

ORDERING THE RIFLE

by Martha Moyer

The Warren Commission officially described the weapon reportedly used by Lee Harvey Oswald to assassinate President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963

The rifle...was a bolt-action, clip-fed, military rifle, 40.2 inches long and 8 pounds in weight. Inscribed on the rifle were various markings, including the words "CAL. 6.5," "MADE ITALY," "TERNI," [the city of the manufacturer: the Royal Arms factory] and "ROCCA" [the manufacturer of the bolt cocking piece]; the numerals "1940" and "40" [the year of manufacture]; [and] the serial number C2766.... The Rifle bore a very inexpensive Japanese four-power sight, stamped, "4 X 18 COATED," "ORDINANCE OPTICS INC.," "HOLLYWOOD CALIFORNIA...." (1):

The rifle was identified as a 6.5 Mannlicher-Carcano Italian military rifle, Model 91/38. But the following is a description of the Italian "carbine" that "Hidell" ordered from February, 1963, issue of American Rifleman on March 12, 1963

differed: 1. the American Rifleman ad offered a 36-inch, five-and-a-half-pound, Italian "carbine," "Catalog Number C20-T750 (w/scope)," ordering Department 358; 2. the November, 1963, issue of Field and Stream published an ad offering a 40-inch,

LATE ISSUE! 6.5 ITALIAN CARBINE. ONLY 36" OVERALL, WEIGHS ONLY 5 1/2 LBS. SHOWS ONLY SLIGHT USE, LIGHTLY OILED, TEST FIRED AND HEAD-SPACED, READY FOR SHOOTING. TURNED DOWN BOLT, THUMB SAFETY, 6-SHOT CLIP-FED. REAR OPEN SIGHT. FAST LOADING AND FAST FIRING.

C20-T1196. Specially Priced.....\$12.88
C20-T750. Carbine with Brand New Good Quality 4X Scope--3/4" diameter as illustrated.....\$19.95
E20-T751. 6.5 mm Italian military ammo with free 6-shot clip. 108 rds.....\$ 7.50

(2):

According to Mr. William J.

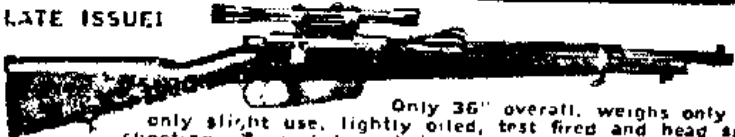
Waldman, vice-president of Klein's Sporting Goods, Inc., the firm's advertising program was set up to be able to identify the month and magazine in which a specific advertisement appeared through the department number on the ordering coupon. Waldman identified Department 358 from the "Hidell" coupon as coming from the American Rifleman, February, 1963 (3), issue; this Department 358 coupon is in the exhibits, but a matching American Rifleman advertisement is absent. In place of the American Rifleman advertisement in the exhibits is an ad from the November, 1963, Field and Stream magazine. This advertisement featured a 40" Italian "carbine." (4)

Harry D. Holmes, Postal Inspector in Dallas, testified that he had sent his secretary out on Saturday, November 23rd, to check on outdoor-type magazines, thinking that he might "...locate this gun to identify it, and I did". (5)

Mr. Holmes submitted the advertisement from the November, 1963, Field and Stream issue. (6) But the ads

6.5 mm. military 30/08 Ammo., per 120 rds. \$7.20.

LATE ISSUE!



6.5 ITALIAN CARBINE

Only 36" overall, weighs only 5 1/2-lbs. Shows only slight use, lightly oiled, test fired and head spaced, ready for shooting. Turned down bolt, thumb safety, 6-shot, clip fed. Rear open sight. Fast loading and fast firing.

C20-T1196. Specially Priced.....\$12.88
C20-T750. Carbine with Brand New Good Quality 4X Scope--3/4" diameter, as illustrated.....\$19.95
E20-T751. 6.5 mm Italian military ammo with free 6-shot clip. 108 rds. \$7.50

Figure 1 From the American Rifleman, February, 1963. This is from the original ad that Oswald ordered his gun from --identified from the coupon Department 358. The coupon itself is in the WC Exhibits as Waldman Exhibit 8.

seven-pound, Italian "carbine," "Catalog Number C20-750 (w/scope)," Department coupon 486. Recall that "Hidell" ordered his weapon on March 12, 1963. (7) Why would the wrong advertisement be placed in historical record when, obviously, it was incorrect?

Another confusing piece of testimony from Mr. Waldman concerned the catalog number assigned to the 100 Italian weapons from which the rifle reportedly delivered to "Hidell" came. The catalog number, according to Mr. Waldman, was C20-T749; Waldman went off the record to explain the numbering; when he came back on the record, he stated that C 20-7749 was the catalog number for the weapon without a scope. (8) What happened to T1196, as illustrated in the original American Rifleman Klein's advertisement?

