

MYSTERIOUS ALLIANCE OF THE WEST PACIFIC

TERMINATOR

THE MAN'S MAGAZINE

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Ray Bradbury Reveals:
**MY SECRET OF
IMMORTALITY**

Robert Ruark Warns:
**DON'T BLAME GUNS,
BLAME THE PEOPLE**

Barnaby Conrad Says:
**AMERICANS
HANG TOUGH
IN DEATH**

The Florida Fox:
**AN EX-COP WHO
BAFFLED THE FBI**



MAGNIFICENT
MINIATURE
GUN COLLECTION



MIGHTY MIDGETS

Warning! These firearms are not toys. The potent miniatures may be tiny, but they are exact working replicas—right down to the bullets they fire. And they're worth a cool \$250,000

□ Samuel Weill Jr. collects guns. Not your ordinary, everyday, run-of-the-mill guns, but exquisitely modeled miniature guns that are exact, perfectly-scaled copies of their larger counterparts. What's more, they shoot!

Weill started collecting ancient, ordinary and valuable guns when he was about 13 years old. Then about eight years ago somebody showed him a miniature working firearm. Two years later, thoroughly hooked, he began to collect "seriously," and today he has one of the largest private collections in the U.S., valued at \$250,000.

His collection now spans the centuries from 1590 to the present. The single most valuable piece is a 105mm Japanese anti-aircraft gun. Its actual monetary value is debatable, but it is irreplaceable and he has turned down an offer of \$10,000.

Somebody probably made a miniature within days of the inadvertent invention of the first crude wooden club before history began. Guns are no exception. And there

are also some fine present-day craftsmen practicing the art. There is an active British Miniature Arms Society. Here in the U.S., a rapidly growing Miniature Arms Society is headquartered in Racine, Wisconsin. Both organizations are made up of makers and collectors—thousands of the latter. But before you rush off to start your collection, Weill has a few words of advice: a lot of miniatures on the market can be classified as "junk."

"Many pieces do not have authentic interior mechanisms or exterior dimensions. They are not truly scale models," he says.

"It's amazing to see all the elements of skill that go into the making of a truly excellent piece. Even more amazing is that one man does it all, from the engraving to the complicated interior mechanism.

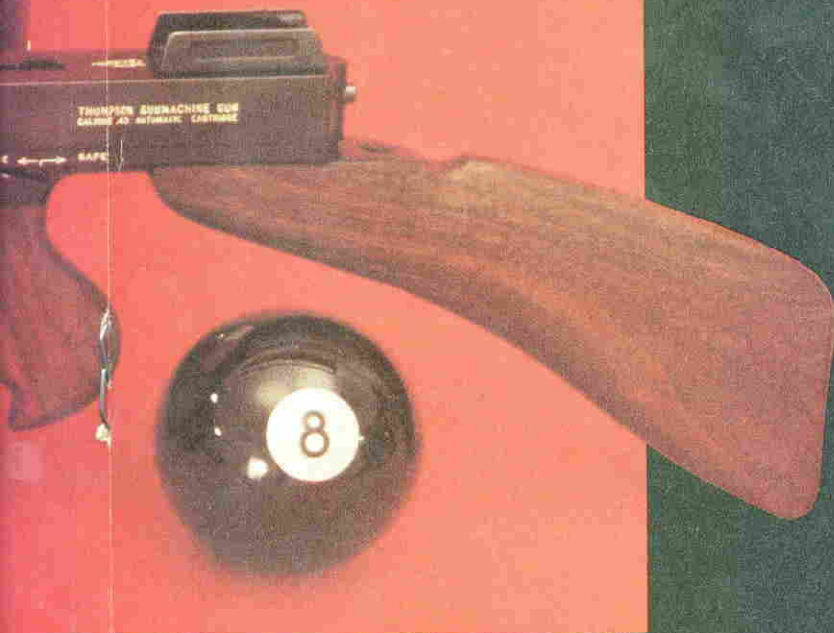
"If you looked at a photograph of the really great miniatures without the benefit of a scale as reference, you couldn't tell the difference."





