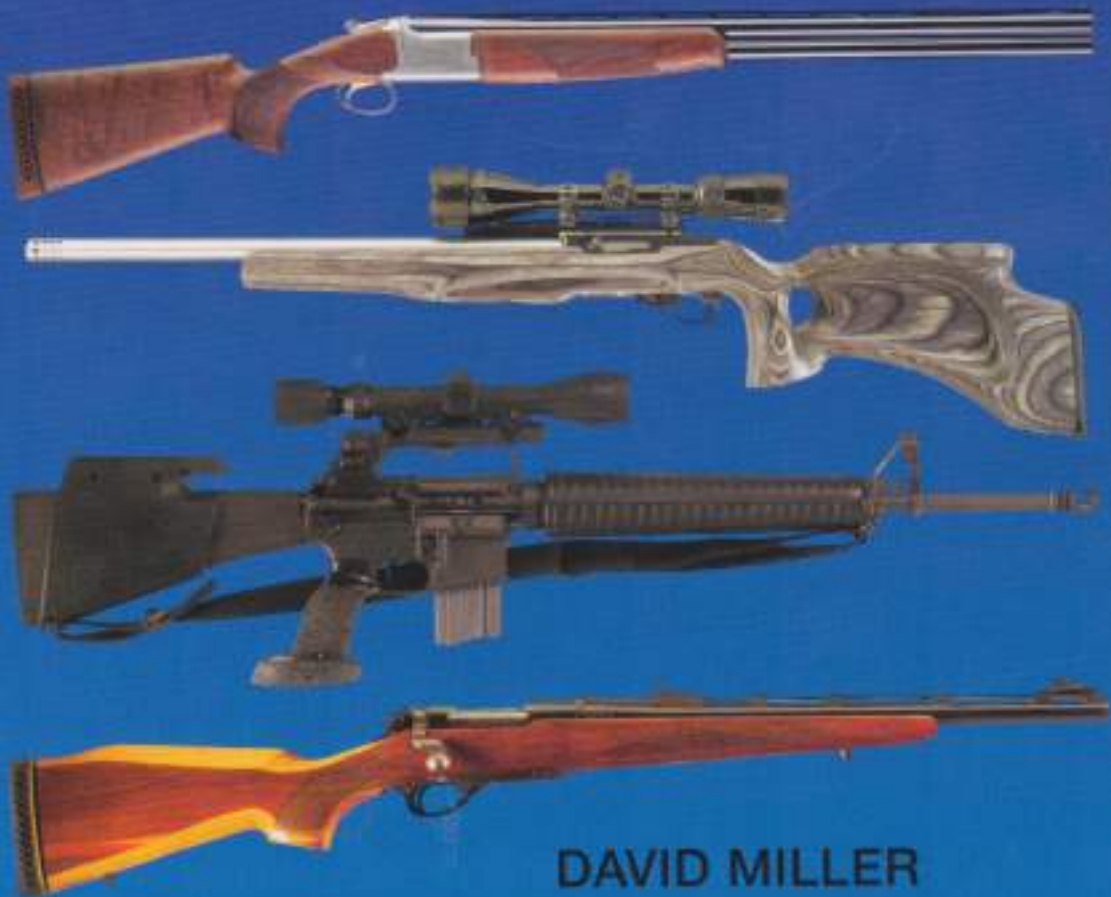


THE ILLUSTRATED CATALOG OF

RIFLES & SHOTGUNS



DAVID MILLER

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Introduction

The development of the Longarm, that being a long smooth-bored barrel mounted on a wooden stock which could be fired from the shoulder using both hands, led to it becoming in common use by infantry from the 14th century onwards. This coincided with it gradually becoming more effective, more accurate, and above all, more reliable. Development went in fits and starts, however, with long periods where nothing much changed.

By the time of the American Civil War smoothbore flintlock arms were still in evidence but the pressure of the war made demands on technology which fast-forwarded the development of the longarm by many years. The need for superior accuracy to inflict maximum damage on the other side led to the development of the rifled barrel which enabled troops to pick off the enemy at greater ranges before the opponent's guns became effective. The need for more reliable ignition led to the widespread adoption of the percussion cap. Other developments like the Minie bullet which expanded in the bore of the barrel to give a more effective gas seal also increased range and velocity. Multi-shot firearms like the lever-action Henry Rifle (see page 21) and the Spencer Repeating Carbine (page 37) also came into use on the Union side giving them a tremendous advantage.

