL
CYLINDER CUTS
REDUCE MASS

CUSTOM
VZ TARGET
GRIP

8-ROUNDS, CHAMFERED
CYLINDER CHAMBERS

HI-VIZ FIBER
OPTIC SIGHT

TOOL-FREE ADJUSTABLE TRIGGER

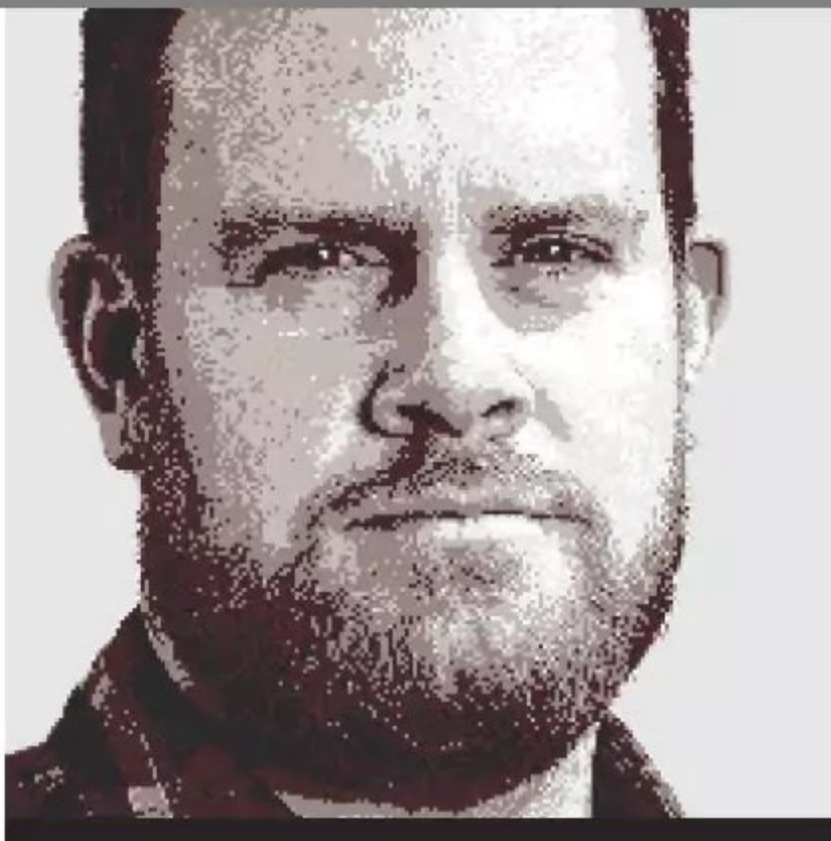
 **608** **COMPETITION**
357 MAG / 38 Special +P

TaurusUSA.com

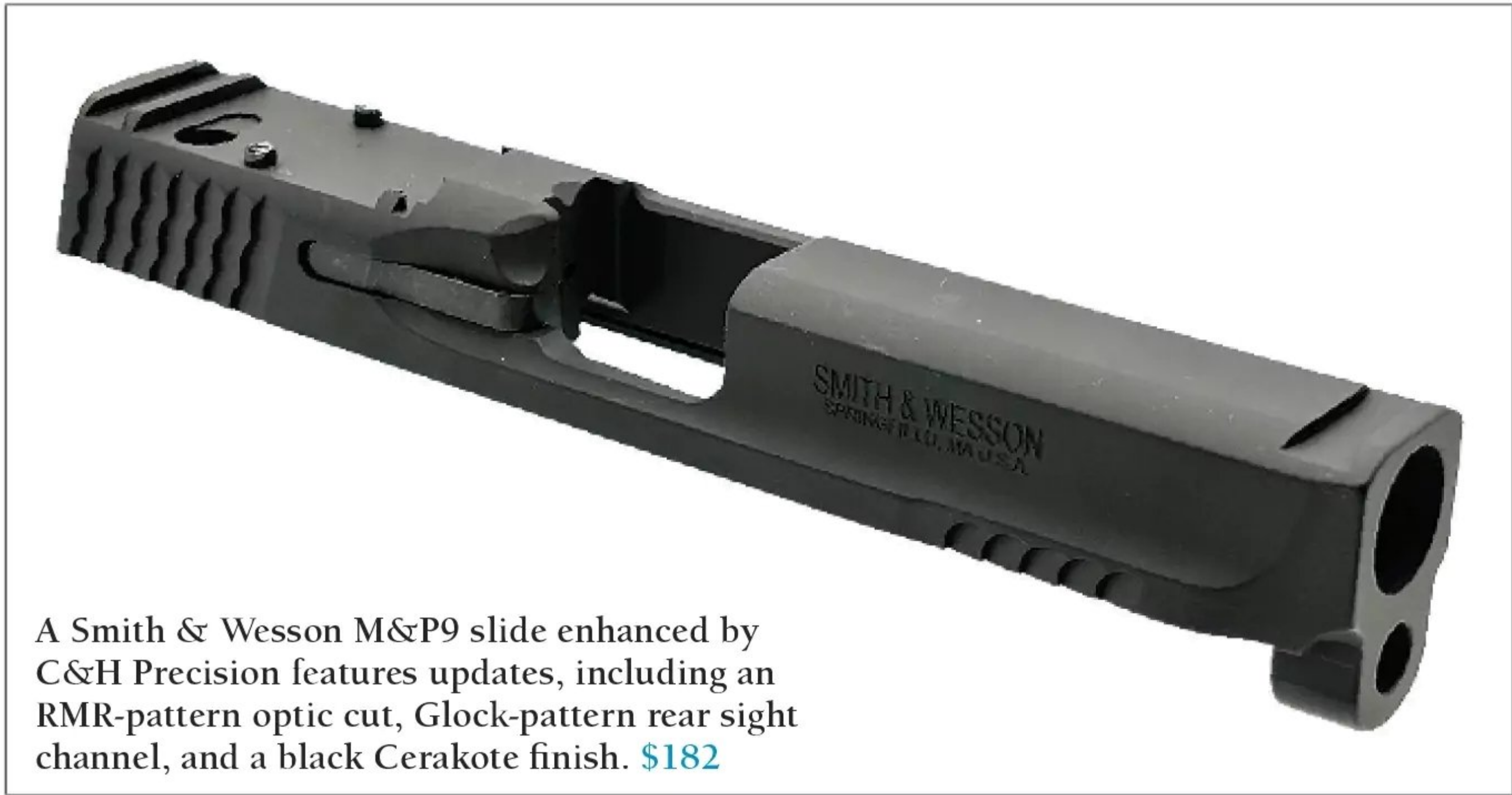
RELY ON  **TAURUS**

REFIT & REFLECT

Updating and upgrading firearms to improve function and performance.



JOE KURTENBACH



A Smith & Wesson M&P9 slide enhanced by C&H Precision features updates, including an RMR-pattern optic cut, Glock-pattern rear sight channel, and a black Cerakote finish. \$182

C&H PRECISION (chpws.com) is in the business of giving great used guns a new lease on life. Most popular pistols come optic-ready these days, but that wasn't the case a few years back. To update traditionally sighted firearms, send the top-ends to the slide cutters at C&H Precision for a red-dot renovation.

The decision was easy for me. I had a pair of Smith & Wesson M&P9 M2.0 pistols that I'd carried and trained with before adopting the dot. After I switched to using optics, the guns were relegated to the ready reserve. Opting for C&H Precision's fast and affordable slide-milling service, my guns were refit and ready for carry in a couple of weeks.

C&H Precision offers a variety of slide services, including standard optic accommodations to full overhauls and refinishing. The cost is based on the mounting footprint, iron sight placement, and any special features or upgrades requested. Basic orders are turned around in two to four weeks, and verified duty firearms receive complimentary expedited

service. Both of my M&P slides received similar treatment: Trijicon RMR-pattern milling (\$99); a Glock-pattern rear-sight dovetail (\$39); Zev threaded posts for added screw engagement (\$15); and a full-slide black Cerakote finish (\$40). I also took the opportunity to order one of the company's red-dot optics for evaluation. The EDC-XL Multi-Reticle (\$300) offers durable construction and a versatile, user-selectable reticle featuring a 3 MOA dot, 34 MOA circle, or both. The slides were milled and returned



The reassembled M&P shown with the C&H EDC-XL optic (\$338, chpws.com) and Night Fision sights (\$119, nightfision.com).

in less than two weeks, and the workmanship was excellent. With the internals re-installed, optics mounted, and irons affixed, my workhorse M&Ps were as good as new and sighted to my specifications. The only challenge was pairing the right-height Smith & Wesson front sight with a Glock-pattern rear. I heartily recommend readers in similar predicaments engage the team at Night Fision (nightfision.com). They offer high-visibility and tritium-powered sights both in sets and individually. They are adept at cobbling together custom pairings such as mine.

RANGE BRIEFS



The first company to produce carbon-fiber barrels continues to improve. The Christensen Arms Ridgeline FFT combines lightweight and modern materials, sophisticated machining, and Old World hand-fitting and -finishing to produce custom-grade performance at a near-production price. Tested in 6.8 Western with a 20-inch barrel, Guns & Ammo's sample rifle weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces, even with a Leupold VX-5HD

3-15x44mm riflescope and Silencer Central's Banish Backcountry suppressor installed. Results are for five, five-shot groups at 100 yards. \$2,050 — J. Kurtenbach

WINCHESTER 6.8 WESTERN	VEL. (FPS)	BEST GROUP (IN.)	AVG. GROUP (IN.)
Ballistic Silvertip 170-gr.	2,897	.73	.8
AccuBond LR 165-gr.	2,901	.88	1.17
Power Point 170-gr.	2,875	1	1.06

DO I LOAD 30 ROUNDS?

An age-old AR-15 debate argues whether to load 28 or 30 rounds in a standard capacity magazine. The downloaders rightly point out that — depending on make, model, and bolt position — a fully-loaded 30-round magazine may not seat or load reliably. Many respected trainers and seasoned practitioners prefer to trade two rounds for peace of mind.

The energetic minds at Speed Tac (speed-tac.com) correctly assessed that a design improvement could solve the issue for good. Interestingly,



Patented grooves on the bottom of the Speed-Tac bolt carrier group improve rifle reliability with full, 30-round magazines.

though, they ignored the magazines and addressed the AR-15 bolt carrier. With a patented relief cut on the bottom portion of the bolt carrier, the company was able to resolve the dropped magazine and misfeed issues that have plagued AR shooters for decades.

The solution is a simple one-for-one parts swap that will work in any traditional AR-15-pattern firearm. The unit is compatible with standard .223 Rem./5.56mm magazines, including those with left-side followers. The bolt carrier's relief cut provides enough clearance for fully loaded magazines to seat beneath a closed bolt, and the contours ensure the bolt can move unimpeded over the cartridges.

I changed the bolt carrier group in a vintage Stag Arms rifle for the Speed Tac and experienced flawless function with topped-off magazines. The bolt carriers have also been vetted by several instructors at the Gunsite Academy. Two options are

available: ST2 with a black nitride finish (\$130), and the ST3 featuring a nickel NP3 coating (\$160). 

SIGNING OFF

Some opportunities are simply too good to pass up. Such was the case when — more than four years ago — I was asked to join Guns & Ammo. It's the case now as I bid G&A a fond farewell. I am grateful for the trust and support offered by the staff and contributors, and I am most thankful for the diligence, enthusiasm, and keen perspectives so often shared by readers. Allow me to thank Bullseye Guns of Leesburg, Virginia, and 340 Defense in Charlestown, West Virginia. In this job, you need a way to receive firearms and a place to test them. The folks at Bullseye and 340 never let me down. Thank you.

—J. Kurtenbach



NEW PRODUCTS
2025



THOMPSON® .50 BMG TAO50®
MANUFACTURED BY AUTO-ORDNANCE®

• Shown TAO50FDE with NightForce® Riflescope (Not Included)



Thompson®

Auto-Ordnance®

SEE BETTER. HEAR BETTER. SHOOT BETTER.



For more than 45 years, SureFire innovation has delivered cutting-edge solutions to high-stakes problems. The Scout Light® Pro series of long gun weaponlights provides the most low-profile and flexible mounting solution on the market. SureFire SOCOM suppressors won the most extensive suppressor trial ever conducted and have an impeccable service record worldwide. SureFire handheld lights are the gold standard in tactical illumination and SureFire EarPro® Sonic Defenders redefine what's possible in passive hearing protection.

SUREFIRE

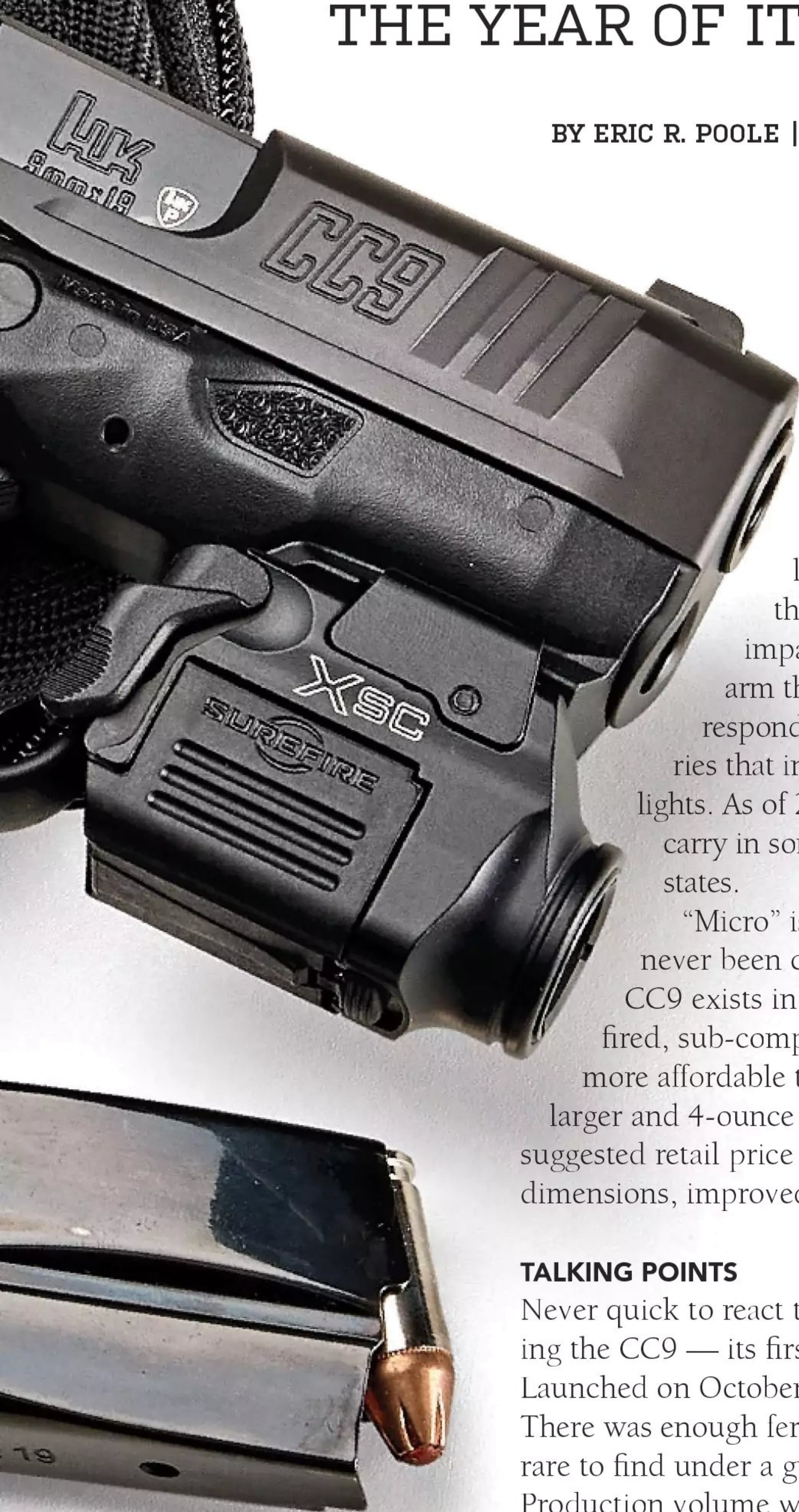




FASHIONABLY LATE

HK INTRODUCES THE CC9 9MM DURING THE YEAR OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY.

BY ERIC R. POOLE | PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ANSCHUETZ



FLORIDA ENACTED its shall-issue Right to Carry law that allowed law-abiding adults to purchase a concealed carry license in 1987. Guns & Ammo has followed the carry movement as it was influenced by rising crime, including the 2003 move by six state legislatures to facilitate concealed carry. In 2008, the U.S. Supreme Court's *D.C. vs. Heller* ruling impacted millions of Americans who decided to arm themselves for protection. Manufacturers quickly responded, developing compact firearms and accessories that increased capacity and accommodated optics and lights. As of 2024, all 50 states and D.C. allow concealed carry in some form. Permitless carry is available in 29 states.

"Micro" is a marketing term for which the meaning has never been clearly defined. To determine where the HK CC9 exists in this saturated category, I surveyed 18 striker-fired, sub-compact pistols for comparison. The CC9 is only more affordable than the HK VP9SK (\$1,029, hk-usa.com), a larger and 4-ounce heavier pistol. For the \$699 manufacturer-suggested retail price (MSRP), the CC9 is a blend of low-profile dimensions, improved ergonomics, reliability and accuracy.

TALKING POINTS

Never quick to react to trends, Heckler & Koch has been developing the CC9 — its first micro-compact pistol — for several years. Launched on October 16, 2024, HK fanboys instantly accepted it. There was enough fervor for it that the CC9 still seems exotic and rare to find under a gun store's counter. That may change, though. Production volume won't be as limited as we've experienced with imported models because the CC9 is produced in Georgia.

"Except for the barrel, which is cold hammer-forged in Germany," HK Marketing Manager Angela Harrell confirmed, "the entire CC9 was designed, developed and is produced in the U.S."



