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MAINTEN



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### Brief History

In the very early 1950's the Egyptian government set up a small arms manufacturing plant with the help of the Swedes. This factory produced the 8 x 57mm Hakim rifle which is closely patterned after the Swedish M42B rifle. It is a close enough copy that some of the parts will interchange. (See the chart on page 3.) There are minor differences such as the enlarged muzzle break/compensator, an adjustable gas system, the full-length handguard and a tangent type rear sight.

Both of these rifles are well made and capable of very fine accuracy.

Approximately 60 to 80,000 Hakims and later about 8000 Rashid rifles (a 7.62 x 39mm modified Ljungman action) were produced in the above plant. Later in that same time period a few of the Hakims were modified to 7.62 x 39mm; but with the adoption of the AK-47, they were considered obsolete.

The Hakim was used against the Israelis during the Sinai War of 1956.

Several training rifles versions of the Hakim were used by Egypt. A .22 caliber rifle was made by Beretta and a 4.5mm air rifle was made by Anschutz.

#### Specifications:

Caliber:	8 x 57mm, 7.92mm Mauser
Operation:	Tilting-bolt, direct gas operated, semi-automatic
Length:	47 3/4 inches
Weight:	10 pounds, 6 ounces (empty)
Barrel:	24.5 inches long, 1 turn in 9 3/4", 4 groove, right hand twist



The safety is mounted on the top rear of the receiver. It only stops the trigger from full travel and disables nothing else. "Safe" is to the far right and "Fire" is to the far left. If the safety lever is moved back partway from its full right position, it now becomes the take-down key. The tiny "ears" on the bottom of the safety shaft can be damaged, so use care when dis-assembling the rifle.

How To Load

The magazine or be loaded off the ri 5-round Mauser strip top using the guides the receiver cover.

Push the safety grasping the receive the way forward, the way to the rear. Th will stay locked to safety is pushed to

Fill the magazi rifle and snap the c

Push the safety releasing the bolt a round. The rifle is unless the safety is

The trigger pul pull, but not unusua long, easy first sta stiffer second stage

If the bolt is last round hold-open be used.

Load the magazi the receiver cover a inch, then pull shar This action will tr: the back of the rece the bolt to travel a chambering a round a

Sights

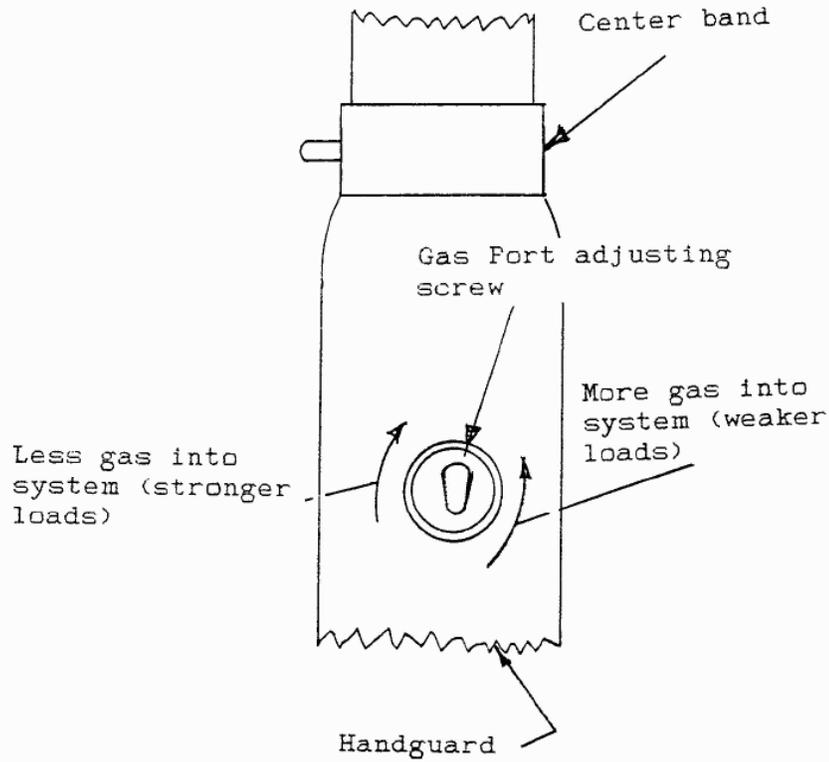
The Hakim has a tangent type rear sight mounted on the rear of the barrel and a covered post front sight mounted on the compensator on the front of the barrel.

Elevation adjustments are made with the rear sights and windage adjustments are made with the front sight.

The rear sight is marked in hundred meter increments (from 100 to 1000 meters) and is adjusted by slightly lifting the sight assembly (pivoting on the front pin) , depressing the catch on the right side of the sight slide, then moving the slide forward or rearward. The reason for lifting upward on the rear sight is that the ramp has a series of .017 inch deep steps cut in it instead of the Mauser type of smooth curve.

The front sight is moved by loosening the set screw on the front face of the sight, then turning the screw on the right side. Turning the screw clock-wise moves the sight to the right. Moving the screw counter-clockwise moves it left.

### How to Adjust



The gas operat  
 Hakim rifle is adju  
 by using the proper  
 pie slice shaped ga  
 visible through the  
 part of the top han

To adjust the  
 safety to the right  
 Make sure that the  
 in the rifle. Push  
 all the way forward  
 way back. The bolt  
 rear. Load one rou  
 the rifle into the  
 safety to the left  
 release the bolt and  
 cartridge. Fire the  
 backstop and watch  
 travels. If it goes  
 feet, close the gas  
 gas valve adjusting  
 eighth turn clock-wi  
 be stuck from disuse  
 light tapping should  
 the above procedure  
 go that 6 to 8 feet.

Most of the rif  
 the country set for  
 which is rather mild  
 to re-set the gas ad  
 the cartridge you ar  
 you are using FN lat  
 commercial ammunitio  
 screw one-quarter tu  
 start from there.