During the Frontier period (1870-1900) the rifle developed alongside the shotgun (which is also covered in this book), to the point where at the end of the era the first semi-automatic rifles and shotguns appeared, mostly by courtesy of one man – John M. Browning.

Two World wars saw both weapons used martially – the shotgun such as the Stevens Model 620 (page 237,) in a close combat role, and the rifle used as the main weapon of the infantry like the Mauser K98 (page 104) but with special versions developed for sniping and elite forces units.

Arriving in the modern period we can see state-of-the-art automatic "Assault" rifles like the Colt M16 (page 135) and sophisticated modern sporting weapons – both rifles like the Remington Nylon 66 (page 170) and shotguns like the Mossberg Model 500 (page 221) that have benefited from the pressure of military development. At the same time we show examples of guns which are still shot for pleasure that ignore all trappings of modernity like the traditional English style side by side shotgun, the Gamba London (page 215) and high quality traditional single-shot bolt-action hunting rifles like the Weatherby Mark V series (page 187).

Baker Rifle

Designed by Ezekiel Baker and first selected for service in 1800, the Baker was the first general issue rifled weapon to enter British service. A muzzle-loading flintlock piece, it fired a tight-fitting ball that had to be firmly rammed into the barrel. A

wooden mallet was originally issued to assist in this task. It enabled riflemen to operate in open formations and pick off their targets at longer ranges than was possible with smoothbore muskets.



Type: Muzzle-loading flintlock rifle

Origin: Tower Armouries, England

Caliber: .62 **Barrel length:** 30.25in

Beach

Claudius H. Beach was a gunsmith at Marshall, Michigan and is known to have been active in the years 1868-77, but probably set up business before that date and finished later. This percussion sporting rifle has a cast steel barrel from

which the original rear sight has been removed and replaced by an adjustable sight mounted on the tang. This weapon is clearly marked with the maker's name, but has no date.



Type: Percussion rifle

Origin: C. H. Beach, Marshall, Michigan

Caliber: .40 **Barrel length:** 29in

Brown Bess Short Land Pattern Musket

From about the 1730 onwards, the British Army was equipped with a series of simple, effective flintlock muskets, known by the soldiers' nickname of "Brown Bess." This was never a formal title, and the term covered a multitude of

variations in caliber, muzzle length and lock detail. The Short Land Pattern shown here entered service from about 1763 onwards, becoming the standard issue arm and a popular gun with soldiers for the next 100 years or so.



Type: Muzzle-loading flintlock musket

Origin: Tower Armouries, England

Caliber: .75 **Barrel length:** 42in



Allen and Wheelock Drop Breech Rifle

A single shot breechloader produced from 1860 to 1871, some saw military service in the Civil War as privately procured weapons. It has a part round, part octagonal barrel between 23 and 28 inches long. The breech block drops

down when the trigger guard is lowered, ejecting the case and allowing a fresh round to be inserted. Made in a variety of calibers-.22 through .44, all rimfire.

Total production 1500-2000.



Type: Single shot breechloading rimfire rifle

Origin: Allen & Wheelock, Worcester, Massachusetts

Caliber: .42 A&W rimfire **Barrel length:** 26in

Ball Lever Action Carbine

Although this gun was delivered too late for action it is generally considered a Civil War weapon. The carbine is a 7 shot rimfire repeating arm, operated by a lever which doubles as the trigger guard. The left hand side of the receiver has a

robust saddle-ring or a sliding lug. It has a two-piece walnut stock with a three-quarter length forend fastened by two barrel bands.



Type: Repeating cartridge carbine

Origin: Lamson & Co., Windsor, Vermont,

Caliber: .50 rimfire **Barrel length:** 20.5in

Bridensburg Model 1861 Rifle Musket

This Model 1861 rifle musket was manufactured by the Bridensburg Machine Works that was owned by Alfred Jenks and his son, Barton, who at the outbreak of the Civil War, were well-established and successful manufacturers of

cotton and wool milling machines. They built a new factory in 1863 to house some 150 workers who produced around 5000 US Government pattern muskets per month.



