

Dear Bill

I don't know who cooked up "Sidney" Hillberg —
I was head of research & development of High Standard
and headed up the T-3 design team. George Wilson
was the principal designer. There were only 4
built. The Bullman Johnson Tool Co. built all
4. One was made with the safety button on
the wrong side the other three are govt. property.

What would be your price on desert songs?

UZI

Walther SMG

Mausier SMG

FG 42

MP 43

MP 44

GERMAN

W.W. 2

I need a main spring cover for a
1915 Vickers and a hose & condenser to

A.T.F. Class 01 Federal Firearms License No. 60600501EO 05308 01

A.T.F. Class 03 Federal Firearms License No. 60600503EO 05309 03

Dear Bill

I really appreciate your de war letter regarding the M681 & the Bren.

I am out of business at the moment as I was hit by fire wiping out 2 Jaguar cars, May lab. all my tools, instruments, cameras and 70,000; worth of guns. I doubt if I will ever attempt to collect again. If I did I now have a tax stamp and have no need to DEWAT. A flock of my M681 lost were here.

We built 4 single row and 4 Double Row T31. Three each were delivered to the Govt.

Very truly

A.T.F. Class 01 Federal Firearms License No. 60600501EO 05308 01

A.T.F. Class 03 Federal Firearms License No. 60600503EO 05309 03

Bob-

QUALIFICATIONS FOR
FIREARMS EXPERT WITNESS

My first interest in firearms was stimulated as a youngster by accompanying my dad, who was an ardent outdoorsman, on countless hunting trips in Minnesota and South Dakota. I had a natural motivation toward everything mechanical and was particularly fascinated by the design of firearms. After a few years of collecting and studying guns of all types, I designed a 38 cal. submachine gun in 1937. I built a working prototype of this gun at the U.S. Naval Air Base, Wold Chamberlin field where I was a reserve member of Squadron VNIIRD-9.

In 1938, I came to Colt's Patent Firearms in Hartford, Conn. and demonstrated my submachine gun. Colt had no interest in the gun since there was no requirement for a gun of this type and they were already producing the Thompson submachine gun which wasn't selling in quantity at that time. They did offer me a job which I accepted and while at Colt, I worked in Engineering, Assembly, Inspection and Manufacturing. It was a condensed course in gun manufacturing. While at Colt I designed a short action for their revolver and developed a 7/8 scale 22 cal. version of their Frontier single action which they ultimately produced years later.

In 1940, I worked in the Engineering Department at Pratt and Whitney Aircraft in East Hartford, Conn. My duties there were concerned with the design of engine components and experimental engine installations in test aircraft. It was during this period that I started the development of a .30 cal. carbine and a 20 MM aircraft cannon.

In 1942, I went with the Ordnance Division of Bell Aircraft in Burlington, Vermont as a project engineer. In this capacity I worked on many projects including the B-17 turrets, 50 cal. feed systems, gun mounts, boosters, gun sight systems, bomb racks, rocket releases, etc. I also designed a 20 MM continuous belt-feed mechanism for submarines and anti-aircraft. The .30 cal. carbine which I started while at Pratt and Whitney was activated and prototypes were produced. These guns were being evaluated by Canada and Russia at the war's end.

In 1946, I was employed by Republic Aviation in Farmingdale, Long Island in the armament section. I became the F-91 armament unit leader and also worked in the secret room as armament consultant on advanced fighter aircraft. I designed the gun mounts and feed systems for the F-84 and F-91 fighters. I also designed rocket systems and bomb racks for the F-84.

In 1951, I was employed by the High Standard Mfg. Co. at Hamden, Conn. where I became head of Research and Development after approximately 1 year. High Standard manufactured a complete line of sporting shotguns, rifles and handguns as well as military weapons. At High Standard I designed the T-152 Tank machine gun, a .22 cal. semi auto sporting rifle and the world's first commercial gas operated semi automatic shotgun originally known as the Model 60. This gun has been produced in high volume and is still on the market today.

In 1954, I joined with six executive members of the Bellmore Johnson Tool Company to form Whitney Firearms, Inc. of North Haven, Conn. The company was formed to produce a .22 cal. automatic sporting pistol which I designed. I was Vice President and Chief Engineer of Whitney. We produced 10,000 pistols in our first year of operation before we sold the company in 1956.

From 1956 to present, I have been employed as Chief Engineer for Bellmore Johnson Tool Company in Hamden, Conn. with an engineering office in Cheshire, Connecticut.

