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March, 2010

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The Mannlicher Collector

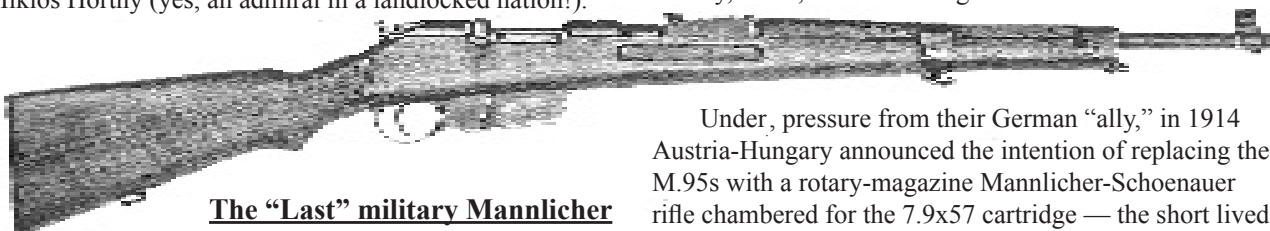
The Hungarian Huzagol 35.M: The Last Military Mannlicher

By Paul Scarlata

Photos by James Walters

Obtaining this manuscript took a few months, but I believe everyone will appreciate Paul Scarlata's research and humor. Thanks also to the efforts of Mr. Dan Frank at Washington Arms Collectors for his kind assistance. LLS

Hungary became an independent nation in 1918 after being part of the Austro-Hungarian empire since 1687. After a bloody period of communist rule and counterrevolution, the nation stabilized under the benevolent dictatorship of Admiral Miklos Horthy (yes, an admiral in a landlocked nation!).



The "Last" military Mannlicher

The new Hungarian army, the Honved, continued to use the same weapons it had while part of the Dual Monarchy, with the basic infantry rifle being Mannlicher's straight-pull Repetiergewehr M.95 chambered for the 8mm M.1893 scharfe Patrone (a.k.a. 8x50R Mannlicher). Known in Hungary as the Huzagol 95.M, these had been manufactured by both Osterreichische Waffenfabriks-Gesellschaft of Steyr, Austria and the Hungarian state arsenal, Femaru Fegyver es Gepgyar (FEG), in Budapest.

The M.95 rifle was Ferdinand von Mannlicher's most successful military design. It used a straight-pull bolt with dual frontal locking lugs that are rotated in and out of engagement by the action of two lugs bearing on helical grooves cut into the bolt head cylinder. But Mannlicher's magazine generated much more enthusiasm than his straight-pull bolt action.

Perfect in 1886, it was the first really practical method of rapidly recharging a rifle's magazine. The heart of the design was a metal clip or packet that held five cartridges and was inserted into, and became part of, the rifle's magazine. A spring-loaded follower, integral with the magazine body, pushed cartridges up into feeding position. As the last round was chambered, the empty clip fell out of an opening in the bottom of the magazine housing.

According to many so-called "experts," this system had three shortcomings:

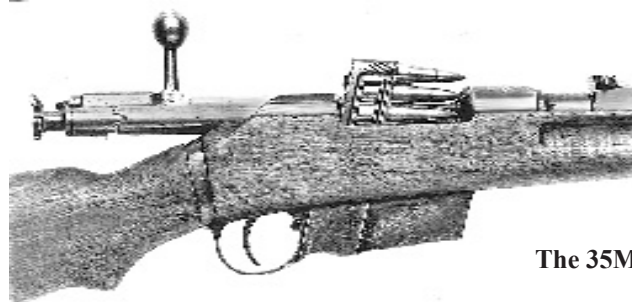
1. without clips the rifle is reduced to a single-shot.
2. the shooter could not "top off" a partially empty magazine with loose rounds.
3. dirt and debris could enter the action through the clip ejection opening.

Despite these supposed faults, rifles utilizing Mannlicher magazines were adopted by the armies of Austria-Hungary, Italy, Holland, Romania, China, Portugal, Germany, Greece, Turkey, Chile, Siam and Bulgaria.

Under pressure from their German "ally," in 1914 Austria-Hungary announced the intention of replacing the M.95s with a rotary-magazine Mannlicher-Schoenauer rifle chambered for the 7.9x57 cartridge — the short lived Repetiergewehr M.14. But the Great War intervened, and the demands of total mobilization made Austria-Hungary's plan to adopt a new rifle impossible. Manufacture of M.95 rifles and carbines went into high gear, Steyr and Budapest and continued until the end of the war.

After World War I both Austria and Hungary continued to issue M.95 Mannlichers to their respective armed forces.

