

*Owner's Manual*

# TANTAL SPORTER RIFLE, Cal. 5.45x39mm



Congratulations on your purchase of a Tantal Sporter Rifle. With proper care, maintenance and handling, it will give you long, reliable service. The Tantal Sporter is a highly versatile lightweight, gas-operated, magazine fed, semi-automatic, centerfire, rifle that fires in the semi-automatic mode only. It is chambered for the 5.45x39mm cartridge. It's equipped with iron sights while scope mounts are available on the market to allow mounting of a scope on the left side of the receiver. The side-folding wire buttstock allows hip firing while with the stock extended, the rifle can be fired with a fair degree of accuracy from the shoulder. Your Tantal's effective range and accuracy can be increased even further by attachment of the supplied bipod.

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.



## 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 engage the safety properly, 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. It is thus 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. And 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 1-1/4 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. Keeping the muzzle pointed away from your face and anything you do not intend to shoot, wait at least 30-seconds (to ensure that the ammunition is not delayed in firing) before carefully opening the action, unloading the firearm and disposing of the ammunition safely.



### **Commandment #7**

**Always Wear Eye & Ear Protection When Shooting**  
Exposure to shooting noise can permanently damage hearing and 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 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's 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 injury. 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's 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.**

## **Tantal Sporter Bipod**

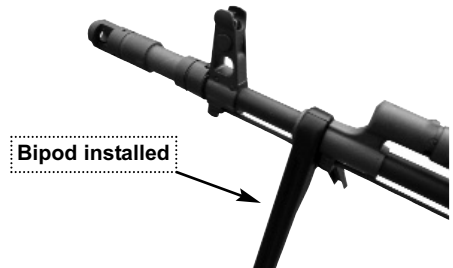
Your rifle is equipped with a spring-loaded bipod. (See Illustration #1). It is most useful when greatest accuracy is needed on long-range shots while shooting from the prone position. The bipod is readily installed on the barrel by squeezing its arms and fitting it over the slotted projection on the barrel just in front of the gas tube. (See Illustration #2). When no longer needed, just squeeze the arms again to remove, taking care not to scratch the rifle's finish.

**Illustration # 1**



**The Tantal Sporter comes equipped with a convenient spring-loaded bipod to steady the rifle when accuracy is paramount.**

**Illustration # 2**



**The operating handle is drawn to the rear to check the rifle's loaded/unloaded status.**



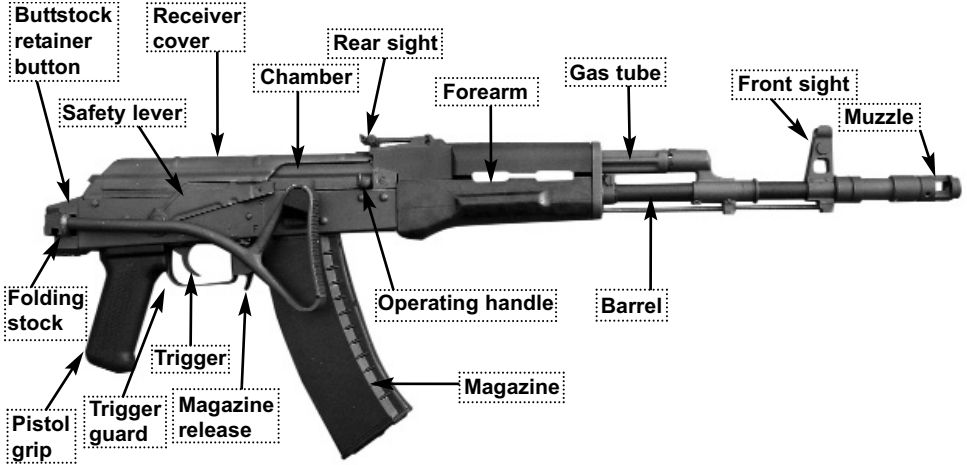
## IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

The Tantal Sporter Rifle is manufactured from surplus firearm parts. As with all surplus products made from used parts, 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.

