

AUTO MAG

AUTOMATIC MAGAZINE

NATIONAL AUTOMATIC PISTOL COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION
BOX 15738 • TOWER GROVE STATION ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63163
VOLUME XXXVIII □ ISSUE 8 NOVEMBER 2005

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS AND OLD FRIENDS

Ermis H. Graham III - Alabama
Timothy B. Putman - Georgia

David J. Menendez, Sr. - Missouri
J. Adam Wright - Tennessee

The new NAPCA member's forum went on line on October 19, 2005. Tom has tested and retested the system and it seems to be functioning fine. HOWEVER, we realize that there may be a glitch here or there, so just be patient until all the bugs are ironed out.

Simply go to the NAPCA web site, hit "Members" and follow the instructions. It is my job to screen persons wanting to participate, which simply means you must be a current member. Once verified, you will be approved and can carry on. If you would like to volunteer as a moderator for any particular section(s), please let us know.

As of this writing, Tom does not have instructions for posting pictures on the site. However, this will probably have been taken care of by the time this issue is mailed.....ENJOY!

169

AUTO MAG is published each month by the National Automatic Pistol Collectors Association: Thompson D. Knox, Sr., President/Editor; Thompson D. Knox, Jr., Secretary; Jeffrey T. Knox, Treasurer; Daniel M. Byrne, John R. Carlson, Donald G. Crews and Ernest J. Lang, Founders. Executive and Editorial address: Post Office Box 15738, Tower Grove Station, St. Louis, Missouri 63163. Manuscripts and art material will be carefully considered, but will be received only with the understanding that the Editor shall not be responsible for loss. Photographs submitted should be black and white, no larger than 8 X 10. Unless return is requested, all photographs become the property of NAPCA. Material must be received by the 20th of the month in order to appear in the next monthly issue. The AUTO MAG will not knowingly insert any text from other than reliable persons. Membership rates: \$50.00 per year for the United States; \$55.00 per year for Canada and Mexico; \$65.00 per year elsewhere. All memberships expire yearly on the 31st of March. Reproduction in any manner, in whole or part, in English or other languages, is prohibited. All rights reserved throughout the world. Reprinting, in whole or part, not permitted except by special authorization. Membership mailing list is not, nor will ever be sold, traded or given to any person and/or organization. First class postage paid at St. Louis, Missouri.

New Findings on German and Basel Police Lugers in the 1916 Commercial Serial Range

by William A. Reupke, Ph.D.

Background

Several years ago Weimar collector Shayne MacMahon reported a German police Luger in the same serial number range (74900 to 76100) as the scarce and unusual Type I Basel police Lugers (Note 1, Ref. 1). The report confirmed what we had previously suspected, namely, that not all Lugers in this serial range went to the Basel police (Note 2). We suggested the designation **1916 Commercial** to denote any Luger in this serial range nearly identical to 1914 Commercial except with original 1916-patented safety sear, regardless of final destination (Refs. 2, 3). Since then additional Lugers in this serial range not destined for Basel have come to light.

Data

Table 1 shows the newly identified Lugers interspersed with known or probable Type 1 Basel police Lugers. All but the commercial Navy are German police variants. Table 2 lists new details about these guns. Table 3 shows those guns along with other German police Lugers originally marked in the commercial style.

Analysis

Table 2 shows that the receivers of Lugers found in the lower half of the 74900-76100 serial range have sharp reentrant corners at the base of the "inclines" indicating manufacture in 1917 or earlier. These observations are based on revisions, dated 1917, to official P. 08 drawings which replaced the sharp corners with 0.5-mm radius fillets (Ref. 12). For low-number Table 2 Lugers like 74976 and 75207 this may mean that the guns themselves were assembled c. 1916-1917, and it would lend additional credence to the new designation **1916 Commercial**.

On the other hand, suspected Basel Lugers like 75389 and 75521 would not have reached the Basel police until 1921 leaving a potential gap of 4-5 years between production and their

use in Basel. The guns well could have been impounded from 1919-1921 owing to export restrictions but still leaving a potential gap of 2-3 years to explain.

Table 3 shows that those Lugers in the 74900 to 76100 serial range which went to the German police fit correctly into a pattern of police Lugers bearing commercial acceptance stamps and with commercial-style serial numbers. Those at the beginning of the table would not have been acquired new because prior to about 1918 ordinary German police did not use Lugers (Ref. 5) while those Lugers near the end of the table probably were acquired new. The Lugers of interest to us here fall in the middle and they will be the subject of the discussion below.

(1) The Basel police report that their Lugers were acquired in 1921 from Germany yet Germany was not permitted to export military-type weapons after the Treaty of Versailles went into effect. Thus in December 1919 the Dutch ordered cal. 9 mm Lugers from Vickers, and in 1922 DWM refused Finland its request for cal. 9 mm Lugers. How the Basel police acquired approximately 400 cal. 9 mm Lugers from Germany in 1921 remains a mystery.

(2) The reverse is also true, that is, not all Basel police Lugers are in the 74900-76100 serial range. In particular those Basel police Lugers obtained by reworking WWI Lugers (Type 2 Basel police Lugers) have letter-suffix serial numbers appropriate to that source.

1916 Commercial Lugers Acquired by Officer Private Purchase

One explanation of the Table 3 pattern is that some of these Lugers were purchased privately by Imperial Army or *Reichswehr* officers, civil servants, or other official personnel, and that some guns were then stamped with the *Reichswehr* property mark '1920' to prevent their being turned in for reward as part of the government's

civilian disarmament program. Upon retirement some of these personnel would join German police units, and many of their weapons would receive safety sear. This sequence of events would explain the features of many of the Table 3 German police Lugers particularly those examples in the 74900 to 76100 serial range. An objection to this explanation is that the official orders to mark *Reichswehr* weapons with the '1920' property stamp specifically provided that privately purchased weapons should not be marked (Ref 9).

One answer to this objection is that most privately purchased weapons indeed were not '1920' marked, but the directives were not always followed exactly. Indeed, it is believed that the work was done in haste (Ref 9). Thus some privately purchased weapons would have been marked in spite of the directive and some not marked, consistent with the '1920' mark found on some but not in all of the Table 3 Lugers.

A small letter 'P' mark - first reported by MacMahon - applied to the unblued frame of nearly all **1916 Commercial** Lugers which have been examined to date (see Table 2) may at first suggest the German word *Privat* to indicate that these weapons were intended for private sale. But this is unlikely since Lugers intended for commercial sale were distinguished from the beginning of production by their distinctive serial number format and distinctive commercial proof marks; consequently there would be no need for an additional mark.

1916 Commercial Lugers Acquired as Imperial Army Test/Acceptance Weapons

Another suggestion is that the low numbered Lugers may have been acquired by the Imperial Army c. 1914 to test the 1916-patented safety sear

design. As official property eventually most or all would have been 1920-marked. Indeed, it was not unusual for the military services to acquire test or acceptance guns from the commercial serial number range (Ref. 10). The 'P'

mark could designate the German word *die Prüfung* which may be translated as 'Test', 'Examination', or 'Inspection', or *die Probe* meaning 'Trial', 'Test', or 'Sample.' Later the test guns could have been routed to German police units where they would receive a sear safety.

On the other hand, we believe that these Lugers were not all made c. 1916. A low-numbered example, 75207, shows the good quality fit and finish which we associate with military P. 08 manufactured by DWM in 1916, and it has the earlier receiver and the normal slide guides on the frame. But a high-numbered example, 75927, has the poor quality fit and finish we associate with military P.08 manufactured c. 1918, and it has the later receiver and defective slide guides on the frame. A new question arises: For what purpose were the later and poorer quality examples manufactured?

1916 Commercial Lugers Acquired as Police Test/Acceptance Guns

If the Imperial Army did not acquire all of these Lugers c. 1916 as test pieces, then, if police testing occurred in the period 1918-1920, when economic conditions in Germany were severe, the use of low quality parts or even rejected parts becomes a possibility.

The P-marking might then mean *Probe* or *Prüfung* as before, or just *Polizei*.

Note, however, that the 1920 property marking common to such guns then must have been police-applied rather than *Reichswehr*-applied. Although police orders parallel to the *Reichswehr* orders to apply the property stamp have not been reported, the police would have equal reason to prevent the clandestine turning in of the guns for reward during the civilian disarmament program. Given the previous acceptance of the Luger by the military and wide experience with the Luger acquired during WWI, the police test and acceptance process did not need to be very extensive.

That some of the subject Lugers could have been intended for police test raises the possibility that if initial police requests for test Lugers in Germany



Figure 1. Detail of Typical 1916 Commercial Luger. 1916 Commercial model is identical to 1914 Commercial model, to include horizontally-oriented Crown Nitro proof on left side of receiver and matched, factory-numbered cal. 9 mm proofed barrel, but differs in having 1916-patented sear bar and letter 'P' on underside of frame near take-down lever.