All M.95 weapons chambered the 8mm M.1893 scharfe Patrone M.93. This was an 1890s-style cartridge with a short, fat rimmed case 50mm long, loaded with a 244-grain round-nosed, FMJ bullet that was pushed to a rather unimpressive 2040 fps. It was never updated with a high velocity spitzer-type bullet so as to allow continued use of the large quantities of older M.88 and M.88-90 Mannlichers the Austro-



The 35M

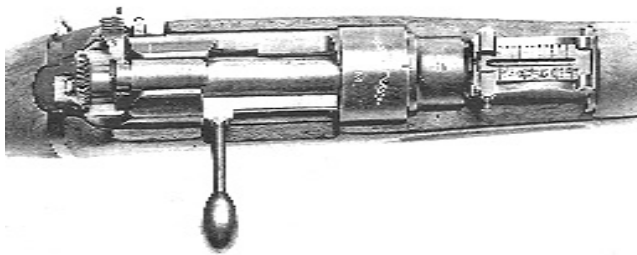
Hungarians kept in service throughout the Great War.

Around 1925 the Austrian army, in cooperation with the commercial ammunition firms of Roth and Hirtenberger, began development of a new rifle cartridge. In order to make it easier to adapt existing arms to the new cartridge, it was based upon a rimmed case 56mm in length loaded with a 208-grain FMJ spitzer bullet which 40 grains of propellant pushed to 2395 fps.

While this may not sound like much of an improvement in ballistics, the use of modern propellants and the aerodynamic shape of the bullet lowered trajectory, improved retained velocity and increased range.

The new cartridge was adopted as the 8mm M.30 scharfe S-Patrone (a.k.a. 8x56R Mannlicher) and Steyr began converting existing M.95s for it. The following year the Hungarians adopted the cartridge as the "8mm M.31" and FEG began updating their Mannlichers re-designating them as Huzagol 31.M.

Not completely satisfied with the modified M.95, the Honved began casting about for a more suitable



Receiver top, Steyr 35M

Appears very much like a "normal" Steyr made bolt.



Now look at the bolt, it appears to be a combination of ideas from the M1895 through the M1903 series, and maybe a little M1898 (1888-?) Mauser to boot. Does anyone suppose this is a precursor to the M-72 Mannlicher-Schoenauer thinking of the late 1960s? (Editors comments)

Note: In our advertising section, the data for the *German Gun Collectors Association* is out of date and I am awaiting a formal update. In the meantime, they may be contacted at info@germanguns.com and <http://www.germanguns.com/> Rob and I are maintaining our contacts with Dietrich Apel.

rifle. Many of the afore-mentioned class of "experts" find the Hungarians' decision to stay with the Mannlicher system at this late date a bit hard to fathom.

My personal opinion (for what it is worth) is that it was probably a matter of national pride. One must realize that the Mannlicher magazine system was the development of a "local boy" and thus held in higher esteem in Central Europe than elsewhere.

I also disagree strongly with those who think the Mannlicher magazine was made obsolete by Mauser's charger-loaded system. I believe that theory was disproved by over six decades of sterling performance that Mannlicher rifles provided to armies around the world. And if the system was so fraught with defects how is it that the famous U.S. M1 Garand rifle — which used little more than a variation of Mannlicher's clip — was one of history's greatest military long arms?

The engineers at FEG designed a rifle that combined characteristics of the M.95 Mannlicher, Gew. 88 "Commission" rifle, Lee-Enfield, Mannlicher-Schoenauer and Mauser Kar 98k — along with a few novel ideas. It was adopted by the Honved in 1935 as the Huzagol 35.M. (I have also seen it referred to as the "Gyalogsagi Puska 1935.M").

To regress for a moment we must discuss another aspect of the 35.M's background. In 1888 the German army adopted their first smokeless powder rifle, the Infanteriegewehr 88 which used a modified Mannlicher en-bloc magazine system — without the benefit of a license. As a result of winning the soon-to-follow patent infringement lawsuit, Mannlicher's patent holder, the Osterreichische Waffenfabriks-Gesellschaft (a.k.a. Steyr), obtained permission to manufacture the Gewehr 88 for sale to Germany and other countries.

The Gewehr 88's bolt was based on the designs of a German engineer, Louis Schlegelmilch, with a tubular split bridge receiver and a two-piece bolt that cocked on opening. The separate non-rotating bolt head contained both the extractor and ejector. It was locked by two frontal lugs positioned on the bolt body directly behind the bolt head, while the bolt handle passed through and turned down in front of the split bridge receiver and acted as a safety lug.

