Owner's Manual

FAL SEMI-AUTO SPORTER RIFLE

Cal. .308 WIN.

Congratulations on your purchase of the FAL Rifle. With proper care and handling, it will give you long, reliable service. The FAL is a semi-automatic rifle chambered for the .308 Winchester cartridge (7.62x51mm / 7.62 NATO).

We specifically disclaim any responsibility for damage or injury whatsoever, occurring as a result of the use of faulty, non-standard or remanufactured ammunition, any modifications or changes made to the firearm; improper use or unsafe handling of the firearm.

FIREARMS SAFETY IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SHOOTER. ALWAYS TREAT ALL FIREARMS AS IF THEY WERE LOADED AT ALL TIMES!

IMPORTANT!

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS IN THIS BOOKLET BEFORE USING THIS FIREARM.

If there is any aspect of the owner's manual or how to safely operate the firearm that you do not understand, contact Century International Arms, Inc., your firearms dealer, or seek training from a professional qualified in the safe handling of firearms of this type BEFORE you handle, load, or use this firearm.

IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGE

Children are attracted to and can operate firearms which can cause severe injuries or death. Prevent child access by always keeping guns locked away and unloaded when not in use. If you keep a loaded firearm where a child obtains and improperly uses it, you may be fined or sent to prison**.**

Firearm Safety Depends on You

A gun is only as safe as the person operating it. You can never be overly careful when handling a firearm. Carelessness is often the cause of shooting accidents, such as failing to keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, not being sure of your target and what is behind it, failing to properly engage the safety, leaving ammunition in the chamber or using improper loads. Since a bullet can never be called back once fired, such errors in gun handling can result in the loss of life, severe injury or property damage thus, it is crucial for your safety and the safety of those around you that you learn the principles of safe gun handling and storage before you begin to use your new firearm. Be a safe shooter - please read this instruction book thoroughly even if this is not your first firearm purchase as not all firearms are the same. The first step in being a safe shooter is to learn the rules for the safe operation and handling of firearms. **There is nothing more important in gun handling than safety.**

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF FIREARM SAFETY

The Ten Commandments of Firearm Safety must be etched into your memory before you begin to handle firearms. These rules are intended to be followed by all persons handling firearms in the field, on the range or at home. Please read, review and understand these rules before you begin to use or even take your new firearm out of its box. Remember, firearms safety depends on you! Memorizing these safety rules will help prevent gun accidents. Please study these safety rules before handling your firearm.

Commandment #1

Always Keep the Muzzle Pointed in a Safe Direction

This is the most basic and most important safety rule. A safe direction is one in which an accidental discharge will not cause injury to yourself, to others or property damage. This is particularly important when loading or unloading your firearm. Never point your gun at anything you do not intend to shoot. Treat every gun as if it were loaded at all times.

Commandment #2

Firearms Should Be Unloaded When Not Actually in Use

Firearms should only be loaded when you are in the field or on the target range or shooting area, ready to shoot. When not in use, firearms and ammunition should be secured in a safe place, separate from each other. Remember to unload your firearm completely so that there is no ammunition in the chamber or magazine. Before handling this or any firearm, or handing it to someone else, visually check the chamber and magazine to ensure they do not contain ammunition. Always keep the gun's action open when not in use. Never assume a gun is unloaded - even if you were the last person to use it. Never cross a fence, climb a tree, wade through a stream or perform any awkward movement with a loaded gun. When in doubt, unload your gun! Never pull or push a loaded firearm

toward yourself or another person. Never carry a loaded gun in a scabbard, a holster not being worn or a gun case - common sense prevails in gun safety!

Commandment #3

Don't Completely Rely on Your Gun's Safety

Treat every gun as though it could fire at any time, even if you are not applying pressure to the trigger. The "safety" on a firearm is a mechanical device which, like any such device, can become inoperable at the worst possible time and fail to function. By mistake, you may think the safety is "ON" when it actually is not. Or you may think your gun is unloaded when there is actually a round of ammunition in it. The safety serves as a supplement to proper gun handling but cannot serve as a substitute for common sense. Never handle a gun carelessly and assume that the gun won't fire just because "the safety is on." Never touch the firearm's trigger until you are ready to shoot. Keep your fingers away from the trigger when loading or unloading. Never pull the trigger when the safety is engaged or when the safety is positioned between the "SAFE" and "FIRE" positions. Never place your finger on the trigger unless you intend to fire.

Alcohol, Drugs and Guns Don't Mix. Make No Mistake About It!

Never handle firearms after consuming alcohol or taking drugs that can affect your judgment. Shoot sober! Alcohol, certain kinds of drugs and firearms don't mix. Safe firearms handling requires alertness and concentration on one's actions. You cannot handle a firearm safely after consuming alcohol. Never consume anything that can impair your judgment or physical coordination when handling a firearm.

Commandment #4

Be Sure of Your Target - And What Is Beyond It!

Once fired, a bullet (or shot charge) can never be called back; so before you shoot, know where the bullet is going and what it will strike. Be certain your shot will not injure someone or strike something beyond the target. Never fire in the direction of noise, a movement or at any object you cannot positively identify. Be aware that a .22 Short bullet can travel over 1 ¼ miles. A centerfire cartridge, such as the .30-06, can send its bullet over 3 miles. Shotgun pellets can travel 500 yards and a shotgun slug has a range of over a half mile. Make sure your shot has a safe backstop such as a hillside. Keep in mind how far the bullet will travel if it misses your intended target. Once fired, a bullet can never be called back. You are responsible for your actions and judgment.

Commandment #5

Use the Correct Ammunition

Every firearm is designed to use a certain caliber or gauge of ammunition. It is important that you use the correct ammunition for your firearm. Information on the correct ammunition to use with your firearm appears in the firearm's instruction manual and the manufacturer's markings on the firearm itself. Use of the wrong ammunition, improperly reloaded ammunition or corroded ammunition can result in the destruction of the firearm, serious personal injury and/or death. Form the habit of examining every round of ammunition before you put it into your gun to ensure it is of the proper gauge or caliber and that it is in good condition.

Commandment #6

If Your Gun Fails to Fire When the Trigger Is Pulled, Handle With Care
If a cartridge or shell does not fire when the trigger is pulled, follow Commandment #1 and keep the firearm's muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Keep the muzzle down range with the action closed and wait at least 30 seconds (to ensure that the ammunition is not delayed in firing) before carefully opening the action, unloading the firearm and safely disposing of the ammunition.

Commandment #7

Always Wear Eye and Ear Protection When Shooting
Exposure to shooting noise can permanently damage hearing. Flying debris, such as powder residue and ejected cartridge cases, can injure your eyes. Thus, it is only common sense to wear both eye protection (such as shooting glasses) and ear protection (such as a sound-muffling headset) whenever shooting. Also, wear eye protection when cleaning or disassembling your gun to ensure that cleaning solvent and tensioned parts (such as springs) do not come into contact with your eyes.

Commandment #8

Be Sure the Barrel Is Clear of Obstructions Before Shooting
Discharging a firearm with an obstruction in the barrel can result in personal injury, property damage and/or death. Before you load your firearm, check the chamber and magazine to ascertain that no ammunition is inside. Also, check the inside of the barrel (called the "bore") to ensure it is free of obstructions. Even a small amount of mud, snow or excess lubricating oil or grease in the bore can cause excessive pressures resulting in a bulged or burst barrel which can injure or kill the shooter and bystanders. It is a good idea to make a habit of cleaning the bore and checking for obstructions with a cleaning rod just before each shooting session. If the noise or recoil experienced upon firing seems low or weak, or something doesn't feel "right," cease firing immediately and check to make sure that there is no obstruction in the barrel. Placing an undersized shell or cartridge into a gun (such as a 20 gauge shell in a shotgun chambered for 12 gauge ammunition) can result in the smaller round of ammunition falling into the barrel and acting as an obstruction. When a round is subsequently fired, the barrel may burst, causing injury to the shooter and bystanders. For reference, re-read Commandment #5.