Type: Percussion service musket

Origin: Bridensburg Machine Works, Pennsylvania

Caliber: .58 **Barrel length:** 40in



Bridensburg Model 1863 Rifle Musket

The Model 1863 was effectively a Model 1861 with some minor improvements to the hammer and muzzle retaining bands in the Type I and further modifications to the rearsight and spring retainers for the barrel bands in the Type II.

Bridensburg were one of several manufacturers who made contract rifles during the Civil War. By the end they had produced just under 100,000 rifles for the Federal Government.



Type: Percussion service musket

Origin: Bridesburg Machine Works, Pennsylvania

Caliber: .58 **Barrel length:** 40in

J.F. Brown Target/Sniper Rifle

This weapon is of a type used by sharpshooters in the Civil War when it represented the very latest technology. The weapon was made by J.F. Brown of Haverhill Massachusetts. The telescopic sight was manufactured by L.M. Amadon of

Bellows Falls, Vermont, who was one of the pioneers of such devices. Both Amadon and Brown were famous in their time for the high quality of their products.



Type: Percussion rifle

Origin: J. F. Brown, Haverhill, Massachusetts

Caliber: .45 **Barrel length:** 32.5in

Burnside Carbine

The prolific Burnside carbine remained in production from 1857 to 1865. Designed by Ambrose E. Burnside, who formed the Bristol Firearms Co. in Rhode Island, and later

improved by one of his gunsmiths, George P. Foster. Finally Burnside had sold his interests in the company, going on to greater things as the commander of the Army of the Potomac.



Type: Percussion breechloading carbine

Origin: Bristol Firearms Co., Providence, Rhode Island

Caliber: .54 **Barrel length:** 21in



Arisaka Meiji 38th Year Rifle

Some shortcomings in the Meiji 30th Year rifle were thought to have been rectified in the 35th Year type, but a trials batch fielded during the Russo-Japanese war revealed yet further problems. These mainly concerned extraction and susceptibility to mud and dust, and were solved by a new and simpler bolt combined with a bolt-cover. The new design was designated the Meiji 38th Year type (1905) and entered service in 1906. This rifle was in continuous production from

1907 to 1944 and a total of well over three million were produced at the Imperial arsenals at Mishawaka, Kokura, Maeda and Nagoya.

Type: Bolt-action, magazine-fed rifle

Origin: various arsenals, see text

Caliber: 6.5 x 50mm

Barrel length: 31.5in



Shown here is a late production 38th Year rifle with its associated bayonet and the Imperial chrysanthemum and "38th Year" markings.



This one was made at the Nagoya arsenal and clearly shows the bolt cover.



Seen here is a Meiji 38th Year rifle supplied to the Siamese (Thai) Army and marked as such.



Arisaka Meiji 38th Year Carbine

The Meiji 44th Year type carbine (1911) combined the usual Arisaka action with a much shorter, 20 inch barrel and a permanently fixed bayonet which was attached to a hinge on the nose-cap and swiveled back under the barrel when not in use. This weapon was in production from 1912 to 1942. The two examples shown here are standard production versions, showing the very neat bayonet installation. Although originally

intended for the cavalry the carbine was popular with infantry involved in jungle warfare, since its shorter length made it easier to handle.

Type: Bolt-action, magazine-fed carbine

Origin: Koishigawa/Nagoya/Mukden arsenals

Caliber: 6.5 x 50mm **Barrel Length:** 20in



The permanently attached bayonet made the carbine muzzle heavy which affected accurate aim.



The shorter barrel of the carbine further reduced the power and range of the already marginal 6.5mm round.

Arisaka Meiji 97th Year Sniper Rifle

The Meiji 97th Year sniper rifle (1937) was the outcome of a development program that lasted well over ten years. It was based closely on the Meiji 38th Year rifle but the bolt handle was both longer and angled sharply downwards. A Toka 2.5x

telescopic sight was mounted on the left side of the weapon; this position was intended to make recharging the magazine easier, but did, in fact, make holding and aiming (vital characteristics in a sniper rifle) more difficult.



