

# ARMS

## *Gazette*®

\$1.50 OCTOBER 1978

The Dublin Museum,  
A Surprise For  
Arms Collectors

Martially Marked  
Colt .38

Melee  
Swords

A Look At  
Luger Tools

The European Ax:  
(Through the  
12th Century)

Single Action — Action

Up To Date Fall And Winter  
Show Calendar

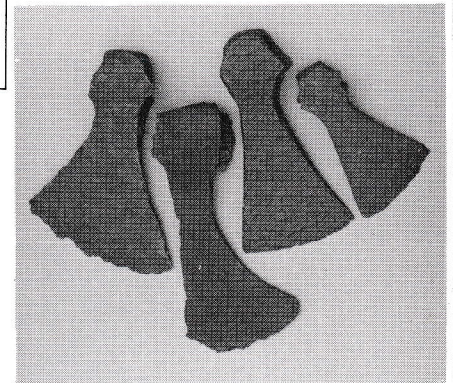


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COVER: A group of classic pre-thirteenth century European axes. Among the earliest of all tools, developed along with the early knives and later swords, these personal weapons were the forerunners of martial arms. (Howard Curtis collection, Mike Thompson photograph.)

### STAFF

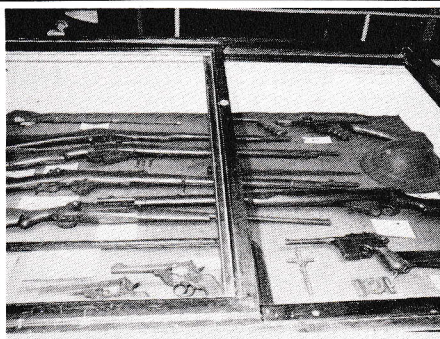
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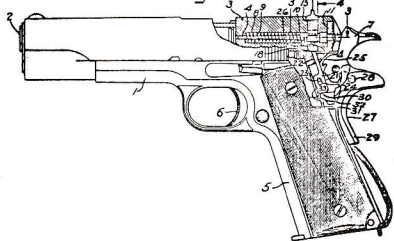
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Aug. 8, 1939. W. L. SWARTZ 2,169,084

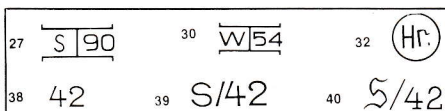
FIREARM

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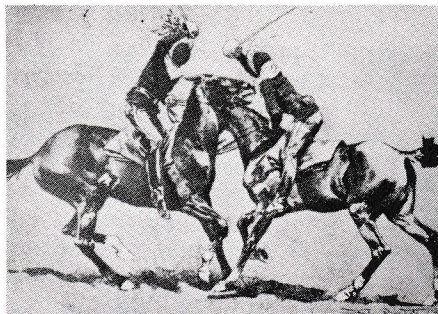
Fig. 1



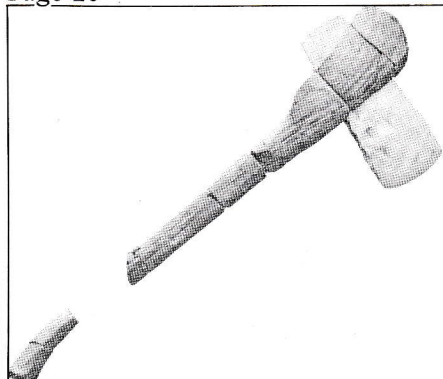
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*“ . . . accessories have now come into their own and in some cases have surpassed the value of many a Luger. ”*

by Sam Costanzo

Throughout the years Luger accessories have been passed over; the collector's primary concern has been devoted to the pistols themselves. Priorities, however, have a way of becoming reestablished; accessories have now to come into their own and in some cases have surpassed the value of many a Luger.

For example, a .22 caliber conversion unit in its original large wooden case, complete and matching, will bring \$325 to \$400, depending upon condition. In comparison, a standard four-inch Commercial Luger in mint shape may be obtained for \$250 to \$295. Other accessories, such as the Carbine and Naval stocks, have increased to over three times their value of five years ago; their current prices are between \$450 and \$500. Thirty-two round snail drums and their loading tools that were offered for \$8.50 each in 1950 now bring from \$230 to \$275.

These are but a few examples of what has happened to the values of accessories since they have become recognized as an important part of Luger collecting. One must keep in mind that prices always vary, depending upon the condition and scarcity of the item and the area in which the purchase is made.


