Commandment #9

Do Not Alter or Modify Your Gun and Have It Serviced Regularly
Firearms are complex mechanisms that are designed to function properly in their original condition. Any alterations or changes made to a firearm after its manufacture can make the gun unsafe and will void its warranty. Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others by altering the trigger, mechanical safety or other mechanisms of your firearm. You should have your firearm periodically checked for proper functioning and serviced by a qualified gunsmith.

Commandment #10

Learn the Mechanical and Handling Characteristics of Your Firearm
Not all firearms operate the same way. The method of carrying, handling and operating firearms varies with the mechanical characteristics of each gun. Thus, you

should never handle any firearm until you become familiar with the safe handling, loading, unloading and carrying procedures for that particular firearm, as well as the rules for safe gun handling in general.

LEAD WARNING!

Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms or handling ammunition may result in exposure to lead and other substances known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm and other serious injuries. Have adequate ventilation at all times when shooting. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure.

Basics of Safe Gun Handling

1. Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
2. Firearms should be unloaded when not actually in use.
3. Don't totally rely on your gun's safety.
4. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.
5. Use the correct ammunition for your firearm.
6. If your gun fails to fire when the trigger is pulled, handle with care.
7. Always wear eye and ear protection when shooting and cleaning.
8. Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions before shooting.
9. Don't alter or modify your firearm and have your firearm(s) serviced regularly.
10. Learn the mechanics and handling characteristics of the firearm you are using.

Safe gun handling depends on you! A safe shooter is a knowledgeable shooter.

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

The FAL Rifle is manufactured from surplus and new firearm parts. As with all surplus firearms, it should be carefully inspected before use, preferably by a competent gunsmith! This is to ensure your safety and the safety of those around you.

Safety Rules and Precautions for Firing and Use of the FAL

WARNING! Keep the FAL's safety lever engaged in the "SAFE" ("S") position until you are aimed at a proper target and you have decided to fire. Failure to do so could cause serious injury or death.

WARNING! Use the FAL's safety lever, but don't trust or rely on it as a substitute for safe gun handling practices. The safety is a mechanical device which could fail. Or, by mistake, you may think the safety is on when it is not. Or the safety may become disengaged without your knowledge. Or you could think your gun is unloaded when there is a cartridge in it. Always follow the safe gun handling rules and procedures in this manual, whether you think the safety is on or off, and whether you think the rifle is loaded or unloaded. Don't pull the trigger when the safety is engaged, or when it is positioned part way between "SAFE" ("S") and "FIRE" ("F"). Don't use or rely on the safety lever to try to "childproof" your rifle or keep it safe from untrained persons – instead, your rifle should be unloaded and securely locked up, out of access of children and other unauthorized users.

WARNING! Keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until you are aimed at a proper target and have decided to fire. Failure to do so could cause serious injury or death.

WARNING! So that the rifle may be used as a single loader, it will fire whether or not a magazine is in the gun if a cartridge is in the chamber. Removing the magazine does not unload the rifle, and does not prevent the rifle from firing! A round left in the chamber after the magazine is removed can cause serious injury or death if the trigger is pulled! Unload your rifle properly, including checking the chamber both visually and physically.

WARNING! When firing the FAL, keep away (and keep others away) from the right side of the rifle. Fired cartridge cases eject (are thrown from the rifle) with considerable force from the ejection port on the right side of the rifle, and could cause serious injury, including but not limited to eye injury, if they strike a person.

WARNING! Fired cartridge cases ejected from the FAL are extremely hot, and can cause serious burns. In addition, the painful burn from a hot cartridge case can distract a shooter from keeping his firearm pointed safely and from other safe handling practices, causing a dangerous situation or an accident. When firing, stay clear, and keep others clear, of the right side of the rifle, from which the hot cartridge cases are ejected.

WARNING! Keep hands, fingers and other body parts from touching the muzzle, barrel, ejection port area or chamber after firing, as they could be burned by hot metal.

WARNING! If dropped or struck, whether the safety is "ON" or "OFF," the rifle may fire, causing serious injury or death. Keep the chamber empty unless actually firing! Keep the safety "ON" ("S") unless actually firing! When carrying or handling the rifle, keep it pointed in a safe direction, and carry it in such a way that you can safely control the direction in which the rifle points even if you should slip, stumble or fall. See other safety warnings regarding carrying or transporting the rifle in an unloaded condition, unloading the rifle before crossing obstacles or areas with poor footing, etc.

- Never transport or carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle or otherwise. Always transport or carry your rifle unloaded, with the safety engaged ("S") and the action locked open. A suitable carrying case should be used to transport or carry your unloaded rifle to and from the range or other safe shooting area. Check the laws to determine and follow legal requirements in transporting a firearm in your jurisdiction. Close the rifle's action and load the rifle only when you are at the range or other safe shooting area, ready to begin shooting.

- Never climb a fence, ladder, tree or other object, jump across a brook or ditch, crawl under a fence or other obstacle, walk across an icy surface, steep slope or other area with poor footing, or cross other slippery or precarious terrain or obstacles with a loaded firearm. Instead, unload your firearm first. When carrying your rifle in the field keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and carry the rifle so you can safely control the direction in which it points in the event you stumble, slip or fall.

- Never shoot at a hard surface (rock, pavement, metal, ice, etc.) or at the surface of water, as the bullet may ricochet (glance off) the surface and travel in any direction, causing serious injury or death to someone you cannot see. Shoot

only where there is a safe backstop (one which will safely stop and contain the fired bullets), free from rocks, hard objects and obstructions that could cause ricochets or splash-back of bullets, fragments, pebbles or rock particles. Check local and state laws to be sure shooting is permitted at the place you intend to shoot.

- When shooting, be alert to be sure no one comes into the line of fire. Check the backstop and target area carefully to be sure it is free of people each time before you begin to fire.

- When firing with a group of people, put a responsible person in charge to maintain safety, discipline and control to reduce the chance of accidents.

- On a firing range, be alert to the commands of the range officer, and follow them precisely and immediately.

- Do not handle a firearm when anyone is forward of the firing position. Before anyone moves downrange to post or check targets or for any other purpose, all firearms should be unloaded, with safeties engaged and actions locked open, and placed safely on the bench where they should not be touched or handled until everyone returns from downrange.

- Do not handle firearms when you are tired, cold or impaired physically or mentally, in any way.

- Never fire your rifle near an animal, unless it is trained to accept the noise of gunfire. An animal's startled reaction to the sound of gunfire could injure it or could cause an accident.

- Never continue to use your rifle if it is not functioning properly. Never force a jammed action, as the jammed cartridge may explode if the primer is crushed or pressed against any metal part of the rifle or against another cartridge.

- Use only appropriate accessories for your FAL Rifle. Be sure all accessories, including slings, ammunition carriers, sights and sight mounts, lighting devices, etc. are compatible with the firearm and do not interfere with its safe operation.