Schlegelmilch's bolt was easier to manufacture and just as strong, if not stronger, than Mannlicher's M.95 pattern and became the basis for a series of rifles Steyr sold to Romania, Persia, Portugal, Siam and the Netherlands. The basic Gew 88/Mannlicher bolt was further improved by Steyr's Otto Schoenauer and served as the basis for a military rifle adopted by Greece in 1903.

Without a doubt, the 35.M's most distinguishing feature is a two-piece stock conceptually similar to, but decidedly different in detail from, Britain's famed Lee-Enfield.

The buttstock is attached to the receiver by a throughbolt but, unlike the Lee-Enfield's, the 35Ms butt socket is not integral with the receiver. It is fitted between the receiver tang and the end of the trigger guard and held in place by the rear guard screw.

Additionally, the top and bottom of the butt socket are milled out to fit tightly over the tang end of the trigger guard to prevent it from rotating while hooks at the top and bottom of the butt socket engage grooves in the tang and trigger guard to secure it in place. Also unlike the Lee-Enfield, the fore end is tenoned into the butt socket, making for a more rigid design.

The bolt was based on the Mannlicher-Schoenauer's, with a heavy-duty extractor mortised into the separate, non-rotating bolt head. The ejector is mounted on the left side of the bolt, two frontal locking lugs are positioned behind the bolt head and an integral guide rib runs most of the length of the bolt. The straight bolt handle is part of this rib and turns down in front of, and bears on, the split bridge receiver to provide additional locking surface.

A thumbpiece similar to that on the old M.95 rifles allows manual recocking or lowering of the firing pin, while the a wing-type thumb safety of Mauser pattern could be applied whether the bolt was cocked or not. While a very strong design, the 35.M suffers from one of the Gew. 88 breed's chronic faults — the bolt can be assembled and the rifle fired without the bolt head in place.

In an attempt to rectify this design flaw, unless the bolt head is in place, the bolt stop must be manually depressed before the bolt can be reinserted into the receiver. While some claim that the bolt handle is too far forward for easy manipulation, the inherently smooth bolt of the Mamdicher-Schoenauer design tends to counteract this complaint. A single gas escape hole directs. gases from a ruptured case or pierced primer down the left locking lug raceway where it is vented out the thumb clearance cutout in the left side of the receiver.

The 35.M magazine is almost an exact copy of the one used in the M.95 series of Mannlicherrifles, and was loaded with the M.90-style clip that can only be inserted into the magazine one way. Note the finger grooves on the "top" of the clip so that the shooter could tell if he was inserting it properly, even in the dark.

When a five-round clip is inserted into the magazine, the tail of the follower sticks out of the clip ejection opening, providing both visual and tactile evidence that the rifle is fully loaded.

A full length handguard runs from the rear sight base to the muzzle band and the single barrel and muzzle band are held in place by screws through the stock. Dual sets of sling swivels on the side and bottom of the stock make the rifle suitable for use by either infantry or mounted troops.

Four versions of the 35.M bayonet were produced — two each of infantry and cavalry patterns — and they are even more fascinating than the rifle itself. All feature a 13-inch double edged blades and mount by a thumb catch on the left side the muzzle ring that mates with a stud under the front sight band, similar to the French Lebel's, and the hilt fitting over a projecting stud on the. muzzle band.

Cavalry pattern bayonets have an auxiliary front sight, adjustable for windage, mounted on the top of the muzzle ring so as to compensate for the change is point of impact

from the bayonet's weight.

This idea was no doubt copied from the earlier Repetierstutzen M.95 Mannlicher, which had a similar sight fitted to the bayonet muzzle ring. I cannot fathom why the Honved found it necessary for their cavalry, and not infantry, to have such auxiliary sights on their bayonets.

The bayonet photographed for this article also has what appears to be a "sling swivel" or loop mounted at the base of the grip. According Jerry Janzen's. excellent book *Bayonets From Janzen's Notebook*, (Broken Arrow, Okla, Cedar Ridge. Publications; 1991), this indicates that it is a Cavalry NCOs bayonet. The loop was used to attach a small pennant to the rifle to indicate the NCO's position when the troops were in parade formation.

Production of the 35.M took place at Budapest, from 1936 to 1942 and while it was the standard rifle of the Honved, it never completely replaced the M.95 rifles and carbines in service, especially after Hungary began expanding its armed forces during World War II.

The 35.M saw service with Hungarian troops taking part in Operation Barbarossa — the German invasion of the Soviet Union and was also used by Hungarian units assisting in anti-partisan operations in Central Europe and the Balkans.