West Coast prices for both the Luger and its accessories are often much higher than the prevailing prices in the East. Why? One must bear in mind that the West Coast was the returning point for personnel of the Pacific Theater of Operations, which dealt primarily with the Allied actions

# Luger :

## From World of Lugers, Proof Marks, Volume I

### World of Lugers

#### GERMAN MILITARY CONTRACT

2		4		15		47		64	
	1908-1911 DWM \$10.00-15.00		1910-1918 ERFURT \$15.00-20.00		1920-1921 DWM \$20.00-25.00		1920-1921 SIMSON \$35.00-40.00		1921 SIMSON \$50.00
74		77		78		79		86	
	1923-1925 SIMSON \$25.00-30.00		1920-1921 DWM \$15.00-20.00		1920-1921 DWM \$15.00-20.00		1920-1921 DWM \$15.00-20.00		1928-1939 MAUSER \$30.00-35.00
90		96		110		112		119	
	1928-1939 MAUSER \$30.00-35.00		1928-1941 MAUSER \$30.00-35.00		1933 MAUSER \$40.00		1933 MAUSER \$20.00-30.00		1928-1933 MAUSER \$25.00-30.00
122		130		143		144		145	
	1933 MAUSER \$25.00-35.00		1933 MAUSER \$30.00-40.00		1934-1940 MAUSER \$30.00-40.00		1934-1940 MAUSER \$30.00-40.00		1934-1940 MAUSER \$25.00-30.00
162		163		164		165		166	
	1935-1942 MAUSER \$35.00-40.00		1935-1942 MAUSER \$40.00-45.00		1935 MAUSER \$25.00-30.00		1935 MAUSER \$25.00-30.00		1935 MAUSER \$35.00-40.00

# Loading and Stripping Tool

*West Coast prices are often higher than in the East.*

against the Japanese Imperial Forces. Through these western ports came many a returning veteran bringing his memories and stories of such places as Okinawa, Manila and Iwo Jima. He also brought many war souvenirs, such as Japanese flags, swords and Nambu pistols.

Some 3,000 miles across the United States, the East Coast opened her ports to the returning veterans of the European Theater's operation against the Nazi and Axis powers of Hitler's Europe. These returning veterans also brought their memories and stories — stories of such places as Normandy Beach, The Bulge and Berlin. Many souvenirs, such as German flags, medals, daggers and Luger pistols, came ashore with them.

Due to the geographical separation of these returning ports, Japanese items are more available in the western portion of the United States, while the German items may be more easily obtained in the East.


























Luger accessories, being small enough to ship or carry, were easily brought into this country by the returning veteran. Not being firearms, these items were not frowned upon.

Factory brochures, sales catalogues and accessories such as head-space gauges, tools, cleaning rods, holsters, drums, loaders and stocks have all become very desirable items that are recognized by the collector as having played an important role in the history and development of the German Luger.

This article is devoted to the takedown tool, which is quite often referred to as the loading and stripping tool or the loading tool.

## The loading and stripping tool.

*Manufacture:* Stamped from steel strip with a blanking punch and die. Right angle bend formed with a bending die on a punch press. Channel

174		179		180		184		195	
	1936-1937 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1936-1937 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1936-1938 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1937-1939 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1938-1940 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00
197		199		216		217		223	
	1938-1940 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1938-1939 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1939-1941 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1939-1941 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1939-1941 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00
226		231		233		247		251	
	1939-1941 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1939-1940 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1939-1940 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1940-1941 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1940-1941 SIMSON \$30.00-35.00
255		261		268		19		20B	
	1940-1941 SIMSON \$45.00-50.00		1941-1942 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1941-1942 MAUSER \$10.00-15.00		1934-1935 MAUSER \$15.00-20.00		1934-1935 MAUSER \$15.00-20.00
27		30		32		38	42	39	S/42
	1934-1935 MAUSER \$20.00-25.00		1934-1935 MAUSER \$20.00-25.00		1920-1923 DWM \$25.00-30.00		1939-1942 MAUSER \$15.00-20.00		1934-1938 MAUSER \$15.00-20.00
40	S/42	46B		47		64	GEW. 3	64A	GW 3
	1934 MAUSER \$25.00-30.00		1934 MAUSER \$20.00-25.00		1935 MAUSER \$15.00-20.00		1934-1935 MAUSER \$15.00-20.00		1934-1935 MAUSER \$20.00-25.00



*from screw-  
driver for grips  
to feeler gauge  
for recoil spring. . .*

cut on a milling machine fitted with a form tool. Eccentric loading button hole cut on a milling machine using an end mill.

