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THE COVER

Associate Editor Robert N. Sears of *The American Rifleman* Technical Staff field tests a Mannlicher-Schoenauer M72 rifle. His detailed evaluation begins on p. 41. Photo by staff photographer Zsuzsa Sandor.

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MAJOR ARTICLES

Ruger Stainless Revolvers	C. E. Harris	14
Rediscover Your Rimfire Rifle	Bob Gilsvik	18
The Shotgun Artists Of Italy	Gianoberto Lupi	20
Why Military Winchesters Lost Out	E. H. Harrison	23
Factors Of Sighting Error	L. F. Moore	24
Ivory Grips	E. Dixon Larson	30
Frontier Forts Counted On Minie ... Louis A. Garavaglia and Charles G. Worman		32
A Fast, Powerful Timber Rifle	Pete Nelson	35
Army Investigates Improved 5.56 mm Service Ammunition	C. E. Harris	37
Lawmakers		38
Institute Reports	Robert J. Kukla	40
Mannlicher-Schoenauer M72: The Most Recent Steyr Rifle	Robert N. Sears	41
Dope Bag		48
NRA News And Events		72
Stainless Steel Facts You Should Know		14
Hold-Over Simplified		28
NRA Annual Meetings 1977		39
Score Sheet		82

WHAT NRA IS

The National Rifle Association of America, founded in 1871, is an independent non-profit organization supported by membership fees. Its purposes are to educate public-spirited citizens in the safe and efficient use of small arms for pleasure and protection; to foster firearms accuracy and safety in law-enforcement agencies, in the Armed Services, and among citizens subject to military duty; to promote good sportsmanship and to foster the conservation and wise use of our renewable wildlife resources; and to further the public welfare, law and order, and U.S. defense.

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THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS

The general mailing to members in January—with the Member Opinion Survey, soliciting membership enrollments, and offering the opportunity for members to comment generally on Association activities and services—has brought an unprecedented flood of mail to NRA Headquarters. Personal and specific replies to all comments and suggestions are not possible. They are appreciated—all are being reviewed and appropriate actions taken. Through such help by our members we can have an even better organization. NRA is especially grateful for the additional members brought into the Association.

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