

The Luger Journal

NUMBER TWENTY EIGHT

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EDITOR'S NOTE.

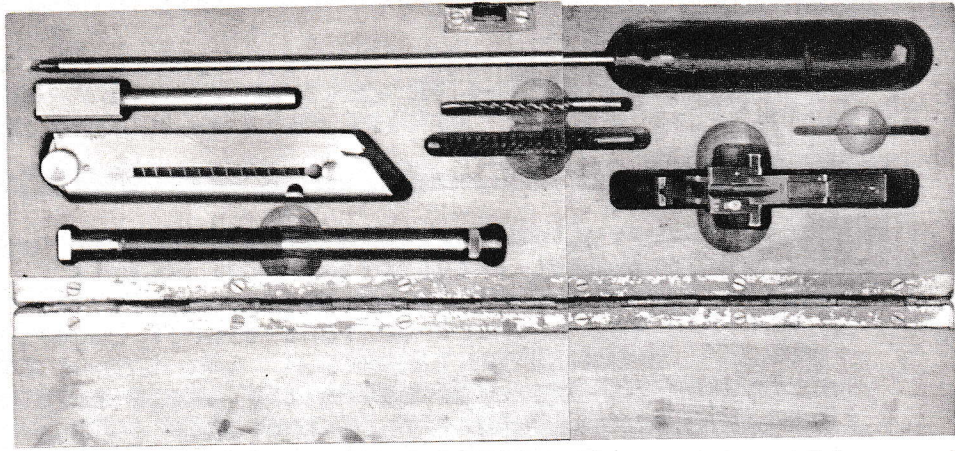
While this issue of the Luger Journal is numbered 28, it is really not issue number 28 at all, but is in fact the issue we planned for number 29. Issue 28 was lost some place between our offices and the Virgin Islands where it was sent to be typeset; therefore, we regret that we cannot yet present the article we had planned on the Swiss Rework of the 1920's. Also, all the advertisers of the Commercial Section were lost with our articles and so they also do not appear in this month's issue. Should the lost issue turn up or be located, it will, of course, be published as a subsequent edition.

THE ERMA 22 CALIBRE LUGER CONVERSION OF 1932

The accessory item for this month's Luger Journal is a most interesting one. It is a cased and dated (1942) conversion kit in 22 calibre for a short or long barrel Luger.

The bottom of the case bears the large bold letters R.R. and under that the date 1932. The top bears a German Marinen Proof, a large scriptic M and the further identification N. 91. The combination of these numbers, ensignia, and letters indicates that this case was issued to the German Navy in 1932. Contained within the kit are a barrel, which fits within the Luger barrel, a toggle assembly, a large ten-shot magazine, a cleaning tool, and also an item that was designed to be inserted within the barrel for cleaning purposes. The kit also contains several brushes, a slot within the case for the Luger extractor, which is removed from the Luger before these items are inserted converting it to 22 calibre.

The barrel has a sleeve which is used when the barrel is inserted in a 4 inch Luger and which is removed when the barrel is inserted in an 8 inch artillery model. The items fit either size Luger very easily and make the Luger an outstanding 22 calibre handgun. We have tried this item in several of our Lugers, for the first time out of curiosity, but since then, out of pure pleasure. There is no



BOTTOM OF THE CASE.



TOP OF THE CASE.



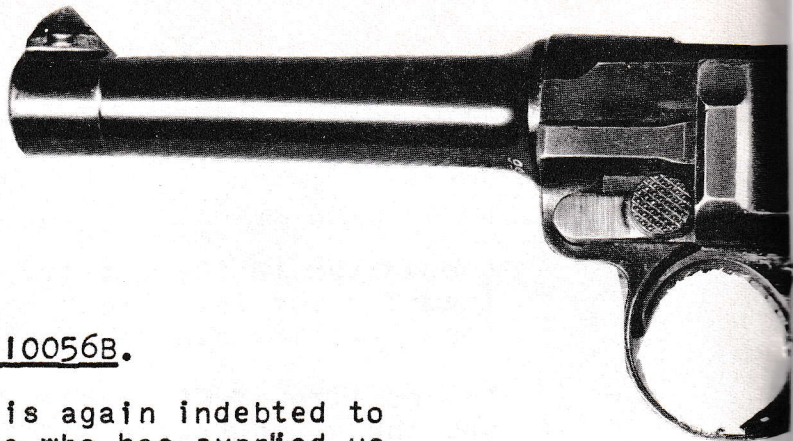
comparison to the quality of this Pre-War item and the later Post-War conversion kits that have invaded the American market.