It proved a sturdy, reliable rifle, so much so in fact that a modified version was adopted by the German Wehrmacht to supplement the Kar 98k Mauser. The German version, known as the Gewehr 98/40, was chambered, for the 7.92mm Patrone-sS (7.9x57 Mauser) cartridge and can be recognized by its charger-loaded Mauser style magazine, Kar 98k style side mounted sling and bayonet. Many thousands were manufactured and it became one of the more common non-Mauser rifles used by German forces in World War II.

In 1943, under pressure from Germany to standardize arms and. simplify supply, the Hungarians adopted the 7.92mm Patrone sS. A new rifle, the Huzagol 43.M, was adopted, being little more than the Gew. 98/40 with Hungarian-style fittings and bayonet. Production began in 1944 but only a few thousand were produced before the war ended.

It has been reported that the postwar Hungarian government resumed the production of the Huzagol 43.M between 1947 and 1950 but ceased when the Honved switched over to Soviet pattern weaponry.

My good friend Al Castle of Austin, Texas lent me a Huzagol 35.M complete with an NCO bayonet from his extensive collection to test fire ,and photograph for this article. It was made in 1940 and is in extremely nice condition with a very good bore and displays excellent workmanship and quality of materials.

Al's Huzagol 33.M was test fired on my club's 100-yard range from a bench rest using 8mm scharfe S-Patrone M.30 ammo from Century International Arms. It had been manufactured by Hirtenberger Patronenfabrik in 1938 and came loaded on five round clips, packed two to a box, which were marked 10 Stuck 8mm M.30 scharfe S-Patronen.

Loading a rifle with Mannlicher clips is without a doubt the fastest way to charge a rifle magazine. Saying that, I realize I can now expect to bear choruses of protests from all the

Mausers fans out there. But calm down folks, I'm not saying the Mannlicher type magazine is superior to the Mauser, just faster to reload. The trigger pull was the typical two stage military type but had a fairly crisp let-off while the sights provided a sharp; clear sight picture.

The rifle had a very comfortable fitting stock which, along with its hefty weight, reduced recoil considerably. The Huzagol 35.M has one of the smoothest operating bolts I've ever worked. The cock-on-closing feature was hardly noticeable and I disagree with those who claim the forward position of the bolt handle is a detriment to rapid manipulation.

The first round out of the clip required a hefty shove, but after that, the remaining four fed effortlessly and it ejected empty cases with authority. Empty clips fell out as soon as the fifth round was chambered.

It proved a very fine shooting rifle with well centered, five-shot groups running from 2.5 to 3 inches, with my best measuring a very pleasing 2-1/8 inches. With the rear sight set on 100 meters, it tended to print about three inches below the point of aim.

My impression of the Huzagol 35M? To be perfectly frank I can find little bad to say about it. It was a fine handling accurate rifle that deserves a better reputation than Mannlichers usually receive (I sometimes think the firearms press is controlled by a secret clique of Mauser lovers.) I believe it compares favorably with contemporaries such as the KAR 98k and No. 4 Lee-Enfield and would have served any soldier carrying it very well.

I would like to thank Al Castle, Josef Motz, Heino Hintermeier, and Steve Kehaya for supplying information and material used to prepare this article.

From *The Shotgun News*, 20 June 2008.

Many thanks to Paul Scarlata. For those not watching The Shotgun News, Mr. Scarlata has now written several more Mannlicher articles on the turnbolt 6.5mms that are also of interest.

LLS



The box and contents of "mystery bullets" discovered in Denmark! Does anyone have any older reloading components than these? You editor used to have a collection of old Kynoch bullets (0.333 and 0.356), and foolishly disposed of them twenty-five years ago. Today I hoard 8mm and 9.3mm from RWS and others.

RWS Bullets for the Mannlicher Schonauer

by Tom Seifeldt

Upon receiving pictures of a box of bullets from Larry Stewart with a reference to pistol cartridges that he got in an email from a collector in Denmark, I went down the wrong path. Knowing that Steyr / Mannlicher had many proprietary cartridges in pistol calibers I started looking in some reference materials to see what I could find in 8x26mm. After enlarging the photo and LOOKING at the box I noticed the 'Mannl.-Schonauer' call out. The 'Schonauer' refers to the famous rotary magazine system utilized in the Mannlicher Schonauer carbines and rifles. Schonauer was never used in any Steyr or Mannlicher pistol designation. This box of bullets is packed with German precision with no wasted space exactly like a 50 round pistol box.