In this capacity, I conduct a firearms consultant and design service for the gun industry and have designed many products which have been produced on the market. The following list represents present or past customers:

COLT PATENT FIRE ARMS CO., HARTFORD. CONN.
 HIGH STANDARD MFG. CO., HAMDEN, CONN.
 WINCHESTER, NEW HAVEN, CONN.
 MARLIN FIREARMS, NEW HAVEN, CONN.
 MOSSBERG AND SONS, NEW HAVEN, CONN.
 REMINGTON ARMS, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.
 SAVAGE ARMS, WESTFIELD, MASS.
 ITHACA GUN CO., ITHACA, N.Y.
 BROWNING ARMS, MORGAN, UTAH
 SPRINGFIELD ARMORY, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
 SEVERAL PENTAGON AGENCIES, WASHINGTON
 ON CONFIDENTIAL FIREARMS PROJECTS

While at Bellmore Johnson I have designed the following commercial and military guns:

M-37E1 Tank Machine Gun
 9 MM Submachine Gun
 .223 M1 Carbine
 .22 Long Rifle Conversion for M-16 rifle
 12 gage Police Riot Pump Shotgun
 4 Barrel Military and Police Riot Shotgun
 8 Barrel Military and Police Combination Tear Gas Riot Shotgun

 .38 Cal. Revolver Pocket Size (Colt)
 4 Shot Tear Gas & .22 Cal. Pocket Pistol (Colt)
 .22 cal. Family Line Sporting Pistols (Colt)
 Low Cost .22 cal. Plinking Pistol (High Std.)
 Single Shot .22 Western Style Revolver (Savage)
 Single shot .22 Simulated Winchester 94 Boys Rifle (Ithaca)
 Single shot Shotgun (Ithaca)
 Single shot Shotgun (Savage)
 Automatic Shotgun low cost (Savage)
 .357 and .22 Cal Revolver (Browning)
 Over and Under High Power Rifle (Browning)
 Pump shotgun (Browning)
 .357 and .22 cal. Revolver (Winchester)
 Cattle Stun Gun (Winchester)
 45-70 Lever Action Rifle (Marlin)
 30-30 Lever Action Rifle (Mossberg)
 Colt Sharps High Powered Rifle

Continued from previous page:

12 Ga. Automatic Shotgun (Marlin)
.357 COP 4 barrel (Compact Offduty Police)
Ring airfoil missile launcher - government
.22 10 shot auto. pistol (Whitney)
Remington folding stock for riot shotgun
.45 cal. Wildey Auto Pistol

Current designs of confidential nature under present development are not listed.

I HAVE BEEN GRANTED THE FOLLOWING FIREARMS UNITED STATES PATENTS:

<u>176,515</u>	<u>2,845,001</u>	<u>3,546,417</u>	<u>3,988,849</u>
<u>1,765,150</u>	<u>2,909,101</u>	<u>3,651,594</u>	<u>4,141,164</u>
<u>2,482,885</u>	<u>3,060,810</u>	<u>3,798,819</u>	
<u>2,842,885</u>	<u>3,260,009</u>	<u>3,810,326</u>	

In addition to the above patents, there are several pending and several more applied for.

I AM A FIREARMS TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

I have served as a firearms expert witness for both Plaintiff and Defendant. I have been engaged in this capacity by a number of foreign and U.S. gun manufacturers. My expertise pertains to anything connected with firearms in general. My special area of interest concerns cases which involve design, testing, safety and prior art.

In addition, I am a Deputy Sheriff and am a member of the following police organizations:

New England Association Chiefs of Police
International Association of Chiefs of Police
American Law Enforcement Officers Association
New Haven County Sheriff's Association
National Sheriff's Association

ARTICLES, PAPERS, AND BOOKS CONCERNING R. HILLBERG:

Guns (Wm. B. Edwards, Author), August 1956
American Rifleman, June 1956
Bulletin, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, New York State Police,
Albany, N.Y., Vol. 23, No. 3, 1958.
Guns, March 1958
Guns, January 1961
Gun World, June 1963
Shooting Times, December 1966
Ordnance, May-June 1972
The World's Fighting Shotguns, by Thomas Swearingen (Vol IV) 1979
The N.R.A. Book of Small Arms, Vol. 1, Pistols and Revolvers,
W.H.B. Smith (foreword to the second edition).

6-14-84

Dear Frank

In 1947 High-Standard, with government sponsorship, began development of a new service pistol which was to replace the Colt M1911 A1. This project was known as the T-3 PROJECT and it continued until 1952 under the direction of Robert L. Hillberg who was in charge of R&D for High-Standard at the time.

Some original requirements included - .30 to .35 caliber, light weight (25 oz. max.), gloved hand operation, and maximum 7" overall length. The first pistols developed were 9mm Parabellum, had single column magazines with magazine catch in the butt and featured light alloy frames and double action capability. Action was unlocked blow-back.

Later in the contract, requirements were changed to include use of the double column magazine of the Browning HP/Ingliss type and capability of handling steel and sintered iron bullets.

Four of these later, double column magazine pistols were produced of which three were turned over to the military for test. These double column magazine guns were manufactured by the Bellmore - Johnson Tool Company under contract to High-Standard.