WARNING! Most ammunition and cartridge primers contain lead, which is a toxic (poisonous) substance! With most types of ammunition, shooting a firearm produces vapor and particles of lead, which is a toxic (poisonous) substance. Especially (but not only) in poorly ventilated range areas, breathing air which contains the lead vapor and particles is harmful to one's health, and can result in lead poisoning. Pregnant women, unborn fetuses, nursing mothers, infants and young children are especially susceptible to the risks of lead ingestion. Handling, firing and cleaning firearms, and handling ammunition, empty cartridge cases, target frames and other range equipment can deposit lead on one's hands and face, which can then be ingested (swallowed) if one drinks, eats or chews gum or tobacco products without first washing the hands and face. Lead poisoning can result in brain damage, nervous system disorders, digestive ailments, birth defects, and other serious physical effects or death. Shoot only in well ventilated areas. Minimize the period of time you remain on indoor shooting ranges, leaving when you are done firing. Do not eat, drink,

chew, smoke, or engage in any other hand-to-mouth activity while shooting. Wash the hands and face thoroughly with soap and cool water as soon as you are finished shooting, and before eating or drinking. Do not collect fired brass in your hat, or put fired brass in your pockets. When you return from shooting, especially on an indoor range, change and wash your clothing. Do not allow children to handle or play with fired cases, shooting equipment, range bags, or shooting clothing. Consider using rubber gloves when cleaning firearms, to prevent lead and solvent from being absorbed into your skin. Wash thoroughly with soap and cool water after cleaning firearms. Take proper precautions if you reload ammunition or cast lead bullets. If you notice any symptoms or believe you may have been exposed to excessive amounts of lead, consult your physician.

Ammunition

The FAL Rifle is chambered for the .308 Winchester cartridge, which is also called the 7.62x51mm or the 7.62 NATO. The ammunition box, and the head of each cartridge, should be marked with the designation ".308" or "7.62x51." The use of any cartridges other than these in the FAL Rifle is unsafe, and could cause damage to the rifle, serious personal injury or death.

Use only high quality, new, clean, dry, jacketed ammunition in excellent condition, in the proper caliber for the rifle. Never use damaged, corroded or otherwise defective ammunition, ammunition which is dirty, wet, dented or deformed or in which the bullet has been pushed back into the cartridge case, or other ammunition of questionable quality, age or origin. The use of reloaded, "re-manufactured" or hand-loaded ammunition, unjacketed lead ammunition or any ammunition which is not manufactured to SAAMI (Sporting Arms and Manufacturers Institute) or NATO standards, will void the warranty and may be unsafe, possibly causing damage to the rifle, serious personal injury or death. Keep ammunition dry, and free of oil, solvent, or grease. Firing ammunition with oil, solvent or grease on it can cause dangerously high pressure, with possible damage to the firearm, serious injury or death. Oils and solvents can also penetrate ammunition, causing misfires.

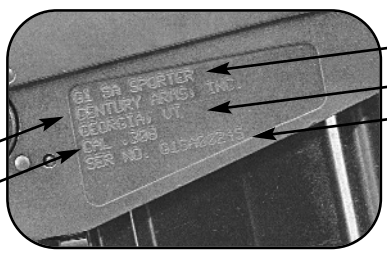
General Description

The FAL (Fusil Automatique Leger or light automatic rifle) was the main battle rifle of most NATO forces during the "Cold War" years. It was adopted by nearly 60 countries under various model designations [L1A1 (Great Britain), R1A1 (So. Africa), STG 58 (Germany), FAL (Turkey), ect.]. All of these models share a common design model and vary only in minor areas (sights, furniture, accessories, inch/metric system of manufacture). The rifle is a semi-automatic (self loading), gas operated, magazine fed rifle. Gas pressure generated by a fired cartridge is diverted from the barrel to drive a piston rearward to actuate the bolt. The bolt is driven rearward extracting the spent cartridge from the chamber and ejecting it from the gun. On it's return cycle, a fresh cartridge is stripped from the magazine and fed into the chamber. The rifle is now ready to fire once again. The rifle has an adjustable gas system to compensate for variances in ammunition. The FAL system is very reliable has been battle proven in conflicts world wide.

Markings

The receiver is classified as the "firearm" by the BATF. All required markings are located on the side of the rifle.

Illustration #1

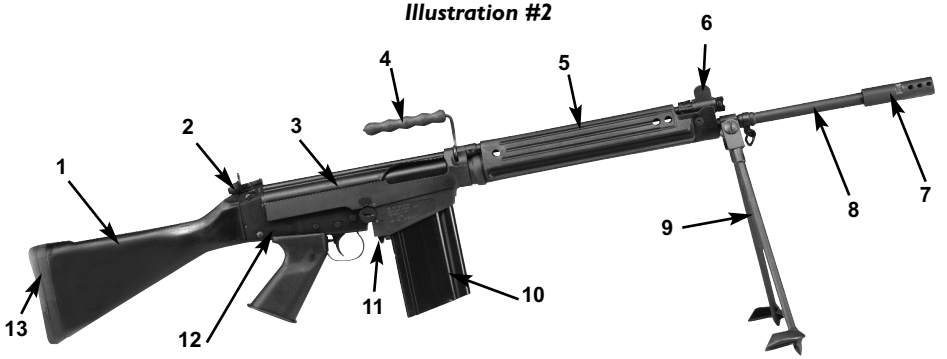


Detailed Description of Assemblies

Receiver

The receiver connects the barrel, cocking mechanism and sights, and is the housing that mounts all major assemblies. The receiver is classified as the "firearm" by the BATF. The cocking mechanism is located on the left side of the receiver and serves for cocking, loading the firearm and to secure the bolt in its rear position. The ejector (stationary), magazine release button and locking shoulder are contained on the receiver. The locking shoulder establishes the head spacing and is set at the factory. The barrel is timed, threaded and torqued into the receiver. The gas system consists of the gas block, gas piston, gas regulator, gas piston spring, gas piston housing and gas piston housing retaining nut. The sights consist of the front sight and rear peep sight. The front sight post is elevation adjustable and located atop the gas block. The handguard is attached to the upper assembly by means of a retaining shroud ring that traps both halves of the handguard at the receiver and a retaining bolt and nut through the gas block.

Illustration #2



1. Buttstock
2. Rear sight
3. Receiver
4. Carry handle
5. Handguard
6. Front sight/gas block
7. Flash hider
8. Barrel
9. Bipod
10. Magazine
11. Magazine catch
12. Lower receiver assembly (grip assembly)
13. Buttpad

Bolt Assembly

The bolt assembly consists of the bolt, extractor, extractor spring and locking bar, firing pin, firing pin spring, firing pin retaining pin and bolt carrier. The firing pin traps the firing pin spring in the bolt and is retained in the bolt by the firing pin retaining pin. The bolt head, with firing pin, is fit and loosely held into the carrier by way of mating features between the bolt and carrier.

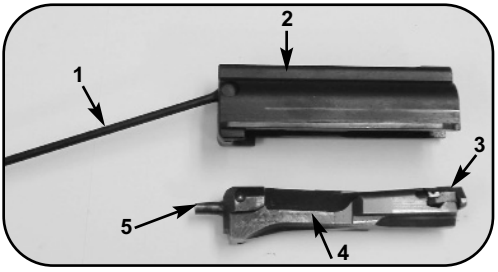


Illustration #3

1. Carrier rod
2. Bolt carrier
3. Extractor
4. Bolt
5. Firing pin

Grip Assembly

The grip assembly is hung from the receiver and can be removed from it. It houses the trigger assembly with hammer, trigger and the safety.

