



By Cameron Hopkins

Photos by Ichiro Nagata

Heym's Model 88B Safari is a side-by-side boxlock double rifle designed for hunting dangerous game in Africa. Available in either .470 Nitro Express or .458 Winchester Magnum, the Heym double boasts the distinctive attributes of that thrilling genre of weapon known as the "stopping rifle."

The 88B Safari retains the traditional lines and features of best-grade British express rifles, yet this German double is rendered affordable with a thoroughly modern manufacturing technique. Old-fashioned hand fitting combines with state-of-the-art production machinery to produce the elegant Heym. The result is an affordable double of exceptional quality.

Affordable must be qualified, however, because a retail price of \$7,600 hardly puts the gun into the bargain-basement

category. The Heym is "affordable," however, compared to conventional big-bore doubles from the finest British gun-makers.

Heym spokesman Tom Turpin explains: "There is a lot of hand fitting, you can't get around that. But we do use machinery. A \$30,000 Holland & Holland is strictly hand-built, but the Heym 88B uses a combination of hand fitting and production machinery. That's how we keep the cost down."

"To my knowledge," Turpin added, "It's the least expensive four-seventy double rifle on the market."

The Heym 88B is fitted with 25-inch barrels of hammer-forged Krupp steel. Krupp steel is considered the finest steel in the world for barrel making. The barrels are pounded out on a sophisticated machine. They have a 1-in-14 right-hand twist.

The rifle weighs 10 pounds nominally.

Enough Gun

The Heym 88B Safari is a big-bore double rifle in the classic British tradition. When it's time to stop 7 tons of enraged elephant, you don't want anything less.

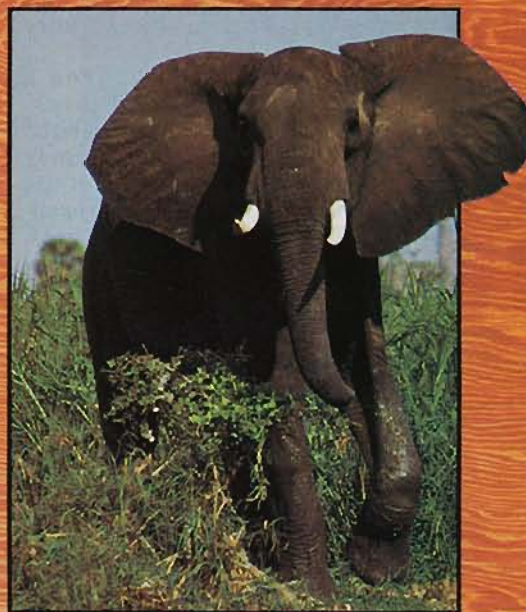
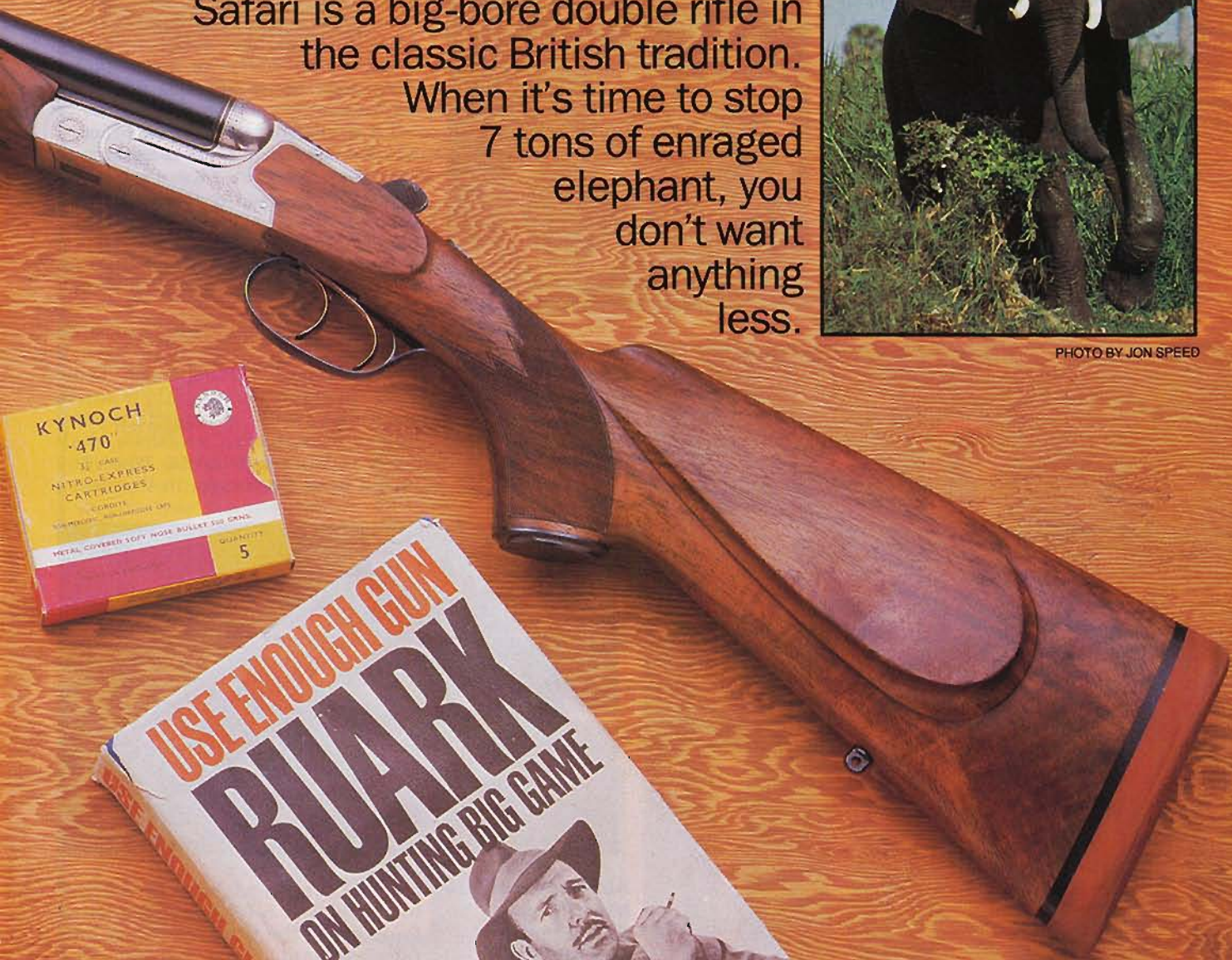