One of these Double Column Magazine T-3 Pistols (marked #4) remained in private hands and is now available as follows:

T-3 PISTOL - Double Action, Double Column Magazine - unmarked except for the number 4 and accompanied by a letter from R.L.Hillberg stating that this is one of only four double column magazine pistols produced and was manufactured under contract to High-Standard by the Bellmore - Johnson Tool Co. and the only one not turned over to the military.

Included with the pistol are the following extra prototype parts;

- (14) Experimental Barrels including slow twist barrels (1 turn in 40") for the steel and sintered iron bullets and barrels with grooved chambers developed in an attempt to slow the blow-back cycling and reduce recoil.
- (1) Extra Slide differing from the slide on the pistol in ejection port configuration. Slide is parkerized and is complete except for the extractor assembly.
- (6) Double Action Connectors (different)
- (5) Triggers (different)

9-19-85 - 6500

OVER

- (7) Hammers (different)
- (11) Slide Release/Take-Down Latches
- (2) Swing-Away Trigger Guards
- (2) Magazine Releases
- (3) Safeties
- (1) Ejector
- (1) Set Plastic Grips
- (10) Small Internal Parts

Also included is a sample 9mm Parabellum cartridge with sintered iron bullet for which some of the above barrels were developed. Two different original 80 round cartridge boxes (empty) bearing typed labels with technical data on the steel and sintered iron cartridges also go with the pistol.

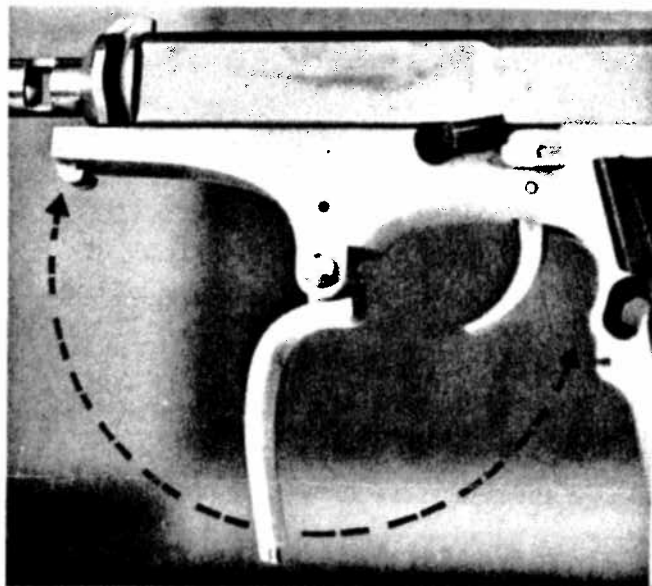
TOO HIGH A STANDARD?



As will be noted by the bare, still-white metal, this was obviously a test or experimental model. Some of the finishing is not in keeping with Hi-Standard requirements.

The novel swiveling trigger guard can be swung completely away from the trigger, re-attaching under the barrel for freedom of firing with a heavily gloved hand.

Design of the gun was based upon the Browning FN 9mm round, but as will be noted, the round in this magazine has a bullet that has been machined from solid steel.



HERE is a handgun about which comparatively little is known, although it was developed less than two decades ago.

This particular model — now a prized collector's item — was designated, and allegedly there were only 4 (two) of them made, as a pilot model.

The auto now is owned by Stephen L. Fuller, a former airborne ordnance specialist with the Navy, who is a part owner of the Deutschland Ordnance Company in Santa Clara, California. He obtained the gun several years ago and has since been tracking down bits of data, trying to determine fact from fancy. As a result of this research, it comes out something like this: Robert

The design work apparently was done — or started — by (Fred) Hillberg at High Standard about 1948. The first model of the T-3, as it was designated, was an eight-shot type, but the model pictured here was designed around the thirteen-round Browning Hi-Power magazine, using a double action trigger system.

Side (frame) and the apparent muzzle brake actually is the locking system. This probably was adapted from the German Volktrum automatic carbine with a blast cone hesitation locking system.

High Standard, of course, was primarily interested in the military contractual possibilities. At the time this gun was being developed, it was the plan to

standardize pistol and submachine gun ammunition as the 9mm Parabellum round.

According to Fuller's research, while development of this gun was under way, thoughts were being given to special ammunitions, also.

The standard 9mm Luger case was being used, but some of the actual bullets were of steel throughout and were fabricated on automatic screw machines. Today, many variations exist among collectors.

When Fuller acquired this T-3, he inherited also a set of seventeen — repeat, seventeen — extra barrels, varying between left and right-hand twists. In these, the pitch varies from one-in-eight to one-in-forty-eight. The present owner feels these extremes were for compatability of chamber pressure, locking time and projectile performance in trying various combinations.

But where did this gun come from? There is a legend, only partially authenticated, that two of the guns were turned over to Army Ordnance for tests. When the guns were not accepted, they were not returned to the maker. Instead, they were auctioned off with other test models and experimental pieces that had not been accepted. And allegedly, both of these T-3s ended up in the hands of a collector in Oklahoma.

But what actually happened before it came into Fuller's hands is only an educated guess. ●

