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Folder Title:

Assault Weapons Ban [2]

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"Today, in a free and open society, the presence of...assault weapons drastically tilts the rules of the game against the innocent and the law-abiding and the law enforcing. And it is wrong."

President Bill Clinton, April 24, 1994

- **TIME TO ACT** – Enactment of a Crime Bill is just weeks away. The House and Senate have both passed comprehensive bills that will put more police on the street, tougher penalties on the books, and better prevention in our communities. But a vital component of the President's crime package is missing -- a ban on the 19 deadliest assault weapons. In the next two weeks, the House of Representatives will consider such a ban. Here's what they should keep in mind before they vote:
- **THE WEAPON OF CHOICE FOR CRIMINALS** – Although assault weapons make up only about 1% of the firearms in circulation, last year more than 8% of the weapons used in crimes and "traced" by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) were assault weapons. Assault weapons are preferred by criminals over law abiding citizens by 8 to 1.
- **DESIGNED TO KILL** – Assault weapons -- like the 2 TEC-DC9s and hundreds of rounds of ammunition that were used to terrorize a San Francisco law firm last year -- are a machine gun's "first cousin." With their pistol grips, folding stocks and large capacity ammunition clips, assault weapons are designed for rapid fire, close-quarter shooting of humans. Guns like the "Street Sweeper" were clearly not designed for precision or for sport. They're designed to indiscriminately spray as many rounds as possible, and that's exactly what makes them the weapon of choice for drug traffickers, gangs and terrorists.
- **OVERWHELMING LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT** – As assault weapons ban is strongly supported by nearly every major law enforcement organization in the country, including -- the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), the International Brotherhood of Police Officers (IBPO), the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the Major Cities Chiefs, the National Sheriffs Association (NSA), the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) and the Police Foundation.
- **HUNTERS AND SPORTSMEN PROTECTED** – The assault weapons ban specifically bans 19 of the deadliest assault weapons on the market -- and specifically exempts more than 650 types of legitimate hunting and sporting weapons. That means we're exempting more than 30 types of legitimate firearms for every 1 we ban, but it makes sense. Hunters and Sportsmen don't have to take our word for it that we're not banning legitimate hunting and sporting weapons -- we've written it right into the bill. Any "copycat" assault weapons would be banned only if they meet objective, specific criteria on the gun's physical features.

QUESTIONS ON THE ASSAULT WEAPONS LEGISLATION

Q: Why are the firearms listed in the bill as "assault weapons" any different from other firearms? Why should they be treated any differently?

A: Weapons classified as "assault weapons" are modeled after military firearms. They are designed for battle. They are made for war, not for hunting, target-shooting, or self-defense. You cannot buy a grenade launcher, or a tank, or a machine gun, because they are serious military weapons. The semi-automatic assault weapons in the bill are in that same category.

The bottom line is that these weapons are deadly. There are too many examples of gruesome and tragic shooting rampages with assault weapons. In particular, the capacity to fire numerous bullets in rapid succession is extremely deadly and destructive. On the other hand, a gun that has to be reloaded after several shots gives its targets a fighting chance. State hunting laws limit the number of rounds of ammunition for licensed game hunting. Why are we more protective of ducks and deer than of people?

Q: What features make these firearms different from hunting or other "legitimate" firearms?

A: No single feature makes a firearm an "assault weapon" -- it is a combination of characteristics, such as a folding stock, a large capacity magazine or detachable magazine, a bayonet mount, a pistol grip, a flash suppressor, or a grenade launcher. These features are designed either for combat or to conceal possession or use of the weapon.

Q: How many firearms will actually be affected by this ban?

A: Actually not very many. The legislation specifically bans 19 firearms. Included in that list is the Streetsweeper rapid-fire shotgun, which was recently reclassified, through an administrative action, as a "destructive device" -- the same classification as a machine gun.

The legislation also refers to certain characteristics which in combination would require a firearm to be considered as an assault weapon -- the list of prohibited characteristics is meant to prevent the development of future models of assault weapons. Finally, it lists nearly 700 semi-automatic rifles, handguns and shotguns as legitimate firearms.

Q: How prevalent is the use of these assault weapons in crime?

A: Although these 19 types of firearms constitute only one percent of all firearms in America, based on firearms trace data, they account for eight percent of firearms used in crime. [ATF conducts over 50,000 firearms traces per year of guns recovered in crimes.]

Q: Will banning these firearms have an impact on crime?

A: Yes, it will. These guns help the criminals who have them commit their crimes and add to the carnage. They embolden the crook. Access to them shifts the balance of power to the lawless.

These guns rank among the top 10 firearms traced in relation to crime. We are not being tough on gangsters if we allow open access to gangster weapons.

It is also a matter of principle that we ban these guns. For people who say they are serious about addressing violent crime, it is time to vote seriously about banning the guns criminals prefer.

Q: If these firearms are as bad as machine guns, why can't you just reclassify them as destructive devices?

A: There is a very strict statutory definition of destructive device; because of their bore size these weapons cannot be classified as destructive devices. While these firearms are first cousins to machine guns, they do not fit the technical definition of either machine gun or destructive device. This is a significant loophole in the law.

Congress enacted a ban on the importation of firearms with the exception of those firearms which meet a "sporting purpose" test. ATF has developed "sporting purpose" criteria to ban the import of certain firearms, while ensuring that firearms with a variety of legitimate uses are available to law-abiding Americans. Although Congress has recognized the need to ban these weapons from import, current law still allows domestic production and distribution.

Q: Can't conventional sporting firearms be fitted with large magazines?

A: Right now factories legally turn out such magazines and ship them by the truckload. The legislation now pending in Congress bans magazines with a capacity greater than 10 rounds that can be used with any semi-automatic firearm. If someone crafts an illegal magazine, we will have the legal authority to deal with that person.

Q: Doesn't the Brady Act already ensure that assault weapons can't be purchased by criminals?

A: At present, the Brady Law only covers transactions of handguns in licensed dealerships. It does not cover any longarms, nor does it cover private transactions of any firearms. In five years, however, when the "instant check" provision becomes effective, all firearms transactions at licensed dealerships will be covered.

Moreover, the Brady Act does not ban any firearms.

FAX FROM THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN FORTNEY "PETE" STARK

•THIRTEENTH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA•
239 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-5065
(202) 225-0902 fax

DATE: May 2, 1994

TO: Jose Cerda
White House

FAX: 456-7028

FROM: Brent Chism
Legislative Assistant

Number of pages following this cover: 8

If you have problems or questions please call the sender at the number above.

Comments:

I hope this is helpful. Judging from today's memo from Patrick Griffin, the Import Ban number is off (I was just using what ATF told me). However, I worked up the rest of the stats and am quite confident about them.

Please give me a call if you have any questions.

FORTNEY PETE STARK
THIRTEENTH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

COMMIT
WAYS AND MEANS
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 25, 1994

The Hon. Charles Schumer
Chairman
Subcommittee on Crime
H2-362 Ford HOB
US House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As the Subcommittee on Crime begins its consideration of HR 3527, the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, I urge you to look at the effects of the nation's oldest assault weapons ban, California's Roberti-Roos Assault Weapons Control Act of 1989.

This legislation went into effect on July 1, 1989. It was passed in the aftermath of Patrick Purdy's shooting spree at a schoolyard in Stockton, California. Armed with an AK-47 and several semiautomatic pistols, Purdy fired over 100 rounds killing five school children and wounding thirty others before killing himself.

Now, five years after the passage of this law, I think we can begin to evaluate the law's effectiveness. At my request, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) has provided some preliminary data from the National Tracing Center. These numbers reflect requests to the ATF by local law enforcement agencies for background traces conducted on guns which are suspected to have been used in crimes. Although this data does have limitations and is not a direct measurement of criminal use, the Congressional Research Service has pointed out this data is, "the only significant national data on the makes and models of firearms that may have been used in crimes."

The data shows that although the California law has not ended criminal use of assault weapons in California, it has significantly helped California's law enforcement officials contain assault weapons' growing popularity among criminals.

Assault weapons in California vs. the Nation

Over the past three years, both California and the nation have experienced growing criminal use of assault weapons, as evidenced by increasing requests for ATF traces. However, while national requests have skyrocketed, California's requests have grown at a much slower rate and stabilized for some of the most criminally popular weapons.

April 25, 1993

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Following the 1986 Machine Gun Ban and President Bush's 1989 Assault Weapons Import Ban, trace requests for assault weapons (as determined by ATF) decreased nationally, both in number and proportion. Starting in 1991, however, they have risen and, based on the first three months of 1994, will easily surpass the 1989 level (see graphs 1 and 2).

During the same period, however, California's local law enforcement requested far fewer traces of the forty-plus weapons banned by the Roberti Roos law. In fact, while trace requests for assault weapons rose nationally by 52% between 1991 and 1993, California requests for banned guns increased less than half that rate -- 22% (see graph 3). Additionally, California's trace requests for the banned guns decreased as a proportion of the national total-- from 7.1% in 1991 to 5.7% in 1993. Clearly, the California ban has spared California from the drastic national growth.

As for the legislation you are considering, the guns explicitly banned by HR 3527 make up 85% of all assault weapons traced by ATF for criminal activity during the past three years. From 1991 through 1993, trace requests for these guns have risen 62%.

Trace requests for certain weapons whose criminal use has skyrocketed nation-wide also show California's stability. For example, while trace requests for AK-47s have almost tripled nationally, they have remained the same in California (graph 4). However, California trace requests for another popular assault weapon not banned by the California law, the TEC 22, have essentially mirrored the national growth rate: 100% in CA from 1991 to 1993 compared to 116% nationally.

Assault Weapons in CA: banned vs. legal

Looking at trace requests within California reveals other important trends. Although California has stabilized the growth of the guns which it has banned, there has been significant growth in California's trace requests for guns which were left out of the ban or which did not exist in 1989.

California's assault weapons ban has experienced problems with new weapons because it bans weapon names rather than weapon features. Both the *San Jose Mercury News* and *The Los Angeles Times* have reported that, "designing similar but not identical guns to those on the prohibited list has become common for gun manufacturers looking to get around the California law" (*San Jose Mercury News*, 7/3/93). Even though the law gave the state Attorney General the power to add guns to the list, none have been added since 1989. As a result, there has been a boom in new, legal, assault weapons with features identical to banned guns, but with new names.

The TEC 9 family of guns manufactured by Intratec, shows both the increased criminal preference for legal assault weapons as well as growing popularity in copy-cats designed to get around the ban. The Roberti-Roos Assault Weapons Ban specifically banned the TEC 9 but did not mention the substantially similar TEC 22.

April 25, 1993

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As a result, California's trace requests for the TEC 9 have slightly declined, while those for the TEC 22 have doubled (see graph 5).

This family of guns also shows the ominous dangers of the copy-cat loophole. On July 1, 1993 Gian Ferri walked into the San Francisco law offices of Pettit & Martin carrying two TEC DC9 semi-automatic assault pistols. With them he shot and killed eight people before taking his own life. The TEC DC 9, functionally identical and look-alike to the TEC 9, was created shortly after the passage of the California law to be sold as a legal version of the TEC 9. Not surprisingly, California trace requests for TEC DC9s have shot up while requests for TEC9s have fallen (see graph 5).

The Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act (HR 3527), which you are presently considering, would close this gaping loophole by including language to ban assault weapon by feature rather than name. Since this features-based assault weapons ban focuses on *military* features, it protects the rights of legitimate hunters and sportsmen. The appendix listing over 600 legitimate hunting and sporting guns (including over 60 semiautomatic rifles) would also be an important fail-safe guarantee of hunters' rights.

Would a national ban work?

Some skeptics have asked whether a national assault weapons ban could work. We already have one that does.

ATF tracing statistics show that President Bush's 1989 Assault Weapons Import Ban has significantly reduced the use of the models it banned over the past three years (see graph 6). Trace requests for illegally-used guns banned by President Bush's 1989 Import Ban declined nationally by 16% between 1991-1993. Both California and the nation have benefited from the reduced misuse of these guns.

I hope you will find this information helpful as you consider the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act. I enthusiastically support it, and hope you will report the bill as it passed the Senate. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at (202) 225-5065.