PHOTO BY JON SPEED



The weight varies from gun to gun due to the density of the wood. Individual rifles may vary by a few ounces.

The stock is made of Turkish walnut and is nicely figured. Inletted by machine, the Turkish blank is hand-selected by one of Heym's master stockmakers. The machine is precise, leaving very little hand work remaining—another cost-cutting step that does not compromise quality.

The stock design features a straight comb with a rollover cheek-piece and slight cast-off at the butt. This excellent stock design largely mitigates the perceived recoil of the heavy calibers. A Pachmayr Presentation recoil pad adorns the butt. There is a steel grip cap, and a trap-door grip cap is available as a \$300 option. The fore-end is a splinter style.

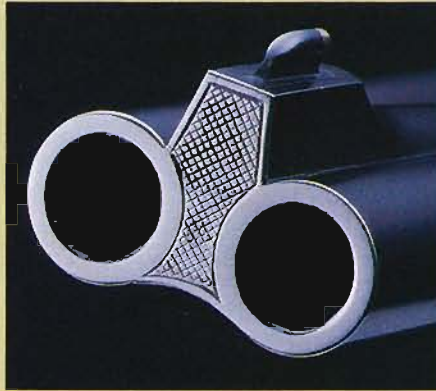
The wood-to-metal fit is flawless, with the steel blending gracefully into the attractive walnut.

Examination of the rifle reveals only one slight flaw, and that is found in the stock. Under the lower curve of the cheekpiece appear a few unsightly sanding marks left, it appears, by coarse sandpaper. These

marks are very hard to see and we never would have noticed them without a most thorough inspection. Excepting this minor imperfection, this Heym 88B is a magnificent specimen of the gunmaker's art.

The front sight is a large gold bead which is ideal for the fast sighting that is the rule, rather than the exception, in sorting out the heavyweights in tangled thorn bush. A gold bead stands out well, and is extremely quick to place on the mark.

