

## THE WALTHER PISTOL



**The new German Army Walther pistol.**

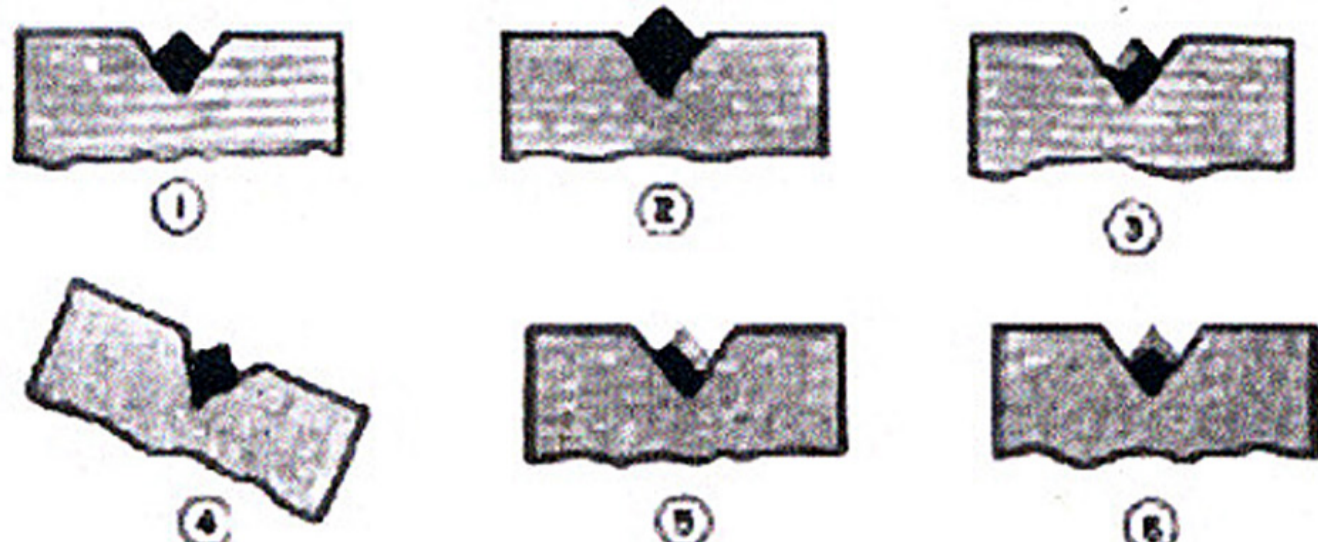
**T**HE Walther, officially called Pistole 38, is coming into more and more general use as a standard issue in the German Army. Eventually it may replace the Luger. Although the Walther lacks the stopping of the U. S. M1911 Colt .45, it is nevertheless a handy weapon because of its double-action feature and its good balance.

**How to identify.** The Walther may be identified by (1) horizontally grooved grips, (2) outside hammer, (3) marking ("P. 38") on left side of the slide, (4) safety on left rear of the slide, (5) lanyard hook on left grip, (6) double action.

### TABLE OF CHARACTERISTICS

Principle of operation	Short recoil-operated, double-action trigger mechanism.
Caliber	9-mm (254 inch).
Ammunition	9-mm Parabellum (German, British, Italian, or U. S. manufacture).
Capacity of magazine	8 rounds.
Sights:	
Front	Inverted V blade.
Rear	Open V notch, nonadjustable.
Length of barrel	4.75 inches.
Weight:	
With loaded magazine	2 pounds 5.25 ounces.
With empty magazine	2 pounds 1.75 ounces.
Range:	
Effective	25 yards.
Maximum	1,150 yards.
Muzzle velocity	1,040 feet per second.





**Method of using German sights.** 1. Correct sight picture. 2. Firing high. 3. Low and right. 4. Low and left. 5. Lower left. 6. Low shot.

**How to Operate. Safety.**—The safety is a lever located at the left rear of the slide. To fire, thumb up the safety, uncovering the letter "F" (*feuer*—"fire"). To lock the pistol, thumb down the safety uncovering the letter "S" (*sicher*—"safe").

To unlock the pistol, set the safety to the "safe" position. This permits the hammer to fall and at the same time locks the firing pin.

The Walther has a device which enables a quick check to be made in order to determine whether or not there is a cartridge in the chamber. If there is a cartridge in the chamber, a small pin protrudes about a quarter of an inch from the back end of the slide. If the chamber is empty, this small pin will remain flush with the surface of the back end of the slide. This arrangement is particularly handy in the dark.

**To load and fire (single-action method).**—Put the safety on "fire." Insert a loaded magazine into the butt and shove it forward until the magazine catch holds it. Pull the slide back once and let it snap forward. The pistol is now loaded and cocked. A pull on the trigger will fire it.

**The load (alternate method).**—Put the safety on "safe." Insert the loaded magazine and work the slide as described in instructions on safety above. This pistol is now loaded but not cocked. When ready to fire, put the safety on "fire" and pull the trigger. As this pistol has a double action, the pull on the trigger will cock the hammer and fire the round. After the first shot, the recoil of the slide will cock the hammer.

**To unload.**—Pull to the rear the magazine catch, located on the bottom rear of the butt. The magazine will drop out. Work the slide back and forth several times to be sure the chamber is emptied.

**4160 Pistolepatronen 08**  
**P. 2 L 35**

**Na. Stk. P. a/A. (0,8 08):**  
**RZ. 1. L. 26**

**Patrk. P. 2 L 34 - Gesch. P. 12 L 34**  
**ZM: S. K. D. 22 L 35**

Nazi pistol ammunition box is labeled like this.