Sincerely,



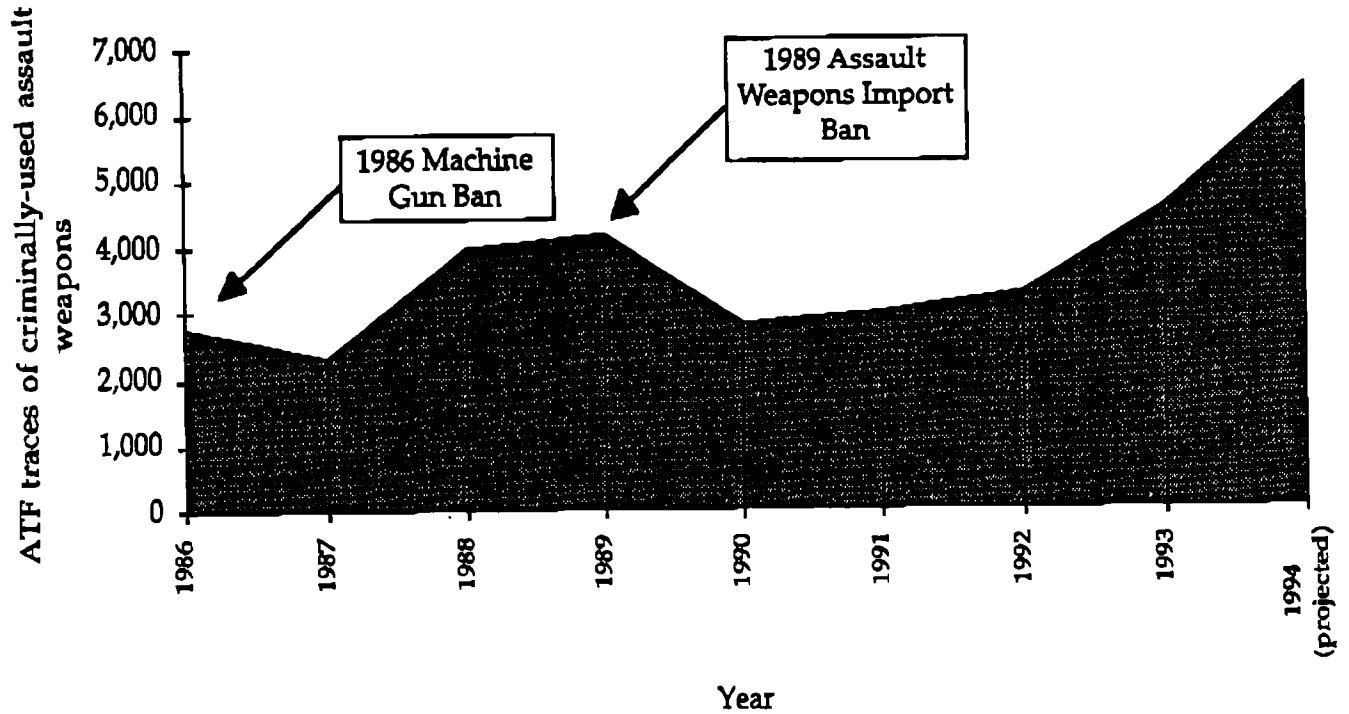
Pete Stark

Member of Congress

Enclosures

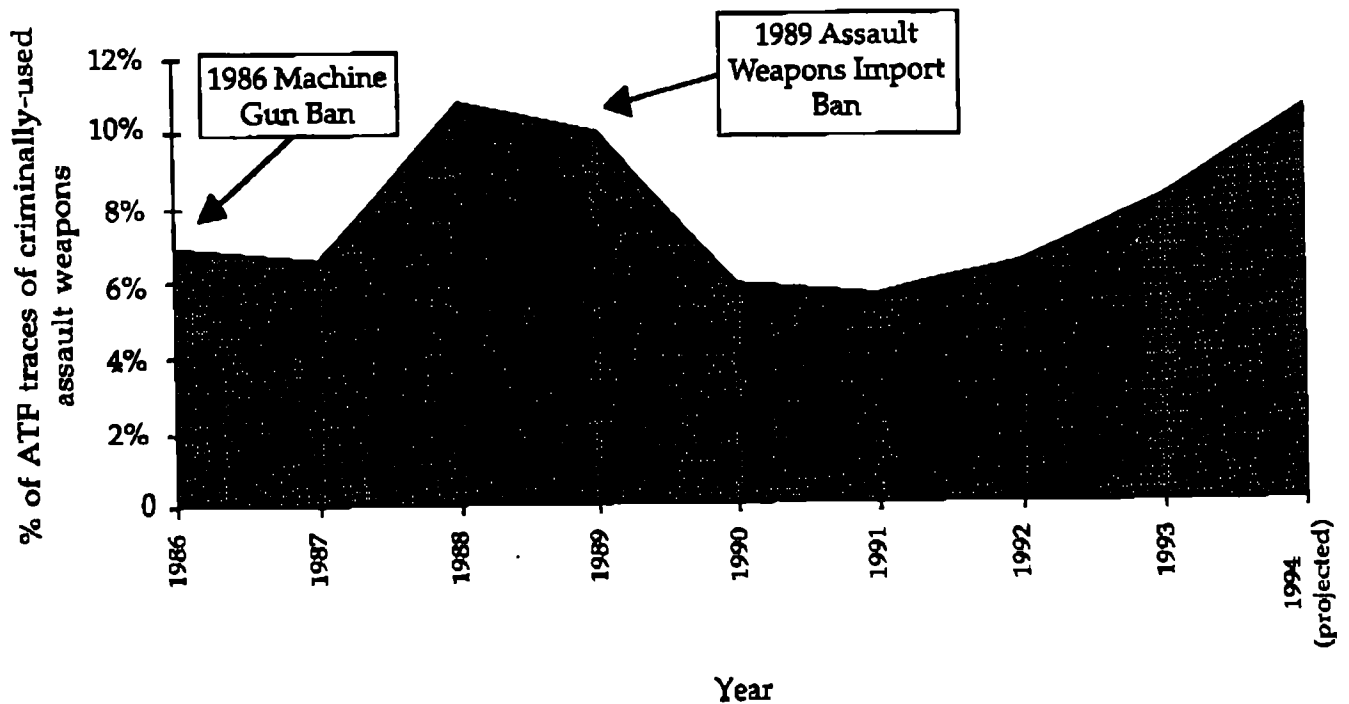
Graph 1

US assault weapons trace requests are rising



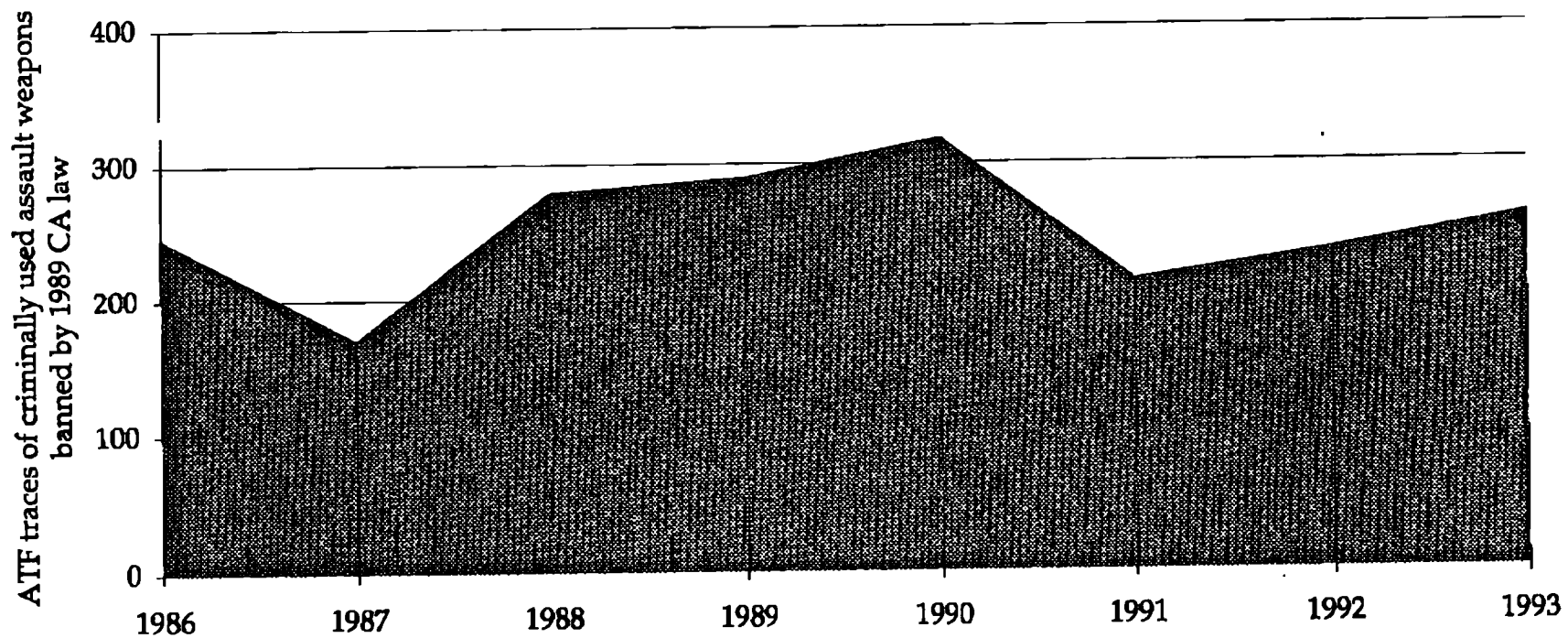
Graph 2

Assault Weapons also rising as % of traces



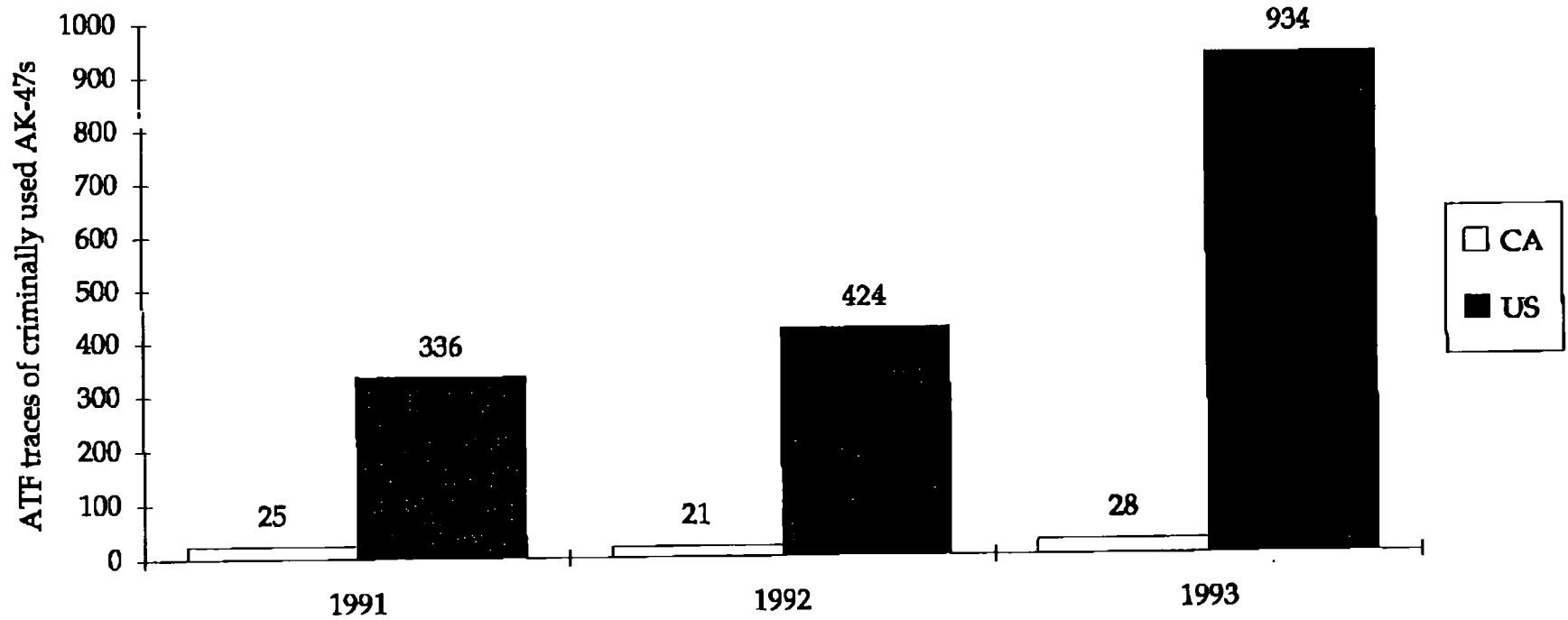
Graph 3

CA trace requests for weapons banned in 1989 have been fairly stable



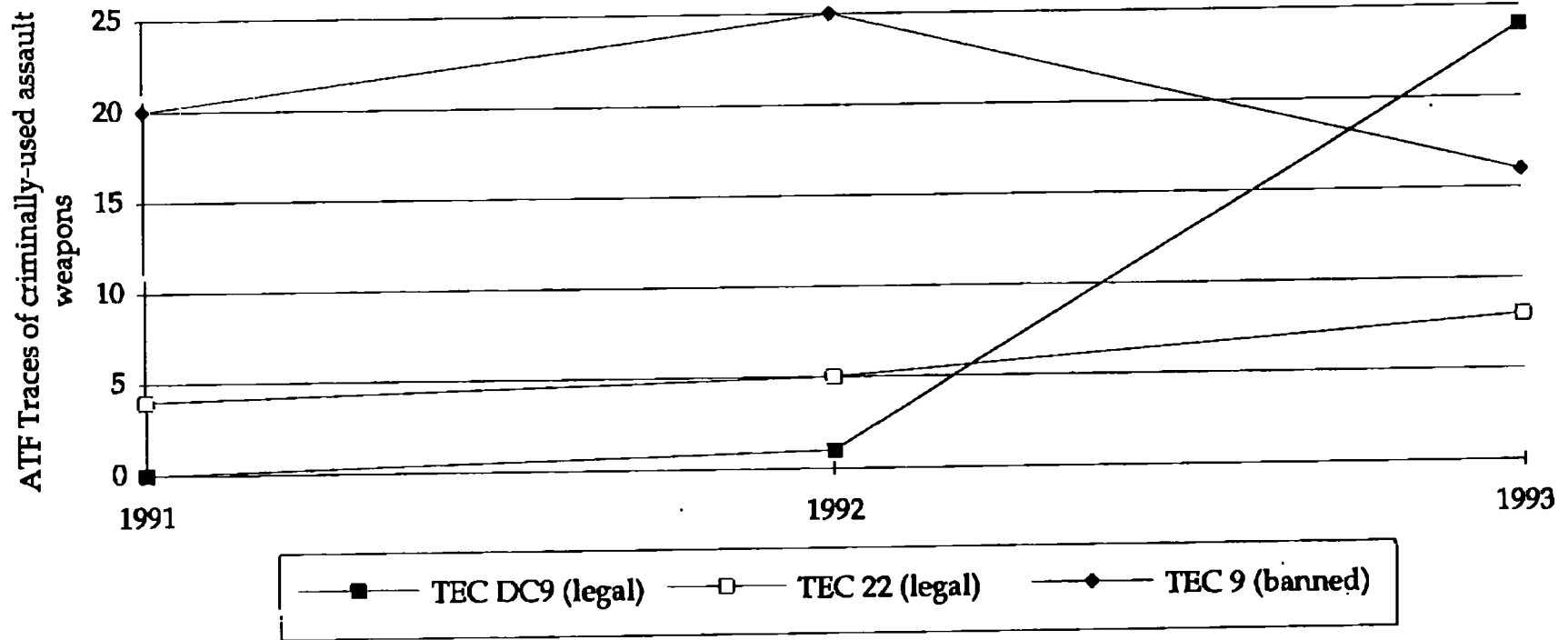
Graph 4

Growth in AK-47 Traces: CA stays steady while US skyrockets



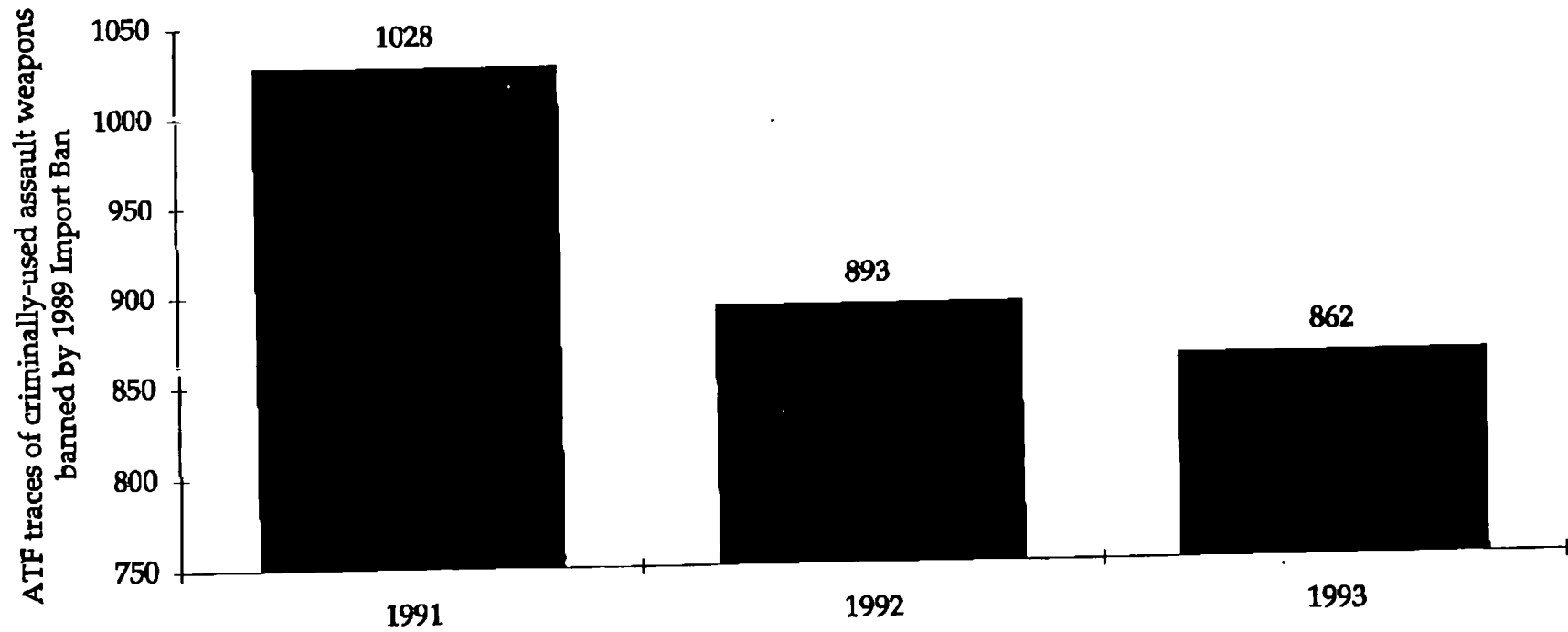
Graph 5

TEC 9 Family of Guns in CA: Legal Copy-Cat Increasingly Traced for Crime



Graph 6

Decline in trace requests for assault weapons banned by 1989 Import Ban



Date: 11/17/93 Time: 11:23

The 56-43 roll call by which the Senate voted Wednesday to

The 56-43 roll call by which the Senate voted Wednesday to approve a ban on 19 types of military-style assault weapons.

On this vote, a ``yes'' vote was a vote for the ban and a ``no'' vote was a vote against it.

Voting ``yes'' were 46 Democrats and 10 Republicans.

Voting ``no'' were 9 Democrats and 34 Republicans.

Alabama=

Heflin (D) No; Shelby (D) No.

Alaska=

Murkowski (R) No; Stevens (R) No.

Arizona=

DeConcini (D) Yes; McCain (R) No.

Arkansas=

Bumpers (D) Yes; Pryor (D) Yes.

California=

Boxer (D) Yes; Feinstein (D) Yes.

Colorado=

Brown (R) Yes; Campbell (D) Yes.

Connecticut=

Dodd (D) Yes; Lieberman (D) Yes.

Delaware=

Biden (D) Yes; Roth (R) Yes.

Florida=

Graham (D) Yes; Mack (R) No.

Georgia=

Coverdell (R) No; Nunn (D) Yes.

Hawaii=

Akaka (D) Yes; Inouye (D) Yes.

Idaho=

Craig (R) No; Kempthorne (R) No.

Illinois=

Moseley Braun (D) Yes; Simon (D) Yes.

Indiana=

Coats (R) Yes; Lugar (R) Yes.

Iowa=

Grassley (R) No; Harkin (D) Yes.

Kansas=

Dole (R) No; Kassebaum (R) Yes.

Kentucky=

Ford (D) Yes; McConnell (R) No.

Louisiana=

Breaux (D) No; Johnston (D) No.

Maine=

Cohen (R) No; Mitchell (D) Yes.

Maryland=

Mikulski (D) Yes; Sarbanes (D) Yes.

Massachusetts=

Kennedy (D) Yes; Kerry (D) Yes.

Michigan=

Levin (D) Yes; Riegle (D) Yes.

Minnesota=

Durenberger (R) No; Wellstone (D) Yes.

Mississippi=

Cochran (R) No; Lott (R) No.

Missouri=

Bond (R) No; Danforth (R) Yes.

Montana=
Baucus (D) Yes; Burns (R) No.
Nebraska=
Exon (D) Yes; Kerrey (D) Yes.
Nevada=
Bryan (D) No; Reid (D) No.
New Hampshire=
Gregg (R) No; Smith (R) No.
New Jersey=
Bradley (D) Yes; Lautenberg (D) Yes.
New Mexico=
Bingaman (D) No; Domenici (R) No.
New York=
D'Amato (R) No; Moynihan (D) Yes.
North Carolina=
Faircloth (R) No; Helms (R) No.
North Dakota=
Conrad (D) Yes; Dorgan (D) Not Voting.
Ohio=
Glenn (D) Yes; Metzenbaum (D) Yes.
Oklahoma=
Boren (D) Yes; Nickles (R) No.
Oregon=
Hatfield (R) Yes; Packwood (R) Yes.
Pennsylvania=
Specter (R) No; Wofford (D) Yes.
Rhode Island=
Chafee (R) Yes; Pell (D) Yes.
South Carolina=
Hollings (D) No; Thurmond (R) No.
South Dakota=
Daschle (D) Yes; Pressler (R) No.
Tennessee=
Mathews (D) Yes; Sasser (D) No.
Texas=
Gramm (R) No; Hutchison (R) No.
Utah=
Bennett (R) No; Hatch (R) No.
Vermont=
Jeffords (R) Yes; Leahy (D) Yes.
Virginia=
Robb (D) Yes; Warner (R) No.
Washington=
Gorton (R) No; Murray (D) Yes.
West Virginia=
Byrd (D) Yes; Rockefeller (D) Yes.
Wisconsin=
Feingold (D) Yes; Kohl (D) Yes.
Wyoming=
Simpson (R) No; Wallop (R) No.

APNP-11-17-93 1124EST

HANDGUN CONTROL

ONE MILLION STRONG . . . working to
keep handguns out of the wrong hands.

FAX COVER SHEETDATE: 6-22TOTAL PAGES (including cover sheet): 7SENT TO (FAX number): 456-7028PLEASE DELIVER TO: Jose Cerda

ORGANIZATION: _____

FROM: Bob Walker

FAX NUMBER: (202) 371-9615

NOTES/COMMENTS: _____

****If you have difficulty receiving this transmission, please call 202/898-0792****

HANDGUN CONTROL

ONE MILLION STRONG . . . working to
keep handguns out of the wrong hands.

STRIKING THE AR-15 FROM THE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN **WOULD GUT THE BILL!**

- The AR-15 is the semiautomatic copy of the military M-16 machinegun, which replaced the M-14 in Vietnam and has since served as the standard rifle of the U.S. armed forces. The AR-15 is often equipped with a 20 or 30-shot magazine.
- Production of the AR-15 was licensed to Colt Firearms in Hartford, Connecticut in 1959. In 1989, Colt voluntarily stopped selling the AR-15 to civilians in response to the Bush Administration's ban on the importation of assault weapons, including a ban on re-importation of the AR-15 into the U.S. because it did not meet the "sporting purpose" test under the Gun Control Act of 1968.
