



Basic Firearms Instructor Course

PATROL RIFLE

**Massachusetts
Municipal Police Training Committee**

MPTC Patrol Rifle Instructor

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 Kenneth Gifford Jay Borges

Time Allocation: 3 days

Date Written: September 2007

Target Population: MPTC Firearms Instructors

Date Revised:

Recommended Class Size: Up to 15 students

Course Goals

- Teach the mission of the patrol rifle.
- Reinforce the need to apply the Four Cardinal Safety Rules of Firearms Safety.
- Teach the basic operation of the patrol rifle.
- Identify the caliber which will best meet our expectations for the patrol rifle.
- Identify the different ammunition types and which will best meet our needs.
- Teach the importance and use of the sling.
- Teach various safe methods of transporting the patrol rifle.
- Teach the importance of movement and cover when employing the patrol rifle
- Qualify the student using the M.P.T.C. Patrol Rifle Qualification Course of Fire.
- Demonstrate field stripping and routine maintenance.
- Discuss Patrol Rifle Policy & Procedure considerations.

Methods of Instruction

- Static
- Fluid
- Dynamic

Instructor Provided Training Aids & Supplies

Classroom & Training Site

Range with adequate backstop and room to conduct planned activities

Q targets with optional Good/Bad Guy targets

First Aid Kit

Water

Sanitary Facilities

Communications (radio or cell phone)

Student Equipment Requirements

Operable patrol rifle with a sling (optics optional but must have iron sights)

1000 rounds rifle ammunition (FMJ OK if bullet weight is the same as your duty ammo)

250 rounds pistol ammunition (FMJ OK)

Minimum of four (4) rifle magazines

Service Pistol w/minimum of three (3) pistol magazines

Complete Duty Belt

Body Armor

Personal Protective Equipment (eye & hearing)
Gun cleaning kit for rifle and handgun

Student Performance Objectives

- State and understand the mission of the patrol rifle
- State the tactical difference between rifle and pistol ammunition
- Describe the proper operation and manipulation of the patrol rifle
- Demonstrate the ability to create and teach a rifle related lesson plan
- Demonstrate Classroom & Range Instructional Techniques
- Understand and describe weapon nomenclature
- Demonstrate dry and live fire application drills
- Demonstrate immediate action clearance procedures
- Demonstrate an overall knowledge of course and subject matter

Testing Procedures

- Minimum score of 90% for all live fire scored drills & qualification while maintaining 100% round accountability.
- Minimum score of 90% on all written exams and quizzes.
- Successfully complete assigned oral presentations
- Successfully run assigned live fire course assignments

References

Patrol Rifle Instructor by Chief Ron Glidden
Municipal Police Firearms Instructor Manual
Patrol Rifle Instructor by Sgt. Patrick Poirier, NHSP (ret.)
Police Rifle & Tactical Carbine, Center Mass Training Institute, 2003
The Patrol Rifle, Gilbert DuVernay, 1998 ASLET Conference Presentation
Patrol Rifle Instructor, MLEFIAA Firearms Instructor Development Program
The Patrol Rifle by IACP National Law Enforcement Policy Center Board
Patrol Rifle Instructor Manual by Chris Baker, Franklin P.D., Jason Brennan, Medway P.D., William Slowe, Needham P.D., Lt. Kenneth Gifford, NBPD (ret.)
Bushmaster M4 / M15 (AR15) Armorer Manual
Ruger Mini 14 Armorer Manual
.223 Ammunition Data Analysis, BATFE, Dec. 2004
M4-A2, U.S. Army Field Manual, 2002
PoliceOne
Force Science Research Center

INTRODUCTION

The Patrol Rifle in the hands of the law enforcement officer is not a new tool, but one that has been employed in many a rural setting where the pistol and shotgun would not be an effective application or response to a threat.

In cities and congested areas, the pistol and shotgun were considered adequate for the likely situations that a law enforcement officer would like come across. A rifle was considered too powerful and over penetration was a concern. We began to look at the rifle for stand off containment and perimeter security. The stand off and containment was obtained due to the increased accuracy that the rifle afforded over the pistol and the shotgun. An officer did not have to close the distance to the threat to successfully engage the threat.

We have found most officers have difficulty hitting the MPTC Q target with regularity using their service pistol at distances further than the 10 yard line. Now, factor in the stress level of a life and death encounter with rapidly evolving circumstances – the actual hit ratio drops even further. Beyond 15 yards the shotgun with multiple round projectile, may yield more hit potential however the recoil and manual operation of the shotgun has historically proved to be an issue with some Officers. If the load is buck shot, beyond 18 yards the shot spread will begin to exceed the width of the torso. This violates the accountability for all rounds down range rule. The slug round provides the logical alternative with longer range, more accuracy and no shot spread. It also has greater penetration which can be considered both a positive and negative factor when considering its use in urban areas or near thin walled homes. Conversely, the most popular patrol rifle round, the 5.56mm NATO (.223 Remington) will penetrate fewer walls than service pistol rounds or 12 gauge slugs.

The rifle is a superior tool. It allows the officer to either stand off from the threat or, if the situation requires, advance to the threat with the confidence that the tool in their hands can deal with almost any perceived threat. It has the power to deliver lethal terminal ballistics to the threat. It has a larger magazine capacity than our service pistol or shotgun. The longer sight radius makes it potentially a more accurate weapon which lowers the liability to the department. The drawbacks include an additional initial and

operating expense to the department and there are additional weapon retention issues which need to be addressed in training.

Historical Background

The Patrol Rifle has been in use since the late 1800's. It was common to see a lever action rifle in the saddle scabbard of the sheriff in the old west. Like his modern counterpart, he carried the rifle to deal with threats to far away for his revolver. During the early part of the 20th century, the rifle began to wane in popularity. There were several incidents which changed this.

- **August 1, 1966**

Charles Joseph Whitman, a student at the University of Texas (Austin) climbed to the top of the campus clock tower and opened fire on the people below. Armed with at least two rifles and a large supply of ammunition, Whitman was able to bring accurate and deadly fire from his elevated and isolated position. His location made conventional police response with their issued revolvers and shotguns next to impossible. Whitman was able to kill 14 and wound 31 before his murderous rampage was suppressed by police and civilians armed with high power rifles which allowed officers to gain entry to the tower and kill the sniper. This is the first documented "active shooter" although the term was not coined until many years later.

- **April 11, 1986**

Bank robbers William Matix and Michael Platt engaged in a gun battle with federal agents in a suburb of Miami. Two FBI agents were killed and five others severely injured before Platt and Matix were stopped permanently. The agents were armed with typical service pistols or revolvers and a 12 gauge shotgun. The bank robbers were heavily armed. Matix was able to get off one round from his 12 ga. shotgun. Platt fired a total of 42 rounds from his Ruger Mini 14 rifle with devastating effect on the agents.

This incident was pivotal in many ways including how effective a trained and determined individual armed with a rifle can successfully engage several armed individuals. Law enforcement took notice but the concept of the patrol rifle was still limited to a minority of forward thinking agencies and instructors.

- **February 28, 1997**

Larry Phillips and Emil Matasareanu rob the Bank of America in North Hollywood, CA. Armed with illegally converted full auto rifles, 3300 rounds of ammo and covered with body armor, the two robbers conducted a running gun fight with LAPD officers for about 30 minutes. LAPD officers were forced to commandeer AR15 rifles from a local gun shop since they were only armed with handguns and shotguns loaded with buckshot – neither which was capable of penetrating the robber's body armor. This incident highlighted the need for patrol rifles capable of penetrating body armor. Many departments took notice especially after LAPD began issuing all its supervisors AR15's for their cruisers.

- **April 20, 1999**

Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold killed 13 and wounded 24 people when they went on a shooting spree at the Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. Following standard procedure, responding police set up a perimeter, contained the threat and called SWAT. The rest is history and the term Active Shooter was born.

- **Active Shooter**

Experience has shown that individuals who fit the active shooter profile carry multiple firearms with additional magazines giving them the capacity to stay in the fight longer. They may wear body armor and usually employ some of the same tactics that military and police use. They usually have a plan and are goal oriented. This is often illustrated by their use of pre-made bombs and other destructive devices. When law enforcement is faced with the active shooter scenario with only pistols or shotguns, and

no training, their chances of success are reduced. The presence of innocent bystanders requires police to use a tool that is capable of delivering accurate and powerful hits on the suspect to neutralize the threat as quickly as possible. The active shooter is not an enigma or an issue law enforcement can relegate to the “what if” category. It is a real and probable situation that we must train and equip our first responding police officers to deal with. The patrol rifle armed police officer is one element to success when dealing with the Active Shooter. A Department with proper training, correct tools and Departmental policy in place will be able to deal with this issue with confidence which comes from being prepared.

In this post 9/11 world, the threat of terrorism in the United States is ever present. Whether from domestic based groups or Al-Qaeda, we have not seen the last of attacks within our borders. Attacks will likely be directed at targets which will result in the most shock value. Suicide attacks by terrorists armed with assault rifles against schools or shopping malls is a highly likely scenario. The police officer armed with a patrol rifle will be the first line of defense.



The Mission of the Patrol Rifle

The Patrol Rifle is a force multiplier. The advantages of the rifle permit a single officer to effectively deal with multiple adversaries without the disadvantages of being only armed with a handgun.

Advantages:

- The Patrol Rifle is capable of delivering controlled fire out to 100 meters with accurate torso hits. The longer sight radius permits more accurate shots when compared with the handgun. Rifle ammunition has a greater range than shotgun slugs or buckshot.
- The Patrol Rifle will defeat soft body armor. Patrol rifles chambered in pistol cartridges will not fulfill this aspect of the Patrol Rifle Mission Statement. The Bank of America robbery in Los Angeles shows us what a worst case scenario can look like.
- The Patrol Rifle will deliver incapacitating hits. The FBI's Miami Shootout shows us what one man with a patrol rifle can do. While the rifle was in the wrong hands, we can learn from the results. The hydrostatic shock from a round impacting at 3000 feet per second will result in far more damage than pistol caliber ammunition.
- The Patrol Rifle is a stand off weapon. We teach our officers that distance is their friend. Distance gives you the time to react and decide. The effective range of the rifle means we can position ourselves at distances 3 to 4 times that of what we would with the handgun.

Four Cardinal Rules of Firearms Safety

1. All firearms are always considered loaded until they have been physically and visually checked. Even then, we will always treat them as if they were loaded.
2. Your finger will stay off the trigger until the weapon is on target and the decision to fire has been made. (Off target – Off trigger)
3. Be sure of your target AND what is beyond it.
4. The muzzle of your weapon NEVER points at anything you are not willing to destroy. Our weapon will always be pointed in a safe direction so if an unintentional discharge were to occur, the result would NOT be death or personal injury.

The Laser Rule – treat your firearm as if it was a laser and it could destroy everything it points at.

All personnel on a MPTC range are required to have eye and hearing protection. It is strongly recommended that when shooting patrol rifles, shooters use foam ear plugs PLUS over the ear hearing protection. Eye protection shall have side shields.

Clearing Procedures:

The weapon clearing procedure for a patrol rifle is very similar to that used with any semi-automatic pistol. Since most departments use the semi-auto as their duty weapon, the concept will not be a new one for most officers.

- Point the muzzle in a safe direction.
- Finger remains outside the trigger guard along the receiver.
- Safety is in the ON position.
- Remove the magazine.
- Operate the action to eject a chambered round. Lock the action to the rear.
- Visually and physically inspect the chamber insuring no round is chambered.

As with the pistol, the most important step (other than keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction) is to insure the **MAGAZINE is REMOVED BEFORE** the action is cycled. The officer that gets this mixed up will end up with a loaded chamber. This procedure is best demonstrated with dummy rounds showing how **NOT** to do it first. Follow this up with the correct procedure several times to reinforce the concept into their minds.

Basic Operation of the Patrol Rifle

Officers seeking to teach at the instructor level must have a sound working knowledge of their tools. Few things ruin an instructor's credibility more than standing in front of the class and having to refer to the parts of the weapon as the "whatchamacallit" and the "thingamabob". While it is not necessary to be an armorer, you must be able to describe the basic operation of the weapon accurately using the correct terms. To do any less is a disservice to your students and your vocation.

