

AUGUST 1967 75c

HUNTING • SHOOTING • ADVENTURE

Guns

Finest in the Firearms Field

**SELF-DEFENSE
AS SEEN by
EXPERTS**

**The Guns of
JONATHAN
BROWNING**



Color Gallery: **THE LUGER PISTOL
REMINGTON NYLON 66**

TRIGGER TALK

IN THESE TROUBLED times, it is easy for any magazine publisher to get into a lot of trouble just by mentioning the fact that crime is on the rise, and that any law-abiding citizen who feels the need for self-protection in the form of firearms should prepare himself. The recent case of the complete misinterpretation of an editorial in the *Rifleman*, in which almost every newspaper in the country told its readers that the NRA was advocating armed vigilantes, is an excellent example.

Let's get one thing straight; neither GUNS Magazine or any other responsible media says that everybody should have a gun. As you and I well know, there are some people—law abiding as they may be—who should not own firearms. We hope that the article this month will stress this fact; at the same time, pointing out that no responsible citizen should be denied the opportunity to some means of defending his life, his home, or his family.

We are especially proud of two features of this month's GUNS Magazine. The first is what we consider to be one of the most dramatic photos of a Luger pistol ever published; you'll find it, and a short article on page 39. Starting on page 42 you'll find a comprehensive article on the guns of Jonathan Browning. Here you'll find not only the complete story of Browning's early years but also an interesting story about Browning-made Dragoon pistols—or were they really made by Browning?

Just to be mean, I'd like to tease you with some hints of what is coming up in future issues of GUNS Magazine. Next month, a new article on a man of mystery; his life, his guns, and his impact on gunmaking. Also, a look at how our State Department trains South American police officers in a unique wax bullet shooting course. Coming up soon is a first hand report on a brand new sub-machine gun; a test of Russian .22 cartridges; and a report on the big military controversy in the news today. These, and many more exciting features will be a part of a new, bigger GUNS Magazine, with more pages, more full color, and just more about guns and shooting. What ever you would like to see we are ready to deliver. Let us know your wants.

THE COVER

The photos show a revolving cylinder rifle and a sliding percussion repeater designed and manufactured by Jonathan Browning. Both were made around 1834-1842. More photos of Jonathan Browning guns will be found with the feature article beginning on page 42. Photos by Nelson Wadsworth, Salt Lake City.

