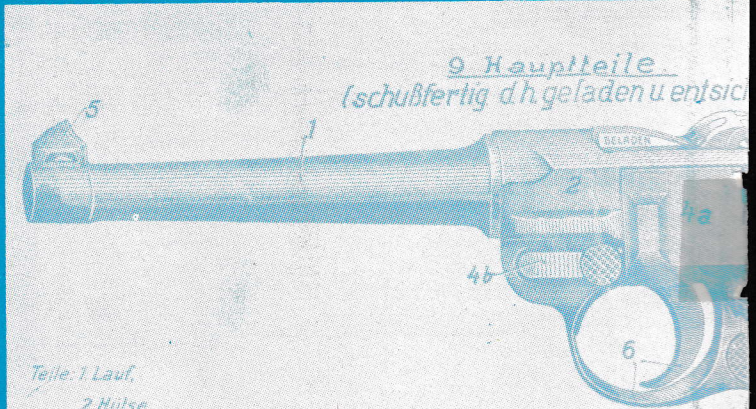


# IMMORTAL LUGER- FASCINATING HANDGUN

THE ONE ONLY OF ITS  
KIND, WHICH IS FEATURED  
ON THIS MONTH'S COVER,  
IS COMPARED TO OTHER  
RARE AND UNUSUAL TYPES.



- Teile: 1. Lauf,  
2. Hülse,  
3. Verschluß,  
4. Griffstück (m. Deckplatte 4a  
u. Sperrstück 4b),  
5. Visiereinrichtung

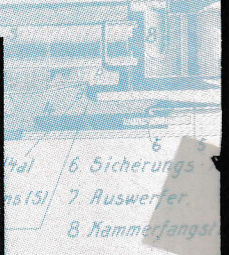


1. Kammer  
2. Vordergelenk  
(2a Spann-Nase),  
2b vord. Verbindungsbolzen  
3. Hintergelenk  
3a Bohrung f.d. hinteren  
Verbindungsbolzen  
4. Kupplungshaken

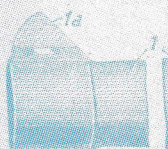
Lauf, Hülse, Verschluß, Abzugsvorrichtung  
Wagrechtler, teilweiser Schnitt, von oben gesehen



1. Deckplatte  
2. Abzugshebel,  
(Deckplatte)  
3. gefederter Stang  
eingelagert id. Ab



6. Sicherungs  
7. Auswerfer  
8. Kammerfangst



1. Lauf  
1a Korn



- 2c  
Abzugsstange  
Stangenfeder  
3. G  
2b

GEORG LUGER

BY JOHN E. PLIMPTON & TOM GILBERT

Übersicht, Schmitt, Unterrichtstafeln, Serie A.15, Auflage 1938



- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Lauf,              | 11 Auszieher,        |
| 1x Korn,             | 11x Feder z. Ausz.   |
| 1x Hülse,            | 11x Stift            |
| 2 Kammer,            | 0 Ose f.d. Haken des |
| 3 Vordergelenk,      | 12 Abzug,            |
| 4 Hintergelenk,      | 12x Abzugfeder,      |
| 4x Kupplungshaken,   | 13 Sperrstück,       |
| 5,6,7 Schließbolzen, | 14 Magazinhalter,    |
| 8 Feder,             | 15 a Magazin,        |
| 9 Abzugslange,       | 15 b Zubringerfeder, |
| 10 Hebel,            | 15 c Zubringer,      |
| 11 Haken,            | 16 Visier            |