The aesthetics of the CC9 will be familiar to those who have handled the VP9, Guns & Ammo’s 2014 Handgun of the Year.

“It needed to look enough like an HK, but it still had to function,” said Tommy Brooker, HK operations. “If a company develops a small pistol with full-size features, it can produce pinch points.”

There are no pinch points with the CC9, only tactile touchpoints. The front and rear slide serrations are like those on the VP9, such as beveled edges, grip contours, the beavertail, ambidextrous controls, sights and feel of the trigger. The textured areas on the polymer grip module are a finer version of the VP9’s, including a pattern of raised dots and interlocking rings. Not only does the texture appear around the grip and backstrap, but there are pads above the trigger-guard for indexing the support-hand thumb with a two-hand grip and an idle trigger finger.

Bilateral controls are serrated, including the curved face of the trigger, slide catch/release, and magazine release button. A roll pin secures the backstrap to the grip, which features a subtle arch to the longest point on the grip. With either 10- or 12-round magazines inserted, the bottom of the backstrap blends with both basepads. Two backstraps are provided with the CC9, a small labeled “S” and large “L.”

The triggerguard is shaped with a high-grip undercut. Paired with the beavertail, the CC9 features a low bore axis

Pictures can be deceiving. Without a background for frame of reference, the HK CC9 looks as if, perhaps, a compact version of the VP9. However, the CC9 has a 3.32-inch barrel, is 6-inches long, is less than an inch wide, and carries up to 12 rounds of 9mm.



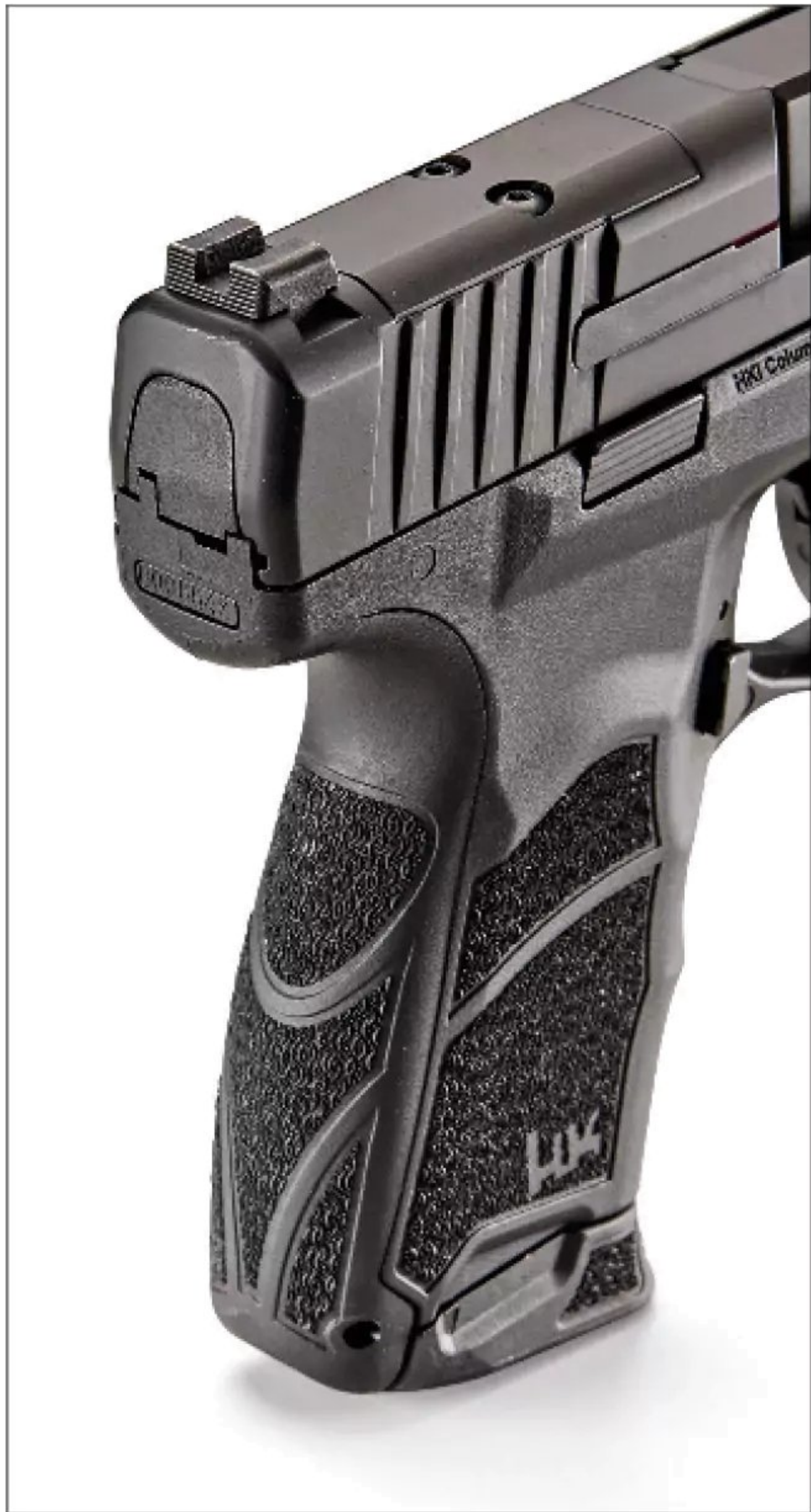
HK CC9	
TYPE	Recoil operated, striker fired, semiautomatic
CARTRIDGE	9mm
CAPACITY	10+1 rds., 12+1 rds.
BARREL	3.32 in.; polygonal, six-groove rifling; 1:10-in. twist rate
LENGTH	6.03 in.
WIDTH	.99 in.
HEIGHT	4.5 in. (w/ 10-rd. mag.)
WEIGHT	1 lb., 2.4 oz.
SLIDE	Canon-grade alloy style, DLC finish
FRAME	Textured polymer grip, S/L backstraps
SIGHTS	XS Sights, tritium post (front), black, serrated notch (rear); optic-ready, RMsC footprint
TRIGGER	5 lbs., 10 oz. (tested)
SAFETY	Trigger lever, firing pin
ACCESSORIES	Soft case, manual, child safety lock, Large backstrap, two magazines (10 and 12 round), 10-round pinky extension floorplate
MSRP	\$699
MANUFACTURER	HK USA, 706-701-5554, hk-usa.com

engineered for optimum control. Even with +P loads, the CC9 was easy to manage during rapid fire.

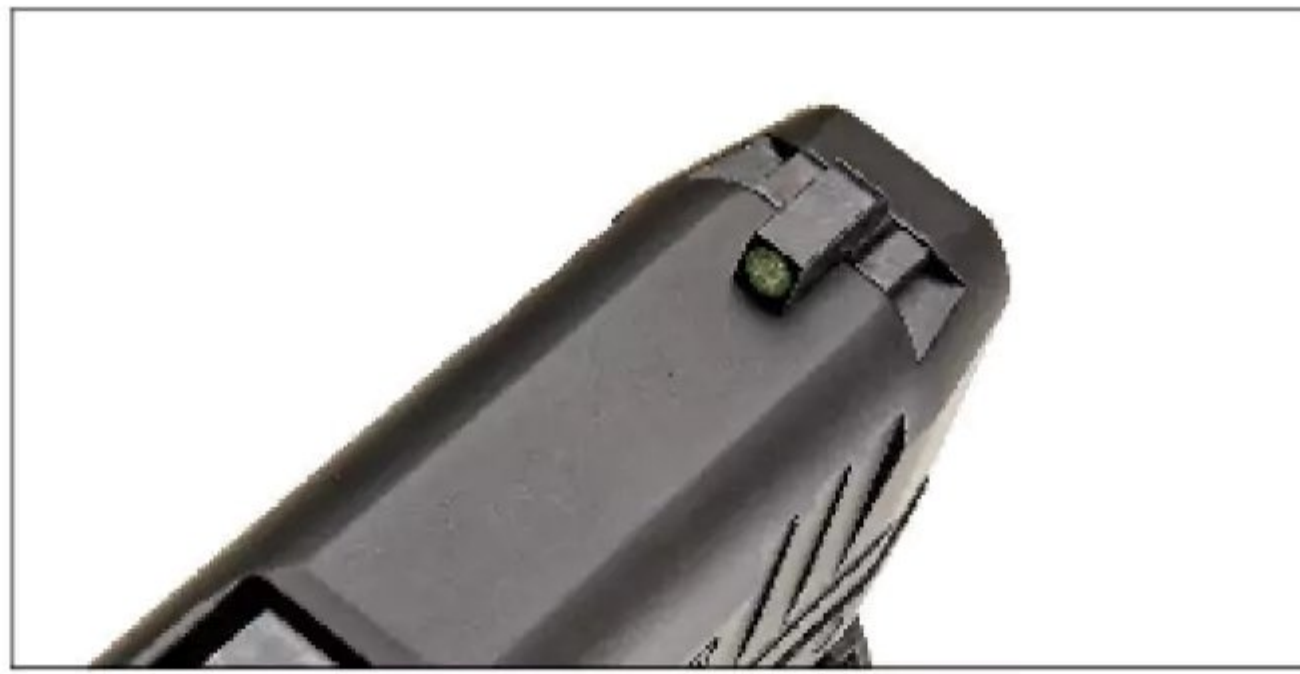
The two-slot accessory rail accepts compact pistol lights. In addition to G&A’s accuracy and reliability protocol tests, I evaluated the CC9 in low-light training with a SureFire XSC (\$369, surefire.com). It was perfectly suited for the CC9, providing 350 lumens and a rechargeable battery that can be changed without removing it from the rail.

The CC9 features a chassis pinned to the polymer grip module. Note the serial number plate at the rear under the slide. The serialized chassis is hooked into a slot at the back of the grip module and pinned at the front. Using a 2.3mm or 3/32-inch punch and hammer to drive out the pin, the chassis is among the easiest to remove from a grip module. The CC9 design is an open invitation from HK to aftermarket companies to develop different grip modules.

Molded within the grip module in front of the chassis, a stainless-steel horseshoe wall exists for the guiderod to press against. According to Brooker, “It slows down slide from over-function. A lot of smaller guns are over-sprung, alienating some older shooters who may have grip issues



The CC9 is an optic-ready striker-fired pistol. The coverplate is secured by two screws, and rear sight is behind it. A "S" small, arched backstrap comes installed from the U.S. factory.



XS Sights are at the front and rear of the slide. The front is a tritium night sight. The dovetails are a Glock pattern.



The two slot accessory rail under the triggerguard accepts a variety of lights and accessories. A SureFire XSC with universal mounting interface was used during function testing in low-light conditions. **\$369**



The trigger features a curved, serrated face with a safety lever in the center. The triggerguard is generous with a high-grip undercut at the rear. It is predictable and presents a short distance of travel.



The CC9 uses a robust external extractor. With a cartridge case in the chamber, a red-painted loaded-chamber indicator can be seen from the top. The bilateral slide catch/release lever functions well, too.

or dexterity challenges. If it is under-sprung, the pistol can have feeding issues. Some people may see the horse-shoe wall as a point of reinforcement for the frame, but it was engineered to slow down the slide. Several of these nuances ensure the CC9 is the most reliable micro."

The slide rails are 3.52 inches in length, and the internal action parts are conventional for a striker-fired system. Remove the magazine, lock or hold the slide to the rear, and rotate the takedown lever down 90 degrees. The slide assembly can then be removed forward of the grip module and chassis without needing to press the trigger, which HK advertises as an additional "safety" feature.

The slide and barrel are steel, finished in DLC. The slide was designed with an external extractor that produces a red, painted loaded chamber indicator when a cartridge rim is held by the claw. On top, the dovetail sights maximize the length of the side with a 4¾-inch sight radius. The front night sight and rear are made by XS Sights, the front featuring a thin, green, high-visibility ring encompassing a tritium vial. The rear sight is an all-black, serrated square notch. This

pairing is excellent as a standalone sighting arrangement.

The CC9 is also optic-ready, including a direct-mount Shield RMSc footprint that will accept the Holosun 407K, 507K and EPS Carry. Remove two screws from the coverplate for access to the low-cut base. To evaluate the CC9 with an optic, I tried a Trijicon RMRcc (\$699, trijicon.com), which required an additional adapter plate for the RMSc footprint (\$72, trijicon.com). The adapter plate raised the optic .12 inches above the slide, but reliability was not affected.

The barrel starts out as a French blank made of hammer-forged canon-grade steel. I asked HK what type of steel is used and the meaning of "canon grade," only to be told that it is a proprietary steel alloy. The barrel bar is sent to HK in Germany where it is bored and given six-groove, 1-in-10-inch twist rifling. The barrel is then exported to HK USA for machining and proofing. I noted the "HK P"-shield proofmark on the right side of the barrel; imported HK barrels and slides feature Ulm proofhouse and CIP pressure-test proofmarks.

Safety is extant throughout the CC9. The slide contains a firing pin



Two, polished steel magazines — one 10-round and one 12-round — are provided with the CC9. For restricted areas, two 10-round magazines are included. The basepad stickers are easily removable.

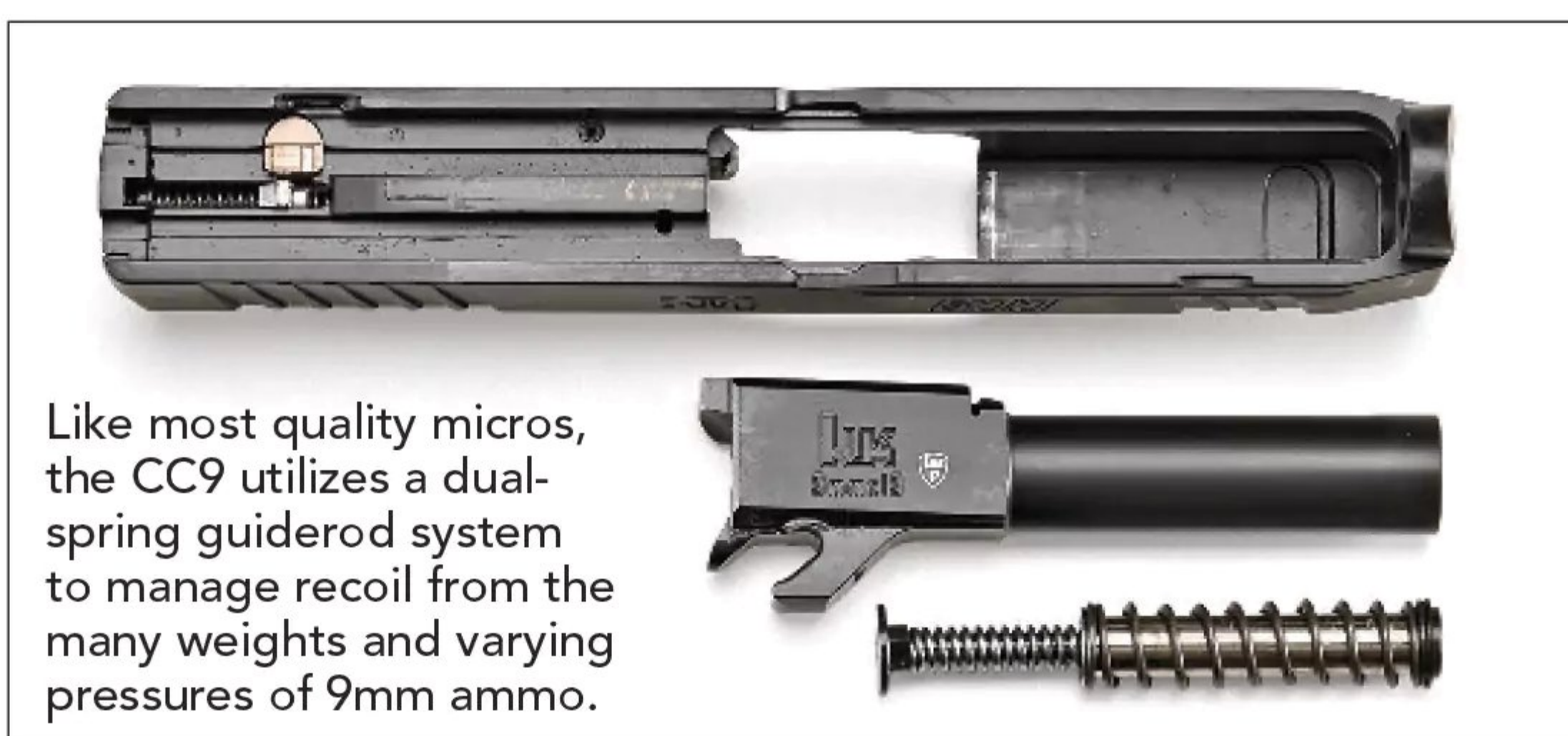


The CC9 is a chassis pistol, and perhaps the easiest micro to disassemble as long as you have the appropriate punch and a hammer. Being that the chassis can be removed from the grip module, aftermarket companies are welcome to develop unique grips in various colors and textures — with or without rails — extended, threaded, or compensated barrels, and triggers. The possibilities are endless.

safety, and an interference plunger that is pushed out of the way by the trigger bar as the trigger is pressed. The trigger bar and shoe are a unit inspired by the VP series, explaining, in part, why the CC9 trigger feels familiar to me.

HK advertises a 5-pound trigger featuring a pre-cocked system. G&A's sample averaged 5 pounds, 10 ounces, for 10 pulls on a Lyman Digital Trigger Pull Gauge. The trigger characteristic presented a short, clean take-up to a wall, requiring a little pressure to stage the press and fire the pistol.

Two magazines are included with the CC9. Cartridges load easily into the CC9 mags, but the feed lips are a bit sharp. If you are subject to a magazine-restricted jurisdiction, two 10-round magazines are provided. Otherwise, the CC9 is standard with 10- and 12-round, slick, steel-bodied “Made in the U.S.A.” magazines. The 10-round magazine features the same body as the 12-round but is marked to the “10” witness hole, and has a punctured



Like most quality micros, the CC9 utilizes a dual-spring guiderod system to manage recoil from the many weights and varying pressures of 9mm ammo.

notch to the lower left that prevents the follower from sliding to the 11th and 12th positions. The 10-round magazine features a thin baseplate that's better suited for concealment at the sacrifice of pinky support, while the 12-round magazine basepad offers

full-fingered grip support with an angled extension.