Nomenclature:

A. Barrel & Receiver

Front sights:

The most common form of front sight found on modern patrol rifles is a raised post type sight that is similar in design and appearance to those found on the more common service pistols. Like the front sight on pistols, the rifle front sight is centered both vertically and horizontally in the rear sight opening, sight picture. The difference between rifle and pistol front sights is their size. Due to the longer distance between the front and rear sights on rifles (sight radius), the rifle front sight does not have to be as large and will be noticeable thinner in width than that of a pistol. The thinner front sight allows more light to enter the sight picture, resulting in greater accuracy and precision. Because of the thinner front sight, most patrol rifles feature a front sight which is surrounded by some form of protection intended to prevent damage. The two most commonly encountered designs are a raised pair of steel protective "ears"

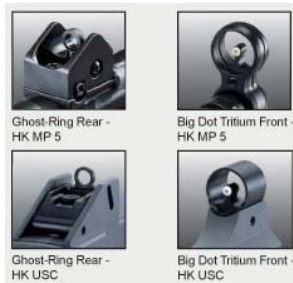
(found on M16 or Ruger Mini-14GB) or a form of steel ring (common to several European designs such as the H&K rifles or Sig 550 series). Front sights are generally of the fixed/non-adjustable type. However, the M16/AR15 (most common patrol rifle found in law enforcement) features a front sight which is adjustable for elevation changes. Finally, there are now several brands of optional front sights which are designed to be more visible in reduced light. Two common types include sights which feature a contrasting color (vertical white stripe) and/or sights which contain chemicals which glow bright in reduced light (Tritium type night sights).



Sights to include:



M16A1 round post
M16A2 square post



H&K front sight with full ring



Ruger Mini14GB sightXS white stripe



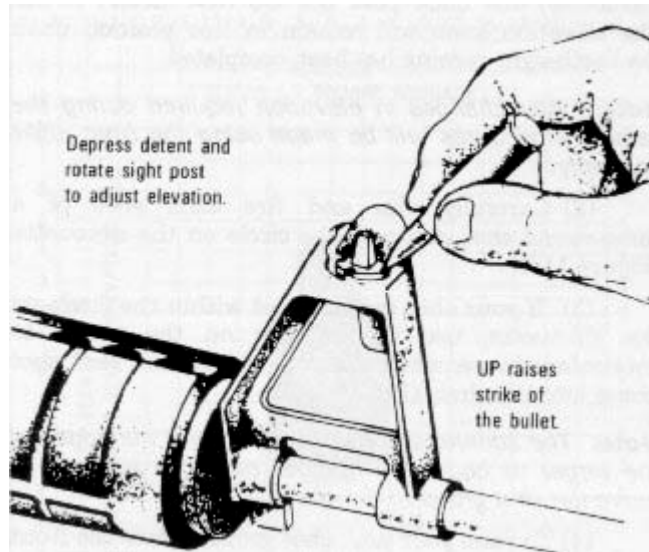
Trijicon front sight for rifles

AR adjustable front sight:

M16 adjustable front sight:

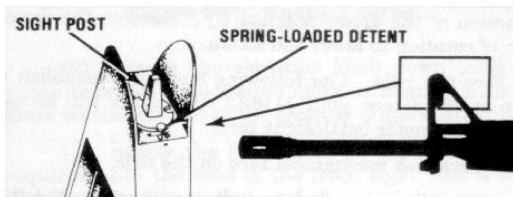
Most rifles feature sighting systems with fixed/non-adjustable front sights. Windage and elevation adjustments are made at the rear sight assembly.

However, the M16/AR15 rifle series feature an elevation adjustable front sight, designed to be adjusted and set once the proper elevation is determined during initial zeroing procedures. Once elevation zero is achieved, the M16 armed officer should avoid making any elevation adjustments at the rear sight as this is counter to the design of the rifle.



Adjustment:

The front sight is a raised post with notched circular shaped base that is screwed into the triangular shaped AR15 front sight assembly/tower. A



cylinder shaped device (referred to as the sight detent) is under spring pressure and fits into the notches on the base of the front sight, preventing it from turning. The front sight is

adjusted for elevation changes by turning it in the sight assembly – this raises or lowers the sight. To do so, the shooter has to depress the sight detent in order to move the sight. Sight adjustment tools are available but the most common method of doing so is to use the tip of the standard .223 caliber round. Use the bullet tip to first depress and hold the sight detent downward. Then, begin to apply pressure to the base of the front sight – this will cause it to begin to turn. Once the sight is adjusted properly, ensure that the detent is mated with one of the notches in the base of the front sight.

Rear Sights

Officers may encounter two different types of rear sights when handling a patrol rifle. They are the open style (also called tangent or notch sights) and the circular aperture type (also referred to as peep sights). As with other types of firearms, the rear sight acts as vertical and horizontal reference point for aligning the front sight. Regardless of which type of rear sight is present on the rifle, sighting principles such as “equal height/equal light” and “front sight focus” are the same as with your service pistol. The shooter looks through the rear sight opening and focuses his/her vision on the front sight while aiming at the target. The front sight should be centered both horizontally and vertically in the rear sight opening.

The **open type** rear sight is not generally used on modern rifles. The sight will consist of a rectangular rear blade with centered square opening or notch in which the front sight is placed when aiming. Their design makes these sights look similar in appearance to pistol sights. These sights are usually located somewhere near the mid-point of the rifle, above the chamber area. Many feel this makes these sights quicker to acquire. However, in some cases accuracy may suffer because of the reduced distance between the front and rear sights (sight radius). Although open type rear sights were the standard on military rifles years ago, they no longer enjoy the popularity they once held. Today, only a few military and law enforcement rifles feature open type rear sights. The AK-47 type rifles have these sights as do the Ruger PC series patrol carbines. Officers that have used Remington shotguns may have seen this type of sight, referred to as rifle sights on some Model 870 shotguns.



The second type, and the most commonly encountered sight, is the circular **aperture** rear sight (sometimes called peep sights). These are found on almost every rifle used for military

and law enforcement purposes including the M-16/AR-15, Ruger Mini-14, Sig 550 rifles, Heckler & Koch and many others. Aperture sights generally consist of a steel disc or ring with a centered circular opening that one looks through while sighting – called the sight aperture. The size of the sight aperture can vary from a very small hole to one so large that the sight is actually nothing more than a thin metal ring around a wide circular aperture (called a ghost ring). The different sized apertures allow varying amounts of light to be visible around the front sight. Generally, the smaller apertures are intended for precision shooting while the larger apertures work better for close range and/or reduced light situations where quicker acquisition of the front sight is needed. Because of this, many rifles feature rear sights that have multiple apertures of different sizes that can be selected by the shooter for the situation encountered.

Because each model of patrol rifle may use a different type of rear sight, the method of adjustment for sighting in each sight cannot be covered in this manual. Some rifles utilize rear sights which only feature windage adjustments while others feature both windage and elevation adjustments. The actual amount of adjustment for one movement of the sight can also vary on a specific brand/model of rifle if shorter barrels are installed. For these reasons, it is highly recommended that the firearms instructor fully read and understand the manual provided with the selected patrol rifle.

M-16/AR-15 specific section

Because of its proliferation in law enforcement, the M-16/AR-15 series rifle sights will be covered in greater detail. The original M-16/AR-15 rifles featured rear sights that were installed within the carry handle and were adjustable for windage only. Elevation adjustments were made at the front sight. In order to make a windage adjustment on these rifles, the shooter would use the tip of a .223 caliber rifle round to depress a detent in order to move the wheel shaped windage drum. Two rear apertures were present, one for 0-300 meters (unmarked) and another for 300-400+ meters (marked with **L**).

In the 1980s, the U.S. military began a series of upgrades which resulted in the M16-A2 rifles (and civilian AR-15A2). The sights on the M-16A2 were part of the upgrade program. The front sight was changed from a round post (M-16A1) to a square post that was said to provide a more defined front sight picture. The rear sight was changed dramatically and bore little resemblance to its predecessor. It still retained the selectable dual sight apertures but with one aperture now being much larger than on the older A1 rifles. Also immediately noticeable were the two large adjustment drums which made sight adjustments easier. The right side adjustment drum still performed the windage changes. Shooters who did not know better found that the bottom sight drum could be used for elevation adjustments.



It is this ability to adjust elevation at the rear sight that is misunderstood by a majority of shooters. In reality, the A2 rear sight should not be adjusted for elevation ***when zeroing*** – elevation adjustments should still be made at the front sight. The adjustable elevation feature on the A2 rear sight is actually intended to be used as a form of bullet drop compensator. The trajectory and drop of the .223 caliber round over the varying distances was determined by a ballistics program and this information was designed into the elevation adjustment drum settings. The numbers on the drum correspond to the range to the target (ex. 4 = 400 meters, 5 = 500 meters) and the actual raising/lowering of the sight at these settings is designed to compensate for the approximate drop of the round at the specified distance. The theory of the sight (assuming proper zero procedures were used) is that a shooter would be able to aim center mass for targets out to 300 meters once zero was set. If targets are further away, the shooter would estimate the range to the target and would adjust the sight to the appropriate range on the elevation drum. This would allow him/her to still aim center mass (point of aim/point of impact) instead of having to hold the front sight over the target to compensate for bullet drop at longer ranges.

Zeroing Procedures / Mechanical Zero / Battle-sight Zero

The M-16/AR-15 can be zeroed at various distances based on the decision of the firearms instructor, anywhere from 25 yards out to 300 yards. The decision to zero the rifle at a specific distance should be made only after the instructor considers factors such as the trajectory of the ammunition and the anticipated ranges at which an officer may have to deploy the rifle. Police officers from urban areas may choose to zero their rifles at closer ranges while officers working in areas with flat/open terrain may select a longer range zero. Although the zero distance may vary from agency to agency, the process used to obtain a battle-sight zero for an officer's rifle is the same.

Before attempting to obtain a battle-sight zero, the shooter should check to insure that the sights are set to *mechanical zero*. Mechanical zero is achieved when the AR-15 sights are centered within their range of adjustment. For the firearms instructor running a patrol rifle course, it is easier and quicker to have all shooters begin with their sights set at mechanical zero. Doing this corrects any major errors in the sight adjustments that were made by other shooters who may have been unfamiliar with proper zeroing techniques. If not done, the instructor may soon find that the sights on some rifles were previously "adjusted" by officers who could not resist the urge to turn all the knobs/levers on their rifle. With these "adjusted" rifles, it may be difficult to obtain a zero, especially if the sights had been moved to the extreme limits of their adjustments. By starting at mechanical zero, the shooter will find that they will have to make fewer adjustments to their sights when obtaining a battle-sight zero. For the instructor, fewer sight adjustments when zeroing results in less time spent on the task and less ammunition used.

To obtain mechanical zero, the circular base of the front sight should be flush with the bottom of the front sight housing. The rear sight elevation drum (A2 models) should be rotated all the way down to the lower **8/3** setting (sight marked **6/3** on short barrels and flat-top rifles). Using the side windage adjustment drum, adjust the rear sight until it is centered in the housing (index mark on the lowered sight aperture should line up with the corresponding index mark on the sight body). The rifle is now at mechanical zero.



Mechanical Zero for Mini-14

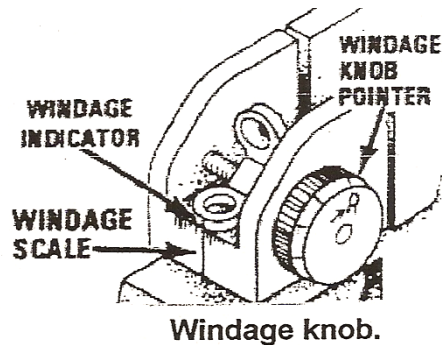
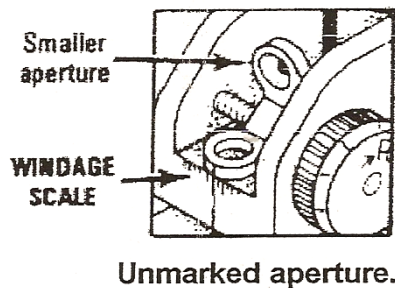
The rear sight of the Mini-14 can be set at mechanical zero very easily. Looking downward from above the rifle/rear sight, the shooter can use the side (windage adjustment) to move the rear sight housing. The right side of the rear sight housing should be lined up/even with the right side of the receiver. The rifle shooter can then move the top elevation adjustment downward until the adjustment stops. At that point, the shooter can raise the elevation adjustment up 4-5 clicks of the elevation wheel.