The questioning of Mr. Waldman did not clear up the odd information on Klein's purchase order number 1243. The date of the order, January 15, 1962, indicated 400 6.5 (91TS)

rifles were originally ordered from Crescent Firearms at \$7.50 each; no information was given as to whether any of the original 400 guns were received. However, according to Waldman, a system of ordering was in place so that an order could be filled on "a routine basis at a time in which it [the order] was needed." (9) Though this explanation is obviously garbled, it apparently means that 400 rifles were originally ordered, and Crescent would then send part of the order (on file) when requested by Klein's to replenish the company's retail shipping stock.

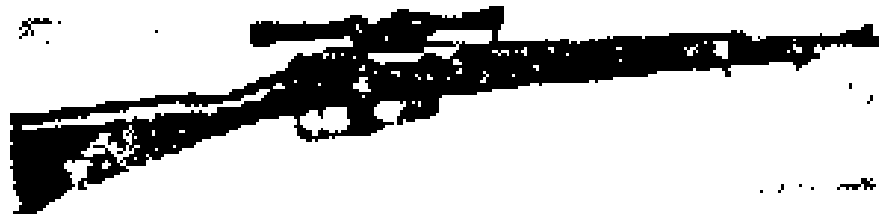
Waldman testified that Klein's ordered 200 rifles on January 24, 1963, and apparently only a shipment of 100 (reportedly containing the "Hidell" weapon) was received on February 22, 1963. (10) Additional information on the order indicated that on 4/13/62 the original order had been changed to read "Beretta Terni M91/38" at a wholesale price of \$8.50 (11) Klein's ad in Field and Stream from early 1962 until November, 1963, and American Rifleman from October, 1962, until February, 1963, showed no price change for the 6.5mm. 36-inch weapon and no change when the ad switched to a 40-inch 6.5mm. rifle. (12) Did Klein's lose \$100 on the 100 rifle order?

The total weight of the 100-rifle shipment was 750 pounds, shipped in 10 cases. (13) If the 40-inch rifles weighed seven pounds each, then each of the ten containers without contents weighed only five pounds, a doubtful conclusion.

I checked on wooden shipping containers used in transporting weapons, and all the containers weighed between sixteen and twenty pounds. The 36-inch weapon allegedly ordered by "Hidell" was advertised as weighing five-and-a-half pounds. Simple arithmetic: the total weight of 100 such weapons would be 550 pounds. Added to the weight range of ten wooden shipping containers the result would be a total of between 710 and 750 pounds. Recall the 750 pounds listed on the order. Conclusion? The order received by Klein's was indeed a shipment of 36-inch weapons.

Louis Feldsott, president of Crescent Firearms, in a sworn affidavit to the Commission, claimed he had records that indicated the 6.5 mm. rifle with the serial number C2766 was sold to Klein's on June 18, 1962 (14), but this additional information further scrambles the picture.

None of the above confusion was in Commission testimony. No mention of the length of any of the weapons ordered was given, but someone must have measured, because the advertisements explicitly stated the offered length.



6.5 ITALIAN CARBINE

Late military issue. Only 40" over-all. Weighs 7 lbs. Shows only slight use. Test-fired and head spaced, ready for shooting. Turned-down bolt, 6-shot clip fed, rear sight, thumb safety. **\$1278**

C20-1196
C20-750. Carbine with brand new 4X scope—3 1/4" dia. (Illustrated) **\$19.95**
C20-751. 6.5mm Italian military unmo. 108 rds. (6-shot clip free) **\$7.50**

Figure 2 From Field & Stream, November 1963, advertisement submitted by Holmes as a duplicate of the ad from which "Hidell" ordered his gun. This submission was wrong on three points: wrong department; "Hidell" ordered in March; this ad describes a 40" rifle.

But the contradictions do not end here. Evidence exists of a third and possibly fourth advertisement. According to the testimony of Dallas police detective R. S. Stovall, he and G. F. Rose, J. P. Adamcik, and H. M. Moore returned to the Irving Street address on Saturday, November 23rd, with a warrant to search further the Paine residence. (15)

Also found by Det. Stovall was a cut-out portion of a magazine advertisement from Kline [sic] Department Store in Chicago, showing an advertisement of the murder weapon. All these items were confiscated along with other items and marked for evidence.