Incredibly, HK CC9 magazines manage to offer more capacity for similar dimensions to competitors that feed from 10-round mags. True double-stack magazines for sub-compact pistols such as the G26 may soon be irrelevant. Single-stack magazine-fed pistols such as the G43 will remain despite the compromise in capacity, but dimensionally those pistols need to be thinner than the CC9's .99-inch width.

AT THE RANGE

With a lot of micro pistols, a shooter must readjust their grip every three to four rounds. With the high beavertail



The slide features a deep RMSc-pattern cut to support the co-witness of standard-height sights in the lower third of an optic's window. RMR-pattern optics require an adapter plate.



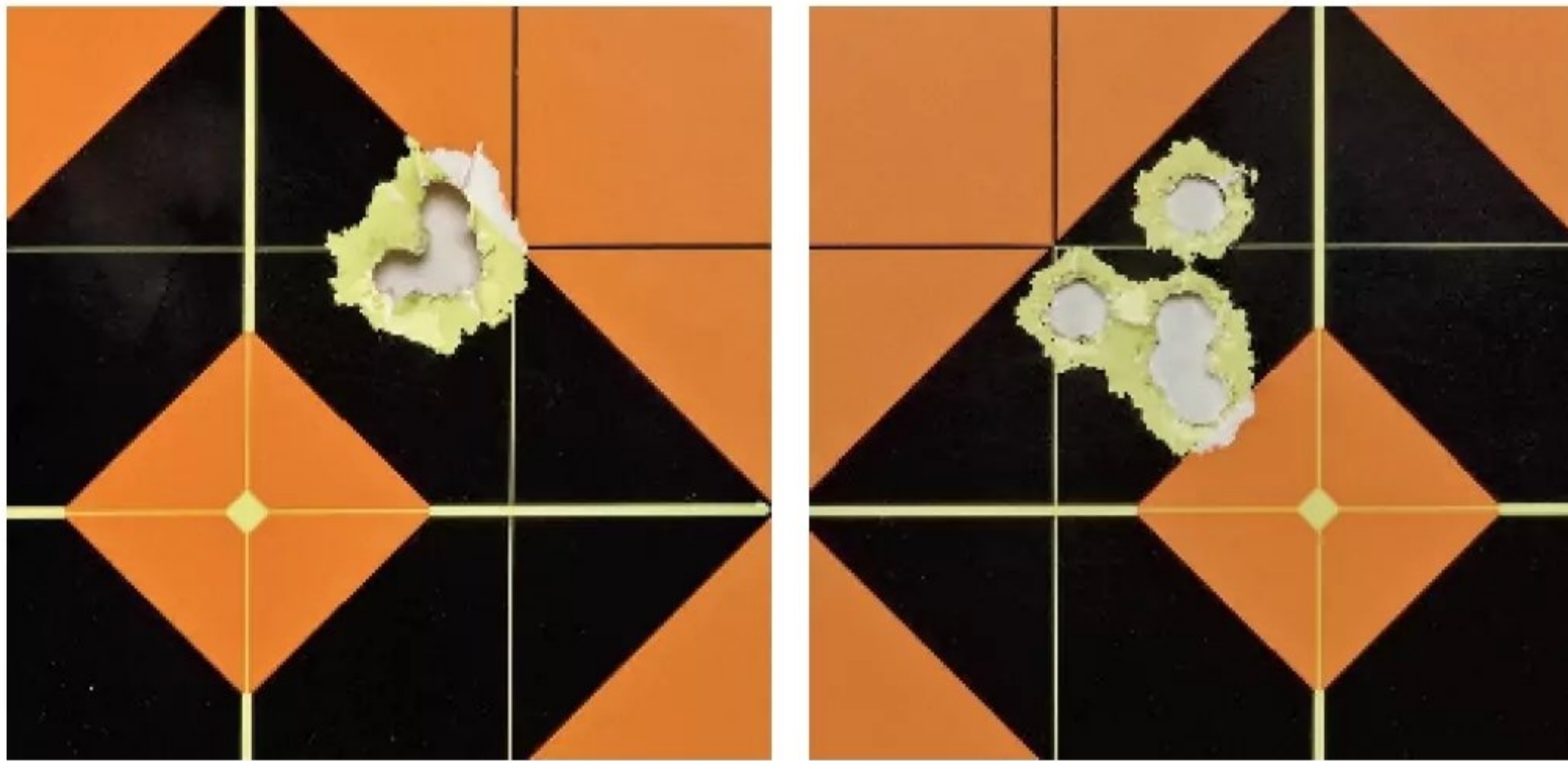
Controls are bilateral except for the takedown lever. With an unloaded CC9 and magazine removed, retract the slide and rotate the lever. A trigger press is unnecessary to disassemble.

and triggerguard undercut, you can choke up high on the CC9 and run this pistol fast with either flush or extended magazines.

HK guarantees the recoil and guiderod spring assembly for 10,000 rounds, but engineers tested the CC9 to 18,000 rounds before needing to replace this component. Shared with Shooting Times, G&A's test sample proved flawless through more than 1,000 rounds fired of various loads — including +P loads. Bullet weights spanned 115 to 147 grains. Testing continues. No malfunctions.

Why are fanboys willing to pay more for an HK? Accuracy has something to do with it. I've never heard someone claim that HK makes inaccurate guns. Even with a 3.32-inch barrel, the CC9 continues this reputation. Like large model HK pistols, the CC9 barrel contains six-groove polygonal rifling. Is this HK's secret sauce? I debated whether to include two 25-yard five-shot groups from the bench into the average accuracy results. Even as unbelievable as it may seem, it happened. The first group from Hornady's American Gunner 115-grain XTP produced a .29-inch hole. Later, using SIG Sauer Elite V-Crown 124-grain +P load, another one-hole group was printed that measured .76 inches. These anomalies improved the overall average, but the CC9 was a 1.65- to 2.3-inch pistol from 25 yards.

If you purchase a CC9, holsters from ANR Design (anrkydexholsters.com), DeSantis (desantisholster.com), and Weber Tactical (webertactical.com) are available now. Holsters from Comp-Tac (comp-tac.com), CrossBreed Holsters (crossbreedholsters.com), Safariland (safariland.com), Vedder (vedderholsters.com) are in development.



Two five-shot groups illustrate the CC9's remarkable accuracy potential to the extreme. The .29-inch group (left) resulted from a Hornady load; the .76-inch group was a SIG Sauer load (right).

PERFORMANCE

LOAD	VEL. (FPS)	ES	SD	BEST GROUP (IN.)	AVG. GROUP (IN.)
Hornady American Gunner 115-gr. XTP	1,096	18.3	6.1	.29	1.73
SIG Sauer Elite V-Crown 124-gr. JHP	1,107	40.9	14.2	.76	1.74
Winchester USA Ready Defense +P 124-gr. Hex-Vent JHP	1,158	67.9	23.9	1.37	1.65
Fiocchi Range Dynamics 115-gr. FMJ	1,105	44.2	18.3	1.76	2.3
Ammo Inc Streak 124-gr. TMC	1,048	50.7	17.3	1.78	2.21

Notes: Accuracy is the average of five, five-shot groups from 25 yards fired from a sandbag rest. Velocity is the average of five shots recorded by a Garmin Xero C1 Pro chronograph.

HK LOVES YOU

Many posts online and on social have repeated the fictional slogan, "HK: Because you suck. And we hate you," sometimes referring to the company's inability to import enough rifles and pistols to meet demand and reduce the price, or for its inability (or unwillingness) to produce semiautomatic versions of the select-fire G36, MP5, MP7, UMP, and M27 Infantry Automatic Rifle for law-abiding U.S. citizens commercially. In honor of its 75th Anniversary, HK has offered models such as the MR-Series and VP-series in Flecktarn and Tropentarn camo, as well as a limited-edition MR27 tribute to the M27. HK is aware of its cult following. With manufacturing capability in Columbus, Georgia, HK USA is excited to develop and produce crowd-pleasing guns — and more of them. Given the popularity of the micro-compact category, I predict the CC9 series will become a best-seller for HK. It's already the most accurate pistol in this segment that Guns & Ammo has ever tested. **G&A**



HIGH TIME

THE KIMBER 2K11 IS THE HIGH-GRADE HI-CAP WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.

BY JAMES TARR | PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ANSCHUETZ

I AM FASCINATED with the contortions the firearms market has made to get us to this point. Kimber released its 2K11 late in 2024, a full-size double-stack 1911. It's a very high-grade production gun aimed at both the tactical and competition crowds who might be considering an EAA Girsan Witness 2311 (\$999, eaacorp.com); Springfield Armory 1911 DS Prodigy AOS (\$1,599; springfieldarmory.com); Staccato P (\$2,499, staccato2011.com); or Wilson Combat SFX9 (\$3,255, wilsoncombat.com).

The name 2K11 is a clever way of Kimber naming its new pistol without getting sued. Double-stack 1911s were informally called 2011s for years before Staccato trademarked the "2011" name.

Initially, the Kimber 2K11 is available in three variants, the Standard model — sent to Guns & Ammo for testing — a upgraded Target model, and an optic-installed model. These are available in 9mm or .45 ACP. They are hammer-fired, single-action-only (SAO), optics-ready semiautomatic sporting a 5-inch barrel. Kimber will release numerous variations throughout 2025. The 2K11 is a 1911-pattern pistol in layout, fed by double-stack magazines. It has an aluminum grip module attached to a steel subframe. (More on that later.) It's 8.6 inches long, 5.7 inches tall (6½ inches with a magazine inserted), and 1.35 inches wide. Total weight with an empty mag is 39.9 ounces, which was a bit lighter than I expected for its size.

This pistol uses SV/STI-pattern magazines made by Check-Mate. Traditionally, flush magazines hold 13 rounds of .45 or 17 of 9mm. The magazines supplied with G&A's 2K11 are slightly extended, offering a 13-plus-1 capacity in .45 ACP. Three magazines are supplied with these pistols, along with a nice lockable soft case. The 9mm ships with one 17-rounder and two extended 20-round magazines.

One thing you'll notice is that this "Standard" model has striking looks. The flats of the slide have been polished, and





the slide serrations aren't serrations — they're shallow, flat-bottomed geometric shapes that (I think) look great while functioning well when grasping. They wrap over the top of the slide in front for additional gripping area.

The Standard model's slide and subframe finish is a black DLC that's matte where it isn't brush polished. The barrel has a coyote PVD finish that provides a color contrast. You'll see a similar coyote color on the long anodized-aluminum match-grade trigger. The aluminum grip module is Type III black hardcoat anodized.

SLIDE & FRAME DETAILS

The slide sports Kimber's version of the Butler Cut, although I'll bet you money a lot of people don't know this slide and frame profile has a name. The Butler Cut is named after national- and world-champion shooter Taran Butler (tarantacticalinnovations.com). Back in the day, all 1911s had the original short rail-less frames and curving relief on the slide near the muzzle. Then long dust covers were invented, which stretched the frame all the way to the muzzle with flush slides to match. They added weight, but didn't look as good. Butler cut back his full dustcovers an inch or so on an angle, then blended the cut into the slide, as seen on the 2K11. The subframe here sports a three-slot accessory rail for mounting white lights.

Slide-to-frame-to-barrel fit on the 2K11 is excellent. There was the tiniest amount of play between the slide and frame on our sample, which means this gun will run while dirty — and it did. There was no play between the barrel

KIMBER 2K11 STANDARD OR	
TYPE	Recoil operated, hammer fired, semiautomatic
CARTRIDGE	9mm, .45 ACP (tested)
CAPACITY	13+1 rds. (.45 ACP), 17+1 rds. (9mm)
BARREL	5 in., stainless steel; Coyote PVD finish
LENGTH	8.6 in.
HEIGHT	5.7 in.
WIDTH	1.35 in.
WEIGHT	2 lbs., 7.9 oz. (tested)
SLIDE/FRAME	Steel alloy, DLC
GRIP MODULE	Aluminum, anodized
SAFETY	Grip lever, thumb safety
SIGHTS	Interchangeable fiber optic (front), notch (rear); optic ready
TRIGGER	3 lbs., 8 oz. (tested)
ACCESSORIES	Three 13-round magazines, front sight inserts, optic plate, cable lock, lockable soft case
MSRP	\$2,100 (.45); \$1,995 (9mm)
MANUFACTURER	Kimber, 888-243-4522, kimberamerica.com

and frame, meaning this would be an accurate pistol — and it was.

Between the number of magazines supplied with the pistol, and the front sight, it's clear Kimber wants customers to be ready for the range when they pull the 2K11 out of its case.

What do I mean about the front sight?

As it came from the Alabama factory, the dovetailed steel front sight has a green fiber-optic insert, but this is a TAG Precision front sight, with removable "Fiberlok" inserts. Supplied with the pistol is a spare green insert, an orange fiber optic insert, a red one, and a plain black insert if you prefer a colorless front sight. The inserts are held in place by a small hex screw at the front of the sight, so a spare screw was also included with the "2K11 Service Pack," as well as an Allen wrench.

At the rear of the slide you'll see the pistol is optic ready. If you want to run iron sights, the rear sight is a sizeable U-shaped notch with a serrated face that is machined all one piece to the aluminum plate cover, secured to the slide with two screws. The RMR footprint optic adapter plate ships with the 2K11. Additional footprints are available at kimberamerica.com.

Like most high-end 1911s, the 2K11 has a bushing-



Shallow geometric cuts stand in for serrations on the slide. Also attractive is that the rail does not extend to the muzzle.



The fiber-optic insert in the front sight can be replaced with different colors, including black with the 2K11 Service Pack.



Barrel-to-slide fit was excellent, enhancing the pistol's accuracy. The 11-degree crown and Coyote PVD finish are distinctive.



The trigger is a full-length, anodized aluminum unit with an adjustable overtravel screw. G&A's 2K11 tested at 3½ pounds.

less bull barrel. The chamber area is fluted, but the rest of the barrel is not. There is a cutout on the barrel hood to serve as a loaded chamber indicator, but there are a number of other interesting details that tell me it was designed by people who know how to make 1911s run.

Traditionally, 1911s chambered in .45 use the same barrel setup that John Browning designed more than a century ago. Browning's feed ramp was designed as part of the frame. However, higher pressure rounds such as the 9mm require more of a supported chamber. As a result, 9mm 1911s have barrels with integral feed ramps and the frame has to be cut to accommodate that ramp. The barrel of this .45 is integrally ramped, I'm guessing so that Kimber can use the same cut frames no matter what caliber the pistol is chambered for. Under the barrel is a full-length two-piece guiderod.

Also, Browning's original design called for an internal extractor. Historically, it's temperamental and problematic as they have to be tuned and tensioned. The 2K11 has a more sensible and modern external extractor.

THE (MODULAR) LOWER HALF

I was told the spec for the 2K11 match-grade trigger is 3½ pounds, and that's exactly what I got from our test sample. The trigger had nearly zero takeup, a crisp break, and a very short reset. This is the kind of excellent trigger we



The 2K11 incorporates a serrated, combat-style hammer, smooth beavertail grip safety, and bilateral thumb safety lever.



The external extractor increases consistency and reliability. The ejection port is angled and has a bullet nose relief.

should expect from a pistol wearing these looks and price tag.

The thumb safety has extended bilateral levers, with very positive *clicks* up and down; exactly what you want. The beavertail grip safety is adjusted so that just the tiniest movement deactivates it.

Every day, somebody reads a gun magazine for the first time. The saying, "You don't know what you don't know," is always true no matter your age. Let me give you a thumbnail sketch of the history behind this modular design. It is modular, as in the grip module is a separate piece that is attached by screws at the top of the module to what was called a "receiver." Kimber calls it the "subframe," upon which the slide rides. This steel subframe is the serialized part, and the actual "firearm." These modular lower receivers were first only available as kits that gunsmiths had to build into complete firearms. They paired a steel subframe with a polymer grip module, built to handle a double-stack mag of fat .45 ACPs. Again, the concept came during an era when the .45 was the king of defensive handgun cartridges. Despite efforts from a lot of individuals and companies — including Wilson Combat and Springfield Armory, if I remember correctly — it never got much traction with the defense-oriented crowd. Over time double-stack 1911s became nearly unknown outside of the Action Pistol world where they were mostly chambered in .38 Super and .40 S&W — until STI (Staccato).



The 2K11 is field stripped in a similar manner as other Model 1911s, however, the plunger on the full-length guiderod must be compressed halfway before it and the barrel assemblies can be removed. (No tools are needed, just twist the plunger.) Not shown, the grip module can be separated from the serialized frame, also.



When the modular idea first got traction, the two big companies involved were Strayer-Voigt (SV) and Strayer-Tripp International (STI). That's Sandy Strayer, Virgil Tripp, and Michael Voigt, all big names in the 1911 world. Ironically, the late Chip McCormick was instrumental in the original design of the lower, also, but you won't find his name anywhere on a 2011 today. SV morphed into Infinity Firearms and focused solely on high-end custom competition guns whose prices will make your heart flutter. STI had some success selling both defensive and competition guns, then went through a serious restructuring into Staccato, and it is Staccato's success selling what I will call "factory custom" 9mm 2011s that attracted other larger gun companies including Springfield Armory and Kimber into (or back into) the double-stack 1911 game.

Competition shooters are always looking for ways to go faster, and reduced recoil is one way to make that happen. Combine that with some shooters gripping guns so hard they would regularly crack the polymer grips, and ... It was at least 15 years ago that I saw the first metal grip modules for these types of guns from Infinity, some sporting more aggressive texture than some cheese graters I've used. Now, metal-framed double-

stack 1911s are the rule on the competition circuit rather than the exception. The aluminum grip module seen on the Kimber 2K11 adds a bit of weight versus polymer, but not as much as you think. (I've tested a lot of all-steel single-stack 1911s heavier than this gun.) The aluminum grip module's biggest advantage is strength and durability.