- When Colt was sold in 1990 and renamed Colt's Manufacturing Co., the new owners reversed that decision and resumed the manufacture and sale of a "modified", renamed version of the AR-15 to civilians.
- According to ATF gun trace reports, the AR-15 was the third top assault weapon most frequently traced to crime during 1986-1993. It ranked in the top four for these 8 consecutive years. In 1993, it was second. Over these years, it was traced to over 4,000 crimes, and since ATF traces only 10% of the guns used in crime each year, that figure could be as high as 40,000.
- If the AR-15 were exempted from the ban on assault weapons, it could become the leading assault weapon in America overnight. Production could crank into high gear and sales would skyrocket.
- Making this one exception would gut the effectiveness of the ban on assault weapons, making one of the most notorious assault weapons freely available for commercial sales. Law enforcement, in particular, would be at risk. Last year, a mentally ill man used an AR-15 in an assault on Dayton police that killed one officer and wounded another. This year, rookie LAPD officer Christy Hamilton was shot and killed in a shoot-out with a 17-year old. And if Congress exempts the AR-15, still more police officers will be put at risk. And more lives will be lost.
- The American people have demanded this ban on assault weapons. Both Houses of Congress have passed it, including the ban on the AR-15.

The ban on the AR-15 is a "life saving" provision,
supported by a majority of the Senate and House,
don't delete it

THE AR-15: WEAPON OF CHOICE OF CRIMINALS

- February 22, 1994:** A drug-abusing 17-year-old engaged in a shoot-out with police in Los Angeles. Using an AR-15, he shoots Christy Hamilton, a rookie LAPD officer.
- February 7, 1994:** Detroit fugitive in a murder investigation was apprehended with an AR-15 and other assault weapons.
- February 3, 1994:** After a six-week investigation of a street gang murder-for-hire plot targeted at a rival gang, a Chicago police bust nabbed 3 arrests, cocaine, and stolen weapons, including an AR-15.
- January 31, 1994:** A former student opened fire on a Seattle schoolground, using an AR-15 to shoot a teacher in the back, killing her.
- October 30, 1993:** A "child-hating" sniper in El Cajon, California, opened fire with an AR-15 in a parking lot, killing a woman and her 9-year-old child and wounding 5 others.
- August 10, 1993:** Dion Terres entered a local McDonald's in Kenosha, Wisconsin armed with an AR-15 and another assault weapon and began a random shooting spree with the latter, killing a 50-year-old man and a 42-year-old woman and seriously wounding a 19-year-old man.
- February 28, 1993:** While attempting to serve federal search and arrest warrants at the Branch-Davidian compound in Waco, Texas, 4 ATF special agents were killed and 16 others were wounded with an arsenal of assault weapons, including 123 AR-15s.
- December 27, 1992:** During fourteen minutes of terror in a tavern in Minnesota, customers huddled behind overturned tables, hid in a beer cooler, and ran out a door to escape a barrage of fire from a gunman with an AR-15. Two people were killed and two others were wounded.
- October, 1992:** A gang sniper in a Chicago housing project shot and killed a 7-year-old boy with an AR-15 as he was walking to school holding his mother's hand.
- August 15, 1991:** Chicago Housing Authority police officer Jimmie Lamar Haynes was shot and killed with an AR-15 as he and two fellow officers were walking back to their patrol cars after being relieved of guard duty.
- March 21, 1991:** A 15-year veteran of the Dayton, Ohio police force, William "Steve" Whalen, was shot and killed, and another officer was wounded, by a mentally ill man armed with an AR-15.
- April 15, 1985:** Missouri State Highway Patrol Troopers Jim Linegar and Allen Hines stopped a van during a routine traffic stop. The driver, a member of a neo-Nazi terrorist group, opened fire on the two officers with an assault weapon, killing Linegar and seriously wounding Hines. The assailant fled, and found in the van were two AR-15s and a host of other assault weapons.

Clinton Urges Hunters To Back Assault-Gun Ban

PRESIDENT Clinton has stepped up his campaign to ban assault weapons, urging hunters in an open letter to help outlaw firearms "designed for the battlefield."