But the official Dallas Police Department Property Received list prepared for the FBI and dated "26 November 1963," items 11176 through 11193 (16), shows no "cut-out" murder weapon advertisement listed. This piece of crucial evidence was also not in the DPD's list of original evidence collected in the Saturday search of the Paine garage. (17)

Why would the police enter into evidence such apparently innocuous items as "10 empty envelopes" (18) and "1 Address Label Advertisement" (19) and fail to list the crucial murder weapon advertisement? (Or, for that matter, the crucial so-called backyard photos?) Detective Stovall testified that both the ad and the photographs were in a box marked "Miscellaneous photographs and maps" (20) found in the garage. Among several discrepancies involving who found what and when are those traceable to Judy Bonner's work. Detective Moore, Bonner maintained, found the "backyard photos" in a dresser drawer in

Waldman Exhibit 1

KLEIN'S SPORTING GOODS, INC.
4540 W. Madison St. Chicago 24, Illinois

To: CRESCENT FIREARMS
2 WEST 37 ST.
N.Y. 18, N.Y.

Effective 1/15/62
Replaces _____
Resource Date LOU FELDSOTT
WILSON 7-4100

Order No. 1242 1243 1244
Date 1/15/62
Ship Via No. 1 No. 2 No. 3
Approved M.W. M.W. M.W.

Description	Mfg's. Cost & Unit	Quan. Ordered	Quan. Ordered	Quan. Ordered	Quan. Ordered	Unit Cost	Ext.	Accounting Dept.	Receiving Dept./Q. am.
ITALIAN MANNLICHER - CARCANO MODEL 917S BOLT ACTION, 6 SHOT RIFLE, CAL. 6.5X52MM ITALIAN-SELECT, CLEANED & TEST FIRED	7.50 ea					100			
CHANGED TO PEREIRA TERM 1/91/38 EFF 4/13/62	8.50		200	100			85000 / 100		

WALDMAN EXHIBIT NO. 1

File 60 days.

CONDITIONS OF ORDER
Buyer accepts the S.P. and the 71st having 10 day E.O.M. terms...
The 10th day of 2nd succeeding month.
Use above Purchase Order No. on all invoices, shipping papers, correspondence and exterior of shipping cartons.
Packing List must accompany each shipment.
Please use invoice for each shipment on each purchase order.
Delivery must be made by 12:00 P.M.
Orders in excess of \$50.00 are world market orders.

RECEIVING RECORD

Date	Qty	Ext.	Order No.	Received By
1/15/62	100	850.00	750	3041342

Figure 3 The purchase order of Klein's to Crescent Firearm, dated 1-15-62. Waldman Exhibit No.1

Marina's room at the Paine residence on November 22; at the same time, searching through papers on a bedside table in the same room, Detective Stovall discovered "...a page that appeared to have been torn from a magazine. It was an advertisement of guns...from Klein's Sporting Goods..." (21) Bonner is now dead; did she have access in 1984 to the officers she wrote about?

Michael Paine testified that he was shown a backyard photo at DPD on Friday night when he was interviewed by the FBI. (22) But how can his testimony be true if the photo was reportedly not found at least until Saturday, the next day, according to official reports (but not according to Bonner)? And how could Detective Moore have been at two locations places (the Beckley address and the Paine residence) at the same time on November 22?

Why are the backyard photos and the advertisement for the alleged murder weapon not itemized on the FBI Property Received list? Why wasn't this official evidence (the

advertisement), supposedly from Oswald's belongings, placed in the Warren Commission Exhibits instead of the Holmes' advertisement from a magazine purchased at a newsstand?

Dallas Police Chief Jesse E. Curry utilized material from the Dallas police files in writing his assassination book (23). An apparent duplicate of the Dallas Police Department evidence advertisement appears on page 99 (Exhibit 43) offering a "6.5" Italian "carbine," 40 inches in length, "C20-750," with a scope mounted for "19.95." The ordering coupon is Department 472, indicating that Curry was using a third and different magazine. Note that while Chief Curry gave photographic credits, he omitted credit for his "duplicate ad." (24)

The identity of this third magazine came to light in a book about former Dallas Police Crime Lab detective R. W. (Rusty) Livingston. (25)

One piece of evidence which Rusty has that will help settle another controversial charge against

investigators is a copy of a magazine ad found among Oswald's belongings. The 6.5 Mannlicher Carcano rifle and .38 Smith & Wesson revolver were circled on the discovered magazine ad from Klein's sporting goods in the American Rifleman magazine (Photo 103). Rusty also has a copy of the magazine page facing the one with the ad on it. (Photo 104).

Rusty's copy was made from the original ad found by the Dallas police showing a rifle with a length of 40" overall, before the Warren Commission published a similar ad in the Commission exhibits showing a 36" rifle. The discrepancy was discovered by researchers, and another charge was leveled concerning manipulation of the evidence. The charge is understandable, but here is shown to be a moot point. The original ad, which Rusty copied, shows the rifle to be 40" overall. Whatever happened to the ad later in its handling by others is meaningless since now an independent source can verify the validity of the original ad. (25)

But the above statement by author Savage has several mistakes. The name Mannlicher Carcano was not listed in any of the ads; no 36" rifle advertisement appeared in the Warren Commission's materials; and, importantly, the DPD advertisement did not come from the American Rifleman magazine. Because Mr. Livingston took the time to copy the facing page of his rifle advertisement, the magazine can be identified: it is Guns and Ammo (seen at the bottom of the magazine page). (26)

I have been unable to find back issues for Guns and Ammo to check the coupon department number for the month of publication, although I did verify that the magazine was being published in the pertinent time period (thanks to Indiana University Library). Also, Adrian Alba, part-owner of Crescent City Garage in New Orleans, testified that one of the magazines he had at his garage during the

Waldman Exhibit 5

CRESCENT FIREARMS INC.

