

The Luger Journal

NUMBER TWENTY SEVEN

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EDITOR'S NOTES

This issue of *THE LUGER JOURNAL* is the first one ever set in type. While we have always printed our paper and that is to say that it has never been mimeographed we have never been able to have it type set. This month we add this most pleasant addition to the paper and one for which we owe a great big debt of gratitude to Mr. William H. Muldoon, 111, of the Virgin Islands, a Luger collector and subscriber to our paper. Thanks, Bill, for your help and generosity and one that will be most welcomed by all our readers.

A CHECK HERE MEANS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION ENDS WITH THIS ISSUE. PLEASE SEND YOUR RENEWAL IN TODAY.

THE IDENTIFICATION AND PRICING OF LUGER PISTOLES

We are very pleased to report that this work was very well received and that we are presently preparing our first supplement which will include the latest pricing revision. For those readers who have not yet ordered their copy and who are interested in this the most complete listing of Lugers ever printed we suggest that you send in your order by return mail.

We printed only enough copies to supply about one half of our readers and our supply is now almost depleted. When this supply is gone that will probably be it because we do not, at this point, intend to reprint it. Should we reprint it later it will be a 2nd edition and at a much higher price. Limited issue books such as this one are expensive to produce in small quantities and hardly worth the trouble. So just a word to the wise – if you don't want to be sorry later send in your \$7.50 now and receive one of the few remaining copies.

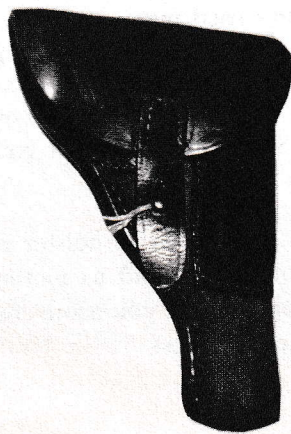
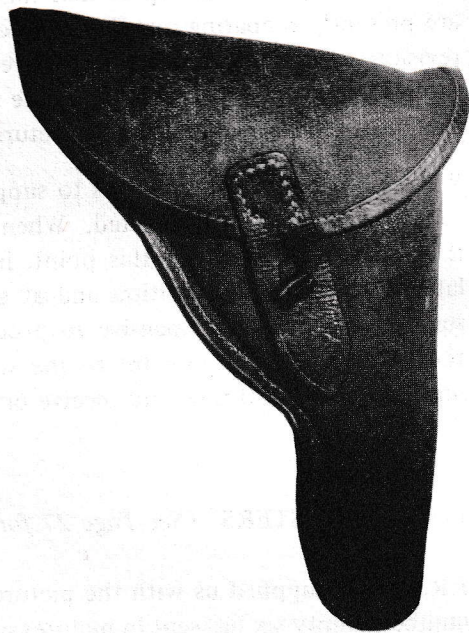
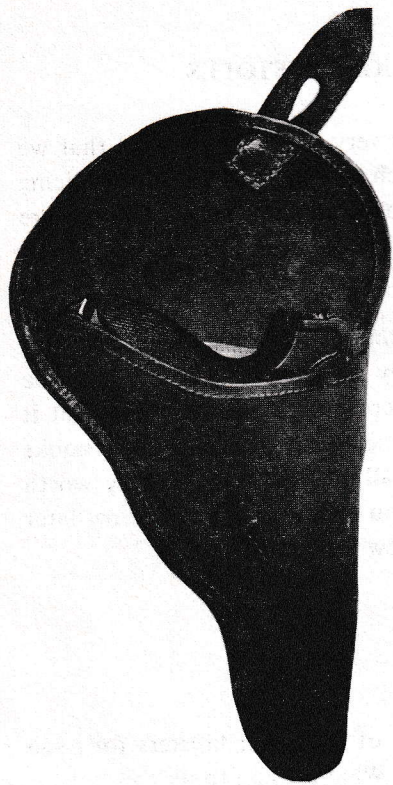
LUGER HOLSTERS *(See Page 27 for Photos)*

J.R.C. who supplied us with the pictures of some of his Luger holsters for issue number twenty six has sent in pictures of another. What do you think this holster is for?

Its owner states that he has tried many revolvers in it and none have fit it but a 4" Luger does. Can any readers identify this as a Luger holster?

