

# Shoot-Out Called to Determine Long Rifle's Origin

By ROBERT F. MEEKER  
United Press International  
LOUISVILLE, Ky. (UPI)—In the late 18th and early 19th century Pennsylvania gunsmiths, mostly of German extraction, hand-crafted a long, muzzle-loading rifle of amazing accuracy.

The weapon was used extensively in Pennsylvania's forest fastnesses and throughout the Appalachian region, but achieved prominence as the ultimate weapon of its time in the wilderness of eastern Kentucky—the historic "dark and bloody ground."

In the hands of intrepid pioneers, the long rifle was often the difference between survival or death at the hands of savage Indians.

Daniel Boone, himself native to Reading, Pa., highlighted a score of names deeply etched in America's history books who depended on the long rifle for protection.

Adventures such as Boone, Kenton, Clark, Harrod and others stirred the imaginations of youthful readers in elementary school history courses.

An Equalizer

These early settlers, often ambushed and nearly always outnumbered, depended on the long rifle as the "equalizer" against the fiercest Indian tribes the white man had yet encountered in the new world.

The long rifle was, and is, accurate on a squirrel at 70 paces and often spelled the difference between game on the table or dreary meatless diets.

It was the long rifle, fired by Gen. Andrew Jackson's ragtag army, which sent withering fire into the ranks of England's finest during the war of 1812 and brought the collapse of His Majesty's crack regiment in the battle of New Orleans.

Its fame and place in history thus assured, the long rifle became known as the Kentucky long rifle, after the state in which it reached its peak in development and use. Then it slipped into obscurity and oblivion as the breech-loader replaced it.

## Pennsylvania Origin

Some Pennsylvania historians, nettled at the appellation "Kentucky long rifle" for a gun originally crafted in the Keystone state, stirred the dust of history by insisting the weapon should properly be "The Pennsylvania Long rifle."

Kentucky historians were quick to take umbrage at the Pennsylvanians' claim and the feud was on. Claims and counter-claims bounced across the two states and in the spring of this year the feud became white-hot in intensity.

Col. George Chinn, director of the Kentucky Historical Society, took dead aim at Pennsylvania historians with a stinging riposte: "They made Monongahela rye whiskey up there that was only fit for lamp oil and it took Kentuckians to show them how to make bourbon. They made a rifle too, but it took Kentuckians to show them how to use it. They are the claiming-est people..."

History buffs may argue the critical point where war broke out between Pennsylvania and Kentucky this spring, but this much is known—things became very lively after Colonel Chinn's remarks last April.

## Shoot-out Called

Gov. William Scranton of Pennsylvania delivered a challenge to Gov. Bert Combs of

Kentucky for a "shoot-out" to determine who is worthy of changing the title to the long rifle.

Scranton's method of delivering the challenge was unique in this day of superhighway and jet airliner. He sent seven riders astride rugged Appaloosa horses all the way from Reading, Pa., Boone's birthplace, to Kentucky. The trip took more than a month to cover the distance—600 miles as the crow flies; more than 900 miles as the horse goes.

On the last week of May the Pennsylvania couriers broke through the Cumberland gap and were captured soon thereafter outside of Middlesboro, Ky., in rugged southeastern Kentucky. After a brief interrogation, armed Kentuckians long rifles, naturally, allowed them to proceed to Kentucky's capital city of Frankfort to deliver their challenge for a shoot-out.

The Pennsylvanians were kept under close surveillance by Kentucky riders until they arrived at Frankfort early in June. There, Governor Combs

extended the hospitality of the bluegrass state to the weary riders and formally accepted the challenge for a shoot-out to determine the claims to the long rifle.

## Encounter Planned

Originally, Governor Combs was to travel with a team of 10 Kentucky marksmen and have a face-to-face encounter with Governor Scranton near Reading. In a home-and-home arrangement, Governor Scranton was to come to Kentucky and have a return engagement at Barbourville, Ky., in the southeastern Kentucky mountain country.