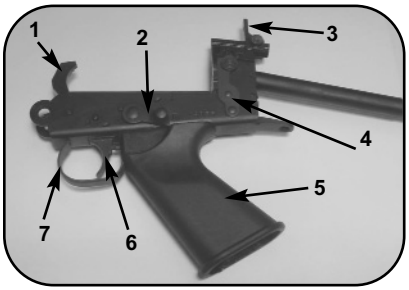


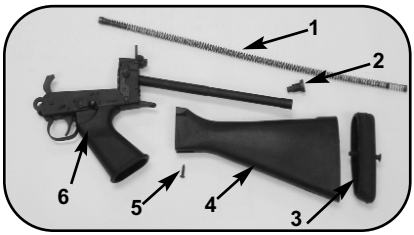
Illustration #4

1. Hammer
2. Safety selector lever
3. Rear sight
4. Receiver unlocking lever
5. Pistol grip
6. Trigger
7. Trigger guard

Buttstock

The fixed buttstock is attached to the grip assembly and houses the recoil spring (See Illustration #5). The tube on the rear of the grip assembly is inserted through the buttstock. The stock screw is inserted through the tang on the bottom rear of the grip assembly into the stock. The return springs are inserted into the tube and the return spring retaining screw is installed. ***NOTE: These springs are under high tension. Wear eye protection when installing or removing this screw!*** The buttpad is then fastened to the stock with its screw. Disassembly is done in reverse order.

Illustration #5

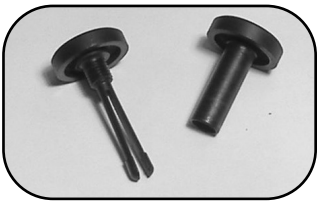


1. Return springs
2. Return spring retaining screw
3. Buttpad with screw
4. Buttstock
5. Stock screw
6. Grip assembly

Hinge Bolt/Nut

The hinge bolt/nut connects the lower and upper assembly through a mating "tongue and groove" like hinge joint. The bolt and nut when tightened allow the upper and lower assembly to hinge open. The joint formed by the bolt, nut, upper assembly "tongue" and lower assembly "groove" is generally finger tight (See Illustration #6).

Illustration #6



Receiver Cover

The receiver cover fits to the receiver via a groove. It is held to the receiver by a tight sliding fit between the groove in the receiver and projection (tongue) of the receiver cover. The receiver cover is laterally trapped between the front profile of the receiver and upright portion of the lower assembly when the upper and lower assembly is closed and locked (See Illustration #7).

Illustration #7

Magazine

The cartridges are fed from a 20 round magazine. It is locked into the receiver and released from the receiver via the magazine catch. The magazine is inserted into the magazine well at an angle and locked in by rotating it into position (See Illustration #8). ***NOTE: Use only high quality magazines that comply with the specifications for this firearm.***

Illustration #8

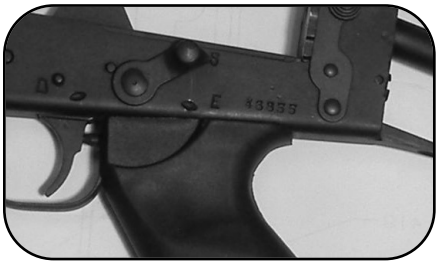
Handling and Operation

Safety Lever
The safety lever is located on the left side of the lower grip assembly and can be set at the "S" for "SAFE" or "F" for "FIRE". The position selected is only indicated on the left side of the lower assembly. Each position has a detent (See Illustrations #9 and #10).

Safe Position
Safe: Set safety lever at the "S" detent position (See Illustration #9). The trigger cannot be squeezed. However, the firearm can be loaded or unloaded while in the "SAFE" position.

Fire Position
Fire: Set the safety lever at the "F" detent position (See Illustration #10). The trigger can be pulled, allowing the rifle to fire (semi-auto, single shot per trigger pull).

Illustration #9



"SAFE" Position.

Illustration #10

"FIRE" Position.

WARNING! The safety lever should be kept engaged in the "SAFE" ("S") detent position at all times until the rifle is aimed at a proper target and you intend to fire. The rifle will FIRE if the safety lever is not COMPLETELY in the "SAFE" ("S") detent position.

WARNING! The safety lever is a mechanical device that, under some circumstances, can fail to operate properly to keep the firearm from firing. Use the safety lever, but never rely upon it as a substitute for safe firearm handling practices. Follow the safety rules in this manual at all times!

"Clearing" (or Unloading) the Firearm

"Clearing" the FAL Rifle means unloading it and checking to positively verify that it is unloaded and clear of any ammunition, with the safety lever engaged and the bolt locked to the rear. Thus, the same procedure is used for "Clearing" the rifle as for "Unloading" it. Except when actually being fired or about to be fired at a safe range or other shooting area, the FAL Rifle should be cleared whenever it is handled, inspected, transported, stored, taken from storage, handed from one person to another, prepared for being stripped or cleaned. To "Clear" (or Unload) the FAL, proceed as follows:

WARNING! While "Clearing" the rifle, follow all safety rules in this manual. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, and keep your fingers off the trigger and outside the trigger guard! Failure to do so may result in serious injury or death, due to an accidental discharge of the firearm!

1. Engage the safety lever by placing it in the "SAFE" ("S") position (See Illustration #9).
2. Remove the magazine by pressing the magazine catch and pulling the magazine out of the magazine well.
3. Grasp the cocking lever and pull it all the way to the rear, while simultaneously engaging the bolt hold open device to extract and eject any cartridge that may be in the chamber and hold the bolt in the open position (See Illustration #11).

WARNING! The safety lever should be kept engaged in the "SAFE" ("S") detent position at all times until the rifle is aimed at a proper target and you intend to fire. The rifle will FIRE if the safety lever is not COMPLETELY in the "SAFE" ("S") detent position.

Illustration #11

4. Grasp the cocking lever and pull it to the rear of the rifle and allow it to snap forward. Pulling the cocking lever to the rear releases the bolt hold open device which allows the bolt to travel all the way forward. (Do not "ride" the cocking lever forward by continuing to hold it, slowing its forward movement, as this can prevent the bolt from closing properly and prevent the extractor from engaging a cartridge which has remained in the chamber.)
5. Grasp the cocking lever and pull it all the way to the rear a second time, while simultaneously engaging the bolt hold open device again. Retracting the bolt a second time in this way is safer than retracting the bolt only once, as it may serve to extract and eject any cartridge which has remained in the chamber the first time (see Step 3 including the "**WARNING!**" above), and can also alert the user that he/she has failed to first remove the magazine, when a second cartridge ejects from the rifle!
6. Check the chamber VISUALLY to confirm that no cartridge or cartridge case remains in the chamber, and that the chamber is completely empty. NEVER rely on the extractor to positively extract any cartridge which may be in the chamber - ALWAYS check the chamber visually after retracting the bolt. In poor light, you may need to use a flashlight or other light source to check the chamber properly. Also check the magazine well visually, to confirm that the magazine has been removed. Failure to perform the visual check could result in serious injury or death, if a cartridge is left in the rifle by mistake!

WARNING! The chamber, barrel and/or receiver may be hot, if the rifle was recently fired. Allow the rifle to cool to room temperature before physically checking for the presence of cartridge.

7. Check the chamber and the magazine well PHYSICALLY (by inserting your finger through the bottom of the magazine well and upward into the chamber) to be sure no magazine remains in the rifle and there is no cartridge or cartridge case in the chamber. This "double check" (physical as well as visual) is important to confirm that the rifle is truly unloaded, and that a cartridge has not been overlooked due to poor light, haste, or inattention. Failure to perform the physical check could result in serious injury or death, if a cartridge is left in the rifle by mistake!
8. Leave the safety lever on "SAFE" ("S") position, the magazine removed, and the action locked open with the cocking lever locked in the recess of the cocking lever housing. The FAL Rifle is now "Cleared." Despite the fact that it has been "Cleared," continue to follow all safety rules in

this manual, including treating it as you would treat a loaded firearm, and pointing it in a safe direction at all times.

