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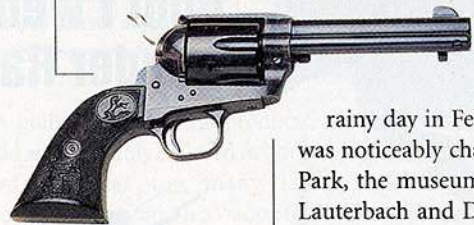


# Silver Stars & Sixguns

The legendary Texas Rangers and Colt are a team steeped in the mythology of the Old West.

BY D.K. PRIDGEN • illustrations by ken laager

In all of the storied history of the Old West, there are perhaps no two symbols more inextricably linked than the legendary Texas Rangers and Colt firearms. From the first, when a good horse was the only means of fast travel and the best alibi for outlaws, Colt firearms were carried and used by Rangers with telling effect. Dedicated to preserving the history of one of the nation's oldest and most famous law enforcement agencies is the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum located in Waco.



Established in 1968, the Texas Rangers' Museum has continued to grow through gifts, donations, and loans from Texas Rangers, historians, and citizens. Strolling through the halls of the Museum, one can trace the histories of both the Rangers and Colt, as much of it was made together. A

rainy day in February found me making my fifth trip to the Texas Ranger Museum, which was noticeably changed from my last visit almost six years ago. Located in Waco's Fort Fisher Park, the museum shares space with Company F of today's Texas Rangers. Curator Stewart Lauterbach and Director Byron Johnson advised me that the museum has undergone many changes in the last few years while they worked to make it a true showplace.

At the museum, you can trace the Ranger's evolution, from origins to modern times, just by examining their weaponry. Furnishing their own weapons from the first, the Rangers immediately established a reputation for what was to become one of their trademarks—individuality. Both handguns and long guns came from many and varied sources, all were the single-shot muzzleloaders of the day.

## The Rangers & Colt

The inspiration for the Rangers is credited to Stephen F. Austin, also known as the "Father of Texas". By 1823, threat of Indian attack forced Austin to organize a group of armed men for the colony's protection. They were "to act as rangers for the common defense." Officially recognized in 1835, before Texas had achieved independence, the Rangers were charged by a council of local governments with keeping the peace, a job made difficult by the fact that their



"Riding Escort"—Ranger fires his Colt Paterson at outlaws.

KEN  
LAAGER

weapons were only single shot. In their first hostile engagements they discovered that they were at a decided disadvantage against an Indian's bow and arrow, because of the many arrows that could be shot while they were reloading their one-shooters.

Enter Samuel Colt and his first revolver, the five-shot Paterson. Carrying two of these on their person, with two more hanging from the saddle, the Rangers proved more than equals to their adversaries. And so it went. Soon the Paterson was replaced by the Walker, which was based on input from Ranger Samuel Walker.

Around 1840, the Republic of Texas became one of Sam Colt's first customers, purchasing a number of Paterson revolvers. Texas Ranger Captain John Coffee (Jack) Hayes and a group of his men proved the early effectiveness of the Paterson during several engagements against overwhelming



Ranger Samuel Walker's collaboration with Sam Colt led to a weapon that would save the Rangers' bacon on more than one occasion.

Comanche forces. Around this time, the Rangers' weapons began to show a standardization of sorts with the Colt Paterson appearing in the holsters and on the saddles of more and more lawmen. A small number of Colt's Paterson Revolving Rifles

## RANGER 175-YEAR COMMEMORATIVE COLT M1911



Ranger Gordon, right, along with Chip McCormick, left, worked together on finalizing Commemorative Colt.

The story of the latest special Colt for the Texas Rangers begins with Ranger Joey Gordon. For many years Gordon, from Llano, had carried a 1951-vintage Lightweight Commander that had seen its share of wear and tear. Recently, when he discovered the

frame to be cracked, Gordon made arrangements to sell the pistol to a collector, contingent upon finding another frame for the original slide. Researching when Colt had perfected the alloy frame (1973) he contacted the Colt factory, eventually talking with Joe Cartabona. During their discussions Gordon told Cartabona that he and other Rangers were disappointed that Colt no longer offered the Lightweight Commander in .38 Super. In response, Cartabona offered to make a special run for the Rangers if there was sufficient interest.

When Gordon contacted other Rangers about Cartabona's offer, he discovered they preferred instead a special handgun to mark the 1998 175th anniversary of the Texas Rangers. That began a team effort to determine the specifications for the 175th Anniversary 1911.

Eventually, a full-size 1911, built on a Gold Cup frame, was specified. The blue steel design would eliminate the variation in color between steel and alloy found on LW Commanders, while allowing for closer tolerances than are possible with a stainless pistol. Finish is to be Colt's Royal Blue.

In addition to the frame and the bluing mentioned, these pistols will also have a wide, Videki trigger, serrated front strap relieved under the trigger guard, and parts from Chip McCormick including ambidextrous thumb safety, checkered rosewood grips, magazines, hammer and sear, beavertail grip safety, and barrel. Novak sights will ride the slide and the magazine well is to be fully beveled. Chamfering and de-horning details were specified, including angles and measurements.

The clincher on the project was when Gordon sat down one night and traced his slide's outline onto a piece of paper, then began doodling in various items for the engraving. He presented them to the group who chose the Ranger star with a wreath of olive and an oak branches (peace and strength) rather than the seal of Texas. (The Rangers predate the state.)

were in evidence as well.

But the Paterson was not without its flaws. The bullet was somewhat anemic, the revolver was fragile, and it only fired five shots. Captain Samuel Walker visited a bankrupt Sam Colt in 1846 with ideas for producing an improved revolver, which Colt named the Walker Colt. A six-shot, .44 caliber handgun, the Walker could accept larger, more powerful powder charges. From its introduction, the Walker became the sidearm of choice of the Rangers, and Sam Colt, saved from bankruptcy, went on to make his place in American history.

### Colts For All To See

The Ranger Museum boasts an amazing array of Colt handguns. In 1873, when Sam Colt first offered his Single Action Army, supplying sixguns to the Rangers became a top priority. The Museum has many period photos showing Rangers posed with a variety of long guns, but almost all are carrying a Colt SAA.

After the turn of the century, when Colt's M1911 .45ACP pistol was introduced, among Colt's first customers were Texas Rangers. As one might expect, the Museum's displays hold a variety of those pistols, ranging from "box stock plain" to custom masterpieces boasting every imaginable decoration—again, a tell-tale of the Ranger's individuality.

But the Texas Rangers' relationship with Colt was not limited to handguns. In the early years, the Paterson Revolving Rifle was carried by more than a few Rangers. And more recently, the AR-15 has figured prominently as a long gun of choice. During the interim, Ranger long guns included Colt's Lightning Lever and Pump Actions as well as Burgess Carbine. Then the Colt Monitor became one of the most famous long guns in Ranger history, when it marked the end of the line for Bonnie and Clyde.

The exhibit dedicated to Captain Manuel T. "Lone Wolf" Gonzallas reflects the Ranger tradition of individuality. His pair of factory engraved, consecutively serial numbered 1911s bears his own distinctive style. The trigger guards have been completely removed, with trigger shoes added, just as he'd done to his revolvers. Another modification is perhaps even more interesting for 1911 aficionados. Each gun wears a Colt custom ambidex-

## TEXAS RANGERS & THE 1911 AN ENDURING TRADITION



The fit and feel of a handgun is one of its most important characteristics and most Rangers find 1911s to fill the bill well.

Because of the history the Texas Rangers share with the 1911, it's not uncommon to find the pistols handed down from an older to a younger Ranger. Such was the case with the pistol carried by Captain Kirby Dendy. His Colt 1911 spent many years on the hip of Ranger M. D. "Kelly" Rogers, who trained Dendy's father in the ways of Ranging. Rogers eventually gave the pistol to the senior Ranger Dendy who later passed it on to his Ranger son.

I spoke to a number of Rangers who, to a man, felt that the 1911 was the ideal handgun. Each had carried other handguns from time to time, both on and off duty, but kept coming back to the original 1911. Its number one endearing trait was how it felt in their hand. Sergeant Dino Henderson said he'd tried them all and nothing felt as good or came to hand like the 1911. Except when he was a Trooper and was required to carry a revolver, Henderson always had a 1911 at his side. Henderson added that he had been issued a 1911 while on the SWAT team, despite carrying a revolver on patrol. The fact that those most likely to see action were required to carry a 1911 served to confirm his faith in the design.

Captain Dendy told me his number one requirement for a pistol is reliability. Period. While reliability had previously been problematic with stock 1911s using anything but hardball, once a 1911 is tuned for a given load it will perk along flawlessly. This fact prompted many Rangers to modify to their 1911s.

Personalization is another reason Rangers find the 1911 so endearing. The 1911 lends itself to a number of cosmetic modifications not possible on other pistols. Engraving, gold inlays, and custom grips are just a few of the options.

While steeped in tradition, the Rangers remain attentive to the ever-changing needs of modern law enforcement. As in the past, today's Rangers often face superior odds with nothing but their wits and their firearm. And, for many Texas Rangers that firearm is still a Colt 1911.

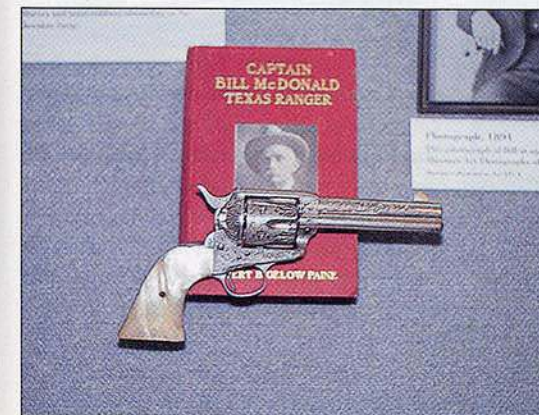
trous thumb safety. This was years before Armand Swenson would offer his famous ambidextrous safeties!

Colt firearms have played such a crucial role in the history of the Texas Rangers that several of the museum's cases are devoted to Colts only. A replica of Sam Colt's origi-

nal wooden model for his Paterson revolver is housed there, along with Paterson carbines and revolvers ordered by the fledgling Republic of Texas. One of the few remaining original 1000 Walker .44s produced for the Rangers, marked "B Company", occupies another display. Yet another holds a

Paterson revolver whose inscription indicates it might have been given to Captain Hayes by Sam Colt. Samples of virtually every Colt handgun ever made are found in another, many of which hung from the belts of Texas Rangers.

The Texas Rangers Hall of Fame and The Museum Hall Complex is located in Fort Fisher Park adjacent to Interstate Highway 35 in Waco, Texas (midway between Dallas/Fort Worth and Austin) or call 254/750-8631. ♦



Extensive engraving and pearl grips gave a sense of personalization to Texas Ranger Captain McDonald's SAA.

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# Keep 'Em Clean

A clean Colt is a valuable Colt, now and for years to come.

By Wiley Clapp



This neglected Bisley can be restored to shooting condition with proper cleaning.

**Congratulations!** You've just purchased a new Colt handgun, something Americans have been doing since 1836. You now belong to a growing club of handgunners who make the positive choice of Colt for their handgun needs. You may have chosen a particular model for sport or defensive needs, but either way you get a precision-made pistol or revolver out of that blue shipping and storage case. It's a gun engineered to give

you many years of reliable service. In the long run, your Colt can become a treasured heirloom to be passed down to succeeding generations. But you have a responsibility to keep the gun's value high by a regime of scrupulous maintenance. It's also vitally important in ensuring that your Colt handgun never lets you down.

Consider for a moment what really happens when you apply pressure to the trigger of a loaded Colt firearm. When the

firing pin smacks the primer of a loaded cartridge, it sets off a fearsome commotion. The primer sends a jet of white-hot flame through the flash hole, igniting a charge of powder in the case. That powder burns at an incredibly fast rate, building high pressure that can only go one way—forward against the base of the bullet, thereby driving it out of the case and into the handgun's barrel. In an auto, it's a straight-in run from the chamber to the



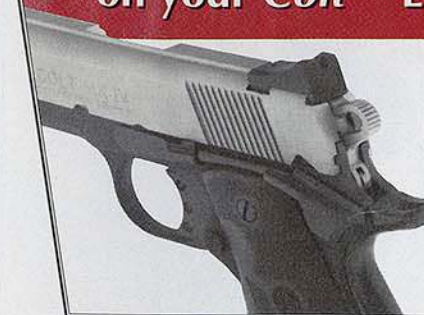
The basic tools of bore cleaning are rods with brushes or jag tips.

bore, while the revolver bullet must traverse through the cylinder throat, across the barrel-cylinder gap, into the forcing cone and down the barrel. Remember that all of this happens as a result of pressure developed from a burning powder charge ignited by a primer. When you have burning, you also have residue or ash generated as a by-product. The problem of residue in a handgun becomes further compounded by the heat, which plates residue firmly to the bore and other surfaces. With lead bullets, the heat is sufficient to actual melt the corner of the bullet base—it's actually weakest, thinnest point—and almost liquefying the soft metal alloy for deposit in the barrel of the gun.

It makes a mess all through your pristine handgun, but it is an unavoidable consequence of shooting. To keep the problem of crud removal to a minimum, clean the gun immediately after firing it. A cleaning kit, consisting of a good rod, slotted tip, patches, tight-fitting bore brush and both powder solvent and oil, should be in your shooting kit right next to your safety glasses and ear protection. If you shoot several hundred rounds in the course of a practice session, clean your Colt literally before it has a chance to cool off. If you can't do it right after shooting, do it as soon as you can. There are many varieties of powder solvents available, but the majority work on the basis of dissolving or softening the primer and powder residue. When that residue is soft, it's fairly easy to brush or wipe the bore and chambers of the gun clean. This takes care of much of the problem—except for metal fouling.

Some cartridges and bullet styles are worse than others, but the pressure and heat generated by modern ammunition of any kind causes metal to be wiped off the bullet in the course of shooting. It happens with cast and swaged lead bullets, and also

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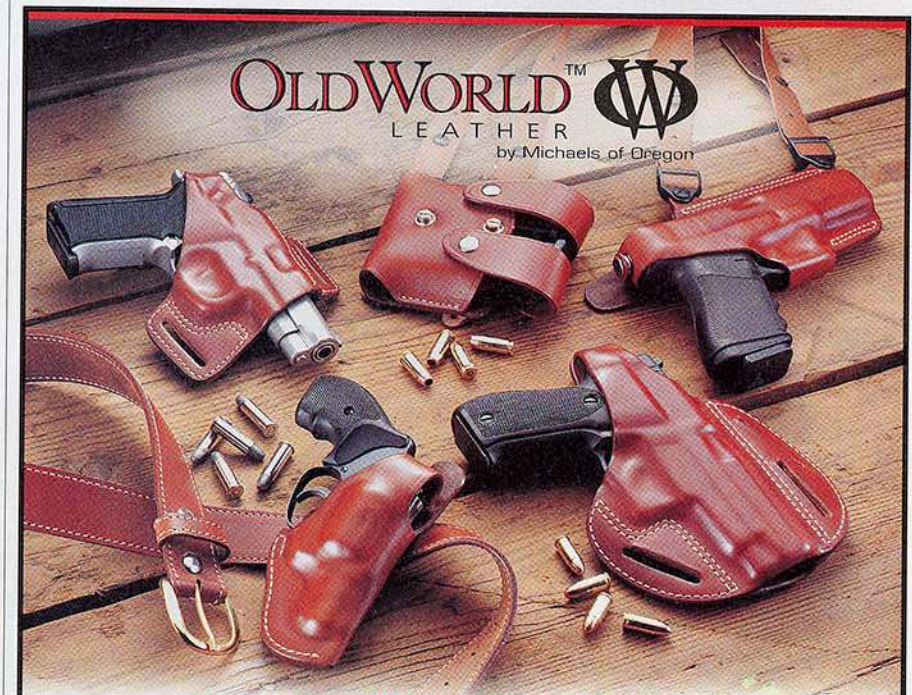
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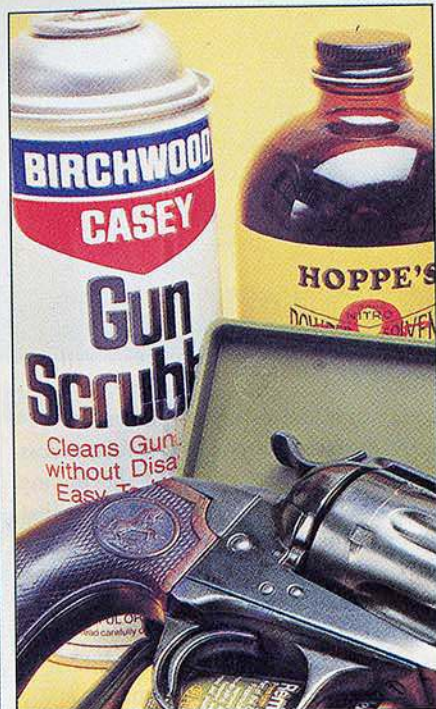
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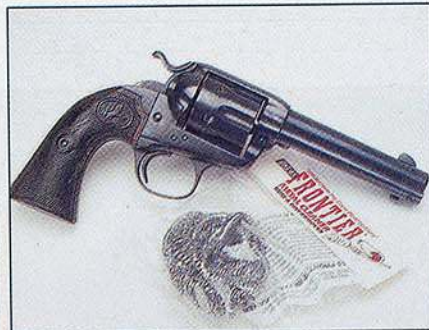


To keep its value even this mint-condition Colt Trooper needs careful and regular attention.



Caution: read and follow cleaner instructions.

with jacketed bullets. Primer/powder fouling is the cement that somewhat bonds the metal fouling to the barrel and chambers. In this sense, your crusade for cleanliness is a two-pronged attack—first, dissolve and remove firing residue, then the deposited metal left by the passing bullets. Everybody who makes a gun cleaning kit publishes a set of instructions on how to accomplish the task. Basically, this means soaking a patch with solvent and swabbing the bore and chamber(s), followed by a vigorous brushing with a bristle brush on the end of the cleaning rod. You are using both chemical and mechanical means to get the job done. If it's really dirty, it may take several repetitions of the bore swabbing and bore scrubbing sequence. Remember to examine the bore carefully in strong, reflected light. If there's metal still plated to the bore, it will appear as darkish streaks in one or more of the rifling's grooves.



When the bore is really dirty, the author uses metal cleaner. It will not hurt the bore.