Serial Number	Caliber (mm)	Barrel Length (mm)	Property Mark	Comments
74976	9	100	1920	Eagle/33 barrel no. 3, sear safety, Ref. 4
74985	9	100		'1923 Commercial'. R. Shattuck, List #177, 1978
74997	n/a	n/a	n/a	Police mag only, similar to mag of 75690, Ref. 6
75115	9	150		Navy. Barrel unnumbered. R. Shattuck, List #237, 1999
75207	9	100	1920	Unit marks partially removed, no sear safety, Ref. 4
75389	9	100		Swiss provenance.
75441	9	100		W. Glaser, Zurich. G. Glover, Auto Mag 13 (4) 1980
75445	9	100		W. Glaser, Zurich. As above.
75504	9	100		M. Morris, private communication, 1996
75521	9	100		Swiss provenance
75690	9	100	1920	Complete rig, sear safety, Ref. 1
75704	9	100		W. Glaser, Zurich. As above.
75902	9	100		W. Glaser, Zurich. As above.
75909	9	100		W. Glaser, Zurich. As above.
75927	9	100		Swiss provenance
75941	9	100		J. Marrs, private communication, 1997
76028	9	100		Swiss provenance. S. MacMahon, Auto Mag 13 (1) 1980
76049	9	100		W. Glaser, Zurich. As above.
76071	9	100		K. Cumberland, MAX Show, Pittsburgh, September 2002

Table 1. German Police Lugers in Type I Basel Police Serial Range

List of German police Lugers amongst known or suspected Type 1 Basel police Lugers continues to grow. Although our sample is small it is of more than passing interest that the German police Lugers tend to populate the lower end of the serial range. Excess production of German police test Lugers might have been sold to the Basel police.

Increase the Value of your Antique Firearms.

Discover what thousands of Collectors and Investors have.

Old West Snake Oil conditions the wood and protects the metal.

Ordering is easy and secure. Go to www.oldwestsnakeoil.com and save \$2 on shipping. Normally \$3.95 now only \$1.95! One bottle delivered to your door for only \$1.95.

Cherry's

WANTS TO BUY YOUR FIREARMS

Cherry's, one of America's leading dealers in modern and antique collectible and rare guns, is looking for good quality firearms. We're seeking complete collections, estates or even single pieces. We also accept consignments.

336-854-4182

M-F 8am to 5pm • 24 Hr. Fax 910-854-4184 • P.O. Box 5307
3402-A W. Wendover Ave • Greensboro, NC 27435-0307

Ask for Your FREE Copy of "Cherry's Sporting Good News"

ArmchairGunShow.com

Collector guns for sale website

Old Town Station, Ltd.
mail order catalog subscript. \$35
POB 14040, Lenexa KS 66285
913-492-3000 Jim Supica, Pres.

also, check our new online gun auction

ArmsBid.com

fell short of expectations thus resulting in overproduction then DWM or German police suppliers might have approached a foreign police department - specifically the Basel police - to dispose of the surplus.

Conclusions

The lowest number Lugers studied here, with sharp corners at the base of the receiver inclines, if assembled at about the same time as the receivers were made, likely were produced c. 1916-1917. This conclusion lends credence to the new designation **1916 Commercial**.

The 1920 property-marked German police Lugers interspersed in the Type I Basel police Luger serial number range are: (1) part of a pattern of German police Lugers which started out as ordinary, commercially numbered and proofed guns but ended up being used in police units via retiring German military officers, civil servants, or other official personnel who had purchased them privately; or (2) were acquired by the Imperial Army c. 1916 as test or acceptance pieces and

subsequently routed to German police units; or (3) were acquired directly by the German police c. 1918-1920 for testing. Conceivably these Lugers could have arrived in German police units through more than one of these channels.

All but one of the Lugers examined in this study bear a small letter 'P' mark applied to the underside of the frame before blueing. The exact significance of this mark is unknown but *Privat*, *Probe* or *Prüfung*, or *Polizei* are possibilities consistent with items 1, 2, or 3 above, respectively. Unravelling the



Figure 2. Side view of typical 1916 Commercial Luger. Unusual combination of horizontally-oriented Crown Nitro proof on left side of receiver and 1916 patent safety sear configuration distinguish this model from 1914 Commercial (1908 safety sear configuration) and post-World War I model (vertically-oriented Crown Nitro proof).

Serial No.	Observer	Type	Property Mark	Sear Safety	Receiver Radius at Incline		Underside Frame Near Takedown		Slide Guides Back Frame		Frame Well	
					-1917	1917-	Unmarked	P-marked	Normal	Defective	Normal	X-marked
74976	V. Skirmants	G	1920	●	■		●	●	●	●		
75115	R. Shattuck	n/a			n/a	n/a		●	●	●		
75207	V. Skirmants	G	1920		■		●	●	●	●		
75389	Author	B			●		●	●	●	●		
75521	Author	B			●		●		●		●	
75690	S. MacMahon	G	1920	●	n/a	n/a	●	●	●	●	●	
75927	Author	B				●	●	●	●	●		●
75941	J. Marrs	n/a				●	●	●	●	●	●	
76028	S. MacMahon	B			n/a	n/a	●	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
76071	Author	n/a			●		●	●	●	●	●	

G = German police, B = Basel police (assigned on basis of provenance)

n/a = Data not available

■ Undercuts complicate the identification of receiver type. Identification by author.

Table 2. Noteworthy Features of some Lugers in the 74900-76100 Serial Range

Note the use of 1917 and earlier receivers in the lower-numbered guns suggesting manufacture c. 1916-1917. Note also the tendency of defective frames to concentrate in the upper half of the serial range. Possible explanations of the unusual letter 'P' mark on the underside of the frame near takedown lever are discussed in text. Complete validation of trends shown here would require a larger sample.

Diagrams adapted from *World of Lugers Proof Marks*, 1977, Sam Costanzo.

exact significance of this marking would almost certainly shed additional light on these scarce and unusual Lugers.

References

1. S. MacMahon, *Auto Mag*, Vol. 27, No. 1 (April 1994) p. 7
2. W.A. Reupke, Evidence for the 1916 Commercial P.08 Luger, *Auto Mag*, Vol. 27, No. 3, (June 1994), pp. 50-53
3. W. A. Reupke, New Perspectives on WWI and Weimar Era Commercial Luger Production, *The Gun Report*, Vol. 43, No. 4 (September 1997) p. 12
4. V. Skirmants, *Auto Mag*, Vol. 30, No. 12 (March 1998) p. 277; Private Communication, 2000
5. J. Goertz to R. Kornmayer, Private Communication, 2000. Courtesy R. Kornmayer
6. M. Morris, Private Communication, 1996-1997
7. J. Still, *Weimar and Early Nazi Lugers* (Privately published, 1993)

8. W. Allman, Ohio Gun Collectors Association meeting, November, 1991
9. J. Goertz and D.L. Bryans, *German Small Arms Markings from Authentic Sources*, (Privately published, 1997) pp. 60-63
10. C. Kenyon, *Lugers at Random* (Handgun Press, 1969) p. 158
11. G. Henrotin, *La Connaissance du Luger* (H & L Editions, 1996)
12. J. Goertz, ed., *Tables of Dimensions of the Luger Pistol Mod. 08* (1981). Courtesy R. Kornmayer. ©