Zeroing Procedure (25 Yards)

The AR-15/M4 style rifle has two adjustable sights- front and rear. Zeroing elevation adjustments are made using the front sight, windage adjustments with the rear.

The rear sight has an elevation knob with range indicators from 300 to 800 yards and two apertures for range. One aperture is marked 0-200, and is used for short range, low light, and moving targets. The unmarked aperture is for ranges for 300 to 800 yards, and is used in conjunction with the elevation knob. Each click of elevation will move the shot group up or down approximately 1/4 inch at 25 yards, 8 inches at 800 yards.

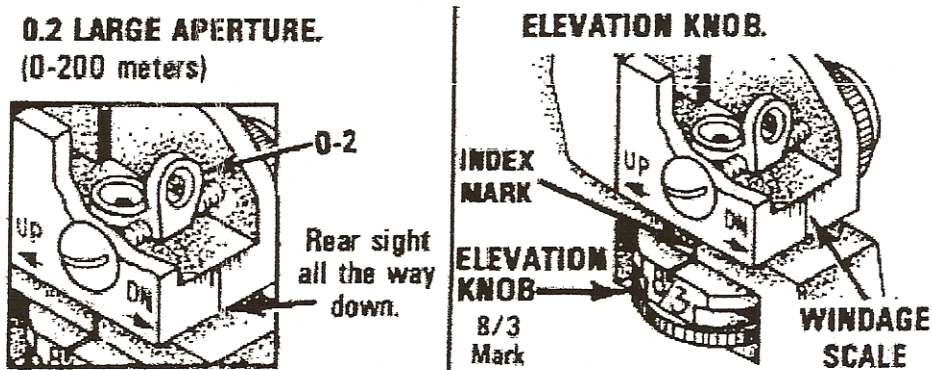
The rear sight also consists of windage knob on the right side of the sight. Each click of windage knob will move the shot group left or right 1/8 inch at 25 yards, to 4 inches at 800 yards. A windage knob pointer is on the windage knob. The front sight consists of a rotating light post with a spring loaded detent. This detent can be depressed with an adjustment tool or pointed bullet. Each click will move the shot group approximately 1/4 inch at 25 yards, to 8 inches at 800 yards



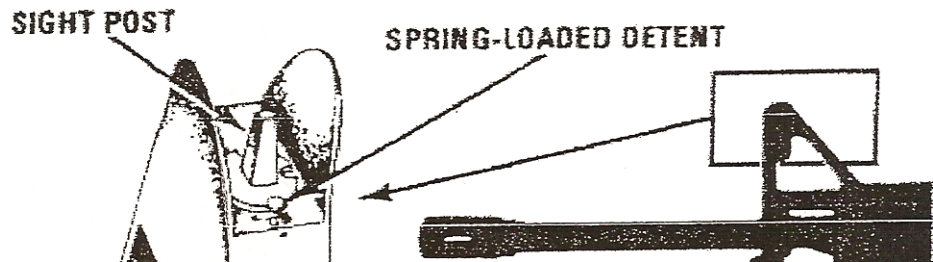
Mechanical Zero:

Align the windage indicator mark on the 0-2 aperture with the center line of the windage scale (the unmarked aperture is up)

Rotating the elevation knob down until the range scale 8/3 (300yards) mark is aligned with the mark on the left side of the receiver. Raise the large aperture (0-200)



After setting the rear sight to mechanical zero, rotate the front sight post up or down until the base is flush with the top of the sight post well



Battle Sight Zero

Carefully aim and fire three shot group, if the group is not centered in the dotted circle adjust your sights

To raise the group, rotate the front sight up (clockwise)

To lower the group, rotate the front sight down (counter clockwise)

To move the group left, rotate the windage knob counter clockwise

To move the group right, rotate the windage knob clockwise

Continue to fire and adjust until you have a tight group in the center of the dotted circle, once this is done the large aperture is zeroed to 200yards and the small aperture is zeroed to all other ranges as indicated on the elevation knob.

A 200 yard zero will give a shot group that falls inside a 6 inch circle centered on the target from 0 to 250 yards. With a center of mass aiming point no sight adjustment is needed.

Note – shooters should familiarize themselves with their rifle/carbine manual prior to beginning zero procedures so that they are aware of the actual movement that is made for each turn/click of adjustment on the sights. Most manufacturers determine the sights range of adjustment per click by using a 100 yard range (ex. At 100 yards, one click equals one inch of movement. At 50 yards, one click equals 1/2 inch of movement of the sight/shot group).

Another method of zeroing patrol rifles is to use the 200 yard zero. At first glance, this would seem like it would be far too long of a distance for use by law enforcement, especially since most police rifle engagements take place at under 50 yards. However, the 200 yard zero procedure has the benefit of an equivalent zero at the close range of 50 yards. This is due to the flat trajectory arc of the .223 Remington round. Using this zero method, the round is only 2 inches above or below the line of sight from the muzzle out to 250 yards. Therefore, a shooter only has to aim center mass for targets at 0-250 yards. Within these distances, the round will not vary more than 2 inches from the point of aim.

POINT OF IMPACT vs. POINT OF AIM

Muzzle contact: 2" Low

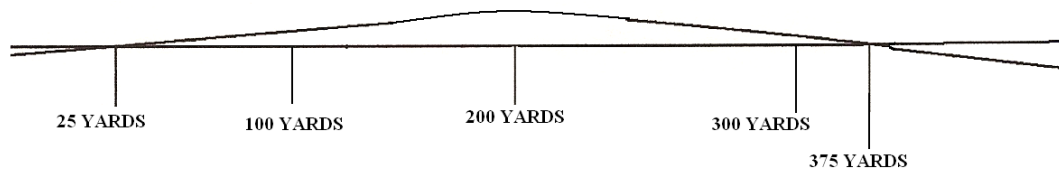
25 Yards: 1-1/4" Low

50 Yards: Point of Aim

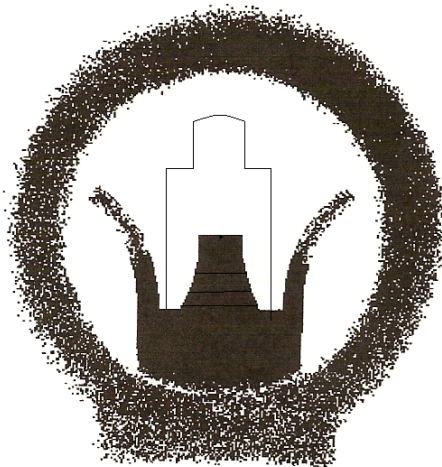
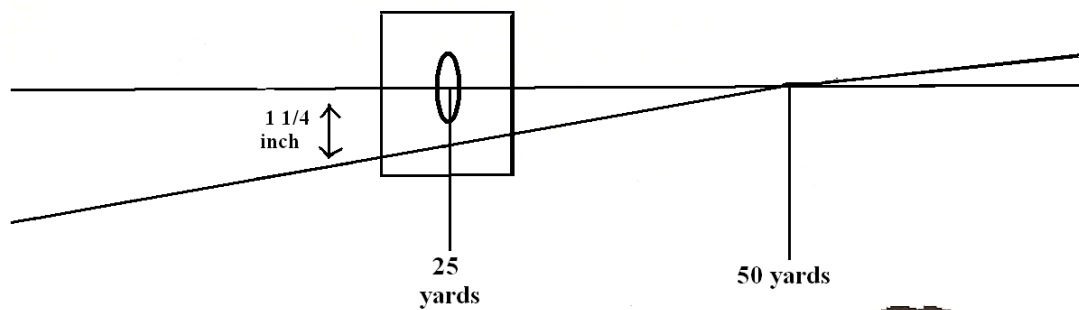
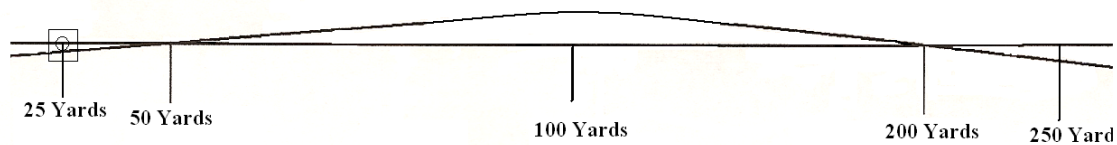
100 Yards: 2" High

200 Yards: Point of Aim

ZEROED A 375 YARDS

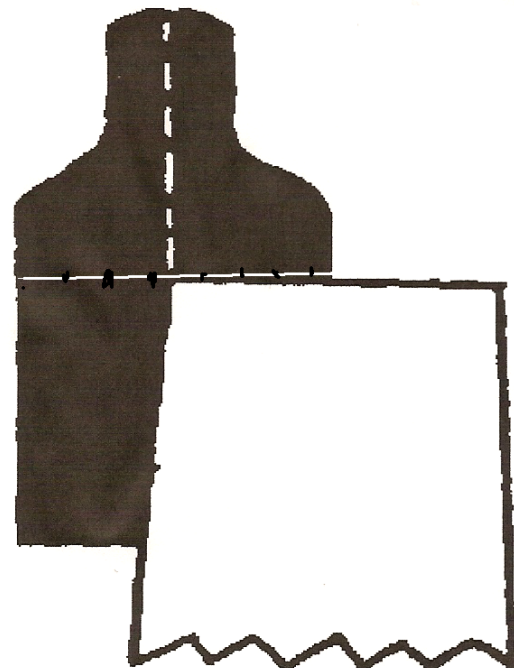


ZEROED AT 200 YARDS



200 Yard Zero

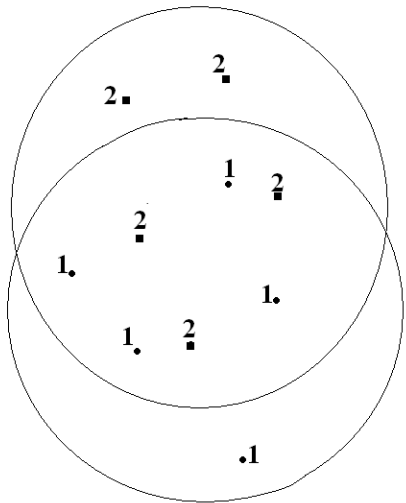
Sight picture using a center of mass aiming point will give hits from 0 to 250 Yards without any further sight adjustment.



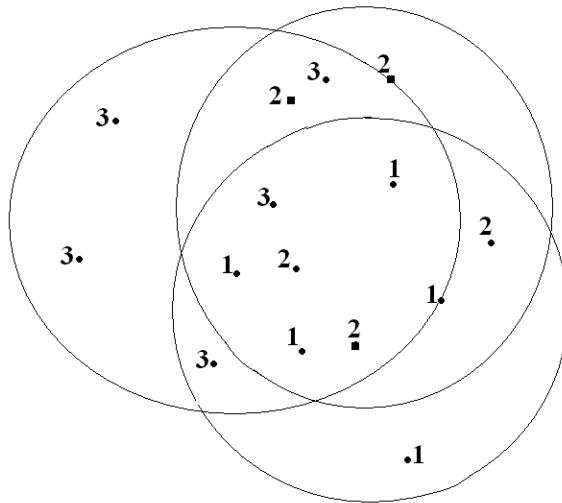
When finding center of mass on small or dimly seen targets, offset the front sight to cover half of target width, then raise sight to target midline. Center sight on target.

