

# Identification of Firearms Within the Purview of the National Firearms Act



BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO,  
FIREARMS, AND EXPLOSIVES

*FIREARMS TECHNOLOGY BRANCH*

# Identification of Firearms

## Within the Purview of the National Firearms Act

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# Foreword

- This publication was prepared by the Firearms Technology Branch to help you in identifying weapons classified as firearms (including destructive devices) under Title 26. This may also be cited as the “National Firearms Act “.
- This PowerPoint acts as an aid in identifying types of firearms and destructive devices which must be registered with ATF under the national firearms act (title II of the gun control act of 1968)



# Thompson Submachine Gun, .45cal.

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Selector switch permits firing of weapon either as a semi or full automatic weapon.
- SPECIAL NOTE: The original Model 1927, while semiautomatic only, is still classified as a Title II firearm because of its machine gun receiver and short barrel. The Thompson Model 1927A1-A5 firearms manufactured by Auto Ordnance, West Hurley, New York are classified as Title I firearms.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





# M-2 Carbine - Machine Gun

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Selector switch permits firing of weapon either as a semi or full automatic weapon.
- SPECIAL NOTE: M-1 Carbines altered by substitution of M-2 kits to permit automatic fire are also machine guns. Carbine receivers marked M-2 are machine guns, even though they may only be capable of semiautomatic fire.
- Possession of an unregistered M-2 conversion kit, which consists of the following seven parts, constitutes possession of an unregistered NFA firearm; regardless of whether or not assembled;
  1. selector
  2. selector spring
  3. selector lever assembly
  4. hammer
  5. disconnecter
  6. disconnecter spring
  7. disconnecter plunger
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





# M-14 Machine Gun

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: This is the M-14 Rifle. It generally can be distinguished from the M1 by shoulder plate, magazine and flash hider. The forestock is also different from that found on the M-1. The Selector Switch on the M-14 Machine Gun is located on the right rear side of the receiver, just above the trigger. All M-14's which are so marked are Machine Guns whether or not equipped with a Selector Switch.
- SPECIAL NOTE: The Model M-1A rifle manufactured by the Springfield Armory, San Antonio, Texas or Geneseo, Illinois, is similar in appearance to the M-14 with the exception of not having a selector, it is NOT a machine gun. The M-1A is a Title I weapon.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





# AK47 Assault Rifle

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Selective fire weapon. May be encountered with or without bayonet, with wooden stock or folding metal stock. Used by Soviet Bloc countries and may be designated also as AKM, TYPE 56 (China), TYPE (58 N Korea), MPIKM E Germ., or RPK, TARIQ (IRAQ) depending on the country of origin.
- SPECIAL NOTE: Commercial semi-automatic variations are currently being imported s and are NOT classified as machine guns.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





## MP-43, MP-44 and STG-44 Assault Rifles

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Selector switch on side of frame permits either full or semi-automatic fire.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00







# Mauser Machine Pistol, 7.63mm (.30cal.)

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN (MACHINE PISTOL)
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: The selector switch on the left side of frame permits full or semi-automatic fire; this weapon is usually accompanied by a wooden holster which is capable of attachment as a shoulder stock. However, with or without the attachable shoulder stock, this weapon is a machine gun.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





## Spitfire Carbine (Machine Gun)

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Can be fired fully automatic by manipulation of safety lever during firing of weapon.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





## Colt M16, Model 614, 5.56mm Machine Gun

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Selective fire weapon as manufactured by Colt for the U.S. Military, law enforcement, and off shore sales. May encounter various model designations along with "Property of U.S. Gov't."
- SPECIAL NOTE: Semi-automatic version designated Model SP1, .223 caliber, with a two position selector.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





# Ingram M-10, .45cal. Machine Gun

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Selector lever on left side of receiver permits either full or semi-automatic fire.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





# RPB Industries, SM-10 9mm Converted Pistol with Silencer

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN AND SILENCER
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Full automatic fire. Internal components altered to allow automatic fire only. Sionics Type Kit Silencer attached.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00 Machine Gun  
\$200.00 Silencer





# Conversion Parts

- CLASSIFICATION: MACHINEGUN
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00

Lightning Link



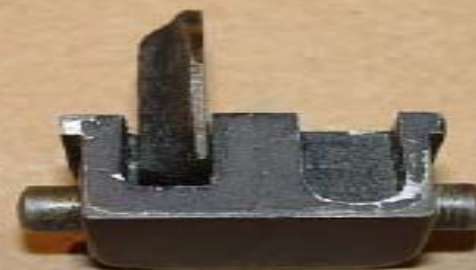
AR-15 drop-in auto-sear



Glock auto-sear



Glock auto-sear





## Weapon Made from a Shotgun

- CLASSIFICATION: WEAPON MADE FROM A SHOTGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Overall length of less than 26 inches or a barrel or barrels of less than 18 inches in length. Both stock and barrel altered.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





## Short Barreled Shotgun

- CLASSIFICATION: SHORT BARRELED SHOTGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Shotgun having a barrel or barrels of less than 18 inches in length.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00







## 12ga. Crude Manufacture

- CLASSIFICATION: WEAPON MADE FROM A SHOTGUN
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Barrel less than 18 inches and/or overall length less than 26 inches, stock altered, barrel cut down. Often mistakenly called a "sawed off shotgun." In this instance overall length is determining factor. However, if the overall length is 26 inches or more and barrel less than 18 inches, this weapon would still be classified as a firearm under the Act.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





## Short Barreled Rifle

- CLASSIFICATION: SHORT BARRELED RIFLE
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Rifle having a barrel or barrels of less than 16 inches in length.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





## Weapon Made from a Rifle

- CLASSIFICATION: WEAPON MADE FROM A RIFLE
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Overall length of less than 26 inches or a barrel or barrels of less than 16 inches in length.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





## .22cal., Crude Manufacture

- CLASSIFICATION: WEAPON MADE FROM A RIFLE
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: Barrel less than 16 inches and/or overall length less than 26 inches, stock altered, barrel cut down. In this instance, overall length is the determining factor. Also, firearm was not originally designed or manufactured in its present condition. However, should the overall length be more than 26 inches but the barrel less than 16 inches, it would still be classified as a firearm under the NFA.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00





# Various Silencers

- CLASSIFICATION: SILENCER
- DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS: A Silencer is **any** device for silencing, muffling or diminishing the report of a portable firearm.
- RATE OF TRANSFER TAX: \$200.00



## Various Silencers continued



Aerosol can with  
steel wool and  
metal pipe

Cylindrical object  
with hose clamp

