

If for some reason, you no longer wish to receive these e-mails please accept our apologies and respond to this message with REMOVE in the subject line and we will remove your name from the mailing list.

Citizens Association for Responsible Gun Ownership = CARGO

[www.cargogunclub.org](http://www.cargogunclub.org)

=====

Hello Fellow CARGO Members,

**The next meeting will be held at Napoli's on Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup>.**

We will meet at Napoli's in Wylie.

Napoli's

701 N Highway 78 # A

Wylie, TX 75098

For the dinner portion of the meeting, we will be in the meeting room between 5:45 and 7:00 for food and fellowship. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and run until about 9:00.

**Under the new Texas Open Carry Law, you could be committing an offense if you remove your pistol from its holster while open carrying. While at Napoli's DO NOT remove your pistol from its holster unless it is an emergency.**

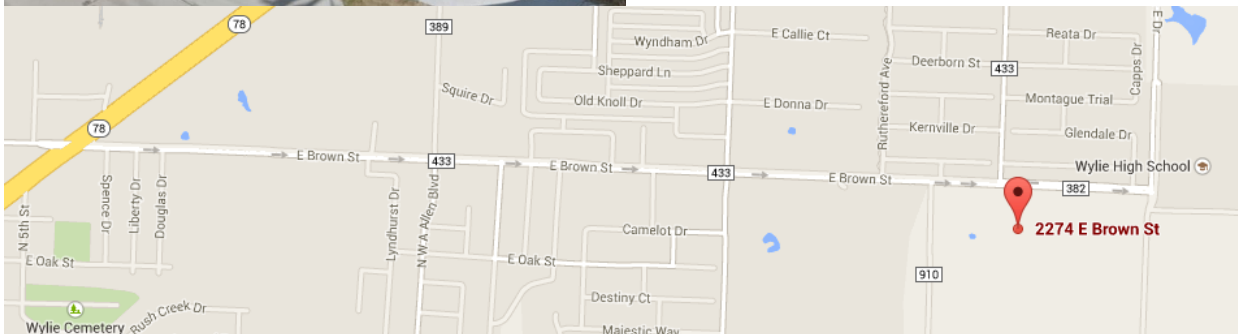
Member Don Bridges has volunteered his shop for the meeting. **There are a very limited number of chairs at the shop, so please bring a camp chair for the meeting.** We will meet there from 7:00 (ish) until 9:00 (ish)

The address is:

2274 EAST Brown Street in Wylie

While heading east on Brown Street, it is 1/2-mile past stop sign that's at the intersection of Brown Street and Kreymer Lane on the right-hand side.

The shop is behind a small white house with a picket fence around the front yard.



## **Gun topics for the spring and summer:**

The next few months are going to be caliber specific.

April – all .3 caliber variants or 7.62mm to 10.13 mm

May – all .4 caliber variants or 10.14 mm to 12.69 mm

June – all .2 caliber variants or 5.06 mm to 7.61 mm

**July – all .1 and .5 caliber variants 2 mm to 5.05 mm or 12.7+ mm**

August – all bores of shotgun

## **Gun topics for this month:**

**Please bring anything from your collection that is in .1 and .5 caliber variants 2 mm to 5.05 mm or 12.7 mm family.**

**As always, if you have any new or interesting knife, survival gear or firearms related item bring that as well.**

**This is hopefully a topic that you all can bring examples to share.**

If you have any suggestions for future speakers or topics please send your feedback to [CARGO@att.net](mailto:CARGO@att.net).

When was the last time you visited our web site? Please take some time to go to the CARGO website at [www.cargogunclub.org](http://www.cargogunclub.org)

# D-DAY: 75 YEARS LATER

Jacob Avery



## NORMANDY THROUGH THE EYES OF A 13-YEAR-OLD

I understand that kids my age don't understand the sacrifice that many men made on June 6, 1944. However, I was very fortunate to go to France and visit Normandy. Before I went, I had pictured the place to be filled with huge craters and massive hedgerows. While there still were hedgerows and craters, I also saw a beautiful country filled with many small businesses and nice people always willing to have a conversation. While I was there, my family visited the towns of Caen and Bayeux, as well as other small villages. The town of Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, east of Utah Beach, includes a church called Sainte-Mère-Église. This church was one of the main objectives when the 101st Airborne Division landed in Normandy. Rumors have been told that a soldier landed on top of the church and got stuck up on its steeple. Germans found him and took him as a prisoner of war. This church is also mentioned in episode two of the HBO series "Band of Brothers." In the city of Caen, there are many museums and

memorials including the famous Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial where over 9,300 Americans are buried. This cemetery also appears in the movie “Saving Private Ryan.” To get the full experience, we hired a tour guide to take us to the major historical locations and the beaches. We learned a ton of information that you can’t look up on the internet. I never knew that more men died going through hedgerows and securing villages than on the beaches themselves.

ADVERTISING

[inRead](#) invented by Teads



La Pointe du Hoc

Our tour guide also took us to an interesting bunker system at La Pointe du Hoc. In World War II, La Point du Hoc was a giant cliff that had German 155mm naval guns to that fire at Allies and Americans landing at both Utah and Omaha Beaches, which was a distance of about 20,000 feet. German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel built these guns as part of Hitler’s Atlantic Wall defense. On the day of Operation Overlord, the code name for the Allied invasion of Normandy, the 2nd and 5th Ranger Battalions were sent to go silence these weapons. Since

the guns were built on a 100-foot-high cliff, Rangers were trained to use ropes and climb this cliff, which sounds nearly impossible to me. In Gen. Omar Bradley's memoir, "A Soldier's Story," he said, "No soldier in my command has ever been wished a more difficult task than that which befell the 34-year-old commander of this Provisional Ranger Force." The man that Gen. Bradley mentioned was the commander of these battalions: Lt. Col. James E. Rudder. After the Rangers made it to the top, they eventually secured the position and saved many lives. The last remaining functional bunker after D-Day is directly north of Bayeux, called Longues-sur-Mer battery. There are actually four naval gun bunkers, but only one is still intact.



The place we stayed at was a small bed-and-breakfast near the town of Villers-Bocage, and is south of Bayeux: La Ferme du Pressoir Gite, which means "The Pressoir Farm Cottage" in English. The owner lives onsite and raises goats, chickens, and horses. The breakfast was amazing, filled with all types of baked foods. The owner also gave us books about the Villers-

Bocage's history where I learned that a massive tank battle had occurred there. A German Tiger tank was destroying a lot of American Sherman tanks. Eventually, the Allies had to bomb the whole town just to kill the single Tiger.



Normandy American Cemetery

One of the best experiences I had was at Omaha Beach. Before I visited Normandy, I had seen many movies about D-Day and the experiences many soldiers had. Most of them were only four or five years older than me. While I was just standing on the sandy beaches, I had thought about all the sacrifices those men had to make for me to be there. It makes me very sad to think that many people do not appreciate those who gave it all for their country. The freedom that many men and women died for. Many people just take it for granted. One memorial that stuck out to me was a memorial at the Normandy American Cemetery. There was a young man coming out of water and all the rocks in the cement came from Omaha Beach. This memorial stood for the youthful Allied soldiers who never returned home. If I could, I would go back to Normandy because it would take months to see everything.



Soldiers make preparations in England before D-Day.

<https://www.nraila.org/articles/20190617/governor-abbott-signs-ten-pro-second-amendment-bills-into-law>

# Governor Abbott Signs Ten Pro-Second Amendment Bills into Law

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019



Support NRA-ILA

## *New Laws Will Take Effect on September 1*

Governor Greg Abbott has now signed all of the NRA-supported legislation which the Texas Legislature sent him during the 2019 session. Thank you to pro-Second Amendment leaders and lawmakers in the House and Senate for their work to ensure passage of these measures. Here is the list of NRA-backed bills which will become law on September 1:

**House Bill 121** by Rep. Valoree Swanson (R-Spring) & Sen. Brandon Creighton (R-Conroe) provides a legal defense for License To Carry holders who unknowingly enter establishments with 30.06 or 30.07 signs, as long they promptly leave when verbally informed of the policy.

**House Bill 302** by Rep. Dennis Paul (R-Houston) & Sen. Bryan Hughes (R-Mineola) prohibits “no firearms” clauses in future residential lease agreements and protect tenants’ rights to possess lawfully-owned firearms and ammunition in dwelling units and on manufactured home lots, and to transport their guns directly between their personal vehicles and these locations.

**House Bill 1143** by Rep. Cole Hefner (R-Mount Pleasant) & Sen. Bryan Hughes (R-Mineola) prevents school districts from effectively prohibiting the possession of firearms in private motor vehicles by limiting their authority to regulate the manner in which they are stored in locked cars and trucks -- including by employees.

**House Bill 1177** by Rep. Dade Phelan (R-Beaumont) & Sen. Brandon Creighton (R-Conroe) protects citizens from being charged with a crime for carrying a handgun without a License To Carry while evacuating from an area during a declared state or local disaster, or while returning to that area, and allows shelters which are otherwise prohibited locations to decide whether to accommodate evacuees with firearms in their possession.

**House Bill 1791** by Rep. Matt Krause (R-Fort Worth) & Sen. Pat Fallon (R-Prosper) closes loopholes in the state's "wrongful exclusion" law that cities, counties and state agencies have been using to restrict License To Carry holders in government buildings.

**House Bill 2363** by Rep. Cody Harris (R-Palestine) & Sen. Brian Birdwell (R-Granbury) allows foster parents to store firearms in a safe and secure manner while making them more readily accessible for personal protection purposes.

**House Bill 3231** by Rep. Travis Clardy (R-Nacogdoches) & Sen. Pat Fallon (R-Prosper) improves and modernizes the state's firearms preemption law, curbs the ability of municipalities to abuse their zoning authority and circumvent state law to restrict the sale or transfer of firearms and ammunition at the local level, and allows the State Attorney General to recover reasonable expenses incurred when obtaining injunctions against localities which violate the preemption statute.

**Senate Bill 535** by Sen. Donna Campbell (R-New Braunfels) & Rep. Dan Flynn (R-Van) strikes "churches, synagogues, or other places of worship" from the list of prohibited locations in the Penal Code, clarifying that these places have the same right enjoyed by nearly all other controllers of private property in the state to decide whether to allow License To Carry holders on their premises.

**Senate Bill 741** by Sen. Bryan Hughes (R-Mineola) & Rep. Brooks Landgraf (R-Odessa) prohibits a property owners' association from including or enforcing a provision in a dedicatory instrument that prohibits, restricts, or has the effect of prohibiting or restricting any person who is otherwise authorized from lawfully possessing, transporting, or storing a firearm.

**Senate Bill 772** by Sen. Bryan Hughes (R-Mineola) & Rep. Drew Springer (R-Muenster) provides civil liability protection to business establishments which choose not to post 30.06/30.07 signs, making them less vulnerable to frivolous lawsuits and giving them an incentive to adopt permissive policies for the carrying of handguns by law-abiding citizens on their premises.

Lastly, there's been a lot of coverage in the media lately about the state's role in promoting gun safety and the following rider that was included in the state budget bill, which was also signed into law by Governor Abbott and which NRA did not oppose:

**Statewide Safe Gun Storage Campaign.** (Department of Public Safety) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2021 in General Revenue to establish and promote a statewide safe gun storage campaign. The public awareness campaign shall begin no later than September 1, 2020. The public

awareness campaign may include online materials, printed materials, public service announcements, or other advertising media. The public awareness campaign may not convey a message that it is unlawful under state law to keep or store a firearm that is loaded or that is readily accessible for self-defense.

NRA supported the award of a \$1 million grant from the State of Texas to the National Shooting Sports Foundation for the distribution of Project ChildSafe (<https://www.projectchildsafe.org/>) firearms safety kits to Texas residents through a network of law enforcement and community partners. We appreciate Governor Abbott's recognition of NSSF's expertise in firearms safety and his effort to bring this proven and effective safety program, which is free of anti-gun rhetoric and bias, to Texas residents.

[https://www.nra.org/nra message/An Important Message From Your NRA Leadership and Past Presidents.pdf](https://www.nra.org/nra-message/An-Important-Message-From-Your-NRA-Leadership-and-Past-Presidents.pdf)

**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA** 11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030 May 22, 2019

My fellow NRA Member:

Since the NRA was founded almost 150 years ago, our adversaries have repeatedly tried to take us down. Today is no different. A recent burst of media claims the NRA is vulnerable, financially unstable, and weakened in its fight to defend the Second Amendment. Obviously intent on not letting the facts get in the way of a good story, most reports offer a distorted and inaccurate view of the NRA. **As officers and past presidents of the NRA, we write today to set the record straight.**

As you may know, we recently convened in Indianapolis for one of the largest NRA conventions in our history. More than 80,000 of our members showed up to gather as one NRA family – to support our Association and celebrate our nation’s constitutional freedoms. During our annual Members Meeting on April 27, some asked for greater insight into three issues: the NRA’s financial affairs, our direction and strategy, and the supervisory role being played by our board of directors. We had an open forum and spirited discussion.

Of course, our discussions were portrayed as a sort of family feud. (Infighting at the NRA – Chaos and Controversy!). At the NRA, we take pride in the fact that our Association is inclusive and invites the active participation of every member. Every member has an opportunity to voice any concern they may have at the Members Meeting. In fact, our greatest privilege is hearing from our members. Like many of you, that’s why we were at the Members Meeting in the first place and spent countless hours on the convention floor.

Fact: During a board of directors meeting on April 29, Wayne LaPierre was elected by acclamation to continue serving as our CEO and Executive Vice President. The board also unanimously elected Carolyn D. Meadows to serve as our new president.

Perhaps looking for a way to counter the narrative about a stronger, more unified NRA, questions have now conveniently surfaced about our financial situation and our standing in the regulatory arena. There also have been frequent attacks on Wayne’s personal character.

Fact: According to the NRA’s chief financial officer, we are on budget in 2019. The NRA is meeting all banking and supplier financial obligations and we continue to aggressively manage our cost structure to offset the orchestrated and calculated attacks against NRA’s finances in 2018. **Put another way, our financial house is in order – we aren’t going away.**

**We have full confidence in the NRA’s accounting practices and commitment to good governance.**

Fact: The Association’s financials are audited and its tax filings are verified by one of the most reputable firms in the world. Internally, the Association has a conflict of interest policy and, where appropriate, related-party transactions are reviewed and approved by the board’s Audit Committee.

Simply put, we are well-positioned on the regulatory front and poised to handle all challenges that confront us. Personal attacks against the NRA’s leaders are nothing new. Recent ones have focused on wardrobe purchases and travel expenses incurred by Wayne. **If members hear of an allegation, they can be assured that it has been or will be addressed by the appropriate committees within our board of directors.**

Fact: We have committees in place to oversee issues relating to Accounting, Legal Affairs, and Ethics, among others – and every board member is invited to attend these meetings. Please remember that all of us are elected by you – our members. We are not elected by Wayne or anyone on the NRA executive team. We serve as your elected representatives.

