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                                                                </tr>
                                                            <tr>
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Arborer's School</td>
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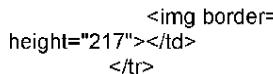
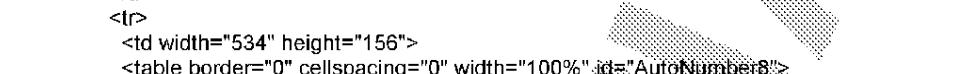
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Product Information</td>
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<p></p>	
<p></td></p>	
<p></tr></p>	
<p><tr></p>	
<p><td width="100%" colspan="2"></p>	
<p>&ampnbsp
</p>	
<p>Remington Sniper Rifles
</p>	
<p>THE M24 SNIPER WEAPONS SYSTEM (SWS)
</p>	
<p>&ampnbsp
</p>	
<p>by Joe Poyer and</p>	
<p>Roy Marcot
</p>	
<p>&ampnbsp
</p>	
<p>&ampnbsp
</p>	
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<p></p>	
<p>&quot;The</p>	
<p>probability of One Round - One Kill had been proven in the jungles of an alien</p>	
<p>country half a world away.&quot;</td></p>	
<p></tr></p>	
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The successful employment of Marine Scout-Snipers and U.S. Army Sniper teams in Vietnam taught a valuable lesson to those responsible for&nbs; Americas tactical warfare doctrine in the 1970s, 80s and 90s.&nbs; The probability of One Round - One Kill had been proven in the jungles of an alien country half a world away. Sniper training and employment was here to stay, with the establishment of the U.S. Army Sniper School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Equipping the modern day military sniper with the best possible weapon is as important as&nbs; training the soldier who pulls the trigger. The sniper rifle used by the U.S. Army in Vietnam was the M21, a match-grade M14 that was originally equipped with a Redfield 3X-9X ART scope. The Marines choice was the venerable M40, a Remington M700 sniper rifle also fitted with a Redfield scope. Both sniper weapons performed well in the late 1960s, but by the late 70s, both the Army and Marine Corps needed a better weapon to engage targets out to and beyond 1,000 meters. In 1977, the Army began comparative testing at the Aberdeen Proving Ground and at Fort Benning of a number of precision rifles, including the French FFRF1, the AR10, the Marine Corps M40A1, the Winchester 70 Match, the Canadians Parker-Hale 1200TX, and a heavy-barrel M14.&nbs;

&nbs;
These rifles were tested against the Army M21, which was used as the control weapon. Despite extensive trials, the U.S. Army decided that the M21 was still adequate to the task.&nbs;By the early-1980s, the Army began taking a second look at the drawbacks of the M21, especially its inability to maintain a zero when dropped during airborne operations. The original M21's were wearing out, and suitable replacement parts were hard to come by.&nbs; U.S. Army Training Circular TC 23-14 stated: <blockquote><p>During operation Urgent Fury in 1983, U.S. Army Rangers employed snipers in Grenada. Target reductions were successful against enemy mortar positions at ranges up to 800 meters.&nbs; The reduction of fires from these positions was critical to the missions success, and illustrates the continuing value of sniper employment.</p></blockquote><p>The necessity of fielding a state-of-the-art sniper rifle came to light in Grenada and in other police actions of the 1980s.&nbs; The U.S. Army Rangers echoed the same need. Soon the chief military threat to NATO would no longer lay across the North European Plain with rolling hills and thick forests that shortened sniper engagements to from 300 to 500 meters.&nbs; Future engagements would now emanate across&nbs; flat, open desert terrains of the Middle East, with potential sniper engagements exceeding 1,000 meters.&nbs;The responsibility of solving this problem was

given to the governments Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC) at Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey. ARDEC quickly decided that it would be far too costly for the Army to develop its own sniper weapon...but should adopt a commercially available system.</p><p>The Marine Corps M40A1 was also dismissed, as the short-action of the Remington M700 would not permit insertion of a round larger than the 7.62 NATO. The pre-production chronology of events includes:</p><blockquote><p> In March 1985, the U.S. Government issued a survey, requesting proposed specifications for a new sniper rifle.
 An initial marketing investigation on a new sniper rifle was initiated by Remington Arms Company on April 25, 1985.
 A U.S. Government Market Investigation questionnaire was sent out on April 25, 1986.
 An official Request For Proposal (DAAA21-86-R-001) was issued on October 1, 1986.
 Remington Arms Company, Inc. submitted bid samples forty-five days later on November 14, 1986.
 Remington's best bid was submitted on May 1, 1987.
 The U.S. Government contract was awarded to Remington Arms Company on July 22, 1987.
 Developmental work in Ilion was conducted by Remington's R & D Group. The design section was called the SWS Team, which eventually fabricated a total of 25 SWS systems for testing.