**Uses:** Screwdriver for removing grip screws. Magazine follower depressor to facilitate loading. Screwdriver for rotating firing pin retainer for disassembly. Extractor for jammed cartridge cases. Feeler gauge for recoil spring adjustment.



Going back to the year 1904, we find the first appearance of the tools; they were included as a part of a complete rig for the Naval Luger. In that year, the German Navy adopted the Luger as its official sidearm, and a contract was placed with DWM for approximately 2,000 pistols. The complete Navy package included the following: (1) a 6 inch, 9mm Luger, (2) a flat board stock with iron, (3) three magazines, (4) a double magazine pouch, (5) a cleaning rod, (6) a shoulder strap type holster, (7) the loading and stripping tool.

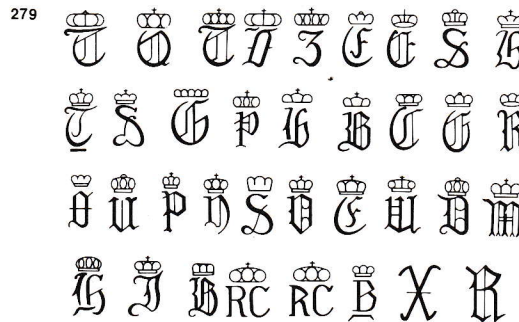
In 1906, these tools appeared in the DWM Sales Catalogue as being available by special order for commercial sales, and by 1908, the tool was included with all military holsters. By 1920, a special order was no longer required; the tool was then supplied with all holsters.

At the outbreak of World War I, Germany was in full scale production of armaments; DWM and Erfurt led the parade. The year 1914 also found the Erfurt Crown Arsenal introducing a new Luger: the eight-inch Artillery Model. With this arm came a newly designed loading tool. It was different from the standard style issued with the four-inch pistol in that it featured a longer, narrower shank, the front surface of which was stamped with an alphabetical code consisting of a Gothic style letter surmounted by a crown. This mark matched the first, right receiver code proof found on the pistol accompanying the tool. This




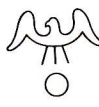


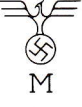






## World of Lugers

86 	87A 	208 Mg10	278 0123456789
1934-1945 SS RUNES \$40.00-50.00	1934-1935 MAUSER \$15.00-20.00	1930-1936 MAUSER \$15.00-20.00	1908-1945 ANY MANUFACTURER \$10.00-15.00



1908-1921  
DWM & ERFURT  
\$10.00-15.00

### GERMAN NAVY CONTRACT

38 	39 	137 	140 	141 
1920 SIMSON \$40.00-50.00	1920 SIMSON \$40.00-50.00	1934 MAUSER \$50.00-55.00	1934-1942 MAUSER \$50.00-55.00	1934-1943 MAUSER \$50.00-55.00
7 	123 	123A 	123B 	123E 
1933-1934 MAUSER \$40.00-50.00	1920 DWM \$20.00-30.00	1920 DWM \$20.00-30.00	1920 DWM \$20.00-30.00	1920 DWM \$20.00-30.00
167B 	230 I.M.D.	230A I.T.D.	119 W.B.	
1906-1918 DWM \$25.00-30.00	1906 DWM \$25.00-30.00	1906 DWM \$25.00-30.00	119A W.K.	
			119B W.D.	1906 DWM \$25.00-35.00
			119C W.H.	





*Germany was defeated and could not manufacture new weapons.*

system of code proofing would follow for the standard four-inch pistol and was then in effect throughout World War I production.

With the ending of the war came the Treaty of Versailles and the new Weimar Republic with its 100,000 man army, the Reichswehr. Germany was defeated and theoretically could not manufacture new weapons, so a reworking program was instituted in order that existing military weapons and their spare parts could be utilized for reissue to this newly formed army.

Since the loading tools fell into this program, one often finds one or both sides of them having been blunt punched, XXX'd out or stamped over; sometimes they will be renumbered or reproofed.

Although the military market felt the impact of defeat, the Versailles Treaty, in its allowing of weapons to be made for commercial and export sales, brought about a commercial market that was in its glory. The tools supplied with these export pistols were stamped *GERMANY, MADE IN GERMANY* or left blank.