In several controlled experiments to determine the effect of a dirty barrel on accuracy, I have found that they do pretty well up to about 1,000 rounds, after which they spread their shots widely. Revolvers seem to lose their edge more quickly than automatics, and lead bullets always foul the barrel more quickly than jacketed bullets. To keep your Colt right on the competitive edge, keep it clean. You also need to keep it clean for purely functional reasons. Automatics have a bunch of moving parts; you need to ensure that all firing debris comes out of the innards of your Colt auto. Clean under the face of the

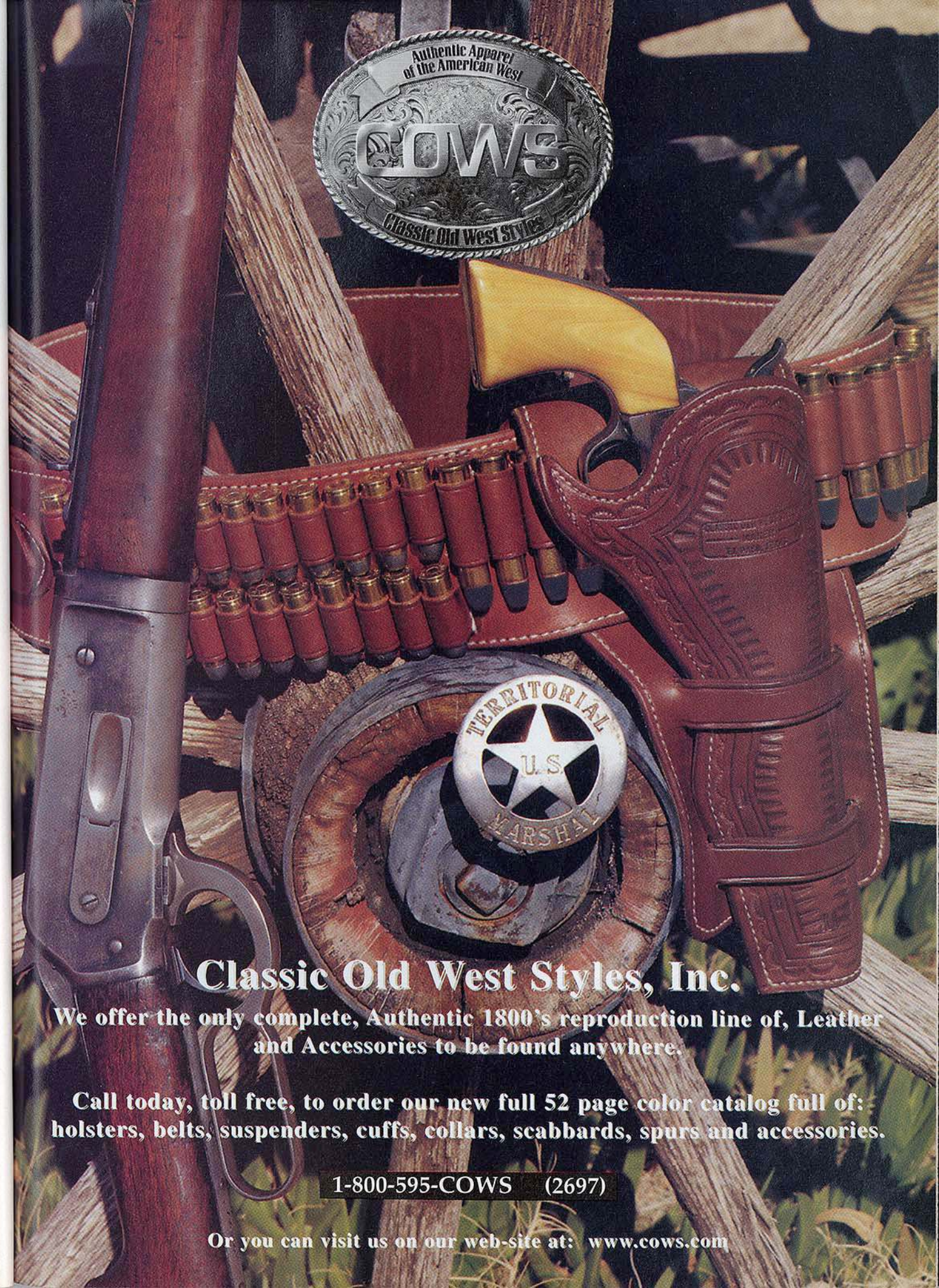
extractor and full length on the slide rails, as well the feed ramp area adjacent to the chamber. You'll see fine chips of brass very often—it's a function of the gun's extraction/ejection system. Revolvers are a bit more difficult to clean than autos because you must clean six individual chambers, then the bore. You also have to be very careful with the forcing cone at the rear of the barrel and the muzzle crown at the front. Use a cleaning rod that has a cone-shaped muzzle protector, which prevents the rod from contacting the accuracy-sensitive crown. It's easier on your auto, where you can and should disassemble the pistol and clean the barrel from the breech end. And, of course, always finish your cleaning with a coat of good gun oil or protective solvent

Colt firearms are the standard for excellence all over the world, but they can fail you unless they are carefully maintained. Although I have seen M1911A1s on USMC training ranges with hundreds of thousands (by actual record) of rounds fired through them, it is clear that such guns were scrupulously maintained. If your choice is one of the many calibers and models of Colt revolver, it will take a little longer to do a thorough cleaning job, but be advised it simply must be done.

Keep your Colt clean! ♦



Here's how you use a bore guide to protect the muzzle crown.



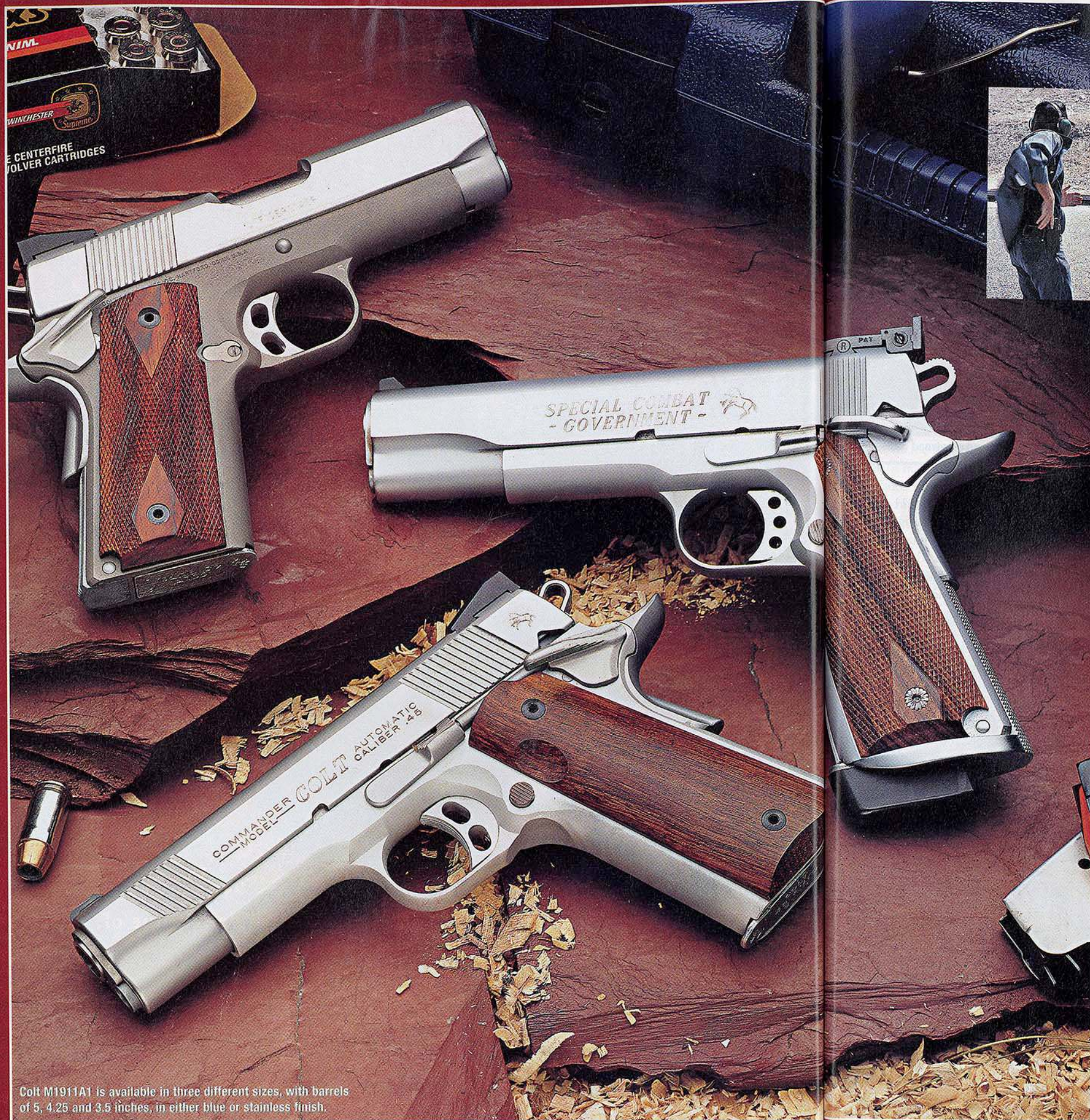
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## Colt's M1991 Series

# ULTIMATE HANDGUN

Newest descendants of the classic M1911.45ACP—the legend lives!

By Chuck Taylor

It's been 88 years since the first Colt M1911 .45 ACP pistol appeared. And it's no secret that during those eight-plus decades as a fighting handgun, it's amassed a reputation that can only be described as unsurpassed, even



legendary. Surprisingly, however, during this uncontestedly awesome tenure, the M1911 has undergone no major modifications and only a few minor improvements. No other handgun design has even come close to reaching its stature and, thus, the M1911 has become the standard against which other handguns are judged.

In fact, there have been only a couple of alterations on the M1911's basic theme. In 1949, an aluminum-framed, slightly shortened version, the Commander, appeared, followed in the early 1960s by a steel-framed version known as the Combat Commander.

Then, in the middle-1980s, the aluminum-framed Lightweight Officer's Model and steel-framed Officer's Model surfaced, thus providing a complete lineup of M1911-type pistols which are sure to please even the most demanding pistolero.

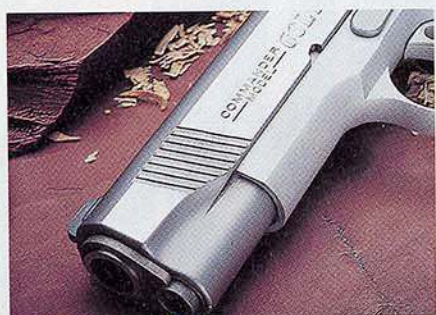
Many thousands of these guns have been produced and have given exemplary service to all those who have carried and used them. I, for one,

CHUCK TAYLOR PHOTOS

PHOTOS BY STAN TRZONIEC

quite literally owe my life to both the M1911 and Lightweight Commander, for on multiple occasions, they saved my life. Their performance was flawless, with 230-grain ball ammo producing no less than five one-shot stops against armed attackers in as many conflagrations. In recent years, some have expressed the opinion that such performance was impossible, a myth. But the fact that I'm sitting here telling you about it discredits that thesis entirely, as do the thousands of instances where others have experienced similar results.

So, when a company already has a



Front slide serrations adorn both sides.



Note handsome details of both smooth, left, and checkered, double diamond rosewood grips.

handgun that's a legend in its own time, where does it go from there? How can anything that's achieved such exalted status be still improved? There are only so many possible variations on the basic theme and logic dictates that Colt, with their various Commanders and Officer's Models, has already pursued every viable option.

**M1991A1 Series**

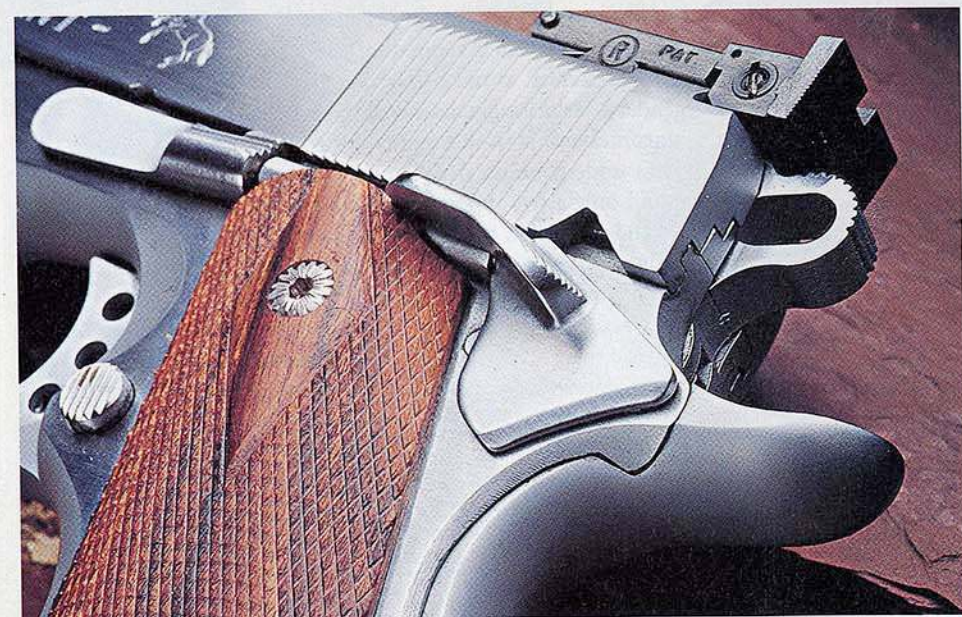
Well, such isn't quite true. Nine years ago, they incorporated all that they've

learned about the mighty M1911 into a three-gun series, which they designated as M1991A1. The three guns incorporated into the series were the Government Model, Commander and Officer's Model, in a choice of blue or stainless.

Even the most cursory visual examination of the M1991A1 series quickly discloses that the watchword has to be practicality. They're clearly intended for the shooter who demands much from his sidearm and knows what's needed to achieve the highest level of performance possible. Thus, they're an outstanding choice for personal defense, handgun hunting and general field use. The full-sized M1991A1 provides all the time-proven attributes of the legendary M1911—stopping power, balance, accuracy and maximum weapon controllability. The mid-sized Commander version gives enhanced concealability and a substantial reduction in weight. And, finally, the Compact is the smallest in the series.

**An Ideal Handgun?**

Any serious handgun, whether for personal defense, general purpose field carry or recreational shooting, must possess three attributes: (1) Functional reliability; (2) Practical accuracy; and, (3) Ergonomic efficiency.



Note extended grip and manual safeties, serrated magazine release, burr hammer, adjustable rear sight.

Functional reliability means mechanical reliability — the capability to function in the widest range of environmental circumstances. The gun must work when it's wet or dry, hot or cold, in the dust or mud.

Practical accuracy means that the weapon can produce the highest degree of accuracy possible without losing functional reliability in the process. The tolerances needed for extreme (also called academic or intrinsic) accuracy nearly always reduce a weapon's functional reliability and this is no big deal on a bullseye range. However, in the field, when you're facing an armed adversary, the need for a proper balance between the two becomes critical. As famous pistolero Bill Jordan once said, "There is no second-place winner!" Therefore, accuracy must be at least sufficient for the occasion, but without concerns about whether or not the weapon will work. In the real world, where people get killed or injured if their weapon fails to function, such a thought is simply untenable.

Ergonomic efficiency means that the weapon's controls — its magazine release button, safeties, etc.—are located so as to



Snag-proof low-profile rear sight is available.

provide the most efficient relationship possible with the operator's hands. But there's more; the term also describes:

1. How the gun feels in the shooting hand, whether its being fired or reloaded.
2. How quickly a proper grip index can be obtained when presenting it from a holster.

3. How comfortable it is to carry, especially for a protracted period of time.

4. How easily it can be concealed, e.g. its flatness versus overall length.

All guns in the M1991A1 series — the full-sized version, the smaller Commander and the diminutive Compact — more than satisfy these requirements. Of the three guns, we can find a version that works well for the entire spectrum of potential needs. The standard M1991A1 (full-sized) and Commander are great duty guns for uniformed police officers or military personnel, while the Compact is an outstanding choice for either the civilian or plainclothes lawman who's looking for maximum concealability without losing the stopping power so critical to survival in an armed situation.

I have each of the guns in the M1991A1 series and have found them all to be exceptionally accurate, capable of far more accuracy than I. The guns of the M1991A1 series are also faultlessly reliable and I can quite honestly say that, though each has digested many thousands of rounds, I can count the

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Skeletonized trigger on full-size M1991A1 has three cuts, on two smaller models, two cuts.

malfunctions I've had on one hand, and those were due to the ammunition. Third, I find either their matte-blue or matte-stainless finish not only to be resistant to light reflection but tough enough to withstand serious long-term field use as well.

Fourth, I like the idea that they come from the box with white 3-dot horizontal pattern low-light sights. A nice touch that's overlooked by most manufacturers, it provides noticeably faster sight acquisition and alignment when ambient light is less than optimum. Particularly since the hours between dusk and dawn are when the bad guys typically operate, the value of their increased efficiency can easily become incalculable.

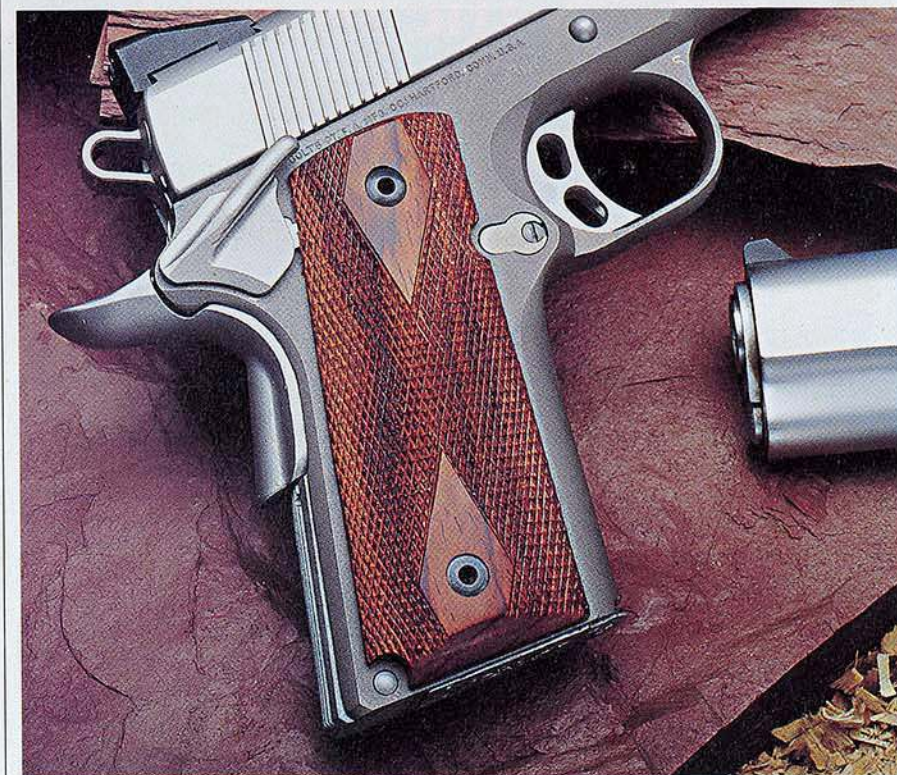
As boondocking guns, both the full-sized M1991A1 and Commander are superb, providing sufficient punch for small game or varmints without the recoil and muzzle blast of the big magnums. I even use them for medium and big game hunting and have made dozens of one-shot kills on javelina, deer, Catalina goats, mountain lions and, on occasion, even elk at ranges out to 50 meters.

