

**THE  
LUGER JOURNAL**

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# EDITORIAL

WHAT IS THE LUGER JOURNAL?

The Luger Journal is a nationally distributed purist publication devoted entirely to the Luger Pistole.

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN IN EXISTENCE?

The Luger Journal has been in existence for over five years.

HOW OFTEN IS THE LUGER JOURNAL PUBLISHED?

The Luger Journal is published randomly when it has something to publish. The collecting of Luger information cannot be reduced to a schedule anymore than the collecting of Lugers can be reduced to a schedule.

WHAT DOES ONE GET FOR \$6.00?

A subscriber receives four issues for \$6.00 when they are published.

DOES THE LUGER JOURNAL MAKE A PROFIT?

No the Luger Journal does not make a profit. It collects information and publishes the Luger Journal as a service to Luger collectors.

IS THE LUGER JOURNAL USED AS A MEANS TO COLLECT LUGERS?

No. The publisher has only a very modest Luger collection. His interest is in collecting Luger information and other historical details and then making that knowledge a matter of public record.

## S.D. LUGERS

One of the most interesting of all THIRD REICH Lugers is the SD variation. These uniquely Nazi Lugers came from within the heart of the Nazi era and were born in the real spirit of the National Socialistic movement.

To understand the real significance of these Lugers one must have some background details on the SS and the SD.

SD stands for SICHERHEITSDIENST an organization created by HIMMLER in 1931 as an internal security service of the SS.

While the Brown Shirts or SA served to provide a selection of super Nazis the SS served to provide an even greater elite selection and the SD a further selection within the SS. Each additional breakdown had a philosophical purpose of intensifying Nazism.

In 1934 the SD served in an official capacity for the Nazi Party and in 1938 it served in this capacity for the whole country.

The command of the SD was given to SS OBERGRUPPENFUHRER REINARD HEYDRICH, who directed the RSHA or REICHSSICHERHEITSHAUPTAMT. This was the Main Office of Reich Security which included the KRIPO, THE SD AND THE GESTAPO.

One of the really great problems in understanding the SS, which included the SD, is that it underwent continual change. In its final form its leadership descended from Hitler as follows:

NSDAP (NAZI PARTY)	-	HITLER
SS	-	HIMMLER
RSHA (SD)	-	HEYDRICH

The organization of the SS was further divided into three broad areas:

THE ALLGEMEINE SS  
THE WAFFEN SS  
THE TOTENKOPFVERBANDE

The Allgemeine SS, or the General SS, was a party supported organization and as such the General SS was exempt from all military and civilian authority. It answered only to its own leadership.

The Waffen SS was the military branch of the SS. It was closely patterned after the Army and was supported by the state.

The Totenkopfverbände, or Death Head Detachment, was that section of the SS entrusted with the guarding of concentration camps. While the expense of the detachment was borne by the state the activity of the organization was, for the most part, supervised by the Gestapo.

In 1939 the final stage of the Security Police, or SD, had evolved and as such the Main Office of the Security Police was taken away from the State Organization and merged into the Main Security Office of the SS which henceforth was known as the RSHA under Heydrich.

The SD was further divided into the following sub-sections, and it is these THAT ARE SHOWN ON THE GRIP STRAPS OF SD LUGERS:

SD 1 and 11 were concerned with Personnel and Administration of the organization.  
SD 111 was HOME INTELLIGENCE  
SD IV was the GESTAPO  
SD V was the KRIPO  
SD VI was FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

The SS in effect had become a State within a State and the Gestapo was the spearhead.

Amt 1V, or the Gestapo, was under Mueller and he reported directly to Heydrich who reported to Himmler who reported directly to Hitler. These men, in an unbroken chain of command, were not under the control of anyone else in Germany.

Within Amt 1V was the infamous 1VA-4b headed by Adolf Eichmann under the code name of FINAL SOLUTION.

Since the value of any collectors items is frequently influenced by its former role the SD 1V Lugers command the highest prices. They are the only Lugers that may properly be described as coming from the GESTAPO.

SD VII is a relatively unknown section of the SD and it is listed here for its special interest. This Section of the SD concerned scientific exploitation and rocket research. Also little known was Section N for NACHRICHTEN, the technical communication section.

