

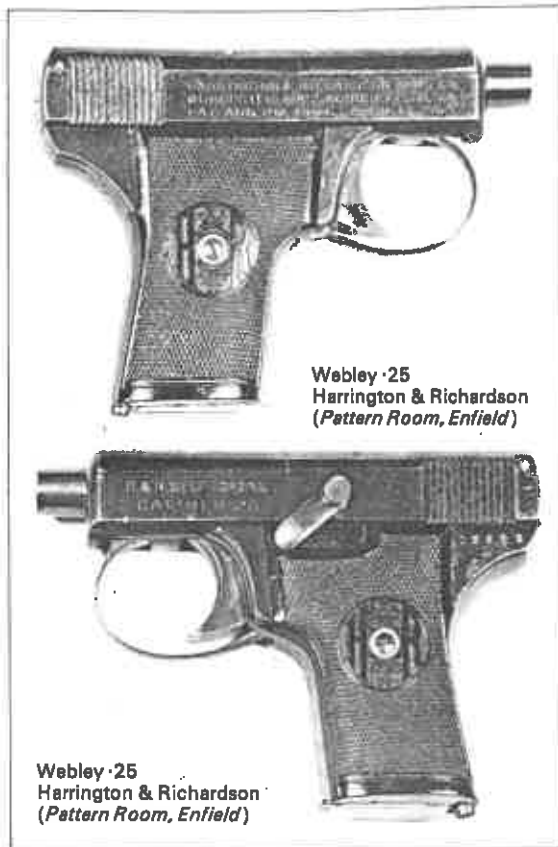
# SMALL ARMS PROFILE

# 1

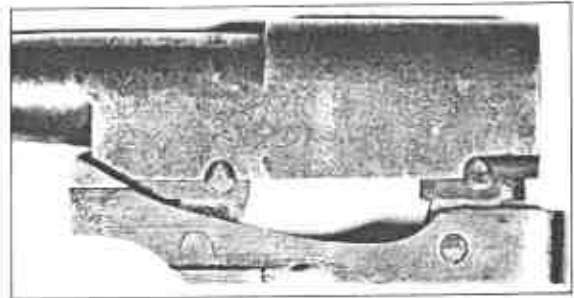
40p/\$2.00

## WEBLEY AND SCOTT AUTOMATIC PISTOLS





The basic difference other than that mentioned between these pistols and their corresponding Webley counterparts was the use of a coil recoil spring as opposed to the 'V' type.



Jurek. The Twin Link locking system and its Cradle  
(Dr Jurek)

### 9mm Parabellum Prototype Automatics

The result of the trials for which Webley had submitted an entry was that the Browning Hi-Power was chosen. The Webley entrant is however of great interest both historically and technically. The designer, Dr Marian K. Jurek, was born in Poland on 7 September 1904 and even at the age of 15 was dabbling in the art of the gunmaker. In 1937, after a brilliant scholastic career, Dr Jurek became the Head of Research at an ammunition factory. During the war Dr Jurek saw service with a number of branches of the Services including the 1st Armoured Division Workshops. In 1946, while still a serving member of the Parachute Regiment, he designed two submachine guns which fired from a closed bolt and used a separate hammer to reduce

### The 1911 .22 Single Shot Semi-Automatic Pistol

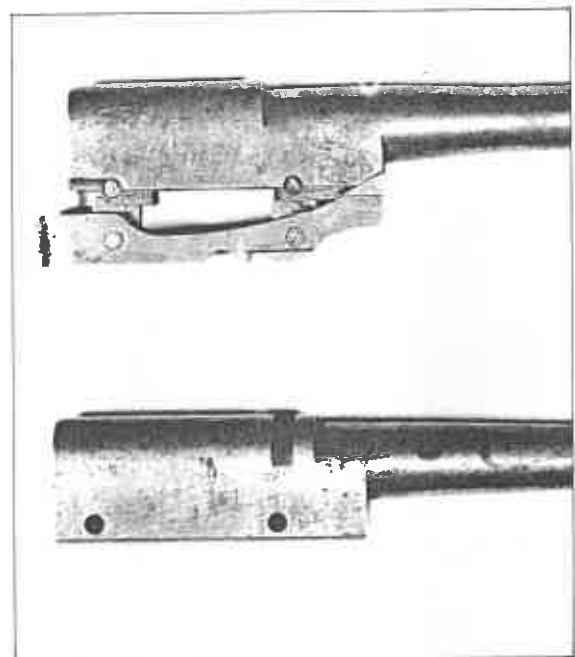
This weapon which was used by the Metropolitan and other Police Forces in a 4½ in. barrel version for practice was based on the issue .32 ACP automatic. This meant that men could be trained with a weapon that was identical in handling to that of the official issue. A model with a 9 in. barrel along with a shoulder stock was also available. The weapon is an oddity to say the least in that although the slide is blown back on firing and ejects the empty case, it remains open and the pistol has to be manually loaded with a single round and the slide closed again. In other words it is more an automatic ejector than a semi-automatic pistol. A hand ejector is also fitted for use in the event that the spent case is not blown clear.