Ammunition was a major hurdle to overcome, as M118 (Match Grade 7.62 NATO) was not available for private consumption. Remington had a distinct advantage, as we manufacture both guns and ammunition, and we enlisted the resources of our experts to provide us with acceptable ammunition for testing.

The first carrying case we selected proved inadequate. We did not find this out until the eleventh hour, due to our misinterpretation as to what was really required. This almost proved to be fatal, but was finally resolved at a later date to everyone's satisfaction through technical discussions.

Now that we were reasonably comfortable with our component selections, we built and tested a prototype sniper weapon system for design conformation. At this point, we reached another major hurdle. The ammunition would not give us acceptable accuracy. We then tested barrels of various configurations until we arrived at a rifling design and twist that would stabilize the 173 grain bullet at all ranges. With this problem behind us, we built and tested three performance models. Decision time was upon us. Do we continue or stop?

You have to remember that Remington has not actively participated in government contracts of this scale since World War II. All of the people that participated in that effort had long since retired. All of us that participated in the SWS effort were neophytes. But we learned a lot. We spent far more money up front than we originally anticipated. Just to give an example, when we were conducting our trigger pull tests, we found that the equipment that is generally accepted today was not adequate. To accurately measure trigger pull and trigger pull retention, we had to design and build a special machine at a cost of \$35,000. We now have one of the most sophisticated machines available to accomplish this task and accurately measure trigger pull within 1/10th of 1 ounce.

A pre-solicitation conference was held at Picatinny Arsenal on September 8, 1986. Remington attended, along with a host of other delegates from various companies -- both foreign and domestic. We were a bit dismayed at the formidable competition represented, and knew we faced an uphill battle. At the conference we all received a draft purchase description which detailed the Army's requirements for a Sniper Weapon System. At this point we knew that, except for a few minor modifications needed, we were on the right track.

Upon receipt of the solicitation, we expanded the SWS Team to include members of Remington's process and industrial engineering departments. Up to now, all work on the SWS had been accomplished by our R & D group and Marketing.

Nuclear Biological and Chemical (NBC)

Optics
Ruggedness; and others too numerous to mention.</p>
</blockquote>
<p>All
of this was to assure that the Army got what they paid
for. First Article took much longer than originally
anticipated and we feel that like us, in the preparation
of our proposal, the Army did not realize the magnitude of
the required testing. First Article Approval was granted
on July 27, 1988. By working together as a team, the Army
and Remington had successfully demonstrated that a Sniper
Weapon System could be fielded using the NDI principle.
without compromising the required

We have learned our strengths... and we have corrected any and all weaknesses. This, of course, will be reflected in the quality of our commercial products, as well. We feel, however, that one of the most important benefits of participating in the SWS project was the pride of workmanship of our people. Through a team effort, and full utilization of our resources, we are able to supply the finest sniper weapon system available to the U.S.

REMINGTONS SWS CONTRACT

The initial contract for Sniper Weapon Systems was awarded to Remington Arms Company, Inc. on July 22, 1987, and the U.S. Government agreed to pay \$3,980 for each SWS, complete with the following components:

<blockquote>

<p>

7.62mm M

Postscript K1, consisting of sparse no-

Deployment Kit, consisting of spare parts

Leupold M3A telescope (a.k.a. Ultrascope), fixed mount

extendable sun shade and dust covers

Butler, & Butler, & Butler, & Butler, & Butler,

<span style="fo

Redfield International front sight and R

Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

Match target rear sight

Case
for day optic sight and fixed sights

Lens
cleaning
kit

Tools

Cleaning rod kit

Soft
rifle carrying
case

Sling,
small arms, M1907

Bipod
(made by
Harris)&br>

Operators Manual - TM 9-1005-306-10</p>
</blockquote>
<p>As
stated in Mr. Rogers report, above, the first six Initial
Product Test rifles, and nineteenth First Article Test
rifles were completed by October 13, 1987. The first SWS
prototype rifle was submitted to the government for
military trials on October 28, 1987. Government approval
was awarded Remington on July 27, 1988, and the company
delivered the first 100 SWS systems on October 25, 1988.
All of these rifles are made in Remingtons Custom Shop,
within the factory in Ilion, New York. The Evening Times,
a local Ilion-area newspaper, printed an article on the
initial delivery in its November 4, 1988
edition:&br>

&br>
Remington Arms has delivered the first 100 of its newly
developed M24 rifles to the U.S. Army, and expects to
deliver 100 more on December 20th.&br> The Ilion company
plans to deliver another 1,000 over the next 18 months.&br>
The first 500 will cost the Army \$4,995 each, and the next
500 will cost \$3,900 each.&br> The higher cost for the first
500 was due to the testing needed to meet the Armys
requirements, Remington officials said.&br>&br>&br>
&br>