Fact: Over the years, Wayne had been advised by the NRA's advertising professionals to invest in his professional wardrobe due to his numerous public and media appearances. We understand that this was the same agency that facilitated the clothing purchases. What wasn't as evident in this "disclosure" is that the clothing expenses referenced in media reports dated back to expenses from 15 years ago! To put it in perspective, over this time period, Wayne has participated in thousands of events and hundreds of TV appearances, and personally directed fundraising efforts that total in the hundreds of millions of dollars. **In any event, this practice was discontinued some time ago.**

Fact: The vast majority of the travel in question involved donor outreach, fundraising, and stakeholder engagement. As an example, The Wall Street Journal reported that a trip to Italy was "tied to a 2015 documentary feature on the Italian gun maker posted on NRATV." Beretta, as you may know, is a major supporter of the NRA and our Second Amendment.

We are not inclined to further discuss unfounded attacks on our organization, political infighting, or a "weakened" NRA.

However, we will say this: Our adversaries will not divide us and any further discussion about the so-called "demise of the NRA" is only meant to distract us from our mission. This is how it goes when you stand on the bedrock of constitutional freedom – and represent the last line of defense against a campaign to take down the Second Amendment.

While board members may argue, and perhaps even disagree as to tactics, the support Wayne and the current leadership enjoys reflects our assessment of his past and future value to the association as well as our realization that our opponents know they have to take him down if they want to weaken the NRA.

**As one NRA member recently said, the true story of the NRA won't be found in today's press clippings. It will be written in the history books.**

Wayne has been standing shoulder-to-shoulder with all of us for most of his professional life. He has our support. A campaign to oust him failed – as the facts emerged, true motivations became apparent, and we agreed as to who should lead our fight for freedom. We are now moving forward.

Fact: We will confront our opponents, defend our values, and proudly continue our tradition as the greatest civil rights organization in the world.

Just like you, we care about the Second Amendment and our NRA. Just as you do, we know that our fights today are less for us and more for our children and our grandchildren. Just like you, we are all courageous foot soldiers in our fight for freedom. Every single one of us in this fight matters. The Second Amendment is where it is today because of all of OUR efforts. That's why you matter to our cause and our Association.

We are the NRA. United we stand. And together, we'll win.

Signed,

Carolyn D. Meadows President

Charles L. Cotton First Vice President

Lt. Col. Willes K. Lee USA (Ret) Second Vice President

Allan D. Cors Past President

James W. Porter Past President

David A. Keene Past President

Ronald L. Schmeits Past President

John C. Sigler Past President

Sandra S. Froman Past President

Kayne B. Robinson Past President

Marion P. Hammer Past President

Robert K. Corbin Past President

# The Lost Graves of Tarawa

by Martin K.A. Morgan - Wednesday, March 1, 2017



For 71 years, eight months, and six days they waited in an unmarked burial pit on a sliver of an island called Betio in what is now known as the Republic of Kiribati. All 36 of them, most of whom were riflemen from the 8<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, lost their lives during the first major battle of the Central Pacific Campaign: Operation GALVANIC—the opposed amphibious invasion of Tarawa in the former Gilbert Islands. For 76 hours during the third week of November 1943, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division clashed there with a Japanese garrison force of nearly 5,000 men under the command of Rear Admiral Keiji Shibazaki.



*This map shows the location of "Cemetery 27" relative to some of Betio's landmarks.*

By the time the battle was over, more than 2,000 Americans had been wounded, and more than 1,000 were dead. The sheer number of bodies created an unforeseen challenge for the leadership of the Fifth Amphibious Corps, which had expected more modest casualties in the operation. A short-term solution was the temporary burial of the Marines and Sailors who fell during the battle in dispersed gravesites across the island. But even this stopgap measure required great exertion over the course of the next several weeks. As 1943 turned to 1944, the plan was that a graves registration unit would return for them all at some point in the not-too-distant future.

Since Operation GALVANIC was just the first step on the long road to Tokyo, the focus of the war turned elsewhere during the 20 months between the battle and the surrender in Tokyo Bay. Then in June 1946, the Army's 604<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Graves Registration Company came to Betio to recover the remains buried there, but that process quickly became an unexpectedly complicated one. During the two and a half year interval between the battle and the recovery operation, there had been a considerable amount of construction on the island and, as a result, U.S. Navy Seabees had graded almost every square inch of it. The men of the 604<sup>th</sup> found that most of the crosses indicating burial sites had no bodies beneath them, and they did not know where to begin looking because none among them had been involved in burying the dead back in 1943.

With no eyewitnesses to guide them to the island's many unmarked mass graves, the recovery mission came up short—far short. All told, the 604<sup>th</sup> exhumed 495 bodies from various gravesites across the

island, but the one designated Cemetery 27 could not be located. For three days they searched the area where the maps indicated this mass grave would be found, but there was nothing there. As a result, the 36 men buried in Cemetery 27 remained in it through the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and into the 21<sup>st</sup>. But they were not the only ones: In October 1949, an official Field Board declared almost 300 Americans from the Tarawa operation to be “KIA—body unrecoverable.” The men of Cemetery 27 represented just 12 percent of that total.



*U.S. Marines from U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific salute as "Taps" is played at the end of a Dignified Transfer Ceremony on July 26, 2015 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor/Hickam. During the ceremony, the remains of 36 men who fought and died in the Battle of Tarawa during World War II were returned to American soil.*

*(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. William Holdaway) 406205-F-VGT04-791*

Despite the fact that hundreds of supposedly “unrecoverable” bodies continued to rest in unmarked graves on Betio in the decades that followed the end of the war, construction workers on the island during that time periodically uncovered some of them. In 1974, a sewerage and fresh water project funded by the Australian government unintentionally dug-up the remains of five U.S. Marines with uniforms, equipment, helmets and dog tags. They also stumbled across a buried LVT with two sets of remains still in it. Three more men were discovered in 1980 and then two more in the year 2000. Over the years a total of 20 sets of American remains were accidentally disinterred on Betio, providing proof positive that the “unrecoverable” could actually be recovered.

These discoveries gave specific hope to the prospect that Cemetery 27 could yet be located and the 36 men in it finally brought home. There was a special compulsion driving the quest to locate this particular “cemetery” because it was known to be the final resting place of posthumous Medal of Honor recipient Alexander “Sandy” Bonnyman, Jr., a 33-year-old Marine officer who was killed while [leading an attack on the final day of the battle.](#)

The effort to find Cemetery 27 involved Bonnyman’s grandson, Clay Bonnyman Evans, and [History Flight](#)— an organization specializing in MIA search and recovery efforts. For 10 years they made regular visits to Betio, scouring the island with old maps, ground-penetrating radar, and eventually even a

cadaver dog from California named Buster. These efforts finally paid off in May 2015 when Cemetery 27 was found and the remains in it exhumed. All 36 men were subsequently flown 2,400 miles from Kirabati to Joint Base Pearl Harbor/Hickam on Oahu and, upon arrival on July 26, 2015 a dignified ceremony transferred them to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency—the government agency tasked with accounting for missing U.S. military personnel. One month later, the DPAA officially identified “Sandy” Bonnyman’s body, which was then [announced by an official press release](#) on Sept. 22, 2015.



*The remains of U.S. Marines who fell during World War II in the Battle of Tarawa rest in an aircraft hangar on Joint Base Pearl Harbor/Hickam after a transfer ceremony on July 26, 2015.  
(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. William Holdaway) 319627-J-EHP21-674*



*Marines salute as "Taps" is played at the end of a Dignified Transfer ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor/Hickam, Hawaii, July 26, 2015. The ceremony honored the remains of 36 men killed in World War II during the Battle of Tarawa. 263103-O-MHH74-*



672  
The following week Bonnyman was [returned to his family for burial in Knoxville, Tenn.](#), with full military honors. He was the first of the men from Cemetery 27 to be identified, and the DPAA has continued working through the group one at a time. To date, 28 of the 36 have been identified. With each new positive identification families are finally given a measure of closure—the kind that every family of the fallen needs, even after more than seven decades. (image by [Jeremy Edward Shiok](#))

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/graves-of-30-us-servicemen-found-on-pacific-wwii-battlefield/ar-AADrt66>

## 30 US servicemen found on Pacific WWII battlefield

Audrey McAvoy - The Associated Press 06/26/2019



© Provided by Toronto Star Newspapers Limited In this November 1943 file photo, bodies and wrecked amphibious tractors litter a battlefield, after U.S. Marines from the 2nd Division forced back the Japanese on Betio island in the Tarawa Atoll, Kiribati. A nonprofit organization that searches for the remains of U.S. servicemen lost in past conflicts has found what officials believe are the graves of more than 30 Marines and sailors killed in one of the bloodiest battles of World War II. (AP Photo, File)



© History Flight via AP This June 1, 2019 photo provided by History Flight shows graves of U.S. servicemen under the water table in Tarawa, Kiribati. A nonprofit organization that searches for the remains of U.S. servicemen lost in past conflicts has found what officials believe are the graves of more than 30 Marines and sailors killed in one of the bloodiest battles of World War II. (Eric Albertson/Defense POW/HONOLULU - A non-profit organization that searches for the remains of U.S. servicemen lost in past conflicts has found what officials believe are the graves of more than 30 Marines and sailors killed in one of the bloodiest battles of World War II.

A team working on the remote Pacific atoll of Tarawa found the graves in March, said Mark Noah, president of History Flight.

The remains are believed to belong to Marines and sailors from the 6th Marine Regiment killed during the last night of the three-day Battle of Tarawa.

The Defence POW/MIA Accounting Agency expects to pick up the remains and fly them to Hawaii next month, said Dr. John Byrd, director of agency's laboratories. Military forensic anthropologists will then work to identify them using dental records, DNA and other clues.

More than 990 U.S. Marines and 30 U.S. sailors were killed in the 1943 Battle of Tarawa, after the U.S. launched an amphibious assault on the small island some 2,300 miles (3,700 kilometres) southwest of Honolulu.

Marines and sailors quickly encountered Japanese machine-gun fire when their boats got stuck on the reef at low tide. Americans who made it to the beach faced brutal hand-to-hand combat.

The U.S. military buried its men in makeshift cemeteries where they fell. But Navy construction battalion sailors removed markers for these graves when they hurriedly built runways and other infrastructure to help U.S. forces push farther west across the Pacific toward Japan.

History Flight has recovered the remains of 272 individuals from Tarawa since 2015, when it began excavating under a contract with the Defence Department, Noah said. He estimates there are at least another 270 to be found.

Tarawa is now part of the Republic of Kiribati. Its government allowed History Flight to demolish an abandoned building in its latest search. Many of the graves were underneath it.

A large number of graves also are below the water table, meaning History Flight workers must pump water from the site each day to excavate.

Byrd said the Army Graves Registration Service excavated some of Tarawa's temporary cemeteries in the late 1940s but left behind parts of individuals during this process.

History Flight is now thoroughly excavating these gravesites, leading them to find some partial remains that have been matched with those already buried as "unknowns" in a national cemetery in Honolulu. The Defence POW/MIA Accounting Agency dug up these remains in 2017 to make additional identifications.

The agency has identified more than 100 individuals excavated from Tarawa and the Honolulu cemetery since 2015.



© Provided by Toronto Star Newspapers Limited In this Nov. 1943 file photo, sprawled bodies are seen on the beach of Tarawa atoll testifying to the ferocity of the battle for this stretch of sand during the U.S. invasion of the Gilbert Islands. A nonprofit organization that searches for the remains of U.S. servicemen lost in past conflicts has found what officials believe are the graves of more than 30 Marines and sailors killed in one of the bloodiest battles of World War II. (AP Photo)



© History Flight via AP This June 1, 2019 photo provided by History Flight shows graves of U.S. servicemen in Tarawa, Kiribati. A nonprofit organization that searches for the remains of U.S. servicemen lost in past conflicts has found what officials believe are the graves of more than 30 Marines and sailors killed in one of the bloodiest battles of World War II. (Eric Albertson/Defense POW/

<https://home.nra.org/nra-members/>

NRA TV is decommissioned:

Dear NRA Members,

As many of you may know, we have been evaluating if our investment in NRATV is generating the benefits needed. This consideration included the return on investment and the cost and the direction of the content. Many members expressed concern about the messaging on NRATV becoming too far removed from our core mission: defending the Second Amendment.

So, after careful consideration, I am announcing that starting today, we are undergoing a significant change in our communications strategy. We are no longer airing “live TV” programming. Whether and when we return to “live” programming is a subject of ongoing analysis.

The NRA will continue and improve our service on social media channels and our flagship website, [www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org) – your trusted resource of information. Our many web sites will continue to showcase new and archived videos, as we reorganize much of this information in a way that better serves our key audiences.

What necessitated the change now is our conclusion that our longtime advertising firm and website vendor failed to deliver upon many contractual obligations it made to our Association. The NRA will always hold our vendors to high standards and ask that they maximize their value to the Association. No exceptions.

Looking ahead, you can expect great things from your NRA. We will energize our messaging strategy, become more cost efficient, and promote the NRA’s singular focus like never before. Simply put, our messaging strategy will advance the NRA’s core mission: to serve our members and fight for our Second Amendment.

Wayne

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2019/jun/13/why-balanced-reporting-about-guns-is-crucial/>

# Why balanced reporting about guns is crucial



Exploiting the Gun Free Zone Illustration by Greg Groesch/The Washington Times

By John R. Lott Jr. - - Thursday, June 13, 2019

## **ANALYSIS/OPINION:**

Kate Nixon worked as a compliance manager on the second floor of Operations Building 2 in the Virginia Beach Municipal Center. The 42-year-old was described as “always helping others.” She was president of the Pembroke Meadows Civic League and a devoted church goer at St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church.

Kate was also one of the 12 people killed by another employee, DeWayne Craddock. As far as the national media has been concerned, that was the story.

But in the evening of Thursday, May 30, the night before the attack, Kate was worried that DeWayne Craddock and another employee were dangerous. She talked to her husband, Jason, about whether she should hide a pistol in her handbag. Kate decided not to, because the city bans public employees from having permitted concealed handguns at work.

Not all municipal governments in Virginia ban employees from carrying guns. If Kate had worked in Bedford or Campbell Counties, she would have been able to carry her pistol to work.

While it was indeed possible for non-government workers to enter the Operations Building where the attack occurred and they are allowed to carry permitted concealed handguns in city buildings, the Operations Building housed up to 400 employees in city/schools print services, mail room services, planning, public works, public utilities, traffic engineering, and communications and information technology. This wasn't a place for customers — they could pay their bills in another building.

