

## GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES

Firearms can be very dangerous if misused. When purchasing a firearm you assume a great responsibility in its use, storage and transportation. Listed below are some guidelines which should be strictly observed.

1. Handle all firearms as if they are loaded.
2. Be thoroughly familiar with the firearm before firing.
3. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction so if accidental discharge should occur only minor property damage would result.
4. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are on target and have decided to fire.
5. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it, including the backstop. Make certain shots fired present no safety hazard for yourself or others.
6. Never allow anyone to use your firearm who is not completely familiar with its operation.
7. Whenever the firearm is not actually in use, make certain it is unloaded.
8. Secure all firearms and ammunition from access by unauthorized persons, including children.
9. Always use eye and hearing protection when shooting any firearm or when near firearms being fired.
10. In the event of a misfire (hangfire) keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Wait approximately 30 seconds before opening the action. Discard the faulty cartridge and inspect the bolt, chamber, and bore for damage or obstruction before firing is resumed.
11. Clean the area after a shooting session. Do not leave spent casings, empty cartridge boxes, bullet ridden targets or the like behind.

MADE IN POLAND

# POLISH MODEL P-64 PISTOL MANUAL



by D.R. Morse

## FOREWORD

Political and economic forces brought the once powerful United Soviet Socialist Republic to a dramatic, if not dignified, end. However, in wake of the USSR's passage, some remarkable things did happen to the world of firearms. Many firearms once only known to serious collectors, or fortunate war veterans, are now not uncommon at gun shops and gun shows throughout the United States. Aficionados should enjoy this relative abundance while it lasts. The forces of anti-gun politics and limited numbers will bring an end to ready and inexpensive availability all too soon.

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## BACKGROUND

Poland has designed and manufactured many fine military weapons. In the area of handguns, the Radom is a famous Polish pistol. This 9mm sidearm might even be better than the famous Browning P-35 design pistol, having a less violent recoil and less wear to moving parts than the famous Hi-Power. Prior to World War II, Radoms were of excellent quality, and are sought by collectors today with much enthusiasm.

World War II found Poland quickly occupied by German forces, and weapons production performed by forced labor under Nazi control. Quality of course suffered. The ending of WWII resulted in Soviet control of this poorly treated country. Weapons design was influenced by Iron Curtain restrictions.

By the late 1950's, the Polish Army desired a new sidearm. The Russian Tokarov TT-33 pistol was then the standard issue pistol for the Polish forces.

Wanting some independence from the Soviet Union, they chose not to simply adopt the USSR Makarov, but desired to develop a weapon of their own design. A team of Polish army officers gathered to give birth to this new pistol. Initially, the officers were divided upon two variations of a basic design, called the CZAK (an acronym of the designers last names). Prototypes of the two variants were made for testing. One was dubbed the model "M" (milicyjny - police model), the other model "W" (wojskowy - military model).

These models differed in external dimensions and magazine capacity — the military model had a longer barrel and 7rd magazine capacity. Testing, evaluation and bureaucracy saw to the final decision being delayed until 1961, when the CZAK Model M was chosen to replace the Tokarov TT-33 as the standard Polish service pistol for the military, police and security agencies. By the middle 1960's production started on a pistol officially designated the " 9mm pistolet wz. 1964 (9mm pistol model 1964).

The P-64 pistol chambered the standard Soviet 9x18mm cartridge, then common to the Soviet Makarov pistol. The Model P-64 pistol was of blowback operation, with a double action trigger mechanism. Though similar in some ways to the Makarov and the Walther PP, and sometimes erroneously described as a PP clone, the P-64 is neither. It was designed by Polish engineers from scratch borrowing features from both sources. The P-64 is more compact than the PP and fires a more powerful (9x18mm) cartridge than the PP.