**Ammunition Preferences**

For hunting, I've gotten fine performance on game from the Remington 185-grain JHP, Winchester 185-grain Silvertip JHP and the old SuperVel 190-grain JHP. I've also had excellent results from a hand-load consisting of the Hornady 185-grain XTP JHP and 8.0-grains of Unique (1025 feet per second [fps] from the M1991A1's

5-inch barrel and 980 fps from the Commander's 4.25-inch tube) gives excellent results.

Invariably, the animals hit with any of these loads demonstrate an interesting behavioral trend — they will either stagger violently sideways and collapse or haltingly regain their feet, then run 15 meters or so, then collapse. This kind of performance exceeds the .357 Magnum, even from a rel-



Note ambidextrous manual safety on right side, which enhances performance versatility.

atively long barrel, the .40 S&W and 10mm autopistols, with which I've also hunted extensively, and is yet another tribute to the M1991A1 series and the venerable .45 ACP cartridge for which they're typically chambered.

**Final Notes**

All in all, I don't think you can find a gun with more practical or useful out-of-the-box features than the M1991A1s. They're normally "ready to rock" as they come and provide good performance for nearly every handgun-oriented mission, from personal defense, to boondocking, hunting, "soda can busting" and other types of recreational shooting. As such, I feel that they represent the best factory .45 auto buy available and are well worth your consideration.

So, for me at least, they are indeed the best .45 autos around. They're tough, reliable, user-friendly and accurate and will give you many years of faithful service. Take a good look at them and I think you'll come to the same conclusion. They're a heck of a good gun for a fair price and in this day of "buyer beware," that's about as good a recommendation as can be given, don't you think? ♦

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 BENELLI BERETTA BERNARDINO BROWNING  
 BRNO CASPIAN CHARTER ARMS CHURCHILL  
 COLT CZ DAN WESSON DETONICS DREYSE EAA  
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# the Hunting Colts

Hunting deer-size game with a handgun seemed little more than a stunt a few decades ago. Nowadays the sport is growing in leaps and bounds and Colt is one reason why.

BY FRANK JAMES



BRAD HERRNDON

As recently as 30 years ago, the idea of a hunter using a handgun to take a game animal weighing more than 100 pounds was preposterous. Oh, boy, have times changed! At the forefront of these changing attitudes is Colt and its penchant for technological innovation. The historic leaders in firearms technology, Colt guns have proven themselves afield time after time helping to create a clamor for special handgun hunting regulations in many states.

In fact, most hunting veterans point to Colt's introduction of the Python in 1955 as the very beginning of the handgun hunting craze. Quickly establishing a reputation for reliability and excellence, the Python remains as efficient as it is handsome. Always the definition of class, the fit and finish of the Python is a masterpiece of small arms assembly and makes it easy to understand why some people fondly announce their ownership of this topnotch handgun. But how does it hunt?

## A Python Afield

Hunting big game with any revolver is a challenge, and to me, that is the greatest attraction of the sport. I live in a flat plain of cultivated farm ground



The Colt Anaconda .44 Magnum and Python .357 Magnum are offered in several barrel lengths, in either stainless or blue finish. Additionally, the Anaconda is also available in .45 Colt.

STAN TRZONIEC

that's intersected at regular intervals by drainage ditches. While I have hunted from treestands along the fringes of isolated timber patches, I find that the greater challenge and, therefore, the greater reward is achieved during the stalk.

Working the wind and hugging the ground in a slow, patient crawl—while simultaneously using any available terrain feature to block your movement from view—is the essence of hunting. To do all this while armed with only a handgun, even a superior handgun like the Colt Python or Colt Anaconda, makes this a true test of skill.

If you are stealthy enough, patient enough and consistent in your movements, after what seems to be hours and hours, you will eventually get close to your targeted animal. Then, the moment of truth arrives.

I always have great difficulty at this point because I get too excited. My breathing becomes so short I have to force myself to inhale deeply but, at the same time, I have to take great care not to give my position away



One of the greatest advantages to any .357 Magnum revolver is its ability to digest lower cost and lower recoiling .38 Special ammunition.

to the sharp-eyed and keen-eared deer. I also find that I have to control my anticipation, which is usually manifested in the almost uncontrollable shaking of hands and fingers. The big thing is to mentally take yourself through each needed step, one by one, and not lose focus by prematurely visualizing the conquest before your shot is fired.

I have been fortunate enough to take 13 whitetail deer with six-shot revolvers. I think it more than sheer coincidence that whenever I have used Colt revolvers, I have tagged out. And much of that success has been due to the excellence of the Colt Python or Anaconda.

### Field Points & Pointers

Shooting form with a handgun is all-important. You must get a good, secure grip on the handgun. Index your trigger finger to the frame, but not on the trigger itself. Don't put your finger on the trigger until after your sights are on the target. As you present the firearm, align the sights with the target. Focus on the front sight to place the three objects in perfect sight alignment: the target, the front

sight and the rear sight. All of this is followed by the trigger squeeze. In a double-action revolver, this motion is a continuous pull-through. If you are concentrating on all the necessary steps—grip, sight alignment, and a continuous, even, constant trigger squeeze—the actual report will often surprise you since you are so focused on the mechanics of firing the revolver correctly and accurately.

There are several points to always keep in mind. Do you have a gun that fits your hand? Does it have a set of sights that you can find easily and quickly? Is it a gun that you have enjoyed shooting to the point that it has now become an old friend? For an average shooter, the time allowed before the target gets out of range is only sufficient for one, possibly two shots at best.

### Ammo Options

The biggest buck I've taken in this manner with a .357 Magnum weighed 145 pounds. I've used both 158-grain jacketed hollowpoints and 180-grain jacketed hollowpoints in .357 Magnum. There is a wide range of good factory .357 Magnum ammunition available, and for those seeking heavier bullets there is an increasing selection from various ammunition suppliers. I do recommend, however, if you plan to use heavier bullets like the Remington Core-Lokt 165-grain JHP or the 180-grain JHP bullets available from

**“I HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO TAKE 13 WHITETAIL DEER WITH SIX-SHOT REVOLVERS.”**



many manufacturers that you use as long a barrel as possible in order to gain as much velocity as possible. By testing factory loads like the discontinued Winchester 180-grain Black Talon, I've found that muzzle velocities usually average below 1,100 feet per second (fps) from the six-inch barrel of my Python. But for those wanting higher velocities and heavier bullets, I recommend a hard cast Keith-style bullet weighing 173 grains and a charge of 2400 smokeless powder. My handloads with a hard cast heavy Keith bullet and 2400 usually run about 200 fps faster than any comparable factory load employing heavy-jacketed, hollow-point bullets.

The Anaconda, like the Python, comes with a ventilated rib barrel. Like all Colt double-action revolvers, the cylinder on the Anaconda rotates in a clockwise fashion and the thumb latch must be pulled to the rear in order to release the cylinder from the frame.

Even though the ejector rod is shrouded, there is no front lock-up on the rod. This has been a point of criticism from some quarters over the years, but the truth is that the rear engagement of the cylinder pin into the recess of the recoil shield of the frame carries the most weight in a modern revolver. Revolvers used in PPC shooting will almost always have a slab-sided premium quality barrel installed and the first thing to go is the front lock-up. No one thinks twice about that. Additionally, these revolvers routinely set records for accuracy and reliability.

I wouldn't recommend any .44 Magnum caliber handgun for beginners, but the Anaconda would serve a new shooter well if they shot only .44 Special ammunition through it until they accomplished the

sometimes demanding techniques of shooting that handgun accurately. For hunting whitetail deer, I find that .44 Magnum ammunition—loaded to moderate velocities in either handloads or factory loads with 200- to 210-grain projectiles—more than ample. The advantage to a .44 Magnum Anaconda is that it has the power necessary for defensive applications



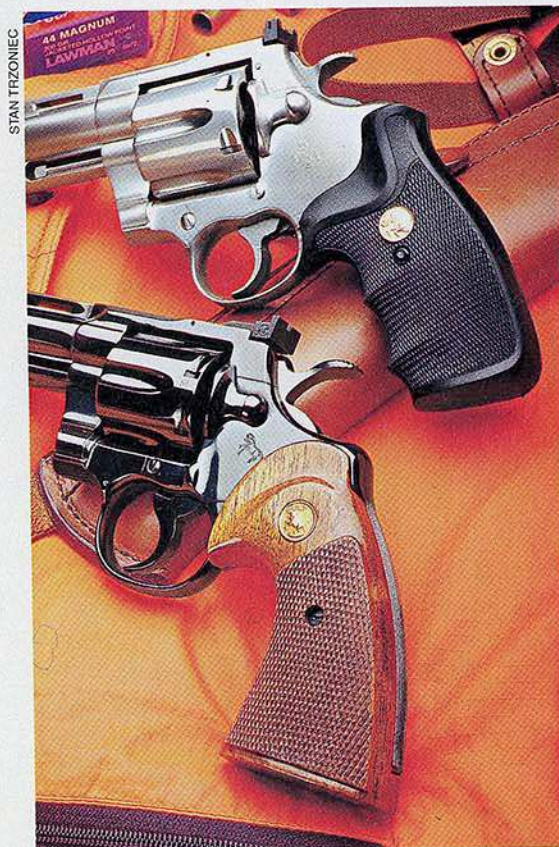
A distinctive feature of both the Colt Anaconda, top, and Python is the ventilated rib barrel and high-polish finish.

with more dangerous game.

No one imagined decades ago that the introduction of quality double-action revolvers like the Colt Python, and later the Colt Anaconda, would foster interest and growth in a sport like handgun hunting of big game. It requires more dedication and certainly more patience on the part of the hunter but to my way of thinking, it also offers a greater reward. Hunting deer is not about killing, it's about the challenge of man employing a limited range firearm to its maximum efficiency in order to take an animal that is wary, smart and fleet of foot.

### Final Note

The Colt Python and the Colt Anaconda are as efficient and reliable as double-action revolvers can get. Check one out the next time you stop by your local gunshop. ♦



Note luster of metal finish with stainless Anaconda and blue Python. Grips of the Anaconda are rubber, the Python, wood. Other options are available from the Custom Shop.

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# All About Gun Safety

THINK YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT THE SAFE HANDLING OF FIREARMS? C'MON, INDULGE US FOR A MINUTE.



By Frank James

**F**irearms safety is an essential responsibility for every consumer of Colt firearms. Safety with firearms starts with a proper mental attitude and the understanding that you can never be too safe. Accidents or incidents in which people are injured or placed in extreme jeopardy are usually the fault of untrained people handling firearms improperly, or in some cases, trained people simply becoming complacent and therefore lax about the proper safety disciplines.

The four basic rules of firearms safety are the same no matter whether you're a juvenile, an adult, a police officer, a member of the military or just the average sportsman who enjoys an occasional visit to the local shooting range.

## BASIC PRINCIPLES OF FIREARMS SAFETY:

The four rules sound pretty straightforward and they are, but just in case some of you are confused, let me explain.

**1 Assume That All Guns Are Always Loaded:** This is an assumption that everyone who sees a firearm of any description must make. The only way to prove a particular gun isn't loaded is to manually and visual-

The author recommends storing the firearm or firearms in a locked cabinet or approved gun safe. Children should be educated in proper firearms safety practices and, under proper supervision, allowed to satisfy their curiosity about firearms.

ly inspect the chamber after removing the ammunition from either the cylinder or the magazine.

If you don't know how to physically open the action of a particular firearm and inspect the chamber, then you should follow the three steps the National Rifle Association's Eddie Eagle program teaches to children:

*Do NOT touch the gun*—This is not the time to assume you know something you really don't. There are those who feel that because they've watched hundreds of hours of action movies, they know guns. Hollywood films are not instructional presentations on how to make a gun safe. They are entertainment and, sadly, in most cases poor representations of firearms safety.

*Leave the scene:* A loaded firearm in the presence of people who know nothing about guns is a recipe for disaster. Walk away.

Children are told to "Tell an adult." They should do all they can to get someone

“  
A poor fitting trigger lock won't prevent a loaded gun from firing.  
”

knowledgeable and skilled with a firearms to take possession of the gun and render it safe by removing the ammunition and opening the chamber.

**2 Never Point The Muzzle At Anything You Are Not Prepared To Destroy:** In law enforcement training, this is referred to as the Laser Rule. Imagine that the muzzle of the firearm emits a laser beam. What this rule states in plain and simple English is you will be capable of destroying anything it touches. If it touches a beloved possession, your dog, a friend, a family member or you—it could be destroyed. Therefore, always keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction.

**3 Keep Your Finger Off The Trigger Until Your Sights Are On The Target:** Once the gun is loaded, your finger must stay away from the trigger until you have acquired a sight picture. To develop a strict discipline and a good safety habit, many shooters will

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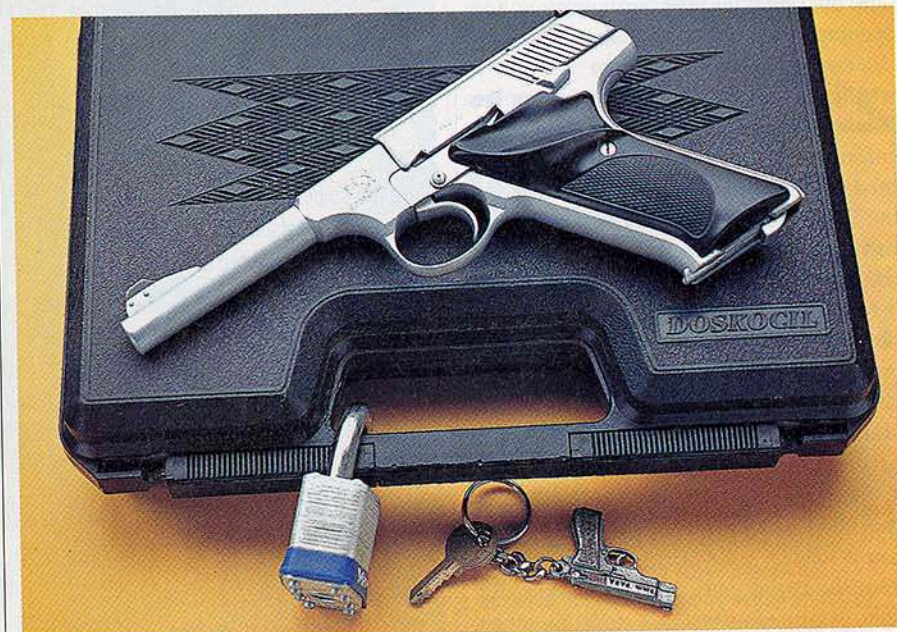
There is no 'good' place to hide a gun in the home. Keeping a firearm around children requires education backed up by a system of secured storage of the firearms.

pick a specific spot on the frame of their firearm for placement of their trigger finger. It is a 'memorized' safe location for their trigger finger until the target has been aligned with the sights. Then, and only then, will they place their finger on the trigger.

**4 Always Be Aware Of Your Target And Back Stop:** Not only must the shooter be careful about their intended target, they must also be aware of what is behind or beside that target if they should miss the target or shoot through the target. If there is any doubt about these areas, DON'T SHOOT!



An old cop trick to secure the service revolver is to 'lock-up' the gun with handcuffs.



A better solution than the trigger lock is the locked gun case, yet the case can still be stolen.

**ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES FOR FIREARMS SAFETY:**

In addition to the four basic rules of firearms safety, there are other regulations that must always be observed for complete firearms safety.

**Never Mix The Shooting Or Handling Of Any Firearm With The Use Of Drugs Or Alcohol** This includes the use of certain prescribed medications because of their ability to cloud mental acuity or inhibit physical dexterity.

**Never Trust The Mechanical Safety On Any Firearm:** This may sound strange to the uninitiated, but all firearms are mechanical devices designed and built by human beings and, as such, are susceptible to malfunction and failure. Safe firearm handling practices demand that anyone handling or shooting a firearm must do so with the thought in mind that if a firearm would malfunction and fire unintentionally at any time they must be sure the shot would not cause physical injury to another person.

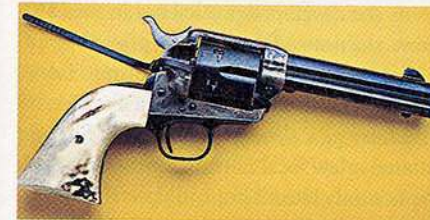
**Proper Storage And Education Of Family Members Can Prevent Accidental Injuries:** Storing your firearms properly can prevent access to guns by children and others who are not authorized to handle them. Proper storage can prevent the theft of your firearms.

Many experts are critical of the false sense of security created by the installation of a trigger lock on a firearm. A trigger lock

“**Always keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction.**”

will not keep an unauthorized person from handling the firearm, nor will it keep a thief from removing the gun from the home. A poor fitting trigger lock won't even prevent a loaded gun from firing.

A modern, well-built gun safe is a wise investment and a better alternative to a trigger lock because it prevents unauthorized access to firearms, and with optional fireproofing, the gun safe does a better job of protecting the gunowner's investment.



A revolver can be temporarily disabled preventing its unauthorized use with the electrical tie-straps sold in many hardware stores.

For those concerned about home invasions, many gun safes are now available with quicker combinations and owner proprietary access for faster, but safe access to a loaded firearm.

Children learn faster than adults and firearms safety education is no exception. Whether taught in the home or in a professional atmosphere, this step will do much to minimize the inherent dangers of firearms ownership. But, the big thing when it comes to firearms and children is to establish a multiple solution approach to the problem and to remain vigilant. Children should be educated and allowed, under proper supervision, to satisfy their innate curiosity. Once their curiosity is satisfied under a controlled environment, much of the mystery and attraction to firearms is eliminated.

This, combined with proper firearms storage and a careful observance of the four basic rules of firearms safety will serve the owner of any Colt firearm well. Remember, there is no such thing as too much firearms safety. ♦

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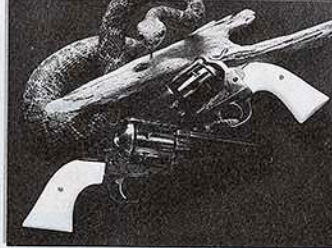
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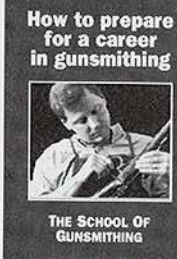
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# The lady and COLT

Sharon Eddington is a remarkable shooter, plain and simple. Her formula for success? Hard work, practice and Colt.