By using his employee keycard to access employee-only locations where the shooting occurred, the killer ensured that no one would be carrying a concealed firearm. This gave him a chance to kill more people, without anyone firing back. The shooter also gained time because the police had trouble entering the area without an employee keycard. The one person killed who was alone in the parking lot was not an employee.

These killers aren't as stupid as some people imagine. They want to kill as many people as possible, so they deliberately attack gun-free zones. Since 1950, 98 percent of mass public shootings in the United States have occurred in places where general citizens are banned from carrying. Unlike all of his law-abiding colleagues, the Virginia Beach killer didn't obey the ban.

Kate's story is hardly unique. Concealed handgun permit holders who might have stopped attacks range from Suzanna Gratia Hupp at Luby's Cafeteria in the 1991 to assistant football coach Aaron Feis at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, in 2018.

But the mainstream media continually refuses to mention when an attack occurred in a “gun-free zone.”

After the Virginia Beach attack, The Wall Street Journal noted, “In Virginia, it is legal to carry guns into public buildings, with a few exceptions.” While literally true, it is completely misleading not to explain that one of those exceptions forbids Virginia Beach employees from carrying guns in public buildings.

The national media also ignores stories of armed private citizens stopping would-be mass public shootings. On the rare occasions that they do cover the stories, they get them wrong.

There have been dozens of such cases in recent years. Last fall, at a back-to-school event in Titusville, Florida, more than 200 students were present when a man started firing his gun at people. Fortunately, a vendor with a concealed handgun permit stepped in and shot the attacker, seriously injuring him. “This person stepped in and saved a lot of people’s lives,” said Titusville Police Sgt. William Amos. “He’s a hero.”

The Pittsburgh synagogue shooting is another case, but the media coverage was completely wrong. After a concealed handgun permit holder stopped a killer who was shooting black people at a Kroger grocery store in Louisville, Kentucky, national media outlets, such as ABC and NBC News, noted that the killer told another white man, “Whites don’t kill whites.” It sounded as if the killer was merely reassuring a bystander that he had nothing to worry about. But they left out the crucial first part of the quote. The killer said, “Don’t shoot me. I won’t shoot you. Whites don’t shoot whites.” The other white person was pointing a permitted concealed handgun at the killer.

With biased news coverage like this, it is hardly surprising that people want to ban guns. The media’s refusal to talk about the dangers of gun-free zones has a huge impact on the gun control debate. They refuse to provide balanced reporting that doesn’t fit their agenda.

• *John R. Lott is the president of the Crime Prevention Research Center and the author most recently of “The War on Guns.”*

Copyright © 2019 The Washington Times, LLC.

# Guns of D-Day: M1 Garand, M1 Carbine and More

Garry James - June 27, 2019



Though nowhere near as powerful or effective as the M1 Garand, the U.S. M1 Carbine was a handy rifle seen in large numbers at Normandy in both M1A1 “Paratrooper” (above) and standard versions (below).

*Photos by Jill Marlow and Phil Schreier*

ADVERTISING

[inRead](#) invented by Teads

The Allied invasion of Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944 was the largest amphibious operation that ever was — and ever will be. The plan was audacious, elaborate and risky. Involving almost 200,000 allied troops, the bulk of the force was made up of Americans,

British, and Canadians, but there were also contingents of soldiers representing at least a half-dozen nations. Waiting for them were some 80,000 determined Axis defenders who, while initially caught by surprise, mounted a fierce resistance.

A quarter-century ago, my wife Susan and I accompanied our good friends Terry Kaplan and Karen Efron to the 50th anniversary of the D-Day celebrations in Normandy — le Jour-J for you Francophiles. Kaplan shipped over his 1943 white M3 Scout Car, which was our conveyance from event to event. The festivities were overwhelming, made all that more poignant by the large attendance of Normandy veterans. Alas, attrition and advancing years will result in us seeing far fewer of the actual participants on this year's 75th, but those who can't make it will undoubtedly be there in spirit.

The amount and variety of materiel seen at Normandy was staggering, and it would be presumptuous of me to attempt to cover it all in the room accorded in a monthly magazine. Still, it is interesting to take a passing look at some of the more basic arms fielded by the major forces, many of which were also used by others, either by issue or happenstance. Accordingly, I'll compare — as thoroughly as space permits — the principal arms, sans crew-manned weaponry, wielded by individual soldiers of the United States, Great Britain, Canada and Germany.

ADVERTISEMENT  
SCROLL TO CONTINUE WITH CONTENT

## United States



The American G.I. was equipped with the finest battle rifle of World War II, the M1 Garand. This eight-shot repeater was highly thought-of by troops.

## M1 Garand

---

Despite undergoing bloody, contentious landings, the average American GI had one great advantage over the enemy in France — he carried the finest battle rifle of World War II: the M1 Garand.

Unique among all the forces at Normandy, the majority of U.S. forces were equipped with a rugged and reliable, eight-shot semiautomatic chambered in the man-stopping .30-'06 Springfield round.

Designed by Canadian arms genius and Springfield Armory employee John C. Garand, and after considerable experimentation and refinement, the M1 Garand beat out many rivals. In 1936, the M1 Garand was accepted by the U.S. Army as a replacement of the venerable Model 1903 Springfield bolt-action.

Today, Garand's system seems almost elementary, but when it first appeared the M1 Garand was considered a marvel. Using a sheet metal en-bloc clip as part of the feeding system, the first round was stripped off manually. When fired, gas was tapped off to move a rod which ultimately operated a clever rotating bolt that extracted the spent case, cocked the internal hammer and chambered the next cartridge. When the clip was empty, it popped out of the receiver and the action remained locked open for the insertion of another loaded clip.

Weighing a not-so-unsubstantial 9½ pounds and measuring 43.6 inches overall, the rifle mounted a sophisticated rear sight involving a peep that was adjustable for windage and elevation by means of a pair of click-dials that were sophisticated and practical.

Depending on when a particular gun was made, the M1 Garand had a buttplate compartment for oil, grease, pull-through containers and one of a couple types of combination tools. Such items were accessible through a stubborn-to-operate hinged, spring-latched trapdoor.

The M1's safety involved a catch set in the center-front of the triggerguard where it was easily flicked on and off with the shooter's trigger finger. Initially manufactured by Springfield Armory, demand was such that Winchester soon entered into Garand production. By war's end, some four million M1 Garands were produced.

Like other battle rifles before and since, the M1 Garand was set up to accept a bayonet. While the gun could accommodate the standard U.S. Model 1905 blade, originally used on the '03 Springfield, more up-to-date versions of the bayonet were available by the Normandy invasion. The Model 1905 Type 2 had similar dimensions as the original 16-inch blade, but was parkerized and sported ribbed plastic grips rather than walnut panels. They first appeared in late 1941. There were also wartime variants of the 1905 Type 2 with 10-inch blades that were either original or fabricated from 16 inchers.

If the Garand was reasonably maintained, it worked almost flawlessly, even under the most adverse conditions. It was a war-winning piece of ordnance and one which must have given American troops considerable comfort and confidence.



U.S. M1 Garand: Americans in Normandy carried the best and most efficient rifle of World War II, the eight--shot, semiautomatic M1 Garand. This GI is using his to guard German prisoners.

## M1 Carbine

---

The M1 Garand wasn't the only semiautomatic longarm carried by U.S. forces on D-Day. An attenuated, lightweight, almost pistol-caliber repeater also found favor with the rank-and-file: the M1 Carbine.

Originally designed as a special rifle with which to arm clerks, cooks, machine-gunners and the like, the M1 Carbine was also favored by soldiers whose duties made carrying around a bulky M1 Garand impractical.

Built on a straight-cased, .30-caliber round that fired a 110-grain bullet out of an 18-inch barrel at some 1,975 feet-per-second (fps), the M1 Carbine produced a muzzle energy of 955 foot-pounds (ft.-lbs.). That's considerably less velocity than the 3,000 fps provided by the 150-grain .30-'06 service round.

Measuring slightly under 3 feet and weighing 5½ pounds, the M1 Carbine employed an economical and reliable mechanism. When the rifle was fired, a small amount of gas passed

through a barrel port, moving a short-stroke piston which then pushed a slide to the rear to open the rotating bolt and eject the case. A coil spring in the operating rod then returned the bolt forward, stripping off and chambering a fresh cartridge from a removable 15-round, sheet-steel box magazine.

When the M1 Carbine finally went into production in 1941, it became a hot property. Initially built by Winchester, a number of contractors and subcontractors were put on the M1 production project once the U.S. entered the war, which resulted in receivers being marked with the names of almost a dozen makers.

The carbine's safety was a simple push button sited on the front of the triggerguard and behind a similar control that released the gun's 15-round magazine. In the heat of battle, it was found that many soldiers mistakenly hit the mag release instead of the safety, unwittingly dropping the magazine. This problem was later rectified by the drop-in modification of a lever-style safety.

A simple flip-over L-shaped peep sufficed for a rear sight, though a more sophisticated dial-operated unit was eventually designed for the gun. In mid-1944, M1 Carbines would not be equipped to take bayonets, nor would they until the latter part of the war.

Along with standard rigid walnut stocks, an M1A1 variant with a folding wire buttstock was developed for the use of airborne troops. Both versions of the M1 Carbine saw considerable use at Normandy.

## Model 1903A4

---

America's primary sniper rifle at Normandy was based on a simplified variant of the M1903A3 Springfield, the M1903A4. This rifle, unlike its predecessor, had a number of stamped parts and a simplified receiver-mounted rear sight. During its lifespan, the sniper variant — the Model 1903A4 — was eventually fitted with four different scopes: the M73B1, available commercially as the Weaver 330C; the M73, commercially the Lyman Alaskan; and the M81 and the M82, which were really the same scope with the exception that the M81 had

a crosshair reticle and the M82 a post. All used a special Redfield mount with different rings to accommodate the scopes' differences. The 1903A4 sported a C-style pistol-grip stock.



U.S. soldiers carried one of the most effective handguns seen in World War II: the M1911A1 .45 ACP Government Model (center). As well, the S&W .38 Special Victory Model revolver (top) and M1903 Colt pocket pistol (below) were fielded.

## Model 1911 & Model 1911A1\_\_\_\_\_

The principal American-issued handguns on D-Day were the famed Colt Model 1911 and Model 1911A1. Designed by John M. Browning, this seven-shot repeater chambered in .45 ACP is still regarded as one of the finest arms of its type ever to be produced.

On March 28, 1911, the U.S. military officially adopted Browning's then-new .45. Like so many great designs, simplicity was a keynote of the Model 1911. It was a locked-breech single-action and employed a swinging link pinned to the barrel's underlug which lowered and unlocked the barrel from the slide as it retreated to the rear.

The general mechanism employed an economy of parts and controls that were simple. They consisted of a slide release, safety catch, hammer-half-cock safety and a grip safety. When the

last cartridge was fired, the slide remained open and ready to receive a new magazine. The first round was then chambered by thumbing-down the slide-lock lever or by manually pulling the slide to the rear.

By June 6, 1944, the M1911 had already been modified. In 1924, the original flat mainspring housing was replaced with an arched component; the trigger was shortened; cutouts were made behind the trigger; the grip-safety spur was elongated and the hammer spur modified. The resulting "Pistol, Caliber .45, Automatic M1911A1," as it was termed, would soldier on well past World War II. The finish on guns produced during World War II were Parkerized, and grips were of a molded, checkered plastic.

Colt continued to be a major manufacturer during the war, but other contractors, including Remington Rand and Ithaca, Union Switch & Signal and Singer (only 500), also came into to the fore to contribute.

The M1911 and M1911A1 were carried by officers, support troops and it seems just about anyone who could wrangle one. The .45 ACP round was a great stopper and the pistol was rugged and reliable. It was a trusted companion for soldiers negotiating Normandy's hedgerow country.

## Smith & Wesson Victory Model\_\_\_\_\_

American soldiers used other handguns besides the M1911 and M1911A1, though in far fewer numbers. The two most prominent were the Smith & Wesson Victory Model and a .38 Special version of the famed K-frame S&W Military & Police revolver. It was double-action with a parkerized finish and plain walnut grips.

## Colt Model 1903 & Model 1908\_\_\_\_\_

Colt Model 1903 in .32 ACP and Model 1908 in .380 ACP were hammerless semiautomatic pistols that found their way into the theatre, mostly as the sidearm of a general officer. Gen. George C. Patton, especially, was known for carrying one. Patton wasn't alone in appreciating the attributes of this fine pistol, if a bit underpowered for military usage, but with little

blowback. The finish was commonly parkerized, and grips were a checkered walnut. All were marked "U.S. PROPERTY".

## Thompson Model 1928A1 & M1A1\_\_\_\_\_

The United States' primary subgun at Normandy was the elegant and blued Model 1928A1 and simpler M1/M1A1. Chambered in .45 ACP and blowback operated, the M1/M1A1 was the simplified M1928A1 variant. The differences in the M1 and M1A1 were the bolt assembly and cocking handle, which were moved from the top of the action to the right side, as well as the removal of the Cutts compensator and the barrel's cooling vanes. The rear sight was also simplified. These were superb arms designed towards the latter part of World War I by John T. Thompson. The most common mags were 30-round so-called "stick" style, though the M1928A1 could be fitted with a larger capacity drum.

Thompsons were superb, but they weren't cheap to build or lightweight to hold. They required time and care in manufacturing. Early on in the war, the U.S. began searching for a simpler, more cost effective substitute. After a considerable amount of development, the M3 submachine gun emerged.



The M3, chambered in .45 ACP, was an inexpensive but highly effective submachine gun with a cyclic rate between 350 and 450 rpm. Above is an early prototype. Photo courtesy Morphy Auctions.

## M3\_\_\_\_\_

The M3 was a handy, blowback-operated, .45-caliber machine gun with a slower 400 rounds--per-minute (rpm) than the M1928A1's 835 rpm, and the M1's 625 rpm. Notably, the M3 could be produced more inexpensively than a Thompson at around \$18 each. Nicknamed "Grease Gun" because of its uncanny resemblance to the automotive tool, machining was kept to a minimum, and the gun's Parkerized finish made no effort to conceal the welds and seams. Controls were simple and easy to use. In lieu of a walnut stock, the M3 featured a sliding wire arrangement. The gun was cocked by the user simply inserting two holes in the bolt and sliding it to the rear.



The .30-'06 Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR) initially appeared with U.S. forces towards the end of the First World War, arriving too late to have serious use. The most common version seen in World War II was the M1918A2. This squad automatic weapon was chambered in .30-'06. Ammunition was fed from a removable, 20-round box magazine. Courtesy of the National Firearms Museum. Photo by Phil Schreier.