YOUR AD COULD GO HERE

1-TIME RATE: \$121⁴¹

6-TIME RATE: \$100¹¹

12-TIME RATE: \$80⁰⁴

Toggle	Serial Number	Number Style	Factory Date	Property Mark	Proofs	Sear Safety	Magazine Safety	Unit Marks	Comments	Reference
DWM	40266	Mixed	None	1920	BUG	Yes	No	-----	Matched mag. Police E/D stamp.	J.Still, p.114
DWM	42423	n/a	None	n/a	BUG	Yes	n/a	n/a	Eagle 2 marked	R.Shattuck, #177
DWM	52023	n/a	None	n/a	BUG	Yes	n/a	n/a	35, TP marked. Holster, 2 matching mags.	R.Shattuck, #171
DWM	52583	n/a	None	n/a	BUG	Yes	n/a	n/a	Matched mag.	R.Shattuck, #183
DWM	52828	n/a	None	n/a	BUG	Yes	n/a	n/a		R.Shattuck, #173
DWM	568XX	n/a	None	1920	Horiz.Nitro	Yes	n/a	n/a	Refinished	K.Kontos, Winter 2000
DWM	69107	n/a	None	n/a	n/a	Yes	n/a	n/a	Matching Haenel stainless mag.	R.Shattuck, #184
DWM	71812	Comm	None	None	Horiz.Nitro	Yes	Yes	n/a	Also Imperial proofed	J.Still, p.234
DWM	72261	Mixed	None	1920	Horiz.Nitro	Yes	Yes	1852	Circle S left receiver.	G. Henrotin, p. 110
DWM	74188	Comm	None	None	Horiz.Nitro	Yes	Yes	n/a	Complete rig.	J. Still, p.235
DWM	74976	Mixed	None	1920	Vert.Nitro	Yes	Yes	-----	Eagle/33 barrel numbered 3	V.Skirmants, Ref.4
DWM	74997	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Numbered police mag only, similar to 75690	M.Morris, Ref. 6
DWM	75207	Mixed	None	1920	Horiz.Nitro	No	No	S. ---	H2a JL 20 marked rt. receiver	V.Skirmants, Ref. 4
DWM	75690	Mixed	None	1920	Horiz.Nitro	Yes	No	648	Circle S left receiver. Complete rig.	S.MacMahon, Ref. 1
DWM	87144	Mixed	1921	None	Horiz.Nitro	Yes	Yes	-----	Matching barrel with Nitro proof	W.Allman, Ref. 8
DWM	6169m	Mixed	None	1920	Vert.Nitro	Yes	No	n/a	Matched police mag	J.Still, p.117
DWM	5749q	Comm	None	None	Vert.Nitro	Yes	No	S.D.III.43	C/G barrel proof	J.Still, p.138
DWM	7777q	Comm	None	None	Vert.Nitro	Yes	Yes	n/a	C/G left receiver. Complete rig.	J.Still, p.136
DWM	4962r	Mixed	None	None	Vert.Nitro	Yes	Yes	-----	Complete rig. S.B.2415 marked holster.	J.Still, p.133
DWM	6808r	Mixed	None	None	Vert.Nitro	No	No	S.Sta.I.372		J.Still,Third Reich,p.208
DWM	8920r	Mixed	None	1920	Vert.Nitro	Yes	No	n/a	Converted Broomhandle holster. P.B. 130 marked	J.Still, p.118
DWM	2349s	Mixed	None	1920	Vert.Nitro	Yes	No	-----	Two matched wood bottom mags.	J.Still, p.146
Blank	2437t	Comm	None	None	Vert.Nitro	Yes	Yes	L.Ka.309	EWaA66 acceptance. Complete rig.	J.Still, p.145
DWM	1138v	Comm	None	None	Crown U	Yes	No	n/a	Complete rig. 1934-dated Sunburst K holster.	J. Still, p.289
DWM	1167v	Comm	None	None	Crown U	Yes	No	n/a		J.Still,Third Reich,p.228

n/a = Data not available ----- = Unit marks removed or never had unit marks

Table 3. Some German Police Lugers in Commercial Serial Range with Commercial Acceptance Marks

Lugers shown in table fall into three groups. Those at the beginning likely were first acquired privately by Imperial Army officers, were sometimes given the 1920 property stamp when officers joined the Reichswehr, and acquired a sear safety when retiring officers joined police units. Those at the end of the table likely were acquired new directly by police units. Lugers in between these groups are transitional in nature and could have been acquired privately by Imperial Army or Reichswehr officers, acquired by the Imperial Army as new-type sear test guns, or acquired directly by police units as test guns c. 1918 or 1919.

KNIGHT'S CROSS HOLDER

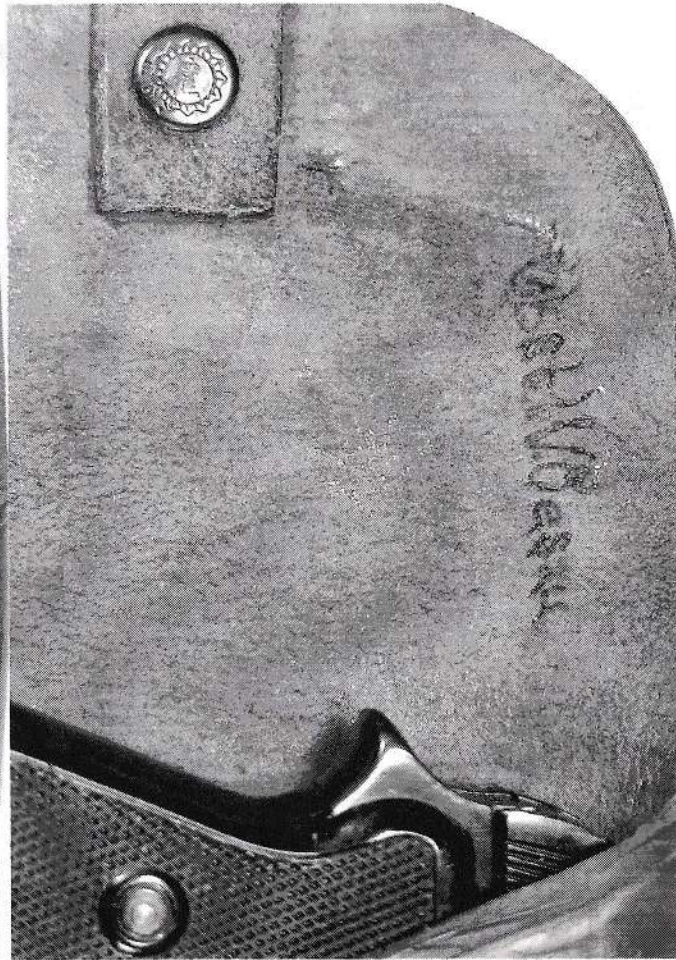
I am submitting what I consider a unique piece of World War Two history that was chanced upon, in different pieces, and at different times, that ended up in my possession for some number of years before I discovered just what I had. Having traded for the CZ36 holster, I knew that a name was inscribed on the inside flap but of no importance to me at the time. Later on, I received the CZ36 pistol and placed them together as any good collector would be expected to do. Some number of years later, I took it upon myself to inquire about this person and was expecting to find some information seeing that his rank was Oberst [Colonel] in the German Armed Forces. Interesting, in that the name "W. Oesau" was placed in the holster at a different time as the "Obst." was by the use of a different color / shade of pen. [see attached sheet]

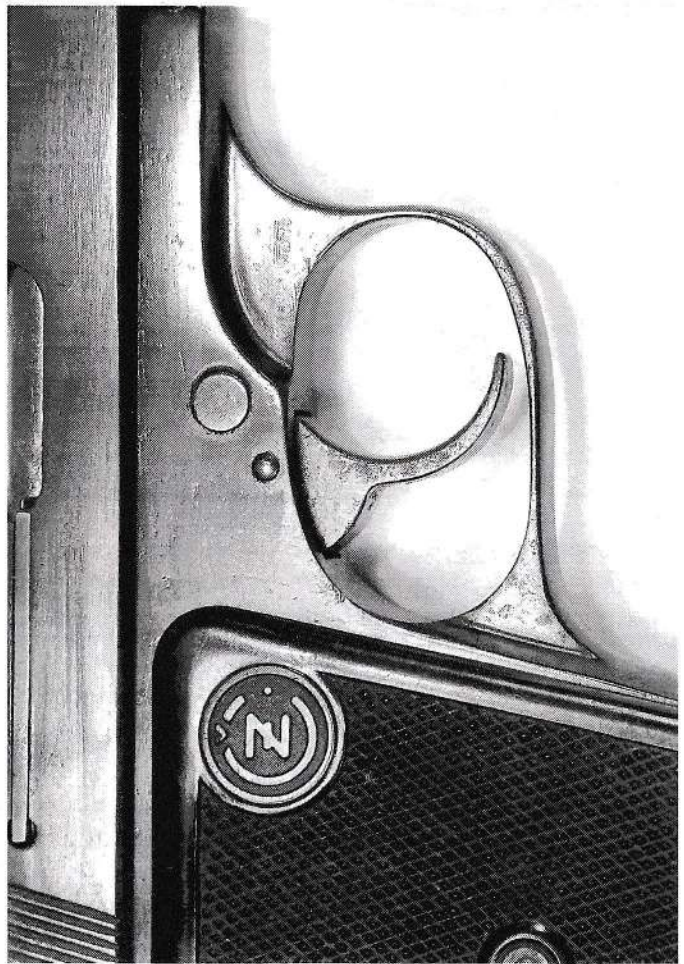
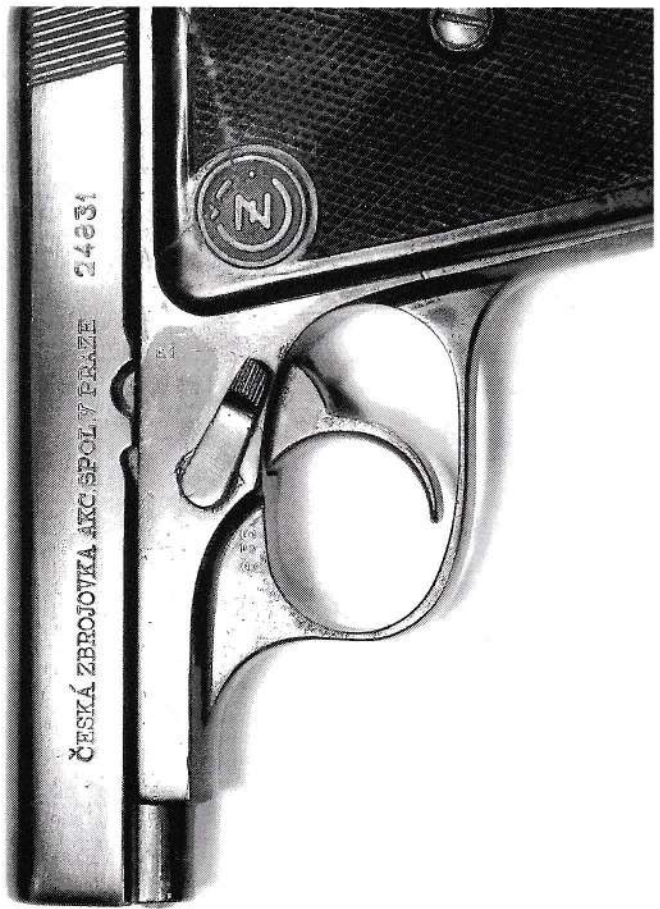
To my surprise, I found that Obst.W.Oesau was in fact, a Luftwaffe Oberst, named Walter Oesau and was a holder of the Knights Cross with Oak Leaves and Swords as listed in the Web Site of "Aces of the Luftwaffe" [see submitted biography] . I looked up the uncommon name of Oesau in the AT&T internet directory services that they provided and found that 84 Oesau's were listed in Germany, with one be listed as Walter Oesau, most likely his son or grandson. In as much as I do not have a command of the German language , I pursued that aspect no farther.