### Illustration # 3

#### Diagram showing major operational parts of the Tantal Sporter Rifle

*Study of this picture will aid you in understanding the instructions in this booklet.*



**Tantal Sporter Rifle Background:** While the Tantal Sporter is, as its name implies, a pure sporting rifle, its origin derives from the Polish military's WZ.88 Tantal rifle, which is itself, a derivative of the famous proven AK74 rifle design. These Kalashnikov-inspired firearms are well-known throughout the world for being ultra-rugged and reliable rifle products.

**Operational Characteristics:** The Tantal Sporter functions much like other semi-automatic rifles in that once a loaded magazine is inserted and the bolt cocked, the operator needs only to pull the trigger and the mechanism fires a round, ejects the empty cartridge case and feeds another fresh round into the chamber.

#### Specifications Tantal Sporter Rifle:

Caliber: 5.45x39mm

Type of Firearm: Semi-Automatic Magazine

Capacity: 30-rounds (may be lower in some jurisdictions due to local or state laws)

Barrel Length: 18-inches (with muzzle brake)

Finish: Grey Parkerized

Forearm/Handguard: Synthetic, Pistol Grip: Synthetic

Stock: Wire folding Sights Rear - Adjustable Front - Post

Overall Length: 37-inches (with stock extended) 29-inches with stock folded

Weight: 8 pounds (unloaded)



**WARNING!** Always ensure that the ammunition you are using is clean, undamaged, and of the proper caliber before loading your rifle. The manufacturer and distributor of this rifle disclaim any liability for the use of remanufactured, reloaded or handloaded ammunition. Protect your investment in this fine firearm by using only factory fresh, quality ammunition. The use of improper caliber or low quality ammunition could result in injury, death, &/or property damage upon firing. Remember, firearms safety depends on you!

## To Load the Magazine:



1. Place the rifle's safety lever in the uppermost position so that the lever is positioned above the stamped letter "S" on the right side of the receiver. You should hear an audible "click" when the lever is in place. This is the lever's "SAFE" position. (See Illustration #4).
2. If the magazine is installed in the rifle, press the magazine release lever (located at the front of the trigger guard) forward and pull the magazine from the rifle. (See Illustration #6).
3. Place a round of ammunition of the proper caliber (5.45x39mm) between the lips of the magazine with the bullet forward.
4. Press the round down until it is held by the magazine's lips.
5. Place the next round on top of the previous round and continue in this manner until the desired number of rounds are loaded.

**NOTE:** To minimize the risk of personal injury, death, or property damage, magazine loading should only be done when you are about to shoot.

## To Load the Rifle:



**WARNING!** Before loading, make sure the inside of the barrel is free of dirt or other obstructions.

**WARNING!** Always check each cartridge to ensure it is of the correct caliber before loading the firearm.

**WARNING!** Keep fingers away from the trigger while loading.

**WARNING!** Keep muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

**WARNING!** When the safety lever is in its lower position on the receiver pointing to the stamped letter "F" on the receiver, the safety lever is in the "OFF" or "FIRE" position. (See Illustration #5). Pulling the trigger when the safety lever is in this lower position will result in the rifle firing a round. To avoid serious injury, death or causing property damage, make sure you know the "SAFE" and "FIRE" positions of the safety lever before attempting to load your rifle! (See Illustration #4 for "SAFE" position of safety lever).

1. Place the safety lever in the "ON" or "SAFE" position. (See Illustration #4).
2. Load magazine as previously described above.
3. Keep the rifle pointed in a safe direction with your finger off the trigger and install the loaded magazine (with bullet points facing forward) into the rifle by inserting the flat-sided edge first into the magazine well and then angling the magazine so that its outer edge (containing a pronounced projection) locks the magazine into place. (See Illustration #7). Pull on the magazine slightly to ensure it is securely locked into position.
4. While keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and your finger off the trigger move the safety lever downward to the "F" or "FIRE" position. (See Illustration #5).
5. Pull back the operating handle to its fully-rearward position and release. (See Illustration #8). As it moves rapidly forward under spring pressure, the bolt will strip a round from the magazine and insert it into the chamber, readying the rifle for firing.
6. Move the safety lever back to its upward "SAFE" position.