By Walt Rauch

**T**raditionally, firearms manufacturers have sponsored world-class shooters to showcase and demonstrate their company's products. Back in the mid-to-late 1800s, Sam Colt took care of this personally as he traveled worldwide promoting his new revolvers. Today, Colt continues this practice with Sharon Eddington wearing the Rampant Colt logo and triggering her way to titles in a variety of demanding and highly-special-

ized shooting disciplines. From world competition to national championships to the Bianchi Cup, Eddington continues to floor the competition with both her shooting ability and amiable personality.

Sharon was first exposed to firearms and safe gun handling when, at the age of 12, her stepfather gave her instruction in the fundamentals of firearms safety (because they had firearms in their home) and supervised her firing of a shotgun at a local range in nearby Columbia, South Carolina. (Sharon thinks she shot a Remington Model 1100 in 12 gauge.) In her teens, she watched while her stepfather and uncle actively participated in Practical Pistol Shooting (PPC). At first, her brothers participated as well, but they opted to devote their spare hours to high school athletics, while Sharon continued to enjoy shooting and began to compete.

As she developed proficiency in the PPC game, she noticed the growing popularity of International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC) competition. Forever in search of new shooting challenges, Sharon entered a few local matches and discovered she not only liked it but could do well at the game as well. In 1983, she met her husband-to-be, Merle Eddington, at one of the events. They both admit that, at first, they didn't think of each other as anything other than another competitor to beat, but this didn't last too long.

Merle and Sharon became friends, then shooting partners and then found they had much more in common than just shooting. Being the great shooters they are (Merle Eddington is a Sergeant, First Class and a former member of the US Army Marksmanship Training Unit), they found it appropriate to pledge their marital vows while attending the IPSC National Championship hosted by the United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA) in Reno, Nevada, in 1993.

Both Merle and Sharon compete in IPSC/USPSA National and Area Championships, as well as the Steel Challenge, the Bianchi Cup, Soldier of Fortune Three-Gun shoot (rifle, pistol and shotgun) and the S&W Masters Three-Handgun Tournament—and they regularly win their classes in all of them.

As Sharon's coach, Merle works on technique with her, as well as gunsmithing and reloading the large quantities of ammo they need on a Dillon 1050 loading press. Given Merle's level of expertise (he holds

## "She's one of the top women shooters on the USPSA/IPSC Gold Team."

Master ratings), he provides Sharon with a benchmark against which she can measure and evaluate her proficiency.

All of Sharon's guns have Colt slides and as many other Colt products as are appropriate on the high-capacity, iron-sighted .40S&W she uses for IPSC Limited Class. She uses the same-design gun with C-More red dot scope and compensator, chambered for the .38 Super round, in IPSC/USPSA Open Class (an unlimited modified gun class). Merle's reloads, both .38 Super and .40S&W, use different weight Hornady XTP bullets, Vihtavuori powder, Winchester brass and Federal primers.

Using reloaded ammunition is a good example of how even the cartridges must be tailored to the particular game. In the Steel Challenge and the Masters, the competitors use lighter-than-factory-standard ammunition. In IPSC/USPSA events, a more-powerful-than-factory-standard round is necessary. To complete her shooting gear, Sharon uses Bianchi leather, Peltor ear protectors and Oakley shooting glasses.

What's the result of all this effort for Sharon? Well, She's one of the top women shooters on the USPSA/IPSC Gold Team, having represented the USA in Four World competitions. She holds an "A" rating in IPSC Open Class with her scoped, compensated, high-capacity .38 Super-cham-

bered 1911 variation. (Classes are High Master, Master, A, B, C and D.) In the Limited event, she shoots in B Class, using a non-compensated iron-sighted high-capacity .40S&W-chambered 1911-style handgun.

To date, Sharon has taken the top Lady's title four times at the Soldier Of Fortune Three-Gun Match, the IPSC/USPSA Florida Invitational, multiple IPSC/USPSA Area Championships and the High Lady title at two USPSA/IPSC National Championships. She also set a Ladies record on one stage at the Bianchi cup. Given the intensive competitive pressure endemic to these matches, where it's all too easy to push and complain about almost anything connected with possibly winning the contest, Sharon made one comment that reveals her dedication to the sport. "In life there are fair calls and bad calls and you just have to accept them," she said. "You know what's right and what's wrong; you have to live with yourself. I don't keep track of others' protests and I can't remember if I ever lodged an individual protest of an official call on my scores."

Her goals in the future? They're simple: "To continue to shoot my very best." She added that she is very pleased, proud and honored to represent Colt's Manufacturing Company. ♦



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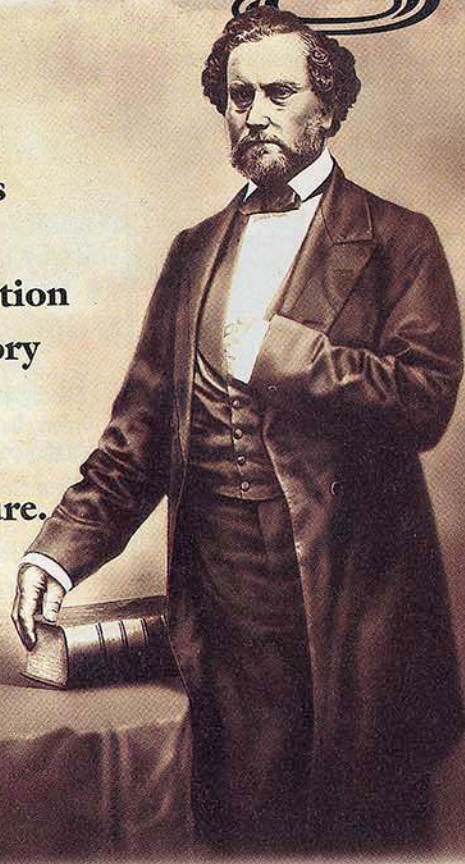
MasterCard  
VISA

Nearly 160 years after the beginnings of Samuel Colt's enterprise, in 1836, a modern-day entrepreneur has taken over the world-famous company, re-establishing its historical and traditional course, and instituting a comprehensive modernization. The new Colt is revitalized, with a fresh spirit, and strong capitalization, poised and ready for the Millennium. That modern-day Sam Colt, Chairman Donald E. Zilkha, shares many of the enthusiasm, and goals, of the founder, and has the expertise, experience, determination and sophistication on the same cutting edge level that Colt himself so clearly demonstrated in the mid-19th century.

A synopsis of company history appears in

# Return of the Legend

Out of the  
tumult and  
uncertainty  
of the past rises  
a new Colt  
full of appreciation  
of its rich history  
and taking  
dead aim at an  
innovative future.



*The Book of Colt Firearms*, and the evolution of the company also appears in *The Colt Heritage* and *Colt An American Legend*. Rather than re-invent the wheel, events will be traced from a century after the birth of Colt, the dawn of World War I, in 1914.

During World Wars I and II Colt was a stalwart of America's ordnance and defense industries. Periods between the wars, and just after World War II were marked by depressed business conditions. In 1947, emerging from the most serious financial crisis in its post-Paterson, New Jersey, history, the corporate name was changed from Colt's Patent Fire Arms Mfg. Co., Inc. to Colt's Manufacturing Co., Inc. Eight years later, ownership was assumed by the Penn-Texas Corporation, and the name of the division reverted back to Colt's Patent Fire Arms Mfg. Co., Inc.

BY R.L. WILSON

Enter Colt Industries and George A. Strichman.

In 1964 the parent company's name was changed to Colt Industries, under Chairman-CEO George A. Strichman. For the next two decades, the "rampant" colt trademark was generally limited to markings on some of the guns, since the Firearms Division, as the gunmaker was now termed, shared use of the machine tool gear logo of Colt Industries.

Under Colt Industries management, and coinciding with the Vietnam War, the Firearms Division became the corporation's most profitable subsidiary. Indeed, the parent conglomerate ballooned to become one of the largest industrial operations in the United States traded on the New York Stock Exchange. There were nearly 30 subsidiaries, specializing in the aerospace and automotive industries, with annual sales in excess of \$3 billion.

The M16 rifle provided a profit base which was instrumental in the rapid and broad expansion of Colt Industries. Under the stewardship of George Strichman, the Firearms Division had a secure position

within the corporate structure.

It was only a matter of time until the Colt firearms company would no longer be located under the old blue dome of the Hartford factory. In 1978 Water+Way Properties had purchased the Colt plant, and leased back space to the Firearms Division. Early in the 1970s Colt had developed a facility in West Hartford, near the old Pratt & Whitney Machine tool plant, on New Park Avenue. In time, all of Colt's arms production would be moved to that site.

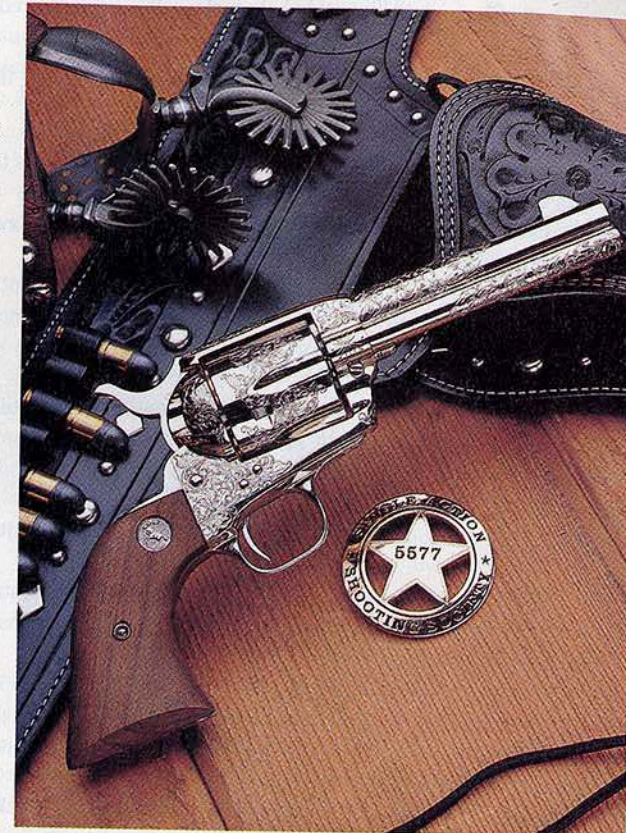
Changes in the market meant that automatic pistols were in greater demand than revolvers. Further, Colt Industries had dropped short-barreled revolvers, like the Detective Special and Cobra, in a misguided response to anti-gun pressures against so-called "Saturday Night Specials." In 1982, 530 workers were laid off, diminishing the employee base to approximately 1,000. Colt failed in its bid to capture the U.S. government's M9 pistol contract—which went to Beretta, in 1985.

Control of Colt Industries was assumed by Morgan Stanley, New York investment bankers, in 1989. Soon the proud creation of George Strichman would assume the name Coltec, a means of diminishing the Colt part of the corporate identity. Next in the saga, the Firearms Division was destined to be sold to a group made up of company executives, workers, and outside investors, under leadership of Anthony D. Autorino.

## Bankruptcy

But within two years, despite glowing plans and the best of intentions, Colt—struggling and cash-poor—was forced to file for bankruptcy. Faced with the end of the Cold War, reduced defense spending, an economic recession in Connecticut

**“One of the 10 best known brands in the world, Colt is well recognized.”**



terms of real crime. As a consequence, the lucrative AR-15/M16 Sporter market began to dwindle.

## Zilkha & Co. And Colt

The spring of 1994 saw a fresh group of investors, led by an entrepreneurial figure with deep roots in Connecticut, and an appreciation of Colt's unique historical legacy. Donald E. Zilkha was a 1973 graduate of Wesleyan University of Middletown, Connecticut. The family fortune had been made in the Near East, late in the 19th century. Zilkha & Co. had a broad base of experience in Europe and in the United States, both as industrialists and investors, and was headquartered in New York City. In Donald Zilkha's own words:

“I am a merchant banker from a tradition of merchant banking. When my firm learned of Colt's

availability, we saw an opportunity in the brand, the product line, its historical significance, the valuation of the business, and the freedoms for which the company stood. One of the 10 best known brands in the world, Colt is well recognized for technological innovation. Starting with Sam Colt's invention of the first practical revolver, then the company's early adaptation of modern manufacturing practices, Colt has built a reputation for technological leadership and an ability to welcome innovation and imagination including that of outsiders—such as John Browning and Gene Stoner.

“At the beginning, we believed that we could quickly capitalize on licensing opportunities. As we became more deeply involved, we became acquainted with other business risks of an exacting legislative and litigation environment as well as the need to introduce new technology and

industry and other factors, Colt was clearly on the ropes. Next to lead Colt would be Ronald C. Whitaker, a specialist in rejuvenating failing manufacturing companies, who would guide the firm through the difficult and costly maze of bankruptcy proceedings. Whitaker's approach to save Colt was to reduce the size of management personnel, reorganize the two plant sites so that all manufacturing was at West Hartford, and make weekly presentations to possible investors. He was instrumental in introducing new products, like the .22 self-loading Target Pistol (1993), continuing production of the Sporter version of the AR-15/M16 rifle, and garnering an \$11,000,000 contract (August 1994) from the Army for the M-4A1 carbine (M4 introduced 1993). Unfortunately, a media frenzy against “assault rifles” saw a rash of legislation, even though such arms were a non-issue in

availability, we saw an opportunity in the brand, the product line, its historical significance, the valuation of the business, and the freedoms for which the company stood. One of the 10 best known brands in the world, Colt is well recognized for technological innovation. Starting with Sam Colt's invention of the first practical revolver, then the company's early adaptation of modern manufacturing practices, Colt has built a reputation for technological leadership and an ability to welcome innovation and imagination including that of outsiders—such as John Browning and Gene Stoner.

“At the beginning, we believed that we could quickly capitalize on licensing opportunities. As we became more deeply involved, we became acquainted with other business risks of an exacting legislative and litigation environment as well as the need to introduce new technology and

a general modernization. These refinements have since been factored into our business model."

After two stressful and often uncertain years, Colt was out of bankruptcy. A September 16 press release hailed the landmark company sale and reorganization, noting that the total number of employees was then at 1,000. Zilkha was quoted in the

final paragraph of the release:

"Through a concentrated effort of all parties involved, we have been able to emerge as a vibrant company with a new sense of direction and focus. We are aggressively evaluating new technology and will continue to supply military, law enforcement and the public with the quality, dependable product that they have

come to expect from Colt's Manufacturing Company, Inc."

His role in efforts to bring Colt out of bankruptcy having been completed, Ron Whitaker remained as President, Chief Executive Officer and Director, until August 30 1995. At that time Donald Zilkha, as Chairman of the Board, announced Whitaker's resignation, and his

own election as Acting Chief Executive Officer. Under Zilkha's leadership, the new Colt won an \$8 million U.S. Army contract for the M-4 carbine, announced in the *Hartford Courant* September 9. That award brought to more than \$25 million the total of recent Army contracts, for 51,000 M-4s. In late October John F. Jastrem was appointed interim President and CEO, and on July 1, 1996, Ronald L. Stewart succeeded Jastrem. Stewart had been President and CEO of Doehler-Jarvis, Inc., the largest

supplier of small weaponry. We also intend to develop a significant niche in the sporting arms market, an area of expertise within the company which has lain fallow for decades."

In the long term, again to quote the Chairman:

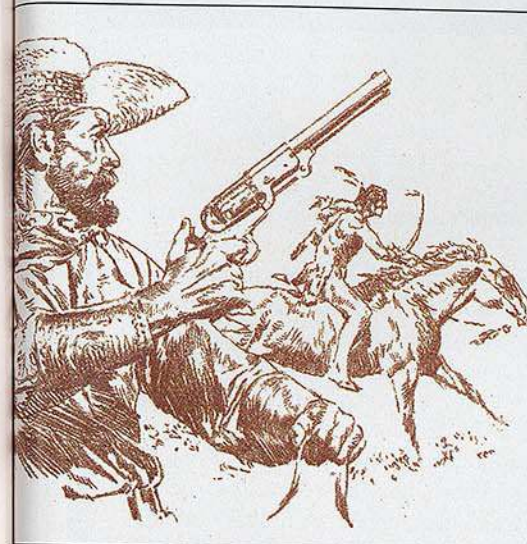
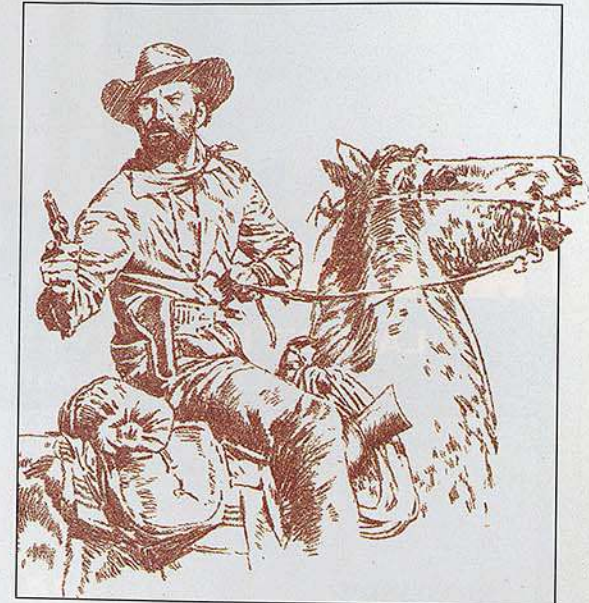
"...we anticipate Colt will be a dominant player in the consolidated small arms market. We are extending our brand through new weapons technology, including a variety of smart weapons systems. Colt will, I predict, also become synonymous with safety."

### The Future

The most recent executive development at Colt was the appointment on August 13, 1998 of Steven M. Sliwa, as President and CEO. In the announcement, Chairman Zilkha recognized Ronald Stewart's "performance in improving our manufacturing, production and design processes, and building initiatives [which has Colt] well positioned for the future." Zilkha recognized in Sliwa "the logical next step for the

Company as Colt increases its emphasis on technology in product development and begins to take a systems approach to its product line."

Steven Sliwa served seven years as



independent aluminum casting company in North America, and had held top level positions at Chrysler Motors Corporation.

