

Suger

Broaf

Barbs

FIRST EDITION

BY: ROBERT B. MARVIN

LUGER PROOF MARKINGS

BY: ROBERT B. MARVIN, 19251 GULFSTREAM ROAD, MIAMI 57, FLORIDA

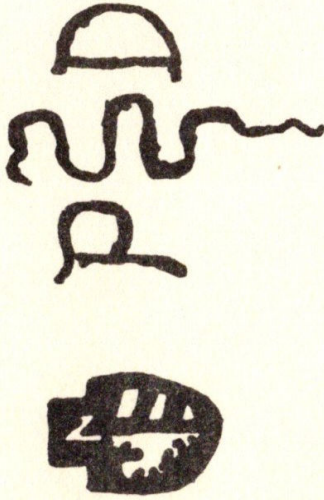
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INTRODUCTION

PROOFING

THE PROOFING OF FIREARMS, AS FAR AS IS KNOWN, DATES FROM THE 14th CENTURY IN SWITZERLAND WHERE RECORDS OF TESTED GUNS WERE FIRST KEPT IN THE CITY OF BASELSTADT. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER OR NOT A PROOF MARK WAS APPLIED TO THOSE GUNS WHEN THEY WERE TESTED. INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE FIRST ACTUAL PROOF MARKS WERE APPLIED TO GUNS MANUFACTURED IN GERMAN CITIES AFTER THE YEAR 1500.



EARLY GERMAN PROOF MARKS FROM NUREMBERG. THE LEFT PROOF IS FROM A RIFLE WITH A PEEP SIGHT, THE RIGHT PROOF FROM THE BARRELS OF A WHEEL-LOCK MADE BY DANNER.

HAVING HAD AN EARLY BEGINNING IN GERMAN CITIES PROOFING DEVELOPED IN FRANCE, BELGIUM AND OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES WERE ALSO MADE IN ENGLAND, THE FIRST NATION TO DEVELOP AN OFFICIAL PROOF HOUSE.

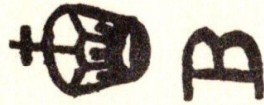
GERMAN PROOFS

LITTLE IS KNOWN OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GERMAN PROOFING SYSTEM FROM THE FIRST MARK OF THE EARLY 1500'S TO THE MIDDLE OF THE 19TH CENTURY. THE OLDEST RECORDED PROOF OF MODERN GERMANY IS THE PRUSSIAN PROOF OF SOLINGEN DATING FROM 1867. THE NEW LAW OF 1891 ESTABLISHED PROOFING FOR ALL GERMANY AND MODERN GERMAN PROOFING CORRECTLY DATES FROM THEN.

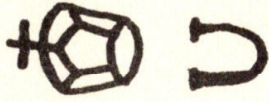
**PROOFS OF 1891**



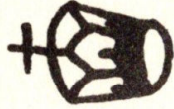
GUNS ON HAND PRIOR TO THE LAW OF 1891 WERE SO MARKED TO INDICATE THEY WERE NOT SUBJECT TO PROOFING. MANY OF THESE GUNS WERE LATER PROOFED IN RESPONSE TO SALES RESISTANCE.



ROUGH PROOF AND PROOF FOR FOREIGN WEAPONS IMPORTED INTO GERMANY BASED ON POWDER USED IN THE MAUSER MODEL 71.



SECOND PROOFING MARK. STAMPED ON THE FLAT OF BARRELS USALLY ACCOMPANIED BY AN EAGLE.(NOTE DIFFERANCE FROM THE PISTOL AND REVOLVER FINAL PROOF)



PROOF MARK INDICATING A REPAIR OR ALTERATION.



PISTOL AND REVOLVER PROOF. APPLIED TO FRAME, BARREL AND CYLINDERS.



THE LAW OF 1891 WAS AMENDED IN 1893 TO INCLUDE THIS PROOF FOR NITRO(SMOKELESS POWDER) AND ALL WEAPONS SO TESTED WERE MARKED WITH THE CROWN OVER N PROOF.

IN 1911-12 THE PROOFING LAW WAS SIMPLIFIED, THE PROOF MARKS REMAINED ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS BEFORE, BUT THE METHOD OF ACTUAL TESTING WAS MADE MORE UNIFORM.