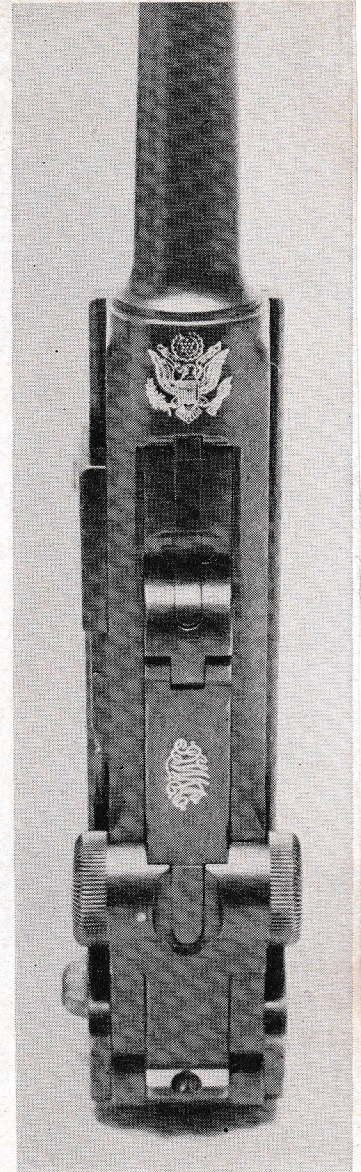
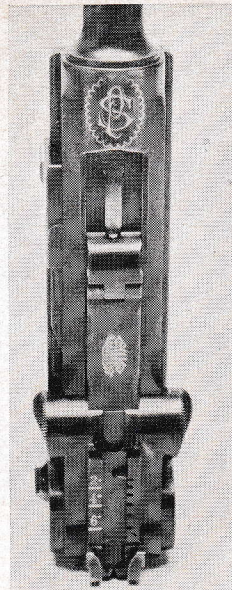
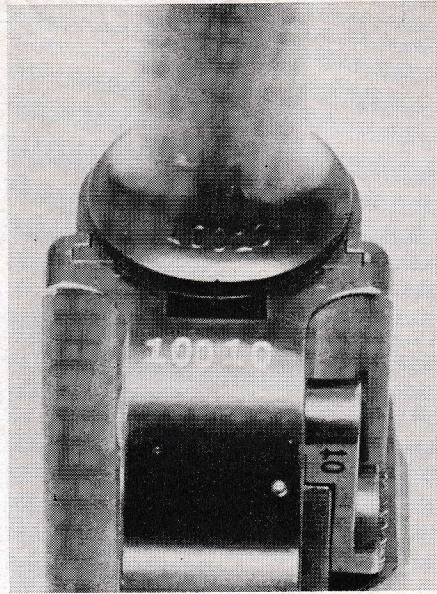
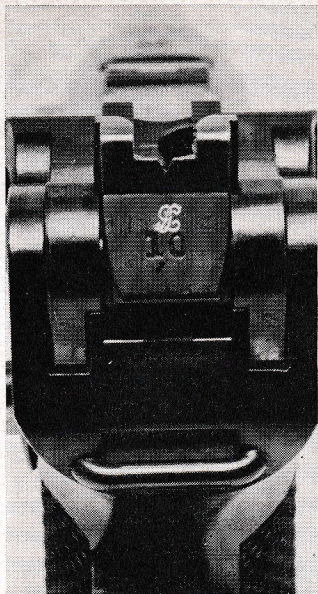
Zusammenwirken der Teile

Lauf mit Hülse und Verschluss in hinterster Stellung  
Schließfeder gespannt.

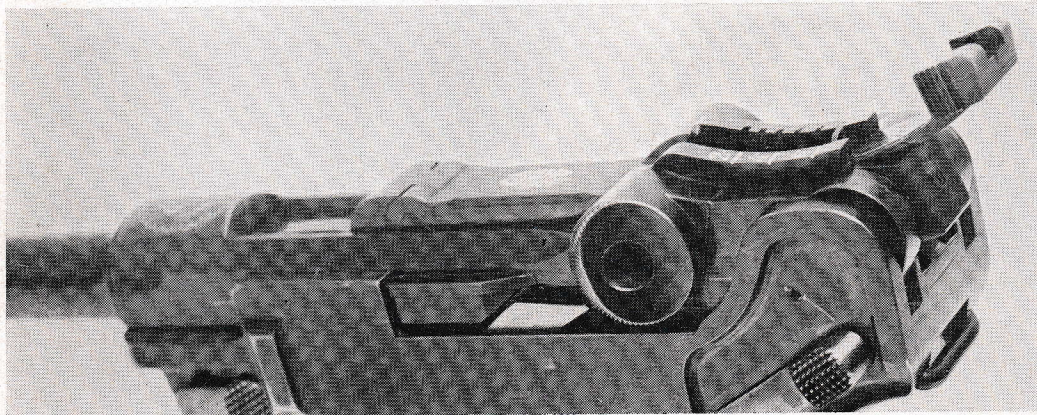
(teilweiser Schnitt)



**M**any guns of the past have become famous. A few have become classic examples of their types. Colt single actions and Winchester lever actions are two universally known types that have become classics. Undoubtedly, the Luger pistol, in all of its models and variations, is the most beautiful example of the automatic pistol. • Beauty and gracefulness of line, fine workmanship, balance and perfection in its proportions have coupled with the Luger's time in history to impart an aura of gun romance unequalled by any other automatic pistol. Its popularity has never been lessened by the three million existing Luger pistols that American servicemen and collectors have brought to the United States. • The Luger abundance has only quickened the game and whetted the Luger collector's appetite for the mint, the rare, and the one-of-a-kind. Out of these desirable types few collectors can hope to find and also possess a mint or rare Luger, much less have the good fortune to obtain a one-of-a-kind Luger in mint condition. • An extremely unusual yet graceful Luger was produced around 1901 at the DWM (Deutsche Waffen und Munitions-Fabriken)