If you get a short-recoil, the system needs opened up. Follow the above procedure, except turn the gas adjustment key counter-clockwise about one-eighth turn at a time until the shells eject cleanly (about 6 to 8 feet).

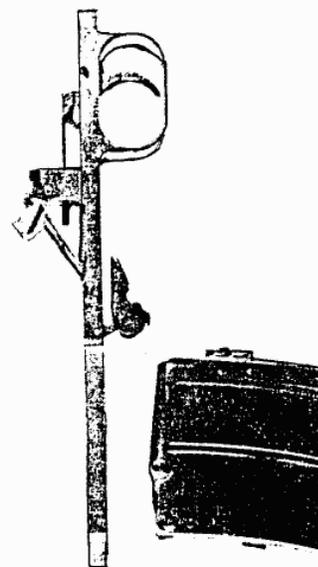
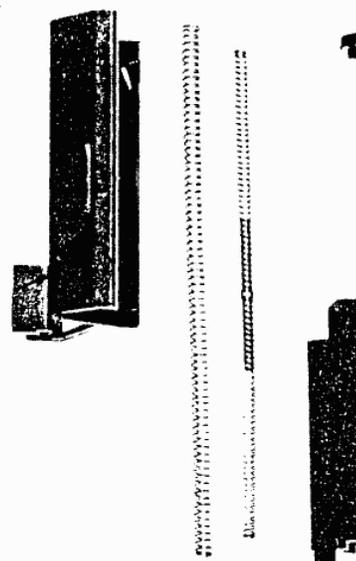
Fine tune the system until shells go the required distance AND the last round bolt hold-open stop positively catches the bolt.

Remember, anytime you change ammunition you may have to re-set the gas system.

**CAUTION!!**

If the gas system is set for low-powered ammunition (Egyptian) and high pressure cartridges (FN) are fired, sooner or later the extractor and the locking surfaces are in danger of being destroyed.

Gas port adjusting key



### Field-Strip

To field-strip the rifle, remove the magazine. Push the receiver cover clear forward and pull all the way back. This cocks the rifle and puts the bolt in battery. Put the safety in the "ON" position (to the right side). Pull forward on the receiver cover about three-quarters of an inch. Gently push the safety lever toward the middle position (toward the left), while pulling lightly upward on the safety housing. The housing should release when the lever is about one-half to three-quarters of the distance toward the middle. When it releases, pull the safety housing up and out of the rifle.

Be careful not to damage the "ears" on the bottom of the safety shaft, when pulling the assembly out of the rifle. If the safety lever is alligned correctly for dis-assembly, the housing will practically fall out of the rifle.

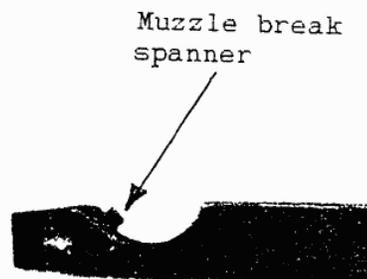
Now ease the receiver cover to the rear and off the rifle. The recoil springs may or may not come off with the cover. Now slide the bolt and carrier rearward off the rifle.

The rifle is now field-stripped and ready for cleaning, but remember that the hammer is still cocked.

If you have the metal Egyptian gas port adjusting tool, it has a spanner built into the one end of the handle, as pictured on the next page.

With this tool remove the muzzle b inside of the muzzl

Slip the point the end of the reta recess and pry the it's groove. Rotat partly around the c slip back into the spanner and hook th blind hole in the m threads are a norma thread and will uns clockwise direction the wrench the firs cap.

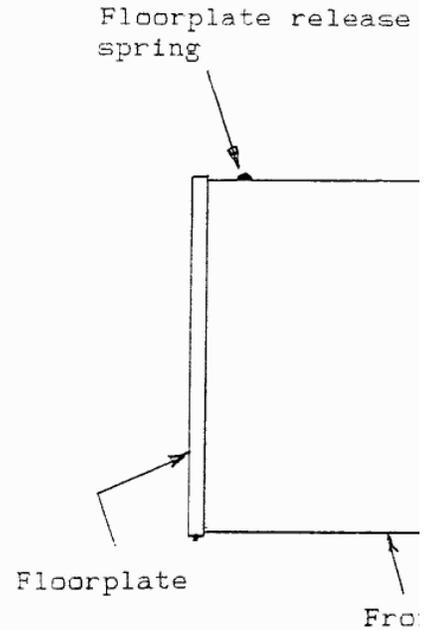


### 10 Round Magazine

First, remove the magazine from the rifle and turn it so that the front is down on a working surface. The locking lug and floorplate retainer on the back of the magazine will be exposed. About one-half inch from the bottom of the magazine will be a hole with a piece of the retainer spring protruding through it. Push down on the notch out in the retainer with a small punch or screwdriver while pulling slightly on the floorplate. When the retainer is below the back of the magazine, the floorplate will be pushed away from the assembly by spring pressure. Once the retainer is clear of the body, the floorplate can be moved to clear the front retainer lug. Ease the spring on out. If the magazine is turned right side up, the follower will fall out the bottom. Clean the parts thoroughly and lightly oil them.

To re-assemble, put the follower and spring back into the body. Turn the magazine so that the back is down on your working surface. Put the floorplate over the spring and press it into the body. Position the rear retainer spring on the floorplate near its hole in the body and line up the front retaining lug on the body with its with the slot in the floorplate.

By pushing down on the front lug is ca pushing IN on the t the floorplate will This operation take





## Accessori

The gas tube is threaded on the forward end and can be removed for cleaning. Note the position of the jambnut on the gas tube as you'll need to put it back in that position. Loosen the right-hand threaded jambnut on the forward end of the gas tube. Using the flats on the gas tube, unscrew the tube from the gas port junction block. The tube will now slide forward out of the gas tube bushing in the receiver, if you lift up on the front end of the tube JUST ENOUGH to clear the junction block.