WARNING! Follow the above "clearing" (unloading) procedures exactly and carefully! Failure to do so can result in serious injury or death if a cartridge is left in the rifle.

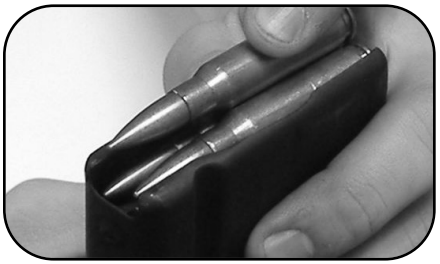
Filling the Magazine

Hold the magazine in one hand with the front of the magazine (more open end) pointing in a safe direction (away from your self and others). With the other hand put a cartridge in the magazine opening with the tip of the bullet pointing forward, toward the front (more open end) of the opening. Press the cartridge straight down under the magazine lip with your thumb (See Illustration #12). Repeat with additional cartridges. Do not overfill the magazine or damage to the magazine may result.

Emptying the Magazine

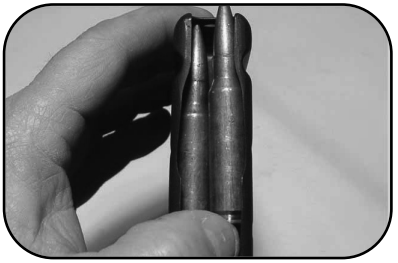
Grasp the magazine in one hand, with the bullet end of the cartridge pointing toward your other hand but in a safe direction (away from your self and others). Use either thumb to push the cartridges onto an appropriate surface (See Illustration #13).

Illustration #12



Filling the magazine.

Illustration #13



Emptying the magazine.

Loading the Firearm

WARNING! Follow all safety rules in this manual while loading the rifle, including keeping it **pointed in a safe direction and keeping your fingers off the trigger and outside the trigger guard.** Failure to do so may result in serious injury or death in the event that the gun discharges.

WARNING! The FAL, like many other firearms could possibly discharge when the bolt closes, <u>even without the trigger being pulled</u>! This could occur due to defective ammunition (soft primer, etc.) debris on the bolt face, mechanical malfunction, or other causes. To avoid serious injury or death, load <u>ONLY</u> while pointing the rifle in a safe direction.

To Load the rifle:

1. Put the safety lever into the "SAFE" ("S") position (See Illustration #9).
2. Pull the cocking lever rearward, engaging the bolt hold open device.
3. Insert the filled magazine into the magazine well with the bullet end of the cartridges pointing forward, so that the magazine catch locks the magazine audibly into position. The magazine is inserted into the magazine well at an angle and locked in by rotating it into position (See Illustration #14). Pull downward on the magazine to ensure it is locked in place (See Illustration #15).

Illustration #14

Illustration #15

4. Once the loaded magazine is seated in the receiver, the shooter can release the hold open by pulling the bolt handle back slightly then releasing it. If the rifle is operating normally, the hold open will drop, allowing the bolt to move forward to strip the first round off the magazine and into the chamber. ALTERNATELY, grasp the cocking handle and pull it to the rear and allow it to snap forward (See Illustration #16). This releases the bolt hold open device, allows the bolt to move forward, picking the round out of the magazine, loading it into the chamber and locking the bolt. In either case, DO NOT "ride" the charging handle forward (That is, DO NOT hold onto the charging handle as it moves forward.) "Riding" the charging handle can cause malfunctions in feeding, chambering, locking and firing. **The firearm is now loaded in the "SAFE" ("S") position.** When the safety lever is disengaged (switched to "FIRE" ("F") position) and the trigger is pulled, the rifle will fire!

Illustration #16

How to confirm a round is chambered. If you wish to positively confirm a round has been chambered, before loading the rifle first check the magazine being inserted to see whether the top round in the magazine is on the right or left side of the magazine lips. Then, after completing the loading operation described above, remove and inspect the magazine. If a round has been properly chambered, the top round now visible in the removed magazine will be on the opposite side from the position of the top round before loading. Reinsert the magazine, pushing it upward until it locks in place, and pulling downward on it to be sure it has locked in place (See Illustrations #14 and #15).

Unloading

To unload the rifle, follow the procedure set out in "Clearing" the firearm on page 11.

Firing the Rifle

WARNING! Follow all safety rules and procedures in this manual. Among other things, use proper eye and ear protection, keep the rifle pointed in a safe direction at all times, keep the safety lever engaged and your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until the rifle is aimed at a proper target and you intend to fire. Failure to strictly follow these and the other safety rules in this manual and any accompanying literature can result in serious injury or death.

<u>To fire the rifle, proceed as follows:</u>

1. "Clear" the rifle.
2. Fill a magazine with proper ammunition.
3. Load the rifle.
4. **Before firing, check again to be sure the target and backstop area are safe and free of any people or animals which could be injured by your shot(s), that you and everyone around you are wearing proper eye and ear protection, and that no one**

is standing to the right of the rifle, where they might be struck and injured by the ejected cases.

5. Hold the rifle as shown in Illustration #17, with the butt of the rifle firmly seated on your shoulder, your strong (dominant) hand grasping the grip of the rifle (with trigger finger **outside the trigger guard until you have aimed and you intend to fire)**, your weak (non-dominant) hand grasping the handguard of the rifle (with all fingers and thumbs on the handguard and away from the front of the muzzle), and your cheek against the stock of the rifle positioned so you can aim using the sights. **Be careful that no part of your body is near or in front of the muzzle, or in the way of the ejection port from which hot, fired cartridge cases will eject with considerable force when you fire the rifle!**

Illustration #17

WARNING! Keep your fingers and thumb on the handguard and away from the front of the muzzle as shown in Illustration #17 or serious injury, including but not limited to, burning, abrasion or impact from hot metal and residue leaving the muzzle or impact by a bullet that is leaving the muzzle, may occur.

WARNING! Depending on the rate of firing and the quantity of cartridges fired, the gas block/barrel area of the handguard and/gas block may become hot enough to burn your hand. Allow the rifle to cool down before continuing to fire.

6. Aim the rifle at the target.
7. Disengage the safety lever by moving it from "SAFE" ("S") to "FIRE" ("F").
8. Place your finger on the trigger and while keeping the sights aligned on the target, move the trigger smoothly rearward until the rifle fires. The key to accurate shooting is moving the trigger in such a way as not to disturb the alignment of the sights on the target until the rifle fires.

WARNING! The FAL is a semi-automatic rifle. When you fire it, it will automatically extract and eject the fired cartridge case, and feed a live round of ammunition from the magazine into the chamber. Thus, after firing a shot it will instantly be ready to fire again if the trigger is pulled. ***Be careful!***

9. Repeat step 8 until you have fired the desired number of shots.
10. If a malfunction ("stoppage") occurs while firing, follow the procedure explained below.
11. Immediately when you are finished firing, engage the safety lever by moving it to the "SAFE" ("S") position, and **UNLOAD the rifle.** While unloading the rifle, and after it is unloaded, continue to follow all of the safety rules contained in this manual, including **keeping it pointed in a safe direction, and keeping your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard** at all times.

WARNING! Under certain circumstances, ammunition left in a hot chamber can auto-ignite. That is, the residual heat from the chamber can cause direct ignition of the gun powder or primer. Auto-ignition may cause damage to the rifle because the gun powder reacts at an elevated temperature and therefore a higher than normal pressure will result in the chamber and barrel. If the bolt is not closed or not locked closed the resultant auto-ignition ***could cause damage to the firearm, serious personal injury or death!*** If the bolt is locked closed, the gun will fire propelling the bullet out of the muzzle, ***but could result in damage to the firearm, serious personal injury or death*** because the rifle will fire unexpectedly and may not be aimed or under control. ***Never leave a live round in the chamber that you do***

not intend fire immediately. Follow the procedures for "Clearing" (or unloading) the rifle in this manual.