The CZ36 pistol [see attached sheet] was acquired from a law enforcement officer, who either had it as a throw-away or a second pistol in case of an emergency, in any case, I did not ask. I have since discovered that a great number of these double action 6.35mm's are a favorite of law enforcement forces here in the States. Whomever had the pistol previously had it re-blued at one time so some of its value has been reduced. However, this is not what made me decide to acquire this piece, as it is also waffenamt proofed with a straight-line waffenamt of WaA76 on the right trigger guard. A military test proof is also found on the exposed chamber face. Exactly like what one will find with the very first waffenamted P.Mod.27's and so have concluded that this pistol was procured through the Wehrmacht purchasing channels at the very same time as the first P.Mod.27's of early vintage of 1941time frame. Very usual and unique !

The when's and how's are still left without an answer as how did a holster with a service member's name survive and be acquired when he was officially killed when his plane was shot down by P.38's? Did he parachute out and was killed upon landing and was retrieved by an enterprising GI., was this holster retrieved at the plane's crash site, was his holster left at his station's aerodrome instead of on his person, did he have a second service pistol that was used when flying. All of these questions still leaves us without answers but have a start in the matter with the surviving holster ? Much still to be learnt !!!

Your thought's ,comment's, or opinions are welcomed. *JOHN R. JAMES*



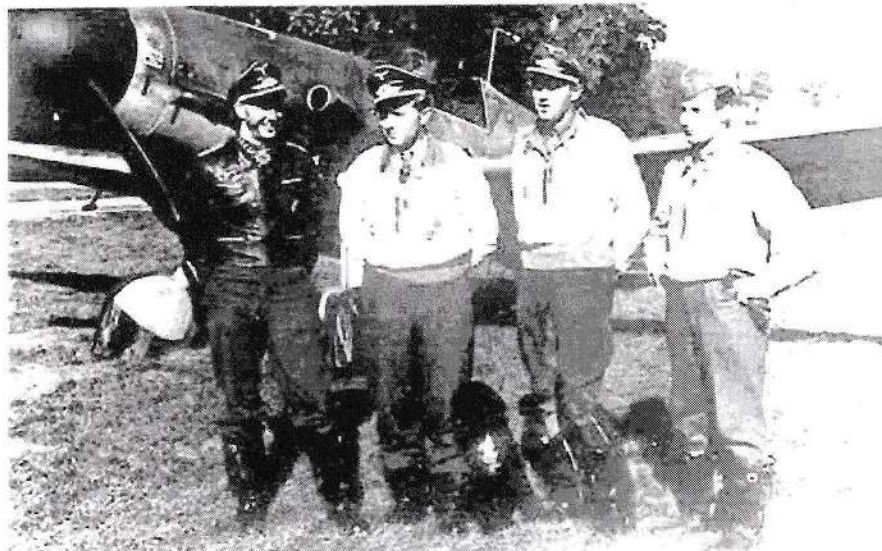


Walter "Gulle" Oesau
Oberst



Walter "Gulle" Oesau was born on 28 June 1913 at Farnewinkel in the Dithmarschen region of Holst. He enlisted in the army in 1933 and served in an artillery regiment. By 1934 he had become a Fahnenjunker and was undertaking flying training with the Deutschen Verkehrsfliegerschule. On completing his flying training he was posted to Jagdgeschwader "Richtofen". Leutnant Oesau was one of the first fighter pilots to join J/88 in Spain in April 1938. Here he served with 3. J/88 and gained nine victories. He became one of only 27 recipients of the Spanienkreuz in Gold mit Brillanten. He was also wounded in this campaign and was awarded the Spanish Wound Badge. On 1 March 1939, Oesau joined the Stabsschwarm of I./JG 2. On 15 July, Oberleutnant Oesau was appointed Staffelkapitän of I./JG 20 which was later redesignated 7./JG 51. Oesau gained his first victory of World War 2 on 13 May 1940. He ended the French campaign with five victories to his credit. On 18 August 1940 he became the fifth Luftwaffe pilot to reach 20 World War 2 victories, bringing him the award of the Ritterkreuz. On 25 August 1940, Hauptmann Oesau was appointed Gruppenkommandeur of III./JG 51. On 11 November 1940, Oesau was appointed Gruppenkommandeur of III./JG 3. He led the Gruppe to the Eastern front where the invasion of Russia was launched. He recorded his 40th victory on 5 February 1941. On 6 February, he was awarded the Eichenlaub (Nr 9). He recorded his 50th victory on 30 June. He claimed five enemy aircraft shot down on 10 July 1941 for his 64th to 68th victories. He recorded his 70th victory on 11 July and his 80th on 17 July. On 15 July his victory tally had reached 80 and he became only the third man to be awarded the Schwertern. At the end of July 1941 he was recalled to the

Western Front to take command of JG 2. He recorded his 100th victory on 26 October, only the third Luftwaffe pilot to reach this landmark. He was forbidden to fly further combat missions, his combat experience and leadership qualities being considered too valuable to risk. A series of staff appointments followed, including being appointed Jagdfliegerführer 4 Brittany.



Stabschwarm and Kommodore JG 2: Oblt. Erich Leie (118 v.), Maj. Walter Oesau, Oblt. Rudi Pflanz (52 v.) and Ofw. Günther Seeger (56 v.)

On 12 November 1943, Oberst Oesau returned to combat when he was appointed Kommodore of JG 1 following the death of Oberst Hans Philipp (206 victories, RK-S). He soon added at least 14 victories against the USAAF formations of B-17 and B-24 four-engined bombers. On 11 May 1944, Oesau, leading three aircraft of the Stabsschwarm, took off from Paderborn to intercept Allied bombers raiding north-eastern Belgium and Luxembourg. During his attack on the bombers he was bounced by escorting P-38s. In the ensuing combat he was shot down and killed in his Bf 109 G-6/AS (W.Nr. 20 601) "Green 13" near St Vith.

"Gulle" Oesau scored 127 victories in over 300 combat missions. 9 victories were scored during the Spanish Civil War, 74 were scored on the Western front including 14 four-engined bombers (one B-17 as engültige Vernichtung) and 44 over the Eastern front.

TO DON MAUS FROM T. MAGROU: Thanks a lot for your amazing studies about Landjagerei and Schutzpolizei markings. I own an interesting police rig - P08 Simson with sear safety, #6818, two sets of strap markings: SB.NoII.1.244 (crossed out) and SB.11835.R. The holster is a shortened LP08 issue with exactly the same two unit markings at the top right of it's back side. Faintly visible on the back is also: J. ANNKE over OW. Stamped inside is: Eduard Geidel / Leipzig / 1917.

Swedish FN Browning HP & 1903/07 Prototypes

Last year Bill Drollinger asked me to look into the High Power ser N° 4116 with distinct "9mm BL" barrel marking. I was a bit skeptical at first as the "BL" (Browning Long) designation was more an English designation. Most often the FN designation for this caliber was just "9 mm". After the introduction of the 1910 in 9mm (.380) FN often designated the caliber as "9mm Browning" but not "9mm Browning Long". The Swedish representative dealt with FN in German and not in English. The German and French designations were alike, so the English language would have been no influence. But after all, FN may have applied the marking in order to clearly differentiate it from the usual 9mmP. marking found on standard High Power production

The High Power ser N° 4116 was shipped from FN on June 10, 1937 to FN's representative and main dealer "Berghaus" in Goteborg, Sweden. It is most interesting as it also features fixed sights - quite understandably as the older 1903/07 Brownings already in Swedish use had fixed sights.

The Swedish were experimenting with unusual pistol / cartridge combinations. At the same time the High Power was put through trials in 9mm Browning Long, the older 1903 was also put through trials in 9x19 Parabellum and the Swedish converted and modified Swedish made 1907 Husqvarnas to fire the 9x19 Parabellum (*Belgian Browning Pistols, page 100*).