One aspect I've always liked about this modular lower is it has done away with the separate plunger tube that

had to be staked onto the frame; those always used to come loose. The plunger tube held springs and detent pins, which provided resistance against the thumb safety at the back and the slide stop at the front. Now it's integral to the subframe.

The raised checkering on the grip module isn't overly aggressive, but it grabs you harder the tighter you grip the gun. The cutout under the trigger-guard helps reduce the circumference a small amount, but also puts your hand higher on the pistol. Combine that with the beavertail grip safety, and you'll be able to choke up as high



The Kimber 2K11 features an abbreviated, three-slot accessory rail at the bottom of the dustcover. Toggle-switch lights such as SureFire X300 series may need a different insert to accommodate the triggerguard.

THEY SAID A
WILDCAT CARTRIDGE
CAN NEVER BE MAINSTREAM.

WE RESPECTFULLY DISAGREE.



22
CREEDMOOR

FIND DEALER NEAR YOU



HORIZONFIREARMS



The grip module features a high-grip trigger guard undercut beneath the magazine release button.



The metal frame is covered in a raised checkered pattern, and gives the 2K11 a sort-of traditional M1911 grip panel appearance. The backstrap maintains the beavertail grip safety that compresses flush to the checkered and flat mainspring housing.



as possible.

The magazine release is checkered, but not extended. If you do carry the 2K11, you won't be in danger of accidentally dislodging a magazine. The controls, including the magazine release, slide stop, thumb safety, and beavertail, all have a DLC coating for durability and corrosion resistance. The grip module has an integral magazine well that speeds up reloads. The Target model has a larger Stan Chen-designed magwell that slides on over the grip module.

AT THE RANGE

The 2K11 did not disappoint. It was reliable and accurate, and the great trigger allowed me to shoot up to the pistol's potential. I've got a lot of time behind .45-caliber 1911s, and they only seem big and heavy until you start pulling the trigger, then you appreciate the weight. It is very controllable, and you can run it hard and fast. The 9mm 2K11 of this size and weight should be an absolute pussycat; that low recoil and high capacity is why 9mm 1911s (and 2011s) are so popular.

9MM VS. .45

Double-stack .45s no longer have a place in the Action Pistol world because they suffer in capacity. Interest in the .45-caliber 1911-type pistols is resurging as a duty pistol among law enforcement. And then there is another world full of



Double-to-single-column magazines hold 13 rounds of .45 ACP. The extended 9mm version increases capacity to 20 rounds.



The 2K11 offers a controlled, tapered mag well that functions like a funnel for the double-column magazine.

true believers defending the stopping power of the .45 ACP over lesser calibers such as 9mm. These folks would be interested in this pistol chambered in .45. It qualifies for home defense and tactical use. This pistol, when tipped with a high-lumen white light would be one heck of a home-defense handgun.

Double-stack 9mms are the rage in competition shooting, and it's hard to argue against this capacity and an excellent trigger in a tactical setting as well. Circa 2000, I ran a wide-body .45 just like this in competition. I always carried what I shot, but I'm weird. The 2K11 is too big and

heavy for most people to even think about carrying it concealed — but it's possible with the right holster, belt, covering garment and attitude.

Kimber has a winner on their hands with the 2K11. It's the brand's first modular double-stack 1911, and they made it worth the wait.

PERFORMANCE

LOAD	VEL. (FPS)	ES	SD	BEST GROUP (IN.)	AVG. GROUP (IN.)
Federal American Eagle 230-gr. FMJ	869	25	12	1.6	2.4
Black Hills 230-gr. FMJ	844	21	9	1.8	2.2
Hornady Critical Duty +P 220-gr. FlxLk	971	24	13	2.2	2.7
SIG Sauer Elite V-Crown 185-gr. JHP	1,022	28	14	2.5	2.9
Federal Syntech Defense 205-gr. SJHP	968	26	17	2.8	3.2

Notes: Accuracy is the average of four, five-shot groups at 25 yards from a sandbag rest. Velocity is the average of 10 shots measured with an Oehler Model 35P chronograph set 12 feet in front of the muzzle.

SACRED STONE OF THE SOUTHWEST IS ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION



Centuries ago, Persians, Tibetans and Mayans considered turquoise a gemstone of the heavens, believing the striking blue stones were sacred pieces of sky. Today, the rarest and most valuable turquoise is found in the American Southwest—but the future of the blue beauty is unclear.

On a recent trip to Tucson, we spoke with fourth generation turquoise traders who explained that less than five percent of turquoise mined worldwide can be set into jewelry and only about twenty mines in the Southwest supply gem-quality turquoise. Once a thriving industry, many Southwest mines have run dry and are now closed.

We found a limited supply of turquoise from Arizona and purchased it for our **Sedona Turquoise Collection**. Inspired by the work of those ancient craftsmen and designed to showcase the exceptional blue stone, each stabilized vibrant cabochon features



a unique, one-of-a-kind matrix surrounded in Bali metalwork. You could drop over \$1,200 on a turquoise pendant, or you could secure 26 carats of genuine Arizona turquoise for **just \$99**.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed. If you aren't completely happy with your purchase, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price.

The supply of Arizona turquoise is limited, don't miss your chance to own the Southwest's brilliant blue treasure. Call today!

Jewelry Specifications:

• *Arizona turquoise* • *Silver-finished settings*

Sedona Turquoise Collection

A. Pendant (26 cts)	\$299 *	\$99	+s&p	Save \$200
B. 18" Bali Naga woven sterling silver chain		\$149	+s&p	
C. 1 1/2" Earrings (10 ctw)	\$299 *	\$99	+s&p	Save \$200
Complete Set**	\$747 *	\$249	+s&p	Save \$498

**Complete set includes pendant, chain and earrings.

Call now and mention the offer code to receive your collection.

1-800-333-2045

Offer Code STC931-09

You must use the offer code to get our special price.

*Special price only for customers using the offer code versus the price on Stauer.com without your offer code.

Stauer® 14091 Southcross Drive W., Dept. STC931-09, Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 www.stauer.com



Rating of A+



26 carats
of genuine
Arizona turquoise
ONLY \$99

Necklace
enlarged
to show
luxurious color

Stauer... Afford the Extraordinary.®

KING O



F DEER

THE TRADITIONS OUTFITTER G3
GETS A NEW STRAIGHT-WALLED
CHAMBERING: .360 BUCKHAMMER!

BY RICHARD NANCE | PHOTOS BY YAMIL SUED





GOOSE CREEK OUTFITTERS has a reputation for guiding hunters to trophy whitetail and mule deer in the Sandhills region of north-central Nebraska. Several friends have taken monster bucks from that area’s rolling hills and mixed grass prairies, so when I signed on for a hunt during the rut last mid-November, I hoped to follow suit.

THE RIFLE

I carried a Traditions Outfitter G3 chambered in .360 Buckhammer. A lot of people are talking about this straight-wall cartridge, so a Nebraska deer hunt was the perfect excuse to take it afield.

The Outfitter G3 is a break-action, single-shot centerfire rifle introduced at the 2020 SHOT Show. It was initially offered in .300 Blackout, .350 Legend, .357 Magnum, .44 Magnum, .35 Remington, .35 Whelen, .450 Bushmaster and .45-70. It features a 22-inch, chromoly steel, fluted barrel finished in Tungsten Cerakote and complete with an 11-degree target crown. At just 6¼ pounds, the steel-framed Outfitter G3 is lightweight and wieldy, making it a good choice for spot-and-stalk hunts.

The Outfitter G3’s quick-detach (QD) forend is removed with the press of a button, providing easy takedown for storage or transport. The barrel has M18x1 metric threads. The Outfitter G3 is manufactured in Spain, so the metric threads don’t surprise me. There are adapters available on the aftermarket if you want to suppress it. Larger chamberings, including the .350 Legend, 450 Bushmaster, .45-70 Government, .35 Whelen, and .360 Buckhammer come

TRADITIONS OUTFITTER G3	
TYPE	Break action, single shot
CARTRIDGE	.360 Buckhammer (tested)
CAPACITY	1 rd.
BARREL	Lothar Walther, 22 in., 1:12-in. twist, chromoly steel, tapered, fluted, muzzlebrake
LENGTH	37.5 in.
WEIGHT	6 lbs., 10 oz.
STOCK	Synthetic, TPF recoil pad
FINISH	Tungsten Cerakote (steel)
SIGHTS	None; scope (optional)
TRIGGER	Elite XT, 3 lbs., 5 oz.
SAFETY	Crossbolt, captive half cock, rebounding hammer
MSRP	\$610
IMPORTER	Traditions Performance Firearms, 860-388-4656, traditionsfirearms.com

with the muzzlebrake installed, which is effective at reducing felt recoil. The Outfitter G3 includes the Elite XT trigger system and rebounding hammer. The design allows the action to be opened with the safety engaged. To open, press the button in front of the triggerguard and pull down on the barrel. Close the action by bringing the barrel up until it locks into place. To fire a chambered round, disengage the safety, cock the hammer, and press the trigger.

THE CARTRIDGE

The .360 Buckhammer was introduced by Remington in 2023 (remington.com). It’s an intermediate, straight-walled rifle cartridge designed for use in states such as Iowa, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois, which previously banned hunting deer with centerfire rifles, but passed laws to allow them if chambered in a straight-walled cartridge. This is the reason for the recent enthusiasm for firearms that chamber cartridges such as the .30-30 Winchester, .35 Remington, .350 and .400 Legend, .450 Bushmaster, .45-70 Gov’t and .450 Marlin, to name a few — and the .360 Buckhammer.

Straight-walled cartridges are often used in short range situations, typically less than 300 yards. The fact that the trajectory curve drops off quickly makes them well suited for densely populated hunting regions. After zeroing the Outfitter G3, I rung steel at 300 yards, but, realistically, the cartridge and bullet profiles were optimized for use out to 200 yards.

I went to Nebraska with Remington’s .360 Buckhammer Core-Lokt



The muzzlebrake is effective at reducing felt recoil, but it does increase adjacent noise. The barrel has metric threads, so an adapter is required to suppress it.



The Outfitter G3 is manufactured in Spain and imported by Traditions Performance Firearms. Chambered for several cartridges, the .360 Buckhammer version features a 22-inch chromoly steel fluted barrel containing 1-in-12-inch twist rifling. It is complete with a radial muzzlebrake. The Outfitter G3 is also available with a 3-9x40mm duplex scope (not shown), which comes mounted and boresighted.

Guns & Ammo tested the Traditions Outfitter G3 with a Burris Veracity PH in 3-15x44mm. **\$1,440**



Ahead of the triggerguard is the button used to open the action. A crossbolt safety is positioned behind the trigger, which tested at 3 pounds, 5 ounces.



The Outfitter G3 action can be opened while the safety is engaged. An extractor helps to remove cases as the action is opened.



The hammer is manually cocked before firing. With a low-mounted scope, you can install one or both of the thumb-cocking screws to improve access to the hammer.

load. Core-Lokt bullets are known for their high weight retention and controlled expansion. This soft-point bullet is available in 180- and 200-grain versions. I would be using the 180-grain bullet for a flatter trajectory. With a muzzle velocity of 2,399 feet per second (fps), the projectile drops about 8 inches at 200 yards while retaining about 970 foot-pounds (ft.-lbs.) of energy. At 200 yards, that's more retained velocity and energy than Remington's Core-Lokt loads for the .30-30, .350 Legend and .450 Bushmaster.

THE OPTIC

The Outfitter G3 is drilled and tapped to accept a scope. I topped mine with a Burris Veracity PH in 3-15x44mm, I realize it cost more than the rifle (\$1,440, burrisoptics.com), but it was an opportunity test its elevation compensating Programable Elevation Knob (PEK) technology. PEK allows the shooter to dial the distance to a target (accord-

ing to a rangefinder) using the click-less elevation turret. The heads-up display (HUD) allows us to stay focused on the target as we dial for yards, meters, or MOA. The rifle's cant, inclination angle, distance-accurate wind hold, and battery level are also displayed. The Veracity PH even has Bluetooth connectivity, allowing us to pair it to the Burris app on a smartphone or tablet to create a ballistic profile.

The Veracity PH is also available as a 2.5-12x42mm and 4-20x50mm. For all three, the illuminated Rapid Cross MOA reticle uses Progressively Thick Crosshairs (PTC), numbered wind holdoffs, and numbered holdovers for bullet drop compensation. Extra-low dispersion (ED) glass enhances light transmission, providing clear edge-to-edge viewing. This helps whether you're hunting in direct sunlight, dim light, or anything in between.

I also carried Burris' Signature LRF rangefinding binoculars with the app. The Veracity PH greatly simplified the aiming process, enabling me to focus on the task at hand.



The barrel and receiver of the Outfitter G3 have a Tungsten-color Cerakote finish, which is effective at protecting against the elements and preventing corrosion. The barrel is drilled and tapped for mounting bases and rails (above, left). A Picatinny base is available separately, which offers more versatility for setting an optic's eye relief. **\$50**

THE HUNT FOR WHITETAIL

Unlike the previous year's rut where I was told temperatures fell below zero in the Sandhills, I found myself hunting in t-shirt weather. While warm weather can make for a more comfortable hunt, deer tend to move less. The likelihood of encountering one was less.

My Nebraska hunting license permitted either a whitetail or mule deer buck, and I was game for either. My guide was Matt Church who was intimately familiar with the terrain and animal behavior of the region. He was patient and worked to put me on a nice buck.

The hunt started at the Dismal River that, despite its name, is anything but depressing. Much of the land along the river is privately owned and consists of grassy hills overlooking tree-lined riverbanks. Deer are plentiful along the river, but the bucks we saw were not mature. A spike allowed us to approach within about 15 yards before he decided to meander away. Another young buck emerged from the river and walked to within about 30 yards as we sat under the shade of a tree. While I didn't get a shot

at, or even see a mature buck, the day was enjoyable. I learned a lot by picking my guide's brain.

Others in camp, who each hunted in a different area, had similar experiences. All saw bucks, but they were mostly young. The few large bucks were well out of range. According to those who had hunted with Goose Creek Outfitters before, the bucks were small compared to previous years.

Weather greatly reduced the odds of harvesting a big buck like those depicted in the photos on the lodge's walls. I didn't care. I simply wanted to harvest a mature buck.

DAY 2

Before dawn, Church got me set up in a blind overlooking a hayfield. I used my 10x42 Signature LRF binoculars to practice ranging fences, trees and rocks. I established a mental perimeter so I'd know when a deer was within 200 yards. That was the maximum range I set for myself. After a couple of hours, two does emerged from the trees and walked along a fence to my right, 175 yards away. I

Less Recoil = More Control

If the gun stays flat, you stay on target.

Vantage Point Armory Compensators

- Limit muzzle jump and help keep your shot true and on target.
- Don't require a threaded barrel
- Can use a rail mounted compensator and a weapon light at the same time
- 50 state legal

Get yours now from Lyman Products or your favorite Lyman Dealer.



ARMORY

Now Distributed By

Lyman
Brands that Perform
www.LymanProducts.com



JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING® for Shooting, Hunting and the Outdoors
Shop MidwayUSA.com or call Toll Free 1-800-243-3220

PRO SERIES COMPETITION SHOOTING MAT

74" length • 85" length when flap containing accessory pockets is folded out as shown

Equipped with non-skid elbow and knee pads for added comfort

Sturdy corner grommets (4 stakes included)

Two accessory pockets and two pen pockets

Heavy sewn webbing to preload your bipod

PRODUCT
#939101910
\$49.99
BUY NOW!



WOULDN'T CHANGE A THING.

This shooting mat functions exactly as it should and has been a great addition to my long range shooting kit. Perfect for extended shooting sessions from the prone position with my mags, ammo, rangefinder, notebook, etc., all within arm's reach and out of the dirt. - JON D • PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL

SHOWN IN OLIVE DRAB
ALSO AVAILABLE IN COYOTE

Outer layer constructed of textured, non-skid, water-resistant material

Includes handle and shoulder strap

GO TO [MIDWAYUSA.COM](https://MidwayUSA.com) TO READ HUNDREDS OF 5-STAR REVIEWS

SCAN CODE TO SHOP GREAT DEALS
Plus, Use Promo Code **gunsammo4**
for Free Shipping on Orders Over \$99*



*Some Exclusions Apply



\$21.99

**IMI RAZOR CORE
5.56X45MM NATO AMMO**
#124928

77 Grain Sierra MatchKing
Jacketed Hollow Point
20 ROUNDS



\$11.99

**WINCHESTER M193
5.56X45MM NATO AMMO**
#447689

55 Grain Full Metal Jacket
20 ROUNDS



\$38.99

**FEDERAL PREMIUM GOLD MEDAL
308 WINCHESTER AMMO**
#358610

168 Grain Sierra MatchKing
Jacketed Hollow Point
20 ROUNDS

Sale prices valid starting November 15, 2024, and ending when promotional quantities are sold, but not later than January 31, 2025. Prices and availability may vary.



FOR THOSE
WHO
CARE



www.falcoholsters.com



Confirming zero at the range demonstrated the accuracy potential of the .360 Buckhammer. The Outfitter G3 was equipped with a Burris Veracity PH in 3-15x44mm. **\$1,440**



While exploring the popularity of the straight-wall .360 Buckhammer, the author used the Burris 10x42mm Signature rangefinding binoculars. **\$1,200**

monitored them for an hour or so, hoping they'd attract a buck. Finally, a mule deer buck came calling. For several minutes, the muley rubbed his antlers against the fence. Then, he approached the does.

I watched the buck move from 350 yards to 250 yards. I tried to control my excitement as he closed the distance to 173 yards. I decided it was time to monitor him through the scope instead of the binoculars.