Mr. Ron Dahlquist owns two SD Lugers and has supplied us with details.

The first one has a DWM toggle with a blank chamber, as is common with SD Lugers. Most were assigned to men who came up from the ranks of the SA and who obtained their weapons when the Nazi Party was in its infancy.

We also have information on an SD 1V Luger that is marked SD 1V 1183 on the front grip strap. This a Gestapo Luger and the number is the registry number for the weapon as assigned within the Gestapo. It bears no relationship to its serial number. This particular Luger came with a matching holster that is dated 1918. The back of the holster shows the SD 1V 1183.

## SS PROOFING

NOTE: A few very Lugers have been noted with SS markings, an example of which is shown in this issue of the LUGER JOURNAL, however, the real significance of this mark is unknown.

A good guess on the origin of the SS mark, though it is only a guess, is that it was a Central Office owned piece with about the same significance as the mark placed on 22 calibre rifles of the same era.

Readers who have additional information on SS and SD marks are encouraged to send them to the Journal where the information will be passed on to our readers.

The SS marking shown in this issue was found on the frame of a byf dated '41.

### OTHER NAZI PARTY MARKINGS

Various other Nazi party marks are sometimes found on Luger pistoles as well as other Nazi era weapons. The more common of the markings are the SA and SA Group marks. The most common of the Nazi era mark is, of course, the WaA proofing and the MA marks which are described in detail in THE IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF LUGER PROOF MARKS book.



Mr. R.D. Lechman sent us information on another SD Luger.

This one is a DWM of the 1920 commercial type. It is marked SD 111 on the front grip strap and it is undated.

Mr. Lechman notes that he has seen several SD 1V Lugers but none marked this way.

The SD 111 Luger was used by the Home Intelligence Section of the SD. It is not a Gestapo weapon since it is not marked SD 1V, but was used by that section of the SD that concerned itself with internal security with Nazi Germany.

Sections within the SD frequently had overlapping authorities and often worked together where responsibilities were not clearly defined. Basically the Gestapo was the official State Police with full investigative and punitive powers. But the overlapping authorities of the SD and the other official state agencies are often confusing to those who try to understand the complexities of Nazi Germany. The overlapping authority, and the confusion, were, however, intentional on the part of Himmler who wanted everyone watching everyone else. Undoubtedly he was the most loyal of all of Hitler's lieutenants and did not want anyone to have power enough to cover any anti-Hitler movements within the structure of the SS. It was effective planning and the SS was adequately policed.

Over the past years the LUGER JOURNAL has accumulated a vast amount of UNPUBLISHED and unknown details on the SS and the SD and a wealth of information on the entire concentration camp system. We hope, someday, to be able to publish this material.

## WHO AND WHAT MADE THE SD AND THE SS POSSIBLE?

Adolf Hitler, the Nazi dictator and supreme ruler of Germany from 1933 until his death in 1945, was the most powerful ruler the world has ever seen.

He personally set the standards for life itself in Germany and in those countries under Germany's influence. Few today can imagine the scope of this man's absolute authority.

Contrary to what the modern world is currently being taught Germany supported this man's control by an overwhelming majority of her people until the Allied war effort brought the grim reality of the Allied superiority to the German people.

Hitler was a confused personality with a great degree of personal magnificence that he was able to convey easily to the German people. Though he was brilliant in many ways he was constantly reducing everything to oversimplified and frequently irrational terms. His racist ideas came from Lanz von Liebenfels who divided people into two groups: Aryan superman and sub-humans who were led by the Jews. Liebenfels believed that these two groups were destined to meet in a struggle that would establish one as the master and the other as the slave. Accepting this theory as gospel Hitler accepted the challenge and conducted his "holy war" to what was for him the logical conclusion, or the death or Final Solution for millions of human beings.

The symbol of the new era would be the sign of knighthood within the Reich, or the runic letters "SS", the official insignia of all of the SS including the SD.

Under the new world order only the racially pure would be allowed to populate while those unworthy would be destroyed or sterilized and used as slaves.

This then is the real meaning of the SD and the SD Lugers are grim reminders of one of the most diabolical eras ever known. The era from which these Lugers come, and the significance of their use, enhances their value, though I have known many collectors who were appalled by their presence and would not add one to their collections no matter what the price.