The rear sight is a three-leaf express sight coupled with a standing V-notch set for 25 yards. The folding leaves are set for 50, 100 and 150



Getting two barrels to shoot to the same point of aim accounts for much of the cost of a double rifle.

yards. The famous African hunter John "Pondoro" Taylor always questioned the merits of such long-range sights on large bore doubles:

"No greater mistake can be made than to indulge in long range target practice at dangerous game—as assuming that you can see them at long range. Get as close as you possibly can, and then make dead certain of your shot," Taylor advises.

STOPPING DANGEROUS GAME

These quaint little folding leaves are purely ornamental. But we are obliged to explain for the benefit of the novice hunter who would be puzzled by such critical comments without a context in which to consider them. We must first understand what the large-bore double is for.

The heavy double is for stopping dangerous game at close range in thick cover.

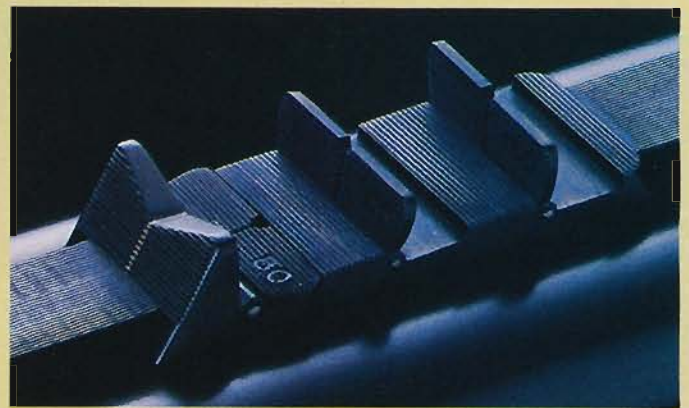
This definition is carefully worded, and each term is specific in its importance. The adjective "heavy" refers to the caliber, a large bore to thump the bad boys of the bush. "Stopping" means just that—slamming the brakes on a charge, instantly, with one well-placed bullet.

"Dangerous game" refers to those bad-tempered beasts that have a nasty habit of hitting back. Their ranks are slim, their numbers small, but this quartet of vindictive man-killers presents an awesome challenge to the sport hunter when the battle lines are drawn in the dense



Above: The Heym has a 25-yard fixed rear sight and folding leaves for 50, 100 and 150 yards.

Left: The .470 (center) as it compares to (l-r) .308, .458, .375 H&H, .404 Jeffery.



mopane scrub brush of the African bushveld. (We refer to the fearsome foursome of the Big Five—Cape buffalo, elephant, rhino and lion. The leopard is excepted because the favored weapon for sorting out Spots in heavy cover is a 12-gauge with 00 buck.)

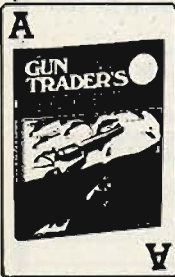
The remaining key terms in this definition are self-explanatory. "Close range" means 25 yards or less. "Thick cover" means densely overgrown thorn bushes and bram-

Continued on page 58



GIVE YOURSELF THE BEST DEAL!

WHEN YOU'RE BUYING,
SELLING
or TRADING GUNS.
THESE TWO NEW BOOKS
WILL SHOW YOU HOW!



GUN TRADERS GUIDE provides complete specifications and current average market prices for nearly 4000 different makes and models manufactured between 1900 and 1983 and features more than 2000 detailed illustrations. This latest expanded edition meets the needs of contemporary

gun collectors, traders, hunters, shooters, military and law enforcement personnel, and just about anyone interested in guns. Find out what you need to know to make a wise sale or purchase, or simply discover what your own guns are worth in today's marketplace. Send for your copy of the newly updated 10th edition of the **GUN TRADERS GUIDE**. Only **\$13.95** plus \$1.50 postage and handling.



HOW TO BUY AND SELL USED GUNS reveals the latest information about gun control laws, how to make a preliminary inspection, firearms identification, care and maintenance, determining current market value, what malfunctions to look for, trading shotguns, rifles, handguns,

black powder arms, and what you should and should not restore. Fully illustrated, it's a perfect companion to the **GUN TRADERS GUIDE**. Send for your copy today. Only **\$9.95** plus \$1.50 postage and handling.

I want the best deal possible. Send me a copy of the **GUN TRADERS GUIDE** and its companion volume, **HOW TO BUY AND SELL USED GUNS**. Enclosed is **\$21.90** plus **\$3.00** postage and handling.

