

TATA
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Association

“THE THOMPSON LEGEND”

Vol. 35

On The Side Of Law And Order

3RD QTR 2014

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\$30.00/YR

INDIANAPOLIS NRA ANNUAL MEETINGS
“MACHINE GUNS OF WORLD WAR ONE”
HOSTED BY THE DALLAS ARMS COLLECTORS AND
THE AMERICAN THOMPSON ASSOCIATION



Great Team Work From
Both Groups. Made A
Great Looking Display

TATA LEGEND 35 (3RD QTR 2014)



Finally set up! Left two thirds of the exhibit showed the arms of the Allied nations. The dividing line held a crashed airplane with a Lewis gunner. Then the right side show the arms of the Central Powers.



Setup was amazing to watch the circus coming into town.



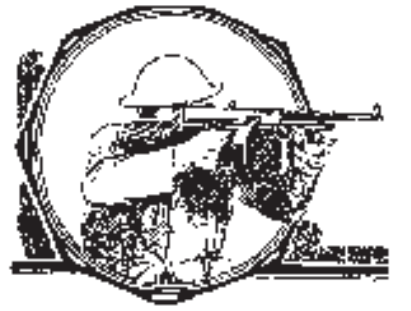
During the Show the crowds were huge and the display was well received by the public.



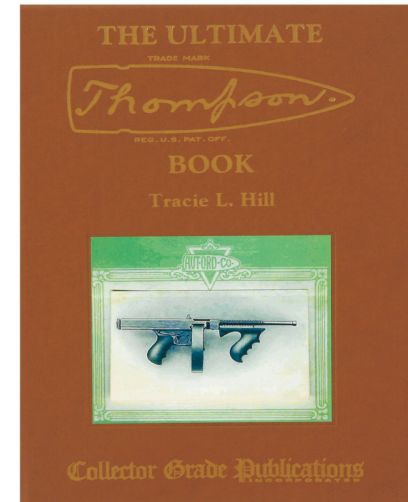
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“ON THE SIDE OF LAW AND ORDER” POSTERS 18” X 24” FULL COLOR POSTER \$10 PER POSTER PLUS \$5 S/H, TO B/H Dist. P.O. BOX 8710, NEWARK, OH 43055. ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT TATA

U.S. BROWNING AUTOMATIC RIFLE MODEL OF 1918:

Designed by John Moses Browning, the lightweight, gas operated Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR) was submitted to the U.S. Ordnance Board for testing in 1917 along with another Browning design; a heavy, crew served water-cooled machine gun. Both guns were accepted and the BAR was designated as the Model of 1918 with production to commence immediately. Three companies produced the BAR with a total of 102,125 guns ultimately being manufactured. By July of 1918, the BAR began to arrive in France and the first unit to receive them was the U.S. Arm's 79th Division. As more and more BARs arrived and distributed to U.S. combat units, the BAR began to replace the Chauchat 1915 light machine rifle and saw action with U.S. troops through to the end of the war.



Caliber: .30-06 **Operation:** Gas operation, semi and full automatic fire **Cooled:** Air
Weight: 15.5 lbs. (7.03 kg) **Overall length:** 47 ins. (119.38 cm)
Barrel length: 2 ins. (60.96 cm)
Cyclic rate: 550 rounds per minute **Feed:** 20-round detachable box magazine
Manufacturer: Winchester, Marlin-Rockwell, and Colt

BRITISH HOTCHKISS PORTABLE MK I*:

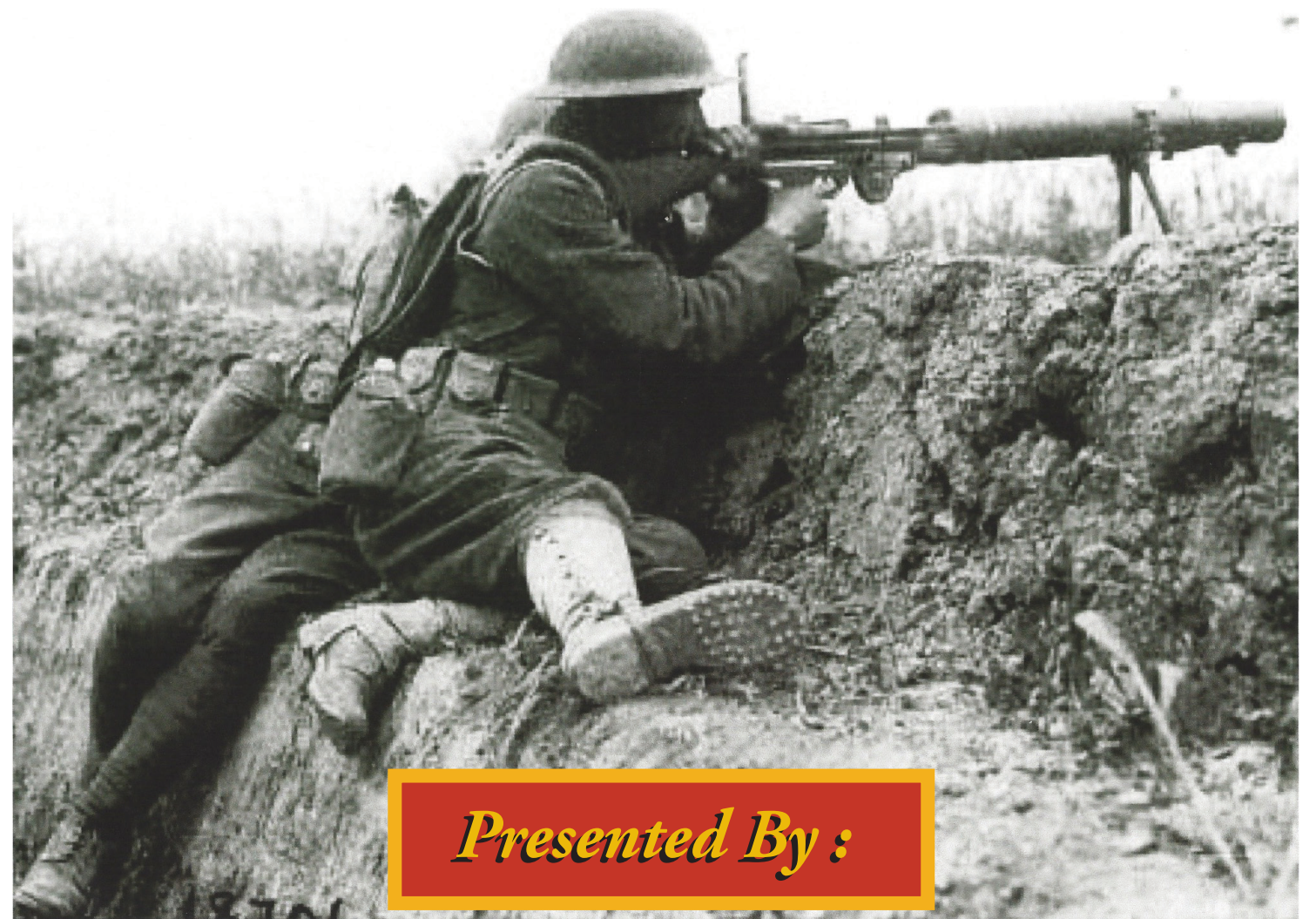
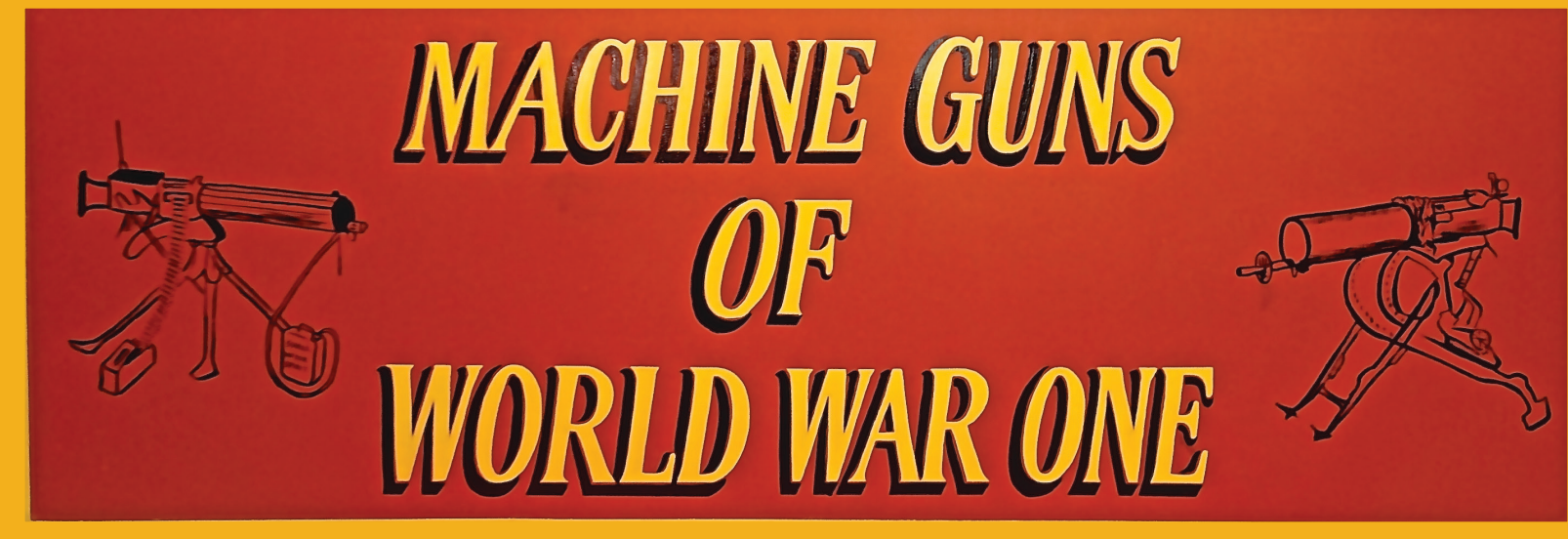
A British made licensed copy of the French Mle (Model) 1909 Portative. This man-portable light machine rifle is based on the successful Hotchkiss heavy machine gun operating principle and is gas operated, air cooled and fed with a 30-round metal feed strip. The Mk I had a wood stock and a barrel mounted bipod for use by infantry and the Mk I* had the buttstock removed and replaced with a smaller and lighter "L" shaped stock for use by cavalry, armored car or tank units. Used by Indian troops and ANZACs (Australia and New Zealand Army Corps) in Gallipoli and British mounted troops on the Western Front, it was also used by the Australian Light Horse, New Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade and the legendary Camel Corps in the Desert Campaign in Sinai and Palestine from 1915-1917.