4 inch group fired at 100 yards

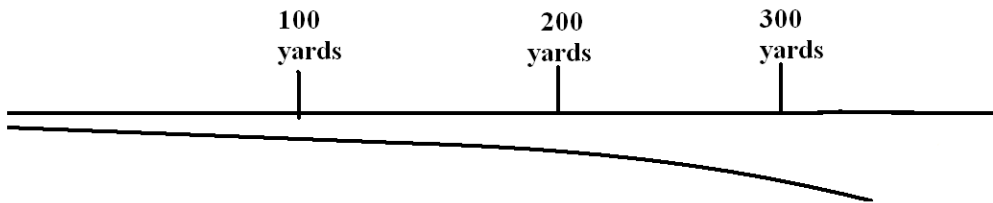
Second group with 1 click (1 inch)
elevation



Third group with 2 clicks (1 inch)
left windage



A shot fired with the line of sight and rifle bore parallel would cause the shot to fall away from the line of sight.

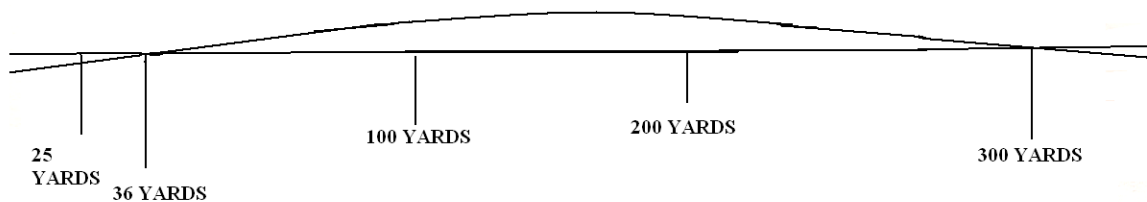


A shot fired, when the sights are adjusted, will cross the line of sight in two places
The distance of the first and second intersection are the ZERO for that sight
adjustment.

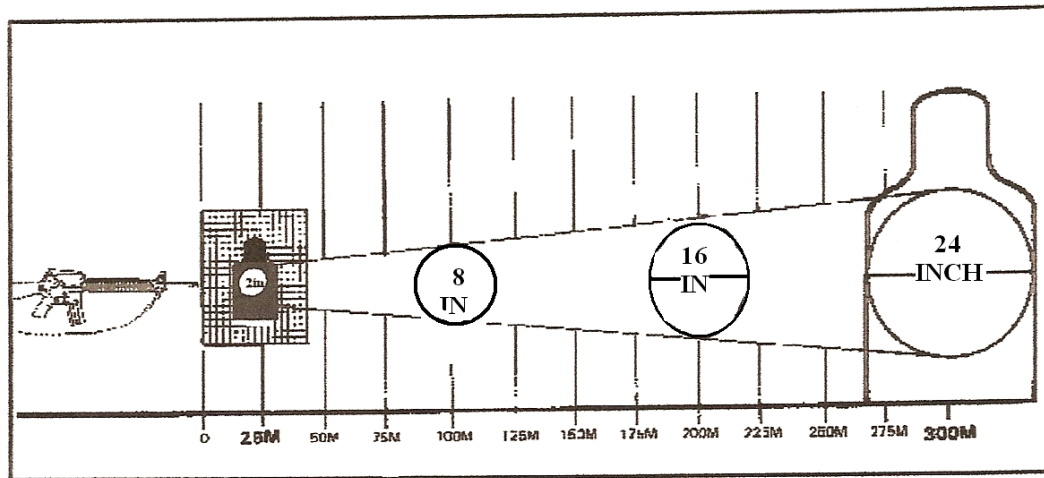


TRAJECTORY CURVE 5.56 mm

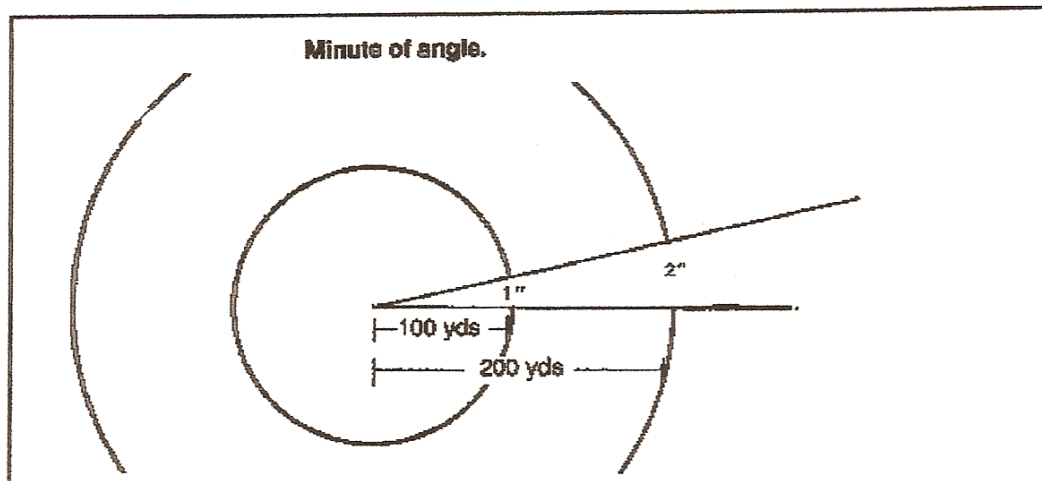
ZEROED AT 300 YARDS



SHOT GROUP



The shot group produced by a rifle at 25 meters will increase as the range increases. A 2 inch group at 25 meters will be a 4 inch group at 50 meters and a 6 inch group at 75 meters.



Minute of angle — A standard unit of measurement used to indicate movement of the shot group when adjusting rifle sights. A circle is divided into 360 degrees and each degree is divided into a further 60 minutes. A minute of angle is an angle beginning at the muzzle that would cover 1 inch at 100 yards. This same angle will produce double the movement at 200 yards, triple the movement at 300 yards, and continue to increase as the range increases.

Change in elevation for one click at various ranges	
When aiming at--	
100 METERS, 1 CLICK=	1.1 INCHES
200 METERS, 1 CLICK=	2.2 INCHES
300 METERS, 1 CLICK=	3.3 INCHES
400 METERS, 1 CLICK=	4.4 INCHES
500 METERS, 1 CLICK=	5.5 INCHES

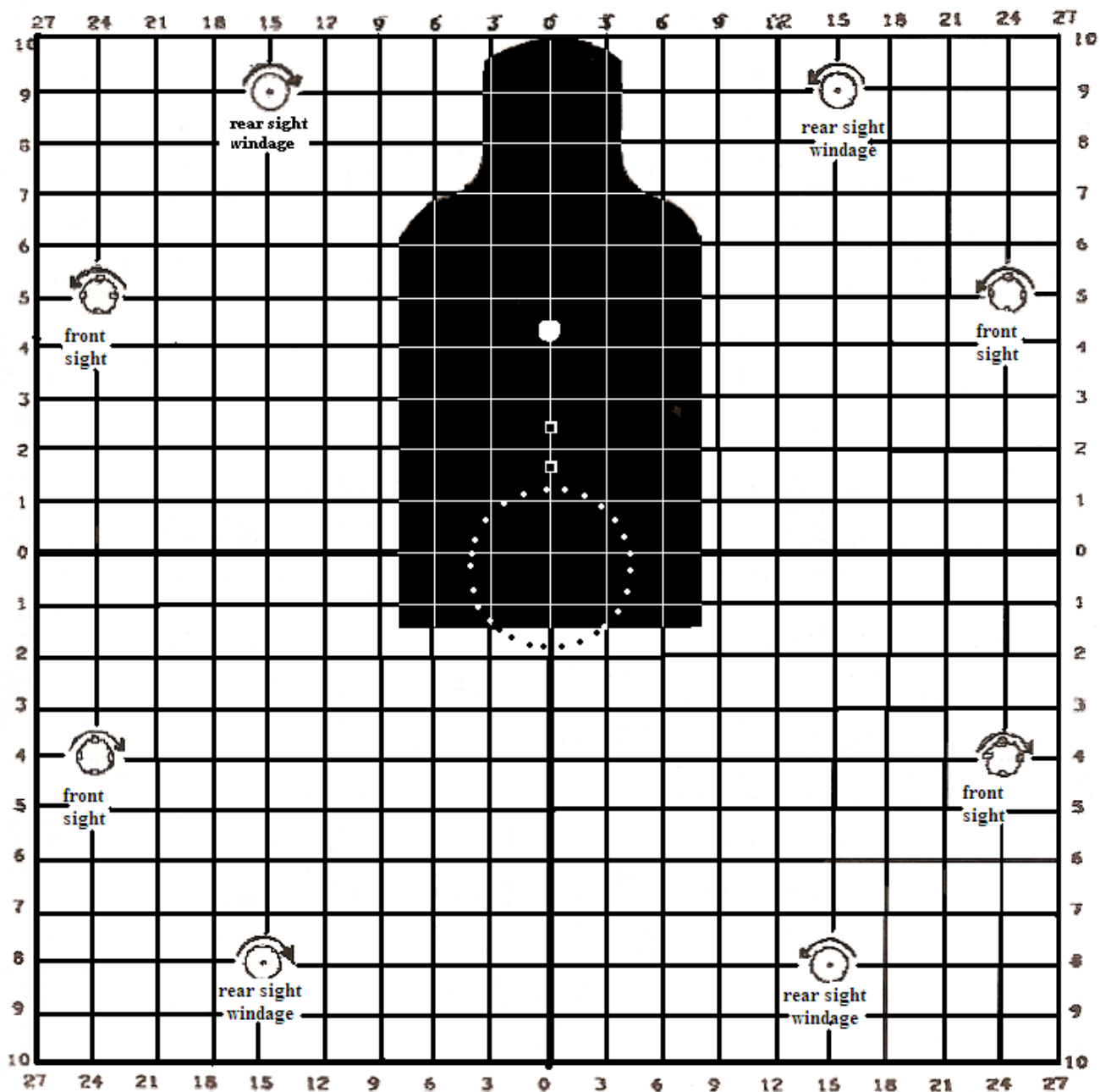
To obtain a 50/200 yard zero, begin by sighting in the rifle using the 25 yard zero method. Once the rifle is zeroed at 25 yards, the shooter need only adjust their sights so that the shot group is raised approximately 1.25 inches below the white square on the zero target (3 grid squares). Once the shot group is raised at the 25 yard point, the shooter can verify or refine the zero by moving out to 50 yards and repeating the zero process. After the shooter gets the rifle to shoot point of aim/point of impact at 50 yards, they can reasonably expect to be zeroed at 200 yards as well. It is highly recommended that the shooter confirm this zero at 200 yards if possible.

Adjustments (A2 style sights)

Front sight	one notch is 3/8" change in impact	(25m)
	one notch is 1-3/8" change in impact	(100m)
Rear sight	one click is 1/8" change in impact	(25m)
	one click is 1/2" change in impact	(100m)

25 YARD ZEROING TARGET

200 YARD ZERO



M16A2 elevation knob set to 8/3 setting, use 0-200 (large) aperture. Aim at white dot, (center of mass), but adjust to center of dotted circle for 200 yard zero.

M16A1 use unmarked (front) aperture, aim and adjust as above.

SIG-H&K- AR180 (over bore height of 1 1/2 inches), aim at white dot,(center of mass), but adjust to lower black square for 200 yard zero.

MINI 14 (over bore height of 1 inch), aim at white dot(center of mass), but adjust to upper black square for 200 yard zero.

Barrel:

The most often discussed aspect of patrol rifles is often barrel length. The most commonly found lengths are 20, 18, 16, 14.5 and 11.5 inches. While not a hard and fast rule, rifles with a barrel length of 18 inches or less are often referred to as Carbines. *Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives* (BATFE) regulations require any rifle with a barrel length of less than 16 inches to be registered as a “short barreled rifle” under the provisions of the National Firearms Act (NFA).

Disadvantages to a short barrel;

- Loss of ballistic performance
- Larger muzzle flash
- You will experience a loss of up to 400 feet per second in velocity at 100 yards.
- Commensurate loss of terminal bullet performance.

