

TRANSLATION OF AN EXTRACT FROM A LETTER

BY MR. GEORG LUGER TO H. TAUSCHER.

Dated, Berlin, January 14, 1906.

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**** Since you have seen them, the projectiles have been slightly changed, in so far that, for the purpose of preventing the jacket from being stripped off from the other part, which occurred a several times, - the projectiles have been crimped and the other part has been so changed that an absolutely incontestible patent will be obtained! It is, of course, understood, that the precision of the shot with the new projectile, beyond the usual range of pistol shots, is not like that of the regular solid projectile, thereagainst, however, is the stepping-effect on human beings far beyond that of the largest revolver, and in the opinion of our military authorities, especially when fired in close proximity, where the projectiles strike while still coherent, spreading upon impact and separating only within the body, thus producing the greatest nervous shock, caused particularly by the tearing effect of the sharp edges of the posterior part, and incapacitating the enemy like a stroke of lightning. Anything absolutely more complete cannot be imagined for this purpose.

It is advisable that you arrange that cartridges and pistols will be placed only in the most expert hands for the tests. In regard to the pistol, I have nothing further to add, as you are thoroughly informed in this connection. Only the trigger-pull is slightly different from the two pistols you received, as the point at which the discharge occurs is selected more favorably. This pistol is surely the most perfect hand-fire-arm now in existence or

pistol over the old revolver. It requires a good deal of density and goes to prove that there are persons far from understanding that modern means of fighting require modern tactics!

The circumstance, that smokeless powder does not, like black powder, mask the movements of advance troops or betray the defensive positions, whence the firing originates, necessitates operations and surprises during the night. In such operations the small, handy pistol is of more value against the enemy than the rifle, inasmuch as it does not, in the darkness, endanger ones own troops which may be stationed farther away. All this has been sufficiently proven by the Russo-Japanese war! Furthermore, such an arm is an offensive one. Relying upon its trustworthiness, the bearer of such a pistol, will be inspired to take the initiative, that is, he will advance upon the enemy with altogether greater courage than he would be likely to do with a sword or an old-fashioned revolver, and the recoil of which always makes hitting an uncertainty! As was demonstrated in the recent war, victory only comes to the dashing, death-defying offensive, and even the bayonet, as ultima ratio, comes more into play than formerly. With such an automatic pistol to rely upon, an officer will charge at the head of his soldiers with increased courage, thus also instilling greater courage in his subordinates. The knowledge alone to have in one's possession a modern fire-arm, even if it were only of equal efficiency with the old, stimulates a sense of security, while the old means standing still and therefore retrogression. I wonder do they recognize this in the U.S.?

Meanwhile the governments of Chili, Brazil and Portugal have ordered large quantities of our automatic pistols. The latter

country, based upon the experience of its officers -who have used our automatic pistol in the fights with the rebels in Africa,- has adopted the small caliber. The German officers who have also had occasion to use the small caliber in the African colonies, are full of praise for the pistol. Of course, the principal condition is to be able to HIT, HIT and HIT STRAIGHT!

Now then, my dear Mr. Tauscher, I wish you luck, for you have the most perfect and powerful weapon, which, in fair competition with, no matter what arms, will prove its absolute superiority!