**Above left: Initials "GL" indicate that this was a personal presentation of inventor Georg Luger. Above center: The Presentation Luger has the enigmatic serial number of 10010 but no proof marks. Above right: To whom the intertwined initials "PS" or "SP" belong is yet another facet of the mystery.**



**The rear sight on the Presentation Luger is adjustable from 200 meters to 700 meters in 100-meter increments. This type of sight has been found on only one other Luger, the 1902 Carbine Prototype.**

## IMMORTAL LUGER

factory in Berlin, probably under the direct supervision of Georg Luger. The reasons behind its creation and for whom it was destined are a complete mystery. Little is known of this gun's history prior to its purchase by a Southern California gun collector, but from its appearance it was possibly intended as a presentation piece for some notable figure.

As it is with so many German weapons, this piece was apparently brought from Europe by a returning G.I. and was purchased by Dwight Prouty, Jr., of South Pasadena in the late Forties. A few years later it was sold to Fred A. Datig, author of the book *The Luger Pistol*. The gun then passed through the hands of several collectors and is now part of the collection of Tom Gilbert, owner of the Brass Rail gun shop in Hollywood.

This particular Presentation Model is basically an "old model" or pre-1906

type, but it has many features which are not found on any standard production Luger. Internally, this gun is identical to the Model 1900 and Model 1902 but with one exception. Inside, it has flat or leaf type springs instead of coil springs of the post-1906 types, but yet there is a complete absence of assembler's and inspector's marks. Most Lugers have a profusion of these marks on the internal surfaces of the gun.

The frame and receiver are, of course, of the early long style. The combination of a grip safety and a lug for the attachment of a shoulder stock is found only on the Model 1902 Carbine, the Model 1904 Navy, and the Model 1906 Navy (1st and 2nd issue). The gun has the wide trigger guard and narrow trigger of the "old model." The safety lever has the shape of those levers found on all Lugers manufactured after about 1901, but it is checkered rather than grooved. Lugers made before 1901 had a much

flatter and fully checkered safety lever. The gun also has the dished or radiused toggles and the toggle lock found only on the "old models."

The barrel, which is chambered for the standard 7.65mm or .30 caliber Luger cartridge, is one of the most interesting parts of the gun. The barrel has 4-groove rifling and has the same graceful contours that are found on the early 7.65mm models, but is almost 3 inches longer. As far as it can be definitely determined it is the only example of a Luger with a 7½-inch barrel. The common Model 1914 Artillery has an 8-inch barrel with the rear sight mounted just forward of the chamber and the various naval models have 6-inch barrels. The vast majority of Lugers have barrels that measure from 3⅝ inches to 4¾ inches in length. The barrel carries a standard Luger front sight but the rear sight is very peculiar.

The rear sight is apparently a target

## IMMORTAL LUGER

continued from page 45

sign. There is also the possibility that the gun was built as a prototype for the later Luger carbines. The presence of the stock lug and the extra long barrel tend to support that theory. The gun may have been constructed partially with the thought of incorporating some new ideas that Georg Luger or some of the other designers had at the time.

The Luger carries the cryptic serial number 10010. Two Model 1902 prototype Lugers are known to be in existence, one has the number 10030B and the other has the number 10037B. The similarity of the serial numbers and the fact that all three pistols are one-of-a-kind pieces might indicate that one lot of numbers was reserved for prototypes, experimental variations, and presentation pieces. The serial number might have indicated that the gun had a "commercial destination" or was a contract piece rather than a military type, but the complete lack of any proof marks or acceptance marks precludes those three possibilities.

The metal work on this gun is of the highest quality. Extra care seems to have been taken to remove all traces of machining and tool marks. The finish is the typically fine quality rust-blue which is characteristic of pre-World War I Lugers. The gun has obviously received the best of care throughout its 64 years of existence.

The reason that this pistol is considered as a presentation piece also is that the chamber is engraved and inlaid with gold. The intertwined letters "P S" or "S P" appears in the center of a wreath also inlaid with gold. To whom these initials belong is a complete mystery. No one to date has been able to shed any light or even hazard a guess as to whom the person might be. Even more interesting are the marks that are on the rear of the toggle just under the sight. The two letters "G L" appear in script and they are of course, the initials of Georg Luger himself. These initials appear on only one other Luger, the .45 caliber model used in the U.S. Army tests of 1907. The fact that his initials are on this gun indicate that Luger himself had a personal interest in the construction and/or design of the pistol. Considering the rarity of guns with Luger's initials on them, there must have been a very important person and/or special occasion connected with this gun.

The true and complete facts about this rare Luger will probably never be known. Most of the people who might have been able to supply some of the missing links in the chain are not alive now. Until some concrete facts are brought forth, it will remain for speculation to supply the answers.