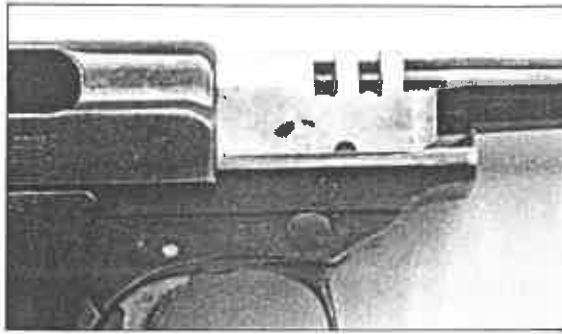
### Harrington & Richardson Arms Co. .25 and .32 Automatic Pistols

The above weapons were covered under Webley's American patents in August 1907 and April 1909. These patents were assigned by Webley & Co. to the Harrington & Richardson Arms Co. The .25 ACP was introduced in 1912 and remained in production for a period of three years, about 20,000 being manufactured. In 1916 H & R introduced the .32 ACP which was a modification of the basic Webley design in that it was a striker fired weapon as opposed to the Webley concealed hammer or hammers. Production of this pistol ceased in 1939.

### Jurek 9mm Parabellum Prototype

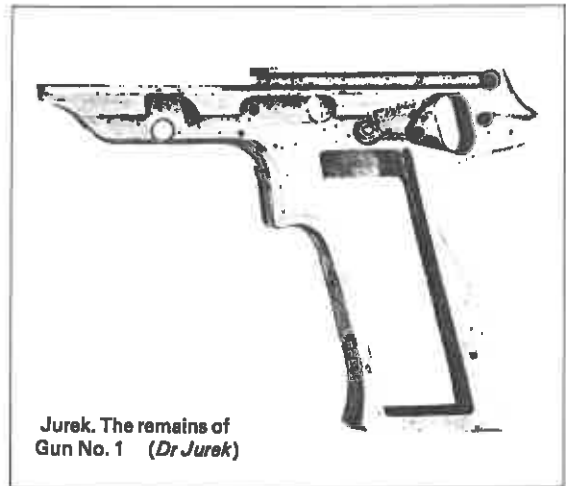
Note: Progressive increase in the number of locking lugs  
(Dr Jurek)





**Webley 9mm Parabellum Prototype**  
*Note: Progressive increase in the number of locking lugs*  
*(Webley & Scott)*

the rate of fire. Also of note was the small diameter recoil spring mounted on a removable guide rod. This rod ran through the breech block giving a simple and reliable operation. Both weapons were demonstrated to the BAOR and later in Britain, but were rejected by a Board which Dr Jurek asserted did not give the weapons a fair trial. Dr Jurek believes that one of these weapons would have been a suitable replacement for the Sten, both on grounds of reliability and cost. After the lack of success with the submachine guns, Dr Jurek in December 1946, designed and made from mild steel an automatic pistol. Although only the receiver remains, it is evident that the design features remained constant throughout the range of pistols. The basic difference between the locking on



**Jurek. The remains of Gun No. 1** *(Dr Jurek)*

the Jurek pistol and that of the Colt/Browning range is that although the locking ribs on the barrel and slide are similar, the movement of the barrel is controlled by a parallel twin link system. These links are attached to a separate cradle which, with the action of the links and a close fit with the barrel on lock up, ensure that the barrel returns to exactly the same position for each shot. This offers considerable advantages and enables the pistol in all of its forms to shoot with superb accuracy. In September 1949 Dr Jurek joined Webley but it