Did FN supply this High Power in 9mm Browning Long together with modified 1903 9x19 Parabellum pistols? Information received from Sweden indicates that indeed 1903 pistols in this configuration were ordered from FN. Yet I find it unlikely that FN would have filled the order and made new prototypes for a pistol that did not sell well through its production years. Production on the 1903 Model had ended almost ten years earlier. Maybe this High Power was shipped in its usual 9x19mm caliber and modified in Sweden together with the older 1903/07 models? This leaves much room for speculation. Whatever the facts are, this pistol and the modified 1903/07s are fascinating prototypes. I hope that Bill Drollinger will lend the photograph(s) for the updated, expanded and revised version of *The Belgian Browning Pistols*.

To Greg Koep, re. July 2005 issue of *AutoMag*, from Alex Gherovici:

I do not know if the British Government ordered in Argentina holsters for the Ballester-Molina pistols they acquired from HAFDASA. I have asked this question to my contacts in Argentina but I was not able to obtain additional information in this regard. Based on the fact that the Ballester-Molina pistols were used by the S.O.E. in clandestine operations, I doubt that they were issued with a standard holster. Your inquiry raises a question in regard to the source of ammunition for these pistols. Did the British Government acquired caliber .45 ACP ammunition in Argentina? I know that they ordered caliber .38/200 ammunition from *Cartucheria Orbea Argentina*, and very likely 7.65x54 cartridges, but I have no information in regard to the purchase of caliber .45 ammunition in Argentina. I hope that a fellow NAPCA member can provide information in regard to any of these two subjects.

I also want to thank you for the information about the Ballester-Molina serial number 21226 you have provided. This information was added to my database.

FROM JOHN P. PEARSON: Many years ago I purchased a PPK rig which had come directly from the American G.I. who brought it home. The pistol was an RZM model PPK serial number 834241, but what really got my attention was the holster, which had the Eagle with Swastika imprinted into the top flap. There was a finger extension magazine and an extra flat bottom magazine. The "Party Leader" holster was authentic and in very nice condition. At the time I was of course disappointed that the pistol was not also fitted with the "Party Leader" grip, which would have made it a "Political Leader's pistol" instead of just a nice RZM marked pistol. I reference this rig because in recent years I have come to realize that in fact this pistol was almost certainly a "Political Leader's pistol" even though it lacks the "Party Leader grip". Let me explain what I mean by this comment.

To understand this topic it helps to first go back and read the extensive writeup on Political Leader Model PPK pistols that was written by Joe Wotka as a Supplement to the January 1998 issue of Auto Mag. As Joe explained, the concept of the "Honor Weapon of the Political Leaders" was first introduced in the 1936 NSDAP Organization Book. The pistol illustrated was a PPK model with the standard grip and no special slide markings (no RZM mark was shown or mentioned in this text, but for years many collectors have assumed that this reference was to the RZM model PPK pistol). It was not until the 1938 edition of the NSDAP Organization Book that the "Party Leader" grip was first shown, but no mention in the text of the book was made about this special Eagle and Swastika grip design. From this information most collectors have concluded that this "Party Leader" grip is required for a PPK pistol to be considered as the "Honor Weapon of the Political Leaders". But what about all of those "Political Leaders" who purchased their "Honor Weapon" before the 1938 introduction of the "Party Leader grip"? Were those guns not also by definition an "Honor Weapon of the Political Leaders", and if so how could collectors today be able to identify those pre-1938 Honor Weapons? This is a most interesting question and is one which has basically been ignored by most collectors. I submit to the membership that RZM PPK pistol serial 834241 was indeed almost certainly an Honor Weapon, but it was the variation purchased by a "Political Leader" prior to the introduction of the "Party Leader grip". The fact that this pistol was found in a genuine Akah produced "Party Leader" holster is the only thing that would tie this pistol today to the "Honor Weapon" status, since the pistol is fitted with a standard grip and thus without the holster there is nothing about the pistol to identify it as a "Honor Weapon". But my point here is rather basic, which is that many "Political Leaders" bought their "Honor Weapon" before the "Party Leader grip" was available, and certainly at least some of those "Honor Weapons" never were subsequently fitted with the "Party Leader grip". Keep in mind that the "Party Leader holster" was also apparently not introduced until 1938 and the holster could be privately purchased separate from a pistol. Thus any "Political Leader" who already had his "Honor Weapon" could just choose to purchase the "Party Leader holster" and leave the standard grip on his pistol. After all, when the pistol was within the holster who knew what grip was on the pistol? Actually the most prominent thing about wearing the "Honor Weapon" was the holster on the belt, and that "Party Leader" eagle on the top flap certainly emphasized the point that a "Political Leader" was wearing his "Honor Weapon" regardless of what grip was on his pistol.

Now, to date there has been no evidence to prove that the 1936 and 1937 "Honor Weapons" were the RZM model PPK pistol, and indeed I am of the opinion that any PPK pistol which was owned by a "Political Leader" could serve as his authorized "Honor Weapon". But lets use some common sense here and acknowledge that the RZM marked PPK pistol (which was put into production even

prior to 1936) must have at least partially been intended for use by members of the NSDAP. The RZM control agency had a hand in almost everything that the NSDAP members bought. Just try and find a standard NSDAP Party Pin that is not RZM marked on the back (the only ones lacking this marking were the early version made prior to the institution of the RZM agency). In my past articles on SS purchased and used PPK pistols I provided conclusive evidence that the SS purchased a large batch of RZM marked PPK pistols in the range from 839xxx to 841xxx. So we know for a fact that the SS procured some of the 1936 (found within the serial range from 820xxx to 844xxx) RZM pistol production, but which agency procured the majority of these pistols? I submit that the logical answer to this question is the NSDAP. The fact that the 1936 NSDAP Organization Book does not specifically illustrate or reference the RZM marking on the pistol does not preclude that the RZM marked PPK pistol was in fact the earliest "Honor Weapon" being purchased by the "Political Leaders" who starting in 1936 who were authorized to carry an "Honor Weapon". The problem is that these early "Honor Weapons" can not be identified as such unless they are also fitted with the "Party Leader grip" or at least alternatively were carried in a "Party Leader holster". Now some collectors today will pronounce any 1936 vintage RZM PPK that is also fitted with the "Party Leader grip" as bogus because the grip was not introduced into use until 1938. Again using some common sense, wouldn't a "Party Leader grip" be available in 1938 for a "Political Leader" to install on his 1936 vintage RZM PPK pistol? Were there any restrictions to which gun these "Party Leader grips" could be installed on? To date no official directives have been uncovered concerning the ownership and use of the "Party Leader grip". Let me repeat that again - to my knowledge there is not one word found in contemporary print about the "Party Leader grip" and its use and (any) restrictions. It is almost as if the "Party Leader grip" was an unofficial product rather than the "High Honor" that collectors have bestowed on these "Party Leader grips" today. But let me be very clear here, I am not suggesting that all RZM PPK pistols were "Honor Weapons", I am merely stating that many of them most certainly were purchased as "Honor Weapons" even though they may lack the later introduced "Party Leader grip".

Now lets move on to the topic of those guns which are today found fitted with the "Party Leader grips" - does this automatically make such a PPK pistol an "Honor Weapon". In my opinion absolutely not! Let me explain.

From surviving examples of late war PPK pistols, we know for certain that quantities of the "Party Leader grip" were still in the Walther factory at the end of the War. In April and May 1945 American soldiers took control of the Walther factory and at that time they assembled some late war PPK pistols from available parts found within the factory. Many of these pistols still survive today fitted with either brown or black "Party Leader grips". Listed here is just a sample of such guns, all being PPK pistols fitted with the "Party Leader grip": 429000K, 429800K, 429820K, 430756K, 430757K, 430764K, 430886K, 430907K, 430952K, 430964K, 431016K and 431056K. Some of these guns are in caliber .22 and the others are in .32 caliber. Many of these guns were never proofed and most were assembled using mixtures of finished and unfinished parts. I personally own one of these end of the War "G.I. assembled" PPK pistols which has no proofs, no finish on the slide or frame, no slide legend and NO serial number on the slide or frame. But it is fitted with a genuine black "Party Leader grip" and I am certain that it was assembled by a G.I. at the Walther factory using all of these parts, including the grip. Can you imagine how the G.I.s must have fought over these leftover "Party Leader" grips!

These guns are absolute proof that there was a supply of "Party Leader grips" within the Walther factory at the end of the War. Does anyone believe that even one of the guns I have just identified is in fact an NSDAP "Honor Weapon"? Not a chance - but they do carry genuine "Honor Weapon" grips. So what do we call these end of the war guns with the "Party Leader grips"? I know one thing, when the values reach the right point (as they well might already have done in our crazy collector marketplace), each of these guns is a good candidate to have its "Party Leader grip" removed and placed onto a more "appropriate" PPK pistol. Let me pick an example here to focus on what I am saying. PPK pistol 430756K is a caliber .22 pistol lacking proofs but fitted today with a brown "Party Leader grip". If the owner removes that grip and installs it on PPK number 200xxxK, that gun will instantaneously become a "genuine" "Honor Weapon". And who will ever know that this grip was switched to create a new "Honor Weapon"? I hope you get the idea here, that "Honor Weapons" are being created all the time by collectors and there is no way to distinguish them from the "real ones" carried by Political Leaders before 1945.