These rifles made for the U.S. Army by Remington meet or exceed government requirements of 1.3 inches Average Mean Radius (AMR) at 200 yards, and 1.9 inches at 300 yards, based on five targets of ten shots each. The barrel on the SWS rifle is 24-inches in length, has five lands & grooves, is radially-rifled with a twist of one turn in 11.25 inches. These barrels were initially supplied by Mike Rock of the Rock Barrel Company in Wisconsin. High power shooters referred to these as 5R barrels, originally designed by Boots Obermeyer, and patterned after rifling from the Soviet AK-74 rifle. Remington now fabricates the 416-R stainless steel barrels for all SWS rifles, and corrosion protection is provided by a Rem-Tuff, powder-coat finish applied at the factory. The barrels are free-floated.

The receiver on the SWS is the Remington Model 700 long-action. The short-action receiver can handle the 7.62 NATO cartridge, but the U.S. Government insisted on the long-action in anticipation of an eventual rechambering to a more powerful .300 Win Mag cartridge (or to an even more potent .338 Lapua). For added strength the receiver is fitted with a steel trigger guard and steel magazine floor plate made by Dakota Arms. The trigger mechanism is from the Remington M40X, externally adjustable for pull. The internal magazine holds five rounds with the bolt closed.

The state-of-the-art ambidextrous, high-comb stock was a joint design effort by Remington designers and H-S Precision of Prescott, Arizona. Known by H-S as their Pro-Series Sniper, this stock has a palm swell on both sides of the fore-stock and is fabricated from a Kevlar-graphite-fiberglass composite using epoxy-based resins to enhance strength, durability under combat conditions, and warp-free characteristics during adverse environmental conditions (Arctic chill to desert dryness). The stock utilizes an aluminum (7075-T6) bedding block which is molded in with a polyurethane foam reinforced with fiberglass. The stock is then finished with an epoxy-based, high-temperature black coating, which is non-reflective and non-slip. An adjustable, high-strength aluminum alloy butt plate assembly is fitted to the composite stock. The length of pull can be adjusted from 12 to 14 inches to fit the individual snipers physique.

The precision ten-power telescope is the Leupold-Stevens Ultra M-3A with Mil-dot system for range estimation. It is nitrogen filled and was designed for quick ranging on target, as anticipated for sniper ops.

The scope has a three-quarter-minute Mil Dot reticle pattern, to assist in target acquisition and ranging. It features an elevation dial with one-minute click resolution that permits adjustments in elevation from 100 to 1,000 yards within a single revolution of the dial.

It has a windage adjustment of one-half-minute click resolution. A turret-mounted focus adjustment eliminates

the need for a separate parallax adjustment. All lens surfaces, including a large 42mm-diameter objective lens, are multi coated for optimum brightness in the poor light environment anticipated in some sniper situations. The 30mm-diameter scope tube is machined by Leupold from a single piece of thick-wall aluminum tubing to 0.10 inches, and then coated with a black anodized matte finish. This precision scope was made to be removed and reinstalled with less than one-half MOA change in zero.

The Remington-produced Sniper Weapon System (SWS) is available only to NATO countries and official police and government agencies. Since 1987, these systems have gone to the following entities:

<blockquote>

<p>
The U.S. Army - 2,510 systems
[Contract DAAA21-87-C-0086]

 Egypt
- 1,000 systems

 Israel - 96 systems shipped on September 30, 1997 and 300 shipped on January 6, 1998.

 An undisclosed number shipped to Saudi Arabia

 And an undisclosed number to the New York City Police Department.

</blockquote>

<p>The current price for a complete SWS is \$6,000. Remington-produced M24 rifles are currently available only in 7.62 NATO, although the so-called Remington SR8 sniper rifle was fabricated for trials for the Italian Army, chambered for the potent .338 Lapua round.

REMINGTONS RE-CONDITIONING CONTRACTS
The U.S. Government gave Remington the first 5-year contract to recondition battle-worn Sniper Weapon Systems in August 1992, and the second 5-year contract in August 1997. Tommy Slagle, the manager in charge of the reconditioning the SWS for Remington stated that the systems are returned to the factory for any of the following reasons:
<blockquote>