Caliber: .303 **Operation:** Gas, semi and full automatic **Cooled:** Air
Weight: 28.22 lbs. (12.8 kg) **Length:** 46.85 in. (118.99 cm)
Barrel length: 22.24 in. (56.49 cm) **Feed:** Rigid 30-round metallic strip
Cyclic Rate: 500 rounds per minute
Manufacturer: Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield, Middlesex, England

A Big Thanks to all of the volunteers of the Dallas Arms Collectors and The American Thompson Association who attended on there own time and trouble to help with this display and work the booth. Without you this would not happen.

Special Thanks to William Douglas, Andrew May III and Robert Segel.



Presented By :



MAXIM NEW WORLD STANDARD CIRCA 1895:

From the time of its invention in 1884 and for the next 20 years, Maxim machine guns were manufactured with heavy brass water jackets. While there were constant improvements to manufacturing techniques, materials used, efficiencies of production, efficiency of the operating system and the constant ways to lighten the heavy weight of the weapon, oddly, one of the last means was to eliminate the ubiquitous heavy brass water jacket for one made of steel. Thus in all countries around the world that used Maxim machine guns that were purchased prior to about 1900, they all had brass water jackets. As these countries began to fight in World War I, and until they could update their arsenals, they all used brass jacketed Maxims. The 1895 brass Maxim depicted here, made by DWM in Germany for an Argentine contract, is typical of brass jacket Maxims of that era.



Caliber: 7.65x53mm for this gun; other worldwide calibers

Operation: Short recoil with muzzle gas assist

Cooling: Water (7 pints) (3.31 liters)

Weight of gun: 58 lbs. (26.31 kg) **Length:** 43.6 ins. (110.74 cm)

Barrel: 28.4 ins. (72.14 cm)

Feed: 250-round fabric belt

Cyclic rate: 500- rounds per minute

Tripod weigh: 50 lbs. (22.68 kg)

Manufacturer: DWM for this gun. Manufactured under license in England, Germany, Italy, Russia, Switzerland and the United States.

FRENCH ST. ETIENNE MLE 1907:

The Mitrailleuse Saint Etienne Mle 1907 is one of those rare classic machine guns that was a complex mechanical nightmare prone to overheating and parts failure. Yet it saw active service in the French African colonies and, by necessity, throughout the Western Front in World War I. The St. Etienne M1907 is an air-cooled, gas operated, strip fed heavy machine gun chambered for the French 8mm Lebel rifle cartridge. It is unique in its operational design as the gas piston is of a blow forward configuration using a rack and pinion system to operate the reciprocating parts. This complicated mechanism was the heart of the numerous inherent problems with the gun. Using nationalistic pride as an impetus and, more importantly, not wishing to pay royalties, they set about to create their own version of a "perfect machine gun." The result was the St. Etienne Model 1907. When World War I broke out the M1907 quickly succumbed to the rigors of the Western Front. But the French were desperate for machine guns and the M1907 saw wide service throughout the war.



Caliber: 8mm Lebel

Operation: Gas, blow forward design

Cooling: Air

Weight of gun: 57 lbs. (25.86 kg) **Length:** 46.5 ins. (118.11 cm)

Barrel: 28 ins. (71.12 cm)

Feed: 25-round metallic feed strip **Cyclic rate:** 450- rounds per minute

Tripod weigh: 58.4 lbs.

Manufacturer: St. Etienne Arsenal (MAS)

AUSTRIAN SCHWARZLOSE MODEL 07/12:

Designed by Andreas Wilhelm Schwarzlose, a German born Prussian arms designer, the M.07/12 is a water-cooled, belt fed crew served weapon of a simple design and was unusual in that it operated on a mechanical disadvantage toggle-delayed blowback mechanism using just a single spring. It also had a small oil reservoir and mechanism that injected a squirt of oil into the chamber at each shot to ease extraction. The Schwarzlose was a very reliable and robust weapon and was the standard issue machine gun of the Austro-Hungarian Army in World War I. Prior to World War I, other nations using the Schwarzlose included Greece, the Netherlands, Sweden, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey.



Caliber: 8mm and others depending on country **Operation:** Delayed blowback

Cooling: Water

Length: 42 ins. (106.68 cm) **Barrel:** 20.75 ins. (52.71 cm)

Weight of gun: 44 lbs. (19.96 kg)

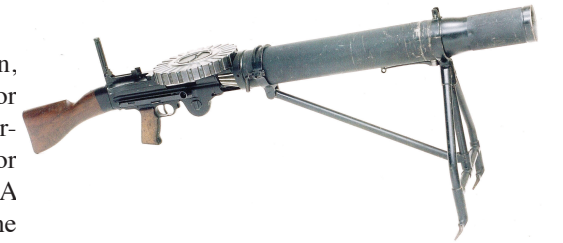
Weight of tripod: 44 lbs. (19.96 kg) **Feed:** 250-round cloth belt