In his letter, Mr. Clinton stressed that he had been a hunter since age 12 and offered assurances that he would "not allow the rights of hunters and sportsmen to be infringed upon." But he added: "I know the difference between a firearm used for hunting and target shooting and a weapon designed to kill people."

**WASHINGTON
WATCH**

The Senate has approved legislation that would outlaw assault weapons. White House aides say the legislation is about 15-to-20 votes short in the House and faces an uphill battle for approval. Clinton is focusing his lobbying efforts on about 70 key legislators. The legislation would stop the manufacture, sale, and new possession of 19 semiautomatic assault-style weapons, bar production of copycat models, and limit detachable magazines to 10 rounds.

Clinton, in his letter, sought to blunt arguments by "high-paid lobbyists" that the bill would infringe on hunters' rights. "The proposal I support specifically safeguards hunters' rights," he said. "It explicitly protects more than 450 hunting and recreational rifles from the ban."

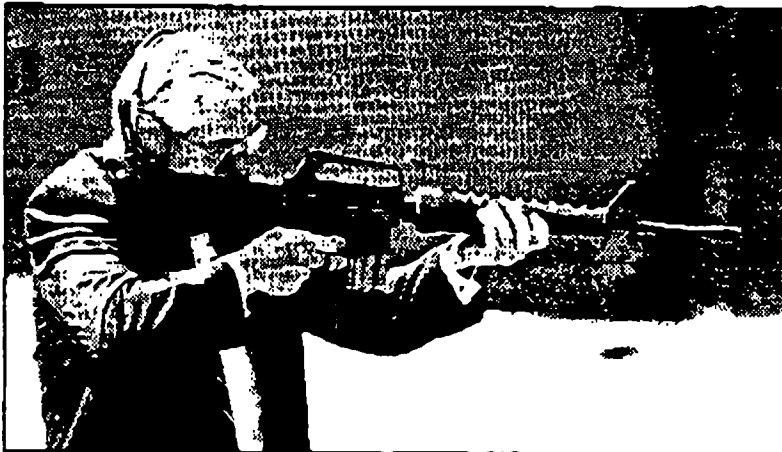
He said the 19 forms of assault weapons that would be banned "have no place on a deer hunt, in a duck blind, or on a target range - and they certainly don't belong on our streets, in our neighborhoods or on our schoolyards."

The assault-weapons ban is part of a broader anticrime package. Clinton said the crime bill would get tough on criminals by putting

100,000 more police on the streets and requiring life without parole for three-time violent offenders.



NOT FOR HUNTING: President Clinton examines an AR-15 assault rifle presented to him at the White House by Lt. Randy Bean of the Dayton, Ohio, police department.



By Tim Dillon, USA TODAY

FIREPOWER DISPLAY: Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen fires a Colt AR-15 rifle Thursday during a demonstration of assault-type weapons that would be banned.

House panel endorses ban on some assault weapons

By Penny Bender
Gannett News Service

The House Judiciary Committee voted 20-15 Thursday to ban military-style semiautomatic assault weapons, clearing the way for a House vote next week.

Gun-ban backers fear they are 15 votes shy of passing the bill, which cleared the Senate as part of its crime bill last year.

Senate leaders want a House assault-weapon vote before beginning a conference on the overall crime bill package.

On Thursday, at a firing range demonstration of the firepower of some weapons that would be banned, Treas-

ury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen fired a Colt AR-15, while Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y. fired an Intratec Tec-9.

In a surprise move, Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., voted for the ban Thursday — a move backers say indicates others may come over.

Hyde voted against the gun ban in 1991, when it failed by 70 votes, but said he changed his mind because "these are weapons of enormous destruction." ... Their only purpose is to kill a lot of people in a hurry."

Hyde said his vote was clinched when Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., sent him a lengthy list of crimes committed recently in his district with assault guns.

Teen-Ager Kills Father, Officer and Himself

■ **Violence:** Christy Lynne Hamilton, who graduated Friday from the Police Academy, is second patrolwoman to be killed in the line of duty.

By SAM ENRIQUEZ
and JOSIE MEYER
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

A rookie Los Angeles police officer was shot to death early Tuesday outside a suburban Northridge home by a 17-year-old youth with a rifle who had previously killed his father in a dispute over loud music, investigators said. The boy later apparently shot himself to death.

Officer Christy Lynne Hamilton, 45, who graduated from the Police Academy on Friday, died after she was shot once in the chest with an AR-15 military-style semiautomatic rifle as she and other officers responded to a report of gunfire at an Amestoy Avenue home.

Police said Steven R. Golly, a Vietnam veteran and gun collector, was gunned down by his son, Christopher, after the pair argued over turning down the youth's stereo. When police arrived later, Chris opened fire on them from his front lawn, hitting Hamilton, police

said.

The youth retreated into the house, and several shots were heard. SWAT officers later stormed the house after trying for several hours to telephone the youth. Inside, both Gollys were found dead, police said.

Hamilton, a mother of two, was the second female Los Angeles police officer to die in the line of duty, and the ninth officer to be killed in the Los Angeles area in the last year.

Upon her Police Academy graduation, Hamilton had received an

Please see DETAILS, A6

A6

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1994

NATION

DEATHS: Youth Kills Father, Officer

Continued from A1
award honoring Tina Kerbrat, the other LAPD female officer who was killed in the line of duty. Kerbrat, also a rookie, was killed three years ago when she and another officer tried to question two men drinking beer on a Sun Valley sidewalk.

Friends described Chris as a bright but troubled youth who was a daily abuser of methamphetamine, or speed. He was recently kicked out of a continuation school after being thrown out of Granada Hills High School. Friends said he used the drug at least once a day and that it often made him edgy.

Family tensions reached the breaking point early Tuesday when Steven Golly asked his son to turn down his stereo, police said.

Angered by the demand, Chris Golly shot his father with the AR-15, a civilian version of the military's standard M-16 rifle.

After the shots, Chris' stepmother and his stepbrother's girlfriend fled and called police from a neighbor's house.

Shortly after 1 a.m., six officers in three police cars from the Devonshire Division turned the corner at Sepio Street and Amesloy Avenue, responding to a 911 report of gunfire, Lt. John Dunkin said.

Chris' stepmother flagged down the officers.

The officers stopped their cars at that moment—the first car directly in front of the Golly home, the second at Amesloy and Sepio and the third several feet behind.

As the officers stepped out of their cars just after 1 a.m., Chris opened fire from his front lawn, which is on an embankment about 10 feet above the street. From that vantage point, the first police car was out of the line of fire, but the second two were easily visible.

Dunkin said one round struck Hamilton, who was crouching behind the open passenger door of the third squad car and wearing a protective vest. The bullet punctured the door and went through an arm opening in the vest and into her chest.

The gunfire also shattered windows in two police vehicles and left a dozen holes in the body panels, police said.

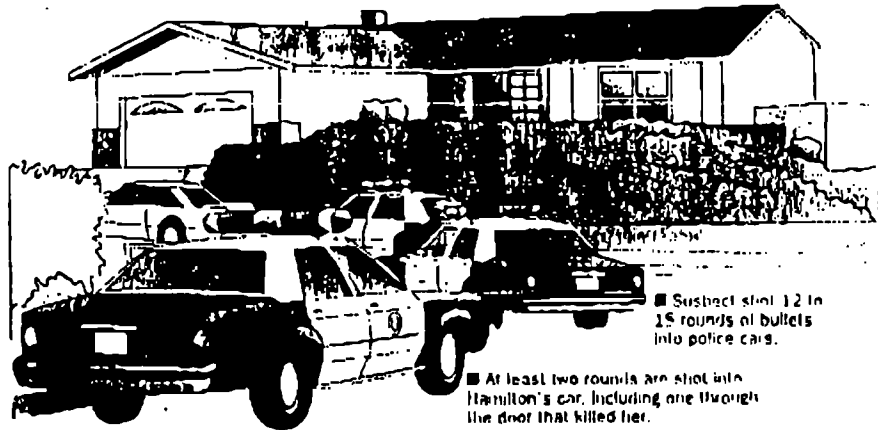
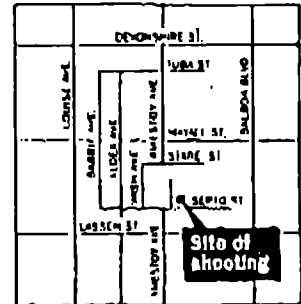
After Chris stopped shooting and retreated into the house, other officers discovered that Hamilton was not moving.

Two more squad cars arrived, and the fatally wounded Hamilton was rushed to Northridge Hospital Medical Center by ambulance. She was pronounced dead an hour later.

While officers were removing Hamilton, another five or six shots

Scenario of a Shooting

Rookie LAPD Officer Christy Lynne Hamilton was shot and killed early Tuesday while responding to a domestic dispute in Northridge. During the five-hour ordeal the suspect and his father were killed. According to police, Steven R. Golly was shot by his son during an argument. Christopher Golly then shot Hamilton and shot and killed himself.



The chain of events as described by police:

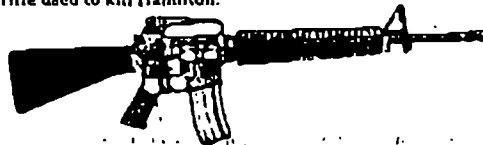
1. Neighbors report hearing shots about 1 a.m.
2. Call comes into LAPD's Devonshire division at 1:18 a.m.
3. Three cars from Devonshire division responding to radio call arrive at scene between 1:18 and 1:30 a.m.
4. Officers see woman on Amesloy Avenue walking toward them, waving her arms. Assuming house is mkt-block, officers from first two cars leave their cars and approach her.
5. Christopher Golly fires shots from behind seven-foot brick wall alongside house toward cars across the street.
6. Officer Hamilton, driving third car, opens her door, gets out and crouches behind door. Bullet

goes through door and enters her arm at edge of bulletproof vest.

7. Officers rush to aid Hamilton, realize she is badly wounded and move her to ambulance. She is rushed to Northridge Hospital Medical Center. She is pronounced dead an hour later.
8. Golly returns to house and as Hamilton is being moved, five or six more shots are heard from inside the house.
9. Officers surround house and are unsuccessful at attempting to phone occupants.
10. SWAT team arrives.
11. Shortly before 6 a.m., SWAT team lobes tear-gas canisters into house. A few minutes later, officers enter house and find the bodies of Steven and Christopher Golly.

The Weapon

The weapon used in the killing of Hamilton is believed to have been an assault rifle similar to the Colt AR-15. Manufactured in various configurations by different companies, these weapons are civilian versions of the M-16, a popular assault rifle used by some U.S. military services. Police have not revealed the manufacturer of the rifle used to kill Hamilton.



■ **Weapon ban:** The Colt version of the semiautomatic weapon was among a number of assault weapons banned by the state in 1989.

■ **Typical features:** Most AR-15s have a .223-caliber round and are equipped with magazines capable of carrying between five and 20 rounds of ammunition.

■ **Collecting:** The AR-15 has long been a favorite of collectors and gun enthusiasts since the M-16 was used in the Vietnam War.

Sources: LAPD; Scenarios by SAE SHER and ALI BELLER/Los Angeles Times

TREVOR JOHNSTON and CHRISTINA RIVERO The Los Angeles Times

supplier.

"I tried to talk him out of it," Conner said as he awaited police questioning at the Devonshire station. "He said he wasn't going to do it, to shoot his father. They were having problems."

"He just said he had had enough. He snipped, b... ly... He and his dad argued a lot. He lost control. He was completely sober [Monday night]. I was with him all night, till 10:30."



came from inside the home, apparently marking Chris' suicide. Police Chief Willie L. Williams said at a news conference.

After trying without success to reach someone inside the house by telephone, SWAT team members tossed tear gas canisters into the home about 6 a.m. and then entered.

Inside, police found the body of Steven Golly in a back room used as a den. Chris' body lay in a hallway leading to a bedroom.

A youth who described himself as Chris' best friend said he was at the Golly house Monday night when father and son were arguing, and that the younger Golly was not under the influence of speed.

Matt Conner said Chris was angry and talked about getting back at or even killing his father, a wholesale electrical equipment

Friends said that the older Golly was an avid gun collector and that his son often bragged to his friends about his father's weapons, although the father was not believed to own any guns.

It was unclear Tuesday whether the AR-15 rifle used in the killings was from that collection, and it was unclear what type of the weapon Chris used.

Some versions of the AR-15—a class of rifle manufactured in several models by different companies—are legal in California and others are not.

A 1989 state law outlawed the casual sale of AR-15s manufactured by Hartford, Conn.-based Colt Manufacturing Co. But the law allowed owners to keep the weapons if they legally acquired them before June 1, 1989, and registered them by Jan. 1, 1991.



THE PHOENIX / For The Times

Christy Lynne Hamilton's parents, Margie Hofferberg and Kenneth Brondell, comfort each other. At left, her brother, Kenneth Brondell Jr.

Chris' mother died in 1990 while his parents were in the process of divorcing. And the relationship between father and son had deteriorated recently, said Mariasa Morales, who said she was a friend of

the father's.

Morales said Chris had "really been on edge the last couple of weeks. He's really been shaky."

Times staff writer Jack Cheevers contributed to this story.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 3, 1994

Mr. Dewey Stokes
National President
Fraternal Order of Police
Suite 205
520 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Dewey:

Thanks for your -- and the Fraternal Order of Police's (FOP) -- support of HR 4296, a bill to ban new semiautomatic assault weapons. These weapons have no legitimate purpose in civilian hands, and they have made our nation's streets a veritable battleground.

As we move to prohibit these weapons of war, I do agree with you and the FOP that we should not interfere with the work of law enforcement officials who put their lives at risk to protect our communities, whether they are on or off duty. Retired and off-duty police officers are never far from the call of the public for help and are an essential resource in ensuring the public safety. Thus, I support enactment of an assault weapons ban with a provision that ensures no interference with the ability of law enforcement officers to carry these weapons or large capacity ammunition magazines.