Though most Luger collectors are primarily interested in the Luger itself, and few are concerned with the political era from which they came, it is fitting to reflect a bit on the tragedy that is a part of every SD Luger.

#### SD 1 LUGER - NUMBER 434

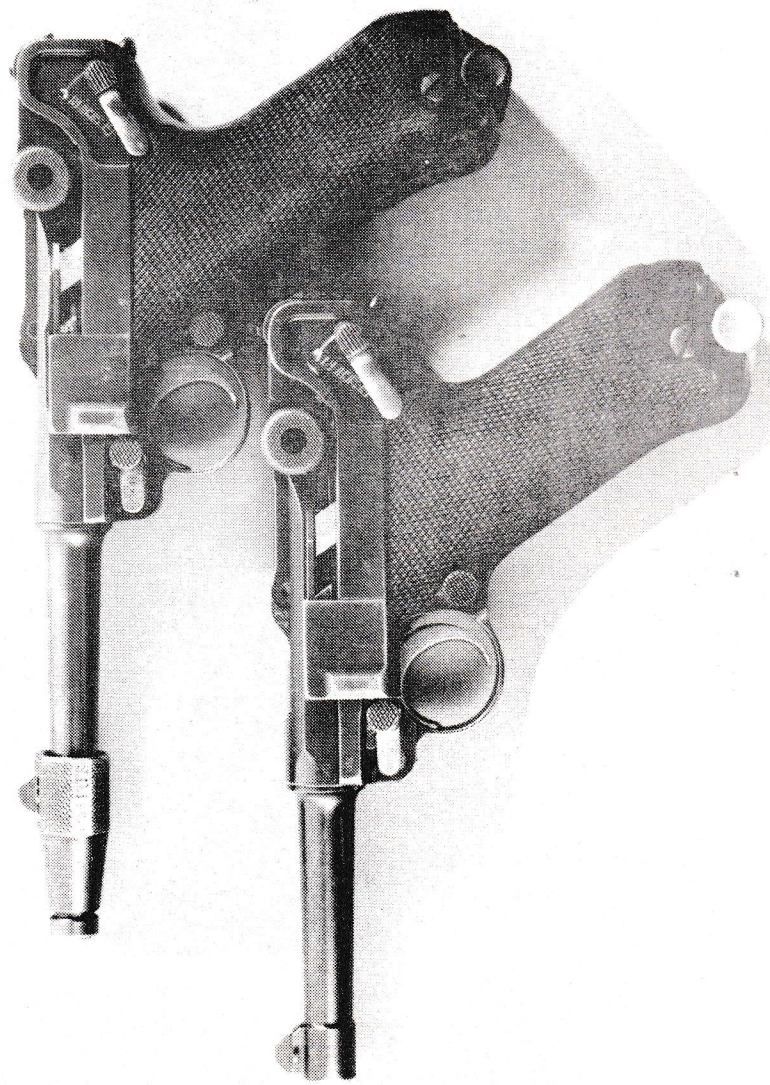
This Luger, serial number 9647b, is stamped on the foregrip with "SD 1 434". Note the photo on page 11. The sub-caliber unit is also so stamped, as can be seen on page 12 in the close-up shot.

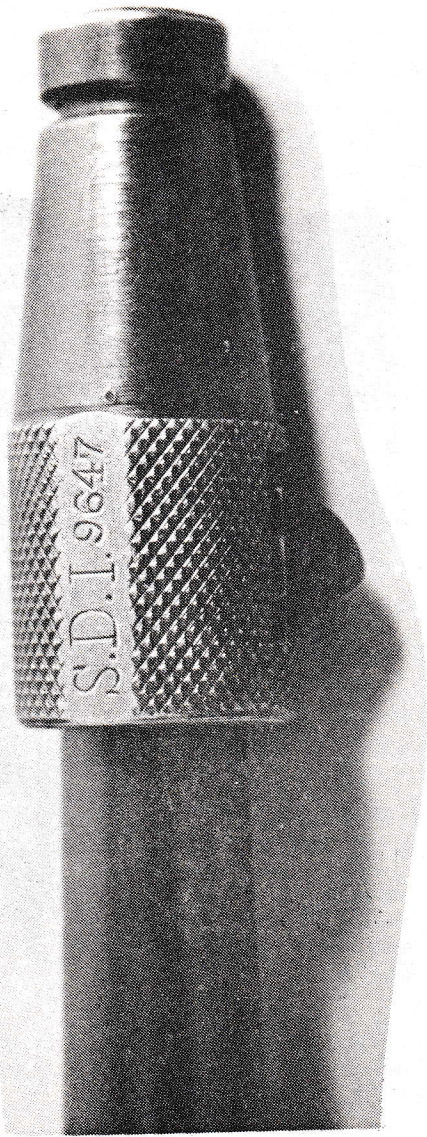
The second Luger, shown in the bottom photo on page 11, is also an SD Luger. It is marked on the front grip strap "SD 1V 195".