Cyclic rate: 400-500 rounds per minute

Manufacturer: Waffenfabrik Steyer

LEWIS GUN:

Invented by American Isaac Lewis in 1911 based upon a design by Samuel Maclean, this lightweight, man-portable machine rifle was first produced in Liege, Belgium for less than a year at Armes Automatique Lewis until Belgium was overrun by the Germans in 1914. The British were interested in the Lewis gun as six could be made for the time and expense of making a single Vickers gun. License was granted to BSA (Birmingham Small Arms) in England in late 1913 and began production under the designation of Model 1914. Its greatest asset was the mobility the gun provided and this gas operated, air cooled machine rifle proved itself in the rigors of combat in the hands of British and Belgian soldiers and was so effective and reliable that it was coveted by German soldiers who sought to capture and use it. So successful was the use of the Lewis gun that Britain adopted it as a squad level weapon. The Lewis gun was also made in the U.S. by Savage Arms Company and was found to be exceptionally well suited for mounting on aircraft for offensive and defensive aerial combat.



Caliber: .303

Operation: Gas operated, full automatic only

Cooled: Forced air

Weight of gun: 26 lbs. without bipod (11.79 kg)

Overall length: 50.5 ins. (128.27 cm)

Barrel length: 26.25 ins. (66.68 cm)

Feed: Circular pan of 47 rounds (97 rds for aerial gunners)

Cyclic rate: 550 rounds per minute

Manufacturer: Armes Automatique Lewis, Birmingham Small Arms and Savage Arms Company

GERMAN MAXIM MG08/15:

With the use of the Lewis, the Chauchat and the Hotchkiss Portable light machine guns by the Allies, Germany recognized the need for a lighter weight, man portable machine gun beyond their standard heavy MG08 machine gun. In 1915, using current factory capabilities, the heavy Maxim MG08 was modified and lightened by redesigning the receiver, installing a smaller water jacket and adding a pistol grip and wood buttstock. A hangar was affixed so that a 100-round assault drum could be attached directly to the gun and provision was made for the attachment of a sling. The gun also featured a removable short bipod. Though the heaviest light machine gun ever made at 51.5 pounds with water, loaded 100-round drum and bipod, it was, nevertheless, man portable and effective. Beginning in the spring of 1917, the MG08/15 saw wide distribution and service.



Caliber: 7.92 Mauser **Operation:** Short recoil, full automatic only **Cooled:** Water 5 pints

Empty weight with bipod: 34.17 lbs. (15.5 kg) **Overall length:** 43.31 ins. (110 cm)

Barrel length: 28.25 ins. (71.76 cm)

Feed: 100-round cloth belt in assault drum or 250-round cloth belt in standard machine gun ammunition can

Cyclic rate: 450 rounds per minute

Manufacturers: Spandau, Erfurt, M.A.N., S&H, Sauer, RhM&M.F. and D.W.&M.F

FRENCH CHAUCHAT MLE 1915:

The standard light machine rifle of the French Army during World War I as well as the standard light machine rifle of the A.E.F. (American Expeditionary Force) when they arrived in France in 1917. Lightweight and portable, the gun functions on the long barrel recoil principle with a gas assist. Its low manufacturing cost and relative simplicity made it the most produced machine gun of the war with over 250,000 being produced. Regrettably, some parts were not interchangeable and made from mediocre material, was poorly constructed and assembled and rightfully suffered a poor reputation as an inferior weapon. Additionally, the gun had a number of large openings in the receiver, barrel casing and magazine that allowed the mud and dirt of the battlefield to enter the gun causing failures of operation. Though some have called the Chauchat the worst machine gun ever made, it was nevertheless fielded throughout the war.