Affairs of state precluded this arrangement and the two shoot-outs will be held with the governor of each state presiding when the match is on home ground.

Ten Kentucky marksmen were selected in qualifying trials near Boston, Ky., last July and they traveled to Reading, Pa., for a shoot-out in September with the Pennsylvanians. The second division of the match is set for Oct. 12 at Barbourville, Ky.

Somewhat under a cloud is what will happen should each state win one match without a clearcut margin of victory. This may be resolved by supporters of Americana who are promoting an annual shoot-out between the two states.

## Controversy Spreads

It may take more than two shoot-outs to settle the controversy which has spread to areas beyond the long rifle.

—One of the Pennsylvania horsemen referred to Kentucky's state bird, the cardinal, as "A Pennsylvania sparrow with high blood pressure."

—A fuming Kentuckian retorted: "Merion bluegrass is Kentucky bluegrass with snob appeal."

It is hoped the shoot-out, or shoot-outs, will settle the riddle: "When is a Kentucky long rifle, not a Kentucky long rifle?"

Keystone states see the solution as an easy one: "When it's a Pennsylvania long rifle... like it's always been."

It appears to be all over but the shootin'—and that may go on forever.



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BODY FOUND—The baffling disappearance of ex-Coastguardman Juan Aquino, who left his Berkeley, Calif., home more than three months ago and never returned, has been solved with discovery of his body near Echo Summit on Highway 50, near Lake Tahoe, Calif. Caught in a freak snowstorm, his bus slipped on icy pavement, narrowly missing the edge of the cliff. The passengers got out and one of them toppled over the precipice but was rescued by fellow passengers. Apparently the same fate befell Aquino and it went unnoticed. (UPI)

## Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

P. G. WODEHOUSE, extolling the virtues of the once perfect, but now practically extinct English butlers, tells about one who presided over a mansion in Ireland.

One day a gang of Sinn Feiners descended upon the place, and battered down the front door with axes. Inside the butler awaited them to tell them austere, "His Lordship is not at home." They wrecked the house from cellar to attic, and finally set fire to it. On leaving, they found the butler still standing statuesquely in the hall. Flames were everywhere, and ceilings were crashing down, but the butler stopped the mob to ask, "Who shall I say called, gentlemen?"



The volunteer fire department in a certain Westchester community suffers from a chronic lack of funds. This year there's a genuine crisis. "Now, when the fire alarm goes off," mourns the Chief, "we have to rush down to Hertz or Avis and rent a truck!"

A famous trainer at the Cain Hay stables was asked his master plan for winning races. "It's easy enough," nodded the trainer. "All a jockey has to do is get his horse out in front at the starting gate—and keep improving his position from there on."

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## Dennis the Menace



"WE WERE GONNA JUST TAKE ONE GRAPH, BUT THE REST OF EM HUNG ON."

# WAN LEE'S

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2	ICE CRUSHERS	7.95	4.44	3.66	2.88
5	Nest of 3 MOSAIC TABLES	9.99	4.22	3.88	2.88
36	Magla Teflon Ironing Board PAD & COVER SET	3.95	1.88	1.44	1.22
48	IRONING BOARD COVER, Magla Teflon	2.49	1.33	1.22	.99
8	COFFEE BOILER 3 Quart Enamel	3.50	1.88	1.44	1.11
13	WHISTLING TEA KETTLE	4.95	1.44	1.22	.99
48	BLUE ENAMEL ROASTERS, 16 Lb. Capacity	3.95	1.63	1.33	1.11
7	3 PC. COOKING SET—Baster, Roast Thermometer, Skewer, Candy Thermometer.	2.95	1.17	.99	.88
17	MEASURING CUP SET, 6 Pc., Long Handled	2.95	1.44	1.22	.99
17	INSULATED JUGS, Unbreakable—Gallon Size	3.95	1.66	1.44	1.11
12	PINT SIZE BOTTLES, Stanley Vacuum	12.95	7.44	6.88	6.44
4	STEP ON CANS, Chrome Top	7.95	3.79	2.88	2.44
15	CANISTER SETS, Chrome Top	7.95	3.79	2.88	2.44
2	CAKE PLATE AND COVER, PLASTIC	3.95	1.88	1.44	1.22
4	PARTY PERK, Glass—8 Cup	3.95	1.86	1.44	1.22
5	ROUND POKER CHIP RACKS, Revolving	4.95	1.88	1.44	1.22
9	LONG POKER CHIP RACK	3.95	1.66	1.44	1.11
14	OVAL POKER CHIP RACK	5.95	2.33	1.88	1.44
11	Cribbage Board, Deck of Cards, 100 Poker Chips, 5 Dice. Ideal for traveling kit	3.95	1.88	1.44	1.22
15	MICROSCOPES—With movable stage and light triple revolving turret. Inclinable up to 90 degrees	10.98	3.73	3.11	2.88
17	MICROSCOPES—Beginner's size. Reg. \$3.98	3.98	1.67	1.22	.99
6	GOOSE NECK DESK LAMPS, Brass Base	3.33	2.33	1.99	1.66
4	GOOSE NECK DESK LAMPS, Plastic Base	1.99	1.44	1.22	.99

