The M1 Carbine was produced in more numbers than any other US small arm in World War II (1939-1945). In 1938 the US Chief of Infantry requested that the Ordnance Department develop a carbine or light rifle to be used by service and support troops, artillerymen, machinegun crews, tankers, mortar crews and other troops not needing the power of the M1 Garand rifle. The M1 Carbine was produced in more numbers than any other US small arm in World War II (1939-1945). There is no single book that covers everything M1 Carbine. Which book is “best” depends on what you want to know. Each book has something the others do not. Many U.S. Carbine enthusiasts own many of these books. Serious collectors often have them all. Arsenal History and Combat Evaluation, Carbine Caliber .30 M1, M1A1, M2, AND M3. Author: S. Marshall. Photocopy: 20 pages Publisher: Desert Publications El Dorado, AR (1991) ASIN: B000H7HCZM Dimensions: 8.5 x 11. Focus: Basic background on U.S. Carbines. Includes critique by Ordnance Major of weapons used during the Korean War. Carbine .30 M1, M1A1, M2 & M3 Assembly, Disassembly Manual. Authors: Ian Skennerton & Ray Riling. The book also opens and lays flat, so you can work on your rifle and observe your manual simultaneously. Item Name: Carbine, Cal. .30 This is designed as a basic overview of the M1 Carbine. The manual consisted of several numbered plates illustrating various operations of the carbine itself. Here are several sample pages: FRONT COVER, TABLE OF CONTENTS, and PAGE 013. M2 carbine, a select-fire modification with enlarged, 30-round magazine. .30 M1 carbine cartridge (left) shown next to 7.62x39mm Russian (center) and 5.56mm NATO (.223 Rem, right). Caliber: .30 US Carbine (7.62×33 mm) Action: Gas operated, rotating bolt Overall length: 904 mm Barrel length: 458 mm Weight: 2.36 kg without magazine Magazine capacity: 15 or 30 rounds. The M1 carbine is an interesting little weapon. The original request for a compact and lightweight shoulder arm to replace service handguns for second-line (non-fighting) troops was first issued by US Army in 1938.