The best compromise is the 16 inch barrel.

Advantages;

- No NFA paperwork
- Barrel is long enough to get an efficient powder burn during the combustion process.
- The 16 inch tube is short enough to make it handy for CQB and storing in our ever smaller cruisers.

Rate of Twist

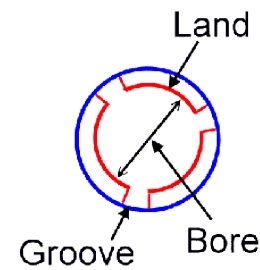
Rifling in the barrel is an important factor with respect to bullet weight. More can be found on this in the Caliber and Ammunition Selection Section of this manual.

Rifling is expressed in a ratio 1 turn per inch of barrel length, such as 1:7, 1:9 or 1:12.

1:7 means the bullet will rotate one complete revolution in 7 inches of travel down the barrel. You will usually see this stamped on Milspec barrels as 1/7, 1/9 or 1/12 and can be found stamped near the muzzle along with the caliber. Ruger Mini-14's have a twist rate of 1:9 and the company claims the while the rifle is stamped .223, the chambers are 5.56 NATO.



Milspec AR rifles are chambered for 5.56 NATO and the twist rate will vary with the manufacturer and model. Ammo with a 55 to 62 grain bullet can be effectively used with all twist rates. Bullets lighter than 54 grains should be used in a rifle with the 1:12 twist rate. Using them in a 1:7 barrel will tear the jacket off the bullet and cause considerable loss of accuracy. Bullets heavier than 63 grains should be used in the 1:7 or 1:9 barrels. When used in 1:12 barrels you will see “keyholing” (the bullet striking the target sideways).



Caliber & Ammunition Selection:

The caliber and selection of ammunition is as important as the selection of the rifle itself. Patrol rifles are commonly found in both rifle and pistol calibers. Most common are:

Rifle Calibers

.223 Remington*
5.56 NATO*
7.62 x 39mm
.30 WCF (.30/30)
6.8mm SPC

Pistol Calibers

9mm
.40 S&W
.45 ACP
.357 Magnum

*Note: 5.56mm NATO and .223 chamber dimensions and ammo specifications are NOT the same.

The choice should be made after the mission statement has been drafted and all factors in how the rifle may be employed or what threats may be encountered have been thoroughly examined.

The pistol calibers are generally chosen because of a perceived need to have rifle ammo that is compatible with the department's service pistol. Unfortunately, the pistol ammo is only marginally more effective out of the rifle's longer barrel. FBI penetration tests between the various pistol caliber rounds fired from a patrol rifle demonstrated that there is a definite likelihood of excessive penetration through interior walls when using pistol calibers. The ability of the round to stop an individual posing a deadly threat was no greater than when fired from the shorter handgun barrel.

While the 7.62x39mm and .30-30 round are more effective than pistol calibers, they pose several drawbacks which make them less suitable for law enforcement use. Both tend to over penetrate interior walls. The choice of 7.62x39mm rifles that are suitable for law enforcement are extremely limited. The Ruger Mini-30 is the only one that meets many of our requirements. The Kalashnikov designed AK is normally associated with this caliber. While extremely reliable, it is not desirable as a patrol rifle due to the limited amount of support accessories such as vehicle mounts and because of the perceived association with terrorist groups.

Lever action rifles are commonly used by rural law enforcement agencies in the western states and are often found in .30-30. It is reliable and has stood the test of time. In fact, it was our first patrol rifle when it rode in the saddle scabbard of Sheriff's and Marshall's during the late 1800's. While an effective round, the lever action rifle is not our best choice since it is difficult to reload quickly and clear if a malfunction occurs.

The ideal choice for the patrol rifle is a semi automatic rifle chambered in 5.56mm or .223 Remington. For the purposes of this paragraph, we will consider them the same round. The 5.56 / .223 perform well in the law enforcement role. While only a 22 caliber bullet, it travels at velocities between 2800 and 3300 feet/second. This results in a tissue devastating hydrostatic shock wave which can literally destroy internal organs. While effective against human targets, the 5.56mm / .223 Remington rounds will not

penetrate as many interior walls as your service pistol. Due to the high velocity, the bullet tends to shatter and break up after impacting the first wall.

The two most popular (police service) rifles chambered for this round are the Mini-14 and the many variants of the AR-15. Both rifles have an extensive line of after market accessories and have a proven track record. The Mini-14 may be attractive to those departments that find the AR-15 to “military” looking.

Users need to be aware that 5.56mm military ammo is loaded to higher pressure specifications than the .223. The chamber dimensions of the .223 are slightly different in the lead or throat of the chamber. This can result in problems if the higher pressure 5.56mm NATO ammo is fired in it. A quick rule of thumb is you can fire .223 ammo in a rifle chambered for 5.56mm NATO however you may see problems if you try and fire the hotter NATO ammo in a commercial .223 chamber. The bottom line is – know your rifle and use only the correct ammo to prevent problems.

Field Stripping

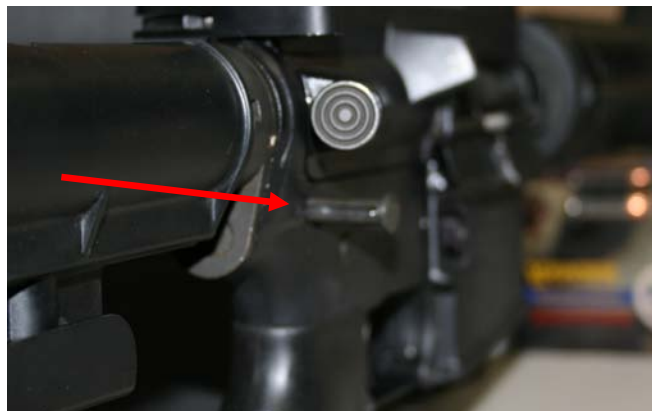
Field stripping the patrol rifle is breaking it down to the basic assembly components for routine maintenance, understanding how the mechanism works and correctly reassembling the weapon. A detailed armorer’s knowledge is NOT required.

The *Field Stripping Function* is performed with a CLEAR and SAFE WEAPON

Step 1

Push take down pin out

Note: it is a captured pin and does not come out completely



Step 2 Open the upper receiver assembly from lower receiver hinging on front pivot pin:



Step 3 Remove charging handle and bolt carrier assembly



Step 4 Remove Firing Pin Retaining pin from bolt assembly



Step 5 Remove Firing Pin



Step 6 Remove **Bolt Cam Pin**, turn it a $\frac{1}{4}$ (90degree) turn to clear the gas key and pull it out.



Pull the bolt out of the carrier assembly.



Your disassembled bolt and bolt carrier should look like this.

Maintenance

A poorly maintained weapon is a hazard to the officer, other officers and the public. Basic maintenance is the responsibility of the individual officer. In departments that do not issue a rifle to the individual, the firearms instructor (in many cases) is tasked with maintaining the department rifles and shotguns assigned to cruisers. The majority of

our patrol rifles are gas operated and are affected more by poor maintenance than our service pistols. There are officers who never clean their service pistol. Not only is this practice unacceptable, it is dangerous. Gas operated rifles that are shot and put away dirty will likely not function properly 2 months later. Since instructors set the tone for the way their officers handle and care for their weapons, it is imperative that your weapons be clean and set the standard.

Following all safe weapon handling rules, the student instructor shall be able to perform the following on their weapon:

1. Put the weapon on SAFE and clear it of any live ammunition;
2. Demonstrate to the instructor that the weapon is clear of live ammo;
3. Field strip the weapon down to the basic components per the manufacturer's instructions and describe:
 - a. Each major component and what it does.
 - b. Cleaning procedure and areas of concern on that weapon.
 - c. Lubrication points and procedure
4. Correctly reassemble the weapon and perform a function check with dummy ammo supplied by the instructor.
5. Bolt assembly
 - a. Charging Handle
 - b. Bolt Lock/Release
6. Magazine Release
7. Safety/Selector Switch
 - a. Mode of fire selections
 - Full auto
 - Burst

- A. Stock Assembly
 - Trigger Group
 - Pistol Grip



Stock Types

- Fixed
- Folding
- Collapsible



Butt Plate

Sling Swivels

Picatinney Rail (optional)



B. Magazines:

1. Components

- a. Body
- b. Follower
- c. Spring
- d. Floor Plate



2. A minimum of 2 should be carried

Basic Rifle Function Check

- Performed anytime the weapon is reassembled
- Performed on a safe and unloaded firearm or with dummy ammo
- With action closed, bolt in battery and weapon on SAFE – pull the trigger. The hammer should NOT fall. (Safety mechanism check)
- With an unloaded semi auto rifle, pull the trigger to drop the hammer. Do not release the trigger. Pull the bolt to the rear and release. The hammer should remain cocked and not follow the bolt forward. (Disconnect and/or sear engagement check)
- Perform the above check again and slowly release the trigger. Watch for a distinct metallic “click” as the trigger sear resets.

UNLOADING

1. Safety ON – Muzzle pointed in a safe direction. (*“Safety On”*)
2. Remove magazine (*“Magazines Out”*)
3. Bolt to the rear removing round from chamber if necessary
4. Lock bolt to the rear (*“Working parts to the rear”*)
5. Visually and physically inspect chamber to insure no cartridge remains in the chamber (*“Look & Feel, Look & Feel”*)
6. Recover the ejected round if necessary

LOADING (Administrative Load or Transport Condition)

1. Safety ON – Muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
2. Bolt closed on EMPTY chamber
3. Insert loaded magazine

LOADING (Tactical)

1. Pull charging handle fully to the rear and release to chamber a round.
Safety remains ON until ready to go to FIRE condition.

SHOOTING POSITIONS:

As every recruit learns at the academy, the basic elements of marksmanship are grip, stance, sight alignment, sight picture and follow through. When shooting the long gun, our stance is more of a variable than with the handgun. The long gun is heavier thus is a two handed weapon. The classic shooting stance will not be the most effective technique for tactical shooters.

Important considerations include our placement of elbows and the weak hand, strong side elbow, butt stock to shoulder placement and stock weld for eye relief. Keep the support hand clear of the magazine or magazine well on the AR platform. When all the factors are correctly done, the rifle will become an extension of your body and will naturally point to the target. Assume the ready position, relax, close your eyes and bring the weapon up to the shooting position. Open your eyes. If you have done everything correctly, the front sight should be lined up on the target.

In the real world it is critical to bear in mind that your shooting position will likely be dictated by available cover. Your shooting position may be whatever you can get into which offers the most protection. Keep in mind, protecting yourself from incoming rounds is far more important than assuming a text book shooting position.

PRIMARY SHOOTING POSITIONS

Offhand

Probably the most often used, the Offhand or Standing position offers the shooter the best balance between mobility and stability. The shooter's torso is square to the target to maximize the protection offered by their body armor. The knees are flexed with the weight forward as the shooter leans into the shot. This position permits the shooter to pivot 180 degrees on their feet or through 90 degrees at the waist. Keep the elbows in to the torso to provide additional stability. The offhand position can be both static (standing) or dynamic (on the move).



From *low ready* to up on target in the offhand position – Simply elevate the muzzle to the



threat. Keep your head up and bring the weapon (sights) up to eye level. The butt of the stock should be like a hinge. The stock never breaks contact with your body.

Prone



This the most stable of all the unsupported shooting positions. When done correctly it can be as steady as shooting from a bench rest. This position is used when accuracy is paramount over mobility. It is used when shooting from behind or around low cover. It does take more time to get into and a drawback is the shooters inability to move as quickly as other positions. The shooter's ability to pivot their torso is severely limited.

To get into the prone position from standing – go to both knees and place your support hand out to guide your body into position. Your dominant hand controls the rifle keeping the muzzle pointed towards the threat and keeping it from digging into the dirt. When you are on the ground, position your body 10 to 20 degrees to the right of the target. Keep your shoulders square with your spine & your weight on the left side of your body. Your left leg is straight while drawing your right leg up, as if you were going to crawl. Left hand should be as far forward as you can go & should cradle the rifle. Right elbow should be slightly out from your body & resting on the ground. Try to keep your head as level with the ground as possible. Snug the rifle into the pocket of your shoulder & establish a good cheek weld.