  

ON HAND	ITEMS	REGULAR PRICE	SALE PRICE FRIDAY	SALE PRICE SATURDAY	SALE PRICE SUNDAY
12	AUTOMATIC VAPORIZERS, Plastic base, gal. cap.	8.95	3.88	3.22	2.88
23	POLYETHYLENE BABY BATH, With handy soap trav. Holds 24 quarts	3.95	1.44	1.22	.99
11	GOLDEN PALOMINO ROCKING HORSE, Regular \$11.95	11.95	5.44	4.99	4.44
8	Professional Type Badminton Sets, 4-player size. Complete with net, poles and shuttlecocks	8.98	4.66	3.99	3.44
2	Professional Type Badminton Sets, 4-player size. Complete with net, poles and shuttlecocks	9.95	5.22	4.77	4.22
2	Rapid Fire Gatling Gun—Shoots soft, safe play bullets automatically. Regular \$4.95	4.95	2.88	2.22	1.88
21	BONNIE BON TON DOLL, Regular \$3.95	10.95	4.88	4.22	3.77
27	DOLLS of All Types Reduced, Regular \$3.95	3.95	1.99	1.66	1.22
23	DOLLS, Regular \$5.95	5.95	3.33	2.88	2.44
8	DOLLS, Regular \$2.98	2.98	1.44	1.22	.99
9	NY-LINT PEPSI-COLA TRUCKS	5.95	3.66	2.99	2.66
24	DOLL STROLLERS, Regular \$3.95	2.95	1.77	1.33	.99
24	DOLL CARRIAGE, Regular \$3.95	2.95	1.77	1.33	.99
8	ALUMINUM CHRISTMAS TREE SETS, Regular \$17.95	17.95	6.66	5.44	4.66
16	ALUMINUM CHRISTMAS TREE SETS, Regular \$9.95	9.95	4.88	4.22	3.88
6	DOLL HIGH CHAIRS	3.95	2.44	1.99	1.66
11	CHRISTMAS WREATHS, Extra Large Size—Reg. \$5.98	5.95	2.22	1.99	1.77
12	CHRISTMAS WREATHS, Large Size—Reg. \$2.95	2.95	1.44	1.22	.99
7	TENNIS SHOES, Misses Sizes	2.00	1.44	1.22	.99
117	TENNIS SHOES, Ladies Sizes	2.95	1.88	1.44	1.11
8	MEN'S WALLETS	5.95	2.22	1.99	1.66
23	MEN'S WALLETS	4.50	2.22	1.88	1.44
12	MEN'S WALLETS	7.50	2.99	2.44	2.22
5	LUGGAGE 2 SUITER	9.95	3.88	3.22	2.99
3	ELECTRIC CAN OPENER	14.95	7.44	6.88	5.88

MURRY! HURRY! HURRY! There Will Absolutely Be NO MORE when these are all gone!