About the box. The abbreviations across the top are for 'Rheinisch-Westfalische-Actien-Gesellschaft' or what is commonly referred to as the 'RWS Company'. The rest of the box is: 50 Mantelgeschosse (jacketed bullet), Mannl.-Schonauer (Mannlicher Schonauer), 8-26 8mm diameter x 26 mm long, Rundkopf (round head or round nose), Scharfrand (sharp edge), Gewicht (weight in grams), and Nurnberg indicating the city of Nurnberg, Germany where RWS ammunition and components are manufactured.

The sharp edged bullet almost looks to be a semi-wadcutter type bullet. My reproduction '[Arms of the World - 1911](#)' (ALFA) catalog, shows 8mm bullets for loading, one of which looks very similar in design. There is no reference to manufacturer or bullet weight. The similar bullet (c) is listed with a length of 31mm while another bullet (f) shows a length of 26mm. In the original email from Larry, Phillip noted the bullet diameter of the box of bullets to be 8.22 mm and he compares that to current RWS and Norma diameters listed at 8.17. My [Weiderladen](#) German reloading manual lists the bullet diameter for the 8x56 MS cartridge on the loading sheet as 8.20mm while in the index in the rear shows 8.25mm. Variations in pre-war European rifle bore diameters is quiet common within the same caliber. Current RWS bullet weights in the [Wiederladen](#) manual are listed as 12.1, 12.7, 12.8, and 14.5 grams. The weight listed on the box 13.10 grams (202.2 grains) is the exact weight of the factory 8x56 MS round loaded by RWS per [Cartridges of the World](#).

A follow up photo of a post war box of RWS 8x56 loaded ammunition shows the same bullet weight and length, 13.1 grams and 26 mm. The loading on the box indicates 2.65 grams, approximately 40.4 grains, of T1910 powder. The 'Teilmantel-Rundkopf-Geschoss' indicates a partial jacket or exposed lead round nosed bullet. For comparison [Wiederladen](#) shows a load for a 12.7 gram (196 grain) bullet with 2.66-2.79 grams (41.0-43.0 grains) of R903 powder. [Cartridges of the World](#) shows a 200 grain spot point with 40.0 grains of IMR 3031 giving a velocity of 2050 fps.

Phillip indicates this box of bullets came from the Danish Royal military arsenal which also housed the King's royal hunting weapons. The question came up as to why

The 9.3mm Revisited by 9.3 Norm

There are some Americans who are happy with the .35 Cal., while Germans, Austrians, and Scandinavians love the 9.3mm (.366): the 9.3 x 57, 9.3 x 62, the 9.3 x 64 Brenneke, and the 9.3 x 74R. The Scandinavians like the 9.3mm for moose hunting (Swedish: Alg; Norwegian: Elg; German: Elch. Middle English: Eolh (the "h" was pronounced like the "ch" sound in the German word "ach"). A poll some years ago in a German hunting magazine showed most hunters preferred the 9.3mm for Schwarzwild (wild boar) and Rotwild (red stag). Finn Agaard of the American Rifleman thought the .338-06 and the .35 Whelen were good cartridges, but he felt the 9.3 x 62 was just a bit better.

I often wondered why James Howe brought out the .35 Whelen in the 1920's when the 9.3 x 62 brought out by Otto Bock in 1905 had been in existence. I can only surmise: the availability of bullets. When I started my first 9.3mm project back in 1970 I could only find miscellaneous bullets at gun shows made by Norma of Sweden. Then Speer brought out their 270 gr. 9.3mm projectile, which has been my test bullet in 9.3mm rifles ever since. Later at gun shows I found Speer 250 gr. 9.3's made years earlier (very accurate and effective). Today we also have 9.3mm bullets available from Hawk, Barnes, Nosler, Hornady, Swift, RWS of Germany, CDP of Switzerland, and Lapua (Finland). One can also buy factory cartridges in some 9.3mm cartridges made by Lapua (Finland), Sellier & Bellot (Czech Republic), Kynoch (England), Privi Partizan (Serbia), and RWS of Germany. Norma of Sweden offers a plethora of 9.3mm bullets and cartridges. Hirtenberger of Austria offers some 9.3mm cartridges with the 270 gr. Sierra bullet (Sierra has not offered this bullet to American hunters).



Even though some known gun writers explain how to form .30-06 brass into 9.3 x 62, two German and one Finnish reloading manual specifically warn against this practice because the brass is thicker in the head of regular 9.3 x 62mm brass. I always buy Norma or RWS brass since I want the correct headstamp on the case whenever possible. (Ed.note, Privi, Graf, and Lapua 9.3x62mm brass is also available in the USA.) Only RWS makes factory brass for the 9.3 x 64mm Brenneke, and it is not always easy to find. Buy a life time amount if you run into that item. One will not use the 9.3 x 64mm as a varmint round, so 100 to 200 rounds of brass will do you fine. Brass for my 9.3 x 74R was made by D.W.M. under the Speer label.