**NOTE: The rifle is now loaded with a round in the chamber and the hammer is cocked. Handle with care!**

**Remember, firearms safety depends on you!**



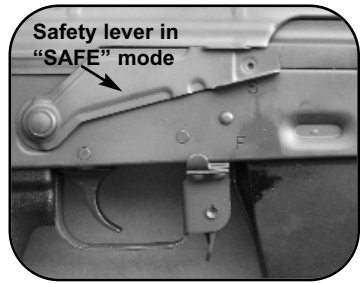
**WARNING!** The rifle is now loaded and will fire if the safety lever is moved downward to the "OFF" or "FIRE" position and the trigger is pulled! Handle with extreme caution!

### To Fire the Rifle:

1. Keeping the 10 Commandments of Shooting Safety in mind, aim the rifle downrange at the target.
2. Release the safety lever by moving it fully downward until it points to the stamped letter "F" indicating the "FIRE" position on the receiver. (See Illustration #5).
3. Align the sights on the target.
4. Place the trigger finger inside trigger guard and on the trigger.
5. Press the trigger back to fire the first round.
6. Being a semi-automatic, after the first round is fired, the rifle's action (its moving parts) will cycle and as the bolt moves rearward, the extractor will pull the empty cartridge case from the chamber and eject it from the rifle. **(Make sure there are no bystanders close by**



**Illustration # 4**



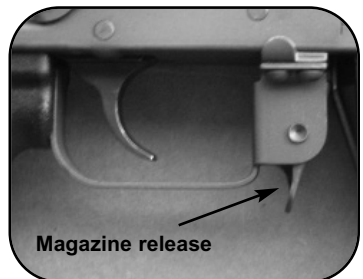
**Safety lever in upper "SAFE" position. The lever is covering the stamped letter "S" on the receiver.**

**Illustration # 5**



**Safety lever in lower or "FIRE" position. Pulling the trigger when the safety lever is in the lower position will result in the rifle firing if there is a round in the chamber! Exercise extreme caution when handling the rifle in this condition.**

**Illustration # 6**



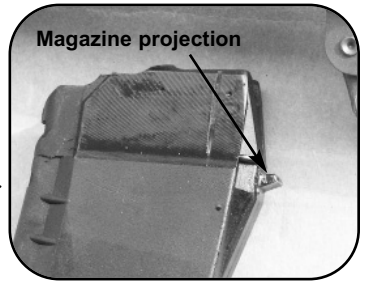
**Press the magazine release lever forward to remove the magazine from the rifle.**



rifle. (Make sure there are no bystanders close by on either side who could be hit and injured by the ejected cartridge casing).

7. **Note: If the trigger is again pressed, the rifle will fire! Keep rifle pointed in a safe direction.**
8. Firing may be continued in this manner until the magazine is empty.
9. When firing is finished, place the safety lever in its "ON" or "SAFE" position by rotating it fully upward to the horizontal position so it's pointing to the stamped letter "S" on the receiver. (See Illustration #4).
10. Remove the magazine from the rifle and check magazine for any remaining rounds. If found, remove and store rounds of ammo separately from rifle in a place inaccessible to unauthorized persons.

**Illustration # 7**

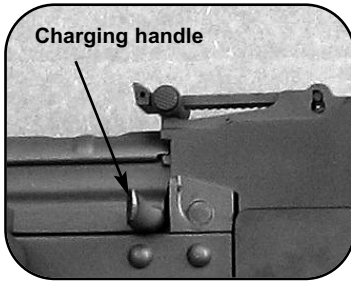


**Pull back charging handle to load or eject a round from the chamber.**



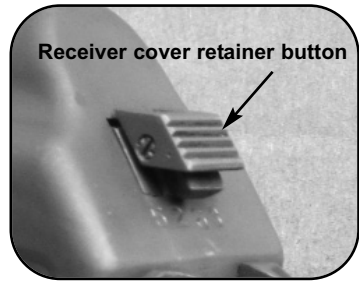
**WARNING!** Always unload your rifle immediately after use and prior to cleaning and storage to minimize the risk of an accidental discharge. If your rifle ever fails to fire keep it pointed at the target for at least 30-seconds in event of a hangfire (slow ignition). If round still does not fire, remove magazine, eject and discard the bad round. Reload the rifle to resume firing.