**Webley. Gun No. 2**  
*(Webley & Scott)*

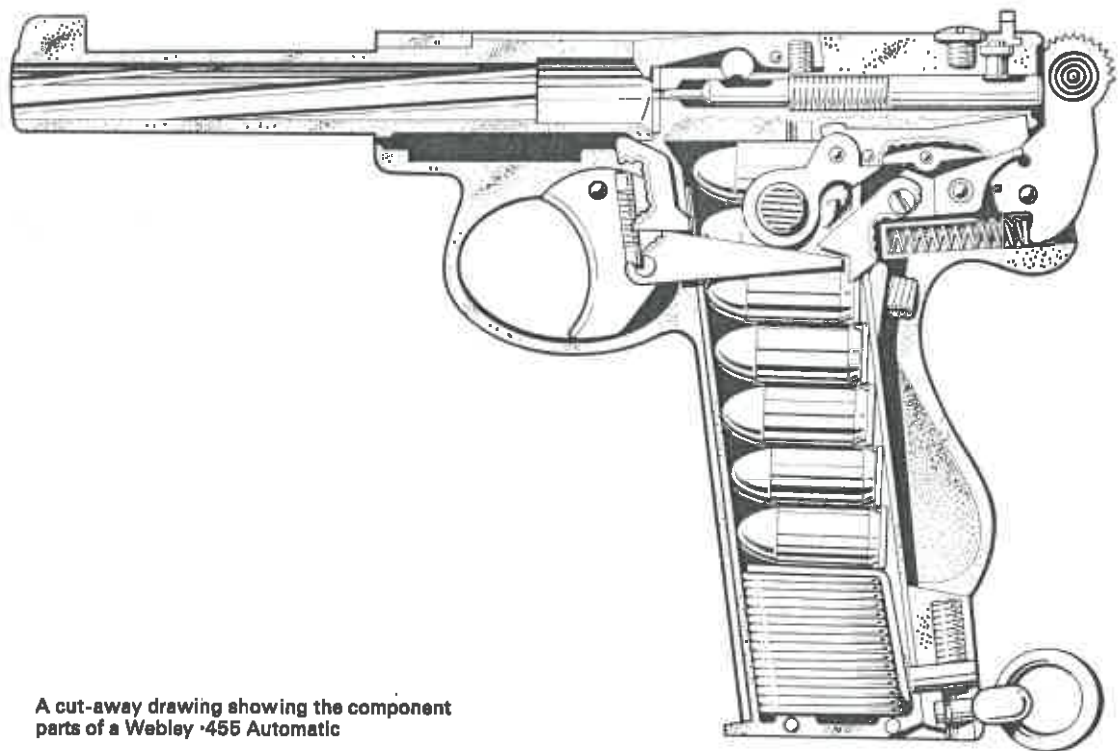
was not until 1952, when Webley decided to submit a pistol for test by the Government, that he redesigned his pistol and manufactured a prototype in an extremely short space of time. This weapon is Pistol No. 2 or Webley No. 1.

The results of the test indicate that the Board would like the weapon to be made lighter possibly with the use of an alloy receiver, a better pull on the double action trigger and improved sealing against dirt. Two further requests were that a magazine safety be incorporated and a .22 training weapon be manufactured. Dr Jurek agreed that these requests were all possible. As a result of the tests Dr Jurek made in only a few weeks a third pistol (Webley No. 2). The resulting weapon was tested and although much improved it was not yet judged entirely satisfactory. The use of an alloy receiver was recommended so that a side-by-side test could be arranged with one having a steel receiver. It is noteworthy that this recommendation was after a report that the experimental alloy frame Browning Hi-Power had developed signs of fretting after only 2000 rounds. Dr Jurek asserts, however, that with the separate cradle design the fretting problem would not have been encountered. A desire was also

expressed for a 13 round magazine, this being obviously in comparison with the Browning Hi-Power. See Small Arms Profile No. 2. Although there was a request for a further model coupled with the alloy framed weapon and a .22 training weapon development was suspended suddenly by Webley. This can only be attributed to the fact that the Browning had been accepted. The only fault of a major nature which had been found during testing was that a slight bulging of the slide was encountered. This had been easily remedied.

After the cessation of work on this and other pistols Dr Jurek left Webley and started up a small gun repair shop with enough machines to continue producing a range of target pistols. These pistols all exhibit superb workmanship and an appreciation of the needs of the target shot which could only be understood by a person with international qualifications for that sport.

The final chapter cannot be written because it is only a drawing and an image of the fertile imagination of Dr Jurek. The weapon which emerges will have a number of detailed modifications to make it perhaps the best automatic pistol ever produced.



A cut-away drawing showing the component parts of a Webley .455 Automatic



Jurek Convertible .22/-38 Target Pistol. This is not an automatic pistol, but included to show the excellence of his work (*Dr Jurek*)