Caliber: 8mm Lebel **Operation:** long recoil w/ gas assist, semi & full automatic **Cooled:** Air

Weight: 19 lbs. (8.62 kg) **Overall length:** 45.5 ins. (115.57 cm)

Barrel length: 17 ins. (43.18 cm) **Feed:** 20-round detachable curved magazine

Cyclic rate: 300 rounds per minute

Manufacturer: C.S.R.G. (Chauchat, Sutter, Ribeyrolles & Gladiator) and SIDARME

FRENCH HOTCHKISS MLE 1914:

Purchasing a unique gas operating system in 1893 from an Austrian inventor, Hotchkiss began to design a gun using a simple reciprocation piston under the barrel to operate the gun leading to production guns in 1897 and 1900. Modifications in materials and construction led to improvements and further refining led to the Model 1914 in 1914. The Hotchkiss Mle 1914 was the standard French Army crew-served heavy machine gun during World War I and was also the primary heavy machine gun of the U.S. A.E.F. (American Expeditionary Force). Heavy but rugged and dependable, mounted on a tripod it was gas operated, metallic strip fed and air cooled. The Hotchkiss Mle 1914 saw continuous service by both France and the United States along the entire line of the Western Front for the full duration of the war.



Caliber: 8mm Lebel **Operation:** Gas, fully automatic only **Cooling:** Air
Weight of gun: 53 lbs. (24.04 kg) **Length:** 51.6 ins. (131.06 cm)
Barrel: 31 ins. (78.75 cm) **Feed:** 24-round metal feed strip
Cyclic rate: 400-500 rounds per minute
Tripod weight Omnibus 1915: 58.4 lbs. **Tripod weight Hotchkiss 1916:** 55 lbs.
Manufacturer: Société Anonyme des Anciens Etablissements Hotchkiss et Cie

U.S. COLT AUTOMATIC GUN MODEL 1914:

Invented by John Moses Browning, this was the world's first practical gas-actuated machine gun. The gas impingement system that he perfected as the Model 1895 was created by drilling a small gas port on the underside of the barrel and diverting a portion of the expanding gas to drive an external lever located under the barrel to operate the working parts of the gun. This earned the gun the nickname "Potato Digger." Improvements to the gun that included a finned, removable barrel resulted in the Model 1914. This model was not used by the U.S. during World War I except for training but was used by Britain, Canada, Belgium and Russia to great effect in the early years of the war.



Caliber: U.S. .30-06 and others depending on country
Operation: Gas, full automatic only **Cooling:** Air
Weight of gun: 35 lbs. (16 kg) **Length:** 41 ins. (104.14 cm)
Barrel: 28 ins. (71.12 cm)
Feed: 250-round cloth belt **Cyclic rate:** 400 rounds per minute
Tripod weight: 56 lbs. (25.4 kg)
Manufacturer: Colt and Marlin-Rockwell

U.S. BROWNING MODEL OF 1917:

Not long after John Browning invented the world's first gas operated fully automatic machine gun, he set about to create his version of a tripod mounted, water-cooled, short recoil operated gun that was significantly different from the then current Maxim design. Beginning work in 1900, and then again in 1910, he made several prototypes and submitted them to the U.S. government but there was no interest. Then in 1917, due to the war in Europe, a call went out to American inventors to submit designs. Browning was ready with two – the Browning Model 1910 and the Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR). The government immediately adopted both with the water-cooled model designated as the Model of 1917 and the BAR as the Model of 1918. The first Browning Model of 1917s began arriving in France in late June 1918 and began to replace the French Hotchkiss and British Vickers machine guns in U.S. Service. The first recorded use in combat was in September 1918 by the 79th and 80th Divisions.

Caliber: U.S. .30-06 **Operation:** Short recoil, full automatic only **Cooling:** Water 7 pints
Weight of gun w/ water: 36.75 lbs. (16.67 kg) **Length:** 38.5 ins. (97.79 cm)
Barrel: 24 ins. (60.96 cm)
Feed: 250-round fabric belt **Cyclic rate:** 500 rounds per minute **Tripod weigh:** 53 lbs.