Waidmannsheil !and Waidmannsdank for all members who have given me information on my favorite cartridges!
NT (9.3)

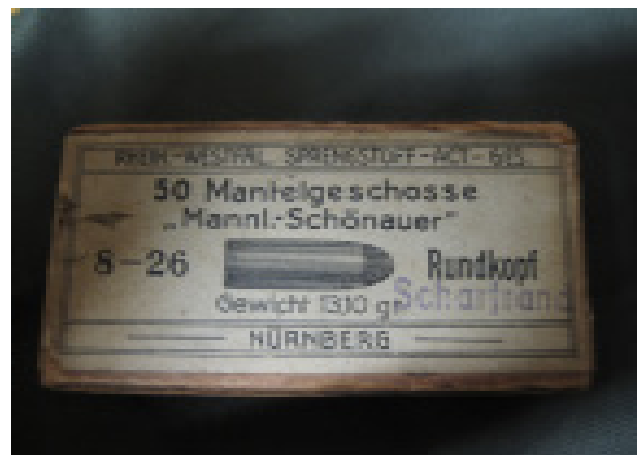
RWS Bullets continued from page 4

the King would reload as opposed to buying factory ammo. My thought is they were not for reloading so much but for custom handloads. My reasons for starting to reload decades ago was twofold: 1 – it was cheaper, but 2 – it was much more accurate. As reloaders, we all know different rifles shoot differently with the same ammunition. I do believe a Danish King could afford whatever he wanted for sporting ammunition and quite possibly had loads worked up for his particular rifles. Another thought is this bullet type with the sharp edge may not have been available in factory loads. One of the purposes of this type bullet may have been to cut a clean entry wound to allow for a better blood trail.

The bullet base shows a shield with the letter 'U' in it. This mark and several similar marks show up in ammunition reference material for RWS ammunition. This 'U' mark is listed as the head stamp for RWS rimfire ammunition. The reference also shows a shield head stamp with the letter R indicating a rim fire using Sinoxid priming. There is the letter N in a shield head stamp for an inside primed 5.6mm center fire cartridge as well as on the primer of RWS 9.3x72 Norm ammunition. I think we can add the 'U' mark to some RWS bullets for loading as well.

This is a VERY interesting box of bullets, and worthy of any Mannlicher or ammunition collectors' treasures! Perhaps they will provide some tidbits of information for all of us, proving once again there are still terrific finds out there and this is what drives collectors.

Thomas L.Seefeldt



Here is the box of "mystery bullets" found in Denmark. Our Danish MCA members continue to research the history of their find to discover what was indeed the background of these interesting bullets. Don't you like the shading on the photo? It adds to the "mystery" aura of the box.

Midway Arms 6.5x54mm M-S Ammunition

The following information is presented at the request of some of our members, although it was originally reported in this journal by Don Henry over ten years ago. "Beware of 6.5x54mm ammunition loaded/sold by Midway under the Midway name."

This ammunition was reported as variously exceeding pressure limits and casesplitting. When Don attempted to contact Midway about these cartridges, they did not respond positively. Years later when I contacted Midway about this ammunition, they would not acknowledge the manufacture of it. Clearly the people at Midway have attempted to distance themselves from this product, which was made (according to my best estimates) in the late 1970s in the days when the only 6.5x54mm ammunition available was from Norma and hard to find.

I do not know the circumstances at Midway and I do not wish to do them any wrong because Midway has grown into a superior vendor of shooting sports products and is a great benefactor to the U.S. National Rifle Association.

Now, some of those old Midway cartridges are again surfacing, sources unknown. In the name of safety, all of us should remember that these cartridges are questionable at best. Pass on them when you see them for sale, and destroy them or hang them on the wall as souvenirs if you own them.

Late Mannlicher-Schoenauer Production

Here is a neat piece of data I gleaned from watching online gun auctions. I discovered a 1970 proofed MCA carbine in .30-06 on Gunbroker.com and was able to pull the serial numbers off the photos. These numbers revealed that only 1337 units were produced between 1968 and 1970 (I have two MCAs dating from 1968.) I am not certain how much credence should be given to this very rough data, but it does indicate that the M-S production line was still moving after the 1968 introduction of the Steyr-Mannlicher. We have seen/heard of MCAs with proof dates as late as 1972, but have not been able to secure serial numbers for the same.