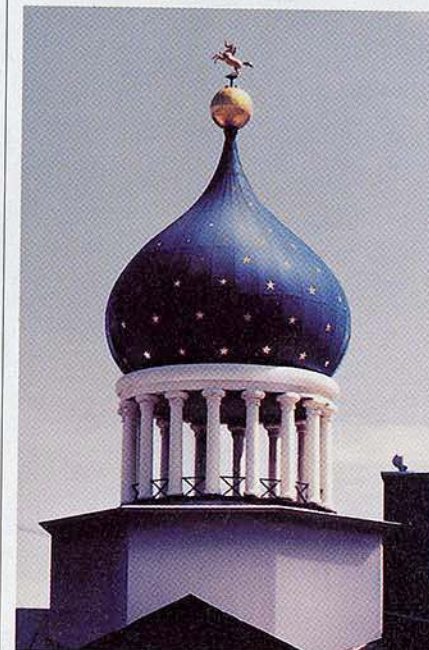
Under Stewart's tenure Colt continued to modernize, and to restructure the business and manufacturing operations. Further, on September 18, Colt introduced the "Smart Gun," described in the company's in-house newspaper, *The Rampant Report*, as:

"a pistol that fires only when its owner pulls the trigger, all the necessary electronic and mechanical components can be made to fit inside a full-size pistol; and that authorization can be made well within the time required to draw and aim a weapon, the developmental process could take another three years."

Colt is the first gunmaker to produce a working prototype, and the company's executives say they want to be involved in government sponsored development work to improve on the concept.

In the short term, to quote Zilkha, Colt's planned corporate goal is:

"...to restructure the main business to provide a solid foundation as a strategic



President of Embry-Riddle University, Daytona Beach, Florida, and previously held major positions in Integrated Systems, Inc. (a respected embedded software company, Mountain View, California), and as a research manager at NASA. He holds bachelors, masters and Ph.D. degrees in engineering from Princeton University, George Washington University and Stanford University, and a master's degree in management from Stanford.

Donald Zilkha's vision has not only saved the Colt firearms operation, but has already shown the tenacity, determination and managerial, technological and financial strength to bring the company up to a new level of competence. He and his investors are in for the long haul, and recognize the responsibility and the nobility of directing the future of one of history's most respected institutions.

With the strength of the Colt name, the merit of its products, its ever-evolving technology, and the solid strength of the new management and investors, the future of Colt looks very bright indeed. As an integral part of America's history, industry and culture, this grand old name is poised and equipped for the resumption of its leadership role. Enthusiasts of firearms can take pride in the new Colts. It is this writer's intent for the dawn of new century to update *Colt An American Legend* as a means of recognizing the company's full circle return to the same entrepreneurial spirit on which it was founded by the heroic figure of Samuel Colt, 164 years ago. ♦

## Colt Q&A

Have a question about your Colt? Here are the answers to some of the most frequently asked questions.

By Diane Alger, Colt Customer Service Representative

**Q. Can you please send me some literature on your products, firearms catalog, Colt wears/accessories catalog, custom shop package, parts catalog, or owner's manual?**

**A.** Yes, we can upon written request or by calling 1-800-962-COLT.

**Q. What is the procedure for sending in my firearm for repair?**

**A.** The firearm would have to be shipped in an inconspicuous box to the following address: C.M.C.I., Talcott Road, West Hartford, CT 06110. Describe in detail the reason the gun is being sent to Product Service.

**Q. Does Colt have a website or e-mail address?**

**A.** For specific department information please visit our Colt website @ www.Colt.com.

**Q. What is the year of manufacture on my firearm?**

**A.** That information can be obtained by contacting Colt's Historical Department and speaking with Kathy Hoyt.

**Q. Is my rifle pre or post ban?**

**A.** Colt can obtain this information by the serial number and by checking company records on manufacturing date.

**Q. Where do I get a letter of authenticity for my firearm?**

**A.** Letters of authenticity can be obtained by contacting Kathy Hoyt at Colt's World Renowned Historical Department

**Q. Can you tell me the value of my firearm?**

**A.** Appraisal of gun value must happen on site. The gun must be sent into the Colt Custom Gun Shop. Please feel free to contact the Colt Custom Gun Shop for further information and service.

**Q. What is Colt's Limited Lifetime Service Agreement?**

**A.** Colt's will repair your firearm for defective material and or workmanship. This agreement covers any firearm submitted by original owner.

**Q. Does Colt offer tours of the factory?**

**A.** At this time tours of Colt facilities are available upon request. Please contact Colts Historical Dept. for further information.

**Q. Is Colt going to be offering an NRA Instructor's program again this year?**

**A.** Colt's does offer an NRA Instructor's program. For further infor-

mation please contact our Sales Dept. at Colt.

**Q. What custom options are available through your custom shop for my firearm?**

**A.** Colt offers many different options to Colt products. This selection wide and varied from enhanced grips to tuned actions, to a variety of exotic finishes.

**Q. What ammunition do you test fire your firearms with?**

**A.** We use a variety of quality American made manufactures to ensure proper functions of each firearm.

**Q. What Colt dealers or distributors do I contact to find Colt Firearms?**

**A.** Through Colt's extensive system check with Colt stock dealers for a variety of fine Colt Firearms.

**Q. Is it okay to use +P ammo in my firearm?**

**A.** Yes, but with use of all high performance ammunition excessive wear may be experienced. Please refer to your user's manual.

**Q. Do you have a part in stock for my firearm and if not where do I go to get one?**

**A.** Colt stocks a variety of firearm parts and contact our Custom Service Department.

**Q. Where can I get information on blackpowder firearms?**

**A.** Contact Colt Black Powder at 110 8th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215. Colt Black Powder telephone:(718) 499-4678 Fax:(718) 768-8056

**Q. Is Colt currently running any programs or promotions?**

**A.** Colt offers a variety of special promotions and marketing programs throughout the year. For further information contact Colt Customer service department.

**Q. When can I expect to see your new models on market?**

**A.** Currently the Cowboy, Pocket Nine, Defender are on your distributors shelves. Late 1999 delivery scheduled for the new Colt Multi Caliber and Enhanced 1911's.

**Q. Will it damage my firearm to dry fire it?**

**A.** No, dry fire practice aids in user familiarity with the firearm. Make sure you follow safety rules of gun handling at all times. Also follow your owners manual.

# COLT

# news



## LATEST INITIATIVES IN THE FIREARMS INDUSTRY— ONCE AGAIN COLT LEADS THE WAY!

BY WALT RAUCH

### HOMEFIRE

Most gun enthusiasts have seen or read about the various laser-operated interactive-video shooting systems used to train law enforcement agencies. However, due to the high cost and restrictions on their sales, civilians have evidenced no more than a passing interest in them. Colt is about to

on-screen scoring, complementing the outstanding graphics, as well as sight and sound feedback for each shot fired.

At the price of a quality firearm or a fairly small quantity of factory handgun ammunition, a user can have immediate access to a self-training aid for his handgun without the cost of time and money needed to access a range, if there

are any, in his area. Further, the system can be installed on a handgun replica to doubly insure its safe use. It will also be of benefit for those locations such as training academies or military installations where firearms are not permitted to be retained by students during training. Additionally, a retail firearms store operator can let the customer try out selected firearms, safely, right in the store before finalizing his purchase. For more information, contact Colt's Manufacturing Company, Inc., PO Box 1868, Hartford, CT 06144-1868; 800-962-COLT (2658).

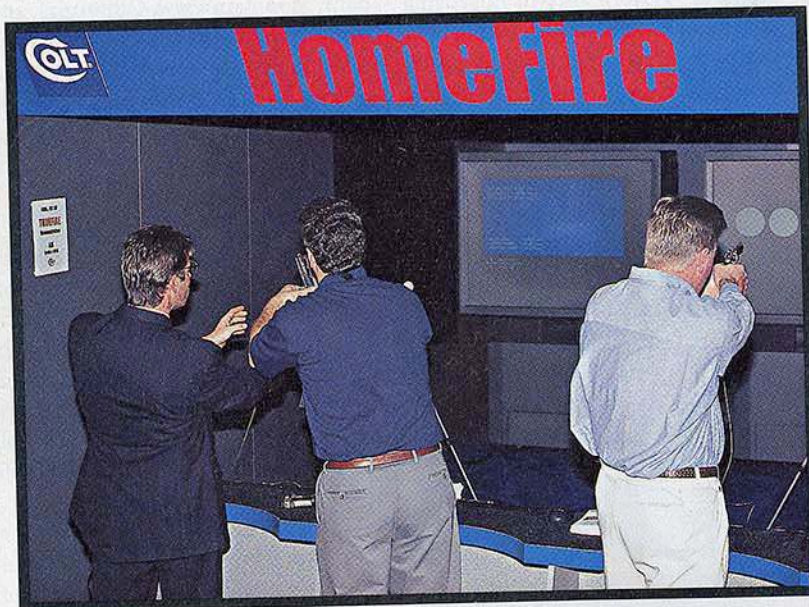
### SACO DEFENSE, INC.

Colt's Manufacturing Company, Inc., through its parent company, New Colt Holding Corporation, has acquired the assets of SACO Defense, Inc. of

change this with the HomeFire shooting system. The system is priced at \$795, including five laser inserts for most handguns and a video camera and card, along with calibration software. The system requires a Pentium 200MHz processor, 32MB RAM, 8xCD-ROM, 75MB hard disk space, a Windows-compatible sound card, SVGA Graphic card with 2MB Video RAM and interfaces with Windows 95/98.

All this translates into a choice of target games or interactive branching scenarios that can be displayed on PC monitors or large-screen home TVs. The system provides

Maine. This acquisition affords Colt an additional window to the production, development and marketing of military weapons systems, which include the MK19 and Striker grenade launchers and the M60 light machine gun. Also, SACO already has in place state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment and is ISO 9001 certified. Currently, SACO is using some of its excess capacity to produce high-quality sporting rifles for a separate marketing entity, thus demonstrating that SACO is more than capable of making arms for the non-military consumer.



# COLT BUYER'S GUIDE

New Rifles, Pistols, Revolvers  
from Colt—the First Name in American  
Firearms—from 1836 to 2000!

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

### A MESSAGE FROM COLT'S DIRECTOR OF HANDGUNS JOE CARTABONA



We at Colt would like to thank all our Loyal Customers for their support in 1998 and for their continued support in the years to come. Colt's Manufacturing promises to bring the finest firearms and services to you. Every company has its core product line, and ours will continue to be self-defense firearms.

We have continued this tradition the past few years with the Pony Pocket Lite .380, Defender .40 S&W and .45 ACP and Magnum Carry .357 and this year's Pocket Nine 9mm pistol. We have listened to and responded to your requests and appreciate the input you have given us. As the year 2000 gets closer, so does our Smart Gun Technology. We hope to provide a product to satisfy the requests of Law Enforcement and civilians alike.

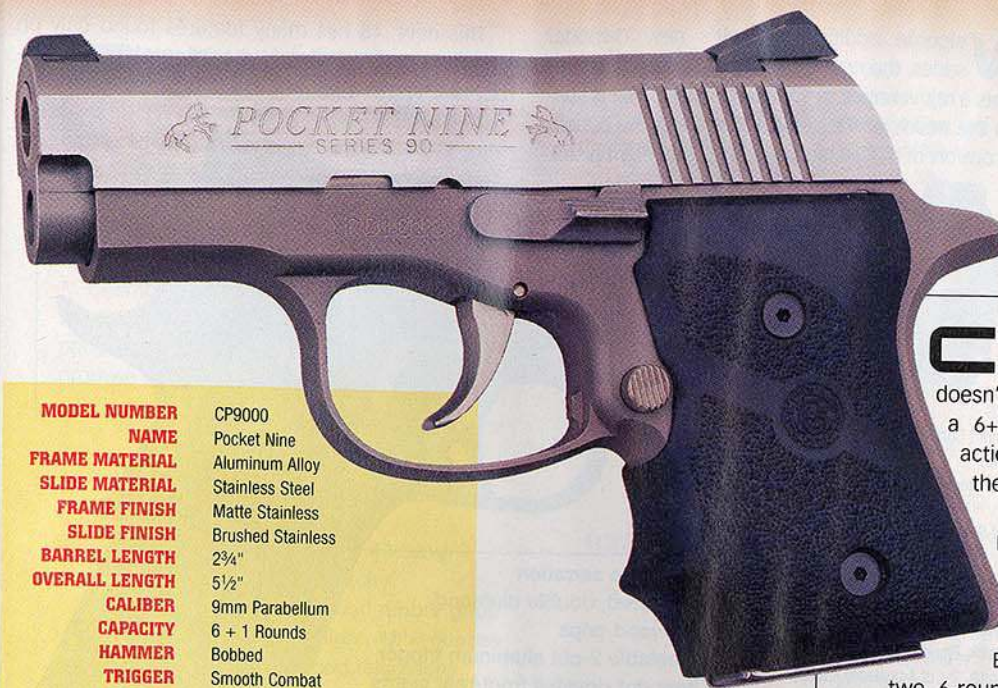
As the shooting sports grow, so does our involvement in Cowboy Action Shooting as well as our support to other areas of shooting for recreation. Keep an eye open for new firearms later this year from us and our continued support of the 2nd Amendment.

#### SAFE SHOOTING

Joe Cartabona, Director of Handguns  
Magdelian Martinez, Executive Handgun Coordinator

COLT'S MANUFACTURING COMPANY, INC.  
P.O. BOX 1868, Hartford, CT 06144-1868; 860/236-6311

## POCKET NINE



<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	CP9000
<b>NAME</b>	Pocket Nine
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Aluminum Alloy
<b>SLIDE MATERIAL</b>	Stainless Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Matte Stainless
<b>SLIDE FINISH</b>	Brushed Stainless
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	2 3/4"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	5 1/2"
<b>CALIBER</b>	9mm Parabellum
<b>CAPACITY</b>	6 + 1 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Bobbed
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Smooth Combat
<b>ACTION</b>	Double Action Only
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	White Dot, Dovetailed Post
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	Dovetailed No-Snag w/White Dot
<b>GRIPS</b>	Wraparound Rubber
<b>WEIGHT</b>	17 oz.

#### FEATURES:

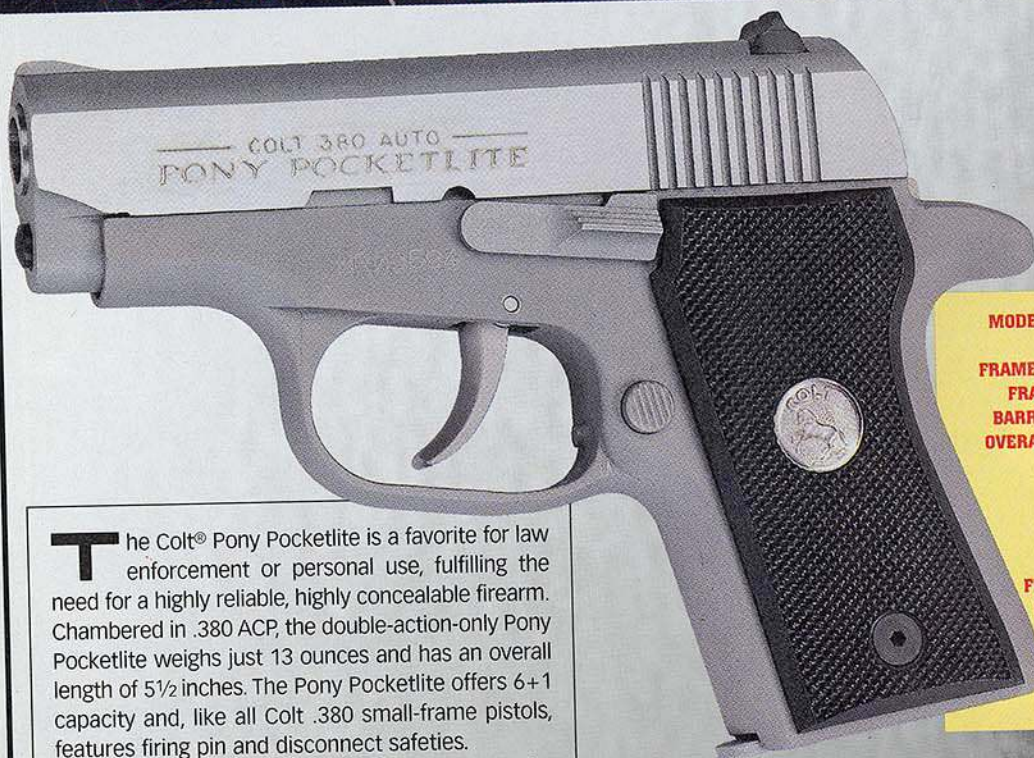
- Double action only
- Ultra-slim profile
- Round top slide
- Lightweight, 17 ounces
- 6 + 1 capacity
- Enhanced tolerances

Colt's Pocket Nine™ answers the call for a lightweight pistol that doesn't compromise reliability. It delivers a 6+1 capacity with smooth double action that is easy to operate since there are no external controls.

At only 17 ounces, the Pocket Nine's slim profile, round top slide and no-snag rear sight are ideal for concealed carry or personal protection.

Each Pocket Nine is shipped with two 6-round magazines and is backed by Colt's Limited Lifetime Service Policy. When you want concealability, the Colt® Pocket Nine provides the reliability and versatility you expect.

## PONY POCKETLITE



#### FEATURES:

- Lightweight, 13 ounces
- Double action only
- Ultra-slim profile
- Recoil reducing locked breech
- 6 + 1 capacity
- Enhanced tolerances

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	DS6091
<b>NAME</b>	Pony Pocketlite L.W.
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Aluminum and Stainless Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Teflon and Brushed
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	2 3/4"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	5 1/2"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.380 Auto
<b>CAPACITY</b>	6 + 1 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Bobbed
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Smooth Combat
<b>ACTION</b>	Double Only (DA)
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Ramp
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	Fixed
<b>GRIPS</b>	Black Composition
<b>SAFETY</b>	Firing Pin Safety Disconnect Safety
<b>WEIGHT</b>	13 oz.

The Colt® Pony Pocketlite is a favorite for law enforcement or personal use, fulfilling the need for a highly reliable, highly concealable firearm. Chambered in .380 ACP, the double-action-only Pony Pocketlite weighs just 13 ounces and has an overall length of 5 1/2 inches. The Pony Pocketlite offers 6+1 capacity and, like all Colt .380 small-frame pistols, features firing pin and disconnect safeties.

The Colt Pony Pocketlite is the ideal choice for concealed carry or personal protection.

## MUSTANG POCKETLITE

For shooters who want the compact size featured in the Pony but prefer the quick return to point of aim for second-shot accuracy, Colt offers the single action Mustang. All Colt .380 small-frame pistols feature exclusive low-recoil locked breech, and both firing pin and disconnect safeties.

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	06891
<b>NAME</b>	Mustang Pocketlite LW
<b>MATERIAL</b>	Aluminum and Stainless Steel
<b>FINISH</b>	Teflon and Brushed
<b>ACTION</b>	Single
<b>CALIBER</b>	.380 Auto
<b>CAPACITY</b>	6 + 1 Rounds
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	2 3/4"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	5 1/2"
<b>HAMMER</b>	Combat Type
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Serrated
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Ramp
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	Fixed
<b>SIGHT RADIUS</b>	3 3/4"
<b>GRIPS</b>	Black Composition
<b>SAFETY</b>	Firing Pin Safety Disconnect Safety
<b>WEIGHT</b>	12 1/2 oz.