A picture of these grip strap markings is shown on page 16.

From the many examples that I have examined, and from the clarity of these two pictures, I would say that both conform to the various types of markings that I have seen.

NOTE: TEXT CONTINUED ON PAGE 19





# AMERICAN EAGLE NAVY

The Luger illustrated on the next page is a very interesting variation which was sent to us by Mr. Richard Seebach.

Note that this is an interesting combination of types. First it is an American Eagle with the Eagle crest over the Chamber. It is an American Eagle of the 1906 variety-without the dished toggles of the 1900 series.

The barrel is unusual for its length is the 6 inch variation applicable to Naval Lugers-but it is slender and true to type for the 1906 series.

The rear sight is the typical Naval type and it has a proper Naval magazine.

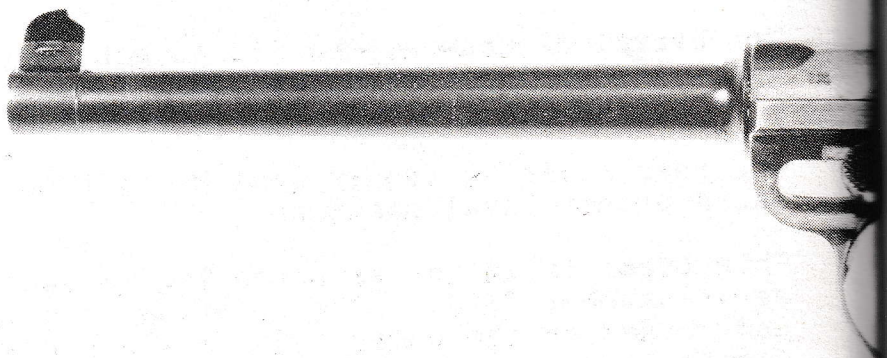
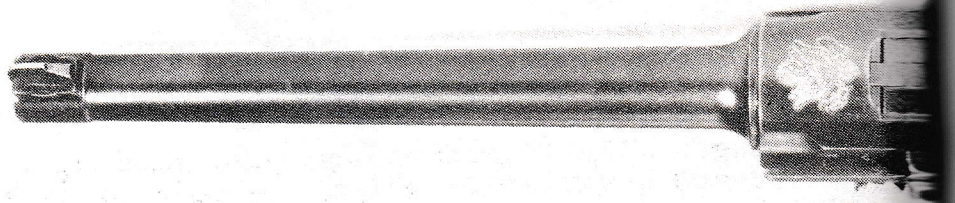
This Luger is in the expected 7.65mm and bears serial number 58539. The proofing is commercial and marked on the under side of the barrel; left side of the receiver; breechblock; and front and rear toggle links. There are no other proofs.

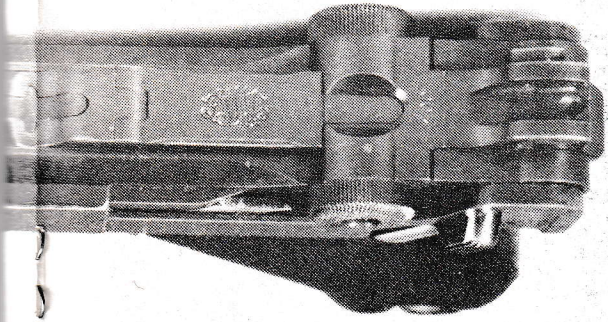
The safety is marked GESICHERT on the lower area of the frame.

QUESTION: Is this a genuine variation; manufactured in this state by DWM; as a commercial variation; or for potential contract sales?