I braced my rifle against the blind's wooden windowsill and dialed the

yardage using the turret. PEK technology adjusted my holdover for the distance. I took a couple of deep breaths, steadied myself, and disengaged the crossbolt safety. I cocked the hammer and took the slack out of the trigger. Filled with anticipation as I tried to control the reticle over the buck's heart, the wall broke and the gun fired.

I missed. The buck didn't seem to care that I just took a shot at it. I suspect he had other things on his mind. Everything felt right, so I was baffled. Once I collected myself, I saw that the buck was uninterested in what had happened and thought, *I still have a chance*. I quickly opened the action and loaded another round. The buck continued toward the does, which had moved closer to me. I had the wherewithall to take another reading of the distance. The buck stopped again at 132 yards, according to the HUD in the rangefinding binoculars. I made a correction to the scope's PEK, took a few deep breaths and settled down. When he turned to face the does, I centered the scope's crosshair just behind the buck's right front shoulder. When I fired, I watched the buck drop. He never took a step. Though I had nearly spoiled this opportunity with my first miss, the bullet did its job.

I climbed out of the blind and

Sarco has lots of great gift ideas for the holidays!!!
Inventory & pricing fluctuate periodically and may change without notice. Please check our WEB SITE for current information.

Every Firearm Order Requires a Signed FFL. See Our Firearm Purchasing Regs on Web Site

#G&A Jan25
Anniversary
+2th

Ph#610.250.3960

Phones Open From 8:30am-5pm
Monday thru Friday

Happy Holidays!
www.SARCOINC.com

50 Hilton St., Easton, Pa. 18042

Showroom Open Monday thru Sat.
Mon-Th 10am-5pm, Sat. 10-5pm

SARCO Inc. is now over 62yrs. old and an established world leader in Surplus & Collector Firearms, Parts, & Accessories. We have over 75,000 Sq. feet filled with goodies! Please visit our Web Site and visit our Showroom in Easton, Pa. located just off Exit 75 on Route 78 (just 3 minutes from the highway.) Easy to get to!

Back in Stock! C96 German style 10rd. stripper clips. \$8.20 each DWM marked, New #STC012

French Foreign Legion Mle49 Bush Hat - famed for comfort and utility. Cotton hat is durable & strong to deal with extremes. Khaki circular sewn construction has stiffness, but is still able to be folded and stuffed in a pack or cargo pocket. Sizes: Med. 7-1/4", Large 7-1/2", XL 7-5/8" \$34.95 #HAT22

Front Sight Hoods for Mausers & Projects
G43 Mauser Hood \$14.95 #G43040
G33 Mauser Hood \$24.95 #MSR633
K98 Hood \$6.50 #MSR153

M2 Tripod w/T&E, Pintle
Tripod with traversing & Elevation mechanism and pintle assembly. New. (gun not included.) Includes WW2 dated data plate \$325. #MNT112

Mosin Nagant 91/30 Golf Ball Launcher - mounts onto the 91/30 rifle and using crimped 7.62x54 blanks, launching golf balls for hundreds of yards! See details on our Web Site. \$69.95 #GL003

WW2 Cavalry & Vehicle Rifle Scabbard (Leather)
Heavy duty Leather gun scabbard offered in two versions: Lined and unlined. Newly manufactured and accurate to the original and comes with straps. Brown leather LINED Scabbard \$44.95 #GRD382
UNLINED Scabbard \$39.95 #GRD137

WW2 M1/M2 Cabine Leather Scabbard
Newly manufactured heavy duty gun scabbard used with cavalry, jeeps, halftracks etc. Comes with straps and almost impossible to find originals. \$57.95 #CRB189

Walk 'N' Dead SHOTGUN Scabbard
Leather scabbard w/ straps to outfit and carry the shotgun in numerous ways including attached to backpacks, vehicles etc. Made for short barrel shotguns. Depth of scabbard is 17.5" and handles most single and double barrel shotguns. SCABBARD in smooth brown leather \$49.95 #HOL188
SCABBARD with Crocodile pattern leather \$54.95 #HOL188-CROC
(Also works great as an Arrow Quiver!)

Navy Luger Board Stock w/ Brass disc. \$129.95 #LGR158
Artillery Luger Board Stock \$74.95 #LGR157
-Hardwood
-New

WW1 Winchester Ventilated 'Trench Gun' Handguard
For Winchester 97 Shotgun as used in WW1 and can be used on other shotguns with some modification. The bayonet lug allows connection with the P17 and P14 bayonets. Has front sling swivel. Act quickly as we always sell out of these!!! \$129. #W97058

AR15 Bipod w/ Nylon Case. \$29.95 #AR533
Browning 1919A4 Cloth Belts - fits 30-06, 7.62 mm & 8mm ammo. 100 round capacity. \$14.95 ea. or 10+ belts \$10.99 each. 10 & 200 rd. belts also available-see Web Site



M84 Scope, Base, & Mount
Want to build an M1 Garand Sniper Rifle? This set will get you on your way. Brand new mnfr. Scope with rubber eye cup and Govt. ID plate like the original. Scope made w/ the same engineering drawings as the original scope. Scope optics are crystal clear w/2.5 power. Precision steel M1D Mount for the barrel and M1D Scope Clamp Included. New \$399. #GRD260



Russian 'PE' Scope Ensemble
Early WW2 Sniper Scope model as used by some of the best Russian snipers like 'Zaytsev' of Stalingrad fame. Newly manufactured with mounts, both hex and round, lens covers, drill & tap set, and canvas cover. See more on Web site. For Mosin 91/30. \$449. #SCP064



U.S. M73 Sniper Scope
Newly manufactured 2.5 power sniper scope with mount. Perfect for building that 1903A4 Springfield Sniper Rifle that you want! Tube is 3/4" diameter. \$365. #SCP039



M1 Garand M7 Grenade Launcher - new \$69.95 #RL020
M11A3 Rifle Grenade, Inert WW2/Korean War era w/safety clip. \$34.95 #AM125
Combination set - 1 each of the M7 Launcher and M11A3 rifle grenade for \$99.95 #RL021



Dardick Frame Model 1500 Right & Left Panels from this rare design of 'Yesteryear' Like new! Original. \$295. #DAR02
U.S. M1 Helmet w/ Camo Cover 'Mitchell' Pattern from Vietnam era... New \$59.95 #HLM026

Martini Henry MK1/Mk2 Stock Set in Beech Wood
Some minor fitting may be needed due to variations in manufacturing. Beautiful New Set of wood stock & forend, stained. Great replacement set to add value to your Martini Rifle. \$165. #STK459

Browning 'Challenger' .22 Cal. Survival Pack
Pack of 25 internal operating parts to keep your prized pistol operating. Original New Factory Parts! \$75. #CHALLENGER-01

Browning 'Medalist' .22 Cal Survival Pack
Pack of 24 internal operating parts for maintaining your top class target pistol. Original, New, Factory Parts! \$75. #MEDALIST-01

Smith & Wesson Victory Model SURVIVAL PACK (Model 10 / K Frame)
21 Original parts to keep your Revolver running! \$99.95 #GRD023
Smith & Wesson Revolvers have great longevity, but when they breakdown.... where will you turn? The parts are starting to get hard to find. Why not keep our 'SURVIVAL PACK' tucked away for that rainy day when you're plinking and a part breaks? It's the 'ounce of medicine' you need for reliable service of your revolver. Our supplies are running low, so act now. 21 original mnfr. parts included as shown. \$59.95 #SW042

M9 Bayonet & Scabbard - Strong & sleek, this bayonet fits the M16 rifle and features 420/2 steel, wire cutter, sawtooth, 7.8" blade, and hex take down screw. Sharp-ening stone in scabbard. \$69.95 #BAB363

M8 U.S. Carbine Grenade Launcher Attachment
WW2 thru Vietnam era attachment for launching rifle grenades from the M1 Carbine. A rare accessory! Very Limited. New. \$89.95 #GL004

M1A1 Carbine Stock Set
Beautiful stained Stock & w/ matching handguard and folding stock. Improves the handling and value of the M1 Carbine! Ready for installing your barreled receiver! \$174.95 #CRB098

M14 E2 Stock Set w/ Hardware
Beautiful New Set of wood stock & forend, stained. Great replacement set to add value to your M14 Rifle. \$165. #STK459

M14E2 Rifle Stock and Hardware Set
Brand new Beech M14E2 Stock (unstained), with metal hardware and slotted E2 Handguard. Perfect for upgrading your M1A or M14 rifle to look like the Vietnam era automatic selective fire M14E2. This stock has features that allow for more control and comfort and looks terrific! See details on Web Site. \$340. #M14383
M3 Tripod alone \$1,295 #MNT151

.50 cal. Mount
New w/ T&E & Pintle \$1,495. #MNT153

1918 Trench Knife - full size Brass & steel WW1 fighting trench knife. New. \$39. #BAY333

Rifle & Pistol Stripper Clips
.303 Enfield Clip \$3. ea. #STC010
SKS clip 7.62x39, Also for AK47 \$2. #STC024
Carcano Rifle Clip, Brass \$9.95 #STC040

ASTRA 400 SURVIVAL PACK
VERY LIMITED
Over 100 years old and a highly desirable pistol! Keep em' shooting and invest in one of these SPARE PARTS packs containing 22 original ASTRA mnfr. parts in serviceable condition. Well worth the investment!
\$59.95 #AST042

M1C Garand Flash Hider Very Limited. \$125. #GRD388
T37 Garand Flash Hider as used with the M1D Sniper Rifle \$39.95 #GRD111
M Garand Trigger Housing Assy. Complete! \$99.95 #GRD023
Enfield #4Mk1 Grenade Launcher Original in Exc. condition. Fits U.S. rifle grenades too. \$49.95 #LE4056
Enfield #1Mk3 Grenade Launcher Original in good cond. Very Limited. \$95.99 #LE3113
Prices may change w/o notice
Enfield Rifle Parts! We got em' Stocks, Parts, Accessories, Scopes. Please visit our Web Site
Beretta 92 Barrel w/ Locking block New. \$125. #BR9206
Model 1911 new mnfr. SLIDE-beautifully done. \$124.95 #C45160

Pistol Frames For Your Next Build
Beautiful Precision Model 1911A1 FRAMES
New manufactured 1911 FRAME for your next 'build'. This is a 1911A1 FRAME, series 70, CNC machined from 4140 steel and fully machined. The perfect build' FRAME (FFL item). \$179.95 #GUN012
Sample Of Other FRAMES Available

Swedish Lahti M40 Frame \$100. #GUN934
PARA ORD. Warthog Frame, Alum. \$75. #GUN821
PARA ORD. LDA Compact \$75. #GUN822
Astra 400 Frame \$24.95 #GUN943

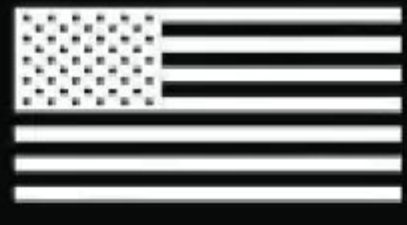
See more details on our Web Site including many other Frames and complete Firearms
GERMAN & SWISS MODELS
Sarco has a fine collection of Luger pistols with various production dates and markings under German & Swiss manufacture. See Our Web Site for Current Offerings

Non-Firing Classic 'Tommy Gun'
1928 Thompson SMG - replica and as real as you can find! Full size w/cocking & trig. pull. w/50 rd. replica drum \$245.95 #REP01. (also avail. w/Stick Mag.) \$229.95 #REP13

Govt. Model 1911 Pistol 'Builders Parts Set'
Perfect parts set for building a Government Model 1911 as all parts are included except for the frame. Parts are new except for grips that may be take off's from disassembled GI pistols. This set comes with a new 7 rd. .45 cal. magazine and new Government model slide with sights and 5" barrel. This is our most popular 1911 'Builders Kit' because it is highly economical in the pursuit of building your own 1911 pistol. \$279.95 #C45097

Back In Stock Items
Complete Rifle Bolts \$189.95 #N91084
Mosin Nagant 91/30 \$195. #MSR637
Mauser K98 w/turned down handle \$125. #MSR123
Enfield #4Mk1 \$125. #LE4014
AR15 Bolt w/Carrier(Auto & Semi) \$75. #AR264

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY®



HELLION



5.56 | BULLPUP



SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM



Using Remington's 180-grain Core-Lokt load for the .360 Buckhammer, the author harvested his first Nebraska mule-deer buck.

inspected the buck, motionless. In fact, my previous attempt was high and impacted the spine. It's hard to explain the miss on his vitals. Perhaps I wasn't as smooth on the trigger as I could have been, or maybe it was my anticipation. It could have been a combination of factors, but one fact was certain. I got my buck.

He was not a monster, but it was my first Nebraska mule deer. As required in the state during November, Church and I hauled the deer to a local check station. There, an official from Nebraska Game & Parks estimated his age at 4½ years by examining his teeth. It was a good local representation of the species, and a great way to explore the effectiveness of Traditions' Outfitter G3, Remington's 360 Buckhammer cartridge, and

Burris' PEK technology in its Veracity PH scope and Signature laser range-finding binocular.

NEXT SEASON

If you plan to hunt whitetails or mule deer in a state that requires straight-walled cartridges, you have options. The Outfitter G3 is an excellent platform to explore the performance of cartridges such as the .360 Buckhammer without making a significant investment. I reinvested my savings in upgrading to take the latest optic technology afield. Even with the Burris Veracity PH mounted, the package was lightweight, and the rifle was soft-shooting. Inside 300 yards, the .360 Buckhammer certainly delivers the accuracy potential and sufficient energy to get the job done. **G&A**



North-central Nebraska is home to some sizeable mule deer.

PRODUCT WARNING AND RECALL NOTICE

WINCHESTER® 22 Long Rifle M-22 40 grain

Olin Winchester, LLC is recalling seven (7) lots of 22 Long Rifle 40 grain Round Nose Black Copper Plated M-22 Rimfire ammunition.

Symbol: S22LRT

Lot Numbers (last five characters): VA01M, VA90M, VB21M, VB31M, VC82L, VD01L, VD90L

Winchester has determined the above lots of 22 Long Rifle ammunition may contain incorrect powder charges. Ammunition with excessive powder charges may cause firearm damage, rendering the firearm inoperable and subjecting the shooter and bystanders to a risk of serious personal injury.

DO NOT USE WINCHESTER® 22 LONG RIFLE SYMBOL S22LRT THAT HAS A LOT NUMBER ENDING IN ANY OF THE ABOVE FIVE CHARACTERS. S22LRT is sold in 1000-round packs that contain two 500-round cartons. The ammunition Lot Number is stamped on the top of the 2000-round case and inside the 500-round carton's top right tuck flap as indicated here:



To determine if your ammunition is subject to this notice, review the Symbol and Lot Number. If it is Symbol S22LRT and any of the above seven (7) Lot Numbers, **immediately discontinue use** and contact Winchester toll-free at 844-653-8358 for free UPS pick-up of the recalled ammunition. Upon receipt of your recalled ammunition, Winchester will issue you a reimbursement check.

This notice applies only to Symbol S22LRT with the above Lot Numbers. Other Symbols or Lot Numbers are not subject to this recall.

If you have any questions concerning this 22 Long Rifle rimfire ammunition recall, please call toll-free 844-653-8358, write to Winchester (600 Powder Mill Road, East Alton, IL 62024 Attn: S22LRT Recall), or visit our website at www.winchester.com.

We apologize for this inconvenience.

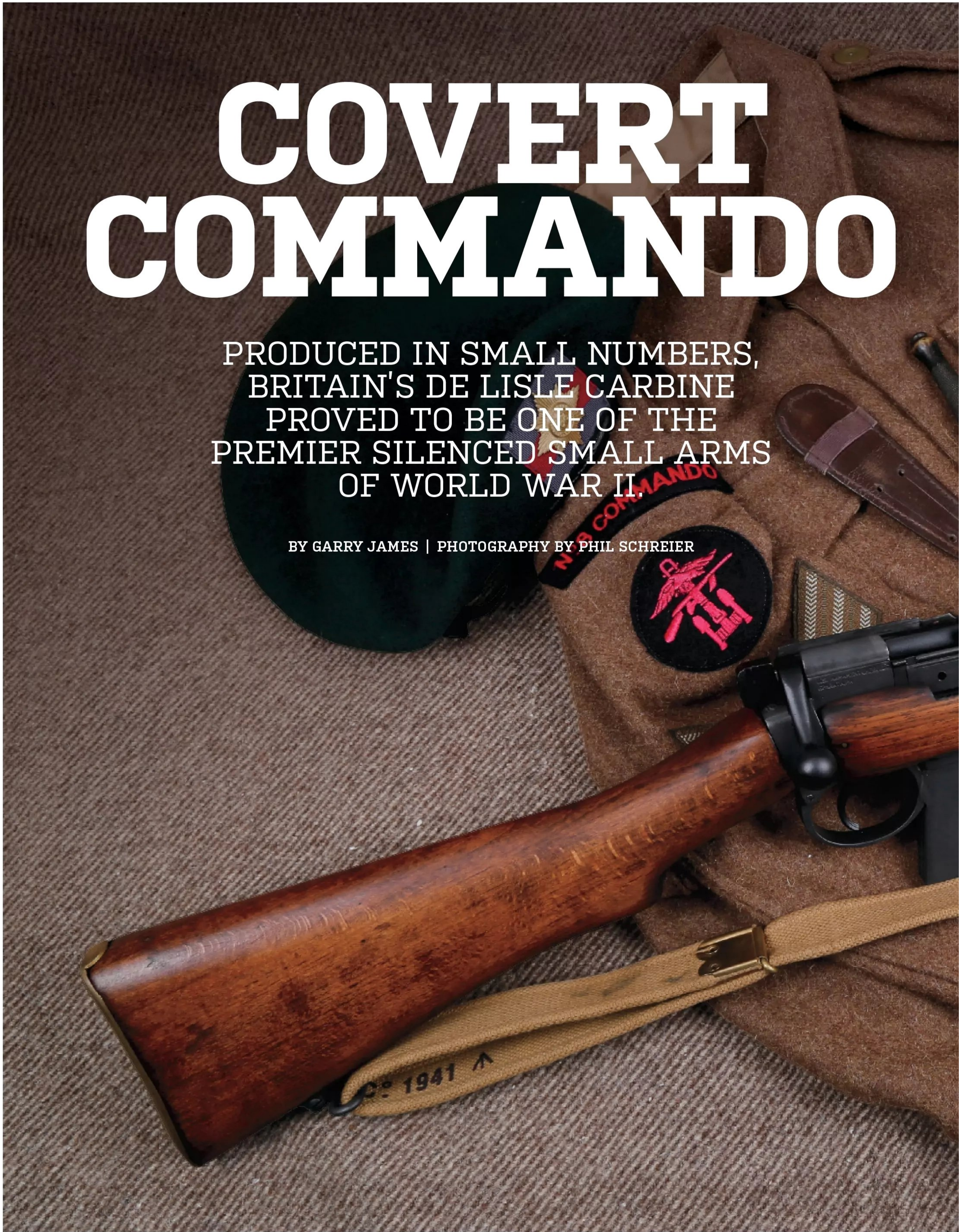
WINCHESTER

September 25, 2024

COVERT COMMANDO

PRODUCED IN SMALL NUMBERS,
BRITAIN'S DE LISLE CARBINE
PROVED TO BE ONE OF THE
PREMIER SILENCED SMALL ARMS
OF WORLD WAR II.