Type: Bolt-action, magazine-fed sniper rifle

Origin: Kokura'/Nagoya arsenals

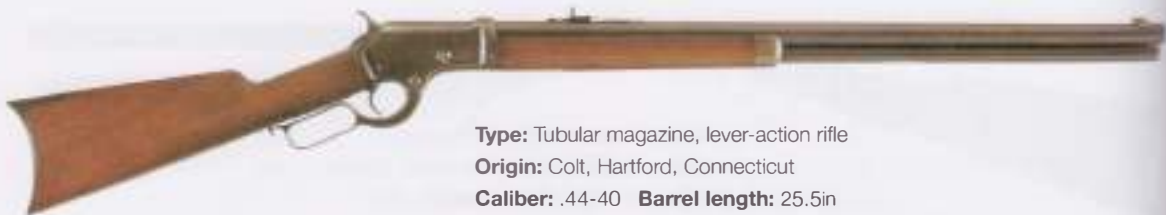
Caliber: 6.5 x 50mm **Barrel length:** 30in



Colt-Burgess

The Colt-Burgess was the only attempt by Colt to compete in the lever-action market, using a patent held by Andrew Burgess, of Owego, New York. There were two versions, a rifle with a 25.5 inch barrel and a fifteen-round tubular

magazine and a carbine with a 20.5 inch barrel and a twelve-round magazine. The Colt-Burgess was only in production from 1883 to 1885 during which time 3,775 rifles and 2,593 carbines were completed.



Type: Tubular magazine, lever-action rifle

Origin: Colt, Hartford, Connecticut

Caliber: .44-40 **Barrel length:** 25.5in

Colt Lightning

The Colt Lightning was the first slide-action rifle to be manufactured by Colt and was produced in three frame-sizes. The small-frame version was available only in .22 caliber with a 24 inch barrel, while the medium frame version (rifle with a barrel length of 26 inches and carbine-barrel length 20 inches) was available in .32-20, .38-40, and .44-40 calibers. The large-frame version (includes rifle with a barrel length of 28 inches and carbine-barrel length 22 inches) was

chambered for .38-56 up to .50-95. The largest round for the large-frame rifle was the .50-95 Express and earned the nickname "Express model" for all caliber versions.

Type: tubular magazine, slide-action rifle

Origin: Colt, Hartford, Connecticut

Caliber: see text

Barrel length: see text



This was the small-frame version, available in .22 Short or Long caliber only, with a 24 inch barrel; this example has seen considerable service and even includes some repair tape.



This one is the medium-frame version, in this case with a 26 inch barrel, chambered for the .32 cartridge.

Dimick Plains Rifle

Horace E. Dimick established his business in St Louis in 1849, where he produced Plains rifles and derringers, and the weapon seen here is inscribed with his name. This half-stock weapon has a very heavy barrel which is rifled,

according to the wording of his patent, "...by a system of straight grooves, extending from the base of the bore to about the position of the trunnions, and twisting from thence to the muzzle."



Type: Plains rifle

Origin: H. E. Dimick, St Louis, Missouri

Caliber: .58 **Barrel length:** 32.5in

Marlin-Ballard Number 2 Sporting Rifle

The Marlin-Ballard Number 2 was produced at New Haven between 1876 and 1891. It was made in four calibers (.32, .38 rimfire, .38 centerfire, and 44) and in three barrel lengths {26, 28 and 30 inches). The weapon shown here is .44-40

caliber with a 30 inch barrel, and mounts a tang-mounted vernier rearsight and a foresight with a gold-plated protector. This gun was resigned as an ideal long range hunting rifle.



Type: Ballard-action, single-shot rifle

Origin: Marlin, New Haven, Connecticut

Caliber: .44-40 **Barrel length:** 30in

Marlin-Ballard Number 4 Rifle

The Martin-Ballard Number 4 hunting rifle was produced between 1876 and 1891 in a number of calibers, and this example is in .44-75 Everlasting. Various barrel lengths from 26 to 30 inches were offered, but the purchaser of the rifle seen

here made a special order for an extra-long, octagonal 32 inch barrel, although it is still fitted with the usual Rocky Mountain foresight. There is also a barrel-mounted, ramped rearsight and a tang mounted vernier sight.