## Browning Automatic Rifle

---

During World War I, and about the same time that Thompson was working on his submachine gun, John Browning was busy designing an automatic rifle that chambered in .30-'06 Springfield designed with the intent for clearing out German trenches. Some early versions did make it to France but arrived too late to see any degree of active service.

The gas-operated 1918 Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR) proved to be a winner and continued to be used by the military and law enforcement (and some bad guys) during the interwar years. As good as the arm was, it was occasionally altered and upgraded in 1940, resulting in the Model 1918A2. This rugged 20-pound heavyweight featured a folding bipod (often removed by users), and a switch that provided a dual-rate of fire. "Normal" was 550 rpm and "slow" was 350 rpm. The gun's box magazine held 20 rounds.

Legend has it that the smallest guy in a unit was contrarily chosen to be the BAR man. While some period photos seem to bear this out, the story may be apocryphal. Finish was Parkerized. Largely seen as a squad automatic weapon, the BAR was highly appreciated by its users and went on to a long service life with a number of nations.

## Great Britain & Canada

### No. 4 Mk I\_\_\_\_\_

The main battle rifle used by Great Britain and Canada was the No. 4 Mk I. It was a bolt-action having antecedents stretching back to the latter part of the 19th century, beginning with the introduction of the Magazine Lee-Metford Mark I. Originally produced in rifle and carbine versions, the Short Magazine Lee-Enfield (SMLE) was introduced in 1903 as a one-size-fits-all version.

At the start of the 1920s, various versions of the SMLE had been experimented with, and by 1926, the service rifles' nomenclatures had been permanently altered. Initially, the Mark III was to be called the No. 1 Mk III, and a Mark VI variant became the No. 1 Mk VI. After several modifications, the No. 1 Mk VI emerged in 1931 as the No. 4 Mk I.

With the approach of hostilities with Germany, tests on the No. 4 were stepped up, and in late 1939, the pattern was officially sealed. This gun, along with the No. 1 MK III that continued to be made in Australia and India, would be Britain's main battle rifle during World War II. It was manufactured at a number of indigenous facilities, as well as in Canada by Long Branch Arsenal. The Canadians also adopted the No. 4 Mk I and it was imported into the United States by Savage.

Once finally approved, the No. 4 Mk I measured some 44½ inches overall with a slightly--over-25-inch barrel. The action was beefier than that of the Mark III with its screw-adjustable rear aperture sight moved from the barrel to the receiver, which graduated it from 200 to 1,300 yards. The basic cock-on-close Lee-Enfield action was retained, as were the earlier guns' sheet steel magazine which could be loaded with 10 rounds of .303 ammo by way of two stripper clips. Unlike the Mark III, which had a noscap extending to the rifle's muzzle,

the No. 4's barrel extended beyond the forend by almost 3 inches, allowing a short, spike-style bayonet or grenade launcher to be easily fixed to it.

In 1941, a No. 4 Mk I\* was approved that had a simpler bolt-head release system. These guns were manufactured by Savage and Long Branch. Both Marks of No. 4 were later fitted with a simple flip-type, two-aperture battle sight intended for 300- and 600-yard ranges.

## No. 4 Mk I (T)—————

The No. 4 proved to be more than adequate for the sniping role, and a large number of these arms, designated No. 4 Mk I (T), were mounted with an excellent 4X No. 32 scope made by Enfield, Holland & Holland, and Birmingham Small Arms (BSA). These rifles, with their respective scopes, were completed with olive-drab-painted wooden chests. The No. 4 Mk I (T) has been considered by many to be the finest sniper rifle of World War II with many more seen at Normandy.



Most British and Canadian infantrymen carried the excellent 10-shot Enfield No. 4 Mk I in .303. Many consider this the best bolt-action battle rifle of World War II.

## Enfield No. 2

---

In World War I, the British were armed with one of the finest military revolvers ever made: the top-break, stirrup-latch Webley. Various models, or so-called “Marks”, were seen in the trenches, but the apex of the series was the Mark VI that appeared towards the end of the conflict.

Like most of its predecessors, this sturdy, rugged double-action was chambered for the .455 Webley cartridge, and was a good manstopper. It was a big revolver, measuring some 11¼ well-balanced inches long and weighing 2 pounds, 4 ounces.

The Enfield No. 2 remained in service following the war, but authorities felt the gun could be lightened without losing effectiveness. In 1928, a diminutive Webley-inspired double action that was some inches shorter than the Mk VI and weighing 10 ounces less, was adopted and produced at Royal Small Arms Factory (RSAF) in the London Borough of Enfield.

The No. 2 chambered a .380-caliber round with dimensions very similar to those of the .38 Smith & Wesson (S&W), but with a 200-grain lead bullet. Termed the “.380/200 Mk I,” its load was not as powerful as the .455, but recoil was light, and it was felt to be an adequate military round. The bullet was later changed to a 178-grain cupro nickel jacketed style, somewhat reducing the gun’s effectiveness.

Originally designed as a single/double-action, the No. 2 Mk I revolver, as the Enfield No. 2 would come to be known, had its hammer spur removed and the mechanism rendered DA--only. This was done (supposedly) at the behest of the Royal Tank Corps who complained that the hammer spur kept getting caught on the equipment inside their tanks.

The No. 2 Mk 1 went through several minor modifications, resulting in added “star” redesignations. It was an adequate arm, but certainly not in the same class as the U.S. M1911A1 or German P38.

The No. 2 Mk 1 was the primary handgun carried by British and Canadian forces, though other types were seen, the most prominent being Smith & Wesson Model 10 chambered in the British service round.

President Roosevelt's Lend-Lease program gave military aid to any country whose defense was vital to the security of the United States.



Britain's STEN submachine gun (Mark II, above) fed its 9mm ammunition from a horizontal 32-round magazine. The STEN was inexpensive and could be produced quickly. It was even copied, in limited quantities, by Germany. Courtesy of the National Firearms Museum. Photo by Phil Schreier.

## STEN\_\_\_\_\_

By making good use of American Thompson subguns, Britain realized early on in World War II that its forces would need large quantities of submachine guns that could be produced easily and inexpensively.

Work was undertaken at RSAF Enfield, principally by designers Major Reginald V. Shepherd and Harold Turpin, who then developed a 9mm-caliber, blowback repeater. It shared similar

features as the earlier domestic and foreign arms, but like the U.S. M3, could be built largely of stamped parts in a matter of hours.

The “STEN” gun as it was called, derived its designation from the first initials of the last names of Shepherd, Turpin and Enfield.

Employing a 32-round box magazine copied from that of the German MP38, the STEN underwent a number of different incarnations with the most common ones being the Mark II and Mark III. Manufactured at a number of different UK sites, as well as at Long Branch Arsenal in Canada, the STEN was rugged, though it was prone to stoppages due to fouling, and gripping the side-mounted magazine while firing. Oftentimes less-than-smooth feeding of the staggered rounds within the magazine occurred. Still, the STEN cost about \$10 per unit to make and was generally considered a trusty sidekick. It was a gun that was well received and gladly used in France.



The British Bren light machine gun (Mark I, above) was based on an earlier Czech design. Equipped with interchangeable barrels, it was a superb gun that could be used in a number of ways, such as a squad automatic weapon to anti-aircraft employment. Photo courtesy of Morphy Auctions.

BREN\_\_\_\_\_

The .303-caliber BREN gun was another example Britain's penchant for arms with omnibus acronyms. The acronym "BREN" was the combination of the first initials of the Czechoslovakian city Brno, combined with the two letters of Enfield. This was appropriate, as the BREN, adopted by the Brits in 1937, was actually a licensed variant of the Czech ZGB light machine gun (LMG).

The well thought-out gas-operated repeater was interesting in that its curved, 20- or 30--round box magazines were sited at the top of the receiver. Weighing roughly 25 pounds when unloaded, the BREN could be shoulder fired, worked from a sling, shot prone with an attached bipod, managed from a tripod and employed on motorized vehicles. Also among its many features was a quick-change barrel capability which allowed for extended continuous fire. Cyclic rate was between 480 and 550 rpm.

Manufactured in both the UK and Canada, the BREN progressed through several "Marks," with the Mark I and II seen on D-Day. The Mark II was a somewhat simpler variant of the Mark I but with a less complicated rear sight, fixed-height bipod, and a fixed-rather-than--folding cocking handle. The rear grip was also eliminated. The BREN was a splendid arm, which, like many other pieces produced during the war, was retained in peacetime. The BREN was even converted to 7.62 NATO after the war and saw service with the British until the early 1970s. Ultimately, BRENS of various stripe were used by scores of countries.

## Germany



Germany's prime infantry longarm was the Mauser Karabiner 98k, a superb bolt action whose direct ancestor, the G98 appeared just before the turn of the 20th century. Introduced in 1935, the K98k was made by a number of domestic and foreign firms.

## Mauser K98k

The Germans did have semiautomatic rifles in the field, principally in the guise of the G41 and G43, but the main arm of the average soldier was the justly famed Karabiner 98k (K98k, or Kar98k) Mauser bolt action.

The K98k's basic action was derived from that of its progenitor, the Gewehr 98 (G98), which appeared just prior to the 20th century and was Germany's primary battle rifle during the Great War. The G98 was a bit on the long side at almost 50 inches. In 1935, shorter versions were produced that resulted in the K98k.

The K98k was a superb action with its one piece, cock-on-opening bolt design with two sturdy front-mounted locking lugs. It was also fitted with a non-rotating extractor that eliminated double feeds by grasping the rifle's rimless 7.92x57mm round as soon as it cleared the magazine. The rifle had a flush, five-round magazine that could be loaded by a stripper clip, and there was a side-mounted sling arrangement adopted from the earlier Karabiner

Model 1898 AZ (Kar 98AZ). The K98k was also set up for a practical 10-inch-bladed knife bayonet, the majority of which mounted plastic handles of various black and brown hues.

Manufactured at a number of sites in Germany and elsewhere, premier K98k rifles were works of art with most parts being machined; fit and finish was generally top-notch. As the war progressed, however, more stamped components were employed and cosmetics — while still acceptable — were diminished somewhat.

The K98k action was so good that it has provided the basis for uncounted sporting rifles, as well as the pattern on which the M1903 Springfield rifle was based.

While the M1 Garand and British No. 4 Mk I were exemplars of their type, they had more than a worthy opponent in the K98k Mauser. Millions were produced during the war, most of which had their makers' identities concealed by an elaborate system of manufacturing codes. One thing that couldn't be hidden was the sheer excellence of the arm. Rugged, reliable and accurate, it was a force to be reckoned with.

The K98k also provided an excellent platform for a sniper rifle, and a number of different varieties were constructed using various mounting systems and scopes.



Germany employed a large selection of domestically-made handguns, as well as some gleaned from defeated foes, from allies and purchased from neutrals. This small sample includes (top row, left to right): FN-Browning M1922 (Belgium); Star Model B (Spain); Walther PP (Germany); (middle row, left to right): Astra 300 (Spain); SACM 1935A (France); Beretta M1934 (Italy); (bottom row, left to right): CZ 27 (Czechoslovakia); Sauer 38H (Germany).

## Walther P.38

---

The German arms-maker Walther was no stranger to double-action autos having come out with the superb PP, and a later PPK pocket pistol in 1927. The concept that a pistol could be carried with relatively safety with a round in the chamber and the hammer lowered was clever. To fire the piece one had only to pull the trigger.

Though at the time the famed P.08 Luger pistol was the standard arm of Germany's military — although under restrictions imposed by the Allies following World War I — experiments with a service-caliber double-action semiautomatic were also undertaken. After a few false starts and some tweaking of improved models, the Walther P.38 — so called because it was officially adopted in 1938 — became the standard sidearm of the Wehrmacht armed forces of Nazi Germany. The Luger also continued to be produced and used throughout the war. Eventually, the Luger upstaged the P.38 as the favorite trophy among returning GIs.



While the Walther P.38 9mm pistol (top) was Germany's primary issue, the P.08 Luger (bottom) was also widely found. Both guns — especially the P.08 — were popular bring-back trophies with American GIs.

The P.38, chambered in 9mm, employed a mechanism with a tilting block to provide locking and unlocking. Flanking side-mounted recoil springs were also used. The gun had a decocking safety lever and loaded-chamber indicator, and its magazine held eight rounds. The pistol had an overall length of 8¾ inches and hefted some 34 ounces unloaded. Grips were of brown or black Bakelite material.

Initially made at Walther Arms, production was later taken up at Mauser-Werke, as well as Spreewerk GmbH. It was a superb piece and perhaps the most sophisticated handgun of the war. Its viability was further enhanced as it continued to be a popular military, police and civilian sidearm after the war.

Germans also carried a number of other handguns, including the Walther PP (Polizeipistole, or "police pistol"); PPK (Polizeipistole Kriminalmodell, or "detective police pistol"); Mauser HSc and Sauer 38H (often called "H") pocket pistols. There were also other handguns appropriated from the lands captured by the Germans or allies and neutral countries such as Spain.



The German MP38 and more common MP40 submachine guns were often incorrectly called “Schmeisser.” Chambering 9mm, they fired from a 32-round box magazine at an average rate of nearly 500 rpm. Courtesy of the National Firearms Museum. Photo by Phil Schreier.

## MP40

Misnamed by its adversaries as “Schmeisser,” Germany’s primary submachinegun was correctly termed the Maschinenpistole 38, or MP38. The later simplified guise became the MP40.

Designed at Erma-Werke (Erfurter Maschinenfabrik), the MP38 was a straight-blowback design with a cyclic rate between 400 and 550 rpm. Featuring a 32-round detachable-box magazine, the MP38 was one of the first guns of its type to feature a folding stock, making it useful for standard infantry use and great for airborne and armored troops.

The MP38 was not a cheap machine gun to manufacture, nor was the time in construction economical, given its intricately machined receiver. Its successor, the MP40, followed in its forefather’s basic design, but differently. The receiver and frame were of metal stampings which made them faster and cheaper to build. Ultimately, fabricated at a trio of sites with

some parts furnished by sub-contractors, several million were turned out between 1940 and 1945. The MP40 was certainly one of the best subguns of the war, if not the best.

It spoke with deadly efficiency at Normandy.

There you have a brief revealing of the more common small arms seen at Normandy on D-Day, 75 years ago.

<https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/desert-eagle-429-de-magnum/>

## DESERT EAGLE SPREADS ITS WINGS AGAIN – With the New .429 DE Magnum!

by JUSTIN OPINION on JULY 6, 2019



Perhaps the most iconic profile in all of the handgun world. The Desert Eagle is now in version Mark XIX. There are a lot of handguns that can be called “iconic”, but that word seldom applies more accurately than when used to refer to the Desert Eagle by Magnum Research. First patented in the mid-1980s by IMI (Israel Military Industries) based on an American design, the pistol skyrocketed to almost instant fame and recognition when Hollywood nearly jumped out of its shoes to feature it in one action movie after another. It quickly became the “must have” hand cannon if you wanted the word ‘badass’ associated with your movie. And while it may not be featured as frequently as it once was (after all, Hollywood is nothing if not fickle), its instantly recognized profile continues to awe and inspire the newest generation, who see it prominently displayed in video games.

