CARACAL F COMPACT 9MM, $524
GUN TESTS GRADE: B
Low first shots may or may not be a problem. Ergonomics were top notch.
We'd rate this higher if cost is a major concern.

SPECIFICATIONS
Overall Length ........................................... 7.6 in.
Overall Height ........................................... 5.2 in.
Barrel Length ............................................ 3.96 in.
Sight Radius ............................................. 2.2 in.
Front Strap Height .......................... 2.5 in.
Back Strap Height ............................. 3.8 in.
Weight Unloaded ..................................... 24.0 oz.
Weight Loaded (124 gr.) ............. 35.3 oz.
Capacity ...................................................... 18+1
Maximum Width ....................................... 1.25 in.
Grip Thickness (Max) ...................... 1.2 in.
Grip Circumference ......................... 5.7 in.
Frame ......................................................... Black Polymer
Barrel ......................................................... Steel
Slide ......................................................... Steel
Grip .......................................................... Textured Polymer
Trigger Pull Weight Double Action .... 3.75 lbs.
Trigger Span Double Action ......... 2.7 in.
Warranty ..................................................... 1 Year
Telephone .............................................. (205) 655-7050
Website ......................................................... Caracal.USA
Made In ........................................................ United Arab Emirates

The rear face of the slide was grooved to diffuse glare. Shown with the striking in Set position (cocked), an indicator was visible at the center of the slide (arrow). The Quick Sight is a $25 upgrade. This leaves a telltale rise at the rear of the slide.

Pulling downward on the takedown latch lowered the locking stud (arrow) shown at the top of the photograph. Note the heavy coil spring that kept it in place, wedged in directly in front of the barrel lugs.

The grip frames of the Caracals were almost identical, aside from length. Reduction in magazine capacity was three rounds, but the C model did fire reliably from the Model F’s longer 18-round magazine. Note the bevels (arrows) on the outer edges of the magwells. The bevels allow you to better grab the magazine should it not drop free.