Oh, and by the way, very credible reports have been heard for years that at least one gun shop back in the 1950s offered for sale a barrel full of genuine "Party Leader grips" that apparently had been imported from Germany after the War. Where do you think those grips are today - hanging on a nail in someone's garage or nicely fitted to a PPK pistol that is proudly displayed by a collector as an "Honor Weapon of the NSDAP"?

And then of course there is the other problem, which is that over the years many "Party Leader grips" have been switched from one gun (maybe a "real" "Honor Weapon" in every sense of the word) to another PPK pistol because maybe the original gun had a poor finish and the "Party Leader grip" would look better on lets say a 98% PPK pistol. Or maybe as a result of advice from "experts" a "Party Leader grip" was switched to another PPK because the original gun was not "in the correct serial number range". (For years we have all heard that someday "they" will find a list of exact serial numbers of all of the "genuine" "Honor Weapons" - until then it is best to at least have "Party Leader grips" on a PPK that is in an "acceptable" serial number range). And so it goes, on and on.

Lets all be honest here and admit that probably most of the "Honor Weapon" PPK pistols we see today did not start out with that "Party Leader grip" - it has been fitted to the gun by some collector rather than by an actual "Political Leader" back in the 1930s. Thus probably over half the "Honor Weapons" in collections today are not really genuine "Honor Weapons" at all but rather just a PPK pistol that has had the "Party Leader grip" added to the gun. And in truth many of the "Honor Weapons" that existed in 1940 probably did not even include the "Party Leader grip" but rather were carried by an actual "Political Leader" with the standard PPK grip fitted to their pistol. We will never know about those "Honor Weapons" since they lack any way to identify them today, but make no mistake about it, those were genuine "Honor Weapons" as defined by the NSDAP starting in 1936.

So the next time that you hold a "Political Leader" model PPK pistol in your hand, don't get too emotional about it. Chances are it is nothing more than a PPK pistol on which a collector has added the "Party Leader grip". But a genuine "Political Leader holster" on the other hand is always the real deal and is without question an authentic historical artifact. Maybe the current price of a "Party Leader Grip" should instead apply to the "Political Leader Holster"! Comments from the membership are encouraged.

TO: Marc Mandro

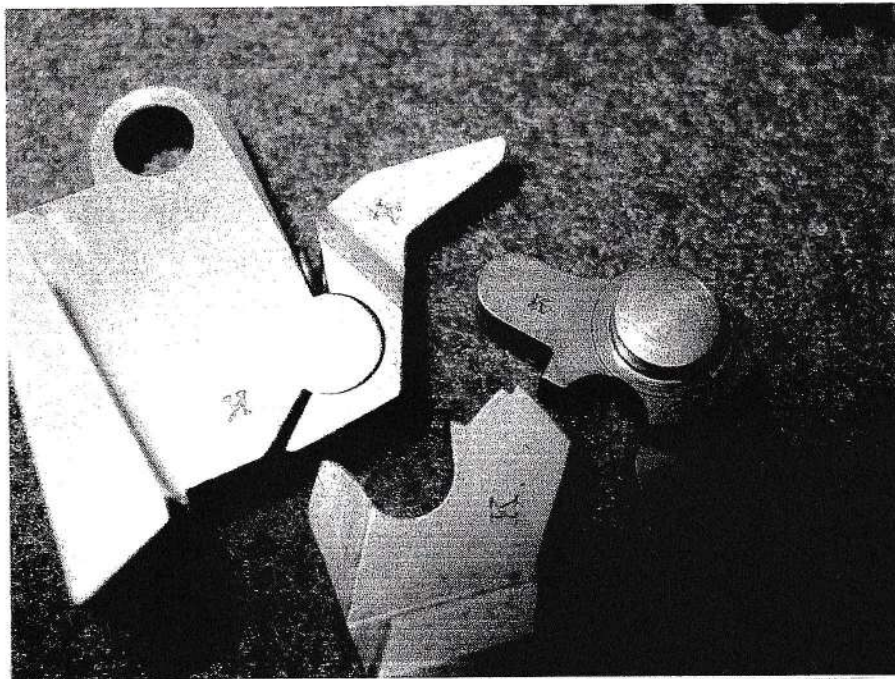
FROM: Dean Gizzi

RE: Roth Steyr Disconnecter

Hey Marc, you were right. I took my Roth Steyr apart and checked the reverse side of the disconnecter and sure enough, it had the Steyr "K" marking.

The part has more straw coloring and the "K" is much smaller than the same marking on the other parts. I still think it may be a replacement. Just for info, I was just looking through "*PISTOLS OF THE WORLD 4th Edition*", by Hogg/Walter and they state that the modification to the firing train that is a visible pin on the right side of the frame took place in 1909 after about 7000 pistols were made (Page 241).

Thanks for the info Marc.



TO JUERG SIEGENTHALER FROM TOM KNOX: Thanks for the info on your Unique M10 with LEPCO legend. I have two of these in my collection. One is marked exactly like yours, but has a serial on the right rear frame tang (318208). Internal assembly number is 353. The second one has the same legend, except 'LONDON' is absent. It also has a serial number, but on the upper left trigger guard web: 2362 over 4. For some odd reason I cannot take it apart, so I can't offer you the assembly number. Apparently Unique would make these guns for whatever company wanted them - this practice continued into the post-war years as you will find Uniques with the Ranger (Montgomery Ward) and J. C. Higgins (Sears) legends. I also have examples marked PRIMA (no external serial), VINDEX (no external serial), FABRICATION FRANCAISE (no external serial) and AUDUX (serial #10160). I know there are several others, just haven't found them as yet. Apparently one could also order the M17 with specialty markings as I recently got a DEMON. According to Jean Huon, these were made for Louis Dieu of Paris. Let me know what other oddball Uniques are out there.

* TO DAVE SMITH: To think, I had a Portuguese in my hands, and let it slip away! At least I now know that some were delivered to Portugal.

From: Charles Wagner to the membership

Oval Port High-Power - Serial No. 2©

By Charles Wagner

The High-Power has gone through many changes over the years. Some changes were internal while others were external. Some examples of external changes are the removal of the thumbprint, the exterior extractor, the ejection port configuration, the spur hammer, and the bushing area at the muzzle of the pistol.



The designation of the pistol as the "High-Power" started in 1935. This was the year in which it was accepted by the Belgian government for its military. This earned it the designation of Model 1935 as well as the High-Power name. One of the results of this acceptance by the Belgian

government was the change in shape of the ejection port.

It should be noted though that the High-Power actually dates from 1933 although it was called the "High-Efficiency" at that point in time. The Belgian government ordered 1000 High-Powers (then High-Efficiency) in 1933 and applied an "H" in a circle mark to indicate acceptance by the Belgian military.¹ (This order was in addition to the few Oval Port High-Powers [then High-Efficiency] being sold on the commercial market.) The original design of the ejection port of the High-Power (then High-Efficiency) in 1933 was "Oval" in shape.



The normal military markings on a High-Power (or the High-Efficiency) accepted by the Belgian military consisted of three markings. The first acceptance markings were:

¹ Belgian Browning Pistols, Vanderlinden, p. 168

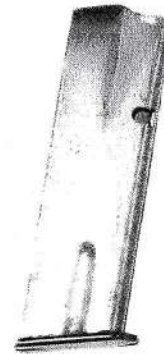
an "H" in a circle, the EGB oval, and the single Crown over PH. (These markings changed over the years. The "H" in a circle became a "C" in a square. The Crown over PH became an A over ME, Crown over AC, or Crown over GC.)



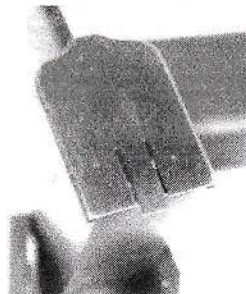
Serial No. 2 shows the early "H" in a circle, applied indicating acceptance by the military. (This is the "H" in a circle in front of the slide release/take down lever. Notice that it is different in size from the other later "H" in a circle on the slide and frame in the rear of the

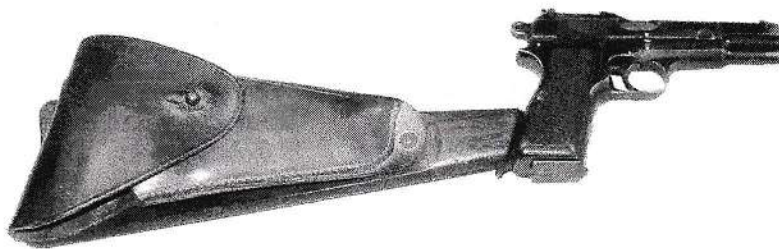
slide release/takedown lever and on the trigger.)

Subsequently, Serial No. 2 received all of the regular Belgian military acceptance markings, ie: an "H" in a circle, the EGB oval, and the single Crown over PH. Considering its serial number, it was one of the pieces tested by the Belgian military, and afterwards was used as a standard Belgian military pistol.