IN 1939 A NEW LAW WAS PUBLISHED IN THE REICHSGESETZBLATT NO. 126 OF JULY 15, 1939. IT AFFIRMED THE OLD RULES OF PROOFING BUT EXTENDED PROOFING TO THE ESSENTIAL PARTS OF FIREARMS, A PRACTICE THAT WAS FOLLOWED BY SOME MANUFACTURERS BEFORE BY 1939 BUT WHICH WAS NOT COMPULSORY.

LUGER PROOFING THEN COMES UNDER THESE BASIC GERMAN LAWS:

1. THE LAW OF 1891
2. THE LAW OF 1893
3. THE LAW OF 1939

IN VIEW OF THE COMPARATIVE SIMPLICITY OF THE GERMAN LAW REGARDING PROOFING IT IS AMAZING TO FIND SUCH A COMPLEX VARIETY OF PROOF MARKS AS ARE FOUND ON THE LUGER PISTOLE.

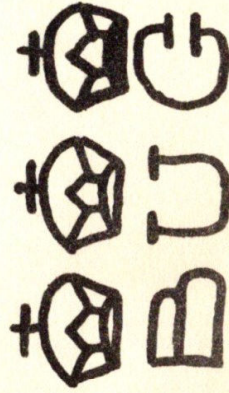
### LUGER COLLECTING

THROUGH THE YEARS TREMENDOUS FREEDOM WAS GIVEN GERMAN ARMS MANUFACTURERS IN THE ACTUAL DESIGN OF PROOF MARKS, AND A STUDY OF THE LUGER PISTOL ENCOMPASSING A PERIOD OF OVER 40 YEARS BEARS TESTIMONY TO THIS FACT.

STUDYING LUGER PROOF MARKS IS TO MANY COLLECTORS A LARGE PORTION OF THE ROMANCE OF LUGER COLLECTION.

### EARLY LUGER PROOFS

FIRST COMMERCIAL PROOF FOUND ON 1900, 1902, 1906, 1908 COMMERCIALS INCLUDING THE CARBINE.  
NOTE THIS PROOF LIES ON ITS SIDE.



BARREL PROOFING FOUND ON 1900, 1902, 1906  
1908 COMMERCIALS INCLUDING THE CARBINE.  
(NOTE-MANY OF THE EARLY LUGERS HAVE NO OUT-SIDE PROOFING, AND HAVE ONLY WELL MARKINGS)

172,28

FOUND ON 7.65 mm BARRELS WITH THE B.U.G. PROOFS.

118,35

FOUND ON 9.mm BARRELS WITH THE B.U.G. PROOFS

EARLY LUGER PROOF MARK USED ON 1900 SERIES, 1902 CARBINE AND SOME 1906 MODELS. THIS MARK IS FREQUENTLY MISTAKEN FOR THE US ORDNANCE "BOMB" PROOF.

THE CONTROVERSIAL U.S. ORDNANCE BOMB PROOF FOUND ON SOME AMERICAN EAGLE LUGERS OF THE 1900 AND 1902 SERIES. THE ACTUAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MARKING IS UNKNOWN, AND ALL ORDNANCE LUGERS ARE NOT SO MARKED.

DWM 9mm BARREL PROOF. SOMETIMES USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH A COMMERCIAL PROOF.

MARINE (NAVY) PROOF. APPEARS ON THE NAVY MODEL LUGERS AND OTHER GERMAN NAVY WEAPONS. APPEARS ALONE (CROWN AND M) ON BARREL BOTTOMS AND USUALLY IN GROUPS OF 3 ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE RECEIVER.

WW WK WD

WW 1 NAVAL UNIT MARKINGS. THESE ARE FOUND ON THE REAR GRIP STRAP OF NAVY LUGERS.

NOTES ON 1908 MILITARIES: THE FIRST SERIES 1908 HAS THE PROOF-  
ING ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE RECEIVER AND NO SERIAL NO.  
ABOVE IT, THE SECOND SERIES HAS THE SERIAL NUMBER AND THE PROOF  
MARKS ON THE LEFT RECEIVER SIDE WHILE THE THIRD SERIES IS DATED  
AND HAS THE PROOFS ON THE RIGHT RECEIVER SIDE.