Pictures Number 40 and 41 are of this holster while number 42 is one of mine and is from a Sauer and Sohn automatic that comes with documentary evidence that it is from the Africa Corps.

We are still collecting pictures for an all holster issue and invite any readers who have interesting Luger holsters to send us pictures and details. If you give us permission we will be happy to give you name credits with the story. We will also protect any confidences upon request.



LUGER MODEL KI 1933

The Luger featured in this month's issue is one of the most elusive Third Reich models we have ever covered. For several months we have written everywhere and explored every avenue opened to us for information about this piece. We have been able to determine that there was legitimately such a Luger – these are not fakes – but historically we have little to shed on the total story. What we do have comes to us from Kapitanleutnant Mohr, formerly a U-boat Commander of the Deutsches Kriegsmarine. We are indebted to him for this information.

THE KI 1933 LUGER *by Kurt Mohr* (Edited by Robert B. Marvin)

When Bob Marvin 1st asked me to write of my recollections concerning the Kadet Institute I was able to recall only a little of the early N.S.D.A.P. educational system, but I did seem to recall that the K.I. was a highly secret training program for future leaders of the SS.

I must confess, in all honesty, that I still recall only a very little of the school system but through first hand experience with the Third Reich I am able to make some valid deductions that may help in uncovering the cloak of secrecy that covered the early years of Nazi Germany.

As I have explained before, in other works published by Mr. Marvin, I had very little personal contact with the political society in Germany during the Hitler era. I was a Navy man, a professional, and our Navy is already recorded in the history books as having opposed Hitler and by being opposed by him. Of course we were exposed to the Nazi's and we most certainly did accept Hitler as our leader and we did admire and respect him, yes we did love him too – for a time, especially in the early years, but there was a great deal of secrecy and intrigue in Germany all during this time.

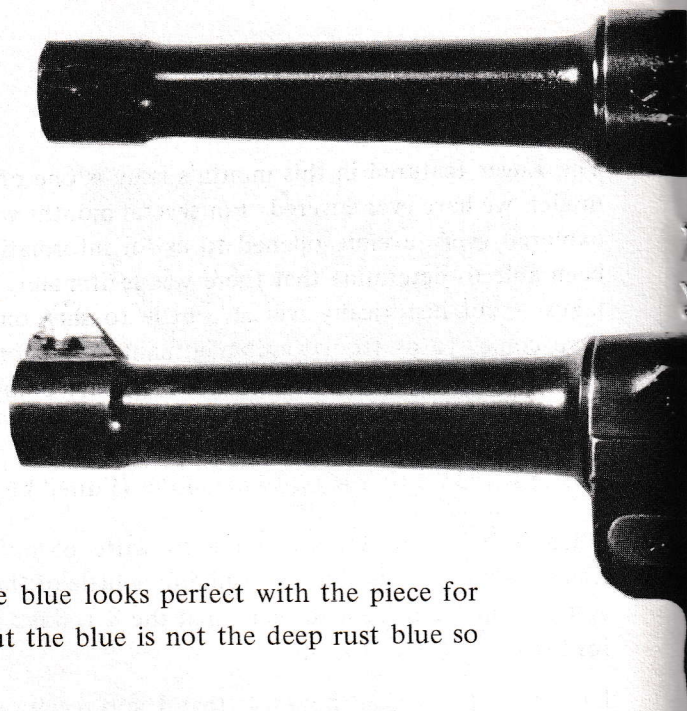
In 1933 the SS was in the development stage and while the Army and the Navy were merely carryovers from World War One the political society, including the SA and the SS, were still fighting for a position in the Nazi military scheme. As best as I can remember most professional military men considered the Nazi's to be a rowdy bunch of cut-throats and few professional soldiers and sailors defected to the ranks of the SS and the SA.