BY GARRY JAMES | PHOTOGRAPHY BY PHIL SCHREIER





General Sir Gerald Templer (above, left) tested a De Lisle carbine in Perak, Malaya, in 1952.



Though attenuated and possessed of a barrel shroud, the U.S. Armament Corp. replica De Lisle silenced carbine features an obvious Mark III SMLE origin.



A comparison of the tops of the actions of the De Lisle and a standard Mk III SMLE shows the shortening of the former's bolt to accommodate the carbine's .45 ACP chambering.



With the bolt open, the .45-caliber magazine follower is visible through the ejection port.

SILENCERS HAVE BEEN USED by law enforcement, military and civilians since the 19th century. Silencers were developed in Switzerland, and later improvements and modifications enhanced the device. Most notable was the design by firearms legend Hiram Maxim who patented his in 1909. With the relaxation in federal proscriptions, they are receiving a new renaissance with American shooters.

Though suppressors are largely in vogue with shooters of contemporary arms, there have been attempts at appealing to vintagers. One of the most ambitious efforts in this direction is a new rendition of the famed British silenced De Lisle "Commando" carbine, originally developed in Britain during World War II. Considered one of the quietest small arms of its type, its reincarnation is manufactured by U.S. Armament Manufacturing in Ephrata, Pennsylvania. It is a faithful rendition of one of the most enigmatic and intriguing arms of its type.



U.S. Armament discovered that it was not necessary to recess the Commando's Enfield bolt head (above, left) to enable support of the rimless .45 ACP round. An unaltered Mk III bolt is shown to the right.

William Godfray De Lisle (1905-1988) was born in South Africa. He moved to the UK at an early age where he continued his education, eventually joining the Air Ministry in 1935. As a youth, De Lisle became fascinated with firearms, especially silenced rifles. His first essay into the field involved designing and building simple .22 silencers made from discarded tin cocoa canisters, which he and his chums took rabbit shooting.

While working as an engineer at the Air Ministry in 1942, privately, De Lisle came up with his premier silenced rifle, a modified Browning .22 semiautomatic rifle that he patented. He duly took the piece to Major Sir Malcolm Campbell of Britain's Combined Operations who was immediately impressed with the gun, informally testing it in central London to determine if it could be heard by passers-by. A lack of response to the gun's report by the unwary test subjects encouraged authorities to continue testing the



While the original De Lisle carbine had a Lancaster SMG-style rear sight, the U.S. Armament replica employs a modified Mk III SMLE unit. At least one original developmental De Lisle has been identified with a Mk III style.



The U.S. Armament De Lisle front sight is adjustable for windage, as was the original. The bases were slightly different, though.



A look at the front of the De Lisle silencer shows the end plate's captive Allen screws. A false muzzle projects at the top.



Model 1911 .45 ACP magazines were modified to be released and retained by the original SMLE magazine catch.

piece. It passed with flying colors.

Combined Operations Headquarters decided that such an arm, in a heavier caliber could have numerous military applications, so it authorized De Lisle to develop such a silenced carbine. Initially, 9mm Parabellum was the chosen round due to it already being in British service. As it was supersonic, even De Lisle's utmost efforts to slow the bullet down to an acceptable velocity to achieve a quieter report were thwarted.

It was then decided to alter the caliber to the subsonic .45 ACP. Experimental models were fabricated circa mid-1943 at Bapty & Co., which also had done the work on the 9mm version. The .45 bullet's slower velocity, coupled with its heavier 230-grain weight, as opposed to the 9mm's 146 grains, provided adequate stopping power — even when suppressed.

Further tests to prove the gun's viability were authorized. Results were so promising that 17 were ordered to be constructed for service by the Commandos in France where they were primarily used by combined operations for taking out sentries during coastal raids.

This first small batch of De Lisle carbines was initially produced at Ford Motor Company in Dagenham, East London. They were composed of condemned Mark III SMLE rifle actions and butts mated to Thompson submachine gun barrels. As it was necessary to insert the Thompson barrel some 2 inches into the action, this meant the rifle bolt had to be shortened to that degree. The bolt face was also modified from the flat surface used with the rimmed service .303 rifle round to one recessed that would more effectively accommodate the .45 ACP's rimless case. A modified extractor was also felt to be needed. The action's charger bridge was removed and an extended ejector added. The magazine well was modified to accept a U.S. 1911 Government Model auto pistol magazine,



Markings on the U.S. Armament Commando carbine include the company's address and the original adapted No. Mk III "RFI" (Royal Factory, Ishapore) socket stamp. Some period De Lisles were fabricated from condemned Indian-made .303 rifles.

which was altered by the addition of a notched rib down its back to allow for the use of the original SMLE magazine release. The magazine was sleeved to accommodate the more svelte mag. Rubber — and later Bakelite — inserts were fitted to the underside of the bolt handle to reduce noise when the bolt was closed.

Subsequent to the French operation, in late 1944 De Lisle took his carbine to the Ordnance Board, which performed a series of tests where the De Lisles were pitted against silenced STEN submachine guns, silenced U.S. M1 Carbines, and K98k Mauser rifles. The De Lisle bested these arms to a considerable degree in reliability, sound reduction and muzzle flash. Accuracy, too, was acceptable; the .45-caliber carbine provided sub-2-inch groups at 30 yards.

Surrounding the barrel and silencer components was a phosphate-finished tubular steel casing, atop which were mounted simple sights consisting of a slightly modified SMLE front with an altered P.14 rifle protector. A V-notch rear was elevated by a sliding insert.

Of course, the heart of the system was the silencer. Principal parts (see accompanying diagrams) consisted of 13 circular duralumin baffle plates, the 7-inch Thompson barrel perforated with vents and fitted with an extension nozzle, barrel shield, baffle plate, dual locating rods and outer steel casing, front casing plate and false muzzle.

The circular baffle plates had a hole in the center to permit the bullet to travel through them. They were slotted at the top so the corners could be bent in such a manner that the gasses generated swirl through the length of the casing. As the bullet passed through the barrel, gasses were



The original thumb-operated SMLE safety is employed in the De Lisle, as is the cocking piece.

Original Mark III barrels chambering the .303 round (above, right) were jettisoned in favor of modified Thompson SMG barrels during the De Lisle conversion. U.S. Armament barrels, like the .45 ACP Thompson's, are 7 inches long but have been welded to the silencer, eliminating the need for an extra tax stamp.



Inserting a modified .45 ACP magazine into the reconfigured SMLE mag well was easy and positive.

released through the vents into the expanding chamber around the barrel, building up a back pressure, the expansion nozzle at the barrel muzzle preventing a partial vacuum. When fired, the gas pressure produced in the silencer is higher than the exterior atmosphere. It leaves the tube as a jet of gas moving at a sufficiently low velocity to produce little or no sound.

The front casing plate was secured by a pair of Allen screws, replacing earlier slotted types. Holes were pieced at the bottom of the plate for expulsion of powder residue.

After considerable testing, the De Lisle carbine was declared fit for service. Patents were taken out, and a contract for 500 units was placed with the Sterling Armaments Company, also in Dagenham. The order eventually was reduced to 160, though it is unlikely that, ultimately, no more than 130 were constructed.

The Sterling De Lisle resembled the Ford prototypes to a large degree, and it was constructed out of similar components. Most notably, the sights were changed, involving a Lanchester sub-machinegun-style rear, which was later modified, somewhat by Sterling with 100- to 600-yard designations to more appropriate ones at 50, 100, 150 and 200 yards. A simpler, pro-

tected, front blade that's adjustable for windage replaced the original component. Most dramatically, silencer casings were changed from steel to aluminum to save weight. The gun was also fitted with a wooden forend, a feature lacking on the Ford prototypes.

Basic specs were: Barrel length, 7¼ inches; overall length, 35¾ inches; weight, 8 pounds, 4 ounces; caliber, .45 ACP; magazine capacity, seven. It was handy, rugged and reasonably well-balanced. The report produced was measured at around 85.5 decibels.

Butt socket markings of the original converted condemned Mark IIIs were retained on the De Lises and reflect several different origins, including at least one from Ishapore Rifle Factory in India.

During development it was thought an airborne ver-

sion of the De Lisle with a folding stock might also be a good idea, and a pair was constructed and fitted with Sterling-style folding SMG stocks. The concept was found lacking, and the project was scrapped early in the development phase.

Though small in numbers, De Lises saw considerable dispersal. They were principally used by Commandos during World War II for special operations in Europe. They also saw



The author found the U.S. Armament De Lisle carbine to be a delightful shooter. It was also silent in the extreme.



10

Love
at first
group.



During the De Lisle's development, an airborne model featuring a folding stock was devised. It was found to be less than satisfactory, so plans for production were scrapped. Shown above is a one-off U.S. Armament copy of the period piece.

employment in Burma, and later in the Korean War and Malaya, as well as likely in Northern Ireland. Original De Lises are exceedingly rare with few examples extant.

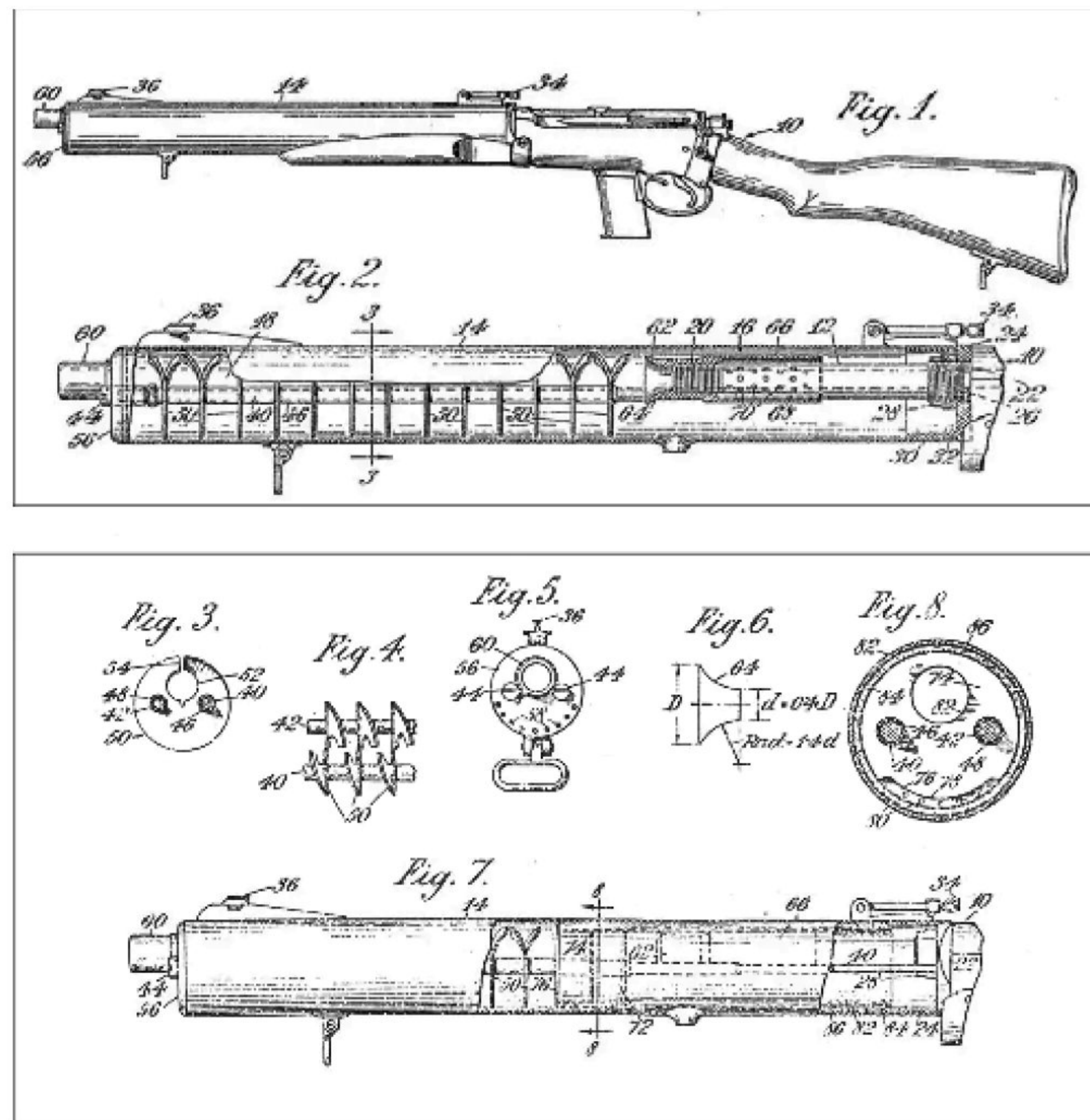
Fortunately, for suppressor and World War buffs, scarcity no longer has to be a problem. As noted, U.S. Armament Manufacturing is purveying a faithful reproduction of the period De Lisle. The project is a worthy follow-on to the firm's heretofore highly successful reproductions of .45-70 Bulldog Gatling Guns and the Colt Model 1903 pocket auto.

Using the same internals as the original, and like some constructed out of Ishapore No. 1, Mk III SMLES, the new guns offer today's shooter the opportunity to experience the same qualities that made the gun such a sought-after piece of Commando hardware.

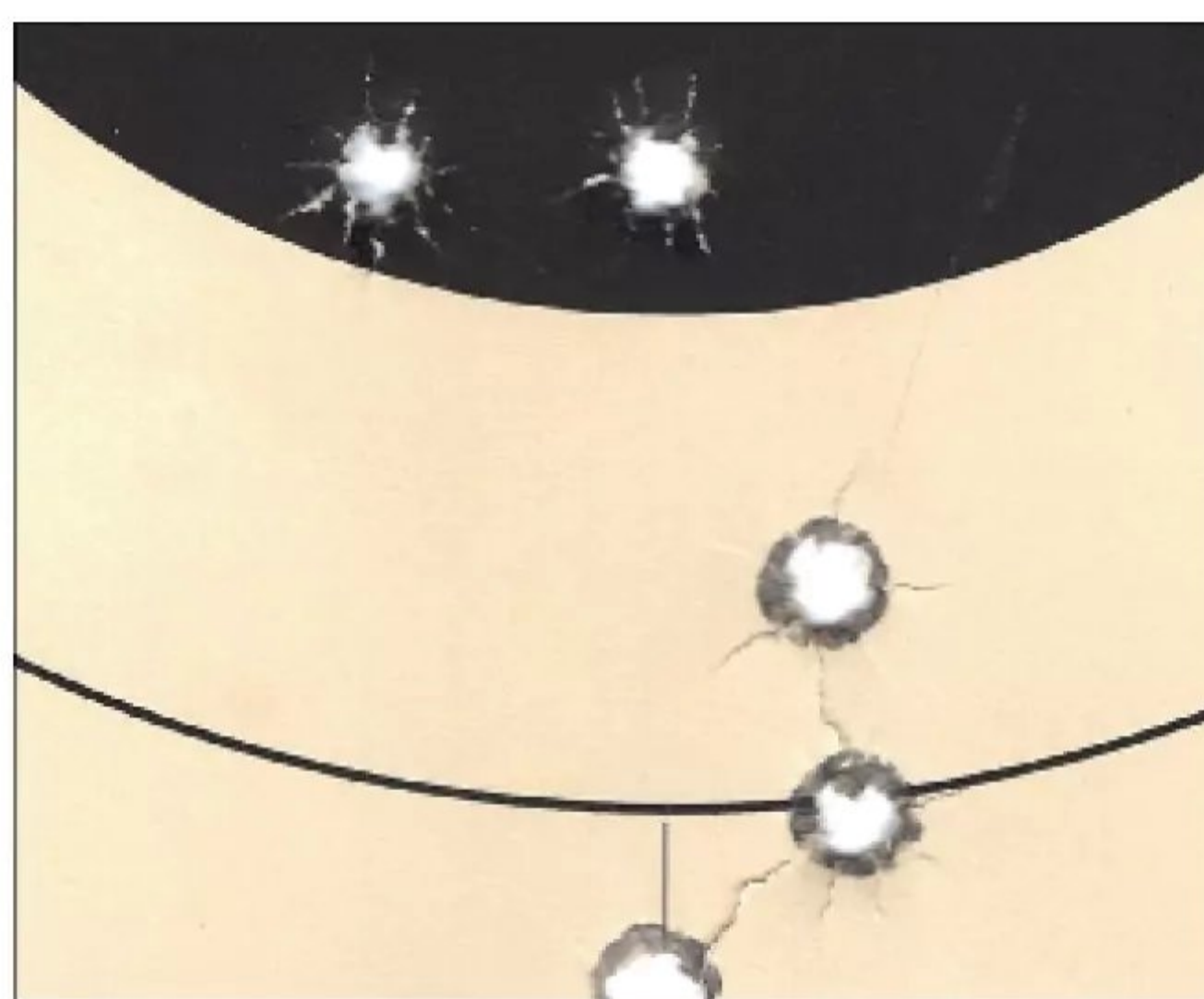
To ease the transfer, and for production and cost reasons, there are a few differences not obviously apparent cosmetically nor affecting the 1940s product's performance. Some minor modifications were deemed prudent to make the U.S. Armament Commando carbine. Most notably, these involve reinstating the steel silencer casing of the Ford Prototype models for durability, using actual SMLE rear sights in favor of a Lanchester style, and welding the 7-inch barrel to the casing so that it meets a legal 19-inch length, thus eliminating the need for an additional short barrel rifle (SBR) tax stamp.

