

# The Luger Journal

## NUMBER TWENTY FOUR

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MAUSER PROTOTYPE

For its anniversary issue THE LUGER JOURNAL is indeed proud to present THE MAUSER PROTOTYPE by JOSEPH PAGNIANO.

The copy and photos in this article were supplied by MR. PAGNIANO- to whom we are very much indebted. MR. PAGNIANO'S Luger is certainly one of the most, if not THE most, interesting Mauser we have ever seen.

THE MAUSER PROTOTYPE BY JOSEPH PAGNIANO

"On May 1, 1930, 800 machines, equipment, tooling, and technicians for the manufacturing of the Luger Pistole were transferred from the Berlin Branch of the DWM factory to the famous, and huge, Mauser Werkes at Oberndorf. About this time Mauser started making and producing Lugers. Perhaps this is when the Mauser Prototype illustrated in this article was produced.

Mauser was new at making the Luger, which was already a tried, tested and proven weapon. However, surely Mauser had its own ideas on further developments of the Luger, so the test Lugers and prototypes were developed as well as the cut-a-ways which were used for sales promotion.

This Mauser Luger may be a prototype for the Mauser made A.F. STOEGER'S Lugers. They advertised and sold a 7.65MM, 4 3/4" BBL. Luger without a grip safety but with a stock lug.

The PORTUGUESE in 1934 placed an order for Lugers. They also were for 4 3/4" BBL. Lugers in 7.65MM. I have also examined four Mauser Banner Lugers with 4 3/4" BBLs. in 7.65MM. One had a Swiss Cross over the chamber, long frame with grip safety and one had no chamber marks but had the long frame and grip safety. The other two had short frames, no chamber markings but had grip safeties.

This Mauser is Oberndorf proofed, has a short frame and stock lug. It has a 4 3/4" BBL., is in 7.65MM, and is of the type used in 1900-1906.