Type: Ballard-action, single-shot rifle

Origin: Marlin, New Haven, Connecticut

Caliber: .44-75 Everlasting **Barrel length:** 32in



Accuracy International PM

The rifle is based around an extremely rigid aluminum frame, with an attached plastic stock with thumbhole grip and a spring-loaded bipod support. A stainless steel barrel is free-

floating above the frame, and the action is a short-throw bolt which can be operated without the firer having to change their head position.



Type: Bolt-action sniper rifle

Origin: Accuracy International, England

Caliber: 7,62mm **Barrel length:** 25.8in

AR-7 Survival Rifle

In 1959 the legendary Eugene Stoner entered the U.S. Air Force's competition for a very light and compact takedown, survival weapon for downed aircrew; the outcome was the

AR-7. One of its most notable attributes was that the entire weapon could be disassembled and stored in the plastic stock and then re-assembled in seconds.



Type: Takedown, semi-automatic survival rifle

Origin: AR-7 Customized Accessories, LLC,
Meriden, Connecticut

Caliber: .22LR **Barrel length:** 16in

Armalite AR-18 Rifle

Intended to be a cheaper alternative to the AR-15 the AR-18 employed a rotating bolt with seven lugs, which lock into the breech end of the barrel, with a short-stroke piston driving the bolt-carrier rearwards.

The AR-18 was of all-steel construction, extensive use being made of pressings for the upper and lower receiver bodies, and for a number of external and internal parts; all furniture was glass-reinforced plastic.



Type: Semi-automatic rifle

Origin: Armalite Inc, Costa Mesa, California
(now at Geneseo, Illinois)

Caliber: .223 **Barrel length:** 20in



This example was made by Sterling in England, and has lugs for a grenade-launcher beneath the barrel, and a mounting for the grenade-launcher sight above the receiver.

Anschutz Target and Sporting Rifles

Members of the Anschutz family have been very active in the gunmaking business in Germany since 1793, mostly producing sporting arms and competition rifles. The company of J.G. Anschutz was established in Suhl in 1856 and remained continuously in business until 1945, when the town was overrun by the advancing Soviet Red Army. The company was re-established at Ulm in 1950, since when it has produced a wide variety of sporting and target rifles,

most of them based on the company's own Model 1954 bolt action. A small selection of the company's .22 single-shot rifles are shown on this and the following page.

Type: Bolt -action target rifle

Origin: Anschutz, Ulm, Germany

Caliber: .22

Barrel length: see captions.



This is model 1808 ED chambered for .22LR with a 19.25 inch barrel



This is a model 1710 chambered for .22LR and has a 24 inch barrel.



Akah Drilling

Akah is a large (and existing) German sports goods chain, the name being the German phonetic abbreviation for Albrecht Kind (AK = Albrecht and child). Like United States hardware chains and mail order houses, Akah buys in goods

such as shotguns from established manufacturers and then sells them under its own name. This drilling has two 16 gauge shotgun barrels and one 8mm rifle barrel.



Type: Shotgun/rifle

Origin: Akah, Germany

Caliber: 16 gauge/8mm **Barrel length:** 25.5in

Antonio Zoli Ritmo Single-Barrel Trap Shotgun

Antonio Zoli of Brescia makes a range of shotguns, amongst which is this Ritmo trap gun, with an unusually configured vented rib, designed to maximize the heat dissipation from

the barrel. The gun has a checkered pistol grip style walnut stock with a recoil pad on the butt.



Type: Single-barrel trap shotgun

Origin: Antonio Zoli, Brescia, Italy

Caliber: 12 gauge **Barrel length:** 34in

Antonio Zoli Combinato Safari De Luxe Shotgun/Rifle

The Combinato (combination), shown here combines a rifle barrel in 7mm caliber and a shotgun in 12 gauge in an over-and-under configuration, but is also made with barrels in .222

caliber and 20 gauge. The Combinato has box-lock action, double triggers, a folding-leaf rear sight and a 2.75 inch chamber with screw-in choke system.