BRITISH VICKERS MK I:

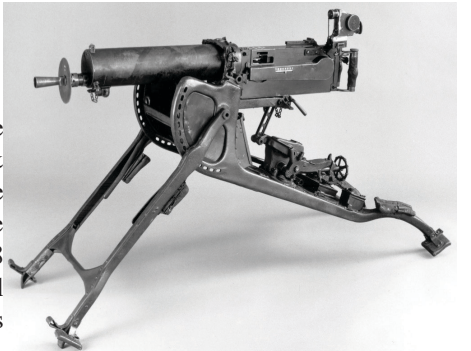
The Vickers Mk I water-cooled machine gun was the standard machine gun of the British army and the final modification of a line of machine guns invented by Hiram Maxim that began in 1884. Over the next 25 years, Maxim partnered with a number of people, including Albert Vickers, in order to grow his business while making modifications to his World Standard Maxim machine guns. The ultimate refinements included inverting the "knee break" of the lock disconnecter to an upward movement. This allowed the height of the receiver box to be reduced by two inches all around. The heavy brass water jacket was replaced with thin steel that was corrugated for strength. Further parts were machine lights and the receiver box was now just four inches high. This "Light Pattern" Vickers weighed just 33 pounds or just over half the 60 pounds of the original Maxim gun. The British government officially adopted the Model 1908 "Light Pattern" Vickers in November 1912 as the Vickers Mk I.



Caliber: .303 British **Operation:** Short recoil with muzzle gas boost, full automatic only
Cooling: Water (7 pints) (3.31 liters)
Weight of gun w/ water: 40 lbs. (18.14 kg) **Length:** 43 ins. (109.22 cm)
Barrel: 28.4 ins. (72.14 cm) **Feed:** 250-round fabric belt **Cyclic rate:** 450-550 rds per minute
Tripod weigh: 51 lbs. (23.13 kg)
Manufacturer: Vickers Limited

GERMAN MAXIM MG08:

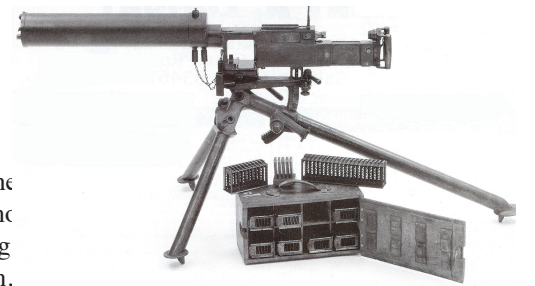
Invented by American Hiram Maxim who invented the world's first truly automatic machine gun, the rights to produce the gun in Germany were granted in 1892 to Ludwig Loewe & Co. who later changed their name to Deutsch Waffen und Munitions Fabriken (DWM). The German army adopted the DWM Model 1901 and then in collaboration with Spandau, made significant improvements that included a 17 pound weight reduction and was adopted in 1908 as the Maschinengewehr 08 (MG08). The MG08 is a short recoil operated, water-cooled, full automatic only, belt fed machine gun that fired from the closed bolt position. The Germans used the MG08 to great effect in World War I with tens of thousands being produced. Because of its devastating effect on advancing troops, it was the primary reason World War I became a stagnant war of trenches as it was extremely difficult to advance against it.



Caliber: 7.92 Mauser **Operation:** Short recoil, gas assist, full automatic only
Cooling: Water (7 pints) (3.31 liters)
Weight of gun: 58.4lbs. (26.5 kg) **Length:** 46.3 ins. (117.5 cm)
Barrel: 28.4 ins. (72.1 cm)
Feed: 250-round fabric belt **Cyclic rate:** 450-550 rounds per minute
Sled mount: 84.44 lbs (38.5 kg)
Manufacturer: DWM, Spandau, Erfurt Arsenal

ITALIAN FIAT REVELLI MODELLO 1914:

Designed by Captain Bethel Revelli in 1908 using a unique swinging wedge to lock the formed well at trials were submitted a number of times to the army for consideration, not in 1914, Italy's source of machine guns were of foreign manufacture from the warring performed well at the trials and FIAT had the capacity to immediately begin production, and adopted as the FIAT Revelli Modello 1914. The FIAT Revelli had a number of unique features. Chambered in the standard 6.5mm Italian service cartridge, the gun uses a rotary wedge to delay blowback, a water recirculation system for cooling rather than a steam condensing device and a unique feed system using a metal cage containing the cartridges rather than a belt of feed strip system. The FIAT Revelli Modello 1914 remained in front line service throughout the war being used in all applications.

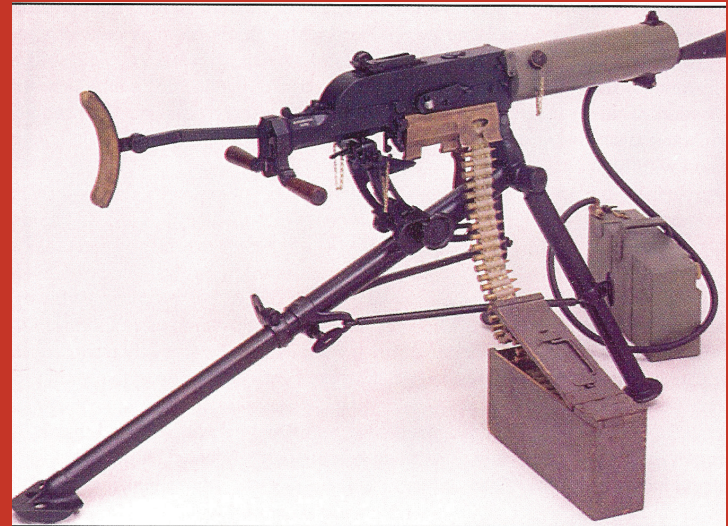
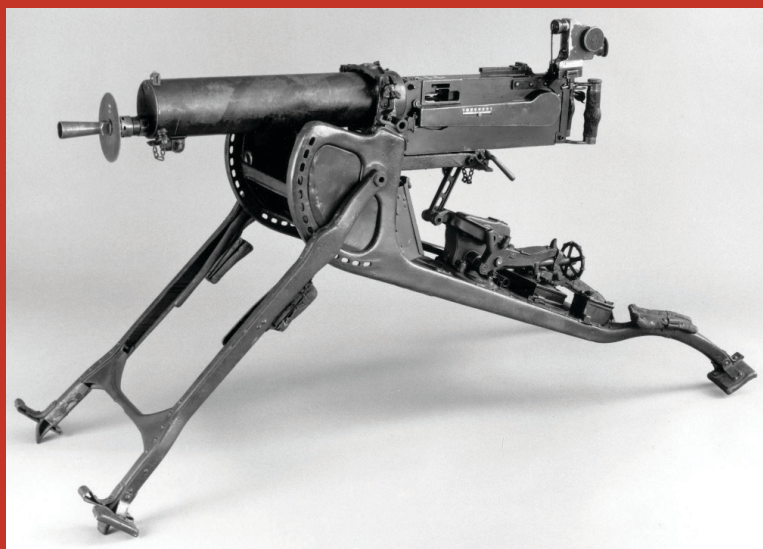


Caliber: 6.5mm **Operation:** Short recoil, delayed blow-back with rotary wedge
Cooling: Water jacket and water circulation pump holding 2.5 gallons
Weight: 37.5 lbs. (17.01 kg) **Length:** 40.5 ins. (102.87 cm) **Length of barrel:** 23.5 ins. (56.69 cm)
Cyclic rate: 500 rounds per minute **Feed:** Compartmentalized 50 and 100 round magazines
Manufacturer: FIAT (Fabbrica Italia Automobili Torino)

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The Dallas Arms Collectors Assoc., Inc.



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