



# U.S. M1 Carbines, Wartime Production, 7th Revised and Expanded Edition

By Craig Riesch

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## U.S. M1 Carbines, Wartime Production, 7th Revised and Expanded Edition

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U.S. M1 Carbines, Wartime Production, 7th edition, revised and expanded, by Craig Riesch. ISBN-13 978-1-882391-43-1.

The 7th edition of this best-selling bible of the World War II M1 Carbine has been revised and expanded to include new information regarding adjustable rear sights and their period of use, additional manufacturer's codes, new information regarding the importance of rebuilt M1 and M1A1 carbines, and Israeli, Italian reimported carbines, and a new table showing manufacturer's shipment's by dates.

The author, Craig Riesch, has compiled twenty-five years of surveys and research into this 235 page volume.

The book contains 40 charts and 215 photographs, and fourteen drawings. The book provides a history of the M1 Carbine's development, manufacture and use during World War II, as well as through the Korean War and the war in Vietnam.

The M1 Carbine is analyzed and described by its ten manufacturers, model and serial number range. The U.S. Army Ordnance Department required that virtually every part of the M1 Carbine be marked with a manufacturer's or subcontractor's code. Riesch has unraveled the manufacturer's and subcontractor's codes by serial number range and eliminated many spurious codes. Every major and most minor parts can now be conclusively identified by manufacturer and serial number range, making it possible to examine an M1 Carbine to determine its authenticity with a high degree of confidence.

Using the charts and photos the collector can identify the manufacturer and period of use for the receiver group, barrel group, trigger housing group, stock group and their component parts. Butt plates by the various manufacturers are shown in full-size photographs for easy identification.

All variations of the M1 Carbine are discussed M1, M1A1, M2, T2 and M3 by manufacturer. The aspects that make up the two types of true M1A1 folding stock paratrooper carbines are described and photographed. Serial number ranges

for original manufacture of the M1A1 are also included. Reproduction folding stocks are shown and points of difference are identified so the collector will not be fooled by fakes.

The book is divided into six chapters and ten appendices. Each chapter describes a major subgroup of the M1 Carbine: receiver, barrel, trigger assembly, and stock.

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### **Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

This new installment of the *For Collectors Only* series concentrates on the 10 manufacturers of the U.S. Cal. .30 Carbine during World War II. A part-by-part analysis is given, with each variation described and illustrated. . . Charts listing the production numbers and type of each component of each manufacturer and appendices on markings and serial numbers will aid collectors in determining whether a particular Carbine is "as issued." --*American Rifleman*

Following a very thorough, illustrated introduction, this gem of a book details the M1 Carbine by groups with Chapter 1, The Receiver Groups, Chapter 2, The Barrel Group, etc. Each chapter features numerous illustrations and tables, with many of the photos close-up views. Appendices cover various Carbine-related topics, ranging from tools, ammunition, and rebuilt and imported Carbines, to disassembly/assembly of the M1.

This is a needed reference for any owner of a wartime produced M1 Carbine. The coverage and photos are excellent. Larry S. Sterett --*Gun Week*

#### About the Author

Craig Riesch is a well-known collector and scholar of U.S. military small arms. He is the author of U.S. M1 Carbines, Wartime Production and was the coauthor of The .45-70 Springfield and The M1 Garand, 1936 to 1957. He also edited The American Krag Rifle and Carbine and Swiss Magazine Loading Rifles, 1869 to 1958, all in the For Collectors Only series plus The AK-47 and AK-74 Kalashnikov Rifles in the Shooters and Collector's series. Both series are guides to antique and collectible modern firearms identification and verification. Mr. Riesch has spent a great deal of time studying U.S. military firearms and is consulted by many collectors for authentication of military and civilian arms. He has been a collector himself for over forty years. Mr. Riesch is a U.S. Army combat veteran and served in Vietnam during the period of the Tet Offensive. He worked for 33 years as a product operations manager for a major defense company.

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