Type: Combined shotgun/rifle

Origin: Antonio Zoli, Brescia, Italy

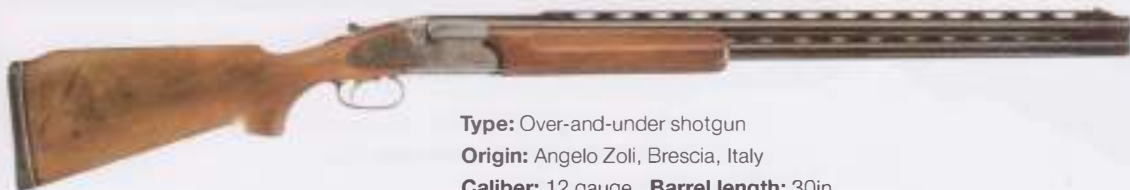
Caliber: 12 gauge/ 7 x 57mm **Barrel length:** 24in



Angelo Zoli Over-and-Under Shotgun

This over-and-under shotgun was made by Italian gunsmith Angelo Zoli (not to be confused with Antonio Zoli, also of Brescia, Italy). This shotgun has an extra full ventilated rib above the top barrel and vents in the spine between the

upper and lower barrels. The gun is very well finished with engraved side plates and a Monte Carlo stock with a white line butt recoil pad.



Type: Over-and-under shotgun

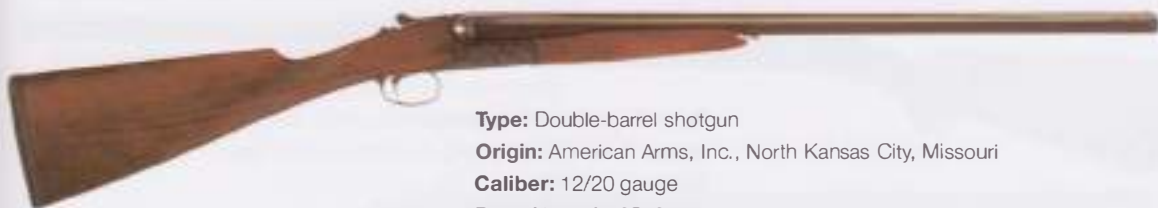
Origin: Angelo Zoli, Brescia, Italy

Caliber: 12 gauge **Barrel length:** 30in

American Arms Brittany Double-Barrel Shotgun

The traditionally designed Brittany model entered production in 1989 and was a double-barrel, boxlock shotgun in either 12 gauge with a 27 inch barrel or 20 gauge with a 25 inch

barrel. It had automatic ejectors and a single selective trigger. The action was engraved and the walnut stock was checkered.



Type: Double-barrel shotgun

Origin: American Arms, Inc., North Kansas City, Missouri

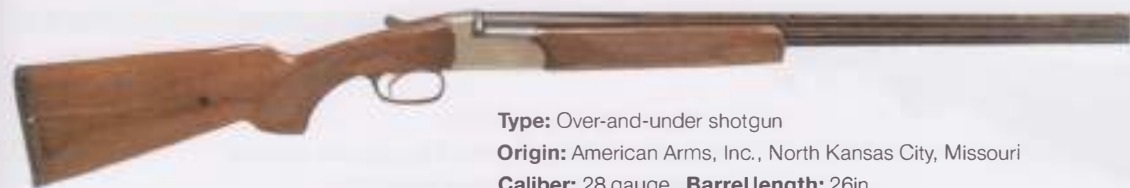
Caliber: 12/20 gauge

Barrel length: 25, 27in

American Arms Model Silver II Over-and-Under Shotgun

The American Arms company has some manufacturing capability in the United States but the majority of their products are imported from Europe, including the shotguns from Spain where there is a tradition in the manufacture of

fine shotguns. This small bore over-and-under shotgun, the Silver II, has two superposed 26 inch vent-ribbed barrels, engraving on the action and a walnut stock.



Type: Over-and-under shotgun

Origin: American Arms, Inc., North Kansas City, Missouri

Caliber: 28 gauge **Barrel length:** 26in