In 1921, the well known Suhl, Germany firm of Simson made its debut as a supplier of Lugers and was awarded the contract to provide the Reichswehr with pistols. Simson's early releases were either reworks of World War I, DWM or Erfurt manufacture or assemblies of surplus parts. Their loading tools bore the *Eagle/6* proof, which became a familiar symbol until 1934.

By 1923, both DWM and Simson were manufacturing new Lugers for commercial and military sales. At this time DWM had a strong position in the commercial market with distributors in Switzerland and England, while their sole distributor for the U.S.A. was A. F. Stoeger, Inc., New York.

During a brief sales campaign, the A. F. Stoeger catalogue advertised loading tools bearing the Stoeger

### GERMAN POLICE CONTRACT

16		17		21		23		31	
1920-1921 DWM & ERFURT \$10.00-15.00	1920-1921 DWM & ERFURT \$10.00-15.00	1920-1923 DWM \$30.00-35.00	1920-1933 DWM \$30.00-40.00	1920-1921 DWM & ERFURT \$25.00-30.00					
32		55		77		78		79	
1920-1922 SIMSON/DWM \$30.00-35.00	1921 DWM \$20.00-25.00	1920-1921 DWM \$15.00-20.00	1920-1921 DWM \$15.00-20.00	1920-1921 DWM \$15.00-20.00					
151		202		204		205		206	
1934-1938 MAUSER \$20.00-25.00	1938-1939 MAUSER \$30.00-40.00	1939-1940 MAUSER \$30.00-35.00	1939 MAUSER \$30.00-35.00	1939-1942 MAUSER \$30.00-35.00					
207		274		23A		23B		24A	
1939-1940 MAUSER \$20.00-25.00	1942-1945 MAUSER \$25.00-30.00	1929-1931 DWM/MAUSER \$15.00-20.00	1929-1931 DWM/MAUSER \$10.00-15.00	1929-1931 DWM/MAUSER \$10.00-15.00					
32		59		60		61A		83B	
1920-1923 DWM \$10.00-15.00	1920-1926 DWM & ERFURT \$25.00-30.00	1921-1939 DWM & ERFURT \$20.00-25.00	1929-1932 DWM/MAUSER \$10.00-15.00	1928-1931 DWM \$15.00-20.00					
109		210		278	0123456789	224	S.D.I S.D.II S.D.III S.D.IV S.D.V S.D.VI S.D.VII	1920-1933 DWM & ERFURT \$20.00-25.00	
1921-1936 DWM/MAUSER \$20.00-25.00	1923 DWM/ERFURT \$20.00-25.00	1908-1945 ANY MANUFACTURER \$10.00-15.00							



# The war era peaked the loading tool's proof mark variations

name. Today these are quite rare; only six have been reported.

Another well known New York firm, Abercrombie & Fitch, sold Lugers purchased from Switzerland and A. F. Stoeger. The loading tools supplied with these pistols were marked either with the Swiss Cross or the the A&F symbol. Again we find a rare item with only two having been reported as of this writing.

By 1926, the Waffen Department was formed for the procurement of weapons and related items for the military and police, and this expansion ushered in many new proofs for the material; the loading tool was not excluded.

With the end of the Weimar Republic came the rise to power of the Third Reich which slowly began rebuilding Germany's military strength. One can read the loading tool's markings as pages of history in the development of Nazi Germany. The build-up of momentum toward the vent of World War II can be seen with the massive manufacturing programs, secret factories, numbered and lettered codes, training programs, the Wehrmacht, Luftwaffe, Waffen SS, Kriegsmarine and police system.

The Nazi era was the peak of the loading tool's proof mark variations; more have been noted in this period than are known in all previous manufacture. Many pages would be required to list and analyze the entire output.

The takedown tool heads the list of neglected accessories; throughout the years many have been abused, discarded or lost.




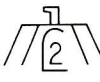

Seventy-four years after the first loading tool appeared finds us in 1978 seeing the present day Luger collector recognizing the importance of accessories. Let us look at Mr. Jones who has in his collection a 1942 Krieghoff and a matching holster with an empty tool pouch. Deciding he wants to

*(continued on page 28)*



















## World of Lugers

### GERMAN AIR-FORCE CONTRACT

118 	167 	168 	234 	235 
1933 SIMSON \$50.00	1936-1945 KRIEGHOFF \$25.00-35.00	1936-1945 KRIEGHOFF \$20.00-25.00	1939-1940 KRIEGHOFF \$20.00-25.00	1939-1946 KRIEGHOFF \$30.00-35.00