WARNING! Unlike some other firearms, the FAL bolt ***does not lock open automatically when the rifle is empty (that is, does not lock open on an empty magazine).*** Thus, when firing, a FAL with the bolt closed ***may or may not have a cartridge in the chamber.*** The only way to positively confirm that the chamber is empty is to check it visually and physically following the "Clearing/Unloading" procedure provided in this manual.

Malfunctions

Any firearm will, on occasion, malfunction. Malfunctions (or "stoppages") can include the rifle failing to fire (with or without going "click") when you pull the trigger, failing to extract or eject the fired cartridge case upon firing, "stovepiping" or trapping the fired case in the ejection port, failing to feed a round from the magazine or chamber the round as the bolt moves forward, "double feeding" or feeding two rounds from the magazine at one time, failure of the bolt to close fully, preventing the rifle from firing, or a "squib" (underpowered) cartridge which does not develop sufficient power to cycle the action, and may leave a bullet lodged in the barrel.

If you experience a malfunction, **keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction**. Engage the safety lever by putting it on "SAFE" ("S") position. Continue to hold the rifle aimed at the target and backstop for thirty (30) seconds in case you have a "hangfire" (slow or delayed ignition of the cartridge). If the round does not fire within 30 seconds, then **keeping your face (and everyone else's) away from the ejection port, your fingers off the trigger and outside the trigger guard, and the rifle pointed in a safe direction,** proceed as follows:

1. Remove the magazine.
2. Pull the cocking lever rearward to eject the chambered round, engaging the bolt hold device.
3. Inspect the chamber and breech area to be sure there are no cartridges or portions of cartridges remaining. CAUTION – The chamber, barrel and receiver may be hot.
4. Then field strip the rifle, following the steps outlined below (through the step of separating the upper assembly from the lower assembly) and look through the bore from the rear to be sure it is not obstructed.
5. Segregate the faulty or damaged round of ammunition for proper disposal in accordance with the ammunition manufacturer's instructions.
6. If the rifle is free of ammunition, fired cases, other debris or bore obstructions, you may reassemble it, reload it and continue firing following the steps in this manual.

WARNING! If you experience a weak report (weak gunshot sound) or unusually light recoil upon firing, you may have fired a "squib" (underpowered) cartridge, **which may have left a bullet lodged in the barrel. STOP FIRING IMMEDIATELY.** Engage the safety lever by moving it to "SAFE" ("S"). "Clear" (unload) the rifle, leaving the safety lever on "SAFE," the magazine removed, the rifle unloaded, and the bolt hold device engaged. Then field strip the rifle following the steps in this manual (through the step of separating the upper assembly from the lower assembly) and look through the bore from the rear to be sure it is not obstructed. If the bore is unobstructed, you may reassemble and load the rifle and continue firing. If there is an obstruction in the bore, the rifle should be taken to a qualified gunsmith or certified armorer, or returned to the factory, for the obstruction to be removed and the barrel to be inspected for damage before continuing to use the rifle. ***NEVER attempt to "shoot out" an obstruction by firing another cartridge, even a cartridge from which the bullet has been removed, in the rifle. Damage to the rifle, serious injury or death could result!***

Failure to Eject (FTE) Most FTEs are caused by fouling, due to a failure to properly maintain (clean and lubricate) the rifle. Always clean the rifle at the end of the day's firing. You may have to clean the rifle more often depending on the amount of ammunition fired through the rifle and the cleanliness of the ammunition. In other words, if ammunition is used that leaves a high amount of residue, the interval between cleanings needs to be decreased.

Aiming

Aim at the target by means of the aperture hole of the rear sight and the post of the front sight. Make sure that the target appears to be resting on top of the front sight post and that the front sight post is properly centered in the aperture hole.

How the Firearm Functions

With a live cartridge in the chamber, the safety selector lever moved from the "S" position to the "F" position, the bolt locked behind the cartridge, the trigger is pulled. Through the trigger mechanism, the hammer is released and strikes the rear of the firing pin driving it into the cartridge primer to fire the cartridge.

Gas System

1. The bullet travels down the barrel, propelled by gases and reaches the gas port (in the gas block).
2. As the bullet passes the gas port, propellant gases pass through the gas port, pressurize the gas block and impart force on the gas piston head.
3. Under gas pressure, the gas piston moves rearward and exposes the gas exhaust port.
4. The gas exhaust port on top of the gas block is partially closed by the gas regulator, the position of which indicates the amount of gas exhausted and therefore the rate of travel of the gas piston.
5. As the gas piston travels rearward it contacts the carrier, pushing it to the rear of the receiver.
6. The gas piston spring, compressed by the rearward travel of the gas piston, returns the gas piston to its at-rest position (forward).

Unlocking the Bolt

7. As the carrier moves rearward, the cams on the shoulders of the carrier engage the cams on the shoulders of the bolt, raising the rear end of the bolt and lifting it out of its locked position against the locking shoulder. The bolt is now unlocked.

Extraction

8. As the carrier continues moving rearward, the shoulders of the carrier engage the shoulders of the bolt, so that the carrier and bolt travel rearward together.
9. During the bolt travel to rear, the extractor claw withdraws the spent cartridge case from the chamber, holding it in the bolt face.

Ejection

10. When the bolt face is almost at the same position as the rear edge of the ejection port, the spent cartridge case contacts the ejector which protrudes into the bolt face. The spent cartridge case is thrown out of the ejection port (to the right).
11. The bolt/carrier assembly continues traveling rearward compressing the recoil spring, housed in the buttstock.

Forward Travel of the Bolt/Carrier Assembly

12. The recoil spring pushes the bolt/carrier assembly forward. Cartridges in the magazine raise under pressure of the magazine spring and the top cartridge feeds into the path of the bolt.

13. The cartridge is directed into the chamber in front of the bolt. The extractor is forced over the rim of the cartridge when the bolt closes on the chamber.

Locking the Bolt

14. As the front of the bolt touches the breech, the rear of the bolt is forced down by the mating cams of the bolt and carrier.
15. The shoulders of the bolt and carrier engage and the bolt is forced downward. The locking surface of the bolt engages with the locking shoulder in the receiver.

The live cartridge is loaded into the chamber and the bolt is closed and locked, ready for the trigger to be pulled and another cartridge fired.

WARNING! The FAL is a semi-automatic rifle. When you fire it, it will automatically extract and eject the fired cartridge case, and feed a live round of ammunition from the magazine into the chamber. Thus, after firing a shot it will instantly be ready to fire again if the trigger is pulled. ***Be careful!***

Field Stripping and Cleaning

Put the safety lever on "SAFE" by pushing the safety lever to the "SAFE" ("S") position!

1. Remove the magazine.
2. "Clear" (unload) the rifle and confirm it is unloaded visually and physically by following the steps of the "clearing" (unloading) procedure.
3. If you have installed other accessories, remove them now.
4. The bolt and carrier should be left in the closed or forward position with the hammer cocked and the safety lever in the safe "S" position.

Stripping the Bolt Assembly

Press the receiver locking lever (on the left side, rear of the lower assembly) as far as possible upwards; at the same time press the lower receiver/buttstock downwards. This will swing the rifle open (See Illustration #18). Thumb pressure should be exerted rearward to unlock it while swinging the rifle open. Remove the bolt/carrier assembly by taking hold of the carrier rod which is hinged to the carrier (See Illustration #19).

Illustration #18

Illustration #19

Illustration #20

Removing the Receiver Cover

Slide the receiver cover to the rear (See Illustration #20).

