

BOOK REVIEW: *Carbine, Cal. .30, M1: Diagrams & Pictures: First Edition*; by Eric A. Nicolaus

An impressive gathering of mechanical drawings from the production days of the M1 Carbine, this new publication divides up the late model M1 Carbine into eight main sub-groups. The groups consist of all assembly, sub-assembly, and individual blueprints. The eight main sub-groups are: Barrel & Receiver, Operating Slide, Bolt Assembly, Trigger Housing Group, Stock & Guard Assembly, Rear Sight Assemblies, and Magazine Assemblies (15 & 30 round). These drawings number around 168 sheets. Measuring 8 ½" by 14", the spiral ring binding allows the book to lay flat when opened to a given page.

This book is not a guide to disassembling and reassembling your M1 Carbine, but is a collection of documents necessary to produce a classic firearm that has served in many conflicts ranging from WWII thru Vietnam. Revision dates on some drawings range from the early forties and on others to the early seventies. Each time a drawing was revised, a new copy would have to be sent to each manufacturer and where applicable, to subcontractors. Logistically speaking, it was quite an undertaking to keep all manufacturers on the same page as they made interchangeable M1 Carbine parts.

The carbine techie, as well as draftsmen/engineers (yours truly), and anyone else who is mechanically minded, should appreciate this book. Approved "optional construction" details of parts can be found among the various illustrations. These include the "recoil tongue" (what collectors call the "wide tang" Receiver), Trigger Housing magazine cuts ("full length" versus "notches only"), the two methods of milling the Operating Slide Spring Guide ("flat end" and "pointed end"), as well as the two types of Barrels (swaged-on or integral gas cylinder) and Adjustable Rear Sights (milled or stamped).

This publication is a nice addition to my library. It may be ordered from the author's website below.
http://nicolausassociates.com/M1_Carbine.htm

Charles Wallace