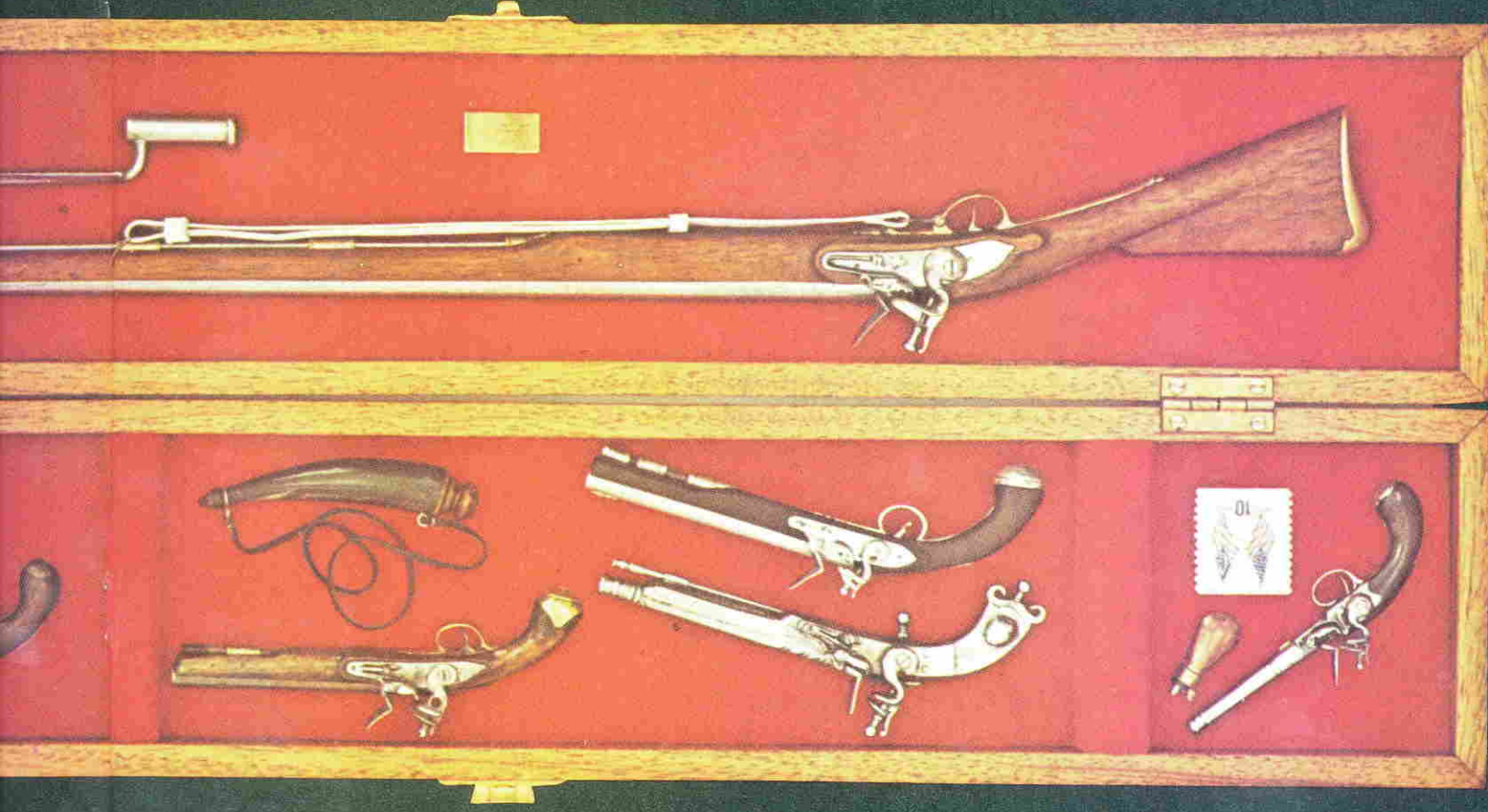
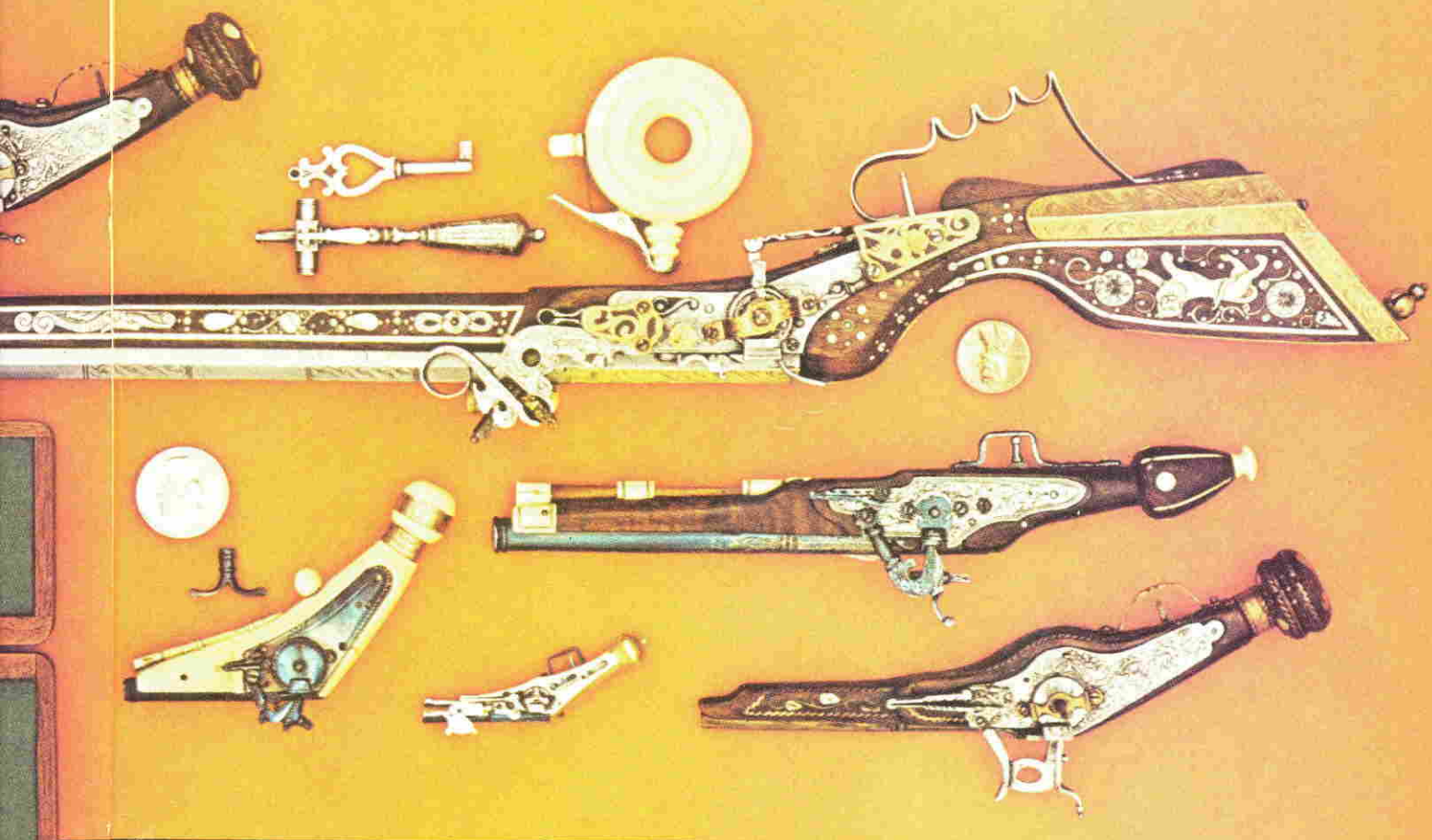
The finely engraved Spanish Miguelet carbine at top has an overall length of 11¾". The 28-bore Webley shotgun below it was made by England's John Cooper. Pair of Joseph Child of London pocket pistols comes complete with powder flasks. The drilling below the bone and ebony-inlaid case, one of the finest miniatures in the world, has two shotgun barrels over a rifle barrel. The engraving is extraordinary and it also features a pop-up sight.