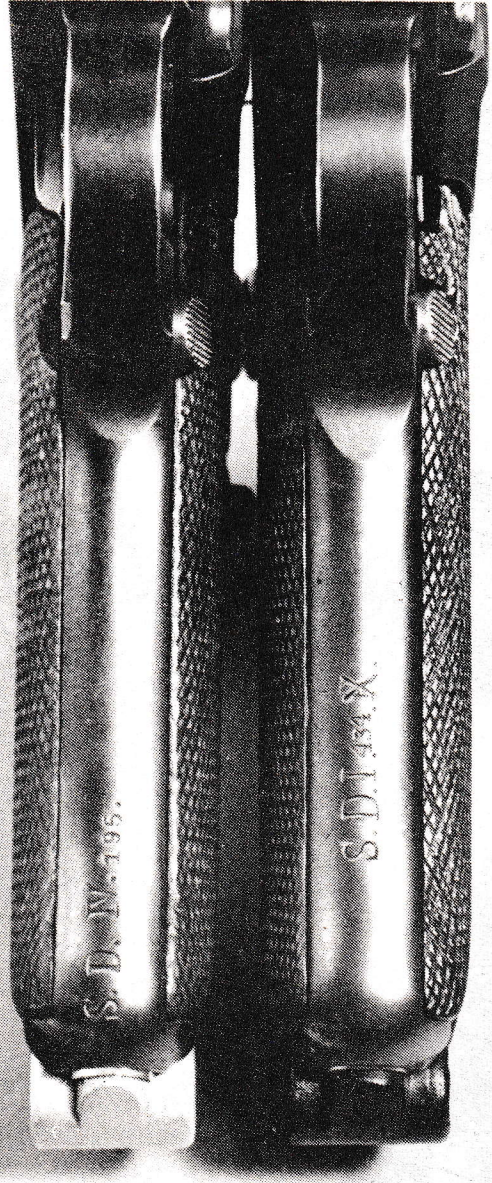
We would like to hear from our readers about this one-and so would Mr. SeeBach.

PS: FOR YOU 1900 AMERICAN EAGLE TEST LUGER FANS  
MR. SEEBACH HAS NUMBER 6514.

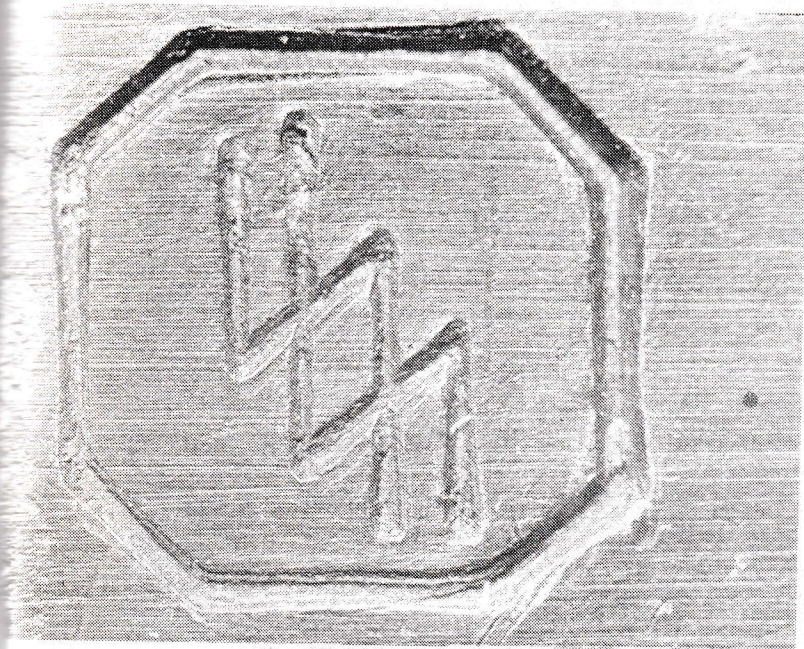












The photo on page 16 shows the grip straps of both of these SD Lugers.

The top Luger is, of course, a Gestapo weapon. Most Gestapo men were in a dual role and were at one time in uniform and another time in plain clothes. Most Germans, however, were able to spot the Gestapo man by his attitude and manner no matter what his dress.