Yes, the Desert Eagle is one that sits at the head table of handgun badassery. And yet, somehow yours truly has managed to tiptoe carefully through life without ever having fired one. Oh, it’s been consistently on the list – bucket or otherwise – I’ve just never made it happen. But when Magnum Research (now a part of the Kahr Firearms Group) announced a brand-new caliber developed exclusively for the Desert

Eagle – to take full advantage of its strength and ability to handle insane pressures – I leaned in for a closer look.



A new inscription and a new caliber – the .429 DE Magnum. The tested copy included the integral muzzle brake, which dampens recoil at the expense of additional blast.

The new caliber is called .429 DE Magnum. The DE is, of course, the initials of the Desert Eagle. For those unfamiliar with ballistic specs, .429 (or four hundred twenty-nine thousandths of an inch) is the actual diameter of the .44 Magnum bullet. Okay, I'm a big fan of .44 Mag, but so what... you can already get Desert Eagles chambered for that cartridge... what's the big deal? The big deal (thanks for asking), is that this .429" diameter bullet is sitting on top of the Saturn 5 of handgun cartridges... the .50 AE!



## **DESERT EAGLE**

- Chambering: .429 DE
- Barrel: 6" w/muzzle break
- OA Length: 10.75"
- Weight: 4 lbs. 4.3 oz.
- Grips: Soft Synthetic
- Sights: Fixed combat style
- Action: Gas operated, rotating bolt
- Finish: Stainless Steel
- Capacity: 7 (std. magazine)
- MSRP: \$ 2,143.00

Magnum Research builds a monster of a gun and a beast of a caliber – the .50 Action Express – but those laurels have been sat upon for so long, they may be wearing thin. The folks at M.R. wanted to figure out a way to take that cartridge and squeeze more out of it – or if not more, at least something new and different. So, by creating a necked-down cartridge that starts as a .50 caliber and winds up as a .44 caliber (.429"), you can push that 240-grain projectile faster because you have more space for higher powder charges. Also, because of the new configuration the .429 DE headspaces on the 30-degree shoulder, not the case mouth.



One of the main reasons the Desert Eagle can handle such high-pressure ammo is the rotating bolt design.



The red-hot .429 DE Magnum is a .50AE necked down to .44 Mag diameter. Overall length is almost exactly the same as .44 Mag. The ammo is currently only made by Magnum Research and is not yet SAAMI certified.

Magnum Research talks about the .429 DE Magnum as being faster than the .44 Magnum and delivering more energy at the target. This piqued my curiosity to do a side-by-side test to not only witness for myself if this is true, but also as a way to evaluate the degree of punch that this new cartridge possesses. So, after getting word from Kahr that the .429 DE handgun was on its way, I made separate arrangements for a .44 Magnum barrel and a couple of magazines.

In for a penny – in for a pound. Now, don't get me wrong – no one needs to justify to me the need or practical use for a new caliber, especially if it sets off nearby car alarms when fired. "Because we could", is a perfectly acceptable rationale. But I wanted to see the velocities, feel the recoil, and witness the accuracy for myself – knowing that some might be skeptical.

Here's the caveat: ballistics is a science. I am not a scientist. For instance, the .44 Mag barrel I have is solid, not ported or braked. The .429 barrel has an integral brake. The overall length is the same – ergo, the .44 Mag has propellant driving it a bit longer than does the .429 DE. Those details make my testing less than a direct comparison – but still very close.



Swapping to the black-finished .44 mag barrel created a beautiful two-tone piece of art.

## **THE MARK XIX DESERT EAGLE**

If no one is looking, and you want to admit that you're in my category of never having shot a Desert Eagle, then it's likely that you don't inherently know much about it beyond its iconic profile and that it makes large projectiles go fast. So, here are the general features of the Desert Eagle, now in the Mark XIX version. The gun is operated by a gas system that uses a piston to trap the expanding hot gas from the cartridge and divert a portion of it to drive the slide rearward. It also has a rotating bolt that contains the firing pin and extractor, rather than a fixed breech face as conventional semi-autos have. The bolt is very much like those found in AR-15s and is one of the best ways to work with large caliber – extreme pressure ammunition. The gun has ambidextrous safeties, which are slide mounted. This is one case where I think that is the best place for them – up high and out of the way.



The safety is ambidextrous and like every part of the Desert Eagle, very stout. It allows for a 'Condition One' mode. The safety disengages the trigger, rather than making a physical barrier to trigger or hammer. This means you can perform every normal function of the handgun while the safety is on – racking the slide, manually cocking the hammer, loading the pistol, etc. What the safety does not do is drop the hammer. The trigger is better than I expected, and while it's large like every other part of the gun, it is well placed and has a crisp break. The reset is a bit squishy – but if you're interested in doing double and triple taps with a Desert Eagle, you're a better man than I. I just hope you have a very high berm. The stock sights are decent – giving a black on black sight picture with a combat presentation. The magazine release looks like the head of a pin on the side of the pistol, but it is really about the size of a 1911 button. It functions very smoothly, and the high-quality mags drop free nicely.



A normal-sized control such as the magazine release looks miniature on the Desert Eagle. However, it's a smooth operator – as is the trigger, which is rated at 4 lbs.

The slide stop/release lever is large and very good, though I cannot operate it one-handed – my hands are just too small to wrap that far around the 2×4 sized grip. That grip wears a synthetic (rubberized) cover and bears a smooth front strap. The takedown is easy for cleaning or swapping barrels, though because it is a gas operated pistol, expect it to be filthy. Picatinny rail adorns the top of the barrel and the underside of the frame on the .429DE's brushed stainless steel surface.



Design and construction of the Desert

Eagle are top-notch in every aspect.

All-in-all, the Desert Eagle is just a masterpiece of modern design and workmanship. The fit and finish are first rate and every part of the gun feels “tough” and a bit over-engineered.

## SHOOTING THE .429 DE

As I mentioned, I'm a fan of the .44 magnum and have fired it in many different sized guns. All revolvers of various configurations and barrel lengths. I also know my way around other big-bore hand cannons, so

I was curious how this new wildcat would feel. For starters, the gun weighs as much as a '69 VW Beetle, so that will help. I dry fired the pistol a few times to get a sense for the trigger break, then loaded five in the 7-round magazine. The first shot made an impression. It wasn't so much the recoil – which is significant but well mitigated by the weight of the gun and tough springs. What got my attention was the concussion and the noise of the blast. You feel the shock wave hit you like you're in an invisible pillow fight. And if your ear protection is not up to snuff, you'll find out fast.

Magnum Research recommends a very firm grip and an isosceles-type stance with the strong hand pushing out with a locked elbow and forward shoulder, and the support hand tightly pulling back toward the body in the opposing force method. Limp-wristing is a common malfunction inducing problem with the Desert Eagle pistol. I'll confess – none too proudly – that I experienced this issue first hand more than once while shooting this behemoth – even while on rest. This could also be an indication that some break-in is required, but I did experience several feeding malfunctions with the .429 DE rounds. So, with the jury out on the reasons for that, I will presume that I am at least half the cause if not all of it. When I focused my grip and locked my elbows, it ran quite well. It's easier said than done, to keep a locked isometric grip on the gun after the first shot – because the flinch instinct can be strong, and the desire to bend the elbows to cushion the blow equally strong. But bleeding off just a little bit of that energy by doing so can interfere with the cycling of the action and cause the next round to short-feed.



The author is new to shooting the Desert Eagle and experienced the well-known 'limp-wristed' learning curve that many do. Even with .44 mag as shown here, too soft a grip and stance can induce a feeding failure. The .429 DE cartridge is not SAAMI certified as yet, so to my knowledge, there is only one supplier of the ammunition, Glacier Ridge by Magnum Research. It is available in two bullet weights, a 240-gr. soft nose, and a 210-gr. JHP. The latter claims a higher velocity. I didn't have a supply of comparable .44 magnum for the lighter bullet, but since I did chronograph both weights, we'll take a look at those results.

**Chronograph Results**  
**Magnum Research Desert Eagle Mark XIX**

Ammunition Brand	Ammunition Type	Velocity (fps)	Energy (ft./lbs.)
Magnum Research Glacier Ridge	.429DE 240 gr. JSP	1533	1253
Magnum Research Glacier Ridge	.429DE 210 gr. JHP	1628	1236
SIG Sauer Elite Performance	.44 Mag 240 gr. V-Crown	1293	891

\* Results are the average of 5 shots from each cartridge at 12 ft. using a Competition Electronics chronograph

Magnum Research's boast of significantly increased velocity and energy versus the .44 magnum seems well founded. My simple testing revealed the same weight (240 gr.) bullet travels about 19% faster and packs a whopping 41% more energy. Its numbers put it between the 7.62×39 (AK-47 round) and the .243 Winchester rifle rounds. Hand cannon – indeed! The 210-gr. hollow point version moves considerably faster yet and despite its lesser mass, delivers very nearly the same energy.



The synthetic grip combined with a smooth front strap makes a nice combination for shooting this beast. In this case, the less abrasive surface against your skin, the better.

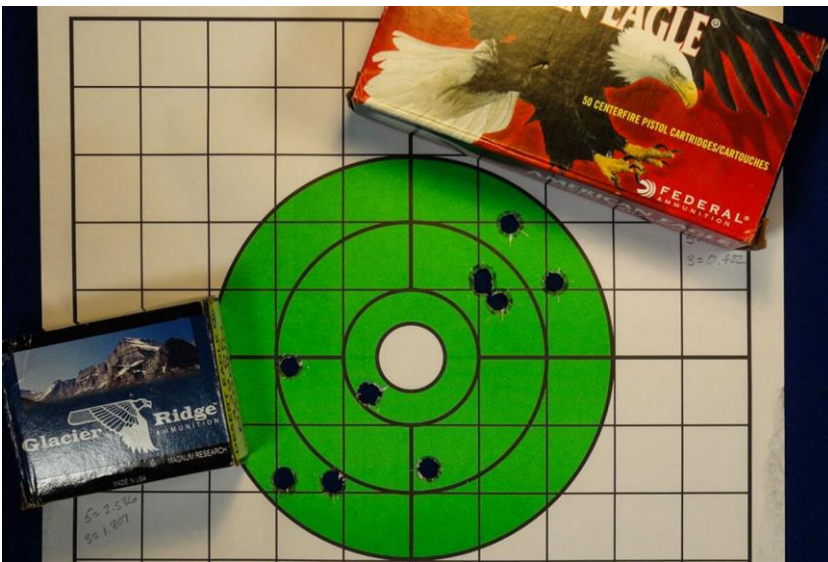
In addition to the cartridge being new, uncertified, and exclusive – it is also expensive. Obviously, the cost of the components is significant – particularly the bottle-neck brass case. If you shop around a bit online you might find a box of 20 for as little as \$32, or about \$1.60 per shot. But then, I doubt anyone is considering any Desert Eagle model because it makes good sense for their budget, and especially so with a new boutique cartridge. Over time that will come down a bit, but not much. There is still a lot of raw material there.

## **ACCURACY**

To test the accuracy of the Desert Eagle, I rested it at 20 yards from a target and compared 5 shots of .44 Magnum to 5 shots of .429DE, both with 240-grain bullets. Since the behemoth I was testing is over the top, I thought I'd go over the top too, and mounted an Aimpoint PRO – intended for rifle use – on the gun. After a quick sight-in with the .44 barrel, I shot 5 rounds of SIG Sauer Elite Performance ammo, then swapped barrels to the .429DE and shot 5 more rounds. Seems the configuration of the barrels is different enough that it sent the .429 rounds about six inches high – but luckily still on paper and well separated from the .44 group. The group with the .44 mag barrel was extremely impressive – with three of the five shots touching. The .429 printed a larger group, partly due to flinching on the part of yours truly. I also found that even rested, one must concentrate on the grip or feed problems can result.

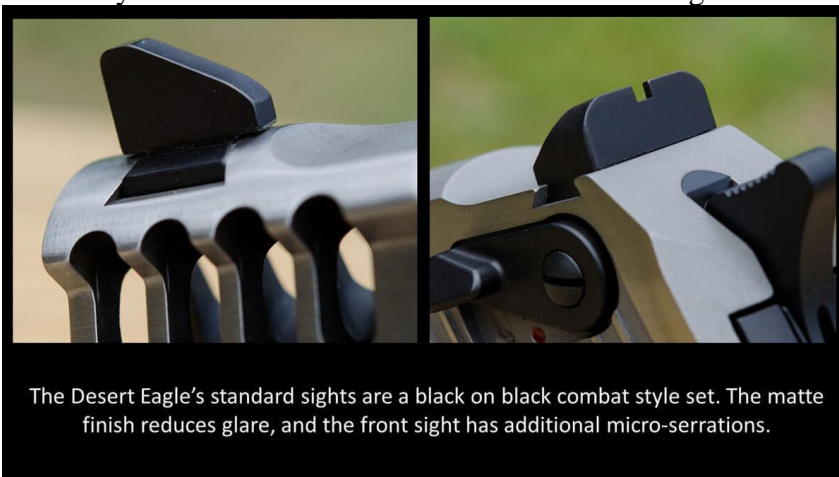
20 Yard Results - Rested  
Magnum Research Desert Eagle Mark XIX

Ammunition Brand	Ammunition Type	5-Shot Group (inches)	3-Shot Group (inches)
Magnum Research Glacier Ridge	.429DE 240 gr. JSP	2.536	1.807
Federal American Eagle	.44 Mag 240 gr. JHP	1.122	0.422
Averages		1.829	1.115



The fixed barrel of the Desert Eagle makes it

inherently accurate – even with some shooter flinching!



The Desert Eagle's standard sights are a black on black combat style set. The matte finish reduces glare, and the front sight has additional micro-serrations.

## JUST MY OPINION

This is the part of the review where I often try to define the practical use for the firearm. Is it best suited for home defense, concealed carry, competition or perhaps hunting and sporting use, etc. But the Desert Eagle fits in all boxes and no box all at the same time. It is unique among handguns, and its justification for being is simply that it exists. And we're glad it does. Once thought of as a novelty gun, the Desert Eagle has matured into one considered synonymous with high quality and high power. Everybody secretly wants one. It is perhaps the ultimate barbecue gun – especially if you got the bling package with gold plating and tiger stripes! But that doesn't mean it has no practical application. I would hate to be a wild

hog on the property of a Desert Eagle owner. Indeed, even more traditional game could be taken with it. Defend the home? You bet it would. One shot would do it – you’ve either eliminated the threat, or the threat is eliminating all over itself as it runs away. But the real reason for the Desert Eagle is the best reason of all. The “just because” reason. And it is in that spirit that I think the folks at Magnum Research said “what if…” and developed the .429 DE Magnum. It lives up to the hype in terms of ballistic performance.