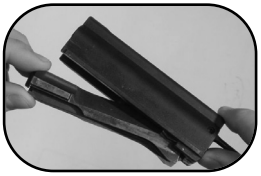
Separating the Upper Assembly from the Lower Assembly Unscrew the hinge bolt and remove it. The upper assembly will separate from the lower assembly (See Illustration #21).

Separating the Carrier from the Bolt

Disengage the fore part of the bolt from the carrier and continue to separate it with a levering movement against the rear part of the bolt, keeping the thumb on the rear end of the firing pin (See Illustration #22).

Illustration #21

Illustration #22



Removing the Firing Pin

Hold the bolt so that the retaining pin will drop out of the bolt when the pressure is exerted on the rear end of the firing pin. Then pull it out the rest of the way. If the pin does not fall out easily, use a small diameter rod to push it out (See Illustration #23). When the retaining pin has been removed, the firing pin will come out of its housing under the action of the firing pin spring (See Illustration #24).

Illustration #23

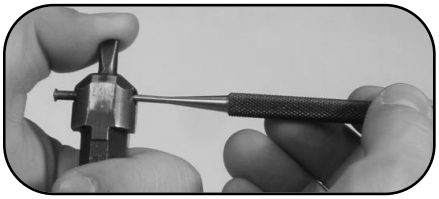
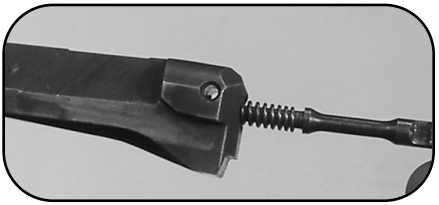


Illustration #24



Remove the Extractor from the Bolt

This operation requires a special tool that can be purchased from any dealer selling FN FAL tools and accessories. In general, there is no need to remove the extractor other than for a periodic inspection by a qualified gunsmith. It can be cleaned without removing it from the bolt.

Removing the Gas Plug and Gas Piston/Spring

Use your finger or a small diameter rod to depress the plunger while turning the gas plug a quarter of a turn in the clockwise direction (See Illustration #25). In this position, the gas plug will be pushed from the gas block by the piston spring. Remove the piston and spring from the gas cylinder and separate the piston from the spring (See Illustration #26).

Illustration #25

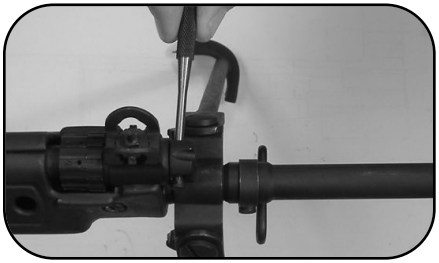


Illustration #26

Removing the Handguard from the Upper Assembly

Use a flat head screwdriver to unscrew the bolt, and, if necessary a small wrench to hold the self locking nut. Unscrew the bolt and remove it (See Illustration #27). Separate the two halves of the handguard by splitting them. Slide the two halves of the handguard out of the retaining ring by pulling them towards the muzzle end of the rifle (See Illustration #28). No further disassembly is required for standard maintenance.

Illustration #27

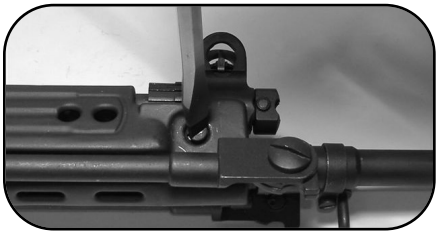


Illustration #28

Cleaning and Maintenance

This level of cleaning and maintenance should be undertaken after you are finished firing for the day OR when dictated by a build-up of residue. Always clean your rifle as soon as possible after firing to prevent buildup of shooting residue and to prevent corrosion from starting. To maintain your rifle in good working order, it should be cleaned once or twice a year in low- humidity environments, even if it has not been fired. In a high humidity area, it may be necessary to clean your rifle as often as once a week. ***Note: In freezing weather (below 32 degrees F. or 0 degrees C.) the use of a dry lubricant (instead of oil) for lubrication may work better.***

CAUTION: ALWAYS use high quality cleaning and preservative oil specially formulated for firearms. ***NEVER*** use any ABRASIVE compounds, fluids, media or patch material in the barrel or chamber. Any surface finish change can cause damage to the firearm that may interfere with proper function and injury…etc.

Stripped Upper Assembly

Use a barrel cleaning brush with oil and pass it through the barrel several times. Pull two or three lightly oiled patches through the barrel until no residue is present. Pull two or three DRY patches through the barrel. Clean the chamber, rear of the barrel (breech) and especially concentrate on the clearance slot cut in the rear of the barrel (breech) for the extractor with an oiled cleaning brush. Wipe the chamber with a lightly oiled patch until no more residue is present. Use DRY patches to remove excess oil from the chamber. Clean the receiver with a lightly oiled patch (an oiled cleaning brush may be used to remove heavy deposits).

Bolt/Carrier Assembly

Clean the bolt, carrier, firing pin and firing pin spring with lightly oiled patches until no more residue is present. Use a cleaning brush where necessary to remove residue from all surfaces and crevices. Clean the underneath of the extractor claw **without** stripping it from the bolt and the bolt face with an oiled cleaning brush. Use DRY patches to remove excess oil from all surfaces and crevices.

Visually inspect the firing pin for excessive deformation or burrs on the spherical end as well as the end of the firing pin that the hammer strikes. There is some deformation allowed on the end of the firing pin where the hammer strikes. The spherical end of the firing pin should be smooth and of the correct profile (0.090 inch spherical radius).

Gas System

Carefully clean the gas plug, the gas piston and its spring with a slightly oiled patch and/or oiled cleaning brush. Clean the gas cylinder and wipe the inside diameter (bore) with a slightly oiled patch. These parts are subject to gas fouling, especially when a high quantity of ammunition is fired through the rifle in a short period of time. Residue build-up on outside diameter of the gas piston or the inside diameter (bore) of the gas piston tube will cause failure to eject. Use DRY patches to remove excess oil from the bore and all surfaces.

WARNING! There may be sharp edges on parts of the firearm. Keep fingers protected by wearing a pair of protective gloves when cleaning.

WARNING! Excessive use of cleaning solvents or lubricants can adversely affect your rifle's functioning. Wipe dry the inside of the barrel before firing and ensure it is free of obstructions.

WARNING! This firearm should be checked periodically for worn or damaged parts by a competent gunsmith. This will help ensure its safe functioning and a long service life.

WARNING! Some cleaning solvents produce hazardous vapors. Read and follow the solvent manufacturer's cautions found on the product's package.

WARNING! Handling ammunition and cleaning firearms results in exposure to lead and other substances that can pose health risks. Wash your hands and face after firing your rifle or after cleaning it.

The FAL fires with very little lubrication. Before firing, wipe off any excess oil remaining on the barrel, gas block, gas cylinder bore, gas plug, barrel chamber and bolt face.

Slightly Oiled or Left Slightly Oiled

Inside of carrier
Bolt at the locking shoulders
Receiver at the bottom and along the carrier ribs and receiver grooves.
Bolt hold open device

Left Dry or Wiped Dry Before Firing

Barrel
Gas cylinder
Gas piston
Gas plug
Outer surface of carrier
Bolt face
Magazine
Magazine catch
Front and rear sights

WARNING! Firing the rifle with grease, excess oil or other obstructions in the barrel can produce excessive pressure, resulting in damage to the rifle and serious injury or death. Leave only a thin film of gun oil in the bore and remove excess oil using a clean dry patch on a cleaning rod before firing.