#### FEATURES:

- Recoil-reducing Locked breech
- No-snag slim profile



# LIGHTWEIGHT COMMANDER

Welcome addition to Colt's new O-model series, the new Lightweight Commander represents a rejuvenation of a timeless classic that is suited to the needs of the individual seeking the benefit and comfort of a full length grip in a lightweight pistol.

This new .45 has many features found only on highly customized models, providing superior accuracy and value—right out of the box.



<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	04869XS
<b>NAME</b>	Lightweight Commander
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Aluminum
<b>SLIDE MATERIAL</b>	Stainless Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Nickel
<b>SLIDE FINISH</b>	Brushed Stainless Steel
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	4 1/4"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	7 3/4"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.45 ACP
<b>CAPACITY</b>	7 + 1 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	McCormick, Elongated Slot Enhanced
<b>TRIGGER</b>	McCormick, 2-Cut Adjustable Aluminum
<b>ACTION</b>	Single
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	3 Dot Dovetail
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	3 Dot Dovetail
<b>GRIPS</b>	Double Diamond Checkered Rosewood
<b>WEIGHT</b>	26 oz.

### FEATURES:

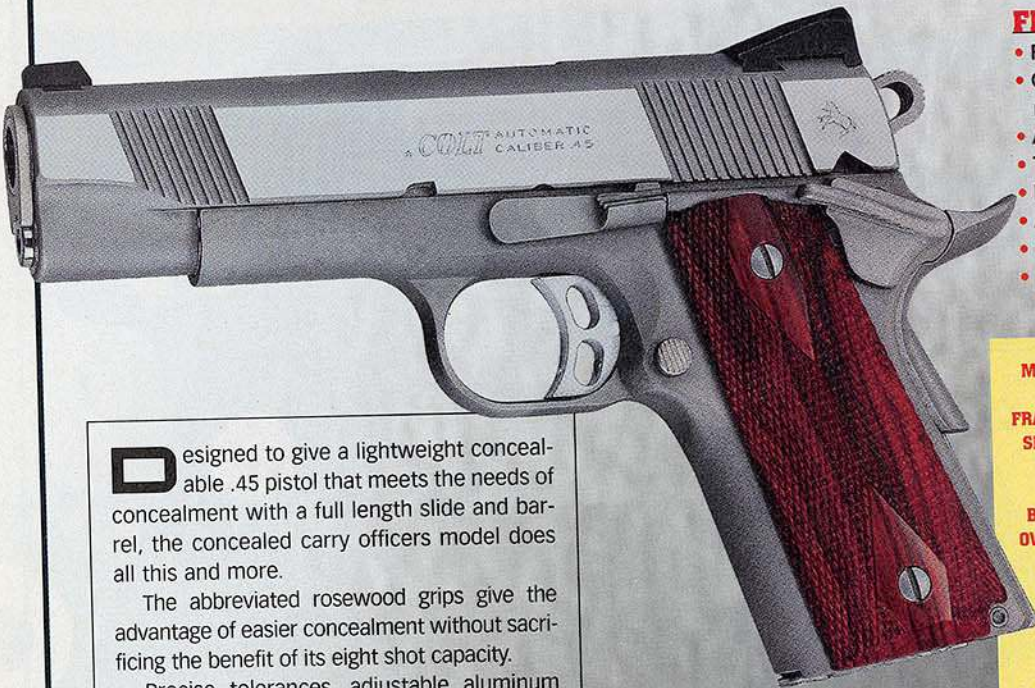
- Front slide serration
- Checkered, double diamond, rosewood grips
- Adjustable 2-cut aluminum trigger
- Three dot dovetail front/rear sights
- Defender grip safety
- Ambidextrous manual safety
- New rollmarking
- Enhanced tolerances

# LIGHTWEIGHT CCO

Designed to give a lightweight concealable .45 pistol that meets the needs of concealment with a full length slide and barrel, the concealed carry officers model does all this and more.

The abbreviated rosewood grips give the advantage of easier concealment without sacrificing the benefit of its eight shot capacity.

Precise tolerances, adjustable aluminum trigger and 3 dot dovetail sights all combine to enhance accuracy and performance.



### FEATURES:

- Front slide serration
- Checkered, double diamond, rosewood grips
- Adjustable 2-cut aluminum trigger
- Three dot dovetail front/rear sights
- Defender grip safety
- Ambidextrous manual safety
- New rollmarking
- Enhanced tolerances

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	09850
<b>NAME</b>	CCO
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Aluminum
<b>SLIDE MATERIAL</b>	Stainless Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Satin
<b>SLIDE FINISH</b>	Brushed Stainless Steel
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	4 1/4"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	7 3/4"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.45 ACP
<b>CAPACITY</b>	7 + 1 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Enhanced Elongated Slot
<b>TRIGGER</b>	2-Cut Adjustable Aluminum
<b>ACTION</b>	Single
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	3 Dot Dovetail
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	3 Dot Dovetail
<b>GRIPS</b>	Double Diamond Checkered Rosewood
<b>WEIGHT</b>	26 oz.

# DEFENDER

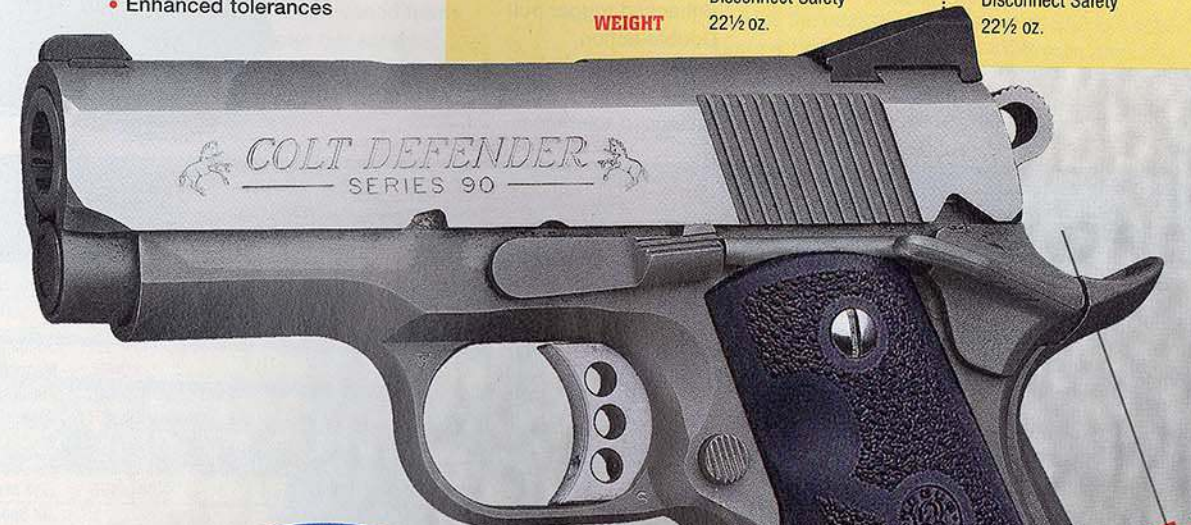
Since introducing the use of a lightweight aluminum alloy for gun frames back in 1950, Colt has perfected the combination in a compact, lightweight carry gun with full-sized performance in the Colt Defender. Standard features include an extended thumb safety, upswept grip safety and Hogue wraparound rubber grip.

Chambered in both .45 ACP and .40 S&W, the Colt Defender is the ideal choice in a compact lightweight automatic that doesn't compromise power or performance.

### FEATURES:

- Single action
- .45 ACP or .40 S&W
- 7 + 1 capacity
- Wraparound rubber grips
- Lightweight, 22 1/2 ounces
- Enhanced tolerances

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	07000D	07040D
<b>NAME</b>	Defender	Defender
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Stainless Steel and Aluminum Alloy	Stainless Steel and Aluminum Alloy
<b>SLIDE MATERIAL</b>	Stainless Steel	Stainless Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Stainless Steel	Stainless Steel
<b>SLIDE FINISH</b>	Brushed Stainless Steel	Brushed Stainless Steel
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	3"	3"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	6 3/4"	6 3/4"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.45 ACP	.40 S&W
<b>CAPACITY</b>	7 + 1 Rounds	7 + 1 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Combat Style	Combat Style
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Adjustable Aluminum	Adjustable Aluminum
<b>ACTION</b>	Single	Single
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Dovetailed Post w/White Dot	Dovetailed Post w/White Dot
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	Dovetailed No Snag w/White Dot	Dovetailed No Snag w/White Dot
<b>GRIPS</b>	Rubber Wraparound	Rubber Wraparound
<b>SAFETY</b>	Firing Pin Safety Hi Ride Grip Safety Extended Manual Safety Disconnect Safety	Firing Pin Safety Hi Ride Grip Safety Extended Manual Safety Disconnect Safety
<b>WEIGHT</b>	22 1/2 oz.	22 1/2 oz.



Now available in Black Matte Finish with both .40 S&W and .45 ACP

## TAC NINE

The TAC NINE represents the next evolution of Colt's successful Pocket Nine model. The smooth double-action only trigger pull has been enhanced in the TAC NINE, which also features a black rust-resistant finish and tritium 3-dot night sights.

TAC NINE is the ultimate in a lightweight pocket carry, bringing you performance that is rarely found in many larger, heavier 9mm pistols.



<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	CP900XBS
<b>NAME</b>	TAC NINE
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Aluminum Alloy
<b>SLIDE MATERIAL</b>	Stainless Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Black
<b>SLIDE FINISH</b>	Black
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	2 3/4"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	5 1/2"
<b>CALIBER</b>	9mm Parabellum
<b>CAPACITY</b>	6 + 1 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Bobbed
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Smooth Combat
<b>ACTION</b>	Double Action Only
<b>SIGHTS</b>	Tritium 3-Dot
<b>GRIPS</b>	Wraparound Rubber
<b>WEIGHT</b>	17 oz.

### FEATURES:

- Black rust-resistant finish
- Enhanced trigger pull
- Double-action
- 6 + 1 capacity
- Tritium 3-dot night sights
- Enhanced tolerances

## COWBOY

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	CB1850
<b>NAME</b>	Colt Cowboy
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Blue/Color Case
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	4 3/4"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	10 1/4"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.45 Colt
<b>CAPACITY</b>	6 Rounds
<b>ACTION</b>	Single
<b>GRIPS</b>	First Generation
<b>WEIGHT</b>	40 oz.



### FEATURES:

- First generation grips
- Blue color-cased frame
- Transfer bar safety
- Enhanced tolerances

In the spirit of America's West, Colt® proudly presents the new Cowboy, a replica of Sam Colt's famous Single Action Army.

Using advanced computer technology, the Colt Cowboy has the same fit and feel as the original and is a superbly balanced medium frame revolver. Accented with re-issued first generation grips, the rich color-cased frame enhances the authenticity of this modern "Peacemaker."

Like the original six shot .45, this SAA is a cowboy's action shooting dream—a dream any cowboy can afford.

## MAGNUM CARRY



<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	SD2020
<b>NAME</b>	Magnum Carry
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Stainless Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Satin
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	2"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	7"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.357 Magnum / .38 Special
<b>CAPACITY</b>	6 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Service
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Smooth Combat
<b>ACTION</b>	Single/Double
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Ramp
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	Fixed
<b>GRIPS</b>	Rubber, Combat Style
<b>WEIGHT</b>	21 oz.

Colt's Magnum Carry™ revolver offers the size and performance that make it the model firearm for concealed-carry and personal protection. Descended from Sam Colt's famed 1837 Baby Paterson Snubnose, today's Magnum Carry revolver is superbly balanced and simple to use.

The Colt® Magnum Carry packs 6 shots of .357 Magnum or .38 Special in a lean, compact stainless steel frame making the Colt Magnum Carry the best practical, tactical back-up revolver available today.

### FEATURES:

- Snubnose 2" barrel
- .357 Magnum/.38 Special
- Transfer bar safety
- Rugged stainless steel construction
- Rubber combat grips
- 21 ounces
- Enhanced tolerances

## SINGLE ACTION ARMY



Introduced in 1873, no revolver has earned greater fame than the Colt Single Action Army—the Peacemaker. In design and performance, in line and form, no more practical single-action revolver has ever been created. Novels and films serve as constant reminders of the role this "equalizer" played in winning the West. Countless knock offs and look-alikes have never been able to replace the real Colt.

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	P1840	P1841	P1850	P1856
<b>NAME</b>	Single Action Army			
<b>CALIBER</b>	.45 Colt	.45 Colt	.45 Colt	.45 Colt
<b>FINISH</b>	Blue/Color Case	Nickel	Blue/Color Case	Nickel
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	4-3/4"	4-3/4"	5-1/2"	5-1/2"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	10-1/4"	10-1/4"	11"	11"
<b>WEIGHT</b>	40 oz.	40 oz.	42 oz.	42 oz.
<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	P1940	P1941	P1950	P1956
<b>CALIBER</b>	.44-.40	.44-.40	.44-.40	.44-.40
<b>FINISH</b>	Blue/Color Case	Nickel	Blue/Color Case	Nickel
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	4-3/4"	4-3/4"	5-1/2"	5-1/2"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	10-1/4"	10-1/4"	11"	11"
<b>WEIGHT</b>	40 oz.	40 oz.	42 oz.	42 oz.

Note: Colt will offer 7 1/2" barrel lengths on a special order basis.

# 1991A1

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	01991	01091	04091
<b>NAME</b>	Government	Government Stainless	Commander
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Carbon Steel	Stainless Steel	Stainless Steel
<b>SLIDE MATERIAL</b>	Carbon Steel	Stainless Steel	Stainless Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Matte Blue	Matte Stainless Steel	Matte Stainless Steel
<b>SLIDE FINISH</b>	Matte Blue	Matte Stainless Steel	Matte Stainless Steel
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	5"	5"	4 1/4"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	8 1/2"	8 1/2"	7 3/4"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.45 ACP	.45 ACP	.45 ACP
<b>CAPACITY</b>	7 + 1 Rounds	7 + 1 Rounds	7 + 1 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Service	Service	Service
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Smooth	Smooth	Smooth
<b>ACTION</b>	Single	Single	Single
<b>SIGHTS</b>	Fixed	Fixed	Fixed
<b>GRIPS</b>	Checked Rubber Composite	Checked Rubber Composite	Checked Rubber Composite
<b>WEIGHT</b>	38 oz.	38 oz.	36 oz.

This .45 from Colt® is a direct descendent of the M1911 that served well in two world wars and other major conflicts worldwide.



### FEATURES:

- Parkerized finish
- 3 versions
- Checkered rubber composite grips
- Enhanced tolerances

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	04691	09191	09091
<b>NAME</b>	Commander	Officer's	Officer's
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Carbon Steel	Stainless Steel	Carbon Steel
<b>SLIDE MATERIAL</b>	Carbon Steel	Stainless Steel	Carbon Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Matte Blue	Matte Stainless Steel	Matte Blue
<b>SLIDE FINISH</b>	Matte Blue	Matte Stainless Steel	Matte Blue
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	4 1/4"	3 1/2"	3 1/2"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	7 3/4"	7 1/4"	7 1/4"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.45 ACP	.45 ACP	.45 ACP
<b>CAPACITY</b>	7 + 1 Rounds	6 + 1 Rounds	6 + 1 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Combat Style	Service	Combat Style
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Smooth	Smooth	Smooth
<b>ACTION</b>	Single	Single	Single
<b>SIGHTS</b>	Fixed	Fixed	Fixed
<b>GRIPS</b>	Checked Rubber Composite	Checked Rubber Composite	Checked Rubber Composite
<b>WEIGHT</b>	36 oz.	34 oz.	34 oz.

# ANACONDA

In the days of Sam Colt and the westward migration of settlers, it was difficult to differentiate between sport shooting and shooting to provide the essentials of life. Today, shooting can be truly enjoyed as a sport. And sport

shooters can choose the best gun to match their requirements from a complete line of high performance, top quality Colt models, including a .44 mag Anaconda, the world's most potent handgun.

### FEATURES

- Optional port drilled & tapped for colt optics scope mounts

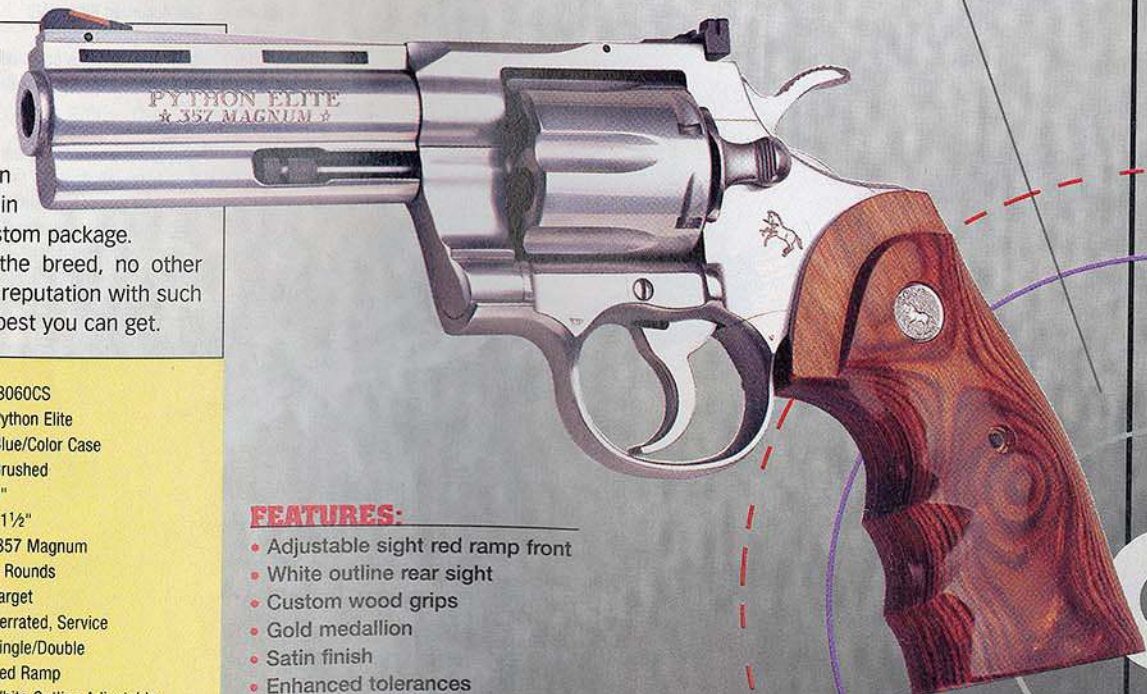


<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	MM3040DT	MM3060DT	MM3080PDT	MM4560DT
<b>NAME</b>	Anaconda	Anaconda	Anaconda	Anaconda
<b>MATERIAL</b>	Stainless Steel	Stainless Steel	Stainless Steel	Stainless Steel
<b>FINISH</b>	Brushed	Brushed	Brushed	Brushed
<b>CALIBER</b>	.44 Magnum	.44 Magnum	.44 Magnum	.45 Colt
<b>CAPACITY</b>	6 Rounds	6 Rounds	6 Rounds	6 Rounds
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	4"	6"	8"	6"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	9-5/8"	11-5/8"	13-5/8"	11-5/8"
<b>HAMMER</b>	Target	Target	Target	Target
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Serrated, target	Serrated, target	Serrated, target	Serrated, target
<b>ACTION</b>	Single/Double	Single/Double	Single/Double	Single/Double
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Red Ramp	Red Ramp	Red Ramp	Red Ramp
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	White Outline Adjustable	White Outline Adjustable	White Outline Adjustable	White Outline Adjustable
<b>SIGHT RADIUS</b>	5-3/4"	7-3/4"	9-3/4"	7-3/4"
<b>GRIPS</b>	Rubber	Rubber	Rubber	Rubber
<b>WEIGHT</b>	Combat Style 47 oz.	Combat Style 53 oz.	Combat Style 59 oz.	Combat Style 53 oz.