The rear sight base is removed by loosening the two set screws in the two retainer clips and sliding them off the base. The rear sight will now fall off the rifle. The sight leaf is removed by drifting out the pivot pin.

The front sight can be removed easily from the base, if you don't forget about the set screw in the front of the base. Mark the position of the sight. The base can be removed from the barrel by loosening the base set screw that is located in the bottom, center of the dovetail and drifting the base rearward off the dovetail cuts in the muzzlebrake with a block of hardwood.

Re-assembly is done in the reverse of the above.

- 1) See-through sc
- 2) Extended magaz
- 3) 20 round magaz
- 4) Replacement si
- 5) Muzzlebreak sp

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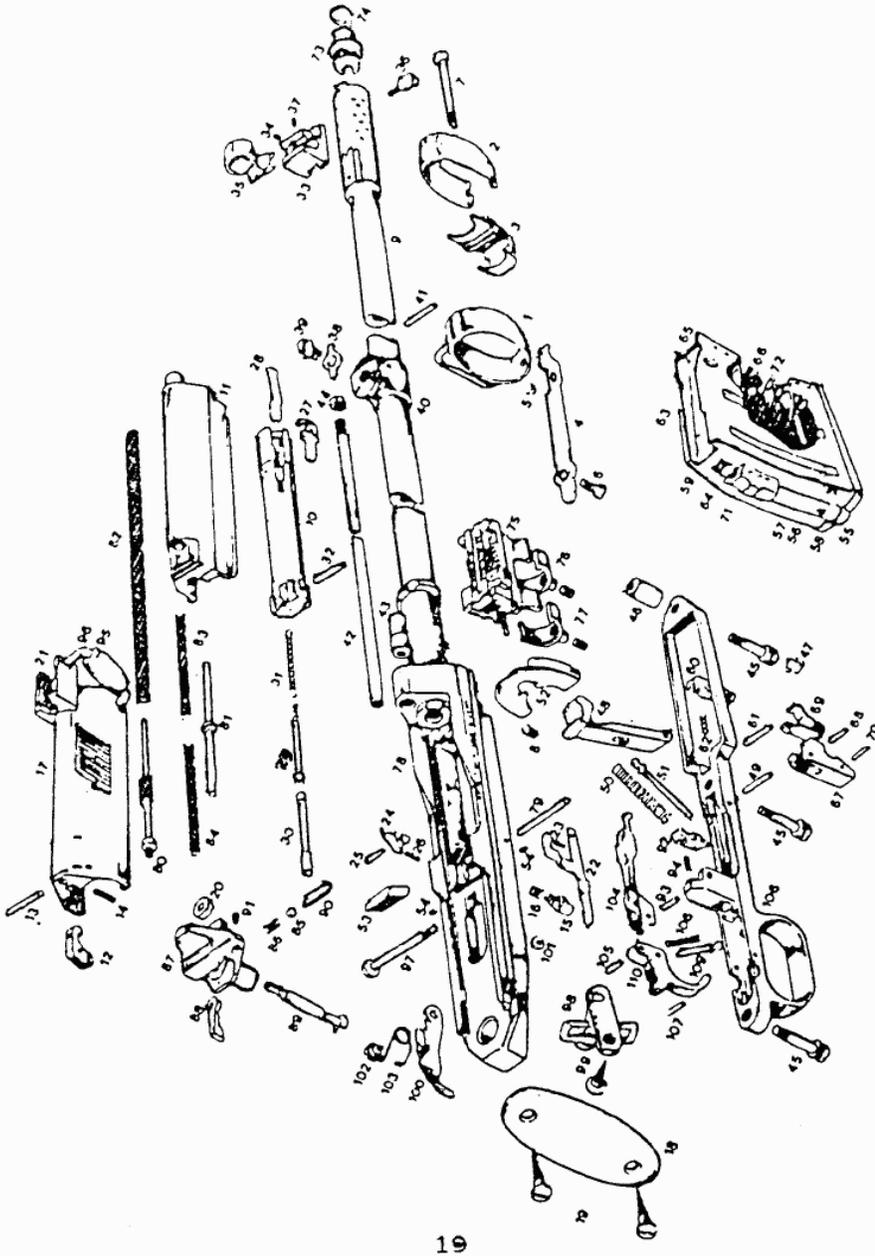
- 1) 1" rubber buttp

Nero Enterpr  
P.O. Box 70  
Little North  
Northfield,  
(804) 485-670

- 1) Bayonets
- 2) Gas port key (p
- 2A) Gas port key/ :  
spanner (metal
- 3) Some replacemen