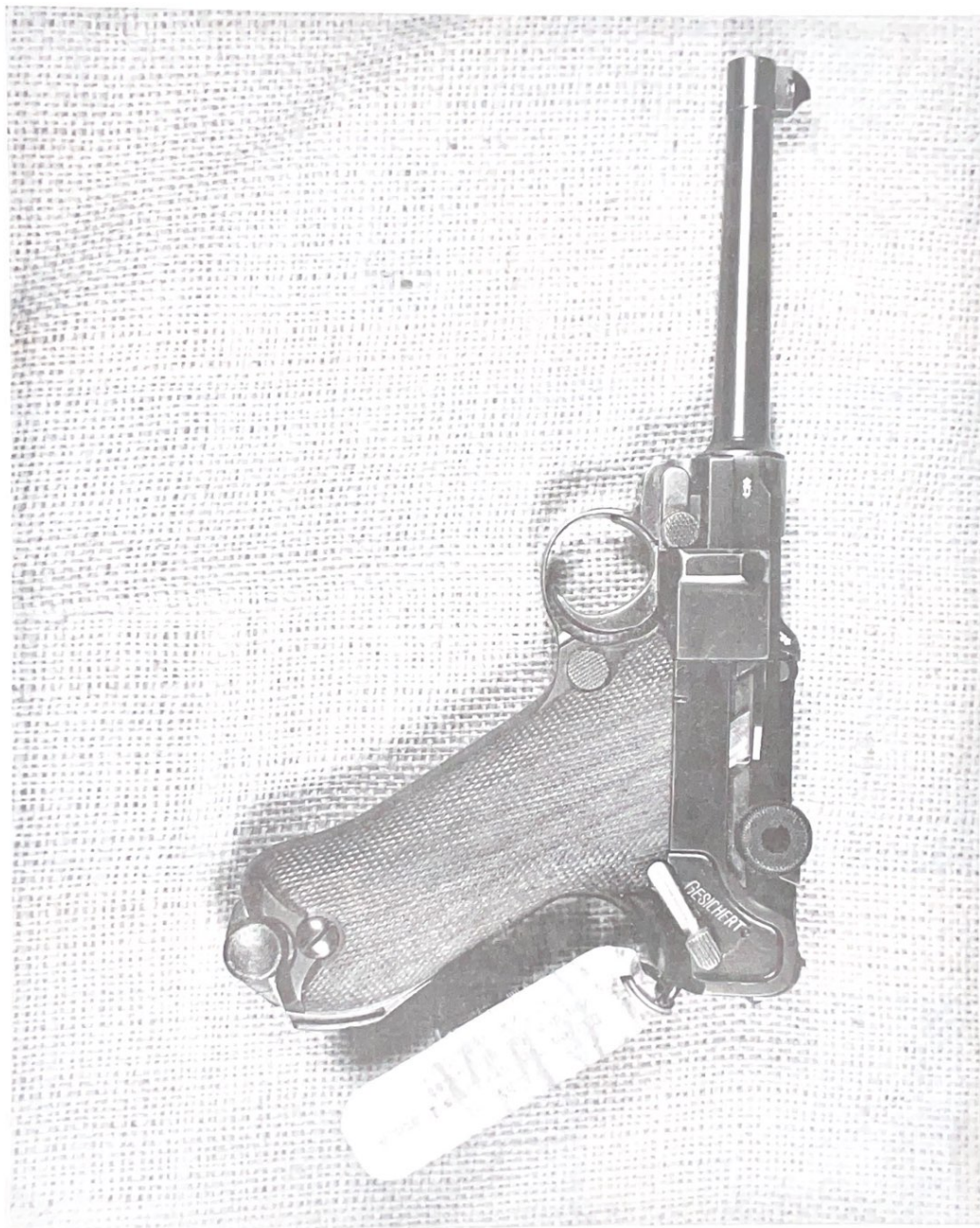
The frame has been cut for the magazine safety, the finish is a Mauser rust blue and the trigger, safety lever, ejector, locking bolt, and magazine disconnector are straw finished. There are no markings over the chamber. This Luger has been fired so much that the lands and grooves are barely visible. Where the toggle knobs encounter the cams (curve ramps at the back of the frame) one can see that the ramps are peened out from so much test firing. It could be that the piece was also used to test ammo.

The firing pin is the old type. The locking bolt, safety lever, and side plate have no markings at all. Under the barrel; in front of the frame; on the breech block; and on the rear toggle link just below the rear sight is the Oberndorf proof. On the top of the forward toggle link, (where normally is found the DWM scroll or Mauser Banner) one finds the Oberndorf proof three or four times as large as usual. On the receiver stock lug is the NUMBER 01. There is no number or inspectors mark in the well or on any other part of the pistole. From a ring attached to the lanyard is a metal tag which reads: "ACHTUNG! DAS ENTFERN DIESES PISTOLE VON DER WERKSTATAH IST STRENGETENS VERBOTEN!" which in English means: "ATTENTION! TO REMOVE THIS PISTOL FROM THE WORKSHOP IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN".



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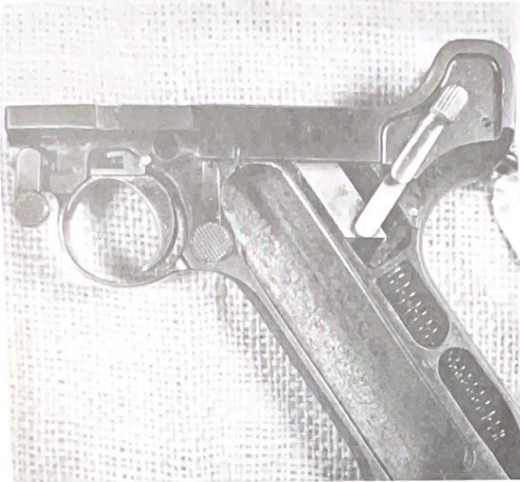