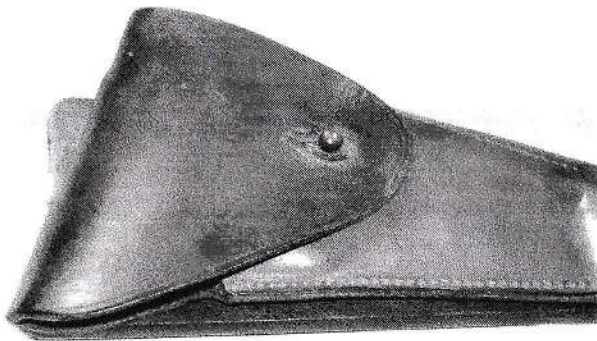
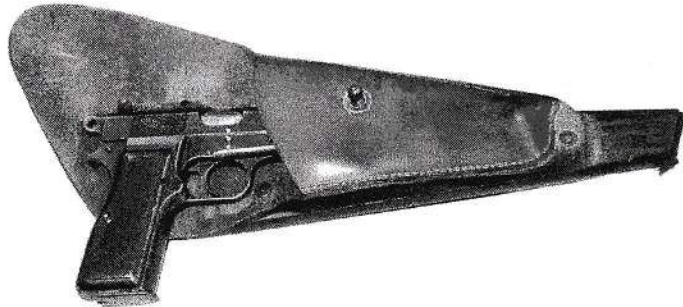
The magazine with Serial Number 2 is (what is called) in the white. The very early magazines were without any finish on the magazine tube. (The base was blued though.) Subsequently, the magazine tubes were phosphated so as to protect the magazines from the elements and prolong their useful life. Very few of these "in the white" magazines have survived to the present day.





We are familiar with the later Belgian holster shoulder stocks where the closure was by a tab through a rectangular ring. The shoulder stock holster attached to Serial

No. 2 is a very early holster shoulder stock.² This was replaced by the shoulder stock holster configuration with which we are familiar today.



As you will note, this closure system (brass button) is similar to that used on the holsters for the Colt 1911 autos and Colt military revolvers. It is believed that the change from the Colt type closure system to the system with we are familiar was because the latter was a more secure system for retaining the pistol.

There are many pictures of this type of holster shoulder stock in the reference books. This creates the impression that many of these holster shoulder stocks exist. But very, very few of this type of holster shoulder stocks are known and they are almost as rare as Serial No. 2.

This is the earliest known general production (then High-Efficiency), with a very early magazine and a very early shoulder stock holster.

² This type of holster (as seen on the stock) is also pictured in "The Browning Hi-Power" by Blake Stevens, p. 65 and "Belgian Browning Pistols" by Anthony Vanderlinden, p. 185.

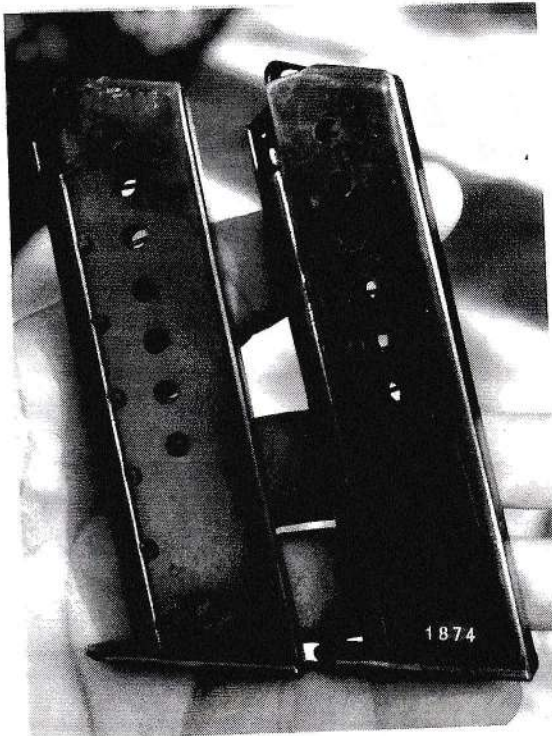
TO JIM CATE AND NICO VAN GIJN FROM DWIGHT GRUBER: A recent discussion reminded me of your Werkstatt Klett thesis of the origin of KI marked Lugers, and a question occurred to me. It seems odd that Lugers reworked by a workshop subsidiary to Simson would have their own identifying mark on the pistol, rather than Simson's. From your understanding of the structure of the arms manufacturing companies of the time, is it possible for such a subsidiary workshop to retain sufficient independence to take on a small rework program/business independent of the Simson "parent company"? The discussion extended to wondering whether or not a similar practice might explain the Kü circle-S Luger markings.

PRAGUE, MIDNIGHT, MAY 8, 1945:

FIRST AMERICAN SOLDIERS ARRIVE IN PRAGUE TO ACCEPT THE SURRENDER OF THE GERMAN ARMY, BUT SEVERAL HOURS LATER, GENERAL EISENHOWER WITHDREW THEM SO THAT PRAGUE COULD BE LIBERATED BY THE RED ARMY.



From Ken Nichols to the membership. P.38 Swedish contract pieces (M39) are relatively unknown to most collectors. These early pistols reflect superb quality and workmanship. Few were produced, some 1,000 pieces, in early 1940. Each serial number is "H" prefixed (H1060 – H2065). The Second variation of the M39, some estimated 470 pieces, have manufacturing modifications and improvements, and do not have the "H" prefix. Unusual features of the first variation include (1) checkered takedown lever (2) rectangular firing pin head, (3) checkered plastic grips with round lanyard ring cutout (4) thick safety lever and thin rear sights and (5) serial number of gun stamped on the underside flat of the slide, at rear under the sights. (see photo). All of the magazines are numbered to the gun, located on the left side, near the base. No proofs on the magazine spine. Note that each magazine is pressure folded and crimped, unlike later production magazines which have a series of "punch" marks along the forward seam. Also, these early magazines have flat base plates, without the small cutout at the edge. (see photo) These magazines are very difficult to find these days. I do have several in my collection for those folks who have the following guns: (1091 / 1713 / 1772 / 1812 / 1844 / and 2004) HOLSTERS. I am not sure, but probably these guns were issued with a nice brown leather hardshell holster, police styled, with the leather keeper pointing upward. Some are marked with three Swedish crowns, top of the flap, next to the stud. Others may be totally unmarked or may have a company or regiment designation. When found, most of these holsters are very clean and totally absent of any manufacturer's code or proof. The six holsters I own are all in nearly mint condition, since we know that none of these pistols saw combat. Additionally, these rigs probably carried a Browning type cleaning rod within the holster.





TO MEMBERSHIP FROM DON MAUS - UPDATE ON LANDJÄGEREI UNIT MARKS:

I want to thank all NAPCA members who have sent me additional data on these marks. As of October 1, I have added 21 marks to my table. Most of these fall within the expected ranges of weapon numbers but three change some of the conclusions:

* **L.P.30.** on a 1929 P.08 - This provides a number in the apparent "gap" of numbers from 1 to 200 from Potsdam. I now think these gaps are statistical artifacts.

* **L.A.402** on a police bayonet - This extends the range of recorded numbers from Aurich by another 100, bringing their apparent arsenal to four times their manning level!

* **L.T.129.** on a 1918-dated DWM P.08 - Trier lives!!! This is the first such mark I have seen.

FOR SALE / TRADE

- 1) Rarest P-38 Ever made come on the market. Why? 1) it's the first "MOD-P38", 2) its the only authentic factory short barrel (proofed at factory), 3) its and early factory marked "7.65 cal", 4) Its the early proto-type range with "1029" serial acid etched on left receiver, 5) it has the Walther prototype signature acid etched "Pivat" on right receiver....shall I continue? Other fascinating early features...Totally original Walther high polish blue - with some discoloration and blemishes. Documented in up-coming books. Get it while its still affordable - after book comes out price will double..\$ 12,000. This is one of the first prototype commercial HP/Mod -P38.
- 2) Early Rare 1st Variation O-Series, concealed extractor. Stunning 98% condition with mirror bore and perfect grips and minty grip straps. cannot be improved as a rare 1st Var. \$10,000.
- 3) Early 60s high polish P=38s. Both buck mint. One with brown box, Target and Label, all #ed to gun - \$1100. Other roll died, mint in leatherette Walther case with purple velvet...stunning , perfect polish..can't be improved..\$999.
- 4) Stunning Luger rig.Condition CANNOT be improved. Rarest Nazi combination - holy grail BYF 41/42, TWO Matched MAG RIG. Top condition stunning Brown Leather 1941 Holster (value \$700 alone). Magazines are minty and the gun is flat minty. Mirror bore, mint checkered walnut - all the rare 41/42 features (less that 7K made most lost in east). Belongs in a Book. Great serial number. Never again seen in this condition. \$6700
- 5) Minty First Issue Swiss Luger Holster for 1900 Swiss Luger. Stunning dark brown leather in EXC +++++ condition, \$1200 - or call for trade..
- 6) Original "GL" signed Luger Swiss Patent Drawings for Swiss Luger. Sent to BERN Switzerland Patent office in early 1900's. Nothing fake about these original blue prints. Perhaps only tow complete copies in the world - one in Switzerland, one in Germany..Displayed at the KC July show. 22 Separate complete set of separate blue prints in Bound book with patent office stickers. Reduced to \$12,000, Lots more if you can track me down in Germany. Mark Rendina. Call 816-941-2275 in USA. Germany 011 49 162 746 9191.