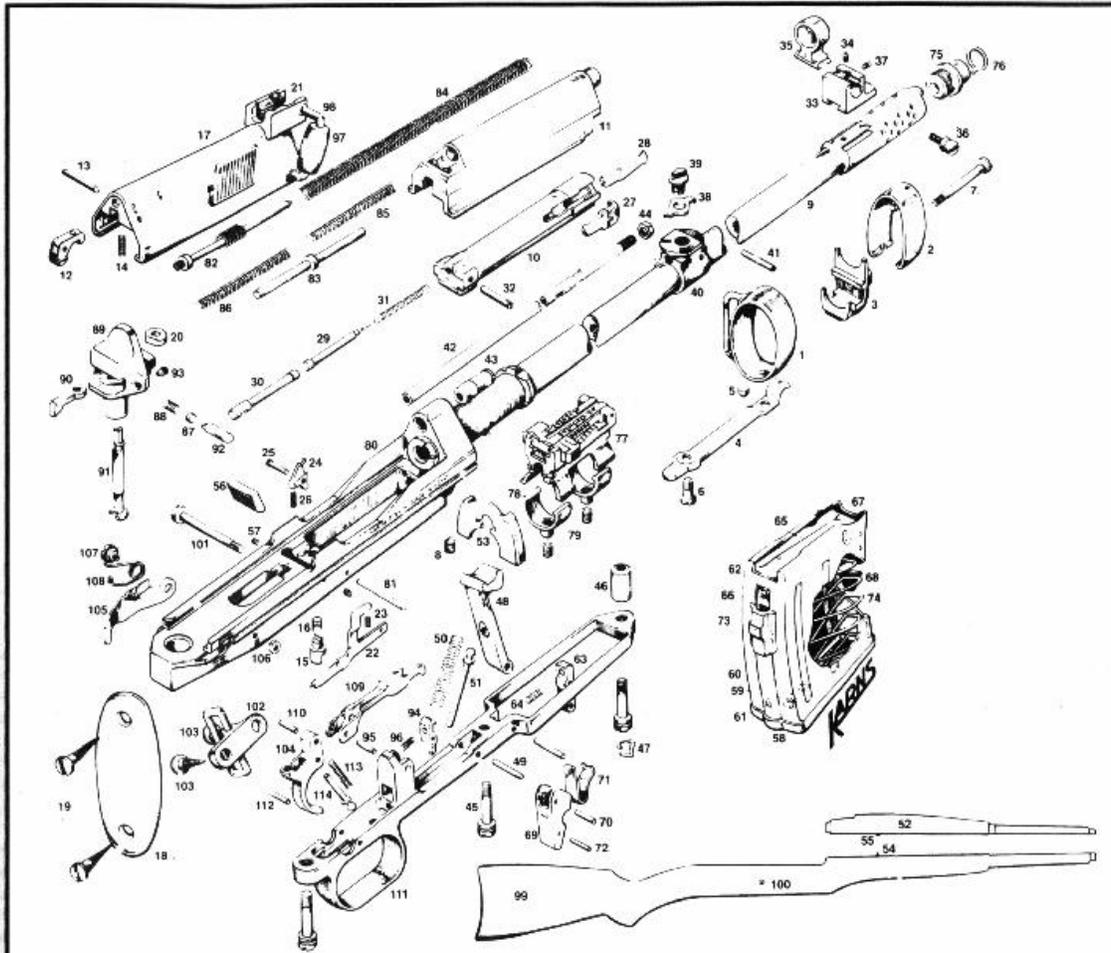
Century Inter  
P.O Box 714-S  
St. Albans, V  
(802) 527-128

Parts Diagram



## Parts List

1. Center barrel band
- 1A. Center band sling guide
2. Front barrel band
3. Front barrel band base
4. Center band retainer clip
5. Barrel band retainer stud
6. Center band screw
7. Front band screw
8. Barrel set screw
9. Barrel w/muzzle break
10. Bolt body
11. Bolt carrier
- 11A. Bolt carrier gas port cylinder
12. Bolt latch
13. Bolt latch pin
14. Bolt latch spring
15. Bolt stop
16. Bolt stop spring
17. Receiver cover
- 17A. Rear guide slide lock
- 17B. Bolt release catch spring
19. Buttplate screw (2)
20. Carrier latch cam
21. Clip guide
22. Disconnecter
24. Ejector
25. Ejector pin
27. **Extractor**
28. Extractor spring
29. Firing pin
30. Firing pin extension
31. Firing pin return spring
32. Firing pin stop pin
33. Front sight base
34. Front sight base set screw
35. Front sight blade
36. Front sight blade adjusting screw
37. Front sight blade set screw
38. Gas port adjustment lock
39. Gas Adjustment screw
40. Gas port junction block
41. Gas port junction block pin
42. Gas tube
43. Gas tube bushing
44. Gas tube lock nut
45. Trigger guard screw (3)
46. Guard screw bushing (3)
47. Guard screw Lock (3)
48. Hammer
49. Hammer pivot pin
50. Hammer spring
51. Hammer strut
52. Rear handguard retainer
53. Locking lug
54. Locking lug set screw (2)
55. Magazine floorplate
56. Magazine body
58. Floorplate retainer
60. Magazine catch
61. Magazine catch pin
62. Magazine catch spring
63. Magazine follower
66. Magazine guide plate
67. Magazine latch
68. Magazine latch pin
69. Magazine latch spring
71. Magazine locking lug
72. Magazine spring
73. Muzzle break cap
74. Muzzle break lock spring
75. Rear sight
- 75I. Rear sight base
76. Rear sight retainer clip (2)
77. Rear sight retainer screws (2)
79. Receiver cross pin
80. Recoil spring guide rod
81. Recoil spring guide sleeve
82. Primary recoil spring
83. Front secondary recoil
84. Rear secondary recoil
85. Safety detent button
86. Safety detent spring
87. Safety housing
- 87A. Safety housing pin
88. Safety lever
89. Safety shaft
90. Safety shaft retainer
92. Sear
93. Sear pivot pin
94. Sear spring
95. Shell buffer
96. Shell deflector
97. Sling swivel screw
98. Rear sling swivel
99. Rear swivel screw (2)
100. Trigger block
101. Trigger block nut
102. Trigger block screw
103. Trigger block spring
104. Trigger extension bar
105. Trigger extension bar
106. Trigger guard
107. Trigger pivot pin
108. Trigger return spring
109. Trigger strut
110. Trigger
112. Stock
113. Handguard