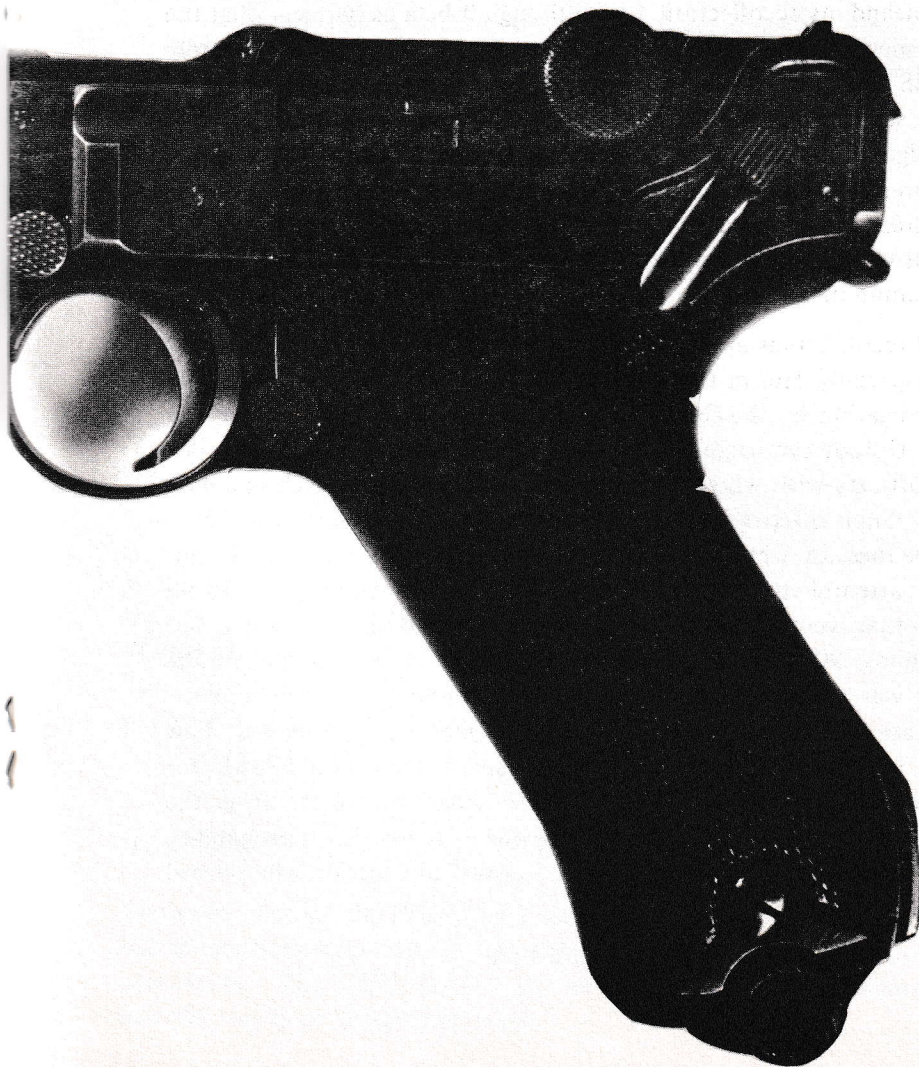
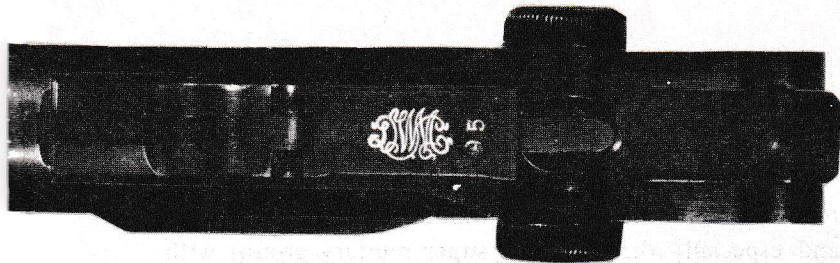
Essentially a military Luger of the World War One era this KI, number 595, bears only WW1 type proofs. It has no Nazi markings on it which support the theory that it is, or was, a politically issued Luger rather than a military version.

The finish has definitely been refinished somewhere along the way for some pitting is obvious under the bright WW2 type blue that is now on the piece. The blue looks perfect with the piece for both are children of the same era but the blue is not the deep rust blue so typical of DWM.

Note that the toggle bears the DWM markings and the last two digits of the serial numbers are where expected. All parts match.

One interesting feature of this Luger is that it has a little used look about it, and though the small amount of pitting it has here and there tell some of the story from the WW1 chapter and quality of the finish and little use to the later Nazi finish tells another side. We think that this is a very interesting Luger.