The quality of all parts is unusually high and the kit operates within the Luger without malfunction.

All of the parts are serial numbered and proofed and some of the items bear the large N-91 for the Navy group to which this accessory was issued.

The toggle assembly is particularly interesting because it bears the engraved Eagle over M and the N.91, and also because it bears a WAA proof numbered 49. This part is beautifully made and is finished with a high gloss blue finish typical of the early 1930's.

The examples of conversion kits in this condition are rare indeed and command a high price on today's collectors' market. If you have one of these in your collection, you can be very proud of this addition.



1902 LUGER NUMBER 10056B.

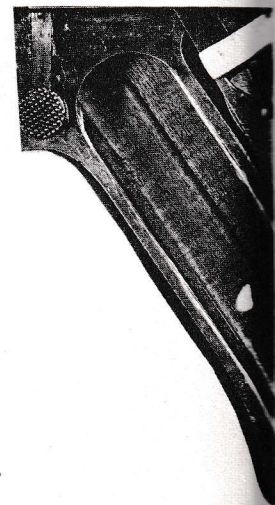
The Luger Journal is again indebted to Mr. Joseph Pagniano who has supplied us with the information and photos of this month's feature Luger. This Luger is of the experimental series, bearing the B series numbers.

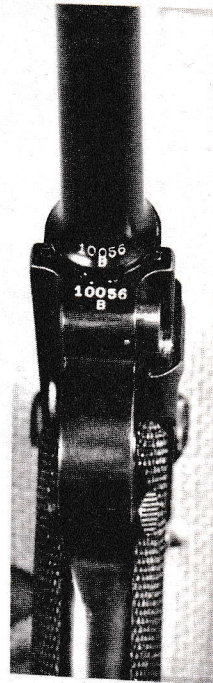
This Luger is basically a 1902 Commercial, but it bears no inspector or proof marks. It does not have anything on the chamber area, but it does have the DWM Crest on the toggle area.

The major difference between this 1902 Commercial and other 1902 Commercials is that the grip safety is cut differently, as can be seen in the illustration. This feature is definitely original to this particular Luger and probably represents some manufacturing change that Luger was experimenting with.

Mr. Pagniano does not give us any further information regarding this pistol, which, of course, indicates that very little information is available regarding this particular piece.

Mr. Pagniano notes that he is aware of about five other 10,000 B series Lugers which range from the low 10,000 to the high 10,070's.





This in itself would indicate that at least 70 odd of these pistols were made and some others may yet be hidden in some unsuspecting owner's attic. Mr. Pagniano also comments that there are probably some fakes around, and we would like to comment that we have also heard of at least several examples of fake 10,000 B series pistols. So before you spend any big dollars for any one of these items, it would be a good idea to have a letter of authenticity or a guarantee from the owner before you make your purchase.

We would like to commend Mr. Pagniano on the gracious assistance he has given us by supplying us with information on some of the pieces in his very fine collection.

THE DWM POCKET PISTOL

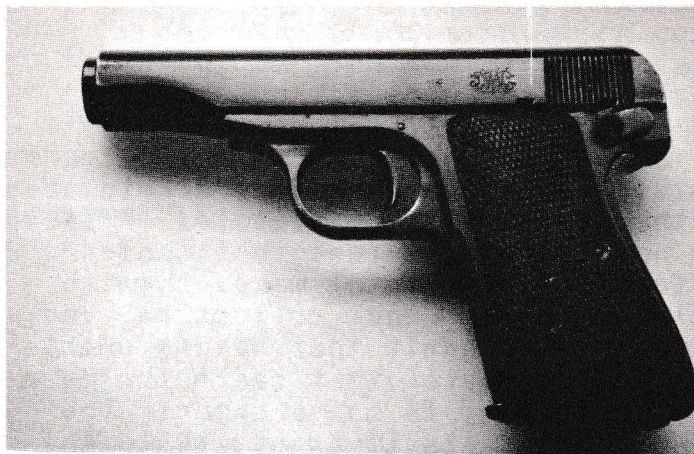
The DWM Pocket Pistol is an interesting design and is to the best of our knowledge, the only other pistol ever manufactured by the famous producer of the Luger pistol.