When using a sling, the rifle is now totally supported by your slung up arm, which has direct support from the ground, keep your magazine and/or vertical fore grip (broom handle) off the ground, your body will be supported by the ground. With a sling and correct body position you can neutralize the body's unsteady affects on shooting.

Rollover Prone

This position can be used to shoot from under cover such as vehicles or from an area where an opening won't allow standard prone to be acceptable. With iron sight AR type weapons, the sight plane and muzzle axis are approximately 2 ½ inches apart (sight offset).



In the picture you can see if the officer were to use standard prone, the muzzle would be below the opening in the wall if he could see the threat with the iron sights. By rolling to his side he can now be effective with his sights and muzzle.

Kneeling

The kneeling position allows the shooter to get lower to take advantage of lower cover while still permitting the torso to pivot to engage targets to the side. There are

three (3) variations of the kneeling position. Note that in all cases the shooter maintains a “live toe”. This allows the shooter to get out of the kneeling position faster if needed.

Brace Kneeling

This is the classic kneeling position where the support elbow rests against the side of the leg. An alternative is to rest the tricep on the knee. Avoid bone to bone contact, elbow to knee, this is not stable and tends to roll. With the right handed shooter, the right knee goes to the ground.



Speed Kneeling

Similar to the classic kneeling position except the arms do not make any contact with the leg for support. The shooter drops straight down to the kneeling position maintaining the offhand/standing aspect with the upper torso and arms. Keep an active toe to speed movement.



California Kneeling

Shooter drops to the ground resting on both knees. There is no support between the arms and legs. The shooter can also lay back to lower their profile when shooting over cover from this position



Secondary Shooting Positions

Squatting

As the name implies this position is assumed by squatting down. It is more stable than Standing but not as stable as the other positions. This is because while the arms are supported directly by the legs, the body has only two relatively narrow contact points with the ground - the feet.

Never the less it is a good idea to familiarize yourself with this position for those situations where the ground has undesirable qualities that make a more stable position unattractive. So use it in swamps or extremely rocky places.

This position also called Rice Paddy Squat, most of us here in the Western Hemisphere find this position difficult to get in and out of and uncomfortable at best. Ironically, most people in the Eastern Hemisphere spend much of their life in this position.



Use a sling for this position

Squat down with your body facing slightly to the right of the target (approximately 20 to 30 degrees). Keep your feet about shoulder width apart and your knees extending slightly outward. If you have the mobility, place your left & right triceps on the respective knees. Your body should be inclined slightly forward. How much depends upon your body and the rifle being shot, as leaning too far back will put you off balance when the rifle recoils. But generally it should be a slight incline to establish your balance at some point between (not forward of or in back of) your feet



Ideally the slung arm will support the weight of the rifle without any assistance from the muscles. Then it is just a matter of observing the basics until you let the shot go.

Sitting

Crossed Leg



Sit down with your body pointing slightly to the right, for a right handed shooter (about 30 degrees). Extend your legs and keep them slightly bent. Cross your left leg over your right leg. Your right foot should act as a stop to keep your left leg from sliding. Place your left and right elbows just behind each respective knee cap on the inside of the thigh. Your left hand should be just forward of the

chamber of the rifle. Again photo describes the position as a right handed shooter. If you are a left handed shooter position would be opposite. Next to prone, this position offers the best supported shooting platform for accurate shooting.

Crossed Ankle

Sit down with your body pointing slightly to the right of the target (about 30 degrees). Cross your left leg over your right leg at the ankles and tuck them underneath you. Place your left & right elbows just behind each respective knee cap on the inside of the thigh. Your left hand should be just forward of the chamber of the rifle.



Open Leg



Sit down with your body pointing slightly to the right, for a right handed shooter (about 30 degrees). Extend your legs, heels should dig in if possible, and elbows are supported inside of the thigh muscles just below the knee joint.

In all of the above variations raise the rifle, establish a good spot or cheek weld, snug it into the pocket of your shoulder and observe the fundamentals.

All the above photos are represented from the right handed shooter prospective.

Seven factors that effect the efficiency of your firing platform;

1. Weak Hand / Elbow Placement;
 - a. Keep weak hand clear of the magazine well (Holding magazine well is the weakest part of the rifle, it's where the break down pin is located.)
 - b. Elbow tucked in
2. Strong Hand Placement
 - a. With AR type system, strong hand grips the grip portion. Trigger finger rests along the receiver until required manipulating the trigger.
3. Strong Elbow
 - a. Down and tucked into the body
 - b. Provides added support to weapon
4. Butt Stock / Shoulder Placement
 - a. Weapon is positioned high on the shoulder
 - b. Toe of the butt makes contact high on the shoulder
 - c. This encourages shooter to keep head high
5. Stock Weld / Cheek Weld
 - a. Eye Relief is maintained with the stock weld
 - b. Stock weld is where your face is placed on the stock for the eye to perceive the sights
6. Breathing
 - a. Don't forget to Breathe- Shoot – Scan – Breathe
7. Relaxed Body
 - a. The rifle becomes an extension of the body. It is necessary to adjust the position of the rifle until the rifle points naturally at the target
 - b. Bring your rifle up to the ready position, close your eyes, relax, and open your eyes.
 - c. With proper sight alignment, the position of the front sight will indicate your. Natural Point of aim and proper sight picture.

Operating Functions of the Patrol Rifle:

The four basic operating functions of a semi automatic weapon are:

FEED – FIRE – EXTRACT – EJECT

Malfunctions or stoppages to the weapon can be traced back to a failure of one of these four functions to happen. In order to quickly and accurately diagnose and clear the stoppage, the shooter must have a firm understanding of the operation of the weapon.

Failure to feed - The cartridge has not transitioned from the magazine to the chamber.

Possible reasons (and fixes):

1. Damaged magazine feed lips (replace magazine)
2. Magazine not locked into magazine well (Immediate Action Drill – Tap, Rack, Evaluate)
3. More than 1 round trying to feed at same time such as double feed (Lock action open, remove magazine, shake rounds clear, operate action to clear chamber, replace magazine, chamber round, assess threat)

Failure to fire – When the trigger is pressed, the weapon does not fire

Possible reasons (and fixes)

1. Faulty ammo such as a dud round (Immediate Action Drill)
2. Broken part such as firing pin (Transition to duty pistol, rifle not serviceable)

Failure to extract - The cartridge remains in the chamber after the action has cycled.

Possible reasons (and fixes)

1. Broken extractor (Transition to duty pistol, rifle not serviceable)
2. Split cartridge case (Transition to duty pistol, rifle not serviceable)

Failure to eject - The cartridge remains in the receiver after being extracted from the chamber (stove pipe).

Possible reasons (and fixes)

1. Broken ejector (Transition to duty pistol, rifle not serviceable)
2. Dirty weapon (Open action, shake empty case free, I.A.D.)

Stoppages are classified as Phase I, II or III stoppages. You may also hear them referred to as Type I, II or III stoppages.

When a stoppage occurs, the shooter will address it with an “**Immediate Action Procedure**”. This is a standard drill taught to shooters which will quickly clear the problem and bring the weapon back into action. The fundamentals are the same for the rifle as we use for the semi-auto pistol.

Immediate Action Procedures

Phase I Stoppage:

The Phase I Stoppage is most commonly identified with the click of the firing pin striking an empty chamber when the shooter presses the trigger. The protocol for clearing this malfunction is Tap – Rack – Evaluate

TAP – hit the bottom of the magazine to insure it is properly seated in the rifle. This may be the result of the shooter failing to properly insert it to begin with. If the magazine is not properly seated, the bolt will not strip the top round out and you will get a click instead of a bang. To prevent this, the shooter must always check the magazine after inserting it. Whether you call it TAP/TUG or PUSH/PULL, the concept is the same. Insert the magazine firmly and check to insure it is seated by trying to pull it out.

RACK – cycle the action to rear and let it return forward under the tension of the recoil spring. Once the magazine is correctly seated, cycling the action should bring a round up into the chamber and put the rifle back in service.

EVALUATE – reassess the situation to determine if the need for deadly force still exists. Fire if necessary or continue to cover the threat.

Phase II Stoppage:

The Phase II Stoppage is generally more complex. The double feed is a typical example of this where more than one cartridge is trying to be chambered at the same time. This is easily identified by looking at the action. The bolt will be partially open and you will see the two rounds jammed there.

If this malfunction occurs **the shooter will immediately transition to their service pistol and address the threat.**



When the tactical situation permits, the shooter will:

Look into the ejection port and identify the stoppage



STRIP the magazine from the weapon. If you do not do this first, the next step may be difficult.

LOCK the action to the rear. In many cases this alone will cause the double feed to clear and drop free via gravity.



SHAKE the rifle vigorously from side to side (*4 o'clock to 8 o'clock*) to help dislodge the jam.



4 o'clock

to



8 o'clock

SWEEP the rounds from the action with your fingers if shaking does not dislodge them.

RELOAD a fresh magazine. Do not use the old one as the root cause may be a problem with it.

RELEASE the bolt to chamber a round.

RE-EVALUATE the tactical situation and proceed as necessary.



Phase III Stoppage:

The Phase III Stoppage is typified by a broken part in the firing mechanism which prevents the rifle from operating properly. This is not a problem that is going to be quickly solved by the user. Immediately transition to the service pistol and deal with the threat as required. Since your rifle is out of commission, reassess your ability to engage in the current tactical situation. A strategic withdrawal may be the best course of action at this point.

Anytime a malfunction can not be immediately cleared – transition to the handgun.

SLINGS

All long arms (the patrol rifle and shotgun) must be equipped with a proper sling to be a complete package. Just as the holster provides the means to safely control our handgun while we use both hands, the sling does the same for the long gun. If your rifle or shotgun is not equipped with a sling, what do you do with the long gun if you must transition to the hand gun? If you need both hands to affect an arrest or maneuver over a fence, what do you do with the long gun? The sling allows us to retain control of the long gun while going hands on.

A wide variety of sling types have emerged on the market in recent years. The simple 2 point or “hasty” sling which has been popular for decades has given way to new designs claiming to be more modern or tactical. In most cases, these designs are more suited for an officer assigned to a SWAT unit or similar duties. Slings generally will fall into one of three categories – 1, 2 or 3 Point systems.

The One Point or Single Point sling normally attaches to the long gun in the vicinity of the pistol grip or back of the receiver. It permits the rifle to be carried low and is easily slung to the rear when you need to climb or go hands on. A serious drawback is the muzzle hangs down and is susceptible to damage or getting debris in it if the shooter kneels.

Two and three point systems allow the rifle to be carried in the front of the body. When released, the rifle will rest muzzle down tight against the user. The rifle is easily accessible if needed again. The



drawback is the sling is more complex and requires training time to become proficient with. That seems to be a quantity we are always short of. The cost may also be three times that of the simple Jiffy Sling.

The instructor should be mindful that under stress, the fine motor skills required to manipulate the straps and buckles of the sling may be non-existent. These slings are generally designed to be used by one person. Problems may be encountered when we expect every officer in the department to be able to sling the rifle over their bulky jacket, duty gear and other uniform items. For this reason, the simple two point or “hasty” sling is recommended for those rifles which may be used by a wide variety of officers. Any long gun training must include proper use of the sling, movement and transition to the service pistol.

An excellent rule of thumb is whenever using a sling, the weapon should go over the shoulder opposite the holster. This will keep the handgun and your draw free of obstructions if you need to transition to the pistol. The sling type should also cause the rifle or shotgun to come to a rest in the muzzle down position when hanging from the sling. This keeps us in line with the Cardinal Safety Rule which states we do not allow the muzzle to cross anything we don’t intend to shoot.

TRANSPORTING:

Your Policy & Procedure will have to state how the rifle will be transported, unloaded, cruiser ready, or some other method, your circumstances will dictate the policy. Cruiser Ready or Transport Condition is the recommended method of carry.