**Parts Legend**

- |                                       |                                 |                                      |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Barrel band (center)               | 30. Firing pin extension        | 61. Magazine base lock stud          | 90. Safety lever                |
| 2. Barrel band (front)                | 31. Firing pin return spring    | 62. Magazine body                    | 91. Safety shaft                |
| 3. Barrel band base (front)           | 32. Firing pin stop pin         | 63. Magazine catch                   | 92. Safety shaft retainer       |
| 4. Barrel band retainer clip (center) | 33. Front sight base            | 64. Magazine catch spring            | 93. Safety shaft retainer screw |
| 5. Barrel band retainer stud          | 34. Front sight base set screw  | 65. Magazine follower                | 94. Sear                        |
| 6. Barrel band screw (center)         | 35. Front sight blade assembly  | 66. Magazine follower lug plate      | 95. Sear pivot pin              |
| 7. Barrel band screw (front)          | 36. Front sight adjusting screw | 67. Magazine front insert            | 96. Sear spring                 |
| 8. Barrel band set screw              | 37. Front sight blade set screw | 68. Magazine guide plate             | 97. Shell buffer                |
| 9. Barrel with muzzle brake           | 38. Gas port adjustment lock    | 69. Magazine latch                   | 98. Shell deflector             |
| 10. Bolt body                         | 39. Gas port adjusting screw    | 70. Magazine latch pin               | 99. Stock                       |
| 11. Bolt carrier                      | 40. Gas port junction block     | 71. Magazine latch spring            | 100. Stock bolt escutcheon      |
| 12. Bolt latch                        | 41. Gas port junction block pin | 72. Magazine latch spring pin        | 101. Stock screw                |
| 13. Bolt latch pin                    | 42. Gas tube                    | 73. Magazine locking stud            | 102. Swivel (rear)              |
| 14. Bolt latch spring                 | 43. Gas tube bushing            | 74. Magazine spring                  | 103. Swivel screws, rear (2)    |
| 15. Bolt stop                         | 44. Gas tube lock nut           | 75. Muzzle brake cap                 | 104. Trigger                    |
| 16. Bolt stop spring cover            | 45. Guard screw (3)             | 76. Muzzle brake lock spring         | 105. Trigger block              |
| 17. Breech cover                      | 46. Guard screw bushing (3)     | 77. Rear sight assembly              | 106. Trigger block nut          |
| 18. Buttplate                         | 47. Guard screw lock (3)        | 78. Rear sight retainer clip (2)     | 107. Trigger block screw        |
| 19. Buttplate screws (2)              | 48. Hammer                      | 79. Rear sight retainer screw (2)    | 108. Trigger block spring       |
| 20. Carrier latch cam                 | 49. Hammer pivot pin            | 80. Receiver                         | 109. Trigger extension bar      |
| 21. Clip guide                        | 50. Hammer strut                | 81. Receiver cross pin               | 110. Trigger extension bar pin  |
| 22. Disconnecter                      | 51. Hammer strut                | 82. Recoil spring guide rod          | 111. Trigger guard/floorplate   |
| 23. Disconnecter spring               | 52. Handguard                   | 83. Recoil spring guide sleeve       | 112. Trigger pivot pin          |
| 24. Ejector                           | 53. Handguard retainer (rear)   | 84. Recoil spring, primary           | 113. Trigger return spring      |
| 25. Ejector pin                       | 54. Handguard stock pin         | 85. Recoil spring, secondary (front) | 114. Trigger strut              |
| 26. Ejector spring                    | 55. Handguard stock pin bushing | 86. Recoil spring, secondary (rear)  |                                 |
| 27. Extractor                         | 56. Locking lug                 | 87. Safety detent button             |                                 |
| 28. Extractor spring                  | 57. Locking lug set screw (2)   | 88. Safety detent spring             |                                 |
| 29. Firing pin                        | 58. Magazine base               | 89. Safety housing                   |                                 |
|                                       | 59. Magazine base latch rivet   |                                      |                                 |
|                                       | 60. Magazine base latch spacer  |                                      |                                 |

*Drawing courtesy of Hakim parts supplier Century International Arms, Inc., Dept. AR, 48 Lower Newton St., St. Albans, VT 05478.*



Article Written by: Ryan Jones

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### Introduction

As the truck lumbered along the snow-covered roads that Saturday morning I was starting to think this might be a bad idea. The weatherman had called for two inches overnight and it was already pushing five as Zack and I made our way to Bowling Green, Ohio.

Who would be crazy enough to go to a gun show in this weather?

As Zack careened down the highway at a blistering 35 miles an hour, his knuckles white, he commented, "*I hope the show is open when we get there.*" I was just hoping the parking lot was plowed; I had already pushed the full size Ram Charger I was currently riding in out of a snow drift once that morning, and really was not looking forward to doing it again.

When we arrived, much to my satisfaction, the parking lot had already been plowed. The lot was only about half full, in serious contrast to usual for a gun show day, when sometimes you will have to walk half a mile just to get to the doors.

My hopes of finding anything worth while inside were remote. Luckily I was wrong. Within five minutes of walking in the doors I noted a thin man in his mid-thirties lumbering along

with a rifle slung over each shoulder. Anyone who is a collector and goes to gun shows knows that half of the great deals are carried in on the backs of the fellow attendees, so I took another glance at him as he rounded the corner of a row of tables.

That was when I saw it, a Hakim hung from his shoulder. I knew that Zack was in the market for one, so I reached for him as he strode in front of me. I frantically told him I had just spotted a Hakim and Zack wasted no time in finding and approaching the man.

The usual questions were asked and a quick inspection took place as other attendees walked past looking for the next great deal. When I looked the rifle over I found it to be a serious oddity.

The man showed Zack and I how the rifle worked (*which is very awkward in my opinion*) and how to strip it down (*which is very simple*). He also showed us where the safety is and produced the magazine. When inserted the magazine seemed to clank against the magazine release loudly. Pressing on the magazine release locked it into place and the clanking noise stopped.

While I did not know much about the rifle, I did know how to judge the condition of such things, and I would say that it was in excellent condition. The bore looked great, all of the metal looked new, and aside from a scuff on the alien looking dustcover, overall it was impeccable. The stock furniture looked great, at least for a military surplus rifle.

Zack quickly approached the subject of price meaning he was serious about buying it. I gave him a glance that said that it certainly passed my inspection. "Three hundred?" The man said over his glasses. Zack tried to play it cool, but I knew by the slight raise of his eyebrows he was boiling over with excitement on the inside, and reached for his wallet.

### History

The Hakim (*pronounced HA-KEEM*) was the first rifle ever produced by Egypt. It was the result of a modernization effort after their very significant defeat to the new state of Israel, in 1949. This effort was originally undertaken by King Faruok, but a military coup in 1952 removed him from power. The modernization effort was continued by the army after the coup by the new leader, Gamal Abdul Nasser.