AUGUST, 1967

Vol. XIII, No. 8-152

George E. von Rosen
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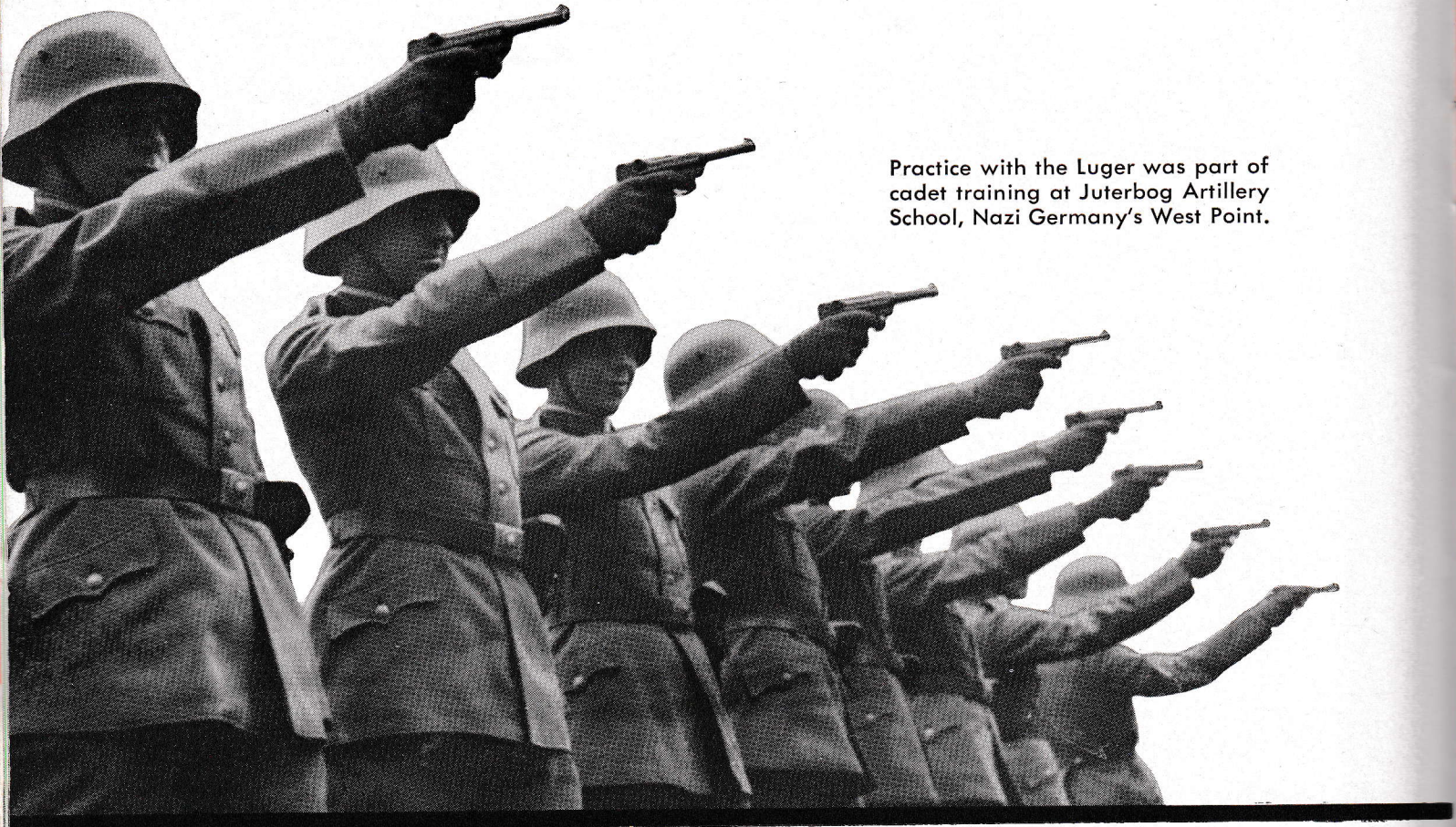
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EAST COAST REPRESENTATIVE: Eugene L. Pollock, 210 E. 53rd St., New York 22, N.Y., PL 3-1780.
WEST COAST: Office temporarily closed. Collect calls solicited to National Office (below).

NATIONAL ADV. OFFICES, 8150 N. Central Park Ave., Skokie, Ill., 60076, ORchard 5-6010.

GUNS Magazine is published monthly by Publishers' Development Corp., 8150 N. Central Park Avenue, Skokie, Illinois, 60076. Second class postage paid at Skokie, Illinois, and at additional mailing offices. SUBSCRIPTIONS: One year (12 issues), \$7.50. Single monthly copies, 75c. CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Four weeks' notice required on all changes. Send old address as well as new. CONTRIBUTORS submitting manuscripts, photographs or drawings do so at their own risk. Material cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. PAYMENT will be made at rates current at time of publication and will cover reproduction in any or all GUNS Magazine editions. ADVERTISING RATES furnished on request. Copyright 1967 Publishers' Development Corporation. All rights reserved. Title to this publication passes to subscriber only on delivery to his address.

THE LUGER



Practice with the Luger was part of cadet training at Juterbog Artillery School, Nazi Germany's West Point.

As a military pistol, the Luger is generally conceded to be inferior to the Colt .45 automatic, yet few modern handguns have gained so wide a reputation. Before the days of James Bond, no respectable foreign agent in the movies would be seen without one. But perhaps the greatest interest in the Luger pistol has come from gun collectors in the United States. The last collector's list I have shows the lowest price for a standard Luger in excellent condition as \$95.00; more than double its original price when new. And, this is a standard model. Today the Luger collector who does not have at least 10 different variations, markings, or dates, is considered only a beginner.



Whatever the reasons for the popularity of the Luger, both to the collector and the many governments which adopted it as their official sidearm, one of the major factors was the intensive promotional campaign put on by its producers, which included these words on the cartridges: "As regards the calibers selected (7.65 and 9 mm) the automatic action of the pistol does not in any way depend on the size of the caliber but on the total energy. . . This energy may vary to a considerable extent, but its minimum should be sufficient to disable the enemy . . . who is in full service uniform, protected by all sorts of equipments. . . and perhaps under additional cover of planks or brushwood, or behind a closed door." (From the original Luger manual.)

PISTOL...



An ordinary Luger, placed on an original copy of "Our Hindenburg," reflects on a troubled time in the history of Europe.