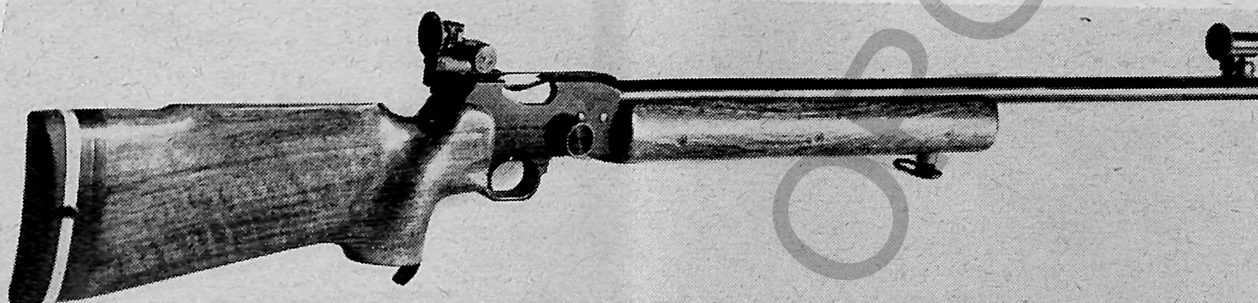


The first .22 match rifle introduced by B.S.A. Guns Limited over fifty years ago, employed the Martini type falling block action and while continuous development has taken place during the interim period, the basic principles of operation remain the same.

The most recently introduced model, the Martini-International I.S.U. rifle, has been designed to meet the International Shooting Union's specification for the Standard rifle.

The New B.S.A. I.S.U. Model



The merits of the Martini type action are well known to many shooters: the short, compact action, combined with the simple loading and unloading operation, permits operation with the minimum of disturbance to the firing position. These benefits are perhaps best demonstrated by observing rapid fire events.

The action complete can be removed quickly and simply by a single take-down screw to permit cleaning and maintenance without interfering with stock and fore-end bedding. The components comprising the trigger and striker mechanism, and the spring assisted extraction and ejection are all fully machined; no pressings of any sort are used. All axis pins are ground to size and those which are load bearing are of generous proportions. The bottom of the trigger guard is flattened and serrated to provide a thumb position for standing shooting while the front of the trigger guard carries adjusting screws for trigger weight and backlash. After setting to personal preference, these can be securely locked in position and the adjustments carried out without removal of any parts from the rifle.

The relationship between barrel and fore-end is probably the greatest single influence on accuracy: fully bedded, partially bedded, free floating, one fixing screw, two fixing screws, barrel bands – the variety is infinite, but the object always the same: to maintain the optimum condition regardless of climatic change.

The latest B.S.A. offers a new concept, utilising an aluminium alloy "V" strut bolted firmly in three places to the barrel and divorcing entirely any contact between barrel and wood. Many marksmen are inveterate experimentalists and it is recognised that different ammunitions respond to different conditions of fore-end pressure. While the accuracy standard of the B.S.A. with a certain batch of ammunition is guaranteed from the factory, this fore-end system does offer the shooter the opportunity for experimenting without in any way defacing the rifle.

The underside of the aluminium "V" has a

continuous "T" slot to provide infinite adjustment for the position of the front sling attachment. The "T" slot has a filler strip fitted which can be cut to the correct length after the optimum sling attachment position has been found.

Every Martini-International I.S.U. rifle is accuracy tested at 100 yards from a machine rest and is required to produce five consecutive ten shot groups, the average of which must not exceed .75 in. cutting and no single group from the five to exceed 1 in. cutting.

Adjustment of the trigger

Before leaving the factory the trigger is set to a pull-off weight of just over 3 lb., but provision is made and an Allen key provided to carry out subsequent adjustments. To do so it is not necessary to remove the action.

Two Allen screws are located in the front of the trigger guard and locked in position by two locking screws, one on each side of the guard. To lighten the trigger pull slacken the screw which locks the adjusting screw marked "T" with the Allen key provided. Turn the screw "T" in an anti-clockwise direction until the desired weight is achieved. Re-lock the adjusting screw and re-test the trigger weight. If the trigger weight is to be increased the above procedure should be followed, but the adjusting screw "T" turned in a clockwise direction. A minimum trigger weight of less than $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., can be obtained. It should be remembered, however, that where a very light trigger weight is being used the rifle must be handled with care and the cocking lever closed gently.

The unmarked screw in the guard controls the backlash (the amount of trigger movement after release). To decrease backlash first cock the rifle and then unlock the screw and turn it in a clockwise direction. This should be done approximately one-eighth of a turn at a time, testing after each movement to ensure that the trigger will release. After the adjustment the locking screw must be re-tightened and the let-off re-tested.

DO NOT attempt under any circumstances to oilstone the sear engagement faces. Great care has been exercised at the factory to produce correct sear engagement. Hand stoning will upset the precision with which these components have been manufactured. This may produce an inconsistent let-off and, where a light trigger let-off is being used, could cause premature firing.

Barrel

After headspace has been set, the barrel is locked in the body by two hardened steel screws. It is not advisable to attempt to remove these barrel fixing screws and no responsibility will be accepted by the manufacturers for subsequent performance of the rifle if such attempts have been made.

The butt and fore-end are manufactured from selected French walnut, hand sanded and French polished. The butt may be shortened for standing and kneeling by the removal of one or both of the $\frac{3}{8}$ in. walnut inserts between butt and butt plate. Walnut spacers have been used as they preserve the appearance of the rifle and are lighter than metal inserts.

In addition to length variation by the walnut inserts, the butt plate may be adjusted vertically within the limits permitted by the specification.

The butt is panelled out, again to save weight, and any savings which have been achieved have been added where they will do most good: in the barrel and the action. The cheek piece on the butt is straight so that the relationship between sight line and eye is similar in the three shooting positions.

A Parker-Hale P.H.1. tunnel foresight has been modified to meet the I.S.U. specification and the P.H.25 rearsight offers $\frac{1}{4}$ minute click adjustment and the eyepiece incorporates a six-hole attachment with aperture variations from .80 in. to .30 in.

Allen keys are provided for the fore-end strut, the butt plate and the trigger adjustment.

Specification →

THE RIFLEMAN

SPECIFICATION:

Barrel Length	28 in.
Barrel Diameter	.850 in. — .002 in. dia. parallel
Rifling Grooves	6
Rifling Twist	1 Turn in 16 in. Right Hand
Overall Length	43 in. — 44 in.
Butt Plate Adjustment for Length	Minus $\frac{3}{4}$ in. in two $\frac{3}{8}$ in. increments
Butt Plate Adjustment for Height	Up $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; Down $\frac{5}{8}$ in.
Sight Line to Comb	1.72 in.
Trigger Pull Adjustment	Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. — 5 lb.
Height of Sight Line above Bore	1.530 in.

SPRING 1970