Of course, most markings are also different, primarily those reflecting the address of the current manufacturer. The stock sockets do retain the "ISMLE" Ishapore stamping. Too, it was found that it really was not necessary to recess the bolt head, as rounds performed just fine with the original smooth configuration and using the existing extractor. As later Ishapores — ones used in the construction of the Commando — were not made with brass butt ID discs, new ones were not added.

Like all U.S. Armament projects, great attention was placed on detail and quality. The guns are hefty pieces,



Patent drawings of the De Lisle carbine, principal components of which are seen in the cutaways and details described in the text.



This 1 7/8-inch group was typical of the rested 30-yard targets produced by the De Lisle. (Photo by Gage Cuthbertson.)

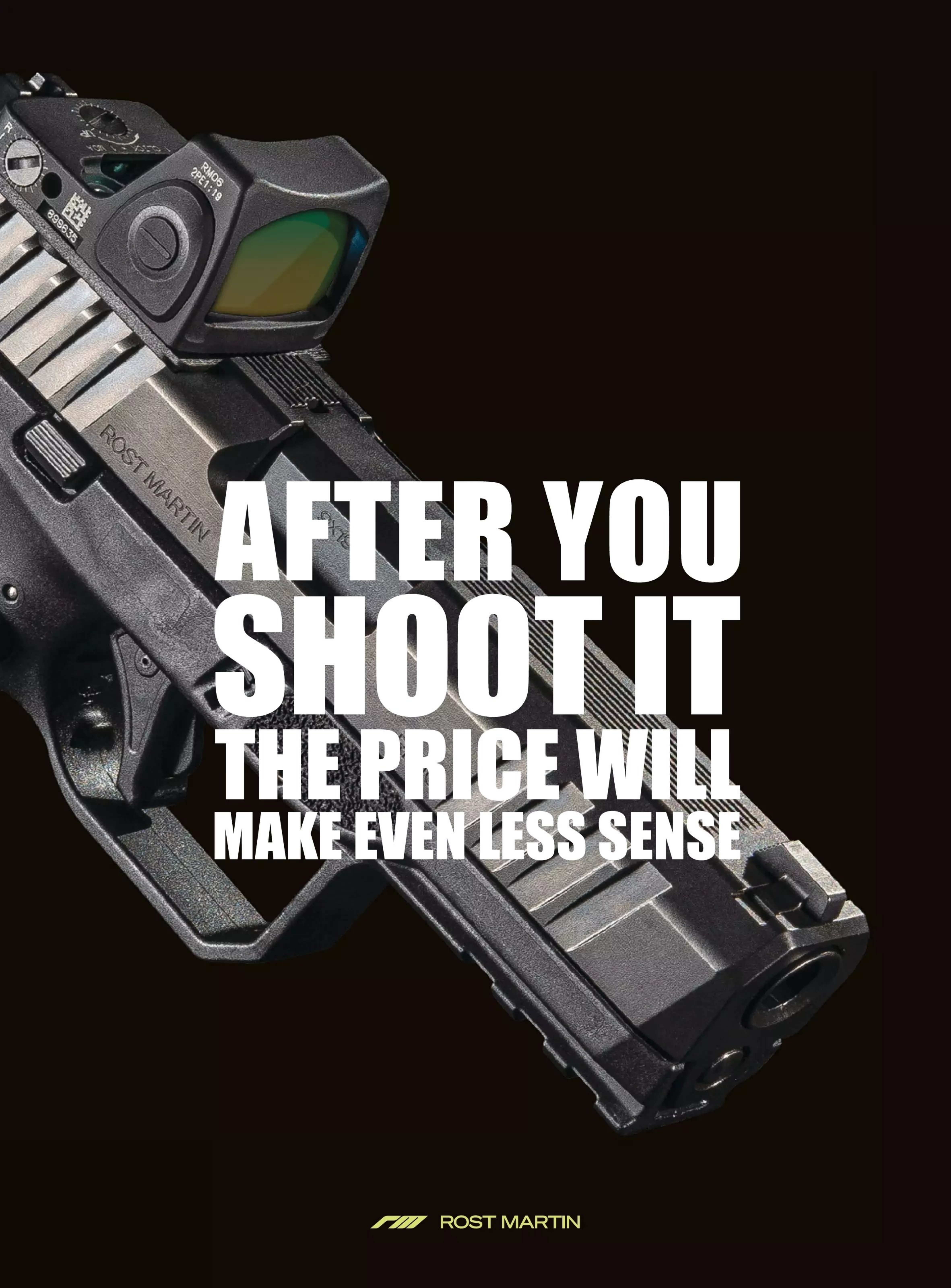
weighing in at 9½ pounds, however, they are eminently shoulder-able, and, as one might expect, recoil with the .45 ACP is virtually nil. Finish is Parkerizing; handguard and buttstock are walnut. Overall length measured 36 inches. Magazine capacity is seven rounds.

In G&A's evaluations, using 230-grain Winchester and Federal .45 ACP FMJs, firing the guns at an Ordnance trials range of 30 yards with out-of-the-box sights, both brands of ammo were able to produce consistent sub-

2-inch groups, slightly low and to the right of point of aim, the latter being eminently correctible by simply adjusting the sights using the moveable rear notch and front sight blade.

The provided altered 1911 magazine fit easily and securely in its modified mag well, and feeding was quite good once we got used to the feel of the shorter throw of the attenuated Enfield bolt. Outdoors — sans ear protection — the De Lisle carbine proved to be one of the most silent suppressed guns I have ever fired. Indoors — and wearing muffs — the report was more distinctly heard, but still not anywhere near what one would experience with an un-suppressed Thompson or Government Model auto.

In the company's inimitable style, once again U.S. Armament came up with an intriguing, evocative piece of history that can be enjoyed by 21st-century shooters. The price of the Commando carbine is \$5,999. To learn more about acquiring one, contact U.S. Armament Mfg. by visiting usarmamentmfg.com or calling 717-721-4570. 



**AFTER YOU
SHOOT IT
THE PRICE WILL
MAKE EVEN LESS SENSE**

Savage 110 PPR 6.5 Creedmoor

PROFESSIONAL PURSUIT

THE SAVAGE 110 Professional Pursuit Rifle (PPR) is a fully-featured rifle designed to be lightweight and high-performance. The rifle is based on the Savage Model 110 action given a Proof Research carbon-fiber barrel and a Grayboe Phoenix 2 stock with a flush-fit detachable box magazine. The ensemble tips the scales at 7 pounds, 3 ounces, so it is a good blend of offering everything the hunter needs while keeping the weight reasonable for long foot movements.

The less obvious — but perhaps most significant feature of the PPR — is what Savage calls an “upgraded bolt head with dual ejectors and enhanced extractor.” The Model 110 embodies Savage’s reputation for accuracy, but empty cases make it out of the receiver just fine. Spent cases occasionally dribble out the side and don’t inspire confidence. The fix for that is on the 110 PPR.

Savage installed a second ejector in the bolt face to assist the original. Standard Savage 110 actions have a plunger-type ejector that sits at about the 5 o’clock position on the bolt face as you look at it. The extractor is located at the 9 o’clock position. The PPR bolt face retains the original ejector and extractor locations but adds a second plunger ejector at the 12:30 position, closer to the bolt’s centerline. Using two ejectors allowed Savage engineers to put a lighter load on both when compared to the original design. This means the ejector springs on the PPR don’t have to work as hard and will last longer. Moving the new ejector closer to the bolt face’s center also means that the ejector stays in contact with the case head longer. The result is that the two ejectors put a lot more pressure on the case head, and fired brass leaves the receiver with more enthusiasm.



The “bottom metal” on the 110 PPR is actually polymer construction. The magazine well accepts AICS-pattern mags. The provided magazine offers a capacity of three rounds.

The 110 PPR is equipped with an omniport muzzle-brake at the end of the 5/8x24-threaded barrel. The muzzle-brake is finished in a black Cerakote.



Comb height is adjustable, loosened and secured by twisting the knob on the right side of the stock. Length of pull may also be adjusted using a combination of the provided spacers.



SAVAGE 110 PPR

TYPE	Bolt action
CARTRIDGE	6.5 Creedmoor (tested), .28 Nosler, .308 Win., .300 WSM, 6.5 PRC, 30-'06 Spr., .270 Win., .300 Win. Mag., 7mm PRC
CAPACITY	3+1 rds.
BARREL	Proof Research 20 in.; 1:8-in. twist rate
LENGTH	41.5 in.
WEIGHT	7 lbs., 3 oz.
STOCK	Grayboe Phoenix 2
GRIP	Vertical
SIGHTS	None
FINISH	Cerakote (stainless steel)
TRIGGER	AccuTrigger, 2 lbs., 12 oz. (tested)
SAFETY	Two-position, tang-mounted selector switch
MSRP	\$2,399
MANUFACTURER	Savage Arms, 800-370-0708, savagearms.com



A Savage-branded magazine is flush with the bottom, and is released when the lever in front of the triggerguard is pressed forward.

The enhanced extractor looks similar to every other Savage extractor until it is put under close inspection. The bottom of the PPR extractor is cut at an angle and radiused to allow the fired case to roll off it early during the extraction process. This feature has been in custom actions for years, so Guns & Ammo’s rifle shooters were glad to see it make it into the Savage 110. The cut and radiused extractor — when combined with the dual ejectors — gives the PPR wonderful ejection where fired cases land a couple of feet away and slightly behind the shooter. This is a winning combination for the Model 110.

TAKING STOCK

The stock is a big change from other Savage models. Grayboe forms the Phoenix 2 out of a fiberglass and epoxy matrix, making it more rigid than injection-molded polymer stocks. The barreled action sits atop two aluminum pillars that are buried in the fiberglass/epoxy matrix. The Phoenix 2 is a lightweight stock that has a hollow grip and



The dual-lug bolt head has two ejectors that improve extraction for the PPR. The bolt body wears spiral flutes for aesthetic value.



A one-piece scope rail with 20 MOA bias bridges the receiver’s ejection port and extends above the barrel nut for scope mounting.

relief cuts in either side of the butt. While the Phoenix 2 is lightweight, it is also good for field use.

The forend is approximately 2 inches wide and flat on the bottom to ride supports and field rests well. The sides



The Savage 110 PPR is a precise, lightweight, and reliable addition to the Model 110 line. Grayboe's Phoenix 2 stock is formed fiberglass with an epoxy matrix, painted in an earth-tone camo with black webbing for texture.



A two-position, serrated safety switch is behind the bolt handle. The lever to the right, in front of the bolt handle, is the bolt release.

of the forend are radiused for comfort in the hand, and there are grooves along both sides to allow for a firm grip. The Phoenix 2 forend is about 2 inches longer than most Savage stocks, so there is some additional real estate up front to make positional shooting easier. The underside of the forend has an aluminum insert molded into it with



Sling cups are on the sides of the forend and an aluminum M-Lok bottom rail readily accepts popular bipods and accessories.

integrated M-Lok slots. It leaves the underside smooth but allows for mounting sections of rail for bipod use.

The stock also has seven flush cups for sling mounting in a number of ways. There are two flush cups on each side of the stock. One is near the buttpad, by the comb, and the other is at the forend's tip. These allow the shooter to have

1859-1909 Indian Head Cent



1913-1938 Indian/Buffalo Nickel



1916-1945 Mercury Dime



90% Silver!

Dates our choice

3

Scarce, Seldom-Seen Coins – ONLY \$4.95!

- Own 3 classic coins long vanished from circulation!
- Beloved American designs
- FREE Shipping • FREE Gift

You'll also receive a handpicked trial selection of fascinating coins from our No-Obligation Coins-on-Approval Service, from which you may purchase any or none of the coins – return balance in 15 days – with option to cancel at any time.

Mail Coupon Today!
For Faster Service Visit:
LittletonCoin.com/Respond
Serving Collectors Since 1945

Due to fluctuations in the coin market, prices and limits are subject to change.

©2025 LCC, Inc.

For New Customers Only

☒ **YES!** Please send me the following:

QTY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
	3-Coin Collector's Set (limit 4)	\$4.95	
1	Wheat Ears Cent		FREE
ORDER MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 30 DAYS		Shipping	FREE
		Sales Tax	FREE
		TOTAL \$	

☐ Check **Charge:** ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AmEx ☐ Disc

Card #: Exp. Date / /

Name _____

Address _____ Apt# _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____



Littleton Coin Company **Offer Code: 36B401**
1309 Mt. Eustis Rd Littleton NH 03561-3737



The 20-inch Proof Research stainless-steel barrel is carbon-fiber wrapped. In addition to the weight savings of carbon fiber, the barrel has a tapered Sendero contour.

the rifle lay flat along their back, by far the most comfortable way to sling a rifle for long periods of time. There are also flush cups on the forend's underside at the tip, in front of the magazine well, and at the toe. These allow conventional sling positioning.

The PPR feeds from AICS-pattern detachable box magazines and includes a flush three-round magazine. While the magazine makes the most sense for hunting applications, any AICS-pattern magazine will work in the PPR. There is no shortage of

magazine options with the AICS footprint. The "bottom metal" on the PPR is actually made of plastic, having a metal paddle that straddles the front of the triggerguard. A quick extension of the trigger finger is all that's required to release an empty magazine or to unload the rifle.

The PPR has an adjustable comb that pairs well with the 20 MOA-biased optic rail atop the receiver. Mount any scope and the adjustable comb allows the shooter to build a firm cheek support for obtaining a full



The stainless-steel barrel is marked with its chambering near the action. The barrel is secured to the receiver with Savage's notched barrel nut and lug attachment system.



The Savage AccuTrigger is user-adjustable with a safety lever blade in the center. It tested at 2 pounds, 12 ounces.

field of view. The length of pull adjusts with spacers, so the PPR can be made to fit just about any size and frame of a shooter.

The barreled action uses Proof Research's light-weight contour, saving a handful of ounces over the Sendero contour. The muzzle of the PPR is threaded with a $\frac{5}{8}$ -24 pitch, and an omnidirectional muzzlebrake comes installed. Savage provided aesthetic bolt flutes and finished the receiver and bolt body in Cerakote to give

PERFORMANCE

LOAD	VEL. (FPS)	ES	SD	BEST GROUP (IN.)	AVG. GROUP (IN.)
Fiocchi Hyperformance 142 gr.	2,591	61.3	20	.38	.55
SAKO TRG 136-gr. Scenar-L	2,612	16.1	7.1	.58	.64
Hornady Match 140-gr. ELD-M	2,603	21	6.7	.59	.78

Notes: Accuracy is the average of five, five-shot groups from 100 yards. Velocity is the average of five shots recorded by a Garmin Xero C1 Pro chronograph.

the rifle an attractive and durable finish.

AT THE RANGE

Performance at the range was excellent. The best group came while using Fiocchi Hyperformance ammunition. A three-shot group measured a scant .38 inch. All ammunition grouped well, but groups opened as the barrel heated. This isn't a concern for hunters, but when testing for accuracy or doing load development, it's best to stop and let this gun cool after 10 rounds or less.

The Savage 110 PPR is the result of a collaboration between Savage and a

British chef who shoots a pile of deer to keep his restaurant stocked with venison. While some are hesitant to take rifle-shooting tips from the British, the collaboration is a big win for the rest of us. 

SEASON'S GREETINGS

TIPPMANN ORDNANCE

NOW AVAILABLE
BELT FED .22LR
GATLING GUN

SHOT SHOW

COME SEE US AT
BOOTH 42241

2955 South Maplecrest Rd
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46803
260.305.3365



GRIFFIN ARMAMENT[®]
ENGINEERED SILENCE[®]



FULL AMBI MKII

PROPRIETARY AMBIDEXTROUS CONTROLS
CUSTOM FORGED 7075 LOWER RECEIVER
SUPPRESSOR OPTIMIZED GAS SYSTEM
MIL-SPEC FIRE CONTROL POCKET
PERPETUAL LIFETIME WARRANTY

USE CODE **"GUNS10"** FOR 10% OFF SITE-WIDE
VALID UNTIL 10/01/25



SILENCERS TO YOUR DOOR
BUY ONLINE - SHIP TO YOUR DOOR



GRIFFIN ARMAMENT[®]
ENGINEERED SILENCE[®]

Too many variants can cause headaches.

THE SKU REVIEW

I'M OFTEN ASKED by friends and family for firearm recommendations. Often, after I share my opinions, someone will follow up with, "Okay, but which one, and in what caliber?" I'm sure that more than a few readers have had the "Glock conversation" with a new shooter as well, the one where they'll invariably ask about the difference between generations, and why the G45 is chambered in 9mm and not .45 Auto.

Many popular handguns and rifles have branched out from an initial naming convention to cover an extensive range of functions. In the case of SIG Sauer's P365, there exists a model for concealed carry, competition shooting, and a full-size carry gun. In fact, the original P365 was eventually phased out, replaced by a new base model that implemented lessons and a standard optic-ready configuration.