INVOICE

2 WEST 27 STREET, NEW YORK 10, N. Y. • Telephone 7-4700

ARMS AND AMMUNITION

SOLD TO: Klein's Sptg Goods Inc.
4540 W. Madison St
Chicago 24, Illinois

SHIP TO

F. O. B. NEW YORK

TERMS: NET 30 DAYS - 6% INTEREST CHARGED THEREAFTER

DATE	ORDER NO.	DEPT. NO.	SALESMAN	North Penn Trans. & Ship. Co. Inc.	INVOICE NO.
2/7/63	1243		House	Lifschultz on 10	3178

QUANTITY	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	COLLECT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
100 ea	T 38	6.5 It. Rifles		8 50 ea	850 00

order completed

FEB 20 1963

MAR 4 1963

IMPORTANT: THE GOODS CHARGED FOR ABOVE WERE SPECIFICALLY SHIPPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AND BY REASON OF YOUR ORDER. REMITTANCES WHICH DO NOT FULLY COMPLY WITH ALL OUR TERMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. CLAIMS MUST BE MADE IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT OF SHIPMENT. UNAUTHORIZED RETURNS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

LIFSCHULTZ FAST FREIGHT

28 N. Franklin St. - Chicago 6, ILL.
Franklin 2-5522

DELIVERY RECEIPT

CHARGE No. 3- 041342

Shipper: **8 CRESCENT FIREARMS**
POTTSVILLE PA

Consignee: **KLEIN'S SPTG GDS**
4540 W MADISON

W/T Date & No. **2/15/63** Car & Del'y. Date

NUMBER OF PACKAGES AND DESCRIPTION	WT	DATE	TOTAL
10 CR OR CS GUNS OR RIFLES	750	2/15/63	3953

*Klein's Sptg Gds Inc.
J.A. Mueller
2-21-63*

Caution! Carefully inspect your shipment upon its receipt. Received the above merchandise in good condition. By _____

9-160

FBI

LABORATORY

Figure 4 Waldman exhibits 2 and 5.

the rifle and revolver allegedly used on November 22nd, 1963? The circling seems quite obvious in its attention-getting, possibly the reason the ad is not in the Warren Commission's evidence. The second: Detective Stovall stated he found "a cut-out portion of a magazine "ad" (31), indicating something far less than the two pages Detective Livingston duplicated.(32)

The American Rifleman Klein advertisements from October, 1962, through February, 1963, contain only one Department 358: the February, 1963, issue advertising the 36-inch "carbine." And no 40-inch Italian weapon was advertised from October, 1962 through February, 1963. The 40-inch Italian "carbine" began to be advertised in the American Rifleman in April, 1963 (Ian Griggs informed me of this fact). A 36-inch Italian "carbine" was advertised in Field and Stream from January, 1962, through November, 1963. Field and Stream did not begin advertising the 40-inch Italian weapon until September, 1963 and advertised it again in October and November, 1963: it was, recall, from this last issue that Holmes submitted his exhibit. (33)

Mr. Waldman testified the Italian rifle with serial number "C2766" was in a shipment of 100 weapons arriving at Klein's in February, 1963 (34), too late to advertise in the American Rifleman's February issue but conveniently in time for the "Hidell" order of March 12th, if we are to believe the Warren Commission. (35)

Serious questions have surfaced, of course, on the so-called serial number ("C2766") of the alleged assassination rifle. Even the Warren Commission questioned the uniqueness of the serial number as positive identification; apparently the FBI located an "Italian Carbine" with serial number 2766 (but without the prefix"C" (36). And Dr. John K. Lattimer reported he had a "C2766" in his possession:

In 1974 and 1975, my sons and I had conducted a series of experiments using a 6.5 mm Mannlicher-Carcano carbine, model 91-38, serial number C2766, equipped with an Ordinance Optics Company four

power telescope exactly like Oswald's. (37)

The argument that the "Hidell" rifle was a "unique" C766 is not reliable; though the entire serial number problem is beyond the limits of this article, I did talk to a gunsmith about serial numbers who told me the 36-inch weapon could have had the "C2766" serial number that it could have easily been duplicated by any machinist with the proper equipment on any rifle.

