

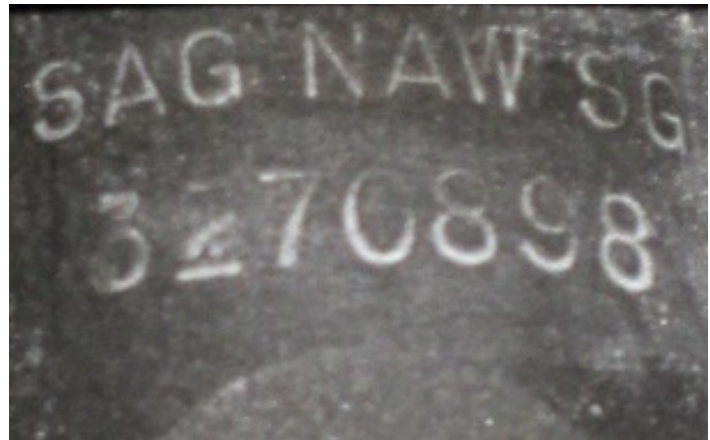
**SAGINAW MARKING ERRORS REVISITED...by Louis Losi**

Newsletter 375 featured this photo of a SAGNAW marked carbine that Charlie Brickett had purchased from CMP. Note that there is no space for the letter I. How could this error have occurred, and how many carbines were marked this way before someone noticed?



I once owned a similarly marked SG carbine, but mine had a space for the letter I. That space is smooth, with no impression from a broken-off die.

A possible explanation for both of these errors would be that Saginaw used a stamping die made up of individual “type face” letters, that were clamped together in a jig, rather than a specially-manufactured one-piece die.



In the top example, the letter I was accidentally left out, or perhaps fell out before the letters were clamped into the jig. In the bottom example, the letter I was accidentally inserted into the jig bottom side up, leaving no impression when the jig was applied to the receiver.

Those of us who are old enough to remember “Print Shop” in high school will recall the difficulty in handling the small pieces of type-face, and clamping them into dies. Note also that two different fonts were used in the marking of these two receivers. The letters S, G, N, and W are all slightly different.

Both of these errors would be easy to miss in poor light, with aging eyes, and possibly hidden by an adjustable rear sight. Readers, take a closer look at your carbines. Do you have any with marking errors?

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