### GERMAN COMMERCIAL SALES

51 	52 	239 	241 	243 
1920-1924 SIMSON \$50.00	1920-1923 KRIEGHOFF \$35.00-40.00	1940-1945 VONO/ANSCHULTZ \$35.00-40.00	1940-1945 MAUSER \$25.00-35.00	1940-1945 KRIEGHOFF \$35.00-40.00
288 	294 	6A 	80 	82 
1951-1952 WEST GERMANY \$15.00-20.00	1971 WEST GERMANY \$10.00-15.00	1923 SIMSON \$45.00-50.00	1946 KRIEGHOFF \$30.00-40.00	1938-1941 UNKNOWN \$30.00-35.00
101C 	102 	120 	120A 	164 <small>A.F. STOEGER INC NEW YORK</small>
1952-1957 ERMA \$10.00-15.00	1934-1936 KRIEGHOFF \$20.00-30.00	1930-1933 DWM/MAUSER \$30.00-35.00	1934-1939 MAUSER \$30.00-35.00	1923-1945 A. F. STOEGER \$50.00
169A 	215 	220 <small>GERMANY</small>	220A <small>MADE IN GERMANY</small>	
1970-1975 MAUSER \$10.00	1934-1940 RWS \$20.00-25.00	1906-1934 DWM/MAUSER \$15.00-20.00	1906-1934 DWM/MAUSER \$15.00-20.00	



**“takedown tool  
heads the list  
of neglected  
accessories . . .”**

**Lugers**

*(continued from page 24)*

complete his rig, Jones ventures to various gun shows only to realize the scarcity of a Krieghoff proofed tool. He finds he has joined countless other collectors in the search.

In time, the tool is located with a price tag of \$30. Jones' thoughts drift back to 1958 when twenty-five cents would buy any mint example, and one dollar could get him the matching mint holster. Jones also discovers that the tools have been picked up throughout the years by quiet collectors who had the foresight to realize that it would be only a matter of time before this neglected accessory would come into its own.

From 1908 through 1942 the takedown tool underwent many changes in configuration, the most significant being the wide shank flare that first appeared in the WWI Naval issue. It is interesting to note that Mauser, in 1934, revived this configuration for their military issue and used it until the end of production; however, the Banner Police style continued to be of the earlier, narrow top shank curvature.

Germany was the first country to apply proofs to the loading tools; other countries, including Switzerland, Portugal, Brazil, Russia and Persia, to mention a few, followed this practice later.

The loading tools will fall into one of the following categories: 1) German Military Contract, 2) German Navy Contract, 3) German Police Contract, 4) Luftwaffe Contract, 5) German Commercial Sales, 6) Foreign Commercial Sales, 7) Foreign Military Contract.
















The above listed categories, each with graphic illustrations of their relative proofs and current market values, are included. For an “in depth” breakdown and explanation of each proof, the reader is referred to the recently published book: *World of Lugers, Proof Marks, Volume 1.* □



**FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SALES**

18 	169A 	215 	220 <i>GERMANY</i>
1920-1924 SWITZERLAND \$10.00-15.00	1970-1975 U.S. & ENGLAND \$10.00	1934-1940 ANY COUNTRY \$20.00-25.00	1906-1934 U.S. & ENGLAND \$15.00-20.00
271 	220A <i>MADE IN GERMANY</i>	269 <i>MADE IN SWITZERLAND</i>	
1935-1939 U.S.A. \$50.00	1906-1934 U.S. & ENGLAND \$15.00-20.00	1950-1960 U.S.A. \$10.00	

**FOREIGN MILITARY CONTRACT**

56 	258 	3 	15 	18 
1920-1922 RUSSIA \$45.00-50.00	1940-1941 AUSTRIA \$20.00-25.00	1900-1906 PORTUGAL \$20.00-25.00	1930-1936 PORTUGAL \$15.00-20.00	1920-1924 SWITZERLAND \$10.00-15.00
31 	33 	44 	45 	103 
1934-1937 PORTUGAL \$15.00-20.00	1906-1908 BRAZIL \$15.00-20.00	1906-1910 PORTUGAL \$20.00-25.00	1925-1930 FINLAND \$30.00-40.00	1899-1978 SWITZERLAND \$10.00
108 	180 	207A 	242 	243 
1949-1952 ISRAEL \$25.00-30.00	1908-1931 BULGARIA \$35.00-45.00	1934-1936 PERSIA \$20.00-25.00	1934-1936 PERSIA \$20.00-35.00	1953-1959 ISRAEL \$40.00-50.00