One of the best aspects of the Desert Eagle is its ability to be quickly changed from one caliber to another by a simple barrel swap – and maybe a different magazine. So, you can take it to the range with the .44 magnum or .357 magnum barrel, and bring it to the barbeque with the new – and conversation starting .429 barrel. The Desert Eagle is an expensive gun, and not likely the most practical. But, check just about any gun guy’s wish list and you’ll find it – probably near the top. The .429 DE is likely to rejuvenate interest, and it is worthy of the name. I think Magnum Research has a new winner here.



The Desert Eagle is design and machining achievement that is also art. The new 429 DE is the next step in its journey of



innovation.

big enough already, with the slide locked back the DE takes on otherworldly looks.

As if not



Shooting rifle

velocities from a rifle-weight gun might as well use a rifle optic! The author used the Aimpoint PRO for some of the testings.



## The Media and their Lies: An NRA Board Member's Perspective

*by Linda Walker*

**7:00AM FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2019**

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights.

As a Constitutionalist, I believe our Forefathers got it right when they drafted and adopted the Bill of Rights. It is a timeless document that formed the rights that every American citizen would enjoy for generations and hundreds of years. It is not a living document, easily changed, as many would like to think. As an American, we have a responsibility to uphold our Constitution, and that would include the press and media. Unfortunately, the press has abused that right!

Pick a subject, and the press will rewrite it to fit their narrative, especially if that subject comes from those who consider themselves conservatives. We have witnessed that consistently over the years with the Ohio media. You don't need to look far for the lies the media has portrayed over the years in Ohio, as we've advanced our Second Amendment rights. The media said there would be blood running in the streets when concealed carry passed in 2003. Hasn't happened! Each session we run pro-gun legislation, and the media sets the tone of lies. Last session they pegged the bill as “Stand Your Ground,” and even worse, the “Murder Bill.” Plain and simple, it was a bill removing the duty to

retreat, but those words didn't sell headlines. To no ones' surprise, the press once again abused their right to the freedom of the press.

The People have come to not trust what the media tries to spoon feed us as the truth. In these times, we have to seek out on our own what is the truth and what is blatant, made-up lies of the media. Recently, the *Washington Post* (along with many other media outlets which picked up the story) ran an article entitled, "NRA money flowed to board members amid allegedly lavish spending by top officials and vendors." As a member of the NRA Board of Directors, to my surprise, my name appeared in the article. One of the WaPo reporters, Beth Reinhard, had reached out to me twice and requested an interview, because my name was listed a few years ago in the annual "statement of income" for Board members. I ignored her requests, which in her final email to me, I could see she was irritated that I had the gull to ignore her.

I am an NRA membership recruiter, just like most all of the other 100,000 NRA certified instructors, most gun stores, and most Second Amendment organizations across America. I was honest enough to have claimed the approximately \$200 in recruiter membership commissions paid to me, from the NRA membership division. What Reinhard failed to do though, was disclose that it was ONLY \$200!!! She lists me along with some of my fellow Board members who are paid for lobbying, speaking engagements, consulting, etc., some of which are paid some hefty fees. Somehow, Beth Reinhard found my \$200 recruiter commission earned was newsworthy?

Notably, she left out the minimal income figures for three of us Board members who are membership recruiters, one which has passed away. It was far better for the story to be able to accuse 25% of the Board members of being paid by the NRA. Yes, my \$200 didn't fit the narrative these reporters were attempting to make. (The three additional reporters who contributed to this disingenuous article, along with Beth Reinhard, are Katie Zezima, Tom Hamburger and Carol D. Leonnig.)

And you wonder why people don't trust the media anymore! Because facts don't matter to them! For the record, I am an UNPAID volunteer. I don't get paid for what I do with the NRA (or with Buckeye Firearms Association) for what I do, on behalf of protecting, defending, and restoring our Second Amendment rights. What I do comes from my heart, because it's the right thing to do. Yes, protecting the Second Amendment is the right thing for any patriotic American to do. Shame on you reporters for attempting to tarnish my upstanding reputation over a measly \$200 commission that I earned, just like 100's of thousands of other people do each and every year!

It is no wonder why newspapers are closing shop, why various news channels ratings have tanked, and why people no longer trust the media. Unfortunately, the media has forgotten what our

Forefathers wrote for them, and have even changed the narrative of our Bill of Rights to suit their own agenda.

*Linda Walker is Vice President of Buckeye Firearms Association, a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Rifle Association, where she sits on the Legislative Policy, State & Local Affairs Subcommittee, Women's Policies and Grassroots Development committees. She's an NRA-ILA FAL Frontlines Activist Leader, an NRA certified instructor, the 2009 recipient of the NRA's "Sybil Ludington Women's Freedom Award." She is Co-Founder and Co-Host of the NRA Women's New Energy Breakfast. Linda Walker is also a Co-Chair of President Trump's Second Amendment Advisory Coalition.*



<https://www.nraila.org/articles/20190614/advice-columnist-tells-father-to-evict-daughter-from-his-house-for-owning-a-gun>

# Advice Columnist Tells Father to Evict Daughter from His House for Owning a Gun

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2019



## Support NRA-ILA

Amy Dickinson is an advice columnist who, [according to the company that syndicates her work](#), “combines storytelling with advice that is rooted with honesty and trust.” “Ask Amy” appears in newspapers that include The Baltimore Sun, The Chicago Tribune, The Los Angeles Times, and The Washington Post. She is also billed as an “expert on relationships.”

Dickinson may be good at telling stories, but she is hardly honest, trustworthy, or expert in matters of firearms, which she nevertheless feels free to opine on, including in an [article published this week](#) that encourages an overwrought father to evict his adult daughter for owning a pistol.

A man identified only as “DUMBFUNDED FATHER” (who we’ll refer to as “DUMB” for short) wrote Amy to breathlessly report:

*This week I discovered that my intelligent, hard-working, responsible 24-year-old daughter (who lives with me) is a gun owner! And it's not a normal gun either — it is a .40-caliber semi-automatic, and she has hollow point bullets to go with it.*

DUMB believes the handgun to be “the kind of weapon a criminal would possess!” He dismisses his daughter’s choice to keep the gun “for emergencies,” arguing that there have been “only two” home invasions in their neighborhood during the last 11 years.

DUMB goes on to tell Amy that he has ordered his daughter to relinquish the gun or move out of his house in three weeks. He admits, “I love my daughter and would be so sad for her to move into a place that she would hardly be able to afford,” but insists, “I have to lock my bedroom door at night because I don’t know what she’s going to do.”

DUMB complains that his daughter now says he doesn’t trust her and will barely speak to him, “How,” he asks Amy, “can I convince her to stop endangering us?”

Needless to say, DUMB’s question embodies a number of false assumptions, as well as a remarkably condescending attitude toward women and firearms.

First, there is nothing “not ... normal” about a .40 cal. semi-automatic handgun. Semi-automatic handguns are in fact the *most popular* category of firearm in America today.

The .40 caliber S&W cartridge, meanwhile, was developed specifically for *law enforcement use*, following the FBI’s determination in the mid-1980s to replace their standard-issue .38 special revolvers with semi-automatic pistols.

Pistols chambered in the round went on to become a popular choice with law enforcement agencies across the United States, with civilians adopting them in large numbers during the Clinton “assault weapon” ban in effect from 1994 to 2004, which also imposed limits on magazine capacity.

Putting aside the technicalities, however, there is no evidence that the round – which is somewhat more expensive than other common handgun rounds – is especially popular with criminals.

Moreover, DUMB provides no information that would justify his need to lock himself into his bedroom at night to protect himself from his daughter or her firearm. That seems like a gross overreaction to a daughter he says he loves possessing a lawful and constitutionally protected firearm for emergency use. Indeed, in the event such an emergency arises, DUMB’s daughter will likely be the one protecting him.

Finally, DUMB is so irrationally fearful and controlling that he threatens to evict his daughter in three weeks unless she gets rid of the firearm, including by giving it to him. Why he thinks he is any safer with it than her is not explained, especially given his evident unfamiliarity with handguns.

DUMB’s letter is so over-the-top, in fact, that it comes across more like a parody of a narrow-minded, irrational, gun-phobic control freak than a serious question from a concerned parent.

Amy, however, not only takes the letter at face value, she ups the ante with additional misinformation and emotionalism of her own.

The very first sentence of her reply states, “According to my research, possessing hollow point bullets is illegal in 11 states; is it legal in your state to own this sort of exploding ammunition?”

Actually, only one state – New Jersey – and one city – San Francisco – bans the possession of hollow point ammunition. Amy’s “research” is completely erroneous.

And, needless to say, hollow point bullets do not “explode.” Rather, they are designed to stay intact and expand upon impact, which actually protects the safety and property of bystanders by reducing the tendency of the round to penetrate through the intended target and hit something else.

If anything, Amy’s faulty statistic would still suggest an 78% probability that the ammunition DUMB’s daughter possesses is legal. But is Amy suggesting that DUMB should solve his “problem” by seeking to have his own daughter arrested?

Next, Amy cites additional “research” which she claims shows that since 1980, the number of guns has risen in America, while the percentage of households with a firearm has fallen, concentrating the guns into fewer homes. “Why,” she asks irrelevantly, “must your household be one of them?”

Amy then starts casting aspersions on the daughter. “Where did your daughter get this weapon and ammunition?” she asks. “Is she perhaps engaged in another activity outside of your household that exposes her to increased risks and makes her believe she needs to have a weapon?”

Rather than chide DUMB for overreacting to the common, presumptively lawful, and constitutionally protected conduct of his daughter, Amy tries to terrify him even further with a single, non-representative anecdote. “I have news for you,” she warns. “A locked bedroom door is no match for this weaponry; as I write this, just five days ago a father in South Carolina tragically shot and killed his own 23-year-old daughter through a closed door — when he mistook her for an intruder.”

Of course, family members have also been known to [tragically back over each other](#) with their cars.

But those highly unusual and infrequent events do not suggest an intelligent and responsible 24-year-old woman cannot handle a firearm (or automobile) safely.

Ultimately, Amy encourages DUMB to enforce his “ultimatum,” adding, “I also weep that there is yet another (likely unsafe) gun owner in this country.”

Again, DUMB’s letter provides absolutely no reason to suggest his daughter is an unsafe gun owner. Like DUMB himself, Amy apparently just assumes that a young woman – even an intelligent and responsible one – is incompetent to handle a firearm.

For an “expert” on relationships, Amy also seems unusually quick to suggest a father throw a beloved daughter out of his home for taking the responsible, adult step of seeing to her own protection. Worse,

she advocates this potentially life-altering course of action based on poor research, false assumptions, and faulty reasoning.

Indeed, the advice Amy gives to DUMB is startlingly at odds with the advice she typically gives to family members who disagree with their relatives' [lifestyle](#) and [choices](#); more often she counsels empathy and tolerance, rather than condemnation and alienation.

The irony here is that bad advice delivered by an incompetent researcher with no appreciation of her own ignorance or bias is the only real danger in this situation.

But we're told DUMB's daughter is intelligent, hardworking, responsible ... and well-armed.

Something tells us she'll do just fine on her own.



## **Secretary Bernhardt Proposes Increasing Public Access to Hunting and Fishing on 1.4 Million Acres Nationwide**

*7:00AM TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2019*

Proposal Includes New Opportunities at 74 National Wildlife Refuges and 15 National Fish Hatcheries  
Oak Harbor, Ohio – Furthering the Trump Administration’s efforts to increase access to public lands, U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt today announced from Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge a proposal for new or expanded hunting and fishing opportunities at 74 national wildlife refuges and 15 national fish hatcheries managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) across more than 1.4 million acres.

“President Trump is committed to expanding public access on public lands, and this proposal is executing on that directive by opening and increasing more access to hunting and fishing by the Fish and Wildlife Service at more stations and across more acres than ever before,” said Secretary Bernhardt. “Hunting and fishing are more than just traditional pastimes as they are also vital to the conservation of our lands and waters, our outdoor recreation economy, and our American way of life. These refuges and hatcheries provide incredible opportunities for sportsmen and women and their families across the country to pass on a fishing and hunting heritage to future generations and connect with wildlife.”

The proposal would increase the number of units in the Service's National Wildlife Refuge System where the public may hunt from 377 to 382, and the number where fishing would be permitted would be increased from 312 to 316. The proposal would also formally open lands on 15 hatcheries of the National Fish Hatchery System to hunting or sport fishing for the first time.

The proposal also outlines a comprehensive revision and simplification of all refuge-specific hunting and fishing regulations in all 50 states to more closely match state regulations while continuing to ensure safe and compatible opportunities. The Service worked closely with the states in preparing the proposed rule.

"Well managed hunting and fishing are the backbone of conservation in this country, but inconsistent or overly complex regulations can act as a disincentive," said Service Principal Deputy Director Margaret Everson. "By aligning our refuge regulations with our state partners, we are reducing confusion and the regulatory burden on the American public, helping ensure the tradition and benefits of hunting and fishing can continue."

New proposed refuge opportunities include the opening of Green Bay National Wildlife Refuge in Wisconsin to hunting and fishing for the first time and the opening of Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge in Wyoming to deer and elk hunting for the first time on lands already open to other hunting. Proposed expansions of refuge opportunities include the opening of new acres at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge in Florida to existing upland and big game hunting, and, at Great River National Wildlife Refuge in Illinois and Missouri, the expansion of season dates, times and methods for existing deer, turkey and other upland game hunting to align with state seasons.

Proposed changes at hatcheries include the formal opening of lands on Leadville National Fish Hatchery in Colorado to migratory game bird, upland game and big game hunting, and the formal opening of lands on Iron River National Fish Hatchery in Wisconsin to migratory game bird, upland game and big game hunting. Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery in Texas and Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery in Washington are proposing to formally open their lands to sport fishing. An update to hatchery regulations is also included in the proposed rule.

"The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is delighted by this announcement of a continuing commitment by the Department of the Interior to expanded access for regulated hunting and angling, on National Wildlife Refuges, in partnership with state fish and wildlife agencies," stated Ed Carter, President of the Association and Executive Director of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. He added, "We need to get people outside to enjoy the lands and waters, and fish and wildlife resources, of our great nation. This is an important step in that direction!"