Again, thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bill Clinton" with a stylized flourish at the end.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
15TH & PENNSYLVANIA AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220



DATE: 5/3

PAGES TO FOLLOW: 2

TO: Jose Cerda

FAX NUMBER: 456-7028

FROM: LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS 622-1900 (office) 622-0534 (fax)

ERIK NORTH

COMMENTS

MAY-02-1994 19:41 FROM ATF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TO

9-6221465

P.02

*Treasury
Draft*

Mr. Dewey R. Stokes
National President
Fraternal Order of Police
520 South High Street, Suite 205
Columbus, Ohio 43215-5685

Dear Dewey:

I believe the upcoming House vote on assault weapons is the key to ensuring that controls on these deadly guns make it into the Crime Bill, and into law, this year. Reasonable assault weapons legislation is a ~~key element~~ *needed* ⁺ of combatting violent crime and I have committed myself fully to working for its passage.

That we have a chance to enact such legislation is in a large part due to the work you and the Fraternal Order of Police have done since Senator DeConcini introduced his first bill in 1989. As with the Brady Law, we are going to need your help to get the right law passed.

I am fully aware that your membership has serious concerns about the provision in the current legislation which limits the magazine capacity of semi-automatic firearms to 10 rounds. Your membership is concerned about the impact of this legislation on retired and off-duty police officers. I want you to know that I share that concern.

In many areas, retired police officers are presented their duty firearm and are recognized as peace officers. Retired and off-duty police officers are never far from the call of the public for help and are an essential resource in ensuring the public safety.

MAY-02-1994 19:42 FROM ATF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TO

9-6221465

P.03

It is my intention to see assault weapons legislation in the Crime Bill as a means to protect law enforcement officers and the public. I know you agree with that goal and can help us attain it. I assure you that I will work with you to ensure the law I ultimately sign does not weaken a vital cadre of trained and experienced law enforcement professionals.

I look forward to having the Fraternal Order of Police at my side when I sign that law.

Sincerely,

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jose Cerda
FROM: Stephen Brown
DATE: June 15, 1994
RE: Attached Amendment Language

House Bill 4296, Section 2, (a)(4)

"(4) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to --

"(A) the manufacture for, transfer to, or possession by the United States or a department or agency of the United States or a State or a department, agency, or political subdivision of a State, or a transfer to or possession by a law enforcement officer employed by such an entity for purposes of law enforcement (on-duty or off-duty)."

Subparagraph (B) is deleted.

Subparagraph (C) becomes (B). [retired cops]

Subparagraph (D) becomes (C).

Same changes made to magazine capacity section.

FOP AMENDMENT TO HR 4286

On page 2, delete lines 21 and 22.

The effect of these two changes should cause Section 2 (a)(4)(B) to read as follows:

- (B) the transfer of a semiautomatic assault handgun by a licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer to an entity referred to in subparagraph (A) or to a law enforcement officer;

On page 9, line 1, delete words "authorized by such an entity to purchase ammunition for official use;"

The effect of this change will be to have this section -- Section 4 (a)(3)(B) -- comply with the changes made above on page 2.

2300 M STREET, N.W., SUITE 910
WASHINGTON, DC 20037
PHONE: (202) 466-7820
FAX: (202) 466-7826



CHUCK WEXLER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: May 1, 1994
Contact: Rob Chapman (202) 466-7820
Martha Plotkin

Statement by the Police Executive Research Forum on Assault Weapons

Washington, DC—The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), a membership organization of progressive police executives and law enforcement professionals, is here today to express its support for a ban on assault weapons. The U.S. House of Representatives is expected to vote on an assault weapons ban this week. Passage of legislation banning military-style assault weapons is long overdue. PERF members know the ban can save lives—they know because they see them used to commit crimes, to kill innocent children and bystanders, and to threaten the safety of cops in this country.

PERF members know that these weapons of war have no place in a civilized society. They are not used for legitimate hunting or sporting purposes, but are increasingly being used against our citizens on the streets of America. Even though they make up less than one percent of the guns in circulation, they account for over eight percent of the firearms traced to criminal activities. It is clear by their disproportionate use in crimes that assault weapons have become the "guns of choice" for gangs, drug traffickers, and deranged killers.

The Schumer-Feinstein bill that is presently before Congress is a carefully crafted bill that will stop the production of these deadly weapons, while safeguarding the interests of legitimate gun owners. More than 650 hunting rifles and shotguns have been explicitly exempted from this ban. The military features of assault weapons clearly set them apart from sporting weapons.

PERF members face violence against citizens and police officers on a daily basis. They believe that lawmakers must act now to end the accessibility of these weapons of destruction. In a PERF survey, 78 percent of the respondents favored a ban on assault weapons. If Congress will listen to the nation's law enforcement officers, we can put an end to the further manufacture and importation of these deadly weapons.

BACKGROUND ON THE ASSAULT WEAPONS ISSUE

THE PROBLEM:

Military-style semiautomatic assault weapons, such as UZIs, AK-47s, TEC-9s and MAC-10s which can fire dozens of bullets in seconds, have become the 'weapons of choice' for drug traffickers, mass murderers, youth gangs and hate groups. Our police are now frequently out-gunned by criminals on the street. What is shocking is that these weapons, designed specifically for combat, are legally sold with almost no federal restrictions. In most states, any 18-year-old can walk into a gun store, sign a form which no one checks, and walk out with an AK-47 assault weapon.

And criminals do just that. Statistics from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) reveal that although semiautomatic assault weapons comprise only 0.5% of the privately-owned guns in America, they accounted for 8.4% of all firearms traced to crime during 1988-91. In other words, assault weapons were about 17 times more likely to be traced to crime than conventional firearms.

BACKGROUND:

The possession of machine guns (fully automatic weapons which can fire a continuous stream of bullets with a single pull of the trigger) has been heavily restricted for more than fifty years, and the manufacture of new machine guns for civilians was banned by federal law in 1986.

Semiautomatic assault weapons are virtually identical to these machine guns except that they fire a single bullet and automatically reload each time the trigger is pulled. The federal government has determined that assault weapons can be distinguished from hunting and sporting weapons by their combat hardware such as: large-capacity detachable magazines, folding stocks, pistol grips, bayonets, flash suppressors, bipods, grenade launchers and night sights.

Not all semiautomatics are assault weapons. There are many "legitimate" semiautomatic pistols, shotguns and rifles. But those sporting guns do not have the killing capacity of assault weapons, and that is why drug cartels and the Patrick Purdys of the world use those weapons of war.

CURRENT LAW:

In most jurisdictions, there are virtually no restrictions on the purchase of assault weapons. If a buyer is at least 18 years old, displays ID, and signs a federal form (which no one checks) claiming that he is not a felon or drug addict, he can walk out of a gun store with an UZI carbine and ammunition within minutes.

Although the Bush Administration permanently banned the importation of 43 models of semiautomatic assault rifles in 1989, the BATF estimates that 75% of assault weapons in the U.S. are American-made.

In 1989, California became the first state to ban the sale of assault weapons. New Jersey followed in 1990. Hawaii banned assault pistols in 1992 and Connecticut banned assault weapons in 1993. More than thirty cities and counties across the country have taken similar action, including Albany, NY; Atlanta, GA; Boston, MA; Cleveland, OH; Denver, CO; Los Angeles, and Stockton, CA.

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BACKGROUND ON THE ASSAULT WEAPONS ISSUE

Page 2

SUPPORT FOR ASSAULT WEAPON RESTRICTIONS IS STRONG:

Every major national law enforcement organization in America supports a nationwide ban on assault weapons, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Sheriffs' Association, the National Association of Police Organizations and the national Fraternal Order of Police.

Dozens of leading labor, medical, religious, civil rights and civic groups support such legislation, including AFL-CIO, AFSCME, American Academy of Pediatrics, AARP, American Bar Association, American Jewish Congress, American Medical Association, American Public Health Association, B'nai B'rith, Gray Panthers, National Association of Counties, National Education Association, National Urban Coalition, and U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Most important, the people support a ban on assault weapons, as proven by every major public opinion poll on the subject. A Louis Harris nationwide poll, sponsored by the Harvard School of Public Health, found that 63% of Americans favor "a federal law banning the sale of all automatic and semiautomatic guns." And a December, 1993, CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll reported that 77% of Americans favor "a law banning the manufacture, sale and possession of semiautomatic assault guns, such as the AK-47."

WHY WE NEED TO OUTLAW ASSAULT WEAPONS

ASSAULT WEAPONS ARE A THREAT TO DOMESTIC SAFETY

Louis J. Freeh, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, stated the matter very plainly:

"....the weaponry and ammunition at the disposal of the gangs and drug dealers is staggering. The image of teenagers patrolling the streets with assault weapons is no longer something that is confined to a news story about some distant land. In too many places in our country, it has become reality. In a civilized society like ours, there is simply no place for assault weapons, which serve only to provide a source of strength and power to America's criminal elements. These weapons of destruction must be banned. Not just a ban on importation, but a ban on domestic manufacture and a ban on distribution of these weapons of death."

ATF STATISTICS PROVE ASSAULT WEAPONS THREAT

The Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has analyzed gun trace reports from 1986 through 1990. ATF revealed that:

Although semiautomatic assault weapons comprise only 0.5% to 1% of the privately-owned guns in America, they accounted for 7% of all firearms traced to crime in 1986-87 and more than 10% of all crime guns traced in 1988-89. In other words, assault weapons are 10 to 20 times more likely to be traced to crime than conventional firearms.

During 1986-90, 1,088 assault weapons were traced to murders in the United States and 3,505 were linked to drug traffickers. Since only about 10% of all gun crimes result in firearms traces, assault weapons have been used in as many as ten times more crimes.

ATF STATISTICS PROVE ASSAULT WEAPONS ACT WILL WORK

The Bush Administration's 1989 ban on the importation of assault weapons had a dramatic effect. Between 1989 and 1990, the number of imported assault weapons traced to crime declined by 45% while the number of domestic assault weapons traced to crime remained about the same. Murders, assaults, drug crimes and property crimes linked to assault weapons all declined from 1989 to 1990 as a result of the import ban.

No one claims that assault weapon legislation will stop all assault weapon crime, but ATF tracing statistics prove that we can dry up the supply of these guns, make them less accessible to drug dealers and homicidal maniacs, and make a significant dent in the violence plaguing America.

**H.R. 4296, INTRODUCED BY CONGRESSMAN CHARLES E. SCHUMER/
SENATOR FEINSTEIN'S ASSAULT WEAPONS AMENDMENT TO THE
VIOLENT CRIME CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1993**

H.R. 4296 effectively bans the future manufacture and importation of semiautomatic assault weapons and specifically exempts hunting and sporting weapons.

- (1) Bans the future manufacture and importation of semiautomatic assault weapons; all currently-owned guns are grandfathered.
- (2) Defines semiautomatic assault weapons both with a list and thorough objective criteria.
 - (a) The bill lists 19 types of semiautomatic assault weapons which would be banned. In both 1990 and 1991, the Senate approved a ban on nearly all of the listed weapons.
 - (b) The bill also uses objective criteria to designate other guns as semiautomatic assault weapons. Those criteria are very specific:
 - (i) In the case of a rifle, the weapon must be a semiautomatic, AND able to accept a detachable magazine, AND have at least 2 of the following 5 features: folding stock, pistol grip, bayonet mount, threaded barrel for flash suppressor, grenade launcher.
 - (ii) In the case of a pistol, the weapon must be a semiautomatic, AND able to accept a detachable magazine, AND have at least 2 of the following 5 features: magazine attaches outside the pistol grip, threaded barrel for silencer, barrel shroud, unloaded weight of 50 ounces or more, semiautomatic version of a machinegun.
 - (iii) In the case of a shotgun, the weapon must be a semiautomatic, AND have at least 2 of the following 4 features: folding stock, pistol grip, fixed magazine capacity in excess of 5 rounds, ability to accept a detachable magazine.
- (3) Contains express exceptions for hunting and sporting firearms both with a list and through objective criteria.
 - (a) The bill lists 670 types of hunting and sporting rifles and shotguns which would be explicitly exempted from the ban. Also verifies that because a weapon does not appear on the exempted list does not mean that it is not exempt. Other weapons that do not fit the assault weapon criteria outlined above can be added to the exempted list.
 - (b) The bill also uses objective criteria to explicitly exempt hunting and sporting guns. Those criteria are very specific:
 - (i) Any gun that is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action.

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- (ii) Any gun that has been rendered permanently inoperable.
 - (iii) Any gun that is an antique firearm (which is defined in current law).
 - (iv) Any semiautomatic rifle that cannot accept a detachable magazine that holds more than 5 rounds of ammunition.
 - (v) Any semiautomatic shotgun that cannot hold more than 5 rounds of ammunition in a fixed or detachable magazine.
- (4) Contains explicit exceptions for governmental and experimental use.
- (5) Requires private sellers and buyers of assault weapons to maintain a record of the transaction. Violators of the recordkeeping requirement are subject to possible criminal penalties, but are not barred from purchasing or possessing another firearm.
- (6) Bans the future manufacture and importation of large-capacity ammunition magazines.
 - (a) The bill defines large-capacity ammunition feeding devices as those magazines which can hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition, but does not include tubular magazines for .22 caliber rimfire ammunition.
 - (b) The bill also applies to large-capacity magazines those laws and regulations which are routinely applied to all firearms. (E.g., manufacturers and dealers must be licensed, weapons must be marked with a serial number.)
- (7) Creates penalties for violation of this act: up to five years in jail, except the record-keeping requirement which is punishable by up to 6 months in jail.
- (8) Requires study by the Attorney General on the problem of assault weapons and the effectiveness of this law.
- (9) Sunsets the entire law 10 years after the date of enactment.