The officer corps was especially loyal to their respective military branches and therefore the political forces were without adequately trained leaders, and because Hitler wanted the SA and especially the SS to be super military groups with discipline that only comes from military training the problem was especially acute.

It is my contention, and my recollection – even though it be a hazy one – that the KI trained these men for top leadership positions in the SS. I am absolutely certain that the SS maintained leadership schools for the purpose of training SS officers and these schools dwelled heavily in the ethnic concepts of Nazism. It is common knowledge today that these especially trained SS men had a super loyalty to the Fuhrer and the political state rather than to the Country. Of course the military disagreed rather violently with the political powers over the differences in their relative allegiances and this prompted a further gap in our already strained lines of communication.

My own personal recollections are, admittedly, clouded by personal experiences with the SS, – especially late in the war when U-Boot officers were frequently subjected to interrogation by the Gestapo and threatened by the SS for their lack of success in the U-Boot campaign. Fortunately I had no such 1st hand experience but fellow officers with whom I was friendly did and we shared a common bond as a result. Such interrogation usually concerned Kapitans who returned with unfired torpedoes, or who had records of few successful attacks. At this point I will not attempt to explain the circumstances of such unsuccessful attacks, situations that were considered to be proof of a Kapitan's cowardice, but I will state that almost 90% of the U-Boot force was lost at sea, and that in the later stages of the war these brave men had very little training and no experience. Our ships were faced with overwhelming odds and superior equipment. Few U-Boots survived multiple voyages and yet Hitler and the SS would settle for nothing less than victory. These philosophies and fanaticisms came from the political schools and I am certain that the KI was one of these. In all probability the school was founded early in the Nazi era and ceased to function when it had served its purpose.

— *Kurt Mohr*



In the detailed picture above the KI and the 1933 have been filled in with engravers chalk to provide a clearer image of the stamping. The letters and date are definitely punched into the receiver. The image is not engraved. The depth is very deep in the image and was obviously put there by some massive machinery. The fact that the image is punched rather than engraved is some measure of the quantity of these Lugers that must have been produced. I doubt that the Nazi Party would have gone to the trouble to make tools to punch the image unless a quantity were made or *WERE EXPECTED TO BE MADE*.

NEXT ISSUE OF THE LUGER JOURNAL

The next issue of the *JOURNAL* will feature a Swiss rework of the 1920(?) era. All subscribers who have Swiss reworks of this or earlier periods are invited to contribute. The main Luger in our story has the characteristics of a 1906 commercial and is an interesting piece.

COMMERCIAL SECTION

(See inside front cover for rates)

STOLEN GUNS The following Lugers are reported to be stolen: **1900 COMMERCIAL #4825** stamped Germany; **1908 COMMERCIAL #40729** "BUG" proofs and British proofs, 9mm; **ERFURT ARTILLERY** dated 1914 **#5193A**, 9mm; **DWM MILITARY** dated 1915 **#5694C**, 9mm; **ERFURT DOUBLE DATE** 1920 over 1916 **#7158J**, British proofs, 9mm; **1920 POLICE**, DWM, dated 1920 **#2926A**, 9mm, Police marks; **S/42 G DATE**, **#6292D**, 9mm; **S/42 DATED** 1937 **#4970R**, 9mm; **MAUSER BANNER** dated 1940 **#4520X**, 9mm; **byf 42**, **#1538H**; **CODE 42** dated 41, **#628Q**. Anyone with information about any of these Lugers please contact Major Byron W. Phillips, 6958 E. Calle Denebola, Tucson, Arizona 85710.

LUGERS FOR SALE - LARGE LIST 6 months subscription \$1.25. Write Ralph E. Shattuck, 6661 Castle Drive, Birmingham, Michigan.

LUGER PARTS FOR SALE, also 1 LOADING TOOL \$100. Write Michael Reese, 3619 State Street Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana 70125

WANTED 1900 LUGER NRA Fair to Good condition; Must match, cannot afford higher grade. James McAllister, Box 5602, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

LUGERS FOR SALE - WRITE FOR LIST to Ernest B. Berry, School of Textiles, North Carolina State, Raleigh, North Carolina

WANTED 1913 DATED LUGERS Lugers with letters K, L or F below Eagle proof; Brown Luger grips or black grips without number markings on inside. Dowler, 842 S. Poplar, Wichita, Kansas