Send me the **GUN TRADERS GUIDE** only. Enclosed is **\$13.95** plus **\$1.50** postage and handling.

Send me **HOW TO BUY AND SELL USED GUNS** only. Enclosed is **\$9.95** plus **\$1.50** postage and handling.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Calif. residents please add 6% sales tax.
Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.

Send Your Order To: **GUNS BOOKS**, Dept. 9G-6
591 Camino de la Reina
Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92108

tion. It also affords a solid stock without the need for a long cutaway to hide the cocking lever, as is usually the case in underlever guns.

All indications are that the **RWS Model 52** will produce muzzle velocities high enough to place it solidly in the "magnum" category.



Benchrest

Continued from page 17

ers make a point of giving the women a hug, and almost all seem to enjoy some not-so-gentle needling of the Cash Option fellow (who, in all fairness, seems to be able to hold his own). These people are *already* having fun. One of the men you talked to in line was another burly-type, a soft-voiced fellow with a beard who, upon learning this was your first time, offered to help you find a place to load. His name was Lee Six, and you (rightfully) suspect he's genuinely interested in your feeling at home.

The afternoon now seems to pass at double time. With the help of new friends you get your gear unpacked, and it's suggested you shoot a few practice groups to get a feel for the range and to make sure your rifle's on paper. And it goes remarkably well; in spite of being on the biggest benchrest range in the world and in the presence of the best shooters in the game, there's really nothing all that different from your home club's range once you start shooting.

There are flags from several different countries hung on the wall over the tables laden with close to a hundred trophies. You ask Lee, and in quick order you're being introduced to Pete Hammerich (Germany), "Mimi" Cauvin (France), Luigi Casanova (Italy) and several other of the international contingent. Except for the various accents they all talk the same language and dwell on the same topics—bullets, seating depth, scopes, stocks, head-spacing, loads, tools, ranges and conditions.

Returning to the lounge for coffee you meet more of the mob including "names": gunsmiths like Fred Sinclair and Fred Hasecuster, barrel makers like Jerry Hart and Ed Shilen, top-ranked shooters like Don Geraci and Allie Euber, action makers like Alan Hall and Wally Hart, and all wish you luck and offer any help you might need. You've been on the premises for only a few hours, but already you sense that this is a game with more than its share of nice people.

It's been a long day for everyone,

and the talk turns to nourishment. Several of the shooters staying at the Knights Inn in Wadsworth decide to visit Bradley's, the local steak house, and you're invited. A couple of hours later you've met several more of the gang; there are half a dozen tables filled with them, and the conversation flows freely from one table to another. There's a good feeling in the room, and you realize you've become part of it. You notice, too, that these people are well thought of by the restaurant staff, and it obviously has nothing to do with their representing money.

Later you lie in bed trying to reconstruct the day, but too much has happened . . . too many new faces, too much to be absorbed . . . so you let things unwind while you watch a Carson re-run. However, you're no longer concerned about tomorrow, about going to the line at a major event. You know your rifle's "on," you've a pretty fair idea of what it's all about, and you can take heart from knowing that if you should get into trouble, there are a lot of people who'll be there with a helping hand. Sure, you may still be a bit nervous, but basically you're excited . . . and that's precisely the way it's *supposed* to be.



Enough Gun

Continued from page 48

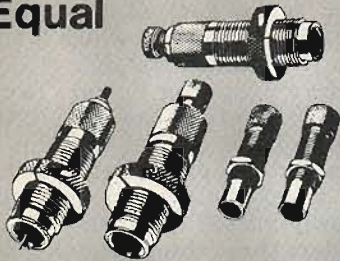
ble brush with a visibility of, at most, 25 yards. Usually 5 to 10 yards. In such circumstances, the heavy double is the only ticket.

Returning to the Heym 88B, we find an Anson and Deeley boxlock action with a Greener crossbolt extension. Double underlugs add to the superior strength of this action. The left lock features an intercepting sear to prevent a double discharge (the firing of both barrels simultaneously). This is a problem in cheaply-made doubles because the recoil of the first barrel often sets loose the second barrel. In the really big bores, like the .577 and .600 Nitros, this can somersault a man backwards, but the result of a double discharge with a .470 or .458 would only be distracting. Still, the intercepting sear is a most desirable feature.