H.R. 4296

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

DOES H.R. 4296 BAN ALL SEMI-AUTOMATIC GUNS?

No. Only semi-automatic guns with multiple assault weapon features are banned. Traditional guns designed for use in hunting and recreational activities are not affected.

WILL THIS LEGISLATION REQUIRE THE CONFISCATION OF ASSAULT WEAPONS THAT ARE NOW LAWFULLY POSSESSED?

No. H.R. 4296 bans the manufacture and importation of assault weapons—existing weapons are grandfathered. Assault weapons lawfully possessed prior to bill's effective date may be retained.

WILL GRANDFATHERED WEAPONS HAVE TO BE REGISTERED WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT?

No. There is no requirement that grandfathered weapons be registered. If a grandfathered weapon is transferred, the buyer and the seller must fill out the same form used to record sales in gun stores, but the form is retained by the buyer and the seller.

ALTHOUGH AIMED AT RESTRICTING ASSAULT WEAPONS, WON'T THIS LEGISLATION AFFECT TRADITIONAL HUNTING RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS?

No. The definition of assault weapon is tightly drawn. Only weapons with multiple assault weapon features are banned. To alleviate concerns that hunting weapons somehow might be affected, the bill provides specific protection to 670 hunting rifles and shotguns that are presently being manufactured. The list, however, is not exhaustive. A gun does not have to be on the list in order to be protected. Again, the only weapons that are prohibited are those with multiple assault weapon features. The sponsors of the bill have also said that if any legitimate hunting rifle is left off the list, they will add it.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN AUTOMATIC AND A SEMI-AUTOMATIC WEAPON?

An automatic weapon (machine gun) will continue to fire as long as the trigger is depressed (or until the ammunition magazine is emptied). A semi-automatic weapon will fire one round and instantly load the next round with each pull of the trigger. This means that a semi-automatic fires a little more slowly than an automatic, but not much more slowly. When San Jose police test-fired an UZI, a 30-round magazine was emptied in slightly less than two seconds on full automatic while the same magazine was emptied in just five seconds on semi-automatic. The manufacture of machine guns (fully automatic firearms) was halted in 1986, but semi-automatic versions of those same guns are still being produced.

HOW IS IT POSSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH SEMI-AUTOMATIC HUNTING RIFLES FROM SEMI-AUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS?

Sporting rifles and assault weapons are two distinct classes of firearms. While semi-automatic hunting rifles are designed to be fired from the shoulder and depend upon the accuracy of a precisely aimed projectile, semi-automatic assault weapons are designed to maximize lethal effects through a rapid rate of fire. Assault weapons are designed to be spray-fired from the hip, and because of their design, a shooter can maintain control of the weapon even while firing many rounds in rapid succession.

Because assault weapons were designed for military purposes, assault weapons are equipped with "combat hardware," such as silencers, folding stocks and bayonets, which are not found on sporting guns. While opponents of legislation restricting semi-automatic assault weapons argue that such weapons only "look scary," there is a good reason why these features on assault weapons should frighten the public. Assault weapons are commonly equipped with some or all of the following combat hardware:

- Large-capacity ammunition magazines, enabling the shooter to continuously fire dozens of rounds without reloading. Standard hunting rifles are equipped with no more than 3 or 4-shot magazines.
- Folding stock on a rifle or shotgun, which sacrifices accuracy for advantages such as concealability and mobility in close combat.
- Pistol grip on a rifle or shotgun, which facilitates firing from the hip, allowing the shooter to spray-fire the weapon. A pistol grip also helps stabilize the firearm during rapid fire.
- Barrel shroud which is designed to cool the barrel so the firearm can shoot many rounds in rapid succession without overheating. It also allows the shooter to grasp the barrel area, without incurring serious burns, during rapid fire.
- Threaded barrel designed to accommodate a flash suppressor, which serves no useful sporting purpose. The flash suppressor allows the shooter to remain concealed when shooting at night, an advantage in combat but unnecessary for hunting or sporting purposes. In addition, the flash suppressor is useful in preventing barrel climb during rapid fire, helping the shooter maintain control of the firearm.
- Threaded barrel designed to accommodate a silencer, which is useful to assassins but has no purpose for sportsmen.
- Barrel mount designed to accommodate a bayonet, which obviously serves no sporting purpose.

THE GUN LOBBY SAYS THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A SEMI-AUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPON.

The gun industry itself says differently. In 1986, Gun Digest, considered by many to be the Bible of the gun industry, first published a book entitled, The Gun Digest Book of Assault Weapons. Here is what they had to say about a few of the weapons they test-fired for their second edition:

"The Cobray M11/Nine bears a striking resemblance to the Ingram M11 submachine gun, because it is basically the same gun. Current manufacture is made in semi-auto."

"[The Spectre], now being produced by F.I.E., is a semi-automatic clone of the Spectre submachine gun that is being manufactured in Italy. . . .If you can't have the steak, you can still have the sizzle."

DON'T THESE GUNS MAKE UP ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF GUNS USED IN CRIME?

The Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has analyzed gun trace reports from 1986 through 1990. ATF revealed that:

Although semiautomatic assault weapons comprise only 0.5% to 1% of the privately-owned guns in America, they accounted for 7% of all firearms traced to crime in 1986-87 and more than 10% of all crime guns traced in 1988-89. In other words, assault weapons are 10 to 20 times more likely to be traced to crime than conventional firearms.

During 1986-90, 1,088 assault weapons were traced to murders in the United States and 3,505 were linked to drug traffickers. Since only about 10% of all gun crimes result in firearms traces, assault weapons have been used in as many as ten times more crimes.

IS A SLIDE-ACTION GUN CONSIDERED SEMI-AUTOMATIC?

No. Slide-action, pump-action, bolt-action, lever-action, single shot firearms and revolvers are not considered semi-automatic weapons.

HOW ARE ASSAULT WEAPONS TREATED UNDER CURRENT FEDERAL LAW?

In 1934, Congress voted to require that all fully-automatic weapons be registered. Transferees must undergo FBI criminal record checks and a \$200 transfer tax is imposed. In 1986, Congress outlawed the manufacture and importation of new automatic weapons for sale to civilians. However, under federal law, semi-automatic assault weapons can be purchased on a cash-and-carry basis.

WHAT TYPE OF GUN WAS USED IN THE STOCKTON SCHOOLYARD MASSACRE?

On January 17, 1989, Patrick Purdy killed 5 small children, and wounded 29 others and 1 teacher at the Cleveland Elementary School in Stockton, California, using a semi-automatic version of the AK-47 assault rifle imported from the People's Republic of China. That weapon had been purchased from a gun dealer in Oregon and was equipped with a 75-round "drum" magazine. Purdy shot 106 rounds in less than 2 minutes.

WHAT TYPE OF GUN WAS USED IN THE SAN FRANCISCO PETTIT & MARTIN SHOOTINGS?

On July 1, 1993, gunman Gian Luigi Ferri killed 8 people and wounded 6 others at the San Francisco law offices of Pettit & Martin, using two TEC-DC9 assault pistols with 50-round magazines. These weapons had been purchased from a gun dealer in Las Vegas, Nevada.

WHAT TYPE OF GUN WAS USED IN THE CIA SHOOTINGS?

On January 25, 1993, Pakistani national Mir Aimal Kansi allegedly killed 2 CIA employees and wounded 3 others with a Chinese-made semi-automatic AK-47 assault rifle equipped with a 30-round magazine, purchased from a Northern Virginia gun store.

WHAT TYPE OF GUNS WERE USED BY THE BRANCH-DAVIDIAN CULT IN WACO?

On February 28, 1993, while attempting to serve federal search and arrest warrants at the Branch-Davidian compound in Waco, Texas, 4 ATF special agents were killed and 16 others were wounded with an arsenal of assault weapons. According to a federal affidavit, the cult had at least the following assault weapons: 123 AR-15s, 44 AK-47s, 2 Barrett .50 calibers, 2 Street Sweepers, an unknown number of MAC-10 and MAC-11s, 20 100-round drum magazines, and 260 large-capacity banana clips. The weapons were bought legally from gun dealers and at gun shows.

HOW MANY SEMI-AUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS ARE THERE IN THE U.S.?

There are between one and two million semi-automatic assault weapons currently in circulation. At least 167,849 were imported into the United States in 1986-87.

WHAT ACTION DID THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION TAKE ON IMPORTED ASSAULT WEAPONS?

Under the 1968 Gun Control Act, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) is empowered to prevent the importation of guns which are not "particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes." In 1989, President Bush permanently banned the importation of 43 types of semi-automatic assault weapons which were determined not to have a sporting purpose. An estimated 750,000 weapons were affected.

CAN ATF BAN THE DOMESTIC MANUFACTURE OR SALE OF ASSAULT WEAPONS?

Under current law, ATF has no authority to prohibit the manufacture of domestic semi-automatic assault weapons. It will require the passage of new legislation for domestic semi-automatic assault weapons to be regulated.

WHAT IF DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF ASSAULT WEAPONS IS NOT BANNED?

If we do not prohibit domestic production, American manufacturers will make assault weapons in even greater quantities and likely copy the designs of previously imported assault weapons. After ATF outlawed the importation of a South African riot-control shotgun called the Striker-12 in 1986, American manufacturers subsequently marketed copies of the Striker-12, boasting that it was barred from importation. The same thing occurred with the USAS-12 assault shotgun, previously made in South Korea.

HOW MUCH OF A CRIME PROBLEM ARE SEMI-AUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS?

While there is no reporting requirement on assault weapon incidents, police across America report that semi-automatic assault weapons have become the "weapons of choice" for drug traffickers, street gangs and paramilitary extremist groups. ATF data reveals that although semi-automatic assault weapons comprise only 0.5% of the privately-owned guns in America, they accounted for 8.4% of all firearms traced to crime during 1988-91. In other words, assault weapons were about 17 times more likely to be traced to crime than conventional firearms. Further, during 1986-91, 20,526 assault weapons were traced to crimes, and those, 1,349 were specifically traced to murders in the United States and 4,031 were linked to drug traffickers. Since only about 10% of all gun crimes result in firearms traces, assault weapons were probably used in ten times as many crimes as these.

WHAT DO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS THINK WE SHOULD DO ABOUT ASSAULT WEAPONS?

Every major national law enforcement organization in the country supports a ban on semi-automatic assault weapons, including the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Sheriff's Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the National Association of Police Organizations.

WILL AN ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN HELP TO FIGHT CRIME?

Yes. An assault weapons ban will cut off the production and, thus, the supply of these deadly weapons to criminals. We know from prior experience that a ban on assault weapons will reduce their use in crime. After President Bush's import ban on assault rifles, their use in crime dropped dramatically, more than 40 percent in the first year. California's assault weapon ban has shown similar success. But an import ban and state-based bans are of limited effectiveness—we need a national ban on the domestic manufacture of these weapons.

SEMI-AUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS ARE NO DEADLIER THAN OTHER SEMI-AUTOMATIC WEAPONS. RIGHT?

No. Semi-automatic assault weapons are deadlier than other semi-automatic guns. Often derived from fully automatic military guns, these guns are specifically designed to provide the type of lethal killing power needed in combat. Assault weapons come standard with high capacity magazines that allow the shooter to fire dozens of rounds without reloading. Assault weapons come equipped with features that make it easier to shoot during rapid fire. An assault rifle, for example, comes equipped with a pistol grip to allow the gun to be sprayed fire with greater accuracy from the hip. Assault pistols generally have barrel shrouds to prevent overheating in rapid fire. Assault rifles generally have folding stocks, which makes the gun more concealable, like a pistol, without sacrificing the high velocity associated with long guns.

THE NRA ARGUES THAT THE REAL PROBLEM ISN'T ASSAULT WEAPONS. THEY SAY THE WAY TO REDUCE CRIME RATES IS TO LOCK UP MORE CRIMINALS IN JAIL. IS IT?

Tough sentencing is only part of the answer. We also need preventive measures. Between 1986 and 1991, the total number of state prisons increased from 903 to 1,239 (37%) and the total number of state prison inmates increased from 450,416 to 711,643 (58%). During those same years, our nation's violent crime rate skyrocketed by 23%. Obviously, we need to do more than just throw people in jail.

WILL A BAN ON ASSAULT WEAPONS AFFECT THE USE OF THESE WEAPONS BY THE MILITARY OR POLICE?

No. All legislative proposals to ban assault weapons exempt law enforcement agencies and the military.

"The gunman, armed with several guns, including TEC-DC9 assault pistols, stalked John and me like we were human prey. John died while saving



my life. He had env-
ered my body
with his own as
we tried to hide
behind a file
cabinet. He
knew he was

dying, and told me he loved me and to hug
his family for him."—Michelle Smith, who was
wounded, and whose husband, John, was killed in
the San Francisco high rise shooting, July 1, 1993.

"December 7 began
like any other day for
my family. And it nearly ended like any
other day. But because my husband
Dennis and 26-year-old son, Kevin, were on
the 5:13 Long Island commuter train,



December 7
changed our lives
forever. Dennis and
Kevin were among
those who were
senselessly and run-
domey gunned down
by a hate-filled man
wielding a semi-

automatic pistol with a 18-round magazine.
Dennis and five others lost their lives. Our
son survived, but is paralyzed. Thankfully,
Kevin continues to make progress."