WARNING! Keep oil and solvent out of contact with ammunition, as oil and solvent can penetrate cartridges and cause misfires. Oil or solvent on ammunition can also cause dangerously excessive pressures when the rifle is fired. The bore, chamber, bolt and inside of the magazine should be dried of excess solvent and oil to prevent contact with ammunition.

Reassembling the Firearm After Field Stripping

1. Replace the gas piston spring on the piston rod.
2. Replace the piston and its spring in the gas cylinder.

3. Insert the gas plug, compressing the piston spring, with the big end of the plunger turned towards the barrel.
4. When the gas plug is fully home, rotate it one-eighth (1/8) of a turn, counter-clockwise.
5. Use your finger or a small diameter rod to push the plunger and rotate counter-clockwise the remaining one quarter (1/4) of a turn.
6. Assemble the upper and lower assembly with the hinge bolt/nut. Tighten the retaining bolt until it stops on the shoulder of the nut. DO NOT over tighten. The design of the bolt/nut does not require it to be torqued.
7. Replace the firing pin spring and the firing pin in the bolt; depress the rear of the firing pin, compressing the firing pin spring and replace the firing pin retaining pin.
8. Replace the bolt in the carrier, inserting the rear part obliquely in the carrier. Exert pressure on the bolt so that the firing pin spring is slightly compressed and the bolt is swung in to the correct position in the carrier.
9. Replace the bolt carrier assembly in the receiver, inserting the ribs of the carrier in the corresponding grooves in the receiver. When complete, the bolt should be in its forward position and the muzzle of the rifle pointing downwards; the mechanism will then fall in to position correctly.
10. Insert the ribs of the receiver cover in the corresponding grooves in the receiver and slide the cover fully forward.
11. Close the rifle, still holding the muzzle downwards, to prevent any possibility of the carrier rod protruding.

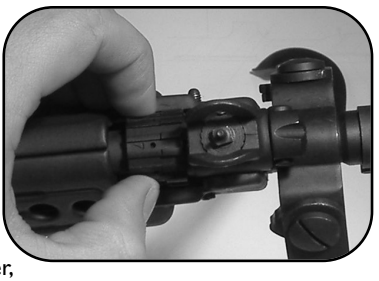
Setting the Gas System

The rifle has been adjusted for nominal .308 and/or 7.62x51mm ammunition at the factory. Use of significantly different ammunition may require adjustment of the gas regulator. The gas regulator can be adjusted by hand or with a special spanner tool available at any dealer selling FN FAL tools. ***Note: Commercial ammunition generally has softer brass cases than military ammo. If you are using commercial ammo and are experiencing cycling problems, switch to military ammo. Use of reloads are not recommended and will void warranty.***

There are several ways of finding the correct adjustment but the following method proves to be the best.

1. Insert an empty magazine in the rifle.
2. Each round fired is carried out by inserting a cartridge by hand (of the type you plan to shoot) in to the empty magazine or chamber, through the ejection opening in the receiver cover. ALTERNATELY, you can remove the magazine, load a single cartridge and insert the magazine in to the receiver.
3. The correct setting is determined by the point at which the bolt hold open device engages the bolt/carrier assembly and holds it to the rear, or fails to do so.
4. After rotating the gas regulator clockwise, down against the gas block, rotate it counter clockwise by one complete turn (360 degrees) so that the figure "7" or 7th spot hole (if the regulator is not numbered) is in line with the axis of the gas exhaust port. This is the fully open position, and when a round is fired, causes a "short cycle" identifiable by the bolt hold open device failing to engage the bolt/carrier assembly (See Illustration #29).

Illustration #29



5. Close the gas regulator click by click and fire a cartridge after each click adjustment until the bolt/carrier assembly is held to the rear by the bolt hold open device.
6. Now, verify by firing five (5) cartridges, one after the other, in a way described in step 2.

7. If any shot results in a failure of the bolt hold open device to engage the bolt/carrier assembly, repeat step 5.
8. If necessary, repeat step 7 until five (5) consecutive shots result in the bolt hold open device holding the bolt/carrier assembly to the rear, five (5) times.

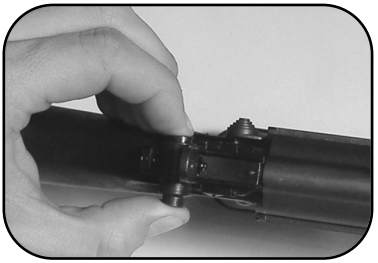
In practice the force and distance at which the spent cartridge case is ejected provides an indication of the gas setting. Typically the spent cartridge case should be ejected between 3 feet and 9 feet from the rifle at approximately 45 degrees to the axis of the rifle. Harsh ejection indicates too much gas and weak ejection indicates too little gas. This is only a secondary check on the gas system setting and should not be used other than for observation.

Adjusting the Sights

WARNING! Only adjust the sight when the firearm is unloaded, safety lever is on "SAFE" ("S") and the bolt is locked open.

Range:
The rear sight can be adjusted by sliding the aperture up and down on its base. Depress the button between your finger and thumb to disengage the detent and then move the aperture along (up and down along the ramp of the base) to adjust the elevation (See Illustration #30).

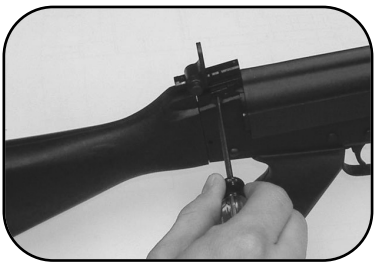
Illustration #30



Elevation:
The front sight post is rotated clockwise to move the Point of Impact (POI) up and counter clockwise to move the POI down. The front sight post is located in place by a spring detent which indexes on 16 equal divisions.

Windage:
Moving the rear sight left or right will correct for windage. If the POI is to the right of the point sighted, the screw on the left side of the rear sight should be loosened and the screw on the right side of the rear sight should be tightened. This will move the rear sight laterally to the left. Tighten the screw on the left side first, then tighten the right screw when the correction has been made. When the POI is to the left of the point sighted, the rear sight must be moved to the right. A movement of one (1) division or click is equal to a change in POI (right or left) of approximately 0.39 inch at 109 yards (1cm in 100m) (See Illustration #31).

Illustration #31



Storage

When putting your rifle away for storage, it should be thoroughly cleaned and lightly lubricated. Outside surfaces should be wiped with a light coat of good quality gun oil. CHECK TO ENSURE YOUR FIREARM IS UNLOADED BEFORE PUTTING IT AWAY FOR STORAGE BY VISUALLY EXAMINING BOTH ITS CHAMBER AND MAGAZINE. Store the rifle in a separate location from its ammunition. When the rifle is to be reused, remove all excess lubrication before firing. Make certain that the bore (inside of barrel) is dry and free of obstructions before firing. ***Note: The use of reloaded, re-manufactured, hand-loaded, or other non-standard ammunition may result in damage to the rifle and injury or death to the shooter and/or bystanders. The manufacturer and importer cannot accept responsibility for malfunctions resulting from the use of non-standard, defective ammunition.***

Technical Data

Caliber- .308 WIN. (7.62 NATO)
Twist Rate- 1:10
Front Sight- post
Rear Sight- aperture with elevation settings from 200-600 meters, can be adjusted laterally
Overall length- 42.75”
Sight Radius- 21.5”
Barrel length- 21”
Weight with magazine for 20 rounds, empty- approximately 9.05 lbs.

FAL Semi-Auto Sporter Rifle, Cal. .308 WIN.

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Century International Arms, Inc.
236 Bryce Boulevard, Fairfax, VT 05454
www.centuryarms.com
Sales: 1.800.527.1252 - 561.265.4530