THE YEAR 1908 WAS THE YEAR OF THE GERMAN ARMIES ACCEPTANCE OF THE LUGER PISTOLE. FROM THIS TIME ON THE LUGER HAS BEEN KNOWN IN GERMANY AS THE "PISTOLE 08".



THIS PARTICULAR PROOF IS THE MARKING THAT APPEARS ON 1908 UNDATED MILITARIES, THE EAGLE (1ST FIGURE) IS THE FAMED FINAL PROOF MARK THAT APPEARS FROM 1908 THROUGH 1918 ON GERMAN MILITARIES.



LATE 1908 MILITARY. LOCATED ON THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE RECEIVER. THESE LUGERS ARE DATED 1910-1913 INCLUSIVE. THE SERIAL NO. APPEARS ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER.



SECOND SERIES COMMERCIAL PROOF APPEARING ON 1906 AND 1908 SERIES LUGERS PRODUCED FROM 1910-1914. LATER COMMERCIAL PROOF IS UPRIGHT. (SOMETIMES FOUND ON KRIEGHOFF COMMERCIALS)



PROOF MARK INDICATING THE HOLDOPEN LATCH WAS ADDED AFTER MANUFACTURE.



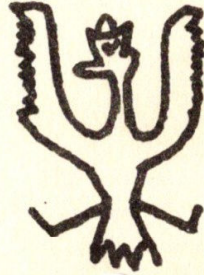
USUALLY FOUND ON THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE FRAME.

DWM ARSENAL PROOF INDICATING REPAIRS, REFINISHING OR MODIFICATION AT THE DWM ARSENAL. FOUND (USUALLY) NEAR THE REPAIR AREA.

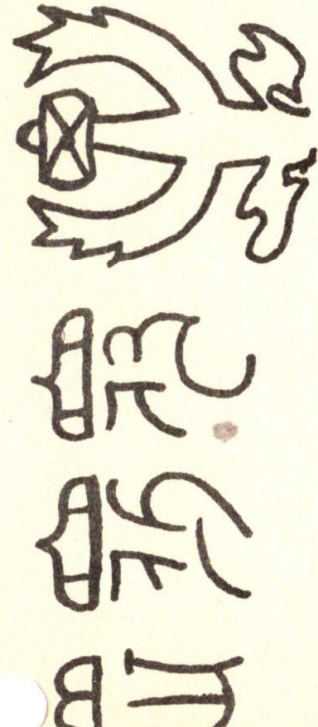
WORLD WAR 1 LUGER PROOFS



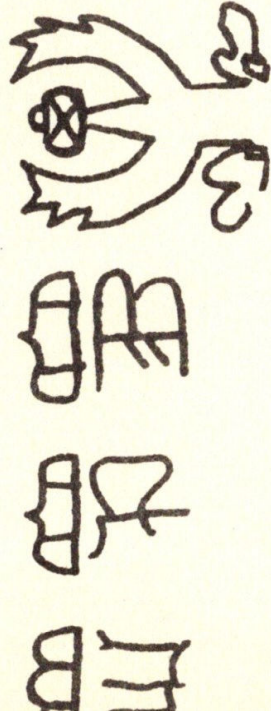
DWM MILITARY. APPEARS ON THE SERIES OF 1914 (1914-1918) LUGERS MADE BY DWM FOR THE GERMAN ARMED FORCES. THE EAGLE IS THE FINAL PROOF.



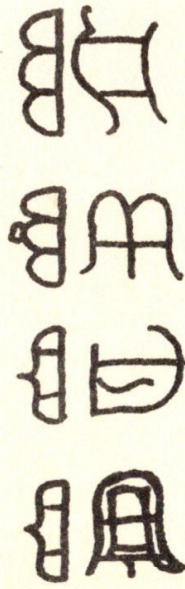
DWM BARREL PROOF BARREL PROOF. APPEARS ON THE DWM & ERFURT LUGERS OF 1914-1918 (SERIES 1914)



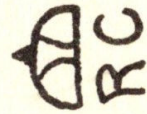
ERFURT MILITARY.  
 APPEARS ON THE 1914 SERIES  
 ERFURT LUGERS(DATED 1914-  
 1918).THE EAGLE IS THE FINAL  
 PROOF. ALSO APPEARS ON EARLY  
 ERFURTS.