The reason the intercepting sear is in the left lock is because the right barrel is always fired first. The barrels are regulated in this manner and, in addition, it is easier to pull the rifle back down from recoil with the right barrel, which tends to recoil into your shoulder more than the left. Thus a faster follow-up shot.

The regulation of the barrels

All Reloading Dies Are Not Made Equal



Some are better than others

Lyman dies are made the right way, precision-machined from tool steel to exacting standards.

Choose from a wide array of pistol and rifle die sets, plus specialized accessory dies.

Pistol shooters, our premium Multi-Deluxe series is for you. No-lube tungsten-carbide sizer die plus extra seating screws — an unbeatable die set value.

Your next reloading die set should be from Lyman. Die set purchase qualifies you for Lyman's **Free Handbook Offer**, good through 1987. See our catalog for details.

Lyman Products Corporation
Dept. 000, Route 147
Middlefield, CT 06455

Extended through 1987!

FREE Handbook Offer

Buy a set of "AA" Dies* in calendar 1987, send in required proofs of purchase (including dated sales receipts, special die set coupon) and Lyman will send you — absolutely free — your single choice of current Lyman publications*.

That's right. A free Lyman book worth up to \$17.95! The perfect addition to your reference library or gift to a friend. Remember, Lyman handbooks set the standards by which similar publications are judged.

Full details of the Free Handbook Offer, plus complete listings of reloading die sets — plus much more — appear in our current annual catalog. Write for your free copy today.

Ask your dealer about Lyman precision reloading die sets now. Offer expires 12-31-87.

Questions? Call toll free 1-800-22-LYMAN (except AK, CT, HI)

Don't miss this bargain!

*Must be listed in current annual Lyman catalog; 1985 coupons are good in '87. Limit one book per consumer purchase.

America's
best
reloading
buy in '86
will be its
best buy
in '87 too.

Important!
Coupons
with
12-31-85
expiration
are good
in '87 too.

Lyman[®]

Lyman Products Corporation
Dept. 178, Rt. 147, Middlefield, CT 06455

takes into account the heat generated by the firing of the right barrel, which affects the bullet impact of the left barrel. Regulation of the barrels is an art, a skill that requires an expert. Getting both barrels to shoot to the same point of aim is accomplished entirely by hand in a trial-and-error process.

The barrels are tacked together, before the quarter-rib is installed, and a steel wedge protrudes from between the barrels at the muzzle. The skilled gunmaker shoots the rifle, first the right and then the left, and inspects the group. He heats the barrels with a torch to loosen the solder and then makes adjustments with the wedge. He shoots again. And inspects again. And adjusts again. This tedious process continues until the composite group from both barrels is 2¾ inches or less.

All regulation is done at 50 yards, and a test target accompanies each 88B. Our test target of a four-shot group measures 2 inches on the button.

The precise regulation of the barrels is undertaken with specific ammunition, and deviation from the load upsets the regulation. All .458s are regulated with Winchester ammunition. All .470 88Bs are regulated with B.E.L.L. cartridges

consisting of 500-grain Woodleigh bullets (softs and solids shoot to the same point), 100 grains of IMR-4831 powder, B.E.L.L. cases and Federal 215 primers.

We found this load to be a hair shy of 2,200 fps. Increasing the charge to 110 grains of IMR-4831 achieved 2,225 fps across a PACT chronograph without distorting the barrel regulation. This load has a standard deviation of only 6, a remarkably low SD for an average of two barrels. This means the ammunition is amazingly consistent.

WHEN YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON THE SAFETY . . .

The Heym 88B is fitted with a sliding tang safety which is sufficiently large to assure positive disengagement (in a bloody big hurry when that buffalo thunders at you!) without being so big and sharp as to endanger the thumb during recoil. This is a perfect safety.

The safety is non-automatic, as it should be. Taylor positively hates automatic safeties on doubles and points to several cases of hunters being killed because of them. In one instance described in *African Rifles and Cartridges*, Taylor tells of a man who faced a lion charge. He knocked the lion down with his right barrel

and quickly broke the action to reload. (One should always re-stuff the right barrel as soon as the danger appears to have passed in order to be back at full battery.) As he was fumbling a cartridge into the right, the lion regained his feet and, with a savage roar, pressed home the charge. The hunter snapped shut the action without completing the reload, as he knew he still had the left in reserve. He waited for the lion to get close, as he knew he only had one shot. He waited, and he waited, and he waited. He never fired. The lion sprang, and the man died in a gory blur of flying claws and slashing jaws.