George Michael Evica has closely examined the serial number problem and the history of the Mannlicher Carcano (38), and Henry S. Bloomgarden was one of few authors accurately duplicating the 36" advertisement from American Rifleman, February, 1963


 <i>In Reply, Please Refer to File No.</i>	Commission No. <u>578</u>
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
Dallas, Texas March 7, 1964	
LEE HARVEY OSWALD	
Exhibit D-85 is two magazine ads of Klein's Sporting Goods, 227 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, found at 2515 West Fifth Street, Irving, Texas, during a search by the Dallas, Texas, Police Department.	
The above exhibit was made available on December 2, 1963, by Captain J. W. Fritz, Homicide and Robbery Bureau, Dallas Police Department, Dallas, Texas. It was originally obtained by the Dallas Police Department under a search warrant on November 23, 1963, from a box in the garage of Mrs. Ruth Paine at 2515 West Fifth Street, Irving, Texas.	
The results of investigation concerning this exhibit are recorded on Page 388 of the report of Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling dated December 10, 1963, at Dallas, Texas.	
COMMISSION COPY	
EXHIBIT D-85	
ATTACHMENT TO FBI, DALLAS, LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM DATED 3/7/64	
C.D. 578 PAGE 1	

Figure 6 Record of two ads of Klein's found in the Paine garage on 11-23-63. Exhibit D-85

Date 11/23/63

Mr. ADRIAN T. ALBA, residence 624 Focis Street, Metairie, Louisiana, advised that he owns and operates the Crescent City Garage, 618 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mr. ALBA advised that he knew LEE OSWALD while OSWALD was employed at the William B. Reilly and Company, Inc., next door to his garage. He stated that employees of the latter company would occasionally get cold drinks from the dispensing machine at his place of business and would sit in the waiting room of his office, drink their soft drinks and look at magazines which he maintained there. He explained that he, ALBA, was a gun collector and recalled that OSWALD showed an intense interest in guns and talked freely about firearms. He recalled to have quite a good knowledge of firearms. He recalled that on one occasion, the exact date of which he could not set, he had ordered a carbine from the National Rifle Association at a cost of \$30.00. In discussing this, OSWALD wanted to know if ALBA could get one for him also. Mr. ALBA stated he advised OSWALD that he could get this gun at this price as a member of the National Rifle Association and each member was allowed to purchase only one. He continued that OSWALD told him to go ahead and get the carbine and that he, OSWALD, would make an offer on the gun that Mr. ALBA could not afford to turn down.

Mr. ALBA stated he did not sell this or any other gun to OSWALD nor has he ordered a gun of any type for OSWALD.

He further recalled that OSWALD showed an intense interest in a Japanese rifle that Mr. ALBA had had customized as a part of his gun collection. He recalled that OSWALD was interested in the number of inches that had been cut from the

on 11/23/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-69
by Special Agent LESTER G. DAVIS/cv Date dictated 11/23/63

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C.D. 7 PAGE 20

NO 89-69

barrel of this gun and was interested in the twist of the rifling. Mr. ALBA pointed out that he usually cleaned his guns at his office to avoid any accident to his children at home, and this is why OSWALD knew of his guns and saw some of them. He recalled that OSWALD would "bury himself" in the gun magazines kept on the coffee table in the waiting room of the garage and otherwise seemed very quiet and snug.

Mr. ALBA recalled that on one occasion, the exact date of which he could not set, OSWALD asked to borrow one of his gun magazines and took it with him. He could not identify the magazine which OSWALD borrowed recalling that OSWALD was reading it and had it open at the time he asked to borrow it. He therefore did not see the magazine cover and did not ask OSWALD which magazine he was referring to. He further recalled that a few days later OSWALD mentioned to him that he had returned the magazine indicating he had replaced it on the coffee table. Mr. ALBA stated he did not see OSWALD return the magazine or check concerning it. He advised he in fact maintained no check on the magazines which he gets by subscription and by purchase from magazine counters and keeps no track of persons who read them.

In order to determine if he was talking about the right man, Mr. ALBA checked the photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the November 23, 1963, issue of the Times-Picayune, New Orleans newspaper. Upon looking at the photograph of OSWALD who was described as being in custody at Dallas, Texas, in connection with the assassination of President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, Mr. ALBA stated that this was a photograph of the LEE OSWALD he was referring to and the person who borrowed his gun magazine.

Mr. OSWALD made available his supply of gun magazines which were maintained in the waiting room of the Crescent City Garage referred to above. These consist of the following:

June, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"
July, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

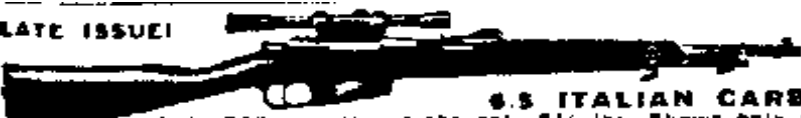
f f f

NO 89-69

September, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"
October, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"
November, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"
January, 1964, issue of "Guns and Hunting"
December, 1968, issue of "Field and Stream"

Figure 7 FBI report of Adrian Alba's questioning. Why was the FBI interested in all the other magazines?