ERFURT MILITARY.  
 APPEARS ON 1914 SERIES  
 ERFURT LUGERS(DATED 1914-1918)  
 THE EAGLE IS THE FINAL PROOF.  
 ALSO APPEARS ON EARLY ERFURTS.

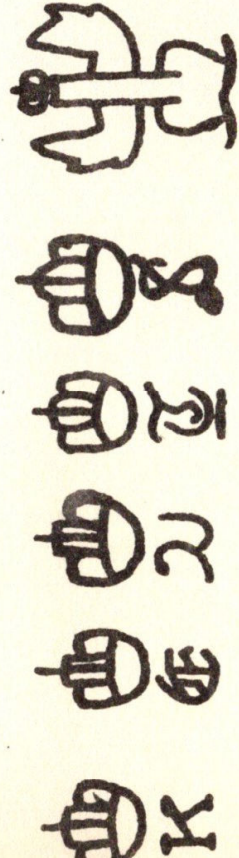


ERFURT PARTS PROOFING. APPEARS  
 ON ALL ERFURT LUGERS.



ERFURT ARSENAL PROOF APPLIED WHEN THE LUGER  
 WAS AT THE ARSENAL FOR REPAIRS OR MODIFICA-  
 TION. SOMETIMES APPLIED WHEN THE GUN WAS RE-  
 FINISHED.

SPANDAU PROOFS



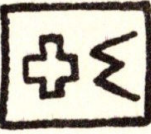
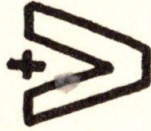
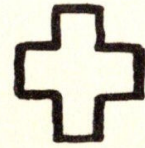
SPANDAU PROOFS. THE FIRST  
 PROOF ON THE LEFT IS THE  
 TOGGLE PROOF. THE RE-  
 MAINDER OF THE PROOFS  
 APPEAR ON THE LEFT HAND  
 SIDE OF THE RECEIVER.



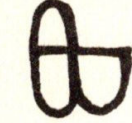
DEATHS HEAD MARK AS IT APPEARS ON SERIES 1914  
 MILITARY LUGERS. ILLUSTRATION WAS COPIED FROM  
 A 1917 DATED DWM.

CONTRACT LUGER PROOFS

SWISS PROOF MARKS. FOUND IN MANY PLACES ON SWISS LUGERS AND OTHER SWISS WEAPONS. SOMETIMES APPEAR WITH GERMAN PROOFS INDICATING THAT THE LUGER IS NOT AN ORIGINAL SWISS BUT A SWISS PURCHASE OF A GERMAN ISSUE.



SWISS PROOFING. FOUND ON SWISS MODELS INCLUDING THE SWISS REWORK.



SWISS PROOF MARK. APPEARS ON THE 1929 SWISS DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED LUGER.



THIS IS A PORTUGUESE ARMY PROOF FOUND ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER.



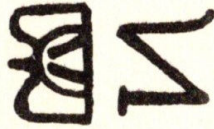
THIS IS THE PORTUGUESE MARINE PROOF AND IS THE ONLY PROOF APPEARING ON THESE LUGERS. THE PROOF IS FOUND ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER.



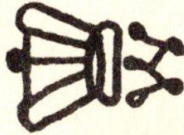
BRAZILIAN PROOF, APPEARS ON LEFT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER. SOMETIMES FOUND ON OTHER 1906 SERIES LUGERS. (9mm)



BULGARIAN PROOF. BELIEVED TO BE THE MARK OF THE BULGARIAN ARSENAL AND IS FOUND ON BULGARIANS WITH ALTERED BARRELS. (OF NAZI ERA)



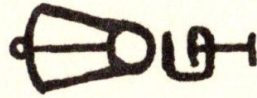
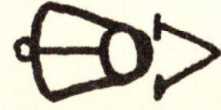
RUSSIAN PROOF. BELIEVED TO BE RUSSIAN COMMERCIAL.



DUTCH PROOF. THE W IS FOR WILHELMINA FOUND ON DWM LUGERS, ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER.



DUTCH AIR FORCE PROOF APPEARS ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER. THE DWM COMMERCIAL PROOF WITH THE CROWN OVER THE N IS ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE.