Some time prior to 1955, Egypt purchased the machinery and with the help of Swedish engineers set up the tooling originally designed to produce the Swedish Ljungman AG42 Rifle. The AG42 had been produced by Sweden during WWII to supplement the already prolific Swedish Mausers. Never intended to replace the Mauser the AG42s were issued along with the Mausers to supplement their low rate of fire.

The factory was set up in Egypt and the original AG42 was adapted to fulfill the needs of the Egyptians. The caliber of the rifle was changed from 6.5x55mm to 7.97 (8mm) Mauser, reportedly due to the large amounts of 8mm Mauser ammunition left over from WWII in the country at the time. There were also other modifications to the AG42 to produce the Hakim, the rifles were different in appearance, however they operated in pretty much the same way.

The Hakim served in the second Arab-Israeli war in 1956 and the third Arab-Israeli war (*also known as the "six day war"*) in 1967. Neither of these conflicts gave the Hakim or

Egypt for that matter, any particular distinction. A large number of Hakims were reportedly captured in both conflicts and if that is the case, these rifles were either sold to another nation, destroyed or (hopefully) setting in some Israeli warehouse waiting for the next importer to find them. The Hakim was pretty much a reserve rifle during the six day war and was totally replaced by the Rashid, a smaller version of the rifle chambered in 7.62x39mm by the 1960s and the Egyptian Maddi AK47 derivative by the 1970s.

### Method of Operation

The Hakim, like the earlier AG42, operates on the "Direct Gas Impingement" system, later used on the infamous AR rifle series. In this system, upon firing, gas is bled off via a gas port, from behind the bullet as it exits the barrel. The bled off gas is re-directed back through a stainless steel gas tube and hits a concave area in the front of the bolt carrier. This unlocks the bolt, which uses a dropping wedge for lockup, and propels it and the bolt carrier rearward. The extractor on the bolt head grabs the rim of the spent cartridge case and pulls it out of the chamber as the bolt continues to the rear; the case is then ejected via a fixed ejector. Once the bolt and carrier are propelled fully to the rear and the empty case is clear from the rifle, the return spring pushes the bolt and carrier forward, stripping another round from the magazine and locking it in place.

The Hakim's gas system is adjustable via a small, spring loaded valve located on the top of the rifle. The valve can be used to regulate how much gas passes through the gas tube, and uses a head shaped like a slice of pie to tell the operator where it is set. Egypt in the 50's, like Iraq today, was a huge ammo dump and variations in different lots of 8mm ammo is believed to be the reason behind this feature.



The Hakim Gas valve, set in the "Normal" Position, it's pointed back at the Rifle's receiver.

The "Normal" setting for this valve is when the tip of the piece of pie is facing directly back at the rifle's receiver (**figure 2**) and will generally allow the Hakim to function with about any 8mm round. To decrease the amount of gas used in the system, turn the valve clockwise with the rifle's muzzle pointed downrange, to increase it, turn it counter-clockwise. A note should be added here to not adjust the valve counter-clockwise past the "normal" setting, as the valve will fly apart and is a bit of a challenge to get back together.

The valve was designed to be adjusted with a special tool. TAPCO reportedly made reproductions of it a few years back, but one could likely be fashioned relatively easily out of a socket or other implement.

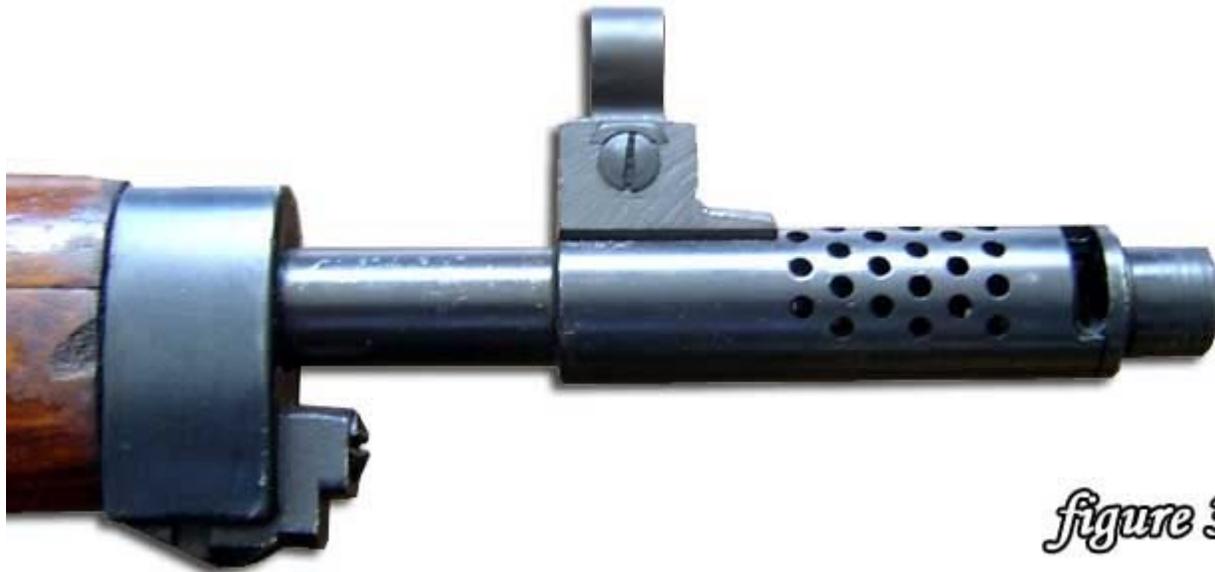
### Rifle Details

The Hakim has an overall length of 47 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches (*Nearly four feet!*) and an overall unloaded weight of just over ten pounds. This is pretty heavy by any standard, and around the same length as a Mosin-Nagant Model 91-30. It has a full length butt stock that most American shooters would feel comfortable using. Handling the rifle has led me to realize that I would not like lugging a Hakim through the desert.