His automatic safety killed him! The safety switched itself on automatically when he broke the breech, and in his hurry to repel boarders he apparently forgot about this and assumed the safety was as he had last seen it, off.

A double should have a non-automatic safety. The Heym has it.

The Heym double has twin triggers and the foremost, which fires the right barrel, is hinged to allow it to swing forward. This obviates injury to the trigger finger when pressing the rear trigger because the stout recoil can send the finger into the forward trigger.

NOW AVAILABLE!

The Original **ADVENTURER'S™ BULLWHIP**



Thick, High-Grade Leather

From **CATTLE BARON™ LEATHER CO.**

SOLID LEATHER CORE - The ORIGINAL As

Used in EXPEDITIONS Around the World

• AIR HAND-PLAITED, THICK, Genuine

TOP-GRAIN BELTING LEATHER w/

Permanent THICK TIP

• Original "Ruddy-Browns" Color

• LEATHER COVERED HANDLE & BALL W/ WRIST LOOP

• A FORTHOUSABLE SURVIVAL TOOL

When Swung Properly, KNIFE ENERGY Makes

the TIP Of the ADVENTURER'S BULLWHIP™ MOVE

AT OVER 100 FEET PER SECOND.

• WHIP-HANDLING Instructions Included.

The HIGHEST QUALITY, TOUGHEST BULLWHIPS

Available - Perfectly BALANCED For ACCURACY.

4 TO 6 WEEK DELIVERY
NO HASSLES - NO DELAYS

Add 5% Shipping & Ins. In U.S.A.

Foreign Add 20%

NOTE: THESE BULLWHIPS ARE NOT TOYS & NOT CHEAP FOREIGN MADE SOUVENIRS THEY ARE GENUINE WORKING TOOLS MADE AT OUR TEXAS FACILITY BY MASTER WHIPMAKERS (Nephew of Chaplin's Whippersnapper)

PRICES: ORIGINAL 10 Ft. Length \$109.95

Extra Long 12 Ft. \$129.95

LEATHER BELT CARRIER \$7.95

• A FORTHOUSABLE SURVIVAL TOOL

When Swung Properly, KNIFE ENERGY Makes

the TIP Of the ADVENTURER'S BULLWHIP™ MOVE

AT OVER 100 FEET PER SECOND.

• WHIP-HANDLING Instructions Included.

The HIGHEST QUALITY, TOUGHEST BULLWHIPS

Available - Perfectly BALANCED For ACCURACY.

CREDIT CARD PHONE ORDERS Call (512) 697-8900

Send VISA CATTLE BARON LEATHER CO.

MC, Check

or M.O. To

P.O. BOX 100724 Dept. GN-6

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78201

Classic+ Grips



Affordable elegance for Colt, S&Ws, Rugers, etc. from \$29.95.

- Rare Woods
- Hand Engraved Inlays & Screws
- 100% American Made.

Color Brochure \$1 (refundable)

WAYLAND PRECISION WOOD PRODUCTS
Box 1142M, Mill Valley, CA 94942

KGB SOVIET IDENTIFICATION SHIELD,

bronze and cloisonne.



From recently declassified British Intelligence sources, we have been able to obtain some of the only known authentic Soviet Russian Intelligence I.D. badges of the notorious KGB (Komitet Gosudarstvennoi Bezopasnosti, synonymous with "Revolutionary Justice." PLEASE ORDER PROMPTLY as future availability is not likely after present present stock is depleted.

FREE illustrated catalog sent with each purchase.

WORLDWIDE GUARANTEE since 1961 \$54.50 plus CA Residents add \$3.15 State Tax.

HISTORICAL MILITARY ART AND COLLECTIBLES
P.O. Dvr. 1806-G Lafayette, CA 94549 (415) 283-1771
3657 Mt. Diablo

(Trade Inquiries invited)

"Made in the tradition of the Old West"



Holsters, cartridge belts, rifle scabbards and more. By using old original antique items as patterns we are able to give you the very best in authentic handmade reproductions. These original styles are not offered by anyone else. Send \$3.00 for our fully illustrated catalog and see for yourself.