**Illustration # 8**



**Pull back charging handle to load or eject a round from the chamber.**

**Illustration # 9**



**The receiver cover retainer button is pressed in to start the disassembly process.**



**WARNING!** The rifle will fire if the magazine is removed and if the trigger is pulled when a cartridge is in the chamber and if the trigger is pulled.

**WARNING!** Any firearm, if dropped could fire if there is a cartridge in the chamber and the safety is in the fire position.

## Unloading the Rifle:



**WARNING!** Keep muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

1. Place the safety lever in the “ON” or “SAFE” position by moving it to its upper (horizontal) position. An audible “click” will be heard when it’s in place. (See Illustration #4).
2. Press magazine release to remove the magazine. (See Illustration #6).
3. Pull the charging handle fully to the rear (See Illustration #8) and while holding it back look into the chamber to ensure there is no ammunition. **(Note: if there had been a round in the chamber, it should have been ejected by this action.)**
4. Remove any remaining rounds from the magazine by sliding them out forward end first.
5. Place the safety lever in the “ON” position.

When storing the rifle, keep the safety lever in the “ON” or “SAFE” position. Store magazine and ammunition in a separate place from the rifle.

### Rifle Disassembly:



**WARNING!** Wear eye protection, such as shooting glasses or goggles when disassembling your firearm to protect your eyes from tensioned parts, such as springs, that could be dislodged during disassembly.



**WARNING!** Before beginning the disassembly process, check to ensure the rifle is unloaded. To do so, follow the procedures detailed previously in this manual.

1. Press in on the receiver cover retainer button situated at the rear of the receiver. (See Illustration #9). Lift off the receiver cover.
2. Press the recoil buffer and pull the recoil spring assembly out of the rear of the receiver.
3. Now, remove the bolt carrier and bolt assembly.
4. Remove the cleaning rod from beneath the barrel.
5. Use a screwdriver to loosen the forearm bracket. Then pull the bracket forward.
6. Remove upper and lower handguards.
7. Remove the gas tube.

**NO FURTHER DISASSEMBLY IS REQUIRED.**

### Rifle Reassembly:

Reassemble your rifle by reversing the procedure for disassembly (steps 7 through 1).

### Note on the Folding Stock:

Your Tantal Sporter Rifle is equipped with a side-folding stock. To extend the stock, press the release lever at the rear of the receiver and extend the stock outward until it locks into position. To fold the stock, press the release lever and fold the stock alongside the right side of the receiver. (See Illustration #10).

**Press the stock release lever to fold or extend the stock.**

**Illustration # 10**



## To Clean The Rifle:



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

**WARNING!** You should wear eye protection, such as shooting glasses or goggles when cleaning this rifle to protect your eyes from tensioned parts, such as springs, that could become dislodged during the cleaning procedures.

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

### Cleaning Intervals:

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.*

**Cleaning Procedure:** Before beginning the cleaning procedure, disassemble the rifle as described on pages 10.

1. Obtain a quality rifle cleaning kit and thoroughly review its instructions provided.
2. To clean the barrel, select the correct caliber cleaning brush and attach it to a cleaning rod.
3. Dampen the brush with gun cleaning solvent and then push the brush through the barrel several times.
4. Remove the brush and attach a correctly-sized cloth cleaning patch to the cleaning rod and push it through the barrel several times to remove loosened fouling. The use of a chamber brush to clean chamber area is recommended.
5. Repeat this process with the brush and cleaning patches until a final patch comes out clean.
6. Use brush to clean residue from around the gas tube, bolt locking lugs, bolt rings, etc.
7. Wipe all components dry and inspect for wear or damage. If necessary, have rifle serviced before firing again.
8. Remove shooting residue from the rifle's outside by wiping surfaces with a soft cloth dabbed in solvent. Dry surfaces.

9. Finally, wipe down all outside surfaces with a soft cloth dipped in a good quality metal preservative oil. Before reassembly, lightly oil action parts and place a thin film of oil inside the bore if the rifle is to be stored.
10. Follow the procedures detailed on page 10 to reassemble your rifle.

## 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.***

## Tantal Sporter Rifle

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