# PYTHON ELITE

World renowned for speed and accuracy, the double action Python Elite presents a rare combination of feel, power and style in a high performance custom package.

Truly the finest of the breed, no other revolver has carried its reputation with such excellence. Simply the best you can get.



<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	I3060CS
<b>NAME</b>	Python Elite
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Blue/Color Case
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Brushed
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	4"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	11 1/2"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.357 Magnum
<b>CAPACITY</b>	6 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Target
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Serrated, Service
<b>ACTION</b>	Single/Double
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Red Ramp
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	White Outline Adjustable
<b>GRIPS</b>	Hogue Finger Grip
<b>WEIGHT</b>	43 1/2 oz.

### FEATURES:

- Adjustable sight red ramp front
- White outline rear sight
- Custom wood grips
- Gold medallion
- Satin finish
- Enhanced tolerances

## NATIONAL MATCH

Another name in Colt's new O-Model lineup, the National Match takes the Gold Cup into the millennium. The new National Match has been engineered and assembled to complement your shooting skills.

Precision engineering, handsome rosewood grips, specialty parts and the handwork of master craftsmen result in a product that you will be proud to own and use for years to come.



MODEL NUMBER	05870CS	05070CS
<b>NAME</b>	National Match	National Match
<b>FRAME MATERIAL</b>	Carbon Steel	Stainless Steel
<b>SLIDE MATERIAL</b>	Stainless Steel	Stainless Steel
<b>FRAME FINISH</b>	Brushed Stainless Steel	Brushed Stainless Steel
<b>SLIDE FINISH</b>	Brushed Stainless Steel	Brushed Stainless Steel
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	5"	5"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	8½"	8½"
<b>CALIBER</b>	.45	.45
<b>CAPACITY</b>	8 + 1 Rounds	8 + 1 Rounds
<b>HAMMER</b>	Enhanced Elongated Slot	Enhanced Elongated Slot
<b>TRIGGER</b>	McCormick, 2-Cut	McCormick, 2-Cut
<b>ACTION</b>	Adjustable Aluminum	Adjustable Aluminum
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Single	Single
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	3 Dot Dovetail	3 Dot Dovetail
<b>GRIPS</b>	Double Diamond	3 Dot Dovetail
<b>WEIGHT</b>	Checkered Rosewood	Double Diamond
	39 oz.	Checkered Rosewood
		39 oz.

### FEATURES:

- Checkered, double diamond, rosewood grips
- Adjustable 2-cut aluminum trigger
- Three dot dovetail front/rear sights
- Defender grip safety
- Ambidextrous manual safety
- Enhanced tolerances

## LIGHT RIFLE

The introduction of the Colt® Light Rifle represents the new standard that all other rifles will aspire to. It's a rifle designed to hunt with, not sit in your gun safe. With matte black synthetic stock and weighing only 5.4 lbs., this innovative bolt action rifle is capable of achieving one inch groups right out of the box.

The Colt Light Rifle is what you have come to expect from the company that has been a leader in the firearms industry for over 165 years.



### FEATURES:

- Lightweight 5.4 lbs.
- Matte black synthetic stock
- Bolt action
- 3 position safety
- Enhanced tolerances

NAME	Colt Light Rifle	Colt Light Rifle
<b>MODEL</b>	Long Action	Short Action
<b>FINISH</b>	Matte Black	Matte Black
<b>STOCK</b>	Black Synthetic	Black Synthetic
<b>ACTION</b>	Bolt	Bolt
<b>CALIBER</b>	25-06, .270, .280, 7mm Rem Mag, 30-06, 300 Win Mag	.243, 7x57, 7mm-08, .308
<b>MAGAZINE CAPACITY</b>	4 Standard, 3 Magnum	4 Standard, 3 Magnum
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	24"	24"
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	45"	45"
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Adjustable	Adjustable
<b>SCOPE MOUNTS</b>	Available in Low, Medium and High	Available in Low, Medium and High
<b>SAFETY</b>	3 Position Side	3 Position Side
<b>WEIGHT</b>	6 lbs.	5.4 lbs.

## ACCURIZED RIFLE



<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	CR6724
<b>NAME</b>	Colt Accurized Rifle (CAR)
<b>CALIBER</b>	5.56mm (.223 Rem)
<b>ACTION</b>	Semiautomatic, gas operated, locking bolt
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	24" Stainless Steel HEAVY Barrel, free floating
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	43"
<b>BUTTSTOCK</b>	Fixed
<b>SIGHTING SYSTEM</b>	Supplied w/scope mount with 1" rings
<b>MAGAZINE CAPACITY</b>	2-8 rounds standard; 20 rounds available (restricted) 30 rounds available (restricted)
<b>FINISH</b>	Black anodized receiver; dull matte stainless steel barrel
<b>RIFLING</b>	6 groove, right-hand twist, 1 turn in 9"; 11° target crown
<b>HAND GUARD</b>	Matte finish, full floating mount
<b>SLING SWIVEL</b>	Twin front mounting points, standard rear
<b>WEIGHT</b>	9.25 lbs.

Colt's Accurized Rifle (CAR) features an all new Colt® free floating, 24" stainless steel heavy barrel with a 1 in 9" rifling twist and 11 degree target crown that deliver optimal accuracy in a semiautomatic platform.

Included as a part of the CAR's design is an all-aluminum tubular handguard with twin sling swivel studs, which allow for easy target sling and bipod attachment. Also, the CAR utilizes an enhanced trigger group over standard Match Target models for a smoother and more consistent trigger pull.

## MATCH TARGET

Hunters and sport shooters looking for pin-point accuracy with reduced recoil need look no further than Colt's new Compensated Match Target Rifles. The 8-round semi-automatic only rifles are available with factory installed upper receiver and barrel assemblies. The MT6700 Flattop receiver allows for scope mounting. Optional sights are available through Colt Optical. Compensated Match Target Rifle chamberings include .223 and 7.62x39mm.

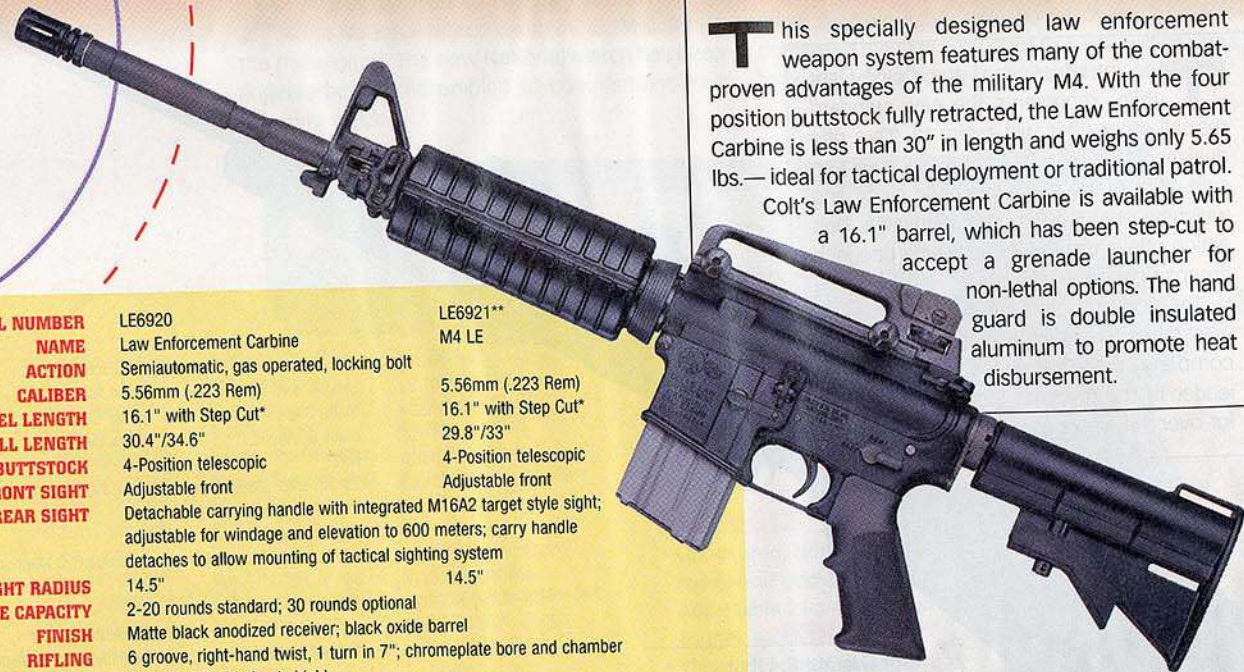


### FEATURES:

- Improved accuracy
- Suppressed recoil
- Accepts optics
- Ideal for competition

MODEL NUMBER	MT6601	MT6700
<b>NAME</b>	Match Target HBAR	Match Target Competition HBAR
<b>FINISH</b>	Matte Black	Matte Black
<b>ACTION</b>	Semi Auto	Semi Auto
	Gas Operated	Gas Operated
	Locking Bolt	Locking Bolt
<b>CALIBER</b>	.223 Rem, 7.62x39mm	.223 Rem, 7.62x39mm
<b>CAPACITY</b>	8 Rounds	8 Rounds
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	20" Heavy	20" Heavy
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	39"	39"
<b>RIFLING TWIST</b>	RH. 1 Turn In 7"	RH. 1 Turn In 9"
<b>RIFLING GROOVES</b>	6	6
<b>TRIGGER</b>	Smooth	Smooth
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Adjustable Post for Elevation	Adjustable Post for Elevation
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	Adjustable	Adjustable
<b>SIGHT RADIUS</b>	20"	20"
<b>WEIGHT</b>	8.0 lbs.	8.5 lbs.

# LAW ENFORCEMENT CARBINE

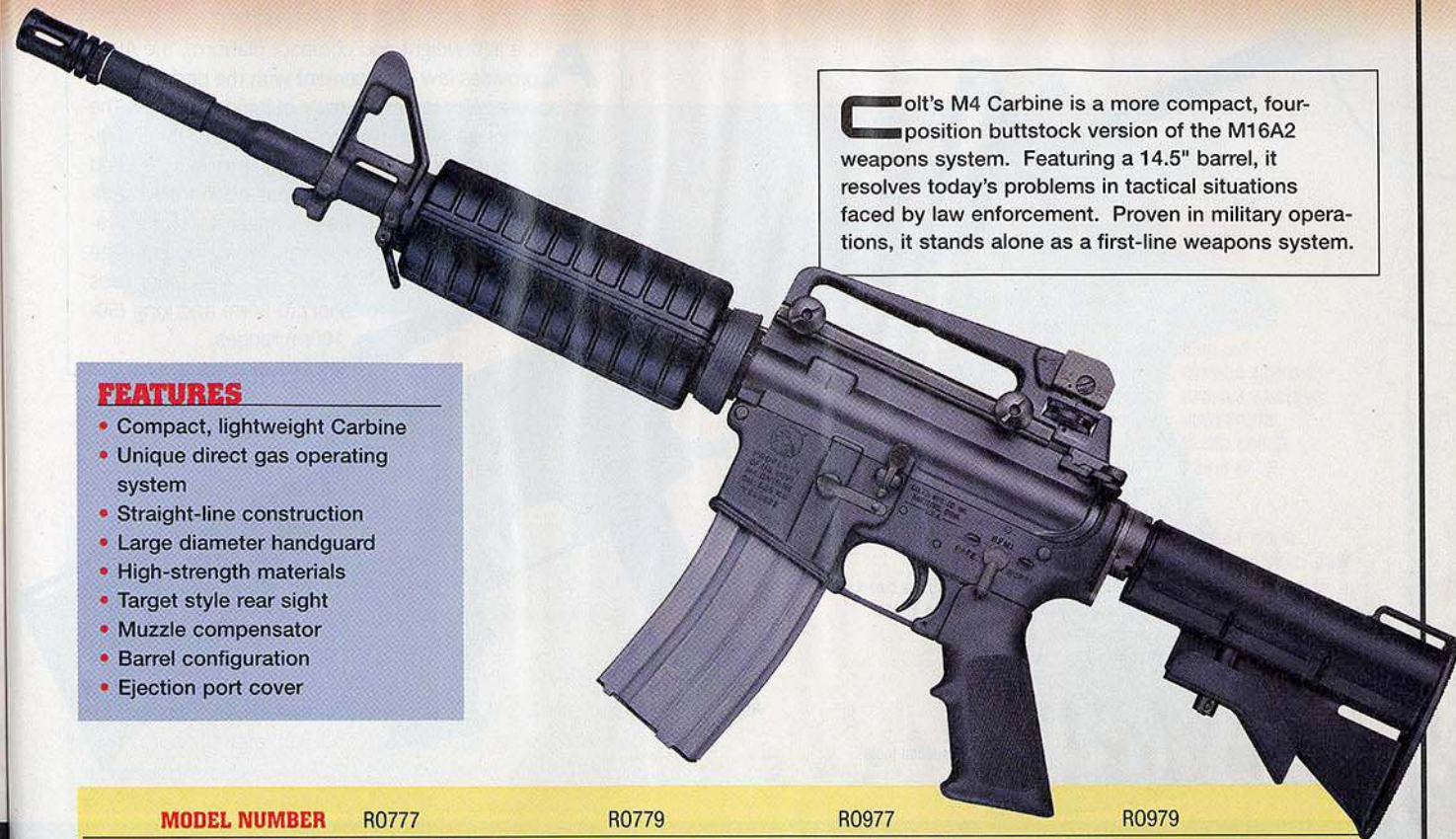


This specially designed law enforcement weapon system features many of the combat-proven advantages of the military M4. With the four position buttstock fully retracted, the Law Enforcement Carbine is less than 30" in length and weighs only 5.65 lbs.—ideal for tactical deployment or traditional patrol. Colt's Law Enforcement Carbine is available with a 16.1" barrel, which has been step-cut to accept a grenade launcher for non-lethal options. The hand guard is double insulated aluminum to promote heat disbursement.

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	LE6920	LE6921**
<b>NAME</b>	Law Enforcement Carbine	M4 LE
<b>ACTION</b>	Semiautomatic, gas operated, locking bolt	
<b>CALIBER</b>	5.56mm (.223 Rem)	5.56mm (.223 Rem)
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	16.1" with Step Cut*	16.1" with Step Cut*
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	30.4"/34.6"	29.8"/33"
<b>BUTTSTOCK</b>	4-Position telescopic	
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Adjustable front	
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	Detachable carrying handle with integrated M16A2 target style sight; adjustable for windage and elevation to 600 meters; carry handle detaches to allow mounting of tactical sighting system	
<b>SIGHT RADIUS</b>	14.5"	14.5"
<b>MAGAZINE CAPACITY</b>	2-20 rounds standard; 30 rounds optional	
<b>FINISH</b>	Matte black anodized receiver; black oxide barrel	
<b>RIFLING</b>	6 groove, right-hand twist, 1 turn in 7"; chromeplate bore and chamber	
<b>HANDGUARDS</b>	Oversized double heat shield	
<b>SLING SWIVEL</b>	Side mounted tactical	
<b>FRONT BARREL LUG</b>	For mounting accessories	
<b>FLASH HIDER</b>	Cage style	Cage style
<b>FIELD MAINTENANCE</b>	Can be field stripped without special tools	
<b>WEIGHT (EMPTY)</b>	5.95 lbs.	5.65 lbs.

\* Step Cut allows mounting of M-203 Grenade Launcher for less than lethal options.  
\*\* Available for agency purchase only.

# M4 CARBINE



Colt's M4 Carbine is a more compact, four-position buttstock version of the M16A2 weapons system. Featuring a 14.5" barrel, it resolves today's problems in tactical situations faced by law enforcement. Proven in military operations, it stands alone as a first-line weapons system.