The Gestapo, dressed in the black uniform of the SS, and frequently wearing the long black leather coat, prided themselves in their military bearing and the Luger was an integral part of their uniform. Most of the Lugers used by the SD were encased in the typical black leather holster used by the political forces and bore the SD markings on the rear side.

The bottom Luger, an SD 1, was used by the Personnel and Administrative Section of the SD. It was probably a weapon owned by that Section and used when it was necessary to arm one of its men. It was not uncommon for a member of the SD to carry a sidearm when on duty away from the office since a weapon was considered as a badge of office and, no doubt, gave its bearer an added note of confidence.

It would be proper to note at this point that though the Luger was hardly a pocket pistol, and was superseded in Germany by some outstanding weapons, it was the overwhelming favorite of the SS and was carried by most SS and SD men. Some high ranking officers used the smaller Walther pistols and there was some SS use of the excellent Browning High Power, but the Luger was the choice of most.

The photo on page 17 is of a typical SD Holster, though there really is nothing typical about an item as scarce as this one.

SD and SS marked holsters are really hard to find. The question is asked "were all SS and SD holsters so marked?" and I must reply that I doubt it. Probably official pistols and official holsters were so marked since they were the property of the department but many weapons and accessories were individually obtained and were not so marked. The ones that are marked, however, are the scarce ones and command the top collector prices.

Note that the number on the back of the holster matches the pistol's number and not the SD number. This matching rig is a rare one indeed.

The photo on page 18 adds a little more spice to the soup. This SD 1 rig sports two matching magazines and as if that were not enough you may have noticed that the sub-caliber unit is also matching. This Luger is one that would make many a collector wring his hands in anticipation, one with two matching magazines, a matching holster and a matching sub-caliber assembly.

If you like to speculate a bit you may wish to consider why there is one wood bottom magazine and one aluminum bottom one. The writer, Mr. R.C. Dahlquist, advises us that both are Haenel Schmeisser stainless magazines. If you have an answer send it in and we'll add it to the writer column that will start in the next issue.

We are certainly indebted to Mr. Dahlquist for sending us these excellent photos and the details on these important Nazi era Lugers.

## WAS THE LUGER AN EXTERMINATION WEAPON ?

The Luger is not usually considered to have had much part in the extermination program. It is not easily loaded, the magazine is slow to refill, and generally it is much less efficient than any of the sub-machine guns used by the SS. However, the Luger may very well have served the SD as an extermination weapon.

The records of the War Crimes Commission bear out the fact that SS and SD Officers frequently joined in the mass murders, often using their own sidearms for that purpose.

The records on Adolf Eichmann seem to point out that he too may have been directly involved in the execution program, though there is a great deal of controversy on the subject.

There is, however, historical evidence that SS and SD men did help with the executions when they visited the concentration camps, and probably just to prove that they had the stomach for it.

I have an SD marked Luger that may have been used for just such a purpose. It shows a great deal of internal wear, and signs of having fired an extremely excessive amount of ammunition. Oddly enough this particular Luger has a slight bulge in the barrel, one of the FEW that I have ever seen in a Luger barrel. After you have thought about that for awhile you may wish to speculate on how the bulge got there.

### VALUE OF THE SD LUGERS

The value of the SD Luger is dependent upon the particular variation that the SD was applied to. Most SD Lugers are DWM of the Nazi Rework era, and most are of the first type of rework

which bears the DWM toggle. I cannot recall ever having seen an SD marking on a later Mauser type though that is possible and I would appreciate being advised if any of our readers know of one.

It is quite likely that the SD Lugers were issued before the war and that later pieces that were issued to the SS and SD were not marked for security purposes.

The value of the SD Lugers, however, has increased considerably with the rapidly increasing interest in the Nazi era. Most SD Lugers that I have seen sold by knowledgeable collectors bring prices near the \$400. mark and it is likely that they will rise even further as the word on this scarce piece spreads.

Since Nazi Reworks without the SD sell in the \$250 to \$375. bracket one can see that the SD adds about another \$100. or so to the value. Considering the price of a genuine SS Chained Dagger an authentic SD Luger, which is a great deal rarer, may be quite a buy for the collector interested in the Third Reich era.