LATE ISSUE!



6.5 ITALIAN CARBINE
 Only 36" overall, weighs only 5 1/2 lbs. Shows only slight use. Lightly oiled, test fired and head spaced. Ready for shoot- ing. Turned down bolt, thumb safety. 6-shot, clip fed. Rear open sight. Fast loading and fast firing.

C20 T1196 Specially priced at Only **\$12.88**
 C20 T250 Carbine with Brand New Good Quality An Scope **\$19.95**
 3 1/2" diameter, as illustrated
 C20 T751 6.5 mm Italian military ammo with free 6-shot clip 108 rds. **\$7.50**
 C20 T1125 Scope and Mount Only **\$8.95**

Klein's big All New 1962 Bargain All-Sports Catalog in FREE with

Figure 10 American Rifleman-Klein ads for Oct., Nov., and Dec. '62 indicate ads for a 36" rifle--no 40" ads were found until Apr.'63 for a 40"--remember "Hidell" ordered his rifle from the Feb.'63 issue.



6.5 ITALIAN CARBINE
 Late military issue. Only 40" overall. Weighs 7 lbs. Shows only slight use. test-fired and head spaced. ready for shooting. Turned-down bolt, 6-shot, clip fed, rear sight, thumb safety.

C20-1196 **\$12.78**
 C20-750. Carbine with brand new 4X scope--3 1/2" dia. (Illustrated) **\$19.95**
 C20-751. 6.5mm Italian military ammo. 108 rds. (6-shot clip free) **\$7.50**

Figure 9 Field & Stream ads for '62 were checked from Jan. until Dec.-issues Sept. and Oct.'62 were for 36" rifle (no 40" mentioned). Ads for '63 were also checked. The rifle in question was not advertised until Sept.; Oct.; Nov.'63 (which was the Holmes Ex.) These were ads for a 40" rifle.

Did "Hidell" receive a 40-inch rifle? If Oswald used the name "Hidell" in ordering a weapon from Klein's, did he receive a 40" Italian rifle? Waldman could have easily cleared this matter up by testifying, for example, that Klein's had run out of 36-inch rifles and had substituted a 40-inch. That this length discrepancy was avoided during his testimony and a false ad placed in the Warren Commission's exhibits to back up the 40" rifle reportedly discovered in the Depository establishes this discrepancy as an important matter.

Assume a 36-inch rifle was received by "Hidell" (my 36-inch Mannlicher-Carcano, when broken down, measures 26 1/2 inches in length). If Oswald indeed had possession of a 36-inch rifle on November, then that rifle, broken down and wrapped, would have fit the description given by the only two witnesses who allegedly saw

Oswald with such a package the morning of the assassination: Linnie Mae Randle (41) and by Buell Wesley Frazier.(42) Randle believed the package Oswald allegedly carried was no more than 27" long (43) and that he held it by the end with just a little bit "sticking up"; according to Randle, the package did not touch the ground.(44) Buell Wesley Frazier, who drove Oswald to work on November 22nd, stated the brown paper bag that was shown to him by Commission counsel was longer than the package he said he observed Oswald carrying with him as they both walked

FD-302 (Rev. 3-3-59) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1 Date 12/3/63

Captain J. W. FRITZ, Homicide and Robbery Bureau, Dallas Police Department, advised that the original photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD holding a gun and papers and wearing a sidearm was found during the search of property of LEE HARVEY OSWALD that was located in a box in the garage of Mrs. RUTH PAINE, 2515 West Fifth Street, Irving, Texas, search being made by Homicide and Robbery Detectives, Dallas Police Department, G. F. ROSE; H. M. MOORE, R. S. STOVALL and J. P. ADAMCIK. The search was conducted November 23, 1963, under search warrant from JOE B. BROWN, Justice of Peace, Dallas, Texas.

Captain FRITZ stated that an enlargement of the above photograph had previously been furnished to the FBI and Secret Service.