“The announcement today by Secretary Bernhardt is incredibly welcome news and builds off great progress in increasing access to refuge lands the last two years,” said John Devney, Senior Vice President, Delta Waterfowl. “Duck hunters have been leaders in investing in the refuge system and this action will provide them with new access and opportunities. We are sincerely grateful to Secretary Bernhardt and the Fish and Wildlife Service staff who have worked hard to create these new opportunities for hunters.”

“The Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation applauds Secretary Bernhardt for his efforts to expand hunting and fishing opportunities within the National Wildlife Refuge System,” said Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation President Jeff Crane. “This announcement builds off momentum generated over the last few years through Interior Secretarial Orders, and advances recent recommendations submitted by the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council to increase hunter and angler access to federal lands and waters, including the Refuge System.”

Hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities contributed more than \$156 billion in economic activity in communities across the United States in 2016, according to the Service’s National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, published every five years. More than 101 million Americans — 40 percent of the U.S. population age 16 and older — pursue wildlife-related recreation, including hunting and fishing.

The Service will seek comments from the public on the proposed rule for 45 days, beginning with publication in the Federal Register in coming days. The notice will be available at <http://www.regulations.gov>, Docket Number: FWS-HQ-NWRS-2019-0040, and will include details on how to submit your comments. An interim copy of the proposed rule is now available. The Service intends to finalize the proposed changes in time for the upcoming 2019-2020 hunting seasons.

A complete list of all refuges and hatcheries in the proposal is available in the proposed rule and online.

For more than 145 years, the National Fish Hatchery System has worked collaboratively with tribes, states, landowners, partners and stakeholders to promote and maintain healthy, self-sustaining populations of fish and other aquatic species. There are 70 national fish hatcheries visited by more than two million people each year. Hatcheries offer opportunities for viewing the operations and learning about fish, as well as activities such as fishing, hunting, hiking, sightseeing, nature study, birdwatching and photography.

The Refuge System is an unparalleled network of 567 national wildlife refuges and 38 wetland management districts. There is a national wildlife refuge within an hour's drive of most major metropolitan areas. More than 55 million Americans visit refuges every year. National wildlife refuges provide vital habitat for thousands of species and access to world-class recreation, from fishing, hunting and boating to nature watching, photography and environmental education.

Under the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, the Service permits hunting and fishing along with four other types of wildlife-dependent recreation, including wildlife photography, environmental education, wildlife observation and interpretation, when they are compatible with an individual refuge's purpose and mission. Hunting, within specified limits, is currently permitted on 340 wildlife refuges and 37 wetland management districts. Fishing is currently permitted on 278 wildlife refuges and 34 wetland management districts.

The Service manages hunting and fishing programs to ensure sustainable wildlife populations while also offering other wildlife-dependent recreation on public land

# Big Bullets, Big Ballistics: The CMMG Resolute .458 SOCOM

by MARK MILLER on JULY 5, 2019

Related Tags: [.458 Socom](#), [AR-15](#), [Big Bore](#), [Buzz](#), [CMMG](#), [Feature Articles](#)

What's in your chamber? The hybrid CMMG Resolute .458 SOCOM is designed to bring 600 grains of punch to the hunt. Whether you're defending your family or looking to bring home the bacon (and all the other cuts), the .458 SOCOM RESOLUTE keeps going when you need it most.

CMMG's RESOLUTE is the perfect choice for this big caliber. The .458 SOCOM achieves optimum ballistic performance in the 16-inch barrel providing great balance, accuracy, and maneuverability.

The RESOLUTE lineup is available in three tiers: RESOLUTE 100, RESOLUTE 200 and RESOLUTE 300, each customized to give you the features you want at the price you need.

The CMMG 458 Socom is a beefy rifle. The hybrid receivers, the .458 barrel, and the .458 bolt are fat where it counts. At only 7 lbs 4oz, the Resolute is quite comfortable to shoot.

The CMMG Mid-sized hybrid receivers are NOT compatible with standard AR-15 (CMMG Mk4) or .308 WIN (CMMG Mk3) uppers.

## Resolute™ 200 .458 SOCOM

- BARREL: 16.1", 1:14 twist, Medium Taper, 416SS
- MUZZLE: CMMG SV Brake, threaded 5/8-32
- GAS PORT: Carbine Length with SLR Adjustable Gas Block
- RECEIVER: Billet 7075-T6 AL Mid Size upper, Billet 7075-T6 AL Lower
- HANDGUARD: CMMG RML15 M-Lok handguard
- FINISH: Hard Coat Anodized Receivers and Hand Guard (Upgrade to Cerakote)
- CHARGING HANDLE: CMMG Standard Mid-Size
- PISTOL GRIP: Magpul MOE
- BUTTSTOCK: CMMG RipStock with 6 Position Enhanced Receiver Extension and Ambi Sling Plate
- TRIGGER: CMMG Single stage mil-spec style trigger
- TRIGGER GUARD: Integrated Into Lower
- SAFETY SELECTOR: CMMG Mil-Spec
- MAGAZINE: Ten round CMMG Modified Lancer Magazine
- WEIGHT: 7 lbs 4oz (unloaded)
- LENGTH: 33.3"(stock collapsed)
- Ships with two CMMG Modified Lancer Magazines



A MAGPUL pistol grip and a thin profile KeyMod handguard allow you to get your hand forward for control. Felt recoil is something like 12 gauge birdshot.



The mighty SV muzzle brake tames the .458 to feel like 12 gauge birdshot.

The Resolute lower receiver is generous for rapid reloads. It will accept any AR 15 magazine. The Lancer magazines provided have metal feed lips and have been modified to increase reliability with the .458 SOCOM. I used several magazines from favorite brands. Mission First Tactical magazines, MAGPUL, and GI aluminum mags. All of them worked great.



The Resolute sports a KeyMod Handguard and a CMMG RipStock with 6 Position Enhanced Receiver Extension and Ambi Sling Plate.

The .458 SOCOM cartridge was designed to be compatible with the AR platform. This included the buffer, buffer spring, GI magazines, many aftermarket .223/5.56 magazines, and magazine well.

In a .223/5.56 AR magazine, cartridges are staggered in a double stack. With the larger .458 SOCOM, rounds single stack with no modification to the standard AR magazine feed lips or followers. A 20-round 5.56mm NATO magazine can hold seven .458 SOCOM rounds and a 30-round 5.56mm NATO magazine can hold ten .458 SOCOM rounds.



Groups at 100 yards were a consistent 4MOA with both subsonic and supersonic loads. There was a small zero shift. I was able to shoot two hundred rounds in three different .458 SOCOM loads. The SBR Ammunition 300gr Solid Brass and 500gr Round nose subsonic loads as well as the ARX 200gr Interceptor.

Each of these loads cycled well. The groups were very consistent at 100 yards. The best 5 round groups measured just under 4 inches.



At 25 yards precise shots are simple, even standing unsupported. The .458 SOCOM (11.63×40mm) promises the ballistics of the legendary .45-70 in the AR platform rifle. The .458 launches 250 to 600 grain .458 caliber bullets with manageable recoil.

Building an AR in .458 SOCOM requires a .458 specific bolt and barrel. The ejection port opening of the upper receiver must be extended to allow clearance for the larger cartridge.

The .458 SOCOM feeds from most standard unmodified 5.56 AR magazines. CMMG provides Lancer L5 AWM magazines. The Lancer 20 round 5.56 magazine holds seven SOCOM rounds and the 30 round 5.56 magazine will hold nine.

The .458 round has a reputation for breaking guns. It has been said “The .458 round is well suited for stopping an intruder. In your neighbor’s house. Behind a refrigerator.” Immensely powerful, yes it is, but CMMG has built a rifle that runs it.



For hunting medium to large game, 250 grain– 400-grain bullets are very effective. The 300-grain (19 g) round offers a supersonic muzzle velocity of 1,900 ft/s (580 m/s) and 2,405 ft·lbs (3,261 J), similar to a light .45-70 but with a much smaller case.



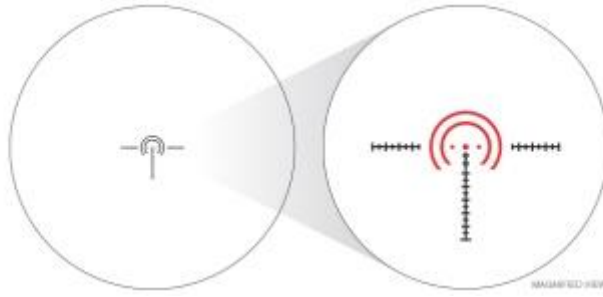
## The **458 SOCOM** cartridge

The Resolute's 1-14 twist barrel is a great choice to use with a suppressor. The SOCOM will launch 500-600-grain bullets at subsonic velocities for suppressed or tactical use.



Nikon FORCE1000 1-4x24mm Riflescope. with the SPEEDFORCE Illuminated reticle. Nikon's Black Force 1000 1-4X IL is the perfect pairing for the CMMG .458 SOCOM. The 1 X 4 power scope allows quick transition from close range to distant targets and back.

The SPEEDFORCE Illuminated reticle uses a double horseshoe design for making precise shots out to mid-ranges without over-magnifying your target and provides moving-target leads with quick target acquisition. Side-mounted illumination adjustment lets you select from 10 different intensity settings to precisely meet ambient lighting conditions.



#### Nikon FORCE1000 1-4x24mm SPEEDFORCE Illuminated reticle

This BLACK FORCE 1000 Riflescope is O-ring sealed, nitrogen purged, and durably constructed to be waterproof, fog proof, and shockproof. All glass surfaces on this scope are multi-coated to maximize light transmission.

Nikon's Black Force1000 1-4X is an affordable solution for both tactical shooters and hunters with an MSRP at less than \$400.

Specifications:

Color:	Black
Magnification:	1 – 4 x
Objective Lens Diameter:	24 mm
Tube Diameter:	30 mm
Reticle:	Illuminated Speedforce
Illumination Color:	Red
Eye Relief:	4.1 – 3.8 in
Exit pupil:	6 – 24 mm
Adjustment Type:	MOA
Adjustment Click Value:	0.25 MOA
Adjustment Range:	350 MOA
Field of View, Linear:	11.01 – 27.2 ft at 100 yds
Parallax:	100 yds
Optical Coating:	Anti-Reflective/Multi-Layer Coated
Battery Type:	CR2032
Water Resistance Level:	Waterproof
Shockproof:	Yes
Fogproof:	Yes
Length:	4.72 in
Finish:	Type III Hardcoat Anodized
Features:	

- SPEEDFORCE Illuminated Reticle with versatile double horseshoe design draws the eye to the center of the viewing field for fast targeting.
- Glass-etched Illuminated Reticle is located in Second Focal Plane.
- Side-mounted Illumination control features 10 intensity settings and powers down after 1 hour of non-operation.
- True 1x magnification and 4x zoom for both-eyes-open engagement matched with long-range aiming precision.
- Full Multilayer Coatings On All Glass Surfaces – multiple layers of anti-reflective coating maximize light transmission, brightness and contrast.
- Optical System lead- and arsenic-free glass used for all lenses.
- Generous, Consistent Eye Relief for fast sighting with a full sight picture.

- Quick Focus Eyepiece with smooth-turn rubberized ring allows crisp reticle focus.
- Capped Windage & Elevation Turrets for total sighting confidence under the toughest conditions.
- Spring-Loaded Instant-Zero Reset Turrets engraved for maximum readability and internals provide precise, repeatable corrections while zeroing.
- Waterproof, Fogproof O-ring sealed, nitrogen purged for total reliability.
- Shockproof construction.
- Side-mounted illumination adjustment features 10 intensity settings for use in all lighting conditions, including bright sunlight.
- Built with aircraft grade 6061-T6 aluminum alloy 30mm main body tube and finished with Type-III hard anodizing surface finish for maximum ruggedness and long-term durability.

The CMMG Resolute is the perfect rifle to tame the biggest AR caliber, the .458 SOCOM. It combines awesome power and advanced design into a manageable package.

MSRP \$2024.95

Photos by Mark Miller

# BANG THE DRUM MAGAZINE SLOWLY

BY PETER SUCIU  
JULY 6, 2019



## A History of the Drum Magazine

### The need for increased magazine capacity

After the game-changing invention of the cartridge, and even before the development of bolt-action rifles, firearms designers tried different ways to increase ammunition capacity. The drum magazine is a mid-19th-century invention that fulfilled that need. Generally, the credit goes to two individuals for patenting the idea of a drum magazine, even if neither of their designs actually made it off the drawing board. Charles Tyler reportedly patented one design in 1853, and Salloum Dahdah patented another in 1862. However, as noted neither were put to practical use.

### Different Drum Beats

Now, the world doesn't move to the beat of just one drum. Clearly, 19th-century firearms designers each moved to their own beat. This is where Lewis W. Broadwell comes in. He developed and patented the Broadwell drum, which increased the ammunition capacity for the Gatling Gun, but his design didn't suit the job at hand. In essence, it was just a gravity-feed system put in a circle. It was reportedly prone to jamming and while it did increase the capacity, changing the magazines was a slower process than with the straight magazines. Moreover, the Broadwell design, while called a drum, was really more of a stacked pancake style magazine (see below). In 1875 the 40-round gravity machine replaced his drum and its special feed hopper.



*The Soviet DP-28 featured a "pan" magazine not technically a "drum" magazine (Photo: Collection of the Author).*

## **The Accles Drum Magazine**

James G. Accles created the first true "drum magazine." His 1883 patented Accles drum for the Gatling Gun held 104 rounds. Lugs on the carrier drove the internal impellor which made it a positive feed device. It has been compared to a brass donut and was especially reliable if kept clean.



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

*Accles Drum Magazine for 1883 Gatling. Image credit: Heritage Auctions.*

The downside to the Accles drum was that it was sensitive to dirt and service abuse, which made it impractical for field use. It was also slow to reload and complex to service.

In 1886 Lucian Bruce developed and patented a device that increased the speed of reloading the drums. He also created an adapter that made Gatling Guns compatible with the Bruce feed system. Bruce famously created a new feed system that did away with the Accles drum. The Bruce device allowed for continuous fire, as the magazine could be topped off from additional stick magazines. It proved to be the most successful feed system for the Gatling Gun, but it wasn't the end of the line for the drum magazines.

## Drumming Up

### Farquhar-Hill

The development of the belt-fed machine guns of the late 19th century – notably the Maxim design – highlighted the advantages of rate of fire in small arms, but it was actually a semi-automatic rifle design that led to the first successful deployment of a drum magazine.

The Farquhar-Hill was one of the first semi-automatic rifles; patented in the UK in 1908, followed by the United States in 1909. Developed by British weapon designers Moubray G. Farquhar and Arthur H. Hill, it used a recoil operation with a rotary bolt locking system. Its designers were still trying to resolve some of its issues when WWI broke out in 1914, and they tested the weapon with 65-round drum magazines. Some British aviators used it before the adoption of specialty aircraft machine guns and American soldiers field tested at least one with its specially designed 19-round drum magazine.