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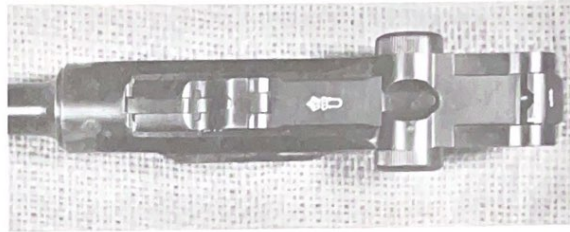
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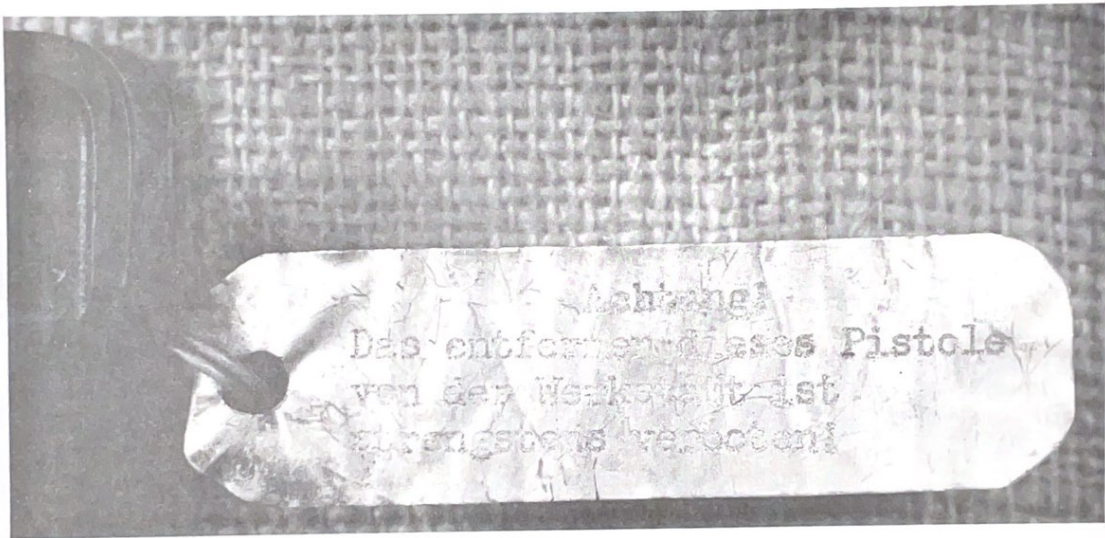
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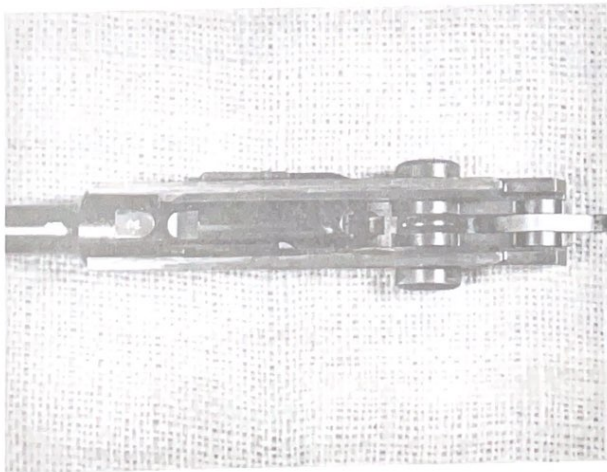
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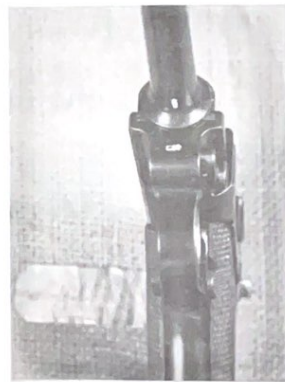


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MAUSER PROTOTYPE NUMBER 01



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