Captain FRITZ furnished the following evidence which was a part of the evidence previously obtained in the above mentioned search:

1. Personal photographs numbered on the back 1 through 47 and bearing initials J.P.A. (Detective J. P. ADAMCIK) November 23, 1963. Captain FRITZ noted that photograph number 47 is the original photo depicting OSWALD holding the gun and papers and wearing a sidearm. Photo number 46 also depicts OSWALD with rifle, sidearm and papers.
2. Two magazine ads of "Klein's Sporting Goods, 227 West Washington Street, Chicago 6, Illinois" bearing initials of G.F.R. (Detective G. F. ROSE) and initials R.S.S. (Detective R. S. STOVALL) dated November 23, 1963.
3. Seven pages handwritten in pencil (some pages bearing handwriting on both sides) setting forth qualifications, apparently of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Each page bears initials of H.M.M. (Detective H. M. MOORE), J.P.A. (Detective J. P. ADAMCIK, R.S.S. (Detective R. S. STOVALL),

on 12/2/63 at Dallas, Texas File # 100-10461-89-43
 by Special Agent S. GEORGE W. H. CARLSON and JAMES W. BOOKHOUT/BJD Date dictated 12/3/63

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C.D. 7 PAGE 388

Figure 8 FBI search report listing backyard photos and two magazine ads from Kleins.

toward the Depository. (45) Frazier also testified that Oswald carried the package "cupped in his right hand" with the other end tucked up under his

armpit.(46) Commission counsel Ball made a great effort to get Frazier and Randle to agree to a longer package, but they did not change their testimony.(47) Clearly a convincing case can be made for "Hidell" receiving a 36-inch weapon and for Oswald possessing a 36-inch weapon, if only because of the amount of clever manipulation of evidence to support a 40-inch rifle in Oswald's possession.

a note in its (Memo Paul Hoch, 4/2/70; see also FBI D-85 and FBI D-15 from Alba's garage) PLH 3/17/83.

If Oswald had lived and stood trial, I believe that an effective defense would have centered on the backyard photos in which the rifle apparently is 40 inches long. With persuasive circumstantial evidence of the delivery of a 36-inch weapon, Oswald's own argument for the alteration of the photos in order



Figure 11 36" Mannlicher Carcano Rocca 40 mfg. 26 3/4" broken down.

Could "Hidell" have received a 36-inch weapon? Could, in fact, Oswald have possessed a 36-inch rifle?

Paul Hoch has informed me that at least two Klein ordering coupons Dept. No.222 and Dept No.425 supposedly found in the Paine garage are in the FBI files at the National Archives. Mr. Hoch traced both coupons and found that #222 was from Sports Afield, August 1962 and #425 from American Rifleman June 1963 issue. An FBI document dated 12/3/63 indicated Dallas Police Captain J. W. Fritz turned over to the FBI "Two magazine ads of "Klein's Sporting Goods..." initialed by Rose and Stovall reportedly found in a box at the Paine garage (CD 7 388).

Note that these so-called "ads" are not the same as those given in Curry's book or in Rusty Livingston's evidence, and they are not, in fact, "ads" but ordering coupons for Klein's Sporting Goods, department numbers 222 and 425 (CD 578 2).

Seven magazines were taken from the Alba Garage on November 23rd by New Orleans FBI agents and forwarded to FBI Laboratory (CD 75 455-456). The magazines were sent in an attempt to discover latent fingerprints of Oswald. The FBI Laboratory was also requested to compare the portion of American Rifleman, June, 1963, page 59, where an order blank had been torn from an advertisement of Klein's (CD 7 204). Following the examination, the FBI reported that one latent fingerprint had been developed on page 37 of the June, 1963, issue of American Rifleman: the right thumb impression of Lee Harvey Oswald (CD 75 456). No reference was made to made to the torn-out portion.

Paul Hoch discovered that the FBI apparently never connected the ads and the coupons. He found the Klein's department 425 ordering coupon allegedly found in Oswald's possessions matched perfectly with the missing order blank in the American Rifleman issue of June, 1963. Hoch notified the National Archives; the Archives confirmed the match and placed

to frame him would have been strong.

In summary, Klein's rifle lengths cannot be established with certainty, although the Klein's advertisements prior to February, 1963, do illustrate a 36-inch weapon. But why would a company the size of Klein's deceive its many customers with a false ad for a 36-inch weapon when the company only had a 40-inch weapon available? Someone was apparently "arranging" rifle information to implicate Lee Harvey Oswald in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The "rifle" problem is still alive.

Notes

The basic sources for this article are:

1. U.S., Warren Commission, Report of the President's Commission on the Assassination of John F. Kennedy (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1964). Cited hereafter as R, with appropriate page numbers, as in R 110.
- U.S., Warren Commission, Hearings before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1964). Cited hereafter as H, with appropriate volume number preceding and page numbers following, as in 12 H 21; sometimes with appropriate Commission Exhibit added, hereafter cited as CE, as in 17 H (CE 737) 511; sometimes with appropriate Deposition Exhibit identified, as in 22 H (Stovall Exhibit D) 603, or as in 21 H (Waldman Exhibit No. 1) 692.
- Here, R 553-554, citing Robert Frazier's testimony in 3 H397.
2. See copy illustrated in this article.
3. Waldman's testimony in 3 H 366-369. See also 21 H (Waldman Exhibit No. 8).
4. 22 H (Holmes Exhibit No. 2) 174.
5. 7 H 294.

