

# Exploded views:



BY STEPHEN K. VOGEL

## RUGER MINI-14 CARBINE

THE .223 (5.56 mm) Mini-14 resembles the U.S. M14 rifle in appearance and incorporates the Garand rotating bolt principle.

The Ruger-designed gun was first produced in 1974 in Southport, Conn., where about 1000 were made before production was transferred to the larger Sturm, Ruger plant in Newport, N.H. All Southport guns and early runs of those made at Newport bear serial numbers with the 180-prefix. The Southport model can be identified by the sporting type, gold bead front sight.

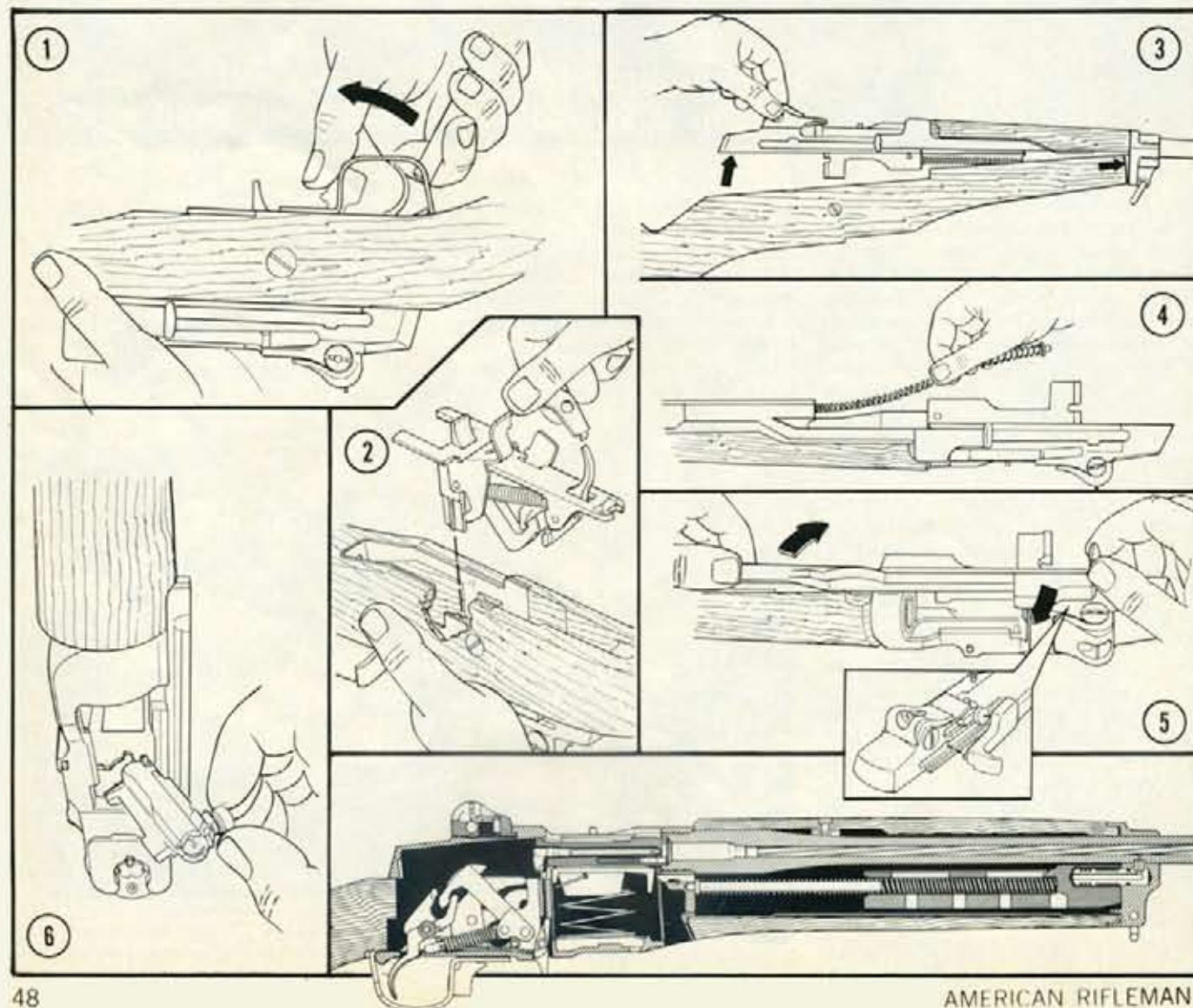
In mid-1978, a refined Mini-14 replaced the "180" prefix models. Current production Mini-14 carbines bear the serial number prefix "181". The drawings and information which follow apply only to the "181" Mini-14 series.

Although several specialized variations of the Mini-14 designed for use by law enforcement and government agencies will be encountered from time to time, these are virtually identical to the

standard production guns with respect to disassembly procedures. Government service Mini-14 carbines are usually equipped with a flash hider and with a special front sight with protective steel "ears" on either side of the sight blade. Some service models use a heat resistant ventilated upper handguard which replaces the standard wooden handguard.