Looking at an Old Shooters Bible

I was looking in the 1956 issue of *The Shooters Bible* when their full page offer of a planned Indian Shikar caught my eye. Stoeger was into everything sporting in those days, and people must have had the money and desire to travel to the ends of the Earth. Then came a surprise in the recommended weapon calibers, 9.3mm Mannlicher! Now what in the world was that in 1956? My only idea is a 9.3x62mm since that caliber was listed in the M-S offerings. (Last year for the 9.3x62mm in the USA market.) Any thoughts or ideas? Does this mean that the old "White Buffalo" 9.3x57mm was alive and well? I would never recommend the 9.3x57mm for dangerous game, but what were the writers at Stoeger thinking? Any thoughts, opinions. You never know what you will find in an old *Shooter's Bible*

Steyr Arms Acquires Merkel

Steyr Arms has acquired Merkel USA. The merging of Steyr Arms and Merkel USA will take place in the 25,000-sq.ft. headquarters facility in Trussville, AL, complete with gunsmithing facilities and an underground testing range. The merged entities will continue normal operations under the leadership of Steyr Arms, Inc.

Merkel USA is the U.S. importer and service center for Merkel's side-by-side and over/under shotguns, double rifles, drillings, combination guns, K1 single-shot stalking rifles, the KR1 bolt-action rifle, and the SR1 semiautomatic rifle. Merkel Hunting and Sporting Arms was created in 1898 in Suhl, Germany, and its firearms have been available in the U.S. since 1991.

Merkel USA is also the importer for Anschutz precision rimfire sporting rifles. It also imports Grulla's exquisite line of Spanish-made sidelock side-by-side shotguns as well as Docter Optic sights and scopes.

"This really broadens the scope of Steyr Arms, and it establishes a rock-solid foothold in the American market for several legendary European brands," said Scott O'Brien, chief executive officer of Steyr Arms. "We are very excited about this acquisition. Both the Steyr and Merkel brands are synonymous with extraordinary quality, precision and reliability, and that ensures a solid market share within the premium rifle and shotgun industry."

Taken from a web announcement

2010 Annual Meeting Plans

The 2010 Annual Meeting is being planned for October 16-17, 2010 in conjunction with the 2100 table Great Eastern Gun Show at Louisville, Kentucky, in celebration of National Gun Day. The headquarters hotel will be the Crown Plaza Hotel located adjacent to the Kentucky Expo Center and five minutes from the Louisville Airport. Once more we anticipate having an annual raffle, including a Steyr rifle, and an auction of assorted sporting goods. Rick Martell is arranging a block of rooms in the Crown Plaza Hotel (show rate is \$100.00/night), plus display and sales tables at the show. This will be our first foray into the Eastern portion of the USA, and it is hoped that we will be serving the segment of our membership living in the region. You can check up on the show via the website www.nationalgunday.com.

Please remember to put this date on your calendar and plan to attend. Will begin with a President's Reception at the hotel on Friday night (10/15) and continue through the weekend. This is an election year, so, if your mailing stamp has a 5+ on it, you are a voting member, be there. **LLS**

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Note: For 9.3x64mm brass, also try Quality Cartridge, online at www.qual-cart.com. TMC has run an article about them.

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WANTED

Want, 6.5x54mm M-S loaded rounds or cases. N.J. Clones (636)343-4577 or John-Clones@aol.com (83)

M1910 carbine. Jim Irwin 512-502-0797 jimirwin@austin.rr.com [96]

Need Metal checking tool for flat top original M-S checkering, not a V notch, but a square channel. Lynn, 907 457 3844

For M-S, rear barrel site base, 2-leaf site, swivel sleeve, front site ramp & front site. Also 1956-1970 DT M-S, prefer a fixer-upper. Tom Chace, 801-255-0716, 914-968-7614 [76]

WANT- Back Issues of TMC #1-50, Jim Irwin, email jimirwin@austin.rr.com with offer

WANT- Steyr Zephyr DST, complete or parts. Alternate, design drawings or loan of a set for copying. Will pay reasonable expenses. Philip - sparholt@mail.tele.dk (90)

WANT - M1908 8x56mm MS in very nice condition, no extra holes. Prefer no scope mounts, unless complete with rings. Patrick Morgan at PDM45@WEBTV.NET [99]

Wanted, M1903 6.5x54mm carbine in very good or better condition for hunting and shooting, not collecting. Contact Denis at (928) 474-8676. {95}

WANTED- Steel Buttplate for M1910 M-S (03.05.08) carbine, contact Vance, (612) 724-0946 [91]