The rifle uses a detachable ten round box magazine for feeding, but like many of its contemporaries was designed to use stripper clips as its primary method of reloading. The magazine release, similar to that of an AK47, uses a built-in locking device to hold it in

place once it has been properly seated into the rifle. An unusual stripper clip charger is located on top of the dust cover, which is used by first inserting the loaded clip parallel to the rifle, in the grooves of it, pushing the clip forward and then rotating it 90 degrees so it is then seated on top of the magazine before pushing down on the top cartridge to load the rifle. The reason for this unusual method has never been definitively explained to my knowledge.

The rifle's sights are serviceable and well designed. The front sight is dovetailed into the integral muzzle break on the front of the barrel (**figure 3**) and is a post with a protective globe. The front sight is adjustable for windage by first loosening the front locking screw and then turning the screw on the side of the sight block. The rear sight is a standard ladder, similar to many military rifles at or before this period of history, with elevation adjustments starting at 100 meters and moving up to 1000.



*figure 3*

**The Muzzle break, front sight and bayonet lug. Note that the Muzzle break is machined integral with the barrel with the front sight dovetailed on top of it!**

The barrel is 25 inches long and is machined with a large integral muzzle brake on the front. The brake, along with the rifle's weight, makes recoil virtually nonexistent. That said however, the amount of noise and blast is very significant, when you touch off a round in a Hakim, you feel the energy in the pit of your stomach. I personally wonder how many deaf Egyptians in their sixties are around due to this. The barrel also has a provision for mounting a knife style bayonet that attaches to the front of the brake and secures via a lug on the bottom of the front barrel band.

The rifle uses a triangular shaped dustcover and bolt carrier in its operation, giving it an odd appearance. The dustcover is equipped with a brass deflector attached to its front (**figure 4**), which most shooters believe to be an operating handle. The cover was originally designed to be used by the operator grasping the grooves stamped into it approximately at its midpoint and moving it in the desired direction. Most shooters, however, use the brass deflector as an operating handle and I personally cannot think of anything wrong with this.



**Note the Cocking serrations on the dustcover, the strange stripper clip loading apparatus on the top of the gun, and the brass deflector, which is commonly used to cock the rifle.**

Fit and finish is above average, especially compared to anything else that has come out of the middle-east. I once owned an Egyptian Maddi AK47 and it is hard to believe that it came from the same country that produced the Hakim years before. If this rifle were to be produced today in an American factory, I would not be able to afford it. There are virtually no tool marks on the majority of the rifle, whether hidden or concealed, and most of the parts appear to be milled out of blocks of forged steel.

### Loading and Firing Procedures

The Hakim's safety is a small lever that swings to the left (**figure 5**) and right (**figure 6**) side of the rifle, located to the rear of the receiver. The safety is seated in its own mechanism, which is removable for takedown. With the muzzle pointed downrange, flip the safety fully to the right for "safe" and the left for "fire". The safety also plays an important role in the operation of the rifle, which I will go into now.



The rifles bolt, bolt carrier and dustcover setup are very unusual by American standards.

To operate the rifle, assuming the bolt is forward, push forward on the dustcover until you hear an audible click. Then retract the cover, which will move the bolt and carrier to the rear.

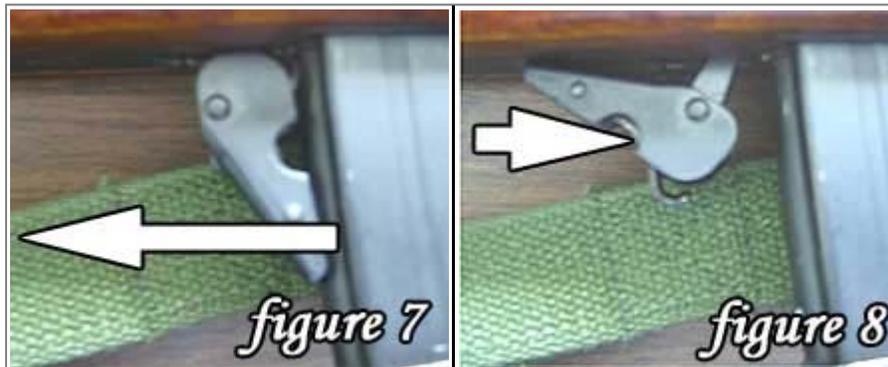
What happens next depends on where the safety is and if you have a magazine in place:

- If the safety is in the “safe” position, the three components can be moved rearward together until stopped by safety mechanism.
- If the safety is off and there is no magazine in place, once the three components are moved fully rearward, the bolt and carrier will slam forward under considerable force.
- If a loaded magazine is in place, and the safety is off, the bolt and carrier will move forward in the same manner, stripping the first round from the magazine and chambering the rifle, now ready to fire by pulling the trigger.
- If there is an empty magazine in place and the safety is off, the bolt and carrier will move only a fraction of an inch, being caught by the magazine catch, leaving the rifle open for loading.

### Field Stripping Procedure

The Hakim is simple to take apart for routine maintenance.

- Make sure the rifle is unloaded.
- Remove the magazine from the rifle by pulling the retainer back and pushing the magazine release forward, then pulling down on the magazine itself.



- Place bolt in the forward position.
- Flip the safety halfway between the “safe” and “fire” positions.
- Lift up on the safety mechanism and remove it from the rifle.
- Slide the dustcover off the rifle and remove the recoil spring.
- Pull back on the bolt carrier and slide it off the rifle.
- Remove the bolt from the rifle by pushing on the bolt face, and dropping it out.



Further disassembly can be undertaken at this point, but unless you have a real good reason for it, don't go any further. Be sure to pay special attention to the gas port above the chamber. Also clean the gas tube by squirting a gun scrubber in it or using AR-15 gas

tube mops (*long pipe cleaners*) available from anyone who sells AR parts and accessories.