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NP

VICKERS DUTCH PROOFING. (ENGLISH) APPEARS ON THE VICKERS DUTCH SERIES LUGERS.

POST WW 1 LUGER PROOF MARKS



A+



A+



A+



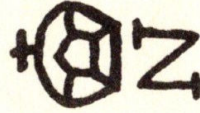
PTV



1920 MILITARY-POLICE PROOFING. APPEARS WITH DWM, ERFURT, MILITARY AND COMMERCIAL PROOFING.

1920 POLICE MARKINGS. FOUND IN ADDITION TO OTHER MARKINGS.

TWO DATE BARREL PROOF, FOUND ON DWM AND ERFURT LUGERS.

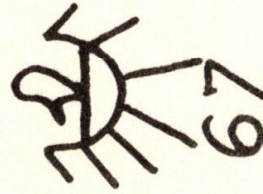
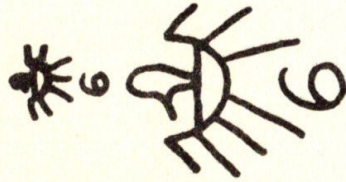


COMMERCIAL PROOF OF 1920 FOUND IN THE VERTICAL POSITION (IN MOST INSTANCES) IN 1920 AND 1923 COMMERCIALS.

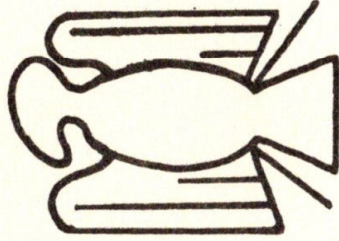
FREQUENTLY FOUND ON LUGERS OF THE POST WW 1 AND EARLIER LUGERS THIS MARK IS COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS A POLICE MARK. OTHER INDICATIONS ARE THAT IT IS A SIMPSON ARSENAL PROOF.

NOTE: THE BOOKLET OF LUGER PROOF MARKS IS PUBLISHED BY ROBERT B. MARVIN OF MIAMI, FLORIDA. ALL RIGHTS ARE RESERVED - 1965. MATERIAL AND ILLUSTRATIONS CONTAINED HEREIN ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR REPRINTING, COPYING OR QUOTING WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR.

SIMPSON PROOF MARKS



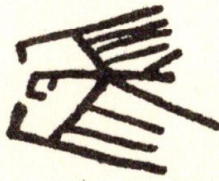
SIMPSON PARTS PROOFING. ON SIMPSON & Co. LUGERS USUALLY 2 EAGLE OVER 6 PROOFS ARE FOLLOWED BY 2 EAGLE OVER 67 PROOFS AND THEN THE SIMPSON FINAL PROOF. (PARTS THAT ARE PROOFED HAVE THE SERIAL NUMBER AS WELL)



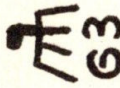
SIMPSON FINAL PROOF. APPEARS ON BOTH SIMPSON & Co. AND S TOGGLE SIMPSON LUGERS. THE PROOF APPEARS LAST ON THE RIGHT HAND RECEIVER SIDE.

OTHER SIMPSON EAGLES ARE FOUND OVER THE NUMBERS 33 & 81. ALSO THE LENGTH AND NUMBER OF FEATHERS VARY WITH THE SIMPSON PROOFS.

MAUSER PROOFS



WaA66

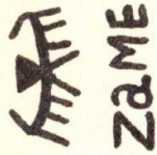


MAUSER REWORK PROOF. APPEARS ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE RECEIVER ON DWM LUGERS REWORKED FOR THE EARLY NAZI REGIME BY MAUSER. (SOME REWORKED BY SIMPSON HAVE THE SAME PROOF)

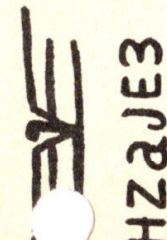
MAUSER REWORK BARREL PROOF. FOUND ON REWORKED LUGERS WHERE THE BARREL HAS BEEN REPLACED.



APPEARS ON SOME MAUSER REWORKED LUGERS. THE "M A" MEANS MAUSER ARBEITEN OR MAUSER REWORKED.