Old West Reproductions

1840 Stag Lane Dept. G.
Kallispell, Mont. 59901

"THE .470 IS A KILLER"

Of the two available chamberings, 70 percent are made in .470 Nitro Express and 30 percent in .458 Winchester Magnum. My test sample is chambered in .470.

Taylor likes the .470: "The .470 is a killer, a real killer. I've killed more than a hundred elephant with this cartridge, so I guess I can claim to know something about it. Generally speaking, I found it most excellent."

Introduced by the British gunmaker Grant and Lang during the transition from black powder to smokeless, the .470 Nitro has three distinct advantages over the .458 in a double rifle.

First and foremost, the .470 is a rimmed cartridge. A rimmed, or flanged, case is preferable to any rimless case due to reliability of extraction. A rim offers the extractor a firm purchase, whereas the rimless head presents a small surface for extraction. The extractor for a rimmed case is a beefy semi-circle of steel which tucks positively under the rim. The extractor for a rimless case is two slim slivers of steel which must snap into the extractor groove. These two tiny teats of steel are breakage-prone and unreliable as compared to the rimmed extractor.

Secondly, the .470 Nitro leaves the .458 hopelessly lacking in a ballistic comparison. The bore diameter is .475" compared to .458". (Don't ask why they call it a .470 when it is actually a .475. That's one of those mysteries like the .44 caliber which is really .429".) In addition, the .470

propels a 500-grain bullet at 2,200 fps, while the .458 sends the same bullet weight at 1,900 fps.

Ever the student of hunting ballistics, Taylor devised a method of evaluating cartridges which is similar to the famous Hatcher Scale of Relative Stopping Power. Taylor calls his system the Knock-Out Value and this derives from his observations of elephant that had been knocked unconscious with a narrowly missed brain shot. Taylor considers three things equally: bore diameter, bullet velocity and bullet weight.

The knock-out value of the .470 is 74.6 compared to 62.1 for the .458, nearly 20 percent better. (For the sake of easy reference, the KO of a .30-06, 180-grain bullet, is 20.5) Taylor recommends a minimum of 50 KOs for tackling dangerous game.

Thirdly, the .470 is preferable to the .458 because the British big-bore operates at considerably lower chamber pressure despite its heftier punch. This is not insignificant in a box-lock action because it is not as strong as either the falling-block or Mauser actions.

However, the .458 boasts two advantages over the .470. Ammunition is widely available for the four-five-eight. Also, a sportsman can fire the .458 in both his magazine rifle and his double, an option the four-seventy lacks.

Returning to the matter of extraction, the 88B has a selector switch beneath the splinter fore-end to allow a choice of either simple extraction or ejection. Ejection is pref-

.470 Nitro Express

Loaded Ammunition:

B.E.L.L.
800 West Maple Lane
Bensenville, IL 60106
(312) 595-2792

A-Square
Rt. 4, Simmons Road
Madison, IN 47250
(812) 273-3633

Brass Cases:
B.E.L.L.
800 West Maple Lane
Bensenville, IL 60106
(312) 595-2792

Bullets:
A-Square
Rt. 4, Simmons Road
Madison, IN 47250
(812) 273-3633
Monolithic Solids, Dead Tough Soft Point, Lion Load Soft Point

Barnes Bullets
P.O. Box 215
American Fork, UT 84003
(801) 756-4222
500- and 600-grain solids and softs in three jacket thicknesses

Trophy Bonded Bullets
P.O. Box 262348
Houston, TX 77207
(713) 645-4499
Bear Claw Bullets and Sledge Hammer Solids

Primers:
Federal Cartridge Co.
2700 Foshay Tower
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 333-8255
#215 Large Magnum Rifle primers

Powder:
Du Pont Corp.
1007 Market St.
Wilmington, DE 19898
(302) 773-5326
IMR-4831 powder

When writing these companies, please mention GUNS Magazine.

erable in 99 cases of 100, but the option of extraction can be useful when absolute silence of reloading is necessary. Ejection can be a clamorous affair with the empty case pinging clear and clattering on the ground. Extraction is dead silent if the breech is broken properly, and the spent case may be plucked clear and deposited down one's shirt front to prevent any noise from dropping the empty. One then eases in a fresh cartridge and closes the action quietly.

