

T/C Little, Big Guy! CONTENDER® CARBINE

Ranchers, guides, coon hunters, trappers, campers and woodsies of all varieties, the Contender Carbine is your firearm. Built on the proven Contender Action, its interchangeable barrel system allows for a nine-in-one capability. Compact to the extreme, this light weight sporting carbine "feels and shoots like a full sized rifle".

Check out the available calibers and you'll see that our "Little, Big Guy" is all business.

Available Calibers

- .22 LONG RIFLE
- .22 HORNET
- .222 REMINGTON
- .223 REMINGTON
- 7 M/M T.C.U.
- 7x30 WATERS
- .30/30 WINCHESTER
- .357 REM. MAXIMUM
- .410 GA. 3" SHOTSHELL

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THOMPSON/CENTER ARMS
Farmington Road, P.O. Box 5002, Dept. AR 8
Rochester, New Hampshire 03867

NOTE: This firearm must be used with the 21" carbine barrel as pictured. Federal Law prohibits the use of this firearm with any barrel shorter than 16 inches.

AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

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J. Warren Cassidy, Acting Executive Vice President



The NRA, the foremost guardian of the traditional American right to "keep and bear arms," believes that every law-abiding citizen is entitled to the ownership and legal use of firearms, and that every reputable gun owner should be an NRA Member.

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CAUTION: All technical data in this publication, especially for handloading, reflect the limited experience of individuals using specific tools, products, equipment and components under specific conditions and circumstances not necessarily reported in the article, and over which the National Rifle Association of America (NRA) has no control. The data have not otherwise been tested or verified by the NRA. The NRA, its agents, officers and employees accept no responsibility for the results obtained by persons using such data and disclaim all liability for any consequential injuries or damages. See asterisk (*) section in staff column, page 4.

THE COVER: John M. Browning's famed Auto-5 shotgun, commemorated in the limited issue Gold Classic edition, is posed before a Browning poster created by NRA Art Director Harry L. Jaecks simulating poster designs of the 1920s and '30s. For more on the Auto-5, see Col. W. R. Betz's feature beginning on p. 32. Design by Harry L. Jaecks; photo by John R. Lamson.

Proudly Presenting...

THE VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATIVE THOMPSON

The first, firing, collector longarm ever issued to honor the Americans who fought for freedom in Vietnam.



Optional walnut display case



"Bear any burden,
Meet any hardship,
Support any friend,
Oppose any enemy..."
JFK, 1961

Like their fathers and older brothers who served at the Bulge, Okinawa and Pusan, our Vietnam Veterans served our nation for the same principles of "duty, honor, country" that have always guided our American fighting men in combat.

And, like many dedicated Americans, the Thompson served proudly in all three wars. In fact, many Vietnam Veterans report that the Thompson was more highly sought after than any other weapon, due to its reliability under jungle conditions and the stopping power of the .45 ammo it fired — two characteristics found lacking in certain other military-issued weapons.

Now, the American Historical Foundation is proud to honor our Vietnam Veterans through the issuance of the Vietnam War Commemorative Thompson.

Limited Edition Of Only 1500

Only 1500 will be made in this strictly limited edition commissioned by The American Historical Foundation and built to the Foundation's specifications by the official maker of the famous Thompson, Auto-Ordnance Corporation. Each is specially serially numbered between 0001 and 1500, with the prefix V (for Vietnam). This serial number is also inscribed on the accompanying Certificate of Authenticity, which attests to the 24-karat gold plating and the edition limit.

The Vietnam War Commemorative Thompson is being produced in a semiautomatic firing version, so no special license is required to own one. Upon special request, a deluxe model, with nearly full coverage of hand engraving, will be produced and numbered within this edition limit.

These special, engraved models are available for \$4,500 each. A \$500 deposit will place your reservation.

The Vietnam War Commemorative Thompson has already been classified as a Curio and Relic by BATF, an acknowledgment of its collectible status. Firing instructions are included.

Special Commemorative Features

This Thompson is a real man's weapon, constructed of 12 pounds of steel and walnut, but hand built with special commemorative features.

You sight across the 24-karat gold plated rear sight base and through the special, gold plated activator knob with a single rib, symbolic of the DMZ that divided the two Vietnams. The highly polished, gun-blued barrel is cut with 35 deep cooling fins and mounted with a mirror-

polished, 24-karat gold plated Cutts Compensator and front sight.