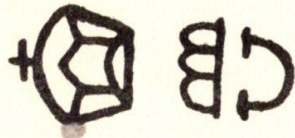


ZaME

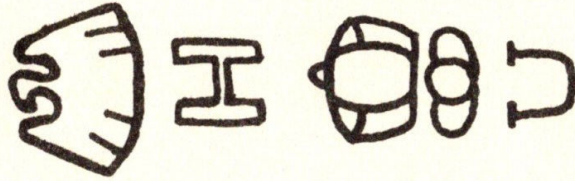


HZaJES

MAUSER REWORK PROOFS. FOUND ON S/42  
REWORK OF DOUBLE DATE(1917/1920)DWM.



THE BASIC MAUSER OBERNDORF PROOF. APPEARS  
ON ALL CONTRACT LUGERS AND ON SOME MILITARIES  
(THE MILITARIES MAY HAVE BEEN DESTINED FOR  
COMMERCIAL SALE AND WERE SO PROOFED AND THEN  
REROUTED TO THE ARMED FORCES)



SOMETIMES APPEARS WITH EARLY MAUSER  
PROOFING ON MAUSER REWORKED-DWM LUGERS.

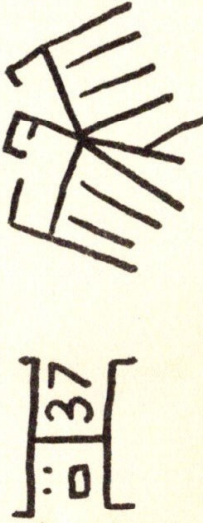
EARLY MAUSER COMMERCIAL PROOF

KI & KL

MAUSER REWORKED WW1 MILITARY(DWM  
OR ERFURT)ISSUED TO EARLY SA UNITS.  
LETTERS ARE FOLLOWED BY DATE, USUALLY  
1933.



OBERNDORF MAUSER DUTCH. APPEARS ON  
THE DUTCH LUGERS MADE BY MAUSER.



MAUSER MILITARY. FOUND ON  
THE S/42 K DATE.

B 90

S 91

2 37

PROOFS APPEARING ON A K DATE. THE RIGHT PROOF APPEARS ON THE BARREL.

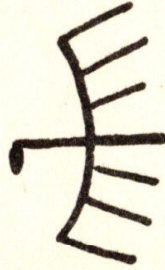
B 90

EARLY MAUSER PROOF. FOUND ON SOME S/42 G DATE LUGERS

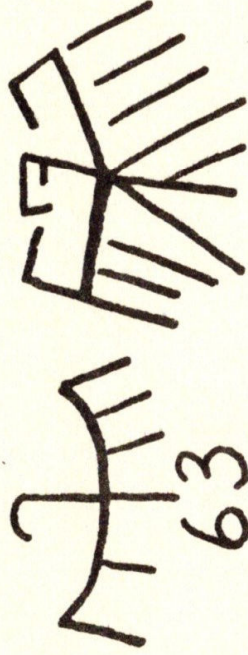
W 154

S 92

PROOFS FOUND ON A S/42 G DATE. THE LEFT PROOF APPEARS ON THE BARREL.

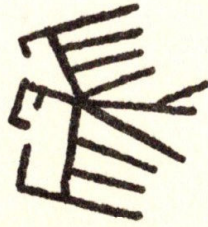


53

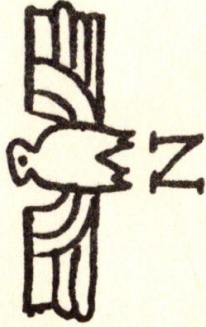


63

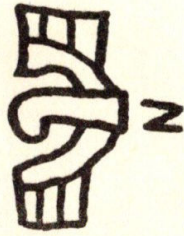
MAUSER MILITARY. FOUND ON SOME G DATE MAUSERS AND DWM G DATE (MAUSER ASSEMBLED) LUGERS.



MAUSER FINAL PROOF. FOUND ON EARLY MAUSERS RIGHT RECEIVER SIDE,



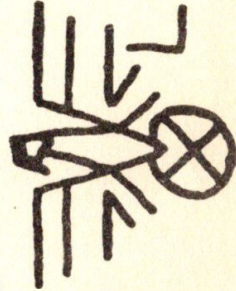
COMMERCIAL PROOF OF THE NAZI ERA. FOUND ON SOME MAUSER COMMERCIALS.