However, Turpin advises that all future 88Bs will dispense with this feature because the need for simple extraction is minimal and the selector switch has proven to be somewhat unreliable. The test rifle's switch continues to work famously, however.


Handling and shooting the Heym 88B is sheer pleasure. One of the main advantages of a double over a magazine rifle is balance. This German .470 is wonderfully balanced and swings to the shoulder with the grace and ease of a leaping gazelle. The beautiful balance results from the mass of the rifle's weight lying between the hands. Balance, of course, is a somewhat mystical quality in a rifle, but this Heym hefts in the hands like a javelin. It *feels* good.

This marvelous balance offsets the potentially disturbing recoil of the asparagus-sized .470 cartridge. Jack O'Connor once remarked that 50 percent of all recoil is mental. Taylor agrees that recoil is in the head, not the shoulder: "There is the answer to the recoil bug-bear—forget about it. Given a well-balanced weapon that fits you, just concentrate on putting your bullets where you want them and leave your rifle to take care of its own recoil."

I don't have the foggiest idea how accurate the Heym double is at 100 yards; I never shot that far. This stopping rifle is for throwing water on the fire of a charging brute, not picking the eyes from gnats. I see no reason to ever shoot beyond 50 yards. What hollow victory, what empty pride there is in shooting a dangerous beast at long range! That is not *hunting*, that is merely killing. It is beneath the dignity of any hunter who wishes to try his nerve against the heavyweights. Dangerous game is simply not dangerous at long range!

Unfortunately, the publishing deadline calls for this article to be completed before the safari season starts. I have a reservation for a table for two with a Cape buffalo in Africa, but that is not for some months yet. If you don't hear from me, you will know the buffalo won.

But I suspect the Heym 88B will be enough gun.

For further information on the Heym 88B Safari rifle and the full line of Heym magazine rifles and drillings, contact John D. Allen, Sales Manager, Paul Jaeger, Inc., Dept. G, P.O. Box 449, Grand Junction, TN, 38039. Or call toll-free 1-800-223-8667 (the answering party will say, "Dunn's," but that's the right number). 

NOTE: All reloading data should be used with caution. Begin with reduced loads and be sure they are safe in your guns, then work up gradually. Discontinue any load showing signs of excess pressure, and never exceed maximum loads listed. Since *Guns Magazine* has no control over your choice of components, guns or actual loads, neither *Guns Magazine*, the authors, nor the various firearm and component manufacturers assume any responsibility for the use of this data.

Blazer Ammo

Continued from page 51

sponding velocity for each test round.

One lot of 9mm Blazer was being tested on my visit to the lab. This was an above-average lot, showing a maximum velocity spread of only 21

fps. Within the 10-round sample, the standard deviation in velocity was only 7 fps.

Accuracy is tested in a Thompson/Center 10-inch barrel positioned on a quick-change, clamp-down machine rest in a 50-yard tube. It is common to see 10-shot test groups of under 2 inches, with many groups running well under an inch. While these tests are done under ideal shooting conditions, they do give the potential for shooting performance.

Functional testing of this 9mm Blazer lot was done with Beretta, Uzi and H&K MP5 submachine guns, as well as the Beretta 92 F, the new U.S. service sidearm. Full 20- and 30-round magazines were fired on full auto in the submachine guns. Only one stoppage developed, when the ejection port was held too close to the tunnel window riser and a fired case rebounded back into the open breech.

Omark uses a high-speed video setup (12,000 frames per second) to photograph the operation of automatic weapons using production ammunition. Light aluminum cases have quite different ejection characteristics compared to heavier brass cases.

The company maintains customer service contacts with the field to gain feedback on any stoppage problems that may develop with Blazer in specific guns under specific condi-

MORE THAN JUST THE TOMMY GUN.



Auto-Ordnance
American
Made

and a
Dedication
to Quality.

THOMPSON MODEL M1

The Auto-Ordnance 1911A-1 is a competition proven pistol. Used by the winner of the 1986 Steel Challenge, it is an established and popular choice in the pistol market. Just as you would expect from the company that still manufactures the legendary Thompson. See your dealer or send \$2.00 for our beautiful new color catalog.

Auto-Ordnance Corporation
Box G-6, West Hurley, N.Y. 12491 (914) 679-7225

Thompson