Another factor your Patrol Rifle Policy & Procedure will need to address is how the rifle will be stored and transported in the cruiser. If your department has chosen to retain both a shotgun and a rifle in the cruiser, you will need to decide which one is going to be stored where.

Your options are much the same as with the shotgun. The rifle can be secured in passenger compartment in racks either vertically between the front seats or horizontally over the officer's head. The advantage is the weapon will be easily accessible. Some administrators feel the community may accept the idea, putting the public in fear and could also be an invitation to theft in some areas.

The other alternative is to secure the weapon in the trunk. Several options are available here. You can use a locking mount/rack similar to that used in the passenger compartment which can be mounted on the trunk lid, under the rear deck or in the trunk cavity itself. The lock mechanism can be activated manually via a key or electronically via a solenoid switch. The weapon is exposed to condensation and dirt which could be a draw back.

There are several different manufacturers on the market today and most are willing to let you test their product. Research by the firearms instructor needs to be done to see what will be the best for their department and community.

What ever system you use, training and familiarizing your officers with the operation of the storage unit is a must. Removing the rifle (or shotgun) quickly and smoothly is crucial to a complete training program.

This is no different than requiring an officer to draw their service pistol from their duty holster during training. If your rifle is stored in a drawer or vault type container, the officer should be required to inspect the weapon at the beginning of every shift, Departmental Policy and Procedure will dictate. This will insure the weapon is in good order and refreshes the muscle memory to access the weapon.

Carry Conditions:

There are four conditions of carry for the rifle;

- **Safe**
- **Transport**
- **Tactical**
- **Firing**

Safe Condition

Another and even more overlooked training element is returning the weapon to the storage location. Typically if we think we will need the rifle, we do not hesitate to remove it. The officer will cycle a round up into the chamber and start the long wait for the situation to be resolved. Most of the time, the incident will end with little or no fanfare requiring us to return the weapon back to the cruiser in a safe condition.

This will require the officer to safely remove the round from the chamber, return it to the magazine and insure the chamber is empty with the safety on before returning it to the storage location. Officers should be trained to perform this task without ejecting rounds on to the ground or fumbling with it in front of the public. Proficiency in handling the rifle will generally yield in greater safety.

The following procedure was developed to work with the AR and Mini-14 type rifles:

- **AR Type**

- With the rifle pointed in a safe direction and the safety ON
- Remove the loaded magazine and place it in your pocket
- Place your left palm under the magazine well with your finger tips holding the ejection port cover almost closed
- With your right hand, draw the operating handle slowly to the rear
The cartridge will be extracted from the chamber and instead of being ejected out the ejection port, will be dropped into the palm of your left hand
- Simultaneously, use your left thumb to depress the bolt lock and lock the bolt to the rear
- Visually and physically check the weapon is unloaded;

Mini-14 Type

- With the rifle pointed in a safe direction and the safety ON
- Remove the loaded magazine and place it in your pocket
- Place all four fingers on your left hand under the magazine well with your thumb over the bolt
- With your right hand, draw the bolt slowly to the rear
The cartridge will be extracted from the chamber and your left thumb will knock it down into your left four fingers
- Simultaneously, use your left thumb to depress the bolt lock (which will be located under your thumb) and lock the bolt to the rear
- Visually and physically check the weapon is unloaded;

Transport Condition:

This condition is typically used when a weapon is stored in police cruiser. Departmental Policy and Procedure will dictate here. Again there are a number of different types of locking devices used today. Research should be done to determine what will fit your Department and situation. Which ever one you choose training should be done to ensure officer's become familiar with them.

From **Safe and Empty** weapon;

- **Safety ON**
- Release the bolt forward on an **EMPTY CHAMBER**
- Insert a magazine **loaded two down** from the maximum number of rounds, two rounds down ensures proper seating and locking of the magazine

Tactical Condition

When a weapon is stored in a cruiser in the transport condition; officers will take the weapon from the locking device to deploy it, the first thing that should be done is to cycle the action. This will place the weapon in the Tactical condition, round chambered **SAFETY ON**. This condition can be accomplished from the safe condition also.

From a Clear and Safe Weapon;

- **Safety ON**
- Insert magazine
- Close the action, chambering a round

From Transport Condition;

- **Safety ON**
- Magazine seated
- Cycle weapon to chamber round

Firing Condition

From Tactical Condition;

- **SAFETY OFF**

Safe weapon handling is extremely important. In communities that feel the police do not need “military style” weapons, poor weapon handling can create negative publicity.

Patrol Rifle Qualification Course
50 Rounds

The starting position will be from the “Low Ready Position”

On the Command (“UP”)

If student experiences a malfunction, immediate transition. Count rounds

50 Yards – Load	Total Rounds
50 Yards	
Command “UP”	
6 Rounds Semi-Auto	6 Rounds
Brain Shots,	
Off Hand or Kneeling	
No Time Limit	
25 Yards	
Command “UP”	
2 Rounds on Semi-Auto	6 Rounds
Center Mass Shots	
3 Seconds Off Hand	
Repeat Twice	
15 Yards	
Command “UP”	
1 Round Bain	2 Rounds
2 Seconds Off Hand	
Repeat Once	
10 Yards	
Command “UP”	
2 Rounds on Semi-Auto	4 Rounds
Reload Fire	
2 Rounds on Semi-Auto	
12 Seconds	
7 Yards	
Command “UP”	
Semi-Auto, 2 Rounds	
Center Mass	
1.5 Seconds	
Repeat 3 Times	8 Rounds

5 Yards

Command “UP”
Semi-Auto Failure Drill
One Pair (2 Rounds) Center Mass
1 Round to Brain
2.5 Seconds
Repeat Twice

9 Rounds

**15 Yards
Moving in
to 3 yds**

Command “UP
Semi- Auto Shooting “On the Move”
Failure Drill,
2 Rounds Center Mass
1 Round to Brain
Repeat 4 Times

15 Rounds

3Yards

Unload, Safety Selector “ON”
Magazine Out
Bolt Locked to the Rear
Look and Feel,
Look and Feel the Chamber

Clear & Safe Weapon

Qualification Score is 94% 47 Hits

Pass / Fail

Range Drills

Patrol Rifle Module

Authors; Patrick Poirier
NH State Police Ret.

Date Written: 01/01/08

Recommended Class Size Up to 16 Students

Course Goals

- Reinforce the need to apply the Four Cardinal Safety Rules of Firearms Safety.
- Teach the basic operation of the patrol rifle.
- Identify and clear different types of stoppages
- Teach the importance and use of the sling.
- Teach various safe methods of transporting the patrol rifle.
- Teach the importance of movement and cover when employing the patrol rifle
- Qualify the student using the M.P.T.C. Patrol Rifle Qualification Course of Fire.
- Shoot from various positions
- Understand controlled firing
- Reinforce transition drills
- Reinforce failure drill
- Shooting on the move

Methods of Instruction

- Static
- Fluid
- Dynamic

Instructor Provided Training Aids & Supplies

Classroom & Training Site

Range with adequate backstop and room to conduct planned activities

Q targets with optional Good/Bad Guy targets

First Aid Kit

Water

Sanitary Facilities

Communications (radio or cell phone)

Student Equipment Requirements

Operable patrol rifle with a sling (optics optional but must have iron sights)

1000 rounds rifle ammunition (FMJ OK if bullet weight is the same as your duty ammo)

250 rounds pistol ammunition (FMJ OK)

Minimum of four (4) rifle magazines

Service Pistol w/minimum of three (3) pistol magazines

Complete Duty Belt

Body Armor

Personal Protective Equipment (eye & hearing)

Gun cleaning kit for rifle and handgun

Student Performance Objectives

- Describe the proper operation and manipulation of the patrol rifle
- Demonstrate the ability to create and teach a rifle related lesson plan
- Demonstrate Classroom & Range Instructional Techniques
- Understand and describe weapon nomenclature
- Demonstrate dry and live fire application drills
- Demonstrate immediate action clearance procedures
- Demonstrate an overall knowledge of course and subject matter

Testing Procedures

- Minimum score of 90% for all live fire scored drills & qualification while maintaining 100% round accountability.
- Minimum score of 90% on all written exams and quizzes.
- Successfully complete assigned oral presentations
- Successfully run assigned live fire course assignments

References

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Patrol Rifle Instructor Manual by Chris Baker, Franklin P.D., Jason Brennan, Medway P.D., William Slowe, Needham P.D., Lt. Kenneth Gifford, NBPD (ret.)
Bushmaster M4 / M15 (AR15) Armorer Manual
Ruger Mini 14 Armorer Manual
.223 Ammunition Data Analysis, BATFE, Dec. 2004
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*Dry Fire Drills from the Low Ready****Off Hand:***

Check for proper platform,
toes pointed toward the
target area ,
shoulders square to the target

Kneeling:

Speed Kneeling –

Unsupported style kneeling

Braced Kneeling –

Using the opposite knee and
elbow to brace your platform

California- Kneeling-

Down on both knees

Prone:

Start from the low ready

Zero all weapons at 25 yards Line with 5 shot group
This should not take more than 15 round

*Live Fire Drills***12 Yard Line**

1. *Off Hand:* - (1Shot at a time)
 - a. Starting from the low ready
 - b. Checking for proper platform
 - c. Making sure the index finger comes out of
The trigger area after the shot
 - d. After the shot is made, searching for
Additional targets and breathing
 - e. The selector is placed back on safe

2. *Kneeling:* - (1 shot at a time)
 - a. Speed kneeling
 - b. Braced kneeling
 - c. California kneeling
 1. Starting from the low ready
 2. Checking for proper platform
 3. Making sure the finger come out
off the trigger guard and the safety
is on
 4. After the shot is made searching for
additional targets and breathing

*Live Fire Drills***25 Yard Line**

1. *Prone Shooting:* - (1 Shot at a time)
 - a. Starting from the low ready
 - b. Checking for proper platform
 - c. Making sure that the opposite hand is used to guide the student to the ground and that no dirt is going into the barrel
 - d. Making sure the finger comes out of the trigger guard and safety is on after shot is fired

2. *Offhand Shooting:* - (2 Shots at a time)
 - a. Starting from the low ready
 - b. Checking for proper platform
 - c. Making sure the finger come out of the trigger and the safety is on after the shot
 - d. After the shot is made searching for additional targets and breathing

*Live Fire Drills***25 Yard Line**

3. *Kneeling:* - (2shots at a time)
 - a. *Speed Kneeling:*
 - b. *Braced Kneeling:*
 - c. *California Kneeling:*
 1. Starting from the low ready
 2. checking for proper platform
 3. Making sure the finger comes out of the trigger guard and the safety is on after the shot
 4. After the shot is made, make sure that the student is searching for additional targets and breath

7 Yard Line*Hammer Drills & Double Taps:*

1. Starting at the 7 yard line students will fire a hammer drill onto their target
2. Instructors will be watching to make sure the cadence of the hammer drill is correct and they are searching for additional targets and breathe
3. The line will be moved back one large step at a time and the drill will be repeated
4. At about the 18 yard line the student will then using the double tap technique
5. At this point the line will be moving backwards two steps at a time

Drills

Notes

Live Fire Drills

Hammer Drills & Double Taps:

(continues)

6. This drill will go back to the 35 yard line

Note: You need to emphasize zero misses to your Students and that a solid platform is critical

25-Yard Line

Secondary shooting positions - (double taps)

Olympic Off Hand:

Squat Shooting:

Sitting:

Sitting- Cross Ankle

Sitting- Cross Leg

Sitting- Open Leg

15 Yard Line

Loading

1. *Speed loading:*

Fire 2 rounds, do a speed reload and then fire 3 more rounds into the target

- a. Speed reloading should be performed from the kneeling position unless you are on the move or behind cover
- b. Make sure that the student is pushing and pulling on his/her magazine to make sure the magazine is locked into the weapon

*Live Fire Drills**Loading (continues)**2. Tactical reloading:*

Fire 2 rounds do a tactical reload
and fire 2 more rounds into the target

- a. Tactical reloading should be performed from kneeling position unless you are behind cover
- b. Tactical reloading should only be performed when there is a lull in the shooting
- c. Make sure that the student is pushing and on his/her magazine to make sure that the magazine is locked into the weapon system.