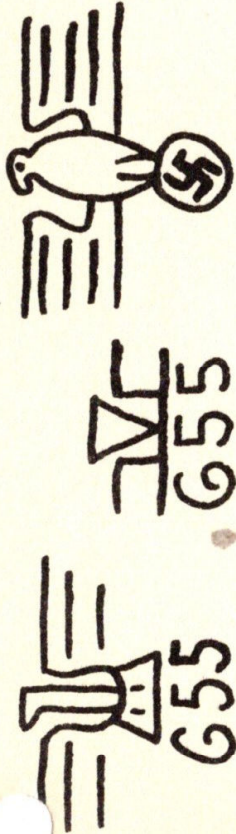
MAUSER NAZI COMMERCIAL PROOF. APPEARS ON THE FRONT SIGHT BLOCK AND BARREL OF MAUSER COMMERCIAL UNDATED BANNER LUGERS.



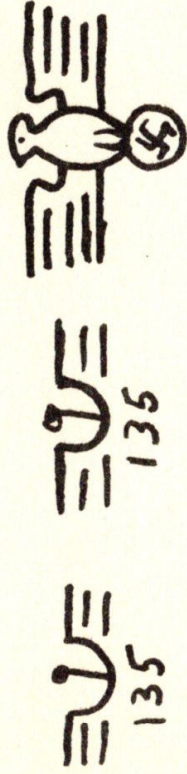
MAUSER BANNER RECEIVER PROOF, COPIED FROM THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE RECEIVER.



MAUSER BANNER PROOF FOUND ON A HAENEL SCHMEISSER PATENT CLIP. (DIRECTLY FOLLOWS THE NAME)



MAUSER MILITARY. APPEARS ON S/42, 42 AND THE byf's.



MAUSER MILITARY. APPEARS ON EARLY MAUSER MILITARY LUGERS INCL. THE MAUSER OBERNDORF.

T 四 八 卅 五

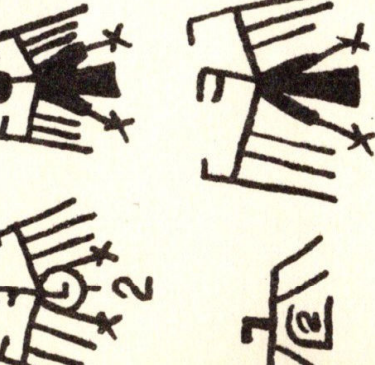
JAP PROOF MARKS. FOUND ON 1940 42 TOGGLE LUGERS WITH THE JAP CREST. (OVER VARIATIONS ARE ALSO FOUND)

**KRIEGHOFF PROOFS**

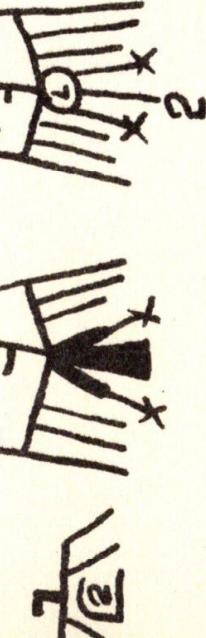
'50



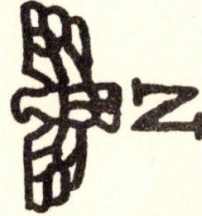
APPEARS BEFORE SERIAL NUMBERS ON KRIEGHOFF ASSEMBLED-MAUSER MADE LUGERS.



EARLY KRIEGHOFF PROOFING. FOUND ON KRIEGHOFF LUGERS UNTIL 1939. THE SMALL PROOF ON THE RIGHT IS THE PARTS PROOFING.



LATE KRIEGHOFF PROOF MARKS. FOUND ON KRIEGHOFFS AFTER 1939. THE RIGHT EAGLE IS THE PARTS PROOF.



A VERY LATE KRIEGHOFF RECEIVER PROOF FOUND ON 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945 AND LATER POSTWAR AND UNFINISHED KRIEGHOFFS..