Your finger curls around the 24-karat gold plated trigger, as your left hand and right arm grasp the American walnut stocks — original G.I. production — hand finished with seven coats of hand-rubbed lacquer and polished to a gleaming presentation grade.

The stocks show off the 24-karat gold plated sling swivels, swivel mounts and screws which affix the black leather military sling.

You cradle the precision-milled receiver, which is highly polished to highlight the roll-engraved and gold-gilt inlaid commemorative inscriptions. The presentation side bears our Flag, the Vietnam Service Medal, the famous Thompson "bullet" trademark, and quotations from both Presidents Kennedy and Reagan. The reverse bears the special serial number, the issuing organization and the Thompson patents.

The shoulder stock is fitted with two, full-color, fired-enamel cloisonne medallions, bearing a gold plated inscription in black — symbolic of the Vietnam War Memorial — surrounding a circularized yellow and red flag of the Republic of Vietnam. The pistol grip is fitted with a matching medallion embossed with the Great Seal of the United States and commemorative tributes.

This Is A Firing Thompson!

This no-nonsense Commemorative is a fully functional, firing Thompson, chambered for the same famous, readily available, .45 ACP ammunition that G.I.s and American shooters have used since 1911. Because it fires in the semiautomatic mode, you do not need a special submachine gun license to own it. Anyone who can own a standard hunting rifle can own this Thompson Commemorative. And because it is a firing Thompson, it could be called upon to defend your home and family in the same manner in which it has defended American lives and freedoms for over 65 years. If you do not have a firearms license, we will coordinate delivery with you through your local firearms dealer after your reservation is received at Foundation Headquarters. If you do have a federal license, send a signed copy, and your Thompson will be delivered directly to you.

Highly Collectible

Because of the extremely small edition limits and their availability as semiautomatics, Thompson commemoratives have become some of the most highly collectible firearms in recent history. Previous Thompson commemoratives have been quickly fully subscribed and now bring significantly higher prices on the collector market.

A furniture-finished walnut display case, green vel-

vet lined and fitted with an acrylic glass lid and three solid brass locks, is also available to show and protect your investment.

How to Reserve: Satisfaction Guaranteed

Available exclusively from The American Historical Foundation, you may use the reservation form below or call toll free. Your satisfaction is guaranteed, or return for a full refund within one month.

With your reservation, you will be made a Member of the Foundation and receive expert information concerning the history, care and display of military arms and edged weapons.

Prompt response is required if you are to be one of only 1500 men, museums and organizations worldwide who have the opportunity to own one of these extremely rare, firing showpieces. If the edition is sold out before your reservation is received, your deposit will be refunded and your name placed on a standby list. This special commemorative Thompson is assured a place of honor in any collection, and it provides a lasting, tangible link between those Americans who fought for freedom in Vietnam and their forebears of World War II and Korea.

RESERVATION

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Return in 30 Days for Full Refund

To: The American Historical Foundation
1142 West Grace Street, Dept. B110
Richmond, Virginia 23220
Telephone: (804) 353-1812
24-hour toll free reservations: (800) 368-8080

Yes, I wish to reserve the Vietnam War Commemorative Thompson, selectively plated with 24-karat gold, with roll-engraved inscriptions and deluxe presentation-grade finish. Only 1500 will be made. I will also receive a Certificate of Authenticity, membership in the Foundation and information concerning the history, care, display and firing of the Thompson.

☐ My deposit of \$95 (or credit card authorization) is enclosed. Please invoice (or charge my credit card) for the balance due:

- ☐ in four equal payments of \$300.
- ☐ in six equal payments of \$200.
- ☐ in full.

☐ My payment in full (or credit card authorization) for \$1295 is enclosed.

☐ Also please send the optional furniture-finished walnut display case. Please add \$225 to the final charge of the payment I have selected above.

Name

Address

For Visa, MasterCard or American Express, send account number, expiration date and signature. Virginia residents please add tax.

AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

AUGUST 1986 ★

\$2.00 In Canada \$2.75

Action Pistol:
New Top Gun
Is Crowned

Home Defense:
The Choices
To Be Made

The Auto-5:
Legacy Of
A Genius



8T455 NM
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#FKC9581H1#T1T56C3
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3222 ARTHUR ST NE
MINN EAPOLIS
8T455 11G1D-5*****8T0E#

DOWNING
AUTO-5
The Aristocrat