Likewise, rifle lines such as the Savage 110 and Mossberg Patriot have versions for hunters, long-range



FINDING SUCCESS

SIG Sauer's P365 was a runaway hit, consequently resulting into more than a dozen configurations. The P365-FUSE is the latest, and it gave the once micro-compact platform the full-size treatment.

shooters, and the tactical-minded. This doesn't even address how different chamberings can influence these subdivisions even further.

From a design, production, and sales perspective, it makes perfect sense. Why build a new platform from the ground up for each new task or niche? It's more viable to take an existing, proven product and adjust it to optimize the platform for a new role. Potential buyers familiar with a model often have more implicit trust in the product than they would for a new firearm design. This can lead to scenarios where a handgun initially designed for concealed carry gets the full-size treatment.

SNAKE GUN RENAISSANCE

Colt's snake guns have been revived! Starting with the Python, more double-action revolvers have sprung up, including the Viper, Anaconda, and King Cobra, of which the .22 LR version is pictured.



ANTONIO ACITELLI

For rifles, the action and bedding form the foundation of a platform. It's a comparatively easy task to adjust aspects such as the barrel length, stock, and trigger to meet certain needs. However, I've noticed that all these variants can frustrate customers, making some of us

feel fatigued or overwhelmed.

I've been discussing an idea brought forward by several readers with the Guns & Ammo's digital team. What if we focus on a particular model of firearm and summarize what sets each new model apart from a previous one. Easy, right? If applicable, perhaps we could link readers to previous reviews of the base platform.

How can G&A and gunsandammo.com do a better job describing the various models? Have a product line in mind? Email us suggestions at gaeditor@outdoorsg.com.

TOP COMMENTS

I am a big fan of the SIG Sauer P365 pistols. I have enjoyed several articles in G&A over the years reviewing the various versions of the P365. However, I haven't seen one specifically comparing the original P365 with the P365X and P365XL. How much loss of concealability is there with the larger versions versus the original? Is the additional mag capacity and recoil control (and additional velocity with the XL) worth the loss in concealability? I think this would make an interesting and informative article. Another good article would be one comparing several of the rival subcompact 9mm pistols from SIG Sauer, Springfield, Ruger, Glock, Taurus, Mossberg, etc. Strengths and weaknesses of each design, etc.

— John F, Email

66 YEARS OF THE MODEL 110

The Savage 110 has been a mainstay of the company for decades, spawning a number of different configurations. Craig Boddington's two-part feature discussing the rifle platform is now available online!



SOUND OFF

Respond to articles, find community and join the conversation in the Guns & Ammo forums and by engaging with us on social media:



Guns & Ammo Magazine



@gunsandammomag



@GunsAndAmmoMag



gaeditor@outdoorsg.com

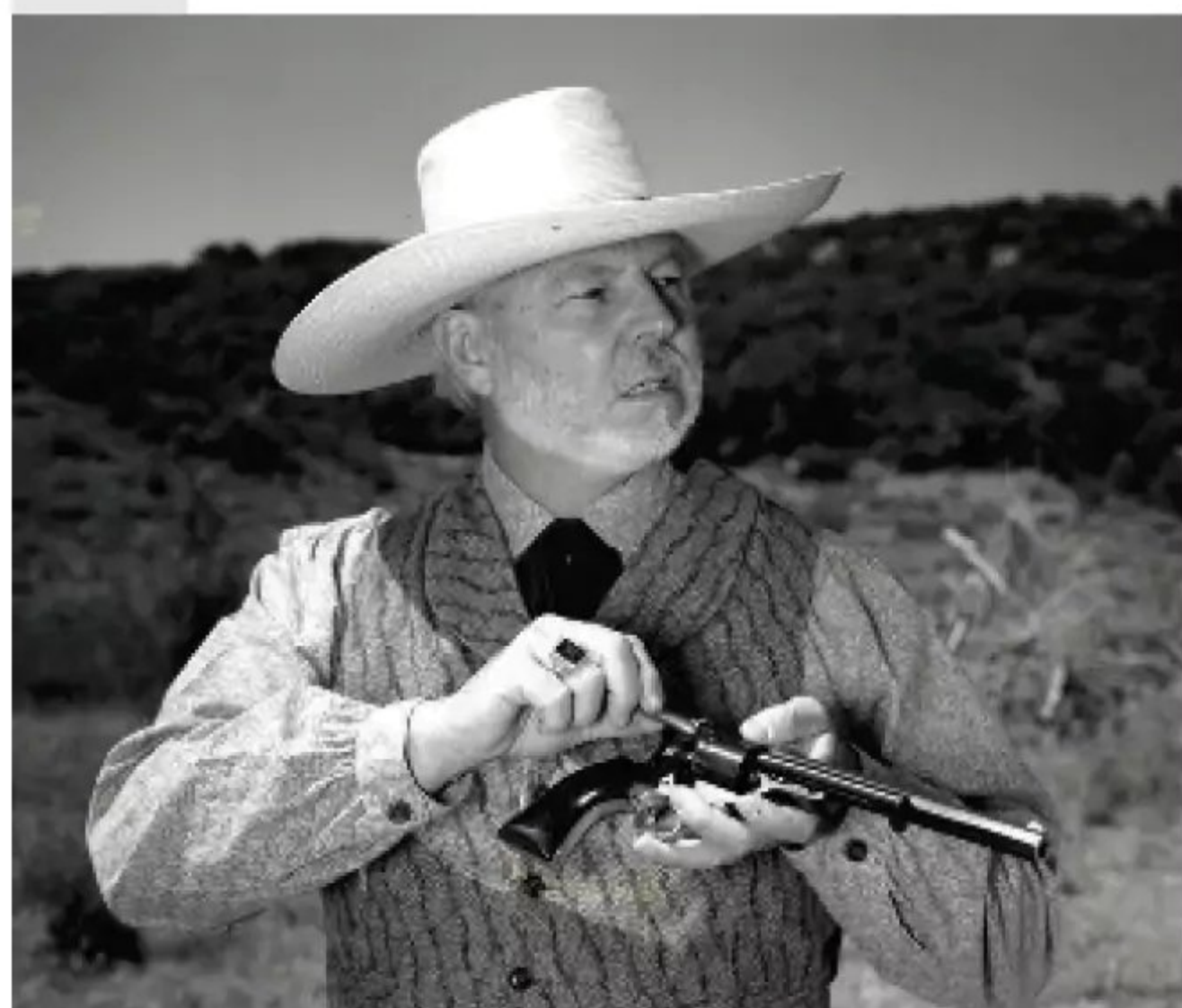


KEITH WOOD

Honoring great outdoor writers we lost in 2024.

IN MEMORIAM

I GUESS I'M AT THAT AGE. Friends, family members, mentors and individuals whom I admire seem to be leaving at an increasing rate. In 2024, the firearms industry lost several legends, including outdoor writers Mark Hampton, Phil Spangenberg, and Mike "Duke" Venturino.



PHIL SPANGENBERGER

Spangenberg was Guns & Ammo's Blackpowder Editor from the January 1977 to April 2012 issue. He was a student of the Old West. Spangenberg was also the Firearms Editor of "True West," and a technical advisor and coach for both film and television. His film consultant credits include, "The Mountain Men," "Maverick," "The Patriot, Hidalgo," and "Wild Wild West." Spangenberg was among the founders of Cowboy Mounted Shooting, and an avid horseman. As the leader of the Spirit of the West Riders, he rode regularly in the annual Rose Bowl Parade. "Phil was a great guy," longtime friend and Senior Editor Garry James said. "He was very knowledgeable and everyone liked him." Phil passed away during a medical procedure, leaving behind his wife, Linda.



PHOTO: GUNS MAGAZINE

MIKE "DUKE" VENTURINO

Venturino was a G&A contributor from 1986 to 1993. He passed away at his home in Montana on June 9, 2024, at the age of 75. There are outdoor writers who shoot to write, and those who write to shoot. Venturino was the latter. He was one of the pioneers of the sport of Blackpowder Silhouette shooting, and an enthusiast for vintage firearms such as single-action handguns, lever-actions, single-shot rifles and his passion: World War II small arms. As a young reader, I too often skipped passed his articles since old guns, blackpowder and cast bullets didn't interest me. Years later, I learned to appreciate all of it. I have referred to his work with regularity throughout the course of this job. When a man of his experience dies, a wealth of knowledge goes with him.



MARK HAMPTON

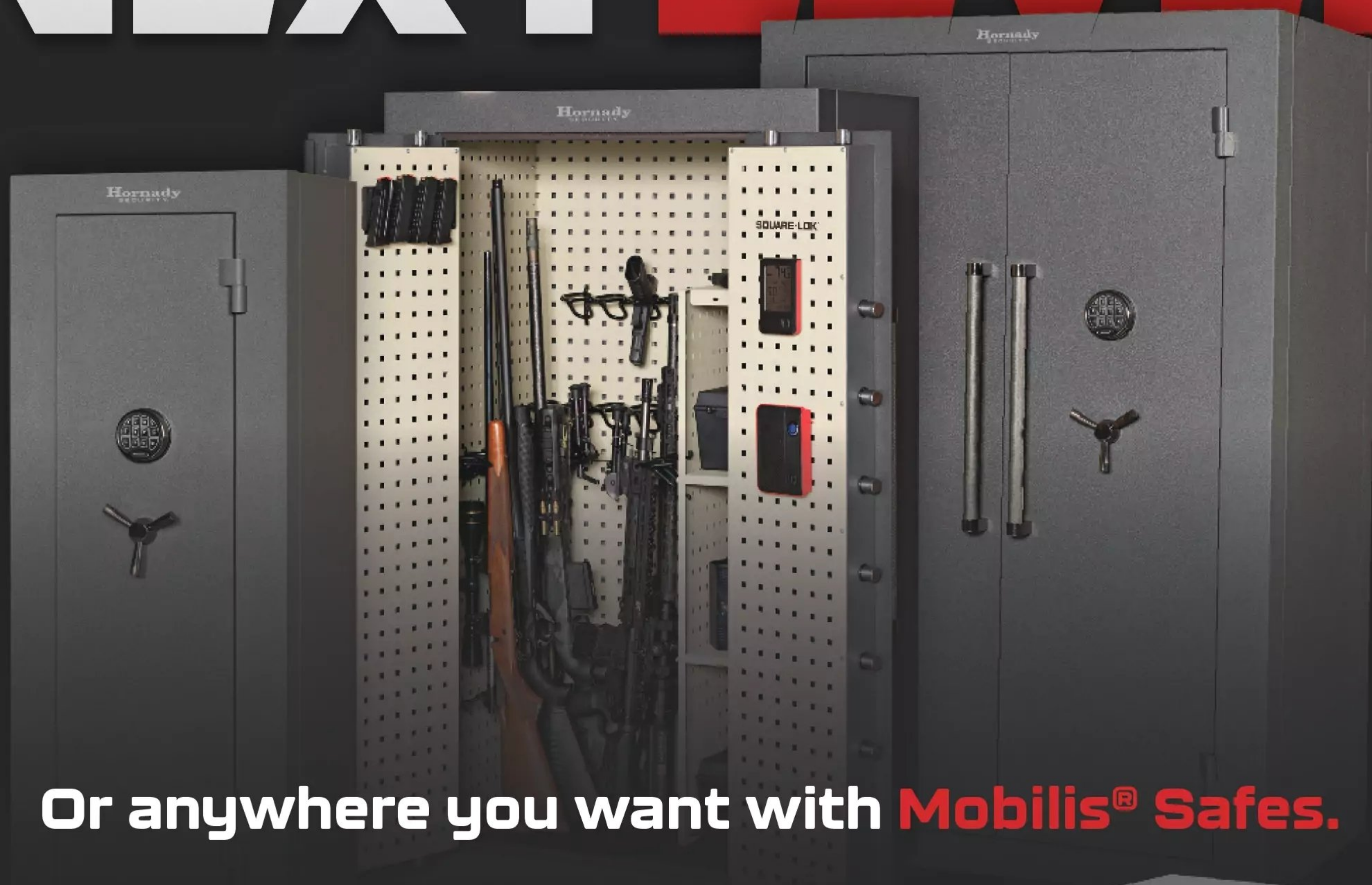
Though I admired Venturino and Spangenberg, I didn't know them personally. I considered Mark Hampton a friend, however. I met Mark on one of my first assignments to Gun-site, and we stayed in touch through the years. In 2019, I had the privilege of hunting Africa with him. A former state legislator and school superintendent, Mark was an accomplished handgun hunter. If you could name an obscure species in a remote region of Africa or Asia, Mark had taken it with a handgun. He loved wild places. Despite his vast experience afield, he was the antithesis of a chest-pounding trophy hunter. He was one of the humblest and kindest individuals I've ever been around. A frequent contributor to several outdoor titles during the course of 20 years, Mark passed away while on safari with his wife, Karen. He was doing what he loved with the woman to whom he'd dedicated his life. I will be among the many who will miss his firm handshake and subtle humor. 

Rest in peace, gentlemen.



TAKE YOUR SECURITY TO THE

NEXT LEVEL



Or anywhere you want with **Mobilis® Safes.**

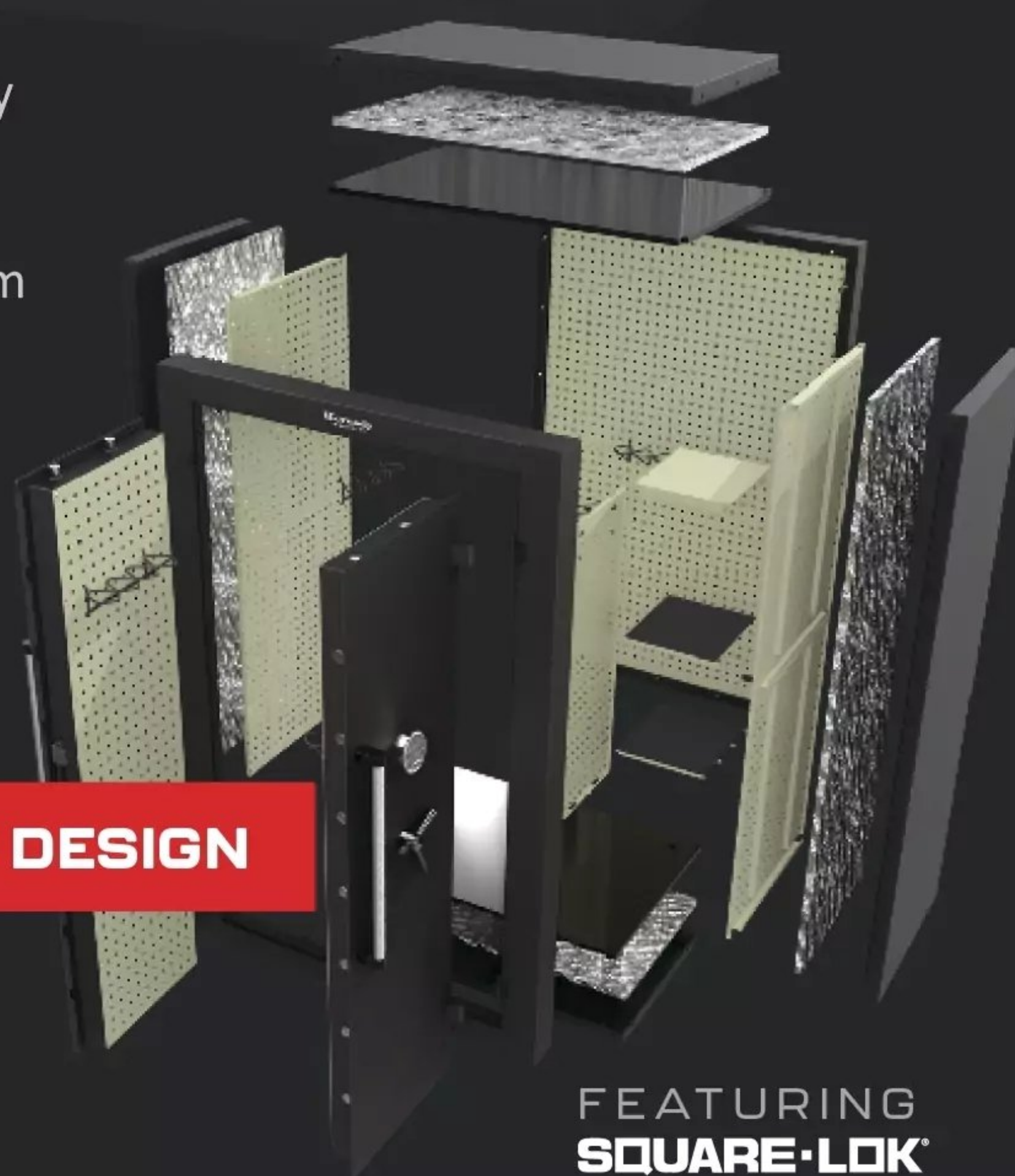
- Modular design can be transported piece by piece and assembled in any room you choose
- Personalize the interior with the flexible Square-Lok® organization system
- One-hour 2300°F FireShield protection with heat-activated door seals
- Three different sizes to fit your security needs



Learn more at
hornadysecurity.com/mobilis

INNOVATIVE

MODULAR DESIGN



FEATURING
SQUARE-LOK®



1-800-338-3220 | hornadysecurity.com

Kimber®

WHAT ALL GUNS SHOULD BE™

CARBON COMPACT



PRECISE
PROTECTION.

The **Carbon Compact** is the latest addition to the R7 family. Built around the industry-leading **performance carry trigger**, the new C.C. provides maximum repeatability and tremendous accuracy. It features a standard 3.9" barrel or a 4.42" threaded barrel. It also features a completely redesigned frame infused with carbon fiber for added durability, and a high undercut provides superb ergonomics and control. Kimber's hallmark side ejection port and no-snag design combine to create a sleek **concealed carry firearm** ideal for personal protection. Reloading is smooth and effortless with the extended, **flared magwell** that houses a 15-round magazine.



CARBON COMPACT
(OR)



CARBON COMPACT
(OI)



CARBON COMPACT
(OR) (TFS)



CARBON COMPACT
(OI) (TFS)



KIMBERAMERICA.COM