Edmond de la Garrigue made this pantograph—engraved Model 1928 Thompson submachine gun. The .25 cal. miniature has a 6" barrel with an overall length of 17". Detail is superb, all the way to the lettering of patent numbers.

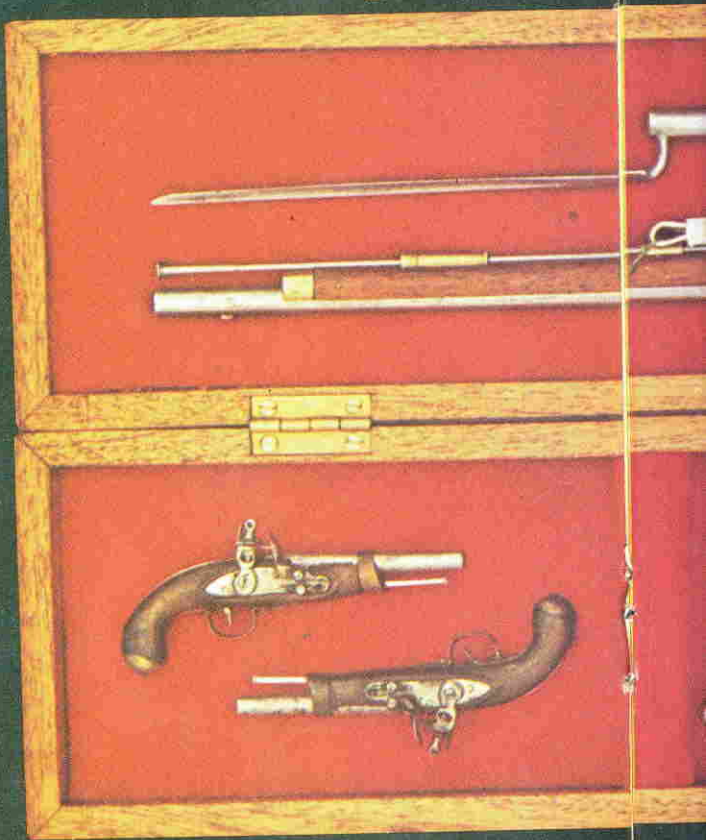
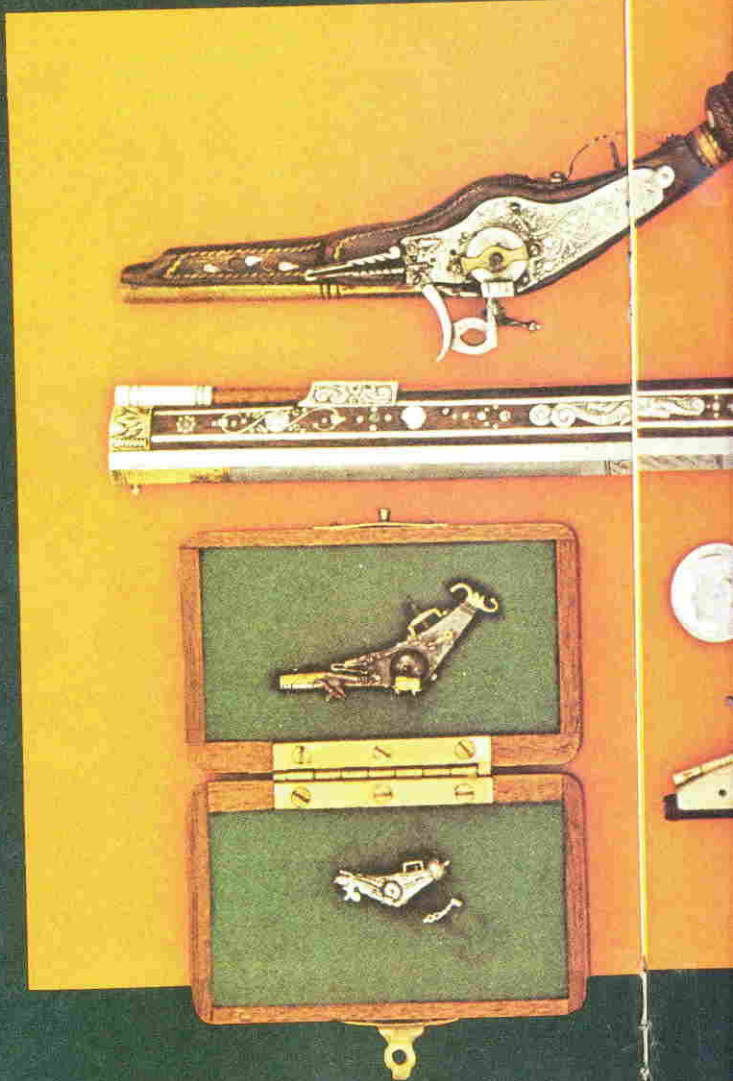
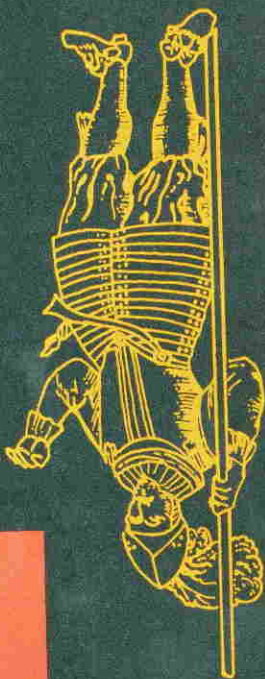


This DWM Luger is worth about \$5,000. It's exactly half the original size and fires .17 cal. centerfire cartridges. It comes with oil can, take-down tool, cleaning rod, holster, combination holster/shoulder stock, and snail drum with leather snail drum case. Made by Isaias Aguilar Sanchez, the overall length of this working model is 6½".





The group of wheel locks on the left includes some of the finest pieces in Weill's entire collection. The tiny pistol, center top row, took English dental professor John Cooper almost 3,000 hours to build. The stock is gold and the rest is made of steel. Weill thinks it is the most meticulously made item in his collection. Like all the other pieces, it is fully functional. The beautiful rifle, based on a model from Teschen, Bohemia, is called a Tschinke wheellock. Inlaid with mother-of-pearl, ivory, bone and brass, it is 17" long and fires a .25 cal. ball through its rifled barrel. It was made by John Maycock of Stockport, England.



Revolutionary War collection features from left to right: Queen Anne flintlock pistol and flask; Ramshorn Scottish all-steel flintlock with an English officer's pistol below it; a Tower pistol with its powder horn and a pair of French military flintlocks. The cased rifle, a Brown Bess and its bayonet, was made by David Hicks of England. Hart also made the matched pair of Kentuckys below. The overall length of the rifle is 14 3/4" and the pistol is 3 3/4" long.

This potent little Navy Model Gatling is as dangerous as it looks. The 10 barrels all fire real bullets. This expensive toy, mounted on a brass pedestal, is only 7 1/4" long.

