

to [Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Md. 21701]

**COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS**

927 - 15th Street N. W., #409
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005
Tel. (202) 347-3837

subject _____

date 12/19/71

message

Dear Harold:

Thanks for your excellent comments in your letter of 12/9, which I just received today. I don't have time for as complete a response as I'd like, as I'm getting ready for a trip to New York tomorrow, but I'll get in touch with you after I get back, possibly next weekend.

I had already sent copies of the 12/7 memo to Bernabei & Hoch, so I'm glad you sent copies of your comments to them. Paul also replied, and he has told me a little about the earlier Klein's ad research also. I had not been aware of it. It is very interesting indeed, and I shall be looking forward to hearing more of the details when I return.

Enclosed is a supplement that tabulates the data on the published ads in somewhat greater (and more accurate) detail. Note that the April & June 1963 issues of American Rifleman contained ads by Klein's which did ~~show~~ describe the heavier rifle — a fact I had overlooked in my previous hasty search reported in the 12/7 memo. On the other hand, note that the light version was still being advertised as late as the July ^{signed} issue of Guns & Ammo. It now seems likely that the "Hidell" order was processed during a period of changeover, late February to

reply

late April as indicated by the range of closing dates for submission of advertising copy. Note also that the "T" designation in the ads seems to be entirely irrelevant. (In fact, "T" was used on most items to summer '63, then was dropped on all of them at the same time.)

You are correct about "Late Issue" — this banner was dropped in AR-8 & subsequent ads, but the phrase "Late military issue" was then incorporated into the descriptive paragraph instead.

I have a little bit more info on the Seaport ad, but am not ready to discuss it all. The ad itself was on newsprint (not magazine stock), and the back of it shows a portion of a cartoon, including the words "Happy Anniversary". Seems very likely that this had to come from some cheap local publication perhaps known only to gun buffs, and thus a possible clue to the real "Hidell" or some Oswald "mentor". (or a Dallas cop?)

SENDER: Had white and pink copies with carbon intact.
AMSTERDAM PRINTING AND LITHO CORP. Amsterdam, N. Y. 12010
Style #35160 cc: Paul Hoch

RECEIVER: Reply, ~~white~~ white copy, ~~pink~~ pink copy.
Bob Swick

ANALYSIS OF KLEIN'S ADVERTISEMENTS SHOWING "6.5 ITALIAN CARBINE" (in 1963)

Magazine & Month	"Dept." No.	Rifle Type	Use of "T" in Item No.	Closing Date for Ad Subm.	Remarks
GH-5 (62)	100	Light	Yes	2/04/62	{These ads included to show that M-C rifle had been adv. many mos.
GH-9 (62)	213	"	"	6/04/62	
GH-1 (63)	289	"	"	9/20/62	
GA-1	306	"	"	10/20/62	Small revolver ad by Seaport, p.81.
GA-2	321	"	"	11/20/62	
AR-1	323	"	"	11/25/62	
SA-1	326	"	"	11/15/62	
GH-3	333	"	"	11/20/62	
GA-3	348	"	"	12/20/62	
AR-2	358	"	"	12/25/62	Answered by "Hidell" (WR, p.119)
GA-4	382	"	"	1/20/63	
GH-5	387	"	"	1/21/63	
GA-5	404	"	"	2/20/63	
AR-4	405	Heavy	"	2/25/63	1st known ad for heavy rifle
ST-4	407	Light	"	2/25/63	↑ Apparent changeover period ↓
GA-6	414	"	"	3/20/63	
GH-7	415	Heavy	"	3/21/63	
GA-7	422	Light	"	4/20/63	Last known ad for light rifle
AR-6	425	Heavy	"	4/25/63	
GH-9	427	"	"	5/21/63	
AR-7	429	"	"	5/25/63	
GA-8	435	"	"	5/20/63	
GA-10	451	"	No	7/20/63	1st known omission of "T"; no ad in GA-9 -- missed deadline?
AR-8	454	"	No	6/25/63	New format; "Late issue" omitted; no scope on illustration
SA-9	457	"	No	7/15/63	
AR-9	458	"	"	7/25/63	Like AR-8, but scope shown on ill.
GA-11	472	"	"	8/20/63	
SA-10	475	"	"	8/15/63	
AR-10	478	"	"	8/25/63	
SA-11	484	"	"	9/15/63	
GA-12	487	"	"	9/20/63	

Abbreviations: AR = American Rifleman; GA = Guns & Ammo; GH = Guns & Hunting; SA = Sports Afield; ST = Shooting Times.

Other observations: Klein's Ads were seen in each of the Jan. thru June, 1963 issues of Field & Stream, but none showed the "6.5 Italian Carbine"; the last six months of 1963 were not available for this magazine. Klein's ads showing the M-C rifle were seen in the July, Aug. & Oct. 1963 issues of Guns; the July issue showed the light rifle, while the August issue showed the heavy one. No Klein's ads were found in 1963 issues of Gun Report or Gun World. Other gun & hunting magazines were not examined.

A spot check was made for ads by Seaport Traders, Inc. Three were found, all small and all showing only a single item, in each case a revolver. Coupons were not included, but in each of the three ads a "Dept." No. was shown which matched the abbreviation for the title of the magazine and the month of issue.

In view of the "Dept. AM-3" on the Seaport ad answered by "Hidell" (CE 135; CE 790), a check was made on a few magazines with this abbreviation, including American Mercury, American Modeler, and American Motorcycling. None of these were found to contain ads by either Klein's or Seaport.