THE LUGER JOURNAL

## THE LUGER JOURNAL PRICING GUIDE FOR COLLECTORS

NOTE: VALUES ARE FOR COLLECTORS ITEMS RANGING FROM MINT TO NRA GOOD, MOST ARE BOUGHT SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN THESE TWO FIGURES.

1900 PROTOTYPE-GL marked 7" BBL.	\$5000
1900 COMMERCIAL	500-350
1900 SWISS	500-300
1900 AMERICAN EAGLE	450-250
1900 AMERICAN EAGLE TEST RANGE	1400-750
1900 CASE WITHOUT LUGER	350
1900 BOX WITHOUT LUGER	250
1900 SMOOTH GRIP less holster	650-450
1900 BULGARIAN (7.65mm)	2450-
1900 BULGARIAN NAZI REWORK	1400-
1900 PORTUGUESE (7.65)	na
1900 RUSSIAN	na
1902 CARBINE PROTOTYPE	7500-3000
1902 CARBINE	2000-750
1902 COMMERCIAL	2100-800
1902 AMERICAN EAGLE	1900-750
1902 CARTRIDGE COUNTER	3500-1800
1904 NAVY (6" BBL)	2600-1600
1904 ALTERED NAVY	2000-900
1906 COMMERCIAL	400-275
1906 SWISS MILITARY	500-275
1906 SWISS POLICE	500-250
1906 SWISS COMMERCIAL	650-300
1906 AMERICAN EAGLE (7.65mm)	450-250
1906 AMERICAN EAGLE (9mm)	600-350
1906 AMERICAN EAGLE - STOEGERS	750
1906 BRAZILIAN	450-275
1906 DUTCH	550-
1906 PORTUGUESE ARMY	350-225
1906 PORTUGUESE NAVY	1400-550
1906 BULGARIAN	1100-650
1906 VICKERS DUTCH	650-350
1906 NAVAL COMMERCIAL	1400-550
1906 NAVAL-FIRST ISSUE	750-400
1906 NAVAL-SECOND ISSUE	750-400
1908 NAVAL	700-400
1908 MILITARY	275-175



1908	COMMERCIAL	450-275
1908	NAVAL COMMERCIAL	850-700
1908	ERFURT	250-175
1913	COMMERCIAL	600-450
1914	COMMERCIAL	550-375
1914	NAVAL	600-350
1914	DWM MILITARY	350-175
1914	ERFURT MILITARY	400-200
1914	DWM ARTILLERY	425-225
1914	ERFURT ARTILLERY	475-275
1914	DOUBLE-DATED	350-175
1914	POLICE	350-175
1914	BIG-9 ARTILLERY	450
1920	DWM COMMERCIAL	275-175
1920	NAVY COMMERCIAL	650-450
1920	COMMERCIAL ARTILLERY	500-250
1920	CARBINE	1900-800
1920	DOUBLE DATED	350-175
1920	POLICE	350-175
1920	NEW COMMERCIAL	350-200
1920	BLANK TOGGLE	400-250
1920	SWISS REWORK	400-250
1920	STOEGER	700-500
1923	ABERCROMBIE & FITCH	950
1923	COMMERCIAL	300-200
1923	SAFE AND LOADED 4" BBL	375-275
1923	SAFE AND LOADED 8" BBL	500-275
1923	DUTCH COMMERCIAL	500-350
1923	DUTCH AIRFORCE	650-350
1923	RUSSIAN	850
1906/1924	WAFFEN. BERN	550-275
1929	SWISS	600-250
	SIMSON & CO.	475-225
	SIMSON & CO. GRIP SAFETY	900
	SIMSON S CODE	500-250
	SIMSON BLANK TOGGLE NAZI REWORK	400-275
1929	MAUSER REWORK-DWM TOGGLE	375-250
1929	MAUSER REWORK-BLANK TOGGLE	350-250
1933	MAUSER LARGE K REWORKS	375-275
1934	MAUSER COMMERCIAL SWISS-GRIP SAFE.	900
1934	MAUSER COMMERCIAL SWISS NO GRIP	1000
1934	MAUSER COMMERCIAL GRIP SAFETY	900