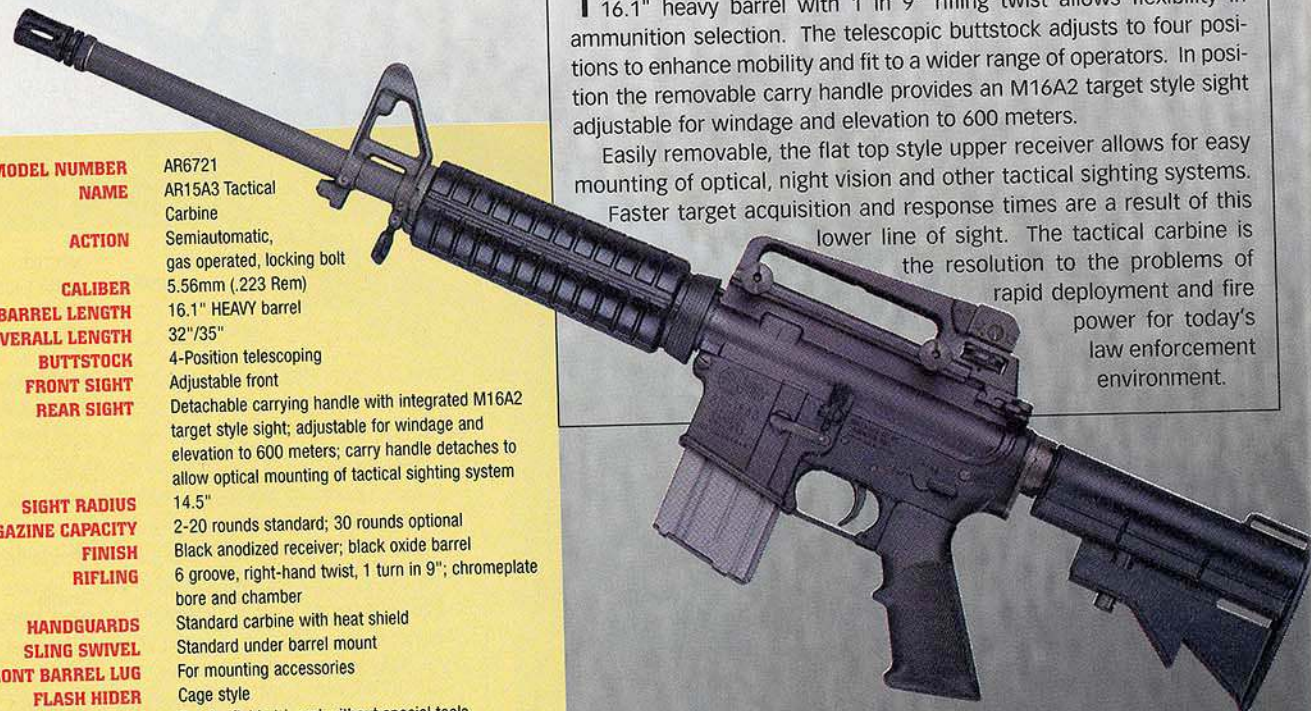
## FEATURES

- Compact, lightweight Carbine
- Unique direct gas operating system
- Straight-line construction
- Large diameter handguard
- High-strength materials
- Target style rear sight
- Muzzle compensator
- Barrel configuration
- Ejection port cover

MODEL NUMBER	R0777	R0779	R0977	R0979
<b>NAME</b>	M4 Carbine	M4 Carbine	M4 Carbine	M4 Carbine
<b>ACTION</b>	Gas operated	Gas operated	Gas operated	Gas operated
<b>CALIBER</b>	5.56mm (.223 Rem)	5.56mm (.223 Rem)	5.56mm (.223 Rem)	5.56mm (.223 Rem)
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	14.5" with Step Cut*	14.5" with Step Cut*	14.5" with Step Cut*	14.5" with Step Cut*
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	29.8"/33"	29.8"/33"	29.8"/33"	29.8"/33"
<b>BUTTSTOCK</b>	4-Position telescopic	4-Position telescopic	4-Position telescopic	4-Position telescopic
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Adjustable front	Adjustable front	Adjustable front	Adjustable front
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	A2 style adjustable to 800m	A2 style adjustable to 800m	Detachable carry handle with integrated M16A2 target style sight. Adjustable for windage and elevation to 600m. Carry handle detaches to allow mounting of optical systems.	Detachable carry handle with integrated M16A2 target style sight. Adjustable for windage and elevation to 600m. Carry handle detaches to allow mounting of optical systems.
<b>SIGHT RADIUS</b>	14.5"	14.5"	14.5"	14.5"
<b>MAGAZINE CAPACITY</b>	30 rounds	30 rounds	30 rounds	30 rounds
<b>FINISH</b>	Black anodized receiver; black oxide barrel	Black anodized receiver; black oxide barrel	Black anodized receiver; black oxide barrel	Black anodized receiver; black oxide barrel
<b>RIFLING</b>	6 groove, right-hand twist, 1 turn in 7"; chromeplate bore and chamber			
<b>HANDGUARDS</b>	Double heat shielded oversize			
<b>SLING SWIVEL</b>	Side mounted tactical			
<b>FRONT BARREL LUG</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>FLASH HIDER</b>	Cage style			
<b>FIELD MAINTENANCE</b>	Can be field stripped without special tools			
<b>RATE OF FIRE (RPM)</b>	700 - 950	700 - 950	700 - 950	700 - 950
<b>FIRE CONTROL</b>	Safe/Semi/Auto	Safe/Semi/3 Shot Burst	Safe/Semi/Auto	Safe/Semi/3 Shot Burst
<b>WEIGHT (EMPTY)</b>	5.65 lbs.	5.65 lbs.	5.65 lbs.	5.65 lbs.

\* Step Cut allows mounting of M-203 Grenade launcher.

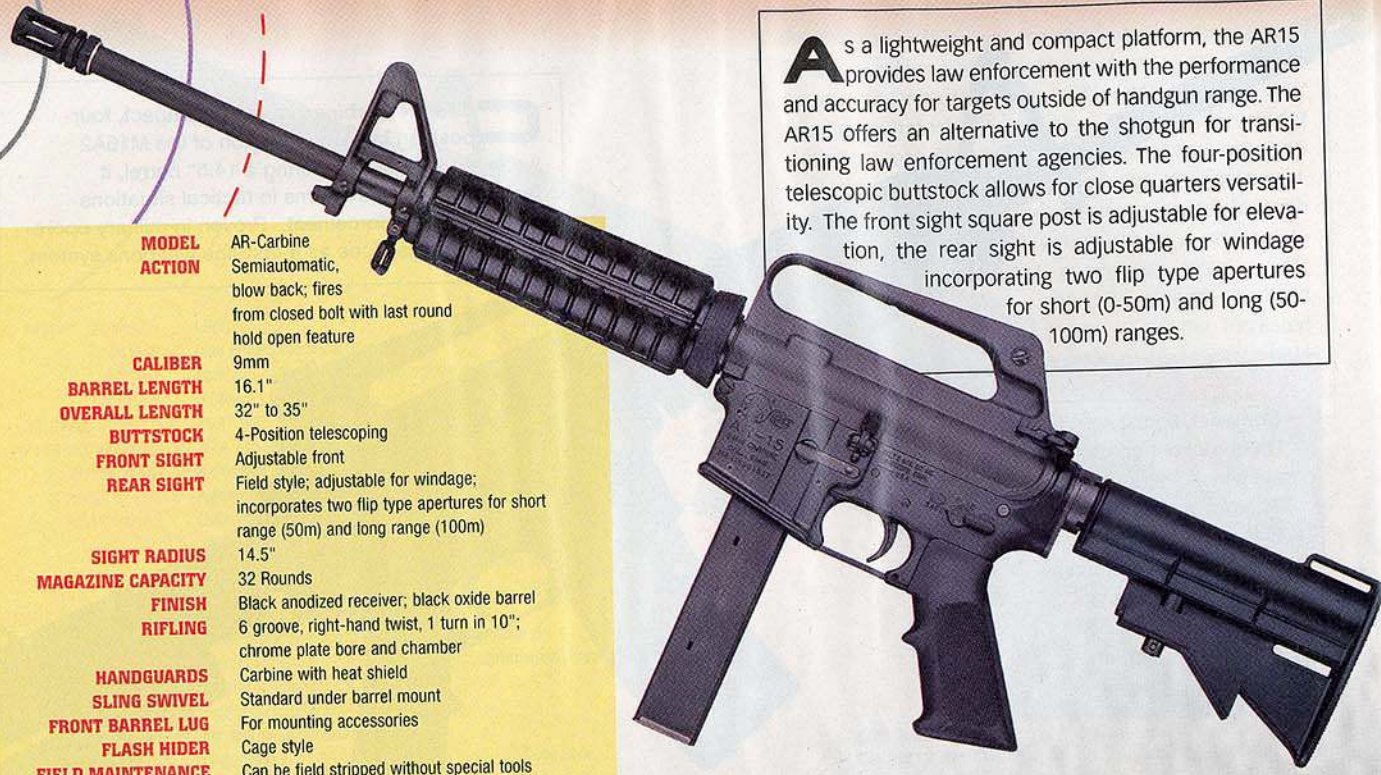
# AR15-A3 TACTICAL CARBINE



Tactical accuracy chosen by federal, state and local agencies. The 16.1" heavy barrel with 1 in 9" rifling twist allows flexibility in ammunition selection. The telescopic buttstock adjusts to four positions to enhance mobility and fit to a wider range of operators. In position the removable carry handle provides an M16A2 target style sight adjustable for windage and elevation to 600 meters. Easily removable, the flat top style upper receiver allows for easy mounting of optical, night vision and other tactical sighting systems. Faster target acquisition and response times are a result of this lower line of sight. The tactical carbine is the resolution to the problems of rapid deployment and fire power for today's law enforcement environment.

<b>MODEL NUMBER</b>	AR6721
<b>NAME</b>	AR15A3 Tactical Carbine
<b>ACTION</b>	Semiautomatic, gas operated, locking bolt
<b>CALIBER</b>	5.56mm (.223 Rem)
<b>BARREL LENGTH</b>	16.1" HEAVY barrel
<b>OVERALL LENGTH</b>	32"/35"
<b>BUTTSTOCK</b>	4-Position telescopic
<b>FRONT SIGHT</b>	Adjustable front
<b>REAR SIGHT</b>	Detachable carrying handle with integrated M16A2 target style sight; adjustable for windage and elevation to 600 meters; carry handle detaches to allow optical mounting of tactical sighting system
<b>SIGHT RADIUS</b>	14.5"
<b>MAGAZINE CAPACITY</b>	2-20 rounds standard; 30 rounds optional
<b>FINISH</b>	Black anodized receiver; black oxide barrel
<b>RIFLING</b>	6 groove, right-hand twist, 1 turn in 9"; chromeplate bore and chamber
<b>HANDGUARDS</b>	Standard carbine with heat shield
<b>SLING SWIVEL</b>	Standard under barrel mount
<b>FRONT BARREL LUG</b>	For mounting accessories
<b>FLASH HIDER</b>	Cage style
<b>FIELD MAINTENANCE</b>	Can be field stripped without special tools
<b>WEIGHT (EMPTY)</b>	7.0 lbs.

## AR15 9mm CARBINE



**A**s a lightweight and compact platform, the AR15 provides law enforcement with the performance and accuracy for targets outside of handgun range. The AR15 offers an alternative to the shotgun for transitioning law enforcement agencies. The four-position telescopic buttstock allows for close quarters versatility. The front sight square post is adjustable for elevation, the rear sight is adjustable for windage incorporating two flip type apertures for short (0-50m) and long (50-100m) ranges.

- MODEL** AR-Carbine
- ACTION** Semiautomatic, blow back; fires from closed bolt with last round hold open feature
- CALIBER** 9mm
- BARREL LENGTH** 16.1"
- OVERALL LENGTH** 32" to 35"
- BUTTSTOCK** 4-Position telescoping
- FRONT SIGHT** Adjustable front
- REAR SIGHT** Field style; adjustable for windage; incorporates two flip type apertures for short range (50m) and long range (100m)
- SIGHT RADIUS** 14.5"
- MAGAZINE CAPACITY** 32 Rounds
- FINISH** Black anodized receiver; black oxide barrel
- RIFLING** 6 groove, right-hand twist, 1 turn in 10"; chrome plate bore and chamber
- HANDGUARDS** Carbine with heat shield
- SLING SWIVEL** Standard under barrel mount
- FRONT BARREL LUG** For mounting accessories
- FLASH HIDER** Cage style
- FIELD MAINTENANCE** Can be field stripped without special tools
- WEIGHT (EMPTY)** 5.8 lbs.

## CO<sub>2</sub> PISTOLS



**C**olt is proud to introduce its first line of CO<sub>2</sub> pistols. These pistols look and feel just like our famed 1911A1's, make great pistols for sport shooting and are ideal for training. The first CO<sub>2</sub> pistol to carry the Colt name. Developed for sport shooting with cal. 4.5mm (.177) pellets, this firearm continues the Colt tradition of excellence in sporting pistols.

## COLT ACCESSORIES

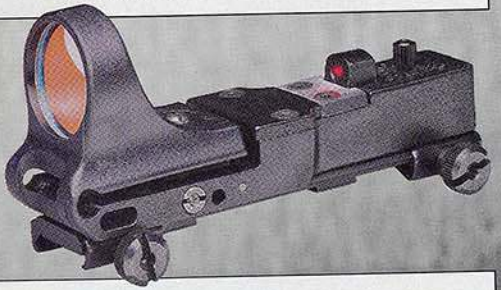


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**.22 LR CONVERSION KIT**  
Change the caliber and/or barrel length of your Series 80, Government Model or Gold Cup pistol with the Colt Ace II Conversion Kit. A 5" barrel and upper receiver convert your semi-automatic pistol to accept .22 LR ammunition.

**RAILWAY SIGHTS**  
The universal appeal of the new Colt Optics Railway Sight is the easy-to-use heads up display. All Colt Railway Sights are compatible with any Weaver sight base.



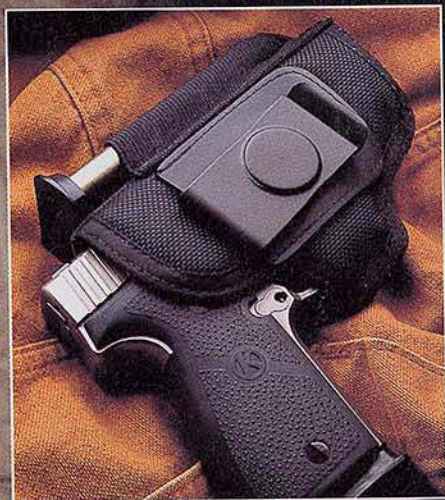
**DUAL PLEX SCOPE**  
Colt Optics by C-More now offers a Dual Plex Scope designed for AR15 rifles. Featuring an adjustable eyepiece, the 4x21D scope also promotes faster target acquisition in close range applications up to 150 yards.



- ACTION** CO<sub>2</sub> Semiautomatic
- CALIBER** 4.5mm (.177) pellets
- TRIGGER SYSTEM** Single and Double Action
- MAGAZINE** 8-Shot Cylinder
- SIGHTS** Post Front, Rear with Side Adjustment
- SAFETY** Trigger safety, grip safety
- BARREL** Rifled
- BARREL LENGTH** 5"
- OVERALL LENGTH** 8 1/2"
- FINISH** Black
- GRIP** Black Plastic or Brown Wood
- CO<sub>2</sub> POWER** The power cocking system guarantees quick and safe changing of the CO<sub>2</sub> Capsules. Quick Loading 8-shot cylinder magazine lets you load the pistol safely and easily.
- WEIGHT** 38 oz.

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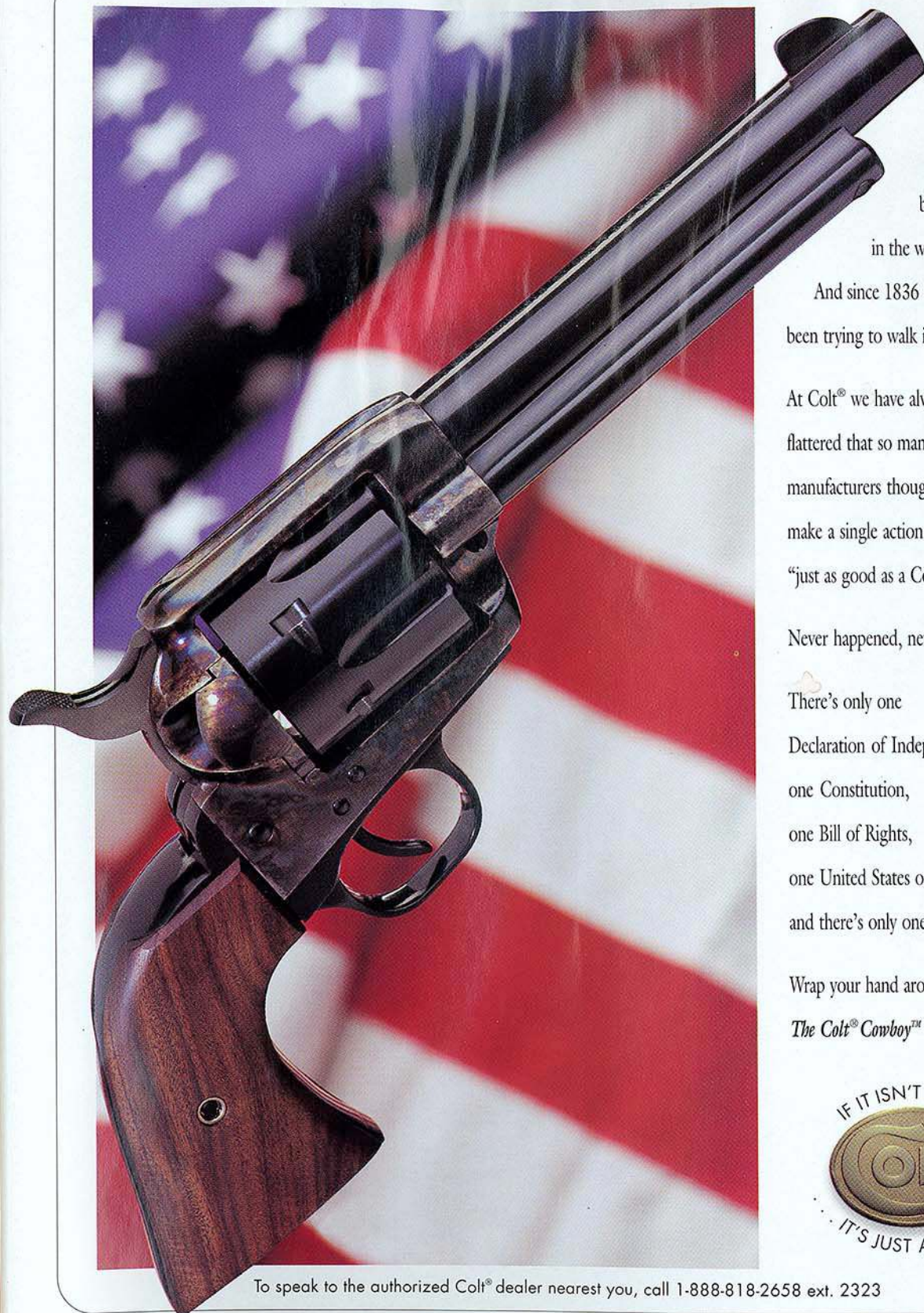


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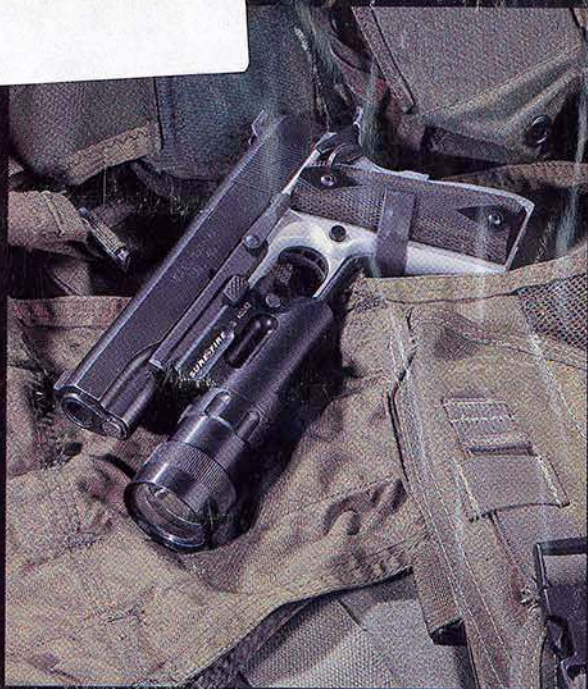
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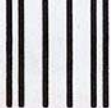
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