LATE KRIEGHOFF COMMERCIAL PROOF. APPEARS ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE RECEIVER AND ON THE LOWER RUB RAIL IN FRONT OF THE SIDE PLATE. APPEARS UPRIGHT IN KRIEGHOFFS WITHOUT A LETTER AFTER THE SERIAL NUMBER AND LIES ON ITS SIDE WHERE THE LETTER FOLLOWS THE SERIAL NUMBER.

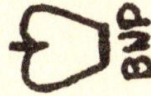
1945

11211

LATE KRIEGHOFF REWORK.  
THESE ARE FOUND ON WW2  
MAUSERS THAT WERE RE-  
WORKED AT WARS END BY  
KRIEGHOFF. (MOST OF THESE  
LUGERS ARE PARKERIZED)

**MISC. PROOFS AND MARKINGS**

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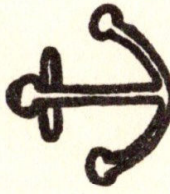
  
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12 TONS PER D

BRITISH PROOFS.  
FOUND ON CAPTURED  
LUGERS MARKED BY GREAT  
BRITAIN TO INDICATE THEIR  
HAVING BEEN TESTED.

APPEARS BEFORE THE SERIAL NUMBER OF NAZI  
LUGERS AND INDICATES OWNERSHIP BY THE  
SICHERHEITS DIENST (S.D. IV), THE FINAL  
SOLUTION OFFICE OF THE S.S.

S.D. IV

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POST WW1 NAVY MARKINGS. THESE  
ARE FOUND ON THE REAR GRIP  
STRAP OF WW1 DATED LUGERS  
THAT WERE USED BY THE GERMAN  
NAVAL FORCES OF THE 1920'S.  
THEY ARE FOUND ON 4", 6", & 8"  
MODELS, ALSO ON SOME DOUBLE  
DATE LUGERS.

REAR COVER MARKINGS

THIS IS AN EARLY NAZI NAVAL  
MARKING. THIS PARTICULAR PROOF  
WAS TAKEN FROM AN ERMA 22 CAL.  
CONVERSION UNIT.

LUGER PROOF MARKS

## NOTES:

THIS LITTLE BOOKLET WAS PRODUCED AT THE ERNEST REQUEST OF FRIENDS, ALL LUGER COLLECTORS, WHO FELT THAT AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO ACCUMULATE ALL KNOWN LUGER PROOFS INTO ONE REFERENCE WORK. THIS AUTHOR KNOWS THAT NOT ALL LUGER PROOFS ARE INCLUDED. HOWEVER THIS WORK IS A SERIOUS BEGINNING AND NO MATTER HOW HUMBLE THIS WORK MAY BE IT DOES AT LEAST SERVE AS A SIGNIFICANT START. IF YOU HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF ADDITIONAL LUGER PROOFS PLEASE ADVISE THE AUTHOR IN ORDER THAT LATER ISSUES MAY BE AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE.

ALL LUGER PROOFS DESCRIBED AND ILLUSTRATED WITHIN THIS WORK WERE TAKEN FROM ACTUAL WEAPONS WHEN EVER POSSIBLE, PHOTOGRAPHS OF COLLECTORS WEAPONS WERE ALSO USED, AND THE DRAWINGS OF RELIABLE SOURCES ARE INCLUDED WHERE IS WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO VIEW ACTUAL LUGERS.

RE SIZES

PLEASE NOTE THAT NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO REDUCE PROOFINGS TO SCALE. MANY HOURS OVER THE PAST MONTHS WERE SPENT IN STUDYING LUGERS THROUGH MAGNIFYING GLASSES AND THE AUTHOR EARLY REALIZED THE NEAR IMPOSSIBILITY OF DRAWING LUGER PROOFS TO SCALE.

THE SIZE OF THE PROOFS IS HOWEVER IN PROPORTION TO THE DIFFICULTY EXPERIENCED IN MAKING THE DRAWINGS.

THE AUTHOR IS ALWAYS HAPPY TO CORRESPOND WITH LUGER COLLECTORS OR ENTHUSIASTS. IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION TO SHARE PLEASE SEND IT IN AND IT WILL BE PASSED ON.

ALL CONFIDENCES WILL NATURALLY BE PROTECTED.

ROBERT B. MARVIN, 19251 GULFSTREAM ROAD, MIAMI 57, FLORIDA

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