—George McCarthy, whose husband, Dennis, was
killed and whose son, Kevin, was wounded in the
Long Island Railroad massacre, December 7, 1993

THE GUN LOBBY SAYS THAT ASSAULT WEAPONS ARE NOT A CRIME PROBLEM.

DREAMS SHATTERED. LIVES LOST. ISN'T THAT A CRIME?

"We were on our
way to work, stopped
at a traffic light, when

a man with an AK-47
assault rifle calmly
walked up and started
shouting at our car.
Bullets flew into the
car. Bullets went



through the car and into other cars. And
four of those bullets hit Frank, my hus-
band of only three months. In a matter of
seconds, my life went from heaven to the
depths of hell."—Jody Becker Darling, whose
husband, Frank, was killed outside of CIA
headquarters, January 21, 1991.

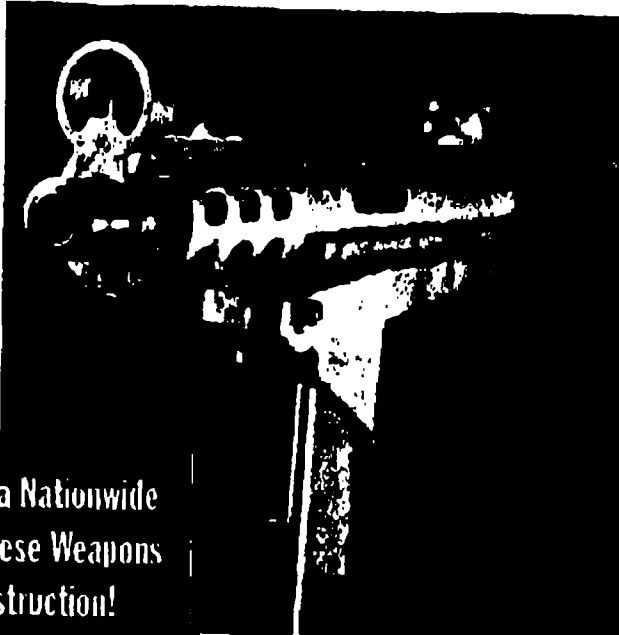
"My wife, Jody, my
daughter, Meghan,
and I were a wonderful family, part of the
fabric of American society. Our marriage
was strong, our love was limitless, and
creating the life of
Meghan was the most
special thing in both
our lives. My wife was
shot not once, not
twice, not three times,



not four times, but five times. Imagine
that trip to the coroner's office to look at
the most important person in your life,
lying there lifeless, with five bullets in her
body."—Steve Spassan, whose wife, Jody, was one
of eight victims killed in the San Francisco high
rise shooting, July 1, 1993.

**TELL YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS TO
VOTE FOR THE ASSAULT WEAPON BAN.
CALL TODAY, 202-225-3121.**

DON'T TELL US AN ASSAULT WEAPON BAN WON'T HELP FIGHT CRIME.



● Although assault weapons account for less than 1% of the firearms in circulation, they represented nearly 30% of the guns traced to organized crime, drug trafficking, and crimes involving terrorists.**

● Assault weapons are twenty times more likely to be used in crime than a conventional firearm.**

● After the Bush Administration's 1989 ban on the importation of assault weapons, the number of imported assault weapons traced to crime declined by 45% between 1989 and 1990, while the number of domestic assault weapons traced to crime remained the same.*

Assault weapons are the choice of drug dealers, gang members, hate groups, and deranged gunmen like Patrick Purdy who sprayed into a school and fell of innocent children in Stockton, California, wounding 29 and killing 5; and Glen Luigi Ferri, who used two TEC-DC-9s to hunt down eight employees at 101 California Street in San Francisco.

The Senate has already approved a measure that would ban 19 types of these killing machines and their look-alike versions. The House must do the same.

* Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
** CBS News, "Firearm Assault Weapons in America"

We Want a Nationwide
Ban on These Weapons
of Destruction!

American Academy of Pediatrics
American Federation of State, County and
Municipal Employees
American Jewish Congress
American Jewish Congress
American Medical Student Association
American Nurses Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Public Health Association
American for Democratic Action
Anti-Defamation League
Children's Defense Fund
Church of The Brethren, Washington Office
Federal Law Enforcement Officers
Association
General Federation of Women's Clubs
International Ladies' Garment
Workers' Union
League of Women Voters of the U.S.
Major Cities Chief Administrators
Mentorship Council Churches U.S.
National Association for the Advancement
of Colored People
National Association of Children's
Hospitals and Related Institutions
National Association of Counties

National Association of Pediatric Nurse
Associates & Practitioners
National Association of Police Organizations
National Association of Social Workers
National Council of Catholic Women
National Council of Jewish Women
National Education Association
National League of Cities
National Organization of Black Law
Enforcement Executives
National Sheriffs' Association
National Urban Coalition
National Urban League
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Police Research Research Forum
Police Foundation
Public Citizen's Congress Watch
Public Employee Department, AFL-CIO
The United States Conference of Mayors
Unite Us Universal Association
United Church of Christ Office for Church
in Society
United Methodist Church, General Board of
Church and Society
Women's National Democratic Club
YWCA of the U.S.A.

This Public Safety Message Brought to you by American Control, Inc.

We Want H.R. 3527, an Important Tool in the Fight Against Crime.

Roll Call April 18, 1994

OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC LIAISON AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

TO:

Jose Cerda

OFFICE:

Domestic Policy

FAX NO:

456 7028

PHONE

456 2564

FROM:

Gail Heffner

TOTAL PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET)

PHONE: 514-3465

FAX NO: 514-2504

COMMENTS:



M2 carbines were supplied in vast numbers to South Vietnamese troops like these, shown making an especially warlike exit from a UH-34 helicopter in 1969. Presumably, the current regime in Hanoi still holds large stocks of M1 carbines and M1 rifles.

ALL THE WAY WITH THE M1 CARBINE

PART TWO

By M. D. WAITE
Technical Editor
THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

THE production of the M1 carbine in World War II dwarfed any previous effort in manufacturing U.S. military or sporting firearms. In the short span of 3½ years, the total production of these handy, cal. .30 carbines reached 6,117,827.

The accomplishment constituted an American industrial feat of the kind that repeatedly staggered the Axis powers and awed the world. Nine of the ten firms which contracted to make hundreds of thousands of M1 carbines were totally inexperienced in firearms manufacture. The one exception was a notable one: the Winchester Repeating Arms Co. As noted previously, the M1 carbine evolved from Winchester concepts and designs.

With America's entry into World War II imminent, Winchester received an order for 350,000 carbines on Nov. 24, 1941, but it was obvious that Winchester with its already-heavy military small arms commitments could not shoulder the whole burden of producing the carbines.

Winchester engineers worked closely with the Inland Manufacturing Division of General Motors Corp. in establishing production of the M1 carbine there. This was before March 25, 1942, when the Government entered into a patent license agreement with the Western Cartridge Co., Winchester Repeating Arms Division, which authorized manufacture of the M1 carbine on a royalty-free basis. Under the terms of this contract, the Government reimbursed the Western Cartridge Co. in the amount of \$896,000 for the expense involved in development of the carbine and other pertinent costs.

Carbine production was coordinated by the Carbine Manufacturer's Production Committee which included representatives

of the contracting firms. This group first met in April, 1942. That December the group was renamed the Carbine Industry Integration Committee.

Ten prime contractors engaged in carbine production during World War II, with Winchester the only one with previous arms making experience. The other prime contractors were:

Inland Manufacturing Div., Gen. Motors Corp.
Saginaw Steering Gear Div., Gen. Motors Corp.
Rock-Ola Co.
National Postal Meter Co.

International Business Machines Corp.
Underwood-Elliott Fisher Co.
Quality Hardware & Machinery Co.
Standard Products Corp.
Irwin-Pedersen Arms Corp.

The Saginaw Steering Gear Division of the General Motors Corp. assumed operation of the Irwin-Pedersen Arms Corp. when that firm ran into production difficulties.

Some parts, including barrels, were supplied to prime contractors who were not equipped to make them. The Buffalo Arms Corp., International Business Machines Corp., and the Marlin Firearms Corp. produced barrels on a Government Fee Issue basis for use by prime contractors.

There were more than 62 components in a typical M1 carbine, and no manufacturer produced all of them. The International Business Machines Corp. and Quality Hardware & Machinery Co. made but two components. Winchester made 18. Underwood-Elliott Fisher Co. made 19. Rock-Ola Co. made 13. Inland Manufacturing Division, National Postal Meter Co., and Standard Products Corp. made four each. The Saginaw Steering Gear Division manufactured 24 components, but the remainder of the components for all prime contractors were subcontracted. In early 1943 over 1600 subcontractors were engaged in the carbine program.

The M1A1 carbine

Early in 1942 there was a requirement for a carbine with folding stock for use by airborne troops, Springfield Armory, Winchester, and the Inland Manufacturing Division of the General Motors Corp. pooled their efforts in this project. In

Most M1 carbines made during World War II were distributed abroad later as "military assistance" or foreign aid, official figures indicate. The U.S. Army Armaments Command, Rock Island, Ill., states that more than five million went that route. The Army still carries over 100,000 on inventory. Another 240,000 were sold to NRA Members in 1963-67 through the Director of Civilian Marksmanship program. None is available through DCM now.

The Army confirmed the official production figure of 6,117,827 M1 carbines made before, during and soon after hostilities. Dr. Dale Birdsell, Chief, Army Materiel Command Historical Office, theorizes that approximately 700,000 were lost in World War II or the Korean conflict.



M1 carbine of early manufacture, with L-type rear sight, push-button safety, and lacking bayonet attachment.

March, 1942, Inland completed a prototype carbine with metal folding stock and submitted it to the Infantry Board for test. After correction of minor deficiencies, the carbine with folding stock was standardized in May, 1942, and given the designation Carbine, Caliber .30, M1A1.

The M1A2 carbine

As noted previously, initial production of the M1 carbine was made using the Winchester L-type dual-range aperture rear sight because a satisfactory adjustable aperture sight was not available at the time. Development of the adjustable rear sight was done by the Inland Manufacturing Division of General Motors Corp., with the prototype sight completed in the latter part of 1942. Designated T21, this sight required a modified receiver with enlarged bridge for its dovetail base. The carbine with modified receiver fitted with the T21 rear sight was designated M1E2. After service tests and modification, it was standardized in January, 1943 as Carbine, Caliber .30, M1A2. The M1 carbine was then declared Substitute Standard.

The great demand for the M1 carbine at that time precluded manufacture of the M1A2 carbine. For that reason the T21 sight was modified so that it could be used on M1 carbines in manufacture and in the hands of troops. Adoption of the modified rear sight caused obsolescence of the M1A2 carbine in November, 1943.

The M1E1 carbine

The M1E1 carbine was a development of the Winchester Repeating Arms Co. and was designed to correct certain deficiencies in the trigger mechanism of the original M1 carbine that had caused an excessively heavy trigger pull. The redesign required a new hammer and hammer spring, which maintained a trigger pull of

from 4½ to 6 lbs. These parts were made interchangeable in existing carbines and, in May, 1943, were approved for production and use in M1, M1A1, and M1A2 carbines.

The M1A3 carbine

Following adoption of the M8 grenade launcher in March, 1943, it became necessary to develop a carbine with folding stock of greater strength than that of the M1A1 carbine. In tests by the Ordnance Dept., the stock of the M1A1 carbine had broken in launching one grenade. Earlier, the Murray Corp. of America had developed a stamped folding stock assembly for an M1 carbine designated M1F1. This stock was later modified to utilize round bar components and a lock similar to that of the M7 submachine gun stock. Still later, a sliding type stock was developed which was identical to that of the M3 submachine gun. The M1 carbine with this stock was designated M1F4. From this design came an improved M1E3 stock which successfully resisted the firing of grenades and was better suited to the firing of ball ammunition than the folding stock of the M1A1 carbine.

After additional modification, the M1 carbine fitted with the improved folding stock was designated Carbine, Caliber .30, M1A3 in December, 1943. The M1A1 carbine was then made Limited Standard. However, by the time the necessary engineering drawings had been made, the number of M1A1 carbines on hand met anticipated requirements through 1943. For that reason it was not deemed advisable to begin quantity production of the M1A3.

The M1E5 carbine

In the latter part of 1942, a research project was begun on the possibility of using cast steel components in the carbine.

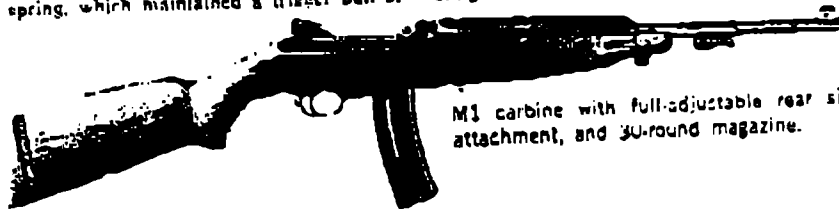
Inland Manufacturing Division eventually manufactured 50 carbines with all parts of cast Arma steel except the barrels. Preliminary tests by Inland showed that Arma steel was not satisfactory for the receiver. Later, 48 carbines designated M1F3 were assembled with Arma steel components and sent to Aberdeen Proving Ground for endurance testing. The operating slides, bolts, hammers, sears, triggers, trigger housings, magazine catches, and front sights of these carbines were cast from Arma steel. As a result of these and other tests, Arma steel was deemed unsuitable for any carbine component except the trigger housing.

