Contacts

Beretta USA

17601 Beretta Drive Accokeek, MD 20607 Tele: 301-283-2191 Fax: 301-283-0435

North American Arms, Inc.

2150 South 950 East Provo, UT 84606 Tele: 801-374-9990 Fax: 801-374-9998

L.W. Seecamp Co., Inc.

P.O. Box 255

New Haven, CT 06502

on the barrel release, a lever at the front top of the left grip panel. The magazine release was a button located in the left grip panel, toward the bottom. We had to depress this control with the fingers of our support hand, but the Tomcat's other controls could be operated with the thumb of the firing (right) hand.

Handling

All of these pocket pistols had grips that were so short they could be grasped with only about 1-1/2 mid-size fingers. So, none of them were very well suited for people with large hands.

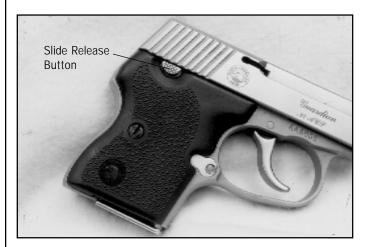
In our opinion, the Seecamp LWS-32 did not sit in the hand very well. Consequently, pointing and target acquisition were the least natural of the test. The grip's shorter depth (from front to back) made it

PERFORMANCE TABLE				
	Seecamp	NAA	Beretta	
Winchester 60-gr. Silvertip	LWS-32	Guardian	Tomcat	
Average Velocity at 15 ft.	828 fps	846 fps	881 fps	
Standard Deviation	12 fps	21 fps	22 fps	
Average Muzzle Energy	91 ft-lbs	95 ft-lbs	103 ft-lbs	
Smallest Group at 3/7 yds.	4.00 inches*	3.88 inches	2.00 inches	
Largest Group Size	6.00 inches*	4.50 inches	2.50 inches	
Average Group Size	5.20 inches*	4.05 inches	2.25 inches	
Remington 71-gr. MC				
Average Velocity at 15 ft.	N/A	840 fps	858 fps	
Standard Deviation	N/A	7 fps	12 fps	
Average Muzzle Energy	N/A	111 ft-lbs	116 ft-lbs	
Smallest Group at 7 yds.	N/A	4.00 inches	1.25 inches	
Largest Group Size	N/A	4.38 inches	2.00 inches	
Average Group Size	N/A	4.13 inches	1.48 inches	
Winchester 71-gr. FMJ			l	
Average Velocity at 15 ft.	N/A	814 fps	768 fps	
Standard Deviation	N/A	14 fps	12 fps	
Average Muzzle Energy	N/A	105 ft-lbs	93 ft-lbs	
Smallest Group at 7 yds.	N/A	3.50 inches	0.63 inches	
Largest Group Size	N/A	4.25 inches	1.25 inches	
Average Group Size	N/A	4.00 inches	1.00 inches	

*The Seecamp was fired at 3 yards due to its lack of sights, while the other pistols were fired at 7 yards. fps=feet per second. ft-lbs=foot-pounds.

difficult to grasp securely, especially for those with very large hands. The trigger reach (the distance from the middle of the frame's frontstrap to the middle of the backstrap) was the shortest, and most shooters said it was too short for good trigger control. There wasn't much of a tang (the protruding top back portion of the frame) to separate the web of the shooter's hand from the slide during its rearward movement, but slide bite wasn't a problem.

We found the NAA Guardian's handling qualities to be a little better than those of the Seecamp. Balance and pointing were a bit more natural. The grip's greater depth filled the hand better, making it easier to establish and maintain a solid grasp. This, in turn, improved the shooter's ability to control the pistol during recoil. The slightly longer trigger reach allowed a more favorable finger position. The frame's tang was large





Left: Depressing the NAA Guardian's slide release button allows the slide to be removed. Right: The Seecamp LWS-32's slide is released by inserting a pin punch into a hole in the left side of the slide and depressing the slide retaining plunger.