<p> Some rifle barrels having been fired in excess of 10,000

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Barrel marking:</td>
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The caliber 7.62
NATO is stamped on left side of the barrel,
approximately 10-inches forward of the receiver.
The assemblers mark is stamped next to the
recoil bracket. On the right side next to the
recoil bracket is the MagnaFlux acceptance mark,
proof mark and final inspectors mark </td>
</tr>
<tr>
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Bayonet:</td>
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None</td>
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Baff plate:</td>
<td width="79%" valign="top" bgcolor="#EFEFE7" height="12">
Aluminum assembly is
adjustable through a range of 2.7"</td>
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<tr>
<td width="21%" valign="top" bgcolor="#FFFFFF" height="24">
Cartridge:</td>
<td width="79%" valign="top" bgcolor="#FFFFFF" height="24">
7.62 NATO M118
Special Ball, match-grade ammunition with
173-grain boat-tail bullet.</td>
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<td width="21%" valign="top" bgcolor="#EFEFE7" height="36">
Contract:</td>
<td width="79%" valign="top" bgcolor="#EFEFE7" height="36">
The initial U.S.
Government contract was #DAAA21-87-C-0086.
Initially each system sold for \$4,995, and later
this was reduced to \$3,980 each, complete.</td>
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<tr>
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Designer /
inventor:</td>
<td width="79%" valign="top" bgcolor="#FFFFFF" height="36">
Principle designer
assigned to the SWS project was F.E. Martin. T.C.
Douglas was assigned as project superintendent.
Program at Remington began with one full-time
employee assigned; and finished with 14.</td>
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Finish:</td>
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A Rem-Tuff
powder-coat (matte-black finish) applied to all
external metal parts to reduce light reflection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
 |**Front sight:**
 | Detachable Redfield
 Olympic big bore open front sight </td>
</tr>
<tr>
 |**Introduced:**
 | The first 100
 production SWS systems were delivered to the U.S.
 Government on October 25, 1988. </td>
</tr>
<tr>
 |**Magazine:**
 | Five shots with bolt
 closed. Floor plate can be opened by a release
 switch inside the trigger guard to quickly dump
 ammunition. </td>
</tr>
<tr>
 |**Manuals:**
 | Technical manual: TM
 9-1005-306-10, dated February 1989. Operator's
 Manual: 7.62mm M24 Sniper Weapon System (NSN
 1005-01-240-2138). </td>
</tr>
<tr>
 |**Manufacturer:**
 | Assembled in the
 Custom Shop of Remington Arms Company, Inc.,
 Ithaca, NY </td>
</tr>
<tr>
 |**Overall length:**
 | 43-inches </td>
</tr>
<tr>
 |**Price:**
 | Currently, each

complete system costs \$6,000.</td>
</tr>
<tr> Rear sight:</td> Detachable Redfield Palma Match open sight provided for emergency usage.</td> </tr> <tr> Receiver:</td> Drilled and tapped for scope mount with #8-40 holes, and #6-48 screw holes for receiver sight. Steel trigger guard and floor plate are manufactured by Dakota Arms.</td> </tr> <tr> Receiver marking:</td> Remington M700 / M24 and U.S. is stamped on rifles intended for the U.S. Army.</td> </tr> <tr> Safety:</td> Ambidextrous two-position safety modified to give equal on - off safety force.</td> </tr> <tr> Scope:</td> Leupold-Stevens Ultra M-3A day optic sight, fixed at 10-power, with Mill Dot system range-finding reticle. Has a bullet drop compensator and is adjustable for parallax (focus). The scope caps are commercially available from Butler.</td> </tr> <tr> Serial number location:</td> Bottom of turret (same as product B.A.C.F.).</td> </tr> <tr> | | | | | | | | | | | |

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Serial number
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Concurrent with
Model 700 production. </td>
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Stock:</td>
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One-piece Synthetic
Kevlar and graphite composite stock manufactured
by H-S Precision, (from a pattern submitted by
Remington) with an aluminum bedding block
throughout. Adjustable length of pull (12 to 14
inches) provided by an adjustable aluminum butt
plate assembly. High comb on stock to facilitate
the use of telescopic sights. Palm-swell on both
sides of grip. The rifle Beavertail-type
fore-end. An aluminum channel extends full length
of fore-end. The sling swivels, magazine Floor
plate and trigger guard are attached to the
channel for additional strength. Equipped with a
Harris (short) bipod.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td width="21%" valign="top" bgcolor="#EFEFE7" height="24">
Weight:</td>
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Rifle, bipod and
scope weigh 13lbs/13oz. The complete system,
including carrying case weighs 56 pounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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Accessories:</td>
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Include a
foam-lined, heavy-duty, fiberglass carrying case
(manufactured by an outside contractor and costing
\$505 apiece) and soft cases for the rifle and
scope. Other accessories include iron sights,
cleaning equipment, manuals, bipod, sling swivels,
M1907 sling and a spare parts kit. </td>
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<tr>
<td width="21%" valign="top" bgcolor="#EFEFE7" height="60">
Reconditioning
contracts:</td>
<td width="79%" valign="top" bgcolor="#EFEFE7" height="60">
The initial contract
was awarded to Remington to repair/recondition the
U.S. Governments Sniper Weapons Systems between
August 1992 and August 1997. The 2nd contract
currently runs from August 1997 to August 2002.


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