The M1E6 carbine

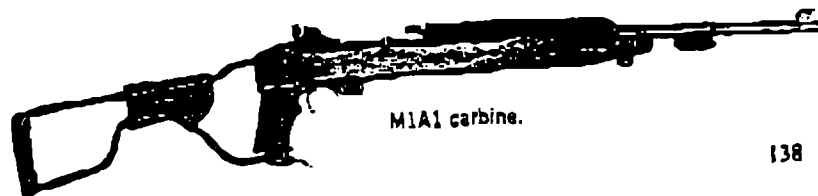
The M1E6 carbine was a laboratory instrument fitted with 24" barrel for use by Frankford Arsenal in testing propellant powders for flash and smoke. Other than the barrel, the arm was a standard M1 carbine.

The M1E7 carbine

At the request of Headquarters, Army Ground Forces, a project was initiated in June, 1943, to modify the M1 carbine for sniping use. The modification involved fitting the M1 carbine with a Weaver M7381 telescope sight. The preliminary mount did not stand up in test and a modified mount brazed to the receiver of the carbine was developed by Inland Manufacturing Division. Sample carbines with the improved Redfield Jr. mount were tested at Aberdeen Proving Ground in January, 1943. They were satisfactory in stability and strength, but the problem of case ejection interference remained. Additional modifications corrected this difficulty, but lack of further service interest in a lightweight sniper's rifle resulted in dropping of the development.



M1 carbine with full-adjustable rear sight, rotary safety, bayonet attachment, and 30-round magazine.



M1A1 carbine.

The T2 carbine

The Carbine, Caliber .30, T2, was developed by Springfield Armory. It employed a new type of gas system based on the gas expansion principle ultimately incorporated in the M14 rifle. The action of the slide and bolt assembly was much less violent by comparison with the tappet system of the standard M1 carbine.

Carbines, Caliber .30 T2E1 and T2E2 were developed in turn by Springfield Armory to study the possibilities of the gas expansion principle, but despite the improvement offered, the advantage gained was not sufficient to warrant quantity production.

The T3 carbine

The Carbine, Caliber .30, T3, was designed at the request of the Engineer Board for use with an infrared night sighting device known as the Sniperscope. Three model carbines were submitted to the Engineer Board and, as the result of tests, the M1E7 type of carbine with forward modified for attachment of the bracket for the infrared light source was approved as a procurement type in February, 1943. It was given the designation Carbine, Caliber .30, T3 "Sniperscope."

After subsequent standardization of the M2 Sniperscope, Headquarters, Army Ground Forces recommended standardization of the T3 carbine for use with that device. The basic carbine was to be the M1 or M2 modified in permit semi-automatic fire only.

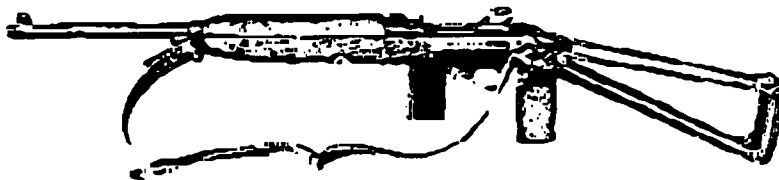
The M2 carbine

In May, 1944, a program was begun to produce a set of components which would provide optional full-automatic fire when assembled into standard carbines. Parts of the carbine requiring modification were the hammer, sear, operating slide, trigger housing, and stock. Additional parts required were a change lever and spring, sear trip, spring and plunger, and an actuating lever. The carbine was set for full-automatic fire by moving the change lever to its forward position.

The conversion kit including the modified and additional parts was designated Kit, Carbine, T17. It was developed by Inland Manufacturing Division with the collaboration of the Ordnance Dept. The modified carbine incorporating these parts was designated Carbine, Caliber .30, T4.

A 30-round "banana" magazine was developed in conjunction with the T17 Kit. The greater weight of this magazine required redesign of the magazine catch and incorporation of additional supporting ribs in the bodies of both 15 round and 30 round magazines.

A number of T4 carbines were later manufactured for study. In September, 1944, this carbine was approved as a Service Test type. In subsequent tests the operation of the T4 was so satisfactory that the various service boards recommended its adoption in place of the M1 carbine.



Above, M1A3 carbine with folding metal stock extended. Below, M2 carbine with M4 bayonet-knife.



The T4 carbine was designated Carbine, Caliber .30, M2, and was standardized in September, 1944. The M1, M1A1, and M1A3 carbines were reclassified as Limited Standard.

The M3 carbine

The Carbine, Caliber .30, M3, was a modification of the M2 carbine to incorporate the M2 Sniperscope and the T23 flash hider which had been developed in 1944 for use with the M2 carbine. Adopted in August, 1945, the M3 carbine was capable of both semi-automatic and full-automatic fire. Tests had shown that full-automatic fire did not affect performance of the electrical and optical elements of the infrared sighting device.

Bayonet Attachment

As originally manufactured, the M1 carbine had no bayonet attachment. In 1944, the decision was made to devise an attachment for use of the M4 Bayonet-Knife on the carbine. This required modi-

fication of the upper hand assembly to provide the necessary fittings. The new assembly incorporating a strengthened front band adopted in 1943 was adopted in May, 1944, to replace other upper band assemblies in service.

Field experience with the M2 carbine soon demonstrated the need for an anti-climb device to hold the muzzle down in full-automatic fire. The prototype models were made at Springfield Armory. It was found that the muzzle depression effect was more important than reduction in recoil. The T13 recoil check recommended for adoption in September, 1943, provided maximum muzzle depression effect. It was vented at the top so that escaping gases forced the muzzle of the carbine downward.

Several accessory items were designed and produced for use with the various carbine models. These included a plastic magazine cap, blank firing attachment, 10-round cartridge clip, bolt tool, trigger assembly tool, and a piston nut wrench.

A significant change was made in the safety mechanism in March, 1945, when the original push button safety was replaced with a rotary safety. The original safety was positioned so close to the magazine catch that it was not uncommon for the soldier to press the magazine catch inadvertently when attempting to move the safety to "fire" position, causing the magazine to fall out.

Many changes, some slight, were made in the design of various carbine parts, including the bolt. The later, improved bolt had a round body which distinguished it from the earlier flat-top bolt.

M1 carbines of early manufacture will be found with a tubular housing surrounding the operating slide spring assembly. This housing was dispensed with in later production carbines.

In addition to ball cartridges, a variety of special carbine ammunition types was

Caliber .30 Carbine Production 1942-1945

Inland Manufacturing Division,	
G.M.C.	2,642,097
Winchester Repeating Arms Co.	818,059
Underwood-Elliott-Fisher Co.	545,616
Saginaw Steering Gear Div.,	
G.M.C.	517,212
National Postal Meter Co.	413,017
Quality Hardware & Machine	
Co.	359,666
International Business	
Machines Corp.	346,500
Standard Products Co.	247,160
Rock-Ola Co.	228,500
Total	6,117,827



The M3 carbine was used exclusively with the Sniperscope Set No. 1, and so had no rear sight. The Sniperscope, with its huge battery and vacuum-tube power pack, seems absurdly primitive today, but it was used, despite its full 32-lb. system weight.

developed and manufactured. These include grenade launching, blank, tracer, armor piercing, high pressure test, and dummy rounds. Both steel and brass cased ammunition was produced in this caliber.

Unlike some military small arms that pass out of the picture quickly, the M1 carbine seems destined to remain in worldwide use for many years to come. Aside from its important role in World War II, the various models of the carbine also gave yeoman service during the Korean War and the later Vietnamese conflict. A favored arm with smaller statured Oriental soldiers, it is a standard military and para-military arm in many foreign military units and police organizations. The M1 carbine has been manufactured in Japan for military use and is made commercially in this country in both sporting and military versions. In 1963 a quantity of M1 carbines in serviceable condition was released for sale to members of the NRA through the Office of the Director

of Civilian Marksmanship. Those able to purchase one of these fine little rifles at that time considered themselves very fortunate.

The principal sources of information and illustrations for this article were Col. E. H. Harrison, USA, Ordnance Corps, (Ret'd), Senior Technical Advisor, The American Rifleman; Thomas Hall, Arms Historian, Olin Corp.; T. E. Cosgrave, Army Materiel Command; Charles H. Yust, Jr., Aberdeen Proving Ground Museum; Paul Ehl, author Carbine Handbook (1964); History of U.S. Carbine, Cal. .30, Small Arms Branch, Industrial Div., Ordnance Dept., July, 1945; Record of Arms Ordnance Research and Development, Vol. 2, Small Arms and Small Arms Ammunition, O.C.O. R&D Service, Jan. 1946; and miscellaneous technical manuals issued under auspices of the War Dept. and Dept. of the Army.

Bolt-Action Carbine

One of my friends tells me that it is easy to make a manually-operated repeater out of my standard semi-automatic U.S. M1 Carbine; another friend tells me such a conversion is dangerous. Who is right and, if the conversion is safe and simple, how should I proceed?

Answer: Converting the semi-automatic M1 .30 carbine to a "straight-pull" bolt-action is indeed easy, and many carbines were once so-converted.

When replacement parts were available for a song on the surplus market, one converter, at least, solved the problem by drilling a 3/8" hole through the face of the operating slide cup at the point where the gas piston ordinarily hit. The piston, under gas pressure, thus passed through the larger hole without contact and without moving the slide.

Manual retraction of the operating slide was necessary to turn and open the bolt for extraction/ejection. Releasing the operating slide allowed the bolt to ride forward under spring pressure, chamber a fresh round, and return to battery.

The "advantage" to this conversion was the ability to "reconvert" to semi-automatic operation without tools by field-stripping and exchanging operating slides.

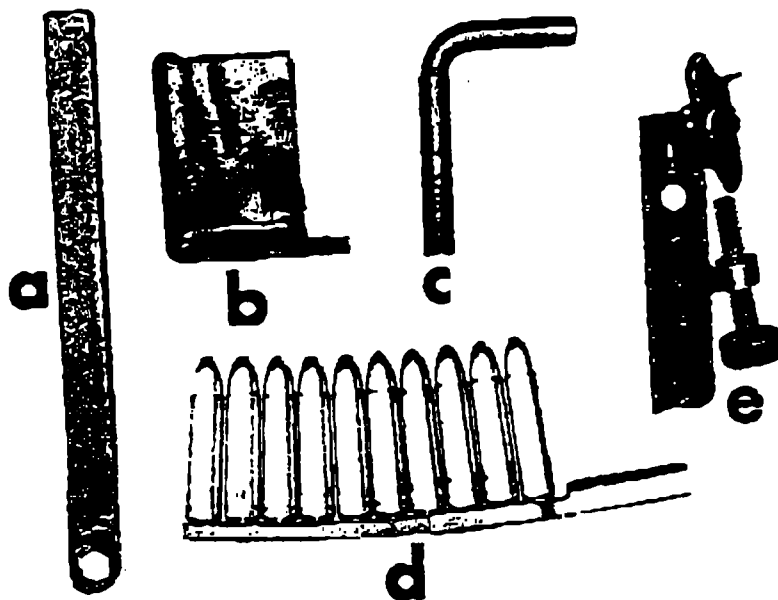
A far more common procedure was simply shortening the gas piston so that when driven back by gas it made no contact with the face of the operating slide.

This system worked well for many, but, of course, required, in addition to a spare unaltered gas piston, a gas piston nut wrench for reconversion.

The main failing of both the above conversions was a reported tendency of the gas piston to crack the piston nut or the gas cylinder itself, as the piston's rearward momentum was not slowed by contact with the operating slide.

Perhaps this is the danger your friend referred to.

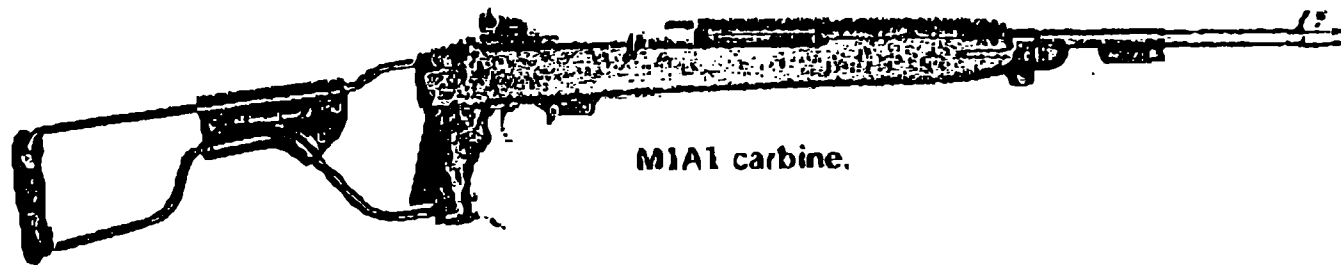
To avoid this, some owners discarded the gas piston and the tubular gas piston nut and, in their place, installed a new, solid, threaded plug in the gas cylinder. This last system is, apparently, the one most often used today and, if skillfully accomplished, should present no danger in a sound carbine.—P.D.



Accessories for the M1 carbine make up an interesting sub-field for collectors. The piston nut wrench (a), magazine dust cap (b), trigger spring removing tool (c), 10-round stripper clip (d) and bolt disassembling (e) are all familiar items.

CAUTION: Technical data and information contained herein are intended to provide information based on the limited experience of individuals under specific conditions and circumstances. They do not detail the comprehensive training, procedures, techniques and safety precautions which are absolutely necessary to carry on similar activities properly.

Always consult comprehensive reference manuals and bulletins for details of proper training requirements, procedures, techniques and safety precautions before attempting any similar activity.



M1A1 carbine.

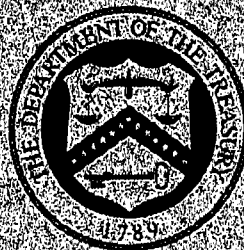
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Assault Weapons Profile



**United States
Department of the Treasury
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms**

April 1994