

THE MAUSER MONTHLY
The newsletter for fans of Mauser rifles - the REAL "Riflemen's Rifle!"
Editor/Publisher - Ward M. Clark, Aurora, Colorado, USA

Edi ti on 1, Vol ume 2

February 1997

*** FIRST ANNI VERSARY I SSUE! ***

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Reader's comments

Dear Mauser fanatics,

I was wondering if anyone could help confirm the pedigree of a rifle I had the great fortune of obtaining a few years ago.

I picked up what appears to be a commercial Husqvarna "Imperial" grade rifle chambered in .308 Win. ser#503490. The gun was imported by FFV sports NY, NY. It is without sights, has a jeweled bolt, a full floating barrel, and exceptionally crisp adjustable trigger. It is stocked in a fancy/extra fancy (french?) walnut with euro style monte carlo cheek piece, 22? LPI checkering, and rosewood forend tip with white line spacers. The gun has all external dimensions, and appearances, of the late 1960s/1970 imperial grade Husqvarna. It has the full length long action receiver (with modified bolt stop for .308 size cartridges), but does not have engraving/swirls on magazine plate. Bolt/chamber/bore are gorgeous!!!

I checked some of the references, but could find no listings for this model in .308. They only list the standard 30-06 length cartridges. Is this a fluke, or do I really have something that rare?

When I got it, the forend had warped so that it pressed against the barrel, causing some traveling groups as the barrel heated up. I opened up the barrel channel, removed the well worn plastic finish and refinished it with many coats of linspeed. I loaded some ammo with 44 gr. IMR 4895 and 150 GR. BTSP with the bullet seated near the lands (it seems to prefer them this way), and can produce approx. .5 moa groups. It might do even better if I fine tune the loads.

I have been considering replacing the stock with a straight 'Classic' style w/ cheek piece (yes I might be crazy). Does anyone know if the Husqvarna Crown/Imperial grade rifles interchange with any of the other more common Mauser stocks (FN, M96, etc.)?

The Blueing is in good shape, but is more of a deep plum brown than a blue/black (bolt shroud/trigger guard/floorplate are black). Is this how they were made, or is this due to the age?

Also, Do these rifles use the same scope mounts as any other commercial/military models?

Thanks,
Lee Scroggi ns
goobr2@ptd.net

Just yesterday, I received 5 bayonets from Century Arms. I took a chance on ordering these, as I can not always count on what the salesman says. These are marked as made by the Serbs and dated '44. Three of the 5 had matching numbered scabbards. The metal and wood finish appears new and

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unissued. They, like the CZ bayonets, do have the bbl ring fitted. For under \$20 , I don't think any collector of Mauser accouterments can go wrong.

Also, Century now has the Brazilian Mausers on sale for \$80. The ones that I've bought all have mismatched bolts, but are in good condition. Some of the bores are bright, while others are dark.

I still believe that the Portuguese Mod 1904's are a steal at \$80. These have come through with snap-on muzzle covers, cleaning rods and slings. Most of the ones that I've gotten have matching numbers and crisp, bright bores.

I have not gotten a clear picture of why the Mauser carbines were made that came out of FN. These were in .308Win. (7.62x51 NATO) and 30-06. One story was that they were made for the Belgian police. Why not give the police an FN-FAL? The other story was that they were made for Moroccan mounted troops. I do not buy that story at all. Why would French Morocco be buying Belgian weapons for her, then troubled colony? Would jealous France not have supplied her own war surplus rifles to the her colonies?

Regardless, these rifles are very neat little Mausers, with their 18" bbls. The barreled action will not fit into a 98k stock. the distance between the mounting bolts is a tad less than that of the 98k.

Thanks to Ward and all who got the Mauser Monthly back on line. I missed it!
Steve Ashe in Md.

I read of a problem with the Yugo Mauser in the most recent Mauser Newsletter. As a FYI, it is still possible and safe to shoot the rifle, if you reload. I had a similar experience many years ago with a '95 in 7mm. I bought it because the wood was absolutely fabulous! No kidding, it was a wonderful figured hardwood (not walnut). After buying the rifle, I discovered the situation you described with the Yugo.

A reloader, using a squib load, can fireform the brass to conform to the larger chamber dimensions. Reloading these "improved" cases is easily accomplished with neck sizing only. My 7mm became a satisfactory shooter, consistently putting five shots into 3" at 100 yards. Of course, the caveat remains: One must identify the piece as having excessive headspace, else someone in the future may cause injury from firing "factory" ammo.

For confirmation of the safety of this practice, consider the vast number of wildcat cartridges and the plethora of "improved" cartridges (made by deliberately creating an excess headspace condition!).

Keep your powder, trout flies...and martinis dry,

Jim Funderburg - a pilgrim still

Ward,

There was one more source of Crevena Zastava rifles: (Publisher's Note - these are the Interarms Mk X actions) GIs' returning from Europe. I spent a couple of years stationed in Germany circa '89-91, and brought back a 'Stutzen' in .308 Win. It has a full length stock, and, of course, a short barrel, making it a very handy rifle. Open sights, too. My only complaint is the wood used for the stock is a light brown that doesn't do much for me... Someday I'll have a stockmaker replace it with a nice piece of walnut with some figure.

I also brought back two Santa Barbara M98 Mauser clones. These were kits. The metal was in the white, and the stock was unfinished. I just mailed one out to a gunsmith in Montana for custom work to be performed. The cost of these kits was around \$200, so not a bad price. They were the commercial Mauser style like the CZ mentioned above. Parker-Hales' were also available to the GIs' in Europe. Allegedly they were built around spare 03-A3 bolts! They were as close

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to a M98 as you could get without being an outright clone.

Gotta love them M98s!

Ray

Publisher's comments

by: Ward M. Clark (WCLARK1046@aol.com)

This month mark a landmark issue of sorts for the Mauser Monthly. One year ago this month I published the first newsletter, which was e-mailed to approximately 30 people (if memory serves.)

This issue will be mailed to over a hundred of you, all over the world. I'm pretty proud of this baby, and all of you should be too, as I couldn't keep this thing going without your contributions.