Several different magazines are offered for this rifle. The most frequently encountered is the five-shot, but 10- and 20-shot magazines are also common. It is of interest that some "counterfeit" 30-shot magazines bearing false Ruger markings, but not made by Sturm, Ruger and Co., have turned up.

The Mini-14 is a strong and reliable rifle designed for ease of cleaning and maintenance. Only the simplest tools are required to field strip the arm for cleaning and lubrication. When field stripped, the component parts are large and not readily susceptible to loss.



Next came the Cub Scout program. When an Orange County den mother invited Jeanette to make a presentation on firearms safety to a dozen youngsters between the ages of six and nine, the CRPA Women's Policies Committee designed a program to offer firearm safety advice which could be easily understood by children during a short period of time. To maintain interest the program was designed to involve the youngsters by encouraging questions from the children.

The program began by stressing the need for education and instruction before handling a firearm. Then moved into "What to do if..." (1) a firearm is found while playing outside, (2) a friend wants to show you a firearm in his home, and (3) a friend wants to see a firearm belonging to your parents.

Using visual aids, various types of firearms and their functions were explained. Live and spent ammunition used in each type of firearm was available for inspection while the dangers of playing with live ammunition was explained.

A showing of the 16 mm film, "At Home With Guns" (available through the NRA Film Library) concluded the program.

Each child was given a packet containing 12 pieces of literature, including the NRA Home Firearms Safety Manual. This packet was primarily designed for the parents' information and encourages them to discuss the material with their child.

Each boy was presented a complimentary pass to the South Coast Gun Club where he received two hours of instruction on range rules, safe gun handling, and smallbore shooting.

Last October at the NRA National Metallic Silhouette Championships in Phoenix, Ariz., the Orange County Club and the Arizona Rifle & Pistol Association co-sponsored an Air Rifle Silhouette Match for families of the competitors. Designed for the novice, the match was held on Saturday in the clubhouse at the Black Canyon Range where manual target retrievers and back stops were installed.

Mary Peterson, NRA Field Representative for Arizona and New Mexico, and Jeanette were instructors, while Lynn Egerton, club Vice President ran the state office and arranged the relays.

The match was originally scheduled for Saturday only, but due to the enthusiastic response of the participants a "Practice

Match" was held on Sunday. Most of the shooters had never handled a firearm before, but the instructors felt most of them were "hooked" on a new sport. They all ended up with a better understanding of what their fathers and husbands were going through on the big bore line. As one five-year-old competitor so aptly stated, "I can't get the turkey to stand still!"

WINRA — Orange County Chapter recently sent out questionnaires to all wives of members of the CRPA Executive Committee and nearly half of the answers to the first question — Reasons for joining NRA — returned with the answer, "We want to support the right to keep and bear arms."

Carrying on their unceasing efforts to enlist more members for NRA, the CRPA Women's Policies Committee is formulating a file of shooting facilities throughout California. It will be available to all members and would be a special advantage to those moving into a new area. If you belong to an organization with such facilities, please contact Sue Martin, Chairman, Women's Policies Committee, CRPA, at 7812 16th Street, Westminster, Calif., 92683.

## Police Arms Instruction Benefits From NRA Program

BY GARY L. ANDERSON  
Executive Director, NRA-GO

Many NRA members are not aware that the National Rifle Association is one of the leaders in the field of police firearms instructor training. Even though this program is not widely known it is rapidly earning respect in the law enforcement community and has been instrumental in improving the instructional ability of police firearm instructors throughout the United States.

This program is conducted by our Police Firearms Training Department and is part of a long list of Education and Training Division programs. It is staffed by three men with extensive experience as law enforcement officers, who were police firearms instructors before joining the NRA. The manager of this program is a former Special Agent Supervisor from the FBI Academy, Quantico, Virginia.

The NRA police firearms training schools are open to members of law enforcement departments who are assigned or will be assigned firearms training duty by their departments in the near future. The applicants must have had training in the basic fundamentals of shooting and range safety. The exceptions are the Regional Schools which are open to both members of law enforcement and security agencies.

The objective of the schools is to increase the knowledge and instructional ability of the police and security firearms instructor. Shooting is done primarily to provide an opportunity for instructional practice, and each student is afforded a chance to qualify on an NRA course during one of the shooting exercises. The schools are of five days duration and school certificates are presented only to those who are in complete attendance and who participate in all of the school's activities.

One of the reasons the NRA has won respect in this field is the high standards set for certification as an NRA Police Firearms Instructor by the NRA Law Enforcement Assistance Committee.

By the end of 1979, the NRA Police Firearms Training Department will have conducted 15 schools attended by approximately 1,000 students. If past experience is any indication, those 1,000 new police firearms instructors will train approximately 100,000 officers in their own departments.

The NRA views this program as a means by which the NRA as the nation's leader in firearms use and safety can serve the law enforcement community and in turn the citizens of our country.

We are proud of this program and committed to maintaining its position of leadership.

**NOW HEAR THIS!!!**  
Always use your new I.D. number when writing or calling NRA about a problem.  
**MEMBERSHIP DIVISION**