15- Yard Line*Stoppages:**Position 1 Stoppage (Failure to Fire)*

- a. Student will make their weapon system ready, they will then release the magazine and lower the magazine well with the opposite hand
- b. The student will try to fire a hammer drill
- c. When the student comes up on empty chamber, they will push pull on the magazine to make sure that the magazine is locked in the magazine well and work the chamber handle
- d. The student will then fire a hammer drill and search and breathe for additional

Drills

Notes

Live Fire Drills

Stoppages (continues)

Position 3 Stoppages (Double Feed)

- a. Student will lock their bolt to the rear insert a full magazine, with the bolt still locked to the rear a clean piece of fired brass will be dropped into the top of the receiver and the bolt will be released setting up the double feed.
- b. On command the student will come to the ready position and try to fire the weapon system the trigger should be pulled at least twice to make sure that the stoppage is not an operator issue
- c. The student should look into the ejection port and identify the stoppage
- d. The student will then lock the bolt to the rear, remove the magazine, do a 4 o'clock/8 o'clock vigorous shake or the student might have to insert their finger into the magazine well to break loosen up the stuck down cartridges. If the cartridge is stuck down in the chamber the student will have to work the charging handle 2-3 times

Drills

Notes

Live Fire Drills

Position 3 Stoppages (Double Feed) (continues)

- e. If the student is unable to clear the weapon they will “transition to their secondary weapon” and fire a hammer drill.

Transition Drills

1. Student will Stagger 10 pieces of empty brass into two magazines with their ammunition. Students will be at 15 yard line in the low ready position
2. On the command each student will attempt to fire a hammer drill into their target, If the student comes up on a stoppage during the attempt to fire the hammer drill, they will trap their primary weapon system to their thigh with their opposite hand or if they are using a team sling, let the weapon hang free
3. The student will then draw their secondary weapon (handgun) and fire two rounds into their target.
4. After the student has engaged their target with their secondary weapon system, they will re-holster and go to kneeling position and clear their stoppage
5. Instructors should make sure that their students are immediately transitioning to their secondary weapon system and not trying to clear their primary weapon system when they should be firing at their threat.

Drills

Notes

Live Fire Drills

Transition Drills

10 Yard Line

Failure drill 3 shots: 2 rounds (hammers) to the body of the target, 1 round (smooth sight transition) to the head of the target

Alternate target failure drill 4 shots: 2 rounds (hammers) to the left pelvic area and then 2 rounds (hammers) to the right pelvic area

1. *Off Hand*
2. *Kneeling*
 - a. *Speed kneeling*
 - b. *Braced kneeling*
 - c. *California kneeling*

25 Yard Line

Off Hand shooting – Failure Drill

1. Instructors are watch to make sure that the student Platform is correct and that there are no safety Violations
2. Students are firing from the low ready position and after Firing their failure drill, they are searching and breathing for additional targets and their finger is coming off the trigger and safety on
3. The drill should be repeated 3 times to make sure that the student is performing the drill correctly.

*Live Fire Drills**Failure Drill (continues)***25 Yard Line***Prone Shooting – Failure Drill*

1. Student starts in the low ready position. On the command of “UP” the student will start to move into the prone position. The student will use their opposite hand guiding them to the ground and they will insure that the muzzle of their weapon stays out of the dirt.
2. Instructors will make sure that their students are in a proper prone shooting platform and their feet are flat on the ground.
3. After the failure drill has been fired, the student will search and breathe for additional targets. Their fingers should be out of the trigger guard and safety is on.
4. This drill should be repeated 3 times to make sure that it is being performed properly

25 Yard Line*Kneeling*

1. *Speed Kneeling – Failure Drill*
2. *Braced Kneeling – Failure Drill*
3. *California Kneeling – Failure Drill*
 - a. Instructors are watching to make sure that the shooting platform is correct
 - b. Instructors are watching their student and making sure that there are no safety violations

*Live Fire Drills**(Failure drills continue)*

- c. Students will start in the low ready position and on the command move to the required position and fire their failure drill into the target. After they have completed their failure drill they will search and breathe looking for additional targets. Safety should be on when the student recovers to the ready positions
- d. Drill should be repeated three times to make sure it is being performed properly.

25 Yard Line*Squat – Failure Drill*

- a. Instructors are watching to make sure that the students feet are flat and that they are using the inside of their thighs' to support their elbows
- b. Students will start from the low ready position and on the command move into the squat shooting position and fire a failure drill. The student and breathe looking for additional targets and put the safety on when they recover to the low ready position.
- c. This drill should be repeated three times to make Sure that it is being performed properly

Drills

Notes

Live Fire Drills

(Failure drills continue)

25 Yard Line

Sitting Positions

1. *Cross Leg – Failure Drill*
2. *Cross Ankle – Failure Drill*
3. *Open Leg – Failure Drill*

Sitting Failure Drill

- a. Student should be put into the crossed leg sitting position and just move into the different positions without having to get up and down on the range. This will reduce the chances of some student lasering each other with their muzzle.
- b. Instructors are watching their students to make sure their platform is correct and that the inside of their knees are being used for support
- c. This drill should be repeated three times to make sure that it is being performed properly.

*Live Fire Drills**(Failure drills continue)***12 Yard Line***Failure Drill Multiple Targets*

1. Students will fire a failure drill into the target directly in front of them, they will then smoothly transition to their left or right and fire another failure drill into the target
2. Instructors will watch to make sure that the students platform and stance is correct and that they are smoothly transitioning to the next target and that there are no misses
3. Standard and alternate target area failure drill will be fired into the target. Instructors are to watch their student to make sure that the alternate target area failure drills are being performed correctly

25 Yard Line*Roll Over Prone*

1. Working with the step wall
 - a. Students will be working in their assigned teams. Each team will be approximately 15 feet from the step wall and all students will be in the squat position waiting their turn.
 - b. Students will duck walk to the step wall using the wall Cover, fire two rounds at each individual step. When the students get to the bottom cut out on the step wall, they will roll onto their strong shoulder and turn their rifle side ways. Using their sights to get their hits on the target.

Drills

Notes

Live Fire Drills

Roll over prone (continues)

- c. Students will maintain muzzle control at all times while moving to and from the step wall
- d. Students that are waiting their turn will coach / instruct the student that is working the wall and duck walking back to the starting point.

Shooting On the Move (Assault Fire Drills)

1. Students will be at the 15 yard line in the low ready position
2. Students will be performing this drill in the three movement Speeds, covert speed, warrant service speed, and Hostage rescue speed.
3. On the command to advance, the student will walk heel toe, one foot in front of the other keeping some bend in the knees (no stomping and dragging)
4. While the students are advancing on their targets and the threat command is given. The student will bring their weapon system up to the ready position and only on the "UP" command will the student fire a failure drill all shooting shall be done while the student is in motion
5. The student will search and breathe after firing their failure drill and stop at the four yard line
6. If the student has a stoppage with their weapon system, they should be transition to their secondary and continue moving forward to the four yard line. at the four yard they will be able to clear their stoppage

Drills

Notes

Live Fire Drills

Back Out Drills

1. Students will be at the 4 Yard – Line in the low ready position.
2. Retreating Drills are only performed at covert speed, due to the fact that the body doesn't like to go where the mind can not see the area that the body is moving to.
3. On the command to back out, the student will walk toe heel while backing out also maintaining some bend in the knees
4. While the student is backing out from their targets and the threat command has been given. The student will bring weapon system up to the ready position and only on the "UP" command will the student fire a failure drill into their target. All firing will be while the student is in motion
5. The student will then search and breathe after they have fired their failure drill and continue to back out from their target and stop at the 15 yard –line
6. If a student has a stoppage with their weapon system they will continue to back out to the 15 yard –line and clear the stoppage there, with everyone on line

*Live Fire Drills**Oblique Shooting on the Move*

1. The line will be set up so that there is an empty lane on the left and right of each student. Oblique shooting on the move is when the student is moving forward and their target that they will be engaging will be on their left & right
2. The student will continue to move straight forward and they will rotate their upper body to the target, while continuing to move straight forward. The student will engage their target with a failure drill
3. ***Set up the range:***
All students will start from the 15- yard line while standing directly in front of their target. The range instructor will give the students the command that they are engaging on the left or on the right. This command will be given before the students go in motion
4. The instructor will emphasize to the student that while advancing to walk –heel-to –toe, one foot in front of the other and to keep their movement on their sights
5. While backing out the instructor will emphasize to the students to walk heel-to toe with a exaggerated step backwards, keeping the bend in their knees to absorb the bounce of their movement of their sights.

*Live Fire Drills**Oblique Shooting on the Move (continues)*

6. The movement Commands will be:
 - a. The line is ready
 - b. The instructor will give the command for left or right oblique shooting
 - c. stand by
 - d. Advance or Back out
 - e. Threat- student will come out of the low ready position to the ready position
 - f. “UP” – students will fire a failure drill on their target

Note:

Instructor will be watching to make sure that the student is doing a torso turn and not changing the direction of their movement to the target.

Behind each student there will be a coach/ instructor to keep the line even and to make sure that the student is doing the torso turn while moving and not walking directly at their target.

This drill is used with a failure drill, you are looking to develop a good solid shooting on the moving platform. Real world would be multiple hammer drills

*Live Fire Drills**Moving Target***15 Yard Line***1. Stationary Hold:*

- a. Weapon is held stationary and the target moves into the sights of the weapon.

2. Follow Through:

- a. Weapon moves faster than the target usually moving from behind the target to the front of the target and firing when the sights are on the target.

3. Consistent Lead:

- a. Weapon moves at the same speed as the target and the sights of the weapon are on the target all the time.

Note:

The student will be instructed not to lead the target. If the student does lead the target their bullets will arrive before the target gets there, their bullets are moving at over 3000 feet per second and people don't run faster than 20 MPH. They can get out of the way of the bullets. (remember there is no matrix out there)

*Live Fire Drills**Static Turns - 90 & 180 degrees***12 Yard Line**

The instructor will always stress safety. The student will never break the laser rule with the weapon.

Instructor will stress stance

Student will always move into known territory. This will require the student to look over their shoulder of the direction that they are moving into.

Student will always pivot on the heel or ball of their foot in the direction that they want to turn.

After the student finish firing they will always search and breathe for additional targets.

Moving Turns:

Students will perform moving turns from the three speeds; (covert speed, warrant speed, & hostage rescue speed)

Targets will be staggered across the firing line. Students will be moving across the range at the three movement speeds in a rectangular pattern.

Students will start at the 7 yard line and move to the 12 yard line in a rectangular pattern.

On the command the student will pivot doing a 90 degree turn and only engage a target that is directly in front of him/her with a failure drill (two shots to the body. one shot to the head of the target with zero misses)

Students will perform the drill moving from left to right of the range and then from right to left. This will ensure that each student has mastered pivoting to left and right side.

Students will not break the laser rule with their weapon.

*Live Fire Drills***50 Yard Line**

1. *Off Hand Shooting – Failure Drill*
2. *Kneeling:*
 - a. *Speed Kneeling – Failure Drill*
 - b. *Brace Kneeling – Failure Drill*
 - c. *California Kneeling – Failure Drill*
3. *Prone Shooting – Failure drill*

Note:

Failure drills should be fired three times from each position. You are trying to get the student confident in themselves at distance and they will realize which platform is their strongest.

100 Yard Line (if possible)

Off Hand Shooting

Speed Kneeling

Braced Kneeling

California Kneeling

Prone Shooting

Students will fire 10 rounds at each of these firing positions to get the feel of their weapon system at this distance/

Drills

Notes

Weapon Retention Drills

All weapons must be cleared for this drill to include handguns

All weapons shall be checked by the three different instructors to make sure that all weapons are clear,

Weapons retention drill shall be performed at 1/3 speed so that no one get hurt

Students will practice the figure 8 and the “J” break techniques

Students should practice these techniques for about 10-15 min each.