Both of the pistols illustrated in this month's Luger Journal are blow back weapons with a striker type of firing pin. Both pistols are identical in every way, excepting that the earlier pistol, numbered 41, is blued, while the later pistol, number 1276, is a nickel finish. Both of these finishes are obviously factory types and are of the typical high standard DWM quality. (Note the low numbers.)

The DWM emblem is obvious on the left-hand side of both of these pistols, where a Crown N proof also appears.

Both pistols have a finely checkered walnut type grip with the same checkering that appears on the Luger pistols.

These pistols are relative rarities as very few ever found their way to the United States, and it is estimated that not more than 2000 were manufactured. We would be very interested in knowing of any other DWM pistols in the collections of any of the Luger Journal readers and especially we would like to know



DWM POCKET PISTOLS CALIBRE 7.65 MM.

of any other serial numbers in order to establish the range of these pistols. While they are not Lugers, we feel that their kinship to the Luger pistol makes them an interesting item for Luger collectors, and, of course, we must admit that we are unable to set aside any pistol that bears the DWM trademark even if it is not a Luger. The magic of the Luger itself transmits to the DWM name, and we hold these pistols in high esteem.

Many years ago we became aware of the existence of the DWM pistol, and thereafter set forth seeking one as an example for our collection. We were fortunate to find the nickel plated version a few years ago, and just recently located the blued version. We consider that we were very fortunate inasmuch as these are the only two examples that we have ever seen.

While the DWM pistol's action has a remarkable resemblance to many Browning designs, and in fact, may be based on some Browning patents, the finish is all DWM. It has the same deep blue finish common to all DWM products and beautifully machined parts. The pistol shows a high attention to detail, and an excellent production pattern. All parts fit very well and tight and for a pistol of this size it fits the hand quite well.

We do not have any other information regarding the history of this pistol, though

we feel that there must be some interesting story to its design and production considering that the DWM firm may well have been phasing out or preparing for the end of the Luger production about the same time that this pistol was going into production. If any of our readers have any more information, please advise us in order that we may pass it on to the Luger Journal readers.

COMMERCIAL SECTION (SEE INSIDE FRONT COVER FOR RATES)

STOLEN GUNS: We are pleased to report that the Lugers stolen from MAJOR PHILLIPS, as reported stolen in the last issue of THE LUGER JOURNAL, have been recovered.

FOR SALE THE LUGER JOURNAL offers for sale the original nickel plated DWM featured in this month's issue of THE LUGER JOURNAL. We know that this is a rare pistol, and believe that we should not keep both examples in our collection. Therefore the nickel one is offered at \$200. cash or trade. Write ROBERT B. MARVIN, P.O. BOX 12206, Plantation, Florida.

ALSO FOR SALE:

1908 3rd issue DWM military, 9mm, all matching including clip. Number 4050 in excellent plus condition, some slight blue wear on the high spots but still 98% bright and shiny. This is a tough one-dated 1910. \$200.00

1929/33 NAZI REWORK: This is the hardest one to find-has the DWM toggle PLUS the WaA proof, sear safety, all matching except the clip. 95% original finish with only a little discoloration on the side plate. This Luger is number 7451, was featured in a past issue of THE LUGER JOURNAL, and is priced right at \$175.00. A first class NAZI REWORK.

All these pieces are for sale from Robert B. Marvin, P.O. Box 12206, Plantation, Florida. Send statement and Federal Dealers license or the name and Federal number of a licensed dealer who will handle for you. ALL REGULATIONS, STATE, LOCAL AND FEDERAL MUST BE OBEYED.

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