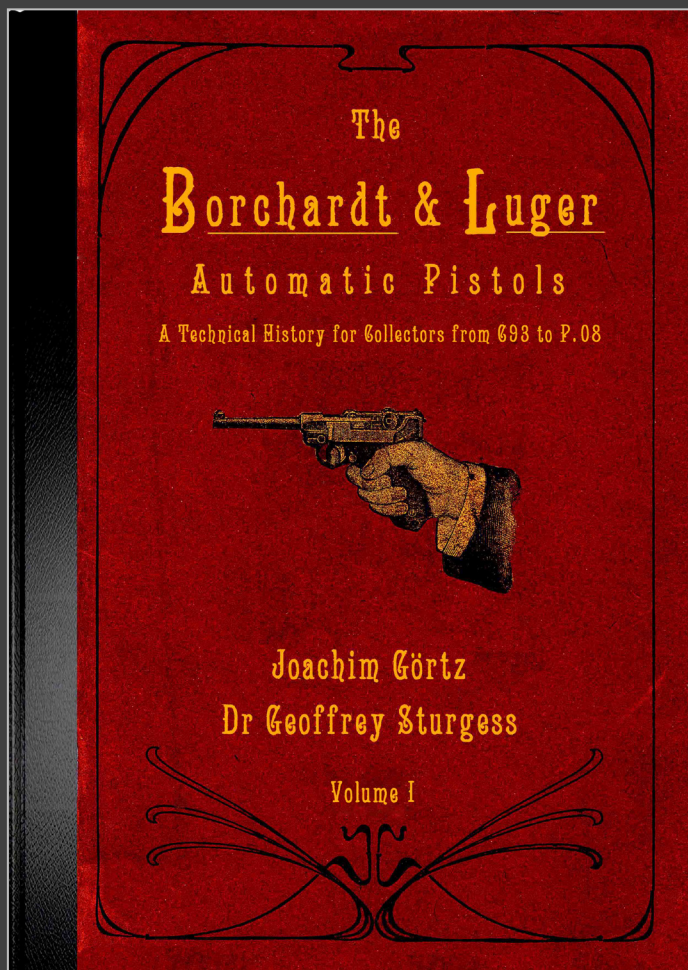


The Borchardt & Luger Automatic Pistols

A Technical History for Collectors from C93 to P.08

Joachim Görtz & Dr Geoffrey Sturgess



The authors' original manuscript, fully revised, corrected and expanded with much new material, is now presented as initially intended by the authors.

This is the most accurate and complete description of the history of these iconic collectors' pistols ever published. With 1900 pages and over 7000 individual photographs, laid out in 1700 illustrations, its three quarters of a million words give a series of clear, logically progressive, fully illustrated chronologies for every aspect of the history of the development, testing, production and military & civilian usage of the pistols of Hugo Borchardt and Georg Luger.

Based upon Joachim Görtz's definitive German language study, published in 2000, *Die Pistole 08*, still unparalleled in its historical accuracy, which described the German service history of the Parabellum pistol as the P.04, P.08 & IP.08, this new work adds the history of the ground-breaking Borchardt C93 pistol and its place among its contemporary late 19th C competitors. The critical military trials that led to Luger's development of the Parabellum and its early adoption by the Swiss Army are described in full detail, based upon Swiss and other archives, as was the German edition based upon German military archives. Every effort has been made to verify the historical accuracy of the facts presented, and the numerous factual errors of earlier publications have been corrected.

The book goes on to describe the work of Luger with the German Navy and the Army's Rifle Proving Commission to develop the Naval P.04 and the Army's P.08 and IP.08, the Artillery Luger, the adoption of variants of these pistols by various countries, as well as

the huge variety of accoutrements and accessories produced for its various roles. The various manufacturers involved, DWM, Erfurt, Simson, Krieghoff, Mauser, Vickers and W+F Bern, their variants of the pistols and their contracts are analysed and compared in depth. A greatly expanded and very detailed Chapter comprehensively describes the development and identification of all the ammunition types developed for the pistols by their users, commercial and military, with much new and previously unpublished material. A full listing of all Luger's and Borchardt's Patents is included, with all of significance illustrated

To assist in exposing the problem of faking of rarer variations, regrettably widespread in this field, genuine examples of many rare Parabellum variants are illustrated and described in forensic detail, and a full description of the chronology of mechanical development and internal factory inspection markings is given, allowing anachronistic faked "variants" to be readily identified by the collector. To further assist the collector in identifying modified and refinished components, fully dimensioned sets of the original factory manufacturing and inspection drawings of all major variants (Old & New Models, P.08, IP.08) are also now included.

The book is presented as 24 Chapters, following the format of the original German edition, each a logically arranged and easily followed historical chronology of the various aspects of the personalities, official organisations and manufacturers involved, and of the development, production and repair systems, inspection and markings of the pistols themselves. The internal factory and official state organisations and systems, their working interactions and regulations are described in great detail to assist understanding of how, when and why all markings which should, or should not, be on a particular type of pistol came to be applied. The full Contents and the Subject Index are included in each Volume, clearly indicating to both which Volume and page the reader must refer for all topics.



The standard edition is a three volume deluxe hardcover set, bound in leatherette and card to echo the early 1902 edition of the English language operating manual for the Parabellum. It is carried in an easy access cut-away slipcase, which readily allows each Volume to be removed and replaced without taking the case from the bookshelf. Bound in with the books are two DVDs, one a pdf e-book version of the printed books giving enhanced rapid access to the large volume of information presented, the other a professional video of the early development history of the pistols, showing many of the very rare pistols mentioned throughout the book in action on the range. Also shown are exceptionally accurate animations explaining very precisely the actions of the Borchardt and Parabellum, as well as expert opinions on Luger's pistol and its place in 20th C military history.

The pdf e-book version is fully book-marked for instant one click access to any Chapter or its sub-headings, which are self-explanatory and factually descriptive of their subject matter. All cross-references to illustrations or text in other parts of the book are live links which, with a single mouse click, display the cross reference, and will return with a key-

stroke. The pdf file has an embedded electronic index, allowing instantaneous text searching for any word or phrase through the whole book, either sequentially or by displaying all occurrences. All illustrations are originally new, high resolution digital photos or scans of documents and have been kept at their full resolution in the e-book. This allows zooming to view the smallest details, most illustrations permitting 600 – 800% magnification on screen without pixellation, a very significant step beyond what can be seen on the printed page, which would need to be poster sized to show comparable detail.

The **Contents** and **Chapter Titles** are:

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