WANTED - Operable display quality military M1903 or M.1903/14 carbine w/Greek Cross. Contact : 703-765-0090 or sjhantzis@cs.com My grandfather carried one in the 1914-ff Balkan Wars [75]

NEED - Lyman #36 rear sight for a Mannlicher M1908 James Porter, 915-833-1812 jepjr1@lycos.com [85]

WANTED - M-S rifle in .338 Win Mag. MCA model rifles and carbines, all calibers, in exc. condition, w/claw mounted scopes OK Maurice Valerio, 541-853-2355 [73]

WANT - Mannlicher-Schoenauer rifle or carbine in any 9.3mm caliber. Norman Tonn, 2112 E. 13th St., The Dalles, OR 97058 [88]

WANT - One rear set trigger for a M1903 M-S double set trigger rifle/carbine. Steve Nelson (541)745-5232 nelsons-custom@comcast.net

NEED - Magazine floorplate retaining spring and a nose cap for a .270 carbine. John Purcell (870)236-7718 (94)

NEED - for M1956-MC carbines per 1960 Stoegers parts lists - M-S Front Sight Hood, Trigger assembly, trigger guard and plate. contact Roger Sherman (703)620-3652 email sandlent@verizon.net (98)

WANT- new or used Steyr factory scope mount for my Mannlicher-Schoenauer. Jerry Ruuhela, (218) 247-7662 [96]

WANT - Greek Mannlicher M-1903, -1903/14 or a M-1930 with Greek crest. Looking for a shooter or collectable. Contact Alex @ 815-545-6944 or e-mail bigalkoko@sbcglobal.net

WANT - Mannlicher-Schoenauer magazines, a rebuild project. Richard Lee (318) 473-0952, or contact via TMC {99}

FOR SALE

MS Cartridge Cases - New from RWS
 6.5x54mm(\$30.00), 8x60Smm for the 0.323 bullet (\$30.00), New 9x56mm MS professionally resized from virgin R.P. brass(\$40.00). Jim 231-933-4211 (100)

Double set trigger adjusting screws for M-S and others. Phillips head, plated brass, Not original, \$9.00/12 postpaid(USA) \$12.00/12 overseas. Don Henry, PO Box 7144, Salem, OR . 97303 (57)

Four piece cleaning rod, MS carbine, 1903, 05, 08, 10. \$100.00 Anyone in need of magazines for the .22 Steyr Zephyr? Contact Philip via sparholt@mail.tele.dk (90)

Offering three(3) Steyr SSG magazines, .308 caliber. Please call Mike at (207)722-4867 or email at outbackgunshop@earthlink.net (93)

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The Editors welcome manuscripts, photographs, and artwork addressing technical descriptions of Mannlicher, Steyr & related Continental Arms, production data, ballistics, and experiences afield. Submissions will be handled with care, but their safety cannot be guaranteed. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if return of a submission is desired. Ballistic data reflects unique conditions; so neither the M.C.A. nor the author(s) accept any liability for applications of the data.

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Library of Congress: ISSN 0883-6949 C2004, Printed in U.S.A.

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The Mannlicher Collectors Association

P.O. Box 10105, College Station, Texas 77842

Name _____

(Last) (First) (Middle)

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Membership in other Arms Collectors Associations: _____

Special Collecting interests: _____

National Rifle Association Membership:

Number _____ Category _____

NRA annual membership dues (optional) \$35.00 _____

MCA DUES ENCLOSED:

American Annual Membership

\$25.00* _____

Overseas Annual Membership

\$34.00* _____

Life Membership \$500.00 _____

Conditional Life Membership **

\$100.00 x 5 years \$100.00 _____

Amount Enclosed US\$ _____

* New Members receive all mailings for the year of their enrollment.

Annual dues are for the calendar year and are not adjusted *pro rata*.

** According to terms specified in the official Membership Prospectus.

Applications using this form downloaded from the internet, along with a check for dues made payable to the MCA, must be sent to the MCA member sponsor, who must sign the application and then forward it and the dues to The Mannlicher Collectors Association.— or — Mail this application signed by an MCA member sponsor along with a check for dues made payable to the order of the Mannlicher Collectors Association directly to:

Mannlicher Collectors Association

P. O. Box 10105, College Station, Texas 77842

By submitting this application, the applicant certifies "I certify that I am not, nor have I ever been, a member of any organization or group advocating the overthrow by force or violence of the Government of the United States or any of its political subdivisions; that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence or a felony; and that, if admitted to membership, I will fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship and that I will support the purposes of the Mannlicher Collectors Association.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date of Application _____

M.C.A. Member Sponsor's Signature : _____