1934 MAUSER COMMERCIAL-NO GRIP	500-350
1934 MAUSER BANNER	400-275
1934 MAUSER BANNER-LATVIAN	525-350
1934 MAUSER BANNER-DATED	475-350
1934 MAUSER DUTCH	750-375
1934 MAUSER BUNDES-HEER	400-200
1934 MAUSER S/42 K DATE	475-225
1934 MAUSER S/42 G DATE	375-200
1934 MAUSER DATED CHAMBERS	275-175
1934 MAUSER TWO DIGIT DATES	275-175
1934 MAUSER BYF CODES	250-175
1934 MAUSER Ku TYPES	450-300
1934 MAUSER 42 CODES	275-175
1934 MAUSER GNR PORTUGUESE	400-250
MAUSER STOEGER	700-300
MAUSER STOEGER ARTILLERY	850-400
1923 KRIEGHOFF/DWM	450-250
1923 KRIEGHOFF FRAME INSCRIPTION	2000
1934 KRIEGHOFF ANCHOR TOG.COM.-FEUER	2500
1934 KRIEGHOFF S DATE	500-300
KRIEGHOFF DATED	500-275
KRIEGHOFF 1945	900

#### LUGER ACCESSORIES

HOLSTERS-COMMON 4" TYPES	20- 6
ARTILLERY HOLSTER	60- 15
NAVAL HOLSTERS	50- 15
US TEST HOLSTER	150-
SWISS HOLSTER-EARLY	25- 10
SWISS HOLSTER-LATER TYPES	20- 10
CONTRACT HOLSTERS	30- 20
COMMON CLIPS-WOOD BOTTOM	20- 5
SCHMEISER CLIPS	20- 10
9mm MARKED CLIPS	50
NAVAL CLIPS	30- 15
COMMON CLIPS-ALUM.BOTTOM	15- 5
DRUM MAGAZINES	150- 75
LOADING TOOLS	100- 75
CONVERSION KITS-BOXED	300-100
CLEANING RODS	25- 10
OLD AMMUNITION CASES-LEATHER	35- 20

## ADVERTISEMENT S

THE LUGER JOURNAL-SUBSCRIPTION IS JUST \$6.00 FOR FOUR ISSUES.

THE IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF LUGER PROOF-MARKS: WE HAVE A FEW OF THESE BOOKS LEFT AT \$7.50 AND NO PLANS TO REPRINT IT WHEN IT IS SOLD OUT. THE IDENTIFICATION AND PRICING OF LUGER PISTOLS IS LONG OUT OF PRINT AND WE ARE SORRY THAT IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE.

HAND GUNS OF THE THIRD REICH: WE HAVE A FEW OF THESE SMALL BOOKLETS LEFT AT \$3.00 PER COPY.

BACK ISSUES OF THE LUGER JOURNAL ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE HOWEVER WE HAVE PLANS TO REPRINT THE ENTIRE SERIES IN 1973, WHEN AVAILABLE IT WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE LUGER JOURNAL.

THE JOURNAL OF THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY IS JUST \$6.00 A YEAR FOR FOUR QUARTERLY ISSUES. THE LATEST, ON STONEWALL JACKSON IS AVAILABLE AT \$2.00 PER SINGLE COPY. THIS 82 PAGE WORK WITH PLENTY OF ILLUSTRATIONS AND SOME COLOR IS NEARLY ALL SOLD OUT-JUST 200 COPIES REMAIN-AND IT IS DESTINED TO BECOME A COLLECTORS ISSUE. IF YOU APPRECIATE THE SOUTH YOU WILL APPRECIATE THIS ISSUE. WRITE JSC BOX 326, JASPER, FLA. 32052.

## COMING NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the LUGER JOURNAL will feature the most beautiful of all Lugers-the great carbines.

We hope that this will be a photo album of the various types with several of each included. We have some photos of these Lugers but we need more.

If you can supply us with some carbine pictures we will be most appreciative and I think you will enjoy seeing your beauty in print.

Since we have quite a bit already completed for this issue-including the basic research work-we should be ready for print in a little over seven weeks so if you have something please send it in as soon as possible.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

THE LUGER JOURNAL is presently doing research on the STOEGER LUGERS and our finding will be published in a subsequent issue of the Journal.

If you have information or photos on this type please send them to us. We need details also on serials numbers, proof marks, inscriptions etc. and we need your help.

We are also in the process of accumulating research material on the VICKERS TYPES and need more, and photos, on these too.