*Reassembly is in reverse order.*

### Shooting the Hakim



**Zack Shoots His Prize from the Bench.**

On a mild Saturday, Zack and I made a trip to the range to test the Hakim. The rifle was tested at 50 yards from the bench for initial sight in and accuracy testing. It was then removed from the bench and several hundred rounds in total were put through the gun from various shooting positions, some other drills were also performed at distances ranging from 25 to 60 yards. We were unable to shoot out to 100 yards due to time limits at the range.

Three loads were selected, all of them being inexpensive surplus. There were three reasons for this; **first**, anyone who owns a Hakim is unlikely to hunt with it, so tests of hunting ammo would probably be worthless to a real or prospective owner. **Second**, the gun was designed with military ammo in mind and I was interested in seeing what the actual accuracy of the gun was with these types of loads. **Third**, the Hakim was designed to be used with the variety of surplus loads in Egypt at the time of its introduction. As such I was interested in seeing if it would reliably function with these loads with the gas system set at the "normal" setting with no adjustment.

Because we were accuracy testing at 50 yards, five shot groups were fired for accuracy. The rifle was secured to a Lohman site vice from the bench. The best group of the day came with the Yugoslavian 196-grain surplus load. It turned in this nice group of exactly one inch.



The other two loads were Romanian steel cased surplus and Turkish surplus on stripper clips. Both of these loads shot larger, more sporadic groups. We shot the Turkish surplus very little as it very old and we have encountered misfires, hangfires and other such maladies with it prior and did not consider it worthy to fire in a semi-auto.

The Romanian surplus was the only other load shot extensively in the gun and was the only load that caused the gun to malfunction. The load caused the magazine to fail to lock open after the last shot and also caused a loaded round to stovepipe out of the right side of the receiver. I personally believe that the rifle's gas system would need a few clicks of adjustment to properly fire this round. I say this because Zack noted gas blowing in his face when firing off a string and the action seemed unnecessarily violent. We lacked a suitable adjustment tool and decided to conduct the rest of the testing with the Yugoslavian loads.



The only malfunction with the Hakim is pictured here. Note the Stove-piped loaded round near the open portion of the receiver.

The first thing I noted was that after an extended firing session, the fore-end did not heat up. I stuck the muzzle end in the snow and noted it sizzling, but my hand did not even

become slightly warm. I also noted that the gun's recoil was almost non-existent, when the trigger was squeezed; the gun made a horrendous noise, but barely jumped. Because of the gun's muzzle brake, the weight, and gas operation, recoil was a non-issue. Ejection was positive, with the empty cases flying around fifteen to twenty feet forward and to the right of the rifle, the brass deflector certainly worked well.

I also noted that the gun was not suited well to close-in shooting. During the conflicts the rifle was involved in, shooting of this type would be only somewhat likely. The gun was difficult to start swinging up from the low ready position and even harder to stop once it was where you wanted it. Compared to a FAL, AR10 or HK G3, it's like shooting with a telephone pole. It is certainly a "battle rifle" if there ever was one.



**Zack taking a few shots offhand. Believe it or not the rifle had just fired as this picture was taken. If you can lift the Hakim, you can shoot it.**

The Turkish stripper clips we were using did not work for the Hakim, so we wound up loading individual rounds into the magazine through the top of the receiver. This worked out suitably and would work well for the casual shooter with a minimum of trouble.



**Lacking suitable stripper clips, the Hakim was loaded singly as shown here. Be sure to turn the safety on before undertaking this procedure.**

One final note of caution here, ALWAYS TURN ON THE SAFETY WHEN OT SHOOTING THE HAKIM RIFLE! The bolt carrier moves forward with considerable force and can ruin your day very quickly!

On the range, Zack attempted to clear the jam discussed earlier. He did this by pushing forward on the dust cover of the rifle until it engaged the bolt carrier and bolt with a click and then moved it back out of the way. What he forgot to do was flick the safety on before he moved the cover back and, while reaching into the receiver to remove the offending round, the bolt carrier and dust cover engaged the safety mechanism, slamming the bolt and carrier forward onto his thumb.

This resulted in muffled clack, a string of profanity, the Hakim flung into the snow and poor old Zack hopping up and down, cursing and holding his swelling thumb. Lucky for Zack, I had the forethought to pack along a first aid kit in my shooting bag that day. I reached for it as Zack shoved his thumb in the snow while telling me in no uncertain terms how much it hurt. I dug the first aid kit out and just prior to treatment snapped a picture of the wound so others would heed the above warning. (*Some just TALK about getting their thumb smashed, but Zack had the forethought to show us what it would look like! Everyone thank him now.*) Be careful!

*figure 15*



**Zack's unfortunate case of "Hakim Thumb." Be careful of that bolt! Turn the safety on to do anything to the rifle but shoot it.**

### **Conclusion**

After handling the Hakim, shooting it, and having it reside at my homestead for a few days for this article; I have to say it is on my want list. It is a reliable, accurate and serviceable rifle. The fact that I would happily pay a bit more than Zack paid for his (*a steal at three hundred bucks*) should make everyone aware of what I think of it.

The Hakim does have its fair share of downsides. The gun is too heavy for anything other than plinking and maybe NRA High-power competition and it is loud as hell. I have seen used specimens where the previous owner cut the forend down significantly and deleted the handguard to reduce the weight. I have seen other Hakims that have had the muzzle break cut off to reduce the noise. I would consider doing these types of modifications if the Hakims were stacked deep and being sold cheap, but now they have become rare enough to command premium prices. **Don't alter any Hakim!**

As I stated before, the Hakim is an interesting and fun to shoot rifle. I would own one myself, and that is the best compliment I can pay it. It would be a valuable addition to any surplus rifle collection.

### **SPECIAL THANKS**

I would like to give a special thanks to Zachary Ziviski, who contributed the rifle and the injured thumb. Without him, this article could not have been written.

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