WANTED REAR TANGENT SIGHT for 8" Artillery Luger. Also original cleaning rod. Jerry Fisher, 322 Gordon Street, Piqua, Ohio 45356

TRADE SEVERAL LUGERS FOR NAVALS, also need Simson 02 side plate, trigger take down lever and holdopen. D. W. Cain, Rt. #1, McCook, Nebraska 69001

FOR SALE 1900 BULGARIAN-NAZI REWORK This is one of the rarest of all Lugers and the very rarest 1900 contract. Only 4 are known of the 1900 Bulgarians and only 2 are Nazi reworks. This Luger has been factory altered by the Nazi's to 9mm with the later coil type recoil spring. See *THE LUGER JOURNAL* for full particulars ISSUE NUMBER SIX. You'll probably never see another for sale. \$750.00 **KRIEGHOFF S DATE LATE, #3273**, a near mint piece. This Luger has only spotty blue wear but mostly the absolutely fabulous high gloss Krieghoff finish. This is **LJ404** \$350.00. 98% original finish; **1908 3rd ISSUE MILITARY** in Excellent + condition. This Luger, **#4050**, has a matching magazine, 97% original blue and straw coloring, has the letters "S.B." (?) on the front grip strap. Collection quality \$175 **LJ121**; **LJ394 KRIEGHOFF/DWM UNDATED** The first series Krieghoff and very seldom seen anywhere. This Luger, **#9853**, is near mint 99% original blue, perfect grips and just a beautiful and extremely rare Luger \$400.00. **1906 7.65mm AMERICAN EAGLE** in near mint condition. 98% of the original bright shiny blue finish, near perfect grips \$275.00. **LJ70**. Send statement with your order. Robert B. Marvin, P.O. Box 12206, Plantation, Florida. **NOTE: MANY OF THESE LUGERS HAVE APPEARED IN THE LUGER JOURNAL.**

WANTED LOCKING BOLT FOR 1914 ERFURT ARTILLERY Serial #25, Richard A. Brewer, RR #2, Liberty, Indiana 47353

FIREARMS LEGISLATION

For those of us who were rightfully concerned over recent firearms legislation and the prospects of having interstate trading and selling curtailed it now appears that an extensive network of "dealers who will ship for you for a price" is developing.

The *SHOTGUN NEWS* and other periodicals have been encouraging such an action and it appears that such a dealer network will be an effective means for the trading to continue.

Legislators we have contacted all state that their aim is only to prevent crime and not to hinder the legitimate collector. We hope they mean what they say.

Generally the correspondence we receive is 90% optimistic and there is no question that the price is going up. We think there is good reason to believe that the December deadline for Interstate shipments will actually cause a spurt in firearms sales as collectors try and obtain one or more of the needed pieces for their collections. We know we have bought more Lugers in the past few months than we bought the whole rest of the year.

OTHER WORKS PUBLISHED BY THE LUGER JOURNAL

THE IDENTIFICATION AND PRICING OF LUGER PISTOLES

New and just released this work lists about 350 Luger variations, the most complete, by far, of any work ever attempted. Each Luger is given a permanent identifying number used in *THE LUGER JOURNAL* and available for use by all Luger collectors as a ready reference.

ILLUSTRATED THE PRICE IS \$ 7.50 FOR LJ SUBSCRIBERS
\$10.00 NON LJ SUBSCRIBERS

THE BOOKLET OF LUGER PROOFMARKS

The secret to proper Luger identification is often proofing. This work describes, and illustrates, just about every Luger proofmark and is most important for all interested in Luger identification.

ILLUSTRATED \$2.00

NAZI RELICS QUARTERLY

This work is published quarterly by THE MUSEUM OF THE DEUTSCHES REICH and features unpublished material and little known information on relics of THE THIRD REICH including weapons, daggers, uniforms, hats, medals, books and anything else from this most interesting era.

ILLUSTRATED THE PRICE IS \$5.00 (4 QUARTERLY ISSUES)

SECRET NAZI CODES

A listing of almost every Nazi armament code \$2.00

WALTHER VALUES

This work lists most of the major and minor variations of Walther rifles and pistols and lists the average price for most of them. \$2.00

MAUSER VALUES

This is a companion work to Walther Values and lists most of the Mauser variations of both rifles and pistols with a valuation of most. \$2.00

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