Sauer Model 38-H, 318939, high polished, military accepted, 95% pistol with two small "chigger bites" on the slide; excellent elsewhere, excellent grips, correct original mag, in black unmarked holster. No extra mag. \$600 plus S&H. Need signed copy of your C&R License. JIM CATE, 406 Pine Bluff Dr., Chattanooga, TN. 37412. (423-892-6320)

NAPCA members only; limit 2 books per member. J.P. SAUER & SOHN, SUHL - WAFFENSTADT, Vol. II. 438 pages of info, factory records, serial number ranges, photos, etc. about the production of SAUER PISTOLS before 1946. \$50 each, shipping included anywhere in the U.S. before Christmas! Money orders or personal checks are OK! JIM CATE, 406 Pine Bluff Dr., Chattanooga, TN. 37412 (jjnrcate@att.net)

AXIS PISTOLS, THIRD REICH LUGERS, AND WEIMAR LUGERS

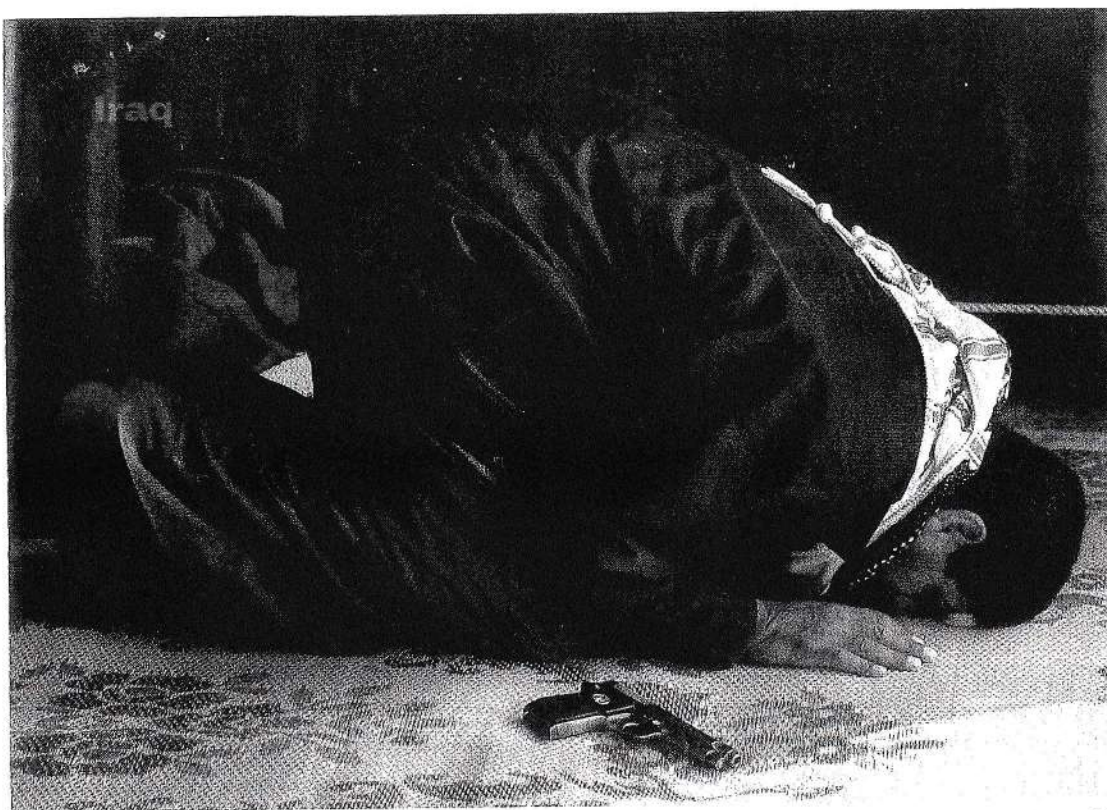
Jan Still's classic masterpieces are again available. Each is \$69 plus \$10 postage = \$79 total per book. Foreign orders add an additional \$10 postage per book. Available only from Jan C. Still. Send check or money order to: Jan C. Still, Box 240188, Douglas, Alaska, 99824. E-Mail at: jcstill@ak.net; Web site at: www.stillsbooks.com;

The 2006 calendars featuring some of the rarest '06 naval Lugers has been a tremendous success, there are a very few remaining. Don't hesitate to own one as they will become a collector item, only fifty made. Leo llava74790@aol.com

WANTED

Any items related to the Imperial German Sea Battalions. Leo llava74790@aol.com

Information on Mauser C96 pistols with British associations: retailer marks, unit markings, individual names, serial numbers, special accessories, etc. I'm collecting info for an article and display. Rick Engel, 402-493-1650 or rickengel@excite.com



THIS SIDE OF PARADISE: A Shia worshiper praying at a Baghdad mosque keeps his sidearm close by

FROM ROGER TREMBLAY: Recently ran across this picture in the February 21st edition of NEWSWEEK. Although one cannot tell for sure, the bright medallion in the grip would seem to indicate that the pistol is one of the elusive, licensed copies, of the Beretta 951 produced in Iraq under the name TARIQ.

TO JUERG SIEGENTHALLER FROM BOB SKIRVAN: My LEPKO .25, with LONDON address, has no external serial number. Internal assembly number is 579.

FOR SALE / TRADE

ORIGINAL GO. leather :--

- * for 9mm pistols - Black leather Bianchi belt with grey Puter eagle buckle, black MG100 holster and black twin mag pouch --- Exc \$ 650.00
- * for 1903/08 pistols - Black leather belt with Gold eagle buckle, black leather type 1 holster and black twin mag pouch --- Exc \$ 650.00

OTHER leather:

- * Brown holster wih flap for .38 revolvers, unmarked - unissued \$ 75.00
- * Brown shoulder holster for .38 revolvers, BOYT 43 mrkd - inissued \$ 135.00
- * Olive drab canvas shoulder holster for .38 revolver, unmarked - unissued \$ 75.00
- * Brown leather belt slide/shoulder strap hanger for M16 holster, U.S., Charles F. CLARK, 1942 mrkd (used by MPs, etc) - Exc \$ 100.00
- * Brown leather Audley military holster for .45, 27th Div USA mrkd - EXC \$ 85.00
- * Brown M16 holster for .45, WALSH 44 mrkd with leg tie - unissued \$ 145.00
- * Brown M16 holster for .45, SEARS 1942 mrkd with leg tie - EXC \$ 110.00
- * Brown M3 shoulder holster for .45, U.S. BOYT 43 mrkd - unissued \$ 175.00
- * Olive drab M1 canvas holster for .45, Rock Island experiment '32 - unissued \$ 285.00
- * WWII waterproof vinyl/plastic bag with closure, for M16 holster/.45 - unissued \$ 45.00
- * Brown G.O. type M3 shoulder holster for 1903/08 auto, unmarked - Exc \$125.00
- * Black leather G.O. type 1 holster for 1903/08 pistols - EXC \$ 125.00
- * Brown leather G.O. type 1 holster for 1903/08 pistols - Exc \$ 160.00
- * Unissued WWII Gold Eagle buckle for G.O. leather belt rig \$150.00
- * Black leather M12 G.O. holster for M9 pistol - unissued \$ 125.00

JOE PETROVEC (215) 804-1166 <petrovec@eclipse.net

"BROWNING-HIGH-POWER (BHP) LIST: Just revised, w/treasures from my collection never offered before. Listing has 100s of BHP's & related accessories. Don't miss this one! Optional help for print/mail is \$2 but NOT mandatory; however, you must at least ask for it! Prepaid shipping w/satisfaction 100% guaranteed for NAPCA members! Bill Drollinger PO Box A Castroville CA 95012
Phone/FAX (831)770-1787 9AM-5PM PST (that's Noon-8PM EST please!)

1. P.38, ac over 43 with Mauser WaA135 proofs, "c" block ser #, all #'s match, FN slide, 2-tone finish gray/blue, black grips, 95-96% \$1500.00
2. P.38, ac44 in the "e" block, copper colored frame ill. on pg. 256 of Buxton's "the P.38 Pistol" Vol. 1, all#'s match, blue slide/barrel, brown mottled grips, 97-98% \$950.00
3. Mauser HSc, NESN, Internal #7 stamped on slide and frame, Eagle/N, mid-grip screw, wood grips, interesting pistol, 90% \$450.00
4. Mauser P.08 byf 41, black plastic grips/ mag bottom, "u" block, all #'s match, 96-97% \$1500.00
5. DWM/BKIW P.08 1929 Police, "t" block, Pol. marked "L.P. 30.", all #'s match, correct type mag but not #'s, 93-94% \$1200.00

Please contact Jay after 6pm EST at 603-878-3039 or e-mail me at:
jekel@adelphia.net Trades considered