- 6. 22 H (Holmes Exhibit No. 2) 174.
- 7. 21 H (Waldman Exhibit No. 8) 704.
- 8. 7 H 362. See also 21 (Waldman Exhibit No. 1) 692.
- 9. 21 H (Waldman Exhibit No. 1) 692.
- 10. 7 H 361.
- 11. 21 H (Waldman Exhibit No. 1) 692.
- 12. See the two advertisements illustrated in this article.
- 13. 21 H (Waldman Exhibit No. 2) 693 and 21 H (Waldman Exhibit No. 5) 701.
- 14. 10 H 205.
- 15. 21 H (Stovall Exhibit D) 603.
- 16. 24 H (CE 2003) 443-340.
- 17. 21 H (Stovall Exhibits A and B) 596-598. See also 24 H (CE 2003) 347-351.
- 18. 24 H (CE 2003) 268.
- 19. Same.
- 20. 7 H 194.
- 21. Judy Whitson Bonner, Investigation of a Homicide (Anderson, South Carolina: Drake House, 1969) 136-137.
- 22. 9 H 444.
- 23. Jesse E. Curry, JFK Assassination File (Dallas: American Poster and Printing Company, 1969): see throughout.
- 24. Curry 134.
- 25. Gary Savage, JFK: First Day Evidence (Monroe, Louisiana: Shoppe Press, 1993) 246-248.
- 26. Savage 249.
- 27. 10 H 65.
- 28. 23 H (CE 1933) 265-266.
- 29. Savage 248.

.38 S & W ENFIELD FREE HOLSTER!

Only \$12.98

.38 S&W WEBLEY

Free Holster!

BROWNING M1922 .32 Cal. AUTOMATIC PISTOL

World famous "Pocket Model" of the original "M1922" type...

FROM OSWALD IN

KLEIN'S—Dept. 425
227 W. Washington St.
Chicago 6, Illinois

100% MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

H.M.M. 11/23-67

↑

FROM FBI D-15 (ALBA'S GARAGE)

FROM FBI (FRONT↑)

D-85 (REDUCED SIZE) (BACK↓)

A PERFECT MATCH!

Crown Imperial

GIVES YOU PREDIC

DL-15

Figure 12 Paul Hoch's connected ads.

30. 16 H (CE 135) 511.
 31. 21 H (Stovall Exhibit D) 603.
 32. Savage 246-247.
 33. 20 H (Holmes Exhibit No. 2) 174.
 34. 7 H 364. See also 21 H (Waldman Exhibit No. 5) 701.
 35. 21 H (Waldman Exhibit No. 8): see date on postmark.
 36. 25 H (CE 2562) 807.
 37. John K. Lattimer, Kennedy and Lincoln (New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1980) 250.
 38. George Michael Evica, And We Are All Mortal (West Hartford, CT 1978) 1-61.

39. Henry S. Bloomgarden, The Gun (Grossman Publishers, 1975).
 40. Bloomgarden, back dustcover: American Rifleman, February, 1963, issue, ordering Department 358.
 41. Randle's testimony, 2 H 248-250.
 42. Frazier's testimony, in 2 H 239-243
 43. 2 H 250.
 44. 2 H 248.
 45. 2 H 239.
 46. 2 H 243.
 47. 2 H 243.

❧ *Library Patrons for 1995-1996* ❧

📖 **Gallaudet University Library**
 Washington, D.C.....JFK Lancer, Ed Hoffman, and Ron Freidrich

📖 **Brehm Preparatory School**
 Carbondale , IL.....self-sponsored

📖 **Goodland High School**
 Goodland , Kansas.....Brad Parker

📖 **Johnson County Library**
 Overland Park, Kansas.....Project JFK,
 Mark Taylor, Casey Qinlan

📖 **Boston Public Library**
 Boston, Mass....Ian Griggs, Melanie Swift

📖 **Grand Prairie City Library**
 Grand Prairie, Texas.....Ed Hoffman Family

📖 **St. John's Parish Library**
 LaPlace, Louisiana.....Sherry and Carlos Gutierrez

📖 **Orange County Library**
 Lake Forest, California.....Conway Family

📖 **New York City Library**self-sponsored
 📖 **Dallas Public Library**self-sponsored

📖 **Greensburg Public Library**
 Greensburg, Pennsylvania.....Bob Schwartzmiller

📖 **Cistercian Preparatory School**
 Irving, Texas.....Chris Marcellos

📖 **Sante Fe Springs Library**
 Sante Fe Springs,
 California.....Mark Rowe

📖 **Pflugerville Community Library**
 Pflugerville, TX.....Mike Blackwell and Richard Bartholomew

📖 **The State Historical Society of Wisconsin**
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 West Hartford, Connecticut....George Michael Evica

📖 **Tulsa City-County Library**
 Tulsa, Oklahoma.....Craig Roberts



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