N° 8172



A.D. 1915

Date of Application, 2nd June, 1915

Complete Specification Left, 17th Nov., 1915—Accepted, 5th Mar., 1919

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

**A New or Improved Cartridge Magazine for Small Arms and Machine Guns.**

We, MURRAY GORE FARQUHAR, of No. 256, Monument Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, Gentleman, and ARTHUR HENRY HILL, of No. 16, Loveday Street, Birmingham, aforesaid, Gun Manufacturer, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

5 Our invention consists of the construction and arrangement or combination of parts hereinafter described constituting a new or improved cartridge magazine for fire arms and machine guns the said improvements having for their principal object to enable the magazines of fire arms and machine guns to carry a larger number of cartridges than is usual.

10 The new or improved cartridge magazine constituting our invention comprises two circular metallic discs one somewhat larger than the other the said discs being connected together by an axial pin or spindle. The said discs have on their presented faces flanges which provide circular or spiral channels, grooves or races for the accommodation of the head or base ends of the  
15 cartridges and pointed ends or noses of the bullets respectively the said cartridges when the magazine is loaded contacting and fitting approximately close together.

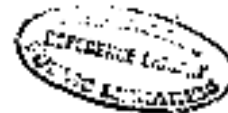
When the channels, grooves or races of the two discs are circular they are concentric with the edges of the discs except at the slot constituting the mouth  
20 or delivery opening of each channel, groove or race through which the cartridges are delivered into the vertical cartridge passage or way in the body of the gun one side of the curved delivery mouth closing the inner end of the circular channel, groove or race.

In loading the magazine the cartridges are pressed through the slots into the  
25 channels, grooves or races of the discs by hand the innermost cartridge bearing against a platform which is carried by a spring operated arm or driver the action of which tends to drive the cartridges round the magazine and out of the mouths of the channels, grooves or races of the discs.

The mouth of the channel, groove or race which receives the heads or base  
30 ends of the cartridges has a device for closing the same and thereby retaining the cartridges in the magazine when detached from the fire arm.

When the channels, grooves or races are spiral the spring operated driving arm which carries the platform is so constructed that the said cartridge plat-  
35 form is capable of an outward sliding motion with respect to the said driving arm when the arm is turning in the direction proper for delivering the cartridges from the magazine and of an inward sliding motion when the magazine is being loaded.

[Price 6d.]



*The Farquhar-Hill Patent.*

Ironically, in 1918 the British military found the Farquhar-Hill rifle was suitable for military use and ordered 100,000 units. However, the "Rifle .303-inch, Pattern 1918" – which was the official military nomenclature for the rifle – never went into full production because the war ended and it was deemed unnecessary.

## The “Snail” Drum Magazine

In World War I, the drum magazine was adopted by Stoßtruppen (Stormtroopers) with the Artillery Luger pistol. The 32-round “snail magazine” greatly increased the ammunition capacity of the semi-automatic pistol. Then it was used with the world’s first successful submachine gun, the Bergmann MP18 (Maschinenpistole 18/I). Interestingly, noted German arms designer Hugo Schmeisser had designed a conventional 20-round box magazine but the German Testing Commission insisted the MP18 be adapted to utilize the Luger “snail” drum.



*The MP18 (Maschinenpistole 18/I) was the world’s first successful submachine gun. It featured a “snail” drum magazine, originally developed for the Artillery Model of the infamous Luger pistol. This example of the MP18 is in the collection of the National World War I Museum. (Photo: Peter Suci, National WWI Museum)*



The 32-round trommelmagazin-08 snail drum was developed in 1916 to give increased firepower to units armed with the LangePistole 08 artillery Luger. Via [Forgotten Weapons](#).

## Thompson Submachine Gun

The Thompson submachine gun was also in development when the First World War ended in 1918. Its creator General John T. Thompson originally envisioned it as a semi-automatic rifle. It developed into a “one-man, hand-held machine gun” that fired the .45 ACP cartridge. Originally dubbed the “trench broom,” then “Annihilator,” it was later officially renamed the Thompson Submachine Gun. It was designed to use both stick and drum magazines.



A group of prototype drum magazines for the Thompson Submachine Gun. These were on display at the Michigan Antique Arms Collectors Show and are in a private collection. (Photo: Peter Suci)

Following the war, the U.S. military had no interest in the Thompson so it sold on the civilian market instead. However, the passage of the National Firearms Act of 1934 made owning such a firearm far more difficult. Although automatic weapons weren't technically made illegal, civilian ownership was restricted. The Act required a “transfer” that included a \$200 tax stamp. Interestingly, that remains the price to transfer an NFA device (including a machine gun or suppressor) today.

The United States military adopted the Thompson in 1938. The M1928A1 version could be used with either box or drum magazines. However, after America's entry into the Second World War, they determined that the magazine was too heavy. Subsequent Thompson M/M1A1 versions only accepted the 30-round or 20-round box magazine but not the drum magazine.



One of the two Thompson SMGs used in the infamous St. Valentine's Day Massacre! This was on display at the Michigan Antique Arms Collectors Show. (Photo: Peter Suci)

## Beating the Drum in Europe

Across the Atlantic other gun designers considered the advantages of drum magazines. Notably, they allowed a single soldier to carry a weapon with two to three times the amount of ammunition as a stick magazine. More importantly, they could leave the magazines loaded for extended periods of time without putting too much tension on the spring. In fact, soldiers only needed to wind the spring in a drum magazine when the weapon was ready to fire.

The Finnish military adopted the Suomi KP/-31 submachine gun, and it featured a 71-round drum magazine.



The Finnish Suomi KP/-31 was a reliable and rugged gun, and likely inspired the Soviet-designed PPSH-41. It used the 71-round magazine (Photo: Collection of the Author)

That weapon no doubt inspired the Soviet-designed PPSH-41 submachine gun, which became the most commonly used SMG of the Second World War. It also featured its distinctive drum magazine – and has caused confusion in the west on how to properly hold the gun. Video games and movies suggest off-hand placement on

the base of the magazine. However, Soviet manuals actually instructed soldiers to place the off-hand just behind the magazine.

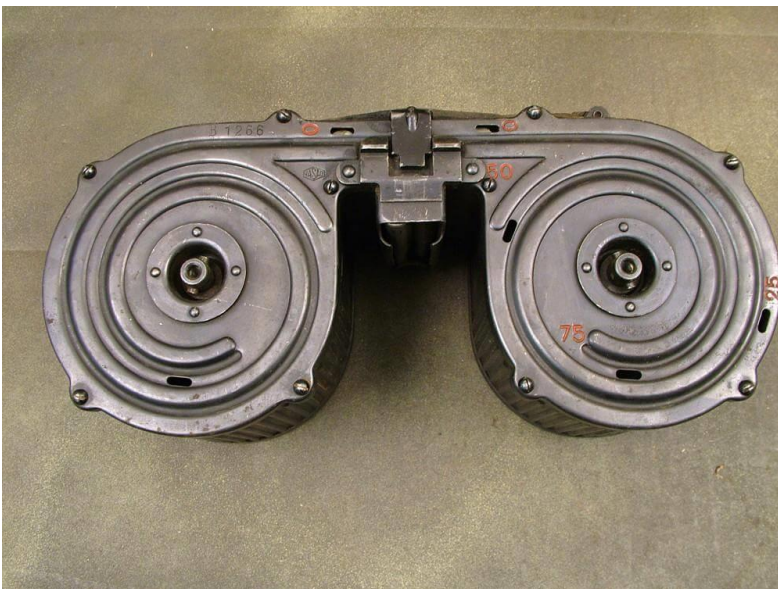


*The Soviet PPSH-41: the most widely used SMG of the Second World War. It featured a 71-round drum magazine. (Photo: Collection of the Author)*

The Soviets noted the same problems that the Americans had encountered with the Thompson. The ammunition capacity increased the weight of the weapon. Drum magazines are also more prone to jamming due to the complex spring mechanisms, and drums can rattle when loaded.

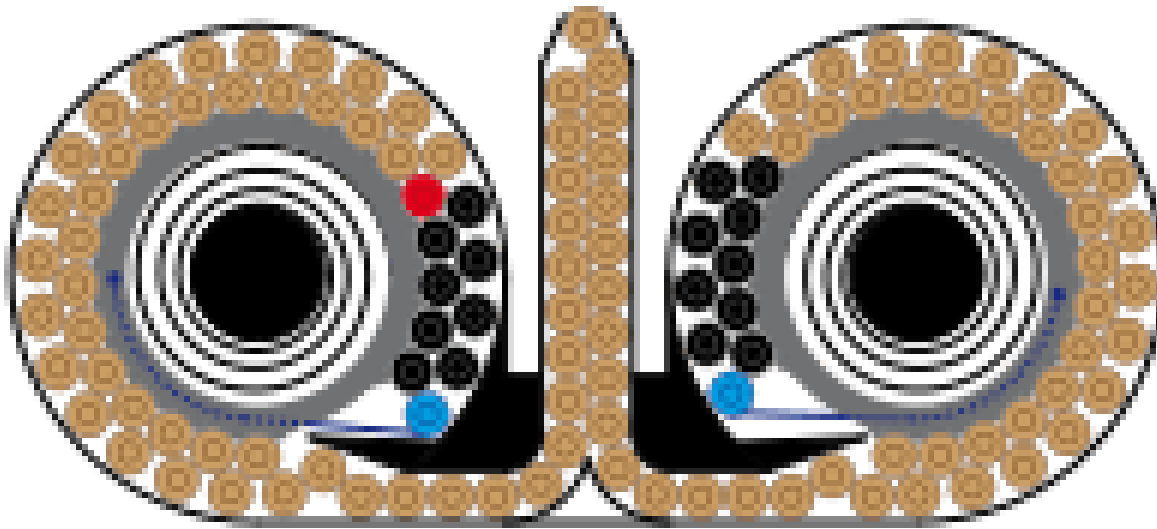
## The “Saddle Drum”

Designers also created other drum magazines besides the Thompson-style drum. In fact, the Beta C-Mag was developed prior to World War II and it is currently in use with modern assault rifles. Also known as the “saddle drum,” it features twin drums that sit on each side of the feed mechanism. The German military developed the first of these as a 75-round magazine for the MG-13 and MG-15 machine guns. The ammunition feeds by spring force, with rounds alternating from each side of the double drum to keep the gun balanced.



*MG-15 Saddle Drum Magazine. Photo credit: International Military Antiques*

Jim Sullivan designed the Modern Beta C-Mag and patented it in 1987. It holds 100 rounds and while firing, spring-driven rotors advance the cartridges in both drums to maintain balance.



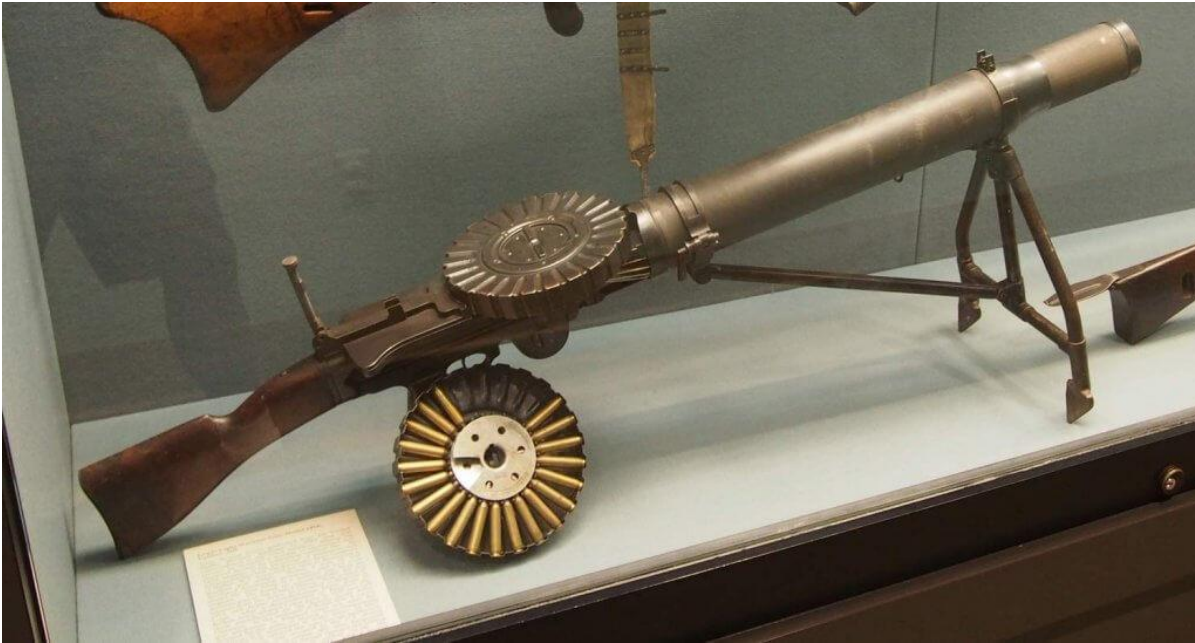
*Schematic of a fully loaded Beta-C magazine. Image credit: Wikipedia Commons.*

They increase the ammunition capacity of a firearm, but at the cost of added weight which decreases accuracy. Double-drums are also notorious for jamming, are difficult to conceal, and are very time consuming to reload. This is generally why in most cases the military has opted to go with sticks rather than drums when it comes to magazines.

## **The Pan Magazine**

An alternative to the drum is the pan magazine, which harkens back to Broadwell's rotary magazine for the Gatling Gun. While erroneously called a "drum," the pan magazine is different because the cartridges are stored perpendicular to the axis of the rotation, rather than parallel. Typically, these magazines are mounted on the top of the firearm.

While pan magazines proved a dead-end in firearms evolution, the drum magazine lives on in our modern double drums. Today, gun-hating politicians generally target "high capacity" magazines as a problem. However, in most cases, these drums still offer little practical value.



*The Lewis Gun also featured a “pan” magazine. This example is on display at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City. The British Army used it during the First World War. Note how the magazine loaded. (Photo: Peter Suci, National WWI Museum)*

## 50-Round KCI AR Drum

If you're interested in trying out a drum magazine for yourself, take a look at the [KCI AR-15 .223/5.56mm 50-Round Drum Magazine](#) that's available through GunMagWarehouse. Travis Pike wrote a review about it; read that right here on [Mag Life](#)!

Thank you,  
Paul Curtis  
President - CARGO  
[www.cargogunclub.org](http://www.cargogunclub.org)

"If you can read this, thank a teacher. For the fact that it is in English, thank a Veteran."

If for some reason, you no longer wish to receive these e-mails please accept our apologies and respond to this message with REMOVE in the subject line and we will remove your name from the mailing list.